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St. John parking rejected

In spite of a request from Aurora Council last July that parking be permitted during off-peak traffic periods on the St. John's Sideroad, the York Region's transportation committee has said no.

Parking is not permitted on regional roads other than locations where the road passes through downtown cores where opportunities for off-street parking are limited and commercial properties directly front the regional road.

Regional staff noted that while there were no specific businesses located on St. John's Sideroad to attract patrons or necessitate parking, the MacKenzie wetlands are unique and tend to attract visitors year round.

However, no provision for off or on-street parking was included in the current reconstruction project design.

It was noted that the Environmental Assessment completed for the project investigated the provision of parking in the vicinity and did not recommend parking for safety reasons.

As a result of the reconstruction, the centerline profile of the roadway through the wetlands is being raised considerably which will limit pedestrian access to the wetlands.

A boardwalk and viewing areas are being constructed as part of the project.

As a result the committee recommended the existing regional bylaw prohibiting parking on the north side of the roadway as requested by Aurora in March, 1998, be amended to include both sides of St. John's Sideroad from Yonge Street to the railway crossing.

At a public information meeting held last July, residents questioned why a boardwalk was to be constructed when no provision had been made for parking.



This huge tractor trailer rolled onto its side last week on Wellington Street West near Bathurst. The 23-year-old driver and his brother were not hurt in the mishap. Shipment of goods was on its way to an area Magna plant. Emergency crews were quickly on the scene, but Wellington traffic was clogged for hours.

Photo by Phyllis Morris

Whipper's Pool needs fixing

It has been some 30 years since a huge fund-raising event took place in the area to raise

money to build a therapeutic pool at the then York County Hospital.

Hydro One confirms power plan withdrawal

Aurora Council has learned from Hydro One that the utility was withdrawing the draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) for the supply of added power to York Region.

As such, a decision by the Minister of the Environment regarding requests by parties to have the Class EA (Environmental Assessment) bumped up to an Individual EA was no longer required.

Hydro One decided to withdraw its draft ESR in light of reviews currently being undertaken by the Ontario Energy Board and the newly established Ontario Power Authority (OPA) to assess electricity reliability issues in Ontario, including York Region.

Aurora Councillor Phyllis Morris noted that more than 700 bump-up requests had been submitted to Hydro One and she wondered

Please see page 12

Aurora residents were involved big time.

Such a project is underway again.

The pool, it became a reality thanks to popular wrestler Whipper Billy Watson, is in need of repair, and it'll cost about three times as much to do that as it did to build back in the 70s.

Supporters of the same hospital, now named Southlake Regional Health Centre, for 25 years, the Newmarket Stingrays Swim Club, armed with several Aurora residents, will be fundraising in Aurora, Newmarket and East Gwillimbury this weekend.

Proceeds from their Annual Tag Days will be split between the Whipper Watson Challenge to rebuild the therapeutic pool at Southlake and the Club to offset travel costs to out-of-town competitions.

"The Stingrays have raised more than \$50,000 for Southlake over the past 25 years," said Club President Bernie Wollenzien. "Our club philosophy is to focus on the whole person, not just swimming skills and so, we encourage our swimmers to get involved and help give something back to their community."

Established about the time the pool was being built, the Newmarket Stingrays group is

York Region's top competitive swim club and the third largest club in Ontario.

It has members from Aurora, Newmarket and its surrounding communities.

The Stingrays are the only amateur sports club to have ever achieved the Partner level for lifetime donors of \$50,000 or more at Southlake.

Meanwhile, others are jumping on the fundraising bandwagon after learning about the launch of the \$1.8 million campaign to renovate the pool.

Whipper Watson Challenge! Campaign Chair Joe Persechini challenged people of York Region and Simcoe County to help raise the money needed to install new equipment, completely renovate the pool and build a special pediatric section.

"This pool was built by our community, for our community," he said, "and now we need the community's help to keep providing this service."

Built in 1976, thanks to the vision and successful fundraising efforts of Whipper Billy Watson, the therapeutic pool at Southlake is the only hospital-based facility of its kind in York Region and is home to one of Canada's only volunteer-supported hydrotherapy programs.

Please see page 14



What's going on here? You'll find out on Page 10. Lester B. Pearson Public School student Natalie Staniewski clears the high jump bar as international athletic coach Gary Lubin watches from a distance.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

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COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

CONTINUING

Friday nights at the Legion. Wildberry Express Jam Night. Free admission. 8 p.m.

On the first Wednesday of every month from 9 a.m. to noon, a satellite constituency office for Vaughan/King/Aurora MPP Greg Sorbara will be open in the council lounge at the Town Hall. Call 1-877-880-6770 for information.

Every Friday night from 8.15 to 10.15 p.m. at the Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School gym there will be a basketball and volleyball drop-in for ages 14 to 18. Call 905-726-4760 for further information.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge #148 meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. at 15216 Yonge Street (south of Wellington). For more information, call 905-830-0205.

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. Call 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. 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.

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

Progressive Euchre every Thursday night. Aurora Legion. 7.30 p.m. Call 905-727-9932.

Operation Catch-Up presents free "Tutoring and Homework Help" for ages 10 to 18 years every Tuesday and Thursday from 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. during the regular school year at the old Victoria Street library building. Call 905-773-7024 for details.

Canadian Federation of University Women Aurora/Newmarket welcomes new members throughout the year for monthly meetings and special interest groups. Contact Barb at 905-713-3587. Trinity Anglican Church, Aurora.

APRIL 22-23

Aurora United Church annual Spring Rummage Sale on April 22 from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. and April 23 from 9 a.m. to noon. The church is located at 15186 Yonge Street south of Wellington.

APRIL 22-24

Aurora's Living in Style Home Show sponsored by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. See supplement in this issue of The Auroran for details.

APRIL 23

Big Bike for Stroke rides in Aurora today. Raise a minimum of \$50 in pledges to reserve your seat on the Big Bike by calling Bryce Wilson at 905-727-3123, extension 3104.

APRIL 27

Start of five-session kids' gardening program for youngsters six to 13, sponsored by the Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society. Register at the Aurora Legion at 6.15 p.m. One time registration fee, \$5. For details, call 905-727-6984.

Theatre Aurora invites 80 seniors to see their next production "Out of Order" at the Factory Theatre at 8 p.m. Sign up at the Seniors' Centre.

APRIL 29

Join the Aurora Seniors as they head to Woodbine for a day of racing and the slots. Cost is \$59 for members and \$64 for non-members. Call the centre to register at 905-727-2816.

APRIL 30

Mayor's Anti-Litter Day, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., followed by a barbeque in the Town Park. Registration necessary. Call 905-727-8214.

Aurora Woman's Institute Euchre and Bridge at the Aurora Seniors' Centre, Victoria Street, at 12.30 p.m. Tickets \$5 per person available at the door. Portion of the proceeds goes towards the new Senior Centre.

MAY 2

Buddhism: A Philosophy for Living seminar (Part 1) at the Aurora Public Library, Lebovic Room. Free Admission. 6.45 p.m. to 8.15 p.m. Part 2 on Monday, May 9, from 6.45 p.m. to 8.15 p.m.

MAY 4

Internet Seminar presented free by Aurora Cable Internet and the Aurora Public Library deals with Spyware and Pop-up. 7 p.m. in the library's Magna Room. Reserve by calling 905-727-9493 or visit www.aci.on.ca.

MAY 5

The Aurora Public Library, with FOCUS, York Region Learning Connections, presents "Steps To A New Career", a free workshop for women. 9.30 to 11.30 a.m. in the Magna Room. Pre-register at the adult information desk or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

MAY 7

Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society annual plant sale at the Aurora Public Library, 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

MAY 8

Luncheon at Hillary House. Noon to 2 p.m. \$15 per person. Call 905-727-4015 or 905-727-8991 for reservations.

MAY 14

16th Annual Girls Incorporated auction. Tuscany Banquet Centre, Edward Street. Admission \$60 each or \$110 per couple includes entertainment, dancing, appetizers and door prizes. Reserve by calling 905-727-4897, extension 305.

