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IHE AURORAN =

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 18 No. 29 905-727-3300

theauroran.com

FREE

Week of May 10, 2018





Strong winds levelled the Aurora Sports Dome late Friday afternoon, just a half hour before the place would have been full of teens and young adults geared up for indoor evening gameplay. Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

Windstorm leads to close call for local soccer players

Sports Dome levelled, trees felled during powerful storm

By Brock Weir

The Aurora soccer community had a close call on Friday afternoon as wind ripped through the community, levelling the Aurora Soccer Dome on Industrial Parkway North.

Friday's windstorm left hundreds of thousands of people across southern Ontario, including many chunks of Aurora without power, and also left them to clean up after the violent weather toppled trees, downed fences and ripped off roof shingles.

But, it also left the Aurora Youth Soccer Club (AYSC) thanking their lucky stars.

"We were, by the grace of God, lucky that it happened at 5.30 p.m. because, half an hour later, you would have had that placed packed with OPDL (Ontario Player and Development League) players," said Roy Cohen, President of Aurora FC, of the storm destroying the dome.

One person who was inside, however, was Trevor Redvers who, along with his family, operates both the Aurora Sports Dome and the Marilyn Redvers Tennis Centre at Stewart Burnett Park.

Trevor says they cleared the Sports Dome after staff on site reported it moving in the wind.

"I said, Just get everybody out and we'll close for the night," says Trevor. "I was on my way here and...I went into do a perimeter check to make sure all the emergency exits were snugly closed and it was moving around – then it just popped. I am definitely glad nobody was in there."

The dome damage leaves a hole in the local sporting community and the Redvers family is assessing their next steps in getting back up and running.

Continued on page 23

Abel joins race to be Aurora's next mayor By Brock Weir

The race to be Aurora's next mayor is now a three-way race with Councillor John Abel joining the running.

The Deputy Mayor filed his papers last week, becoming the third candidate to seek Aurora's top job. He joins incumbent Mayor Geoff Dawe and Councillor Tom Mrakas, who signed up May 1.

"After seven years of being Deputy

Continued on page 8



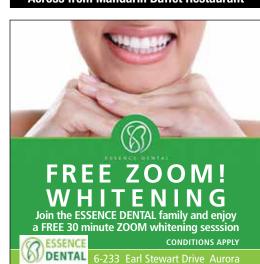
Call us today — (905) 727-6333







16686 Yonge St., Newmarket (905) 895-4084 **Across from Mandarin Buffet Restaurant**





Auroran photo by Brock Weir



Notice Board



Lipi Council & Committee Meetings

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Thursday, May 10	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Committee of Adjustment
Monday, May 14	7:30 p.m.	Holland Room	Heritage Advisory Committee
Tuesday, May 15	5:45 p.m.	Holland Room	Council Closed Session (if required)
Tuesday, May 15	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	General Committee
Wednesday, May 16	7 p.m.	Aurora Public Library	Aurora Public Library Board Rescheduled to May 9
Tuesday, May 22	5:45 p.m.	Holland Room	Council Closed Session (if required)
Tuesday, May 22	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Council
Wednesday, May 23	5:30 p.m.	Holland Room	Finance Advisory Committee
Wednesday, May 23	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Public Planning

*Meetings can be viewed online by visiting aurora.ca/gcstream

Public Planning

Council meetings are open to the public. For a full list of upcoming meetings, please visit aurora.ca.

Registration is now open for Town spring & summer programs, including aquatics and summer camps. There are many programs and activities for all ages. To view the recreation

What's Happening

Club Aurora wellness seminar - Walk

Register today for Club Aurora's Walk Your Way to Good Health seminar on **Saturday, May 12** from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. at the AFLC. This seminar is free for Club Aurora

Summer camps Open House on May 12

Join us at the Town's Summer camps Open House on Saturday, May 12 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex. Learn more about Town camp programs and meet some of the camp staff.

Yard waste collection has begun

Yard waste is collected with recycling every second week from April to November. Please place weeds, plant trimmings and leaves in paper yard bags, or any rigid open

Remember to bundle and tie branches as follows:

- Branches must be bundled with twine;

bags but no limit on the amount of yard waste placed for

Public Notices

Notice of service disruptions

Please see below for the scheduled service disruption at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex (AFLC):

- On Thursday, May 10, public skate will be cancelled from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- On Monday, May 21, Adult Shinny Hockey from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. will be cancelled.



May's Skylight Gallery artist - Hans Backer

This month, the Skylight Gallery will feature the works of Hans Backer.

Photography has been a lifelong passion for Hans. He is constantly inspired by nature's endless beauty. Hans endeavours to see everyday objects in a unique perspective and he uses that perspective to create a sense of peace and harmony in his artwork.

Visit the Skylight Gallery to see this exhibit. Regular viewing times are Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Aurora Town Hall, 3rd floor.

Seeking Canada Day Parade participants

The Town of Aurora is very excited to be hosting Aurora's Canada Day Parade on Sunday, July 1. Community Services is looking for interested community groups, or cultural performers that would like participate in this annual event.

Anyone interested in participating in the parade should contact the Recreation Supervisor, Special Events at sware@aurora.ca by Friday, June 15.

For questions or for more information please call 905-726-4762.



guide, visit aurora.ca/recguide.

Your Way to Good Health

members. For more information, visit aurora.ca/fitness.

For more information, visit **aurora.ca/campprograms**.

A reminder that yard waste collection has started. top container that has sturdy handles.

- Individual branches must be no larger than 10 cm (4 inches) in diameter;
- Bundles must be no more than 22 kg (50 lbs) and no longer than 1.2 m (4 ft.)

Grass clippings are not collected in Aurora's curbside yard waste program. There are maximum weights for yard waste collection, providing that acceptable containers are used.





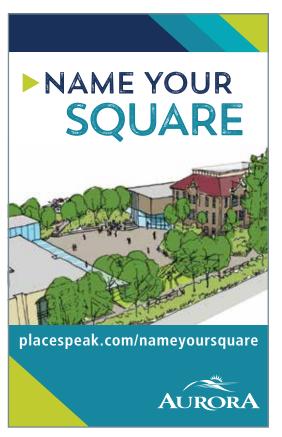
Aurora Farmers' Market is now open

Browse through more than 40 vendors including farmers, food, artisans and community groups. During the operating season, the market hosts a children's craft every Saturday, special events and entertainment once a month.

This year, the market will have a new layout with more vendors in the park and more parking around the venue. Mark your calendars for May 26, the grand opening event! The festivities will include prizes, live music and family-friendly activities.

The market is located in Aurora Town Park every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. from the beginning of May to the end of October. Market operations continue rain or shine.

For more information, visit aurorafarmersmarket.com







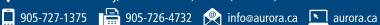


AURORA











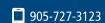












Accessible Formats















Mavrinac Park set for official opening May 22 as "green oasis

By Brock Weir

What was once the centre of a battle between east side residents, developers and the Town of Aurora is now a six acre "green oasis" of park space, tennis courts and other leisure facilities.

Mavrinac Park, as the six-acre greenspace has come to be known for its location on Mavrinac Boulevard, is set for its official opening – under a new name - on Tuesday, May 22 at 5.30 p.m.

There, its new name, Thomas Coates Park, which is set to be approved at Council this week, will be formally unveiled.

Thomas Coates originally owned the land from 1854 to 1892. It was then sold to his daughter Sarah, and from Sarah to Mrs. Charles C. Richardson.

She subsequently passed it to her son, Charles E. Richardson in 1913, who owned the lands until 1949.

"Hopefully Council will approve the name [this week] and Thomas Coates Park will be unveiled," says Al Downey, Director of Operations for the Town of Aurora. "We will be putting up the sign and having that so people will recognize. Activate Aurora will be a part of [the opening ceremony] and Council has been very happy with what is taking place. Now that spring has finally arrived, I am sure we're going to have more people coming in to use the park but so far there has been a really positive reaction.

"It is a bit of a green oasis within that community. One of the things we did, which worked quite well with the development of this park, is we worked strongly with the community on the development of the elements that are in the park and certainly worked with the playground elements are a huge addition. In some of the conversations I had, one of the things they really wanted to be able to see was something for the younger kids."

Basketball and tennis courts are also prominent features of the park, the latter of which garnered a great deal of interest in the planning process.

The local seniors community, for instance, said they wanted to see some additional space for pickleball around Aurora and the new tennis courts on site can accommodate that particular combination of tennis and badminton that is soaring in popularity within seniors' circles.

"One of the real highlights of this park is there is something for all, and it certainly addresses the needs of the community," says Mr. Downey, noting the facilities are open to all and they "hope" it will not become a programmable space for sports and recreation. "It is really there for the enjoyment of the community. Unless we get a special request with regards to permitting or whatever, we don't generally program within those parks. We are definitely going to be communicating that those pickleball courts are available and so our seniors association will be aware of that. That way, if they wish, they can go to the park and play pickle ball. We aren't proposing to permit them out at

this point.

"It is a new park in your area, it is a Council on delivering that. I think new opportunity to get the community together. It is a great opportunity to meet your neighbours and get active. Now that spring has spring, we can get out and get people active after what has been a very long winter."





Breakthrough **Treatment** For **Sciatica**

Do you experience lower back pain, pain in the buttocks or leg that is worse when sitting, hip pain, burning or tingling down the leg, weakness, numbness, or difficulty moving the leg or foot, a constant pain on one side of the buttocks and/or a shooting pain that makes it difficult to stand up? You may be suffering with a condition known as sciatica.

Sciatica is defined as compression of a spinal nerve root in the lower back, often owing to degeneration of an intervertebral disc.

Sciatica most commonly occurs when a herniated disc, bone spur on the spine or narrowing of the spine (spinal stenosis) compresses part of the nerve. This causes inflammation, pain and often some numbness in the affected leg.

You go to the drug store or to your doctor and get pills to help relieve your symptoms. But you find the symptoms keep returning. Alternatively, the doctor may refer you to a specialist who may tell you that surgery is needed or is an option for you.

However, many people are hesitant to have surgery given its invasive nature. It is important to know that although surgery is sometimes necessary, it is considered a last resort in most cases.

Also, you may have heard that there are serious health risks associated with chronic use (or overuse) of medications that include damage to the liver, kidneys and gut.

There is a new, natural, safe and highly effective approach that has helped many

sufferers improve their lives dramatically: Laser therapy uses light to favor and accelerate the body's natural healing processes. The innovative Multiwave Locked System (MLS) Laser produces a safe, efficient and simultaneous effect on pain, inflammation and nerve conduction, exceeding the limits of traditional LLLT (Low power) and concerns of HP (High power) laser therapy.

According to multiple studies MLS laser therapy appears to be uniquely capable of decreasing the inflammation around the spinal cord and shows great promise in the battle against the devastating sequelae of this condition.

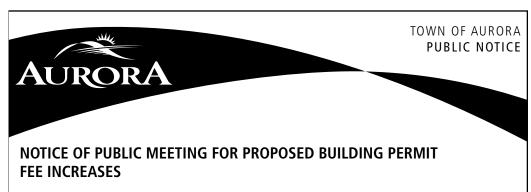
What does this mean for you?

