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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

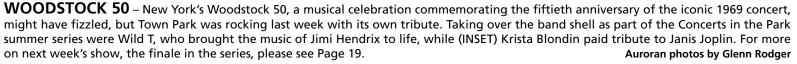
Vol. 19 No. 45 905-727-3300

theauroran.com

FREE Week of August 22, 2019







Business Improvement Area saddles up for downtown street party

By Brock Weir

After more than a decade's absence, Aurora's recently re-established Business Improvement Area has hit the ground running in their efforts to make the Town's historic core a destination once again – and now, you will be able to see the first fruits of their labour next month with a party right on Yonge Street.

On Saturday, September 7, from 4 – 11 p.m., Yonge Street will be closed from Wellington Street to Mosley Street, for what's billed as a "family-friendly Hoedown pre-party."

Held one week before York Region's biggest annual party under the big top of the Magna Corral, this Yonge Street Party will have a western theme, feature live entertainment from previous winners of the Hoedown Showdown country talent

competition, and special prizes and events hosted by downtown area businesses.

The September 7 event will be the first of what they plan to be quarterly seasonal street events to bring residents back into the Yonge and Wellington corridor to shop, eat, and have fun," says Joanne Russo, Board Member of the Downtown Aurora BIA. "We just received funding from the Town of Aurora in the amount of \$40,000 and

Continued on page 19



40 YEARS STRONG – Long-time Pine Tree Potters Guild members Sheena Griffiths and Cristel von Richter celebrate the ceramic arts organization's 40th anniversary at the Aurora Cultural Centre last week. The Guild's anniversary exhibition, View from the Pines, is on now.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

View from the Pines looks back at 40 years of local artistry

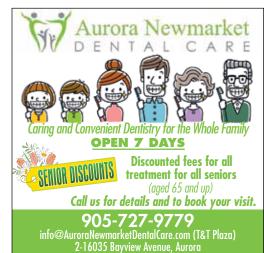
By Brock Weir

After 40 years, members of the Pine Tree Potters Guild are taking time to enjoy the View.

The celebrated ceramic artists, however, are not covering up their wheels and resting on their laurels, but using this view as a guidepost for the next four decades of artistic creativity.

Last Saturday, the Pine Tree Potters Guild officially marked their fortieth

Continued on page 10





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TOWN OF AURORA Notice Böard



AUGUST 23-25, 2019

AURORA

Lipi Council & Committee Meetings

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Tuesday, September 3	9:30 a.m.	Newmarket	Joint Council Committee
Tuesday, September 3	5:45 p.m.	Holland Room	Council Closed Session (if required)
Tuesday, September 3	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	General Committee
Wednesday, September 4	7 p.m.	Holland Room	Accessibility Advisory Committee
Thursday, September 5	6 p.m.	Council Chambers	Property Standards Committee
Monday, September 9	7 p.m.	Holland Room	Heritage Advisory Committee
Tuesday, September 10	5:45 p.m.	Holland Room	Council Closed Session (if required)
Tuesday, September 10	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Council
Wednesday, September 11	6:30 p.m.	Aurora Cultural Centre	Aurora Cultural Centre Board (Public Meeting)
Thursday, September 12	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Committee of Adjustment
	1		

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

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

What's Happening

Notice of service disruption

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

• The Desjardins Pool at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex will be closed from July 2 to August 23 for refurbishment. Please review the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex pool schedule for available swim times during this pool closure. For more information, visit aurora.ca/aquatics.

See below for a scheduled service disruption at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex (SARC):

•The SARC Pool will be closed from **September 3 to 15**. Review the AFLC Pool Schedule for available swim times during this pool closure. For more information, visit aurora.ca/aquatics.

We apologize for any inconvenience. For more information, visit aurora.ca/news.

Seeking input on Community Energy Plan

What is your biggest concern about energy? What can we do as a community to improve energy efficiency, reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions?

Town of Aurora and LURA Consulting are developing a Community Energy Plan that will capture Aurora's energy use and provide a strategic plan on how to move forward towards a sustainable energy system.

Join us at the Aurora Farmers' Market on Saturday, August 24 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. to learn more about the plan and share your concerns related to energy and climate change.

For more information please visit: aurora.ca/communityenergyplan.

What's Happening

Youth Volunteer Fair on September 19

Are you a youth looking for community service hours? Join us at the Youth Volunteer Fair on Thursday, September 19 at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, visit aurora.ca/youthevents.

Open House for Master Plan Environmental Assessment study on September 5

The Town of Aurora is hosting its third open house to review and discuss the development of the recommended approach for the Master Plan Environmental Assessment (EA) study for stream

Interested residents are invited to attend the meeting on **Thursday, September 5** from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Holland room on the first floor of Aurora Town Hall located at 100 John West Way. Review project information and the project team's recommended approach to addressing stream related issues regarding erosion and flood mitigation in the Tannery

participants to ask questions and provide comments and feedback to Town staff and consultants at the open house. For more information please contact Glen McArthur, Municipal

Temporary Road Closures

Due to the Business Improvement Association of Aurora's Community event there will be a road closure on Saturday,

Roads to be temporarily closed are the following:

•2 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Yonge Street from South of Wellington

management within the Town of Aurora.

Creek Watershed within Aurora.

There are no formal presentations scheduled. We encourage

Engineer at 905-727-3123 ext. 4322 or by email at gmcarthur@aurora.ca.

September 7.

Street to Mosley Street.

Thank you for your cooperation.



* Nominal fee applies ** Various times of operation

905-726-4762 • aurora.ca/ribfest

#AuroraRibfest

What's Happening







Labour Day Service Schedule aurora.ca • 905-727-1375



MUNICIPAL OFFICE • 100 John West Way

Aurora Town Hall (100 John West Way) will be CLOSED on Monday, September 2. Town Hall will reopen on Tuesday, September 3 at 8:30 a.m.

If you would like to pay a water or tax bill, payments can be placed in the drop-off box 24-hours a day outside of Town Hall. Please do not place cash payments in the boxes and remember to include your payment stub. Alternatively, you can pay your bills through an ATM or your bank's online banking service. Parking tickets can be paid online at paytickets.ca



AURORA PUBLIC LIBRARY • 15145 Yonge Street

Aurora Public Library will be **CLOSED** on **Monday, September 2 and reopen on Tuesday, September 3 at 9:30 a.m.** For more information, visit **aurorapl.ca** or



WASTE COLLECTION

Waste collection **will not** be affected during the Labour Day holiday. Please consult your 2019/2020 Waste Management Guide and Recycling Calendar for



RECREATION CENTRES Recreation centres including the **Aurora Family Leisure Complex** and the

Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex will be operating with modified **hours.** For a full list of hours of operation and program opportunities including fitness classes, pool, gymnasium, rock wall and The Loft hours, please visit aurora.ca/labourday.

Aurora Seniors' Centre will be **CLOSED** for the Labour Day holiday on Monday, September 2 and will reopen on Tuesday, September 3 at 8:30 a.m.

SERVICES

EMERGENCY For Town-related emergency situations such as flooding, watermain breaks or downed trees, please call 905-727-1375 or 905-727-3123 and follow the voice prompts. FOR ALL OTHER EMERGENCIES, CALL 9-1-1





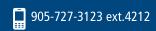












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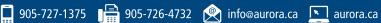












Junior links champions hosted at Magna Golf Club



The winners of the 2019 Future Links Junior Nationals at Magna Golf Club pose with their hardware after the event on Sunday.

Photo courtesy of Christian Bender/Golf Canada

Young golfers tee off ahead of this week's CP Women's Open

By Jake Courtepatte

Before the best in the world at the senior level arrived to tee off at the Magna Golf Club this week, the top Canadian young guns were on hand at the course last weekend for the Future Links Junior Skills Challenge.

Thirty-one of the best golfers across four age groups took part in a driving, chipping, and putting competition to take home the annual prize, which included a champions package from sponsor Titleist.

"The Future Links, driven by Acura Junior Skills experience is a celebration of skill development facilitated by coaches at over 140 facilities across Canada," said Adam Hunter, senior manager of junior programs at Golf Canada. "We are extremely happy with another excellent National Event and want to thank our sponsors for helping make this dream a reality."

Notable among the eight winners were Liam McLaren of Georgina, who won the boys eight and under division, and Alissa Xu from Richmond Hill, who took home the girls 12 – 14 prize.

It's a busy few weeks for the Magna club, who this weekend host the CP Canadian Women's Open, one of the flagship tournaments of the LPGA. Reigning champion Brooke Henderson, from Smith's Falls, ON, is set to make a splash and draw large crowds of fans.

TSN golf analyst Bob Weeks, who will be in the Aurora area all week to cover the event, expects big things from one of the game's fastest rising stars.

"It's a friendly golf course, and it should benefit her," said Weeks from the course. "Especially off the tee. There's a lot of room to hit the golf ball...there's supposed to be some rain this week, but once the tournament starts the temperatures are going to be fairly nice. The conditions should be fairly calm."

Weeks called the field of competitors "world-class", citing names like Jin Young Ko, Lexi Thompson, and of course Henderson, who will be followed by what has become known as the "Brooke Brigade."

"I've got to think scores will be low," said Weeks. "When you've got a golf course in perfect condition, that's been watered to death, with mild, sunny temperatures, and generous fairways, I've got to think these scores are going to be low at this year's national championship. I can't see it not being a shootout, and hopefully Brooke's a part of it."

She won by four strokes in the 2018 iteration of the tournament in Regina, Saskatchewan, taking home over \$330,000 for her efforts and the hearts of those Canadians she had not already stole.

"She proved last year that she could handle the pressure," said Weeks. "She's the face of golf in the country, and now the face of the tournament. "Who knows, maybe she can defend, or at least get herself in the mix and give herself a chance to defend."

