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Aurora's Community Newspaper

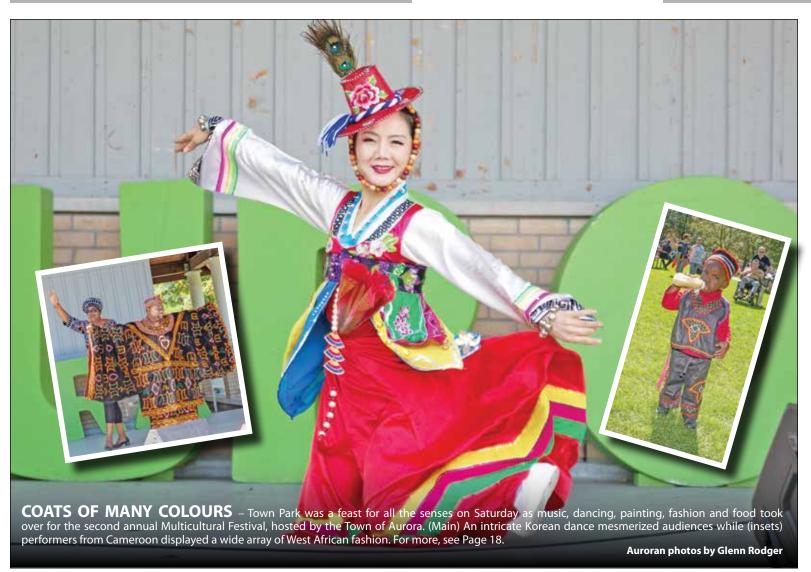
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FREE

Week of Sept 14, 2017 CMCA





A simple lock can make a difference when it comes to your property rights. Councillors contend

By Brock Weir

When it comes to your property rights, a simple padlock can, apparently, make a world of difference, according to some concerned members of Council.

Sitting at the Committee level last week, some Council members questioned the fairness of a series of new protocols up for Council's final approval this week which spells out a series of changes to

> "Hope" springs forward at Hospice By Brock Weir

Hospice King-Aurora-Richmond Hill turned a hopeful page towards its future this week, unveiling its new name: Hope House Hospice.

For over 35 years, the name Hospice King-Aurora – and, following a recent expansion, known as Hospice King-Aurora-Richmond Hill - has become synonymous with end of life care for individuals across all three communities. Over those decades, however, the concept of hospice care has evolved along with our communities and, for Executive Director

Continued on page 19

what constitutes the "power of entry" for local bylaw officers when responding to complaints or concerns.

Changes have been in the works since the early spring when Council tasked staff with coming back with a new notification process to property owners when their properties might be entered as well as protocols for when properties might be accessed if a property owner is absent or, in the end, refuses entry to a bylaw officer.

"Power of Entry provisions are intended to provide municipalities with the necessary tools to carry out inspections ensuring public health and safety," said Techa van Leeuwen, Aurora's Director of Corporate Services. "Power of entry provisions enable municipal officials to monitor and inspect property for compliance with municipal bylaws, standards, licensing requirements,

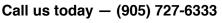
Continued on page 16



lasting mark on Aurora's Canada 150 commemorations. Nell Hubers and mom Simone were just two who came out to paint their tiles to complete the "Mosaic" mural which will be a permanent reminder of 150th anniversary of Confederation. For more on the project, see Page 20.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir









Warehouse

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Community engagement set to begin on next phase of Library Square

By Brock Weir

Community engagement on the future of development of Library Square could resume as early as next week pending a Council decision.

Sitting at the Committee level last week, Council members gave the green light to retaining the services of The Planning Partnership in preparing a design and site plan for Library Square.

Working hand in hand with that, they also approved giving notice to the public that Council will consider allocating a portion of Aurora's Hydro Reserves to fund the further development of the larger downtown Cultural Precinct.

Both decisions are up for final ratification this week and, if they clear the final hurdle, public engagement will be among the first steps in coming up with a site plan, and the consultants are ready to hit the ground running.

If all goes according to plan, this week will include a visioning exercise, the development of design principles, and a review of options surrounding a conceptual design, before moving next week into engagement of "community, stakeholders, Council and staff."

While this week's Council meeting could be a very different story, when these long-discussed plans came up for a General Committee level vote last week, it passed with barely a ripple of discussion.

The one question asked pertained to the cost of the Planning Partnership, which raised an eyebrow from Councillor Wendy Gaertner.

"We have got in trouble in the past. in my opinion, accepting RFPs with the lowest bid," she said. "I do believe it is said in the report that this is the lowest bid."

While it was indeed the lowest bid, CAO Doug Nadorozny said that final bid cost only accounted for 15 per cent of their score in the final evaluation.

"The Planning Partnership has an impressive record, but I don't see that they have actually done main street

In the last five years, the Planning Partnership's work has been recognized with over 20 awards and citations, both from peers and professional organizations, including the Canadian Institute of Planners, the Congress for New Urbanism, the American Association of Landscape Architects, the Canadian Association of Landscape Architects, and the

downtown revitalization," concluded Councillor Gaertner. "They have certainly done a lot of work for us and they are very familiar with our Official Plan, our Promenade Plan, etc."

Ontario Association of Architects.

The Planning Partnership's bid clocked in at \$132,635, and they scored an overall 82.5 per cent on their bid. The money to fund the next steps will be taken from Council's Discretionary Reserve Fund.

"[They are] a multidisciplinary firm comprised of landscape architects, urban designers, urban planners and communication professionals," said Marco Ramunno, Aurora's Director of Planning, in a further report to Council last week fleshing out why The Planning Partnership made the grade.

"In the last five years, the Planning Partnership's work has been recognized with over 20 awards and citations, both from peers and professional organizations, including the Canadian Institute of Planners, the Congress for New Urbanism, the American Association of Landscape Architects, the Canadian Association of Landscape Architects, and the Ontario Association of Architects. In addition, the firm has garnered awards from numerous municipalities and government agencies."

In painting a picture of some of the planning partnership's notable achievements, Mr. Ramunno cited many redevelopment projects from the City of Toronto, including lead consulting on the development of the West Don Lands, Bellvue Square in Kensington Market, the Distillery District, and something familiar to countless Aurora commuters each day, the Front Street façade of Union Station.

"The Planning Partnership was the lead public realm designer for the redesign of Front Street in front of Union Station," said Mr. Ramunno. "The design intent was to create a grand arrival plaza for one of the country's most active multi-modal transit terminals. Working closely with the City of Toronto's urban design, transportation and technical services divisions...the project established a number of innovative precedents for the City.

"They include the creation of a table top pedestrian plaza that spans across Front Street and prioritizes pedestrians over vehicles and the introduction of vehicular calming techniques including cobble paving in the street, narrowed lanes and limited curbside and drop off and pickup."

Similarly, the Planning Partnership is working with architects on landscape rehabilitation for the Distillery District.

"As a former industrial site converted to residential and commercial uses, this now tourist destination lacked pedestrian realm amenities," said Mr. Ramunno. "The design concept preserves the essential heritage values of the place while introducing elements for comfort, safety and yearround interest.

"The landscape plan was based on a simple principle of minimum intervention to preserve the heritage qualities and character of the site, combined with maximum social benefit, creating a series of programmable public squares and laneways that are activated by adjacent uses and active programming."







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After a half-century, Aurora Bridge Club set to play last game in town



By Brock Weir

for card-savvy players from Aurora and beyond, the venerable Aurora Bridge Club is preparing to deal its last hand in its namesake town.

On Friday, September 29, the venerable – and continually growing - group will total up their scores after nearly 50 years in the former Aurora Public Library building on Victoria Street before their move to Newmarket. Nevertheless, they hold out hope that some day they will be able to return.

The move is not a decision the Aurora Bridge Club has taken lightly, but a decision that had to be made as their current home will soon meet the wrecking ball paving the way for Library Square.

The Club has been searching for a new home within Aurora's town lines since Council reiterated its decision to demolish the old library and adjacent seniors centre earlier this year.

While Council also tasked staff with helping groups using the facilities, including the Bridge Club, find new homes, the sheer size of the club's regular games made it a challenge to find suitable space within Aurora.

"We are very disappointed that the Town of Aurora could not find space within Aurora for our club," says Anna Kennedy, President of the Aurora Bridge Club. "I find this unacceptable as we have spent 50 years in Aurora and I do not believe the Town does enough to support its senior population."

Nevertheless, available participate.

"We looked at everything in Aurora, looked at every church that was available, had four real estate people looking for us in Aurora, had the Town, after we asked them to find something, and the only thing we came up with was Trinity Anglican Church," says Ms. Kennedy. "But they could not accommodate all of our games. We would have to lose two games on Wednesday if we stayed there and they wanted \$500 more for rent."

After placing an ad in The Auroran looking for more space, they received a bite from the Newmarket Veterans Association. Although they were reluctant to move to Newmarket, their space just off Main Street proved to

tick all the necessary boxes.

"We're devastated," says Ms. After over 50 years of being an outlet Kennedy of the move. "We're still keeping our name, we're not changing it, and we're saying to the Town, 'You don't have a spot for us now, but we're hoping you have a spot for us in the future."

> Each year, she says, the Bridge Club will offer a PowerPoint demonstration to Council driving home their message that they need space and they want to come home.

> The last time they presented to Council, Councillor Sandra Humfryes dubbed the club "Aurora's best kept secret" and these are words Ms. Kennedy says have stuck with her, steeling her resolve that "this will never happen again.

> "As long as I am president, people will know they have a bridge club in Aurora," she said. "I decided then and there that if we have to move, we're going to be moving with people knowing we're there. We will be contacting Councillors continuously letting them know that even though we are in Newmarket, we are the Aurora Bridge Club and they should remember us. If they really want to do something for seniors, they will find us something."

> Indeed, the benefits that bridge provides to our aging population has been key in their fight to find a place to stay in Aurora. While the club appeals far beyond just the senior demographic, it is a significant portion of the membership.

"For our seniors, it gave them a Town place to go. They can go to the Seniors' facilities could not accommodate Centre, but they can only play bridge all members without cutting games once on a Monday and that is not and the number of members able to ACBL bridge," says Ms. Kennedy, noting the American Contract Bridge League allows participants across North American to see how they stand against groups across the continent. "Seniors are becoming a greater population in the world today and we should be focusing more of our Federal, Provincial and Municipal dollar towards seeing that they stay healthy. They have a lot to offer our community still today. Even though they might be over 70, they are a vibrant community unto themselves.

> "It is so stimulating to our seniors because they go out and get a vibe from it that's - can I say it is as good as marijuana? It gives them a hit you don't get elsewhere and I think that is why they come back."

Anna Kennedy, President of the Aurora Bridge Club, is holding out hope the half-century-old club will be **Auroran photo by Brock Weir**

Briefly

TERRY FOX RUN SET FOR SUNDAY

Terry Fox's legacy will live on with the annual Terry Fox Run For Cancer Research this Sunday. The Aurora run will take place the morning of September 17 at the Aurora Seniors' Centre with registration beginning at 8 a.m. Aurora is one of 215 communities from across Ontario taking part in the fundraiser. "The Terry Fox Run is an event void of corporate sponsorship," says Paul Mateer of the Terry Fox Foundation. "This was Terry's wish. Its success is due to the thousands of dedicated volunteers that organize local events, passionate participants that get involved year-after-year, and generous donors who know that their hard-earned money is being managed responsibly. The Run does not charge a fee to participate, nor does it require a minimum donation or money to be raised. The Terry Fox Foundation thanks you for the support you have provided us over many years and hopes you will be able to continue the same this year."

LEGION HOSTS DRUMHEAD SERVICE

The Royal Canadian Legion invites members of the public to come out and observe their annual Drumhead Service at the Aurora Cemetery, Cadets will lead a candle lighting at the graves of all veterans buried in Aurora Cemetery on Saturday night, which will burn bright until the following morning. On Sunday, September 17, local dignitaries will join Legionnaires around the cemetery's flagpole for the poignant service starting at 2 p.m.

CADETS MARK HALF CENTURY

The Queen's York Rangers Army Cadets will mark the 50th anniversary of the corps next Saturday, September 23 at the Aurora branch of the Royal Canadian Legion beginning from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. For more information on this free "Reunion" of members, visit "50th Anniversary Reunion 2799 QYRACC" on Facebook or email Phil Lusk at phil.lusk@cadets.gc.ca.





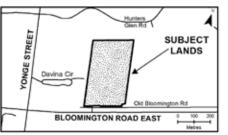
NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION

The Town of Aurora has received the following applications under the Planning Act:

APPLICATION:

The Owner has submitted Applications for Official Plan Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision to allow the development of a residential Draft Plan of Subdivision with 58 single detached lots.

