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# THE AURORAN

*Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper*

Vol. 8 No. 44 905-727-3300 [auroran.com](http://auroran.com) FREE Week of September 9, 2008

**Briefly**

**Fundraiser**

Aurora's own Randy Skelcher will be among the entertainers as Pauly and the Greaseballs present a breast cancer fundraiser in Newmarket October 11.

Skelcher is expected to do his Elvis Presley and Rob Orbison impersonations.

The event will be held at the Roman Palace, 1096 Ringwell Drive, and tickets are \$30 each.

Included in the event will be music from the 50s, 60s, and 70s, a 50-50 draw, snacks and door prizes.

All proceeds will go to the regional cancer program at Southlake District Health Centre.

Want to know more about Pauly? Visit the website at [www.paulyandthegreaseballs.com](http://www.paulyandthegreaseballs.com).

Call 905-836-7584 for further information.

**Difference this week**

Because of some colour problems this week, we have been forced to move a couple of pages.

If you're used to seeing Bouquets and Brickbats on Page 6 (and who isn't?), this week, you'll find the column on Page 12.

It should be back in its normal position next week.



**Preparing another rack of ribs at Aurora's third annual Ribfest last weekend is Dean Caldwell of Uncle Sam's BBQ from Albuquerque, New Mexico. Uncle Sam's was one of five "ribbers" to show up at the event, which attracted thousands of people. Saturday night, three of the five outfits had sold out of ribs, and the Aurora Rotary Club, using the bar service as a fundraiser, had sold almost all its beer. Ribfest continued all day Sunday, despite drizzly weather.**

*Auroran photo by David Falconer*

## To the polls

Voters will return to the polls - this time for a federal election - in October.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper said Sunday that a general election would be held Tuesday, October 14.

He made the announcement outside Rideau Hall after meeting briefly with Governor General Michaëlle Jean.

It was an anti-climatic announcement, since it was common knowledge since last week that an election would be called.

Two major candidates in the Newmarket-Aurora riding have been seen everywhere for

**Please see page 11**

## Klees puts it bluntly: he's staying in riding

Frank Klees has no intention of giving up his Newmarket-Aurora riding seat...to anyone.

Responding to a story in a daily newspaper earlier this week, Mr. Klees, speaking from Naples, Florida, told The Auroran "it must have been a slow news day."

The story suggested Mr. Klees would step aside so he could give Progressive Conservative leader John Tory a riding in which to call his own.

Currently, Tory, who has never been elected, leads the party but has no place to hang his hat.

The story went on to say Mr. Klees would then seek a position in federal politics.

"The reporter said she tried to contact me," he said, "but we were driving in a mountainous area and the call didn't get through."

A Canadian Press story earlier this year said Tory has spent the time since the October, 2007, vote travelling Ontario and rebuilding the party.

While he didn't reveal his plans, he says he's been talking with caucus members to find someone willing to give up a seat so he can run in a by-election before the end of 2008.

While Mr. Tory says he's actively seeking a riding to run in, at least one political scientist believes there is no real rush for

the PC leader to get a seat since the next Ontario election isn't until October, 2011, the story said.

At the time, former leadership candidate Mr. Klees said he finds his time on the opposition benches "frustrating," but said he won't resign so Tory can run in his riding.

"I've heard some suggestions that my riding may be in play, but let me dispel any of that misinformation," Klees said. "My intention is to certainly serve out my term, and I would hope that I would be part of the next administration in government."

Mr. Klees told The Auroran he has his constituents to think about, and plans to serve them first.



FRANK KLEES

## FOI request reveals Aurora's legal costs

At an Aurora Council meeting in 2006, then-Councillor Phyllis Morris asked that staff bring back a clear and thorough report breaking down as to how often, for what reason and at what cost, the town had been using outside legal counsel over the past 12 months.

The town solicitor provided a verbal report that about \$13,000 had been spent to date that year

and at the same rate would be approximately \$60,000 for the year and the approved budget was \$185,000 for 2006.

Councillor Morris requested a written report and council approved her request.

Town solicitor Shelley Pohjola, who is no longer with the Town of Aurora, presented a report at a subsequent meeting as requested.

She noted that in December, 2004, council approved a roster of legal firms to provide external legal services for a three-year term to be used as required in the law areas of litigation, planning and development, environmental, general municipal and labour/employment.

During the period May 1, 2005, to April 30, 2006, the total fees

**Please see page 11**

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COMING EVENTS

**CONTINUING**  
Hot Spot has moved back to its original home, the Aurora Community Centre, Fridays at 7:30 p.m. It is closed Sept. 19th.

\*\*\*\*  
During the month of September the Skylight Gallery in the Town Hall will feature the artwork of Mary Lou Leitch. Viewing hours are from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

\*\*\*\*  
Free Adult Bereavement Support Group starts again Thursday, Sept. 11, at 33 Mosley Street, from 7 to 9 p.m. Fred Bullen has given the use of Aurora Lions Club and Brent Forrester of Thompson Funneral Home will provide the administrative cost so this seven-week group is free to the community. Contact 416-200-5665 or mariesgriefjourney@yahoo.com to reserve.

\*\*\*\*  
Aurora Opera Company Children's Chorus (AOCCC) is a new treble voice choir dedicated to educating, nurturing and providing opportunities for children to express their musical abilities. It offers professional opportunities to sing with beauty, artistry, and joy. The AOCCC is open to boys and girls in Grades 1 through 12, and is made up of two choirs: Angel Choristers (a training choir for 6 and 7 year olds) and Aurora Opera Company Children's Chorus (open to 8-17 year olds), To audition, contact general director Sarah Kyle at keepsinging@look.ca.

\*\*\*\*  
CHATS-Community Home Assistance to Seniors is looking for volunteers to assist with activities in its Adult Day Program. Positions call for a commitment of a few hours a week at the Aurora location. Various times are available. Call Christine at 905-713-3494.

\*\*\*\*  
Every Tuesday from 9.30 a.m. to 11 a.m. it's Story and Playtime at Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South. Call 905-841-8883 for further details.

\*\*\*\*  
Every Second Friday, students in Grade 5 to 8 can gather at Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information call 905-841-8883 or email jonathanturtle@gmail.com.

\*\*\*\*  
A drop-in centre operates every Wednesday at the Community Bible Church on Bathurst Street just south of Henderson from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. It's open to all parents, grandparents and caregivers. For more information e-mail Judy Hoffmann at jhoffmann@sympatico.ca.

\*\*\*\*  
Scottish Country Dancing every Friday morning at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church beginning at 10.30 a.m.

\*\*\*\*  
Aurora Rotary Club meets every Monday evening at 6.30 p.m. at Gabriel's on Yonge Street.

New members are welcome. For further information call 905-841-1352.

\*\*\*\*  
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.

\*\*\*\*  
Masonic 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. and lunch at noon. Call 905-727-3032 or 905-727-1080.

\*\*\*\*  
Gamblers Anonymous meets every Tuesday night at Trinity Anglican Church, Victoria Street at 7:30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*  
Progressive Euchre every Thursday night at the Aurora Legion at 7:30 p.m. Call 905-727-9932.

\*\*\*\*  
Canadian Federation of University Women holds monthly meetings at the Aurora Legion with a variety of speakers. There is also a selection of interest groups. Contact Beverley at 905-727-2151.

\*\*\*\*  
The Aurora Seniors Evergreen Choir practice in the West-McKenzie Hall of the Seniors' Centre, every Wednesday from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. under the direction of Enid Maize. For more information, call 905-841-9706.

\*\*\*\*  
Tots (age 0-4 years) bring your caregivers for coffee or tea while you enjoy story and playtime every Tuesday from 9.30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South. Call 905-841-8883 for further information.

