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Vol. 5 No. 46

Week of September 20, 2005

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Councillor and citizen collide

At a recent general committee meeting Al Wilson, an Aurora resident and a former candidate for council, applied for and received delegation status to address the group.

He asked to be provided with a verbal or written response to his previous requests about the status of naming rights in relation to fundraising campaign targets for the new rec complex and the Seniors' Centre.

He also sought a report on the request to York Region for the debenture of funds for the rec complex.

He was advised the naming rights issue was still being investigated and that once it was resolved and a draft policy was prepared for consideration, he would be informed and provided with the opportunity to comment.

He was also advised that the request for the debenture would be finalized and issued by York later this year.

The committee recommended the staff provide a response to him with regard to his inquiries.

Councillor Evelyn Buck chaired the general committee meeting and when the report came to council last week, she said she wanted a review of the delegation

process.

She pointed out that Wilson had been appearing before council and committee for the previous 21 months on a variety of issues and council had gone along with it.

She added that at times he had been abusive of some councillors and said the protocol for dealing with delegates was that staff is available to council, not to citizens and Wilson had made an unreasonable request and she could not support the committee report.

Councillor Nigel Kean said he wished council had citizens like Wilson and whether he was a former candidate for council or not didn't make any difference, council had a duty to listen.

Councillor Damir Vrancic said members of council were elected to serve and citizens should be able to attend council and express their views as communications worked both ways.

He said Councillor Buck should withdraw her remarks, since council had directed staff to respond.

Buck responded that she never suggested that citizens not come before council and the point of her comments was that staff should be asked to respond.

Council adopted the committee report as presented.



African Children's Choir used the Aurora United Church to make its only appearance in York Region last week, and they brought the house down. A packed audience enjoyed the show that lasted more than an hour and a half.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

African Children's Choir thrills Aurora audience

By MARCIA KAYE
Special to The Auroran

They've appeared with Jay Leno and on the Ellen DeGeneres show.

They've performed with international hip-hop star Wyclef Jean.

But last week they sang especially for Aurora.

The African Children's Choir, a group of 24 young singers from Uganda, performed a concert

Wednesday at the Aurora United Church.

This was their only York Region appearance on an 18-month North American tour.

The young performers filled the hall with their joyful voices, lively drumming and energetic dance routines that included some athletic break-dance moves.

The 100-minute concert featured a mixture of traditional African songs and contemporary

North American tunes such as "Lean on Me" and Celine Dion's "Because You Loved Me."

A rockin' version of "This Little Light of Mine" brought the entire audience to its feet in a loud and prolonged standing ovation.

The fans continued to stand, clapping and dancing to the rousing finale of "O Happy Day."

"What impressed me so much, even more than the out-

Please see page 16



Norman Hope was the man of the hour Sunday as relatives and friends helped him celebrate his 100th birthday party at the Aurora Library. Helping with the festivities were Member of Parliament Belinda Stronach and Norman's friend Verna Foerter. Norm, a resident on Mosley Street, spent 40 years working for Sisman's Shoes in Aurora.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

His fight with town continues

John Nimmo, a former resident of Ransom Street in Aurora and now a resident of Keswick, returns to Aurora Council's Open Forum at almost every meeting to seek answers.

In February, 2002, he expressed concern about what was going on at the former Shell gas station, at the corner of Ransom and Yonge Streets, which had been acquired by the Abbotsford Animal Hospital.

He pointed out that more than four truckloads of soil had been removed from the site and asked whether a building permit had been issued.

He returned last month for

what he claimed was the fifth time, with a shopping bag full of correspondence but was refused permission to speak by Mayor Tim Jones.

Jones said that the issue was a legal matter between Nimmo and the Abbotsford Animal Hospital and he had received legal advice that council couldn't hear him.

For several years Nimmo lived on Ransom Street next door to the gas station.

The animal hospital renovated the property and built a two-storey building, but Nimmo believed the property had not been properly environmentally

treated and it was affecting his property.

In 2003, he moved to Keswick but his debate with the neighbours and the town continued.

In February, he returned to council to complain about the lack of action by the town and letters from his former neighbour threatening a lawsuit over actions he denied taking.

Nimmo said he had requested a meeting with town officials and had failed to receive a reply.

Mayor Jones did not permit questions claiming it was a legal issue between two property

Please see page 16



Brian



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COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

CONTINUING

Every other Friday Night dances at the Aurora Seniors' Centre from 8 to 11 p.m. in the Main Hall. Singles are welcome. Big band and modern music, prizes, snacks and some light food. Call 905-727-2816 for details.

Aurora Farmers' Market continues every Saturday in the Temperance Street parking lot until Thanksgiving. Event opens at 8 a.m.

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 905-841-1352.

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.

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 905-830-9205.

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.

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

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

Canadian Federation of University Women welcomes new members throughout the year for monthly meetings with a variety of speakers. Contact Beverley at 905-727-2151.

Dancing at the Legion, 8 p.m. every Friday night.

Bid Euchre at the Legion 1 p.m. every third Sunday.

Queen's York Rangers Army Cadet Corps, boys and girls, ages 12 to 18. Camping, canoeing, target shooting. Aurora squadron meets every Friday evening. For more information, call 905-7216-8600.

Towns of York Toastmasters Club meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Park Place Manor, 15055 Yonge St. in Aurora. For more information see the club web site at www.townsofyork.org or phone Elena Silaev at 905-726-9750.

SEPTEMBER 24/25

Students needing service volunteer hours to graduate from high school can participate in the Fall Clean-Up Days. For more information call 905-726-4760.

SEPTEMBER 27

Aurora Council meets at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall.

York Young Singles Network, a social group for singles ages 20-30, disco bowling at the Gateway Café and Lanes on Edward Street in Aurora, formerly the Aurora Bowl, at 7.30 p.m. For more information call 905-868-8793 during the day or evening.

SEPTEMBER 28

After school Sewing and Cooking classes begin and continue Wednesdays from 3.45 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. until Nov. 30. Classes for ages 10 to 15 years. Cost is \$20 for 10 classes. Sponsored by and held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 32 Mosley St. Aurora. Call 905-727-5011 for further information.

Aurora Council holds a Public Planning meeting at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers to consider four applications for rezoning.

"Smart and Safe Seniors" Program provides specific tips and tools including changes to the home or personal behaviour that minimize the likelihood of a criminal targeting an individual. Critical

safety information is available by attending this program at the Seniors' Centre at 10.30 a.m. Call 905-727-2816 for information.

SEPTEMBER 29

Blood Donor Clinic, Aurora Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North, 2.30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 30

Aurora theatre audiences who saw Theatre Aurora's "Same Time, Next Year" shouldn't miss the sequel "Same Time, Another Year" which continues the story of the once-a-year lovers George and Doris featuring Dave Sansom and Jacquie Presly and directed by Sergio Calderon. It continues October 1, 2, 5 to 9 and 12 to 15. Call the theatre box office at 905-727-3669 for tickets.

OCTOBER 4

Our Lady of Grace Parish presents Alpha 2 - A Life Worth Living from 7.30 to 9.30 on Tuesdays from today until November 29. Call 905-727-4594 to register.

OCTOBER 6

Aurora Seniors attend a performance of the musical "Gypsy" at the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Call the Seniors' Centre to register at 905-727-2816.

OCTOBER 12

Fall fashion show at Dinardo's The Mansion to support Easter Seals Kids. Master of Ceremonies, Gord James, from CHUM AM. Guest appearance by the York Region Fire Fighters calendar guys. For information and tickets call 905-727-0552.

Aurora Seniors' Fall Colour Tour of the Caledon Hills and the

Forks of the Credit includes lunch and time to browse a quaint village. Call 905-727-2816 to register.

OCTOBER 13

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Networking Breakfast at the Aurora Public Library, 15145 Yonge Street. 7.30 a.m.

OCTOBER 15

Harvest Fair at Wesley United Church from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the corner of Woodbine Avenue and Aurora Sideroad (Wellington St). For further information call Fran Mason at 905-895-3753.

OCTOBER 16/19

Space available for Aurora Seniors' Christmas Tour to Magog, Quebec. Package includes transportation, lodging, meals, local visits, and nightly entertainment. For further information call the centre at 905-727-2816.

OCTOBER 21

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Celebration of Business. DiNardo's - The Mansion. Cocktails 6 p.m., Dinner at 7.15. Call the Chamber at 905-727-7262 for further information.

OCTOBER 23

Doane House Hospice presents its 10th Annual Wine and Food Celebration from 4.30 to 8 p.m. Call 905-967-0259 for details. Doane House Hospice serves Aurora residents north of Wellington Street.

OCTOBER 29

Aurora Historical Society annual Murder Mystery Dinner at Hillary House. Tickets are limited. \$60 each. Call 905-727-4015 to reserve.

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PROUD TO BE LIVING AND WORKING IN AURORA

By CLIFF DAVIES LEGION News

This week, from September 18th to the 24th is LEGION WEEK and it's our President, Len Whines' turn to say a few words.

"I would like to thank Ron and The Auroran staff for these opportunities to inform you, the Citizens of Aurora and others to whom you spread the word, about Branch 385, Aurora Legion.

"To keep the Legion going, we must have an increase in membership.

Now that the membership is open to the general public 19 years and over, we would like to see more people joining to enhance our mandate for Community Services."

The Ladies Wednesday night Darts, are short a few players. Anyone interested in playing darts should contact Betty Young at 905-727-7933.

This week's events are special for Legion Week and include the Branch General Meeting; entertainment by Mr. Banjo and his band in the Banquet Hall on Sunday, September 25th beginning at 2 p.m., and the Ladies Auxiliary celebrate Legion Week with a Lunch for Seniors, guys and dolls at 11. 30 a.m. and euchre in the afternoon at 1 p.m.



She's known as Patty The Singing Waitress, and Patty McLaughlin proved it last week as she entertained at her place of employment, Jonathan's Restaurant during a Hoedown Night. Organizers termed the event a huge success.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Business course back

The Women's Centre of York Region, located on Yonge Street in Aurora, is launching its eighth annual Enterprising Women program.