Many of our patients have reported a 90-95% relief of their symptoms, more mobility, increased sensation and vastly improved function!

It is the very latest in medical technology, with years of clinical studies supporting its safety and efficacy and we are very proud to offer our patients effective solutions to their recent or chronic conditions.

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

Come in and allow us to help you achieve the results you deserve! Call (905) 773-2225 to book your FREE consultation and examination at King West Wellness Centre 141 King Rd., Unit 10, Richmond Hill (In the Home Hardware



AURORA TOWN COUNCIL will hold a Public Meeting in order to consider amendments to the Town of Aurora's Building Bylaw under Section 7(6) of The Building Code Act on June 5, 2018 at 7:00 pm at AURORA TOWN HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 100 JOHN WEST WAY, AURORA, ONTARIO

The Town of Aurora is proposing to amend its Building Bylaw following a review of the building permit fees under Section 7(6) of The Building Code Act. The effect will be to amend the Town of Aurora's Building Bylaw to increase building permit fees for some classes of building permits, as well as, some minor housekeeping amendments to the Bylaw.

CONTACT:

Any inquiries should be directed to Wm. Jean, Manager of Code Review & Inspections/Chief Building Official of the Planning and Development Services Department at 905-727-3123 extension 4319, Monday to Friday between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm. Comments may also be mailed to the Planning and Development Services department at the same address, faxed to 905-726-4736 or emailed to building@aurora.ca prior to the meeting.

Any persons may attend the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of or in opposition to the amendments. Those wishing to make comments in person must contact Legislative Services Division of the Town of Aurora to request status as a delegation.

Personal Information Collection Notice

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.

Audio and Video Recording of Council and Committee Meetings

The Town audio and/or video records Public Meetings. If you make a presentation to Town Council or its Committees, you may be audio or video recorded.

DATED at the Town of Aurora, this 10th day of May, 2018.

Michael de Rond Town Clerk

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Windrow clearing would be nice to have: reader

(Re: Windrow Woes. **Inside Aurora, May 3)**

I enjoyed your windrow column.

I grew up in Willowdale as a kid. I remember having to get rid of snow at the end of the driveway.

At that time, I remember that in Etobicoke in some areas they the windrow service. Not in North York where I lived. So, having this service certainly isn't a new feature. It would be nice here in Aurora.

That recent ice storm certainly gives windrow service a heads up.

Keep up the good work.

Don Oates Aurora

Government "not taking drug crisis seriously"

Justin Trudeau's Liberals have failed to take our drug crisis seriously.

The Trudeau Liberals have already announced that they will make prescribed opioids and even heroin available to drug addicts and they're still rushing ahead with the legalization of marijuana.

And now, Liberals want to go even further. This past weekend the Justice Minister told Canadians that she's open to decriminalizing illicit drugs like crack, cocaine and heroin.

As we face an unprecedented opioid epidemic, the Liberal government should be focused on expanding drug treatment programs and making sure dangerous drugs stay out of the hands of vulnerable Canadians. Instead, the Trudeau Liberals are spending millions on marijuana legalization and paving the way toward more drugs being available to Canadians.

Canada's Conservatives take this drug crisis seriously. That's why we're demanding that Justin Trudeau put the safety and the health of young people first, ahead of their ideological disposition to drug use.

> Marilyn Gladu, MP Sarnia—Lambton

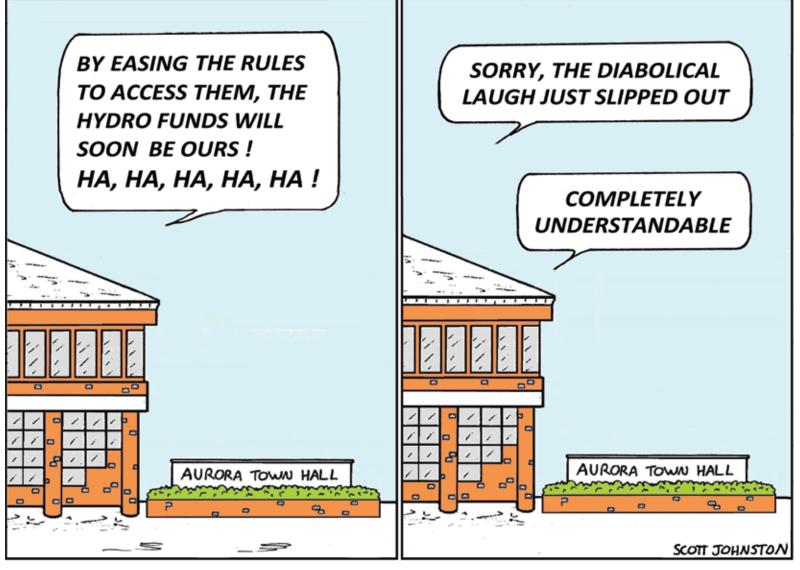




CLEANING UP – AND POWERING UP Aurora resident Eric McCartney submitted these photos of the cleanup following Friday's windstorm, including efforts to repair power lines at Bayview Avenue. To submit your shots, email letters@auroran.

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

Machell's Corners



Went With the Wind

Spring is finally here, and to the season I would like to extend the warmest welcome.

Now, for those of you who happened to be outdoors on Friday afternoon untethered and otherwise ungrounded, I'd like to welcome you back from your impromptu, unplanned sailing trip to the Land of Oz.

This might not be Kansas, but if you were stuck out there with your twentyfirst century equivalent to Toto, it might as well have been.

Friday seemed like such a pleasant day.

While still unseasonably cool, the sun was shining, the weekend promised what was supposed to be the first warm and temperate day of Spring, and it seemed, to borrow a late-minted political phrase, sunny ways ahead.

Then, the skies opened up.

Suddenly, sitting at my windowfacing desk, I was looking out at a solid sheet of water coming down from the heavens. Then, as quickly as the deluge appeared, it stopped long enough to allow trees to bend over, their tops nearly kissing the ground, as horrendous winds came through to dry up with downpour.

But the wind didn't stop. It just kept coming. Shingles started to rapidly fly by my window. Otherwise sturdylooking telephone polls began swaying back and forth, some snapping near the business end of things. Fences too were rocking back and forth, bits falling away with each gust, and some coming off panel by panel.

After re-gelling my already errant hair before venturing back out into the storm in a futile effort to avoid looking like Marty Allen by the time I reached my destination, I hit the road and, on the way, saw a full-sized love seat and mattress ready to be picked up outside an apartment building on the east side of the road take the air, rapidly rolling across the street and going headlong into the ground floor window of a retirement residence on the west.

An action-packed afternoon to be

It almost seemed symbolic. As the next day brought that glorious spring sunshine we had all been craving, the winds of Friday appeared to sweep away the last vestige of a winter that refused to quit.

Change was indeed in the air, it seems to be all around us.

I am writing this just a few hours before the three main contenders to

BROCK'S BANTER

Brock Weir

be Ontario's next Premier square off against each other in the very first time in the lead up to the June 7 Provincial election.

Although the writ only officially dropped this week, it feels like we've been caught in the crosshairs of this battle for far longer than humane.

Leaders have come and gone under circumstances all too familiar to us by now, candidates have fallen by the wayside, platforms have been built, dismantled and scattered with a speed as swift as Friday's winds, but these winds, as polls early in the week have indicated, have done nothing to quench the thirst for change, for better

As a guy who sets finger to keyboard for a living, I can't help but be fascinated by the power of the word in each of these political maelstroms.

Take, for instance, the brouhaha that erupted last week when Progressive Conservative leader Doug Ford was captured on video - a video gleefully released by the Liberals - speaking to a closed room of developers and real estate figures, promising them he would open up portions of Ontario's Green Belt for further development.

Granted, he did say that for every portion of the Green Belt opened up for development, an equal portion of land would be protected elsewhere willfully defeating the whole "belt" concept.

"Ford's promise to pave the Greenbelt not only encourages urban sprawl, but it puts farmland, wildland and wetlands, including ravines and rivers currently protected, at risk of being encroached and even replaced by new suburban development," said Minister of the Environment Chris Ballard in a statement, coinciding with his release of the video. "The fact Doug Ford dismisses the Green Belt as 'just farmers' fields' that should be paved demonstrates his ignorance and disdain towards our natural environment and the important role it plays in protecting our environment and building better communities."

It was a rare thing these days: a win for the Liberals that actually struck a chord with many voters, leading to swift and immediate condemnation from many corners, including some who traditionally bleed blue.

Such was the backlash that Mr. Ford quickly changed his tune.

Except, in this case, "backlash" was, instead, called a "consultation."

"This afternoon, Doug Ford announced that after consultation with the people of Ontario, an Ontario PC Government would maintain the Greenbelt in its entirety," read the Party statement, followed by the Ford statement below.

"I looked at it as making sure we have more affordable housing," he said. "There have been a lot of voices saying that they don't want to touch the Greenbelt. I govern through the people, I don't govern through government. The people have spoken we won't touch the Greenbelt. Very simple. That's it. The people have spoken. I'm going to listen to them, they don't want me to touch the Greenbelt, we won't touch the Greenbelt. Simple as that."

Then, on Saturday, the Party announced the ouster of social conservative candidate Tanya Granic Allen.

Granic Allen, a former leadership rival in the race to replace Patrick Brown, garnered significant support for her widely known social conservative activism including firm positions against abortion and against the rights of the LGBTQ community.

The reason for her ouster? Someone, as the kids say today, "kept the receipts" of her well-known views.

"Tanya Granic Allen will no longer be a candidate for the Ontario PC Party," said Ford. "We are a party comprised of people with diverse views that if expressed responsibly we would respect. However, the fact is her characterization of certain issues and people has been irresponsible. Our party remains focused on defeating Kathleen Wynne and bringing relief to families across Ontario."

This renewed focus might be, in and of itself, another sign of the winds of change, but with less than a month to go before the polls, it is still hard to say which way it is blowing - and there will be a few more gusts before another storm next month.

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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 celebrating...

Mother's Day! (May 13)

In 1918, Mrs. Edith Hillary performed the role of "A Mother" in the production of The Temple of Fame. Along with 32 other supplicants, Edith pled her case to the Goddess of Fame as to why she (a mother) should win the Crown of Fame. Ultimately, the Goddess decided that she was the worthiest of all the candidates and A Mother was selected as the winner. Who is worthy of the Crown of Fame now, exactly 100 years later? If you have tickets to the upcoming remount of the play, you will soon find out. Happy Mother's Day!

AURORA MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

Staying Active



MP's Report

Kyle Peterson, MP Newmarket-Aurora

everyone has access to the support they need to achieve their fullest potential.

The ninth annual Portraits of Giving celebrated leaders in social responsibility in York Region on April 11. Congratulations to all the recipients for their leadership and inspiration, and raising awareness and resources for several notable causes.

Preserving our environment to ensure our kids can grow up in healthy communities is important to me. On April 28, I joined Neighbourhood Network and the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority for the annual Spring Tree Planting. We had a great turnout with many residents and many volunteers, without whom this event would not be possible. Over the course of the morning, we planted over 400 trees!

