

Trade
rumors
fly.
See Page 3

AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

STARTING THIS SATURDAY
"My Darling Judith"
by Norm Foster
APRIL 8, 15, 22, 28
& MAY 6 & 14*
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Vol. 6 No. 23

AURORAN, Week of April 4, 2006

905-727-3300

Briefly

Pancakes in the bush

It's pancake time in the bush again.

As they have been doing for years, the Aurora Lions Club will serve up pancakes at Sheppard's Bush this Saturday and Sunday, April 8 and 9, and next week on Good Friday, Saturday and Easter Sunday.

Using pure maple syrup, the pancakes will be served from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on each of the listed days.

On Easter Sunday, April 16, an Easter egg hunt will take place at 11 a.m.

Every day the Lions are in the Bush, there will be free face painting available.

While there is no charge to get into the park, Lions spokesman Fred Bullen, said the club will be happy to accept donations.

Pancakes are \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors and \$2 for children 12 and under. Tea, coffee, hot chocolate or milk can be purchased for 50 cents each.

Sheppard's Bush is located at the end of Industry Street in Aurora's east end.

Sold out

There's nothing surprising about this piece of information.

Randy Skelcher's Las Vegas Revue, scheduled for the new seniors' centre Saturday, April 15, is sold out.

Randy, Aurora's most popular Elvis Presley impersonator, said he would still accept donations for the event, being staged to raise money for Devon Brisbourne.

Prior to the event, a silent auction will be held, and items will be available for viewing from 2 p.m. that afternoon.



A Bantam-aged minor hockey team from Leksand, Sweden, Aurora's twin town, spent several days here last week, and played three exhibition hockey games - all ties - at the Aurora Community Centre. They took a few minutes to pose in front of the Aurora Town Hall. Next week, The Auroran will present a page of pictures outlining the group's adventures while here. They returned to Sweden Sunday afternoon.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Councillors threaten boycott

In spite of council approval to hold an assembly session, closed to the public at the seniors' centre, Councillors Nigel Kean and Wendy Gaertner threatened to boycott the session and Councillor Phyllis Morris was undecided.

Purpose of the session was to give members of council and senior staff an opportunity to have an open dialogue with the town's consultant as part of the strategic plan visioning exercise.

When asked why the session was to be closed to the public, CAO John Rogers replied that it was to let councillors and staff have a free and open discussion without fear of being misunderstood.

Councillor Morris said elected politicians should be able to speak their minds in a public setting.

Councillor Evelyn Buck pointed out that members of staff are in a different position as they are unable to respond to the public and members of council depend on staff for input and advice and the session should be closed.

Councillor Damir Vrancic suggested all members of council should participate and invited the three councillors to attend and be watchdogs.

Councillor Bill Hogg was more direct.

He said that while he agreed with open and transparent meetings, councillors are elected to serve the people and once council makes a decision, councillors who boycott meetings are not serving their constituents.

The town's strategic plan has been controversial since it was

first suggested in 1990. It was first discussed at an off-site retreat in 1990 and again in 1992.

Council agreed to engage a consultant to assist in the preparation of a strategic plan, which was adopted in 1993.

Then in March, 1998, council decided to update the plan for the period leading up to the new century. The process was approved in 1999 as a broad-brush description of where the municipality was headed.

At an off-site retreat in 2001 councillors reviewed and made initial comments on the plan and it was agreed to obtain public comment.

It was discussed again at the

2004 retreat and in January that year there was support in principle for a comprehensive update of the plan.

Councillors couldn't agree on a consultant to assist in updating the plan and eventually the issue was deferred.

Finally last December council agreed to engage DPRA Canada at an estimated cost of \$49,893.53 to assist in carrying out the review and staff endeavoured to arrange the meeting with the consultants to develop a common vision and determine what council wanted to accomplish.

Attendance at the Monday night gathering was not available at press time.



Barb and Doug Hartwell, wife and brother of the late Bob Hartwell of Aurora, joined Aurora Optimist Steve Hinder, right, at the Community Safety Village last week to acknowledge the presence of the Bob Hartwell gazebo, a donation from the officials of the annual Bob Hartwell Challenge Run. Hartwell, a former Aurora Councillor, died while competing in a run in Toronto several years ago, and the Challenge Run, something he had always wanted to organize, was started in Aurora five years ago. This year, the run is slated for next Sunday, April 9, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Town Park. The Optimists contributed much to the success of the Safety Village, now operating in Bruce's Mill Conservation Area on the Stouffville Sideroad, southeast of Aurora.

Auroran photo by David Falconer



They were lined up Sunday morning to get their hair cut in Aurora at First Choice Hair Cutters on Bayview Avenue to help raise funds for Devon Brisbourne, survivor of a triple murder in Aurora recently. Devon's mother, Wendy LaFleche, was employed at First Choice when she and two children were killed in their Yonge Street home. By the end of the day, three First Choice shops, two in Newmarket, one in Aurora, had raised a total of \$7,200. Several patrons dropped in during the week to make donations to the fund.

Auroran photo by David Falconer



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COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

CONTINUING

To April 15 the Wellington Gallery on Wellington Street West at Macell Avenue presents the artworks of Diana Judith and Biro-Currie in an exhibition entitled "Licked" Finish". Call the gallery at 905-751-0066 for further information.

"Martha's Table" offers comfort food and a sense of community at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, corner of Mosley and Victoria Streets. Available are hot soup, sandwiches, and dessert in the hall. Church-sponsored initiative runs every Thursday.

Aurora Agricultural Society (organizer of the Aurora Fair & Horse Show) meets on the second Tuesday of every second month, at 7 p.m., at the Aurora Community Centre. New members welcome. Next meeting date: Tuesday, April 11, at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 905-713-6773 or info@aurorafair.ca, or visit www.aurorafair.ca.

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.

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 has monthly meetings at Aurora's Trinity Anglican Church with a variety of speakers. There is also a selection of interest groups. Contact Beverley 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 905-726-8600.

APRIL 5

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with Aurora Cable Internet, presents "Creating A Basic Web Page", in the Magna Room, beginning at 7 p.m. Register on-line, at the adult information desk or phone 905-727-9493, Option 4

APRIL 8, 9 & 12

Aurora Minor Hockey Association 2006/07 registration. For details call 905-727-1480 or check the website, www.aci.on.ca/amha.

APRIL 8-9

Aurora Lions Club pancake breakfast takes place in Sheppard's Bush, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Access to the bush is at the end of Industry Street.

APRIL 9

Fifth annual Bob Hartwell Run starting at the Aurora Town Park at 9 a.m.

Bid euchre tournament, sponsored by the Seniors' Club, at Aurora Legion, begins at 1 p.m. \$5 a person.

Mixed dart tournament at Aurora Legion. Registration 10 a.m. For further information, call 905-727-9932.

APRIL 10

Aurora Film Circuit presents its debut screening of Eve and the Firehorse, winner of a 2006 Sundance Special Jury Prize. Tickets are \$10 and available at the Aurora Public Library and R&R Revisited. Film screenings will happen the second Monday of each month, at 6:45 p.m., at the new Cineplex Odeon Aurora Cinemas, with proceeds to special programs at the library. For further information contact: afc@library.aurora.on.ca

APRIL 11

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Networking Breakfast at Thompson's Funeral Home, 530 Industrial Parkway South, beginning at 7.30 a.m.

Deadline for Community Recognition Award Submissions. For more information, call 905-726-4762 or visit e-aurora.ca.

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

APRIL 12

Aurora Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting at King's Riding Golf Club, 14700 Bathurst Street. Guest speaker is artist Edward Spera.

APRIL 13

Aurora Legion presents an Easter dinner followed by dancing, snooker and euchre. Event begins at 6.30 p.m. For further information, call 905-727-9932.

APRIL 14 - 16

Aurora Lions Club pancake breakfast takes place in Sheppard's Bush, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Access to the bush is at the end of Industry Street.

APRIL 15

Fund-raising dance and silent auction for Devon Brisbane at the Aurora Seniors' Centre, 5 Municipal Drive, beginning at 7 p.m. Host is Elvis impersonator Randy Skelcher. Event is sold out, but silent auction items will be available for viewing from 2 p.m. at the centre.

Fifth Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Two hunts planned: 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Cost is \$4 per person. For more information call 905-726-4762 or visit e-aurora.ca.

Students needing community service volunteer hours to graduate from high school are invited to participate in Parks Spring Clean-Up Days from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Aurora Community Centre. Also May 6 and June 10. Call 905-726-4760 for further information.

APRIL 17

Aurora Writers group monthly meeting at 7.30 p.m. in the Aurora Town Hall Cafe. Writers of all genres and levels 18 and over are welcome. For further information call Malcolm at 905-898-5484

APRIL 18

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with York Region Health Services, presents "Falls Prevention", for seniors and caregivers. No charge. 1 p.m. in the Magna Room. Pre-register at the adult information desk or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

APRIL 19

Creative Colours Fashions presents Fashion Plates Fashion Show in support of York Region Food Network. Tickets \$50 and are available at Creative Colours Fashions, Aurora Shopping Centre. Guest appearance by members of the Central York Firefighters, men's fashions provided by Crossing's and Hair

by Chimes Hair Group.

APRIL 20

The last in a series of Speaker Series sponsored by the Aurora Youth Soccer Club from 7 to 9 p.m. at a location to be announced. The subject is "Coaching 101 - Got Coaching Questions - We have the answers". No charge for AYSC members and \$10 for non-members. Call 905-727-0624 for more information.