The program provides women with the opportunity to start their own businesses and use their skills and talents, while having the flexibility to raise a family and build a solid future.

The program includes five months of in-class sessions facilitated by business professionals, as well as one-on-one business coaching.

It starts with the basics – self and business assessment, choosing a name, conducting market research, cash flow analysis and legal issues, and then offers sessions such as web marketing, networking, commercial real estate, bookkeeping, and work-life balance.

Enterprising Women is open to women 18 years and older, living in York Region.

They must have a viable business idea and be able to commit to attending all sessions of the program, which runs from November 3, to April 13, 2006. Course fee is \$50.

For more than 20 years, Women's Centre of York Region, a community based not-for-profit agency, has been providing support and services for women across this region.

Enterprising Women

will be launched with orientation sessions November 3, at 12.30 p.m. at Trinity Anglican Church, Aurora. Classroom sessions start Thursday, November 3, at 12.30 p.m. at Trinity Anglican Church, Aurora.

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Proceeds to Easter Seals Kids.

For tickets & information phone us at

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Poor Richard

New policy might clean up eyesores on Yonge Street

*What happens to the buildings
Once the application is passed?
The property is put up for sale, and
Councillors haven't heard the last!
- Poor Richard's Scrapbook*

Aurora Council and staff members spend a considerable amount of time reviewing plans of development and scheduling public meetings.

Citizens and others have the opportunity to express their comments for or against the application.

Then, council considers the recommendations from the planning staff, the comments made at the public meeting by the applicant and the public and decide whether to approve the plan, reject it, or refer it back to staff to work with the applicant to resolve the issues raised at the public meeting.

In some cases after all this, when the decision is made to approve the application, nothing happens and the property is put up for sale.

With a zoning on the property, it is likely worth much more, but it continues to remain empty.

Take the case of the proposed Aurora Corporate Centre consisting of two towers linked by an atrium and providing about 150,000 square feet of office space on St. John's Sideroad and Earl Stewart Drive.

As of February, 2001, construction had started, but was soon stopped.

According to the September, 2005, planning status report, the project is waiting for a land title issue to be resolved and the applicant has requested the file to remain open.

Then there is the vacant property at the corner of Yonge Street and Tyler right in the heart of Aurora.

A former butcher stop and later a leather goods store, the structure was later demolished due to fire damage.

The original application was submitted in March, 1996, for a four-storey mixed use building to include commercial space on the ground floor and 13 condominium apartments above.

Council approved the application in principle subject to issues such as façade treatment and access.

A site plan agreement and third reading of the enacting bylaw was scheduled for August, 1996, but was postponed pending the involvement of an urban design consultant.

A revised development concept was presented and a public planning meeting held in January, 2000, for a five-storey mixed used building with commercial on the ground floor and 32 condo units above.

There were several objections from residents regarding buffer strips, the increased number of units from the original plan and a shortage of parking, plus others.

Council approved the plan in principle and directed staff to work with applicant to resolve the various issues discussed at the meeting.

A revised site plan was submitted in January, 2002, which was sent back to staff for revisions.

Finally in January, 2000, the zoning bylaw was approved by council, but the property is still empty and for sale.

The September, 2005, planning status report advises that a revised site plan is in circulation for comments.

One of the oldest undeveloped properties is the old arena site on Yonge Street which has been vacant since the arena was destroyed by fire in January, 1965.

Several plans of development have been submitted over the years, the most recent was for a five-storey condo with 44 residential units which was approved by the Ontario Municipal Board in October, 2002.

A revised application was recommended for approval by council in April 2004.

The property is still empty and for sale.

Much the same applies to the property at Yonge and Centre Streets.

After several applications, a six-storey mixed use residential/commercial with 62 dwelling units was approved in principle by council last June.

The property is still empty and for sale.

It's time council developed a policy similar to what used to be in place when the town was developing industrial parks.

If construction doesn't start within a reasonable time, say two years, the rezoning is null and void, or require a non-refundable performance bond. It might help get construction underway to clean up some of the Yonge Street eyesores.



This is a shot of a Grade 8 graduation class from 1951, and surprise, surprise, it wasn't taken in front of the Church Street School. Actually, it's inside the Aurora United Church. Making up the class are, front row, left to right, Read Whatmough, Peter Rowat, Dennis Mills, James Preston, Donald Billing, Arthur Southwood, Ronald Starkey; second row, left to right, Jane Kincaid, Wanda Ellis, Jillian Corbett, Nancy Stocks, Louise Bastedo, Elizabeth Closs, Muriel Hartsman, Janet Evershed, Isabel MacGirr; third row, left to right, Alice Wells, Elizabeth Herna, Lorraine Zimmerman, Bernice Downey, Margaret Barrager, Carol Landen, Gloria Evans, Joan Scott, Johanne Smith; back row, left to right, Lowell Sutton, Larry Spence, Frank Pattenden, Donald Hooper, Douglas McInnis, Clifford Murrell, Jon Bunn, Alan Child and Fred Barwick. The photo was supplied by Wanda Eveleigh of Cookstown, who is Wanda Ellis in the picture.

From the Editor

The story gets told

From the editor,

How many, after reading the obituary columns, think about widows and widowers?

I know I didn't give much thought to those persons.

Until I became one.

It happened at 8.30 on a Saturday morning when I suddenly became a widower and had to say goodbye to my best friend...a friend who had been by my side for 26 years.

Rosemary Schumaker had been with Welcome Wagon as a hostess and area manager since the early 70s.

Can I tell this story now? I've been sitting on it for many, many years.

In 1979, I had just moved into an unfinished house on Cossar Drive and had taken a Wednesday off to wait for the Bell Canada guy to install an ultra-modern Princess telephone on my kitchen wall.

Letter to the Editor

Ban column: reader

To the editor,

Belinda Stronach's column should be banned.

Miss Stronach was elected by Aurora constituents as a Conservative Member of Parliament.

Miss Stronach has no business representing Aurora constituents in Ottawa.

The fact that she betrayed her constituents and traitorously crossed the Commons floor to join a corrupt and incompetent government causes one to question her integrity and motives.

Oh, I forgot, Miss Stronach was offered a

(Not long ago, a youngster asked to use that phone, and had no idea how to make a call using the dial).

When the doorbell rang, I expected to see some burly guy, belted with equipment and carrying a new phone.

Instead, for the first time in my life, I saw Rosemary.

"Hi, I'm your Welcome Wagon hostess," she said.

"Swell, what's a Welcome Wagon hostess?"

It took her a couple of hours to tell me, and I didn't have the heart to tell her I knew more about Aurora than she did, having moved here in 1969, then relocating to Holland Landing for a couple of years before returning "home".

So, enchanted by her American accent, her good looks, her pleasant nature, I let her ramble on.

And, before I knew it (well, okay, I had something to do with it) she rambled into my house, and put her clothes in

another closet because "this is only temporary, okay?"

Welcome Wagon probably doesn't encourage its hostesses to move in with the clients, so we kept the story away from the firm.

In November, 1984, there was a huge fire on Yonge Street that destroyed Tallyman's, the town's only bookstore for the past 11 years.

As a volunteer firefighter, I fought that night-long blaze and only early the next morning realized Tallyman was one of the businesses involved.

It had moved to that location only six weeks earlier and the owners decided not to reopen.

The following month, Rosemary and I were walking a beach in Florida when the nickel dropped.

"We should open a bookstore," I, who had read nothing but Stephen King novels, said. "and call it R & R Book Bar."

Rosemary - always the first "R" - agreed, and in March, 1985, the store became a reality.

Luckily for me, Rosemary knew about the popularity of other authors besides King.

She loved her bookstore, loved her customers, especially her "men" who would wait until Saturday to visit because they knew she'd be there.

And when we became a used bookstore called R & R Revisited three or so years ago, she kept her Saturday assignment and the customers would wait 'til Saturday so they could visit with the upbeat Rosemary.

In the last couple of weeks, I have received hundreds of sympathy cards, some from people I don't even know.

She touched many, many

hearts.

But she touched mine on a daily basis.

I keep waiting for the doorbell to ring.