\*\*\*\*  
Meet at Martha's Table, now in its fourth season. Every Thursday from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., you will find comfort food and a sense of community in the hall at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Aurora. A lunch of hot soup, sandwiches, and dessert will be provided. Any funds raised are directed to local community charities.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10**  
Aurora's Probus Club resumes meetings after the summer break at 10 a.m. at the Aurora Legion, Industrial Parkway North.

\*\*\*\*  
Ontario Power Authority presents an information session from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Town Hall to inform residents about new electricity solutions for Northern York Region.

\*\*\*\*  
Aurora Seniors present A Celebration of Culture from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. featuring food of the world at the centre. For further information call Angie at 905-

727-3123, ext. 3611.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**  
Town of Aurora Mayors Blood Donor Clinic, 1 Municipal Dr., from 11.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**  
Magna Wild West Hoedown celebrates its 21st anniversary at the Magna property on Wellington Street East. This year the Hoedown will assist 15 local agencies. For more information call the Hoedown Hotline at 1-800-872-5803.

\*\*\*\*  
The Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society will hold its annual Flower Show at the Aurora Public Library and it's open to the public from noon until 4 p.m.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14**  
The Aurora/Newmarket Superwalk for Parkinson's Disease takes place at Fairy Lake in Newmarket with registration, a Yoga demonstration and speeches starting at 9.30 a.m. with the walk beginning at 10.30 a.m. For more information call Kim Rouse-Parypa at 905-713-0774 or Paula Hambrook at 905-895-4217.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**  
Monthly meeting of the Aurora Writers Group at 7.30 p.m. in the Leksand Room at the Aurora municipal building. New members, aged 18 and older welcome. For further information call Malcolm at 905-898-5484.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**  
Aurora council meets as general committee at 7 p.m. in the council chambers of the Town Hall.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**  
Guest speaker Ivan Harris, Curator for the CBC's Broadcast Museum, returns to the Aurora Historical Society at 8 p.m. at Hillary House. He will speak about the changing technology up to early 1900s, the different uses for light bulbs and lead discussions on

the spectrum showing the infrared lamp to the ultra-violet.

\*\*\*\*  
The Rare Book Roadshow returns to the Aurora Library with a free information session with antiquarian book expert John Ford. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk at 905-727-9493, option 4. Meet in the Magna Room from 7 to 9 p.m. Free on-the-spot book appraisals for the first 10 registrants.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**  
Amnesty International meets at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria St., Aurora, AT 7.30 p.m. Discussion and letter writing about human rights cases. New members welcome. For information, call 905-713-6713.

\*\*\*\*  
Aurora Public Library in partnership with community agencies presents a free workshop for parents/caregivers of toddlers. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk or by calling 905-727-9493, option 4. To be held in the Magna Room from 7 to 9 p.m.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**  
Opening night for Theatre Aurora's production of "Jennie's Story" at the Factory Theatre, continuing on September 20, 25-28 and October 1-4. Call 905-727-3669 for ticket information.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20**  
Start of an eight-week Art Therapy Program at King/Aurora Hospice, 155 King Road, in Oak Ridges. Call 905-773-0155 or www.hospicekingaurora.ca for further information.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**  
Gently used clothing and equipment sale sponsored by Newmarket Parents of Multiple Births Association at Our Lady of Grace Childcare Centre, now located at 185 Industrial Parkway North from 11

Please see page 15



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## Poor Richard

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

# Local connection to Great Escape

*Memory is a wonderful asset,  
As little items it will recall;  
While planning a special event,  
The Toronto POW's had a ball.*  
- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

A recent news item from London, England, about the death of Eric Dowling at age 92 brought back many memories for Poor Richard.

Dowling was nicknamed Digger for helping excavate tunnels used in the breakout from a World War II German prison camp that became known as the Great Escape.

He played a key role in planning the 1944 escape by 76 prisoners from Stalag Luft III in eastern Germany.

He forged documents, made maps and helped dig three tunnels code-named Tom, Dick and Harry.

The breakout was one of the most celebrated incidents of the war and inspired the 1963 movie The Great Escape starring Steve McQueen, James Garner and Richard Attenborough.

Over almost a year prisoners surreptitiously dug the tunnels nine metres underground shored up with bed-boards and wired with stolen electrical wire.

Tom was discovered by guards and Dick was abandoned so that the 100-metre Harry could be completed under the fence to the woods.

Dowling was not among the more than 200 prisoners selected by lot to make the escape attempt. Unfortunately, Harry was a few metres too short to reach the woods and by the time the German guards discovered the breakout, only 76 men had crawled free.

All but three of the escapees were recaptured and 50 of them were shot on the orders of Adolf Hitler to deter future escape events.

Dowling's family members said he was not a fan of the movie as he claimed it was too American and while parts of it were realistic, the scene in which Steve McQueen attempts to race to freedom on a stolen motorcycle was over the top.

Many of the film's characters were composites of real prisoners and the one most closely resembling Dowling was The Forger played by Donald Pleasance.

There was a very active Prisoner of War Association in Toronto after the war and somehow they arranged with United Artists to have the world premiere of the movie "The Great Escape" at the Odeon Carleton in Toronto as a fundraiser.

Long before opening night they established a committee and as a member of the RCAF Auxiliary I was invited to become a member of the committee to assist in any way I could.

I was successful in arranging an Air Force Parade for opening night with both 400 and 411 Squadron personnel on parade and both bands in attendance and acquired Lieutenant Governor Ross McDonald as guest of honour.

As a promotion a few weeks before opening night, the committee arranged for a barbed wire enclosure in the theatre lobby to simulate a POW camp.

It was a very successful evening.

After the event I was invited to become an Honorary POW and attended a few of their meetings and while I was made very welcome, I soon realized that I had not experienced what they had and I didn't really belong.

One of the committee members was Walter Floody, the real tunnel king of The Great Escape and technical advisor to the movie as he had worked in the mines in northern Ontario.

He was shot down in October, 1941, and spent time in several prisoner of war camps before ending up in Stalag Luft III. Because of his knowledge of tunneling, the suspicious Germans transferred him to another POW camp two weeks prior to The Great Escape.

He had an Aurora connection as his son Richard was manager of the Irish Rovers Unicorn Pub in St. Andrew's Village which later became Pals and is now Shoeless Joe's.

Wally was a regular visitor to the pub and I miss the opportunity to reminisce about the old days.



Today it is Bacon Basketware, but a long time ago, this was the site where Aurora was made famous. The incredible Fleury Plow (you can still see one at Fleury Park next to the Aurora Community Centre) was manufactured here in the building, located on Wellington Street, just west of Yonge Street, that has undergone numerous changes over the years. Of particular note is the disappearance of the 100-year-old chimney that is visible in the top photo. It was removed a couple of years ago.

*Lower photo by David Falconer; top picture from a postcard*

## Letter to the Editor

# Reader appreciates graffiti committee

To the editor,

While not normally a 'letter to the editor' type of person, with the upcoming Graffiti Clean Up Day scheduled for September 25th, I feel the need to write a letter of thanks.

From August, 2007, through March, 2008, I was a citizen volunteer (representing the Aurora Chamber of Commerce) on the Graffiti Abatement Ad Hoc Committee.

It was a pleasure to work with this committee.

It was a pleasure because the committee chair, Councillor Alison Collins-Mrakas ran effective meetings.

She ensured all had their say, that momentum was maintained and that things got done.

She was also passionate with respect to the eradication of graffiti in our town.

It was a pleasure because town staff members, Chris Alexander and Heather Green, who were part of the committee, worked 'all out' to help research, connect with various other relevant organizations, and to prepare and present the committees recommendations to town

council.

Their professionalism and ongoing commitment were wonderful.

It was a pleasure because the wide variety of citizen members meshed well and were all committed to trying to come up with concrete solutions to the challenge of graffiti in our fair community.

It was a pleasure because of the support of the York Regional Police.