APRIL 20-23

Aurora Opera Company performs "The Sound of Music" at Newmarket Theatre. Call the Box Office at 905-953-5122 for further information.

APRIL 21-23

Annual Home Show at the Aurora Community Centre celebrating the best of 20 years and featuring Fantasy Gardens, Fantasy Rooms, Money Machine and a Wine and Tea Garden in a Special Café.

APRIL 22

Aurora Public Library presents author Maureen Jennings, creator of the Inspector Murdoch mystery series. She will conduct a creative expression workshop beginning at 10 a.m. Pre-register at the adult information desk or call 905-727-9493, Option 4. Fee is \$30.

APRIL 23

Park Place Manor hosts a pancake brunch in support of the Easter Seals Society of York Region, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

APRIL 24

Second interim property tax installment is due.

APRIL 25

The last day for seniors, 55 and over, to register for the York Region Seniors' Games which will take place May 9 to June 14, including golf, tennis, snooker, bocce, darts, horseshoes, euchre, swimming and other related sports. Call the Seniors' Centre to register at 905-727-2861.

APRIL 26

Aurora Horticultural Society presents a lecture on "Gardening & Spirituality" at the Royal Canadian Legion, 8 p.m.

APRIL 27

Learn more about making a garden more ecologically friendly at the Aurora Public Library from 7 to 9 p.m. You will learn how to plant for low water use, choose plants to attract birds and butterflies, home composting and seed planting from David Tomlinson.

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours at JackKryn France, Inc., 89 Wellington Street East beginning at 5.30 p.m.

APRIL 29

Trinity Aurora presents an evening of Comedy and Canapes with Yuk Yuk's at the Queen Elizabeth Ballroom of Howard Johnson Aurora, plus a live and silent auction. Tickets are \$50 and if bought before April 1st will be entered in a draw to win two bottles of wine for your table.

Mayor's Anti-Litter Day. For more information call 905-726-4741.

MAY 6

First Aurora Rotary Club frog race in Tannery Creek between the Board of Education office and the Aurora Community Centre. Rent a frog for \$5 at the Aurora Home Show or R & R Revisited.

York Symphony Orchestra presents "A Night At The Proms" with guest artist Elke Eble-Streisslberger. 8 p.m., Trinity Anglican Church.

MAY 10 to 14

Aurora's Marquee Productions presents the musical "Cats" at the Newmarket Theatre. Call the theatre box office at 905-963-5122 for ticket information.

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\$465,000

PROUD TO BE LIVING AND WORKING IN AURORA

Yonge building approved

Sometime in the future motorists driving along Yonge Street will see a five-storey residential condominium building immediately north of the Petro Canada gas station at Aurora Heights Drive.

Aurora Council gave final approval for the structure at a public planning meeting Wednesday night.

The 1.1 acre property is currently being used for a car leasing business, bus storage and residential purposes.

There is a one-and-a-half storey building on the site which will be demolished.

The first public meeting was held more than three years ago and the application for the five-storey building with 4,700 square feet of commercial space on the ground floor and 61 residential units above was approved in principle.

However, in 2004 the property changed hands and representatives for the new owner expressed concern about the allocation of sewage capacity for a revised application of 64 units with three units on the ground floor.

As the official plan did not allow residential units on the ground floor, the applicant decided to concentrate on obtaining approval for the 61 units and to pursue the addi-

tional three units at a later date.

Wednesday, an amendment to the official plan and zoning bylaw to permit the three ground floor units was presented.

The three units will be located at the north side of the building with a small walk-out patio. A privacy fence will be installed to separate the units from the commercial area to the north.

Town staff said they had no objection to the proposal.

It was also pointed out the space proposed for the three residential units was not considered acceptable for retail use as was the front of the building.

No objections or comments were received from town departments and no members of the public appeared in support of or opposition to the application.

Staff suggested a warning clause be added alerting ground floor homeowners to the commercial uses to the north.



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2



From Korea to Kodak

*The man with
the perpetual smile*



Originally from Korea, Peter You - owner of the Kodak Aurora Image Centre in the Aurora Shopping Centre - has a background in electronics. While still in Korea, he became responsible for maintaining the equipment in photo labs, and teaching others how to use the machines. It was that job that first brought him to Canada with his wife and daughter 20 years ago. Once here, it wasn't long before he was ready to branch out on his own.

Over the years, Peter and his wife Rosa have owned a total of three photo processing labs, starting in Richmond Hill and coming to Aurora only after a customer convinced him of it.

"A customer found me" Peter says. "Then that customer pulled me to come to the Aurora Shopping Centre. That's why I came here 7 years ago".

In the 26 years he's been involved in the photo business, Peter says, it's changed dramatically. New types of film have been introduced and now digital photography has taken over, while his custom framing has increased in popularity.

Peter's family has grown too! His eldest daughter is attending university in Waterloo, while a second daughter born in Canada is in high school.

However, some things never change. . . . Peter's warm smile!!



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Poor Richard

The chickens have returned to roost here

*Aurora has a strategic plan,
Some citizens wonder why;
It's very seldom followed,
Causing taxpayers to cry!*
- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

Aurora's strategic plan was adopted in 1994 and included a mission statement and six value statements.

The mission statement reads: "Aurora is a town which we are proud to call home. We are committed to providing our citizens with business, employment, housing and leisure opportunities in a community which values the following goals".

Two of the goals are "To maintain a well managed and fiscally responsible municipality" and "To continue well planned growth".

The Capital Asset Management Report indicated that based on the capital projects planned the Reserve Funds were not adequate to meet the proposed program and by the end of 2013 the town would have a shortfall of \$68 million.

The figures reveal a need over the period of 2007 to 2013 to raise \$10.8 million per year over and above the current tax levy to meet the capital required for the Asset Management Program.

The report raises questions as to how closely members of council followed the values of the Strategic Plan regarding fiscal management and growth when making their decisions.

When council approves such capital projects as a new library, new recreational complex, new seniors' centre and a new fire hall in addition to major repairs to the Town Hall, Leisure Complex and the Community Centre in isolation without considering the overall impact on the tax bill, it's an invitation for financial trouble.

In March, 2000, council of the day authorized the purchase of an 89-acre parcel of land on the east side of Leslie Street, south of Wellington Street for \$4.2 million, although the property was only assessed at \$381,000.

The expressed intention at that time was to meet the recreational needs of the municipality including ice pads and an indoor swimming pool with the residual lands for industrial development.

Then Treasurer Barb Cribbett warned council members the municipality didn't have the funds for the capital projects and the town would have to increase taxes by two per cent each year for 10 years to cover the capital costs of the plan, but no one was listening.

Then it was realized there would be a delay in obtaining water and sewer services for the property so that the Leslie Street lands would no longer serve the fast-growing recreational needs of the community.

In June, 2003, following a private session council approved the purchase of 32 acres on Wellington Street East for \$4.8 million to construct a \$24.2 million recreational complex of which \$19 million was to be raised by debentures.

In order to pay the debentures it was planned to use the development charges from 400 homes a year for 10 years, plus a \$54 per year tax increase to help pay for the rec complex and the seniors' centre.

The commitment of the use of development charges was made over and above the prior commitment to use the development charges to help pay for the new Library until 2010.

At one time growth paid for growth and for several years Aurora taxpayers enjoyed a tax increase holiday, as new growth paid for the growth in the town.

In 1999, for the ninth year in a row, Aurora was able to hold the line on the town's portion of the tax bill.

But it was false economy.

Since then the initial draft of the budget was a double digit increase, which was whittled back to a five to eight per cent tax increase by pushing items to future years.

The chickens have now come home to roost and it's not a pretty picture, especially for seniors and others on a fixed income.

Council members must learn that capital projects should only be approved when the taxpayers' ability to pay has been considered.

Otherwise, the strategic plan is useless!



Aurora Public School's (Church Street) Grade 5 class in 1948 looked like this. Genevieve Robinson (third row extreme right) was the teacher and the room was located on the first floor in the southwest corner. Grade 5 had 37 students that year. They included, front row, left to right, Douglas McInnis, Jon Bunn, Larry Spence, Raymond White, Frank Pattenden, Robert McGann, Fred Barwick, Buddy Armitage and James Preston. Second row, left to right, Lowell Sutton, Glen Judd, Wanda Ellis, Penny Grieves, Marilyn Gray, Muriel Hartsman, Nancy Stocks and Isabel MacGirr. Third row, left to right, Muriel Gilpin, Johanne Smith, Margaret Barrager, Eileen McCullough, Vera Egan, Alberta Seaton and Elizabeth Hearn. Fourth row, left to right, Bernice Downey, Alice Wells, Joan Scott, Shirley Bell, Lorraine Zimmerman, Jane Kincaid, and Elizabeth Closs. Back row, left to right, Robert Atkinson, Donald Billing, Bruce Gunton, Carl Bunn, and David Waite and Dennis Mills. The photo was provided by Wanda (Ellis) Eveleigh, currently of Cookstown.

Letter to the Editor

Ward system question needs input, reader says

To the editor,

Opportunities for a meaningful question of interest that all eligible Aurora citizens can vote on their election ballots comes but once every three years.

That's a long time between questions and many changes and concerns can happen in a community over this time.

