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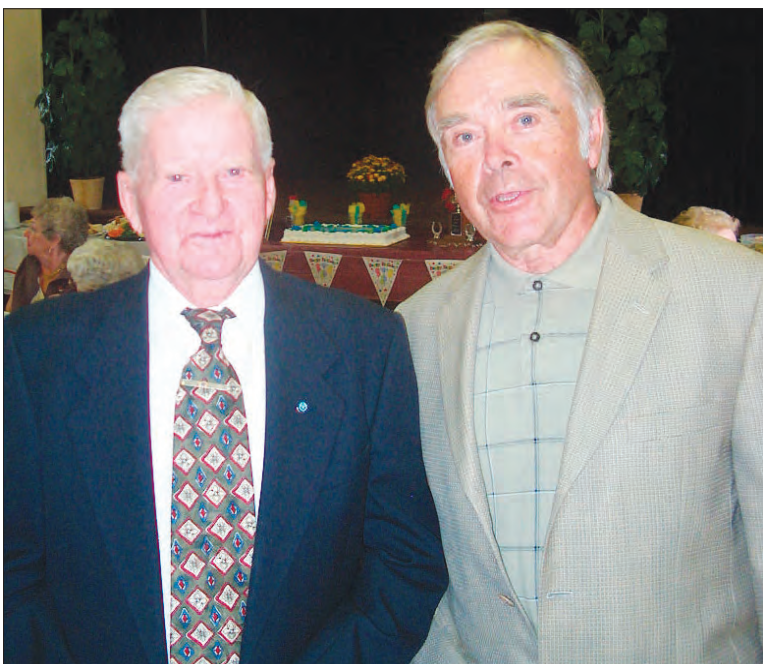
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Vol. 4 No. 48

Week of September 28, 2004

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TRULY SENIORS

Mildred White, nee Westerby, top photo, was born in England, but celebrated her 100th birthday in the back yard of her son, Cliff White, on Aurora's Bigwin Drive, last week. She has four sons, 10 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren and currently resides at King City Lodge in King City. Her husband, Wilfred George White died in 1999. They had been married for 65 years. Meanwhile, Stu Burnett, bottom photo, left, is one of the few residents who lived in two communities without moving. A former reeve of Whitchurch Township, Stu became an Aurora resident when the Region of York was formed in 1971, and his Wellington Street East home suddenly was located in a new community. Soon the "Burnett lands" will be the site of a double arena and new swimming pool. Stu was honoured by the community in Vandorf Saturday as he celebrated his 90th birthday, and was presented with a plaque from Aurora Mayor Tim Jones. With him is Aurora solicitor Tom McPherson, who is a long-time friend.

Auroran photos by David Falconer and Ron Wallace

Visit school Sunday

On May 20 last year, members of the Aurora Historical Society (AHS) at a general committee meeting of Aurora Council, saw a vision become a reality.

Currently, the group is sharing its vision with others.

The AHS, now tenant of the Church Street School (if they can ever get a satisfactory lease in place) has become the sole occupant of the historic building at the corner of Church and Victoria Streets.

And now that the building has been gutted back to its original "school-look", the society has arranged a few invitational open houses to show people what it will look like when it's finished.

One happened Sunday, councillors visited last Tuesday, and a general public open house will be held Sunday, Oct. 3, from 2 to 4 p.m.

The society's vision includes the school becoming a centre for cultural learning as the Aurora Heritage Centre with the now-packed-away museum being expanded with areas for the exhibit of Aurora's rich heritage.

Beyond focussing on Aurora's early years of settlement, the expanded space and technology-enabled facilities will increase the society's focus on the interpretations of the community as a whole.

The expanded facility will also provide space for the Aurora

Please see page 8



Youth Fair held Saturday at the Aurora Town Park. Scores of children and their parents turned up at the event which could become annual based on Saturday's success. For a page of photos of the sunny Saturday afternoon activities, see Page 15.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Poof...he's back

He was such a hit last year, he's coming back...twice.

Claude Haggerty, complete with animals and magic, will perform in Aurora twice in November, thanks to the Aurora Rotary Club.

Haggerty will host two shows at the Aurora High School, Thursday, Nov. 4, and Friday, Nov. 5, beginning at 7 p.m.

Rotary President Frank Mete pointed out that even though the single show last year was held on a bad weather night, the auditorium was still full.

Tickets are expected to go on

sale shortly.

As he did last year, Haggerty is expected to appear in Aurora prior to the shows, and bring his tigers with him.

Residents have an opportunity to climb into a cage with the animals, if they wish, and have their pictures taken.

Tickets, at \$12 for an adult and \$10 for a child, will be available at Highland Chev Cadillac, Ideal Tile & Carpet, Aurora Computer Technologies and The Auroran newspaper, or from any Aurora Rotarian.

Former firefighter dies

They called Ron Tulloch a lot of things over the years, but they never called him a chicken.

At 68 years old, Ron Tulloch would do anything, go anywhere, and say whatever he felt regardless of the situation or consequences.

But, he'd always give you the shirt off his back if you needed it.

Ron Tulloch, one of Aurora's few remaining "characters", died in hospital last week and was buried Saturday.

"Tuck" was probably best known for his 17 years of service with the Aurora Volunteer Fire Brigade, which he joined in 1961.

Rookie volunteers would follow Tuck into a blazing building, but when he would continue, they would retreat.

Members of the now full-time Central York Fire Services, including Chief John Molyneaux and several former volunteers, attended in full uniform at

Please see page 9



RON TULLOCH



Brian



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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 905-713-3314.

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. Contact 905-727-3032 or 905-727-1080.

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 905-727-6101.

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

Queen's York Rangers Army Cadet Corps camping, canoeing, first aid, orienteering in two to six week camps for males & females 12 to 18 Aurora squadron meets every Friday. For more information call 905-726-8600, Tuesday evenings between 7 and 9 p.m..

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

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

Towns of York Toastmasters meetings are free and open to the general 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.

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

Hospice King-Aurora is taking registrations for an October start for its Bereavement Support Group for Children, ages 6-12. Ten-week activity-based sessions. Trained facilitators, professionally supported. Presented in cooperation with Bereaved Families of Ontario. Call Hospice King-Aurora for more information about this free program at 905-773-0155.

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, Option 4.

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 16

The York Chamber Ensemble, formerly the York Strings Orchestra, gets its 2004-2005 season under way with a concert featuring Suk's Serenade for Strings. The Aurora-based orchestra, conducted by Tony Browning, plays music at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street. Concert time is 7.30 p.m. Tickets, available at the door, are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and students.

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 21

Aurora Chamber of Commerce "Celebrating Business Excellence in Aurora" Awards. Nominate the Business Person of

the Year, Extraordinary Business Achievement, Innovation, New Venture and Young Entrepreneur.

OCTOBER 23

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

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

Fall event, Aurora United Church, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., garage sale, bake sale, country kitchen. Free.

Upper Canada Chordsmen present 12th annual show, "Hey, Look Us Over: Harmony Showcase 2004" at Newmarket Theatre, at 7:30 p.m. Show features the Upper Canada Chordsmen, local award-winning barbershop harmony chorus, Shaleena Clements, Budda Boom Budda Bing, and The Cameo Jazz Band and Backroads. Tickets are \$20, available from the Chordsmen, The Auroran or the theatre box-office, 905-953-5122.

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.

NOVEMBER 4-5

Aurora Rotary Club hosts the 2nd Annual Magic Show, featuring Claude Haggerty, at the Aurora High School. Two shows, 7 p.m. each evening. Tickets on sale at Highland Chev Cadillac, The Auroran, Ideal Tile & Carpet and from any Rotarian.

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Girl Guides need you to guide them

Where have all the volunteers gone?

That's what Girl Guide Commissioner Pat Stade, of Aurora, wants to know.

The Girl Guide organization in Aurora and Oak Ridges has a problem.

Plenty of girls for the program, but, according to Stade, there is a serious lack of adult volunteers to help deliver programs and provide background support.

The organization is now compiling waiting lists of girls all over Aurora and Oak Ridges and has had to close some Spark, Brownie and Guide units, as there are not enough leaders.

"Aurora is known for its volunteer spirit, but I suppose that as the working family gets busier, it's more difficult to make a volunteer commitment," Stade said. "We are working on ways to accept as much or as little time as women can offer in areas that suit their interest, talents and/or experience. We don't want to turn any girls away. We can find places for every girl but it may not be in the neighbourhood they want most unless we can find more leaders."

Girl Guides of Canada's vision is that every girl wants to be and can be a

member, she said.

"One of the ways of accomplishing this is by keeping membership affordable. The \$55 membership fee has not increased in several years."

However, one of the

challenges recently has been finding affordable meeting space.

A recent announcement from Education Minister Gerard Kennedy and Tourism and Recreation

Please see page 9

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AURORA



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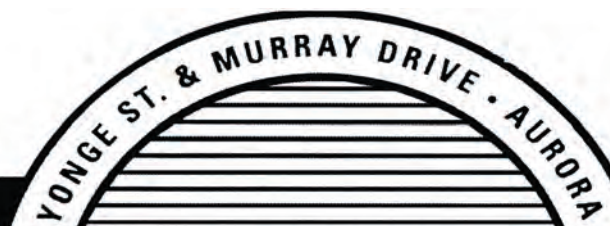
Ballots in Aurora Shopping Centre stores.