Ron Wallace
Editor

AURORAN

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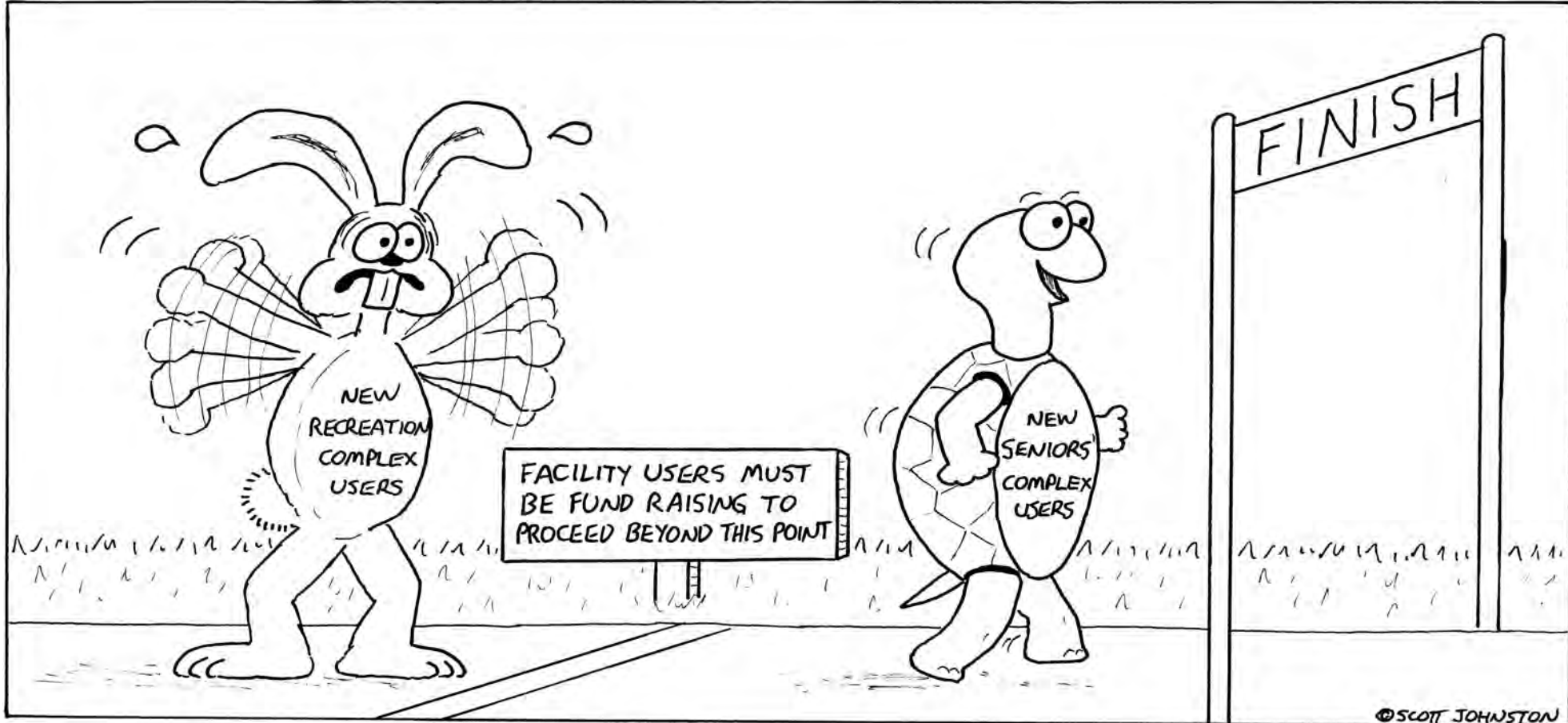
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Mayor's Report
By Tim Jones

York Road Reconstruction in Aurora - an update

A huge thank you to all our residents who have been living with the incredible amount of road reconstruction in our Town.

And it's not just road reconstruction but also the infrastructure that is constructed into the road allowances that is also being updated, the water and the sewer pipes that are being brought up to standard to accommodate our growth and the growth of those around us.

Over the past few years, Aurora has experienced road and infrastructure work on the Regional roads of Bayview, Wellington, Bathurst, St John's and Yonge.

It is always an inconvenience when we have to find alternate ways of getting to where we need to go or to wait while traffic is routed through construction areas.

As you can experience when travelling Bayview from St. John's to Wellington, or Wellington from Industrial to the 404, once this work is complete, it does make travelling these routes a lot easier and nicer.

Recently I inquired about the status of the St. John's Sideroad and Wellington projects and received the following update:

The St John's construction can be best described in three sections.

1. Mackenzie Marsh - Yonge Street to the railway crossing. Construction of road widening and north side boardwalk currently underway; the schedule calls for four lanes of traffic on base asphalt to be open by December, and top lift final asphalt and streetscaping features to be completed in the Spring of 2006.
2. Railway crossing to Trent Street, just west of Bayview. Road widening (base asphalt) and boulevard works completed; final top coat asphalt to be complete by November, by end of December, four lanes of traffic will be fully operational from Yonge Street to Trent Street.
3. Trent Street to east of Bayview Avenue. Tunneling work for the 2B lands sanitary sewer is currently underway in the vicinity of Bayview. Once the tunneled sewer crosses Bayview Avenue, the sewer will be constructed by open cutting St. John's east of Bayview.

This necessitates a full road closure of St. John's, east of Bayview for a period of about four months ending in February, 2006.

Attempts will be made to have the road works completed between Trent and Bayview Avenue by late this year so that the entire road widening is operational from Yonge Street to Bayview by the end of 2005.

The remaining works east of Bayview will be completed in the early Spring of 2006.

Meanwhile, the construction of the Wellington 900mm water main from Berczy to Yonge St. continues.

Wells Street shaft restoration was completed on Saturday August 27th and the road was re-opened at the end of August.

Victoria St. shaft will be open for approximately four weeks (until late September) to allow for pipe installation.

Work has started on joint testing, grouting and the measurement, manufacturing and installation of the closure piece.

The Berczy Street shaft will be open until approximately mid-October for completion of loading, pressure testing and chlorination of the water main from west of Yonge to Berczy followed by installation of the closure piece and backfilling/restoration

The right turn lane and realignment of the crosswalk are complete at Yonge and Wellington.

Permanent traffic signals at that intersection are to be completed by the end of September.

Wellington Street water main and restoration are scheduled to be finished by mid-October.

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



Cathy's Corner



Soccer is life...

During the soccer season, soccer is life.

This summer, many a Wednesday night has found me huddled under blankets at Aurora's Highland Park watching the Aurora Spurs strut their stuff.

My blanket policy yields many benefits.

First, blankets keep me from freezing my tootsies off, thereby enhancing my ability to last the whole game.

July was particularly bad this year, and I had to get a pair of bright pink gloves so that I could look summery while I braved the Great Canadian North.

The second benefit of blankets is that they keep the mosquitoes off.

This season, it seemed like Auroran mosquitoes had morphed into stampeding pterodactyls.

One night, I forgot my blankie and spent the whole game looking like a desperate cheerleader in the process of perfecting the dance version of sign language.

And finally (and most importantly), blankets get me a lot of friends who would like to share the first two benefits.

Friends are good. Friends make braving the elements fun. So what if I don't know the score?

It's all about relationships, conversation, laughter...and now that the Aurora Soccer Club has a clubhouse, beer, wine and salt and vinegar chips.

I've enjoyed soccer in Aurora for nearly 15 years, and it just keeps getting better.

It all started in the early 90's when Damir signed the kids up with the Aurora Youth Soccer Club.

Mid-season, a troop of cleated seven-year-old warriors known as "Smilemakers" experienced a coaching shortage, and that did it.

Damir & Company was swept into a decade of barbeque deprivation.

Some years Damir coached more than one team, and by the end of the 90s he had upped the ante, coaching both girls' and boys' competitive teams.

Ah, those were the days!

Racing home from work to battle rush hour traffic in order to make kick-off in neighbouring towns like Sutton, Woodbridge, Barrie, Oshawa...Yellowknife.

For years, our garage was booby trapped with balls,

bags and nets and the only summer gear worth bringing out of winter storage was a collection of lawn chairs, coolers and cleats.

It wasn't easy, but it was worth it.

Then came the day, four years ago, when Damir decided to dig in his own cleats and don an Aurora Spurs jersey.

With great enthusiasm, I chirped: "I'll come out and watch you play!"

His face dropped, and when he picked it up and put it back on, it looked like it didn't fit right.

"Um..." he said, "wives don't generally come out to these things."

"Well," I said, refusing to get the hint. "I'll start a new trend!"

When I arrived at Fleury Park that night, Damir's face still looked like it had shrunk in the wash.

Over the years, Damir's expression has changed to "are you coming to my game tonight?"

"I wouldn't miss it," I say, noticing that his face fits my mood perfectly now.

I like the new trend.

I've huddled under blankets with Karen (Jim's wife), Judy (Gerry's wife), Anna (Todd's wife) and Jen (Red's girlfriend).

A few times, we've been joined by other wives, kids and dogs, and the warm, fuzzy feeling expands whenever the circle grows.

Over the years, I've learned that heading the ball can give you a concussion, winding up for the big kick can make you dizzy, and that cleat marks take about two weeks to heal.


I've figured out that "offside" means the goal didn't count, that good sportsmanship means clinking bottles of malt-flavoured Gatorade with the other team after the game, and that soccer is not just a sport, but a way of life.


And it's a good life...


Congratulations, Aurora Spurs, on yet another season where fun and friendship are the name of the game!


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


By DICK ILLINGWORTH


 **BOUQUETS** to the Major Mosquito Aurora Jays on their come-from-behind 9-8 win over Guelph to capture the Ontario Baseball Association level "A" Championship on home turf at the Leisure Complex. The 10 and 11-year-olds had a perfect 5-0 record to win the championship


 **BRICKBATS** to members of Aurora Council for their ongoing unparliamentary behaviour and their rush to go into camera to discuss issues which should be discussed in public, or at least explain why it is necessary to deal with it in secret other than to say it's a legal issue.


 **BOUQUETS** to the same council for finally getting a sound system in the council chambers that works, or would work if members remembered that they have to activate their microphones in order to be heard. Why is it so difficult for some members to remember?


 **BRICKBATS** to the Ministry of the Environment for failing to provide a clear ruling on the environmental concerns caused by the twinning of the Big Pipe by York Region on the Oak Ridges Moraine. The region claims it is meeting all provincial requirements, but environmental groups disagree. Who is right? The public has a right to know! .


 **BOUQUETS** to 83-year-old Sheldon Galbraith, an internationally acclaimed figure skating instructor and resident of Aurora on being awarded the Order of Ontario. In 2000, he was appointed to the Order of Canada and an inductee in Canada's Sports Hall of Fame.


 **BRICKBATS** to those who were responsible for the renumbering of Yonge Street through Aurora. In the old days with north and south designations it was so easy to find an address, now with numbers in the 15,000 range, it's impossible to identify an address, especially in the reports of the Aurora Heritage Advisory Committee.


 **BRICKBATS** to Aurora Council for failing to adopt the suggestion made by Councillor Ron Wallace back in October 2003 to divide Yonge Street in Aurora into three districts to be called Fleury, Museum and Hillary so that merchants and others could describe where they are located. It was supposed to be part of the Economic Development Advisory Committee's strategic plan, but nothing happened.

 **BOUQUETS** to York Region planners on receiving the 2005 National Award by the Canadian Institute of Planners in two categories, Housing and Economic Development, from a total of 59 entries in the 10 categories.