Constables Shawn Mulligan and Suzanne Secteau helped to educate the committee members as to the true nature of graffiti and what is being done in various communities to prevent it.

These individuals also worked tirelessly to make the Graffiti Clean Up Day a reality.

What is perhaps most pleasing to myself, a citizen volunteer, is that I see follow through on one of our recommendations, the Graffiti Clean Up Day.

I understand that this is a joint initiative between the York Regional Police and The Town of Aurora.

So, Thank you to Alison Collins-Mrakas, Chris Alexander, Heather Green, Shawn Mulligan, Suzanne Secteau and all the other

committee members for all because of you. of your hard work.

Our town will be a nicer place in which to live

Sean Herbinson  
Aurora

## THE AURORAN

### "Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper"

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## Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

## The upcoming campaign

In an earlier column I raised a couple of questions about the previous provincial election campaign.

Suppose that the Conservatives had not raised the faith-based education funding issue. What would the campaign been about in Newmarket-Aurora last fall?

What were the issues that you folks told the pollsters were important to you? Are there any lessons to be learned for the local campaign teams as they prepare for a fall federal election?

Based upon local polling prior to the last provincial election, three particular issues stood out.

These included:

- 1 - Increasing the number of family doctors: Roughly three in four residents felt this was an important issue for the Newmarket-Aurora area.
- 2 - Improving wait times for medical services: Again, three in four residents felt this was an important local issue.
- 3 - Protecting green spaces from development: This issue was given high ratings by seven in ten residents.

However, because of the faith-based issue, none of the issues received a fair hearing.

Don't get me wrong. The Conservatives were the worthy authors of their own defeat.

But it is a pity that a vigorous debate was not held on the above nor on a number of other important issues such as the security of energy supply in this province or the impact of the rising dollar on our manufacturing base and what can be done

to stem the job losses.

Are there any lessons to be learned for the local campaign teams as they prepare for a fall federal election?

Obviously, as a volunteer for one of the respective parties in the upcoming campaign, I am not about to give away the little that I do know. You don't expect someone on the Leafs giving the Habs any inside information, do you?

But a couple of general things come to mind.

The first is that the actual campaigns are important; it doesn't matter where you sit in the polls once the writ is dropped but it is where you sit come election day that counts.

Our local polling showed that, early in the campaign last year, 42 per cent of respondents felt John Tory was the best person to be premier, 28 per cent for Mr. McGuinty, while Mr. Hampton trailed with 13 per cent.

PC candidate Frank Klees led the local Liberal candidate Christina Bisanz at the time of interviewing by a solid margin.

Mr. Klees also led Ms. Bisanz in total awareness by a wide margin and had a strong positive net favourability rating.

But things can, and often do, change during the election period.

No one was really engaged during the first week of the campaign, which began after labour day. I saw this from going door to door. A number of you were just beginning to realize that the writ had been dropped, but you weren't very familiar with the candidates.

From my small sample size of houses in Aurora, and from

evidence supplied by canvassers in other parts of the riding, there was also no particular issue that had taken hold.

But by the second week, the faith-based phenomenon was starting to become an issue in the media and also in many of your minds. By the end of the campaign, there was no other issue.

Second, having a good team and getting your identified vote to the polls is important, especially in a tight race.

Although the PCs won by 1,347 votes, a turn around of one-half of them, or 674 people - roughly one household per street in the riding - would have made for a different outcome.

So, all the work done by the volunteers in the door to door canvass and in putting up signs is important.

What will this upcoming campaign be about?

Obviously, the issue of leadership is always important during provincial or federal campaigns. Specific issues will most certainly include the economy, health care, Afghanistan and the environment.

Political canvassers are part and parcel of the wonderful democratic process that provides you the voter with a choice. It is that simple. And they deserve - irrespective of party affiliation - your respect and courtesy.

So be ready to greet your canvasser with a smile, a big hello and two, but only two, policy related questions.

Stephen can be contacted at:  
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



## Inside Aurora

By Scott Johnston

## The big dig

My wife and I recently took part in an archaeological dig in Aurora.

Actually, we were just planting a tree in our yard, but there were many similarities.

First, as in the search for buried artefacts, there were the logistics of finding the right spot.

Pretty basic, right?

Just find a place where you want a bit of shade, or to hide some unsightly view, like the transformer box at the end of your driveway, or the last tree you tried to plant.

Not quite.

Your lawn may look quiet enough on the surface, but underneath it's a busy place.

Phone lines, TV cables, hydro lines, water lines, sewer pipes, gas lines, weeping tiles...I'm surprised there's room for worms down there.

And many of these services are lurking just below the surface, so they're easy to find when you least want to find them.

And severing any of those could put a dent in your plans, your pocketbook, or your relationship with your neighbours. Especially if Grey's Anatomy gets cut off by an errant shovel.

Fortunately, if you call the service companies, they'll come out and mark the location of their lines for you.

So, several calls later, the yard was criss-crossed with spray painted gridlines, and brightly coloured flags denoting the location of buried services.

I'm sure the neighbours thought we were building a six-

story addition to the house, or at least setting up a miniature golf course.

Somehow, we found a spot that was relatively clear of warning symbols, and that we were reasonably sure was line-free.

Now we could start digging.

Okay, here's where we need to pause for a slight refresh on how a house is built.

Those Aurorans who have non-heritage homes know that all of their topsoil was removed before construction.

The reason for this: well, who wants a lot of dirt in their yard?

Especially when you can conveniently buy it back later a bag at a time from the local garden centre.

So once the house is finished, the developers do a cursory site clean-up, and then just flatten down the remaining construction debris, and roll the sod right over it.

Then they sell the property quickly before the grass turns yellow.

So as we started to dig, the first sod-filled shovelful or two went pretty well. Then the buried treasure revealed itself: pop cans, metal strapping, broken bricks, roofing tiles, concrete, nails, chunks of insulation...

Howard Carter found less when he excavated King Tut's tomb.

Eventually, we made it through this time capsule of our house's construction, and hit the next layer; clay.

Lots of clay.

And in case you didn't know, when clay is dry, it's rock hard.

It's amazing that anything can grow in it, and how water can permeate its way down through it into the Oak Ridges Moraine, is beyond me.

Eventually, after much digging, and a few bent shovels, we figured the hole was big enough, and we put the tree in.

Of course, you can't cover a new plant's roots with a combination of clay and construction debris, and expect it to survive.

So we bought a few bags of what I'm sure was our original topsoil from the garden centre, and shovelled it in.

Then, to give our new tree a drink, we spent 15 minutes lugging buckets of water from the house, because perish the thought we use the same amount of water by turning on the hose for two minutes during a water ban.

While we have solved the problem of finding a spot for our new tree, we are now faced with another challenge; what to do with all the leftover construction debris.

I suppose it does paint a picture of development in Aurora in the late 20th century, so maybe we can donate it for one of the historical displays at the new Church Street School Cultural Centre.

Feel free to e-mail Scott at:  
machellscorners@gmail.com

Editor's note:  
Features normally found on page six  
may be found  
this week only on page 12.



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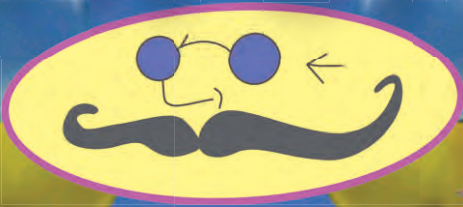
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Letters to the Editor

I'll never be anonymous in my letters: Kean

To the editor,

Wow, what courage it takes to write a letter and sign it "Anonymous".

This professional person who "is not the type of person who would ever write to the editor and make a comment" as she states but does only to sign Anonymous.

Her comments are made to belittle my letters and my caring as to what happens in Aurora.

She must really know Aurora to state "I do not know

who this person is and I vaguely recall seeing his name in the community".