Contest deadline October 7th/04

Draw to take place Oct. 8th at 10 am.



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The follow-up list appears to be missing

*Keeping track of town business,
Was a policy in former days;
There was always a list available,
councillors used in many ways.
-Poor Richard's Scrapbook*

As regular readers know, I'm a packrat and hate to leave loose ends hanging.

In the old days of council, councillors maintained their own list of items they had brought forward on behalf of their constituents and kept after them until they got an answer in open council.

In addition, staff maintained a list of unfinished items that was attached to the agenda of every committee and council meeting with a brief report as to the status of the inquiry or question.

The policy at that time was for staff to respond to a referral within 30 days unless by a resolution of council an earlier time frame was designated.

As the query was made at a public council meeting the answer came back to a public council meeting.

Somewhere over time, the policy changed and items are often referred to staff for response and then just seem to disappear.

Councillors never bother to follow up and the list was no longer included with the agenda.

Earlier this year, Councillors Phyllis Morris and Damir Vrancic asked that a list of unfinished business items referred to staff for a response, be prepared on a regular basis.

At the March 9 council meeting staff replied that such a list was being prepared and would be ready by the end of the month.

It is now September (almost October) and no such list has yet to be made public.

It may be that the list was prepared and distributed to council internally, but it has never been included with the agenda and the long list of unfinished business remains the same insofar as the public is concerned.

If council refers an issue to staff for a response in public session, the answer should come back to a public session.

Town business cannot be carried out by internal memos, e-mails and in camera meetings.

So where is the list?

During the fall of 1998, a group of Aurora citizens came together due to their concern about the need to protect the environment.

They called themselves Aurora Citizens' Organization Respecting Nature or ACORN.

In addition to their ongoing concerns about the future of the Anne Bartley Smith property, the cutting down of trees in Sheppard's Bush by the Conservation Authority and the protection of the Oak Ridges Moraine, they brought to council's attention the need to protect the "Monk's Walk".

From 1915 to 1949, the property on the west side of Yonge Street at Bloomington Road, now owned by the Ontario government, belonged to De La Salle College.

There was a trail from the school to the west along a ridge with several mature trees with what appeared to be religious carvings and lettering on them, believed to be Latin, along the walkway.

In making the presentation for ACORN, Sue Walmer referred to new stakes along the pathway and asked that council review the area in an effort to save the trees and the trail.

She urged council to be more proactive in preserving heritage properties as stated in the town's strategic plan, and not wait for development, when it could be too late

Her presentation was referred to staff to investigate and report back.

That was May, 1999.

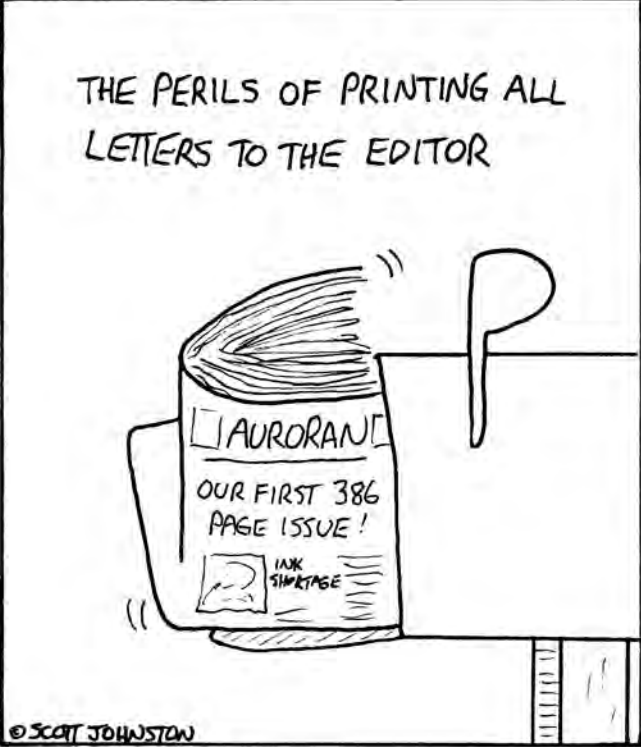
Was the investigation carried out and if so, where is the report and recommended action?

What has council done since that time to protect the "Monk's Walk" or is the strategic plan a piece of paper without meaning?

This is just one of the many requests by council members for a report, which never seems to appear, or if it does, it is not revealed to the public.

If council members are to do their job of representing their constituents, they must become more proactive and not leave everything to staff.

Or if left to staff for a report they have a responsibility to follow up on the issue on behalf of their constituents and keep following up until they get answers!



Letters to the Editor

Hydro corridor was there first, he says

To the editor,

I have been reading and listening rather intently to all these homeowners who are up in arms with Hydro One's intention of increasing the power line capabilities in the corridor through York Region.

Quite frankly I find the whole thing quite ironic.

Time and time again I hear those affected by this proposal saying how they have "MOVED" here from somewhere else for a better way of life, or to get away from the city.

But no one seems to be able to get their head

around the fact that more homes begat more hydro and so on.

The other minor issue I have, is the fact that I was pretty sure that the hydro corridor was there long before the homes.

The hydro lines in question did not just pop up one night.

I find it hard to believe 1) that these supposed EMF waves will be increased dramatically to cause any harm (which there is no real hard evidence to prove there is) and 2) that by increasing the height of the towers and increasing the voltage will reduce the

value of your home.

This reeks of NIMBY!!!

What I am really amazed at is the success of the community to secure a \$25,000 grant from the Town of Aurora.

That is incredible!!

For a municipality that is asking organizations that already pay a great deal of money to use facilities (i.e. the arenas) that they have to fund-raise to offset the cost of building a Town facility, where does it find 25 grand to give as a grant to fight an upgrade to a utility that they are partly responsible for because

they approved these developments in the first place?

It kind of makes you want to say Hummm!!!!

Paul Cooke
Aurora

Doane Hall's Andy went "the extra mile"

To the editor,

On Monday morning, Sept. 13, my husband suffered a mild heart attack and was confined to Southlake Medical Centre.

Then, on Sept. 16, he was transferred to St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto.

On Saturday, the 18th of Sept. he was released from there and given a number of prescriptions to be filled.

On the day he was released we were also having an 80th birthday

party for him so there was a delay in getting the prescriptions filled.

I arrived at Doane Hall Pharmacy at approximately 6.05 p.m., thinking it would be open, but to my surprise, it was closed.

As I was sitting there, pondering what I should do, the door opened to let an employee out.

I immediately ran to the door and asked if the pharmacist was still there.

He appeared at the door and took the prescriptions and filled all three and explained to me how and when they were

to be taken.

My husband, Frank, and our family wish to thank him publicly for his dedication to his profession and also for going the extra mile.

His name is Andy Hadcock.

It's nice to know we have people of this calibre in our town.

Thanks again, Andy.

Betty Young
Aurora

Editor's note: Andy's actions do not surprise us.

Performance support appreciated by TA's communications director

To the editor,

A big thank you to the people who came to Theatre Aurora on Sunday, September 19th, for the special performance of "Painting Churches".

All proceeds went to The Alzheimer Society of York Region.

It was a great afternoon of fine entertainment, refreshments (thanks to The Society for the home-made cookies) and new friends were made.

Thank you for supporting The Alzheimer Society of York Region.