Aurora Optimists present the FabFour at the Aurora Legion for a fundraising dance and to celebrate the club's 20th anniversary. Tickets on sale at Royal LePage, 14799 Yonge Street.

National Charity BBQ Day at M & M Meat Shop on Yonge Street from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Music, children's entertainment and other activities planned. Proceeds to the Cohns and Colitis Foundation of Canada. Further information at 905-727-1250.

MAY 17

Devotional meeting sponsored by the Bahai's of Aurora at Aurora Public Library at 7.30 p.m.

MAY 25

Aurora Public Library hosts "Analyzing A Series Of Dreams", part 2, with Stephen Crowther, from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. in the Lebovic Room. Registration is limited. Pre-register at the adult information desk or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

MAY 30

Lake Scugog Cruise and Casino visit for the Aurora Seniors with the day beginning at the Great Blue Heron Casino in Port Perry. That's followed by a cruise on Lake Scugog. After the cruise, there will be time for shopping in Port Perry. Cost is \$69 for members and \$74 for non-members. Call the centre to register at 905-727-2816.

MAY 31

Aurora Public Library hosts a creative writing workshop with Aurora author and instructor Marnie Maguire. 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. in the Marjorie Andrews Room. Registration is limited to 15. Pre-register at the adult information desk or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

JUNE 1

Surfing and Searching - a basic overview of navigating the internet free seminar presented by Aurora Cable Internet and The Aurora Public Library at 7 p.m. in the Magna Room at the library. To reserve, call 905-727-9493 or visit www.aci.on.ca.

JUNE 4

Street dance on Yonge Street between Murray and Henderson, 7 p.m. to midnight.

JUNE 5

Tenth annual World's Longest Street Festival on the World's Longest Street. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Yonge Street will be closed to vehicular traffic from Wellington to Murray.

JUNE 8

Third annual Charity Golf Classic tournament, sponsored by Aurora's Women's Centre of York Region takes place at the Briers in Jackson's Point. To register call Golf Tournament Co-ordinator Shelley Lundquist at 905-727-5837, extension 107.

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Aurora's new Chief Administrative Officer John Rogers, left, was welcomed to his position last week by Mayor Tim Jones who presented the CAO with a framed Scott Johnston cartoon from The Auroran. Cartoon suggests it may be tough sledding for the former Town of East Gwillimbury CAO who sat through a rather uneventful council meeting Tuesday night. *Auroran photo by Ron Wallace*

Red light and sign will be preserved

Aurora Council last week approved a site plan, subject to outstanding issues being resolved, respecting an addition to the north side of the former D-mac Furniture store to permit a Shoppers Drug Mart store, but not before it learned about a little red light.

According to Councillor Phyllis Morris from information she heard at Hillary House and confirmed by a visual check, there is a unique red light on the front of the Yonge Street and Aurora Heights Drive store, with a sign indicating that if the light was flashing it meant the refrigeration unit had ceased operating and whoever saw the light should call police.

It can only be assumed the light was used when an A & P supermarket occupied the premises prior to D-mac moving in, but the light and sign remained.

The application has been reviewed by the Heritage Advisory Committee.

That committee supported the site plan which now includes such heritage fea-

tures as a garden wall within the municipal boulevard along Aurora Heights Drive and Yonge Street, double coach light standards, a reduced sign and changes to the façade.

Discussions took place between the Heritage Committee and Shoppers Drug Mart representatives respecting the addition of a heritage theme as part of the life style photos proposed for the north side of the building.

Agreement was also reached between council and the store's representatives for the sign and the red light to be donated to the Aurora Historical Society as part of Aurora's history.

Mixed reaction to town's logo

Aurora now has a new logo which is being used on all promotional material and other documents within the municipality.

The logo was developed by Rick Sikorski of Communications That Work for a reported \$14,000.

The three designs submitted by the consultant were considered contemporary but with some of the traditional traits of the town's Coat of Arms.

The need for a new logo was questioned by some citizens as it was pointed out that the town had a logo in its Coat of Arms.

The use of a consultant was also opposed as it was claimed a competition of high school students could have developed a logo.

While the logo was approved and is being widely used, a tagline to go with it is still to be found. After the preferred tagline was eliminated as it was too close to a neighbouring municipality, citizens were invited to submit suggestions.

This isn't the first time a logo and a tagline have been suggested for the town as there was considerable discussion by a committee for a catchy logo back in September, 1989.

Committee members claimed the town was doing nothing to promote itself and wasn't helping local business.

It was suggested the town launch a professional advertising campaign to promote Aurora resulting in council putting \$1,000 aside for a video on the town.

The estimated cost of the video was \$20,000 and committee chairman Herb McKenzie said council hoped to get the rest of the

money from other sources.

Cliff Sifton of Highland Chev Cadillac suggested a competition to come up with a logo that could be promoted through the schools with a suggested tagline of "Aurora: We have a story to tell."

Not much has changed over the years except the town has a new logo.

Councillors quit posts

Aurora Council is undergoing committee changes by members for reasons that have not been revealed in public session.

Councillor Ron Wallace last week resigned as Chairman of the Special Events Committee.

It is believed his resignation was brought about by the sudden firing of Special Events Coordinator, Julie Geering, after nine years' service to the town.

No information surrounding the dismissal has been released.

At last week's council meeting when Mayor Tim Jones sought volunteers to represent council on the citizen committee there was a dead silence.

Finally, Councillor Wendy Gaertner said that if Councillor Wallace wouldn't reconsider, she would accept the appointment, which council approved.

Although the Secondary Dwelling Unit Task Force has yet to meet, Councillor Nigel Kean, who had been a strong force behind the appointment of the Task Force, withdrew his name as council representative on the Task Force.

Councillor Evelyn Buck, who opposed the committee in the first place, volunteered to take Kean's place and council endorsed her appointment.

"Can you see the irony in all this?" she asked.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Council will hold a **Special Meeting of The Shareholder of Borealis Hydro Electric Holdings Inc. on Tuesday, April 19th** in the Council Chambers at 1 Municipal Drive **immediately following** the regular General Committee meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 19, 2005.



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Poor Richard

Many issues at council outstanding

*It can be very frustrating,
As answers we never get;
Staff is requested to investigate
The requests are seldom met!
- Poor Richard's Scrapbook*

Every month town staff prepares a "council pending status report" of issues referred for a report.

It's a waste of time and effort because members of council receive it and never question its contents.

Although all the issues are raised in public, some answers are circulated to members of council by memo or e-mail and never hit the council table in public session, so as far as the public and the media are concerned the issue is still outstanding.

It was in December, 2003, when Bob Luery, a board member of the Aurora Cornerstone Church, appeared before council hoping to make a deal for town-owned land north of the church on Industrial Parkway South.

He said the church had been built in 1997 and the current facilities were too small to accommodate its growing congregation.

While various options had been considered the one that made the most sense was to acquire additional land.

The church had two options, either move to a larger site or to expand at its present site.

He noted the town-owned land beside the church which was used in the winter months to dump snow.

He asked if the town would consider selling it and his request was referred to staff for a report.

That was December, 2003, and in the staff report of unfinished business items dated March 1, 2005, it is noted the report was referred to the Legal Department and the response is "ongoing", whatever that means. Obviously members of council don't care as questions are never asked.

In January, 2004, John Volpe made a presentation to the general committee regarding the status of Habitat for Humanity for York Region and staff was directed to identify possible sites and report to council.

It was in February, 2002, when Habitat for Humanity first approached Aurora Council for a site on which to build a home for a needy family. Council approved a town-owned lot on Murray Drive.

Neighbouring residents objected to the loss of what they claimed was park land and council backed down, but directed staff to identify other possible town-owned sites.

The request was repeated in 2003 and 2004 following presentations by Volpe.

The March 1, 2005, unfinished business status reports indicated the request was referred to Leisure Services, but no response date was given and not a single member of council asked why.

In early March, 2004, Councillor Evelyn Buck asked for a report on the history of the relationship between the town and the Aurora Soccer Club and the lease arrangements with the Club for the town-owned Highland Park property on Industrial Parkway South.

