

# AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

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No Magic

Vol. 5 No. 33 Week of June 7, 2005 905-727-3300



High above the madding crowds, Jodi Muir picks her way up Yonge Street Sunday with 40,000 other people during Aurora Chamber of Commerce 10th annual street festival. More pictures on Page 10 and on the newspaper's website www.auroran.com. Auroran photo by Naomi Tobin



You can save money if you use this coupon at Aurora Day at Ontario Place, Saturday, June 18. The two for one ticket is worth \$30. Clip it and take it with you for a day full of Aurora activity at the popular spot on Lake Ontario.



These four young ladies did a booming business in front of Omar's Shoes Saturday selling bracelets they had made and donating the money to Princess Margaret Hospital. They are, left to right, Douglass Dawson, Lindsey Mocherniak, Nazia Khamissa and Soprah Khamissa. Photo by Naomi Tobin

# Annual event?

As the clock ticked closer to midnight Saturday, two thoughts were beginning to emerge on Yonge Street, between Murray and Henderson.

"This needs to be an annual event," many street dance enthusiasts agreed. "And you need to extend the hour."

Almost 2,000 people danced and partied Saturday night as the Aurora Chamber of Commerce held an event to celebrate its 10th annual World's Longest Street Festival On The World's Longest Street...an annual occurrence that would begin happening about 11 hours after the street dance ended.

And when all was said and done Sunday, more than 40,000 people jammed onto Yonge Street as the weather gods blessed the event for the second year in a row.

Chairman of both events, Kimberley Kerr, was delighted with the success of each.

She's not sure, though, whether she wants to make the street dance an annual event.

"We planned that night for eight months," she said. "It was a ton of work, and it put great pressure on the Chamber of Commerce staff."

Ron Wallace, whose vision in 1996 saw a street sale lasting only one year to acknowledge the

Please see page 8

# **Dave Priestly** dies at 69

The man who was responsible for all the electrical hookups at the annual Aurora Home Show has died

David Priestly was 69.

The Home Show, held at the Aurora Community Centre, celebrated its 19th anniversary earlier this year, and Priestly has wired the centre since the first year the event started.

He died Saturday night at Southlake Regional Health Centre after a brief illness.

His wife, Janet, died earlier

He is survived by son Jim and daughter Jill, and grandchildren Brian, Mark, smantha, Alex, Nick, Matt, and Carly.

He is also survived by his sister Noreen and brother Victor.



Well-known Aurora resident, Bud Gilbert, left, was selected as the Town's Citizen of the Year at an awards ceremony held at the Town Hall last week. Mayor Tim Jones makes the presentation. He is the Town's 36th Citizen of the Year since the program started in 1970. Auroran photo by David Falconer

# **Bud Gilbert: Citizen**

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

Over the years Aurora has developed many fine traditions and one of the finest was the establishment of the Citizen of the Year Award, which started in 1970 and today is 35 years old.

Filling the slot this year is longtime Aurora resident Bud Gilbert.

He was named by Mayor Tim Jones at the conclusion of the town's Community Recognition Awards ceremony Wednesday at the Town Hall before a standing room only audience.

In his presentation Mayor Jones said Gilbert moved to Aurora as a child and had been involved in the community for a

"At an early age our Citizen of the Year became a member of the Aurora United Church, and soon became busy on church committees and outreach activities," he said. "As a young person, our

Citizen of the Year was an Aurora business person and a strong supporter of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce".

The mayor said Gilbert could be found cooking hotdogs in the Town Park during Victoria Day celebrations, walking in the July First parade, serving up beef on a bun after the parade, selling raffle tickflipping pancakes in Sheppard's Bush and delivering food baskets at Christmas as he served the community as a mem-

ber of the Aurora Lions Club. He served on the Aurora Public School Board during the time when Regency Acres and Aurora Heights Public Schools were built.

He has also been an active member in the Masons for many

"We can think of no one more appropriate to receive the 2005 Citizen of the Year Award than Mr. Bud Gilbert, who has made a life

Please see page 14



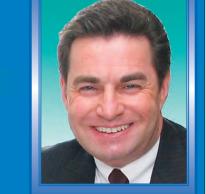
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# **COMING EVENTS IN AURORA**

#### **CONTINUING**

Aurora Rotary Club meets every Monday evening at 6.30 p.m. at Gabriel's on Yonge Street. New members welcome. For further information, call 905-841-

Merlin's Hollow English garden open houses have been set for the summer. Garden will open Saturdays, June 11 and July 2 and Sunday, July 10, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Garden is located at 181 Centre Crescent.

The Wellington Gallery, Wellington at Machell, features local painter Josie Schwarzli and wood sculptor Bob Staley in an exhibit titled "Hidden Beauty" until July 10. Hours of operation are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with other times by appointment. Call 905-751-0066.

York Region Food Network invites you to join the Aurora Community Garden. Vegetable plots (10' x 20') are available at no charge. Call Catherine Cook, Community Garden Coordinator, at (905) 967-0428 or cgcyrfn@bellnet.ca.

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 councillors' 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.

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-

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

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.

#### MONTH OF JUNE

The Aurora Legion is looking for senior veterans to ride jeeps in the Town's July First parade. To reserve a seat in the parade call 905-727-5642 or 905-727-

#### JUNE 9

Annual General Meeting at 10 a.m. at the Aurora seniors' centre main hall. There will be elections for four positions on the Board of Directors. Phone the centre at 905-727-9693 for details.

### JUNE 9/10/11

Greg Foster of the M & M Meat Shop on Yonge Street will donate 10 per cent of sales to the Aurora Minor Ball Association. Customers must say they support the AMBA and 10 per cent of the bill will go to the Association.

**JUNE 10** Deadline for applications for funding from the Aurora Arts and Culture Fund. Applications should be in the form of a letter outlining the nature and general activities of the individual or group and specific use of the grant to Mayor Tim Jones at

#### the Town Hall. JUNE 10/11/12

The 83rd Annual Aurora Fair and Horse Show at Machell Park with several equestrian events over the three days including the Grand Prix on the Friday evening. For more information call 905-713-6773.

## **JUNE 11**

Annual Farmers' Market opens in Temperance Street parking lot near Yonge and Wellington. Every Saturday morning until Thanksgiving. Market opens at 8 a.m.

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Calling all students for Parks Spring Clean-Up from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Aurora Community Centre and Fleury and Machell Parks. An easy way to obtain community service volunteer hours. For more information call 905-726-4760.

Local musician Kathy Reid-Naiman launches her CD "Reaching for the Stars" and performs some of the songs with Ken Whiteley at the Aurora Public Library from 10.30 to 11.30 a.m. Free with ticket available in advance.

Aurora Historical Society bus tour to Bowmanville. All inclusive price is \$47. Call 905-727-8991 to reserve.

#### **JUNE 11/12**

Theatre Aurora is sponsoring a workshop on directing at the Factory Theatre by Ron Cameron-Lewis, who has taught directing courses for Theatre Ontario. Fee is \$30 for Theatre Aurora members and \$40 for non-members. Call Ken Lloyd at 905-727-5475 to register.

#### **JUNE 15**

To celebrate Seniors' Month, the Aurora Public Library, in partnership Ontario Pharmacists' Association presents Safe Medication Use for Heart Health with pharmacist Kalvin Brown. Refreshments to follow. 2 to 3 p.m. in the Magna Room. Pre-register at the adult information desk or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

#### **JUNE 18**

Aurora Day at Ontario Place. For further information, call Kristen Yemm at 905-727-3123, extension 4228.

### **JUNE 20**

Monthly meeting of the Aurora Writers Group at the Aurora Town Hall. Writers' 18+ of all levels and genres welcome to participate in writing exercises and share their work. Contact: Malcolm at 905-898-5484.

#### **JUNE 21**

Visiting Library Services information tea, 1.30 p.m. in the Aurora Public Library's Lebovic Room. Must be 18 or older and able to volunteer two to three hours every three weeks to bring library services to shut-ins.

#### **JUNE 22**

The Aurora Historical Society teams up with David and Diedre Tomlinson for a visit to Merlin's Hollow, the Tomlinson's spectacular garden on Centre Crescent between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. with the \$5 fee going directly to Hillary House renovations. The House will be open for afternoon tea from 2 to 4 p.m. with an additional charge for tea.

Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society monthly meeting and flower show. 8 p.m. Aurora Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North. Guests welcome. \$2. Guest speaker is Kristin Ego-McPhail.

#### **JUNE 30**

July First activities begin with a party in Town Park this evening.

## JULY 1

Various activities, including parade, beer garden, horseshoe tournament and fireworks display occur all day. Most events at the Leisure Complex.

## JULY 4

Baseball summer camp starts at the Aurora Leisure Complex and offers a full-day camp experience for kids aged 5 to 14 until August 26. Campers will be divided into five age groups and will receive baseball skills training as well as the chance to play in a game each

#### JULY 10

Garden tour hosted by the Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society, noon to 5 p.m. Tour eight gardens. Tickets, at \$10 each, are available at Mary's Flower Shop, Flowers By Terry and R & R Revisited.

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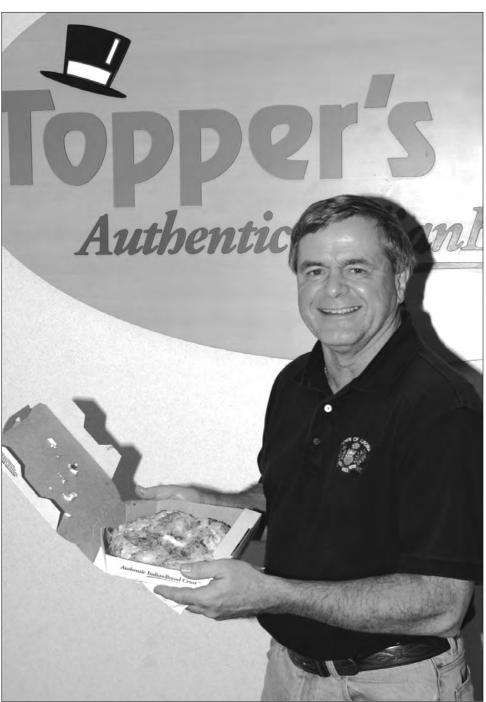
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Pizza for breakfast? Why not? Aurora Councillor Nigel Kean offers a slice from Topper's Pizza, a new vendor in this year's Aurora Farmers' Market, which officially opens for the summer this Saturday morning. As usual, the Market will locate in the Temperance Street parking lot, just south of Wellington West and will operate every Saturday morning, beginning at 8 a.m., until Thanksgiving.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

# Issue back to drawing board

It's back to the drawing board to decide on a title.