Lauren Ecclestone
Marketing & Communications Director
Theatre Aurora

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Rosemary Schumaker

Editorial
Ron Wallace
Dick Illingworth

Photography
David Falconer

Display Advertising
Bob Ince
Diane Buchanan

Production
Cynthia Proctor
auroran@neptune.on.ca

All Departments
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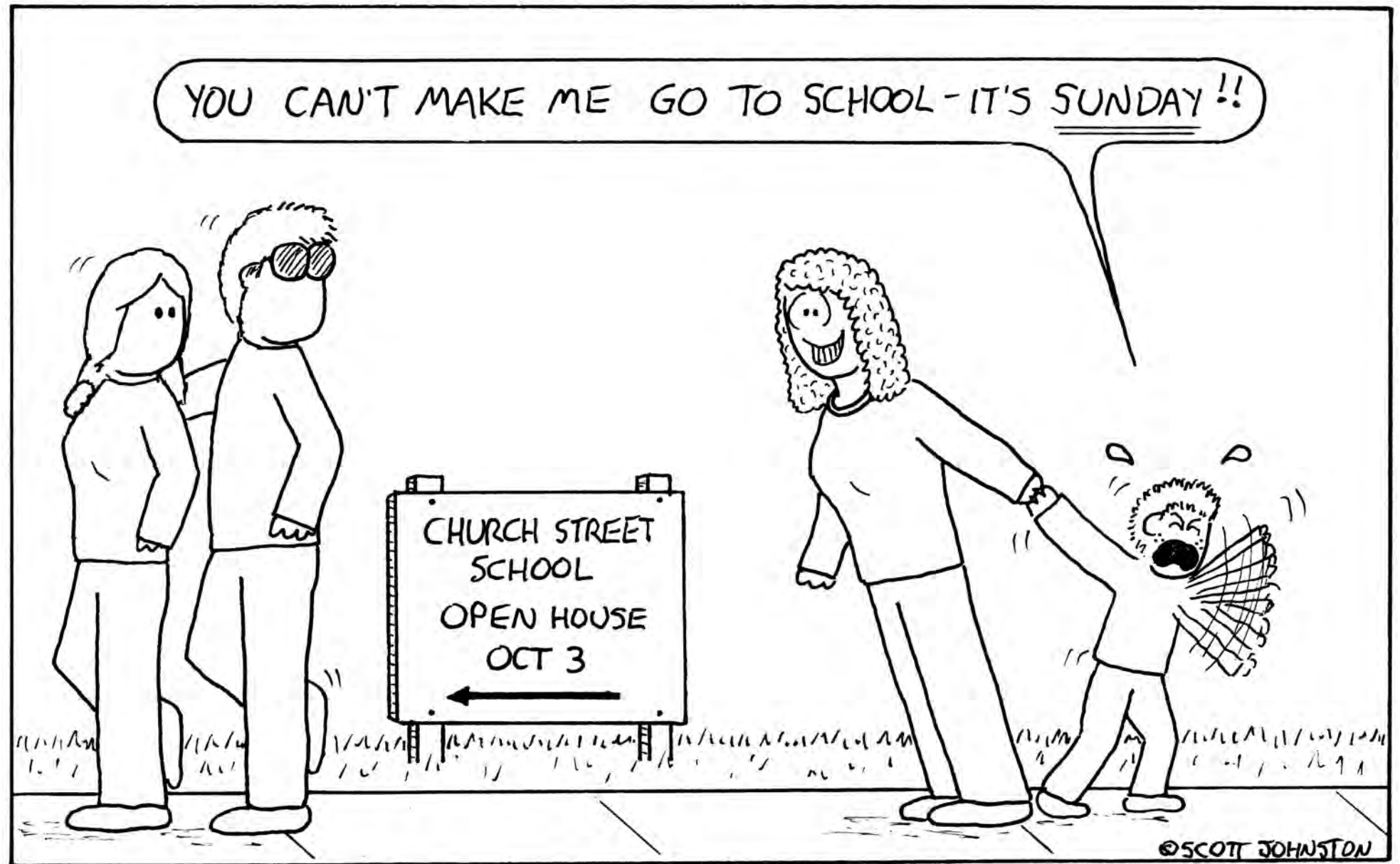
Editorial Department
rwall9999@aol.com

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Mayor's Report By Tim Jones

Annual Report now available

Aurora's 2003 Annual Report is hot off the press. This report essentially wraps up the work of the past council (2000-2003) and is a gauge to reviewing the status of the work of the new council, considering the elections of 2003.

A lot of work went into the research required to identify the new facilities, ice surfaces, pools, and seniors' facilities in 2003.

This work has led to your new council agreeing to proceed with these facilities.

These were major decisions for a new council which will provide needed facilities for our residents for years to come. It also comes with a tax-based price tag which will in part, be addressed by our rate of growth and the development charges associated with growth.

In 2003, Aurora experienced a 100 per cent increase in building permit activity along with a 140 per cent increase in residential development taking in permits already approved in 2002.

It is difficult to remember when we see these statistics, that Aurora, when compared with most other growing municipalities in York Region, has stayed within our Official Plan growth numbers, when most others have exceeded their numbers.

We have been able to manage the growth expectations as developed in our Official Plan, a plan that has always been developed with a great deal of public input and review. Our plan calls for approximately 400 new units per year. Some highlights of note in addition to what I have already mentioned include:

- In compliance with the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, Aurora appointed its first Accessibility Advisory Committee whose goal is to identify and remove barriers for people with disabilities. Councillor John West was the councillor getting this committee up and running.
- In August of 2003, Central York Fire Services hired 19 new recruits to upgrade the response ability of our Fire Services.
- Our Economic Development Officer worked with the Economic Development Advisory Committee to complete the Town's first Economic Development Strategy, enhanced our business presence on the Town's web site and created a new economic development promotional CD-ROM to market to the world.
- Various other business networking and improvement initiatives were undertaken including sessions involving a Yonge Street business breakfast meeting and "De-Mystifying the Municipal Approvals process for businesses" seminar.
- The Town gave approval to sign the site plan for the Canadian National Headquarters for State Farm Insurance as well as numerous other new business developments including a Loblaws Super Centre.
- Council passed its position on the Oak Ridges Moraine which has since been modified to meet the direction deter-

mined by the Province.

- The Town passed a 2003 gross operating budget of 30.4 million dollars, \$15.6 million formed our tax levy.
- Our Parks division planted 50 trees on Murray Drive, 52 trees on Tecumseh and Jasper, 104 trees on Wellington and 81 replacement trees on boulevards.

Space does not allow me to list the hundreds of interest-

ing accomplishments listed in our annual report. For those interested, copies are available at the Library for viewing.

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



I grew up with footsies and klackers

Over the course of the summer, The Auroran published a list of reasons why people over 35 should be dead. Don't believe it. It was worse than that.

I grew up in a time when PULL doors had handles, and PUSH doors had plates, and if you didn't know which was which, you learned by nosebleed.

We got the common sense knocked into us and the natural stupidity knocked out of us pretty early in those days, so we had to count on toy manufacturers to get us into trouble.

This is why we played with things like footsies. A footsie was a toy that had a ring on one end that you slipped around your ankle.

On the other end was a weight, attached to the ankle ring by a cord.

The idea was to spin the ring around one foot, and jump over the weight with the other foot...until you managed to hobble yourself...or at least skin a knee.

I ran out of knees several times a week, so I had to skin the same one over and over again. And there were no Bugs Bunny band-aids!

My mother only had a couple of band-aids in the house, and they were strictly for mortal wounds, like getting impaled on a fence, or putting out an eye.

If I did put out an eye, say on one of the rusty straight nails sticking out of the garage wall...at eye level...my father would probably say: "How could you not see that? It was right in front of you!"

In those days, putting out an eye with a nail, a stick or a pen had already been done, and being the progeny of a creative, innovative generation, our toy companies came up with something better: klackers.

These would be a pair of balls, attached to strings, connected by a ring. We held onto the ring, and skillfully

slammed those balls together, over and under, as hard and fast as we could.

Klackers were just the right toy to put out an eye, for the balls were made of glass.

Shockingly, sometimes the glass shattered, producing enough shrapnel to put out an eye, but most of us escaped with multi-coloured bruises all over our hands.

Yes, it's a miracle that we survived.

But sometimes I wonder whether all the efforts to idiot-proof the world aren't knocking the common sense right back out of us.

Consider this:

CAUTION: AUTOMATIC DOORS. These are doors that appear to open inward, but open outward, so that survivors can enjoy a trip down nosebleed lane while leaning in to read the warning.

WATCH YOUR STEP. This sign is strategically placed at ground level, which would be eye level, once the survivor's face has hit the floor, but before they lose consciousness...just like in the footsie days!

SQUEEZE LEFT. This is for survivors over 35, who have been sucking in the gut so well for so long, they now believe they can suck in the car's gut too...and survive the invasion of the pylons.

And for klacker survivors who did manage to put out an eye...or their IQ, we have clear plastic jars of mixed nuts that "may contain peanuts, nuts and/or seed particles", and sleeping pills that "may cause drowsiness".


Feel safe now?


I don't.


But maybe I'll feel better when we get cologne bottles printed with the warning: "not recommended for marinating," and calendars that caution: "dates are closer than they appear".


Bouquets & Brickbats


By DICK ILLINGWORTH


 **BOUQUETS** to Alexandria Risbey of Aurora on being selected as one of 20 nominees for community service to spend a month in Tuscany, Italy, to study Italian art, culture and language. She was the only representative from North America. It is necessary to have a Tuscany ancestry to be eligible and she was nominated by Tuscans of the World.


 **BRICKBATS** to members of the Leisure Services Advisory Committee for missing the September 9th committee meeting, resulting in a No Quorum report to council. This was unfair to the four members, staff and a delegation of six citizens who wasted a night. If you can't attend, let somebody know in advance.


 **BOUQUETS** to the Aurora midget ball team for winning the Midget Minor Ball house league championship for the fourth consecutive year with a 4-3 win over the Bradford team.


 **BRICKBATS** to those responsible for maintenance around town buildings. The weed bed between the old library and the Seniors Centre is a disgrace. If it was private property there would likely be action before the Property Standards Committee.


 **BOUQUETS** to the Aurora Legion for the colourful and impressive Candlelight Vigil held recently at the Aurora Cemetery when all Veterans' graves were decorated with a small Canadian flag and a candle burned during the night.


 **BRICKBATS** to members of council who ask questions that have little to do with the issue under discussion or already answered in the staff report. Think before you speak. Sometimes it's better to remain quiet and be thought dumb, than to speak up and remove all doubt!


 **BOUQUETS** to Amy Tipton of Aurora on being elected by her peers to be a student trustee on the York Region District School Board. It is her task to represent the voice of the students at board meetings and to keep students informed.

 **BRICKBATS** to the top brass of the RCMP for creating a secret bank account for the \$3 million in sponsorship money and using it to buy horses, trailers and giveaways for its 125th anniversary celebrations and then destroying the records. Who can you trust in Ottawa?

 **BOUQUETS** to Aurora High School student Nathaniel Gery of Aurora on winning the Canadian under 14 outdoor tennis championship in Ottawa recently. He defeated 40 competitors to claim the national title. He won a one-week training session at the International Tennis Academy in Florida.