On April 29, I participated in the 2018 Run or Walk for Southlake, presented by Nature's Emporium. The

walk was a fantastic success and it was great to see such strong community support for an important cause. The event saw over 1,500 participants, and raised over \$175,000 for patient care at Southlake Regional Health Centre. A special thank you to all the organizers who worked tirelessly to make this event a success.

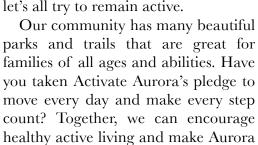
On a sad note, the House lost one of its own on May 2: Gord Brown, Member of Parliament for Leeds-Grenville-Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes.

Gord was a personal friend. I got to know him as he was captain of the Conservative hockey team, and I serve as captain of the Liberal team. He was always a pleasure to work with and a true gentleman. He was never partisan, a trait I try to emulate. Gord taught me much and I will miss him dearly

My sympathies to his wife Claudine and sons Tristan and Chase. Rest in Peace Gord.

As a reminder, you can reach out to my office and my staff at any time. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you need any information or assistance with any Federal Matters. We are located at 16600 Bayview Avenue, Suite 202. You can reach us at Tel: 905-953-7515 or by email at Kyle. Peterson@parl.gc.ca.

The warm weather is here to stay I



hope, and as we head towards summer,

count? Together, we can encourage healthy active living and make Aurora Canada's most active community. Find out more about how you can get active and involved here: activateaurora.com. Kudos to all who made this a reality!

The Aurora Garden Horticultural Society recently celebrated their 100th anniversary. Congratulations on this significant milestone! I was pleased to be able to participate in this special celebration event. Without a doubt, they have well established roots in our community, and I look forward to seeing them grow over the next 100 years as they cultivate greener gardens and provide a wealth of resources for those wishing to explore

On April 11, Community Living Central York had a ground-breaking ceremony for their remodelled space. Community Living supports residents of York Region with developmental disabilities to provide a community where everyone belongs, and to ensure

As someone once said, your house is your home only when you feel you have jurisdiction over the space.

Do you ever remember the movie from 1948 called Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House, starring Cary Grant and Myrna Loy? It was about a New York advertising executive who, along with his family, lived in a cramped city apartment and they wanted and dreamed of a home in the suburbs.

Well the story goes, that as they begin this adventure, the bills and the house grow larger by each day! If any of you have done any kind of renovating you will understand this story all too well. But in the end, after their bank account is overdrawn and completely depleted, they really do live happily ever after.

It really doesn't matter where you live or going to live, it is your passion in living life to its fullest that can encourage you to enjoy your surroundings wherever you lay your hat.

In many small towns, usually once a year, many homeowners will open their doors and invite the public to come and see their homes. It is so interesting to see the many collections of cherished items in each of these homes. It can be baseball movies, Hollywood memorabilia, teapots, Waterford crystal and books galore.

What do you collect? What favorite things have you accumulated over the years that you now lovingly display around your home? My own home has a collection of angels from figurines to prints. When I see them, it brings me a sense of peace and comfort. I believe we are surrounded by angels and that there is an angel who watches over each one of us.

You don't need to be a hoarder, but know when to say enough because all we have is all we really need.

Unless you live alone, is your

Mother's Day



SENIOR SCAPE

Christina Doyle

home your own? I can think back when the children were young, and all breakable items were removed from table tops and shelves. Until one day the children and the crystal could coexist next to their toys as our belongings became intertwined reflecting the personalities of everyone who resided here.

Today, no matter where or how you live, look upon your home through the eyes of Love. Walk around the rooms and offer up thanks, pause for a moment to consider all those who have lost their homes through death, divorce, debt or even disaster. Be grateful for the home you have and know in your heart it's all you really need.

This month, speaking of home and heart, some of us may be celebrating Mother's Day; you may have a cherished item that belonged to your mother. It may be an old cookbook with the grease marks all over it, or her favorite blanket.

If you are so fortunate to have one of these lovely cherished items, then please go ahead and display it, knowing you are surrounding yourself with love. And although she may not be in this world, you can always talk to her within your heart. May is a time we get many reminders to pause and take time to acknowledge the contributions of mothers to our lives.

Speaking of Mother's Day, I wonder how many of us realize that the holiday's

founder was a Methodist? Anna Jarvis admired her mother so much, she petitioned presidents and congressmen to set aside a special day to honor moms across the United States.

Ann Reeves Jarvis was an activist during the 1850s and organized local mother's clubs to teach young women how to care for their children and how to keep their homes clean and healthy.

Daughter Anna Jarvis never married and never bore children. She devoted her life to the creation of Mothers Day not for her own benefit but as a tribute to her mother and the example she set in 1908.

May this month bring blessings to your home, your family and to all mothers, past, present and future, a blessed Happy Mother's Day. We will always love you!

HAPPENINGS AT THE SENIORS CENTRE

SENIORS INFORMATION AND ACTIVE LIVING FAIR will be held Saturday, June 16 at the Seniors' Centre. This is an opportunity for you to come out and meet with vendors, have fitness demos, health seminars and more. Admission is free.

MAH JONGG. Have you ever played this popular game? Why not come out on Mondays and Thursdays at 1 pm to try your hand.

LADIES PICKLEBALL. Pickleball is one of the fastest growing activities in Canada. Anyone can play with a little instruction. Ladies pickleball is played on Tuesdays at 12.30.

LADIES POOL. Another ladies only activity is pool. Come out of Monday mornings, from 9 am to 12 noon, and learn how to play pool. We have a coach who guides us with our strokes and helps us with our shots.



Time Traveler's Diary

Shawna White

Here at the Aurora Museum & Archives we like to think of ourselves as time travelers. Through our artifact, photograph and archival collection we are able to explore different moments and stories from Aurora's history with the goal of bringing them back to life.

Admittedly, we are not actually able to travel through the space-time continuum, but it sure does feel like it once we are down a rabbit hole of research.

As many of you may already know, the Museum is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Temple of Fame theatrical production this coming weekend and what better place to start our bi-weekly journey than 100 years ago ...

The year is 1918; the First World War and woman's suffrage are both reaching a fever pitch. Communities are grieving over their losses from early years of the War and the defining characteristics of longstanding gender roles are being shattered.

Amongst the changing tides, people are coming together, to support one another, fundraise for the soldiers overseas, and empathize with those who are mourning. There were many efforts on the home front to support all those effected by the War and the 1918 production of the Temple of Fame is an example of just that.

At the time, the Town of Aurora had a population of 2,000 people and 77 people took part in the production of the Temple of Fame. For those of you keeping track that is approximately 4 per cent of the population. If 4 per cent of the population contributed to a project today that would be about 2,100 people. I think we can call that a dedicated community.

The play was a fundraiser to help provide much needed supplies for local soldiers fighting in the War and with an all-female cast, it also leant a voice to prominent women's issues of the day. During the play, a cast of characters famous through the world's history would come and plead their case to the Goddess of Fame as to why they should win the Crown of Fame.

Characters such as Frances Willard, Woman of the Next Century, and Tabitha Primrose all speak to certain aspects of women's issues, with Tabitha Primrose being the most explicit when she proclaims, "Woman wants the ballot, the right to make stump speeches, and hold office, and not be confined to matrimony which is mighty uncertain." The 1918 production was a great success and enthusiastically reviewed in the Toronto Daily Star the next day.

Exactly two weeks after the production, some women secured the right to vote in federal elections with the government stating that women earned this right through their contributions to the war effort. However, the eligibility criteria for the vote were highly exclusionary; Asian men and women waited until 1948 to receive the vote, and Indigenous men and women were excluded until 1960.

We look forward to sharing more of our time travelling discoveries, every other week, right here on page 5.

To learn more about the 1918 production of the Temple of Fame visit the new exhibition at the Aurora Museum & Archives, located on the second floor of the Church Street School.

THIS WEEK'S POLL

Who do you think won Monday night's leaders debate?

A) Ford B) Horwath C) Wynne
Go to www.theauroran.com to vote!

Previous poll results
Should the Provincial Government loosen building restrictions on Ontario's Green Belt?

YES NO UNSURE 18% 82% 0%

\$2.2 million price tag turns the page on JOC

By Brock Weir

Funding to finally complete Aurora's Joint Operations Centre is set to receive Council approval this week.

A total of \$2,185,200 worth of capital works, funded by reserves and development charges so it doesn't result in a direct hit to taxpayers, will be required to finish the job on a project Councillors described as the "close of a chapter."

The final tally was presented at last Tuesday's General Committee meeting by Al Downey, Aurora's Director of Operations. Mr. Downey's report signalled the final step in the full audit over the Joint Operation Centre's (JOC) construction, which was requested by Council last year.

The initial audit, as reported earlier this spring by The Auroran, criticized number of areas, stemming from its lack and \$45,000 for furniture. of a specifically-tasked project manager until the IOC was well underway.

It also outlined a number of essential components of the JOC that were for automated gate control, \$50,000 for removed from the build's original scope so it appeared to be within budget. These elements were then brought back to Council for further approval as extra system. add-on items.

Mr. Downey's report – recommendations - follow a Council decision which tasked staff with bringing forward all the items, previously approved conditionally at budget time, that are required to complete the JOC.

Among the items still needed to be completed out of the contract were back lot paving to the tune of \$890,200, completion of the upper parking lot and rear yard for \$285,000, landscaping for \$85,000, a garbage tipping station for

the build for its "poor management" in a \$100,000, \$60,000 for exterior signage.

New items – encompassing those cut from the original design – include \$300,000 for storage buildings, \$50,000 south side exterior finishing, \$300,000 to complete the shell space on the third floor, and \$20,000 for an intercom

In addition to these items, approvals and from the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) are still outstanding.

> "Permits for the JOC were obtained from the LSRCA to commence work on the site," said Mr. Downey. "During the construction process, fill was placed into the valley without the approval of the LSRCA. Staff from the LSRCA have attended the site and inspected the results of the fill operations. The site remains stable and erosion protection has been installed; however, ground cover and landscaping to stabilize the slopes is required.

> "Staff have been in communication with the LSRCA and are awaiting either approval of the works or direction regarding what remedial actions are required to obtain approval. Staff have not included any cost estimates for remedial works as they are unknown at this time. If capital funding is required, staff will prepare a separate report to Council requesting such funding."

> While this approval remains a missing piece of the puzzle, Council members expressed some relief that they are close to turning the page on this project, which has been dogged by controversy from the start.

> "I am really relieved to have this chapter of the IOC, at least in my mind, to be closed and everything that needed to be in the JOC has been budgeted, accounted for, and all of the requirements for staff are in there," said Councillor Harold Kim. "Again, it was necessary that it was overbudget, but

things that should have been included were not included. I am just happy this chapter is over and the JOC will finally be how it should have been at the very beginning."

A similar sentiment was offered by Councillor John Abel.

"I am along the lines of Councillor Kim that we're finally closing the loose ends on this project," he said. "It was controversial from the beginning, but one of the main things that was borne out was there was no project management methodology in place, and that came from the auditor and that was his comment. We will take that as something we learned from that. As we said at the conclusion of that audit, this is something we will use further for any projects that we are undertaking."