I do not profess to being a well-known person in town, however, anyone who cared or knew the slightest about Aurora politics would know about the past two councils that I served on and the fact that I started the Farmers Market six years ago.

What rock does this person live under?

Where has this professional person been? Does she really

Kean cheerful

To the editor,

In last week's edition of The Auroran you printed a letter from "Anonymous" who professed to not know who Nigel Kean is but was quick to attach a number of very negative attributes to him and to imply that he is not the type of person this town needs.

I beg to differ.

The Nigel Kean that I have known for over 10 years is a passionate believer in his community who has done much to make this town that you, Ms Anonymous, like the rest of us, believe is a great place in which to live.

He is a two-term councillor and twice a candidate for the office of the mayor.

He has served on numerous committees in the town always with the view of enhancing the quality of life in Aurora.

His vision and drive created

the highly successful Farmers' Market, and he devoted all of his Saturday mornings to it until it became self-sustaining.

A constant participant in the fundraising of numerous charities, you will find him bowling for Big Brothers, riding the bike for the Heart and Stroke Foundation, organizing a golf tournament for the Aurora Historical Society, or serving beer as a volunteer at most community events.

He is a cheerful, family man with a ready smile and many friends.

He has strong opinions and is not afraid to voice them, and hence his letters to the editor.

Oh yes, one more thing, he has the courage to sign all of his letters and would not think of trashing someone's good name in anonymity.

Damir Vrancic  
Aurora

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know or understand Aurora?

Does she really care about what is currently happening in Aurora? Does she even know the current mayor or councilors' names?

I would say no to all of the above questions.

I, too, am a professional working parent, and together with my wife are raising two kids in Aurora where they were born.

This point has nothing to do with my letters but I thought that Mrs. Anonymous might like to know that.

Her insults about the "Peanut gallery" and the comments about Channing Pollock's description about a legless man trying to teach running really describes herself.

You see, I have tried through being on council and serving on committees to help improve the community. What has Anonymous done?

I have worked towards helping the town, as I am sure all those who ran and served on council, including the current council also have done.

I wish more people would

write The Auroran with comments that they are proud to put their name to as I have in the past and will continue to do so.

Anonymous had to google to know that I did run for mayor. I am sure that she did not vote otherwise she might have known that point.

This is one of the reasons that I do write to The Auroran.

My opinion is only one opinion but at least I have one.

Perhaps in the future Anonymous might take more interest in Aurora. More people need to get involved in the happenings in Aurora.

I do not mind criticism from anyone, as when you are on council you learn that not everyone likes what you do, so you do have to be thick-skinned.

To me criticism is a form of flattery and if I learn from it then I will be a better person.

Oh by the way I will never sign Anonymous as I am proud of my input to the paper.

Nigel Kean  
Aurora

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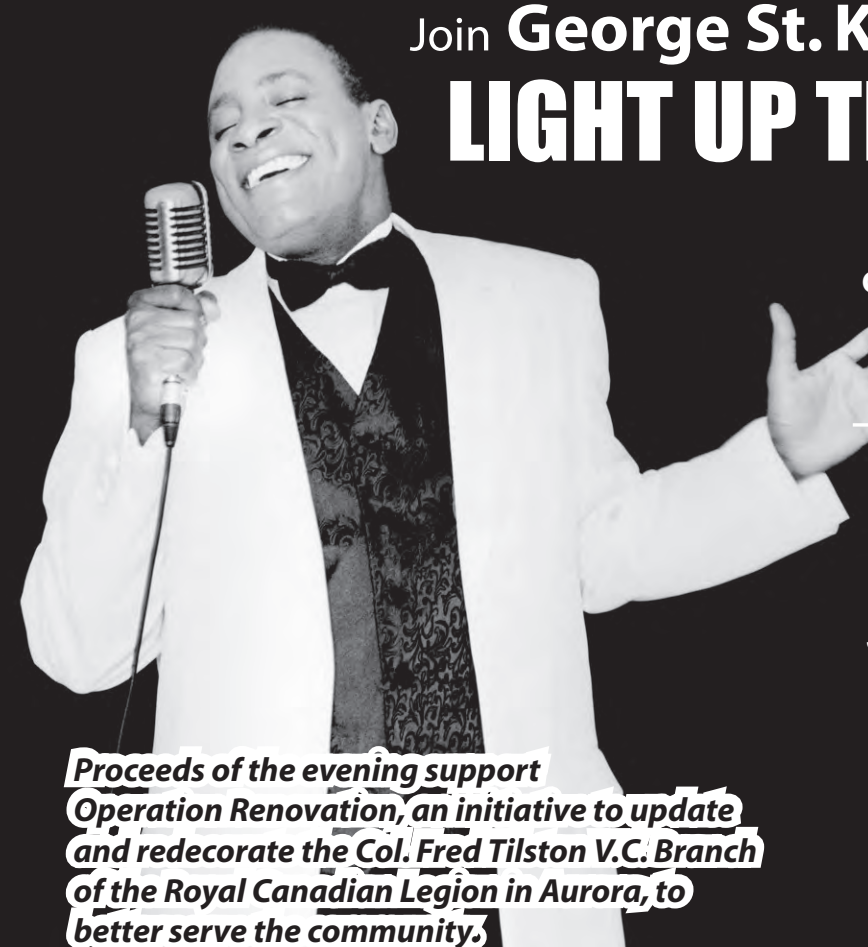
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Letter to the Editor

# Light agreement “insane”: councillor

To the editor,

An item on this week's council agenda illustrates how this council valiantly strives to deal with problems left over from the previous term.

It recommends staff negotiate an agreement between Canadian Tire and the Mosaic Town House Corporation to provide lighting on a long dark lane belonging to Canadian Tire.

The issue occupied many hours of council discussion at the beginning of the term.

Legal staff spent expensive hours searching property titles only to discover many pages of dispute resolution mechanisms in a tri-party agreement governing the total development.

Chief Administrative Officer John Rogers and

lawyer S. Pohjola advised council the town had no role in the matter.

Mayor Phyllis Morris proclaimed she intended to come to the aid of any citizen who asked for her help.

There was a majority decision of council to hook Canadian Tire parking lot lights to the Town's street system.

Aurora taxpayers were to foot the bill.

That was 18 months ago.

There have been no lights after 10.30 p.m. since.

This week's report recommends that staff be directed to prepare an agreement between Canadian Tire and The Mosaic Corporation.

The parties are to pay 50-50 of \$9,000, to hook the lights to the street

system.

The town will undertake to pay the annual cost of hydro and maintenance of the lights.

If there has been a meeting of minds between Canadian Tire and the residents sufficient to agree to such an arrangement, why would it not make more sense for the latter to pay the annual cost of hydro and forget about spending almost \$10,000 to hook the lights to the town street system?

At an estimated annual cost of \$300, the bill would pay for 30 years of hydro.

Where is the logic?

One is tempted to wonder why the report comes forward now, just days after the CAO was escorted from the premises of Aurora Town Hall.

Was it one of the mayor's orders she could not persuade him to obey?

We currently have no legal staff.

How can an agreement between private parties be facilitated by public resources?

Are we to pay several thousand more to retain outside legal counsel?

Ah well! No doubt there will be taxpayers who think it's an admirable effort to resolve a problem and others like myself who think it's clearly insane.

In my judgement, it is misuse of public resources and most certainly does not meet the interest of the people we are sworn to serve.

Evelyn Buck  
Aurora



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Letters to the Editor

Glad my TV went on the fritz

To the editor,

Like many of you, at this time of year, particularly with the inclement weather we have had this summer, (we did have a summer, didn't we?) I have found myself turning to the television for entertainment.

Well, let me tell you that when my television got the flu this week it wasn't such a bad thing.

Other than reruns of my

favs the selection was grim.

I do not like to watch things twice.

Don't get me started on the suspension of Coronation Street again - this time not for "stupid hockey" but Olympic coverage.