 **BRICKBATS** to the Ontario planning system devised by the Harris Tory government, which allows a developer to appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board if the council hasn't made a decision within 90 days. Believe it or not a recent application was appealed to the OMB before council was aware of it as the application was incomplete. The clock shouldn't start ticking until the application is complete.

 **BOUQUETS** to Steve Mitchell, community program director of Aurora Cable TV, and Ron Wallace, editor of The Auran, for shedding about 40 pounds each over the summer months and are now displaying their new, svelte figures.

 **BOUQUETS** to Bruce and Marilyn Howe for donating a pear tree to the Aurora Community Gardens in its new location on the town-owned former Jack Wood farm.

Letter to the Editor



Plenty of support for Fox Run

To the editor,

The sun shone on the Aurora Terry Fox Run this year.

It was a little chilly early in the morning when our 80 dedicated volunteers started to arrive, but warmed up in time for the start of the Run at 10 a.m.

The Organizing Committee would like to thank the 503 participants who helped us to raise more than \$25,000 on Sunday, September 14.

All the money raised goes towards trying to find a cure for cancer.

We would also like to thank the following organizations whose help made this year's Run a success.

The Corporate Challenge teams: Curves for Women; Mastermind Educational Technologies Inc.; Park Place Manor; Royal Canadian Mounted Police; Royal LePage, Your Community Realty; Sobey's on Bayview; Solid Financial Solutions.

Other Supporters included Ab Cox; Air Cadets;

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Aurora Hydro; Blue Knights Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club Inc.; Brigitte Carpenter; Chevalier Chrysler Inc.; Dominion; Don Valley REACT;
Freshwater Industries; Great Canadian Bagel Company; Hallmark Canada; Highland Chev Cadillac; Kwik Kopy Design & Print Centre; No Frills, Aurora; No Frills, Oak Ridges; Price Chopper; Regional Municipality of York; ReYork Trophies (Bill Ferguson); Rotary Club of Aurora; Shoppers' Drug Mart, South Yonge, Aurora; Sobey's on Bayview; St. Andrew's IGA; St. John Ambulance; Sundance Signs/Dave Courtemanche; The Aurora Family Leisure Complex; The Auran; The Grand Table Catering Company; The Town of Aurora; Tim Horton's; Timberlane Athletic Club; Trademark Safety Inc.; York Regional Police.

And a very special thank you to the participants, the volunteers, and the hard-working organizing committee.

Sylvia Gilchrist, Tim Moses
Co-Chairs,

Aurora Terry Fox Run
Organizing Committee



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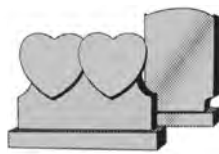
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Letters to the Editor

High school football teams seek enhanced town image

To the editor,

Well, it's that time of year again. "High School Football" time.

As a re-introduction, I am a volunteer "Community Coach" for the Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School Football program.

Our Head Coach is Kent Bulmer who oversees both

the Senior and Junior programs.

Our Senior pre-season has come to an end we fared quite well.

Our team went to Ottawa and had a resounding win there.

Last week we did not fare quite as well losing to a team from Waterloo.

Nevertheless having two exhibition games has been

an asset to the growth of the boys.

Our season starts in earnest with our first home game this coming Thursday. We would appreciate any support and coverage you can give us.

Our goal is to enhance the exposure of the team in the Aurora community.

We plan to Involve the teams in things like the

Santa Claus Parade, Thanksgiving and Christmas food drives, and fund raisers.

Currently we are running both programs with four staff coaches, two volunteer coaches and one student helper.

As you can imagine, for two football programs, that is a skeleton staff at best. We need all the help we can get.

Tom Norwood
Aurora

Letter was "garbage"

To the editor,

This letter (Former councillor takes issue with Buck remarks, Auroran, Aug. 31) is the most dysfunctional piece of garbage I have ever read.

Ms. Buck has served Aurora for many years and has its best interests in mind.

This former councillor's letter attacks everything in such a nasty and vicious manner that it belongs in only one spot: hanging from a roll in the bathroom.

Michael Moran
Aurora

Letter writer hits nerve of author

To the editor,

Hugo T. Kroon, in his ongoing debate about pesticides, implies that I needed his help: "... so that you might be able to string together more than two dozen words to have published."

He is perhaps confusing the extent of my vocabulary to the number of words in his average sentence.

'That's cheeky, Hugo, as well as inappropriate.'

Actually, the first piece I

wrote about the environment was published in 'Crisis', a hard cover anthology by Macmillan of Canada.

I wonder if Mr. Kroon's eloquence - outside writing sales brochures of his lawn care company, of course - has ever been confined within hard covers?

Getting back to his sneering 'two dozen words' reference.

Actually, I have given lectures on both writing and environmental issues to the

following: a World Health Organization conference in Rome, Italy; an International Environmental Conference in Sydney, Australia; the University of New Brunswick, and various other universities including McGill, Queen's, Trent and the University of Toronto.

In none of these places of learning did the faculty scientists feel it necessary to stake little red on white warning signs, on campus lawns, as I strode over the grass.

Thomas Peter Davey
Aurora

Letter writer should be a columnist, this reader says

To the editor,

Although I do not side with Mr. Kroon's ideals on the safety and the use of pesticides (Auroran letter, "Pesticide debate continues..." Sept. 21), I do believe he missed his calling.

Mr. Kroon should have been in the fine arts in the teaching of the English language which people blatantly abuse each and every day.

Please consider hiring Mr. Kroon, even though he lives a long distance away, to become a weekly columnist of your paper, as I enjoy

him very much.

P.S. Winter is coming.

Yvonne Preston
Aurora

ED. NOTE: We suspect we haven't heard the last of Bethesda's Hugo Kroon.



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The Aurora Historical Society is officially \$100,000 richer today thanks to a Trillium grant which was presented at the historic Church Street School last Tuesday night. President of the society Helen Roberts, left, receives a plaque commemorating the event from Trillium representative Verna Ross, who is an Aurora resident. Money will be used to help transform the school into a Heritage Centre.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Tour the school

From page 1

Archives, which currently does not exist.

The Museum and Archives, operating in the same building, will share resources and programming, linked to the distinctive mandate of each.

Society president at the time, Sharon Nisbet, said it was a realistic vision and would enable the society to present the lives and times of the community.

She added that the society had been restricted through lack of space and access. It had been necessary to stop collecting artifacts and curtail programs.

She said the society members appreciated council's commitment, as the Church Street School was part of the community's heritage.

In the lease, the society would be responsible for all operating costs including utilities, minor maintenance costs, and tenant liability insurance, with the town responsible for the exterior building envelope.

The society's commitment to undertake interior renovations is estimated to range from \$750,000 to \$1 million.

And while a 10-year lease with an option for two 5-year terms was approved without comment or debate at an August meeting a year ago, the two parties still have not put final signatures to it.

The lease provides for the society to contribute a minimum of \$20,000 annually in improvements to the interior, pay all operating costs, use the entire facility as a heritage centre, and have the right to sub-let to other organizations with the consent of the town.

From a start in one room of the Yonge Street Town Hall in the early 1960s to the old Waterworks building and to the second floor of the Church Street School, the Historical Society's museum has grown over the years.

In 2001, the society board of directors completed their research and planning for the future of the society, which had been carried out over the past several years.

A strategic direction statement was prepared, which included the concept of an Aurora Heritage Centre.

After more than 20 years of collecting items from Aurora's past, the society's space was depleted and items were spilling over into public areas, resulting in the society being unable to collect anything else.

Expansion of exhibit and workroom space would provide for more curriculum-based programming for Aurora students, and expand the society's service to organized groups.

Board members believed the creation of an Aurora Heritage Centre would help to foster and maintain a distinctive Aurora identity.

Downtown dilemmas continue

In 1981, an Aurora committee known as LACAC (Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee), with assistance from the regional planning department, carried out a study regarding redevelopment and adaptive re-use of properties in the commercial core.

Aurora's controversial downtown area has been a major topic of discussion for decades.

The trade area population for Aurora's primary commercial sector was estimated to be 16,000 in 1980 growing to 20,000 in 1985 and 56,000 to 70,000 in the secondary sector.

Competition for this trading area was dominated by the commercial sectors of Newmarket and Richmond Hill.

Aurora had 647,500 square feet of commercial space with plans to grow to 800,000 compared with Newmarket at 1,447,000 and 1,452,000 in Richmond Hill.

Of the 7,400 people who lived in Aurora and had jobs, 25 per cent or 1,875 worked here, while 75 per cent or 5,525 worked outside Aurora.

More than 2,600 went to the city.

It was pointed out that this high percentage of commuting was blamed for the out-of-Aurora shopping pattern.

A small sample of Aurora's shopping habits reflected the out-of-town pattern for everything except convenience and neighbourhood type trips.

The convenience/food market was the backbone of Aurora's commercial structure.

It was suggested that a potential existed for department store type merchandise, especially ones that are stylized and not of the large scale chain store variety.

As of December 31, 1980, Aurora had 256 registered, but unbuilt lots. Another 249 were at the draft approval stage, making a total of 505 in process.

At the time, the rate of construction was about 160 annually.

Research indicated there was a market for three widely differing types of commercial activity; convenience/neighbourhood shopping, financial,

business and private services and specialized retail that has a regional market.

