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Aurora's Community Newspaper

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Vol. 3 No. 40

Week of July 29, 2003

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Time for a break

Postal strike or not - and at the moment it looks like "not" - the Auroran will not publish next week, August 5, in order that employees may enjoy a brief break.

Next issue will arrive Tuesday, August 12.

R & R Revisited, the used book store that shares space with the Auroran on Mary Street, will close at 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, and reopen at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 7.

Water tower site might be a new home

Habitat For Humanity's hope to build a house in Aurora may not be lost.

The organization, which constructs homes for people, thought it had a site last year when council recommended a green space on Murray Drive, then changed its mind when neighbours objected to losing the site.

The project appeared to die on the vine, but Aurora Mayor Tim Jones was convinced another site could be found, and he may be closing in on one.

Last January, Aurora's 40-year-old water tower, accessed from Davis Road in Regency Acres, was hauled down in dramatic fashion by Priestly Demolition.

The land on which the tower was located was originally owned by the town, but was transferred to the region with the coming of regional government in 1971.

In March, a request was submitted to the region for the Davis Road water tower lands to be transferred back to the town.

The region has indicated it is willing to trade the Davis Road lands for town-owned lands south of Aurora Heights Drive, adjacent to Wells #1 and #4, where the town's former sewage plant was located.

The lands are required by the region for the construction of a new water treatment facility required as part of wells #1 and #4 upgrades.

Meanwhile, the Davis Road property is approximately one acre in size and is accessed by a 20-foot wide driveway between two resi-

Please see page 13



Citizen of the Century

Resting in her comfortable room at Park Place Manor in Aurora, Ada Johnson - easily Aurora's Citizen of the Century - revisits the dozens of birthday cards she received last week to mark her 100th birthday. Ada has been an Aurora resident for 95 years, 79 of them in the same house on Connaught Avenue.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

95-year Aurora resident turns 100

By RON WALLACE

They didn't roll them up at night, but the sidewalks in front of Ada Johnson's first Aurora house were constructed of boards.

Arguably, Aurora's longest living citizen, Ada Johnson celebrated her 100th birthday last week.

She has lived here 95 years, 79 of them in the same house on Connaught Avenue.

"As far as I'm concerned, no one alive has lived in Aurora longer than Ada," said historian John McIntyre. "She holds the honour and she is very deserving of the honour."

Born on Pine Valley Road in the Township of Vaughan in 1903, Ada - she was Ada Kerr then -

moved with her family to Aurora when she was five years old.

The Kerr family had purchased three pieces of property in the small hamlet of Aurora, and today, you'd know them as the site of the Aurora Greenhouse, a Bell Canada building and Aurora Computer Technologies.

Aurora Computer Technologies operates from the original location of Aurora Cable TV, today known as Aurora Cable Internet.

Her house, Ada said, was about where the Bell building is, east side of Yonge Street, just north of Cousins, with board sidewalks in the front yard.

The family was literally out in the country, given the centre of town was considerably north of the Kerr homestead.

When the Kerrs sold the prop-

erties, they got \$600 for each lot.

In 1924, Ada moved to Connaught Avenue, and until recently, had lived on her own in the attractive two-story house.

An unfortunate fall inside the home prompted her to move to Park Place Manor where she now lives.

She recognizes her age.

"I have come from the horse and buggy age to the jet age," she said, marvelling at all the change in the past century.

It was a much different Aurora then, she said.

"Aurora was a very small town and was complete in itself," she said. "We looked after our own."

It was too far to the big city so people in Aurora simply had to take care of themselves, and each other.

"Saturday night was a big time in town. They'd come in from the farms and they would have a really good time."

Referring to her growing up years, Ada said she lived in the "golden age".

"I've always been cared for, and cared about," she said. "Everyone looked after you. Now it seems it's every person for himself."

When she was 16, Ada found work at Collis Leather, the tanning factory on Tyler Street. Collis is long gone, but the building is still there.

Four years later, she married Norman Johnson, a teacher at the high school on Wells Street.

She quit her job at Collis. Wives, she said, weren't sup-

Please see page 13

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COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

CONTINUING

Farmers' Market, Temperance Street parking lot, every Saturday through Thanksgiving weekend 8 a.m. until 12.30 p.m. Contact Nigel Kean at 905-841-6776.

Summer public skating at the Leisure Complex every Friday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. until August 29. Cost is \$2.

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

History camps at Hillary House for youngsters during the summer. Several week-long programs available. Call 905-727-8991 for details.

AUGUST 6

Children, ages six to nine, will make their own multi-coloured butterfly at the Aurora Public Library from 10 a.m. to noon. Fee is \$6 per child.

AUGUST 7

Seniors trip to Port Colbourne and the Theatre-In-The-Round to watch "Ivanka Chews the Fats". Trip includes a driving tour of the Port, lunch at the theatre and following the performance a stop at the Old Country Market. Cost is \$66 for members and \$71 for non-members. Call 905-727-2816 to register.

Art show and reception by Jim Watson and Judy Sherman at the Skylight Gallery, Aurora Town Hall, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Continuous showing until August 31.

AUGUST 11

Sixth annual "A Bowl 4 The Soul" continues at R & S Ceramic Creations, Mary Street. Paint a bowl then donate it to Sunnybrook. Proceeds to Breast Cancer Research. Next painting date: Thursday, Sept. 11.

AUGUST 16

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. the Abbotsford Animal Hospital on Yonge Street in Aurora will hold its 7th Annual Charity Dog Wash, rain or shine, with proceeds to the Southlake Regional Health Centre. Call 905-727-7379 for further information.

Aurora Children's and Youth Fair in the Town Park from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with child musicians, children's singer, youth bands, youth artists & elite athletes, dance contests, tug-of-war, writers' wall, art mural, games, prizes, and silent auction. Call Info Aurora (905) 727-8214.

AUGUST 22

Cardinal Carter Pioneer Class of 1993 Reunion. Pioneer students and faculty invited. For ticket information, call Joanna Jannetta 905-773-6717.

The Canadian Blood Services will hold the Mayor's Blood Donor Clinic at the Aurora Town Hall from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

AUGUST 23

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First "Lifeguards on the Beach" volleyball tournament will be held at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex beach courts. Teams of four may register. Support the Lifesaving Society's "Drowning Prevention Campaign". Registration forms at the Leisure Complex. Further information call 905-727-3123 ext. 523.

SEPTEMBER 6

Aurora Historical Society annual tour of homes from 6:30 until 9:30 p.m. Seven private homes, from the 1860s to the 1950s, will be on view. Tickets at \$15 per person are available until August 17, when the price goes up to \$20. All proceeds support Hillary House, Aurora's National Historic Site. Tickets may be purchased at Hillary House, 15372 Yonge Street, Wednesday through Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.. For more information, call (905) 727-8991.

SEPTEMBER 14

Aurora Terry Fox Run, Sheppard's Bush (Industrial Parkway South). Registration 8:30 a.m. Run starts at 10 a.m. Course suitable for walkers, runners, inline skaters, bikers, wheelchairs, skateboarders, etc.

SEPTEMBER 17

Aurora Seniors visit Stratford Festival to see "The

King and I", with lunch at the Walper Terrace Hotel. Cost is \$89 for members and \$94 for non-members. Call 905-727-2816 to register.

SEPTEMBER 21

Aurora Rotary Club hosts annual Rotary Foundation Walk. 9 a.m. - noon. Walk covers 2.5 kilometres and is centred from the Town Park.

OCTOBER 26

Girls Incorporated will hold their 24th annual Thrill on the Hill walk-a-thon fundraiser with a three kilometre hike and a five kilometre and 10 kilometre walk/run. Volunteers are needed to assist in organizing the event. Call 905-727-4897 for further information.

NOVEMBER 10

Municipal election day.

NOVEMBER 21

The Canadian Blood Services will hold the Mayor's Blood Donor Clinic in the Aurora Town Hall from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER 22

Aurora Santa Claus Parade.

- With files from Info Aurora



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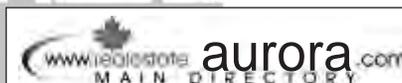
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AURORA



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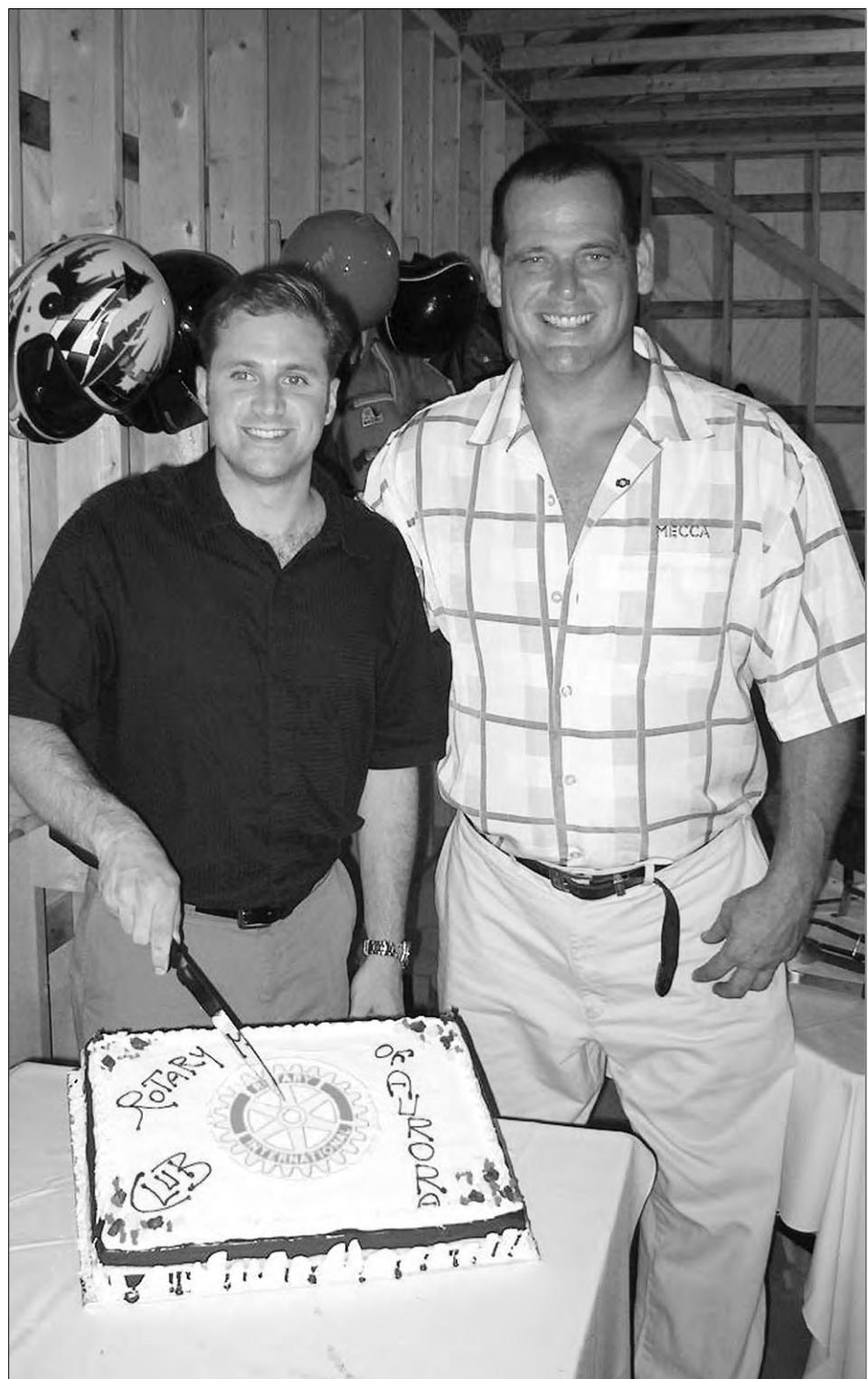
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New Prez