 **BOUQUETS** to the aggressive Aurora Seniors for their hard work in raising funds for the new Seniors' Centre. The Buy a Brick campaign has brought in \$20,000, more than \$2,600 from the Farmers' Market and more to come.

 **BOUQUETS** to Aurora resident Al Wilson for his ongoing efforts as a delegate to council to request information about the naming rights and fundraising for the recreation complex and the seniors' centre. As Councillor Nigel Kean said; "We need more Al Wilsons".

 And a **BOUQUET** from The Auroran editor to Councillor Nigel Kean, who helped out last week by taking the picture of the two girls on the paper's front page when the editor couldn't get out of the office.

 **BRICKBATS** to the Ontario Liberal government for spending \$653,000 of taxpayers' money to host a 2004 meeting of Canada's provincial and territorial leaders at Niagara-on-the-Lake, plus \$122,000 from corporate sponsors. When Premier Dalton McGuinty is crying poor to the federal government, the extravagant expenditure is hard to justify.

Letters to the Editor

The Auroran: great little paper

To the editor,

I have been receiving The Auroran for nearly a year now, thanks to the kindness of the editor, and thought it high time I offered my views on this great little paper.

Hmmm..."great little paper".

I can remember when we used to refer to another publication as "that funny little paper up the road". Of course, that was in the days of The Aurora Banner --no, not the Era-Banner, but The BANNER! I'll leave it to your readers to decide upon the identity of that funny little paper, the one up the road.

I can see the fingerprints of The Auroran's editor all over your publication because it is so similar to what was prevalent during the heyday of The Banner - or at least what I consider to be the "heyday" - early and mid 1970s.

What a wonderful alternative you offer to those who desire an actual community newspaper.

It's The Banner in miniature!

But should it be a surprise that someone who has made Aurora his home

Brickbat mis-aimed

To the editor,


Re: Dick Illingworth's Bouquets and Brickbats.

Dick gives a brickbat to the present Liberal government's ongoing legal battle to try and break the ironclad 99-year contract Mike Harris' government signed with the private operators of Highway 407.

He should have given the brickbat to the Conservatives who signed this agreement in the first place, knowing it was an ironclad agreement that was typical of many of that Conservative government's decisions which were not in the public interest but in the interest of developers and big business.

During the next election it is essential that voters have long memories.

David Tomlinson
Aurora



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for so many years, who has been part of its life-blood for those years, who so loves the town that his only (beautiful and intelligent that she is) offspring is named after it, continues to produce a newspaper of, by and for Aurora and is still such an integral part of the community?

I trust, dear editor, that your modesty will not prevent these lines from appearing.

There is much I could - and would - say about The Auroran and about my relatively brief tenure in that wonderful town and the persons I came to know, who shaped me, who left an indelible impression.

Suffice, for this chapter at least, that I heartily congratulate you on your efforts, thank Scott Johnston for his insightful and clever editorial cartoons (shades of you-know-who, Ron!) and express admiring amazement at Dick Illingworth's seemingly never ending supply of news and views.

Let me also acknowledge the recent thanks in these pages given me by Dr. Tracey Hehn Zwicker and Steven Zwicker regarding the photo of the Zwicker home on Tyler Street which I was able to supply.

I'm pleased it meant

something to someone.

Recent circumstances certainly weigh heavily, my friend, and I know full well there is a time for one to put feet up and relax.

However, for selfish reasons, I hope that doesn't occur too soon.

Hell, I've only just re-discovered the real voice of the community of Aurora!

Keep your head up along

the boards.

Bob Cooke
Orillia

ED. NOTE: Bob Cooke is a retired Ontario Provincial Police officer who once served as a reporter for The Aurora Banner. It's obvious his writing skills are still pretty sharp.

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Letter to the Editor

Seniors keen to move into their new location

To the editor,

A new era of senior prosperity is preparing to unfold! Hurrah!

After a lifetime of toil and sacrifice a new era will dawn for the retired active population, complete with leisure time activities, and a new building in which to do it.

If you are 55 years old, you are eligible and invited to join the Aurora Seniors' Association and participate in the things we do, and I encourage you to do just that to our mutual pleasure and advantage.

Aurora seniors have long perceived a need for additional and better space, and now gleefully are about to receive their wish in abundance, when the new building under construction is completed shortly.

The new facility includes room to grow and a park as our backyard, and the ability to accommodate many more mem-

bers and the baby boomers too, when they arrive.

Furniture and equipment from the present location will be utilized to make a start in the new building, and improvements will be effected over time, with the benefit of continued fundraising and a clearer understanding of what is required.

The new building, which has not received a name from council to this point, is located across the parking lot from Aurora Town Hall.

It backs on to the Holland River Valley Park, which is regenerating magnificently after many years of use as farmland.

The location to my mind and to others is fabulous, a bucolic swath in the middle of Aurora, quietly and peacefully flaunting its trees and bushes, its wild flowers and vegetation of all descriptions in an undeniable display of nature at its finest, and

also present and sharing the park, a profusion of birds and other fauna.

Earth has nothing more splendid, nothing which can compare to the verdant beauty of that which grows elegantly and gracefully in the soil, requiring only enough space, and the rain and the sun which descend freely from the heavens, to flourish in a glorious display of unrivalled splendor.

The life in the park, is acclimatized and robust enough to find cover and protection from our bitterly hostile winter, and resilient enough to keep safe and sound, and secure in its bosom until the sun returns, the promise of a wonderful new spring.

Please note, non-members are allowed three visits to senior events as non-members and we hope to see you there.

For example, the

Computer Club expects to host sessions covering different topics on Tuesdays each month, and a strong turnout is our inspiration.

The Computer Club is

just one aspect of senior activities; other programs and activities proliferate.

**Brian Warburton
Aurora**



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Letters to the Editor

VIVA in our town when hell freezes?

To the editor,

I noticed that in the Sept. 13 edition of your fine paper, the always insightful cartoonist extraordinaire, Scott Johnston, takes a slight jab at York Region's highly touted new VIVA bus system, and some of the

anticipated delays in said service reaching the northern reaches of Aurora.

We here in Whitchurch-Stouffville can relate to that particular transit consternation, however we may have to wait just a tad longer before that particular

service reaches our part of the region.

Actually it may be sometime close to hell freezing over, I think.

It was not too long ago, this spring actually, that we finally got connected to the current YRT system you folks have for so long taken for granted.

And, to be honest, a real live bus with an actual schedule is still a bit of a novelty around here.

Every time it comes to town, a whole gaggle of townfolk led by the mayor and council members, at least those who can find downtown, are out on main street welcoming the bus with the high school band (which of course doesn't actually play, nobody wants to hear that because it's composed of tone deaf farmer kids and other low achievers, all the smart kids are taking shop you know), hooting and hollering and pointing at the bus while saying things like;

"Golly, woodja lookit the size of that thing, Ethel!"

"Gee pa, it sure is shiny!"

"I'm a wonderin' how a thing that gol-durn big goes all by its selfs"

"Whadda reckon a thing like that costs in the big city? I'm a figurin' at least eight or nine hundred bucks!"

Nobody actually rides the bus though, they're all too scared of it.

For weeks the local clergy was convinced it was some kind of demonic presence.

They have since changed their minds. Now they believe it must be French.

"Y-R-T sure as shootin' ain't the Queen's English you know."

But I am glad to see the good folks of Aurora have embraced the concept of mass transit, and I see that even your duly elected federal representative, the honourable Ms Stronach has gotten on board, so to speak.

(Our MP is still trying to locate Whitchurch-Stouffville on a map, apparently.)

In the previous issue Belinda wrote about hav-

ing attended the "official launch" of VIVA.

I must note that the word "launch" is usually associated with boats and the like, which at times have a disturbing tendency to sink like a stone if not properly prepared for rough waters.

On behalf of all the taxpayers who are paying for this, I hope that the VIVA system does not soon suffer that particular fate.

And I will say that it is just slightly ironic that the easily convertible Ms. Stronach, whose considerable fortune has been amassed in an industry whose very existence depends on the predication of the public to reject mass transit, was present representing the Federal government, who for decades has been determined to do everything it can to underfund

such transit initiatives and therefore is a major contributing factor in the growth of urban sprawl.

Which in turn makes most transit systems too expensive to operate, which prevents people from using them, which creates more sprawl which sells more cars, which...well, I hope you get my drift.

Of course she was not there alone. She was joined by a whole collection of the usual suspects and other local officials who know a good photo-op when they smell one. And I do hope they all took the opportunity to take a ride on one of those buses.

There's a first time (and probably the last time) for everything.

Hugo T. Kroon
Bethesda

Bussing provided again for walkers

To the editor,

This letter is to anyone touched by breast cancer.

It's that special time of the year again.

The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Run for the Cure (in support of breast cancer research) takes place October 2nd.

So, dig out your running shoes and get ready to walk, run or sponsor a friend in support of making breast cancer history!

For those of you who are interested in participating in the walk, once again, bus transportation will be provided courtesy of Laidlaw Transit for our fifth consecutive year.

Pickup time is 8.15 a.m. and the locations will be as in previous years: Aurora

(Canadian Tire/Winner's plaza) and Markham (No Frills Plaza at Warden and Highway 7).

We will be bussed down to Nathan Phillips Square and returned back after the event is over.

Please extend this invitation to family and friends as all are welcome. Last year our group raised \$15,488 so let's try to beat it this year.

For those who are unable to attend the walk, I would love if you could sponsor me - or someone you know - on-line.