Key issues or concerns not addressed by council during their term which can reflect a strong interest of the municipality's citizens are brought forward allowing the public a fair democratic process under the Provincially legislated guidelines of the Elections Act.

It is a carefully regulated process that follows rules which all municipalities have helped to establish with the Province.

It is in this context that Aurorans have over the years expressed a solid interest in having the ward system question brought forth, but at no time has this ever appeared on an Aurora electoral ballot. When a vast majority of other municipalities surrounding Aurora have a current ward system in place, why has Aurora not featured this question?

A ward system is not established overnight. It takes years in planning with special processes and criteria to be considered.

Recently, Aurora Council has supported a five and 10-year strategic master plan study focusing on the many facets of the Aurora community and the people who live, work and play here.

Future needs, opportunities and challenges are being considered.

It allows for public input from many community group sources coordinated by a qual-

ified consultant to assess what the public interests are.

It makes a lot of sense to focus on the many aspects of the community and its infrastructure, but where was there ever a question about the ward system as a possible enhancement to our future way of governing?

This is why the Elections Act allows for the public to give feedback in the most cost effective manner which is on the electoral ballot.

It is the citizens' democratic right at this time to be able to express their interests on a subject which has an obvious importance to our community's future.

The Town of Richmond Hill had a ward system since 1979 when the population was only 35,000. The Town of Newmarket, which currently has the ward system of government, asked the question on three separate election ballots starting in 1982 when the population was only 31,000.

Aurora, however, with a population of 49,000, currently has not featured the ward system question to date.

The time to do this is now for the people to express their interests and give direction to council.

One common point brought forward about the merits of a ward system for consideration is that it allows for an identified local councillor representative to be assigned to a designated geographic area, whereby citizens can express their opinions/concerns on local municipal issues.

In other words, the ward system can be viewed as enhanced, accessible, open government, sensitive to the local issues of the constituents.

There will still be many other

at-large municipal issues to be voted on by all the councillors and this should be no different from what currently is happening.

To the ward area voter, it could mean fewer candidates to consider overall on their local ballot. Instead of a group of 16 candidates as in the last election to choose from and get to know, they can have fewer candidates and thereby have a better opportunity on getting to know where the candidate stands on issues of concern.

Election costs to respective candidates could also be reduced making it more attractive to enter.

There are many other merits to having the ward system and Dick Illingworth will be featuring a special show segment on "Our Town" to be aired the week of April 10th.

Please watch.

Your support for the question to be allowed on the election ballot is definitely required!

Please e-mail Mr. Bob Panizza, Director of Corporate Services, Town of Aurora at bpanizza@e-aurora.ca of your views no later than April 13th.

A report will be going to council on their decision to feature the question on this year's ballot but only if you support it!

You can also ask for delegation status if you wish to speak to this item.

The solution and design of the ward system should not be considered now but more importantly, the focus on a question to explore the possibility of a ward system is key!

Please make a difference and express your support to this important community question!

**Stephen Granger
Aurora**

AURORAN

**"Aurora's
Community Newspaper"**

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Mayor's Report
By Tim Jones

Planning for Tomorrow

As we all know, the Town of Aurora is one of nine municipalities that comprise the Region of York.

As mayor, I represent the Town at the Regional level where services provided to Aurora include Police, Social Housing, Health and Emergency Medical Services, Transit and Regional Transportation services, Waste disposal to landfill and Social Welfare.

Aurora is also guided in its planning by the Region as all our plans of subdivision and development proposals must undergo a full scrutiny of Regional considerations with their comments received and considered before proposals can be implemented.

A few weeks ago, I attended a seminar presented to a full house of staff, politicians and interested community representatives on the sustainability of future growth in our Region.

Growth is guided by the Region's Strategic Plan, a document entitled Vision 2026, the Regional Official Plan, Growth Management in the official plan that focuses on a sustainable natural environment, healthy communities and economic vitality.

Many of the themes and objectives contained in this plan are also obvious in the Town of Aurora's Strategic Plan (which is currently being updated) and Aurora's Official Plan.

Coming out of the Regional plans and influencing our plans have been such items as Viva - the relatively new rapid transit initiative, a greening strategy, Oak Ridges Moraine initiatives, an affordable housing strategy, co-ordinated human services planning, an economic strategy, the centres and corridors strategy, long range water and sewer master plans, a master transportation plan and a 10-year prioritized Capital works plan.

Even with these successes, the Region continues to strive to improve for the future with consideration to the growth forecasts applied by the Province.

York Region's current population is 920,000 with an expected growth of 35,000 per year which will see us at 1,500,000 by 2031.

Some of that growth will come to Aurora.

To manage this growth, the Province has also enacted plans that will influence the way we grow.

Included are the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan-2001; the Greenbelt Plan-2005; Places to Grow Plan which calls for Aurora and the Region to implement compact transit supportive communities, 40 percent intensification by 2015, along with infrastructure investment.

This aligns well with what I am hearing out in the community along with members of council when residents tell me they are concerned about the influences of growth.

As we grow, we must consider managing it in a sustainable manner. "Sustainability involves a careful integration of environmental, economic, social and cultural interests. Creating a sustainable Region (and Aurora) requires a new approach to the important growth management choices we have to make." says a promotional document published by the Region entitled "Planning for tomorrow".

The issues involve growth, environment, economy, intensification, human services-quality of life, infrastructure, moving York (goods and people) and quality of place.

Remaining public sessions that are planned for you to offer your input to how York will grow and in turn influence Aurora's growth and how to move forward will be held at the Georgina Civic Centre, April 6 and Newmarket's Regional Administrative building April 12.

Sessions begin with a static display at 6:30 p.m. fol-

lowed by a presentation at 7 p.m. and opportunities for input.

Further information on this can be found on the web at www.york.ca and click on the "Planning for Tomorrow" icon.

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@e-aurora.ca



Cathy's Corner



They're coming home

We call them "Rica & Dia", but never when they're around. They don't like it.

Their real names are "Erica" and "Nadia", but they make such a cute pair, we just couldn't resist the temptation to coin a nickname that would sum up the "Laverne & Shirley" antics of living together that have entertained us for the past year.

They met in residence during their first year at the University of Waterloo.

By Christmas, they were best friends, by spring they committed to becoming room-mates, and they've been "Rica & Dia" ever after.

Last September, Erica left Newmarket and Nadia left Aurora and they took all their stuff with them.

They met up in Waterloo - very excited about their new digs.

As it was, the two-bedroom apartment could barely accommodate their combined worldly possessions, but then they went shopping.

It wouldn't have been so bad except most of the stuff they bought either needed to be assembled or installed.

So I threw on my work clothes, pulled out my toolbox, and tossed a couple of beers into it.

I now know how to install a deadbolt on a metal door. Keep trying drill bits till you find one that doesn't melt or break! Easy, huh?

Security taken care of, I moved on to assembling cheap blinds followed by cheap bedroom furniture that comes in long, flat boxes.

"Mom," observed Nadia, "you make strange noises when you're putting stuff together."

"I do?"

"Yes, you do! Could you please stop? It's embarrassing!"

Embarrassing? Sweating profusely, hands blistered and knuckles bleeding from being scraped on chipboard too many times, I grunted.

"See? You're doing it again! Stop it!"

"Fine," I said gutturally, handing her the screwdriver with my DNA all over it. "You do it."

"Actually..." she back-pedalled, "I'm fine with it. I'll just close the door in case somebody else minds..."

We were the only two in the apartment.

As Nadia ransacked boxes looking for earplugs, I held the cupboard door of a regrettably cheap do-it-yourself armoire with my ribs, and dislocated my right shoulder so I could reach the screw with my screwdriver.

Then, I twisted my wrist...and grunted like a caveman.

When it was done, I howled like a banshee.

Partly because it hurt more pulling the cupboard door

out of my ribs than it did going in, but mostly because I still had one more cupboard door to install, which, of course, required dislocating my left shoulder and inserting a foreign object into my solar plexus once more.

Never again, I swore.

Then I swore again when I discovered my arm wasn't long enough.

I screamed for help, but Nadia couldn't hear me because she found the earplugs.

I invented another use for duct tape, and celebrated my accomplishment with warm beer.

Then, a couple of months ago, I got the phone call.

Of course, I recognized the number, so I cheerfully answered the phone: "Hello YOU from Waterloo UI!"

"Mom," said Nadia, "I have to talk to you and dad about something very important."

I couldn't help it. I grunted.

"Mom, are you assembling furniture?"

"No."

"Then why are you making that sound?"

"What sound?"

"The sound you make when there's something wedged in your ribs."

To make a long story short, I have rented a 26-foot box truck.

Yup, she's coming home!

It gets worse.

Just as Nadia made her decision to transfer to York University this fall, Jennifer called, so I took the opportunity to indulge my entire repertoire of whining, complaining and howling sounds.

"Hmmm...you might want to rent a bigger truck," she advised.

She's graduating! She will also be vacating the apartment that has been her "home away from home" for the past three years.

Just when I was getting cozy with the "empty nest" condition...they're coming back!

I'm thinking we need a bigger house.

We're talking extra beds, dressers, tables, chairs, desks, microwaves, dishes, blankets, pillows, book shelves, sofas and...Omigod - cars!


Can we stop now? My ribs hurt.


As we resume the trials and tribulations of living together, I will miss "Rica & Dia".


Or maybe I'll just miss missing them?