Aurora citizens won't know if they have a deputy mayor or not until a review of the town's Procedural Bylaw is carried out.

Since the mid-1970's council has adopted a bylaw at the beginning of the term of office for a new council naming the councillor who topped the poll as deputy mayor, to act from time to time in place of the mayor, but the bylaw was not clear as to the use of the title at other times.

The issue was raised recently when Councillor Phyllis Morris attempted to use the title to sign a letter on behalf of the seniors' group, but was refused by town staff, as the mayor was not absent from the municipality.

As a result CAO John Rogers submitted a memo to members of the general committee suggesting the councillor appointed as the Acting Head of Council be permitted to use the title deputy mayor at any time during the term.

The CAO's memo pointed out that while the Procedural Bylaw and the Municipal Act clearly establish that the power of deputy mayor only takes effect when the mayor is absent or unable to act, but it seemed fair that the councillor who received the highest number of votes should be referred to as the deputy mayor during the whole term.

When the report was presented to a recent general committee meeting, Councillor John West said the position of deputy mayor was started by Councillor

George Timpson in 1977 when he topped the polls, but the intent was that the title only applied in the absence of the mayor.

Councillor Evelyn Buck agreed and asked why it had become an issue because at the election people voted for a mayor and eight councillors, not a deputy mayor.

Councillor Nigel Kean disagreed and said council had adopted a bylaw appointing Councillor Morris, who topped the polls, as deputy mayor and he was surprised that it had become an issue.

Councillor Bill Hogg said it was time to call a spade a spade and asked why council was having a debate when the procedural bylaw clearly indicated the deputy mayor

only acted in the absence of the mayor.

After further debate, Councillor West's motion that the status quo be maintained was adopted by the commit-

tee by a 5-4 vote.

However, when the report came to council the debate broke out again, but this time

Councillor Hogg was absent.
When the vote was called to adopt the West motion to stay with the status quo, it was lost 4-4 with Councillors Gaertner, Keen, Morris and Vrancic in opposition. A subsequent motion to adopt the CAO's report was lost by the same tie vote.

It was finally agreed on a 5-3 vote to refer the issue to a future review of the procedural bylaw.



# Legislation helps disabled

Last week was National Access Awareness Week in York Region and Aurora.

The event was established in 1988 after a request from Rick Hansen, who wheeled 40,000 kilometres through 34 countries during two years, two months and two days on his Man in Motion World Tour.

The Ontarians with Disabilities Act was proclaimed in September, 2002, which required all municipalities with a population of more than 10,000 as well as school boards, transit agencies and hospitals to make facilities fully accessible.

Municipalities were required to establish an Accessibility Advisory Committee with half the members being people with some form of disability.

Initially, there was some concern on the part of municipal councils as to the power of the committee due to the vagueness of the legislation.

The intent of the legislation was to improve opportunities for persons with disabilities through the identification, removal and prevention of physical and other barriers.

The province estimates 16 per cent of the population has a disability and as the population continues to grow older, the numbers will increase.

After 10 frustrating years the Ontarians with Disabilities Committee learned new legislation had been adopted making Ontario the first barrier-free province in Canada.

A new Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act was unanimously approved by the Legislature and is now awaiting Royal Assent.

It promises to make the public and private sectors more accessable for the estimated 1.5 million Ontarians with physical, sensory, hearing, mental health, developmental and learning disabilities.

The new legislation builds upon an Act adopted in 2001 which affected only the public sector.

Aurora appointed a council/citizen Accessibility Advisory Committee under the chairmanship of Councillor John West.

One of their first tasks

cil that an audit of all municipal buildings be carried out to identify barriers and the firm of Associated Planning Consultants was engaged.

Consultants Pamela Cluff and Kevin Final provided the committee with an overview of the work they will carry out as part of the

The committee asked staff to provide the consultants with plans for the new recreational complex and seniors' centre to evaluate the accessibility of the facilities.

As a result of a recommendation from the committee, council authorized the engagement of Trish Robichaud of Changing Paces to provide Disability Awareness Workshops for town staff.

The purpose of National Access Awareness Week is to make people more aware of the barriers in every day life faced by people with disabilities







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# Poor Richard

# Title causes council stir

Names, like roses, smell just as sweet, But problems they can really make: It doesn't take much for our council, To get involved in a heated debate!

- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

Back in 1971 when I was serving as mayor of Aurora I missed a council meeting, one of the few that I missed since assuming office, to attend a convention in Vancouver on behalf of the region.

I was asked what happened if I was absent from a council meeting as we didn't have a deputy mayor.

I explained that the Municipal Act advised that when the mayor was absent, council could, by resolution, appoint one of its members to act in his place.

At the time set for the meeting, upon a quorum being present, in the absence of the mayor, the clerk called the meeting to order and council appointed one of its own members to conduct the meeting.

The Act also advised that council could by bylaw appoint a member of council to act from time to time in place of the mayor when absent and while so acting such member had all the powers of the mayor.

There was no reference to a deputy mayor.

At that time, council had never passed such a bylaw as under the former county system, it was normally assumed the reeve would take over, although there was no statutory authority for this without the adoption of a bylaw.

The system worked well and to the best of my knowledge there was never any discussion or concern on the part of council members or the public.

Then about 1977 the system was changed and the person receiving the most votes for councillor was named deputy mayor but the intent was that the title only be used when the mayor was absent, but the bylaw, if I remember correctly, wasn't entirely clear on that point.

The issue blew up last month when a long and bitter debate erupted at a general committee meeting over the use of the title of deputy mayor which became very personal and out of place at a public meeting.

Councillor Phyllis Morris who topped the polls for councillor at the last election and received the title deputy mayor by bylaw, said the issue was brought up by staff when she was asked by the seniors to sign a letter of support for them as deputy mayor, but was told by staff that she couldn't use the title as the mayor was in the municipality.

In an attempt to clear up the confusion, Chief Administrative Officer John Rogers submitted a report suggesting the person who received the highest number of votes be referred to as deputy mayor throughout the term of office and not just when the mayor was absent.

During the debate, it was pointed out that the citizens elected a mayor and eight councillors and didn't elect a deputy mayor and it was a phony title, while others argued that council by bylaw had appointed Councillor Morris as deputy mayor.

When the vote was taken the CAO's suggestion was rejected and status quo was confirmed by a 5-4

But when the committee report came to council everything changed.

The same heated, personal debate broke out again and the committee report was lost on a 4-4 vote with Councillors Wendy Gaertner, Nigel Kean, Phyllis Morris and Damir Vrancic in opposition.

A subsequent motion that the CAO's report be adopted was lost on the same 4-4 tie vote with Councillor Bill Hogg absent from the meeting.

It was finally agreed on a 5-3 vote to refer the issue to a future review of the procedural bylaw.

It was a complete waste of time and effort as the issue is clearly spelled out in the Municipal Act which provides for an acting head of council when the mayor is absent, with no reference to a deputy mayor.

The legislation is permissive which allows council to make changes in their procedural bylaw, but if council is smart they will allow Councillor Morris to finish out the term as deputy mayor and amend the bylaw to delete the section on deputy mayor



dents in the class and James Haskell was the teacher. In the photo are, front row, left to right, Sandra Fleury, Karen Rose, Wayne Duckenfield, Murray Brown, Sandra Lloyd, Andrea Nicholson, Gordon Hayes, Bryce Krochter, Diane Johnston, Margaret Coward; second row, left to right, Tim Hoffman, Keith Wright, Jim Wells, Vaughan Harris, Joanne Wilson, John Wilson, Donald Faiers, David Knowles, Robert Greenhaugh; back row, left to right, Wayne Billing, Dennis Gerrard, Robert Davis, William McKay, Douglas Buscombe, Heather Chapman, Terry Stone, Verne Eveleigh, Jim Preston, Henry Feirheller, George Harrison, and Mr. Haskell.

# Letters to the Editor

# Is anyone surprised at Belinda's defection?

To the editor,

As overtaxed. beleaguered and betrayed constituents in Belinda Stronach's riding, we deserve unobfuscated, honest (ha!) answers to the following issues.

The underlying disturbing corrosive ramifications leave us seriously disillusioned, disenchanted and eroded by what is so obviously a complete disregard and disrespect for violation of and disinterest in democratic processes and principles and the constitutents she supposedly represents.

1. We already had an acclaimed Liberal candidate, Martha Hall Findlay. How was Belinda Stronach, who was not even a Liberal party member, able to usurp her?

2. How was Belinda Stronach immediately awarded a Cabinet post when she was not even a Liberal party member?

Were she not Belinda Stronach would the same indulgences, privileges and, more importantly, responsibilities been handed to her?

With essentially no political experience and a veritable lack of commisseration with her constitutents, how does she expect to reconcile these glaring disparities?

3. Who has been paying Belinda Stronach's bills at the luxury Ottawa hotel where she has seen fit to reside, the customary accommodations of MPs and those of her constitutents obviously considered by her to be beneath her?

Ms Stronach did, after all, insistently campaign that she was no different than anyone else.

4. How is Belinda able to forfeit her parliamentary pledge taken under oath to represent her constituents?

Instead, she is representing herself. She supposedly works for us. We pay her salary. We voted for her as a Conservative, not a

What if we don't want her as a Liberal?

5. For how long does Belinda expect to be indulged and continue to get her own way?

Were we duped, or should we have known

Upon close scrutiny, is anyone genuinely surprised at Belinda's defection?

Once again more than just voters have been taken in by the empress and her new clothes.

Belinda Stronach was never a Conservative, just an opportunist.

The voters should be marching; they won't get fooled again.

# Sandra Schildroth

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# "I should ask for my \$150 back"

To the editor,

### the Stronach affair.

In recent Aurorans, one could use the Letters to the Editor as a mini-poll on ordinary people's reactions to our turncoat.

There were at least six letters lambasting her for her action and only one, surprise, surprise, praising her for her reversal in political parties, the local head of the Liberal party.