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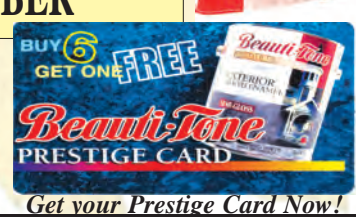
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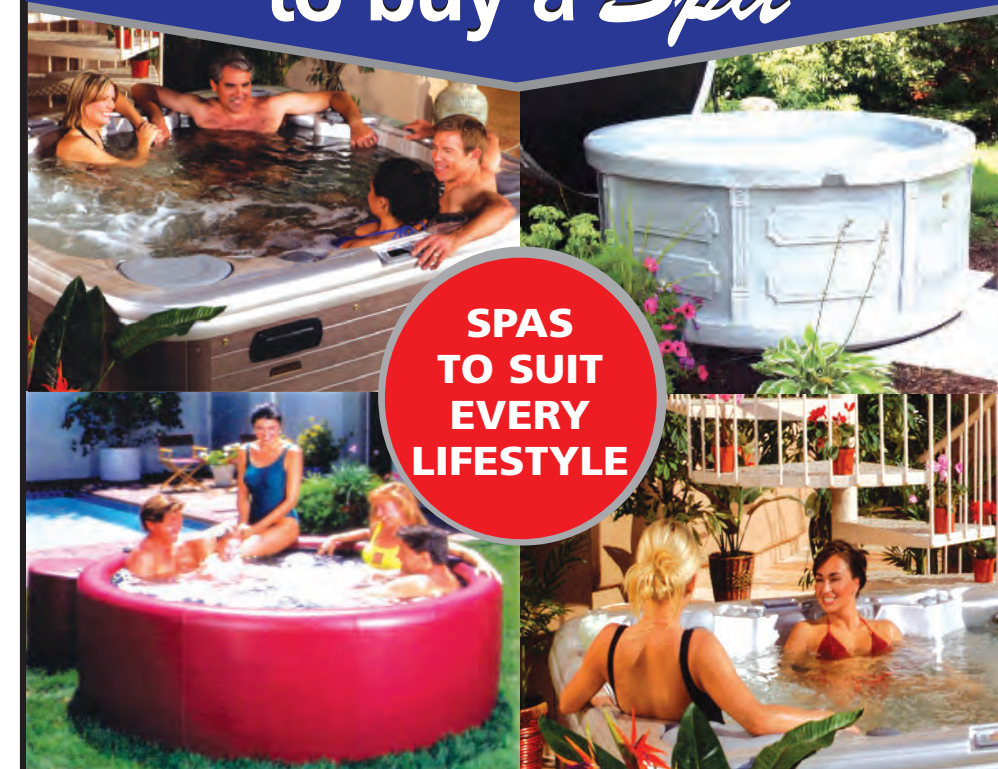
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Time: 7:30 am to 8:45 a.m.

Program Cost: FREE

Place: Aurora Public Library

15145 Yonge Street, Aurora

Presenter: Caroline Rowan of CVR
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Jeric Agosta, left, and Dylan Morrison, captains of the Aurora Tigers and the Seguin Bruins, respectively, face off as Aurora Mayor Tim Jones drops the puck to officially begin the 2005-2006 Provincial Junior A Hockey season at the Aurora Community Centre. Aurora won its home opener 4-2.

Photo by Nigel Kean

Hot goalies greet Tigers in 2 games

It was hard to imagine, two games into the new season, that the Aurora Tigers and the Newmarket Hurricanes would meet in what looked like a playoff thriller.

But it happened Sunday afternoon in Newmarket as the Canes, badly outplayed and outshot, hung on to a 3-2 win, thanks to the efforts of goaltender Brad Fogal.

Playing in their home opener, Newmarket held off the charging Tigers and clung to the slim victory after Aurora outshot the winners 46-20.

But it was Fogal's antics, stopping breakaways and making some exceptional saves, that brought the two points to Newmarket.

Jeremie Dupont, son of Tiger coach Jerome Dupont, playing his first game this year in the Aurora cage, gave up the first shot on net early in the opening period when Kyle Locke slipped the puck into the far side of the goal.

Newmarket held the one-goal lead into the second period even though they were outshot 17-6.

Aurora's Chad Kennedy broke in alone on Fogal and was robbed when the goaltender produced an astounding save at the 16-minute mark.

Early in the second, Newmarket went up two when Chase Gallacher scored while the Tigers were a man short.

Aurora finally found the scoreboard three-quarters through the frame when Michael Tuomi hit paydirt.

Darren Mooney restored

the two-goal lead in the third, but Josh Diamond, a Holland Landing native, made it close again with half the frame left to play.

Although Aurora had several man-advantage situations, Diamond's goal was the only power play Tigers could mount all afternoon.

However, Fogal and his defensive-minded Hurricanes locked the door, even though Aurora opted for the extra attacker in the last minute of play.

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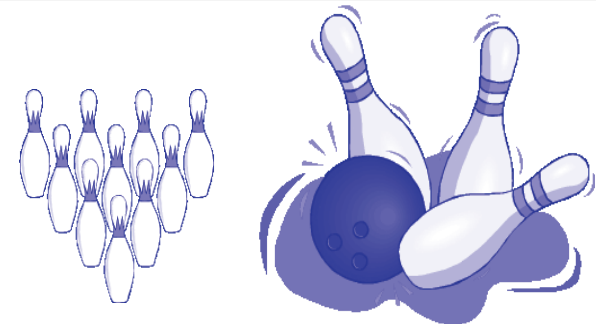
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They were thousands of kilometres apart, but two groups from the Aurora Master Ducks Tri Team were doing the same thing.

A cloudy, brownish green pond surrounding a castle in the English countryside seemed like a perfect place for ducks to swim.

This was the start of the inaugural 2005 Ironman UK.

Five members of the Aurora Master Ducks Tri Team raced through a 3.8 km swim, 180 km bike ride, followed by a marathon.

Veterans John Ramsell, Rob Durnford, Spencer Lavis, Mark Angela and first timer Brian McGee all finished this gruelling event.

Thirteen hundred rac-

ers thought they'd give it a try.

The swim took place in the 50-acre lake surrounding Sherborne castle. Team members compared this to swimming through gallons of Guinness.

The bike course started at the castle and wound through Dorset and Somerset.

Durnford, who finished in 14 "very long hours", described the bike course as very windy and constantly hilly. In addition, the Ducks reported that it was challenging at times to remember to stay on the 'wrong' side of the road while grinding their way through the course.

McGee, who was trying Ironman for the first time, enjoyed the race and said he felt good throughout.

Once the team had packed up their bikes and driven back to the hotel, it was time to raise a few pints on another successful race for the Aurora-based group.

Meanwhile, in Penticton, B.C., four members of the Master Ducks competed in Ironman Canada.

This was the largest ever Ironman start with 2,300 competitors entering the water.

The first section was a four-kilometre swim.

The bike ride could have been uneventful, except for the carpet tacks that some lunatic laid down on the open course the night before.

A mere 15 km into the bike ride, some 75 riders had flat tires.

One of the Ducks, National team member Karen Bonham was one of the unlucky ones.

While repairing her flat tire, she lost a nut in the grass and searched frantically with the help of a farmer for 45 minutes.

The other Ducks were busy climbing hills - the first was Richter Pass at about 10 km. into the 180-kilometre distance, then Yellow Lake.

The temperature was

climbing by this time into the low 30s and eventually reached 39 degrees C.

Depending which part of the race you were at, the winds either helped or hurt you.

For most, it was a tail wind, which made for an interesting descent into Penticton, when some bikers reached speeds in excess of 70km/hour.

The run out of town to the south was hot and coupled with high winds and low humidity.

This race had 200 more racers than in 2004, yet only two additional athletes finished.

For those who finished, more than 400 needed medical help, mostly for dehydration.

It looked like a battle zone with many people coming in then fainting and others screaming as their muscles went into spasms.

Happily, Karen, Dave Martineau, Joe Rizzi and Mark Gilbert all completed in this year's Canadian Ironman with Mark securing a spot in the famous Ironman Hawaii at the end of October.

Same race. Different execution each time.

These nine athletes raced for more than 2,000 kilometres. Ouch.

Tigers split openers

From page 12
home opener, Tigers met another hot goalie but managed to fashion a 4-2 victory over the expansion team Seguin Bruins.

Who?

The Sequin Bruins are from the Township of Seguin, and play their home games in the Humphrey Community Centre in Humphrey, Ontario.

That's close to Parry Sound.

Expansion or not the Bruins proved to be a formidable foe for the Tigers.

Despite Aurora outshooting the the Bruins two shots to every one, strong Seguin goaltending kept the challengers close.

Ryan Dickie was in goal for Aurora.

Scoring for the Tigers were newcomer Fraser Smith, veterans Daniel Michalsky, Cale Tanaka and Josh McNair, who also added an assist.

Meanwhile, Aurora's incredible 11-day tour of Russia which featured five exhibition games didn't results in any wins, but provided a wealth of experience for the young team.

"The trip was an amazing experience," said coach Jerome Dupont, "one that all those involved will cherish forever.

"Not only was the hockey incredibly competitive played before mostly sold out venues with games against the Under 20 Team Russia, the Klin Titans, Dmitrov, Dynamo Juniors and the Soviet Junior Wings but more importantly the Russians welcomed us with open arms and introduced us to their beautiful culture and very rich history."

The sports facilities the team played and trained in were second to none, he said.

This Friday, the Tigers

host division rival Stouffville Spirit.

Game time at the Aurora Community Centre is 7.30 p.m.