It was suggested that two sites be considered for development, south which covered the former arena and the waterworks property and north, on both sides of Yonge Street adjacent to Hillary House to take advantage of the potential tourist trade.

Both sites were seen as significant as they formed the visual and functional entrance of the historic downtown core.

It was pointed out that Newmarket had four commercial facilities in excess of 100,000 square feet, with Upper Canada Mall, the major regional shopping centre having 350,000 square feet with a 300,000 square foot extension planned.

Richmond Hill had three facilities of more than 100,000 square feet of commercial space with Hillcrest Mall having 550,000 square feet.

Any attempt to develop similar commercial activity in Aurora would suffer in competition with Newmarket and Richmond Hill unless it contained unique retail or a different type of shopping environment, the study revealed.

It was also pointed out that adequate parking

was essential to the success of most commercial areas that attract patrons who arrive by car.

According to the survey, Aurora had 675 parking spaces in the downtown area; 533 in parking lots and 142 on-street.

It was noted many of the parking lots were private and limited to specific customers. On-street Yonge parking was also reduced during peak travel flow periods.

Based on the general shopping centre standard of 5.5 parking spaces per 1,000 square feet of commercial floor space, downtown Aurora required 820 spaces.

It was stressed that a high priority should be placed on creating a

pleasant pedestrian environment, as the Yonge Street environment was not conducive to pedestrian use.

Not much has changed over the years.

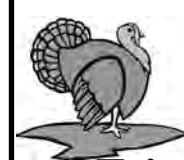
Neither the south site nor the north site was developed as planned.

The old arena site is still empty although a residential complex has been approved and the former waterworks site is home to Park Place Manor.

At the north end, a strip plaza was developed at Aurora Heights Drive, to the north of Hillary House, but that wasn't what the planners had in mind.

And there is still a shortage of parking.

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A large contingent of Aurora Chamber of Commerce members turned out for a barbeque at the chamber building recently. Included in the attendance were, left to right, Wendy Scott, Bob and Kimberley Kerr. Kim will chair the 10th anniversary of the Chamber's Aurora Street Festival next June.

Auroran photo by Rob Schuetze

Aurora gets art gallery

Aurora art lovers are in for a treat when they visit the new Wellington Gallery at 32 Wellington Street West at Machell Avenue.

This is a gallery that will hold its own with anything Toronto has to offer.

It is not a framing shop but a real gallery specializing in original fine art

Girl Guides need help

From page 3

Minister Jim Bradley "will provide schools with up to \$20 million to cover the incremental costs of community use of facilities" so such "community groups as diverse as Girl Guides, seniors' life-long learning programs and basketball leagues will be able to access school facilities after hours and on weekends at nominal cost."

Those savings have not yet been passed on, as each school board must first sign a voluntary agreement, Stade noted.

"Traditionally, local churches have been very supportive in offering low cost meeting space as well," she said.

Recently, Girl Guides celebrated its 75th anniversary as part of the Aurora community, but today's Girl Guide will quickly tell you that things have really changed in 75 years.

The organization describes itself as "bold, energetic, popular and real".

And yes, Stade pointed out, they still sell cookies.

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and is well worth a visit.

Gallery director Sarah Van Nostrand has done wonders with the former T.H. Oliver building.

Her first exhibition, which opened recently and continued until September 26th was a group show of Canadian contemporary paintings titled "True".

Participating artists are Michael Adamson, Philippe Coudari, Karen Curry, Katherine Harvey, Matthew Varey and Steven White.

There is a variety of media including lithographs. Most works are abstracts and quite large.

The gallery is open Wednesday to Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment by calling 905-751-0066.

Opening September 30th and continuing until October 30th the gallery will feature new works by Jonathan Dunkelman titled "Surfacing II" that explore the spontaneity of repetition in nature.

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Ron Tulloch, 68, dies

From page 1
Thompson's Funeral Home Friday night.

That was followed by a ceremony at the Aurora Legion, where Tuck was a long-time member.

Earlier this year, with his health deteriorating, Tulloch was taken to hospital, but showed remarkable improvement and was sent home.

"They thought they were going to keep me," he said, "but I fooled them."

Tuck, and Joan, his wife of 49 years, lived in the senior citizen's apartment building on Orchard Heights Blvd., where Tuck served as the amiable superintendent for 18 years.

"Everyone in the building loved him," Joan said.

When it was time for him to retire three years

ago, officials wanted to move the couple to another building, but Tuck wouldn't go.

And, as usual, he won the battle, still living in the same apartment when members of the Central York Fire Services rushed him back to hospital a week ago Friday night.

"He didn't want to go to the hospital again," Captain Brian Patrick, one of scores of volunteer firefighters who served many years with Tulloch, said.

But this time, Tuck didn't return home. He died in hospital five days later.

A painter by trade, Ron Tulloch has probably painted every school room in Aurora, at least once.

Tuck came to Aurora when he was 12 years old, moving from Toronto where he was born so his parents could help out at

Tulloch's Garage.

That business, owned by his grandfather, was located on the site of today's beer store in the Aurora Shopping Centre.

An avid golfer, Tuck was part of a foursome that teed off early every Sunday morning at the former Aurora Highlands Golf Club.

That foursome played golf together for years at the private club, even though none of them had a membership.

"I do some painting here," he said at the time.

Besides Joan, Tuck is survived by a son, Jamie, and daughter, Cindy, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Another son, Tim, died several years ago.

Services were held at Thompson's Saturday afternoon.

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Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee A hockey team started the year off right capturing the Richmond Hill Early Bird Tournament last week. The team went undefeated in the three round-robin games against the North York Knights, the Brampton Battalions and the Whitby Wildcats before dumping the Caledon Hawks 4-0 in the semis and defeating the Noble King Knights 4-1 in the finals. The coaching staff, left to right, includes Graden Forrest, Jason Miller, Dick Jensen and Frank Demarco.

Tigers lose pair to Hurricanes

The Aurora Tigers lost only two hockey games last year, both of them to the Newmarket Hurricanes.

This year, so far, they have lost two games to the same team in two nights.

In a home and home series, Newmarket took the opener Thursday 5-2 thanks to the three-goal effort of Cory Konecny, but Aurora made it close at the Aurora Community Centre Friday, losing a 6-5 game in overtime.

Konecny added two more Friday as the teams traded goals evenly for 60 minutes.

Aurora appeared to hold the upper hand throughout the game, but couldn't get a grip on the golden ring.

Twenty-four seconds into the overtime, Newmarket broke

Aurora's heart with the game-winner.

Tigers, having lost most of their players to age after last year's incredible run up to the Royal Bank Cup, which they won in a walk, are holding their own this season under new coach, and part-owner of the team Jerome Dupont.

The former NHLer coached the Tigers back in the 90s, and is confident he has a contending team this year.

Tigers have three games lined up this week. Thursday they travel to Stouffville to meet the Spirit, then host Couchiching Friday night at the ACC.

Sunday, they're off to North York.

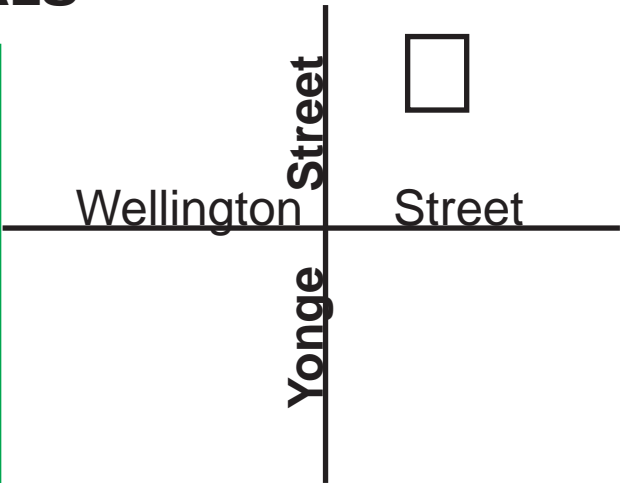
Friday's game begins at 8 p.m., but the new Tigers' Den opens at 7.

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Aurora man wins car at Magna bash

Rick Thornton of Aurora has a brand new Mercedes-Benz thanks to the purchase of a Prospector's Raffle ticket at the recent Magna International "Wild, Wild West" Hoedown.

He was one of more than 2,500 who attended the annual event in Aurora's east end, and helped raise \$401,000 for 10 local charities and not-for-profit organizations.

In its 17th year, Hoedown 2004 included a Texas-style dinner, a live and silent auction, which included passes to Mike Weir's golf course Taboo.

The raffle included more than \$85,000 in prizes and more than 27,000 tickets were sold.

Other winners included: Jason Chow, Toronto (Vienna vacation); Anna Karasik, Toronto (VIP Preakness weekend); Luis Mezia Moza, Keswick (Las Vegas getaway); Keith McLeod, Barrie (\$5,000 cash); Catherine Beattie, Aurora (\$2,500 cash); Cynthia Galbraith, Aurora (\$2,500

cash); Bill Keates, Richmond Hill (\$1,750 cash); Andrea Hanak, Barrie (\$1,750 cash); and Silvano Piluso, Oak Ridges (\$1,000 cash).

"Through our Corporate Constitution, each year Magna gives a portion of its profits to support charitable groups and causes in those communities where our employees work and live," said Sandra Levy, event director for the Hoedown.