PROPERTIES: 132-198 Old Bloomington Road



LEGAL DESC.:

Lots 12 and 14 and Part of Lots 10, 11 and 13, Registered Plan 166

APPLICANT: FILE NUMBERS:

OPA-2017-05 & SUB-2017-03

CONTACT:

Any inquiries should be directed to **Marty Rokos** of the Planning and Building Services department at 905-727-3123 extension 4350, Monday to Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Comments may also be mailed to the Planning and Building Services department at the same address, faxed to 905-726-4736 or emailed to

planning@aurora.ca prior to the meeting. Please guote the File Name and Number.

Personal Information Collection Notice

The Town of Aurora collects personal information in communications or presentations made to Town Council and/or its Committees under the legal authority of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter c.P.13, as amended. Pursuant to Section 27 of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.56, as amended, (the "Act") public feedback to planning proposals is considered to be public r ecorded and may be disclosed to any individual upon request in accordance with the Act. If you are submitting letters, faxes, emails, presentations or other communications to the Town, you should be aware that your name and the fact that you communicated with the Town will become part of the public record and will appear on the Town's website. The Town will also make your communication and any personal information in it, such as your address and postal code or email address available to the public unless you expressly request the Town to remove it. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Town Clerk, Town of Aurora, 100 John West Way, Box 1000, Aurora ON L4G 6J1 905-727-3123.

DATED at the Town of Aurora, this 14th day of September, 2017.

Town of Aurora 100 John West Way, Aurora, ON L4G 6J1 aurora.ca/publicnotices • 905-727-1375



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Aurora's Multicultural Festival was a big success: reader

On Saturday, Sept. 9, 2017, the Aurora's Multicultural Festival took place in the Town Park.

There was a significant number of cultures represented at the festival.

For example, Chinese, Japanese, Italian, Spanish, Cameroon, Scottish, Korean, and South Asian cultures attended the event.

The festival provided the different cultures that live in Aurora and the surrounding area, an opportunity to display their customs and social traits.

For example, songs and dances were performed by the different groups at the Park's band shell. Delicious samples of the cultural food dishes could be found in the Armory.

At the Town Park, the citizens of Aurora and York Region could mix and mingle with many people and find out more about the cultural diversity of their Town.

Overthepastdecade, the demographic composition of the town has changed. International immigration, into the York Region, has been heavy at times and the origin of the newcomers to the Region has been from Asia and from other new non-traditional source countries. The festival was a positive way to celebrate our social and cultural differences.

Diversity is a strength for our society. Congratulations to the people that organized this event, it was a big success!

Challenge hate by opening dialogue

Concerts in the Park food donations made a difference: Food Pantry

You know summer is winding down when the weekly Concerts in the Park come to a close.

In addition to everyone enjoying a wide range of musical genres, attendees also had the opportunity to make a food donation to the Aurora Food Pantry.

On behalf of the clients, volunteers and Board I would like to thank everyone who donated food. Your contributions helped members of our community who are experiencing food insecurity. You made a difference!

> Allison J. Stuart, Chair Board of Directors **Aurora Food Pantry**

One One Book Aurora



Alive! Photography Contest

The Auroran in partnership with **One Book One Aurora**

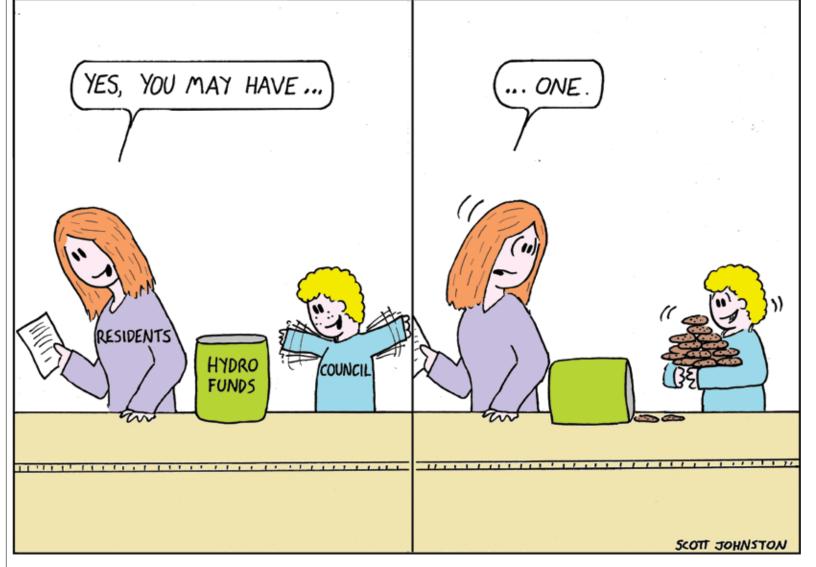
Investigate and capture the beauty and struggles of what it means to be truly ALIVE! Portraits, street scenes,

documentary and conceptual - straight from the camera or digital illustrations are welcome. Inspire us with your creativity! (iPhone photos are welcome, but no selfies!)

> Send your entries labelled "Alive Photography Contest" to brock@auroran.com.

The winner will be announced at the Library's Ontario Public Library Week Open House on Mon. Oct. 16 and will receive a gift certificate for a Movie Date Night. The winning photograph will be published in The Auroran.

Machell's Corners



Adventure: Chosen. Choose yours.

I can still feel the road salt under my feet.

Every step, every crunch took me closer to what I was sure was going to be a land of enchantment.

I climbed the steps, opened the door, and, like the best Choose Your Own Adventure stories, I faced a fork in the road. I could have either gone straight ahead to what looked to be somewhat promising, or descend the next set of steps to delve deeper into the mystery.

Perhaps not feeling as daring as some of my fellow five-year-olds, I went straight ahead, and what I found confirmed I had made the right decision.

I was in a haven. There were rows upon rows of people, places and things waiting to be explored and, yes, I was indeed enchanted. However, what I remember catching my fancy the most were seemingly huge boxes bearing a host of familiar faces.

If my mind's eye serves – and, yes, I will be dating myself with each word that follows - these lovely boxes were film projection reels each containing one episode of Road to Avonlea, which was still in its first run on CBC.

This was, to my memory, my very first visit to a public library and although I remember little more of those formative steps after my eyes set upon the faces of Sarah Polley and Jackie Burroughs, it was evidently an incredible experience that lit a candle within me that has been burning bright ever since.

The scene was the Newmarket Public Library, but it was still a year or two before I first set foot in the Aurora Public Library, when it was housed on Victoria Street.

It was infinitely better weather. The only thing crunching underfoot was a bit of gravel off to the side of the main pathway. I can't remember what I checked out on that occasion, but distinctly remember getting assigned a plastic white and red library card. The librarian whipped out a red Sharpie to add an extra dot next to my bar code; whether that dot designated me a young'un or an out-of-towner, I can't remember, but I carried the card with pride.

From that point on, I was a regular patron of both libraries, often only checking out books rather than film reels or those newfangled VHS tapes all the kids were talking about.

Since then I have watched our libraries grow from strength to strength not only in their facilities and collections, but how they continue to evolve to serve our community's

In Aurora's case, it seems this



Brock Weir

transformation has been quite ahead of the curve.

Over the eight-or-so years I have been with The Auroran, I have seen – as we all have – the shift from the traditional library model with books on just about any conceivable subject, a bank of computers and some space for let, into a veritable destination.

It is still a place to come and learn, find a volume to help you unravel the mysteries of the universe or that perfect mystery to snuggle up with as

our nights become cooler and cooler. It is still a place where you can check out the latest movie without buying blind on Amazon and ending up with a stinker.

It is still a place where you can come in to access the internet if, for whatever reason, you cannot do so from the comforts of your own home or the palm of your hand.

And it is still a place to come and find a quiet place to be alone with your own thoughts on how to conquer the

But it has become so much more than that.

It's an art gallery, a gathering place, an entrepreneurial incubator, and a place where creativity abounds beyond the weathered endpapers of the hardback. And, most importantly in my view, it has become an increasingly valuable forum for the important topics that need to be discussed.

You don't have to look too far back too to come up with a multitude of examples.

International Women's Day, for instance, has been marked with roundtable discussions on the rights of women at home and abroad.

It was not hard, following the discussion, to get feedback indicating eyes had been opened to challenges facing women right here in home, previously unfathomable, perhaps to some even an inconvenient truth.

A similar event held earlier this year on a myriad of Indigenous issues spurred increasingly fruitful discussion as Indigenous leaders from our own community and from further

afield throughout Southern Ontario presented their unvarnished realities to a largely non-Indigenous audience.

Topics might have uncomfortable for some, but there is nothing wrong with that. Many of us have been far too comfortable for far too long. Discussion were heated at times, peppered with a splash of a colonial hangover in one lengthy debate, and an unexpected segue into the tragedy of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women facilitated by someone in the audience who just happened to be at the forefront of the fight.

No matter how you came into either of these events as a spectator, even if you crossed the threshold with a closed mind, there is little doubt you left with your eyes opened with plenty to talk about once you got home or got into work the following morning.

As such, I was honoured over the summer to be invited to be a part of this ongoing conversation to host an In Conversation event at the Library this Wednesday, September 20, beginning at 7 p.m. focusing on celebration and challenges facing our LGBTQ+ community.

You might think this is a shameless plug - and, I suppose, in some ways it is - but the truth is, I accepted the invitation with some degree of trepidation.

The previous outings have set the bar so high and facilitated such a valuable discussion that is difficult not to feel a little bit nervous because these outings, in the end, are only as good as the audience.

The Aurora Public Library deserves all the kudos for having the courage to tackle these often thorny issues head-on and offering out-of-the-box programming that meets the needs of the increasingly diverse community in which it operates.

In each of these topics, however, there is a universality.

Regardless of your sexuality, ethnic background or income level, the issues of women, Indigenous peoples, refugees, and, now, the LGBTQ+ community, affect each and every one of is. They are altogether human issues, part of the human tapestry, and one stitch that goes awry can lead to the unravelling of the tightest of bonds.

Come and be a part of the discussion, your discussion, and if, to this point, you have only been popping by the yellow-brick building at the corner of Yonge and Church in recent months to check out your latest beach read, come and experience the Library from a new and innovative perspective.

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EDITOR Brock Weir

> **ADVERTISING** Diane Buchanan diane@auroran.com

heather@caledoncitizen.com

To submit a letter to the editor, please send your email to letters@auroran.com. Deadline for submissions is Sunday at 1 p.m.



The Aurora Museum & Archives is asking...

Do you have your limited edition 2017 commemorative mug?

During the 1970s and 80s, commemorative mugs were given out as part of Aurora's July 1 Festivities. Each year, a new glass was produced and handed out with admission to the Beer Garden. Whether the glass was used as a mug or a stein, it quickly became a sought-after collectable. As part of our celebration of Aurora – Canada's Birthday Town, and Canada's 150th Birthday, the Museum has produced a limited number of these commemorative glasses. Visit the Aurora Museum & Archives or Town Hall to purchase a piece of Aurora's history. \$15, plus taxes.



Public Consultations on Education

Here we are the end of summer. It is back to school for many families Newmarket-Aurora and Queen's Park is back to its regular hustle and bustle. There will be new legislation introduced this term that will continue to build Ontario up. Ontario is taking immediate steps to give students and parents more and improved information about their child's progress in school and is launching an ambitious multi-year initiative to modernize curriculum and assessment tools from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

Premier Kathleen Wynne and Education Minister Mitzie Hunter announced the opening of public consultations for this new initiative and detail the new report cards, which will be introduced in schools for the 2018-19 academic year.

Ontario's updated school curriculum will be developed through the public consultations with the goal of improving student achievement in core skills such as math and increasing emphasis on transferable life skills that can help students of all ages meet the changing demands of today and tomorrow.

By consulting with students, parents, teachers and other partners, the province also aims to help students take full advantage of their education experience with a new curriculum that better engages every aspect of a young person's interests and potential.

It will place an increased emphasis on equity and well-being, including the effects that physical activity, bullying and mental health can have on student success in and out of the classroom. Parents' access to information about how their children are doing in school will be enhanced through updated assessment and reporting practices, including EQAO, to make sure they are culturally relevant, measure a wider range of learning, and better reflect student well-being and equity.

NewMakelt Tour

I had the absolute pleasure of touring NewMakeIt, Newmarket. NewMakeIt is a collaborative organization that enables members of the local community and across York Region to start innovative, creative, entrepreneurial or learning businesses.

Take a look at your calendars, Aurorans, because it's that time of the year already.

No, not back to school, or Hoedown, or Thanksgiving, or Halloween, or even Remembrance Day.