Incoming president of the Aurora Rotary Club Jeremy Martin, left, prepares to cut the cake as outgoing president Graham Catt looks on, during inauguration ceremony held Saturday night. Event was attended by most Aurora Rotarians and their guests at the home of Rotarian Dean Teasdale in King Township.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Paint a donation to worthy cause

It's an interesting way to raise money. The Sixth Annual "A Bowl 4 The Soul" campaign is currently underway. R & S Ceramic Creations, located at 75 Mary Street, in Aurora, is part of the project that raises funds for breast cancer research. Basically, the campaign is a ceramic painting party. People are invited to paint one or more ceramic bowls and then donate it (them) to the New Leaders of the Sunnybrook & Women's Foundation. They, in turn, will sell the artwork at the fundraising event, slated for October 23. Two painting evenings remain this summer. They are Monday, August 11, and Thursday, September 11. Other painting options are available. For further information, call R & S at 905-713-6887.

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Poor Richard

Silly season of summer is upon us

*The dog days of summer are here,
The political silly season has begun;
It's all tied in with election time,
And the battle has yet to be won!*

-Richard's Scrapbook

The dog days of summer were described by the ancient Greeks and Romans as the period between July 3 and August 11.

That's when Sirius, the Dog Star, rose with the Sun. The conjunction of the Dog Star and the Sun was held responsible for the dry, sultry weather of midsummer.

Today, the dog days of summer are sometimes applied to our politicians as the silly season.

That's when they say and do the silliest things, especially at election time.

Election talk in Ontario is on the upswing, although Premier Ernie Eves can't seem to be able to make up his mind when an election should be called.

There were a couple of false starts in June, but as the Tories were way behind the Liberals in the polls, he kept putting it off and just dug himself in deeper and deeper.

There are many unexploded time bombs waiting for him with the danger of hydro blackouts, auto insurance, education and health costs, lack of affordable housing, and the environment, to list a few.

He doesn't know which way to turn except to threaten the federal government he's going to take over income tax collection and immigration.

There's even talk he might delay the election until the spring of 2004, which could be confusing if Martin decides to call a federal election.

Even if Eves calls a September election, which is more likely, there could be some confusion with the municipal election to be held November 10, 2003.

He'd better call the election soon or the province will go broke trying to live up to all the spending promises he's making in an attempt to buy votes.

Besides that the 2003 budget was a farce as many of the revenue assumptions are on shaky ground.

Suspecting a Tory defeat at the polls, candidates are already preparing themselves for a leadership convention to take the reins of power over from Eves after the election.

At the federal level, the only way lame duck Prime Minister Jean Chretien is able to keep his Liberal members under control is the threat of calling a snap election, and there's no way they, or the country, want him around for another four years.

Leading Liberal leadership contender Paul Martin is already planning a federal election in the spring of 2004, although the leadership convention hasn't been held yet and there is another contender. But Sheila Copps is not considered to be a serious candidate.

While elections in the United States and Britain are still a few months away both President George Bush and Prime Minister Tony Blair are being questioned about the incorrect statements they made to support their decision to declare war on Iraq.

Both are running for cover and blaming everyone else for their mistakes.

The silly season hasn't set in yet at the local level as the election scene is quiet - almost too quiet.

The town is facing what might be termed a financial crisis, as far as property taxes are concerned.

There are taxes deferred from previous years that can't be deferred any longer, there's a commitment to build a seniors' centre and a multi-purpose recreational complex for which the land has already been purchased, plus a need to update the town's electronic equipment, plus regional increases.

So far, only incumbent Mayor Tim Jones has registered to run for the top position, with only a couple of incumbent councillors running for re-election, plus one outside challenger, a former councillor.

It may be that other challengers and even some incumbents have decided not to enter or re-enter the rat race of local politics with all its hassles, nit-picking and back-biting, and nobody could blame them, except somebody has to do it.

The election for school trustees is even worse since the province assumed control for funding, leaving local trustees to decide on school boundaries and school bussing, both contentious issues.

The silly season has arrived.



It would be news if we could find a photo of a choir without Illtyd Harris in it, but this isn't one of them. The intrepid musician is right there at the right of the fourth row, overseeing the Aurora Public School Choir. Precious few people who grew up in the 40s and 50s in Aurora escaped the music magic of Illtyd Harris. We know more people in the rear rows than in the front, so we'll start at the top. Row five, left to right, Marg Dennis, Jackie Morgan, Joanne Teasdale, Marilyn Allan, ?, Lorna Maxted, Pat Davis, Ray White, John Willis, Jack Brooks, Bob Copeland, ?, Ted McClenny. Row four, left to right, Nan Dennis, Jill Morning, Jeannie Brown, Marg Barrager, ?, Liz Hearn, ?, Murray Chapman, Bill Wray, David Waite, Herb McKenzie, Doug Rose. Row three, left to right, ?, ?, Marion Morris, Lorna Elmer, Carole Miller, Eric Liversidge, Ken McGee, Robert Higgins, Peter Hodgekinson, Alex Suleu, Tommy Duff, Paul Babcock. Row two, left to right, Dawna Case, Rosalie Hatfield, Nancy Stocks, Lorraine Fortier, Edith Baxted, ?, ?, Gloria Sherman, Robert McCann, Ross Patrick, Jim Beatty, Wayne Spence, Walter Southwood, Rosalie Rose, Joan Holder. Front row, left to right, ?, ?, ?, Mary Bell, ?, Ann Billings, Lorna Robinson, Marta Seidel, Liz Buccanan, Joan Copeland, Fran Hill. Is Jack Brooks, the kid in the back row, the same Jack Brooks who wrote the letter that appears on page 5?

Letters to the Editor

Nothing for kids in Aurora

To the editor,

Aurora, a town full of kids with nowhere to go, especially in the summer.

This town has nothing for us kids to do.

We try to entertain ourselves but we can't do that 365 days of the year.

Our neighbouring town, Newmarket is filled with things for kids to do: movies, laser runner, mall, a bowling alley that is open most of the time, a huge pool that has free swim everyday of the week at a

half decent time.

It's not fair that we have to rely on parents, friends' parents, and babysitters to get us to the surrounding towns to participate in these activities.

Though there is a bus service kids shouldn't have to pay three dollars to get to Newmarket and three dollars to get home.

Parents shouldn't have to drive 20 minutes to take their kids to the movies and then have to give them 20-30 dollars.

Aurora is supposed to be

one of the most wealthiest communities but why aren't there things for kids to do.

Aurora has so much land and they're using it to build houses. Why don't they use that land to build things for us kids to do.

They need to promote Aurora to future investors to open businesses related to the ones that Newmarket and Richmond Hill provide to these communities.

The taxpayers of Aurora paid for the renovations of the pool at the leisure complex but the children can

only use the pool for free swim from 3-3:45 in the afternoon during the week.

We do have a travelling skate park but it's always filled with teenagers who use foul language in front of the younger kids who are also using the equipment.

**Meaghan Rose
A kid from Aurora**

AURORAN

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Advertising policy

Publisher is not liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. Disputes must be brought to the attention of the publisher prior to the following edition.

MPP Klees opposed to federal same-sex ruling

To the editor,

I have received a number of inquiries regarding the recent Ontario Court of Appeal ruling in favour of same-sex marriages.

I want to clarify my personal position as well as the jurisdiction of the federal and provincial governments on this important issue.

Under the constitution, the federal government, and not the provincial government, can make laws about who may marry whom.

As such, the federal government was the main responding party in the Ontario case.

The federal government could have appealed this decision to the Supreme Court of Canada.

However, on June 17, 2003, the Prime Minister indicated that the federal government would not be appealing the Court of

Appeal decision.

Instead, it will be drafting new legislation with the intention of recognizing same-sex marriages in Canada.

The Government of Ontario is responsible for licensing and registering marriages between all persons who can legally marry.

The Ontario Court of Appeal ordered the municipalities to issue marriage licenses and the province to register the marriages of the same-sex couples effective immediately.

The Government of Ontario would be in violation of the Charter and in contempt of court if it did not follow this order.

For the record, I want you to know that I do not agree with the court's ruling on this issue, and am opposed to any changes to the definition of marriage as "the union of one man and one woman".

I have advised my cabinet and caucus colleagues that I am opposed to Ontario registering same-sex unions as "marriages".

I have called upon our government to apply a separate and distinct term to these registrations, such as "same-sex union" or a similar designation which does not compromise the historical, cultural and religious meaning of the institution of "marriage".

I will continue to do what I can to defend this position.

The federal government has the exclusive authority to legislate the definition of marriage.