Proceeds of this year's event and raffle supported Aurora Minor Hockey Association; Aurora Skating Club Inc.; Bereaved Families of York Region; Big Brothers Big Sisters of York; Canadian Mental Health Association, York Region Branch; Community Home Assistance To Seniors; Community Safety Village of York Region; Newmarket Soccer Club; Pathways for Children, Youth and Families of York Region; and York Region Food for Learning.




Mayor's golf tournament

The Seventh Annual Aurora Mayor's Charity Golf Classic went off under perfect skies last week and more than \$50,000 was raised for six Aurora and district organizations. About 130 golfers took part, including the foursome in the top photo, Aurora Councillor Damir Vrancic, Tom Beck, Fred Moller and former Chamber of Commerce president Brian North. Volunteering to help out with the organization were, in the bottom photo, CFTO Sports Director Lance Brown, who was Master of Ceremonies, Golf Committee chairman Steve Hinder, and committee member Christine Gardner. Benefitting from the event were the Aurora Museum, Aurora Seniors' Centre, Aurora Safehaven, CHATS, Girls Incorporated of York Region and Theatre Aurora.

Tournament was held at Silver Lakes Golf Club in East Gwillimbury.

Auroran photos by Rob Schuetze



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Clublink clubhouse location now closer to Yonge Street

Aurora Council was expected to ratify a general committee recommendation that ClubLink will get a new clubhouse for its east course, the former Aurora Highlands.

ClubLink acquired the former Aurora Highlands property consisting of two 18-hole courses and the clubhouse for \$6.9 million in November 1997 at an auction as the club was in receivership.

ClubLink held a public meeting in April 1998 to display plans for the reconstruction of the former Aurora Highlands east course.

Due to many public comments and concerns, council deferred

making a decision.

The delay resulted in ClubLink officials announcing the cancellation of their reconstruction plans. The clubhouse was demolished in September 1998 and the corporation submitted a proposal for a seven-storey, 184-unit retirement home with a clubhouse as part of the ground floor.

A smaller retirement home officially opens on the site later this week.

In May, 2003, planners for ClubLink made a presentation to council about the future plans for the east course.

It was proposed the course be converted from public to private and be rearranged to

accommodate a new two-storey clubhouse on the west side of the course near Highland Gate.

Now the proposal is to locate the clubhouse adjacent to the 18th hole, west of the retirement home.

A total of 75 parking spaces will be provided on the north side of Golf Links Drive with a tunnel

under the roadway for golf carts.

Councillor Bill Hogg recalled previous negotiations with the same developer and recommended staff bring the final site plan to council for approval.

His amendment was adopted on a 5-3 vote and the motion as amended was approved by the same margin.

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Atom AE 4 East Gwillimbury 0

Kevin Lukezic 1G 1A, Daniel Laflamme 1G, Sean Glynn 1G, Marshall McGaffey 1A, Brett Wilson 1A, Dylan Woyslaw 1A, Thomas Hagias 1A, Dylan Hussey 1A, Jake Langford 1A, Kelley Hudson 1A.

Atom AE 1 TNT 1

Dylan Woyslaw 1G, Thomas Hagias 1A, Tyler White 1A.

Novice AA 11 Flamborough 1

Konner McMillan 2G, Ian Dunlop 1G 1A, Quentin Campbell 1G 1A, Branden Fennell 2G 2A, Liam Coll 1G 2A, Matthew Iwai 2A, Jack Caldwell 1G, Sean Foxwell 1A, Austin Lane 2G, Spencer Green 1G, John MacDonald 1A.

Lorne Park 6 Novice AA 1

Branden Fennell 1G, Kyle Locke 1A.

Novice AA 2 Caledon 1

Austin Lane 1G, Matthew Iwai 1A, Konner McMillan 1A, Branden Fennell 1G, Quentin Campbell 1A.

Novice AA 5 Markham 2

Connor Graham 1G 1A, Branden Fennell 1G, Jack Caldwell 1G 1A, Spencer Green 2G 1A, Austin Lane 1A, Kyle Locke 1A, Quentin Campbell 1A, John MacDonald 1A.

Novice A 2 Bradford 2

Harrison Smith 1G, Liam Beresford 1A, Connor Cowl 1A, Austin Persaud 1G, Alec Ground 1A, Scott Kostin 1A.

Innisfil 5 Novice A 1

Alec Ground 1G.

Georgina 7 Novice AE 1

Nicholas Papousek 1G, Graham Robinson 1A.

Clarington Toros 4 Minor Atom A 3

Eric Archibald 1G, Peter Sandwell 1G 1A, Eric Bulloch 1A, Jonathon McConnell 1A, Quincy Ing 1G, Hayden Trask 1A, Andrew McDonald 1A.

London 4 Peewee AA 1

Dillon Cappell 1G, Andrew Whitley 1A.

Peewee AA 8 Markham 1

Tyler Sikura 2G, Matthew Tuck 2G, Louis Lamanna 1G 2A, Kevin Zacharuk 2G 1A, Luke MacLeod 1G 1A, Max Lerner 2A, Andrew Whitley 2A.

Minor Atom AE 6 Richmond Hill 5

Liam Devlin 1G, Daniel Antoneil 1G, Zach Ferry 1G, Vincent Ruscica 3G, Erik Kimmerer 1A, Bailey Miller 2A, Sam Steenhorst 2A.

Atom A 6 Beeton 4

Jesse Bentolila 1G 1A, Taylor Butler 2G, Kyle Spicer 2G 1A, Chris Youtoff 1G, Matthew Skoulikas 1A, Ryan St. Germain 1A, Sean Nishimura 1A, Cooper Riswick 2A, Matt Noseworthy 1A, Rory MacNeil 1A, A. J. Killens 1A.

Minor Peewee AA 9 Milton Winterhawks 2

Steadman Dinning 1G 2A, Denis Casey 2A, Brett Matthews 1G 1A, Channele Hassard 1A, Matthew Mears 1G 1A, Justin Nice 1G, Matthew Miller 2A, Cody Weese 1G, Brandon Pedersen 1G 1A, Blair Cuthbert 2A, Kamran Karamchi 1A, Eleeza Cox 1G 1A.

Minor Peewee AA 6 Markham 1

Steadman Dinning 1G 2A, Denis Casey 1G, Justin Nice 1G 1A, Matthew Miller 2G 1A, Cody Weese 1G, Brandon Pedersen 1A, Chris Piron 2A, Eleeza Cox 1A, Channele Hassard 3A.

Minor Peewee AA 4 Oshawa 4

Matthew Miller 1G, Kamran Karamchi 1A, Justin Nice 1G 1A, Denis Casey 1G,

Eleeza Cox 1G 2A, Chris Piron 1A.

Minor Peewee A 4 Caledon Hawks 0

Stephen DeMarco 1A, Kyle McCreedy 3G, Tyler Jensen 1A, Michael Vance 1A, James Harkin 1G.

Minor Peewee A 4 King City Knights 1

Michael Nonnewitz 2A, Kyle McCreedy 4G, Tyler Jensen 2A.

Minor Peewee AE 8 Georgina 0

Brendan Strachan 1A, Mitchell Sziraky 5G, Nicholas Silverio 1A, Daniel Howie 1G 1A, Adam Reid 1A, Josh Beaton 1G 4A, Jamie Hawkins 1G, Scott Kimmerer 1A.

Minor Peewee AE 4 Barrie Colts 0

Chris Venditelli 2A, Daniel Howie 1G, Mitchell Sziraky 1G, Scott Kimmerer 1G, Jamie Hawkins 1G 1A, Matthew Schmitt 1A, Josh Beaton 1A, Nicholas Silverio 1A.

Minor Peewee AE 7 Markham 0

Josh Beaton 3G 1A, Brandon Thompson 2G, Brendan Strachan 1G, Daniel Howie 1A, Michael DiVincenzo 1G, Patrick Jones 1A, Nicholas Silverio 1A, Mitchell Sziraky 2A, Adam Reid 1A, Luca Battiston 1A.

Peewee AE 2 Barrie Colts 2

Tyler Tisdale 1G, Michael McGorlick 1A, Matthew Pellegrini 1G, Patrick Lee 1A.

Peewee AE 5 Ajax 3

Geoff Gianopoulos 1G, Shawn MacEachern 1A, Matthew Pellegrini 1G, Michael McGorlick 2A, Evan Jones 1A, Aaron Beally 1G, Corey Jefferey 1A.

Goulding Park 3 Minor Bantam AA 1

Matthew Mikhaili 1G, Adrian DiRosa 1A.

Minor Bantam AA 7 Georgina 3

Tyler Sikura 2G 2A, Marcus Tochett 1G 2A, Adrian DiRosa 2G, Tyler Hanlon 2A, Brandon Galante 1A, Tyler Persaud 1G 1A, Ryan Besse 1A, Emilio Nafarrate 1G,

Connor McQueston 1A.

Minor Bantam AA 1 Uxbridge 0

Minor Bantam AE 3 Georgina 3

Bantam AA 4 Newmarket 4

Bantam AA 4 Richmond Hill 3

Bantam A 3 Meadowvale 2

Chris Finlay 1G, Jeremy Cohen 1G, Jake Hurlbut 1G, Fraser Kegel 1A, Josh Meron 1A, Spencer McCartney 1A, Ross Pizzurro 3A.