In retrospect, I, a wee bit, decided to help her in her quest for the leadership of the Conservative Party, in which she failed, and then her efforts to run as the nominee Conservative Party in the Newmarket-Aurora riding, which she won.

I should now ask for my

Now I am in a real

quandary.

Will one of your more knowledgeable readers explain how our riding can appoint a Conservative member to be our MP and now find out she is a Liberal?

Who do I have as a member?

As an aside, when Prime Minister Martin was finance minister in the Chretien government, I applauded his successful efforts to reduce our annual deficit from some \$30 billion to zero.

Most commendable.

Now, as Prime Minister, he has turned out to be a delusion, prostituting the

My major reason for that comment comes from when he was finance minister, and in all probability, knew exactly where the sponsorship \$275 million (now, according to a recent audit, \$355 million) was spent.

He plays the part of the three monkeys: see no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil.

In all probability, his chief of staff was the moving

Martin has declared he will hold an election 30 days after the release of the Gomery Report.

As a personal comment, it appears that our politicians at all levels of governmen seem to consider their constitutents as some kind of morons and not having the ability to really interpret and understand their government's nefarious schemes.

Is this the democratic country and government that I fought in World War II (now partially disabled) for? Hard to believe.

J.A.S. Milne Aurora





# Mayor's Report **By Tim Jones**

# York Region Transit update - part two

Having updated you on Routes 031, 032, 033, and 034 recently, I will finish the update with routes 054-Bayview North, 220 Aurora North GO Shuttle, 221 Aurora South GO Shuttle, 222 Newmarket Aurora Seneca Shuttle.

Route 054 - Bayview North is a main north-south route along Bayview Avenue servicing Southlake Regional Health Centre, Newmarket Main Street and Aurora.

This service is available AM peak, Midday, PM peak, evenings and Saturdays.

The main trip generators are Newmarket GO bus terminal, Newmarket GO train station, Southlake Regional Health Centre, Huron Heights Secondary School and the 404 Town Centre.

This route replaces the former route 033 Bayview-Leslie service along Bayview Ave and now provides two-way service along the entire length of Bayview between Aurora and Newmarket.

A special afternoon trip has been included in the schedule to accommodate Magna employees.

Late evening and Sunday service will be introduced once Quick Start Rapid Transit Yonge Street North Service begins operation in late 2005.

Route 220 - Aurora North GO Shuttle is a peak hour shuttle linking northern Aurora to the Aurora GO station.

This service is available in the AM and PM peak times only with the major trip generator being the Aurora GO sta-

The ridership is 7,329 on an annual basis averaging 32 per week day.

This route will be maintained until the September restructuring after which it will be incorporated into the new routing plan described in my last transit report.

Route 221 - Aurora South Shuttle is a peak hour shuttle linking southern Aurora to the Aurora GO Station.

This service is available during AM and PM peak times only with the major trip generator being the Aurora Go Station

Ridership is 11,973 annually with a daily average of 42. Similar to route 220, this service will be maintained until being absorbed into the new routing plan scheduled for implementation in September.

Route 222 - Newmarket-Aurora Seneca Shuttle is a

# Letter to the Editor

# Garbage problem

To the editor,

Some thoughts on the garbage crisis.

They have been studying the garbage crisis for 25 years or even more, but still haven't come up with a solution.

They should take a tip from England, with a population of 80 million people and a land mass you could sit in the Great Lakes area, as opposed to Canada with a land mass at least 10 times larger and a population of 32 million.

What's the problem? The federal, provincial,

and even municipal, governments throw money around like it's going out of

Surely we have some people in government who want to fix the problem.

As for transporting it to Michigan, what a waste of

I guess if no one can solve the situation, we are lucky to have good neighbours to the south.

As Dick Illingworth would say, that's the way I

N. Pemberton **Aurora** 

peak hour shuttle linking Newmarket and Aurora to Seneca College-King Campus.

It operates during AM and PM peak times only and experiences a ridership of 12,645 annually or 94 average week-

As part of the introduction of Quick Start Rapid Transit Yonge North Service a new local route linking King City, Oak Ridges and Seneca College-King Campus via Bloomington and 15th Avenue will be introduced with New Route 22 King City/Oak Ridges Local.

The need for a Seneca shuttle is removed once Quick Start Rapid Transit Yonge North Service and the new Yonge 98 local service and route 22 are introduced.

Sunday service will also be introduced once Quick Start Rapid Transit Yonge North begins in September.

All the information in these transit reports has been extracted from the 2005 Annual Service Plan prepared by the York Region Transit Department.

For more information on York Region Transit, I would encourage you to visit their web page at www.yorkregiontransit.com or call toll free at 1-866-MOVE YRT (668-3978).

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



# The trouble with men

A few months ago, a teacher at an Aurora high school was banned from the microphone after he said something "offensive" over the Public Address system during the morning announcements.

It happened during National Women's Week, and if you suspect that it was the feminine side that took up rolling pins, you'd be sniffing the right scent.

He said something like: "Hey, what happened to National Men's Week?'

Wham! It's the muzzle for you, buddy!

There must be people who wake up every morning and ask themselves: "Hmmm...what can I get offended about today?"

Most of them are women.

True, there was a dark period in history - a time when women couldn't own property, vote, or aspire to careers, a time when we were nothing more than chat-

But surely, the time to barbeque bras has passed and the bold confidence of the courageous women who changed our lives didn't go up in smoke?

Do we really need to fan our insecurity by getting offended at anything and everything?

We can put away the spatula, maybe even cutely quip something like: "National Men's Week? You want to go golfing again?"

When did free speech degenerate into a micro-managed gender issue?

Contrary to popular belief, men don't start wars.

Usually, they fight because they have no choice they're either conscripted or threatened by a female wielding poultry shears in the name of Lorena Bobbit.

It's the women who start the wars.

Just look at what Helen did to Troy, what Delilah did to Samson, what Belinda did to Aurora...and Stephen... and Peter.

Tune into "The Bachelor" if you want some actionpacked prime time brutality.

Hell hath no fury like a woman who just broke a fin-

Some of these girls can make Steven Segal want to claw his own eyes out.

A simple "yes" answer to the question: "Honey, do I

But we don't even need anything to fight for.

look fat?" can take us from zero to nuclear meltdown in under a nanosecond.

Last week, I was frying garlic for a quick pasta sauce. The phone rang. It was business, so I immediately went into multi-tasking mode. I hunted down pen, wrote the information, stirred the pasta, and added the tomato puree to the garlic.

The entire time, I shielded the phone so that the caller couldn't hear the domestic clamour in which I was struggling to maintain consciousness. Impressive, huh?

I had everything under control when Damir walked into the kitchen. He sniffed the vapours of fine Croatian cuisine

(everything is Croatian in this house, even sushi), gasped for air, loosened his tie, reached past me and turned on the range hood.

Then, he got even more helpful. He stirred the sauce...with the wrong spoon.

When I got off the phone, he croaked through watery eyes: "you have to put the fan on when you're cooking garlic. It's deadly."

In the words of the great feminist, Bugs Bunny, "of course you realize, THIS MEANS WAR!"

He could have complimented me on my manifold simultaneous accomplishments, but no. He had to point out the one thing I didn't do.

See, this is why there is no National Men's Week.

True to my nature, I gave him a snappy lecture on the strenuousness of life as a wife, to which he responded: "But aren't you superwoman?"

Wrong answer. I was armed and dangerous. I had pasta sauce and he was wearing a suit.

"No!" I screamed in my best most irritating highpitched whiney voice. "I'm tired of this "super" thing! I aspire to be inadequate, okay?"

In other words, I tried to reason with him.

"Okay," he said, smiling that cute little "do I dare get close enough to kiss you?" smile.

I caved. Peace it is.

Maybe the men we punish the most are the ones who deserve it the least.

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



# By DICK ILLINGWORTH

BOUQUETS to York Region Police officers on the second year of their Golf after School program at the Pheasant Run Golf Club for selected high school students for a game of golf in a fun, stress-free environment. The program started last year in Georgina and was expanded to include Markham, Vaughan and Newmaket this year. What about Aurora?

**BOUQUETS** to Police Constable Matt Pike on being Make honoured by the Aurora Optimist Club at their annual Optimist Respect for the Law Dinner The held at the newly opened Community Safety Village. Optimists from Newmarket, Keswick and Richmond Hill joined the Aurora club for the annual

BRICKBATS to the distributor of the Sunday Sun for not knowing the region in which Aurora is located. The Sunday Sun is supposed to include the "York Sun", but for two weeks out of four, the "Durham Sun" was delivered. Help!

**BOUQUETS** to the quintet of regional youths who plan to walk the length of the world's longest street in 40 days to raise funds and awareness of Big Brothers Big Sisters of York. They start in Rainy River July 1 and plan to walk the 1,896 kilometres of Yonge Street to Lake Ontario by August 9.

**BRICKBATS** to the federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs for allowing six men to be detained without charge under the controversial security certificate program. Also for failing to come clean on the role of Canadian authorities in cases of citizens like Mahar Arar, who was detained and tortured abroad.

BOUQUETS to the Aurora Storm Rage on winning seven straight matches before being defeated in the quarter-final round of the Eastern Canada open girls under-16 volleyball tournament in Sherbrooke, Quebec.

BRICKBATS to a justice system that permitted the same man to kill two people, through his drunk driving, in separate accidents. For the latest fatality, he pleaded guilty to 14 impaired and dangerous driving related charges and was sentenced to 15 years in prison. It should have been life!

BOUQUETS to the Society of York Region Artists and to artist Anthony Palmer for the presentation to the Southlake Regional Health Centre of a \$1,000 cheque.

BRICKBATS to the medical profession for their failure to self-regulate health professionals who put their patients and society at risk by incompetence and negligence. The recent case of a doctor at the Hospital for Sick Children, who carelessly failed to carry out tests resulting in suspects remaining in jail demands an independent investigation. Doctors, like police officers, should be allowed to investigate themselves.

BOUQUETS to 16-year-old Joe Mondoux, a member of the Cardinal Carter track and field team on winning a first place finish in the open boy's outdoor pentathlon at a track and field meet in Etobicoke.

BRICKBATS to our federal politicians for their ongoing search for power and making the average person embarrassed to admit they are Canadian. A big, new broom is needed to sweep them out of office for their sleazy tactics.