I would recommend that anyone concerned about this issue contact their federal and provincial representatives to voice their concerns.

**Frank Klees, MPP
Oak Ridges**

Cathy's Corner



South is left, right?

Nobody ever tells me to get lost. I do it without having to be told and I'm very good at it. On our honeymoon, I got us lost on an island. Relying on my navigational skills, we circled the island at least four times. Finally, my husband asked to see the map. I had to dig it out of my purse. We had our first fight. I take after my mother, who will tear across three lanes of traffic to make a hard left while my father screams: "Right! I said RIGHT!" After 35 years of marriage, he still holds on for dear life with one hand, points with the other like he's having a seizure, and there is still room for confusion.

Imagine the danger in assuming I could handle north, south, east and west on my honeymoon! Hawaii has cliffs, for God's sake!

Not only do I struggle with right and left, I have even had trouble with right and wrong. I have gone the wrong way on a one way street because to me, it looked like the only way to not get lost. My husband says it's okay to get lost if the alternative is getting killed.

I don't need a car to get lost, but it helps. My car doesn't need me either. I can walk around (and I mean around) a shopping mall for hours, looking for it. (The car, not the mall, okay?).

People like me inspired the invention of keys that you can use to call your car. They're called panic buttons for a reason.

But, according to my friend Hildegard, my really big claim to fame is being the only Auroran to get lost in Aurora.

Like a good friend, Hildegard wanted to make sure I got full credit for my unique accomplishment, so she gave a detailed eyewitness account in front of an audience of my peers.

I tried downplaying the significance of the incident.

But Hildegard insists that it is very significant to mistake Lake Wilcox for Yonge Street.

I argued that it was dark and raining, so I didn't realize that I had crossed the town line.

And, since Aurora does not have a lake in the middle of it, there was no reason for me to worry about driving into one.

This is why I remained calm while she tried to claw her way out of the car.

I don't need a lake to disorient me. A few extra trees work pretty well.

Once, I parked at the Board of Education building on Wellington Street and set out on foot to find Machell Park. I told my son we were going to take a shortcut to the soccer field.

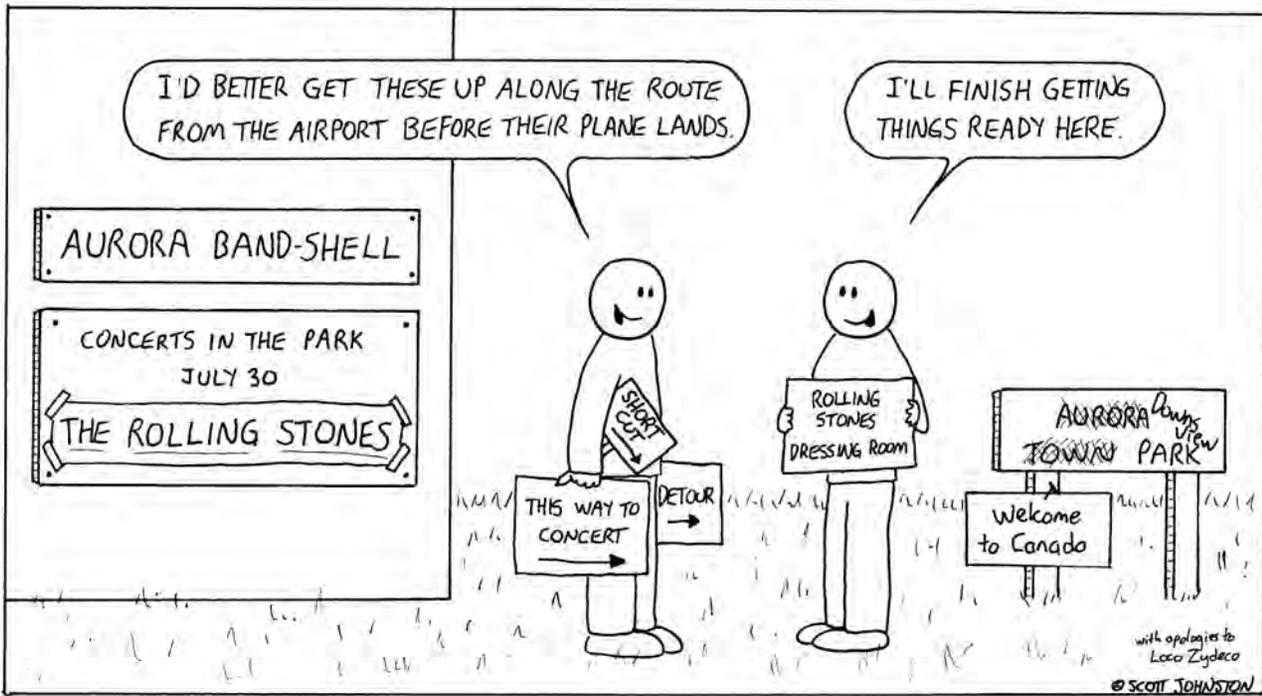
I had to cut my way through the forest using only my lawn chair for protection against mosquitoes the size of moose, poison ivy that can climb up your shorts, and a child who insisted on being carried after a mere 30-minute hike.

It is a pristine forest where all you need to explore the wilderness is a compass, a few flares and a survival kit that includes a machete.

For those of you who are wondering what forest I am talking about, it is located beyond the north end of the parking lot. Where nobody ever goes.

I like to think that I am a naturally adventurous person. And as such, I have earned a great deal of respect from my friends and family. Nobody ever tells me to get lost. They wouldn't dare.

Machell's Corners



Letters to the Editor

"Too good to be true" project is likely "too good to be true"

To the editor,

I joined the seniors' club three years ago, specifically the computer group. I went to about three meetings.

The room was small and overcrowded. An art class gathered on the same day. The parking lot was full.

The seniors were talking about their hopes for more space in the old library when the new building was complete. They were hoping to have exclusive use of the facility.

The computer group's concern was for a room exclusively for computers. I was all for that. I needed to learn.

Can't do it at home alone. I offered to join the negotiation committee. They never called so I figured I wasn't needed.

Eventually the town made a commitment. The seniors were to have 10,000 square feet of the old library. The budget had \$1.2 million for retrofit. Weeks went by and nothing happened.

Suddenly, I read that a proposal had been made for a five storey apartment building with a seniors facility on the ground floor.

How could that be, I thought. There was a commitment. The town doesn't build apartments. The library building was the town's centennial memorial. Who could have made such a proposal?

My friend Rebecca did some research and made a plea to save the old library.

That was the night John West and George Timpson suggested she didn't know what she was talking about, and also the night I felt compelled to tear a strip off the pair of them for not knowing what they were talking about.

Subsequently John, who had made the apartment proposal, decided it was not a good idea because there was not enough parking.

Then he tossed out a new idea for a new facility on a site of the town hall. He even had an estimated cost, \$2.8 million. Not to worry, he said, we can find the money.

Oddly enough, even before council had a chance to discuss it, let alone endorse it, the plan had been offered to the seniors.

Big building, ample parking, outside recreation space, money for furniture and equipment and best of all, exclusive use for the seniors.

How could they resist? The seniors were delighted; there were two speeches to council within weeks...they cheered the proponents and jeered the opponents. I do not know why some people think they have the right to do that...jeer someone who has a different perspective from their own. It must be something about being nameless and faceless in the midst of a crowd, and it is devastating to a councillor who is doing what he or she is elected to do...take a position on whatever issue is at hand and have the courage to express it...even in the face of people who don't want to hear it.

Councillors Wallace and MacEachern did that and I applaud them. Undoubtedly this proposal is more than the seniors ever dared to dream. That, in itself, signals caution to me. Now I get the feeling the seniors are no longer welcome on Victoria Street. This council is in the waning hours of its mandate. The promise of library space has already been broken. The work

should have started months ago and didn't.

The money to pay for the new building is not in hand. The cost cannot be estimated. We have experience with the design-build concept of constructing a building with a pre-fixed cost...both in the recreation complex and the town hall. The complex has had to have a complete new roof; the swimming pool fell through the bottom and had to be built again and it was a hybrid in the first place to accommodate the Newmarket Stingrays swimming club.

The town hall has had the forecourt of interlocking brick replaced just outside the warranty and Lord only knows what else has had to be done that we don't know about.

The money for the project is to come from cash in lieu of parkland to be collected on homes that are not yet built. It is said this development will lead to more seniors needing this service. I think not.

New homebuyers are young families, people with children. That they should have to pay 100% of the cost of this facility is grossly unjust.

Maybe this will be the

year new residents of Aurora will realize that \$30,000 of taxes is hidden in the price of their homes; that it is reflected in the assessed value of their homes for the purpose of property taxes; and that forever and a day they will pay be paying taxes on taxes.

And maybe from their ranks they can find someone they can trust to commit to principled government, or at least come out to vote. It is so much easier to keep a check on local government.

Like Councillors Wallace and MacEachern, I believe this too-good-to-be-true project is too-good-to-be-true.

I believe someone in town has his eye on the library square property. Someone sees a potential for development of the site.

And another thing, as a senior and the matriarch of several satellite branches of my substantial clan, I really hate being the object of cynical manipulation for the blatant and shameless political advantage of the carpetbaggers on council.

Evelyn Buck
Aurora

Question mark reveals himself

To the editor,

Re the photo of Mrs. Komar's 1948 Grade 4 class (Auroran, July 15).

A copy of your July 15 issue is on its way to Florida with my good friend Jim Beattie, one of the faces in that photo.

Jim and his wife, Bev, residents of Florida for the past 35 years, were here visiting last week and were thrilled to get a copy of the paper.

We had a lot of laughs reminiscing about friends and familiar faces in the picture.

The Auroran is to be commended for its series of nostalgic look-backs at the old town.

Thanks for the memories and keep up the good work.

As for the question mark in the first row?

That would be me.

Jack Brooks
King City

Bouquets & Brickbats

By Dick Illingworth

BOUQUETS and a Happy Birthday to Ada Johnson who celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends at the Aurora United Church July 19. The spry Ada now resides at Park Place Manor.