Already the most successful Canadian golfer ever with nine career victories at the age of 21, all eyes will be on Henderson when she takes to Magna this week.

"To be that young, and that good, is tough," said Weeks. "...but she's so evolved in terms of maturity."

Henderson is one of fifteen Canadians to take part in the tournament, including Lorie Kane, who is making her record-setting 29th appearance.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Traffic calming measures a waste of time: reader

(Re: Traffic calming measures coming to some school zones, August 15)

I have lived in Aurora for many years and lived without traffic calming: no speed bumps in parking lots or cones in the middle of lanes making the neighbourhood look ugly.

Would that be because back in the dark ages the citizens of Aurora respected the traffic laws and neighbourhoods?

Maybe it is time to attack the cause instead of coming up with bandaid temporary solutions and a complete waste of 20 grand.

> Thelma Kadey Dixon Aurora

One One **Book Aurora**

Photography Contest



SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

- Must be a minimum of 16 years of age
- Employees/Board members of APL and their immediate families are ineligible to win.
- Photos must be high-res for print

In Sweetness in the Belly, Lilly is sent to live with a poor family where she earns her keep teaching local children the Qur'an. Throughout the novel, children are featured in the book. This year's OBOA photography contest features photographs of children: Capture children in the act of discovery!

> Please send submissions to: brock@auroran.com Submission Deadline: Friday, September 27

WINNING ENTRY RECEIVES A GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR A MOVIE DATE NIGHT. RUNNER UP RECEIVES A \$25 GIFT CARD

The winner will be announced at APL's Ontario Public Library Week Open House

THE AURORAN Aurora's Community Newspaper

One One Book Aurora







THE AURORAN

www.TheAuroran.com

Deadline for submissions

Machell's Corners



Further down the rabbit hole

As a fan of movie musicals – new and old – sometimes a particular experience can trigger an avalanche of so-called "ear worms"; that is, songs lodged deep into the recesses of my brain, spat out or shaken loose for reasons known only to them, that remain firmly lodged in my consciousness for the next day or two.

Don't pretend you don't know the feeling. I bet there is hardly a reader who hasn't, at one time or another, inexplicably found themselves humming a tune they haven't heard in a good long while?

Maybe you've been down in Toronto riding the streetcar, hear the bell, and are reminded of Judy Garland singing "The Trolley Song" from "Meet Me in St. Louis" or, when passing an upscale jewellery store, you've heard a few bars of Audrey Hepburn's take on Henry Mancini's "Moon River", reminiscent of "Breakfast at Tiffany's."

Personally, and firmly in spite of myself, I have been finding myself humming, with greater frequency with of believing climate change doesn't. each passing month, a few snippets of "Cell Block Tango" from "Chicago".

If you're not familiar with the picture, this is a torchy number sung by a chorus of female prison inmates explaining what got them locked up in the first place. In one such instance, a woman tells her cohorts how her spouse met his grizzly end. Walking into their apartment, she found him in bed with two other women and, understandably, was not particularly impressed with what she saw. In the middle of their verbal sparring match, before his ultimate demise, he pleads innocence, asking his wife, "Are you gonna believe what you see, or what I tell you?"

Given the fact she is suitably comfortable in accommodations provided by the Great State of Illinois, needless to say she trusted what she saw, yet it seems more and more people these days are becoming less comfortable believing what they see and hear for themselves over what those with special interests and personal agendas are all too eager to impart to them.

We can see it south of our border where unequivocal visual evidence and personal accounts of those victimized by particularly troubling instances are dismissed out of hand by some parties in thrall to a particular leader when they are told by said leader that it's "fake news" there's "nothing to see here" and to essentially tighten up their blinders and stay in their lane.



BROCK'S BANTER

Brock Weir

But we're also seeing it with increased frequency here.

Take the issue of climate change.

Troubling stories circulated over the weekend that Elections Canada has handed down a warning to apparently apolitical stakeholders and action groups that the very idea of discussing climate change as a real, actual thing that exists could be considered a "partisan" activity – simply because one the country's newly-established political parties has adopted the troubling policy

"An Elections Canada official warned to make a huge difference. groups in a training session earlier this summer that because [the People's Party of Canada] has expressed doubts about the legitimacy of climate change, any group that promotes it as real or an emergency could be considered partisan," quotes The Canadian Press of Environmental Defence's Executive Director Tim Gray.

The report goes on to note that activity deemed "partisan" would require non-profits such as Environmental Defence to register as a third party for the election, a move that could jeopardize such groups' charitable tax status.

Gray notes, "It is 'discouraging' that Environmental Defence and other charities may have to zip their lips about climate change being real during the campaign period 'because one party has chosen to deny the existence of this basic fact."

At the end of the day, it seems that any third-party promoting climate change as an "emergency" would be seen as actively advocating against the party pushing denial.

It is hard to pin down the most alarming aspect of this apparent Elections Canada Policy, so let's start at the top with denial of things that are right in front of your face.

In my experience, those who question the realities of climate change the most are the same people who

have been complaining this year of summer's unquestionably late arrival, the unusually heavy rains that have, horror of horrors, inconveniently got in the way of their long-planned leisure activities, or have pondered aloud, with ever-widening eyes, why today's winters are a little bit colder and longer than they used to be.

Their perspective is one that only goes as far as the ends of their noses, with little regard to more alarming impacts of climate change, such as entire Ontario towns where life has all but ground to a halt due to frequent flooding, resulting in homes washed away, personal injury and lives all but

It has to be said though that denial of climate change is, in some ways, understandable. Accepting this reality could cause a rash of inconvenient critical thinking and that, in turn, could spur innovation, different kinds of investment, and making small changes in our everyday lives that could add up

This, of course, would require some individuals to step outside their respective comfort zones, or, in the case of politicians, voting bases, to actually do something about it – and that has, unfortunately, proven time and time again to be a bridge too far.

Deeming advocacy in the fight against climate change a "partisan" activity simply because one party has determined it is politically expedient to deny reality is an alarming development. If this is the case going forward, where does it stop?

If a national party stepped up to the plate to say a particular minority group of Canadians should have some Charter rights stripped away because of their heritage, would groups advocating equal rights for all be considered partisan operators?

How long will it be until a party with an axe to grind offers up a platform plank, perhaps targeting flat-earthers, insisting that, like climate change, Justin Trudeau and Andrew Scheer are figments of our imagination? Would the very presence of either leader, or the party they represent, going on the ballots be considered a partisan attack? Probably not, but given this ridiculous development, it is sadly not beyond the realm of possibility. It is just as illogical as designating the mere mention of the realities of climate change a partisan activity.

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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.

TIME TRAVELLER'S **DIARY Jacqueline Stuart**

A New High

The music of the Henry Jerome Orchestra, airing on CFRB radio, had almost lulled the Time Traveller to sleep that night of August 31, 1948, but he recovered just enough to switch off the radio before succumbing

When he turned the radio on again in the morning he was surprised to hear the voice of Bruce Smith on CBC's "Toast and Jamboree." Then



The Aurora Museum & Archives is remembering...

The construction of the Grand Trunk Railway Yonge Street Underpass!

Captured on August 24, 1922, this image tells the story of two different rail lines. Front and centre, it shows the construction of the Grand Trunk Railway (GTR) underpass, located on Yonge Street in Aurora's south end. In the background, you can see a Radial Railway car approaching a GTR overpass on the far right. These are two different rail lines; the GTR was for locomotives and the Radial Railway was for electric streetcars. Once construction of the Yonge Street underpass was complete, the Radial Railway tracks were relocated to run alongside the road. Later that year, the Radial Railway's GTR overpass was demolished, leaving only a nine-foot high limestone abutment which still stands.

Pleasant words are like a honey-comb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

Proverbs 16:24

In the beauty of this August month, I would ask all our wonderful readers who take the time to read my column each month, to allow me for this moment to reflect upon a shining light.

The shining light that our late Marg Walsh brought to our choir each and every week.

There will never be another like her. She was the best friend you would hope for, the strong shoulder to cry on, she was the shelter when the rains came, the tender-hearted soul who only spoke love and kindness no matter who she met. She was one of a kind.

All of us became better people because of her quiet and yet joyful presence.

We learned tolerance, patience and love of life.

Marg; she was ours and we had her here for the years she graced us with her kind and gentle presence. Although I didn't sit next to her, you could hear her laughter when she made a mistake and yet when one of us made a mistake in singing the wrong note, there was only understanding and love that came from her.



SENIOR SCAPE

Christina Doyle

What does a good word cost? Nothing. What is it worth? A great deal. Mother Teresa of Calcutta said: "Kind words can be short and easy to speak but their echoes are truly endless."

A good word has the power to transform lives. It is a blessing for the hearer as much as it is for the speaker. A good word carries the energy of love. It gives wings. It creates hope. It motivates action. Who would not respond to the whisper of kindness and sympathy?

Marg was all these things and so much more. You could only wish you Proverbs 16 seems to describe our had a friend like Marg Walsh. The person who listens with love can make a big difference in the life of the speaker, and in particular, this writer.

> Throughout her journey with cancer, she spoke only of good things, and expressed gratitude for her life, her family, especially the love of her life, her husband Hank and, of course, her

Marg felt blessed in what she had in her life. Marg was kindness in action. She was a loving person who brought the sunshine every Wednesday afternoon to choir practice!

Her thoughtfulness went beyond us all. She had initiated a card giving venture when any of our members of our choir were struggling with illness or just needed some uplifting message, Marg was the one who made sure all of us were aware of other member's struggles and to make sure we all signed a get well card.

She did her own work of mercy.