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


By DICK ILLINGWORTH


 **BOUQUETS** to Aurora artist Jake Mol of Tamarac Studios for bringing his artistic talents to the Aurora Seniors' Art Group on the last class of the current session to demonstrate a full sheet painting of old Toronto houses. For information on the new session call the Seniors' Centre at 905-727-2816.

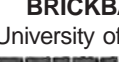
 **BRICKBATS** to Aurora Council for changing the starting time of the last general committee meeting from the normal 7 p.m. starting time to 5 p.m. without explanation. Could it be that they didn't want the public to hear the presentation on the Capital Asset Management Reserve which puts the financial condition of the town into question?


 **BOUQUETS** to York Region's Community Services Department for preparing and publishing the annual YorkLink Directory since 1998 which lists all the community resources available in the region with a brief listing of the services provided, a contact person and phone number. The 2006 directory was released recently.


 **BRICKBATS** to the Dalton McGuinty government for spending \$150,000 over five years to carry out a study of the sex life of northern Flying Squirrels, in conjunction with Laurentian University in Sudbury. Is the public really interested?


 **BOUQUETS** to the Community Legal Clinic of York Region for taking on Participation House in Markham and the Ontario Ministry of Community Services over the rights of a disabled woman who was confined to hospital and evicted from Participation House. The Ontario Rental Housing Tribunal ruled that the agency was bound by the Tenant Protection Act and the disabled woman was re-admitted. Money for squirrels, not people!


 **BOUQUETS** to the City of Vaughan for appointing 15-year-old Mark Frisoli as a student councillor to participate in council deliberations, but without a vote. The Grade 10 honours student will earn credits for his efforts. Both school boards have appointed student trustees for years but this is a first in Canada for a municipality.

 **BRICKBATS** to Elections Canada for investigating a University of Toronto student for voter fraud, when he should be given credit for showing weaknesses in the voting system. The American student was able to vote by showing his student identification card and hydro bill. The maximum fine for voting while not qualified is \$5,000 or five years in prison.

 **BOUQUETS** to the Ontario Ministry of Transportation for increasing the fine for speeding through a pedestrian crosswalk to \$150 and doubling the number of demerit points. It's a start, but it's not enough when you consider the \$2,000 fine for illegally passing a school bus.

 **BRICKBATS** to members of Aurora Council who don't follow their own Rules of Debate contained in their Procedural Bylaw with regard to Points of Order. A Point of Order may be called by a member and after stating the Point of Order "no further business shall be conducted until the Chairperson has decided". In other words "Shut Up" until the point of order has been decided.

 **BOUQUETS** to the member of Aurora Council who is going to ask when council is either going to stop approving variances or have a complete review of the sign bylaw. With all the approved variances, maybe the long ago request from Hakim Optical should be revisited. Their request was minor compared to some of the variances granted.

 **BRICKBATS** to the advertising agency who dreamed up the TV ad for Cialis (ask your doctor). It portrays a couple attending a theatre performance and being allowed to take their seats in the centre section disturbing all the other patrons while the performance is going on. No decent theatre would allow that and what is Cialis, anyhow?

Letters to the Editor

Council can function if it works as a team, this reader maintains

To the editor,

One begins to wonder what is in the minds of our right honourable councillors and more importantly their wives.

First of all Councillor, Editor, Publisher Ron Wallace warns clearly the facts and implications of being a councillor or running for council.

It is tough, rough and know what one is getting into is his warning.

Then Councillor Vrancic's wife, Cathy, in her column suggests "be assured you will cry" when involved and running for council.

The front page of the last Auroran headlines "Financial bomb hits Aurora".

Now I have known for some years looking at the financials of the town that it was not pretty and the vast increases in taxes are real and hurt citizens futures.

Citizens have a right to know what the real score is and open and honest communication that has recently begun to appear seems long overdue.

Is it possible that our editor is no longer running for council and the real stories will now be told with his vast experience as background.

Now I have served as Chairman of the Board of a Financial Institution as well as been head of other corporations in the people business but have yet to see what this dear lovely town of ours is going through.

I just sat in on the Strategic Planning meetings that the town is now conducting to enhance their present strategic plan and through the outside consultant being used one realizes quickly that there is a lack of vision in a town that has and will have limitations to growth, industry and limited land.

It seems to me that being a councillor of Aurora has to be easy stuff when all those limitations are there and will not change.

The key is to manage budgets and have a real understanding of the vision. This wonderful town has people in it who have come here by choice because of the town and the atmosphere it provides.

If it becomes a town only for the rich because of continuous higher taxes many social implications will continue to drive up the costs even further and the financial bomb we're facing will be a real challenge for the councillors and in particular our residents in the years ahead.

It is time for changes and how we view the town and its future.

I suggest to many Aurorans that you join me and others at the upcoming open house in relation to the finalization of the next Strategic Plan for Aurora.

Now going back to our "crying and hurting councillors and suggesting that the job is tough and can be rough that depends on them and how well they will work together as well as with the management of the town and its residents in the future.

After all we're in this together and the future of this town does not rest on a few people alone but on all of us who make Aurora our home as I have for 33 years with my family.

Eric Fagen
PowerStream Inc.
Vaughan

Marten A. Mol
Aurora

To the editor,

I would like to clarify some of the points (not facts) your newspaper reported in two separate articles about PowerStream which appeared in the March 28 edition of The Auroran.

The page 12 story entitled "Office closes next month" stated that Aurora "office staff is being moved to the Richmond Hill office in April with maintenance staff remaining until PowerStream consolidates its operation in a new facility to be located in Vaughan."

In fact, PowerStream does NOT have an office in Richmond Hill and its new head office facility will not be completed until mid-2007.

All of the Aurora staff are in the process of being relocated to our current offices in Markham and Vaughan.

The article continues with "spokesmen said arrangements had been made with the TD Canada Trust to accept

hydro payments."

The fact is that any Canadian chartered bank will accept a customer payment of a PowerStream bill, but we are currently exploring other customer service options with one of the TD Canada Trust branches in Aurora.

On page 6 your paper awarded us "Brickbats" for "not making its draft 'Conditions of Service' available at its Aurora office as it did for its Markham and Vaughan offices".

In fact, a draft copy of our Conditions of Service document IS available at our Aurora office.

We didn't include that in the advertisement we ran in your newspaper because we wanted to avoid having a member of the public go looking for a copy of the document at the Aurora office after it closed at the end of April.

Please accept this information in the interest of clarifying some of the details of PowerStream's activities

in Aurora for your readers.

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Letters to the Editor

Crawley’s experience at hospital “ghastly”

To the editor,

I long have known from family experiences that there is a terrible crisis in the delivery of medical care in this province.

But the experience of N. Crawley (Auroran, March 14) is ghastly!

It almost approximates the medical conditions in downtown Baghdad.

I have heard many reasons proffered for this situation: lack of adequate numbers of trained medical personnel, lack of adequate facilities, increasing strain on existing facilities caused by an

aging population, the failure of governments to increase medical funding commensurate with the increased demand on facilities, etc., etc.

In point of fact, all excuses advanced have the cumulative effect of eliminating responsibility and hence the need to do anything drastic to remedy the situation.

I am much reminded of that time immediately after World War II when many educated folk blamed the German nation for all the sins of Nazism.

It took the arguments of eminent historians and Nuremburg trial lawyers to

convince many that when responsibility is vested amorphously, then the end result is that nobody can be held accountable.

Thus, who is responsible for the current crisis in medical care and who is responsible for fixing it?

All those people who evade this question do so at their own peril for they may well need one day a system of medical care better than what N. Crawley has described.

Allow me to present some information here:

1. The late-lamented Harris government cited 800

as the optimum number of patients per GP. In Aurora, it is not uncommon for a GP to have more than 3,000 patients. Aging GPs find it difficult to retire owing to their inability to find a replacement.

2. University fees and living expenses run in the neighbourhood of \$25,000 per year-not exorbitant compared with the tuition expenses of our neighbours to the south but certainly enough to discourage the impecunious who may not be scholarship material yet capable of becoming competent GPs. Those who do enter medicine contemplate a career as a specialist and why not, given the greater financial rewards and greater control over working conditions?

3. Skyrocketing university tuition fees are partly the product of a longtime Federal Government policy of fiscal prudence achieved by cutting education grants to provincial universities. Incompetent administration of monies by 'hired guns' imported from the U.S. to manage university investments have also contributed to the problem. It is a well-known fact that U of T lost several hundred millions of dollars (prior to Bob Birgeneau's' tenure as President) as a result of poor investment strategy. U of T is not alone in this matter.

4. Under the 'Common Sense' program of the late Harris government, the pensions of thousands of nurses were bought out at a time when the western world was poised on the verge of an acute shortage of trained nursing personnel. At the same time hospitals and health care facilities were shut down to create room for the tax easements and rebates that so many people desired.

5. There is a private clinic in Buffalo that possesses more magnetic resonance machines than the entire province of Ontario. Ontario patients are often sent to this clinic because of the lack of facilities in this province and because these machines are often idle since most Americans cannot afford the use of private health care.

Frank Hawkins
Aurora

They wonder when feds are going to help

An open letter to The Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada

Why is the Federal Government response to the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa not reflective of how Canadians respond individu-

ally to this human disaster?

Since issues of this magnitude require high level intervention, those millions dying from AIDS, caring for orphans, and suffering from the ravages of the pandemic depend on our leaders making this a priority.

This is not a futile cause.