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Aurora Youth Soccer Club

Scores and Standings



HOUSE LEAGUE RESULTS

U8B- AUGUST 24- White- Scott Corbett Royal LePage York North Realty 3 (J. Weimer 3) vs **Sky- Viking Shrine Club** 1 (E. Fregonas 1); **Royal- Summers and Smith** 2 (E. Nichols 1, B. White 1) vs **Forest- Kavanagh Roofing** 0; **Kelly- Taylor Stone Masonry Contracting** 3 (A. Newell 1, Q. Bell 1, K. Olguin 1) vs **Red- Priestly Demolition Inc.** 3 (M. Galajda 3); **Orange** 1(R. Sutton 1) vs **Teal- LeGrow Agency** 1 (C. Baggio 1); **Black** 2 (D. Semenovych 1, J. Sherwood 1); **AUGUST 26- White- Scott Corbett Royal LePage York North Realty** 3 (T. Like 1, J. Weimer 2) vs **Navy- York Vein Laser** 2 (J. Hagias 2); **Kelly- Taylor Stone Masonry** 4 (A. Newell 1, K. Olguin 3) vs **Lime** 0; **Purple** 8 (B. Reil 6, E. Powell 1, A. Waite 1) vs **Black** 4 (D. Semenovych 1, N. Papousek 2, J. Sherwood 1); **AUGUST 27- Lime** 3 (J. Battistion 1, I. Reid 1, C. Cann 1) vs **White- Scott Corbett Royal LePage York North Realty** 3 (J. Weimer 2, A. Klinowski 1); **Sky- Viking Shrine Club** 0 vs **Yellow** 1 (M. Ruggerio 1); **Silver** 1 (J. Appleby 1) vs **Forest- Kavanagh Roofing** 1 (A. Riswick 1); **Royal- Summers & Smith** 2 (B. White 1, M. McKerracher 1) vs **Forest- Kavanagh Roofing** 1 (A. Riswick 1); **Kelly- Taylor Stone Masonry** 4 (M. Dalli 1, K. Olguin 3) vs **Navy- York Vein Laser** 0; **Red- Priestly Demolition Inc.** 6 (M. Albert 1, M. Fisher 1, G. Bede 1, C. Bile 1, M. Bellerby 1, N. Dolewski 1) vs **Yellow** 5 (C. Macpherson 2, T. Coleta 1, M. Ruggiero 2); **Sky- Viking Shrine Club** 4 (E. Fregonas 2, N. O'Hearn 1, A. Deavetis 1) vs **Red- Priestly Demolition Inc.** 3 (C. Bile 2, N. Dolewski 1); **Orange** 5 (M. Perri 1, S. Sebastia 1, J. Hodgson 1, S. Tsianos 1, R. Sutton 1) vs **Black** 0; **Teal- LeGrow Agency** 3 (C. Baggio 2, C. Baggio 1) vs **Purple** 4 (B. Reil 3, E. Powell 1); **Kelly- Taylor Stone Masonry Contracting Ltd.** 0 vs **White- Scott Corbett Royal LePage York North Realty** 2 (J. Weimer 1, J. Stobo 1); **Black** 1 (D. Durant 1) vs **Teal- LeGrow Agency** 4; **Purple** 4 (B. Reil 3, E. Pwell 1) vs **Orange** 2 (S. Sebastia 1, S. Tsianos 1); **AUGUST 28- White- Scott Corbett Royal LePage York North Realty** 4 (J. Weimer 1, J. Stobo 1) vs **Orange** 1 (S. Sebastia 1); **Purple** 1 (A. Waite 1) vs **Kelly- Taylor Stone Masonry Contracting Ltd.** 2 (J. Powers 2); **Red- Priestly Demolition Inc.** 3 (M. Fisher 3) vs **Royal- York Vein Laser** 1 (E. Nichols 1); **White- Scott Corbett Royal LePage York North Realty** 1 (J. Weimer 1) vs **Kelly- Taylor Stone Masonry Contracting Ltd.** 2 (M. Taylor 1, A. Newell 1); **Red- Priestly Demolition Inc.** 2 (M. Fisher 1, C. Bile 1) vs **Yellow** 3 (M. Ruggiero 2, T. Coleta 1); **U8G-AUGUST 22- White** 0 vs **Purple** 1 (S. Cohen 1); **Kelly** 3 (M. Lykos 3) vs **Forest- Casey Transportation Co. Ltd.** 0; **Yellow- Model Builders General Contracting** 3 (H. Schwarze 1, K. Dol 1, J. Devries 1) vs **Silver** 9 (M. Patterson 1, J. Smith 3, G. Dipede 5) ; **Sky** 1 (M. Baile 1) vs **Royal** 3 (R. Glynn 2, E. Thompson 1); **Red-** 4 (M. Maynard 1, J. Steiner 1, K. Braunstein 2) vs **Teal** 2 (M. Gans 1, A. Depiero 1); **AUGUST 27- Royal- Laurion & Assoc.** 0 vs **White** 1 (C. Dusome 1); **AUGUST 28- Red** 3 (K. Braunstein 1, J. Steiner 1, A. Lindsay 1); **AUGUST 28- Teal** 3 vs **Silver** 4; **Red** 0 vs **Silver** 4 (G. Dipede 1, J. Smith 3); **U10B-AUGUST 16- White** 1(F. Debuono 1) vs **Forest- Dr. Paul Steiner Family Dentist** 6 (R. Dowling 3, A. Megit 1, D. Oliveira 1, J. Poutney 1); **Yellow** 3 (W. Reid 2, M. Warner 1) vs **Red- Dr. Mark Weeden** 1 (L. Nych 1); **Purple** 0 vs **Royal- Highland Chev Cadillac** 10 (Y. Chehade 2, W. Brogan 1, C. Kinsman 1, J. Defina 1, A. Picheca-Fargher 3, D. Marshall 2); **Sky** 2 (G. Plukov 1, J. Brooks 1) vs **Orange** 5 (M. Hudon 1, M. Sjolín 1, Z. Kercz 1, Z. Ferry 1, C. Cherubini 1); **Kelly- Taylor Stone Masonry Contracting Ltd.** 3 (K. McIntosh 1, J. Geniole 1, T. Malon 1) vs **Teal** 2 (D. Eveleigh 1, J. Redmond 1); **AUGUST 23- Kelly- Taylor Stone Masonry Contracting Ltd.** 2 (M. Mehri 1, A. Clark 1) vs **Orange** 3 (Z. Ferry 1, D. Naffarrate 1, E. Cullen 1); **Yellow** 7 (W. Reid 1, M. Warner 1, N. Farquahrson 4) vs **Sky** 5 (G. Plukov 1, V. Ruscica 3, T. Braunstein 1); **Royal- Highland Chev Cadillac** 8 (D. Fisher 3, J. McDonald 3, Y. Chehade 1, J. Defing 1) vs **Teal** 2 (K. Fedec 2); **White** 1 (R. Baskin 1) vs **Red- Dr. Mark Weeden** 0; **Purple** 2 (C. MacDonald 1, M.

Waite 1) vs **Forest- Dr. Paul Steiner Family Dentist** 8 (R. Dowling 1, J. Huyhn 1, A. Megit 1, M. Perryman 1, P. Steiner 1);

U10B STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Forest	7	2	4	25
Orange	7	3	3	24
Yellow	5	2	6	21
Red	6	4	3	21
Sky	6	5	2	20
Royal	5	6	2	17
Teal	5	6	2	17
White	5	7	1	16
Purple	4	9	0	12
Kelly	3	9	1	10

U11B-AUGUST 25- Yellow- Lukezic Inc. 2 (V. Duggan 2) vs **White** 1 (J. Hudon 1);

U11B STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Yellow	9	2	2	29
Royal	6	2	5	23
Teal	7	6	0	21
White	6	5	2	20
Red	2	8	3	9
Forest	2	9	2	8

U11G -AUGUST 24- Royal 3 (G. MacIlraith 1, S. Baczynski 1, E. Wood 1) vs **Yellow** 0; **Sky** 1 (L. Rennie 1) vs **Red- Sleep Comfort Superstore** 3 (M. Masci 1, S. Byron 1, S. Klein 1); **White- Auto Camping** 1 (R. Funston-Clark 1) vs **Forest- Bayer** 1 (J. Coasta 1); **Teal** 1 (C. Kyle 1) vs **Kelly** 3 (R. Knatch 2, S. Kuncan 1);

U11G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Kelly	9	3	2	29
Red	9	4	1	28
Forest	8	4	2	26
White	7	2	5	26
Royal	5	6	3	18
Teal	5	8	1	16
Sky	3	9	2	11
Yellow	1	11	2	5

U12G- AUGUST 25- Royal- Magna International 0 vs **Sky- The Packaging Group** 3 (B. Cackirovski 2, M. Blom 1); **Red- Excellon Resources Inc.** 1 (N. Martineau 1) vs **White- BMPS** 0; **Yellow- Hartwell Thayer Financial Services Group** 1 (R. Kane 1) vs **Kelly- Taylor Stone Masonry Contracting Ltd.** 2 (M. Hulbert 1);

U12G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Red	8	2	4	28
Sky	7	1	6	27
Yellow	5	5	4	19
Kelly	4	6	4	16
White	5	8	1	16
Royal	3	10	1	10

U13B-AUGUST 25- Yellow- Barb Blaser Remax 2 (P. Che 2) vs **WSSC** 2 (J. McKendrick 1, W. Copp 1);

U13B STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Royal	10	3	2	32
White	9	5	1	28
WSSC	7	7	2	23
Yellow	5	7	3	18
Forest	2	11	2	8

U13G-STINGER CUP FINAL - Yellow 3 (M. Todd 1, C. Kalar 1, N. Quevillon 1) vs **White- Dr. Weaver's Drillers** 2 (J. Zammick 1, S. Tong 1);

AUGUST 23- Yellow 2 (L. Boniface 1, C. Dunec 1) vs **White- Dr. Weaver's Drillers** 1 (A. Bates 1); **Teal- Aegis Engineering** 3 vs **Forest- Nantucket Woodworking Ltd.** 0; **Red- SSL Group** 0 vs **Royal- Strategic Technology Consulting** 6; **AUGUST 27- Semi Finals- Royal- Strategic Technology Consulting Ltd.** 1 vs **White- Dr. Weaver's Drillers** 0; **Teal- Aegis Engineering** 1 vs **Yellow** 0; Congratulations to **Teal** as the tournament Finalist and to **Royal** as the Champions following a 4-0 victory over Teal in the final.