True kindness is not just a feeling of compassion or some kind of sentimentalizing empathy, but it is about doing works of mercy and relieving the pain of others. She used her gifts of kindness, through her genuine understanding and compassion of her fellow man and woman. She had won all our affection and gratitude because of her warmth and love.

So, dear readers, Marg left us all a job to do, let's think of the acts of kindness we can do for one another this month, as we of the Evergreen Choir mourn Marg's passing with an excruciating heavy heart and remember the wonderful angelic presence she gave

We sometimes need to be reminded Continued on page 21

A moment with Jackie Stuart

This week's Speakeasy welcomed cohost, Shelagh Carlini of Theatre Aurora, filling in for Jane who was off on a welldeserved vacation. In anticipation of Doors Open Aurora happening that weekend, we invited historian and Aurora icon Jacqueline Stuart to talk about our Town – its culture and history.

For 25 years Jackie was the Curator of the Aurora Historical Society. From giving tours, to organizing the collection, to research, to instilling a love of history in children - Jackie continues to be one of Aurora's greatest treasures.

At Jackie's suggestion, we opened with Gordon Lightfoot's Canadian Railroad Trilogy, a selection guaranteed to bring shivers to any Canadian history buff. It set the mood for Jackie to tell us about the early days, when the first steam train to operate in Canada West began service between Toronto and Aurora.

At that time, Aurora was a village with a population of around 600 people. Centred at Yonge and Wellington, there were already shops, a flourmill, three churches - and the vibrancy of an early bustling community. Listening to Jackie speak about history is pure storytelling. We could hear, smell and feel Aurora past.

Jackie's ability to make history come alive spoke to the early days at 22 Church Street, when a section of the museum was transformed into an old schoolhouse room and children from local schools would come to experience the magic of Aurora. Often teachers would make a day of the



SPEAKEASY

Jane Taylor & Reccia Mandelcorn

outing, visiting both the Museum and the Library with a lunch break in between.

One of the most fun of all activities was Jackie's "What is it?" game, where she would bring out a most strange artefact and children and their adults would have to guess what it was. Jackie told us that sometimes, this was even an opportunity to find out what something was when she didn't know herself. For many "Aurora old timers", it was Jackie's sense of fun in her programming that resonated with visitors of all ages.

Jackie has always been an advocate for the preservation of historical buildings in Aurora. One of her favourites is Victoria Hall. Built in 1883, it has seen many uses over the years, and if you enter the building today, you can see traces of its history. With its lightly frosted windows dating back to the days when it was a church, Victoria Hall also held high school classes, became "Health Hall" with public health nurses running classes for new moms, to becoming the Aurora Public Library from 1945-1963 under the direction of Marjorie Andrews, APL's first librarian, to the Friendship Circle, the predecessor of the Aurora Seniors' Centre.

For Jackie, this modest building, with its ability to adapt, speaks to the importance of retaining our historic buildings. From her perspective, if you tear down old buildings, they're gone forever. You can't come back in 10 years and say that would have been nice to have. Old buildings and old streetscapes give us a very concrete picture, linking to Aurora's past and not just some general history of Ontario or Canada.

If you want to learn more about Aurora's history in a very fun and relatable way, a book not to miss is Jackie's recent publication, An Aurora ABC. This fascinating read for all ages provides a unique look at the people, places and things that made Aurora what it is today.

Both Aurora Public Library and Theatre Aurora were on the Doors Open Tour this year. With support from Joseph Filice, Heritage Planning Student, Town of Aurora, we enjoyed welcoming many visitors, both new and returning. From The Speakeasy, we invite you to take some time and savour our Town's rich cultural history.

Jane Taylor is Communications and Events Manager at 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 102.7 CHOP-FM.

he remembered: at midnight CFRB had switched frequencies with the CBC station and CFRB was now at 1010 on the dial. The Traveller thought it was an appropriate day to take a little trip to find out more about CFRB and its

connection with Aurora.

completely.

Back he went to February 1927 and the new radio station CFRB: Canada's First Rogers Batteryless. The C and F were actually assigned national and regional identifiers, but stations often attached promotional meanings to them. Station owners did select the final two letters to create a unique call sign. In this case the R was for Edward "Ted" Rogers, the young inventor of the batteryless radio receiver: no more large, leaky, loud-humming batteries in your home radio set - just plug it in. And the B was, of course, for batteryless.

The Time Traveller hiked down to the 15th Sideroad. He knew that it would soon be referred to locally as the CFRB sideroad, and that one day it would be called Bloomington Road. On high ground near the southwest corner of the intersection with Yonge he stared up at CFRB's wooden transmission towers. Two ninety-eightfoot structures were connected by a horizontal cable. Another cable hung from the first, completing a T-shaped connection between the towers and the transmitter hut on the ground. (The station itself was located in Toronto)

Shifting forward to 1933 the Traveller got a real crick in his neck looking up at the two 300-foot steel towers which had just replaced the original wooden ones. At night "CFRB" shone out in neon lights from one tower.

In 1948, the Aurora towers were removed. After much wrangling and negotiation, CFRB had been forced to give up its existing frequency, which was taken over by CBC, causing the Traveller that momentary morning confusion. However, CFRB was allowed to expand its power to 50,000 watts and a site near Clarkson was selected for the new structures. On the day before the switch there was a good deal of publicity about the change in the CFRB frequency and strength: "a new high in good listening!" was promised.

The Aurora towers disappeared but the CFRB name was used for the adjacent sideroad for almost another twenty-five years: the Bloomington name for the full length of the road was not adopted until 1972.

Today, the Time Traveller still occasionally turns to 1010 on his radio. The station's operating name is now NewsTalk 1010, but its official call letters are still CFRB, as they have been for over ninety years.

THIS WEEK'S **NEW POLL**

Will the SNC-Lavalin affair be a factor in how you vote in the upcoming Federal election?

Yes No Unsure

Previous poll results

YES OF TO DATE NO UNSURE 82% 18% 0%					

Aurora contestants shine at 2019 CNE Rising Star **Talent Competition**

By Adam Vanderkolff

The annual Canadian National Exhibition Rising Star Competition kicked off on Friday August 16th. With one contestant in the junior division (6 to 12 years old) and one in the youth division (13 to 21 years old), Aurora's representation is strong.

This event is one of the longest running talent competitions in Ontario with 2019 marking its 33rd

year. Contestants must audition, perform at the preliminary round, and then the semi-final round, before reaching the finals.

Aurora is represented in the junior division by Allison Lee and her dance group, Dueling Banjos. This talented group includes Allison, Daniel Tamburro, and Ava Dipietro who are all 11-years-old and have been dancing together for four years.

The Dueling Banjos performance



Duelling Banjos perform at the CNE Rising Star Competition: Allison Lee, Daniel Tamburro and Ava Dipietro. Photo courtesy of the CNE

2021 WATER & WASTEWATER MASTER PLAN UPDATE

NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT

RELEASE DATE: AUGUST 15, 2019 Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study

Managing our water for the next generation

The Regional Municipality of York is updating its Water and Wastewater Master Plan to ensure drinking water and wastewater services meet community needs now and into the future. The Master Plan Update will help the Region support healthy communities by identifying long-term strategies, initiatives and infrastructure to meet water and wastewater servicing

The process

needs to 2041 and beyond.

Through the Master Plan Update the Region will identify and evaluate options for future water and wastewater programs and infrastructure projects.

The study will:

- Follow the Municipal Class **Environmental Assessment** master planning process
- Fulfill the requirements for select Schedule B projects
- Become the basis for select future Schedule C projects

Get involved

Stakeholder and public engagement, and consultation are key parts of this process. Public engagement opportunities will be promoted in local newspapers, on the Region's social media channels and york.ca/waterplan

routine.

"Our dance is pretty up beat, it has a lot of cool tricks in it...it's really fast and we have practiced a lot so we know our steps really well," said Allison Lee. "We really want to entertain a lot of people and perform," added Ava.

"This is the most challenging tap choreography that they have done," said dance coach Nicole Cultraro. "I'm happy to see how far they have come and I'm excited to see where they go from here."

They performed their routine on Friday in the preliminary round and have advanced into the semifinals. This is a great achievement as they will be joining a very select group of semifinalists. Their next performance will to continue their success.

In the youth division, Auroran Nicolette Racine-Vagenas will also be who I am now." looking to make headlines.

Nicolette is 14 years old and dances Newmarket. Making her debut in the run until September 1.

is a fast-paced and exciting tap dance competition, Nicolette is one of only 32 contestants who made it through auditions.

> She will be performing her acro dance routine on August 21.

> Acro dance is a form of dance that includes similar technique attributed with classic dance, but also includes acrobatic elements. Nicolette describes her routine as "similar to Cirque du Soleil" as it is "high energy and includes acrobatic moves."

> As Nicolette approaches the preliminary round, she states that nerves don't often affect her performance.

> "I get nervous right before I go on stage but once the music starts, I just forget everything because I have to have a lot of focus," she said.

The Cardinal Carter student has be on August 26 where they will look a passion for dance states, "I love dancing, I have been doing it since I was two years old and that's kind of

Both contestants will continue to make Aurora proud at the CNE with the CDA Dance Academy in Rising Star Competition which will

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As a first step, we want to better understand what you think about your water and wastewater services and where you see opportunities for improvement.

Take the survey online at york.ca/waterplan

Submit questions or comments, receive accommodation or an accessible version of this notice, or join the Master Plan Update mailing list by contacting:

CURTIS CHING, MANAGER,

INFRASTRUCTURE ASSET PLANNING & MANAGEMENT

The Regional Municipality of York - Environmental Services Department 17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1 P: 1-877-464-9675, ext. 75002 | F: 905-830-6927 | water@york.ca

Personal information submitted (e.g., name, address and phone number) is collected maintained and disclosed under the authority of the Environmental Assessment Act and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for transparency and consultation purposes. Personal information you submit will become part of a public record that is available to the general public, unless you request that vour personal information remain confidential





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Nicolette Racine-Vagenas performs at the CNE Rising Star Competition.