Did you know that there is a series about a serial killer who is hired by the police department to solve serial killer crimes?

Who is controlling the networks and do they think about

what they put on the air?

Then there were a number of vampire related crime solving series on view.

I particularly liked the one filmed in Toronto – they cancelled it, of course.

I tend to gravitate to Biographies, History, even some of the how-to-do-it shows.

I had to stop watching "At the end of my leash" because it became increasingly clear that I was the one who was responsible, according to the experts, for my dogs' bad behaviour.

I was explaining my TV dilemma to my married son, who introduced me to, believe it or not, the CBC productions of "H2O" and "The Trojan Horse" both of which were in my estimation worth watching and he suggested I tune into "Mad Men".

Trusting his suggestions, I watched the first of the second season – found it rather boring.

He said I should watch it from the beginning – relenting I rented the whole first season (12 hours in all), sat and watched and became a fan.

The series takes place about 10 years prior to me entering the work force but I could relate especially to the treatment of women in the workforce (that could be fodder for another subject). Recently, I got so desperate that I watched part of the

Republican and Democratic conventions.

Boy, am I glad that I don't live in the United States.

No matter who becomes the next President one of the 'isms' or 'ists' (racism, sexism, ageisms, patriotism, etc.) will appear to have been a factor in the outcome.

All I can say is American politics is never dull.

On closing, I would like to say that I will miss "Our Town" particularly and all the other programming that is scheduled to be terminated from Aurora Cable TV.

I guess I will have to read more.

Bonnie Tiffin  
Oak Ridges

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To the editor,

I've always had the utmost respect and admiration for people who take on the role of politicians.

It doesn't matter how hard you work or who you try to help or what your agenda is, there will always be people who are opposed or disagree.

This is the life of a politician.

In the meantime, for our mayor, there's a lot of extras to the job, besides the daily work, council meetings, citizen contacts, photo-ops, campaigning, promoting, fundraisers, etc.

Mayor Phyllis Morris took time out of her busy schedule to attend our grand opening of our new store in Aurora.

She not only attended but did a ribbon cutting and said some very nice words of encouragement to my husband and myself.

There were a few people

Equal space for candidates?

To the editor,

Just picked up this week's Auroran.

Interesting reading as usual.

I trust you will be giving other candidates for the upcoming election the same free Letters to the Editor space as you have for Dion's candidate.

Ken Wakeman  
Auroran

ED. NOTE: Even though the piece you refer to was written prior to the election being called, the short answer is "yes".

who needed her attention and she took the time to speak to each and every one of us.

She had plans for later that evening and even though she was going to be late she took her time and was genuinely interested in who we were and why we set up shop in Aurora.

We would just like to say a huge thank you for being a part of our special night and to all those who attended.

Thank you, Mayor Morris, you made us believe we made the right decision setting up in Aurora. See you at our 5th year anniversary celebration!

Thank you!

Sharon and Bill Wilson  
Aurora

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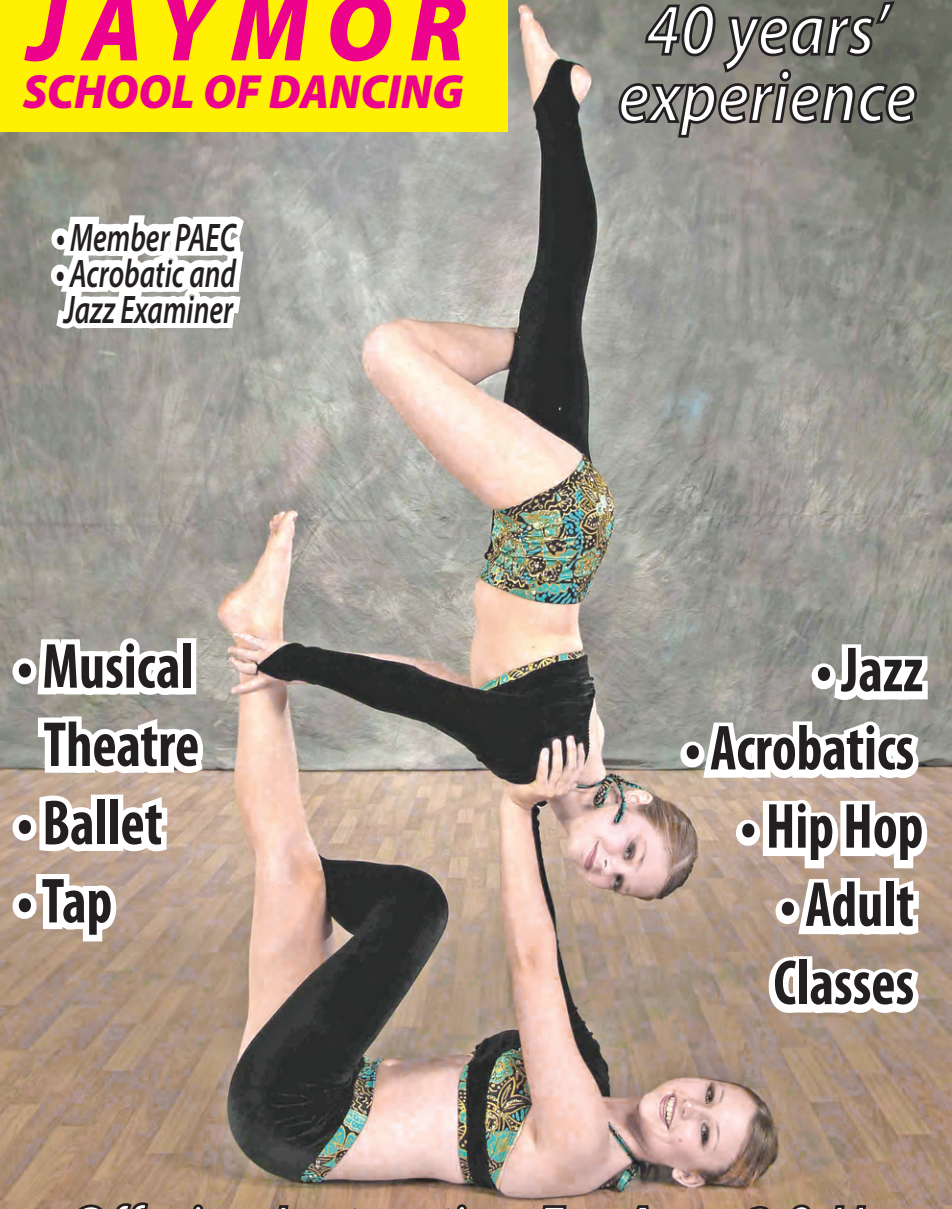
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# THE AURORAN SPORTS

Page 10

Week of September 9, 2008

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Players and coaches celebrate Aurora Jays capturing the OBA Provincial "A" championship last week in Windsor. Jays went undefeated in five games.

## Jays capture championship

The Aurora Jays Major Peewee baseball team won the OBA Provincial "A" championship last weekend in Windsor.

The incredible championship was won on two come from behind games, both in the top of the 7th inning with Aurora trailing by a run.

The Jays managed to get clutch hits, and showed great base running to produce the lead, and then go out and close the door in the bottom of the inning.

"I cannot say enough about how our team managed to keep their spirits high, and eager to get their final chance to show how good we are as a team," said coach Dave Giroux.

Saturday proved to be the deciding factor for the team, as it overcame adversity in a morning game, and then played two back to back games in the heat.

"Pitching was the key to our team winning this championship, as we went into the weekend with 10 guys we would pitch in a moment's notice, and on Saturday we used, I believe, nine

of them," he said. "This is after having one of our most reliable pitchers having to stay home because of an injury received in a game two weeks ago."

In their opening encounter, Jays dumped the Walker Homesites Hawks 7-4 to get the weekend off on a winning note.