U13G STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Yellow	8	1	4	28
Royal	7	2	4	25
Forest	5	5	3	18
White	3	5	5	14
Teal	2	5	6	12
Red	1	8	4	7

U14G- AUGUST 24- Red- Pizza Pizza 4 (T. Kizovski 1, K. MacDonald 1, B. Alcorn 1, S. Letourneau 1) vs **Royal- Pizza Pizza** 2; **Teal- Pizza Pizza** 3 (S. Burr 1, S. Deacon 1, A. Kerr 1) vs **Forest- Pizza Pizza** 2 S. Bolak 2); **Yellow- Pizza Pizza** 4 (E. Hayzelden 1, D. Nasata 1, K. Uetz 2) vs **White- Pizza Pizza** 5 (L. Thiffault 1, N. Bailey 2, J. Matheson 2);

U14 GIRLS STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Teal	10	4	0	30
Red	9	3	3	27
Yellow	7	5	2	23
White	7	6	1	22
Royal	5	8	1	16
Forest	1	12	1	4

COMPETITIVE STINGERS RESULTS -

U13 Girls-September 10 & 11- Lake Simcoe Tournament- The **U13 Girls** played up a division in the **U14 Girls**. **Aurora Stingers** 1 vs **Lake Simcoe** 0. Goal scored by E. Freeman. **Aurora Stingers** 2 vs **Barrie** 0. Goals by E. Freeman and J. Graham. They finished first in their division and got a bye to the final. Championship game, **Aurora** 2 vs **Whitby** 1. Goals scored by E. Freeman and D. Pouliot. In the luminary round, we kept the pressure on the opposition throughout both games. We were able to minimize pressure on our goalie while creating some exciting scoring chances. This was the first time for many of our girls playing in the championship games and you could feel and see the tension from the opening kick. We jumped to an early 2-0 lead. The **Whitby** team fought back in the second half scoring with about 20 min left in the game. The girls turned up their intensity and pressure. While **Whitby** was pushing for the equalizer, our girls made sure they marked their players and minimized scoring chances. In the end they succeeded by never giving up. It was the kind of effort and determination that coach Mike keeps talking about. On Sunday it resulted in a victory. The winning goal by D. Pouliot was her first goal of the year.

U13 girls



U13Boys- The Aurora Stingers 1992 Boys YRSL soccer team brought home the Gold from **Montreal August 21** as they won the **Notre-Dame de Grace International Soccer Tournament**. After the first half of their opening game with **Ottawa International**, the **Stingers** overcame a 0-2 deficit to tie 2-2. In their second game, the **Stingers** used their ability to play consistent regardless of heavy rain to overcome the **Tigers Dorval**, who had difficulty adjusting to uncomfortable weather conditions. By a score of 0-1, the **Stingers** lost their match against the **Ajax Rampage**, who put in place a defensive system that closed down the **Stingers'** offense, and whose tough play forced one **Stinger** player onto the injury list. Still the **Stingers** managed to gain a position in the semi-finals. The **Stingers** entered their semi-final game against the **Lions St. Leonard** with full determination, all of which was required, as the **Lions** continued in the physically tough and challenging contact game style which was the tone of the tournament's competition. The **Lions** scored first, and soon after, as the **Stingers** fought to hold back another **Lions'** onslaught, the **Stingers** lost a player to

a broken ankle, the result of a vicious kick. The **Stingers** resulting free-kick advantage had less impact on the remainder of the game as the **Stingers'** redoubled determination and explosive drive, as the **Stingers** put their heads down and put their complete energy, focus and ability into the game, slowly forcing the **Lions** back onto their heels, overtaking the attack and finishing with a 2-1 victory, but unfortunately finishing also with further injuries, though less severe. In the final game, playing again against the **Ajax Rampage**, the **Stingers** limped onto the field, with all players off the injury list that the team trainers and the field paramedic could clear to play. **Aurora's Stingers** squad of 12 was facing **Ajax's** squad of 18. The game started off as it was played, full, hard, fast and furious. Constant attacks were mounted from each side, and countered time and again. Half into the first half, the **Stingers** were facing exhaustion, but suddenly the squad's parents mounted a campaign of their own, tossing cheer onto the field to shore up the fatigued players. Several of the players said that they were completely exhausted and spent, playing empty, but that the parents' cheers and boisterous encouragement filled them up time and again with enough to go on and finish each play with all they could muster. By the end of the game, the field players and the brilliant goalie had managed to hold back the **Ajax** tide to finish 0-0. Then the teams began the first five minute overtime. Everyone representing both teams held their breath as the two teams faced it out on the field, each holding the other back, both managing to deny the other a goal. The play continued in the second five minute playing overtime, and the play and the suspense held the same, again finishing 0-0. Each squad picked five players for the shoot-out. **Aurora** felt certain of victory as they scored their first two shots against **Ajax's** two misses, but the shoot-out finished tied 3-3. Then the penalty shots one player at a time began. **Aurora's** sixth player shot first and scored. **Ajax** shot and scored as well. **Aurora's** seventh player shot and scored. **Ajax** missed, and the **Stingers** clinched the victory. The boys were complimented on the street and in the hotel for their behavior, and their play, style, winning attitude and sportsmanship was complimented by all the parents, both teams, at all games. The boys behaved mannerly and sportingly, and played remarkably under the **Aurora** banner, and proudly put **Aurora's** name on the perpetual trophy displayed in the **NDGSA** case. **U15 Girls Team 2-** Game win for **Aurora** on **July 12** against **Etobicoke**. **Aurora** goals were beautifully executed by K. Sukhraj and H. Boonstra.

Amazing game played against **Newmarket** on **July 19th**. Game resulted in a tie 3-3 with **Aurora** goals scored by K. Sukhraj, A. Baumann and L. Richardson. Awesome game played by the **Aurora** girls on **July 26th** against **Scarborough**. Four well placed goals by **Aurora** players A. Baumann, K. Sukhraj, L. Richardson and A. Hoben ensured another win by **Aurora** 4-0. Great game played by **Aurora** on **August 2nd** against **Oshawa**. Game win went to **Oshawa** 2-1 with Aurora goal scored by H. Boonstra. Incredible effort demonstrated by whole team for **Aurora** in a struggle against **Cookstown** on **August 9th**. Game win went to **Cookstown** 4-0. Wonderful comeback by the **Aurora** team on **August 11th** against the **Toronto Eagles** 3-0. Amazing teamwork and goals for **Aurora** by J. Neale, A. McCarthy and A. Hoben. Exciting game played at the Brockton Stadium in downtown **Toronto** by the **Aurora** team against the **Toronto Eagles**. Game win well deserved by **Aurora** with 2 solid goals by O. Paitech and A. Ghegin. Strong team plays by the **Aurora** team on **August 23** in **Unionville**. Very tight game, win went to **Unionville** 1-0. Very close game played on **August 25th** by **Aurora** against **East Gwillimbury**. Game ended in a draw 1-1 with **Aurora** goal scored by A. McCarthy. With a full bench, **Aurora** worked hard as a team against **Whitby** on **August 30th**. Game resulted in a tie 0-0. Shutout by **Aurora** goalkeeper, E. Dillon. Great Game played by **Aurora** against **Etobicoke** on **September 6th**. **Aurora** won 2-1. Beautifully placed goals scored by **Aurora** players K. Sukhraj and A. McCarthy.

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African Children's Choir poses for a group shot between one of their many tours. Choir wowed a full-house audience at the Aurora United Church last week.

Choir wows Aurora audience

From page 1
standing performance, was the way it touched us all on a very deep level," said Rev. John Smith.

All the children have lost one or both parents to poverty or disease, such as AIDS and malaria.

The 14 girls and 10 boys range in age from approximately seven to 11, although many of them aren't sure exactly how old they are.

"Their ages are just a guesstimate," said Darlana Steunenberg of the choir's Vancouver-based office.

By using their gift of music to spread hope and joy, the children see themselves as ambassadors for millions of African orphans and disadvantaged children.

As one choir member said to the wildly cheering audience, "We're very sorry you cannot adopt us! We have to go back home and make things better there."

Being members of the choir also helps their own healing process. Supervised by nine adult

chaperones, the children receive physical care, daily schooling and the experience of international travel.

"The message of this choir is not one of sadness. It's a message that, despite all these children have been through, there is hope," said tour director Abraham Kiyingi, a former choir member.

Other former members have gone on to become doctors, engineers and social workers in Africa.

While their concerts have no admission charge, freewill offerings are taken.

The funds go toward schools and relief and development projects in sub-Saharan countries including Uganda, Rwanda, Sudan, Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana and South Africa.

The children and their chaperones were billeted in the homes of several Aurora families.

Rules were strict: the families were asked to provide cozy beds and friendly hospitality, but no gifts, money, candy or access to

TV or computers.

This is the 27th incarnation of the Grammy-nominated choir.

The first one began in 1984, when human rights worker Ray Barnett, researching a book on Uganda's civil war, saw a country in ruins.

More than 150,000 children, most of them orphaned, were starving to death, scavenging for food in the bush or begging on city streets.

But a glimmer of hope shone through the devastation.

When Barnett gave a lift to a small boy, the youngster sang for the entire journey.

Barnett envisaged a whole choir of orphans who could tour the world and raise money to build an orphanage for themselves and pay for their education.

It was a triumph - so much so that what was intended as a one-time endeavour turned into an ongoing success story.

Every 12 to 18 months the choir members go home to continue their

education and a brand-new choir is formed.

"We can change Africa, one child at a time," is Barnett's motto.

At any given time there are two or three different African Children's Choirs on the road.

The one currently touring the U.K. performed with Paul McCartney and Mariah Carey at the Live8 concert in London in July.

In past years the choir has sung at the White House, the Pentagon, the Grand Ole Opry and DisneyWorld, as well as the London Palladium, Westminster Cathedral and other venues throughout Europe and Asia.

The choir that sang in Aurora began its tour in May 2004 in Washington. It has performed throughout the U.S., including Alaska, and is now heading toward Quebec and then Belgium before returning to Uganda in November.

For more information or to make a donation, visit www.africanchildrenschoir.com.