Photo courtesy of the CNE



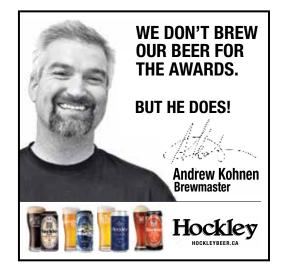
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BUSINESS FINANCE



Electric buses to join York Region Transit fleet



Newmarket-Aurora MP Kyle Peterson welcomes transit and tech representatives to the York Region headquarters last week.

Contributed photo

Federal Government invests in Newmarket initiative

By Brock Weir

York Region Transit users will soon have the chance to roll up to their destination in brand-new electric buses.

The Federal Government announced Wednesday a nearly \$1 million investment in Newmarket's Electric Bus Network.

"Our government continues to support innovative, green infrastructure projects that will create good, middleclass jobs and advance our clean energy said Newmarket-Aurora MP Kyle Peterson, announcing the \$957,000 cash infusion on behalf of Amarjeet Sohi, Canada's Minister of Natural Resources. "This project brings us one step closer to a zeroemissions transportation sector and a

cleaner community for the people of Newmarket-Aurora."

The Federal investment will go to Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution Ltd. to demonstrate what is described as a fully interoperable, high-power overhead on-route charger, which will help York Region Transit eventually phase out diesel buses, significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution in the process.

The funding will help Newmarket-Tay, purchase, install and operate a 450kw bus charging station, while contributing to the Canadian Urban Transit Research and Innovation Consortium's Pan-Canada Electric Bus Network. This network, the CUTRIC, aims to cut pollution and energy costs while paving the way for a zero-emission transportation sector.

"Newmarket has demonstrated today that it is a global leader in utilityled ownership and operation of highpowered charging systems on behalf of a community transit agency," said Dr. Josipa Petrunic, CEO of CUTRIC. "This has never happened in Canada or anywhere in North America. Utilities across the continent are watching to see how Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution has been able to achieve this impressive financial and technical feat in the transit electrification world."

Added Wayne Emmerson, Chairman and CEO of the Regional Municipality of York: "Today's investment builds on York Region's investment of almost \$8 million in electric bus technology and moves us closer to York Regional Council's commitment to producing zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2051. This innovative project clearly demonstrates the impact that is made when different levels of government and industry experts work together to improve the way we provide transit to travellers in York Region."

The project's on-route charger is manufactured by Siemens and will "demonstrate the performance of overhead electric bus charging systems and enable future mass deployments," says the Federal Government.

"Emobility is one of the most important and complex opportunities facing society today," said Faisal Kazi, President and CEO of Siemens Canada. "With the right charging technology, the advantages of electrified buses can be utilized: less energy consumption in comparison to buses with combustion engines, use of renewable energy, less noise, lower particle emissions, less CO2, lower life-cycle costs and reliable

"As a world leader in electric infrastructure.

bus solutions, Siemens is honoured to become a member of the Pan-Canadian Electric Bus Network, spearheaded by CUTRIC, and be part of Natural Resources Canada's Green Infrastructure Program. We look forward to continuing to contribute to the impressive efforts already underway in Montreal, Vancouver, Brampton and soon to be in Newmarket."

To date, the Government of Canada has invested \$182.5 million to support the deployment of electric chargers; natural gas and hydrogen refuelling stations; the demonstration of new, innovative charging technologies; and the development of codes and standards for low-carbon vehicles and refuelling

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In volatile markets, there are three questions every investor should ask themselves:

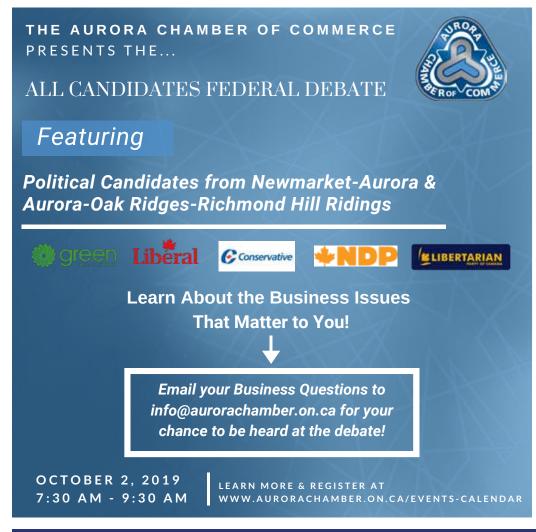
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- 2. Does my financial plan account for uncontrollable risk like market corrections?
- 3. Will my income needs be met if my portfolio drops in value?

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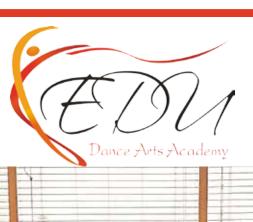
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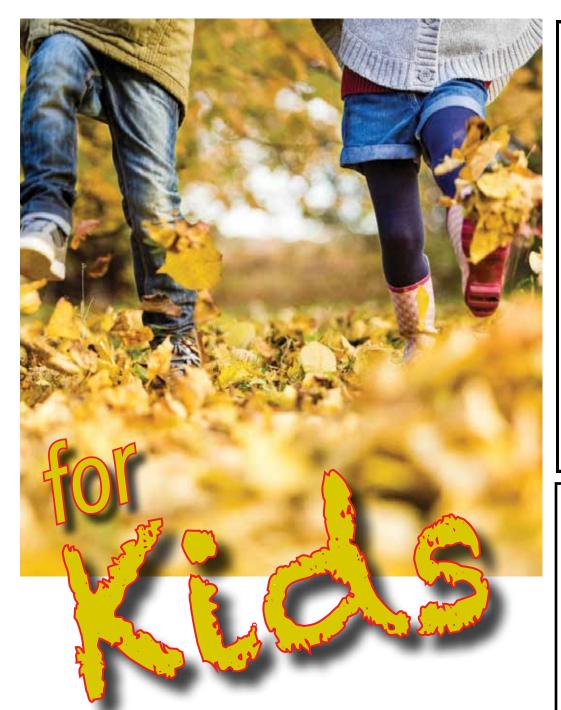
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Pine Tree Potters celebrates 40 years of artistic excellence

From page 1

anniversary with the opening of View from the Pines, a juried exhibition of new ceramic works now on through September 28 at the Aurora Cultural Centre.

Bringing together new works from more than 40 guild members, the pieces have been curated by jurors Janna Hiemstra, Executive Director of Craft Ontario, and Angelo di Petta, an internationally-renowned ceramic artist, who curated the exhibition from more than 90 submissions based on craftsmanship, excellence of design and originality.

"With a theme such as View from the Pines, you could approach your work from an environmental standpoint, as someone who loves nature, as someone with a sense of social justice, all with the idea of looking down on things and still having a clear vision of what's around you," explains Teresa Dunlop, a Guild member of 18 years, who co-organized the exhibition. "We have pieces that are simply beautiful and useful, we have pieces with rich narratives that really tell strong stories, and there are also pieces that are raising issues of social justice, including one called 'The Wall' which is a reflection of the proposed wall between Mexico and the United stop and say, 'Ah!'"

Ms. Dunlop has three of her own pieces in the exhibition, ceramics that are wood-fired and touched by flame and ash. This, she says, seems to "add another layer of meaning" to her objects, including a set of plates entitled "Table for Two", a sculpture "Tectonic Shift" and an object with large crosspieces called "Love Handles."

She first tried her hand at pottery nearly 20 years ago. During classes, she fell in love with both the material and the creative process and began to pursue the medium seriously. One of her first stops was the Pine Tree Potters Guild. Since her first involvement, she has served as the organization's studio heat, vice president, president and pastpresident, and currently serves on the

"I was so inspired by being a member of Pine Tree that when I retired from teaching I decided to go back to school and study craft and design at Sheridan College," she says, "I graduated from there in 2014 and this is all as a result of being a part of Pine Tree, and I've started a second career as a ceramic artist."

What really inspired her while getting her hands dirty with clay was the ability of the earthy material to make things that were both beautiful and useful.



Guild Member Pam Pritchard was recognized with The Steven Heinemann Award of Excel-

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

She found a passion for making things that were functional and also served to enhance and beautify the home improving a person's quality of life in members to create garden art, so we the process.

"Clay gives you that possibility," she says of melding form and function. "It's great if you want to make functional things, but it is so wonderful because the material is so plastic, able to accept marks, be manipulated, and it is a medium that has such history and variety of use, variety of processes, that you can be excited by it for the rest of your life."

This excitement has a trickle-down affect on the viewer and consumer. An exhibition like View from the raise questions and make people feel uplifted."

"That's the goal with this show, to spread the word about clay within the larger community of York Region," affirms the importance of art and art is part of a vibrant society."

Enhancing the exhibition have been the keen eyes of the jurors who were able to not only select the best of the best, but also suggest next steps to burgeoning artists just coming up through the Guild, many of whom are represented in the anniversary show.

"The work is really accessible and there is something for everybody because it is quite a diverse collection," says Ms. Dunlop. "The 43 pieces really cover the gamut of processes and

topics, and there is a variety that will engage everyone. Also, to celebrate our anniversary, we challenged our have 11 garden totems – that is, stacked items - ranging in height from three to six feet, made in clay. They are just delightful, and include a series of teacups and another that is a beautiful collection by members Cristel von Richter and Sheena Griffiths, which is a beautiful scene of a garden with all kinds of birds."