**BOUQUETS** to Cathy Vrancic for her column titled "In Good Company" and her comments about Character Communities. She was bang on, and I wish I had written it first!



# Letters to the Editor

# He needs hockey players for this annual fund-raiser

Hard to believe it is that time of year again, however, it is time to share the details regarding the 3rd Annual JBB Memorial Fundraiser.

Last vear, in our hockey marathon game, we raised more than \$22,000 for Ooch (Camp Oochigeas) that brings our total dollars raised to just over \$40,000.

So, what's the deal for 2005? Well, a lot has happened since last year so here we go...

First and foremost I am thrilled to announce that Ooch has approached the JBB Memorial Fundraiser to be the Founding Partner of a new initiative at the camp called "Camp Teomul".

Camp Teomul will be a week-long session at Camp Oochigeas dedicated to helping bereaved children deal with the loss of a sibling to cancer. Ooch considerable done research leading into the launch of Camp Teomul finding that those children who confront the loss of a sibling to cancer avoid later issues in life such as drug use, depression, poor academic performance - to name just a few.

Although children grieve differently from adults, they experience the same feelings of confusion, loneliness, alienation and extreme sadness - they just express it very differently and often much later than adults.

Camp Teomul's goal is to help children confront these issues while at the same time assisting them in making sense of such a profoundly life changing experience.

By bringing together these young children, Camp Teomul will pave the way to making a positive impact on the lives of these children and their fami-

It is important to note that Camp Teomul is part of Camp Oochigeas, not a separate enti-

All donations are still to be made to Camp Oochigeas with funds raised from the JBB Memorial earmarked for the week long Camp Teomul ses-

Second, I am looking at changing the format of the event itself.

Four hours of hockey makes for a tough few days afterwards as we work out the bumps, bruises, and stiffness that makes climbing the stairs more like climbing Mount Everest.

Based on that, we are looking to get 40 players and four goaltenders for this year's event to run a tournament format.

This will allow for some downtime between games so players can re-charge their bat-

Third, we are targeting 44 participants for the event. That is a big number so I am introducing a referral program for this year's event. It is pretty straightforward, but here's the

- for every player you refer to the event that actually participates, AND raises the minimum dollars required, you will have your name entered into a hat for as many players as play.

- at the conclusion of the event we will draw a name to be awarded a "yet to be determined prize" for the individual who refers the most participants to the event
- referral credit is given to individuals who have never participated in the event previously vs. those people who may have played in year one, but were unable to participate in year
- please note this program is open to volunteers and partici-

This year's event takes place Saturday, Aug. 13 at the Aurora Community Centre starting at 10 a.m. and is open to anyone who plays hockey and wants to support a great

The entry fee of \$65 covers the ice time, a catered post game reception at Jersey's in Aurora, pre and in-game refreshments, hockey jerseys

for every player and a participant package.

The fee is non-refundable.

Please make cheques payable to Shawn Burt and send them to 1 Birch Court, Aurora I 4G 3K1

If you have any questions, or if you'd just like to tell me you want to play, call 416-804-2122.

Finally, if you know of any

companies who would like to become corporate sponsors or donors - for the event, please let me know. I am assembling some dif-

ferent sponsorship packages that will include a variety of options for the corporate community.

Also, if you know of anyone interested in donating prizes, we are very interested in speaking to them. I look forward to seeing

everyone August 13th. Please let me know as soon

as possible whether you can or cannot participate. If you have special circum-

stances that you would like to discuss with me, please let me

We want to ensure we can accommodate everyone to the best of our ability. Call me anytime and thank-you all again for your consideration of this year's

Shawn Burt Aurora - 416-804-2122

# Farmers' Market ready for 4th year

To the editor,

On Saturday, June 11th, at 8 a.m. the fourth year of Aurora's Farmers' Market will start.

the Located in Temperance Street parking lot just south off Wellington Street on Temperance, the 2005 market will feature many new vendors added to the great vendors from last year.

We will have more vegetables including organic, more fruit, more jams and jellies, more baked goods, more crafts and more plants.

We will also have the best bacon on a bun and the best dessert pizza in

Please come out and

enjoy meeting your friends and neighbours while getting the freshest produce available in Town.

Once again this year we will be supporting local charities and to kick things off, I ask that, if possible, please bring non-perishable goods for the Aurora Food Bank.

At this time of year supplies at the Food Bank are low and we can all help by bringing what we can as a food donation.

If you have any questions please call me or leave a message at the Town Hall, 905-727-3123. ext. 4263.

See you June 11th.

Nigel Kean, **Town Councillor** 



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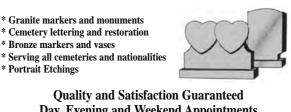
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Thompson Funeral Home is proud to be part of Service Corporation International (Canada) Ltd.

# Competitive home care bidding wrong: reader

I have been caring for my elderly father in my home for more than six years.

Recently, the company providing care workers for him lost their contract and two new companies now share the service.

Elinor Caplan's suggestion that "standards are needed" (from the Toronto Star, May 31 by Rob Ferguson) is correct and measuring quality of care is part of that effort.

The first step to treating

to give them some security and pay them better.

Competitive bidding is wrona.

The stated purpose is "to keep everyone on their toes". This is the responsibility of the overseeing agency, CCAC. What they need is an appropriate business plan for operations and review procedures.

CHATS, a not for profit agency, (Community Home Access To Seniors) was providing excellent care and the PSW's working with my relationships with him. These are some of the finest, most caring people I have known.

When the 'contract for care' was awarded to 'for profit' companies, my father lost contact with all of the people he had known and trusted for years. These new companies then had to hire new staff. My father, like many clients, suffers from dementia and requires a high level of personal care. It took a very long time for him to get used to the new peo-

However, in the case of

the annual Home Show, the

Aurora Chamber of

Commerce rents the facility

from the Town of Aurora, and

we accord space to the Town

(free of charge) in order for

them to showcase their vari-

sponsorship of our numer-

ous activities, and in particu-

lar the Home Show, are the

sole responsibility of our vol-

unteer Board of Directors,

Chamber staff and numer-

ous other volunteers, who

work extremely hard to make

these events successful for

cally get the impression that the residents of our Town feel

that the Chamber is a depart-

ment of the Town of Aurora.

This is definitely not the

We, at our office, periodi-

the enjoyment of all.

case!

The organization and

ous departments.

ple. This is, of course, because trust and dignity are at the root of this relationship

When two 'for profit' companies took over, it took months for them to adjust to our needs. My father experienced a complete new group of care-givers, many of them did not know who they were seeing and what they were here to do.

A number of them thought they were coming to care for a woman.

I understand these problems are natural when a business suddenly grows and takes on new work. However, they are avoid-

Require the overseeing agency, CCAC, to establish a better business plan with appropriate guidelines and monitoring of activities.

Establish appropriate rates of pay for specific job functions and recognize training levels and education, just like it's done in government and business. Don't use a bidding process. Continuity is a big part of successful delivery of care.

Imagine subjecting any other work sector to a bidding process. What about police, air traffic controllers, teachers, or government

The single most important product in this chain is the relationship between client and care worker.

My father and I have coped with significant difficulties resulting from the competitive bidding process.

The government has set up a system which has caused enormous upheaval and upset in the lives of thousands of people, who, are the least able to protect themselves, least likely to complain and have given the most to our communities and society.

The bidding system is wrong. The Minister needs to come and visit some of us who care for our family members at home. The Minister needs to talk to us and experience the level of need, love and vibrancy that exists in the home environ-

The bidding process resulted in hundreds of lost jobs, lost seniority and lost pay. These people are already providing service that is undervalued and underpaid. The current process introduces a new uncertainty and anxiety into their lives.

Dignity, security and love are the most important issues in my father's life.

bidding assaulted all of these and created significant difficul-

ties for me. Things have settled down and a new group of kind, caring PSW's is work-

ing with my father.

Caplan said "The focus should be...where competition is for quality first and price, second". What is she thinking? Whom did she talk to? Does she understand how the system actually functions? Take out the word competition and insert continuity.

What in heaven's name has "competition" got to do

Run your agency properly, put checks and balances into the system and protect the security and dignity of the most important and vulnerable group of people in society.

Perhaps Health Minister George Smitherman can fix this before he finds out first hand that it is wrong.

**Paul English** Aurora



Do you have an investment portfolio or a collection of what used to be good ideas?

Stephen Forsey CIM, FCSI, Investment Representative JONES, GABLE & COMPANY LIMITED (Member CIPF) 905-726-9343

# Chamber not linked to Town of Aurora

To the editor,

We are grateful to Mayor Tim Jones for his remarks about the Aurora Chamber of Commerce in his column of The Chamber recognizes

and appreciates the strategic working relationship that we have with the Town of Aurora.

However, there is a point of clarification that I would like to make at this time regarding

the annual Aurora Home Show, Street Festival and for this first time this year, the Street Dance which was held Saturday to mark the 10th Anniversary of the Street

For the latter two events, the staff from the Town certainly help with the street closure, clean-up etc. and we extend our thanks to them for their participation in our

# A weekend to remember

To the editor,

What a celebration it

The stars shone brightly, the street was filled with celebrants and the music had everyone dancing the night

A year of planning and anticipation came to an end Saturday night as the people of Aurora came out and helped celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Street Festival.

Thank you for the hard work of the Rotary Club of Aurora, Topper's Pizza. Aw Shucks!, Charley FitzWhiskeys, Dad's BBQ, Maid To Shine, Molson Canada, the band "The Maze", and Master of Ceremonies Brian Larter in making the event such a success.

A special thank you to the committee members Brian North (Ellis Studios), Brenda Snape (Type By Design), Nigel Kean, Cheryl Walker (Flipside and Oakridge Outfitters), Gary Nolan (Diamond Trim Classics), Bruce Walkinshaw (Canadian Federation of Businesses), and Ron

Wallace (The Auroran). Your work, advice and guidance was very much appreciated.

The 10th Annual Street Festival featured more than 500 vendors, great weather, entertainment for young and

old, and approximately 35,000 visitors.

Our sincere appreciation for all the great coverage in The Auroran.

This event has been in the planning for well over eight months.