BOUQUETS to the management and staff of the Dominion Store on Henderson Drive for raising more than \$1,800 recently for the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

BRICKBATS to those who decided only one council meeting was necessary each month during July and August, without any general committee meetings. The July 15 meeting agenda included 36 items and only 14 were discussed, although the meeting lasted just over three hours. The business of the town carries on, why not council?

BOUQUETS to Ken White for his years of leadership as president of the Aurora branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. More **BOUQUETS** to Liz Frisk on her election as branch president.

BOUQUETS to Aurora's 16-year-old Mallory Seager on winning first place in the model and acting categories of a national competition recently. Before that she was named best female actress at her Aurora high school two years in a row.

BRICKBATS to members of council and potential candidates for the November 10 municipal election for not registering and giving the public a chance to know who's in the race. As of now, only Mayor Tim Jones, Councillors George Timpson and Nigel Kean and challenger Phyllis Morris have registered. Where are all the others?

BOUQUETS to former Aurora Councillor and Citizen of the Year Steve Hinder on receiving the Award of Excellence for Fighting Crime from the Ontario Crime Control commission. The award was presented at a recent Aurora council meeting.

More **BOUQUETS** to young Adam Ryeland who was recognized at the same council meeting for his quick action in calling medical assistance when he found a young man lying unconscious and half frozen in the snow in Aurora last March.

BRICKBATS to Premier Ernie Eves for having a personal staff of 54 including 15 special assistants at Queen's Park. This sets a new record breaking that set by Mike Harris, who had a staff of 43. It seems the larger the office, the less efficient they are. Would it have anything to do with the election?

BOUQUETS to the Aurora Novice Diggers for bringing home a Bronze Medal from a six-game baseball tournament held in Clarkson recently.

More **BOUQUETS** to Aurora's Alex Brown on winning two Gold Medals and runner-up for the high point award in the 12-13 Age Group at the Ontario Swimming Championships with more than 1,100 swimmers participating. He won the 50 and 100 metre freestyle events.

BRICKBATS to Princess Di's former lover and military officer James Hewitt for boasting about the affair on British TV and selling some of her letters to the media for millions of dollars. He's a disgrace to mankind, as true gentlemen don't tell.

BOUQUETS to Sue Berube of Cranberry Lane for arranging a charity event for the Heart and Stroke Foundation at her home last Friday with dinner and dance with live entertainment from 7 to 11:30 p.m. She had a noise exemption permit. It was for a very worthy cause.

Letters to the Editor



Old Newmarket fire hall

Town wants to demolish the "House of Harmony"

To the editor,

As a member of York Highlands Chorus, I must ask if Aurora would do what Newmarket is doing.

Newmarket Mayor Tom Taylor and his compatriots have planned to knock down the Old Fire Hall at the corner of Main and Millard.

The one that is home to the Sea Cadets, the Upper Canada Chordsmen, the Voices of Joy as well as the York Highlands Chorus and Young Women in Harmony.

This building is in use almost daily for rehearsals, seminars, workshops and

team meetings.

There are times when the Music Team will be meeting in the Board Room while the Upper Canada Chordsmen are singing in the Rehearsal Hall and a quartet will be in the basement.

It also houses the instruments for the Voices of Joy, stores hundreds of costumes and music for the choruses. A Trillium Grant last year paid for the supply and construction of a disabled washroom.

York Highlands was chartered as a Sweet Adeline International chorus more than 30 years ago in Aurora. It outgrew any facility to be

found in Aurora, so Newmarket offered the Fire Hall. The utilities are paid by all tenants and the building maintained by a property committee.

In 1995, a memorial garden was established to honour Susan White, a member lost to cancer. Ole Madsen did the initial design and subsequent plantings have been made to recognize the passing of Vivian Brown, Pat Scougall and Jane Earl; women well known for their contributions to the community at large as well as fostering the love of our musical art form.

It is with civic pride that the Chorus travels to Syracuse every year to sing in the Region 16 Competition. It's held in a theatre similar to the Hummingbird, with hundreds of smiling Sweet Adelines as an audience.

For every competing chorus the procedure is the same. The emcee announces: "May we have the doors closed please? Everyone take your seats. And now, our next contestant, number 23, from Newmarket, Ontario, YORK

HIGHLANDS CHORUS!!!"

And the audience loves it - York Highlands is known for their heart and their energy.

In all the years of competing, the Chorus has always been in the top ten and last year came home with the first medal. The new Director, Martha de Clerq, came from the North Metro Chorus, three-time International Champions.

July 9th the Chorus sang at Town Park in the new Wednesday night Concerts in the Park series and will be performing at the Rotary Walk September 21. Every year Christmas concert income is donated to the Aurora and Newmarket Food Banks.

The Chorus was invited to perform at Opening Night of the Newmarket Theatre and at the Benefit for Sept. 11. An organization worthy of respect and decent treatment.

Don't tear down the Home of Harmony.

Don't pave paradise; don't put up a parking lot.

Sheila Cording
Aurora

Loss of firehall blow to charity

To the editor,

I write in response to Dick Illingworth's "Bouquets" to the 'Upper Canada Chordsmen' cited in his excellent column 'Bouquets and Brickbats'.

Be it noted that this fine group of singers supports the entire speech therapy program at the University of Toronto through monies raised from its concerts!

Be it also noted that so deeply appreciative of the Chordsmen's charitable activities is the Newmarket Town Council that presently it is considering turning the Old Firehall into a parkette,

thereby depriving the Chordsmen and two other fine vocal groups of a rehearsal facility!

This means that the Chordsmen would face the necessity of finding an alternative rehearsal facility elsewhere probably at a steeper price.

Ultimately, the amount of money available for charitable work would be diminished. 'O tempora, O mores!' - will politicians never understand that spiritual needs are an important component of human happiness and well-being?

Frank Hawkins
(a proud Chordsman)
Aurora

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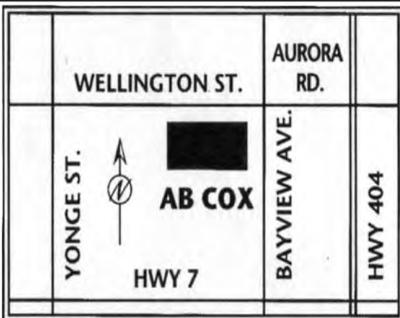
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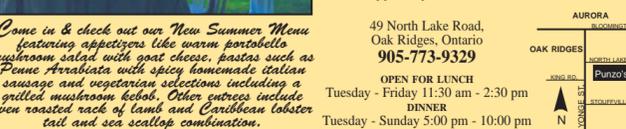
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Aurora Major Mosquito Jays

Team nearly achieves major baseball upset

The gutsy Aurora Jays Major Mosquito baseball team may have come up losers on the field, but they were winners in everyone's heart following a five-team tournament in Brampton recently.

The 10 and 11-year-old players pitted themselves against tough squads from Brampton, Mississauga and Thornhill, and went one for four throughout the event.

Their shining hour, however, came in the final game, as they clawed their way back from a 6-0 deficit to lose a heart-breaker 6-5.

This against the team that had pummelled the locals 20-7 earlier in the tournament.

The Brampton Braves, who did the damage, walked away with the opening game after scoring 12 runs in the first inning.

The Braves, along with the Brampton Royals and the Mississauga North Tigers, are three of the top Mosquito AAA teams in Ontario.

Thornhill is a rival from the eight team York Simcoe Baseball Association where Aurora, Berube, manged to blank with a record of 12 wins and six losses, is currently

battling for first place.

In game two, Aurora beat Thornhill 12-6 behind some great pitching from Charles Torma and Jake Boyle and some excellent defense by Kevin Winters, Tyler Clements, Matthew Miller, Josh Herrington and Ryan Berube.

Michael Delplavignano, Cory Jeffrey, Jake Boyle, Kevin Winters, Ernesto Spagnuolo, Matthew Miller, and Ryan Berube led the offence.

Aurora lost the last two round robin games to the tough Brampton Royals and Mississauga North Tigers, setting up a rematch against the Braves for the consolation final.

Still smarting from the 20-7 smacking the day before, the Jays found themselves down 6-0 before they could catch their breath.

While the Jays were hitting the ball hard, they could not find any holes in the stingy Braves defence.

Jake Boyle took over the pitching in the fourth and, helped by some great catches in the outfield by Josh Herrington and Ryan Berube, manged to blank the Braves the rest of the way.

Meanwhile, the Jays bats came alive and they scored their first run in the top of the sixth and then, led by a Kevin Winters three-run homer, narrowed the gap to 6-4 in the top of the seventh with one out.

The rally came up just short as the Jays stranded the tying run on third and lost the game 6-5.

Considering the scores in the round robin games no one on any of the other

teams could believe what had happened.

Following the tournament, the Jays won the next two regular season games beating Georgina 5-1 and coming from behind with a six-run seventh to edge Barrie 14-13.

As they gear up for Provincial playdowns, the Jays last regular season home game is Thursday, July 31, at 7 p.m. at Aurora Leisure Complex diamond 3.



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In a midget tournament

Aurora Diggers win silver medal

Like the previous weekend, the Aurora Diggers Bantam Tier 1 girls softball team placed second in the Newmarket Invitational Midget Tournament that took place in Aurora last weekend.

Diamonds were not available in Newmarket for the event, so it was switched to Aurora.

The tournament hosted teams - all midget-aged except Aurora - from all over the province and one from the United States.

Friday night, as the teams began the search for gold, Aurora battled Mississauga to a 2-2 draw.

The next morning the Diggers awoke to play St. Catharines and came up with an impressive 3-0 victory.

Another tie developed in Aurora's third game as they battled to a 3-3 draw with Orleans.

The girls still had gold on their minds that night when they beat Pickering 4-3.

In game five, on Sunday, it was important that the Diggers win their first game. They beat Brantford 9-0 to

secure at least a fourth place spot.

They then met Kemptville to decide whether they advanced to the gold/silver game or the bronze game.

Kemptville was off to a good start and was ahead of Aurora 4-2 in the last inning.

The scenario couldn't have been written any better.

Two out, bottom of the final inning, bases loaded, and Aurora belts out a triple, scoring three runs to secure a 5-4 victory.

That put the locals into the final, with gold still flashing at the end of the line.

But it was the one team from Michigan that ended it for Aurora.

Even though they outth their opponents 10-9, Aurora could not get by the bigger and older team from the states, and wound up on the wrong end of a 6-2 score.