UN Special Envoy, Stephen Lewis, has pointed out some very realistic and effective responses to this emergency, some as simple as living up to past promises made by governments from around the world.

Here in York Region, The "If I Had A Million Dollars" campaign has watched as tens of thousands of school children have participated in an AIDS awareness and fundraising campaign.

We have growing admiration for the school boards, church groups, service clubs, businesses and local dignitaries who have supported efforts to send a million dollars to the Stephen Lewis Foundation to help ease the pain of HIV/AIDS in Africa at a grassroots level.

Across the country, we hear of similar efforts.

Individually, Canadians clearly are expanding the borders of their compassion.

Collectively, they need their government to share their values and respond at a world level.

A Tsunami-worth of death washes across Africa each and every month - when is the appropriate time to react?

Klein’s resignation not soon enough, this reader states

To the editor,

It has been stated that Ralph Klein will leave politics in 2007.

Not soon enough.

The two-tier system he envisions is contrary to the Canada Health Act.

More importantly, allowing doctors to practice inside Medicare (public system) and privately in tandem will not work.

Rather than speed up the system of quicker delivery of service, it will not.

Recently a British Columbia doctor, Brian Day, who is slated to become the next president of the CMA, made this cryptic submission: "The private sector is not a panacea but I think that even if one or two per cent of the system is privatized, the competition will make the delivery better".

From my perspective, if a doctor can pick and choose whom he can serve, will he not look after the plums first?

From a long history, humans will go for the big buck and serve the public last.

This will greatly enhance the waiting times and lead to dire consequences for the working poor.

It should be noted we have a two-tier system in our education systems.

From the numerous studies that have been done over the last 100 years, it is a recognized fact that if a student can afford a formal education, he will surely elevate his income considerably and become part of the five per cent of wealthy

Canadians.

Make no mistake, Mr. Harper has his good face on and is coached to keep his plans under wraps, but if the Notwithstanding Clause becomes the instrument of closure we will have an election sooner than later.

I believe he and Mr. Klein and others may plague us with deception.

Paul Martin knew the dark side of the Notwithstanding Clause, while Mr. Harper finds the need for regressive legislation.


The next federal vote will be decisive for Confederation.


Use it well.


Ben Kestein
Aurora

Mary Anna Beer
Steve Falk

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Spokesman outlines problems with park

Many Aurorans may not be aware of Civic Square Park but to John Gallo and members of the Bayview Wellington Ratepayers Association, it has been a long-time major issue.

Last month Gallo advised the Leisure Services Advisory Committee that only two park benches had been installed around the soccer pitch instead of the accepted design of seven.

Leisure Services staff said there were six benches in the park.

He noted path lighting had not been installed and was told a lighting consultant advised existing lighting was sufficient for the park.

In addition, the town had received a letter from the Bayview Wellington Ratepayers Association that they did not want any more lights in the park.

Major issue raised by Gallo was the unsightly extra granite rocks that had been placed in the hydro transmission corridor to the north of the park.

The committee asked for a written report from the Director of Leisure Services to the Association and that the granite rocks be removed from the corridor.

At a recent Leisure Services meeting, most members agreed with the report from the director.

Last week, some council members wanted to know the cost of removing the rocks and if it was necessary.

Councillor Wendy Gaertner said residents didn't get the park they had been promised and said the rocks should be removed possibly using town staff and equipment.

It was noted that Gallo, president of the Ratepayers Association, was also a member of the

Marquee prepares for final production

It's almost here. It's almost time to purr up to the Newmarket Theatre and the Vaughan City Playhouse as Aurora's Marquee Productions prepares to stage their final production of the season. the family musical "Cats".

"Cats" takes place on the night of the Jellicle Ball.

This is where the Jellicle Cats meet once a year to find out who of their tribe will have the chance to go to the Heavyside Layer and be reborn to a new Jellicle life.

"Cats" will be presented at the Vaughan City Playhouse from May 4th to the 7th and at the Newmarket Theatre from May 10th to the 14th.

Tickets are \$24 for adults and \$22 for children and seniors with a portion of sales to going to a variety of local charities.

Meanwhile, Marquee now has a new website, www.marqueeproductions.ca where more information is available.

Leisure Services Advisory Committee.

Development of the 1.5 acre Civic Square Park located at the corner of John West Way and Civic Square Gate started in 1996 and has been controversial almost since that date.

The proposed park was being designed to accommodate a wide variety of town-wide community functions such as passive recreation, temporary exhibits, occasional markets, an outdoor artificial ice rink, buildings, concessions and a place for entertainment.

Council at the time decided estimated capital and operating costs for the proposed park were excessive and the park proposal was not adopted.

As a result the lands remained undeveloped and unused except by the Aurora

Youth Soccer Club.

A public meeting was held in 2003 with 14 citizens in attendance resulting in staff preparing a conceptual design for the park based on features suggested by the public.

The conceptual plan was passive in nature with little or no activity with the exception of a minor playing field.

When a hardware company planned to build a large store to the east of the park and the residential development south of the park, citizens expressed concern about the impact of the store on the surrounding lands.

As a result hardware officials met with residents of the area in an attempt to resolve their concerns and agreed to donate \$35,000 to the town for improvements to Civic Square Park.

A further public meeting

was held that year with residents expressing a desire for a pleasant, safe area with trees and park benches and possibly a meandering pathway around the perimeter for walking, exercising and

rollerblading.

They also wanted to see some rockwork, an entry feature and a sign designating the area as a park.

They had no objection to a soccer field which could be

flooded in the winter for an ice rink, but did not want a playground or washroom facilities.

If the rocks are removed possibly the controversy will end.

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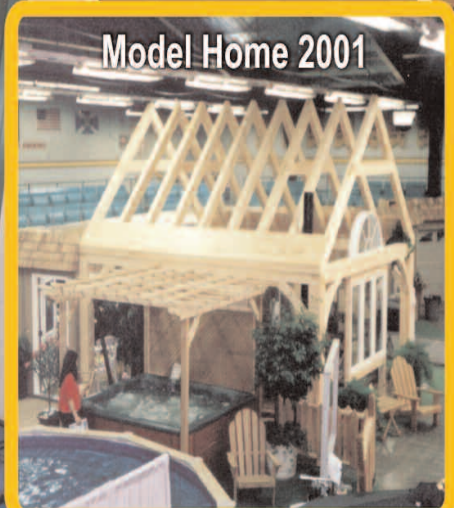
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Gardens 1997



Model Home 2001



The Money Machine 1998



Model Home 1999



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Members of the Aurora Minor Atom AE Tigers, plus their coaches and other officials, gathered for a group shot following a

successful season that saw the team capture a silver medal in the Ontario Minor Hockey Association.

Minor atom club finishes

successful hockey season

The Aurora Minor Atom AE Tigers have just wound up a positive season winning a Silver Medal in the Ontario Minor Hockey Association.

The team represented Aurora in four tournaments at Georgetown, Chatham, Elora and Mississauga. In some cases, the squad came up against older players, however, the increased competition paid off as the Tigers fin-

ished the regular season second in the York Simcoe Region.

The first playoff round was a gruelling 12-game robin round where the Tigers emerged first to advance the semi-finals.

During that first round goalies Francois Bicego and Luc Martineau shut out the opposition six times. In the semi-finals, the Tigers swept the Georgina Blaze in three

games including a thrilling overtime series-clinching victory to advance to the OMHA Championships against Georgetown.

The Tiger defense, led by Eric Middleton, Kyle Strachan, Blake Wallace, Harrison Smith, Ben Goldman and Spencer Robb, on average limited the opponents to only one goal.

The championship was a hard-fought affair with

Tiger forwards Josh Bell, Shannon Murray, Nathon Nealon, Liam Beresford, Graham Robinson, Alex Perez, Jordyn Thomson, Ben Ashton, Tyler George matching Georgetown shot for shot.

Although Georgetown emerged victorious, the Aurora squad is looking for another crack at them next season.

Novice AE Tigers

take tournament

Aurora's Novice AE Tigers ended their hockey season recently by winning the Stouffville Clippers 2006 Tournament.

The Tigers began their round-robin against the

hometown Stouffville Clippers and after two scoreless periods, the Tigers fired home two goals in 10 seconds early in the third to win the game 2-0.

In game two, the

Markham Waxers scored early in the third to cut a 2-0 Tigers lead in half, but that lasted exactly seven seconds.

The Tigers roared back with three goals in 23 seconds, then added five more to make it a 10-1 rout.

The next day Aurora defeated Oshawa 4-2 to end the round-robin undefeated.

Outstanding defense and goaltending allowed only four goals in four games, enabling the Tigers to take first place over Newmarket (who also went 3-0) on goal differential.

The top finish earned Aurora a bye to the finals.

Sunday's final against the Innisfil Winterhawks was never in doubt, as the Tigers scored three times in the first period and held on to win the game 6-1 and take home the hardware as tournament champs.

Monday Night Hockey

2nd round of playoffs

March 27

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It was a happy minor midget crowd that emerged victorious last week after capturing the Glen Irwin Memorial Trophy. The Aurora Tigers Minor Midget

AA squad won the cup after three games went into overtime. The team lost only three games all season.

Overtime victory

Tigers win Minor Midget AA championship

In a series that saw three of five games go into overtime, the Aurora

Kerry's plans tourney

Almost everyone is familiar with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). It is a neurological condition affecting some children.