On behalf of the committee, we would like to extend a great big thank you to Rosalyn, Mary Lynn, Kathy and Ana, Aurora Chamber of Commerce staff, for all their efforts. Those ladies are the

We all look forward to another Street Festival next

**Kimberley Kerr** Chairperson Street Festival Committee

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit, member-driven business organization, owned and funded solely by its mem-

Some additional funding is derived from the various functions we sponsor, and this allows us to keep our membership fees lower than most other Chambers/Boards of Trade in York Region.

Rosalyn A. Gonsalves **General Manager Aurora Chamber** of Commerce





Shop at Aurora's best kept secret for fantastic Summer selections and savings for the young and the young at heart



841-7762

# Letters to the Editor

# Garbage pails litter our historical streets

To the editor.

Who's running this chicken house anyway?

On May 26, I had reason to drive from Yonge Street to Walton Drive along Catherine Avenue.

This is usually a pleasant interlude when travelling in Aurora; a return to a street with huge overarching trees; older but wellkept homes; a quiet neighbourhood.

It is also an area of Aurora which may be designated historical with oldstyle, curbs, sidewalks, etc. at the request of the ratepayer residents living

Much to my chagrin, between Spruce Street and Walton Drive, I had to swerve 23 times.

Ï am not talking a slight directional sway; I mean a purposeful turn to avoid striking large plastic garbage containers.

I notice the Miller truck on another street, but apparently pickup had just occurred on Catherine Avenue.

I was so surprised by the condition of the roadway I made three right turns along Centre St. and back to Spruce and Catherine and drove the street again.

In that two-block stretch of street, there were two garbage pails upright on the sidewalk as all of the garbage pails had started out before the pickup, and 23 pails in the roadway.

Here I thought garbage pickup meant the streets were to be left clean and pristine in appearance; not a slalom course of traffic hazards.

After the second preview I thought maybe the Miller driver and sanitation engineers were having a bad hair day or whatever, so I decided to wait and see what transpired June 2.

To my surprise on June I travelled west from Walton to Spruce along Catherine, and there was only one garbage pail rolling around in the road-

I thought that was more like it and made a right turn at Spruce; drove northerly to Maple St. and made a left turn to proceed to Yonge

What was this!

Between Spruce and Yonge on Maple Street there are eight residences occupied, six on the north side plus the Day Care school building.

This was like going to the Paladium and driving

Six garbage pails were rolling around in the roadway, and three caused me to have to change course to get by.

Now I know the Town contracts out certain services, a major such contract being for the garbage pick-

But someone, somewhere, must be setting some standards of care or performance and those standards should be in the contract.

Assuming there are some standards, enforces them?

It may be coincidence that at present not one director of a Town department lives in Aurora, and to gain certain expertise that is acceptable.

But when I inquired about who to talk to about the manner empty garbage pails are returned (or not returned) to the curbside, I spoke to five polite parties, none of whom lived in Aurora, and none of whom could ensure my concern could be addressed, nor to whom it would be referred.

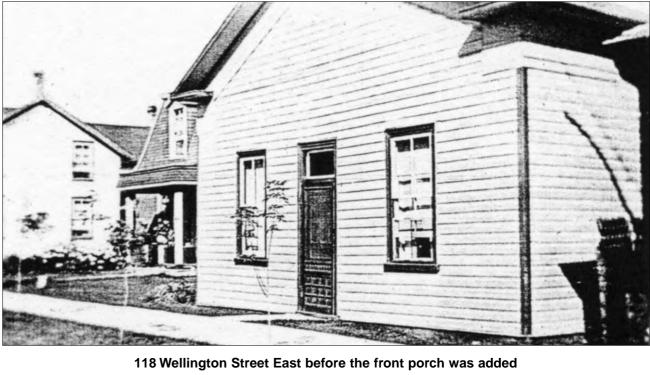
Come on, council!

I know you are to set policy and not get your hands

But who is running the damn shop in the mean-

On my money yet!

David H. Peirce Ratepayer/Citizen



# Reader lived in schoolhouse

ED. NOTE: The above photograph and following information have been provided by Garnet Trivett of Simcoe, Ontario, and answer some questions about the unobtrusive little house on Wellington Street, believed to be one of the last three one-room schoolhouses still standing in Ontario. The house is currently located at 118 Wellington Street East, and hit the news recently when existing owners expressed a desire to demolish it and construct a new building on the site. Mr. Trivett's letter to Auroran editor Ron Wallace is reprinted here exactly as he wrote it.

Here are four items related to my grandparents' home at 118 Wellington Street East. There is a copy of a picture of the house as it was before the addition of the front porch.

Grandfather's fall and his death were reported in the Banner.

I was able to get the death record of my greatgrandfather, Johnson Spence.

And there is a plan of the Spence plot at the cemetery showing the relationship of the ones there.

Grandparents, George and Alice Spence, moved to 118 Wellington East in 1903, according to the obituary.

The youngest of their five children was born there.

It is obvious from Johnson Spence's death certificate that he spent his last days there. George Spence was a

teamster. It was probably after the move to Aurora that he went to work at Fleury's Foundry. I used to go as far as

Teasdale's to meet him on his way home from work.

My mother, Victoria, was the second in the family.

My father was Garnet T.O. Trivett of Newmarket.

When my mother died in 1927, I went to live with my father's parents, Peter and Sarah Trivett in Newmarket.

Being the first, and for 18 years, the Spence's only grandchild, I spent a great deal of time with them, especially at Christmas, Easter and summer vacations.

One favourite amusement was playing the gramophone.

I don't remember the house without the porch. I do remember Grandmother telling me that the place was once a school. I should have recorded more of her

My parents were living in Toronto, but Mother went home for my birth.

There was a nursing home at 103 Wellington St.

arts training.

East, operated by Nurse Mrs. Sutherland. That is where I was born in 1923.

After Grandfather died, Grandmother remained there with George, the younger son. Grandmother died in 1954. Uncle George remained there until the house was sold for taxes.

I don't remember the year, but I remember the shock of coming to Aurora one summer and finding strangers tearing the place apart to make alterations.

I shall be happy if this helps keep the building from being destroyed.

I am sorry I can't tell you any more. If I do find or remember something more, I shall pass it along.

Aurora 905-727-7144

**Garnet G. Trivett** Simcoe, Ontario





To the editor.

In your last edition it was so wonderful to see the front page photo acknowledging the official opening Safety Community Village of York Region.

I also very much appreciated the compliments paid to Steve Hinder who was very much the key 'champion' of the village, resurrecting the concept and seeing it through to completion. His determination and perseverance is

unmatched. I feel it important to share, with considerable bias, as to some of Aurora's involvement to this project

• the project began thousands of dollars. through the efforts of the PACT committee (Police and Community Together).

• our first donation in our fundraising efforts came from the Purple Pig

 ongoing fundraising efforts by local service clubs, but was led by and who raised thousands of dollars, the Aurora Optimist Club.

 our own fine Mayor Tim Jones who contributed in two significant ways, raising over \$100,000 through his charity golf tourney, and through his devoted advocacy for the project

 the Hartwell Challenge Run raised

has contributed extensively as well.

The list is incomplete, knowing full well there are hundreds of Aurora residents and, of course, those residing outside of town who have given something of themselves as their contribution.

We thank you all so very much.

This was a York Region effort, a community project, built by the community, for the com-

On a personal note I feel it important that the Community Board Village of Directors be acknowledged for their seven

vears of volunteering, • the Magna Hoedown bringing with them a plethora of expertise that allowed this project through to completion.

> By the way, over half the Board reside or work right here in this fine

> It was truly an honour to learn and work with such a devoted group.

To The Auroran for its ongoing coverage of a Regional project which I know Aurora claims a big

With much thanks to all who have contributed.

Rich Boyne Chair **Board of Directors Community Safety** Village of York Region



#### Eukanuba SUPERDOGS

sponsored by Lenard Lind and L. H. Lind Realty. These world-famous dogs are probably the most popular event at the Fair and put on a fast, fabulous, and funny show. Show Times on Saturday and Sunday 10:30, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30 with try outs on Friday evening.

#### THE BEN SHOW

with Ben Burland, The man of many talents and many surprises juggler, stiltwalker. unicycle rider, etc. Aurora's own Ben Burland. Show times: Saturday 11:00, 2:00, 4:15 and Sunday 11:00 1:00 and 4:00

#### **CLAROL THE CLOWN**

Children from 3 to 103 years will love Clarol the Clown. Her goofy, bubbly, energetic and endearing cute character transcends time and age. Show times; Saturday 11:45, and 1:45 Sunday 11:30 and 1:45

#### ANIMALS, ANIMALS

Visit our agricultural animal exhibit, with cows, horses, goats, chickens, sheep and many more.

Demonstrations of sheep shearing, blacksmithing and cow milking daily.

# Back again by popular

**CREATURES EXOTIC** 

demand, this is a

fabulous display

of snakes,

reptiles, and

other weird creatures.

### CHILDREN'S **GAMES**

At the ball diamond. Kids, come out and join in a variety of well-known and popular children's games. Lots of prizes. Game times:

Saturday, 12:00 and 2:45 Sunday 11:15 and 1:30

## **FESTIVAL OF ARTS TENT**

This tent provides a venue for local artists including painters, woodcarvers, fabric artists, spinners, photographers, graphic artists, printmakers, potters, and soapmakers — to display their work. Also, artists and artisans from Aurora's Creative Connection guide children in "make and take" activities.

The Aurora Agricultural Society is a non-profit, volunteer organization dedicated to putting on the Fair and Horse Show for Aurora and the surrounding communities.





**JUNE 11, 12 & 13, 2005** MACHELL PARK

(WEST OF YONGE STREET BETWEEN **AURORA HTS. AND ORCHARD HTS. BLVD.)** 

> GATES OPEN AT 9:30 A.M. FOR MORE INFORMATION, **CALL THE FAIR HOTLINE:**

(905) 713-6773 aurorafair.ca

EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Admission \$7 Children 12 years & under \$3 Seniors: \$3 Infants in Strollers: Free

### **TORONTO POLICE DOGS DEMONSTRATION**

In the north ring. The Toronto police put on this demonstration at no charge but do accept donations for Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto. Show times for both Saturday and Sunday 11:30, 1:30

## **BIRDS OF PREY**

The popular birds of prey exhibit will be in the big tent near the stage. A talk on their habits, etc. will be given at the following times: Saturday 10:30, 12:15 and 2:30 Sunday 10:30, 12:15 and 3:00

## **PIGMOBILE**

So, you thought pork was grown in a supermarket and came pre-wrapped! Now you can come and see the real thing. A great display of pigs large and small. They really are cute!