These "whimsical totems" are also available for sale.

"This is a great Guild and we offer classes to the public and workshops, so somebody who might want to find a way Pines, she says, is intended to "excite, to do something with their hands, they need some kind of a hobby or release, this is another way of introducing them to Pine Tree Potters and also to the history of the guild within the community," says Ms. Dunlop. "There she says. "Having a show like this just is a lot of great stuff happening within Aurora and York Region and going to this show will help you learn a little bit more about the community you live in."

> View from the Pines, the 40th Anniversary & Juried Exhibition of New Ceramic Works from the Pine Tree Potters Guild, runs at the Aurora Cultural Centre through September 28. Gallery hours are Monday – Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This Saturday, August 24, artist Sheena Griffiths will hold a wheel-throwing demonstration from 1-4 p.m.

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New sounds, new album, the Spoons headline Saturday's Ribfest

Iconic Canadian band marks 40th anniversary

By Brock Weir

They had just passed their local library, when they popped a cassette into the car's tape deck to listen to their latest recording.

The Burlington high school students knew what they were about to hear and, satisfied with the sound, they popped the tape out to listen to the radio. But, despite the cassette being firmly back in its case, their song continued – this time, on the radio station to which they had tuned in. As they absorbed what they were hearing, they went over to another station, heard their song again - just in time to see a man walking down the street with their latest EP under his arm.

This is when Gord Deppe and Sandy Horne of The Spoons knew they had hit the big time with Nova Heart and, 40 years, later they are still wowing the crowds with their classic hits and acclaimed new material.

This Saturday, August 24, the iconic Canadian band will hit the stage at Machell Park as headliners for the second night of Aurora's Ribfest.

The Spoons are no strangers to Ribfest, having first played the event in its early days. Not many people got to see them, however, as inclement weather turned the park into nothing short of a mud bowl, but heartier fans stuck it out for their favourite band.

This time around, they are bringing

with them not only the New Wave sounds that became their signature, but hits from "New Day New World", their first album release in over eight

Released this past March, "New Day New World" evokes the fun, pop sounds of "Romantic Traffic" and "Tell No Lies" but brings their work directly into 2019.

The Spoons, founded by Deppe and Horn as high school student, are about to mark their 40th anniversary.

Starting off as a New Wave electronics band, their style has evolved over the past four decades to encompass rock and pop. With technological advancements, Ms. Horne tells The Auroran that their 80s sounds are still so popular with new and long-time fans, they are relishing being able to re-create the sounds in a way that is better and cleaner, straddling the line between modern and New Wave.

"We're family," Ms. Horne explains. "I've known Gord since I was 14 and in high school, so he is like an extended brother to me. We all just get along. Music keeps you young, young at heart. In high school, rather than hanging out in the mall, being in gangs, or even playing sports, we were basically a basement band and we just always wanted to play music.

"I have always known I wanted to be on stage performing, but I just didn't know how I was going to get there. From as far back as the age of three or four, I was inspired by Judy Garland and I remember saying to myself, 'I want to do what she's doing,' but not knowing how to get there."

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Continued on page 23

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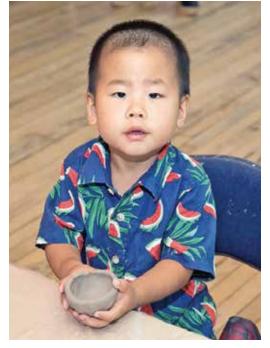






Doors Open Aurora 2019 was another success, drawing people from far and wide, to get an up close look at some of Aurora's notable landmarks. Clockwise from top right: lan, Colleen, Adelaide, Bryanna and Doug visit the Aurora Cultural Centre. David & Jillian show off authentic Star Trek memorabilia at Aurora Borealis Orthodontics. John tries his hand at ceramics as part of the Pine Tree Potters' Guild's View from the Pines exhibition. Tina and Auiad check out the Aurora Public Library. Luna has her photo taken in front of the Library's green screen. The Scarborough Model Railroaders took over Brevik Hall. David Heard leads a heritage tour outside the Trinity Rectory.

> Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger











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Clockwise from Top Left: Naghmeh Jah displays her work at the Patrick House Gallery. Deborah and Frank of the Aurora Poets Society shared poetry, music and storytelling at Victoria Hall. Members of Theatre Aurora clown on stage. Raina, Quamar and Councillor Rachel Gilliland are welcomed by Merlin's Hollow's Dierdre Tomlinson. Linda is greeted by cat William in the Merlin's Hollow Garden. Erika Baird of the Aurora Historical Society displays a dollhouse, on loan from Corrie Clark, that forms the centrepiece to Hillary House's new nursery display. Theresa and Derek get a rare look inside the Hillary House barn.

> **Auroran photos** by Glenn Rodger

















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Nembhard facing increased World Cup role following player injuries



Aurora's Andrew Nembhard, pictured with Florida's Montverde Academy, is leading Team Canada into the FIBA World Cup in China.

Photo courtesy of Florida Gator Athletics

By Jake Courtepatte

Andrew Nembhard is used to being the veteran leader, ever since his days on the court at Vaughan Secondary School, before heading south to Florida to attend Montverde Academy.

With the NCAA's Florida Gators, the Aurora native established his presence in his rookie season. Yet, he entered the FIBA World Cup training camp last month in an unfamiliar position, that of humbled rookie, ready to play a thirdstring role.

Things have changed greatly since that opening day of camp.

An initial camp roster of 27 has been trimmed down to just twelve names, with a number of prominent NBAers pulling out due to injury or rest, including Tristan Thompson, Andrew Wiggins, Jamal Murray, RJ Barrett, Dwight Powell...the list goes on and on.

Just one week ago, Miami Heat's Kelly Olynyk became the latest prominent player to pull out of the Canadian lineup due to injury to his knee.

But in the face of adversity, an NCAAer like Nembhard can now find opportunity: in a pair of exhibition

games so far against Team Australia, Nembhard has logged a total of 27 minutes on the court, minutes he most certainly wouldn't have seen had all the NBA talent been available.

He impressed first year head coach Nick Nurse, the current coach of the NBA champion Toronto Raptors, in Game One with a team-high ten rebounds and twelve points. He also added four assists and was a game-high plus-nineteen.

"He gets places easy and I'm not quite sure how he does it," Nurse said in a press conference following the game. "I'm trying to figure it out. He's got this head fake, he's in, he's out, he's over, he's around, and all of a sudden he's into some clear space. He's got a funky game a little bit, for a 19-year-old kid, a pretty good game."

Given the rarity of a teenager taking the floor at a FIBA World Cup, especially for the minutes logged by Nembhard, Nurse said he was impressed in the way he handled himself.

"He's got great demeanour," Nurse said. "Doesn't seem to care that he had a good game tonight, or he doesn't care if he doesn't have a good day or something. He just keeps playing ball.

He doesn't get too high or too low; he kicks off, taking on the powerhouse has a really good demeanour.

"I think he's got a quiet innerconfidence in himself."

The next big challenge for Nembhard and Canada comes in the final tune-up exhibition before the World Cup really Americans on Monday.

In a grouping with Senegal, Lithuania, and Australia, Canada opens the round robin on Sept. 1 against Australia.

Look for Nembhard to play a much larger role than first expected.



















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Stinger Cup closes out AYSC house league season



Team Yellow takes on Team Navy in the under-18 girls championship at AYSC's annual Stinger Cup tournament on Saturday.

Auroran photo by Jake Courtepatte

By Jake Courtepatte

The Aurora Youth Soccer Club closed the book on its season last weekend at the annual Stinger Cup tournament, the club's house-league division championship tournament.

Hundreds of players between the ages of 5 – 18 took to the fields at Optimist Park, St. Andrew's College, and Craddock Park, and Highland Park in Aurora, a lively atmosphere for both kids and parents.

The Aurora Lions Club and Optimist Club of Aurora were grilling hamburgers and hot dogs all weekend, while the players battled it out on the pitch for town-wide glory.

The first kick-off came Friday evening, with the festivities wrapping up at the U-18 level on late Sunday afternoon.

At the under-14 level, Team Orange bested Team Yellow in a 1-0 match to win the boys division, while the girls division saw a similar score with Team Lime coming out on top over Team Red

Team Royal were the champions of the under-18 boys side after not allowing a single goal throughout the entire round robin play, before meeting the also undefeated Team Grey in the finals and coming out on top 1-0.

The under-18 girls closed out the tournament, and the season, at Highland Park, where Team Yellow bested Team Navy in a 2 – 0 clean sheet

With the trophies all handed out, the AYSC has now opened the registration process for the Fall

2019 and Winter 2020 indoor program, with more information found at www.aysc.ca.