She noted the property was prime industrial land and could be sold for possibly a million dollars which would help pay for the new rec complex.

Her request couldn't be found in the status report of unfinished items. Possibly it wasn't recorded or it may have been answered internally without coming to a public session, but Councillor Buck never repeated her request.

In the March 1 status report there are more than 30 pages with an average of five issues on each page of issues that have been referred to staff for a report and are still outstanding.

While many of the issues were raised by council members, some were asked by citizens and taxpayers and it is intolerable that little or no action is taken on them.

They deserve the courtesy of a reply, not to be ignored as they are.

Strangely enough members of council raise issues because it is assumed they believe they are important at the time, but seldom, if ever, follow up and the list of unfinished items continues to grow and grow.

If the staff is negligent for not responding, councillors are equally negligent for not taking follow-up action.

It's part of their job!



Ask and you shall receive. Last week, we knew not a soul in the above photograph. Today, we know most of them. Thanks to the efforts of Ellen Harman of Huntsville and Roy McIntyre of Brampton, we know the following: front row, left to right, Wayne Spence, Peter Osbourne, Bob Armitage, ?, Ted Collet, Lorraine Donney, Ellen Harman, Carol Patrick; second row, left to right, Lorna Elmer, Bill Crysdale, Dave Brome, Carol Burling, Karen Taylor, June Rowling, Fran Hill, Francis Hartman, ?; third row, left to right, Paul Farren, John Willis, Don Collins, Peter Hodgkinson, Cathy Baldwin, ?, Lorraine Fortier, Marion Morris; fourth row, left to right, Jim Loblaw, Terry Besley, Roy Bolton, ?, Dave Fines, Tommy Hulse, John Morning; fifth row, left to right, Nan Dennis Eileen Cole, Marilyn Allen, Donna Case, Edith Bak, Lorna Maxstead and Joan Copland. We still don't know when the photo was taken. Thanks to those who called.

Letters to the Editor

Former resident loved Hartwell half marathon

To the editor,

Sunday, April 10th, was a beautiful day for a run.

As temperatures rose to 20C, the Bob Hartwell fi Marathon Challenge had the best weather yet. With almost 400 participants lining the start, it was promising to be a great day.

The course was quite hilly, so if you didn't like climbing, you always had the down hills to follow. Running through the streets of Aurora, I hadn't thought of the various demographics and unique architectural designs as they varied from subdivision to subdivision.

New homes located where I recall forests or golf

courses, the grand homes of Kennedy Street, the older wooden siding homes that are in need of repair, it was quite a spectacular variance of housing. The volunteers along the race course were so motivating, including the numerous children volunteering, with their big smiles, providing the athletes hydration and words of encouragement.

It was inspirational to see so many kids out, offering their support.

The volunteers really make a race. And their enthusiasm helps carry the runners from station to station.

The final three kilometers was a gradual downhill,

which was very comforting and I had a smile planted on my face for the duration.

Rounding the corner to Wells Street, seeing the Finish balloons and being greeted by the cheering fans, was a really positive experience.

The Aurora residents have once again put on an excellent race and I thank you for all your efforts. Congratulations! We all won.

**Sharon Munslow
Mississauga**

ED. NOTE: Sharon Munslow was raised in Aurora and has raced numerous marathons

including the prestigious Boston Marathon and Swiss Alpine marathon in Switzerland.

AURORAN

**"Aurora's
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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.

To the editor,

Having just returned from three months in Florida, we are now enjoying catching up with the many issues of The Auroran that were waiting for us.

The February 15 issue was of particular interest for two reasons.

First, the article entitled "Several restaurants lived in this building" was well documented.

Many years prior to your documentation, some time in the early 1900s, this building (currently the location of the Filly & Firkin) was the

home of my mother and her family, the Cooks.

My mother, Pearl Cook, married my father, Leslie Borden, in this home on November 12, 1919.

For my parent's 51st wedding anniversary, we took them to the existing restaurant for dinner and my parents noted with interest how the interior had been changed.

They thoroughly enjoyed this visit.

I still look at the building as being my mother's home.

Secondly, the school picture on Page 6 of the same issue shows two cousins

namely Helen and Beverly Borden.

The old pictures that you frequently run are always interesting.

As my sister Doris Widdifield lives in Courtenay, B.C., I frequently send her copies of The Auroran and this will certainly be an issue that she will receive.

Although we no longer live in Aurora, we still consider it "home" and return often.

Keep up the great work with The Auroran.

**Wendy Horsfall
Alliston**



Mayor's Report By Tim Jones

More questions asked and answered

It appears our staff are asked a lot of questions when they are in discussion with our residents. Here are some more 'common' questions that our staff tell me are asked frequently:

Q - Where does Aurora's drinking water come from?

A - York Region is responsible for water supply to Aurora. They operate six wells in the Town. The aquifer from which the Aurora wells draw is part of an extensive aquifer (known as the Yonge Street Aquifer) which is also the current water source for the Town of Newmarket and parts of East Gwillimbury. In addition to the Aurora wells, the Region of York began in September, 2002, to supplement Aurora's water supply with a small amount of Lake Ontario water. The water supply currently servicing all of the southern York Region municipalities through Toronto, has been piped in and blended with Aurora's current ground water supply. In order to prevent future shortages as demand exceeds supply of local groundwater, more areas of York Region will be supplied by blended lake water in coming years.

Q - Do I need a water softener?

A - The natural mineral content of Aurora's water supply, as with all ground water systems, may be more prevalent than a surface supply system like the City of Toronto, which receives water from Lake Ontario. The most common of natural forming minerals found with well supplies, would be calcium carbonate and iron, which are two compounds that occasionally present themselves on fixtures and appliances and account for the general water hardness. Keep in mind these are only aesthetic parameters of drinking water quality and are not associated with health related matters. The main criteria of all drinking water quality are the microbiological-health parameters, in which Aurora maintains a second to none purity rating. Being said, admittedly, as with all ground water supplies, the use of water softeners by residents may be more common, especially with new home buyers. However, please keep in mind this is purely a personal preference and is in no way a municipal endorsement or water quality requirement whatsoever.

Q - My hot water occasionally comes out discoloured red or brown.

A - Occasionally the natural phenomenon of iron coming out of suspension does occur inside hot water tanks, especially if the tank hasn't been flushed out for a while. It is a common practice for hot water tanks to be occasionally flushed out approximately once a year, the stagnation effect plus the induced heat accelerates the oxidation of the natural iron and accumulates in the bottom of the tank. As the settled iron accumulation is flushed and scoured out through the bottom drain fitting of the tank, no further discolouration problems should persist.

Q - Why do we have to License our pets?

A - There are two main reasons: first, should your pet ever run away, staff or Animal Control, through the license tag identification will have a method to identify the owner to arrange for the return of your pet to you, and, second, revenue from license sales helps to offset the cost of animal control in our Town.

These aren't all of the questions and answers submitted to me by staff but they cover a variety of the most common questions asked.

If you have a question that has not been addressed in the two columns, please feel free to call Info Aurora at 905-727-8214 and our volunteers on the desk will be glad to assist.

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



Martha Stewart, I am not!

I thought I was Martha Stewart, but last week, a scarf relieved me of my delusion of domestic grandeur.

It started out as a potentially productive day.

I woke up and made myself a cup of coffee for moral support before strategically planning my approach to the dreaded "do-list"...

...while staring at two pills - a pink one and a white one.

I asked myself a critical question: "Do I want to be calm (the pink pill), or do I want to get things done (the white pill)?"

I had places to go, people to see, and curtains to hang, so I opted for the multi-vitamin, enriched with ginseng, ginkgo biloba and other legal amphetamines.

The powerful delusional effect of the white pill must have been better than advertised, because I was convinced that those curtains would be up before breakfast.

I didn't eat that day.

First, my muscles rippled through my pajamas as I tore open one of four packages that contained the intended curtain panels.

Then, my brain throbbed with brilliance as I took all my measurements according to that one panel.

Now, what are the chances that one out of four identical panels would fail to be identical?

See, even Martha Stewart doesn't have the stats on that.