**FAMILY FUN NIGHT** 

Saturday starting at 5:00 p.m. at the

stage area in Machell Park, join us for

our Family Fun Evening, featuring the

finals of the "Aurora Idol" competition.

the finals of the "Aurora Ambassador"

competition, beer garden, lots of great

food, our balloon face painting and SPECIAL GUESTS, "THE FAB FOUR"

#### RIDE THE MIDWAY ON FRIDAY NIGHT/PAY ONE PRICE

Advance tickets can be purchased at Aurora Leisure Complex, IGA, and R&R Revisited Book Store on Mary Stree Friday night **ONLY** 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

Price includes admission and rides

STAGE EVENTS SATURDAY

11:00 a.m. The Ben Show 11:30 a.m. U-Who the Clown 1:00 p.m. Aurora Idol Semi-finals 2:00 p.m. The Ben Show 3:30 p.m. The Mutt Show 4:15 p.m. The Ben Show 4:45 p.m. U-Who the Clown

STAGE EVENTS SUNDAY

> 1:00 p.m. The Ben Show 2:00 p.m. AM Dance Force 2:15 p.m. Poetry Reading 2:30 p.m. Scottish Country Dance Group

3:15 p.m. U-Who the Clown 3:30 p.m. Poetry Reading 4:00 p.m. The Ben Show

11:00 a.m. The Ben Show 12:00 noon U-Who the Clown

#### CHILDREN'S TRACTOR PULL

On the path Children test their strength by riding a miniature tractor and pulling a weight.

TIMES: Saturday 11:30 and 3:15 11:15, 2:00, 3:30

# AURORA GRAND PRIX

Friday evening from about 5:00 p.m. Enjoy an evening watching some of Canada's elite horses and riders compete, including Olympian Jimmy Elder and the popular Galloping Grandfather, Harry deLeyer. Before the show, walk the course with course designer and Mac McQuaker. After the event, adjourn to the north tent for wine and cheese and an opportunity to meet the riders.

## BANDALONI THE ONE-MAN BAND

Bandaloni will be walking around the fairgrounds and putting on a full band performance by himself on both Saturday and Sunday. Wow!

#### **MUTT SHOW**

You don't have to be a mutt to enter! Any dog may participate. Prizes donated by Pet Valu, Eukanuba, and medallions by ReYork trophies. Every participant receives a treat! Saturday only. Registration in tage area from 3:00 to 3:30 p.m with the show starting at 3:30 Judge: Mayor Tim Iones.

# **PONY SHOW**

If you like teeny, weeny horses, don't forget to watch the miniature horses on Saturday, The children perform some fun events on Sunday afternoon.

#### **CAR SHOW**

Back this year. The old and antique cars will be on display or Sunday.

## JUNIOR ARTS, CRAFTS AND PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

On display Saturday and Sunday in the tent beside the Festival Arts tent. Visit the display of work from children Kindergarden to 12. Go to www.aurorafair.ca for more information

**CELEBRITY RACING PIGS** AND HILLBILLY SHOW

A new show by Ken of KenJen's Petting Zoo featuring pig and duck races and a talking parrot. Show times Saturday 12:00, 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. Sunday 12:00, 2:00 and 4:15 p.m.

# **BINGO AT THE FAIR**

Free! (after admission to the Park). Fun, fun, fun with lots of prizes. If you have a dabber, bring it. Games start at 11:45 a.m. Saturday only.

#### HEAVY HORSE SHOW

What a great show. The wonderful heavy horses on Saturday are a thing to behold. You can watch them in the ring or visit them by their trailers. Sunday is the Commercial and Roadster Classes. Again, this is a great event to watch.

All events subject to change

# ONGOING SATURDAY AND SUNDAY:

Petting zoo, midway rides and games, reptile and exotic creatures display, pigmobile, Jaguar Gymnastics demonstrations (children's tent), Festival of Arts with the Junior Arts, Crafts, and Photography competition (Festival tent), Bandaloni, the one-man band, car show (Sunday only), and more.

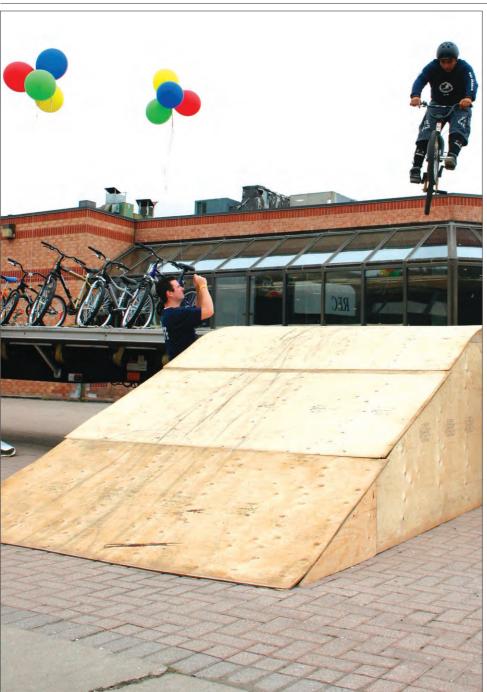
Schedule subject to change



# AURORAN **SPORTS**



Week of June 7, 2005 Page 12



Aurora's Sean Oosman, a semi-pro stunt bike rider, shows his stuff Saturday as Rec Cycle n' Sports celebrated its 14th anniversary. Celebrations continue all this week at the popular sports store, located on Yonge Street, north of Aurora Heights Drive.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

# Another title for Samantha

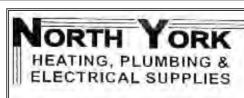
Aurora's Samantha Sendel, 13, captured her second consecutive National Youth Trampoline Championship in Vancouver last week.

Last month, she won gold at the Canada Cup in

In addition, she teamed with her partner, Katharine McLeod, to earn the Silver medal in the Woman's Youth Synchro competi-

In the Double-mini Youth Trampoline competition, Samantha finished in fourth place, good enough to place her first within her age group.

She will once again represent Canada at the World Age Group Championships in all disciplines. Two years ago she won the Silver medal for Canada in the under 13 category for Individual Trampoline and she is looking forward to competitions this fall in the Netherlands.



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# Aurora Skating Club results

the most points by a club at a recent skating meet in Buffalo, New York, and won the Team Award.

Individual achievements were as fol-

Freeskate Solos

Badge 1: Alessia Chiovitti, 1st; Savannah Hendy, 2nd; Marilena Perri, 4th; Alicia Alberton, 5th.

Badge 2: Jacqueline Relke, 1st; Hailey McGrath, 1st; Samantha

Pre-Preliminary: Alana Fabbricino, 1st; Jihyun Cha, 2nd; Taylor McDowell, 5th; Kendall Mannella, 5th.

Preliminary: Janet deVries, 2nd Katie Sutton, 5th; Emily O'Connor, 6th. Pre-Juvenile: Emma Slimkowich, 4th; Jordana Goldman, 5th; Allie Sutton, 7th.

Juvenile: Julia Ranson, 4th. Intermediate Short:: Maya Goldman,

Intermediate Long: Emma Hayzelden, 4th; Maya Goldman, 7th; Fayme Cockshutt, 8th; Meaghan Jones,

Fiesta Tango: Alessia Chiovitti, 3rd: Emily O'Connor, 4th; Marilean Perri, 6th. Ten Fox: Julia Chiovitti, 5th. Keats Foxtrot: Jordana Goldman.

1st; Julia Ranson, 5th. Killian: Maya Goldman, 2nd

Blues: Maya Goldman, 3rd; Meaghan Jones, 4th.

Quickstep: Maya Goldman, 1st; Meaghan Jones, 2nd. Shadow Dance

### Dutch Waltz:

Dutch Waltz: Savannah endy / Alessia Chiovitti, 1st; Emily O'Connor / Marilena Perri, 2nd.

Fiesta Tango: Julia Chiovitti / Jihyun a, 2nd; Taylor McDowall / Kendall Mannella, 3rd.

14 Step: Emma Slimkowich / Jordana Goldman, 2nd; Jacqueline Relke / Katie Sutton, 3rd; Amanda Alberton / Janet deVries, 4th.
Rocker Foxtrot: Allie Sutton / Julia

Ranson, 2nd. Killian: Maya Goldman / Meaghan Jones, 2nd.

Spins

Beginner: Marilena Perri, 4th; Savannah Hendy, 5th.

Preliminary: Jacqueline Relke, 5th; Emily O'Connor, 6th; Amanda Alberton, 6th; Alana Fabbricino, 7th.

Pre-Juvenile: Jordana Goldman, 4th; Emma Slimkowich, 5th; Allie Sutton, 6th; Janet deVries, 7th; Alanna Kelly, 8th. Juvenile: Julia Ranson, 5th.

Intermediate: Maya Goldman, 2nd; Meaghan Jones, 5th.

Beginner: Savannah Hendy, 2nd. Pre-preliminary: Jihyun Cha, 3rd; Hailey McGrath, 5th; Samantha Duncan,

Preliminary: Emily O'Connor, 10th. Pre-Juvenile: Emma Slimkowich,

Juvenile: Julia Ranson, 2nd Compulsory Moves Tots: Annabelle Alberton, 3rd. Beginner A: Alessia Chiovitti, 4th. Beginner B: Savannah Hendy, 4th; Marilena Perri, 5th.

Pre-Preliminary: Taylor McDowall, 1st; Kendall Mannella, 4th; Samantha Duncan, 6th.

Preliminary: Emily O'Connor, 4th. Pre-Juvenile A: Jordana Goldman,

Pre-Juvenile B: Allie Sutton, 2nd; Emma Slimkowich, 5th. Juvenile: Julia Ranson, 1st. Interpretive
Level One: Marilena Perri, 3rd;

Goldman, 4th.

Showcase

Pre-Preliminary: Taylor McDowall 2nd; Kendall Mannella, 3rd; Alana Fabbricino, 4th; Alicia Alberton, 6th; Samantha Duncan, 10th.

Preliminary: Alanna Kelly, 6th; Janet deVries, 7th; Amanda Alberton, 8th.