They never looked back.

The next day, they edged Southwest London 13-12, then whipped Waterloo 15-4.

On Sunday, it wasn't quite as easy, edging Waterloo 4-3, then winning the final game over a club from Peterborough 4-3.

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## RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

# Councillor ahead of his time

Complaints about indiscreet dogs and their owners and the problems experienced at the town's lease-free park continue to come before council.

Back in May, 1973, Councillor Bill Trent urged fines for indiscreet dogs and criticized owners who take their dogs out on public property to do their business.

A new dog control bylaw providing stiffer licence fees and controls was introduced but Councillor Trent said it didn't go far enough.

Other members argued the bylaw would be hard to administer.

At that time, dog owners were required to pay a \$4 licence fee for each pet but the new bylaw raised the fee to \$5 for the first dog and added fees of \$10 for the second dog, \$15 for the third dog and \$25 for each additional dog in the household.

Mayor Evelyn Buck said at the time that nothing had caused more trouble during the past 10 years in the town than dogs running at large and council was forced to take action because of citizen complaints.

## WHEN COUNCIL BLASTED THE REGIONAL CHAIRMAN

The York Regional Chairman doesn't visit area municipal council meetings these days but in May, 1985, York Regional Chairman Eldred King met with a barrage of questions from Aurora Council.

He presented a 15-minute review of the year's events at regional council, but failed to explain why Aurora won't get any extra police patrols or an extra member on regional council.

It was pointed out that the force had added 58 new officers during the past two years and it was wondered how long it would be before Aurora received any extra service.

King replied that 28 officers had been assigned to Richmond Hill to serve the south end of the region and the 30 officers hired in the current year would not be ready for duty until the following spring.

Council was critical of the hefty pay increase regional council awarded themselves, for a part-time job, compared with what average wage-earners receive.

The regional chairman agreed to support Aurora's bid to assume control of Yonge Street within the town limits, when the province downloaded it onto the region.

He indicated the region didn't want to assume control and he

believed the province should retain control of the roadway.

Following other questions the Regional Chairman beat a hasty retreat claiming he had another meeting to attend.

## TARA TUMA BERMUDA BOUND

It is doubtful if many local residents remember the Newmarket-based musical group Tara Tuma.

The group got its start during the late Whipper Billy Watson's CATscan fundraising campaign in 1987.

Since then the group has been touring around Ontario honing their skills and gaining an enthusiastic following.

By July, 1991, with some top-notch management they were ready to take their act farther afield.

That included a trip to Bermuda, three months in Mexico and performances in Florida and in between those engagements there was some time to return home to Newmarket to play.

# Election called October 14th

## From page 1

months.

Former Aurora mayor Tim Jones will carry the Liberal flag into action, replacing the controversial Belinda Stronach; while Lois Brown, representing the Progressive Conservatives, will have another go at it following her loss to Stronach two years ago.

"With 28 years of elected experience in our riding, I am excited to be back in the race to represent my constituents, this time, at the Federal level," candidate Jones told The Auroran. "I look forward to applying my knowledge and understanding of our local economy, municipal needs, envi-

ronment and social priorities to influence policies that can help our residents and businesses."

Ms. Brown was quick off the mark as her signs began appearing in the riding Sunday morning.

The New Democratic Party has not announced a candidate, while the Green Party will go again with Aurora's Glenn Hubbers.

He is a professional engineer and project manager who has been working in the energy industry for the past 17 years.

The Progressive Canadian party will run Elvis-impersonator Dorian Baxter one more time.

Baxter brings levity to all-candidates meetings scheduled throughout the riding for elections.

Ms Brown, meanwhile, believes it's time the riding had a representative in government.

"As your Conservative candidate, I am proud to be a member of the Conservative team and am determined to see Newmarket and Aurora represented by a Conservative Member of Parliament following the next federal election," she said. "It's time for Newmarket and Aurora to

have a seat in our government."

Born and raised in King Township, Ms Lois attended high school in Aurora and raised her family in Newmarket.

"I know the people of Newmarket and Aurora care about those less fortunate and are prepared to help," she said. "At the same time I know we expect timely health care services, action on cleaning up our environment, reductions in our taxes, support for our families and safe streets and neighbourhoods."

# FOI used

## From page 1

paid included \$2,261.62 for litigation, \$48,057.95 for planning and development, \$5,489.10 for environmental, \$4,043.11 for municipal government and \$17,030.20 for labour/employment.

The report was received as information and it was noted that it did not include the external legal costs relating to the sale of Aurora Hydro to PowerStream, Inc.

Questions are now being asked as to the cost of external lawyers that the mayor has brought in to investigate an alleged leak from an in camera session and other council issues but which have never been reported to the public and are believed to be in the tens of thousands of dollars.

A private citizen, using his Freedom Of Information (FOI) right, asked town clerk Bob Panizza, for some numbers.

"I am sending out the letter today in response to your FOI request regarding the legal fees for the past two years," Mr. Panizza replied. "In 2007, it was \$81,666 and to date for 2008 it is \$139,339."

Mr. Panizza could not answer the question of how much it cost to terminate Chief Administrative Officer John Rogers recently.

"With respect to your second inquiry, due to the protection of privacy provisions in the act we cannot disclose any details related to settlements between the Town and its employees."

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**BRICKBATS**

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

**BOUQUETS** to Dave Courtemanche of Sundance Signs and Billboards in Aurora and his staff, Bia Sherrard, Ian Fynn and Darren Barry for their efforts in helping the company receive the Corporate Partner Award from the Canadian Cancer Society recently.

**BOUQUETS** to S. Lee for the recent letter to The Auroran about the number of items discussed by council at closed door sessions after the mayor and council promising more open and transparent government and to S. Williams for asking the question who really cares what the score is on voting at council meetings as what residents want is a leader and a council that makes decisions that benefit the majority of the citizens.

**BRICKBATS** to the officials of the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) for requiring all players starting in 2009 to pass an oral test in English and if players fail, they cannot play which could affect some of the 121 international players from 26 countries on the LPGA Tour. Evidently ability to play isn't important anymore, but being able to communicate with the audience. How silly can you get?

**BOUQUETS** to 14-year-old Country Day School student Jade Scognamillo on capturing the record as the youngest and fastest swimmer to cross Lake Erie. She completed the 19.2 kilometre swim in 5 hours and 40 minutes in support of the Hospital for Sick Children's Neonatal Unit.

**BOUQUETS** to 17-year-old Country Day School student Marissa McGaffey for starting a summer company with a Government of Ontario's Summer Company Program, which manufactures and retails a product called The Bench, which is a portable soccer mat used as a place for the team to sit on the sidelines during the game.

**BRICKBATS** to disgraced former 1988 Seoul Olympic sprinter Ben Johnson for making a mockery of the justice system by recently filing a \$37 million legal suit against the estate of his diseased lawyer for making unauthorized payments from Johnson's trust account, but it obviously took him 20 years to make up his mind. His claim is outrageous!

**BOUQUETS** to the Canadian Red Cross on the 100th anniversary of its creation under the Canadian Red Cross Society Act 1909, as a national non-profit volunteer humanitarian organization.

**BRICKBATS** to the health system in Ontario when a rural family doctor working about 11 hours a day has to hold a lottery to cull out a number of patients due to the heavy workload. The Canadian Medical Association estimates there are between 4 and 5 million Canadians without a family doctor. For Ontarians, so much for the McGuinty Health tax!

**BOUQUETS** to Ontario Ombudsman Andre Marin who once again objects to police investigating police and the practice be replaced by an independent civilian body. He said he had no confidence in the Surete du Quebec's ability to impartially investigate the fatal shooting of a teenager by Montreal Police.

**BRICKBATS** to the federal government for the lack of security for government documents as the latest incident was an envelope of files discussing a classified computer database run by Environment Canada found on an Ottawa street, but according to ministry officials the 131-page document contained no classified information, but according to others the information could be used by hackers to access and corrupt the data.