It's Christmas.

The twenty plus degree temperatures, green leaves on the trees, and other factors, the least of which being that it is technically still summer, may suggest otherwise, but I know differently. That's because on August 22, a date now burned into my mind, I saw my first Christmas display in a store.

Not just one Christmas item, like a card or reindeer toy, in amongst others. But a full display of Christmas stuff. And although it was only a few weeks into August, for all I know it had been there for some time.

It's not unusual to see some evidence of the Christmas holidays at other times of the year, often in the form of a string of lights that a neighbour forgot to take down, and which look increasingly pathetic as bulbs are broken or disappear over the following months.

But this was different, an intentional four plus month early harbinger of times to come.

I wasn't really ready for it.

Ihadjust started getting used to seeing Halloween candy on store shelves. With



View From Queen's Park

Chris Ballard, MPP Newmarket-Aurora

The space is used by do-it-yourself creators and inventors, through mentorship and collaboration members can see their ideas come alive. For a nominal membership, people can use office space, get help with business plans, and access tools like laser cutters, computer controlled routers machining tools. In the past year alone, the centre has created \$1.08 million in economic development and helped create 48 new jobs.

The centre aims to be self-funded, but currently relies on funding from York Region and Ontario. The Town of Newmarket also helped with the initial start-up.

Green Ontario Fund

Ontario is helping people across the province save money and fight climate change through the Green Ontario Fund a new not-for-profit provincial agency that will deliver programs and rebates to help reduce energy costs in homes and businesses.

I was pleased to launch the Green Ontario Fund that is part of Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan and is funded by proceeds from the province's cap on carbon dioxide pollution market. (Carbon dioxide is a major contributor to climate change).

You can visit www.greenon.ca to find out how small changes can help homes and businesses save money while reducing greenhouse gas pollution.

Initiatives include the new GreenON Installations program, interested and eligible households can register to have a Green Ontario Fund-trained technician visit and install a smart thermostat at no cost. The technician will also provide advice and tips as well as personalized

suggestions for additional energy-saving upgrades.

I am excited by not only how the fund will help homeowners, but also how it has the potential to give a substantial boost in business to local renovators and contractors – those folks who install insulation, upgrade windows and doors, replace inefficient heating and cooling systems, and other upgrades to help us all reduce our carbon dioxide output.

Ontario Making It Easier for Businesses to Buy Green Vehicles

Ontario is helping businesses buy fuel efficient vehicles and technologies that reduce carbon dioxide pollution and foster sustainable development and the province is seeking public input. This investment is part of Ontario's Climate Change Action Plan and is funded by proceeds from the province's carbon market. The new program will rebates towards the purchase of alternative-fuel vehicles and fuelsaving technologies, making it more affordable for local businesses to own and operate greener vehicles. Eligible vehicles and devices being considered under the program include electric and natural gas-powered trucks, aerodynamic devices, anti-idling devices and trailer refrigeration units. The program will encourage more businesses to make the switch to low pollution vehicles, leading to a healthier and more sustainable Ontario for everyone.

Helping Families Get Ahead

Last week, the province released the Public Accounts of Ontario, showing that Ontario's deficit for last year was \$991 million—\$3.3 billion lower than projected in the 2016 Budget and \$0.5 billion lower than the interim projection in the 2017 Budget.

This is a result of growth in revenue that exceeded growth in program $expense, and \, lower \, than \, forecast \, interest$

Province Balancing the Budget This Year,

on debt.

Ontario is on track to balance the budget this year, in 2017-18, while making investments in the programs and services people and families rely on most.

Ho Ho No



INSIDE AURORA

Scott Johnston

brilliant marketing insight, they don't label it as a Halloween item, despite the pumpkins and ghosts and other things on the displays. They have subtly turned this so that, at least the next few weeks, it's not a trick or treat item, but a back to school lunch essential.

My mom wasn't averse to us having the odd treat when I was growing up, but I can just imagine how she would have reacted if I had suggested then that boxes of candy be a key part of my back to school supplies.

But back to it being The Most Wonderful Time of the Year...

In case you thought the festive display I came across was an isolated incident, due perhaps to the store owner's calendar being defective and missing a few crucial late year months, my wife on a separate shopping trip that same week ran across a different store displaying a vast array of Christmas themed items.

We all know that retailers need all the help they can get in encouraging sales, and rely heavily on the coming time of year, and there was a mention in a recent Auroran column about someone who had already completed their Christmas shopping, but come on.

The CNE had barely started, and everyone was still wearing flipflops and swatting mosquitoes. It was hardly the time to be thinking of snowmen, tinsel and manger scenes. And as noted earlier, there are a few other significant Provincial races and, in the US, times of the year to recognize first.

Some small amount of seasonal calendar creep is within reason. Christmas, at least retail-wise, is not limited to December, but has always started not long after Halloween wraps up. But it now appears that this is no longer a November-December holiday, but an August-September-October-November-December event.

It wouldn't surprise me if July gets tacked on next year.

If this is the trend, and annual events start becoming year-long events, so be it. With no way to fight this concept, I might as well embrace it. Perhaps now that it's September, I can start my Valentine's Day shopping.

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



POLITICS AŠ ŪSUAL

Alison Collins-Mrakas

The Silly Season

What makes a candidate successful? As we are heading towards a Provincial election in or around June 2018, I am wondering about who will seek to govern our Province, and who will actually get elected to do so.

I have my own opinions obviously but will leave those aside in the interest of refraining in engaging in what some will feel is partisan politics.

My question then is more of a global one. How and why do some people get elected? In looking at some of the folks that hold or have held elected office, I can't help but wonder how in the heck anyone voted for them. I mean, good god! Just look at the cast of characters that govern our provinces, our country - or worse - other countries. Some seem positively vacuous, without even the semblance of the ability to form either an intelligent thought or even the inclination to attempt it.

Others seem positively odious, without even a scintilla of redeeming personal attributes or the ethical or moral framework to even give a hoot to pretend that they do. And still others seem positively oblivious of the purpose of public office and instead are single-minded, hell bent on pushing a particular ideology irrespective of whether it in the best interest of the community or nation they seek to serve.

To me, their limitations are real and frankly obvious. And yet, somehow, they get elected. I don't think I am particularly more astute than most folks and yet I can see through the nonsense that some of these "leaders" spew out. And yet untold thousands buy what they're selling – lock, stock and barrel.

But why? Are people gullible? Unobservant? Apathetic? Or all of the above? Or do some candidates run spectacular campaigns that appeal to whatever it is the voters apparently want?

I think it's a combination of all of it and none of it, and a wee bit of, who the neck knows...luck, I guess? Or an electorate that simply wants change and will vote for the guy – or gal – who appears to be the opposite of whatever currently occupies the office.

In speaking to the issue of campaigns, I was watching a documentary on Netflix, "How to Win the US Presidency", and was just amazed at the lengths that some have gone to secure a win.

Dirty deeds don't really describe the tactics of some campaign teams. Vicious, underhanded, nefarious and just plain nasty would be better descriptors. I don't know what appalled me more, the tactics used or the fact that they worked. I think the latter.

No one is perfect - least of all a politician – but some people are so illsuited to public office that one has to wonder just why they wanted to do it in the first place. Prestige, I guess. Or perhaps some other deep-seated need that only a psychologist could uncover.

But the point is, there are people in office that do not belong there. And by belong there, I mean they do not have the skill set, the temperament, or the work ethic to do the job for which they have been elected.

As we enter the silly season of Congressional races, it will interesting to see who steps forward to seek office and who will ultimately hold it.

THIS WEEK'S **POLL**

Do you support the Province's plans for the sale of legal marijuana?

No Unsure Yes

Go to www.theauroran.com to vote! Previous poll result Do you think Ribfest has a positive impacton on the local economy?



YES 69%

NO 31%



The Secret on How to:

Thrive During Menopause

Healthcare Designed for your Changing Female Body

The change. Every adult woman knows the anticipation, the fear and the horror stories that come with the change in female hormone levels otherwise known as menopause. As women we spend our young fertile days in dread of our monthly "gift" only to get to an age where it all just stops!

We fight to hold on and we fight to let go of our love-hate relationship with menstruation.

Menstruation not only meant we weren't pregnant, which may or may not have been a good thing, but also that we were still young enough to carry on the tasks bestowed upon our gender - childbearing. As you may know, or may have heard, this time in a woman's life can be difficult.

But, it doesn't have to be!

As a North American culture we have been conditioned to believe menopause is a bad thing, a disease state that must not be named. Those who have entered into menopause know it by their own experience; others know the experience of their mothers, older sisters or friends. They have heard the stories of the embarrassing midday hot flashes and unbearable night sweats; the mood swings that would last for days and quite frankly scare you right out of your chair, and not to mention the physical changes: sagging upper body with the classic midline spread. If you're nodding your head yes to any of this, then a consultation with Dr. Iafrate, ND is for you!

We know from other older women, who are vigorous and full of life, that this deterioration is not universal with all women; what then, are you wondering makes the difference and what can be done to remain healthy and vital? A woman's hormone balance can begin to shift depending on a variety of factors such as her genetics, her environment, diet and lifestyle. For example, was she exhausted trying to juggle a career, family and raising children; was she Hill in the Home hardware Plaza.



eating fast food, caffeine, sugar and alcohol or was she exercising regularly, eating whole grains and fruits and vegetables. Hormone balance is intimately connected to stress levels, nutrition and environmental toxins encountered daily.

Dr. Vienna Iafrate, ND will give you the information and resources you need to change your life - for the better! Go from experiencing:

- Fluctuant moods and emotions to steady, even and controlled moods
- Fatigue, low libido and energy to vitality, stamina and a better sex life
- Sleepless nights to achieving a great night's sleep
- Being overweight to having a strong, lean body

The King West Chiropractic and Wellness Centre invite you to join Dr. Vienna Iafrate, ND for a complete health assessment designed to help you thrive during menopause; begin making changes to your diet, lifestyle and overall health to begin living your best self! She will discuss how to begin detoxing your diet, how to reset your circadian rhythm to sleep better, eat better and live a more energized and active lifestyle. Menopause doesn't have to be scary or a negative change! Allow Dr. Iafrate, ND to take the guess work out of your lifestyle choices and lead you on the path to better health and wellness care.

To book your initial visit contact the King West Chiropractic and Wellness Centre by calling 905-773-2225. Location: 141 King Rd, Unit #10. Richmond

"Improved" snow clearing services targeted for the season ahead

By Brock Weir

In the dying days of summer, few people want to think ahead to when the snow flies – but if you're worried that driving around on messy roads will be as big a challenge this winter than it road patrol to monitor road conditions was on the last, take a moment to read

Aurora is set to ramp up resources on snow removal following an analysis of the shortfalls – and the numerous complaints associated with the service shortfalls – that ramped up over the previous season.

"It has been determined that there were two separate occasions during the mid and late winter period where there were some operational issues and circumstances that influenced the operational response to these significant storm events," said Jim Tree, Aurora's Acting Manager of Operations, in his report before Council members last week. "As a result, Council is aware that there was significant negative feedback from our residents concerned with the Town's performance in responding to and effectively managing this event and the associated forces in this regard."

Much of this poor performance is chalked up to behind-the-scenes managerial changes and "related events" that caused a hit on operations. Compounding the problem, three plows and sanders were out of commission at various points in the winter, as well as staffing shortfalls.

"It has been determined that despite the fact our winter maintenance staff resources are marginally lower than neighbouring municipalities that, with some changes on how we deploy these staff, our current staff complement are generally capable of meeting the needs. It has been determined through our review of the operation and discussions with all operations staff that [crew leaders not being assigned to operate plows] is not conducive to an efficient operation and, as such, this practice has been

discontinued. This will result in the addition of four staff back into the winter maintenance operation and an immediate gain in available operators."

Changes include assigning a 24/7 and call out staff as required, whereas the current process has less experienced staff on the afternoon shift and no staff assigned to patrol Friday night through Sunday. Three additional parks department operators will be placed on standby for winter responses, and a further standby rotation.

These changes were welcomed by Council members last week, who said they were pleased existing staff resources would be used to better address winter issues.

"I was really pleased to see the use of Parks staff and rolling them into some of those maintenance functions, which I think will help us get out sooner and perhaps a longer day in those cases when they are needed," said Mayor Geoff Dawe.

Councillor Michael Thompson said he too was pleased with the report "overall" but said he was "concerned" the report focused so much on roads while Councillors fielded a number of residents' complaints over sidewalks.