While Councillor Wendy Gaertner said she had an issue with the project being completed from Development Charges earmarked for Parks & Facilities as well as Roads & Related, money set aside for indoor recreation and roads, she said should not be used in this project, she argued.

Town Treasurer Dan Elliott, on the other hand, said that portions of this project funding will be used for equipment and other items related to parks and roads maintenance.

Another sticking point was the building out of the JOC's third floor shell space.

This shell space was intended as a cost-effective way to have space ready once other administration spaces become overcrowded, eyed as potential future office space that could be used for storage in the meantime.

This build-out, however, is coming sooner than Council anticipated.

"We haven't determined which department [will be moving into the space]," said CAO Doug Nadorozny, responding to questions from Councillor Michael Thompson. "We're actually at

Continued on page 21



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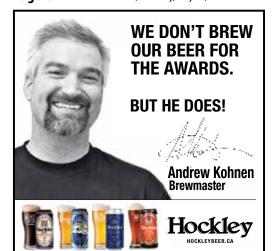




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USINESS



Community benefits on Armoury deal should be clear: Abel

From page 1

Mayor, I have come to the realization that politics is about improving the lives of the residents of Aurora, nothing more, nothing less," says Councillor Abel. "I am perfectly situated [to do that] having over seven years as Deputy Mayor. It would make absolute sense that I would be ready and willing to assume that role."

Although Councillor Abel said his vision for Aurora was a "full plan" that would be rolled out during the campaign itself, he said that part of that vision is the belief that "any money we're spending would be to the benefit of our residents."

"If we are spending money and it is not for the benefit, I would not be

making that decision."

To that end, Councillor Abel has said he will re-issue his notice of motion asking for a full report on the benefits a deal with Niagara College's Canadian Food & Wine Institute (CFWI) will bring to Aurora.

The motion for the "economic impact analysis" of the deal was brought forward to Council last month, but it fizzled on the table when it didn't receive a seconder.

The Motion, he said in a statement, came in the wake of April's audit report on the Joint Operations Centre that outlined many improvements that need to be made "before spending money on large capital projects."

A Project Management Methodology

was recommended, he said, to include an analysis of the economic benefits a project will have on the local community, and the economic benefits of the CFWI deal goes hand in hand with this.

"We have heard several Councillors refer to the spin-off benefits that the Food & Wine Institute will deliver, but we have yet to hear exactly how it will do that," said Councillor Abel in his statement. "While Councillors show no hesitation for extolling the virtues of the agreement with Niagara College, they are reluctant or unable to substantiate any of their claims.

transparency and competition before deals are struck is a genuine aim of an elected body and its members, and if they truly wish to live up to the promises and commitments they made to serve the community's best interests, then they should welcome the idea of an economic impact analysis with open arms. Not only does this conform to the recommendations of the JOC Audit report, it is specifically meant to guide the decisions of policymakers and inform the public as to whether or not this is a good investment of taxpayers' money."

Seeking the Mayor's Seat is an opportunity Councillor Abel has been mulling for several months, confirming to The Auroran back in February that it was very much an option on the table.

Between then and now, a number of factors fell in place, he says, that helped solidify his decision.

"The support I have gotten from the

community, the business community, and organizations I participate, have all encouraged me to step forward to assume the role of the mayor," he says. "There are a number of issues that have not been addressed, and I would be addressing those if I became Mayor. Downtown revitalization, we've all been talking about that and nothing has happened. Obviously, we have a huge problem at the GO Station, the lack of parking, and the impact it has on our Heritage District. I think I can provide the leadership that is required to address the issues and I think what open I bring to the table is experience and leadership.

"What I really want to champion is affordable housing. There are two reasons: Our children, and I have raised two, can't afford to live in Aurora and new businesses can't afford to live in this community. We need to have rental units and also for our seniors, and we're moving into a huge seniors [population], we need to age in place as we downsize. People shouldn't have to move out of Aurora to find affordable housing. We need more rental units and that is what I am really championing for and it would have a great impact on our community in the long run."

Councillor Abel was first elected to Aurora Council in 2010.

The position of Deputy Mayor is afforded to the top vote-getter in the Council race, a position Councillor Abel has secured in both of his terms on Council.

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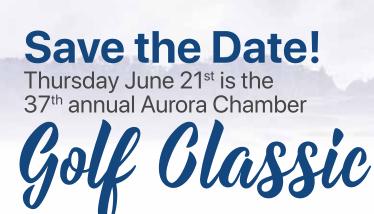
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STEM MINDS – Umi showed off her skills as STEM Minds on Earl Stewart Drive threw open their doors Saturday for their first-ever STEM-a-Thon, a free community event for kids aged 4 – 12 which offered a number of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) activities including coding, robotics and digital media.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger



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Changes proposed after "horror story" on Brookland

By Brock Weir

Long delayed and bigger-thanexpected reconstruction works on Brookland Avenue last year left business owners and residents alike angry with how things went down. From Councillor Wendy Gaertner's perspective, it was nothing short of a "horror story" for all concerned. Now, changes are being proposed to ensure these situations don't pop up again.

This week, Council will consider a number of changes to how the Town approaches road reconstruction projects, including a more stringent procurement process for contractors, full traffic management plans, and provision for damages to be paid by the contractor.

Residents last year did not hesitate to express their frustration with reconstruction of Brookland, but the matter came to a head at the Council table after the owners of the nearby Yonge Street Winery cited financial losses resulting from consumers not being to able to access their store.

"The main concerns from the residents in the Brookland Avenue area included the project duration, traffic and access matters, business disruption with resultant business loss, the adequacy of the contractor's actions, schedule delays and overall contractor performance," said Anca Mihail, Manager of Engineering and Capital Delivery for the Town of Aurora, in her report to Council. "The scheduling delays were mostly due to the very wet summer of 2017, with a very high number of rain days (28 in total) that impacted and delayed the culvert replacement work. The replacement of the [sanitary sewer, the storm sewer and watermain], as well as the road work, could not start until the two culverts were replaced. The schedule delays intensified the disruption to both residents and business owners and there

mud on the street, storefront disruption, difficult pedestrian traffic access, as well as difficult access into the commercial plaza. Also, the size of the required work zone and the narrow right-of-way of Brookland Avenue intensified the construction disruption to residents and the general public."

One way to right any future wrongs, she said, is to require all potential contractors to issue a pre-qualification, which would allow for the evaluation of all contractors based on specific criteria as well as their expertise to perform the work, including capacity requirements, before they can even submit a bid to take on the project.

"Pre-qualifying criteria are projectspecific to ensure an alignment between the performance requirements of the project with the capabilities, capacity and experience of the contractors bidding the job in order to confidently secure compliant contractors," she said. "Additional criteria can be considered on a project-specific basis."

For significant projects, a Traffic Management Plan will, pending Council's approval this week, be required. Currently, traffic control plans are the norm for outlining construction work zones and proper procedures and appropriate signage for closing traffic lanes during the construction projects.

"For projects where the traffic impact of a construction project is considered to be significant and extending beyond the limits of the work zone, a more comprehensive site and area specific Traffic Management Plan can be developed by the contractor prior to the start of construction," said Ms. Mihail. "The ultimate objective of the Traffic Management Plan is to ensure that road safety is maintained for the public and construction workers."

Throughout the process, improved communication is recommended both within Town Hall and with members of the public, including the creation This project was a horror story and my opinion is when we're looking at ways to improve how we handle these kinds of projects there has to be some kind of Town oversight

of a Road Reconstruction page on the Town's website and regular direct communications to area businesses and residents.

The recommendations in the report were received positively by Council members at last week's General Committee meeting, but some thought these measures could go further.

"I was involved in this project when it didn't start on time, from the beginning of July, all the way through to the fall," said Councillor Gaertner. "This project was a horror story and my opinion is when we're looking at ways to improve how we handle these kinds of projects there has to be some kind of Town oversight. I don't know if Town oversight was lacking in this case, but I think it is a very important component."

Mayor Geoff Dawe suggested the

report be sent back to Town Staff to address Councillor Gaertner's concerns, but withdrew his motion to do just that in favour of an additional memo expected before this week's Council meeting.

Councillor John Abel also noted concerns, primarily with the damage done during the project.

"The scope of this work is controversial and well-known, but what I really want to point out, in addition to a lot of the activity... is the devastation of a lot of the plant life and the big trees and how it impacts the ability to retain the water that pours into that part of Tannery Creek that goes downstream," he said.

In response, Marco Ramunno, Aurora's Director of Planning, said a number of trees had to be removed because of the slopes on the site and efforts to stabilize the land. A new planting program is planned to replace some of the lost vegetation over this spring and summer, he said, but this did not go far enough in the Councillor's view.

"These were very big, mature trees and these little plants we're putting in will take years, decades to bring back the protection and value those trees have collectively," he said. "It was a canopy and now the runoff is going to be significantly different than what [it was] normally."





THE AURORAN ARTS & CULTURE





Century-old themes remain relevant today, says Temple director

As a director, Sara Moyle has always been interested in bringing together history through the art of drama – or, as she calls it, "animating history."

So, when the opportunity came up to animate history right here in Aurora, Ms. Moyle jumped at the chance.

Sara Moyle takes the helm of The Temple of Fame, a revamped, renewed and refreshed version of the classic play, which opens this week at Trinity Anglican Church.

Produced by the Aurora Museum & Archives and revised and written by local writer Corrie Clark, this weekend's production of The Temple of Fame marks the 100th anniversary of when it was last produced here in Aurora. The text may have changed, the characters may have been tweaked, but its core message is the same and as relevant as it ever has been — and you needn't look any further than the banners hanging from light posts throughout Aurora with the simple question, "Are you worthy?"

"The question, 'Am I worthy?' is a question that women ask themselves, maybe not out loud, but every day and multiple times a day," says Ms. Moyle. "If there is a way to answer that



Director Sara Moyle, second right, provides notes during the Temple of Fame production process.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

question, even in a moment, even in a snapshot in time, I think we may be able to do that with this play and have people walk away with the understanding that, 'Yeah, I am worthy.'"

The Temple of Fame has a simple premise: women throughout history are descending on the Temple to plead their case to the Goddess. Their objective? Proving they're worthy enough to take their rightful place in the pantheon.

The play was first staged by Aurora women in 1900 and again in 1918 as part of the war effort.

In 2015, a cache of artefacts related to the last production made its way into the Museum archives, donated by historian John McIntyre, and curator Shawna White decided soon after it was time to remount it, led once again by local Aurora women.

"In my perfect world as an artist, I am always marrying heritage with theatre, or animating history, so to speak," says Ms. Moyle. "The opportunity to be a part of an animating history project was very attractive to me, but trumping all of those is how timely this project is and the importance of sharing this story 100 years later about women's issues that are really still looking for resolution."

Previously with the Humber River Shakespeare Company, which uses drama to tell the history of Ontario, not to mention keeping The Bard's words alive and well, Ms. Moyle approached the 2018 Temple of Fame right at the roots.