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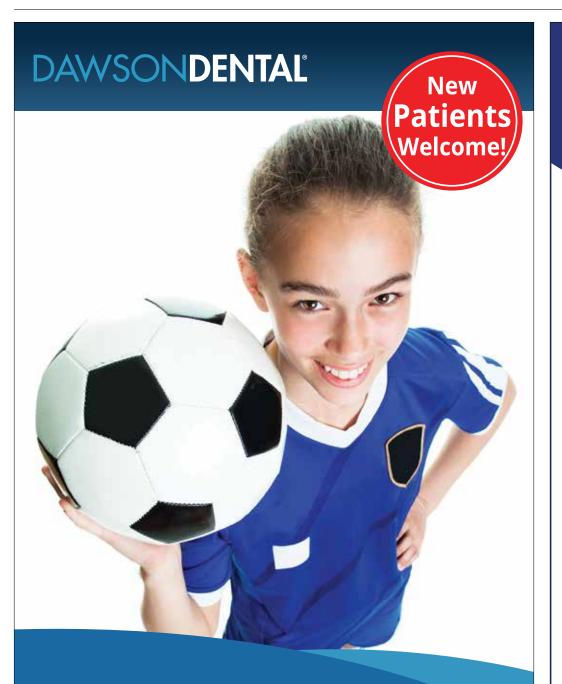
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MOVIES IN THE PARK – The young and the young-at-heart had a chance to get up close and personal, above, with their favourite Star Wars characters – and catch a vintage flick outdoors on the big screen Thursday as Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope, the film that kicked off the wildly popular franchise and international phenomenon in 1977. (Bottom left and right) Pre-show activities, held at Ada Johnson Park, featured themed activities and crafts. The series continues this Thursday, August 22 at Town Park with Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle (activities begin at 8 p.m. for an 8.45 showtime), before concluding Thursday, August 29 at Hickson Park (155 Conover Avenue) with Ralph Breaks the Internet. (Pre-show activities begin at 7.30 p.m. before an







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The culture of this dealership reflects my own ideals of honesty, integrity and fair play. My automotive career has been very rewarding in that I have had the opportunity to meet many

wonderful people from all walks of life, many of whom are still friends to this day. I do most of my community work through an umbrella organization which enables me to be more effective in outreaching to the differing needs in the community. We provide camps for young people who would otherwise not have the experience, as well as fundraise for projects and provide mentorship, where necessary, for deserving young people.

I also belong to the St. George's College Alumni Association which is an organization of men and women who raise funds for cancer research and also assist several schools in the Caribbean area, as I believe that education is a big part of the solution to global poverty.

I continue to look forward to serving the automotive needs of the residents of my area.

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Fleury Park rebuild loses Federal grant money following delay

By Brock Weir

The reconstruction of public bathroom facilities at Fleury Park will cost more than \$250,000 after the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority had a change of heart over the project.

The reconstruction of the public facilities has been on the launch pad for several years, and was approved for Federal funding in 2015 through 150 Canada Community Infrastructure Program. The plan, at the time, was to demolish the current washroom facility and rebuild it on its footprint to meet guidelines handed down by the Lake Simcoe Region

the land in question is floodplain.

The LSRCA, however, had other ideas and blocked the Town's application, instructing that the building be reconstructed in another area of the park closer to nearby homes. But, upon further review this past spring, the LSRCA reversed its decision, approving the reconstruction on the existing footprint – well after the door was closed on Federal funding.

"During the analysis stage of this project, it was found that the existing building had approximately 20 years of life left and the most cost-effective business approach was to demolish the building and rebuild, rather than

Conservation Authority (LSRCA) as restore it," said Sarah Tienkamp, "As such, staff contacted the LSRCA to discuss the project, as the building is located within the floodplain. LSRCA informed staff that they would not permit the reconstruction of the building on the existing footprint and the building would need to be relocated to another area in the park, outside the floodplain.

> "Limited space is available to construct a new washroom. Where it could be located would be immediately behind long-established residential houses backing onto the park."

> This, she notes, would have posed a number of challenges for the Town and residents alike, including significant changes to underground infrastructure in the area, an increased budget, and extended timelines for competition.

"These complications resulted in the Town being unable to meet grant deadlines which resulted in the loss of funding," she said.

But the Town continued to press the matter, continuing discussions with the LSRCA to underscore the importance of keeping the washroom on the existing footprint, including fiscal responsibility, the opposition of nearby residents to having a public washroom close to their homes, and the suggested location being further away from popular park amenities.

LSRCA's U-turn came in June.

Council conditionally approved the new washroom facility, which, unlike the 1970s facility, will be fully

The final approval came at the last Council meeting, where local lawmakers expressed dismay over the loss of Federal dollars to complete the

"Have we ever approached the Aurora's Manager of Parks and Fleet. LSRCA...at least to make them aware how disappointed we are, that we came up with a design to fit the footprint and they said no?" Councillor John Gallo asked staff, noting he realised the "ship had sailed" on this file. "We lost Federal funding and now we're in the same boat: the same design, the same footprint, and they said yes."

> Al Downey, Aurora's Director of Operations, said he had done so personally.

> "This is the reason we are sitting where we are right now, and meeting with them a couple of years ago, it has taken this long," he said. "We lost our opportunity and now they are willing to make an exception they weren't willing to make before and it actually cost the municipality. That's unfortunate. At least we were able to convince them to reconsider and move this project forward, but the loss of that is the loss of the funding."

> While Council ultimately approved the \$250,000 project, Mayor Tom Mrakas asked if it would be possible to add some security measures, such as cameras, to the new build, following a rash of break-ins to the building.

"There have been some concerns from the tenants in there – the lawn bowling as well as the tennis – that this is a recurring problem," said Mayor Mrakas.

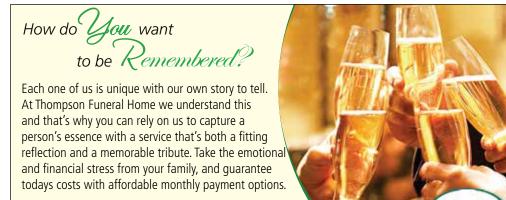
Doug Nadorozny, CAO for the Their concerns were heard and the Town, said this is something they could look into but the availability of the internet within the building could pose a problem for cameras.

"There can be a significant expense accessible, as part of the 2019 Budget to bring in the actual fibre to the building," he explained. "Cameras are cheap, that part is inexpensive, but where they're located relative to their network, it can be quite expensive to bring that into the building, but we will check those options out."

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Abbamania closes out Concerts in the Park this Wednesday

By Brock Weir

The unmistakable sounds of Abba will ring out through Town Park this Wednesday, August 28, in the grand finale to Aurora's Concerts in the Park season.

Abbamania is the world's premier tribute to Abba, boasting amazing vocals that matches every classic song note for

The group has been honing their Abba tribute for nearly 20 years and has become a firm favourite with music fans around the world, being one of the very few tribute shows to ever play Roy Thomson Hall.

They first came together when producer Garry Lichach was booking entertainment for the CNE. With Mamma Mia, the musical based on Abba's music, coming to Toronto at the time, they were looking for a good tribute to the Swedish pop stars.

"I knew I had two girls who would just be incredible at it," says Lichach. "I put together the three people I wanted, the fourth came a bit later, but when we had them learn four songs, went into rehearsal, they looked and sounded like Abba and now, here we are, 19 years later, 200 shows a year!"

Over the past two decades, Abbamania has played for enthusiastic crowds, large and small, everywhere from Casa Loma to Roy Thomson Hall, from Malaysia to the Cayman Islands, from Disney World and Busch Gardens to festivals much closer to home.

"It can be the smallest crowds or the largest crowds, audiences of 500 people or 5,000, but it is the same energy and positivity from the stage," he says. "These performers are there to put on the best show every night. It might sound corny, but that's what it's like. I don't care who is out there, but this is going to be the best show they have ever seen. Every night is different. It's like a painting; I can't tell you why it's good, but it's good – and I feel very privileged to be a part of this."

Concerts in the Park's grand finale, Abbamania, will take place Wednesday, August 28, at Town Park, from 7 - 9 p.m. Admission is free, but food donations to the Aurora Food Pantry are encouraged before the start of the concerts. Donors will be entered to win a chance to enjoy the Premium Concert Experience with upgraded TD-preferred seating and two prize packs.

For more information, visit aurora.ca/ summerconcerts.



Getting **Things Done**

Mayor **Tom Mrakas**

Exciting things are happening this fall in Aurora

Lenton Dr. mentioned the to University Scholars Hub series here to Aurora and, potentially, growing that working relationship to include want to miss. future collaborative initiatives.

When I spoke

with Dr. Rhonda

Lenton, President

of York University,

beginning of this

term of Council, I

indicated that I was

looking for ways

that Aurora could

be home to some

University.

at

back

he jumped at the chance to work program to our Town and Library.

So, I am very excited that York University is bringing "The York University Scholars Hub" right here to Aurora at our very own Aurorans that are staying informed.

Library. I believe this is a great first step that will lead many more collaborations between YorkU and the Town of Aurora.

This first Scholars Hub will feature speaker

YorkU programming and asked how Dr. Ruth Koleszar-Green, Professor the Town could collaborate with the and Indigenous Researcher. Dr. Koleszar-Green will be speaking relationships between possibility of bringing the York the colonial governments and Indigenous Peoples. This will definitely be a topic you will not

That's all for this week. As always, And when I brought this idea to if you would like to get into contact our Library CEO Bruce Gorman, with me please feel free to contact me anytime by phone 905-727-3123 ext. with YorkU to bring this exciting 4746 or by email tmrakas@aurora. ca and if you would like to sign up for more newsletters and council updates then please visit Mrakas.ca/ contact to join the growing list of

Street party set to be first initiative of Downtown BIA

From page 1

our first big official event is taking place on September 7 where Yonge Street will be closed for pedestrian traffic from Wellington down to Mosley for our family-friendly pre-Hoedown street party.

"We have had great support from local businesses for this event and they all seem to be very excited about it! Restaurants will be extending their patios out to the street area. Yonge and Wellington businesses are welcome to have booths on the street advertising their businesses and other businesses in the Downtown Core itself are welcome to participate as well.

"The BIA has worked closely with the Hoedown organizers to create this familyfriendly street event that complements the long-standing Magna Hoedown event, which is wonderful."

Reflecting on the importance of Hoedown to this event, Sandra Ferri, Executive Director of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, says, "The Magna Hoedown is an iconic event that is an integral part of the community and the BIA is thrilled to be able to work closely with the Hoedown organizers to make the first BIA event a huge success.