"I know it is being contracted out, but what can we do to ensure that the standards we have in place for the sidewalks are being met?" he asked. "There were a number of complaints we received that the work was not meeting those standards in certain areas of Town when it came to clearing out the sidewalks. For myself, there were huge swaths of sidewalk where you could question whether they had actually been cleaned or not last year."

Responding to the question, Al Downey, Aurora's Director of Parks and Recreation, said staff were "not at all pleased" with the performance of the sidewalk contractor last year and have worked "very hard" in driving

Continued on page 7



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Seniors hope to get bingo back on track after shut-down

By Brock Weir

Members of the Aurora Seniors' Centre are hoping to have their regular bingo games back up and running soon after receiving a notice from the Town.

Late last month, the Town of Aurora received a complaint from at least two members of the Aurora Seniors' Centre complaining about unlicensed gaming going on within its walls.

They received a notice from Al Downey, Aurora's Manager of Parks and Recreation, shortly thereafter advising Carol Hedenberg, President of the Aurora Seniors' Association that these games had to be shut down immediately.

"It has been brought to the Town's attention that the Aurora Seniors' Association and/or its members have allegedly engaged in gaming activities at the Aurora Seniors' Centre, which may be contrary to the Canadian Criminal Code," wrote Mr. Downey in a letter headed with "Re: Illegal Activities at the Aurora Seniors' Centre."

The letter outlines the relevant sections of the Criminal Code as well as Provincial standards which clearly state that such activities are allowed at seniors' residences. Yet, it is silent on the issue of Seniors' Centres.

"The gaming activities reported to the Town include wagering money for bingo, poker, bid euchre, and bridge without the required license pursuant to the requirements of the Alcohol & Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO)," the letter continues. "This letter serves as notice that, effective immediately, the ASA (Aurora Seniors' Association) and its members must cease and desist from any such activity and/or violation of the AGCO requirements and the code. Conducting illegal activities in the Aurora Seniors' Centre is a contravention of the terms and conditions of the ASA Lease Agreement with the Town."

The notice was met with an angry response by some members who had been regular participants in the bingo games and objected to the shut-down citing passages in legislation which

Councillor wants metrics on snow removal

From page 6

this message home to them.

The contractor, he said, is fully aware that Aurora was "not happy with their performance" and they must be better.

"With regards to sidewalk areas not being cleared, one of our concerns that this report has addressed is we don't have enough eyes out there to determine what has or what hasn't been done," said Mr. Downey. "I thought Mr. Tree had done an excellent job in identifying that issue and addressing that issue so that we can now go out and not necessarily trust the computer programs that we have or the schedules that we have got, we actually need people out there to actually see that those areas have been cleared and they have been cleared satisfactorily."

For Councillor Tom Mrakas, the proposed changes outlined in the report speaks to the efficiencies Council had been asking for when it comes to winter maintenance, particularly relying more on the eyes of the frontline workers who are actually out on the roads.

"Even though we're not changing the numbers on the service levels I believe that this will allow us to provide a better service for our residents at the same price and I think that is what we always strive to do," he said. "This is going to get us to that point. I am looking forward to the season and seeing how we deal with the winter. I think we will do a better job and the residents will be [happier] with the service the Town provides."

In the end, however, it is all about performance.

Councillor Harold Kim said it was "disconcerting" to read that there were four staff in Operations "who believe they are all crew leaders" in one place.

"You look at each other and you're all guiding traffic and it is kind of disappointing," said Councillor Kim. "I hope there is some accountability in the Centre with those staff members. It is always nice to have metrics in what operational efficiencies we have achieved."

seniors' residents.

Nevertheless, Mr. Downey advised the ASA that they can submit an application for a lottery license to the Town to get these games back up and running again.

They have been doing just that, receiving an assist from the Town.

Ms. Hedenberg told The Auroran

would be submitted to the Town this venture a guess on when the issue might be resolved.

Town to get licenses where we can and we'll go from there," she said. "There were several complaints and that is the only reason the Town got involved.

permit such activities to take place in on Friday that the final applications I talked to the Government and it is not allowed at a Seniors' Centre. A week to restore the games but did not home is a different story. Where there are beds you can get away with a lot of things. You don't need licenses for "We're working directly with the movies and you don't need licences for [other activities] because it is a home. It is your private home, even if it is a residence for a lot of people.

"It's up to the Town now."





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BUSINESS





's absolutely FREE!

Oakridge's celebrates 20th anniversary with fashion forward outlook

By Brock Weir

This month, Oakridge Outfitters marks its 20th anniversary as a fashion destination for the women of Aurora – and beyond – and while it is a moment of celebration for store owner Deb Clark and her inhouse stylists, the lead-up has been a moment for reflection.

In turn, this reflection, has led to a moment of rebirth.

"Oakridge Outfitters has been a part of the retail landscape of Aurora for 20 years and that is an exciting milestone!" says Ms. Clark. "Women have come to know they can always find something at this store and that remains the goal: to be the store that provides solutions for women of different ages, of different demographics and of different budgets.

"Oakridge Outfitters is an interesting name and we thought long and hard about that because while 20 years ago Oakridge Outfitters did start as a store that was more focused on sportswear and outerwear, over these years we have morphed and grown. It is lovely that women who love the store and know it is not an outfitter still just love to call it Oakridge Outfitters, but we recognize Aurora has grown a lot in these last 20 years, and particularly in more recent years. We also recognize that newcomers to Aurora who don't know Oakridge Outfitters is a full fashion store can easily be misled by that name. Outfitters suggests a sporting or even perhaps a camping kind of store - and that is not who we are."

Enter: Oakridge's.

Simple, elegant, and to the point. For Ms. Clark, the name Oakridge's honours the growth the store has seen during its early days as well as the tradition customers have come to respect, but it clearly defines them as a destination for women's fashions.

It was not a decision taken lightly. Ms. Clark says she has been "loath" to

change the name because the former name has become "iconic in a local way," but it was a decision that had to be made.

"Ultimately, I came to trust that those customers who have known us over the years will completely get this decision," she says. "They know they are going to find the same wonderful staff, they know they are going to find what they have come to look for in recent years, which is just a full fare of clothing from casuals to classics, to dressy, to day and night. Yes, I had some worry [over the rebrand] but upon careful thought I found this was the right decision for us moving forward – and the right time."

Looking forward, Ms. Clark says Oakridge's identity as a business will only come to be more defined in the years ahead. Ms. Clark's vision for the business is one that is "wellconnected and supportive" within its community.

To that end, Oakridge's 20th anniversary ushers in a new way of giving.

Starting this fall, Oakridge's will introduce Fashion Fundraisers, a new program which will enable nonprofits within the community to book the store for no fee on a Tuesday or Wednesday evening for a minifashion show organized by the store.

All the non-profit will have to do is handle the refreshments and the invitations, and the Oakridge's team will do the rest - and 10 per cent of all sales made that evening will be donated directly to the group.

"We think this is the best way we can really help organizations that are small, medium and large – but those organizations who are looking for new and more innovative ways to put together a fundraising opportunity without a lot of heavy lifting," says Ms. Clark. "We're here to help. We'll close the doors and they will have the beautiful store with lots of room for mingling, 2,000 square feet, a Continued on page 17



Oakridge's owner Deb Clark shows off the popular store's new rebrand.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

You're invited! Workshop: Sept 28th

Learn How Local Experts are Investing in Mortgages

Ever wonder how banks earn big profits? Last quarter, the big 6 banks posted a net profit of \$10.15 billion. According to the Canadian Bankers Association, 56% - a significant portion of their profit - is generated from net interest income, such as from residential mortgages.

Local investors can now follow this proven formula for success by becoming mortgage lenders.

"Our investors earn between 8% and 12% annually on private mortgages," said Victor Camba, a mortgage agent at UNION Capital Management who specializes in matching borrowers with individual investors.

For those wanting to learn more, there will be a free workshop on September 28th in Aurora. Investors will learn how to get involved, and how to examine private mortgage deals in order to maximize returns and reduce risk.

Private lenders can invest using cash or registered funds (such as their RRSP). In return, they obtain similar benefits that banks enjoy, such as predictable and stable monthly cash flow, and "bricks and mortar" security.

It is becoming increasingly more difficult to obtain mortgage financing through traditional banks. As a result, these borrowers are turning to private lenders.

A misconception is that these are bad-quality borrowers. "Bad credit? No Credit? No Problem," are advertisements sometimes seen. This is far from the truth.

In 2016, 2.7 million Canadians were self-employed (Statistics Canada). These people are generally in the sales and services industry, such as Realtors and Contractors. There were also 1.2 million small businesses. These borrowers do not meet the bank's lending criteria, and are therefore turned down. Their tax return may show a significantly lower figure than what they actually take home as income.

"We take into consideration all sources of the client's income, including stated business income, something the banks don't do," Victor said. "But we are not going to take undue risk. We will take a calculated risk."

He prefers to offer loans below 80% of the value of the property to limit losses in case of a housing price downturn. Unlike mutual funds or stocks, a mortgage investment is collateralized with existing residential

properties within the Greater To-

ronto Area, including Aurora and Newmarket. If the borrower defaults, their lender has the legal power to sell the property to recover their funds.

"It used to be investors went to their lawyer or accountant and said. 'I have a few million dol-

lars and I want to lend this out and make a good return," Victor said. "They are still around, but now there are opportunities for the average investor with cash or an RRSP."

For those who want to invest in real estate without the hassle of tenants or repairing toilets, register online to attend the free workshop. Seating is limited to the first 25 people who register.

REGISTER TODAY TO ATTEND

Date: Thursday, September 28th

at 7.30pm Where: Aurora Town Hall Leksand Room 100 John West Way,

Aurora Cost: Complimentary

Snacks and refreshments will be served.

Register Online sep28-lending.eventbrite.ca

Follow on Facebook: www.facebook.com/MortgageInvesting

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Victor Camba is the Director Business Development, Lending for UNION Capital Management. Mortgage Brokerage Lic# 10318 - Mortgage Agent license #M14001907

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2017 ESCALADE



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TIFF spotlight:

In This Our Lives: Keeping a promise to Bette Davis



By Brock Weir

She never went anywhere without leaving an impression.

Whether she was on the silver screen blazing an iconic trail with indelible performances as Margo Channing or Baby Jane Hudson, simply being herself, telling it like it was in her distinct clipped voice between puffs on her ever-present cigarette, or inspiring music with the mere batting of her eyelashes, she remains an icon to generations of film fans nearly 25 years after her death.

Her legacy is one which was introduced to generations of new generations this year, brought back to life through Susan Sarandon's Emmy-award nominated performance on the FX series "Feud."

She was one of those rare people who became a legend in her own lifetime, but she was much more than that to Kathryn Sermak.

Bette Davis was her teacher, mentor and, in the end, her best friend.

The unlikely deep connection between the personification of the hardy "Yankee" and the freewheeling, cosmopolitan California girl beats at the heart of Sermak's long-awaited memoir "Miss D & Me: Life With the Invincible Bette Davis."

Released earlier this week by Hachette Books, it covers the enduring bond between the two women over the last decade of Davis' life as she forges ahead into the twilight of her career battling for the good scripts that had become a hallmark of her legend, battling through the lingering impacts of a devastating stroke that threatened to derail it, and battling through a devastating personal betrayal which threatened the most important bonds of her life.

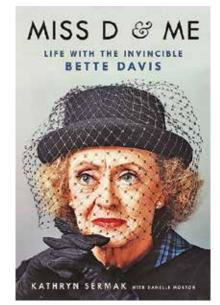
"It has been a labour of love," says Ms. Sermak. "It has taken forever, but now I can look in the mirror and say, 'Okay, Miss D. It's done."

This universal story of a bond between two women separated by generations and geography has an added box office appeal in Bette Davis, what Kathryn calls "the icing on the cake."

Just 22 when her world collided with that of the 71-year-old screen legend in 1979, Davis hired the recent college graduate on what she later described as a "hunch."

Sermak only had the vaguest idea of who Davis was, but was enticed at the prospect of a trip to England to assist the star as she worked on Disney's "Watcher in the Woods." A friend, however, convinced her it was a singular opportunity to learn directly from a master and left a copy of Davis' memoir, The Lonely Life out for her as something of a crash course on her potential future employer.

"I took the book and stayed up all night reading it," Sermak recalls. "I was amazed and loved that she was so direct. Call it a premonition, but I woke up the next morning and just knew I had the job. She asked me just two questions: 'What is your birth sign?' and 'Can you cook a three-



Sermak's memoir, Miss D & Me, was published in Canada this week by Hachette.

minute egg?""

As it happens, Sermak only thought she knew how to cook a three-minute egg, but Davis was a tough task master. It turned out to be a test which, in turn, gave way to a learning opportunity, setting the pattern of their early relationship.