The Aurora Diggers ended up with the silver medal in the tournament, no mean feat considering Aurora fielded a bantam team in a midget tournament.

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Aurora Minor Ball Results

SOFTBALL

5-Pitch (Mon/Wed)

July 21 - McAlpine 20 Aurora Canadian Tire 15

Mite

July 15 - all games rained out
July 17 - Bero's Tire & Auto (OR2) 10 Aurora Canadian Tire (A2) 9

Standings	GP	W	L	T	Points
Bero's Tire & Auto (OR2)	9	7	2	0	14
XNO3 Design (RH5)	9	5	1	3	13
York Paediatric (RH3)	10	6	4	0	12
Little Caesars (RH4)	8	5	2	1	11
Colt Creek Diving (A1)	9	5	4	0	10
Remington Medical (RH1)	10	4	5	1	9
Novex Pharma (RH2)	9	3	4	2	8
Toronto Star (OR1)	9	3	5	1	7
Greenham's Distinctive Clothier (A3)	8	1	6	1	3
Aurora Canadian Tire (A2)	9	0	8	1	1

Squirt

July 16 - Fabricland (RH1) 16 Nolan's Transmission (OR) 3
July 17 - LowePro (RH4) 19 Aurora Home Hardware 10

Standings	GP	W	L	T	TP
LowePro (RH4)	9	7	2	0	14
Al's Home Renovations (RH3)	8	6	2	0	12
Powell Plumbing (RH5)	10	6	4	0	12
Fabricland (RH1)	9	5	3	1	11
WWW.RHMBA.CA (RH6)	9	4	3	2	10
Richvale Lioness (RH2)	9	3	6	0	6
Aurora Home Hardware	9	1	7	1	3
Nolan' Transmission (OR)	7	1	6	0	2

Tri-Township Girl's Bantam

Standings	W	L	T	TP
Maple	9	0	0	18
East Gwillimbury	6	2	1	13
Aurora	1	7	1	3
Richmond Hill	1	8	0	2

Tri-Township Girls Midget

July 14 - Maple 8 McDonalds (A1) 0
July 16 - Caledon Minor10 McDonalds (A1) 9

Standings	W	L	T	TP
Caledon Major	7	3	1	15
Maple	7	3	1	15
Cheltenham	6	4	1	13
Caledon Minor	6	9	0	12
Aurora1 (McDonalds)	4	8	0	8
Aurora 2 (Mastercut)	3	6	1	7

BASEBALL

Rookie Ball
July 23 - 404 Dental Office (N5) 16 Aurora Jays (A2) 2
July 24 - Aurora Jays (A2) 1 Dave Wood Mazda (N3) 0 (forfeit)

Mosquito

July 23 - Knappett Jewellers (N5) 9 Aurora Cable Internet (A2) 6
Filebank (K2) 1 Dr. Orschel's Drillers (A1) 0 (forfeit)
July 24 - Kettle Chips (K1) 8 Aurora Cable Internet (A2) 4

Peewee

July 17 - Young Drivers of Canada (N6)12 Nature's Emporium (A2) 11
July 22 - Smith, William & Bateman (N3) 10 Nature's Emporium (A2) 5
July 24 - Aurora Jays (A1) 10 Strong Renovations (K1) 8

Bantam

July 24 - Phil's Motors (K1)15 Aurora Home Hardware 4

Midget/Juvenile/Junior

July 20 - Aurora Men's Slo-Pitch League 21 Exco Engineering (N1) 0

Twirlers shine at Nationals

Aurora's Spectrum North Baton Club competed at the National Baton Twirling Championships at Humber College in Etobicoke recently, and once again proved themselves to be one of Canada's top Baton Clubs.

The club was able to send a record ten teams to compete at the championships.

These teams earned the right to represent Aurora and Ontario at the Nationals by qualifying at the Ontario Baton Twirling

Championships held in May.

Of the ten competing teams, three groups, the Primary Small Dance Twirl Team, the Juvenile Small CBTF Twirl Team, and Senior Large CBTF Twirl Team earned Championship Gold Medals, and two groups, the Junior Large CBTF Twirl Team, and the Juvenile Small Dance Twirl Team earned Silver Medals.

Additionally, the club had a record number of individual

athletes compete at the championships.

Four Aurora athletes had these results:

MARIA LINDGREN, 17: 4th in Senior Solo, 6th in Senior Medley

JENNA MCLEOD, 17: 5th in Senior Solo

KRISTINE NICOLLE, 17: Silver Medal in Senior Medley

JORDAN MERON, 13: 4th in Junior Solo Dance, 7th in both Pair & Duet events, with partner Keara

Heyworth from Tottenham

The club's athletes are now taking a break from training until mid-September when things kick up for the 2003-2004 season, which will hopefully lead the club to Winnipeg, for the 2004 National Championships.

The club is entering its 12th season in Aurora, and is always looking for new members.

For more information, contact Jennifer Meron, 905-727-7586.

Vince exits with a bang

Vince de Civita, playing in his last game for the Aurora Barbarians under 16 team, led a punishing attack as the Barbs demolished Markham 42-0 last week in rugby action.

Vince, who is moving to Boston, made his last game one to remember as he thoroughly dominated the scrummages, scored two tries and led several

impressive mauls, one of which travelled more than 30 metres.

Aurora moved into first place in the East Division of the Ontario Rugby Union standings with two regular season contests remaining.

Matt Prevoe showed why he can't be given any room whatsoever in the opposition backfield as he scored

two of his three tries with some outstanding open field running.

Randy Schiller played a terrific game in the second row, scored a try, dominated the lineouts and teamed well with Vince and the other forwards to wear down a beleaguered Markham squad.

John Buchner had another strong game and scored two tries and Kyle Cresswell, who switched to fullback as Sandy Craig moved out to wing, added one conversion in difficult windy conditions.

James Holbert played well at scrum half in the first half and was ably replaced by Ben Ross in the second half.

Another first for Aurora's soccer group

More than 1,000 players, representing some 60 soccer teams took to various fields over the weekend for another Aurora first.

It was the first Aurora Can Am Challenge and it started Friday.

Six age groups ranging in age from 10 to 15, boys and girls, competed on the many fields throughout Aurora on Friday afternoon and all day Saturday.

"This is the first Rep tournament to be held by the Aurora Youth Soccer Club and we are hoping it will turn into an annual event," Chris Speller, vice-president of Competitive Soccer said. "It is also long overdue in Aurora. All our Rep teams travel and play in other club tournaments so it was a natural for us to have our own."

"We have taken a slightly different direction to the normal Saturday-Sunday weekend tournaments by playing preliminary games on the Friday afternoon."

"This was followed up with a tournament dance at the Aurora Legion on Friday

night and the elimination and final games played throughout Saturday," he said.

Soccer action took place at St. Andrews College, Craddock Park, Fleury Park, Machel Park and the Aurora Legion field.

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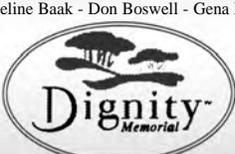
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Aurora track star now a Canadian champion

By **CHRISTINE WOODLEY**

Stephanie Smith is at it again.

The Auroran first wrote about this 13 year-old Aurora girl last September, after she competed successfully at the prestigious Hershey Meet in Pennsylvania.

Now, Stephanie has become a Canadian Champion.

Stephanie, who attends Highview Public School, won the women's 5,000-metre race at the

Canadian junior track and field championships in Saskatoon recently with a time of 17:16.28.

Along with her gold, she captured a silver medal at the same competition, placing second in the 3,000-metre race.

Just barely into her teenage years and small in stature, Stephanie is used to competing with older and bigger athletes, and this meet was no exception.

"She raced against mostly 19 year-olds. She's

competing two or three age groups up, which makes the results even more incredible," says her coach, Fred Robbins of the York Region Olympic Club.

Of course, the obvious question is where does Stephanie go from here?

Coach Robbins is optimistic and hopeful.

"I think she could continue to dominate at the senior level as she gets older. I hope she stays with the sport. Sometimes when kids

reach 15 or 16, it's tough to keep them in it, because there are a lot of other things going on in their lives. If Stephanie stays at it, she'll excel for sure."

For now, Stephanie has more meets, including a return to Hershey, Pennsylvania, where she'll represent all of Ontario and the eastern States.

Sounds like Aurora will be hearing more about this amazing athlete as time goes on.



Stephanie Smith



Aurora Youth Soccer Club Scores and Standings



HOUSE LEAGUE RESULTS

U8B M/W- JULY 21- Champagne- Kellogg's 0 vs **Gold-** F.R Custom Metal 3 (Connor Allen 2, Quinn McGowan 1);

U8B T/TH- JULY 17- Navy 5 (Alex Tzogas 3, Erik Kimmerer 1, Richard Menese 1) vs **Orange** 4 (Stephan Laze 3, Daniel Bundel 1); **Forest** 3 (Nicholas Tsalis 2, Garth McBride 1) vs **Silver** 2; **Purple** 2 (Keenan Hull 2) vs **Lime** 2 (Ryan Baskin 1, Matthew Roach 1);

U8G M/W- JUNE 8- Gold- Kellogg's 3 (Monica Churchill 2, Heather Tillsley 1) vs **Royal-** Kellogg's 3 (Arianna Kiroff 2); **Orange-** Kellogg's 3 (Alana Rogers 2, Holly Cathers 1) vs **Gold-** Kellogg's 2 (Christina Debney 1, Michele Ancrum 1);

JUNE 11- Gold- Kellogg's 2 (Laura Kizovski 1, Kara Waites 1) vs **Kelly-** Stinger's 0;

JUNE 18- STINGER CUP- Gold- Kellogg's 1 (Heather Tillsley 1) vs **Royal-** Kellogg's 1 (Hailey Black 1);

JUNE 25- Gold- Kellogg's 0 (Shut out for Elena Sheldrake & Heather Tillsley) vs **White-** Kellogg's 0;

JULY 2- Gold- Kellogg's 4 (Monica Churchill 3, Tessa-Marie Grossi 1) vs **Red-** Kellogg's 2 (Katrina Leiro 1, Kaitlin Kiraly 1);