"We're honoured to be part of this preevent for the Hoedown. We know how much Magna has done for this community and we know how much Hoedown helps our local charities. This was the appropriate thing to do for our kick-off - to really tie it in to something that is so important to Aurora."

As such, previous winners of the Magna

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Hoedown Showdown, the Ontario-wide talent search for Canada's next country star, will be on hand to share their music and success stories and Hoedown's 20 community partners - charities and nonprofits that will share in the proceeds from this year's event – will also be present at the street party to sell event and raffle tickets while increasing the community's awareness of who they are and what they do.

As for businesses located within the Downtown BIA? Well, to find out more about them and seek out some great deals, you'll have a chance to take part on a locally inspired scavenger hunt, which will take you through their doors for a chance to win a number of exciting prizes.

"We're excited to finally say, 'We're here and we're moving forward with supporting local businesses," says Ms. Russo. "We're excited about the BIA and it is so nice to see and feel the support when we do our walks in the community and speak to local business owners. Businesses do want to see change and we're hoping they can see the change happening. They are happy to finally see this here; they've wanted it, but they didn't know if they could believe it. Now, the BIA is formed and having this first event is making them once again have faith that there will be some revitalization downtown."

As a first-time event, the BIA Board members say attendance will not be the only measure of this street party's success; it will also be measured in the participation of local businesses. Judging from the feedback they have received so far, they say it is already proving to be a success.

"We have a beautiful downtown," says Ms. Russo. "There is a lot that is out there in our Downtown core, including great food. Come and just enjoy the moment and support local businesses, recognize what's around you and support them in any way you can."

Adds Ms. Ferri: "Come hungry, come prepared to savour some of the wonderful food we have on Yonge Street, and enjoy

the entertainment and children's events."

The Aurora BIA's Family-Friendly Hoedown Pre-Party will be held on Yonge Street from Wellington to Mosley Streets on Saturday, September 7, from 4 - 11 p.m. It will feature live country music, fun kids games, stores and restaurants open to serve you, a locally inspired scavenger hunt with prizes and giveaways. For more information, visit DowntownAurora.ca. Suitable for all ages and families. Rain or shine.



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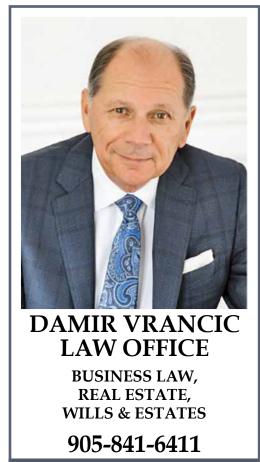
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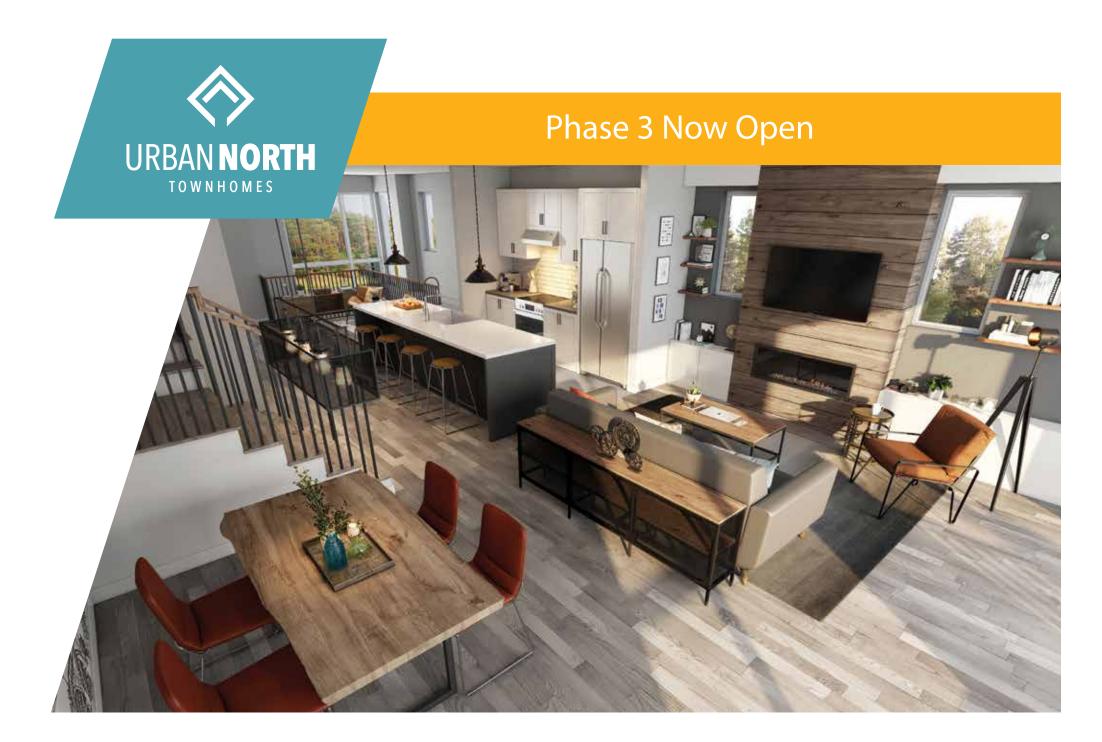
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SENIOR SCAPE

From page 5

that simple things are within our reach that we can do for each other, even though we may not be aware of it, but these are real blessings. An unexpected phone call, a warm word, a genuine smile, a listening ear, all have the power to affect another person's life far more than we realize.

So, as we begin a new chapter in our choir, we may never know how profoundly Marg touched us all. But this one thing I know — that her spirit will always be in our hearts.

Marg, you were the Emily Dickinson of our time! Emily had said. "If I can stop one heart from breaking, I shall not live in vain, If I can ease one life the aching, or cool one pain or help one fainting robin unto his nest again, I shall not live in vain."

Marg, you will always be in our hearts as you were the living example of what

kindness can be, can do, and how far it can go in space and time! Marg's kind spirit will live on forever. Rest in angelic peace, dear Marg.

HAPPENINGS AT THE SENIORS' CENTRE **DONKEY SANCTUARY.**

STAMP CLUB. We have an active Stamp Club that meets every Thursday morning at 9 am.

EVERGREEN CHOIR. Evergreen Choir starts rehearsals again on Wednesday, September 11. New members are always welcome. Check in at Reception.

WALKING CLUB. The Walking Club meets every Wednesday in the Lounge at 9:30 am at the Seniors' Centre and then sets off from there for their weekly walk which takes about an hour. Sometimes cars are needed to ferry participants to the start.

THINGS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

Aurora's Concerts in the Park Series continues this week at Town Park from 7 - 9 p.m. with The Magna Hoedown Showdown semifinals. Put on your cowboy hat and boots to cheer on the Top 20 aspiring country music singers from across Ontario competing in this competition! Plus, see who will move on to the finals and compete at the Magna Hoedown on Friday, September 13. Don't miss these incredibly • talented performers. The Aurora Farmers' Market and Artisan Fair will be setting up a mini-market. The market will operate from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. There will be a variety of food and artisan vendors to shop from and enjoy. Bring a food donation for the Aurora Food Pantry before the concert starts and be entered to win a chance for you to enjoy the Premium Concert Experience with upgraded TD-preferred seating and two prize packs.

100 Youth Who Care - Central York Region will host their 12th meeting tonight from 7 – 8 p.m. at RBC, located at 17770 Yonge Street (at Dawson Manor Blvd), Newmarket. This meeting is for youth between the ages of 10 and 17 (along with parents) looking to discover real needs in Newmarket, Aurora and East Gwillimbury and come together with a "growing force with positive impact" for underserved youth. For more information, visit 100youthwhocarecentralyorkregion.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

Aurora's Movies in the Park Summer Series continues tonight • with a screening of Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle tonight from 8 – 11 p.m. at Town Park (49 Wells Street). After discovering an old video game console, four teenagers are sucked into a video game and · become the adult avatars they chose. They must beat the game in order • to escape and return home. It is a game of survival in the jungle and they will go on the most dangerous adventures of their lives. They face jaguars, rhinos, snakes and rats, to name just a few. Can they win and return home or be stuck in the jungle game forever? Arrive early to enjoy making some movie themed crafts and participate in some action-packed activities. All movies start at dusk and are free but a food donation for the Aurora Food Pantry is great appreciated.