"Miss Davis didn't teach by talking, she taught by action," she says.

It was the same way Davis learned as a young actress, cutting her teeth on early small roles at Warner Brothers before working her way up to being their top star. It wasn't a walk in the park. She learned the rules of the game early on; which rules to respect, and which rules to rail against in the fight for better scripts, better roles, and artistic integrity.

"She taught me the same way they taught her," says Kathryn, describing their first five years as "boot camp."

As they forged ahead together, one thing that was not on the curriculum were Bette Davis' past glories.

That came later, towards the end of her life, once they had formed a bond that had shifted far beyond employee-employer to best friends, when Davis decided they should collaborate on a documentary.

It was only then that Kathryn had an opportunity to dive fully into the Bette Davis canon from the very first picture at Warner's. As Kathryn watched Miss D evolve on the screen, she had the same feeling when it came to their relationship.

"All of a sudden I started seeing her differently. I started seeing what other people, the fans, were seeing. I always saw her more like my mother, my grandmother, my friend, but something was changing. When I told Miss D, she wanted to talk about it and I told her I was admiring her work now but I was coming to a fine line and if you cross that fine line you are just like everybody else and you lose that other relationship."

That relationship was altogether too important to lose. It had weathered many storms and had become increasingly valuable over the previous decade, particularly as the indomitable Davis fought back from the bring of death after a mastectomy which was immediately followed by a devastating stroke, and memoir written by her elder daughter, B.D. Hyman, when it seemed Miss Davis was losing the fight for her life.

"Miss Davis was always predictable about being unpredictable," says Ms. Davis in Sermak as she battled to tell Sermak, theorising that Hyman wrote her book expecting her mother not to be around to defend herself. "Doctors gave her weeks to live and it wasn't looking good at all. I always wanted to take the high road and Miss D would never hang out any dirty laundry, but Miss Davis told me, 'You can always set the record straight.' For much of [what is written about in Hyman's book] I was never around, but I can say when I was there and that is my truth, I was there, and this is the side you didn't see, this is what your mother went through."

While "Miss D & Me" goes a long way in addressing some of the misconceptions that have been fostered by various

fought to overcome the heartbreak of a individuals since Davis' death in 1989, in the end, Sermak says this book is a gift; a gift not only to "Miss D" herself, but to her fans as well.

> That fighting spirit was instilled by her story her way, going through several publishers, proposals and iterations before all the pieces fell into place.

> "I needed time to heal and the timing had to be right," she explains, noting she was galvanized by her own mother's passing to finish the book. "Any earlier and I don't think I would have had the maturity I needed for the book I wrote today. It hit me that life is so short and I still had this on my plate as I promised Miss D I would do it. You have to be raw, open and honest to go real deep and that is what Miss D. did in The Lonely Life.

> "This book was written out of love, Miss D passing the torch of lessons learned, and I pass it on to you, the reader."

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"This new, natural, safe and highly effective approach has helped many sufferers improve their lives dramatically".

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THE AURORAN ARTS & CULTURE

Culture Comes Alive at Aurora Public Library!

By Reccia Mandelcorn **Manager, Community Collaboration Aurora Public Library**

Culture comes alive through interactive experiences as Aurora Public Library celebrates Culture Days 2017 on Saturday, September 30 from 2 – 4 pm.

Bringing some of the finest of Aurora's artists together to lead workshops and perform in a crazy twohour time span, APL invites you to explore, engage, create and have fun.

Develop the writer in you at "Obituary Fiction" with author and zine artist Marnie Maguire. Rifting on an imagined obituary as a writing prompt, bring a character back to life

culturedays create participate share

in this quirky workshop on character development. Advance registration required.

Discover new ways to make your photography come alive in "The Art of Seeing", an intimate handson workshop facilitated by Ronen Grunberg of the APL Camera Club.

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Advance registration required.

Join Judy Sherman and Eva Folks "In the Artists' Studio" for a quick sketch or stay for the full two-hour session. Bring your own supplies or use basic drawing materials supplied by the Library. Beginner or advanced – Just drop in!

the play "Visiting Mr. Green" performed by Theatre Aurora. This will be the sole performance in our community, so definitely, not to be missed!

Celebrate the creativity within as the APL Writers' Group and Friends take to the "Open Mic" with poetry, spoken word and music. Clap for your neighbours and brave the Open Mic experience.

Throughout the afternoon, Lorene

Salt, artist in residence, will be "Stitching in Public" with fellow canvas artists. Watch the creative process, ask questions and be inspired.

Culture Days is a collaborative movement that welcomes your participation. Look for your Culture Days passport in the Auroran, visit Experience a dramatic excerpt from any of the participating venues to have your passport stamped and be eligible to win great prizes.

> For more information on APL's Culture Days activities please contact Reccia at rmandelcorn@aurorapl.ca or visit the Library at aurorapl.ca.







905-727-2392



Farmers' Market and Aurora's second Multicultural Festival.

From 11 a.m., both groups shared first grant from the Town Park and that worked very well. The variety of multicultural performances brought many families to the park and to the Armoury to sample ethnic food and that meant that the Market was busier than it might have been otherwise.

operate with the Town of Aurora on Town of Aurora. this special day.

This season Sport Aurora and Activate Aurora has had a booth at the Market. Since much has been written about the group lately, I am going to introduce you to their Executive Director, Laurie Mueller, who is expected to be the main face of the group at the Market.

Laurie has been a sport leader for lies in the development of opportunities for women and girls in sport. She has spent most of her professional and volunteer life building programs and services in Aurora.

Her coaching and leadership skills were first practiced in 1991 when she began coaching soccer in Bradford, where she was the only female Director on the Bradford Soccer Association's Board.

In 1997 she moved to Newmarket where she volunteered to coach the House League girls at the Aurora Youth Soccer Club. She became National Certification Coaching Program (NCCP) certified, rare for women at the time. She then became the Technical Instructor for Aurora's Indoor and Outdoor programs. She began coaching in the Women's Indoor Soccer League and convened the League.

In 2005 Laurie joined the newly formed Board of Sport Aurora and

Despite a very chilly start to the was part of its founding Committee. day, this past Saturday turned into a She worked tirelessly as the fledgling sunny and beautiful day for both the organization grew from six original members to 41 in 2017.

In 2007 she was awarded Ontario's Coaching for "We Association of Canada Coaches-Women in Coaching Program" and was named Coach of the Week during the National Coaching Certification Program Ontario Coaches of the Week celebration. In 2017 Laurie received the Volunteer Recognition Our vendors were happy to co- Award for 10 years of service to the

In 2010 she launched the community's only magazine devoted to amateur sport called "Sport in Aurora" magazine which continues today. Her graphic production skills were acknowledged and she was asked to produce the annual Aurora Sports Hall of Fame Induction Dinner Program which continues today.

In 2012 Laurie was hired by Sport almost two decades. Her special passion Aurora to be the first Program Manager of the group and, in recognition of her exemplary work with their campaign, she was named the Executive Director for both Sport Aurora and Activate Aurora in 2017.

> In 2017 her lifelong passion for advancing women in sport resulted in Laurie being selected to receive the Ontario Government's "Leading Women/Leading Girls Building Communities Recognition Program" which acknowledges and celebrates women and girls who demonstrate exceptional leadership in working to improve the lives of others in their communities through volunteer work.

> The Aurora Farmers' Market and Artisan Fair is pleased to have Sport Aurora and Activate Aurora at the Market this season and to welcome Laurie Mueller to our family of vendors.

See you at the Market!



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Challenges and celebrations experienced by LGBTQ+ in focus at Library

By Brock Weir

Pride Month has come and gone for another year, but there is still plenty of celebration to be had for York Region's LGBTQ+ community.

But challenges come with the territory as well, and both will be in focus this week as the Aurora Public Library opens its doors for LGBTQ+ In Conversation.

The Library will be the scene of an evening of intimate conversation with local activists and community leaders who will be addressing the challenges and celebrations experienced by the LGBTQ+ community here at home, including issues of culture, diversity and inclusion.

Hosted by this writer, the evening is part of the Aurora Public Library's One Book One Aurora program, which this year aims to get all of Aurora reading from "Natural Order", the latest novel from Toronto writer Brian Francis.

"Natural Order" centres on a woman nearing the end of her life grappling with a difficult decision she made in her past rejecting her gay son.

Using this book as a springboard, the Library has taken the themes within the book to weave a full calendar of programming.

Wednesday night's conversation stems not only from the book but also from focus groups held earlier this year seeking input on how the Aurora Public Library can better address the needs of the LGBTQ community.

According to Reccia Mandelcorn, the Library's Manager of Community Collaboration, many of the adults and youth who participated in their demographic-specific focus groups had many questions they were hoping their library could address, from health to legal, and this conversation was the perfect venue to foster these important topics.

Among the participants is Chelsea Derry, from PFLAG York Region.

PFLAG was founded over 40 years ago as Parents, Families and Friends of

> I don't think there is anybody not touched by people who are along the gender spectrum and I think we all need to be educated on how to work with different aspects of our community and how our own lives and identities can be enriched.

Lesbians and Gays. Since its inception, it has spread across North America and engages in advocacy at local, provincial and Federal levels on a variety of issues facing the community.

"When I looked at the topics we had at our focus groups, we had people saying they wanted information on how to come out to their parents, so we have Chelsea Derry from PFLAG," says Ms. Mandelcorn. "We also had people asking about health and it happens that in her other life Chelsea happens to be a health practitioner."

Attendees also had questions about surrogacy and marriage, so lawyer Niki Fragiadakis from the Lisa Feldstein Law Office will be on hand to field these questions. This law firm was founded from the "realization that families need health law advice."

The marriage aspect will also be considered through the lens of Jennifer Tyrell, another lawyer who is set to marry her fiancée just a couple of weeks after the event.

The conversation will be complete with Jacob Gal, "the energy behind York Pride" who will share his insights on advocacy from a different angle.

"He is very young and works with teens in a very positive and joyous way," says Ms. Mandelcorn. "He will be able to talk about celebrating your identity in a

very York Region-specific way." Throughout the evening, information tables will be set up providing a space for community groups ranging from PFLAG, to York Pride Fest, to the AIDS Committee of York Region, My Rainbow Resources, the York Region Rainbow Umbrella, and various student groups to interact with attendees and share information.

"I want everybody to come out on Wednesday, September 20 from 7 – 8.30," says Ms. Mandelcorn. "It is for the entire community. It is not only if you are LGBTQ and want questions answered and want to participate, but I don't think there is anybody not touched by people who are along the gender spectrum and I think we all need to be educated on how to work with different aspects of our community and how our own lives and identities can be enriched.

"It is very much a community discussion. You will learn so much, be able to network, and take home information."

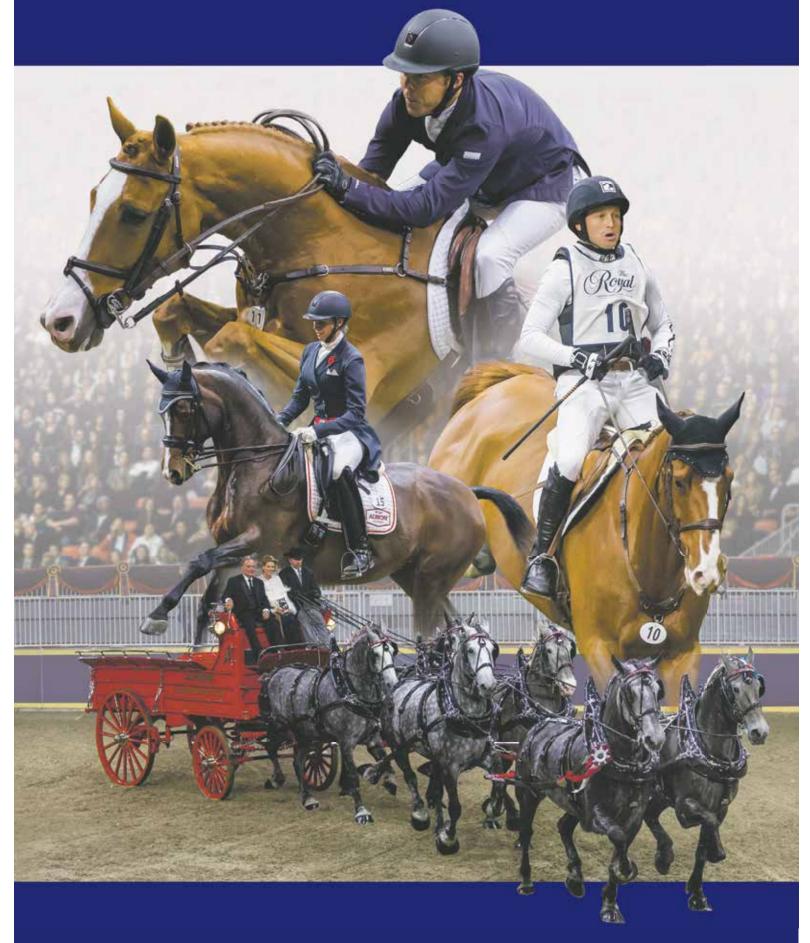
Tickets for In Conversation: LGBTQ+ Culture, Diversity and Inclusion are free, but space is limited. To register, visit onebookoneaurora.com. Conversation begins Wednesday, September 20 at 7 p.m. in the Library's Magna Room.