JULY 9- Gold- Kellogg's 1 (Heather Tillsley 1) vs **Champagne-** Kellogg's 2 (Kayla Fleming 1, Alessandra Iaboni 1); **U8G T/TH- JULY 10- Sky-** State Farm Insurance Legrow Agency 4 (Adrianna Kiroff 2, Samantha Jones 1, Holly O'Hara 1) vs **Teal-** Mirconex Inc. 0; **Navy-** Italdoor 2 (Idanna Sortino 2) vs **Lime-** Kellogg's 0;

U9B T/THUR- JULY 17- Sky- Onyx Marketing 4 (Kevin Lubezic 3, Spencer Maxwell 1) vs **Sage-** Kellogg's 2 (Trevor Best 2); **Purple-** Kellogg's 3 (Brett Wilson 1, Vincent Duggan 1, Kyle Stewart 1) vs **Forest-** Honeywell 1 (Michael Rodrigues 1); **Silver-** Kellogg's 4 (Jake Langford 1, Nick Heintzman 1, Matthew Hartog 1, Adam Phipps 1) vs **Teal-** Dr. Weeden 1 (Christopher Oducayen 1); **Ginger-** Kellogg's 5 (Anthony Carleton 1, Nick Theodoropolous 2, Jonathan Knowles 2) vs **Lime-** Kellogg's 2 (Jonathan White 1, Stephen Cantarutti 1);

U9G M/W- Gold- Auto Camping 2 (Rachel Knetsch 1, Gaynor

Mclraith 1) vs **Champagne-** Kellogg's 2 (Kaitlyn Balkovec 1, Laura Janzen 1); **Red-** Kellogg's 3 (Samantha McCormick 2, Sierra Lerner 1) vs **Kelly-** Kellogg's 1 (Caleigh Kyle 1); **Royal-** Kellogg's 4 (Maddy Appleby 3, Stephanie Byron 1) vs **Orange-** H.S Financial Services Inc. 0;

JULY 16- Royal- Kellogg's 3 (Rhea Boettcher 2, Maddy Appleby 1) vs **Red-** Kellogg's 2 (Sierra Lerner 1, Madison Chefero 1); **Champagne-** Kellogg's 2 (Samantha Duncan 1, Alexandria Kastenis 1) vs **Orange-** H.S Financial Services Inc. 1 (Emily Gibillini 1); **Kelly-** Kellogg's 0 vs **Gold-** Auto Camping 4;

U9G T/TH- JULY 22- Forest- Kellogg's 1 (Sarah Klein 1) vs **Teal-** Kellogg's 0; **Navy-** Kellogg's 6 (Eileen Giles 1, Stephanie Bilotta 3, Sarah Auciello 1, Sierra Thomson 1) vs **Lime-** Kellogg's 0; **White-** K.P Bronze 2 (Taylor Wooder 1, Kennedy Campbell 1) vs **Sky-** Kellogg's 2 (Rachel Funston-Clarke 1, Zoe McGhie 1);

U10B-JULY 21- Kelly- C.P.C Healthcare 2 (Julien Robertson 2) vs **Champagne-** B.E.C Technologies 0; **White** 3 (Dylan Kovacs 2, Rhys Gander 1) vs **Gold** 1 (Luca Scalise 1); **Navy** 6 (Cameron Annear 3, Chris Waller 1, Adrien St.Cyr 2) vs **Royal** 0; **Red-** Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre 2 (Michael Vance 2) vs **Orange** 0;

JULY 14- Navy 7 (Perryman 1, Annear 2, Werden 1, Dinning 3, Olsen 1, Waller 3, St.Cyr 1) vs **Orange** 2 (Peters 1, Miller 1); **Champagne-** B.E.C Technologies 3 (Dennis Casey 1, Adam Scott 1, Cody Weese 1) vs **White** 1 (James Harkin 1); **Kelly-** C.P.C Healthcare 7 (Daniel Montgomery 3, Eric Abel 3, Joseph Lombardi 1, Andrew Durant 1, Dakota Hendy 1) vs **Red-** Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre 1 (Michael Vance 1); **Gold** 4 (Michael Takahashi 1, Tylor O'Brien 1, Matthew Schmitt 1, Luca Scalise 1) vs **Royal** 1 (Gregory Lacroix 1);

U10B STANDINGS	TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
	Kelly	7	0	1	22
	White	5	1	2	17
	Champagne	5	2	1	16
	Navy	4	3	1	13
	Gold	3	3	2	11
	Red	2	6	0	6
	Royal	1	6	1	4
	Orange	1	7	0	3

U10G- JULY 17- White 2 (Mallory Greene 1, Maryanne Spasopoulos 1) vs **Red-** Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre 0; **Navy-** B.M.P.S 2 (Emily Jerome, Claire Layton 1) vs **Champagne** 0;

U10 G STANDINGS	TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
	Royal	5	0	2	17
	Kelly	4	0	2	14
	Orange	4	2	0	12
	Navy	1	1	3	5
	Red	1	2	2	5
	White	1	3	1	4
	Gold	0	4	3	3
	Champagne	0	3	2	2

U11G- JULY 16- Gold- Dr. Weaver's Drillers 1 (Stephanie Ellis 1) vs **Royal-** Smith, Sykes & Leeper Chartered Accountants 0; **Red-** Aegis Engineering 1 (Stephanie Dilena 1) vs **Kelly-** Hunter Lavigne Communications Inc. 1 (Hayley Benedict 1); **Navy-** Dial Tone Communications 2 (Laura McMurray 1, Stephanie Losier 1) vs **Orange-** Sundance Signs 0; **Champagne-** Summer's & Smith Cooling & Heating 3 (Jossana Greco 1, Stephanie Juffs 1, Kathleen Mounce 1) vs **Sky** 2 (Caitlyn Smyth 2);

JULY 23- Kelly- Hunter Lavigne Communications Inc. 1 (Meaghan Todd 1) vs **Champagne-** Summer's & Smith Cooling & Heating 1 (Brittany Angotti 1); **Navy-** Dial Tone Communications 2 (Hayley Wilson 1, Jacqueline Pachis 1) vs **Royal-** Smith, Sykes & Leeper Chartered Accountants 1 (Kristie McDowell 1); **Red-** Aegis Engineering 2 (Stephanie Dilena 2) vs **Orange-** Sundance Signs 0; **Gold-** Dr. Weaver's Drillers 4 (Sylvia Tenuta 1, Sandra Logrotta 3) vs **Sky** 0;

U11G STANDINGS	TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
	Gold	5	0	3	18
	Red	3	1	4	13
	Sky	3	2	3	12
	Champagne	3	2	3	12
	Royal	3	4	1	10
	Kelly	2	2	4	10
	Navy	2	4	2	8
	Orange	0	6	2	2

U12B- JULY 21- Gold- B.M.P.S 7 (Doneto DiPietro, Chris Meiro, Nizzam Rehman, Jordan Fantin) vs **White-** Aurora Shopping Centre 1 (Ramon Moodley 1); **Champagne-** Magna

International 7 (Omar Abdel-Quader, Brendon Stenzel, Brett Dutchyshen, Adrian Dirosa, Connor Spring, C.J Melicherck) vs **Kelly** 1 (Taylor Buxton 1); **Red** 3 (Geoffrey Knack 1, Michael Grande 1, Michael Morson 1) vs **Orange** 2 (Anthony Leutfnegger 1, Curtis Hough 1);

U12B Standings	TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
	Gold	5	2	0	15
	Red	4	1	2	14
	Orange	4	2	1	13
	Royal	2	1	3	9
	White	2	5	0	6
	Champagne	1	4	2	5
	Kelly	1	4	2	5

U13B- JULY 15- White- Pizza Pizza 3 (Sam Caldwell 1, James Mester 1, Stephen Donches 1) vs **Gold-** Pizza Pizza 2 (Jeremy Kascisko 1, Robert Lee 1); **Navy-** Pizza Pizza 3 (Darrin Giroux 1, Daniel Curci 1, Michael Granger 1) vs **Red-** Pizza Pizza 2 (Kevin Mockford 2); **Royal-** Pizza Pizza 3 (Kai Boettcher 1, Derick White 1, Daniel Kular 1) vs **Kelly-** Pizza Pizza 2 (Patrick McMurray 1, Stephen Longhin 1);

JULY 23- Kelly- Pizza Pizza 6 (Stephano Longhin 2, Anton Zibarev 1, Marcel Simone 1, Evan Hayes 1, Patrick McMurray 1) vs **White-** Pizza Pizza 3 (Steven Donches 1, Alex Strapp 2); **Navy-** Pizza Pizza 1 (Daniel Curci 1) vs **Gold-** Pizza Pizza 0; **Orange-** Pizza Pizza 3 (Christopher Finlay 3) vs **Red-** Pizza Pizza 1 (Claudio Zanconato 1);

U13B STANDINGS	TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
	Royal	5	1	0	15
	Red	4	1	1	13
	Kelly	3	2	1	10
	White	2	2	2	8
	Orange	2	3	1	7
	Navy	1	4	1	4
	Gold	0	4	2	2

U13G- JULY 17- Sky 7 (Beth Hagarty, Alison McCarthy 2, Kristina Sukhraj, Shauna McConnell, Samantha Aird) vs **Red-** Oak Ridges Home Hardware 0; **Orange** 3 (Hailey Boonstra 1, Jennifer Puskar 1, Leah Smith 1) vs **Royal-** Dr. Orschel's Drillers 0; **Champagne** 5 (Skyler McCann 3, Caprie Betz 1, Lauren Hulbert 1) vs **Navy** 2 (Christina Stephan 2); **Kelly** 4 (Leigh Kern 2, Carly Carrigan 1, Natalie Luck 1) vs **Gold** 3

(Lauren Burrill 1, Kelly Levac 1, Louise Facca 1);

U13G STANDINGS	TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
	Gold	6	1	1	19
	Champagne	5	1	2	17
	Kelly	4	2	2	14
	Navy	3	3	2	11
	Orange	2	2	4	10
	Sky	3	4	1	10
	Royal	2	5	1	7
	Red	0	7	1	1