"I am a career theatre artist, but the people that are involved in this project are not necessarily that; some of them do have training, they have a broad spectrum of experience, and I think what was very attractive about that is

they are real women, with real stories, from all walks of life. Working with real human beings and bringing out the goddess, the god, or artist in all of these people, and having an audience come to see real people perform creates, I think, an inherent trust in the audience, the space, and the truth of what is being delivered.

"It is very honest and raw, just the idea that these are not professional artists, they are people who are engaging in the theatre sometimes for the first time ever; the audience roots for them and feels inherently connected to them because they are really one step away from the audience. That, to me, is exciting; it feels like a living, breathing organism and the performances that these women are delivering are really beautiful and inspiring.

"Kim Wheatley, who is playing herself as an Ojibwe woman, [has] a story that would not have been included in the original script. Seeing what she has to offer and the story she has to tell is quite haunting and the music she brings to it as well will have the audience in goosebumps. Some of the characters are original to the play but have been slightly updated. There is one that is simply just called 'Mother', who is representative of the archetype of mother. Some of the words are new, some are old, but are timeless and stunning and will touch every woman, especially on a Mother's Day weekend, in the audience."

The Temple of Fame opens Friday night at Trinity Anglican Church, with performances on Saturday and Sunday. For tickets and further information, visit auroramuseum.ca/temple.



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HOLLANDVIEW

Women's Groups in focus as Aurora celebrates Temple of Fame centenary

By Brock Weir

Groups like 100 Women Who Care have shown how the power of women can make a difference on the community around them.

These women's groups have been on something of an upswing in recent years, but before a downturn in the 1960s and 1970s, such groups were often the lifeblood of communities nation-wide.

The impacts of Aurora's early women's groups, some that have gone largely forgotten over the past half-century, are very much in focus in The Temple of Fame: Staging Women's Roles, a new exhibition launched by the Aurora Museum and Archives to coincide with this weekend's production of The Temple of Fame.

Guest-curated by Kara Isozaki, Maeghan Jerry and Sarah Kelly, combined Master of Information/Master of Museum Studies students from the University of Toronto, the exhibition takes a three-pronged approach to The Temple of Fame: the production itself and the local women who made it happen, the turning tide for women around the globe at the end of the First World War, and the groups who kept the home fires burning at that trying time in our collective history.

Ms. Kelly focused on the role of women's groups, including the local Women's Institute and the Temperance Movement.

"What I really liked were the stories of women," says Ms. Kelly on her starting point. "There was the idea that there are these separate groups in Aurora doing different things with different pursuits in mind. When the war broke out, they didn't drop everything, but they changed the way they looked at things and melded together to really raise funds for the war, to help people

in society who were affected by the war, to keep in contact with the soldiers overseas. You could see them coming together. In a lot of my research, I saw the expanding sense of neighbours; it was not just your neighbour next door, but maybe the neighbour you haven't even met."

At the very beginning, she tasked herself with sorting out which group of women did what — including their activities and their ultimate mandate. That, she said, was initially a frustrating challenge because there were no real boundaries or borders on the type of work each group did. There was plenty of overlap, "a melding" but, at the end of the day, each group "buckled up their bootstraps and got to work."

"I took a real liking to the way care packages were sent and received," says Ms. Kelly on telling the human story. "The Aurora Banner had a really interesting set of letters they would print in their newspaper and those letters were cool because you could go back weeks before and see listings of women's groups calling other groups to come out into the community and put these boxes together, and you could see the response to these letters.

"I knitted a pair of reproduction socks they would have sent over, which was really fun and interesting for me to do. One thing that really touched me was these women, even children, would knit these socks and write letters, and put them in the toe of the socks and send them over. You can even see letters coming back where soldiers would say, 'I loved getting your care package, but missed getting the letter."

This is an area of history that has always interested Ms. Kelly. She touched upon it in her undergraduate work, delving into the rural origin of women's groups as ways women learned

Continued on page 21



Guest co-curator Sarah Kelly is pictured among the artefacts featured in Staging Women's Roles, now on at the Aurora Museum & Archives.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

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Mrakas supports Regional fire service in first speech of Mayoral bid

By Brock Weir

Local fire services should join together to form a Regional department in a bid to maintain service but reduce costs to taxpayers, says mayoral candidate Tom Mrakas.

Councillor Mrakas, who launched his bid to be Aurora's next mayor last week, outlined planks in his vision for

Aurora on Thursday night, before over 200 supporters at Aw, Shucks.

"Without raising your taxes, there is only so much we can accomplish with your tax dollars, so we need to find better ways to do more with the same or less," he said. "After all, that is what you're already doing in your homes or businesses. I think that is reasonable to expect the same from your municipal government. Most candidates will



Councillor Tom Mrakas speaks at Aw, Shucks on Thursday night. Auroran photo by Brock Weir

promise to lower your taxes, get their hands out of your pocket, but I didn't do that: as your representative on Council, I didn't make promises, I delivered. I searched for savings wherever I could to lower your taxes while keeping the services you need. I looked at operational costs [and] with the support of my fellow Councillors, was able to reduce the tax levy without impacting service delivery.

"Holding the line on taxes is a good start, but Aurora is on the verge of being built out and without development charges to rely on, we need to find viable strategies...managing our tax burden going forward. We need to continue to build our reserves while looking for operational efficiencies, efficiencies like joint service agreements with other municipalities. Costly services such as fire protection, can be better delivered already has joined with Newmarket to provide that fire service; however, to achieve real cost savings, I believe the fire service should be a regional service similar to the police Service. Bottom line: we need to find better ways to at standards they expect."

Since he was first elected to Council four years ago, Councillor Mrakas said he has spent his time "taking the pulse of the community" by making

himself available through all avenues, in person, and in going door to door.

In the process, Aurora residents outlined seven key priorities: taxes and services, growth and development, sports and recreation, traffic and transit, livability, economic development, and leadership. The latter, he said, was the most important issue raised.

"You need a mayor who will act, a mayor who will get things done, I've heard you loud and clear," he said. "You need strong leadership, leadership that truly works in all senses of the word. I agree having a vision is great, having a plan is necessary, but it doesn't matter if you can't get it done. The Mayor's job is to lead Council and get things done for our community. At the end of the day, the Mayor is just one voice, one vote, so you can't get things done by going it alone.

"Vision to reality takes teamwork. Teamwork is build on relationships. We know relationships are built on trust and mutual respect. An effective mayor builds consensus by building relationships with his colleagues. You get support by giving support, listening to all viewpoints, engaging in meaningful dialogue and not just paying lip service, but truly supporting your colleagues."

Over the course of his time on Council, Councillor Mrakas, along with Councillor Michael Thompson, led the charge which ultimately led to the Province replacing the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) with local appeals tribunals which will give municipalities a greater say in their own planning matters.

"Growth isn't a bad word," he said. "I don't think any of us in Aurora want the Town to become a place where time has stopped, but I think many of us, myself included, are alarmed at how things have changed in our community. We want appropriate and smarter growth; growth that meets the needs of our present and our future. We want to maintain what's unique about Aurora as we grow. While the at a better price if we join together OMB is no more, we now have the with other municipalities. Aurora local planning appeal tribunal. They have given us the power and the responsibility to ensure our community grows the way we want it to, but it will take real leadership to make that happen.

"Promises don't mean anything deliver the services our residents need if you don't have a realistic plan to deliver. Grand visions and strategies are useless if you can't get behind them. Leading alone gets you nowhere. Leading together gets you to where we want to go."







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"We're all in this together" on Mental Health Week: CMHA

Reaching out to CMHA taught Aurora resident "how to live"

By Brock Weir

There was once a time where Leah Badar would never have considered sharing her story.

She had no self-esteem, says she was afraid of everything and everyone, but, when she reached a low point, she reached out for a helping hand.

"Before the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), I felt like a naked baby in the mouth of a stork who opened its mouth one day and said, 'Fly! Have a nice life!' and it dropped me," explains Ms. Badar. "I had to get up, dust myself off, and find my clothes. When I ran into the CMHA, I didn't even know my head from my tail."

Ms. Badar's story is one of abuse and bullying throughout her life, and one she now shares to raise awareness of Mental Health wherever she can.

This week marks Mental Health Week, which runs May 7 - May 13. As the Canadian Mental Health Association marks its 100th anniversary this year, Mental Health Week is now in its sixty-seventh, dedicated to ending the stigma surrounding mental illness.

Throughout this week of raising awareness, the CMHA is calling on the community to "tune into your own mental health needs and #getloud about what mental health really is."

"Getting Loud" is something Ms. Badar had to learn how to do.

The first step, she says, was finding that all-too-elusive comfort level both within herself and within the programs offered by the CMHA.

"I couldn't go on the way I was going on," she shares. "It just wasn't living. Yet, at the time, I had four kids. I was in an abusive marriage and the CMHA helped me with a lot of life skills. I am

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so lucky."

Now, the mother of five, Ms. Badar has found the foundation of support and confidence given to her by the CMHA has found myriad off-shoot benefits within her own family.

Ms. Badar says she has battled a learning disability throughout her life and marvels that two of her children are now shooting for their PhDs, while her younger daughter, 16, is maintaining high school marks well into their nineties.

"It gave me more confidence to start believing in themselves," she says.

She is now using her story, in turn, to inspire confidence inside the clients now turning to the CMHA for support. Ms. Badar is now a member of their Speaker's Bureau, a public role she never could have imagined for herself. Yet, as she shares her story, Ms. Badar says she finds rewards keep rolling in.

"Honestly, just as much as I give, I get back tenfold," she says. "When you see people come in so broken, but they begin to trust you and feel safe with you, you see them realise you really care and understand. I have had people who wouldn't even make eye contact, who wouldn't talk, who wouldn't join in a group or nothing - and now it's like you can't shut them up! One came in, was sleeping all day, and was so scared to get a job and didn't have a hobby. They wanted to go to school and was scared, but now he is doing all that. I volunteer in the peer-run after hours drop in group, and I said, 'Had we not had that, would you have done all this?' He said, 'Probably not' I realised then that I wish I had that kind of stuff when I was going through my own stuff."

She had been down that road before. Ms. Badar went back to school at the age of 48 to become a Personal Support Worker, graduated with honours – an

accomplishment she is particularly proud of after being in Special Education throughout her previous time as a student – lost 100 pounds and regained control of her life.

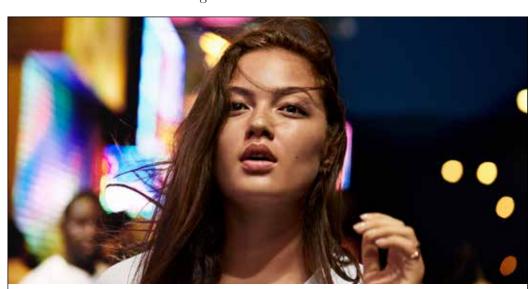
When she shares her story, she says others can see just what is possible after taking that all-important first step.

"Recently, I spoke to [a group] of PSWs and there was one woman who couldn't believe I understood what she was going through. She thought she was the only one and broke down and I said, 'That's okay. Can I give you a hug?' It is rewarding to see people start trusting me and opening up. They get comfort knowing that you know. I'll say to them, 'Okay, how can we break this down? How can we make things better?