I proceeded to install my curtain rod. In the wrong place. So, of course everything else went wrong.

You know those "plugs" that make it possible for the cardboard we call "drywall" to actually hold anything up?

Well, the plug went right through the drywall...as if it was cardboard! That's not supposed to happen ...

I got a bigger plug, and suddenly there was a bigger hole in the wall...an abyss, actually. That's not supposed to happen either.

Normally, I'm a regular Bob Vila. I have manual tools, I have power tools, and my husband says I lift like two good men.

Not today.

"Oh, my God," I thought to myself, "I feel like a woman!"

Finally, I rifled through my make-up bag and came up with enough duct tape, twist ties, and spackling to make the rod stay up...that is, if nobody moves, breathes or touches anything in the dining room.

Threading the panels onto the rod revealed the identity of the nonconformist panel - it had to be the one I measured by.

It was the perfect length, while the other three were regulation length...a.k.a. two inches too short. Yup, one was 86" long, not 84" long like it said on all four packages.

What are the odds of purchasing the only defective panel in the store...likely the only one in Aurora...probably in all of Canada?

Like I said, I had places to go...all over Aurora looking for gizmos and gadgets that have the power to avert a do-it-yourself meltdown.

Finally, I got in touch with my creative self and discovered rings with clippees on them.

Enter the scarf. This is no ordinary scarf, it is a swag scarf.

It is just as arrogant as its name suggests, almost as long as Dick Illingworth's resume, and much harder to manage than a council meeting.

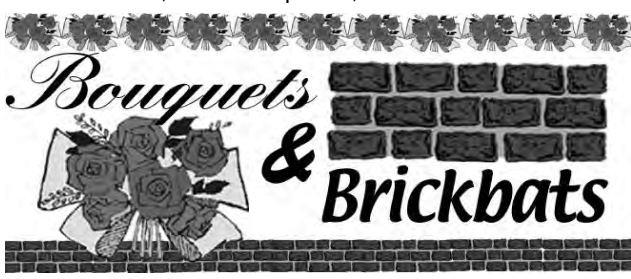
And, it requires pleating. Not pleading (which I have already tried), but pleating.

I figure I'll have the curtain project crossed off my do-list tomorrow morning...when I figure out how to repack-age everything so I can return it.

Then, I'll come home and replace the drywall, take the pink pill, and hope that the sassafras and lemon balm can convince me that I don't need curtains to live happily ever after.

Because apparently, Martha Stewart, I am not.

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



By DICK ILLINGWORTH

BRICKBATS to the creep who stole a birthday present from the surprise party for Rosemary Schumaker at the Howard Johnson Hotel last week. The contents of the gift are useless to anyone but Ms. Schumaker, but their loss caused a second present to also become useless.

BOUQUETS to the member of Aurora Council who will request a status report of the Expression on Interest for Animal Control Services which was published by Vaughan in December, 2004, on behalf of several municipalities including Aurora with a deadline for submissions on January 18, 2005. Complete silence since then and time's getting on!

BRICKBATS to whoever is responsible for promoting special events in Aurora. York Region has a double-page spread in Leisureways, the CAA membership magazine, which lists upcoming events within regional local municipalities and Aurora is conspicuous by its absence.

BOUQUETS to Newmarket for its aggressive campaign to control speeding in residential areas by its use of harmonized speed signs and the Roadwatch program with 1,209 reports to police. Richmond Hill is next with 319. Where was Aurora?

BRICKBATS to Ontario Finance Minister Greg Sorbara, MPP for Vaughan/Aurora/King, for screaming unfair to the federal government for short-changing Ontario by \$23 billion a year, while supporting the concept of pooling in which York Region has been gouged by about \$650 million since 1998 and can't see why residents are upset.

BOUQUETS to Newmarket/Aurora MP Belinda Stronach for writing a monthly column in the Auroran to keep the citizens of Aurora up-to-date of what's happening in Ottawa that may have an impact on their lives. Welcome!

BRICKBATS to the McGuinty Liberal government for warning bureaucrats not to speak to opposition MPPs under any circumstances. The order is completely outrageous, as opposition MPPs have as much right to question bureaucrats for their constituents as Liberal MPPS. What is McGuinty hiding?

BOUQUETS to the 142 St. Andrew's College Highland Cadet Corps on the occasion of their 100th anniversary, which they are celebrating next month with a formal military inspection and parade. Don't miss it; several events are planned.

BRICKBATS to members of Aurora Council for failing to ask how the ice and swimming pool users are doing in meeting fundraising commitments towards the construction of the new rec centre. The centre is going up, but how is the fund doing, or is that being discussed behind closed doors?

BOUQUETS to the Aurora Chamber of Commerce for arranging such interesting Members Business After Hours and to Stewart McLaren and the staff of Almac Conveyor on Engelhard Drive for opening up their plant for Chamber members. It was an enjoyable visit with excellent hospitality.

BOUQUETS to the Happy Hoppers 16th annual Square Dance for Heart with 98 dancers from all over the place. It was a great night for dancing and \$4,650 was raised for the Heart and Stroke Foundation bringing their 16-year total to \$76,862.

BRICKBATS to Premier Dalton McGuinty for lifting the cap on hydro prices requiring the average household to pay an additional \$8 per month while 5,800 staffers make more than \$100,000 per year and the President and CEO makes more than one million dollars.

Letters to the Editor

Highview Heritage Fair may be held annually

To the editor,

Many families of the Highview Public School community enjoyed a great evening of fun and learning at the recent Heritage Fair and Bingo Night hosted by Highview's school council.

The evening began with a traditional Canadian pancake supper courtesy of the Aurora Lions Club.

Many thanks to Fred Bullen and his team from the

Lions Club for their wonderful support and efforts - which included a call for a tow truck to get to the event on time!

Families were invited to stroll through the hallways to view the showcase of students' Canadian heritage-themed projects.

The primary students provided decorative red and white flags, pictures of Canadian seasons and landscapes, provincial pamphlets, and adorable "little beaver"

crafts.

The junior and intermediate students demonstrated their knowledge and interest in Canadian government and many historic events.

Thank you to all students for a great display of hard work! Congratulations and good luck to those students who were awarded a certificate and a chance to display their heritage project at the Aurora Community Heritage Fair at the Aurora Legion on

April 19th!

Students were very excited to meet a real live RCMP officer; many thanks to Constable Colleen Napper for volunteering her time and providing colouring books and Canada flag tattoos.

It was also great fun to create pictures to Tattoo our Moose, and guess the number of red/white candies.

Many thanks to the Grade 7 students who performed a creative dramatization on the Plains of Abraham, and to the Grade 8 students who entertained with their dramatization on the Halifax disaster.

And to top off the night - BINGO! With great prizes!

Using Canadian pennies as Bingo markers, many parents and children of all ages were excited to play this ageless enjoyable game.

Many thanks to all the prize contributors, including R & R Revisited bookstore, Julie Bitzos, Mrs. Crossley and Greg Smith.

A big thank you as well to the Aurora Rotary Club who provided us with a genuine bingo machine.

The evening concluded with \$200 worth of penny donations to the Stephen Lewis Foundation to help ease the pain of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa.

Thank you to all families who came out to participate and contribute to the fun.

And thank you to all volunteers who helped make this evening a success - rumour has it that this may become an annual event.

Julia Walkley-Sherman
Aurora

Highview Public
School Council

Family hopes horrid disease will be stopped

To the editor,

Imagine you have a strong fear of needles.

The slightest sight of blood makes you queasy.

Now, imagine that you are told that you have to have a needle three times a

day and prick your finger four times a day every day for the rest of your life.

Now, imagine that you are four and a half years old.

One of our children developed Juvenile Diabetes when she was that age.

Letter "false", reader says

To the editor,

I had a good laugh reading the letter ("Pensioners better off to apply as refugees") in last week's Auroran.

Unfortunately (or fortunately) this information is quite false - or at best a gross exaggeration of the truth.

This letter has been floating around the internet for quite some time.

It was originally taken

from a letter to the editor which was printed in the Toronto Star.

It was not written by a reporter, but by a reader.

I checked this out and it is indeed an urban myth.