U14G- JULY 22- STINGER CUP- Red- Sean Herbinson Remax York 3 (Meaghan Annear 2, Monica Barbieri 1) vs **White-** Hartwell Thayer Financial Services 2; **Champagne-** Pizza Pizza 3 (Whitney Dale 2, Marisa Coggin 1) vs **Kelly** 1 (Kristen Brown 1); **Royal-** Alutron Modules Inc. 4 (Michelle Iwai 1, Anne-Marie Stacey 1, Suzanne Perdeaux 1, Rachel Abbott 1) vs **Navy** 3 (Sarah Pennacchio 2, Valeri Defarieri 1); **U19G- JULY 16- Teal** 1 (Brenna Sanderson 1) vs **Forest** 0; **Lime** 2 (Amy Cubitt 1, Angela Peck 1, Shut out by Elisa Gray) vs **Sky-** Laurion & Assoc. 0; **Red-** Pizza Pizza 2 (Devon Kavelaar 1, Carrie Underwood 1) vs **Royal-** Pizza Pizza 2 (Julia Holt 2); **Navy-** Quality Integrators Corp. 1 vs **Silver-** Aurora Shopping Centre 0;

U19G STANDINGS	TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
	Teal	6	0	1	19
	Lime	6	1	0	18
	Forest	4	3	0	12
	Sky	3	3	1	10
	Red	2	3	2	8
	Royal	1	0	3	6
	Silver	0	4	3	3
	Navy	1	6	0	3

COMPETITIVE STINGERS
U12 GIRLS- JULY 22- Aurora Stingers 2 vs Newmarket #2 0. Aurora goals were scored by Chelsea Maidment and Alana Smith. Shut out by Lauren Ebenhardt.
U15 GIRLS PREMIERE- JULY 17- Aurora Stingers 3 vs Newmarket 0. Danielle King, Lisa D'Aguzzo and Megan Smith scored for the Stingers. Shut out earned by Taylor Joseph. Thanks to call-up Cassandre Van Bakel for solid contribution to the game.

Old phone system lacks new features

"Number, please?" It may not be quite that bad, but the telephone switchboard in use at the Town Hall is more than 20 years old.

Other than repairs, the last modification to the PBX was in 1991, when a digital component was added.

The equipment is reaching the end of its useful life and replacement parts are not readily available, Aurora Council heard last week.

In addition, many features and services that would enhance customer service are not available due to the old technology.

Council endorsed a report from Treasurer Allan Evelyn that the town retain a consultant to assist in the development of a formal Request For Proposal document.

The town will also carry out the analysis of submissions and recommendation relating to the design, delivery and implementation of a new telecommunications

system, with a report to council in September.

CSS lease deferred

The lease for the Church Street School between the town and the Aurora Historical Society failed to get approval at the July council meeting because councillors want a closer look at it.

The report was introduced late in the meeting and Councillor Ron Wallace made a strong effort to have it approved so the society could plan a celebration for the re-opening of the historic school.

However, most members objected, claiming they hadn't had time to read the proposed lease and it was deferred until the August meeting.

Planning for the celebration could continue, council agreed.

Water tower site

From page 1

dences. It could be the site of a Habitat for Humanity project, Mayor Jones told the Auroran.

Council authorized staff to

begin the process necessary to swap the lands.

Town staff will report on the potential uses for the water tower site, and the mayor hopes Habitat for Humanity is near the top of the list.



Sporting her brand new Aurora Seniors Centre shirt, volunteer Barbara Stoecklin, puts the sales pitch on five-year-old Madison Defazio, who lives on the Bloomington Road, during the annual senior citizens garage sale Saturday morning. Event was held at the seniors' centre on Victoria Street.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Town may acquire its own defibrillator

Last October York Region Health Services gave a brief presentation and demonstration to Aurora Council on the importance of an Automatic External Defibrillation (AED) program and the benefits of incorporating defibrillation units in public facilities.

AED allows rescuers to provide victims suffering from cardiac arrest with advanced life support immediately, increasing the chances for survival.

AED units are easy and simple to use and are designed for public access and use, the presenters said.

Costs to be incurred as a

result of implementing this program requires the purchase of the AED unit, which start at \$6,000, accompanying equipment and software at an additional cost of approximately \$3,000, and training costs and manuals at approximately \$2,500.

Councillor Ron Wallace

asked where such a unit would be located if approval to purchase was given.

Director of Leisure Services Allan Downey replied the first unit would be placed in the Seniors Centre and subsequent units would be located in the Family Leisure Complex and the Community Centre.

Council endorsed the AED program and asked staff to submit a more comprehensive report as well as the actual cost to implement such a program, including lease options.

Ada Johnson turns 100



From page 1

posed to work. "Well, it was the time of the depression, and the thinking was that if a woman had a job, she was preventing a man from getting it," she said.

Ada has one son, David, who lives in Toronto. A second son, Ted, died a couple of years ago.

She has eight grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Last week, dozens of people showed up for a Saturday afternoon party in her honour, which one participant described as "the best party I've ever attended".

It would be difficult to guess the guest of honor has been around for 10 decades.

She is sharp as a tack and maintains a youthful look and attitude.

One hundred years later, Ada looks at her life quizzically.

"I have lived through two world wars and a depression," she said. "And now, a nurse tells me when to go to bed."

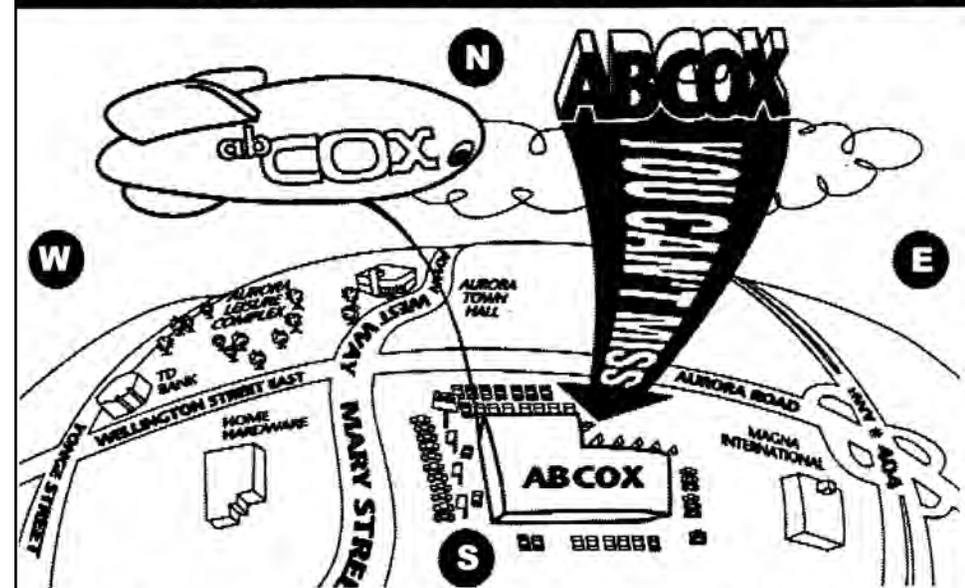
Happy Birthday, Ada.

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Aurora almost had its own radio station

It was in December, 1973, when Al Bestall of Bestall Limited told Aurora Council he was applying to the Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) for a licence to operate a radio station out of the Aurora/Newmarket area to serve York Region.

He said the 10,000-watt station operating at 1480 on the AM dial would plan programming according to the wishes of the public and would be a station that identified with the community.

Bestall added that the station would set up committees of citizens to provide local input.

Owners of the station would be Bestall, Newmarket Regional Councillor Ray Twinney, auditor Dean Dunlop, consultant E. P. Towndrow, newsman Michael O'Meara and Toronto lawyer Allan Price.

Bestall, former manager of Toronto radio station CHIN, said he had spoken to mayors of the area municipalities and all favoured the proposal.

Aurora Mayor Evelyn Buck said she supported the proposed station and was interested in becoming involved with the local committee.

Later in the year former Richmond Hill broadcaster Ken Foss with partners Stephen Roman, owner of Denison Mines, and Roman Corporation, owned by Markham Mayor Tony Roman, announced they hoped to establish a radio station to serve York Region.

Foss was on contract at the time to CFGM, for Greater Metro, located in Richmond Hill since 1957, but it served Toronto rather than York Region and very little regional news was carried in its newscasts.

Foss appeared before Aurora Council in February, 1974, to seek the municipality's support for his application to the CRTC. Council agreed to support any application to establish a community station in the region.

At the CRTC hearing held in February, 1975, two bids were submitted and only one frequency was available. A month later the CRTC rejected both applications on the basis that neither had demonstrated the need for an additional radio station in the area.

In November, 1976, an

application for a radio station in the area was submitted to the CRTC by a group of Aurora and Newmarket businessmen headed by Newmarket auto dealer Brad Walker, along with Barrie broadcaster Ralph Snelgrove.

Also included in the group were Newmarket Mayor Bob Forhan, Bradford Mayor Joe Magani, Newmarket Regional Councillor Ray Twinney, William Cheyne of Aurora, and Buck Rogers and Peter and Al Fleishaker of Newmarket.

In May, 1977, Aurora Council supported the application for the station with the proposed call letters of CKAN for Aurora and Newmarket to the CRTC.

A hearing was held in November and two objections were filed, one from CHAY-FM, a new Barrie station covering York Region and the other from Ken Foss, who had been denied an earlier licence.

Aurora Mayor George Timpson accompanied the group to the Ottawa hearing in support of the application. He pointed out that CHAY-FM did not adequately serve York Region and pointed out that neither he nor Newmarket Bob Forhan had ever been asked to comment on activities in their communities.

In February, 1978, the CRTC delayed its decision to allow the Foss group to re-apply.

In April, Foss asked Aurora Council to reconfirm its support but on a 4-3 vote, council decided to support the Walker proposal. The CRTC hearing was held June 12, 1978.

In August, word was received from the CRTC that the licence had been granted to the Newmarket group for a 10,000-watt station at 1480 on the A.M. dial with call letters CKAN.

It was planned to have studios in Newmarket

1973

and a transmitter site in Oak Ridges just south of Aurora and to be on the air by the end of the year.

In January, 1979, CKAN representatives appeared before Richmond Hill planning committee to seek approval to erect six transmission towers on a 10-acre site located southeast of the Yonge Street/Bloomington Road intersection in Oak Ridges.