Team Events

Beginner: Savannah Hendy

Marilena Perri / Alessia Chiovitti, 1st.
Preliminary: Julia Chiovitti / Katie
Sutton / Emily O'Connor / Jihyun Cha,

Pre-Juvenile: Emma Slimkowich Katie Sutton / Allie Sutton / Jordana Goldman, 2nd.

Intermediate: Meaghan Jones / Julia Ranson / Emma Hayzelden / Fayme Cockshut / Maya Goldman, 2nd. Meanwhile, in the Spring Fling held in

Hamilton last week, Amy Thompson was fifth in the long program and 11th in the short program, competing in the Pre-Novice Ladies Freeskate.

# Jaguar Gymnastics



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# RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

# Nature rules in an Aurora backyard

Back in July, 1999, as residential and industrial development built up all around them, Margaret and Bernard Shearman created a sanctuary for birds and wildlife worthy of the Audubon seal of approval.

It wasn't long in coming as their property on Bayview Avenue received designation as a certified sanctuary through Audubon's program for back yards.

The Shearman's property was the first in Canada to achieve designation as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Back Yard.

The Audubon Cooperative program was administered as part of an international program designed to help landowners preserve and enhance the environmental quality of their property.

The Shearman's back yard was dotted with clusters of gardens, including a newly created bog garden and bird bath, which attracted a number of bird species.

With all the growth in the area is it still there today?

### **COUNCIL MOVES INTO FEDERAL POLITICS**

In June, 1976, Aurora Council moved into the federal government political field long enough to protest the use of French in air traffic control.

Over the objections of Councillors Ron Simmons and Norm Stewart, council endorsed a resolution to recognize English as the international language of air flight

Stewart argued that council should stick to municipal issues for which it had a mandate.

In April, 1984, the question of bilingualism was back before council when a resolution was being circulated seeking municipal support to petition Premier David Peterson to declare Ontario to be a bilingual province.

Councillor Evelyn Buck argued that the resolution should be supported because of the value of a second language for children.

Other councillors said such action was unnecessary and a waste of money.

On a 6-3 vote council refused to endorse French with Councillors Buck, Martin Paivio and Tim Jones on the

**AURORA** 

**BUSINESSES** 

#### WHERE ARE THE PHONE BOOTHS?

In September, 1998, Aurora's Community Core Committee recommended to council that approval be given to acquiring two British telephone booths to be placed in the historic core at no cost to the town.

It was reported that a private firm had imported 33 original British phone booths and offered them to Ontario municipali-

It was pointed out that the booths were made from cast iron and weighed approximately one ton.

In keeping with the historic appearance of the downtown area, the committee recommended that one booth be located by the Old Yonge Street Post Office and the other in front of Doane Hall Pharmacy or on the Billings Well property.

The booths never arrived and nothing was heard from the private firm who was supposed to supply them at no charge.

### TWO COUNCIL RESIGNATIONS IN ONE YEAR

In October, 1973, for the second time in nine months, a member of Aurora Council resigned.

Councillor Don Roberts, a junior high school vice-principal who finished second in the polls the previous November, submitted his letter of resignation.

He wrote that in all good conscience he believed he could not give the important task of being a council member the time, energy and attention which it justly needed and

His letter was accepted with regret.

Following an acclamation in the November election, then Mayor Dick Illingworth resigned as mayor and regional councillor in January, 1973, to prevent a conflict with his provincial government job.

When he worked for the Ministry of Trade and Development, there was no conflict, but in early January, Minister John White was appointed Treasurer of Ontario and Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, which included Municipal

As executive assistant to the Minister, he was asked to move over to the new ministry, which created the conflict resulting in his resignation. Councillor Evelyn Buck who had topped the polls for council was appointed mayor and the candidate who finished just out of the money, Bill Trent was appointed to fill the council vacancy.

With Robert's resignation, next in line Jack Williamson was appointed to fill the vacancy.

#### **CANADA'S CENTENNIAL**

In June, 1967, Aurora Legion agreed to host the Centennial Year District Drumhead Service as a special event to conclude Aurora's major Centennial events.

It was a colourful, solemn service as more than 200 Legionnaires from across the district gathered to pay tribute to fallen Comrades with many citizens observing the ceremony.

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from the Aurora Chamber of Commerce

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> were a huge success, thanks to the hard work of the many committee members, volunteers and sponsors



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# I met a lot of people at the street festival

It was great to meet so many of you over the weekend at Aurora's annual street festival.

The event seems to be getting bigger and better every year, with more and more residents from Aurora and surrounding communities coming out to take part in the fun and festivities. Congratulations to festival chairperson Kimberley Kerr and the organizing committee, which worked long and hard to make the weekend's event a great

A number of people approached me on the street and commented on my decision to join the government.

Although some people told me they did not support my decision, a great number of people who I spoke with understood why I decided to leave the Conservative Party.

As I've stated publicly before, that decision was taken only after a lot of soul-searching about what I thought was best for our community and our country.

When I was back home here in Aurora during a break in Parliament in late April, I had the opportunity to listen to the views of many residents, particularly in regard to the issue of whether or not people wanted to bring down the government and trigger a summer election.

The great majority of people who I spoke with were not in favour of an election at this time and did not want to see the budget defeated.

I could not accept the loss of important funding for our community that would result from the budget being defeated, and I could not accept lining up with the separatist Bloc Québecois to defeat the government.

An election at this time in our country's history would have stacked the deck in favour of the Bloc and put our national unity at risk.

The bottom line, for me, is that our country's national interest must come before partisan political interests.

As the newly appointed Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development, I have responsibility for skills training - an area in which I have considerable experience as a result of my many years spent working in the automotive industry.

I believe that Canada's success - and the success of individual Canadians - relies on our economic productivity. And our productivity, in turn, is increasingly dependent on skills and learning.

It's important that we give young Canadians the opportunity to acquire the sort of job skills that will lead to good paying jobs and will improve our standard of living in the face of increased global competition.

The Prime Minister has also entrusted to me coordination of the democratic renewal of our political system, including implementation of recommendations from the forthcoming Gomery report.

Despite my increased responsibilities in Parliament, I will continue to be a strong voice for our community inside government.

This past month I was honoured to serve as the Reviewing Officer at the 100th anniversary celebration of the #142 St. Andrew's College Highland Cadet Corps.

St. Andrew's College is not only a treasured local land-

mark - it's a great Canadian institution as well.

I was also proud to take part in the "Weekend to End Breast Cancer" Mother's Day fundraiser at The Real Canadian Superstore on Bayview Avenue in Aurora.

Proceeds from the event went toward breast cancer research, education, treatment and care. Congratulations to Arlene Chrisztopulosz of Aurora and her team of volunteers for organizing this event, and hats off to everyone who came out and donated to such a worthy cause.

Cancer treatment has been one of the main health care

issues here in our community.

As many of you know, Southlake Regional Health
Centre is one of the hospitals under consideration as a site for a new and much needed Regional Cancer Centre.

continue to be a strong advocate of establishing a regional cancer care centre at our local hospital and have spoken with my colleagues at all levels of government to make the centre become a reality.

I encourage you to also make your support known.

A regional cancer centre will truly help improve the quality of life for many families in our community who have loved one who has been stricken by this disease

Thank you for allowing me to represent you in Canadian Parliament, and I hope I can continue to earn your trust, respect and confidence.

Marianne Mulhern, B.A., B. Comm.

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mmulhern@trebnet.com

15004 Yonge Street Aurora, Ontario L4G 1M6



# Bud Gilbert named town's 36th Citizen of the Year

From page 1

long commitment to assisting his fellow citizens and making Aurora such a friendly and caring community in which to live", the mayor said.

A surprised Bud Gilbert told the audience he had been caught by the surprise he had attended because his daughter said she was getting an award and she wanted him to be there for it.

Joanne Vickers was named town staff Character Champion of 2005.

"It has been said that your character is best demonstrated by who you are when no one else is looking," the mayor said.

Earlier in the evening Community Recognition Awards were presented to individuals and teams by members of council.

Civic Individual Appreciation Awards were made to Jordan Meron, Mark Heese, Mara Jones, Samantha Sendel, Nicole Forrester and Stephen Jorens for their participation in the recent Olympics in Athens.

Town's Citizens

of the Year

Following is a complete list of Aurora's

Citizens of the Year,

since the program

started in 1970.

1970 - Bob Blick

1971 - Annabelle Black

1972 - Dick Buchanan

1973 - Don Glass

1974 - Jack Wood

1975 - Rev. Homer McAvoy

1976 - Dr. Crawford Rose

1977 - Fred Bolsby

1978 - Bill Dinsmore

1979 - Omar Khamissa

1980 - Jack Williamson

1981 - Eric Smith

1982 - Vic Paraninfo

1983 - Dr. Leslie Oliver

1984 - Lowell McClenny

1985 - Bill Coleman

1986 - Fred Conklin

1987 - Nora McRoberts

1988 - Norm Stewart

1989 - Dick Illingworth

1990 - Arnold Miller

1991 - Bucky McLarty

1992 - Jack DeGraaf

1993 - Wanda McKenzie

1994 - Diane Harrison 1995 - Susan Gwilliam

1996 - Steve Hinder

1997 - Gerry Payne

1998 - Ferguson Mobbs

1999 - Vic Priestly

2000 - Jackie Stubbs

2001 - Ken Smith

2002 - Bob Hartwell 2003 - Dr. W. John McIntyre

2004 - Phil Horsman

2005 - Bud Gilbert

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The Aurora Ducks were honoured for becoming Ontario Division 3 swim champions.

The Aurora Tigers Peewee AE hockey team and the Aurora Jays Major Mosquito Rep baseball team, were also honoured.

Sara Langford Kyle, Susan Walmer, Rev. Nicola Skinner, Wendy Treacy, Flo Murray and Nancy Black were recognized for receiving 2005 York Region Celebration of Women Awards for their contributions to their community.

Youth Volunteer Awards were presented to Sarah Icely, Heather Homes, Katrina Bin, Mellissa Spence, Ally Simerson, Jamieson, Amanda Courtney Drodge, Marina Steffensen, Gail Burke and Mary McConnell.

There were 37 recipients

of the five-year Volunteer Service Awards, 33 for 10 years and 27 for 15 or more years, including Auroran staffer Dick Illingworth for hosting Our Town on Aurora

Cable Internet for 25 years. The Aurora Chamber of Commerce received the Quarter Century Award.