One out of every 250 people is diagnosed with some form of ASD, with diagnosis occurring almost four times more frequently in boys than girls.

Not as well known is Kerry's Place Autism Services located at 34 Berczy Street in Aurora.

Incorporated in 1974, the agency is a voluntary, not-for-profit organization dedicated to serving people with ASD through innovative personalized supports, expertise, collaboration and advocacy.

In order to raise funds, Nancy Brouillard, Fundraising Manager of Kerry's Place, is calling all duffers to play in its 12th Golf Invitational at Angus Glen Golf Course May 4th.

The event features 18 holes of championship golf with a 1.30 p.m. shotgun start, barbecue lunch and gourmet dinner, silent and live auction, beat the pro and hole-in-one challenges; longest drive/closest to the pin holes and lots of other prizes.

For tickets or sponsorship opportunities call Nancy at 905-841-6611, ext. 333.

It is generally not possible to recognize that an individual has ASD by appearance. Some people with ASD have abilities that are more highly developed than the general population.

Dr. Glenn Rampton is the Chief Executive Officer and Clinical Director of Kerry's place and Brenda Scott is the executive director.

For further information about the services available call 905-841-6611.

Tigers Minor Midget AA Hockey Club defeated the Eagles of Burlington by a score of 3-2 last week to capture the Glen Irwin Memorial Trophy. Tigers won the series with a record of 3-1-1.

The road to the finals saw the Tigers defeat the Richmond Hill Stars, Newmarket Redmen and Pickering Panthers.

Throughout the year,

the Tigers demonstrated a propensity to win games with a balance of strong offense and defense, having finished the regular season with a 21-3-3 record.

This is the second time that this team of boys born in 1990 has won the AA OMHA title, and both wins were against a highly competitive team from Burlington.

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House League

Tyke

106 Tim Horton's Red Wings Tyke HL 11 - Christian Pearce 1A, Nicolas Pearce 1A, Jack Bishenden 3A, Matthew Liscio 5G 1A, Joshua Mills 2G, Blake Holtby 1A, Robert Thomas 1G 5A, Patrick Servideo 2G 2A, Connor Reilly 1G 2A, Justin Nisbet 1A.

102 Tim Horton's Rangers 2

108 Tim Horton's Blues Tyke HL 8 - Thomas Sauer 2A, Daniel Della Roca 1A, Jamie Finlay 3A, Colin Kostin 3G 1A, Nat Leontis 1A, Jordan Reeves 1A, Connor Tripp 1A, Spencer White 1G, Cameron Zinner 1G 2A, Mathew Tyndall 1G, Graham Sanford 2G.

101 Tim Horton's Leafs 4 - Ryan Coveart 2G, Ben Kissack 1A, Matthew McDonald 2G, Callum O'Rourke 1A, Matthew Tanel 1A, Zoe Webster 2A.

103 Tim Horton's Blackhawks 9 - Andrew Badali 6G, Taylor Kauffeldt 1G 1A, Jeffrey McKay 2G.

105 Tim Horton's Flyers Tyke HL 8

107 Tim Horton's Bruins 10 - Mathew Ciancio 2G, Alistair Johnston 1A, Austin Kiraly 2G, Connor Mulvenna 2A, Nicholas Sansalone 3G, Cole Thiessen 3G 2A.

104 Tim Horton's Sharks Tyke HL 4 - Bryan Manweiler 1A, Adam Wilson 1A, Jared Brown 1G 1A, Anthony Orlandi 2G, Brendin Ramsay 1G, Ryan Simmons 1A.

Novice

206 Emilio's Pizza Novice HL 1 - Grant Kavanagh 1A, Bowen Reid 1G.

201 McAlpine Ford Lincoln 0

205 HS Financial Serivces Novice HL 5

204 North York Heating & Plumbing 5 - Taylor Simpson 1A, Denzel Speller-Drews 1A, Matthew Iezzi 1A, Michael McKerracher 1G, Dylan Pyziak 2G 2A, Michael Dilosa 1G, James Power 1A, Matthew MacGrath 1G 1A, Nicholas Scougall 1A.

Minor Atom

305 All Pro Source For Sports Minor Atom HL 4 - Joel Gouveia 1G, Jonah Blaser 1A, Tait Snedden 2G, Brendan Harris 1G.

303 Dr. Steiner's Drillers 4 - Maxwell Brown 1A, Mitchell Lamantia 1A, Lucas Marek 1A, Patrick Merritt 1A, Riley O'Brien 1G, Alexander Stewart 2G, Austin Tanaka 1G 1A.

306 Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre Minor Atom HL 3

302 Laurion Law Office 3 - Alexander Harrison 2A, Matt Sanita 3G, Ian Coschi 1A.

301 ADC Aluminum 5 - Melissa Verge 1A, Matteo Campea 1A, Zachary Cowl 2G 1A, Erica Barnes 1A, Michael De Cesare 1A, Rio Speller-Drews 1A, Mitchell Srouji 1A, Oliver Jones 1A, Billy Haddock 1G 1A, Joseph Veneziano 1A, Michael Tanel 1G, Ryan McGolrick 1G.

308 Delph & Jenkins Surveyors Minor Atom HL 1

304 Chouinard Bros. Roofing & Windows 4 - Hussain Akbar 1A, Graham Killby 1G 1A, Russell Johnson 1G 1A, Luc Martineau 2G 1A.

307 Optimist Club of Aurora Minor Atom HL 3 - Adam Deroos 1G, Mitchell Arnold 1G, Nicholas Scott 1A, Kevin Siery 1G 1A, Grant Mulholland 1A.

Atom

402 McAlpine Ford Lincoln 5 - Andreas Mikkelsen 1G, Drew Bryan 1A, Dylan Gould 1A, Zachary Ferry 1G 2A, Jesse Borin 1G, Quinn Harris 1G, Austin Boudreau 1G.

403 Dr. Steiner's Drillers Atom HL 1 - Stephen Wilkins 1A, Liam Devlin. 1G

401 Nacora Insurance Brokers Atom HL 1

406 Continental Custom Ingredients 0

405 Rotary Club of Aurora Atom HL 3 - Andrew Staples 1A, Kyle Davy-Vass 1A, Scott Wheeler 1G, Quinn McGowan 1G, James Hubay 1A, Drew Davison 1G.

404 Optimist Club of Aurora 1 - Gavin Matheson 1A, Sammy Fanone 1A,

Dylan Sutton 1G.

Minor Peewee

503 Winchurch Environmental Inc. 4

502 Supreme Collision Centre Minor Peewee HL 0

501 Chevalier Chrysler Minor Peewee HL 1 - John Dinicolantonio 1A, Evan Jones 1G, Matthew Hart 1A.

506 Diamond Groundskeeping Services 1

505 Pizza Pizza Minor Peewee HL 6 - Christopher Beach 1A, Micheal David 1A, Andrew Gibbs 1A, Daniel Laflamme 1G, Jake Langford 2G 2A, Andrew Luck 1A, Gregory Olejnik 1A, Cody Rundle-Sanderson 3A, Nicholas Theodoropolous 2G 2A, Brian Tree 1G.

504 The Backyard Pool & Spa Company 4 - Samantha Minchella 1A, Zachary Cook 2G 1A, JP Hudon 2G 2A, Matt Noseworthy 3A.

Peewee

609 Manhattan Trophies Peewee HL 2 - Brett Richardson 1G 1A, Kevin McCrudden 1A, Brandon Pero 1G, Stephen Newby 2A.

604 CAA South Central Ontario 2 - Brody Hunter 1G, Gianluca Sampieri 1A, Ryan Maar 1G, Sean Maule 1A.

608 Pharmasave Peewee HL 5

610 ACI 4

603 Aurora Dental Centre Peewee HL 5 - Jacob Giacomazzo 1G, Matthew Brutto 2A, Tanner Brewer 3A, Kenton Gamble 1G, Chase Riddell 1G 1A, Adam Balaban 2G.

602 Restored Sports 1 - Christopher Ho 1G, Nicky Zebrowski 1A.

607 Cosentino Produce Peewee HL 6 - Andrew Cosentino 1G, Lucas Cristillo 2A, Joey Lombardi 1A, Cameron Annear 2G, Jonathan Boehmer 1A, Zachary Andrews 2G, Tyler LaMantia 1G 1A, Andrew Hunter 1A.

606 National Sports 2 - Christian Davies 1G 1A, Greg Lacroix 1G.

605 Mary's Flower Shop Peewee HL 4 - Taran McGowan 3G 1A, Chris Waller 1A, Nick Sbrolla 1G, Brandon Lalonde 2A.

601 Orr & Forster Insurance 3 - Curtis Rose 1A, Michael Reilly 1A, Dylan Jolivet 1G 1A, Wesley Seminara 1G, Ryan Cumiskey 1G.

Minor Bantam

705 Aurora Canadian Tire 4

704 Aurora Montessori School Minor Bantam HL 3 - Andrew Osmond 1G, Marco Santella 2G 1A.

706 Formtech 3 - Liam Braithwaite 1A, Max Jasniewski 1A, Adam Colacitti 1A, Chris Tillsley 2A, Grant Wood 1G, Brendan Beatty 1G, Mike Machin 1G.