York Pride's Jacob Gal, left, will be part of next Wednesday's "conversation" at the Aurora Public Library.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger





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FREE Week of September 14, 2017

Whelan representing Canada on world stage

By Jake Courtepatte

of Canadian rhythmic gymnastics earlier this summer, Carmen Whelan now has her sights set on the world stage.

The 19-year old from Aurora finished 41st overall in late August's Rhythmic **Gymnastics** World Championships in Peasro, Italy, nineteen spots above where she finished in her first worlds in 2015.

"The most important thing I will take away from this competition is how important consistency in training is," said Whelan following competition. "In this sport, one drop is enough to knock you out of the competition. By watching how the more experienced gymnasts practice and analyzing what I can that this is the main aspect I must improve on in training in order to perform consistent, clean routines in competition.

confidence going into competitions by not worrying about the possibility of mistakes on a skill that may be inconsistent during practices."

A few mistakes in her ball and hoop routines gave Whelan a shaky start on Day One, landing her in 49th place heading into the second day of competition.

"Day One didn't go as planned," said Teresa Orr, National Team Gymnastics Canada.

It was her clubs and ribbon Earning the crown of the queen routines that really wowed the judges on Day Two, landing her in 41st place.

Whelan called the experience "an incredible feeling."

"It's always an honour to have the opportunity to compete on the world stage and after preparing all summer, overcoming injuries and pushing through the good and bad days of training. It's a nice feeling to know that all your hard work is paying off!"

The worlds were just the latest in a whirlwind summer for Whelan, who placed first at the Canadian National Championship in Edmonton in May. After second place finishes in the 2015 and 2016 events, Whelan swept all four apparatuses in this year's competition.

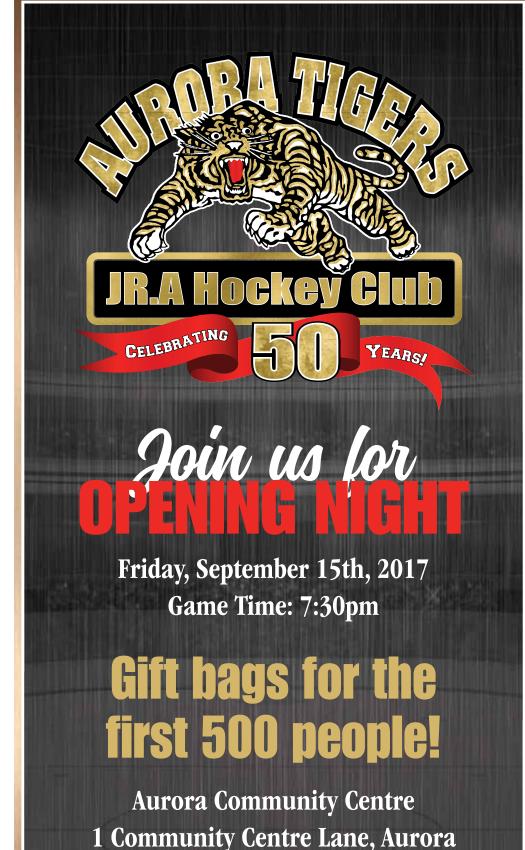
With little time to rest, next up apply to myself in the future, I know for the budding star is the Senior Pan Am Championships in Daytona Beach, Florida, set to be held in mid-October.

"I've received great feedback "This will also help to improve my from judges and coaches and plan to apply all their corrections when we return," says Whelan. "As well, each time I compete I learn a bit more about how I need to do in order to prepare physically and mentally so I can perform at my maximum capability. This includes what I do as a warm up and timing so I'm not tired before heading onto the carpet as well as visualizing my routines."

Whelan trains out of the Silhouettes Director for Rhythmic Gymnastics at of York Rhythmic Gymnastics Club.



Photo courtesy of Carmen Whelan



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SAC lacrosse players Jason Knox (#18, middle) and Caleb Creasor (back, sixth from right) earned gold with Team Ontario at last weekend's CLA Men's Field Lacrosse National Championships in BC.

Photo by SAC Athletics

SAC lacrosse players get a taste of national gold

By Jake Courtepatte

A pair of St. Andrew's College's Columbia. brightest lacrosse stars are now twotime winners on the national stage.

Both Jason Knox and Caleb Creasor represented Team Ontario Under-18's for the second time last weekend at the CLA Men's Field Lacrosse National Championships in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, a title Ontario has maintained over the last three seasons.

This year was no different, with strong defense limiting Ontario's opponents to just 23 goals in five games, while both of the SAC

seniors had an enormous impact in the championship win over British

An offense-heavy final saw Ontario win 17 – 13 over BC, with Knox notching four goals, while Creasor was between the pipes to win the First Nations Cup.

Creasor's efforts earned him an All-Canadian nod for the tournament, while both players were selected to play in the National Championship All-Star Game.

Both hailing from the Huntsville area, the two teammates show a bright future in collegiate lacrosse, with Knox already committed to play NCAA division-I lacrosse at Hobart College in New York.













Leafs legend Mike Palmateer gets call to Aurora Sports Hall of Fame



By Jake Courtepatte

When Mike Palmateer once more donned the blue and white at the 2016 Centennial Classic Alumni game, he brought the same style of play that made him a fan favourite in his years with the Toronto Maple Leafs.

Wearing the exact same equipment he wore in his final NHL game in 1984, the 62-year old was faced with a penalty shot from Detroit Red Wings alumnus Tomas Holmstrom, and made an awkward-yet-incredible diving save to keep the game scoreless.

With an aching back and knees that plagued him throughout his professional career, he left the ice immediately afterwards, but to cheers from old and new fans alike.

"It's certainly a save I've made a few times in my life," said Mr. Palmateer.



Mike Palmateer.

Photo by Merk Photography

"You're just trying to read him. I stayed with him, which is pretty good because he made a move on me pretty quick. If he goes upstairs on me it's in but it's all about the second effort. It was kind of nice to go out like that."

"It's funny how things feel natural...you think the game well but you don't move like you think you can."

Mr. Palmateer, who has lived in Aurora for the past thirty-or-so years and once owned the Jersey Joe's restaurant on Yonge Street, made a career out of haphazard saves.

His time with the Leafs is highlighted by sprawling saves, often making an ordinary save look like something off of the highlight reel.

Born in Toronto, he was drafted by his hometown team with the 85th pick in the 1974 NHL Amateur Draft, spending the next three seasons as the club's starting goaltender after helping the Marlies to the Memorial Cup championship.

Plagued by bad knees, an injury-prone season in 1979-80 saw Palmateer traded to the Washington Capitals, before finishing his career as a Leafs once again in 1984.

The 58th-ranked Leaf of all time moved his family to Aurora upon retirement, turning to real estate and business ventures with his popular restaurant.

"I am very pleased and honoured to learn of my induction into the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame," said Mr. Palmateer. "I have many terrific memories of my professional hockey career but I deeply value all the wonderful memories and experiences spanning over 30 years of living and working in Aurora."

Mr. Palmateer is one of four inductees into this year's Aurora Sports Hall of Fame class, all inducted under the "Athletes" category.

Mr. Palmateer has been inducted to the ASHoF alongside Dan Thompson, a record-breaking swimmer, William Fleury, a pioneer in the Canadian cricket community, and Bob Wall, who was the first captain of the Los Angeles Kings in 1967.

"I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to raise my family in such a remarkable place," said Mr. Palmateer. "Thank you for this honour from the town that will always be home to me, my wife Lee and our daughters Courtney and Tess."

The Auroran will next highlight the career of Mr. Wall.

Held annually at St. Andrew's College, the ASHoF Induction dinner is one of the most spectacular nights of the year in the Aurora sports community. This year's dinner will be held on November 8, and more information can be found at www. aurorashof.ca.







Mayor's **Breakfast of Champions Spotlight**





Evolution Gymnastics

Evolution Gymnastics Aurora has had an exciting seventh season this year.

Through all the ups and downs that come with training 16 hours a week while trying to balance school and home-life, these athletes have had a lot to persevere through this year.

Their hard work and dedication to the sport resulted in not only medals at Provincial Championships this year, but several of our boys team traveled across the country, competing in Calgary for Tour Championships, as well as at Eastern Canadian Championships, held in Sackville New Brunswick.

Both competitions saw our boys come home with both team and individual gold medals.

Evolution Gymnastics Aurora (EGA) is made possible by the tireless efforts Sarah and Bruce Smith, the owners of EGA.

We would also like to thank senior coaches Sean Heaslip, Warren Bisbee, Carol Charad, Marija Gujic and Simon Kay for their efforts to help bring their athletes goals to fruition.

As we head into our eighth season, we hope it will be one filled with our current EGA family with new clients, new experiences, and new dreams for young athletes.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER



Half Way to St. Patrick's Day

SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 17 **AT 2:30 PM**

Let the countdown begin! It is officially half way to St. Patrick's Day. Wear your green and join us as we celebrate with the girls from the Irish Dance Studio of Newmarket Please RSVP as space is limited

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Open House with Teresa Marchione

SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 24

FROM 1:00 - 4:00 PM

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Changing the rules for "right of entry" on Council's agenda

From page 1

directions and orders while, at the same time, respecting privacy rights at home. This is accomplished by enabling officials to enter upon a person's property without the need for consent or a warrant unless the place being entered is a 'room or place actually being used as a dwelling.'

"Power of entry into dwelling units is considerably more restrictive. In general, the consent of the occupier is required for an officer/inspector to gain entry into a dwelling unit. It should be noted that the consent of the occupier does not require the consent of the property owner. This is intended to provide occupiers with the ability to ensure their living conditions meet regulatory standards. If consent of the occupier to enter the dwelling unit is not obtained, a warrant must be obtained, unless the presence of immediate danger exists such that entry is necessary to terminate the danger."

According to Ms. van Leeuwen, Aurora's Bylaw Department receives "hundreds of valid property related complaints each year" and is "very successful in achieving cooperative compliance." In 2016, the

department received 524 complaints, 393 of which were deemed valid, and 389 of which were resolved cooperatively. The previous year brought in 423 complaints, 334 of which were deemed valid, with a 99 per cent rate of cooperative resolution.

The most notable change up for Council's final ratification this week is a new process for notifying property owners their properties might be accessed. The current process is described as "informal" involving a door hanger indicating the nature of the visit and does not require official notification to the occupant.

"A formal notification process and protocol" would involve a letter left at the door giving the occupant 24 hours notice the bylaw department would be accessing the property.

"[The letter] would be left at their door in the hopes that they will contact us so we can have a conversation to explain the reasons why we want access," said Ms. van Leeuwen.

The concerns came, however, when discussion turned last week to what happens if the occupant declines access. In one noted hypothetical, if bylaw officers head to the rear of a house and find a locked gate, they would not proceed into the yard.

"Is a locked gate locked with a padlock, or is that just a gate with a door?" asked Councillor Jeff Thom. "Is the lock closed, or is locked actually locked?"

"Locked is locked," replied Ms. van Leeuwen. "Often pool enclosures have self-closing devices. I would not consider that locked."

Some Councillors, however, had other ideas.

"It is interesting that full property rights are granted to people with a lock on their property and people without can have someone enter their property," contended Councillor Thom. "I just think it is an interesting distinction. People put up fences to not only keep pets in, but keep other people out as well. I think there might be a lot of people with fences who will be putting locks on their gates. To me, a gate is a gate. It is a barrier."

A similar view was offered by Councillor Tom Mrakas.

"We all appreciate access needs to be granted when there are risks to other residents and to the environment, health, and public safety risks, but if the complaint is overgrown grass or if it is a minor complaint, it doesn't say anywhere what happens if the occupant of the dwelling says no," said Councillor Mrakas.

"It is interesting that if you put a lock on your gate you have more rights than if you don't put a lock on your gate. Overall, I am somewhat pleased at least that we have taken this step to develop some of these and have a better process moving forward."