Bantam A 5 Hamilton Coronation 1

Chris Finlay 1G, Eric King 1G, Darcy Pelosse 1G, Jesse Coote 1G, Ross Pizzurro 1G, Josh Meron 1A, Nick Crain 1A, Jamie Tuck 1A.

Bantam A 6 Barrie Colts 1

Darcy Pelosse 1G, Fraser Kegel 2G 1A, Ross Pizzurro 2G, Nick Crain 1G 2A, Jeremy Cohen 1A, Josh Meron 2A, Greg Gianopoulos 1A, Spencer McCartney 1A.

Bantam AE 6 Orillia 3

Minor Midget A 2 null 1

Neil Kileeg 1G, Connor O'Grady 1G, Jonathan Adams 1A, Drew Jenkins 1A.

Vaughan 2 Minor Midget A 0

Midget AA

Aurora Tigers 6 Pickering 6

Peter McNeil 2G, Vinnie Davenport 2G 1A, Adam Hankins 1G, Kyle Robinson 1G 1A, Sean Mulroy 1A, Nathan Rivard 2A, Michael Osbourne 2A, Micael Jack 1A, Dave Martyn 3A, Daryl Osbourne 1A.

Midget A 7 Markham 2

Ryan Kines 2G, Corey Berube 2A, Craig Waites 1A, Andrew Welch 1G, Dylan MacKinnon 1G, Calen Simmonds 1G 1A, Matt Cleverdon 1G 3A, Marc Quagliarini 2A, Keith Mitchell 1A, Matt Cundari 1A, Chris Statchuk 1A, Mike Parkhill 1G.

Photo highlights of Children & Youth Fair



First ever Children and Youth Fair was held Saturday at Aurora's Town Park and every indication points to yet another annual event for the community. Plenty of activities were available for the youngsters throughout the course of the afternoon as is visible in these photographs. The colourful clown, top, is "U-Who", while the Aurora Stingers Youth Soccer Club welcomed "Stinger" to the festivities, above. Below, left, Lincoln the dog is escorted by Jason Dent. Lincoln is a St. John Ambulance therapy dog. Terry Kelleher conducted a concert during the event, left.



*Auroran photos
by David Falconer*

How times and conditions change

In 1970 the Ontario Progressive Conservative government unveiled its "Design for Development, The Toronto-Centred Plan" which called for the retention of agricultural land, recreational space and greenbelt in the "commutershed", which included Aurora and Newmarket.

In 1971, the government established population targets for the TCRP and Aurora and Newmarket was assigned a total population of 45,000 to 50,000 by 2000.

At that time Aurora had a population of 12,000. By early 1973, Aurora came under heavy development pressures despite the restrictions placed on the municipality by the TCRP.

In April that year Premier Bill Davis was guest speaker at a \$10-a-plate fundraiser for York North MPP Bill Hodgson at the Aurora Highlands Golf Club.

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

Today, it's hard to believe you could have a fundraiser for \$10-a-plate, and that there was once a plan to contain urban sprawl.

What happened?

WHERE WAS VIC PRIESTLY?

In June, 1973, the tender for the demolition of the old York Manor at Yonge and Eagle Streets, in Newmarket, where the Court House is now located, was awarded to National Building Demolition for a bid of \$22,800, the second lowest bidder.

The low bid of \$12,250 was submitted by Seamus Devlin, but regional engineering staff did not believe the firm had the experience to do the job.

Three other bids were received, from Hansen Brothers, Teperman and Sons and Greenspoon Brothers, but where was Vic Priestly?

WHAT HAPPENED TO PROGRAM?

Back in August, 1989, Judy Baldwin of Baldwin Associates appeared before council to explain the Good Neighbours Program.

The objective of the program was to assist in the establishment of support services for elderly people who may require use of available community services.

Aurora had been selected as one of five communities in the province to take part in the pilot program by the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

The ministry provided \$1,000 to launch the program in the municipality.

The main role of the municipality was to provide a 24-hour central telephone number staffed by volunteers who acted as resource people, able to refer inquiries to the appropriate agencies.

Council designated staff of the Leisure Complex as the town's Good Neighbour to answer calls Monday to Friday between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. and on weekends from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

When the complex was closed, Telecare's telephone number was left on the answering machine.

Today, Info Aurora acts as a Good Neighbour for residents of all ages but whatever happened to the Good Neighbours Program?

CHICKEN FEATHERS '69

In 1969, the Aurora Drama Workshop produced "Chicken Feathers '69" which made headlines and history in Aurora.

There were few municipalities of Aurora's size at that time that could produce a full scale original musical production dealing with local issues and local people.

It was such a hit that it was repeated for the next few years and it may have been partially responsible for the creation of the Aurora Musical Theatre Society, which later joined with the Aurora Drama Workshop to

form Theatre Aurora.

One of the songs in the 1969 production was "Lament for Clarence" and dealt with Clarence Davis's defeat at the polls in his bid for re-election as mayor by Councillor Dick Illingworth, who after 15 years was still a new boy to town and who had only served for two terms.

Theatre Aurora continues to entertain theatregoers with excellent productions, but there was something very special about the original productions of "Chicken Feathers".

BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOUR

In December, 1989, the Aurora Shopping Centre rescued the town from an overnight school bus parking problem and a similar parking problem when the buses were not in use.

For months members of council had been seeking a solution due to citizen complaints.

Many of the drivers were women who needed to park the buses close to their homes as they did not have cars.

School bus companies complained that it was hard enough to recruit drivers without compounding the problem.

Shopping plaza property manager Brian Worth advised council that the plaza had a large shopping lot and some areas were underused.

Council received his offer with appreciation and forwarded copies of his letter to the bus companies and school boards.

The complaints stopped coming but there is an absence of buses being parked at the shopping centre, so where are they?

Water tower location returns to municipality

Aurora has its park back. Question now is, what to do with it.

In May, 1980, the region's engineering committee recommended that the one-acre site where the South Aurora water tower was located should be parkland.

It was pointed out that a condominium housing project was located adjacent to the site and encroachment onto the regional property had forced the region to decide on a course of action.

But a park agreement was never made.

The 40-year-old water tower was demolished last year and Aurora Council decided to resurrect the park concept, as the town had owned the property prior to it being taken over by the regional government.

In March, 2003, a

request was submitted to the region for the lands to be returned.

The region was agreeable on condition that the town trade town-owned lands south of Aurora Heights Drive where the town's former sewage plant was located.

The lands were required by the region for the construction of a new water treatment facility required as part of an upgrade of two wells.

In June, 2003, it was proposed that the Davis Road site be used as a Habitat Home location.

In September, regional council approved the land exchange for the nominal sum of \$2.

But the region added a clause to the effect the transfers were conditional in the event either property was not used for municipal or non-profit purposes.

In June the clause was brought to the attention of town staff and a letter was sent advising the town was not agreeable to the added condition.

It was also requested that the town receive a prompt response, as staff was anxious to return the issue to Aurora Council for

their final approval as soon as possible.

Last week, approval was given to remove the condition without comment from members of regional council.

Now it's up to Aurora councillors to decide what they want to do with the property.

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Aurora once had an old lamplighter

Today people take streetlights for granted.

They get noticed if the bulb burns out and throws the street into darkness.

Imagine then what it must have been like in Aurora prior to November 23, 1888, when the first five street lights were lit for the first time.

Electric lights in Aurora grew from a glimmer in the eye of a man named George Phillips to the Aurora Hydro-Electric Commission of today.

Prior to November, 1888, the street was lit every evening by the chief constable.

Phillips operated a sash and door factory in Aurora and had received delivery of a 25 horsepower engine and a 37 horsepower boiler.

After the engine and boiler were in operation, Phillips realized he could supply power for streetlights in the evening when his plant was not in operation.

Near the end of October, 1888, he approached council about the possibility of supplying four street lights, 50 feet above the street, for an annual cost of \$300, which was the cost of operating the oil lamps.

Council gave him permission but asked for five lights, 45 feet above the street. They were so popular, citizens asked for more.

But Phillips had his problems, as he was plagued with breakdowns in the lines and in the plant itself. Town council renewed his contract for 1890 but added that deduction of \$3 would be made from the \$300 for every night the lights were not satisfactory.

In 1892, Phillips supplied 10 streetlights at an annual cost of \$450 for 225 nights.

Of those nights, 214

were specified by council according to the moon schedule and the other 11 were to be named at any time by an officer appointed by council for that purpose.

If the lights did not come on for the specified nights, \$2 was deducted from the payment.

Then on May 23, 1893, a cyclone hit Aurora and the smokestack of the planing mill was blown down.

Phillips was unable to get steam up to run the plant. He fell on hard times and the equipment was sold at public auction.

On January 21, 1884, council entered into a contract with the Royal Electric Company to light the town with two arc lights of 2,000 candle-

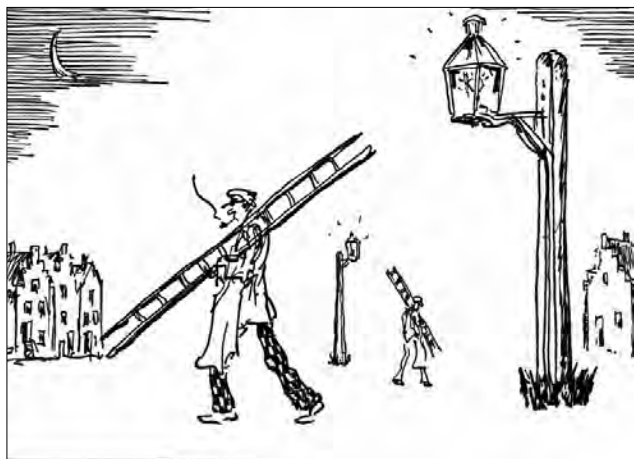
1888

pal system. While council was considering the suggestion, the lights went out.