**BOUQUETS** to the officials of the broadcast media consortium that sets the rules for the federal leadership election debate if they ignore Prime Minister Stephen Harper's opposition to the inclusion of Green Party Leader Elizabeth May now that the Greens have one MP in Parliament with the acceptance of former Liberal, Independent MP Blair Wilson.

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## Letter to the Editor

# Golf courses use alarming amount of water each year

To the editor,

A recently released report by environmental organizations Earthroots and Ecojustice reveals alarming information about golf courses in Aurora and Newmarket.

"Ontario's Water Hazard" focuses on nine golf courses in York Region and the negative toll these water intensive operations are having on the sensitive Oak Ridges Moraine.

In particular, the report highlights a number of disheartening gaps in how our government allocates water taking permits.

The Ministry of the Environment has allocated more than three billion litres of water to these nine courses per year.

To put this number into perspective, the entire municipality of Aurora uses approximately 5.4 billion litres of water per year, meaning that these courses are being allocated about 60 per cent of what the entire town uses.

To visualize the magnitude of this number, this is enough to supply all annual water needs for nearly 25,000 people.

The significance of the amount of water being allocated to these courses only becomes more clear when we look at the Oak Ridges Moraine as a whole: Earthroots and Ecojustice found 41 golf courses on the Moraine, and 28 courses within a five-kilometre radius of this integral landform.

These operations pose a tremendous risk to water quantity, as both Aurora and Newmarket have been forced to supplement municipal water supplies with water from Lake Ontario in recent years due to ongoing water shortages and growing demand.

There is also the distinct risk of water quality being degraded by the quantities of chemical fertilizers, herbicides, fungicides and pesticides that are regularly used to maintain golf courses.

The Ministry of the Environment has shown that they are not nearly as organized as we need them to be.

There are so many prob-

lems with how the government hands out permits to take water.

Based on our research, it seems as though the ministry is rubber-stamping these applications. There are insufficient reporting methods, and inexcusably long lapses that allowed companies to continue operating with an expired permit for as long as 17 years without any known legal recourse.

The biggest problem, however, is that the Ministry of the Environment has not been measuring the cumulative impacts of the permits to take water they are issuing, despite declining groundwater levels and water shortages in Aurora and Newmarket.

It is the Ministry's responsibility to sustainably allocate water resources, which is why when there are a high density of water intensive operations in a particular area (like Aurora and Newmarket), or when ground water levels decline over five or more years like they have been in Aurora and Newmarket, the ministry is supposed to examine cumulative impacts of the permits they issue.

Without knowledge of how much water can sustainably be pulled out of the Oak Ridges Moraine, the Ministry has continued to allow massive amounts of water to be used by operations like golf courses, while taxpayers are subjected to summer 'out-door water use bans,' and forced to foot the bill for pumping water from Lake Ontario all the way to their municipalities.

There are a shocking 1,200 permits to take water that the Ministry of the Environment must process each year, but this does not excuse the Provincial Government's neglect.

They need to be stricter with companies that use large amounts of groundwater.

Ontario is fortunate to have a rich range of freshwater, found in our beautiful lakes, aquifers, rivers and streams.

Considering the projected growth for Southern Ontario - another four million

people moving to the Greater Golden Horseshoe by 2031 - Ontarians would naturally assume our elected officials are doing everything they can to protect our vital watersheds and plan for the future.

Unfortunately, this is not true.

The Oak Ridges Moraine is a unique and invaluable landform that is a direct source of drinking water for a quarter of a million Ontarians, and indirectly provides water to millions more.

With ongoing population growth and concerns about global warming, the amount of water available to us is a growing issue across the globe.

We must be more proactive in safeguarding and sustainably allocating the resources we are lucky to have here in Ontario, instead of watching them

become over-used and degraded.

We did not write this to slam golf, or the government.

However, we are calling on these bodies to reflect the shift in public priorities, and growing environmental ethic of Ontarians.

Prohibiting new golf courses on the Oak Ridges Moraine is key.

We also need these courses to be more sustainable, and to adhere to the tenets of truly green golf courses by utilizing measures like gray-water recycling, planting native vegetation, avoiding large amounts of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, and by creating wildlife habitat for threatened and endangered species.

**Josh Kohler  
and Josh Garfinkel  
Earthroots**



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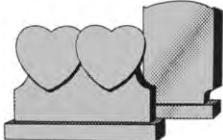
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Demandeur  
Thomas Harmer, retraité, domicilié et résidant au 20, Wellington Heights court, Aurora, Ontario, P7C 5R6; Mis en cause  
PAR ORDRE DE LA COUR :  
Le mise en cause Thomas Harmer, est par les présentes, requis de comparaître, dans un délai de trente (30) jours de cette publication, personnellement ou par l'entremise de ses procureurs.  
Une copie de la requête et de la déclaration a été laissée au greffe de la Cour supérieure du district de St-François à son intention.  
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## DEATH NOTICE

**McDonough, Susan** - Passed away after a short illness at Southlake Regional Health Centre, Newmarket on Thursday July 3, 2008, at 61 years of age. Beloved wife of Barry. Loving mother of Nancy Muirhead (Steve) and David McDonough. Dear grandmother of Nicole, Victoria and Luke Steven Muirhead. A celebration of Sue's life will take place at Madsen's Greenhouses & Garden Centre, 160 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket on Saturday, September 13th from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. On-line condolences can be made at [www.roadhouseandrose.com](http://www.roadhouseandrose.com).

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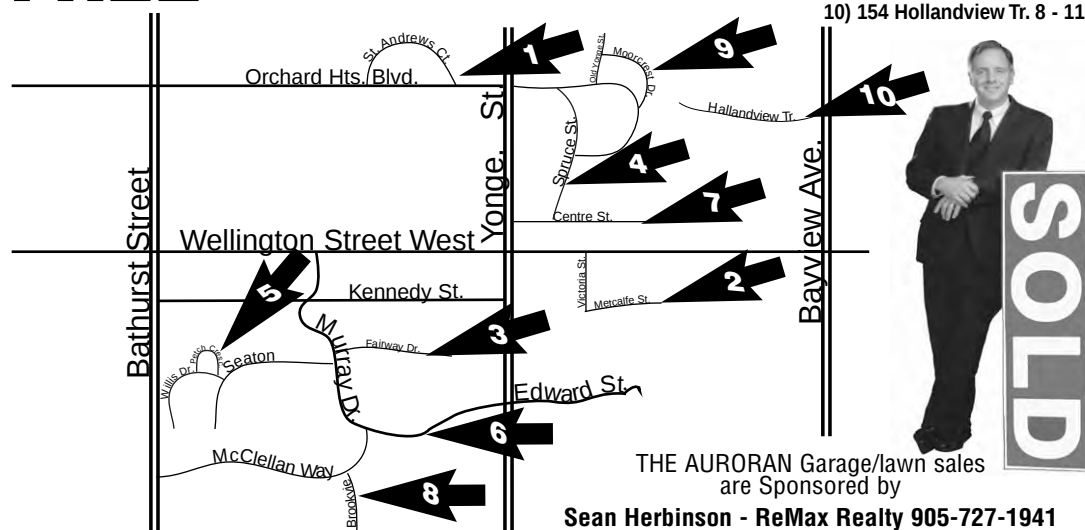
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- 6) 186 Murray Dr. 8 - 12

- 7) 55 Centre St. 8 a.m.
- 8) 90 Brookview Dr. 8 - 1
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By BRIAN WARBURTON

Early September is the time the Aurora Seniors' Association (ASA) welcomes back all of our holiday makers who continue to return to the Aurora Seniors' Centre with their sunbats and their tales of summer travel and adventure.