701 I.O.O.F. Aurora Lodge 148 F.L.T. Minor Bantam HL 1 - Scott Parry 1A, Dylan Teacher 1A, Chris Blumreisinger 1G.

702 Highland Chevrolet Cadillac 3

703 Dial Tone Communications Minor Bantam HL 1

Midget

1010 Tilemaster 6 - Zach Timbers 1A, Stephen Faca 2G, Ryan Fennell 2G, Alex Hunter 1A, Taylor Jeffery 1A, Ian McCrone 1G 1A, Bryan Sturgess 2A, Ryan Joynt 1G 1A.

1009 Ice Pix Midget HL 4 - Dan Baille 1A, Graham Cote 1G, Drew Dente 1A, Brandon Morton 1G, Cody Riddell 1G 1A, Andrew Sturges 1G.

1002 Tw!st Marketing 3

1009 Ice Pix Midget HL 2

1001 Astech Solutions 4

1010 Tilemaster Midget HL 2

1011 3 - Tim Gerrits 1G, Chris Clark 1G, Andrew McGee 1G 1A, Michael Sotoadeh 1A, Nick Verdugo 1A.

1008 ASA Alloys Midget HL 1 - Daniel Abram 1G.

1003 Irvine Robinson Interiors 6

1008 ASA Alloys Midget HL 1 - Iznaur Atiev 1A, Brendan McDermott 1G.

1007 ACI Midget HL 4 - Bradley Finch 1G 1A, Tanner Kinnarinen 1G 1A, Carson Nimmo 1G 1A, Peter Walker 1A, Frazer Klein 1G.

1001 Astech Solutions 3 - Rob Buchner 1G,

Nicholas Capobianco 1G, Daryl Clark 1G 1A, Micheal Durst 1A, Jake Teel 1A.

1007 ACI Midget HL 1

1004 Aurora Legion 1

1002 Tw!st Marketing 6 - Torry Duckworth 2G, Jamie Fenyess 1G, Alex Kane 1A, Memo Nafarrate 1G, Derek Roland 1G, Jon Turner 1A, Graham Reid 1A, Jesse Barker 1G.

1006 AB Cox Pontiac Buick GMC Midget HL 5 - Andrew Walsh 1A, Braden Bonner 1G, Micheal Dinallo 1G, Alex Ginther 2G 1A, Cam Harris 2A, Dennis Jarrett 1G, Kevin Moffat 2A.

1005 Barb Blaser Re/Max 4

1006 AB Cox Pontiac Buick GMC Midget HL 2

1003 Irvine Robinson Interiors Midget HL 3 - Mike Smyth 1G, Kyle Kaminski 1G, Neil Kileeg 1A, Curtis Sands 1A, Jake Warden 1G.

1005 Barb Blaser Re/Max 2 - Steve Horan 1G 1A, Patrick Madden 1A, Alexander Smith 1G, Micheal Vertolli 1A, James Weber 1A.

Select

Aurora Tigers Tyke Select 5 - Andrew Badali 1G, Ryan Coveart 1G 1A, Michael Da Costa 1G, Cole Thiessen 1A, Robert Thomas 2G 1A.

Unionville 1

Aurora Tigers Tyke Select 4

Lawton Leasing Redmen 4

Rep Games

Aurora Tigers Novice AA 2 - Jake Appleby 1A, Ian Reid 1A, Austin Riswick 1G, Jesse Wiemer 1G.

Oakville 2

Aurora Tigers Novice AA 3 - Jake Appleby 2A, Peter Andreakos 1A, Hayden Hassard 2A, Austin Riswick 1G, Jesse Wiemer 2G.

Oakville 1

Oakville 4

Aurora Tigers Novice AA 2 - Jake Appleby 1A, Alex Bernier 1G, Hayden Hassard 1G, Jesse Wiemer 1A.

Schomberg 2

Aurora Tigers Novice A 1

Aurora Tigers Novice A 3

Schomberg 2

Schomberg 7

Aurora Tigers Novice A 2

Aurora Tigers Novice A 1

Richmond Hill 1

Stouffville 4

Aurora Tigers Novice A 2

Newmarket 2

Aurora Tigers Novice A 0

Aurora Tigers Novice AE 2 - Conor MacPherson 1G 1A, Adam Newell 1G.

Stouffville 0

Aurora Tigers Novice AE 10 - Erick Bortolotti 1A, Noah Spicer 1A, William Stroud 2A, Zac Phillips 2G 1A, Jeff Stobo 2A, Joesph Battiston 2G, Conor MacPherson 1G 3A, Garret Wood 2G 2A, Austin Waite 1A, Adam Newell 3G 1A, Brendan Ruuskanen 3A.

Markham 1

Aurora Tigers Novice AE 4 - Denis Semenovych 1A, Conor MacPherson 1G 3A, Austin Waite 1G 1A, Adam Newell 2G 1A.

Oshawa 2

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AA 3 - Liam Coll 1A, Konner McMillan 1G 1A, Branden Fennell 1G 1A, Quentin Campbell 1G 1A, Ryan Manson 1A.

Orangeville 1

Orangeville 2

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AA 1 - Jerryd Jensen 1A, John MacDonald 1A, Spencer Green 1G.

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AA 3 - Sean Foxwell 1A, Justin Pirie 1A, Kyle Locke 1A, Branden Fennell 2G, John MacDonald 1A, Jack Caldwell 1G,

Orangeville 2

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom A 4 - Erik Balkovec 1A, Paul Neophytou 1G 1A, Parker Baile 1A, Austin Persaud 1A, Evan Jackson 1G, Scott

Kostin 1A, Ian Dunlop 1G, Lucas Pozzebon 1A, Brett Thiessen 1G.

Kanata Blue Blazers 2

Capital Crusaders 2

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom A 1 - Evan Jackson 1G, Lucas Pozzebon 1A, Alec Ground 1A.

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom A 2 - Paul Neophytou 1G, Lucas Pozzebon 1A, Brett Thiessen 1G 1A, Nick Del Zotto 1A.

Whitby 2

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom A 5 - Erik Balkovec 1G 1A, Paul Neophytou 1G 1A, Parker Baile 1G, Evan Jackson 1G 1A, Lucas Pozzebon 1A, Brett Thiessen 1G 1A. Shutout: Matt Heintzman.

St. Thomas 0

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom A 1 - Paul Neophytou 1G. Shutout: Matt Heintzman.

Hespeler 0

Georgetown 4

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AE 1 - Liam Beresford 1G, Alex Perez 1A.

Georgetown 2

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AE 1 - Liam Beresford 1G.

Stouffville 2

Aurora Tigers Atom A 1 - Hayden Trask 1G.

Aurora Tigers Atom A 1 - Hayden Trask 1A, Kiefer McIntosh 1G, Daniel Jones 1A. Shutout: Taylor Coveart.

Stouffville 0

Orillia 9

Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee A 1 - Chris Youtoff 1G.

Aurora Tigers Peewee AA 5 - Eleeza Cox 1G 2A, Josh Beaton 1G 1A, Tristan Miller 1G 1A, Matthew Mears 1G 2A, Jack Steffan 1A, James Harkin 1G 1A.

Brampton 1

Aurora Tigers Peewee AA 5 - Josh Beaton 2G 1A, Brandon Pedersen 1G 2A, Dylan Skelton 3A, Cody Weese 1G, Matthew Miller 1A, Chris Venditelli 1A, James Harkin 1G.

Avalanche 2

Toronto Aces 5

Aurora Tigers Peewee AA 2 - Josh Beaton 1A, Matthew Mears 1A, Jack Steffan 1G, James Harkin 1G 1A.

Aurora Tigers Peewee AA 4 - Eleeza Cox 1G 3A, Cody Weese 1A, Matthew Miller 1A, Chanelle Hassard 1A, Jack Steffan 1G, James Harkin 2G 1A.

York Toros 0

Pickering 4

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AA 1 - Anthony Marsillo 1A, Oliver Boettcher 1G, Dylan Cross 1A.

Pickering 1

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AA 0

Aurora Tigers Bantam A 6

West Hill 2

Aurora Tigers Bantam A 6

Clarkson 3

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AA 3 - Steven Keane 1G, Kevin Kryshka 1G, Karl Pelan 1G 2A, Steven Donches 2A, Nick Yeatman 1A.

Burlington 2

Burlington 3

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AA 2

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AA 6

Burlington 3

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AE 2

Markham 1

East Gwillimbury 4

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AE 2

Innisfil 3

Aurora Tigers Juvenile AA 2 - Chris Amato 1G, Bobby Haralampopoulos 1G 1A, Mark Quagliarini 2A.

Innisfil 8

Aurora Tigers Juvenile AA 1

Aurora Tigers Juvenile AA 7

Innisfil 3

From Russia with love - and Europe too

By TOM DAVEY

The York Symphony Orchestra embarked on an ambitious program of works by Borodin, Brahms, Strauss and Liszt before surprising and delighting the audience with Smetana's lilting 'Dance of the Comedians' from 'The Bartered Bride,' a bonus which was not listed on the program.

The concert, at Aurora's Trinity Anglican Church, began with Borodin's Overture to Prince Igor which Music Director Gregory Burton prefaced with some historical insights into Russia's musical legacies.

Now, more than a century after Borodin had composed the overture, his musical genius was again engaged with a contemporary musical relevance belying its long history.

Soaring string sections blended with the deep resonance of the tuba along with militant trombones, French horns, woodwinds - including a sinuous, seductive clarinet melody.

Finally the percussion instruments, culminating with a powerful roll of drums, were brought together with force, precision and feeling.