Interviewing two choir members

We caught up with two choir members, Moriah Nakazibwe, 8, and Joseph Tusabe, 10, to ask them about their experiences on the tour. Each responded in grammatically perfect, slightly accented English, in complete sentences and with big smiles.

What has been your best moment on the tour?

Moriah: My best moment was going to Disneyland in California.

Joseph: My best moment was going in a floatplane in Alaska.

What has surprised you about Canada?

Moriah: I have been surprised by the tall buildings in Toronto and Vancouver.

Joseph: I have been surprised by the way the children in Canada

behave. They are mostly good.

What new foods have you tasted?

Moriah: I have tasted pizza, strawberries, raspberries and blueberries.

Joseph: I have tried hamburgers and French fries. I love them!

What would you like to be when you grow up?

Moriah: I would like to be a doctor.

Joseph: I would like to be a pilot and an astronaut.

Have you learned any Canadian expressions or phrases?

Moriah: I have learned that in Uganda we say "Toronto" but here you say "Trawna."

Joseph: I have learned that if Canadians say a word, on the end they put "eh?"

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Council, citizen clash

From page 1
owners and his presentation to be referred to the town's legal department.

In May, Nimmo returned to council and was advised the town solicitor had been asked to provide him with a written report.

In June he returned but was not heard by council but later told The Auroran's Dick Illingworth that council had given site plan approval and issued a building permit based on false information.

The mystery continues until one of the parties issues a statement as to the true nature of the conflict and the legal action.

Nimmo was at last week's meeting, but once

again was refused permission to speak by Mayor Jones on the basis that he was in litigation, which Nimmo denied.

Councillor Evelyn Buck asked why Nimmo couldn't be heard and was advised by the town solicitor that the town had followed the proper process

and he was no longer a resident of Aurora.

Councillor Buck said she wasn't satisfied with the answer as Nimmo was a resident of Aurora.

Mayor Jones cut off further discussion and asked the solicitor to prepare a report to be discussed in a private session.



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RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

When Aurora dumped on King Township

Back in June, 1970, when Aurora operated its own sewage disposal plant at the north end of Machell Avenue, where the region is currently building a water pumping station, the effluent was trucked to King Township and spread on farmers' fields.

Aurora Council thumbed its corporate nose at King's request that no effluent from its sewage plant be trucked into the township.

In a letter to King, Aurora advised that matter had been fully investigated by the York-Oshawa Health Unit and the effluent was inert material being used for agricultural purposes.

Legislation at the time permitted dumping by municipalities, but not individuals, on sites other than municipal dumps.

That was soon changed with the passing of the Waste Management Act, 1970 which prohibited municipalities or individuals from depositing waste on land that was not a waste disposal site carrying a Certificate of Approval.

AURORA HITS INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Aurora hit the international news in October and November, 1963, when Pilot Ronald Lippert and Co-Pilot Willy Milne were flying a Piper Aztec aircraft owned by Aurora businessmen William Garfat.

Garfat, chartered accountant Len Rosenberg and IGA owner Larry Rubin were negotiating with the Cuban government to have food parcels flown to the island from Aurora.

While the negotiations were being carried out, Lippert rented the plane to fly to Cuba on a personal business trip.

He was arrested by Cuban officials when they found 25 pounds of bullets and bombs concealed in papaya and fruit tins and he was sentenced to 10 years in a Cuban jail.

HARD TO BELIEVE BUT IT HAPPENED

Aurora, known as Canada's Birthday Town since 1969 because of its large Civic Birthday Party on July First, looked as if the celebration would have to be cancelled in 1989 due to lack of volunteers.

Consisting of a committee of citizens, planning for the next year's event usually started as soon as the event was over, but no one came forward to provide leadership to organize the 21st celebrations.

Problems were anticipated as the next celebration was to be held on a Sunday.

Council asked Mayor John West to contact the service clubs for volunteers which they provided and the event carried on.

DEVELOPERS DON'T ALWAYS GET THEIR WAY

In May, 1985, officials from the Iona Corporation, developers of the Tamarac subdivision on the south side of Henderson Drive, appeared before council in committee to request changes in the subdivision and went away almost empty handed.

Instead of a letter of credit of \$1,000 for each of the 137 homes in the subdivision, the officials only wanted to give a letter of credit for \$50,000 and the committee said "no way".

The committee also refused a request to delay payment of lot levies and insisted the proposed reconstruction of Henderson Drive between Lee Gate and Seaton be completed by late 1986.

The committee did agree to delay sidewalk installation and sodding for eight weeks after occupancy instead of the 12 weeks requested.

The normal time was four weeks.

IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME

In 1993, Jonathan's Restaurant in Aurora and the Heart and Stroke Foundation of York Region held a fundraising dinner called "It's All Greek to Me".

It was so successful it was repeated in January, 1995, with a full house in attendance to celebrate "Its All Greek to Me - Part II".

The event raised more than \$1,700 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

In addition to a specially prepared Greek dinner and entertainment by young dancers from the Toronto Greek community, there were "celebrity" waiters and waitresses.

Mayor Tim Jones, Councillor Ron Wallace and School Trustee Heather Sinclair served guests in traditional Greek dress.

As the senior statesman, former Mayor Dick Illingworth wore a toga with a garland of flowers in his hair.

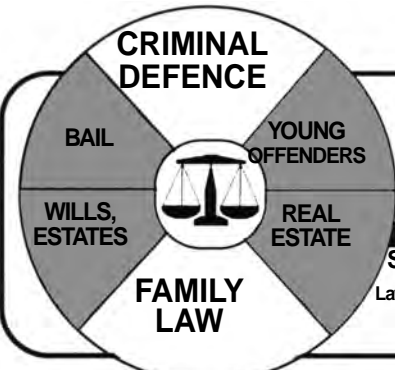
The young dancers from Toronto in Greek dress performed a number of Greek dances to the hand-clapping audience.

As a special treat, Mayor Jones, Councillor Wallace and Trustee Sinclair did their version of a Greek dance.

Later in the evening many of the guests and staff entered

into the spirit of the occasion and enjoyed themselves to the fullest.

It happened right here in Aurora.



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Aurora mom joins fast growing group

'Wee Piggies & Paws'? What's that?

Aurora resident Dana Mears knows.

She has just become part of one of the fastest-growing franchises in Canada.

The concept was developed by and structured for moms who wish to stay home to be with their children but would also like to run a successful business of their own.

"We are a very close, dedicated team of moms from across the Country living our dream," she said.

These entrepreneurs make detailed, professionally-framed impressions of children's hands and feet.

They are also official distributors of Canada's largest Baby Shoe/Memorabilia Bronzing Company, a firm that has been around for more than 50 years.

The idea is the brain-child of Debbie Cornelius, a stay-at-home mom from St. Catharines.

Four years ago, she began researching unique ways of capturing her two small children's handprints to frame and

display on her wall.

After months of trial and error, she developed and perfected a unique method of creating highly-detailed, raised impressions of hand and footprints. She then developed original ways of finishing and framing them for display.

It did not take her long to realize she could create what her franchisees are describing as "the most perfect work-at-home opportunity a mom

has ever seen".

Mears first saw Cornelius on television making lifecasts of the announcer's children and became immediately intrigued with the idea.

There are currently 41 franchisee/moms in Canada.

"I have two children who are the light of my life", explained Aurora's Mears. "All our franchisees have families as well; we do this for them, we do this for ourselves;

but most of all, we do this for our families so we can spend more time together."

The company has already expanded to six locations in the United States and one overseas.

Growth is estimated at 30 more in the USA and 15 in the United Kingdom.

More information may be gained by visiting www.Weepiggies.com.

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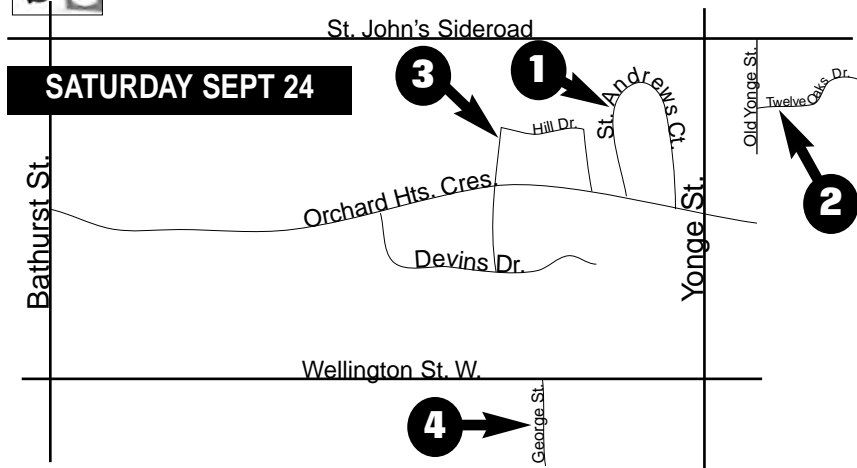
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DEATH NOTICE

MORRISON, LLOYD BEECHER (1913-2005) - With love and treasured memories, passed away on Saturday September 17th at Southlake Village. Adoring husband of Jean. Precious father of Ruth and Ken Shugart, sweet and devoted Pa to Laura Shugart. Predeceased by his parents Edward and Fanny Morrison of Barrie and his loving cousin Edna Jamieson. Lloyd was a remarkable man, educator, Christian gentleman and gentle man. His unfailing kindness endeared him to those who passed his way. The family will receive friends at The Marshall Funeral Home 10366 Yonge St. Richmond Hill (4th traffic light north of Major Mackenzie Dr.) on Saturday September 24th, after 10am. A memorial service will be held at 11am in the chapel. If desired, memorial donations may be made to the United Church of Canada's mission and service fund 3250 Bloor St. W. Suite 300 Toronto, On. M8X 2Y4 on his behalf. The family is thankful to all those who cared for him at Park Place Manor, Southlake Village and the staff on the 6th floor Cancer Unit at Southlake Regional Health Centre.

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