Some are deeply motivated to improve their personal skills in a variety of ways, such as arts and crafts, games and pastimes of all descriptions and also computer skills at which so many excel, particularly with the benefit of instruction.

Woodworking for men and women is a huge attraction, with the women tending to the craft of wood carving mostly, but some adventurers are willing to turn their attention to anything they believe they can manufacture.

The men are attracted largely to whatever needs to be fabricated or fixed, and then they turn their imaginations to whatever takes their great variety of fancies.

Thus they make toys, small items of furniture or anything of wood that can be used around the home or garden, and they often record what they have achieved, with digital cameras to be shown proudly.

They tend to assist each other selflessly with advice and expertise and take great pride in the achievements of others, particularly when their advice is prominent in a piece of fine work.

The pool room has its own brand of excellence where a constant offering of tournaments is on the menu plus the countless games of friendly snooker, pool or billiards, which take place constantly. Recently, matches were played with other Senior Centres and the Aurora seniors won more than they lost and are proud of it.

The poolroom is an excellent facility with a great bunch of men and women who play their favourite poolroom games and just as easily, occupy themselves elsewhere in the centre playing carpet bowling, pickle ball, badminton or immersed in crafts or the computer room.

No senior in Aurora should lack either the com-

radeship or the programs and activities available at the seniors' centre.

The Evergreens Choir has a new pianist; Doreen Riley who is an accomplished organist and pianist and also a church choir director with some 50 years of musical experience.

Doreen's husband, Doug, who has a fine voice with many years of choral experience will join the male section of the choir and will be a huge asset.

Tom Rainsford has left the choir as was reported earlier and was given a great send off.

Tom's great character and musical ability will be missed deeply, but he is scheduled to be a guest solo artist at the Evergreens' spring concert, next year.

A seminar, focusing on the matter of resizing homes appropriate to present requirements, will be presented Tuesday evening, September 16th between 6.30 and 8.30 p.m. at the centre, and will be repeated Wednesday, September 17th, between 3 and 5 p.m.

With the escalating costs of heating and cooling homes, and operating stoves and refrigerators and an assortment of appliances, the content of this seminar will be of meaningful interest to almost every senior.

Topics will include government programs, financial implications and alternative housing options, and an enormous amount of additional information will be available also.

So, if this has your interest, think out your questions ahead of time and present them at the seminar briefly and clearly, and everybody will appreciate your presentation.

This is a crucially important educational workshop and, if the subject matter is within your sphere of concern and related to your near future decision making process, please make every effort to attend and gather every nugget of consequential and pertinent information.

The new gardening club meets Wednesday morning from 9 a.m. until 10 a.m. and Judy and Mary welcome gardeners and ideas.



Preparing for seniors' night at Jonathan's Restaurant next week are Marie Leone, left, and Jonathan's staffer Vera Zopzit. While the event is slated as an evening for senior citizens, you don't have to be one to attend. More details are in the coming events in this edition of The Auroran.

Auroran photo by David Falconer



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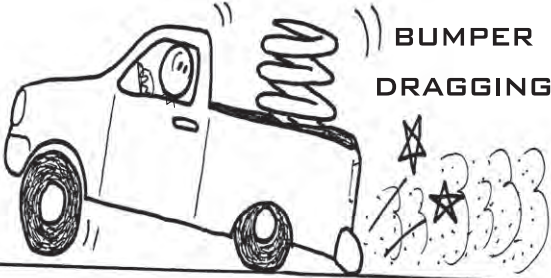
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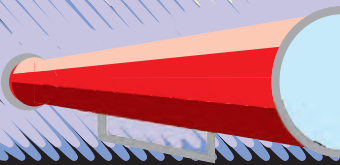
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# COMING EVENTS

## From page 2

a.m. to 3 p.m. Cash only.

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

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

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Final installment of 2008 property tax bill due. If not paid, the town charges interest at the rate of 1.25 per cent per month or 15 per cent per annum on all property taxes past due.

\*\*\*\*

Ontario Power Authority presents an information session from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Town Hall to inform residents about the new electricity solutions for Northern York Region.

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Blood Donor Clinic at the Aurora Legion from 2:30 to 8 p.m. Call 1-888-2-DONATE for an appointment or more information.

\*\*\*\*

It's Greek Night for seniors at Jonathan's Restaurant but you don't have to be a senior to attend. It begins at 5:30 p.m. with a cash bar, with dinner at 6 and entertainment starting at 6:30 p.m.

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

A 12-hour Spin-a-Thon will be held at Timberlane from 9 p.m. to 9 a.m. the following day with proceeds going to the Southlake Regional Cancer Centre. Volunteers and donors are needed and the contact is Councillor Alison Collins-Mrakas at the Town Hall.

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

The last Great Curbside Giveaway for the season. Take unwanted items to the curb for others to treasure. Remove leftover items by 6 p.m. to keep the town attractive.

\*\*\*\*

Second Annual Mini-Walk with proceeds to Ovarian Cancer Canada starts at the shelter behind Regency Acres Public School at 9:45 a.m. Course is slightly less than five kilometres in length.

\*\*\*\*

The Farmers' Market features the Apple and Honey Festival.

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Deadline for applications for the Town of Aurora Arts and Culture Fund.

\*\*\*\*

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

Start of an eight-week session which ends November 19 will be held at Aurora United church, for adults experiencing the death of a loved one.

There is no fee for this program which is open to all in the community. For information and registration, call Mary Smith at 905-727-6984.

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

York Region Association for Volunteer Administration provides education and networking to support volunteer administration. Attend at the Aurora Public Library from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. or click on [www.pavro.on.ca/yrava](http://www.pavro.on.ca/yrava) for more information.

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 6

Aurora Film Circuit presents the film "Brick Lane", based on the book by Monica Ali. Tickets are \$10 and available at Aurora Public Library and R&R Revisited. All screenings take place at the Cineplex Aurora, with door prize at 6.45 and film at 7 p.m. Proceeds benefit out-of-budget programming at the library.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

Fundraiser to raise money for Southlake's cancer program will feature Aurora's own Randy Skelcher, as Pauly and the Greaseballs lead the fundraiser at the Roman Palace, 1096 Ringwell Drive, in Newmarket. Tickets are \$30 each. Included in the event will be music from the 50s, 60s, and 70s, a 50-50 draw, snacks and door prizes. Call 905-836-7584 for further information.

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

Aurora Chamber of Commerce presents the 2008 Business Achievement Awards at Carrying Place in King Township. The event will feature a "Roaring Twenties" theme.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

Harvest Fair at Wesley United Church 10 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., corner of Woodbine Avenue and Aurora Sideroad (Wellington St). Fair features crafts, baked goods, jams, jellies, preserves and an inexpensive lunch.

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

The Aurora Seniors Association presents a "Celtic Autumn Concert" featuring Sarah Kyle and Joe Likuski.

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21

Have a howling good time filled with spooky stories, eerie activities and a creepy craft at the Aurora Library from 6.45 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Admission is free. Ages 6 to 8. Phone 905-727-9493 for further information.

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22

Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society presents Allen Foster talking about "Myths and Magic of Plants" at 8 p.m. at the Aurora Legion, Industrial Parkway North.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

The Farmers Market features Customer Appreciation Day.

\*\*\*\*

A Sketching Workshop with artist Bill Lewochko happens at the Aurora Public Library from 10 a.m. until noon for ages 4 to 9. Pre-registration is required. Fee is \$10 per registrant.

\*\*\*\*

York Chamber Ensemble at Trinity Anglican Church at 7:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

Canadian Federation of University Women open meeting at the Aurora Legion, Industrial Parkway North. Guest speaker is David MacKinnon. Event begins at 8 p.m.

\*\*\*\*

Explore the World of Art at the Aurora Library, for children ages 6 to 9, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Fee is \$6 per child. For further information, call 905-727-9493.



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