I would urge everyone to checking out any information received on mass e-mails before forwarding them to their friends.

J. Smith
Aurora

Beverley E. Varcoe

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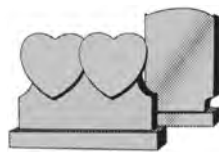


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Aurora economy steady - Lombardi

Aurora's Economic Development Officer, Dino Lombardi, reported to council last week on the economy of the community.

There has been a 36 per cent population growth since 1991, he said and since 2003 the population has increased by 3.3 per cent, the largest percentage change among York Region's area municipalities.

By 2003, there were 1,100 businesses in Aurora resulting in about 18,000 jobs, which translated into five per cent of the total jobs in the region. Since 1991 there has been a 52 per cent employment growth in Aurora.

Since 1998 Aurora has enjoyed an average annual employment growth rate of 11.5 per cent and an average annual business growth rate of three per cent.

Within the employment sectors, the wholesale trade had the largest employment increase with 63 per cent, business services was up 48 per cent and manufacturing increased 41 per cent.

Since 1991 Aurora's live/work ratio has remained unchanged with about 30 per cent of the town's residents working here.

Of the 70 per cent working outside Aurora

about half commute to Toronto while the remainder work in other regional municipalities.

In 2003, he said, full-time employment was 75.2 per cent, part-time 21.2 per cent and four per cent was seasonal.

Approximately 1,100 jobs were lost over the last five years but Aurora experienced a net gain in business and employment with 3,917 new jobs and 103 new businesses, with the greatest percentage in medium (20-49 employees) and large (100-499 employees) sized businesses.

About 97 per cent of businesses are in the

small (1-19 employees) to medium category.

Lombardi pointed out that Aurora's economy continued to grow at a moderate, but steady rate, with new employment and businesses continuing to move to Aurora and small businesses flourishing.

Lombardi suggested the high price of Aurora housing was the main reason most employees worked out of town.

It was also pointed out that when State Farm opens its head office on Highway 404 the live/work ratio should change as some of the employees are purchasing homes in Aurora.



Auroran Publisher Rosemary Schumaker got the shock of her life Saturday when more than 100 people surprised her with a 60th birthday party at Aurora's Howard Johnson Hotel. Siblings and children from several states in the US were on hand for the celebration, as was the bulk of The Auroran staff. In the top photo, offering best wishes were, left to right, columnist Cathy Vrancic, writer Dick Illingworth, advertising reps Diane Buchanan and Bob Ince, production manager Cynthia Proctor and business manager Barbara Perdeaux. Editor Ron Wallace is beside Rosemary. Cartoonist Scott Johnston was in the room somewhere and photographer David Falconer had to take the picture. Some of the "big guns" who showed up were MPP Frank Klees, who lives in Aurora, photo at left, and MP Belinda Stronach, bottom photo. Aurora Mayor Tim Jones was also in attendance. Providing live entertainment were the ChoirGirlz, a trio of which one member is an Aurora resident.

Auroran photos by David Falconer



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Ian Turnbull, of the Canadian Privacy Institute, was the guest speaker last week at the regular Aurora Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Event was held at the Howard Johnson Hotel.

Auroran photo by Rob Schuetze

Where did they go?

Aurora teenagers, graduates of local high schools, go on to university, graduate and then what happens to them?

In June 1968, three Aurora residents graduated and moved on to their future lives.

Judith Ann Dalrymple, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Dalrymple of Jones Court, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from St. Jerome's College, University of Waterloo. She planned to enter the teaching profession.

Kerry McCauley, son of Mr. and Mrs. James McCauley of Catherine Avenue, graduated from Glendon College, York University. He majored in history and planned to enter the Ontario College of Education.

Patricia Keroff, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Keroff of Catherine Avenue, graduated from the University of Guelph with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

She was a member of the first group of students to complete their undergraduate studies in two years instead of three. She planned to attend the Ontario College of Education.

In June, 1976, Vicki Woods, Eric Gilbert and Molly Farquharson, all of Aurora, graduated and started on their new careers.

Vicki, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Murray Woods of Catherine Avenue, was awarded an honours degree in the combined major of French and Sociology from Glendon College of York University. She planned to attend Ontario Teachers College.

Lieutenant Eric Gilbert,

son of Mr. and Mrs. Anson Gilbert, graduated from Queen's University with an Honours Bachelor degree. On graduation he joined the Air Command of the Canadian Armed Forces.

Molly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Farquharson, received a Bachelor of Arts degree in French and Canadian Studies from Glendon College. On graduation, she moved to Oregon to teach.

In November, 1986, Aurora's Brenda Elmer received a \$1,000 community service award from the York Central Branch of the Canadian Progress Club.

Selected from high school students from across the region, she was able to further her sociology studies at Wilfred Laurier University.

In June, 1987, Renee Gallant, a 14-year-old student at Regency Acres Public School, received the Natalie Davies Memorial Award. The award was presented annually by the Aurora Library Board to a youth who exemplifies the joy and warmth of youth in spirit and in deed.

These are but a few young people from Aurora who continue to set high standards as they move around the world as excellent ambassadors for the town.

43rd Art Show opens at Town Hall April 29

The 43rd Annual Town of Aurora Juried Art Show and Sale, in association with the Society of York Region Artists (SOYRA) will be held at the Town Hall Friday, April 29, from 7 to 10 p.m., Saturday, April 30, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, May 1, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Seven categories - Sculpture, Oil, Acrylics, Watercolours, Mixed media/Alternate media, Pastels and Preserve Aurora in Paint - are included.

The first Aurora Art Show and Sale was held in Victoria Hall in 1963 as a small exhibition under the direction of Cathan Shoniker, a member of the Aurora Recreation Committee.

At that time local artists didn't have a venue to display and sell their artwork and the show and sale solved that.

The art show moved to the auditorium of the Community Centre in 1967 with 20 locals exhibiting their work. Pottery was also included.

The exhibition opened on a Friday night with a wine and cheese reception and art lovers had the opportunity to meet participating artists.

At that time there was a featured artist and for the 1969 show it was Newmarket's 81-year-old Bill Hopkinson, a well-known artist whose paintings were in the Group of Seven style.

More than 500 attended and June Lackie of Newmarket won Best of Show. Aurora's Valerie Ives was first in the non-professional class.

The 1970 show was another outstanding success with Bill Jackson of Newmarket winning Best of Show.

One of the highlights was a collection of sepia prints of the homes of past mayors of Aurora by Aurora artist Dorothy Clark McClure.

Ms. Shoniker had moved to Peterborough but returned to organize the 1971 show.

One of the featured attractions was the work of students of Aurora artist Dorothy Eplett.

In September, 1971, council supported a parks and recreation committee recommendation that the 1972 show be bigger and better, to celebrate its 10th anniversary.

Two local exhibitors at the 1972 were Keith Walton in the student class and Vi Henderson in the non-professional class.

The Beta Sigma Phi sorority purchased a painting by Raymond Gurr in memory of sorority sister Beth Smith who had died a few months earlier.

In 1973 a committee consisting of Councillor Pete Miller, Bunny Sorley and Dorothy Clark McClure organized the art show and sale. One of the features was a raffle for a painting by Dorothy Eplett.

The 21st Aurora Art Show and Sale was held in the community centre during early May, 1983, and it was a success.

At the 1983 show a "Preserve Aurora" section was added at the suggestion of LACAC. Council agreed to reserve the right of first refusal

for the winning entry up to a price of \$500.

It so happened there was a tie for first place between "Belfrey of the Church Street School" painted by Trish Stevens and "The Artist's Colony" by Bette Jenkins, so the town purchased both of them.

By the 27th annual art show in 1990 work was accepted from the area bounded on the south by Steeles Avenue, Highway 89 on the north, Highway 48 on the east and Highway 10 on the west.

At the time there were five categories, oil and acrylics, watercolours, pencil, pen and ink and alternative media, plus the Preserve Aurora category in any media.

There was no longer a Best in Show award but winners and honourable mentions were selected in each category.

ry.

As the whole floor of the Community Centre was now being used students were invited to submit entries in two categories, Senior Student for high school students, and Junior Student for elementary students.