Kitson Incandescent System of Street Lighting offered to set up two lights on a trial basis and they were used until 1906 when they were replaced by 10 smaller incandescent lights.

More lights were installed at a cost of \$760 per year for a total of 63 lights, which were to be lit until 1 a.m.

In 1907 Aurora Council supported the province in establishing a hydro plant at Niagara Falls for the purpose of



power and 23 incandescent lights of 32 candlepower each at a cost of \$400 per year.

Walter Machell built the powerhouse on Tyler Street, on what became the Collis Leather factory.

W. D. Murray was general manager of the electric light company and in July, 1894, he lit the grounds of the Methodist, now United, Church for an evening garden party and people came from miles around for the gala occasion.

Later the company decided to close the plant and asked council to consider setting up a municipi-

developing electric power for distribution to outlying municipalities.

In 1911, council authorized the Aurora Electric Light Company to apply to the then five-year-old Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario for an estimate of supplying power to the town.

At the same time, the Toronto and York Radial Railway advised they had power to sell to municipalities at a lower rate than the Hydro-Electric Commission.

Council signed a five-year contract with the Street Railway, renew-

able at the town's option. The town started to receive hydro power on April 28, 1913.

The use of electricity grew quickly. In 1920 when the Hydro-Electric Commission took over from the Street Railway, questions were asked about higher price charged by the Hydro Commission compared with the Street Railway Company.

In order to obtain a lower rate from Hydro, it was necessary for Aurora to become a hydro town, with the formation of a local commission.

When the vote was taken 97 electors cast ballots, or about 10 per cent of eligible voters. There were 82 in favor of establishing a local commission and 15 opposed.

Charles Copland was engaged at a salary of \$40 a week as hydro foreman in 1944. A. Bunn was the only other employee at the time.

Later, Copland was named manager and secretary treasurer and held that position until he retired on January 31, 1975. He was known far and wide as "Mr. Aurora Hydro."

The first hydro Commissioners were Mayor Ross Linton, George Baldwin and F. C. Babcock.

Baldwin served as chairman of the commission until 1955 when he left Aurora. Don Glass was elected chairman and served for many years in that capacity.

The former hydro building on Mosley Street was built in 1951 and an addition was constructed in 1968.

With the growth of Aurora, the Mosley Street building became too small and a new

building was constructed on Industrial Parkway South for \$1.3 million. It was officially opened June 25, 1988 and is still in use.

It was early in 1989 when Aurora Council decided to spend \$250,000 to convert almost 1,000 street lights to energy efficient, high pressure sodium lamps.

It was estimated that it would take six to seven years to recover the cost.

At that time most of the fluorescent, mercury and incandescent units were 20 to 30 years old

and were difficult and expensive to service.

It was estimated the town would save \$77,000 on hydro bills over five years, plus the savings on repair bills. In addition the new lights were brighter and made the streets safer.

Today we take street lights for granted but think back to the days when the chief constable as the old lamplighter made his way along the street lighting the lamps or the vision of George Phillips in lighting the way.

CORRECTION

A typographical error in last week's **TILEMASTER** ad on Page 20 had the wrong price. The line should read: **Ceramic Floor Tile from \$.99 s.f. - 13" x 13"**

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Taxi company seeking 14% hike in cab rates

Aurora Council was expected to ratify taxi cab rates that will increase in Aurora in the near future by about 14 per cent.

The rates were approved by general committee last week as a result of a request from Today's Taxi, operator of Aurora's largest taxi company.

The increase request was based on increased costs, including gasoline, mechanical repairs and insurance over the past two years.

The last adjustment in taxi rates was in 1999.

Current meter rate is \$2.20 for the first 300 metres with an adjustment of 20 cents for each 160 metres thereafter.

The proposed new rate would increase the start rate to \$2.75 for the first 200 metres and 28 cents for the next 200 metres.

Traditionally it has been the practice of northern York Region municipalities to maintain a uniform rate as local taxi companies

provide cross border service.

The proposed rates are the same as those recently approved in Whitchurch-Stouffville, and both Newmarket and East Gwillimbury are considering similar rates. King Township does not licence taxicabs.

Information regarding the increase was also made available to the public and comments invited but no responses were received and although members of the public were invited to make presentations to the committee, none appeared.

Bettina MacConnell, a driver with Today's Taxi, opposed the proposed rates and said the rate increase should be 25 per cent similar to that adopted in Toronto.

She said drivers had submitted a proposed rate schedule but it had not been considered and that drivers were working 12 to 14 hours a day.

The proposed increase was approved by the committee.

Thirty-four years ago, Aurora was without a taxi service.

Aurora Taxi, the town's only surviving cab firm had closed abruptly and employees said they had no warning of the closure. Firm owner William Barber had apparently left town.

Word of the firm's failure spread rapidly and two weeks later council was besieged with offers from taxi firms. Seven applications had been received and five applicants appeared at the council meeting.

Council asked them to submit formal applications through the town's police department. Three firms were selected on condition they open a dispatch service in Aurora.

In 1972, Aurora's transportation committee reviewed several municipal taxi bylaws and tried to take the best parts to draft

a bylaw for Aurora.

The bylaw included an increase in taxi rates to enable the operators to pay more to the drivers. The new rate was 50 cents for the first quarter of a mile and 10 cents for each additional quarter of a mile or fraction thereof.

The former rate had been 60 cents for the first mile and 10 cents for each quarter of a mile or portion.

By June, 1975, Aurora was down to two companies with no after midnight service because of poor business, and by April, 1978, there was only one cab company in operation.

In 1991, York Regional staff suggested a region-wide regulation for taxicabs on the basis that the industry and the public would benefit, but received little support from regional council.

Concern was expressed by some of the northern municipalities that region-wide regulations might lead to most taxis operating in the more densely populated southern municipalities.

In June that year, Aurora Council strongly opposed the proposal, arguing control should be kept local.

But minutes later they appeared willing to grant Reliable Taxi double plating so the cabs could be used in both Aurora and Newmarket. Action was deferred until a staff report was prepared.

The taxi business in Aurora was relatively quiet until April, 2002, when council approved a limousine licence to Aurora resident Gerry Conetta in spite of a recommendation from staff that the application be rejected.



Alethea Rush of Aurora is the winner of the Aurora Shopping Centre "Back to School Draw". Alethea is seen above, holding her gift certificates.

Susan E. Tucker
Lawyer & Notary Public
905 727-7775

Golf Links Drive humps a step closer to reality

Loathed by many drivers, lauded by local residents, more speed humps will be coming to Aurora, if council approves the request of the majority of residents of Golf Links Drive.

For more than two years the residents of Golf Links Drive have been working with town staff for the implementation of traffic calming measures to control speeding on the street and reduce the number of accidents.

At a meeting of the Traffic Safety Advisory Board (TSAB) in June, residents said more than 3,000 cars a day were using the roadway and there had been 23 reported collisions in the past 13 years.

Auditions

Theatre Aurora has set the dates for auditions for its upcoming thriller "Wait Until Dark".

The performance is scheduled for early February.

Directors are looking for two females, one 10 to 14 years old and one 25 to 35 years old, a four males between the ages of 30 and 35.

Auditions have been arranged for Monday, October 18th from 7 to 10 p.m., and Wednesday, October 20th from 7 to 10 p.m.

Auditions will be held at Park Place Manor, 15055 Yonge Street, between Church and Kennedy.

For further information, call 905-895-1764 or e-mail theatreaurora@rogers.com.

At the following council meeting there was a discussion as to the value of speed humps in controlling speed as it had been noted some drivers speed up to go over the humps.

It was agreed that while police enforcement was the best method of controlling speed, the humps acted as an alternative.

It was pointed out that the residents of Kennedy Street West were happy with the results of the speed humps on their street.

The TSAB recommendation to approve in principle the traffic calming measures for Golf Links Drive was approved.

Staff was authorized to conduct a poll of households on Golf Links Drive to ascertain their views on the traffic calming design and to consult with the public.

A public meeting with approximately 50 residents in attendance was held at the Town Hall last September as part of the process.

Brent Jefferson, traffic/transportation analyst with the public works department, briefly outlined

the history of the project and the process to carry it forward.

He explained that six speed humps are proposed on Golf Links Drive from Yonge Street to Murray Drive with the first speed hump west of the new Sunrise Retirement Home.

He advised that all the emergency services had been contacted and no problems or concerns were expressed except that response by the fire department could be delayed by a few seconds.

All comments received plus the petition signed by 96 per cent of the homeowners will be compiled into a report and forwarded to the TSAB for their October meeting.

The TSAB report and recommendations will be forwarded to council and it will be up to council to make the final decision. If it is approved, there is a 30-day appeal period before the bylaw becomes effective.

Council will have to approve the funding and it will be dependent on the weather if the work can be done this fall.

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Phone/Fax (905) 727-6585
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