EXPANDING THE MIND – Mayor Geoff Dawe, pictured here with Anu Bidani and Nicole Myers, formally opened STEM Minds on Saturday. The new maker space, with a focus on youth, offers a wide array of programs and is located on Earl Stewart Drive.

Auroran photo by Diane Buchanan







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THINGS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Amnesty International holds their monthly meeting this evening to discuss current human rights issues and write appeal letters at the Rectory of Trinity Anglican Church. 79 Victoria Street. Free, and all are welcome. For more information call Renee at 905-713-6713. Website: www.amnesty.ca and amnestyaurora.wordpress.com

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

The Aurora Tigers will host their 50th anniversary Home Opener Spectacular this evening at the Aurora Community Centre from 7 – 10 p.m. Celebrate the home team at the home opener against the Cobourgh Cougars. Its going to be a cat fight tonight, and the excitment continues with a gift bag for the first 500 - puck drop 7:30 pm. Cheer Loud * Tiger Proud.

SEPTEMBER 15 – 16

Come out to the 2017 Magna Hoedown for great food, drinks and fantastic music! Buying tickets will help raise money for 20 local charities. The fun gets underway Friday night at the Magna Corral from 6.30 - 11.45 p.m. with the finals of the Hoedown Showdown and headliner Chad Brownlee. Hoedown continues Saturday night from 5 - 11.45 p.m. with headliner Tom Cochrane and Red Rider. Visit www.hoedown.ca for more information.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

The Town of Aurora hosts the grand opening of the Joint Operations Centre today from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. There will be truck and equipment displays, a ceremonial tree planting, cake, refreshments and tours of the new building. The Joint Operations Centre is located at 229 Industrial Parkway North.

* * * *

The Marilyn Redvers Tennis Centre will host its grand opening today from 12 noon to 4 p,m. The year-round tennis facility at 1390 Wellington Street East has been operational since November, but the party gets started today with a variety of on-court activities. Mayor Geoff Dawe will lead a ribbon cutting ceremony at 1 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

The 37th Annual Terry Fox Run will take place today from 9 – 12 noon at the Aurora Seniors' Centre (90 John West Way). Registration begins at 9 a.m., speeches follow at 9.30 a.m., an the run itself gets underway at 10 a.m.

* * * *

Come out for the love of classic and custom cars – and support Big Brothers Big Sisters of York in the process – at the annual fundraiser presented by the Highway 11 Cruisers Car Club and New Roads Automotive Group. The event will take place at the new Gormley GO Station (one light west of Highway 404 on Stouffville Road) from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Over 30 class and specialty awards plus numerous door prizes and raffles. \$5 day of donation to Big Brothers Big Sisters for spectator parking. \$10 day of donation for show vehicle registration. Every show vehicle that registers will receive a \$20 gift certificate to be used at any New Roads Automotive Group Parts or Service Department.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Join the Aurora Historical Society for their 2017 Speaker Series with Mike Bryan and Keith Wright and the History of the Phonograph and Recorded Sound. \$7.00 each, \$5.00 for AHS Members. Refreshments served. To reserve your seat, call 905-727-8991. For more information on Mike and Keith, or to see the complete listing for the 2017 Speaker Series visit aurorahs.com/

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

The Newmarket Prostate Cancer Support Group will host their regular meeting today from 7-9 p.m. at the Newmarket Seniors' Meeting Place (472 Davis Drive, Halls 4 & 5). Ruth Barker, Regional Lead, Person-Centred Care Patient & Family Advisory Committee Stronach Cancer Centre, will be conducting a virtual tour of the facility. Everyone is welcome. For further information, call 908-895-1975.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Join local firefighters and volunteers at Central York Fire Services' annual Open House at Station 4-4 at 1344

Fashion Fundraisers will be opportunity for community groups

From page 8

beautiful area for refreshments for their use. We will enjoy hosting them and supporting their organizations.

"I do receive a lot of requests, and I've noticed a lot of the requests I receive for a donated gift card, or a garment for a silent auction or for a door prize, tend to come to me from medium-sized not for profit organizations that are regional and local. I know from my own days in the past how much work it is to put together fundraising events. It is enormous and we're all very busy. The idea came to me, as I have honoured every request I have received, to give a donation to a cause – but it struck me that there

is a better way here. Because many of these organizations seem to have women in organizational roles with the group, it struck me that this idea might resonate well because women do love to shop. If they are going to shop for their fall clothes, their spring clothes, this is an opportunity for a local organization to say to their membership, 'Hang on, do your fall shopping at our event and when you do you will be able to benefit our organization. Let's do it together.'"

For more information on the Fashion Fundraiser program, contact store owner Deb Clark at 905-726-4063. More information will be available online in the coming weeks.

Wellington Street East. Check out fire trucks, explore our new Fire Safety and Emergency Preparedness Simulator, participate in games and activities, watch firefighter demonstrations, get important fire safety tips, learn how to prepare for emergencies and so much more! Firefighters will be serving refreshments and cooking up hot dogs for all to enjoy. Donations will be accepted with all proceeds directed to the Hawkins-Gignac Foundation.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

GranAurora is pleased to present Ted Barris, award-winning journalist, broadcaster, and the author of eighteen non-fiction books who will be discussing his book, "The Great Escape: A Canadian Story." This event will be held at the Aurora Cultural Centre this evening with doors opening at 6.45 for refreshments and shopping at our marketplace. Author event begins at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are \$20. Contact granaurora4114@

gmail.com or call Lenore Pressley at 905-727-9235 for more information. Books available for sale will be provided by Blue Heron Books. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Chefs from across Aurora will participate in the eighth annual Empty Bowls fundraiser at the Aurora Cultural Centre. Proceeds from the day will be donated to Welcoming Arms and Inn From the Cold. Patrons can enjoy gourmet soups and breads prepared by local chefs served in some of the 500 handmade soup bowls created by members of the Pine Tree Potters' Guild. After the meal, patrons will take home their chosen bowl. Tickets will be on sale on a first come first served basis the week of September 13 from Meridian Credit Union on Wellington Street West. Early lunch: 11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Late lunch: 1.30 – 3 p.m. Tickets for are \$50 for each sitting. Organizers anticipate this will be a sold-

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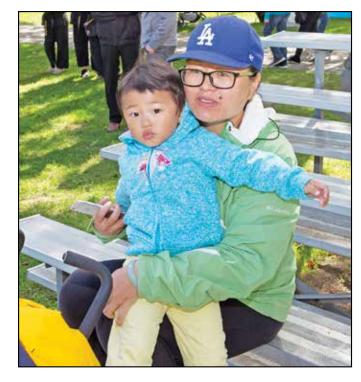
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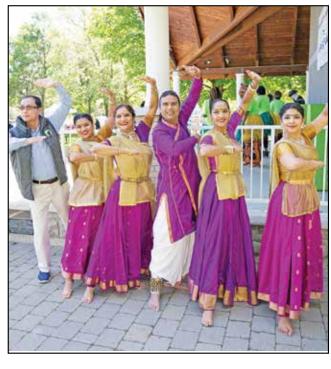












Aurorans had the world practically come to their front door on Saturday as the Town hosted its second annual Multicultural Festival. And the best part about having the world on your doorstep? They are all cultures right here in our own collective back yard. (Top) Japanese drumming demonstrations got the crowds up on their feet as did (second row, left) traditional Italian dancers. (Second row, right) Tricia and Mark help get the party started. (Third Row, left) Lele and Tao enjoy the performances. (Third row, right) Flamenco dancers representing Spain. (Fourth and Bottom rows, left) Performers from Cameroon displayed the rich culture and textiles of their West African nation. (Fourth Row, Right) Amy sees how low she can go, trying out the Limbo line. (Bottom Row, Right) Sumptuous was the word of the day as cultures put on their very best.

Hospice care being increasingly recognized within Region

From page 1

Heidi Bonner, the time to turn that page came on Monday at the organization's AGM in Aurora.

"The idea for 'Hope House' came at our 2015 AGM," she explains. "We had Debbie Homewood, who is one of the facilitators in our group, who came and spoke about spirituality and hope in hospice care and the idea of hope seemed really weird [in this context]. But the idea that hope keeps getting redefined along your journey really struck a chord with everyone present.

"You're not necessarily hoping you'll live forever, but hoping you'll live long enough to see your granddaughter born, live long enough to have a Dairy Queen sundae. You always have hope, but it changes, even if you are hoping for a pain free death."

Indeed, hope has always been an undercurrent at Hospice, regardless of its moniker. Illustrating her point, Ms. Bonner points to a plaque hanging well above normal sightlines, an otherwise unnoticed decorative accent, emblazoned with that evocative four-letter word.

It was there when they were operating on King Road, it is currently there in their Industrial Parkway South headquarters. and it is there to stay, presiding over the organization's latest chapter.

It's a chapter that begins as hospice care experiences considerable growth in all quarters.

Over the last few years, there has been an increased value placed by the Province of Ontario on Hospice Care, Ms. Bonner says. Funding for community and residential hospices has increased, recognizing that as the population ages the need is only going to grow and hospice care, in general, is an "economical" way of tackling a growing concern.

"Hospices in general are a very economical way of supporting people," she says. "Whether that hospice care is in the home, which is what community hospices like us do, or in the residential setting, from a purely numbers perspective it is significantly less to care for somebody in their home or residential hospice than in a hospital."

Another factor in the mix is the increased prevalence of medical assistance in dying within our national conversation has brought the very concept of "dying" out of dark corners and hushed tones and into a regular part of our dialogue.

about what we would like in our last *International*. days," says Ms. Bonner. "Hospice

forefront and people are demanding quality hospice and palliative care. We have been here for almost 35 years doing what we do, we have seen lots of changes and I think recently a lot of changes for good.

"Community hospices like us care for people: we provide service for people right from the time of diagnosis, so the people we care for are not necessarily palliative or end of life. We really get in there to support them and their family members early on to help them through their journey. It could be through treatment and remission and off they go."

Now, however, there is also increased recognition towards the needs of the caregiver. The importance of providing important supports to caregivers is also a trend being recognized by the Province, who have put more money towards caregiver support.

"It is about getting in there early to help caregivers cope with a loved one who is ill and providing different supports," says Ms. Bonner, noting the increasing participation in their bereavement support programs as well.

As much as awareness grows on the services places like the newly-minted Hope House Hospice provide, there are still nagging misconceptions out there.

Staff, volunteers and clients actively put out a "constant education stream" that helps knock these misconceptions down, primarily when it comes to the "Big D" word.

"Hospices are perceived as dying, end of life care and a place where there's beds, but there is a lot more to it and everybody who learns about us and connects with us gets that message," says Ms. Bonner. "It really is care from the time of diagnosis and it doesn't mean end of life for us. For our residential hospices, it definitely is that end-of-life piece. We are sort of that front end of care. It is one of the reasons too why we're looking at the name change.

"Our care for non-palliative care clients is growing and that name 'hospice' scared people. Their first reaction would be, 'I'm not dying, why do we need hospice?' We want to highlight that we are about living and about living life to the fullest."

Hope House Hospice is one of six organizations who are joining forces this vear under the Better Living Health & Community Services banner, which is a community partner in this week's Wild, "[This conversation] helps us think Wild West Hoedown, hosted by Magna

Better Living's network of hospices palliative care has been there all along, work together to provide hospice palliative but I think it is really coming into the care and support clients, families and

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Hospice King- Aurora-Richmond Hill will now be known as Hope House Hospice, as displayed by Heidi Bonner.

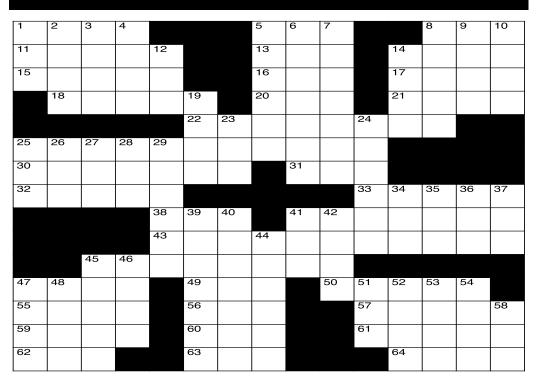
Auroran photo by Brock Weir

caregivers throughout York Region.