Adopt-A-Park presentations were made to representatives of various town organizations for adopting and maintaining 13 parks in the municipality.

CHUM-FM radio personality Gord James again acted as the evening's master of ceremonies.

The Citizen of the Year tradition was suggested by a Grade 10 Youth Council in 1969 and was picked up by Aurora Council with the naming of Bob Blick as the first Citizen of the Year in

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Aurora Councillor Evelyn Buck congratulates artist Kay Nishamura after selecting her painting of Doan Hall for the town's permanent collection, at last week's seniors' art show. Auroran photo by Dick Illingworth

# 10 paintings vie for town's favour

For the past 11 years on the last weekend in May, members of the Aurora Seniors Art Group hold their annual Art Show and Sale.

During the year beginning and near-professional artists meet at the Seniors' Centre every Tuesday morning to draw and paint under the direction of Aurora artist Dorothy Clark

McClure has been teaching the group since 1992.

The course is sponsored by the town's Leisure Services Department and is held during the fall, winter and spring.

In 1995, with the quality of the work improving every year, it was decided to hold an Art Show and Sale as the culmination of the year's work. It was so successful that it has been repeated every year.

The opening reception for the 11th Annual Art Show and Sale was held Friday May 27th and continued Saturday, May 28th.

Thirteen artists participated in the show and they were in attendance to discuss their works, with more than 100 paintings on dis-

The event was officially opened by Councillor Evelyn Buck. She congratulated the artists on the quality and variety of their works and paid tribute to art instructor Dorothy Clark McClure for her leadership.

After opening the show, she had the difficult task of selecting a painting from the "Historic Aurora, Our Kind of Town" category for the town's permanent collec-

There were 10 paintings in this category on display.

The town's purchase started in 2001 when council authorized the selection of a painting from the heritage category up to a value of \$300.

purchases Previous included the "Old Fleury Works" by Kay Nishimura, "Field House" by Pierrette Ajram, "The Chateau" by Jesse Coleman and the "New Connexion Methodist Church" by Irma Gutsh.

Paintings this year included "The Jack Wood Farmhouse", the "Seniors Centre", "Horse Show" and "Doan Hall" by Kay Nishimura; "Hartman House" by Mine Nakanura and also one by Catherine Glavin; "Old Library" and "Looking Towards Aurora" by Irma Gutsh; "Old Barn" by Mary McIntosh; and "Lundy House" by Rose Marie Clark.

After much deliberation, Councillor Buck selected Doan Hall, the home of Charles Doan, postmaster, businessman, the man who named Aurora and was the village's first reeve in 1863.

The house was built around 1860 and was located on the site of the present Doane Hall Pharmacy.

It was demolished in 1968 in spite of efforts to save it.

Councillor Buck recalled that she had the opportunity to tour the historic building before it was demolished.

The next session for beginners and experienced painters will start in September at the Seniors' Centre and registration begins in July.

Courses are limited to 15 students, so if interested call the centre at 905-727-2816.



# <u>FUND RAISER</u>

Members of VOJ Voices of Joy Community Choir joined forces with the ever-popular Good Brothers for a fund-raising concert Friday night at Trinity Anglican Church in Aurora. VOJ Voices of Joy is a unique, inclusive, adult community choir that brings together people of all abilities and was formed in the fall of 1998. The group is sponsored by Community Living Newmarket/Aurora District and is led by founder/director Linda Middlebrook. A large crowd Friday enjoyed the concert put on by the two groups. Auroran photo by David

Falconer

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# A & P has lengthy history in Aurora

Last month, the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company, the owner of A & P supermarkets, announced it was selling its Canadian grocery store business, estimated to be worth more than a billion

A & P, founded in 1859, plans to sell the chain of 236 Ontario stores including 103 Food Basics, its discount chain, 71 A & P stores, all in smaller markets and 50 Dominion stores in the GTA, plus nine The Barn stores and three Ultra Food stores to pay down debt.

A & P expanded into Canada in the 1930s and in 1985 purchased the 92store Dominion chain.

A few years ago the Aurora A & P store at Yonge and Henderson became a Dominion store, which it remains today.

Potential suitors are Sobeys and Montrealbased Metro grocery stores.

Loblaw, Canada's biggest supermarket chain announced it would not be making a bid for the A & P chain.

In May, 1981, while Aurora Council wrestling with one proposed and another hinted mall in the north end of town, drawings for a south end mall showed up.

The proposed mall was planned for Henderson and Yonge, would include 76,000 square feet of retail space and a cinema.

The proposal for the site was the last in a long list of commercial proposals, including a large hotel, but it remained vacant.

The latest proposal included a supermarket, two restaurants, 24,000 square feet of retail space, 5,300 square feet of office space, a bank and parking for 365 cars.

It was to be known as the Aurora Garden Mall.

By April, 1982, the plans had reached the site plan approval stage and the only outstanding issue was a right turn-out on Yonge Street for southbound traf-

A month later, Simon Ng, the architect, appeared before council to present the final plans for the proposed \$5 million mall with a scheduled opening date in the spring of 1983.

The mall, now known as Aurora Court, had archways and clock towers with 70,000 square feet of retail space in four separate blocks of stores, which could be enclosed at a later

Walkways would radiate out between the shops from a central court yard, where fashion shows, farmers' market and entertainment could take place.

In the winter, the outdoor court might house an ice rink for skating.

Ng stressed that the design would provide Aurora with a very good piece of architecture.

The proposal was met with enthusiasm by council members as the property had been an eyesore for

In June, 1985, Aurora Mayor Dick Illingworth officially opened the new A & P store on Henderson Drive in Aurora. It was planned for the store to be open 24 hours a day, six days a

Also expected to open in the new plaza was a Super X drug store, a Cadet Cleaners, an independent variety store, Farmers Home Style Donuts, a hairdressing salon and a Swiss Chalet restaurant.

Prior to that the first A & P store was opened in the Aurora Heights Plaza where D-mac Furniture was previously located.

The building will become another Shoppers Drug

A reminder of Aurora's first A & P store will be in the Aurora Museum as a red light and a notice requesting citizens to call police or the store manager if the red light was flashing, which indicated the freezer wasn't operating.

The red light and notice were removed from the exterior of the building and saved through an arrangement with Shoppers Drug Mart.

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Members of The Rising Sun Masonic Lodge in honoured Harold Foote, right, recently for long service. A life-long Aurora resident, Mr. Foote received a 50-year long service pin from Glen Wardlaw, **District Deputy Grand Master** for Toronto District 6. In addition, Mr. Foote was also presented with the Golden Jubilee Medal on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Canada. The ceremony was attended by Mr. Foote's wife and family as well as several other **Freemasons** from throughout the district.

Photo by Ted McClenny

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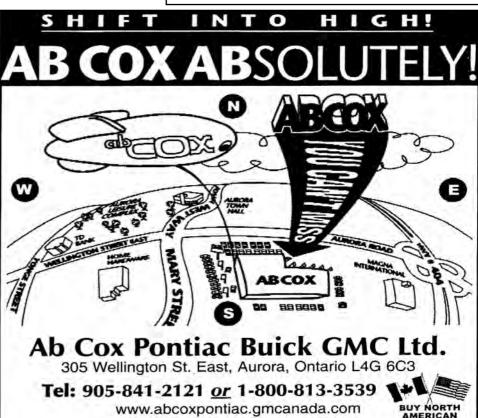
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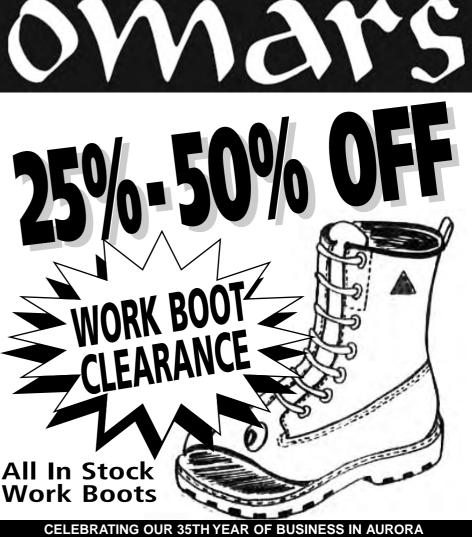
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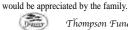
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**DEATH NOTICE** 

PRIESTLY, David Samuel - Peacefully after a brief illness at Southlake Regional Health Centre, on Saturday, June 4, 2005 at 69 years of age. Dave, loving husband of the late Janet. Loving father of Jim and his wife Nora, and Jill and her husband Peter Heintzman. Beloved grandad of Brian and his wife Dawn, Mark, Samatha, Alex, Nick, Matt and Carly. Dear brother of Noreen and her husband Dr. Bill Diamond, Sandy and her husband Robert Irwin, Victor Priestly and Mila. Dear uncle of Art, Pete, Tim, Andrea, Ryan Robin, Danny and Paul. Friends will be received at Thompson Funeral Home, 29 Victoria Street, Aurora (905) 727-5421), on Tuesday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Funeral service will be held on Wednesday. June 8, 2005 at 11 a.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 32 Mosley St., Aurora. Interment Aurora Cemetery. Memorial

donations to the Southlake Regional Health Centre



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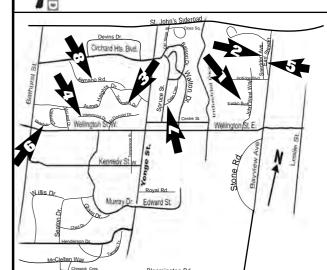


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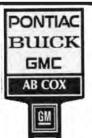
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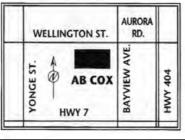
	Features	2005 Montana SV6 RWB 1SA	2005 Dodge Caravan 28C
SAFETY AND SECURITY	Braking	4-Wheel Disc Brakes	Front Disc/Rear Drum Brakes
	Anti-Lock Brakes	Standard	Optional
	OnStar	Standard (Includes 1 year Safe and Sound Plan)	Not Available
PERFORMANCE	Engine/Hp	3.5L 200 Hp V6	3.3L 180 Hp V6
	Wheels	16" Steel	15" Steel
COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE	Remote Keyless Entry	Standard	Optional
	MP3 Player	Standard	Not Available
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