Then violin soloist, Joanna Tang was introduced.

She stood motionless - her slender form as still as a statue - as Brahms Violin Concerto in D Major got underway.

This composition is rated among the most challenging works in solo violin repertoires.

Precisely on cue, this slight figure then exploded in a frenetic burst of energy, tonal range and virtuosity.

In the second movement, the theme was presented by the oboe and picked up by Ms Tang in several variations which exhaustively developed the theme and its components.

The concerto closed with a vigorous, and dramatic coda in which both soloist and orchestra restated the main theme, ending in a standing ovation.

The Strauss name is legendary in musical history

and The Serenade for Winds in E-flat Major was written by Richard Strauss, first of two children of Franz Strauss, then one of the most respected horn players in Europe. Incredibly the father detested much of the contemporary music, especially that of Wagner.

Only a fraction of the orchestra was used for the Serenade, the oboe authoritatively presenting the first theme before the flutes entered with horns and clarinets in a delightful rendition of the melodic and harmonic variations.

The next piece was Les Preludes by Franz Liszt, still regarded by many experts as the finest pianist of all time.

From 1838 to 1847, Liszt criss-crossed Europe playing more than 1,000 concerts in such diverse cities as Manchester, Constantinople, Madrid and

Brickbat generates Brickbat

In a recent edition of The Auroran a Brickbat was given to Aurora Council for giving members of the Swim Club such a rough time over what they claimed was a lack of action in fundraising for the new rec complex.

When the Swim Club brought in pledges of \$110,000 for naming rights there were no words of thanks or well done, but there was no criticism for the ice users who hadn't raised a penny.

Councillor Bill Hogg was critical of the Brickbat claiming the Aurora Spirit Fundraising Committee was a joint committee of aquatic and ice users.

Town Staff replied that it had been established as a joint committee and while the aquatic users had moved ahead, there was difficulty in bringing ice users to the table.

Hogg said it was supposed to be a joint committee and asked for a staff report to clarify the composition of the committee and fundraising plans for the future.

Hogg pointed out that if the committee failed to meet its \$2 million target the shortfall would have to be made up by taxpayers.

St. Petersburg, gaining wealth and fame.

He was also honoured by royalty in Madrid, Brussels and St. Petersburg. Heinrich Heine coined the word Lisztmania - a century and a half before the Beatle mania phenomenon.

But Liszt was also a great composer and Les Preludes was the third and most famous of his 13 'Symphonic Poems.'

Here one thrilled to a stirring conclusion, with the brass, tympani, and melodic woodwinds punctuated by

blasts from the brass section including the tuba.

After the audience had risen in a standing ovation for this final piece on the official program, Conductor Gregory Burton made a surprise announcement.

Although not listed on the printed program, he said the orchestra would conclude with an excerpt from The Bartered Bride by Bedrich Smetana, an added bonus, which delighted the audience, ending the evening with a flourish that completed a musical feast.



Winner of the Name the Senior Citizen column is Anna Cianfarani of Aurora. She won a free dinner for two at Jonathan's, and column author Bryan Warburton presented the prize to her Saturday morning. Anna immediately donated it to the silent auction being held at the centre April 15 to raise funds for Devon Brisbane. In addition to the auction, organizer Randy Skelcher is holding a Las Vegas Revue, which sold out a week after the tickets went on sale.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace



Walking tours part of program

By BRIAN WARBURTON

The Holland Valley River Parkway is the backyard of the new seniors' centre, and what a wonderful backyard it is.

Many times I have strolled through the parkway making friends, if that is possible, with the trees and bushes growing there.

To me the parkway is an activity in and of itself; walking or jogging its length is not too demanding and is a pleasure and a welcome exercise.

The season when things grow, is about to explode upon us, and this is the time to get out there and start recording the changes with digital cameras, as they occur.

Some birds are building their nests before the leaves open, and the new leaves hide them from view, and the birds do a pretty good job of it.

I find that most of us, including me, find that the ability to name what grows, heightens the pleasure and enables one to feel closer to nature. For example, can you recognize Queen Anne's Lace, or Chicory?

In addition, if you really become enthralled or captivated with the parkway, the Arboretum Society will welcome the interest and energy of anybody who is interested in the park, and who is willing to lend a hand. Some of the waters in the park need cleaning out, and a huge stand of Scotch Pine needs thinning out, big time!

The flowering plants and trees are well worth capturing with camera, and the seasons change so slowly but relentlessly, we tend not to notice until the change is complete.

The seniors have a walking club and if you are interested, call the centre at 905-727-2816 and ask for details.

They have a variety of walks and the parkway is among them, and you are welcome.

The walkers tend to be gregarious, social minded and interested in nature and you are sure to find someone to talk to.

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RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

A vision of four-lane highways

It's hard to believe it was back in November, 1965, that Ontario Highways Deputy Minister Cam McNab visited Aurora to tell residents there would soon be two four-lane highways serving the municipality.

The widening of Highway 11 (Yonge Street) from three to four lanes was in the final planning stages and land was being acquired for Highway 404.

He didn't say when construction would begin on either project but Highway 11 was a top priority.

Construction of Highway 404 was being delayed until the timetable for the Don Valley Parkway project was known.

At that time, Metro Toronto was in the process of constructing the Parkway from Lawrence Avenue to Highway 401, but there was doubt as to when it would be extended to Steeles Avenue where it would meet Highway 404.

At that time it was planned for Highway 404 to pass east of Lake Simcoe and circle around to the north of the lake to meet up with Highway 400.

Today, Highway 404 goes as far north as the Green Lane in East Gwillimbury, one interchange north of Davis Drive.

34 GO TRAINS DAILY

In February, 1993, GO Transit completed an environmental impact assessment of the Richmond Hill GO Rail Expansion north to the Bloomington Road.

The assessment followed an engineering feasibility study completed in 1991.

With the doubling of tracks for the 31-kilometre stretch from York Mills Road to Bloomington, it was proposed that the expanded

service would provide 34 trains daily.

There would be seven southbound in morning peak periods, returning in the evening peak period, with off-peak bi-directional service at 90 minute intervals.

At Bloomington Road and the CN line there would be parking for 1,000 cars with a bus bay for Aurora and Newmarket buses

The estimated cost of the project was \$140 million with a completion date of 1997.

What happened?

SUNDAY BINGO

Today Sunday sports and Bingo games are commonplace, but it wasn't always that way.

It was in October, 1984, when Aurora Council adopted a bylaw to permit bingo and other public games and sports to take place on Sunday.

The bylaw listed 17 sports or games for which an admission was charged.

Sports included baseball, football, soccer, tennis, cricket, curling, bowling, swimming, lawn bowling, lacrosse, basketball, squash, badminton, horseshoes and archery.

Councillors questioned how a commercial bingo operation could be considered a charitable or religious organization to qualify under the bylaw.

It was explained that bingo operators lease the facility and the bingo to a charity and are not involved in the actual operation of the bingo, for which the operator collects up to 15 per cent of the proceeds.

So Sunday bingo and sports came to Aurora.



Making up part of the Von Trapp family in the Aurora Opera Company's upcoming "Sound of Music" presentation, are Joe Liksuki, Captain; Kristen Sivitiilli, Liesel; Laura Allan, Louisa; David Steele, Freidrich; Caileigh

Kyle, Brigitta; Tyler Hindley, Kurt; Rhiannon Kyle, Marta; Julianna Vasconcellos, Gretel. The Company will be performing the fully-staged production April 20-23 at Newmarket Theatre.

Company takes to the hills

The Hills are alive with 20 Von Trapps!

The Aurora Opera Company presents the Broadway musical "The Sound of Music" with three rotating casts featuring 20 children from Aurora as the Von Trapp family singers, and 20 "nuns" from Aurora.

"There were so many talented children coming to our auditions that I felt I had to give a large number of them an opportunity to sing these magical songs," General Director Sarah Kyle (playing Maria) said.

The musical has an interesting history as it is the last musical Rodgers and Hammerstein wrote together.

After it first opened, Hammerstein added the

song Edelweiss written from a traditional song the real Von Trapp family used to perform to express love for their home land.

"Edelweiss" was to be the last song written by Rodgers and Hammerstein.

"It is a thrill to perform in this legendary musical," Kyle said. "I am enjoying perform-

ing the role of Maria alongside fellow Aurora, Joe Likuski as Captain."

The Aurora Opera Company will be performing the fully staged production April 20-23 at Newmarket Theatre.

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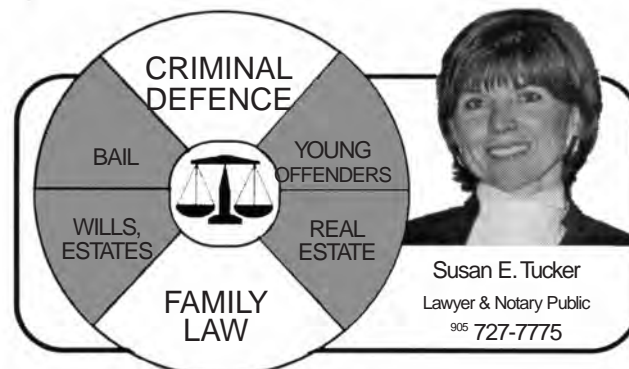
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 The gates of memory will never close
 We miss you more than anyone knows
 We who love you will never forget.
 With all our love always
 Gloria & Christian