In 2002, council endorsed a recommendation of the Leisure Services Advisory Committee that the 2003 Art Show and Sale be held in the new Aurora Library during the June Chamber of Commerce Street Festival.

Later in 2002, council was advised that SOYRA members were not in favour of the new location and indicated they would withdraw their support and assistance with the annual art show.

As a result council rescinded its previous motion and the Aurora Art Show and Sale continues in the Town Hall.



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Page 10

Week of April 19, 2005



Making sure the camera doesn't miss his achievement, Lester B. Pearson Public School student Chuka Ononye casts a glance at the cameraman as he clears the high jump bar in Pearson's gymnasium last week. Coach Gary Lubin is in the background, left, as other students await their turn.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

School gets a jump on Spring

By CHRISTINE WOODLEY

Lester B. Pearson Public School keeps their students jumping - literally.

University of Guelph track coach Gary Lubin recently spent five days at the school, giving more than

440 kids an introduction to high jumping. The students, Grades 4 to 8, got a chance to learn from the best, since Gary brought along some high calibre assistants.

Taylor Neely is the Provincial Bantam Champion and Britteny

Hopley holds the record for her age nationally.

As for Lubin, he has coached at seven world championships and trained Olympian Mark Boswell.

(Boswell was expected to make a surprise visit to the school Monday).

The coaches had the kids jumping, arching and landing correctly in no time.

"Our motto is have fun while improving," Gary said.

The program was the result of a phone call to Gary from the school's ath

See page 12

Jaguar Gymnastics

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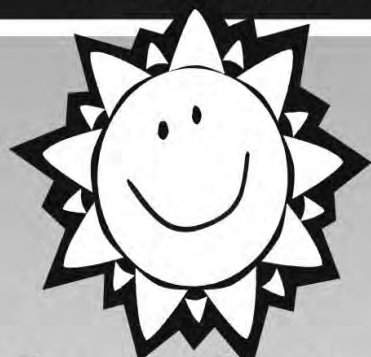
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Theatre Aurora, Marquee scoop THEA honours

Theatre Aurora and Marquee Productions were on the winning end of things at this year's THEA Awards. Two productions entered by Theatre Aurora garnered 10 nominations and three awards as the Association for Community Theatres Central Ontario (ACT-CO) honoured excellence in community theatre.

Meanwhile Aurora's Marquee Productions corralled eight nominations and took four awards. Theatre Aurora entered the musical "Li'l Abner" and the thriller "Wait Until Dark", while Marquee entered "A Christmas Carol" and "The Wizard of Oz". For "Li'l Abner", the nominations were, Sound

Design - Peter Nassler; Set Design - Jeff Burke; Technical Achievement in Set - John Harkins; and Best Supporting Actress - Maureen Lukie as "Mammy Yokum". Award winners were for Choreography - Baiba Senecal; and Scenic Painting - Shelley Matthieson. "Li'l Abner" was also nominated for Best Musical Production. For "Wait Until Dark", nominations included Best Lead Actress - Samantha Lynch as "Susy Hendrix"; and Best Supporting Actor Lee Meakins as "Carlino".

Peter Kelly and Eric Glynwilliams won the award for Best Set Design. Marquee's Audrey Turner and Rachel Berchtold won awards for their costume design and construction of "A Christmas Carol". The other three awards went to their "Wizard" production and included best lighting design, best musical direction and a special innovation award for incorporating animation, computer-generated effects and film sequences into the production. "This was our first time entering this festival and we

feel just great about our accomplishments," Sheryl Amirault, Marquee's president said. Theatre Aurora, meanwhile, will soon announce its slate of plays for next

season. Its next production is "Out Of Order" a madcap farce by Ray Cooney. Tickets are now on sale by calling the box office at 905-727-3669.

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Thornhill Funskate Results

Following are the results of the Aurora Skating Club at a recent Thornhill Funskate event.

Canskate Burgandy Ladies Freeskate: Group 4 - Sidney Lambert, 7th.
Canskate Purple Ladies Freeskate: Group 4 - Rachel Glynn, 3rd.
Canskate Blue Ladies Freeskate: Group 1 - Annabelle Alberton, 3rd.
Canskate Orange Ladies Freeskate: Group 3 - Gaenor Laverty, 6th.
Canskate Red Ladies Freeskate: Group 2 - Gabrielle Perugini, 2nd.
Pre-Preliminary Ladies I Freeskate: Group 6 - Sabrina Brochu, 1st;
Group 11 - Ashleigh Calvert, 3rd; Group 12 - Savannah Hendy, 6th;
Group 13 - Marilena Perri, 2nd; Group 15 - MaKaenzie Maunder, 5th;
Group 16 - Tejia Rom-Colthoff, 1st; Group 18 - Shannon Lacombe, 2nd,
Samantha Duncan, 4th; Group 19 - Molly Oulahan, 1st; Group 23 -
Asyssa Simon, 5th; Group 26 - Shauna O'Connor, 3rd; Group 27 -
Danielle MaCaskill, 8th; Group 30 - Dylann Miller, 5th; Group 31 -
Carley Steiner, 4th; Group 33 - Zahra Rajan, 6th; Group 38 -
Katrina Thunem, 3rd; Group 43 - Jakianne Abbey, 4th; Group 45 -
Kortney Weichel, 4th.
Pre-Preliminary Men I Freeskate: Group 2 - Austin Bushell, 5th.
Pre-Preliminary Ladies II Freeskate: Group 1 - Alesia Chiovitti, 6th,
Group 7 - Jacqueline Relke, 6th; Group 12 - Julia Chiovitti, 4th; Group
17 - Kaitlin Van Winckle, 8th; Group 18 - Amber Ciolfe, 6th; Group 20
- Taylor McDowall, 4th; Group 21 - Nicole Calvert, 3rd, Samantha
Galati, 4th; Group 22 - Hailey McGrath, 4th; Group 24 - Sophia
Perugini, 2nd; Group 25 - Nina Malek, 5th; Group 26 - Alana
Fabbicino, 1st; Group 27 - Jihyun Cha, 1st.
Pre-Preliminary Solo Dance: Group 6 - Alicia Alberton, 2nd; Group 9 -
Carley Steiner, 4th.
Preliminary Solo Dance: Group 5 - Zahra Rajan, 3rd; Group 8 -
Jackianne Abbey, 1st.
Junior Bronze Solo Dance: Group 5 - Caylin Butler, 5th.
Senior Bronze Solo Dance: Group 2 - Amber Ciolfe, 4th; Group
5 - Amanda Alberton, 6th.
Pre-Preliminary Showcase: Group 6 - Christina Kubiw-Kalashnik, 2nd;
Group 8 - Samantha Duncan, 4th; Group 11 - Taylor McDowall, 3rd;
Group 12 - Alana Fabbicino, 2nd, Sophia Perugini, 5th.



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Finishing their regular season in fifth place out of eight, this Aurora Monday Night Men's League team, sponsored by Masterclean Contracting, emerged with all the marbles after finals were played last week. Making up the team are, front row, left to right, Ralph Berry, Bruce Ng, Mike Allen, Mark English and Mike Kensit. Standing, rear, left to right, are John Siebner, Marty McDermont, Steve Reswick, R.J. Farnsworth, Jack Radiki, Hugh Alcorn, Alain Boudreau, Murray Campbell and Angelo Nasato.

Photo by Braden Goodfellow

School's jumping

From page 10

letic co-ordinator (and parent volunteer) Patti Albert.

"My job is to find out the priorities of the teachers and then try to fill them" she said. "High Jump was a priority that was mentioned this year."

So, she got in touch with the Ontario Track Association and was soon led to Gary.

"He is so enthusiastic. In fact, he is planning two special clinics at York University, on April 29 and May 6, for Lester B. Pearson students," she said.

Coach Lubin is impressed with the school's

initiative.

"This is the only school in the district to organize such a thing," he said. "The teachers have been great. Some have even been taking notes so they can continue the training after we're gone."

So have any future stars been spotted during the event?