What kind of help do you need?' I'll then refer them to all the CMHA has to offer.

"But, first of all, you have to realise that you need help. Second of all, you have to try and help yourself because people cannot do it for you. I have come a long way, but you have to want to help yourself and you have to be willing and open to listen to people, people that you trust, and that you feel safe in confiding in. Don't give up, it is really worth it. You can live a wellrounded, positive, healthy life."

For more information on the Canadian Mental Health Association of York and South Simcoe, visit cmha-yr.on.ca., or call 905-841-3977.



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Dogs take over the arena at Paws in the SARC

By Brock Weir

vear, Aurora's four-legged friends are movin' on up, setting up shop at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex this Saturday for the first annual Paws in the SARC.

A celebration of Aurora's love affair with dogs, the event will feature a number of family friendly activities for the whole family and a chance to learn all about the local products and services available for your pooch.

spearheaded by the Town of Aurora, but after two years of less-thanfavourable weather at Sheppard's Bush Conservation Area, the Town decided to bring things indoors, filling the SARC's west arena to the brim with vendors, products, and services, and even an agility contest and entertainment provided by the internationally renowned Ruff Sport.

Spearheaded by local Animal Paws in the Park is so 2017; this Control Officer Brad Dewar, Paws in the SARC coincides with the first year Aurora has brought its animal control services in-house.

"Prior to that, animal control was always contracted outside and Paws in the Park was done by a third party," explains Mr. Dewar. "Weather in the month of May is always unknown, so it did dampen the success of the event, being outside with some bad weather. The event now being done by the Town This will be the third PAWS event of Aurora, so we have looked at that and we have made the move forward to bring it in-house. It is better for the pets, it is better for our vendors and we look forward to a little more engagement with the community having it indoors."

> The event, he said, also affords them a chance to educate members of the public on municipal animal control bylaws such as the requirements of pet



Animal Control Officer Brad Dewar, left, and co-op student Hunter Chentiam, are pictured at the SARC, the home for Saturday's PAWS event. Auroran photo by Brock Weir

owners if you happen to have a dog or and working in partnership."

a cat.

"Licensing is a big aspect of that, so we will be working with DocuPets who will be here," says Mr. Dewar. "Anyone who doesn't have their 2018 license can register right away and get it mailed to them. That is a partnership between the Town and DocuPets to create a little bit more accessibility for our community members. We are about education, working with our community, getting to know our community members, and then we have our vendors.

"We have an opportunity to promote some of the businesses within the Town of Aurora that are specific to the animal industry. That varies from St. John's Ambulance, which does support with therapy dogs; then we will have pet stores and grooming. We'll have veterinarians and we will have some entertainment: The Ruff Dogs and it's running at large, it is displaced from its Ruff Sports agility. They will be doing home, that is something that does happen. As four shows throughout the day and in their off time they will do one on one training with anyone who is interested. They can bring your dog in if you are having some challenges, whether it is walking on a lead or whatnot, or even getting into a vehicle."

sponsor of Paws in the SARC and they will have a vehicle on site to aid out of a vehicle.

"All in all, this is a communityoriented event," he says. "It is about engaging the community, getting to know each other, and letting them know what services are provided by the municipality. We're also going to have partners as well: some from mental health workers as well as York Regional Police. It is all about that engagement

Mr. Dewar began his career in Animal Control a little over eight years ago, working with the OSPCA, first as an agent investigating various cases such as animal cruelty, balancing that job with his role as a contracted animal control officer to the Town of Aurora. Later, his career turned to investigations side and then with the OSPA's media department for

He was part of their in-house training unit, training OSPCA officers in the tools of the trade, including how to read the body language of animals when dealing with a call, and the execution of warrants.

"I thoroughly enjoy engaging with the community," he says. "I love just simply having a chat, whether it is about talking about what [bylaw] changes have occurred, or sometimes the negative side of an animal that unfortunately gets away from its owner, an officer, we're able to try and reunite that animal back to the owner.

"If we can do that without having to bring it into the shelter, that is our primary goal. We will exhaust every opportunity possible to get an animal back home, and that is the rewarding side because we get an animal that PFAFF Motors, he adds, is a big was displaced, temporarily, and get it back to its family where it belongs."

This week, focus is on Paws in the in training your dog to get safely in and SARC, which runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sold out as far as vendors are concerned, Mr. Dewar and the department are eager to gauge the reaction from attendees to see how the event can grow in the future.

> "We'll see where it goes," he says. "We might likely be using two arenas because the more interest we get from the public, the more we want to make it a benefit to the community."









SPEAKEASY

Jane Taylor & Reccia Mandelcorn

Welcome to The Speakeasy, a monthly column highlighting arts and culture in Aurora. This print edition features stories from the radio broadcast, which airs the first Wednesday of each month at 10 am on CHOP-FM 102.7 and is available through social media channels at the Aurora Cultural Centre and Aurora Public Library.

Shawna White, Curator of the Aurora Museum and Corrie Clark, playwright and actor, stopped by to talk to us about The Temple of Fame. This upcoming production, with multiple performances over the weekend of May 11 - 13, is a remount of a performance that took place in Aurora on May 10 -11, 1918. The Temple of Fame was loosely based on a popular poem by Alexander Pope, and was staged frequently in the late 19th century. The action of the play originally featured famous men and women in history presenting their case to "The Goddess of Fame," with the winner receiving a crown of glory for the worthiest claim.

It is fascinating to hear how the script came into Shawna's office.

In 2015, former Aurora resident John McIntyre passed along an original copy he had from his grandmother Della Webster, who had been one of the organizers of the 1918 production. John's treasure trove also included original press reviews, accompanying notes and letters that together gave a fulsome picture of community intent. They discovered that the Aurora Overseas Auxiliary mounted a two-night production as a fundraiser to support area troops stationed overseas at the time. Given the historical context and times from the original, Corrie's work as playwright needed to balance the historical significance of the 1918 production with a muchneeded updating of the cast of characters to reflect modern cultural representation. awareness and She also wanted to ensure that a sense of humour infused aspects of the script. The result is a highly entertaining and made-in-Aurora updated version featuring heroes that are recognizable for modernday audiences accompanied by original live music.

The Aurora Museum is currently featuring Temple of Fame: Staging Women's Roles, an exhibit to accompany the production. The exhibit lends a deep historical context to the Aurora production, and the motivation to support the war effort on the home front.

For more information about tickets and exhibit details, visit www. auroramuseum.ca

Aurora Public Library welcomes Canadian author Kerri Sakamoto on Wednesday, May 23 at 7 pm. Sakamoto, a Governor General's Literary Award-nominee and winner of the Commonwealth Writers' Prize, will present her newest book Floating City. Described as "Citizen Kane reimagined", the novel tells the story of a fiercely ambitious boy who overcomes humble beginnings and hardship in British Columbia to become a wealthy property developer in Toronto, but cannot escape the ghosts of his past. Tickets are free, and available online at www. aurorapl.ca.

When you're at the library, drop by the Colleen Abbott Gallery to enjoy landscapes, portraits and a touch of the whimsical in a collaborative exhibit by Local Colour Aurora. On exhibit to June 2.

The Aurora Cultural Centre is hometown proud to present The Pick Brothers Band on May 11 at 8 pm. You might have caught their auroraculturalcentre.ca. energized show last summer at the Music Aurora Summer Festival during the August long weekend in Town Park. All three brothers (yes, they are brothers!) went to school in Aurora – and bring an incredible, energetic live show. For ticket information, visit www.

After being cooped up all winter, we're ready to enjoy the variety of arts and cultural activities once again in the great outdoors. A great place to start is the Aurora Farmers' Market and Artisan Fair, now back in action for the season. Check them out each Saturday in Town Park

from 8 am - 1 pm.

Taylor Jane is Events & Manager Communications the Aurora Cultural Centre, and Reccia Mandelcorn is Manager of Community Collaboration at Aurora Public Library. They co-host The Speakeasy on the first Wednesday of each month on CHOP-FM 102.7.





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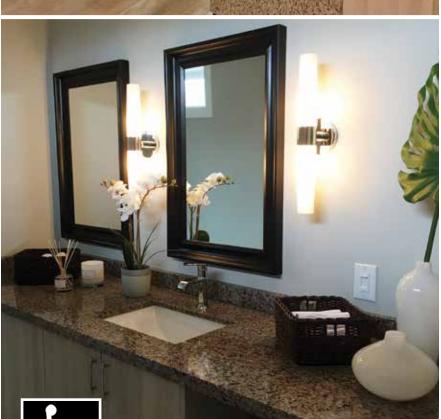


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Week of May 10, 2018



Photo courtesy of Chuck Pool/Rice Athletics

Ex-Saint drafted third overall in CFL Draft to Lions

By Jake Courtepatte

A familiar face on the St. Andrew's football front line may be heading to British Columbia.

A three-year offensive lineman for the Saints varsity program, Peter Godber was selected third overall by the BC Lions in Saturday's CFL entry

The 6-foor-four, close to 300-pound Godber was watched by six CFL teams on his combine day, eventually selected by a Lions squad in need of some size up front.

Though like many high-end prospects, Godber is hoping to use leverage to gain a chance at an NFL

mindset," Godber said. "I set high goals. In college I wanted to be a fouryear starter and I started for three years. I'm going to BC with high goals again, but everything is earned, nothing is given."

Godber will be competing for a starting spot on the Lions' line, when training camp opens in a couple of

to Surrey Eagles

By Jake Courtepatte

The hockey factory known as St.

Andrew's College is sending out another

is spreading his wings to the Surrey

Eagles of the British Columbia Hockey

League, after two successful seasons

true," said McIntyre. "It has been my

goal to play in the BCHL since I first

learned about the league. I'm really

excited to get started and meet my

"(Coming to Surrey) is a dream come

product.

with the SAC Saints.

teammates."

Saints defenseman commits

appearances.

He was instrumental in bringing the Saints the CISAA title at Rogers Centre in Toronto in 2012, being named a city and provincial all-star as a senior. Ranked as the number-two player in the nation in his final year as a Saint, he also represented St. Andrews on the World Team in the 2012 IFAF International Bowl in Austin, Texas.

Majoring in sport management and kinesiology, Godber joined the Owls in 2013 after a heavy recruitment process, choosing the smaller Rice University over the larger, more prominent football system at Baylor.

He started in 39 games for the Rice University Owls, mostly at the guard position.

"It's kind of a surreal moment for "I've got to go in with the right me, to get a call from (Lions general manager) Ed Hervey and to say they really liked me. They made that clear before the draft."

"They made it clear that if I was there, they were going to take me, and they did. I'm really excited. They have great coaches there, and a great staff."

Hoping to make an impact on the

field from day one, Godber said, "I believe in myself."

"I definitely know what I bring to the table as an offensive lineman. I think it shows in my film, as well as my numbers on pro day."

"At the end of the day, the teams are

going to pick the best football players that are going to help them win games, so that was my mindset."

Saints coach Len Gurr tweeted his congratulations, saying "huge congrats to our boy Peter...Great moment for (St. Andrew's) football!"