Their share of the Hoedown proceeds will go towards expansion at Hope House; programming, caregiver and bereavement Regional Health Centre.

support at Doane House Hospice; the new residential hospice at Hospice Vaughan; as well as the Margaret Bahen Hospice for York Region located at Southlake

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Cereal grain
- 5. Small constellation 8. Pouch
- 11. Beef comes in these
- 13. Chest muscle
- 14. Maine city
- 15. Salian
- 16. Int'l fraternal organization
- 17. Greek god of war 18. Canadian harbour
- 20. Firearm
- 21. Deities
- 22. North, Central and South
- 25. After the 16th 30. Used in herbal medicine
- 31. Whale (Norwegian) 32. Excessive fluid accumulation
- in tissues

- 33. Insect appendages 38. Relative biological
- effectiveness (abbr.)
- 41. Small Arab monarchy 43. Former U.S. President
- 45. Short-lived, slender insects
- 47. Forms after a cut
- 49. Fuel
- 50. Made of wood 55. Whale ship captain
- 56. Small bed
- 57. Supreme being
- 59. NY Giants owner
- 60. Consumed 61. Jewish spiritual leader
- 62. Promotional materials
- 63. Business term 64. Famous cartoonist

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Former CIA
- 2. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 3. Rhythmic patter in Indian music
- 4. Invests in little enterprises
- 5. Highest point
- 6. Incomes
- 7. Poisonous plant 8. Period in astronomy
- 9. Passed with flying colors
- 10. Professional certificate
- 12. Dublin college scholar
- 14. Heroic tale
- 19. Satisfy
- 23. __ student, learns healing
- 24. Beloved golfer Rodriguez
- 25. Car mechanics group 26. Not the start
- 27. Engage in a contest
- 28. Energy-saving module

- 29. Within reach
- 34. Forms adjectives
- 35. Snitch
- 36. Data executive 37. Hostelry
- 39. Helps people see
- 40. "MASH" actor Gould 41. Bridge building degree
- 42. Moreover
- 44. Spoke
- 45. Volcanic craters 46. Swedish rock group
- 47. __ Veda: liturgical chant
- 48. Former footballer Ochocinco
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Klu Klux
- 53. Italian Island 54. Catches
- 58. Baseball stat

LOTOS SA

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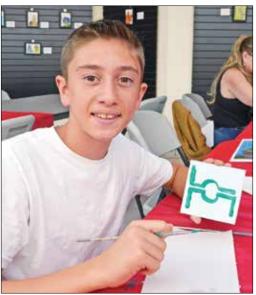
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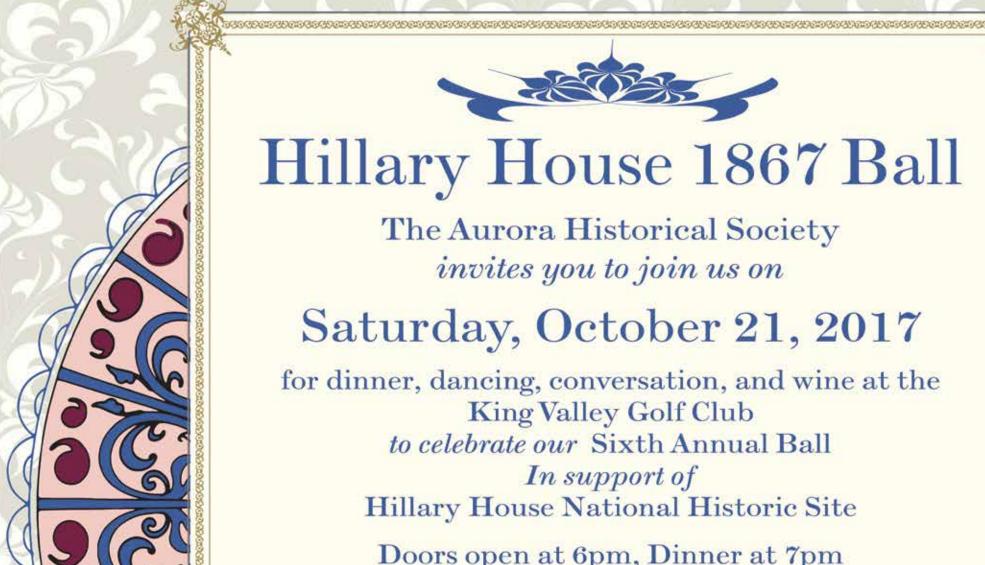
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Aurorans immersed themselves in local colour last week during painting sessions held Friday and Saturday to complete over 600 tiles that will form Aurora's Canada 150 Mosaic Mural. Painting parties were held Friday at Town Hall and in the historic Aurora Armoury on Saturday as part of the Multicultural Festival and aside from a specific base colour, there was no limit to each artist's creative spirit. (Clockwise from top left) Artists Judy Bobsin and Deborah Campo looked to nature on their respective tiles. Eric McCartney and Christine Valentini kept everyone's brushes moving. Anna's tile offered no garden variety interpretation. Matthew and Olivia prepare to unleash their own creativity.

Auroran photos by Brock Weir



Hillary House 1867 Ball

The Aurora Historical Society invites you to join us on

Saturday, October 21, 2017

for dinner, dancing, conversation, and wine at the King Valley Golf Club to celebrate our Sixth Annual Ball In support of Hillary House National Historic Site Doors open at 6pm, Dinner at 7pm

\$150 each, \$1350 for table of 10 \$140 Early bird before August 19, 2017 \$135 for AHS members only

Featuring the After Hours Big Band, celebrated pianist Ellen Meyer, dance instructor Derek Krzyszkowski local celebrities, silent auction, and more.

For tickets or more information call 905 727 8991

or email community@aurorahs.com

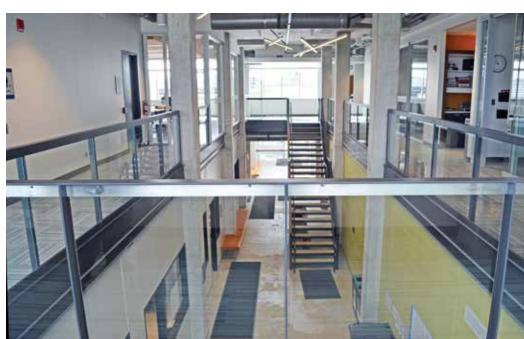


Take a tour of new Joint Operations Centre on Saturday









By Brock Weir

It has been a long time coming, but Aurora's Joint Operations Centre is finally ready to open its doors to the general public.

formal Grand Opening on Saturday morning, complete with tours of the state-of-the-art new home to Aurora Parks and Public Works departments, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. There will also be a ceremonial tree planting, cake cutting, as well as a chance to win a complimentary composter kit.

"The Joint Operations Centre is a centrally located, modern facility that houses many of our important municipal services," said Mayor Geoff Dawe in a statement. "We are working towards LEED Gold Certification for the JOC. The Centre is an example of environmental excellence through its use of solar panels, green roofs, fresh

air ventilation systems, rain water harvesting program and more."

On a sneak peek with The Auroran on Friday, Phil Galen, Manager of Facilities, Property and Fleet highlighted a number of key The Town will host the building's features including the building's extensive use of environmentally friendly and recycled materials, the storage of rainwater used to water municipal flower beds and wash municipal vehicles, the state of the art greenhouses and salt dome, onsite woodshop, and expanded garage facilities which allow in house costsaving vehicle service.

> "There has been great feedback from this building," said Galin, pictured here, left, with Operations and Fleet Supervisor Greg McClenny before a display of archival material. "People love the openness. From all sides, you're getting natural light and it is very collaborative."



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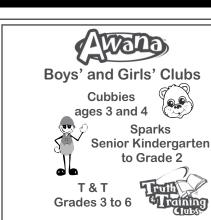
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At the request of the Attorney General and in accordance with the Justices of the Peace Act, the Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee invites applications for vacant Justice of the Peace positions in the Province of Ontario.

A Justice of the Peace is an independent judicial officer who presides in court over various proceedings under federal and provincial statutes. Applicants must meet minimum qualifications as set out in the Justices of the Peace Act.

The Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee reviews and evaluates applications and classifies candidates as "Not Qualified", "Qualified" or "Highly Qualified". Classifications are reported to the Attorney General, who recommends candidates for Order-in-Council appointments to the Ontario Court of Justice.

In addition to reflecting the diversity of Ontario's population, applicants should also display the fundamental skills and abilities, personal characteristics and community awareness attributes set out in the Committee's General Selection Criteria.

Bilingual positions require a high degree of proficiency in English as well as a superior level of oral and written proficiency in French. As First Nations people comprise a large percentage of the population in the areas being serviced by the court in Timmins*, we especially encourage people of Indigenous heritage and people with an in-depth understanding of Indigenous communities and the issues affecting those communities to apply for this vacancy.

For detailed information about the vacancies noted above, minimum qualifications and the General Selection Criteria, the required application form, and the Committee's process, please visit the website of the Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee at www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/jpaac.

Applications for current vacancies must be submitted on the current prescribed application form and received by 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 11, 2017. Applications received after this date WILL NOT be considered.

PLEASE NOTE: Future vacancies and deadlines for applications will be posted on the Committee's website as they occur. Interested individuals can receive e-mail notification of vacancies by registering at www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/jpaac/advertisements/registration.

Pour voir cette annonce en français, consulter le site Web du Comité à www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/fr/jpaac/annonces.

Freelance Reporter for Local Community Newspaper

Come join a dynamic, fast paced, growing entrepreneurial company looking for an energetic Freelance Reporter with a passion for community news. The ideal candidate will have a distinct willingness

to cover local community events and issues.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Freelance reporting work for weekly community newspapers and special projects
- Will produce stories and bylines for the events they cover
- Will be paid on a freelance/contract basis per project/story
 - Generate story ideas and follow up on news tips
 - Take photographs
 - Work some evenings and weekends, as required

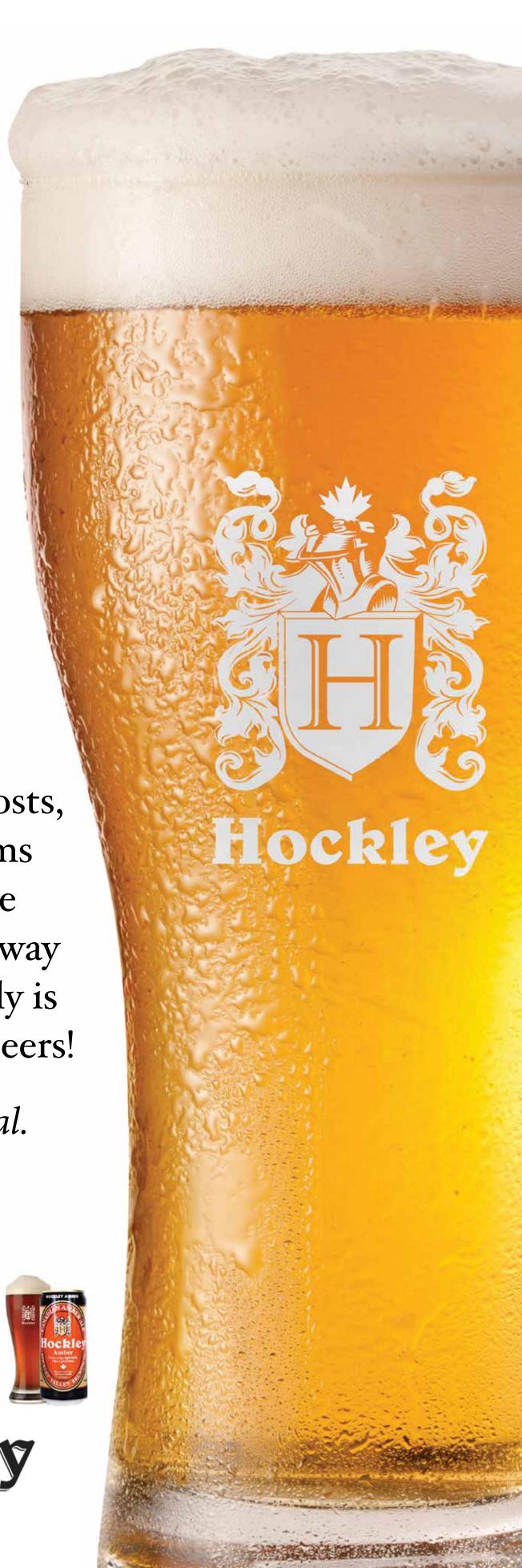
QUALIFICATIONS:

- Diploma in journalism preferred
- Candidates should have experience working on the editorial side of the newspaper industry
- Excellent writing, editing and photography skills
 - Valid driver's license and a reliable vehicle
 - Reporting experience an asset
- An interest in local issues is a necessity, as the majority of the writing for this role will be local



Let's Talk.

Interested and qualified candidates should forward their cover letter and resume to brock@auroran.com



In a world filled with Facebook posts, Tweets, Instagrams and Snapchats, we still feel the best way to connect socially is with one of our beers!

Authentically social.









HOCKLEYBEER.CA