"We're not here looking for stars. The objective is for everyone to improve and have fun. But, even so, I've seen 20 or more kids who really have potential," he said.

And, for the kids, it's been a fun and active way to spend part of a school day.

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Aurora Minor Hockey Association

Results up to 9 AM Sunday, April 17

Website: www.aci.on.ca/amha



House League Playoff Results

110 Teal/White TIM HORTON'S SHARKS 11: Michael Ruggerio 2G, Griffen James 2G 2A, Jake Appleby 3G, Cameron Brown 1G, Hayden Hassard 2G, Liam Gray 1G 1A. **105 Gold/Black TIM HORTON'S BRUINS 4:** Bowen Reid 1G, Michael McKerracher 1G, Jeff Stobo 1G, Matthew Caicco 1G, 1A Denzel Speller-Drews 1A.

104 Royal/White TIM HORTON'S BLUES 8: Jimmy Abels 1G, Tyler Coletta 3G, Joseph Battiston 1G, Connor Rice 1G, Dennis Semonoych 1G, Graeme McDonald 1G, Andre Cristillo 1A, Andrew Waite 1A. **109 Orange/Black TIM HORTON'S FLYERS 1:** David O'Connor 1G, Eric Bortolotti 1A.

103 Red/White TIM HORTON'S RED WINGS 3: Christopher Baggio 1G, Christian Baggio 1G, Cole Thiessen 1G, Matthew Leroy 1A. **101 Green/Gold TIM HORTON'S STARS 2:** Wyatt Jones 1G, Ryan Donovan 1G, William Stroud 2A.

108 Grey/Black TIM HORTON'S KINGS 7: Matthew Galajda 2G, Matthew Bellerby 3G 2A, Nick Armour 2G, Brady Mulhern 1G, Lillian Diaz 1 A, Michael Walsh 1A. **107 Maroon/White TIM HORTON'S AVALANCHE 2:** Tyler Boston 2G, Michael Hosmer 1A.

102 Black/Gold TIM HORTON'S PENGUINS 8: Nicholas Baxter 4G, Nathan Romanchych 2G, Ryan Ouwroutles 1G, Alex Popa 1G, Adam Newell 2A, Graydon Gardner 1A, Joey Hodgson 1A, John Partland 1A. **106 White/Royal TIM HORTON'S LEAFS 5:** Sandy Hudson 1G 1A, Jesse Weimer 4G, Jacob Hagias 1A, Samantha Hussey 1A, Andrew Klinowski 2A, Christopher Klinowski 1A,

Kory Wansborough 1A.

706 OMAR'S SHOES 6: Derek Isidoro 2G, Eric Bailey 2G, Graeme Smart 1G 1A, Dylan Calvert 1G, Ben Slimkowich 2A, Dane Gregoris 1A, Scott Denotter 1A. **708 PIZZA PIZZA 2:** Jason Durst 1G, Steve Foss 1G, Jason Rutledge 1A, Aaron MacDonald 1A.

705 SKATERS FIRST 3: Ian Hayzelden 1G, Michael Hartman 1G, C.J. Melichercik 1G, Marshall McQuillan 2A, Daniel Korolnek 1A, William Ginther 1A, Evan Campbell 1A. **704 FRESH WATER INDUSTRIES 2:** Zac Simmonis 1G, Mike Hay 1G, Mike Grande 1A, Jamie Russell 1A, Kevin Nandall 1A.

806 I.O.O.F. AURORA LODGE 148 F.L.T. 8: R. Rojas 3G, R. Casselden 1G 1A, J. Smith 1G, J. Adams 1G 1A, E. Davenport 1G 2A, R. Van Winckle 1G, L. Leddy 1A, N. Whelan 2A, M. Spick 1A. **802 Black/Gold PIZZA PIZZA 6:** G.

Haralampopoulos 3G, C. Di Vincenzo 1G 1A, T. Flanagan 2G 1A, C. Pilkey 1A, A. Ahsan 1A, D. Boorn 1A, A. Hosko 1A.

805 Gold/Black PIZZA PIZZA 5: Mark McCrudden 2G 2A, Nick Epworth 1G 1A, Connor Ryeland 2G. **804 HIGHLAND CHEVROLET CADILLAC 2:** Anthony Pusateri 1G, Charlie Teel 1G, Nick Campoli 1A.

806 I.O.O.F. AURORA LODGE 148 F.L.T. 4: D. Kerekes 1G, J. Adams 3G, R. Rojas 1A, T. Miskolczy-Macdonald 1A, M. Spick 1A, M. Holland 1A. **801 Green/Gold PIZZA PIZZA 2:** Dylan Brennan 1G, Sam Caldwell 1G, Darren Giroux 1A.

802 Black/Gold PIZZA PIZZA 3: D. Puopolo 1G, G. Haralampopoulos 1G 1A, C. Di Vincenzo 1G, D. Boorn 1A, T. Flanagan 1A. **803 SMITTY'S PAINTING & DECORATING 3:** Chris Ramsay 1G, Michael Nealon 2G, Tyler Pratt 1A, Jared Pelletier 1A.

Tigers' Peewee AE team wins again

By BRENDAN JONES

Despite threatening rain, spirits were high as the Aurora Tigers Peewee AE hockey team embarked on their sixth and final tournament trip of the season.

It turned out to be wildly successful.

Fresh from their OMHA league championship series win against Whitby two weeks earlier that capped an incredible season during which they won four of five tournament championships, these 12 and 13 year old Aurora boys had one final goal to accomplish - bring home a gold medal from the Can-Am tournament in Lake Placid, New York.

So, they did.

With parents and siblings in tow, the boys poured into the bus early Thursday morning for the long ride to Lake Placid.

Despite a strong start and scoring the first goal early in the game, the Tigers succumbed to their travel fatigue and lost 3-2 to the Junior Red Eddies from Lewiston, Maine.

The loss set the stage for another uphill tournament battle.

The following day, with renewed energy, the Tigers were prepared to face their next two opponents.

In the morning game, after a tight first period, the Tigers' relentless fore-checking and strong defense proved too much for the Old York Road Raiders, as Aurora exploded for six unanswered goals in a 6-1 victory over the Philadelphia-area team.

Hydro

From page 1
what would happen to them with the suspension of the Environmental Study Report.

Mayor Tim Jones replied that he and interim CAO Scott Somerville had met with OPA officials and it was understood they would review all previous submitted material.

Morris said there were many unanswered questions regarding EMF and health issues and she had concerns with the process.

Councillor Evelyn Buck suggested a wait-and-see position as it was up to the province to decide what action would be taken.

A letter was also received from Markham stating that Markham supports Aurora Hydro, Newmarket Hydro and the Town of Newmarket in their pursuit of the Northland Power local generation project subject to a satisfactory environmental screening process.

Councillor Morris noted that part of the Northland Power presentation referred to providing Newmarket and Aurora with the opportunity to invest in the project.

She sought clarification.

It was agreed to refer the issue to staff to determine the status of the request for support.



The 2004-2005 Aurora Tigers Peewee AE team is comprised of Bob Tisdale (Head Coach); John Howard (Assistant Coach); Ken McKay (Assistant Coach); Brian MacEachern (Trainer); Wendy Agostino (Manager); and players Ryan Ceresino (G), Myles Fisher (G), Darcy Eveleigh (D), Corey Jefferey (D), Evan Jones (D), Patrick Lee (D), Shawn MacEachern (D), John Caleb Ross (D), Sean Agostino (F), Aaron Beally (F), Geoff Gianopoulos (F), Michael McGolrick (F), Andrew McKay (F), Matthew Pellegrini (F), Matthew Semeredy (F), Jakub Sykora (F), Conor Sheridan (F) and Tyler Tisdale (F).

The afternoon contest proved to be somewhat of a mismatch as the Tigers easily dominated the New England Stars from New Hampshire.

Six boys from each team were chosen to compete in Saturday afternoon's skills competition.

This proved to be a highly entertaining affair and the Aurora boys, with parents, coaches and teammates cheering them on, did not disappoint. Competing against both AA and A teams, the select group of AE Tigers won all of their heats in the four-man skating relay, racing to a win in

the final over four skaters from the Flamborough Sabres AA team, and placed second in the shootout.