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Sabrina Razack is an Educator for the TDSB, with NCCP certifications in basketball, track and field, and has coached multiple sports.

Long-term athlete development (LTAD) is improving the delivery of sport and physical activity, but there are many roadblocks for girls and young women. Sabrina will explore key issues in supporting them as athletes and leaders, including training, injury prevention, role models, and more.

TEAM DRIVEN SPORT LEADERSHIP



Dave Cooper is a former international tennis coach, author, and sport consultant who currently works as a corporate leadership coach

Having coached professional and Olympic athletes, Dave will present powerful new concepts that players, coaches and teams can use to dramatically improve performance while increasing mental toughness, confidence and leadership skills.

SPORT FOR PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

JUNE



Vicki Keith Munro is a one of the most successful marathon swimmers in the history of the sport. She holds 16 world records, and was the first to cross all five Great Lakes. Vicki is also a Member of the Order of Canada. Be inspired by this world-class athlete who has coached athletes with a disability at the highest levels, and has raised more than \$1 million to

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Brandy Tanenbaum is the Injury Prevention Program Coordinator at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.

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These are live webinars: 7:30 - 8:45 pm

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McIntyre is coming off of a sophomore season that saw him lead all Saints defensemen in points, putting up 51 over a span of just 49 games. He also added five points in four playoff

He also put up a total of 37 points in his rookie season with the Saints in 20016-17, establishing himself as one of the program's top blueliners.

Playing preparatory hockey certainly Staple defenseman Evan McIntyre left his effect on the 17-year old, who plans on taking the collegiate route in the sport despite being drafted by the Hamilton Bulldogs of the OHL.

"I definitely want to go the school route," McIntyre said. "Our coach at St. Andrew's, David Manning, really stresses academics first then hockey."

The Oakville native joins a promising up-and-coming program fresh off a divisional final loss to the Prince George Spruce Kings.

A product of the Mississauga Rebels AAA system, McIntyre will be looked at to make a big difference early on Continued on page 18

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York Physical Literacy Summit preaches movement as education

By Jake Courtepatte

With all the electronic distractions for the youth of today, York Region is hoping to remind this generation to stay active.

The third annual York Physical Literacy Summit, put on by Activate Aurora and titled "Creating Physically Literate Children and Youth", brought teachers, coaches, and parents from across the district to King's Seneca College campus on Friday for a day of active education.

was "so important to get our kids active, and moving."

"Not only are we looking to get them moving, but teach them how and why

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We've reduced the amount of space that kids have dramatically in the last number of years, and though I'm probably preaching to the choir, we need to bring that space back

it's so important to stay active," said Dawe. "Through parents, through the school, kids should have the opportunity to learn how to stay active."

The single-day summit had keynote Aurora Mayor Geoff Dawe said it speakers from across the physical literacy landscape, including Dean Kriellaars, a professor at the University of Manitoba and described as the "guru of physical literacy."

Dawe praised Kriellaars concept of "free-range children", and bringing back the freedom that children of the past had to roam.

"What an excellent concept," said Dawe. "We've reduced the amount of space that kids have dramatically in the last number of years, and though I'm probably preaching to the choir, we need to bring that space back."

Kriellaars said that although the concept of physical literacy has a long way to go in Canada, Ontario is a leader in that \$30-million has been budgeted for the project, the first province to do so. York Region was one of the first to receive funding.

He said that having the support of the region's mayors, Mr. Dawe and King Mayor Steve Pellegrini in attendance, is "vital" to keep the project moving.

"Having the support of local politicians is how we keep making changes in the community," said Kriellaars.

The Summit was rescheduled from an October 2017 date, when it was cancelled due to a strike at Seneca.



Aurora mayor Geoff Dawe speaks at the York Physical Literacy Summit at King's Seneca College Campus on Friday. Auroran photo by Jake Courtepatte

Aurora FC draws again with Windsor

By Jake Courtepatte

Weather delays were not the only thing plaguing the Aurora FC men's side on Saturday, who gave up a goal in the late stages of a match against Windsor FC to force a tie.

Just eight minutes in, a handball inside the Windsor box gave a penalty kick to the visiting Aurora team, where Dylan Rennie stepped in and opened the scoring for his third goal in two games.

Three Windsor yellow cards were handed out in the first 45 minutes, though Aurora failed to capitalize again taking a 1 - 0 lead into halftime.

A rejuvenated Windsor squad came out after a 90-minute weather delay, earning most of the offensive chances in the game's second half.

Just one minute before full time, Windsor's Stefan Milidrag finished a header off of a Celso Carapau corner kick, beating goalkeeper Adam Scanlon into the net's top right corner.

With little time added on by the referee, the game ended in a 1-1

A pair of ties on the record so far in the young League 1 season, Aurora sits in the middle of the pack in the semi-pro league's standings, while the Oakville Blue Devils are the only team to kick off the season with back-to-back wins.

The Aurora men next take to the field Saturday at Stewart Burnett Park in Aurora, hosting the Vaughan Azzurri at 4 p.m.

The women's side of Aurora FC also battled poor weather conditions, cancelling their Saturday matinee with Darby FC.

The game will be rescheduled for later in the season, while they next take to the field on Saturday at Stewart Burnett Park against the Toronto Azzurri Blizzard.

Kickoff is set for 4 p.m.

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Saints defenseman commits to Surrey Eagles

From page 17

the Surrey blue line, with top-scoring defenseman Owen Norton leaving for the NCAA.

"We're thrilled to bring in Evan," Eagles GM Blaine Neufeld said in a statement. "He's a fantastic skater that sees the ice very well. We feel that his game will translate to the BCHL very quickly."

Neufeld also noted that his confidence in the program at St. Andrew's was another factor when bringing

McIntyre in.

"He comes from a terrific program. His coach David Manning has done a terrific job, which is why St. Andrews is seen as one of the nation's top programs."

As for the 2018-19 season, McIntyre said he plans to "take the role very seriously."

"I like to jump into the play and skate with the puck. My game plan is to move pucks up the ice as quick as I can by using a good first pass out of the zone."



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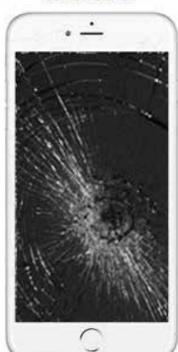
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HIKE FOR HOSPICE – Volunteers and those impacted by their services have always been happy to support Doane House Hospice for the annual Hike for Hospice, but this is the first year they have had a residential hospice of their own to hike for. Participants in the Hike for Hospice, benefiting the newly opened Margaret Bahen Residential Hospice, gathered at Newmarket's Fairy Lake on Sunday morning and trekked to the new building so close to their own hearts. There, those calling the Hospice home, gathered on its patio to warmly greet those who had laced up to make a difference. Auroran photos by Brock Weir

THINGS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW

THURSDAY, MAY 10

Amnesty International Aurora-Newmarket Group holds their monthly meeting on Thursday, May 10, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. to discuss current human rights issues and write appeal letters. Held at Trinity Anglican Church (in The Rectory building behind the church), 79 Victoria St., Aurora - all welcome! Free. For more information call Renee at 905-713-6713, www.amnesty.ca, amnestyaurora.wordpress.com.

MAY 11 – 13

The Aurora Museum & Archives will stage the 100th anniversary performance of Temple of Fame at Trinity Anglican Church. Women, famous in the world's history summoned by the Goddess of Fame, will plead their respective merits entitling them to the crown. Join us for the 100th anniversary celebration of this play in Aurora! For more information, including tickets and related events, visit auroramuseum. ca/temple or call 905-505-1190.

FRIDAY, MAY 11

The Aurora Cultural Centre presents the Pick Brothers Band from 8 - 10 p.m. With albums Pink Lemonade and Blue Days under their belts, Aurora's Pick Brothers are enjoying success on the national stage, opening with the likes of The Sam Roberts Band, The Arkells and Houndmouth. We loved hearing them last summer at the Aurora Music Festival, and are proud to welcome The Pick Brothers Band back to Aurora for a memorable night. For tickets or further information, visit www. auroraculturalcentre.ca or call 905-713-1818.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

AURORA FARMERS' Seasonal fresh fruits & veggies, delicious goodies and unique crafts will be waiting for you at the Aurora Farmers Market & Artisan Fair today from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Town Park. (49 Wells Street). Theaurorafarmersmarket.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce will host a 2018 Provincial Election Candidate Discussion. The meeting, which is focused on business, will take place from 11.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Royal Venetian Mansion (400 Industrial Parkway South). For more information, visit www.aurorachamber.ca.

The Aurora Community Café is open today - and each Wednesday - from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of Victoria and Mosley (Entrance off Victoria). Now serving lunch, along with fresh baked goods, lunch, coffee, tea, juice, a DJ and live music.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

AURORA FARMERS' MARKET: Seasonal fresh fruits & veggies, delicious goodies and unique crafts will be waiting for you at the Aurora Farmers Market & Artisan

(49 Wells Street). Theaurorafarmersmarket.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

The Aurora Community Café is open today - and each Wednesday - from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of Victoria and Mosley (Entrance off Victoria). Now serving lunch, along with fresh baked goods, lunch, coffee, tea, juice, a DJ and live music.

The Aurora Historical Society's Speakers Series continues tonight with Melanie Whitfield on The Leaskdale Manse NHS. This presentation examines the history of the Lucy Maud Montgomery Society of Ontario, the development and restoration of The Leaskdale Manse National Historic Site, and the life of Lucy Maud Montgomery while she lived there from 1911 to 1926. \$7.00 each, \$5.00 for AHS Members. Refreshments served. To reserve your seat call 905 727 8991. For more information about Melanie and our other 2018 Speakers visit aurorahs.com/

SATURDAY, MAY 26

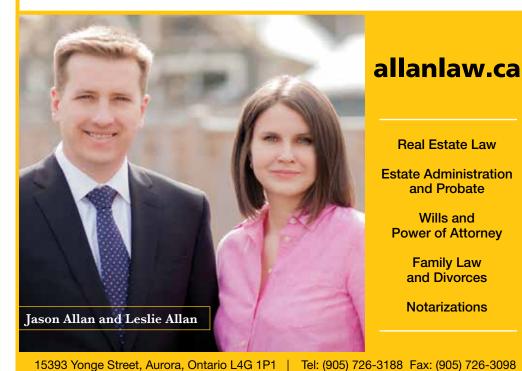
The Aurora Senior Association Evergreen Choir warmly invites you to attend our annual Spring Concert "With a Joyful Song" under the direction of Dr. Richard Heinzle. The concert takes place on Saturday, May 26 at our new time: 1:30 pm, doors open at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$5. Children under 14 are free, but tickets are required. They are available at the reception desk of the Centre,90 John West Way, Aurora, For more information, call 905-726-4767.Light refreshment will be served at intermission.

SUNDAY, MAY 27

The Aurora Garden Club, which is celebrating 100 years in our community, and Aurora Home Hardware, are joining forces again for the annual Garden Aurora! Plant Sale. Members will be donating perennial plants from their own gardens in this area so you are assured they will work for you. Great member and Nursery plants at fabulous prices, giveaways and more (it is our Birthday), make this a must visit. We sold out by noon last year so come early for best selection.