AUGUST 23 – 25

Aurora's Ribfest runs at Machell Park August 23 - 25. Events include a beer garden courtesy of the Rotary Club of Aurora, a children's activity zone, inflatable midway, a mobile escape experience, axe throwing, food vendors serving ribs, roasted corn, bloomin' onions, churros, and more. Headlining Friday night at 9 p.m. is Honeymoon Suite and, on Saturday night at the same time, The Spoons. Friday: 4 11 p.m. Saturday: 11 a.m. – 11 p.m. Sunday: 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

Aurora's Concerts in the Park Series concludes this week at Town Park from 7 – 9 p.m. Abbamania – a Tribute to Abba. Abbamania is the world's number one production of Abba. With amazing vocals, look and authentic costumes. Abbamania matches every song done

note for note, exactly as the original recordings. Don't miss this season's finale night. The Aurora Farmers' Market and Artisan Fair will be setting up a mini-market. The market will operate from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. There will be a variety of food and artisan vendors to shop from and enjoy. Bring a food donation for the Aurora Food Pantry before the concert starts and be entered to win a chance for you to enjoy the Premium Concert Experience with upgraded TD-preferred seating and two prize packs.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

Aurora's Movies in the Park Summer Series continues tonight with a screening of Ralph Breaks the Internet from 7.30 - 11 p.m. at Hickson Park (155 Conover Avenue). Six years later and still best friends, Wreck-It Ralph and Vanellope Von Schweetz, hang out every night playing video games at Litwak's. As a result of a video game mishap, the Sugar Rush cabinet steering wheel breaks. There is only one option to fix it, and that involves Ralph and Vanellope traveling the internet via Litwak's Wi-Fi router to obtain a new wheel and save the game. Arrive early to enjoy making some movie themed crafts and participate in some action-packed activities. All movies start at dusk and are free but a food donation for the Aurora Food Pantry is great appreciated.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

PARTAGEZ LE FRANCAIS - A free French language onversation group will take place this afternoon at Country Style Deli/Bistro, 14980 Yonge Street, from 3 - 4.30 p.m. This free group welcomes adults (from francophone to beginners with a good base) looking to put their French-language conversation skills into action. Francophones and stronger speakers are encouraged to share their French language skills with less strong speakers. For more information,

SEPTEMBER 12 – 14

Free Introduction to Tai Chi Classes & Open House – Through gentle stretching, turning and weight bearing, these are some of the benefits of our Full Extension Tai Chi at the Canadian Tai Chi Academy: stress reduction; pain management; cardio workout; improved balance, focus, and healing; and an overall sense of well-being Thursday, September 12, 7 to 8:30 pm. Friday, September 13, 9 to 8:30 am, Saturday, September 14, 9 to 8:30 am. Have fun learning this ancient art in a positive, non-competitive environment. For more information, email Newmarket@CanadianTaiChiAcademy. org or call 289-366-9956. Location: 1220 Stellar Dr., Unit 203B,

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Garden Aurora September monthly meeting features Nick McGowan presenting on: Growing Cannabis. Join us at 8:00 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North for tips and tricks on gardening, refreshments, and the opportunity to join our club as a member. More info at www.gardenaurora.com or 905-713-6660.





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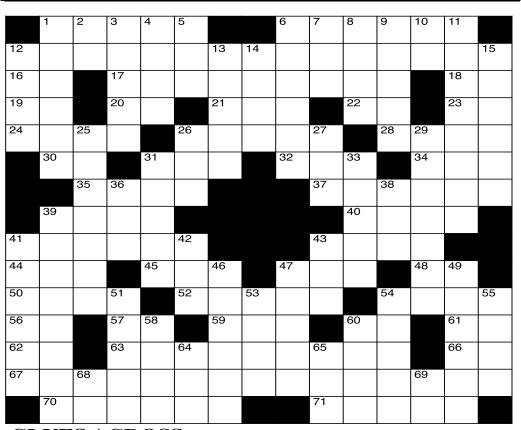
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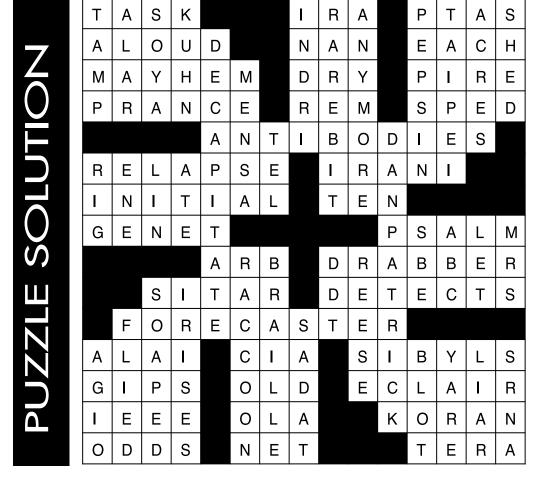
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Adventure stories
- 6. Amphetamines
- 12. Extend the limits 16. Article
- 17. Socially disoriented
- 18. Gold
- 19. Part of the mind
- 20. "Rubber Band Man" rapper
- 21. Take by force
- 22. Football position
- 23. American cola
- 26. Narrow channel on the moon
- 28. Semitic alphabet letter
- 30. Dorm employee
- 31. Dessert dish
- 32. A street where nightmares
- happen 34. For each
- 35. Fat from a pig
- 37. Easily altered

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Split apart
- 2. Equally
- 3. Mountain passes
- 4. Another name for Thor
- 5. Chinese chess piece 6. Helpless
- 7. US army designation (abbr.)
- 8. Micturated
- 9. One to respect
- 10. Small Greek island
- 11. In a thinly dispersed way
- 12. Put two together
- 13. Of the supernatural
- 14. Type of structure in organic chemistry
- 15. Card game
- 25. Feeling of discomfort
- 26. Get free of
- 27. Unit of measurement
- 29. A person who enjoys good food and drink

- 39. Salvador ___, Spanish artist
- 40. The last CEO of Sears
- 41. One who lades
- 43. Russian pop duo
- 44. Fictional free city of Essos
- 45. Cool!
- 47. Strong liquor
- 48. Rural delivery
- 50. Brews
- 52. Compound found in hops
- 54. Where golfers begin holes
- 24. Risk management plans (abbr.) 56. Third note of a major scale 57. City of Angels
 - 59. Snag
 - 60. Exclamation of surprise
 - 61. Controversial retired wide
 - receiver 62. For example
 - 63. Free to use
 - 66. Carson's sidekick
 - 67. Pirate saying
 - 70. Convulses 71. Semitic gods
 - 31. Violin maker
 - 33. Noted psychotherapist
 - 36. Complete 38. Ballplayers' tool
 - 39. Afternoon illumination
 - 41. Points a finger at 42. Moved quickly
 - 43. ' death do us part
 - 46. Blue jeans 47. French Jesuit theologian
 - 49. Dissuades
 - 51. Eastern European peoples
 - 53. Abnormal rattling sound
 - 54. Air-breathing land snail genus 55. Turfs
 - 58. Farewells
 - 60. mater: one's school
 - 64. They ___
 - 65. Baby's eating accessory
 - 68. Priestess of Hera
 - 69. Type of railroad



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Cultural Centre joins world of e-commerce: "Welcome to 2006!"

By Brock Weir

If you're just a little bit behind the times, it sometimes pays to be a bit tongue-in-cheek when you play a bit of catch up - and that's exactly what the Aurora Cultural Centre did on Thursday when it announced a bold step forward: e-commerce.

Since its inception more than ten years ago, patrons of the Aurora Cultural Centre have had to call in or email to book a ticket for any number of concerts and special events taking place within the walls of the historic Church Street School, but those are just two options available for customers now that you can now purchase your tickets online.

"The Aurora Cultural Centre is pleased to announce that, in addition to finally mothballing the fax machine and packing up the Commodore 64, it has made the leap to the year 2006 and instituted e-commerce for their customers," said the Cultural Centre's Jane Taylor. "No longer requiring a tin can and string, carrier pigeon or semaphore, customers can now buy performing arts tickets and subscriptions, and enrol for a variety of arts programs via the worldwide web.

"Whether enrolling your child in a Saturday art class, picking up a very

well-priced series of concerts by some of Canada's finest musicians, or registering for a seasonal class or workshop, patrons can now accomplish this from the comfort of their laptops or mobile devices. The Aurora Cultural Centre invites you to peruse their offerings and purchase online while it strikes your fancy, whether it is at 12.30 a.m., or perhaps on a Monday after the long weekend where you realize that a week of summer art camp might be just what the kids need. What's more, all service fees are being waived until December 31, 2019 – so that convenience comes in at a particularly enticing price.

"At press time, Centre staff were observed marvelling at the ease of digital purchase, tinged with a slight air of melancholy for the time-honoured process of standing at the photocopier with a ream of registration forms. Adds Volunteer & Visitor Services Coordinator Katie Epp, 'While the convenience of making online purchases cannot be overstated, rest assured, we love to talk to you. So, please do drop by or give us a call if you prefer. We'll connect with you any way we can."

Subscriptions and individual tickets for the Aurora Cultural Centre's tenth anniversary season, entitled "Welcome you Home," are on sale now, with the Brevik Hall Presents Signature Series Biali Jazz Trio, Christmas with Patricia programs curated by musician John Sheard: "The Return of the Fab 4 – The Beatles Songbook", "The Look of Love The Burt Bacharach Songbook", and "The American Bandstand – Hits from the 60s and 70s."

Additional packages include the Great Artists Music Series, featuring classical musicians Celil Refik Kaya, front door via drone.

featuring artists Rum Ragged, the Laila Janina Fialjowska, Payadora Tango Ensemble, and Cameron Crozman & O'Callaghan & Friends, and three Philip Chiu; and the Meridian Magic Carpet Series with The River of Words, The Berenstain Bears On Stage, and Taama/The Journey.

> To get the hang of this newfangled e-commerce system, and to book tickets, visit auroraculturalcentre.ca.

> No word on whether physically printed tickets will be delivered to your

Spoons, Honeymoon Suite headline this weekend's Ribfest

From page 11

singles, and accolades picked up along the way, Spoons provided that path, and it is a path that still fuels the creative passions of the group's founding members.

"I just can't imagine not doing the Spoons," says Ms. Horne. "Heaven forbid anything should happen to Gord or I, but I can't imagine not playing. I will probably be doing this until we're way up there, at least I hope to be, anyway. We have newer fans because a lot of the time our older fans from back in the day are introducing our music to their children, and they have become big fans. Putting our music out

in vinyl again has opened up a whole new avenue, so younger generation people are discovering is.

"We're looking forward to seeing everybody in Aurora again. We hope the weather will be good because the last time we were there it poured buckets, but the fans were still there and we are thankful for that. We're hoping for really good weather and hoping to see people who couldn't make it out last time because of the weather!"

For more information on Ribfest. The Spoons, or Friday's headliner Honeymoon Suite, visit www.aurora. ca/ribfest. The event runs Friday through Sunday and admission is free.

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