Having lost their first game, the Tigers needed to win Saturday night while limiting goals against, to ensure that they would qualify for the gold medal game on Sunday.

A solid defensive effort against the Pennsylvania Predators resulted in a 3-0 win and a berth in the tournament final.

As they've done all year, the boys rose to the occasion Sunday with a convincing 6-2 win over the Rhode

Island Sharks.

There would be no "Miracle On Ice" this year for any American team that drew the Tigers in the final.

After receiving their individual gold medals, the team was presented with a large Can-Am Tournament Champions banner and a classy gold medal plaque that was proudly displayed in the front window of the bus (and declared at Canada Customs) on the victorious trip back to Aurora.

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TOWN OF AURORA

Department of Leisure Services

LEASE OF LIBRARY SQUARE

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Town of Aurora Council at its meeting of March 29, 2005, approved the Terms and Conditions for the Lease of 20,000 square feet of space within the former Library and Seniors' Centre at 56 and 52 Victoria Street respectively.

Interested parties are requested to submit their expression of interest in a sealed envelope to the Director of Leisure Services by no later than 4:30 p.m. (local time):

May 30, 2005

The Town will consider all submissions, however priority consideration will be given to non-profit, community based organizations within Aurora. Existing users of the facilities will be given no priority status and equal consideration will be given to all groups.

Staff will be providing tours of the facilities on May 3rd and May 12th from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for all interested applicants. The former Library is a three (3) storey structure with approximately 16,000 square feet of available lease space. The Seniors' Centre is a one (1) storey structure of approximately 4,000 square feet. Applicants are requested to indicate which location and square footage they prefer. Both facilities have limited to no parking available. Anticipated occupancy will be late 2005, subject to Council approval.

The Terms and Conditions are as follows:

1. Space will be Leased at a cost of \$9.00 per square foot per year, plus utilities (present utility costs are approximately \$2.00 per square foot per year).
2. The Town of Aurora has identified a list of property improvements required to ensure the facilities comply with the Ontario Building Code. These works will be completed upon the Execution of Lease Agreements by the Town of Aurora.
3. The Lessee shall be responsible for all Lease-hold improvements and required permits.
4. All Leases shall be for a minimum of one (1) year and a maximum of five (5) years, please specify the requested term in your application.
5. All expressions of interest must indicate any special requirements (i.e. kitchen, private access, high ceilings etc.) as well as preference of facilities or location within a particular facility.

Thank you for your interest in this Lease opportunity. All submissions will be presented to the Leisure Services Advisory Committee for consideration and recommendation to Council.

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RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

When Cobblestone Lodge was a hotel

After the Queen's Hotel at the corner of Yonge and Wellington Streets was demolished in 1970 to make way for a bank, it was believed Aurora was without a hotel and although many proposals were submitted for motels and hotels, none came to fruition.

But by 1977 Aurora did have a little known hotel, the Cobblestone House Lodge located at Kennedy and Yonge Street with 17 rooms, a TV room and meals.

For a number of years the building had been used as a nursing home but when the pressure of work got too much for Mr. and Mrs. Robert Starkey they turned it into Aurora's only hotel.

It later became a retirement home.

Cobblestone was in the news recently as the new owners applied to convert the facility to include a boarding house as some of the rooms on the second floor were not considered suitable for seniors.

PARTNERSHIP IN LEARNING

Back in May, 1994, the Aurora Chamber of Commerce launched the "Partnership in Learning" program with the York Region Board of Education to provide Aurora students with valuable work experience.

It was seen as a two-way street with the business community coming into the classroom.

The Public Board was supported by the York Region Separate School Board.

The Separate Board started its co-op program in 1987 with 55 students and by May, 1994, had more than 1,000 students gaining hands-on work experience.

The co-op program was seen as a better transition into the world of work for students.

Students were able to see more clearly the relevance in their studies, learn what's expected in the business world and discover the many kinds of possible careers.

The co-op program is still going strong but what happened to the Chamber's Partnership in Learning Program?

LINKS WITH BUSINESS

About the same time the York Region Board of Education launched its "Links with Business" program in February, 1994, as part of the board's Continuing Education Department.

According to a board official the board could make \$1 million over two years providing training to businesses.

An economic turndown at the time created a need for training and re-training of employees.

The training program was run jointly with the York Education/Industry Foundation, a non-profit organization which provided counselling, assessment and job-training and re-training for business.

In addition to the program of responding to the needs of the business community, there were spin-off benefits to the board including new partnerships with business and increased revenue for other board programs.

In this period of a shortage in provincial educational funding, what happened to the Links with Business program and the York Education/Industry Foundation?

Maybe it should be re-considered as a means of obtaining additional revenue and replacing tax dollars.

HARRIS IN AURORA

In October, 1993, Ontario Progressive Conservative Leader Mike Harris told members of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce that governments should stick to governing and let business do business at the Chamber's regular luncheon meeting at the Atrium Ballroom.

He was critical of the Bob Rae NDP government that kept people from working and businesses from investing with their labour laws and policies.

He added there was too much government and red tape and business was being stifled.

He was also critical of job equity as it was driving business from Ontario, as businesses were being told to hire regardless of qualifications. According to Harris other generators of unemployment included the outdated Workers Compensation Board, Unemployment Insurance and high taxes.

He expressed concern about the problems of small business under the Rae government and said the Tories would establish a Small Business Task Force to revitalize small business in Ontario and invited the Chamber to make a presentation.

That was in 1993. Where is Mike Harris today? (ED. NOTE: Living quietly in Woodbridge)

CHAMBER WANTED MORE RETAILERS

At a luncheon meeting in June, 1985, the Aurora Chamber of Commerce attracted 42 members at an open meeting designed to obtain input from the members.

It was suggested that more members be encouraged from the retail sector.

The need for more members and more revenue was necessary in order to staff the new Chamber office on a full-time basis.

The office was in a sales trailer from the Lakeview subdivision that had been moved to Yonge Street and Industrial Parkway South.

In addition to membership, the Bell Extended Area Survey, Sunday shopping and the new office were the major items of discussion at the meeting.

Membership is not an issue for the Chamber today, which boasts more than 750 corporate members.

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ONTARIO'S DRIVE CLEAN

Fundraising begins for pool

From page 1

Together, Southlake's team of five specially trained physiotherapists, four physiotherapy assistants and 50 dedicated volunteers manage some 26,000 patient visits each year.

According to Dan Carriere, President and CEO of Southlake Regional Health Centre, the availability of a therapeutic pool program in the hospital provides many benefits to patients.

"Water therapy is very helpful to people who are too weak or in too much pain to exercise effectively out of water," he said. "Following hip and knee surgery, patients can move more freely in the warm water and perform important exercises that allow them to recover faster."

At nearly 30 years old, the pool's mechanical equipment, patient chair lift and change room facilities are at the end of their lifespan and require replacement and extensive renovations.

The pool has been closed since last summer.

Only a few of the highest risk patients are receiving rehabilitation

pool therapy at a private facility in Newmarket.

The Whipper Watson Challenge! campaign has already started receiving pledges and donations from community service groups and individual donors.

Proceeds from the Newmarket Lions' Chilifest, The Beta Sigma Phi Gift Wrapping and the Newmarket Stingrays tag

days have already been earmarked to support The Whipper Watson Challenge!

"We've already raised \$552,000 even before the official campaign launch," Persechini said. "There is such a positive response from people when they hear what a difference the pool therapy program can make in the lives of people who live with constant

pain, I just know this campaign will be successful!"

For more information about The Whipper Watson Challenge! or to make a donation contact the Southlake Foundation at 905-836-7333 or foundation@southlakeregional.org.

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Judy studied academic painting and drawing in Florence, Italy. She has appeared on City Line TV.

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- **Place:** 2 Orchard Heights Blvd. Unit 16

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Aurora Community Centre, Aurora Heights Drive (1st light North of Wellington, West of Yonge)

April 22 (2 - 9 pm), April 23 (9 am - 7 pm), April 24 (10 am - 5 pm)