The Pet Valu walk for Dog Guides will take place today from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon at Sheppard's Bush. This spring, residents and their four-legged "best friends" are preparing to walk together for the Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides. Each walk is organized by a member of the community. By participating in the Walk, you can help provide life-changing Dog Guides to Canadians with disabilities. Walk routes are accessible to all. For more, visit walkfordogguides.com/locations/walk.

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Aurora Art Show & Sale marks 56 years of creativity





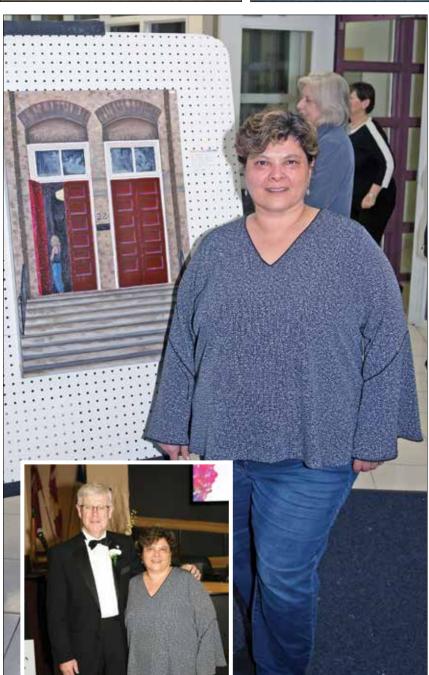






















Aurora Town Hall was filled to the brim with original art over the weekend as the Town and the Society of York Region Artists (SOYRA) presented the 56th Annual Art Show & Sale. A juried show featuring an impressive collection of artwork using a variety of mediums, the show opened with special reception on Friday night where winning artists were recognized by Mayor Geoff Dawe, SOYRA president Linda Welch and, for youth artists, by Robin Taylor Smith of the Aurora Optimists. Winners were as follows. OILS: First Place: Anita Niemeyer ("Sublime"), with honourable mentions to Bill Lunshof with "It's All in the Angle" and Jose K. with "Plight. ACRYLIC: First Place: Eva Folks with "Steampunk Dave". Honourable mentions to Barbara Horstman with "Autumn Morning" and Johanna Van Kempen with "Georgian Bay Island". WATERCOLOURS: First Place: Douglas Crowe with "Winter Kale." Honourable Mentions: Mary Ellen Gerster with "Lazy Daze" and Nancy Newman for "A Walk in Ireland." MIXED/ALTERNATIVE MEDIA: First Place: Mahtab Abdollahi with "Infinity". Honourable Mentions: Alexandra Bhatia with "Flight of Dreams" and Angela Hennessey with "Alien." PHOTOGRAPHY: First Place: Hans Backer with "Green Canna Leaves." Honourable Mentions: Deborah Campo with "Worth Avenue" and Kevin McBean with "Washed Up." OPTIMIST CLUB OF AURORA "BEST IN YOUTH" AWARD: First Place: Hannah Clark Gomez with "Love You Forever." Honourable Mentions: Sarah Fusco with "Save the Bees" and Olga Parovyk with "Catch the Sunlight." SOYRA'S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE: First Place: Anna Vander Heide with "Reflection of the Mind." Honourable Mentions: Marly Ibrahim with "Cultural Beauty III" and Lauren Rae with "A Buffalo Bird Who is Too Old To Drink. All he Does is Think (Victor)."

Council needs to be kept in loop: Thompson

From page 6

the ELT (Executive Leadership Team) table having that discussion right now on the best way to proceed. The idea is to relocate one department there which would create swing space in this building because we are at capacity. As you can see in the lobby and the second floor [at Town Hall] we're pushing out cubicles and so on to accommodate the staff we have. We will decide which group should be in there and move one group over to the IOC facility and come back to Council with a plan for this building."

Councillor Thompson, in turn, expressed some misgivings.

"It is something that has been in front of Council since I have been on Council, in 2011, so I think that it would help us to stay in the loop," he said. "I would appreciate you coming back because I have had multiple conversations when it comes to Town Hall space needs. It was one of the ideas on why the third floor was put forward for the JOC as well, but just to be part of the conversation would be great."

Exhibition runs through June 10

From page 11

through safety and hygiene.

"I think [that origin] is hard to make connections to," she says. "Local women's groups disbanded in the 60s and 70s, but there have been recent trends of it coming together. I think it would be really cool to re-think what women's groups are today and what women can garner from each other and that service. I was a Girl Guide, I was a Ranger, and I have done a lot of volunteer work. It is kind of like Girl Guides to me. I like this idea of really pulling a group together through things like this and the things we feel are important to the community.

"1918 was a really complicated time. collectively how to protect their families Conflict was happening, you're losing loved ones, they are going overseas, and you have this group of women in a local context who just decide they are going to do things. They have priorities they want done, they want the vote, they want safe treatment for children, they want to do something about it, and all the time they have to keep in mind the war was happening and it was their part to step up and do something."

> The Temple of Fame: Staging Women's Roles runs through June 10 at the Aurora Museum and Archives. The Museum is located on the second floor of the Church Street School.



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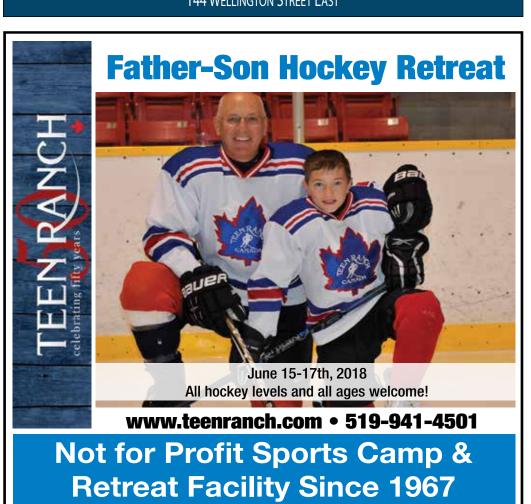


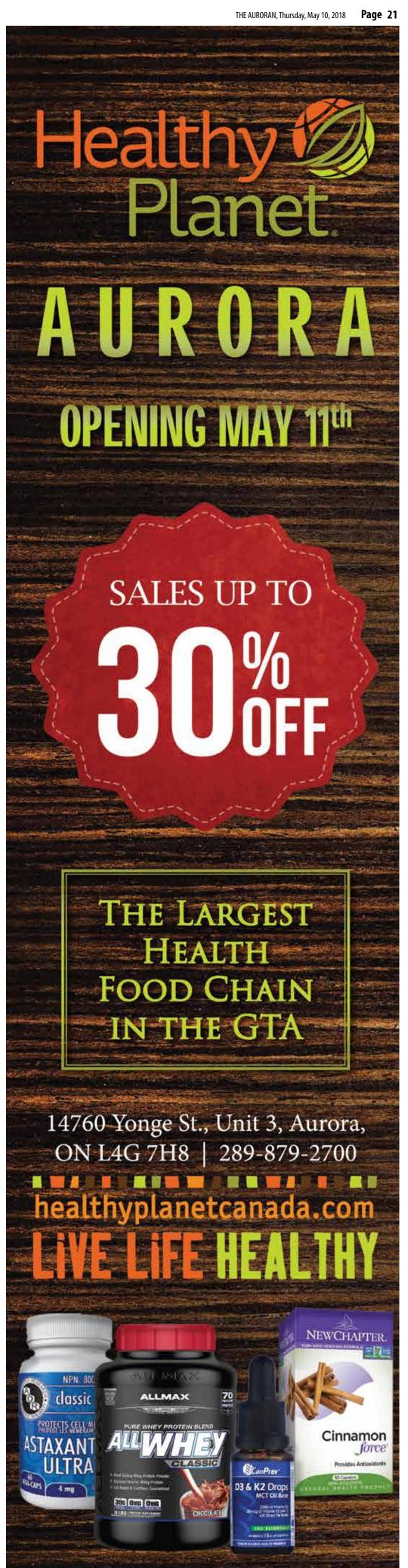
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Merlin's Hollow opens Saturday for 37th

By Brock Weir

Merlin's Hollow, the famed garden of David and Dierdre Tomlinson will welcome visitors for their 37th season this Saturday.

Founded by landscape architect David Tomlinson, and his wife Dierdre, in 1981, Merlin's Hollow is designed as a series of gardens within a garden.

"Enclosed by high cedar hedges, each

series of arches invite the visitor from one garden to the next," say the Tomlinsons. "Features within the garden include woodland beds, a fern walk, alpine garden with scree beds, bog beds and a frog pond. Stone walls enclose raised beds of scented flowers, herbs, heritage shrub roses and a thyme lawn. A winter garden and knot garden were added in 1998."

The ³/₄ acre garden contains over 1,500 different plants and will be open on four

Dome owners mull options

From page 1

The Aurora Sports Dome was on land owned by the municipality in a deal that was set to be reviewed in 2020. This, says facility owner Terry Redvers, will be a factor in forging the path forward.

"We're here with a crew that is mitigating the damage and they are picking up all the pieces they can because half our dome is sitting on the wrong field," Terry told The Auroran on Tuesday. "There is considerable damage and there is a possibility we might have to put in a new dome. If that is the case, the good news is it is at a time of the year when we're not too busy. The bad news is it will take months to get a new dome

put up. It is just a question of doing what we can to make this whole place safer."

The ruined dome was 12 years old, they added, with a warranty of 20 years.

"These structures are made to be rebuilt and we will find out over the next couple of weeks whether that is going to happen or not," says Mr. Cohen. "I think that there is the issue now with the current owners, the insurance and also the Town on what they would like to see built. We (the club) are sort of okay because we're going into our outdoor season, but if they don't rebuild, we're going to need the Town to step up in regards to providing a facility to have indoor sports played."

garden has its own distinct character and a days this spring and summer, which each day promising a completely different garden as each plant comes into its own.

The first day is this Saturday, May 12, which will showcase spring bulbs, wild flowers and alpine scree.

The next open day will be the second Saturday in June, featuring the fragrant garden, thyme lawn, iris and peonies.

Merlin's Hollow will be open again the first Saturday of July and the Sunday of the following weekend, where visitors will be able to take in the summer flowering perennials, pond and water gardens.

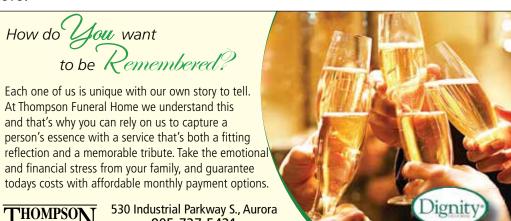
Merlin's Hollow is located on Centre Crescent, which is off Centre Street, just west of Industrial Parkway North.

For more information, call 905-727-8979.



Local gardener Dierdre Tomlinson is pictured giving a tour of her famed Merlin's Hollow last year.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir



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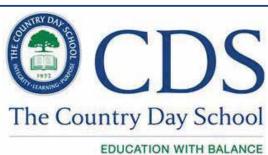
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