In June, the Ontario Municipal Board gave its approval for a land severance to permit the 160-foot transmission towers directing a signal northeast and northwest of the transmission site to serve Aurora, Newmarket, Bradford and adjacent township areas.

In August, CKAN management considered five possible studio locations, two in Newmarket and three in Aurora, and decided the studio would be located at the east end of the Newmarket Plaza.

On February 28, 1980, at 6 a.m. CKAN went on the air with Ron Knight as station manager and Roy Green as news director.

Knight announced the station programming would be middle-of-the-road music, community features, local news and sports.

Barely four hours after CKAN went on the air, listeners were met with dead air as a power failure in Richmond Hill caused the transmission towers to shut down for more than an hour.

The number of phone calls to the station gave some indication of the listening audience.

Even Ron Wallace, current editor of the Auroran, at that time writing for a Richmond Hill paper, devoted a column to the station's

problems, quoting Murphy's law that anything than can go wrong, will go wrong.

It wasn't always easy for the little station. In January, 1981, just before the station's first year on the air, a water pipe exploded in the vacant office above the studio and the station was flooded forcing it to go off the air for periods during mopping up operations.

It went off the air again, for the third time in August, 1981, when the Oak Ridges transmitter broke down and it was 40 hours later when broadcasting was resumed.

In April, 1983, Ted Randall took over as general manager of the station. He was also president of North Country Broadcasting Company, which had an agreement to purchase CKAN.

Following the change in ownership, the station changed its format and the call sign to C-KAN Country and its ratings increased.

In September, 1986, C. A. (Chuck) Connors, former sales manager, became president and general manager of the station.

In May, 1987, it was announced that Magna International had purchased a 45 per cent interest in the radio station and Metro North

News, also owned by Connors.

More changes took place in May, 1989, when Peter Emmerson, well known weather personality on Global TV, purchased the station and promised to make it more community-oriented than in the past and to play the classic hits of the past four decades that people wanted to hear.

By 1991 the economic slowdown had an impact on the station and Emmerson was looking for local businessmen to help refinance the station.

However it went into receivership in November, 1991, following a sale of the station in May to Frank Rogers, which failed when Rogers did not meet the payment schedule.

When Emmerson heard that the courts could close the station he launched a successful legal challenge to regain control. He was returned to the station

as majority owner with two partners.

But the financial problems continued and on December 14, 1992, in an attempt to revive the station Emmerson changed the call letters to CKDX as The Phoenix at 88.1 on the FM dial.

In March, 1996 Emmerson and Rogers pleaded guilty to 48 charges involving non-payment of wages, vacation pay and severance pay to former employees. They were each ordered to pay \$5,000 to the federal labour board over the next three years.

Over the years the station has continued to broadcast under various changes of ownership, management and format and the studios are no longer located in Newmarket. The voice of Aurora and Newmarket was no longer.

Today, you will find the local station at 88.5 on the FM dial, known as Foxy.

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RUMOURS & RUMBLINGS

Try this story for a coincidence

It was back in December, 1971, when four persons were injured in an accident on Bayview Avenue, south of the St. John's Sidroad.

It involved a tow truck and two cars owned by two York Regional councillors.

Following a Thursday afternoon regional council meeting then Aurora Mayor Dick Illingworth was returning to Aurora to attend a committee meeting.

When driving over a little hill in the road, Illingworth was blinded by oncoming headlights and hit the brakes resulting in a skid into a ditch on the west side of the icy road.

While Dick was at the committee meeting, his daughter, Suzanne and a dinner guest accompanied the tow truck driver to the scene.

As the tow truck was preparing to pull the vehicle out of the ditch, a southbound car driven by Markham Regional Councillor Jim Jongeneel came over the hill, hit the ice patch and slammed into the tow truck.

All four persons were taken to York County Hospital for treatment. No charges were laid.

That's when regional council meetings were exciting!

A FESTIVAL OF UNITY

In October, 1985, the members of the Baha'i faith in Aurora kicked off their Festival of Unity with a reception at the Aurora Highlands Golf and Country Club.

Aurora Council proclaimed the week of October 18 to 25 as Unity Week

The proclamation pointed out the week aimed at directing attention to the indivisibility of human well-being, and to stimulate religion and its potential as a dynamic force to move mankind toward universal peace and unity.

Many activities took place during the week including the planting of a tree in the Town Park as a symbol of growth and maturity.

IT DIDN'T GET AWAY

It was on July 13, 1985 (not Friday the 13th) when Al Haley of Aurora almost became a world record holder. That was the day he battled a monster from the depths of Georgian Bay.

With the assistance of his fishing partner, Andy Dube, and after more than an hour, he landed a 37- pound lake trout on a six-pound line.

Not knowing the strength of the line, they chased the fish with the boat until it was reeled in. It was eight ounces short of a world record.

MEMORIES OF THE WAR YEARS

Theatre Aurora's Music Hall to wind up the 1994 the-

atrical season brought back many memories for World War II veterans. The production was "Canteen Door" and it was directed by Cy Buck.

It had a definite wartime flavour featuring many of the popular songs of the war years.

As an added treat, Theatre Aurora members researched and brought back food dishes popular during wartime, including spam.

WHEN ONTARIO HAD POLICE VILLAGES

The term "Police Village" in municipal government is unheard of today but back in the early and mid-1990s there were several in Ontario and in York County.

The inhabitants remained a part of the township, but had a board of three elected trustees with certain limited powers.

In July, 1965, Municipal Affairs Minister Wilf Spooner introduced legislation to stop the formation of new police villages and to permit them to dissolve and become part of the ward system of the township.

The legislation was greeted with suspicion by the residents of several police villages, which were originally formed to provide urban services, which rural taxpayers neither wanted nor were willing to pay for. It became the old urban/rural conflict.

In the end, the police villages were dissolved as they were incorporated into the township and a piece of Ontario's history disappeared.

WHEN CARS WERE LEFT UNLOCKED

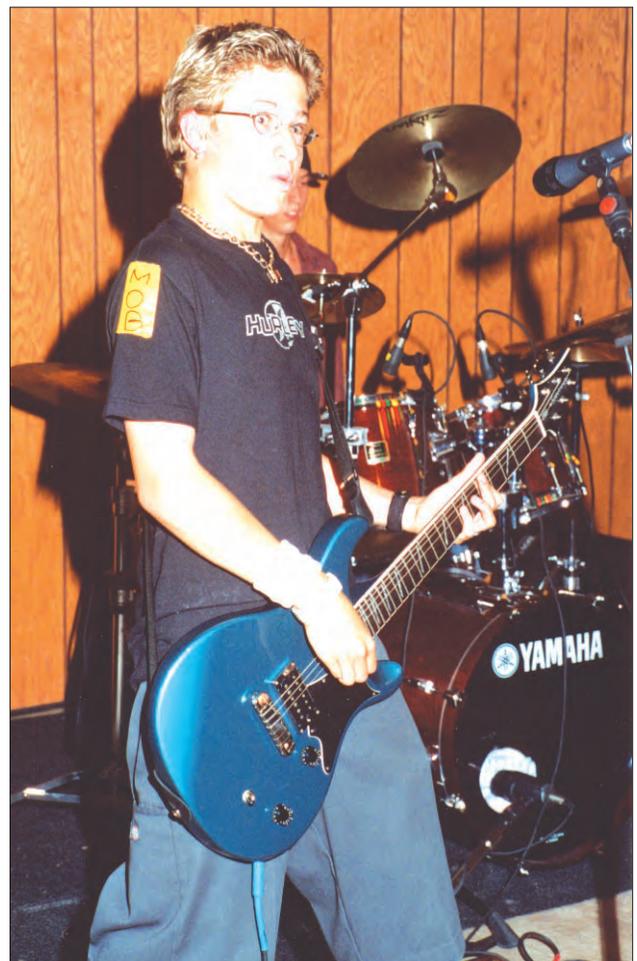
It's hard to believe now, but once upon a time few Aurorans locked their homes or their cars.

In January, 1981, the Canada Jaycees and the Insurance Bureau of Canada got together in a campaign to encourage motorists to lock their cars and take their keys with them.

In 1979, juveniles accounted for 39 per cent of those arrested for auto thefts in Canada, and of the more than 89,000 cars stolen that year, total losses amounted to \$100 million. Insurance rates were high then, too!

The figures didn't tell the number of youngsters killed or injured flying around the town in a stolen car. It was pointed out that motorists who leave keys in a car are inviting someone else to use it.

It was even suggested that local Jaycees encourage municipalities to adopt bylaws making it illegal to leave an unoccupied car running or unlocked.



Members of the band "Mail Order Bride" entertain youngsters last week at the Aurora Community Centre auditorium. More than 150 people turned up for the event that featured entertainment by three bands.

Auroran photo by David Falconer



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After three years of rehearsing in borrowed spaces, graciously loaned to us by generous businesses and citizens of Aurora, Marquee Theatrical Productions (a registered not-for-profit company) is proud and delighted to announce the forthcoming opening of its own rehearsal studios at 73 Industrial Parkway North, Unit #1, in Aurora. From this new production facility, we will continue to offer the acclaimed theatrical shows that audiences at the Newmarket Theatre and the Vaughan City Playhouse have come to know us for, these past three years.

Call 905-713-1040 and sign up to audition for one of the following adult cast productions:



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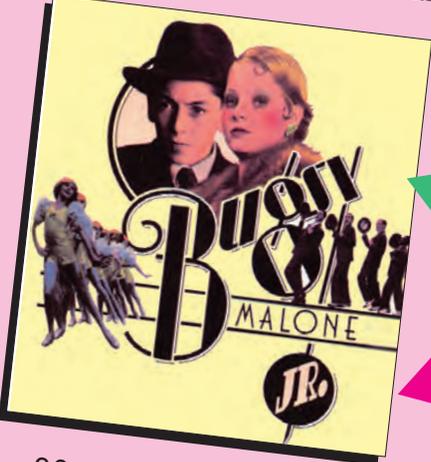
"Forever Plaid"
Auditions Sept 21 & 24th
Show in Jan. '04,
2 week run

"Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"
auditions October 5, 7 & 9
(Equity director/choreographer)
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running for 2 weeks

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73 Industrial Parkway North-Unit #1, Aurora
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30 two-hour classes
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For registration information call:
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