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THE AUROREDAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 25 No. 52 905-727-3300

TheAuroran.com

FREE

Week of September 26, 2024



Reda and Ahmad were among the hundreds of residents who came out Saturday afternoon to take part in the official opening of Aurora Town Square. Full coverage of the occasion begins on Page 24.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

Aurora Town Square opens as “cornerstone” of downtown revitalization

Complex unites “past, present and future”

BY BROCK WEIR

A new chapter in the Town’s history began on Saturday when the community came together to celebrate the opening of Aurora Town Square.

It was a party atmosphere in the outdoor plaza space – now known as Mirkopoulos Plateia – as John Webster, Aurora’s Official Town Crier, led residents from the Town’s Multicultural Festival at Town Park to the brand-new space, where they were piped

in by members of the St. Andrew’s College Pipes and Drums.

Hundreds of people filled the outdoor Delmanor Amphitheatre to watch the formal ribbon-cutting ceremony before enjoying dozens of activities, initiatives and launches within the complex throughout the weekend.

Celebrations, however, began on Friday evening when Mayor Tom Mrakas and members of Council hosted a reception of

thanks for individuals and businesses who had made financial contributions towards making Aurora Town Square a reality.

The reception, which preceded the debut performance in Aurora Town Square’s performance hall – the Davide DeSimone Performance Hall on behalf of Royalpark Homes – by the Norman Dance Company, was also attended by Ontario Premier Doug Ford.

Continued on page 27



DOING THE HONOURS – Mayor Tom Mrakas formally cuts the ribbon for Aurora Town Square, joined by former councillor Jeff Thom, Ward 1 Councillor Ron Weese, Ward 2 Councillor Rachel Gilliland, Ward 6 Councillor Harold Kim, Aurora CAO Doug Nadorozny, Aurora Director of Community Services Robin McDougall, Ward 4 Councillor Michael Thompson, Ward 5 Councillor John Gallo, and former councillor Sandra Humfries.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger



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TOWN OF AURORA

NOTICE BOARD

September 26, 2024



Council & Committee Meetings

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Tuesday, October 1	9:30 a.m.	Newmarket CC	Joint Council Committee (CYFS)
Tuesday, October 1	6 p.m.	Council Chambers	Special Meeting of Council (Development Charges By-law Amendment Public Meeting)
Tuesday, October 1	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Committee of the Whole
Monday, October 7	7 p.m.	Holland Room	Heritage Advisory Committee
Tuesday, October 8	5:45 p.m.	Holland Room	Finance Advisory Committee
Tuesday, October 8	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Public Planning
Wednesday, October 9	7 p.m.	Holland Room	Accessibility Advisory Committee
Thursday, October 10	7 p.m.	Video Conference	Committee of Adjustment
Tuesday, October 15	5:45 p.m.	Holland Room	Council Closed Session (if required)
Wednesday, October 16	7 p.m.	Tannery Room	Aurora Cultural Centre Board
Wednesday, October 16	7 p.m.	Aurora Public Library	Aurora Public Library Board

*Committee of the Whole, Public Planning and Council meetings are available to the public in-person and via live stream on the Town's YouTube channel.

What's Happening



Until October 13, use your Grand Opening tickets to redeem exclusive discounts and promotions at participating businesses.

AuroraTownSquare.ca

#AuroraTownSquare



Online Skylight Gallery Exhibition

Featured Artist: The Silver Brushes - Art

We are a group of artists, who continued to paint together on FaceTime during COVID, supporting and encouraging each other's works of art. We now call ourselves The Silver Brushes, meeting weekly in a studio, to paint in a variety of mediums. From oil to acrylic to watercolour and traditional to abstract. We do what we love and have a great time doing it together. View in-person at Aurora Town Hall in the Skylight Gallery. View online at aurora.ca/SkylightGallery. All artwork is for sale. Please contact Sarah Reynolds at sreynolds@aurora.ca if you are interested in investing and owning a beautiful artwork piece.



Thanksgiving Day Holiday Schedule Programs & Activities

Have fun over the holidays! We have programs and activities for everyone to enjoy. Visit our Holiday Schedules webpage for full details at aurora.ca/HolidaySchedules.

Fall 2024 Program Guide

The Fall 2024 Program Guide is available to view online at aurora.ca/ProgramGuide. Registration is open for Recreation and Aquatic programs. View our interactive guide and click on the code # to register online. Pay in-person at the A.F.L.C. or S.A.R.C.

2025 Aquatic Leadership Courses

Aquatic Leadership registration is now open for all seasons of our 2025 Aquatic Leadership courses. Full details at aurora.ca/AquaticLeadership. Register online or pay in-person at the A.F.L.C. or S.A.R.C.

Youth Volunteer Fair

Join us at our Youth Volunteer Fair on **Thursday, October 17** at the A.F.L.C. to learn about our local community organizations and their available volunteer opportunities. Visit our Youth News & Events webpage for full details at aurora.ca/YouthEvents.



aurora.ca/CultureDays



Aurora Town Hall

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Distinguished life of Ian Laing celebrated at CYFS dedication ceremony



(Left) Mayor Tom Mrakas and Newmarket Mayor John Taylor are pictured with Deborah Laing and CYFS Fire Chief Rocco Volpe. (Right) The Councils of Aurora and Newmarket were well-represented at the ceremony.
Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger

BY BROCK WEIR

The “distinguished” life of Ian Laing, former Chief of the Central York Fire Service, was celebrated in Aurora on Saturday morning at the re-dedication of Station 4-5.

Now known as the Ian Laing Headquarters, the September 21 ceremony honoured the life and legacy of Laing, who died suddenly last fall.

The completion of the former Station 4-5 marked the first fire station to be built jointly by the Towns of Newmarket and Aurora since the consolidation of fire services in 2002.

The ceremony, which was attended by representatives from Municipal, Regional, Provincial and Federal levels of government, was hosted by Laing’s predecessor, Retired Chief John Molyneaux, and emotions ran high as dignitaries spoke to his service and in expressing appreciation to his widow, Deborah, for “sharing” her husband with the community.

“I want to thank you again for lending our communities Ian for so many years,” said Mayor Tom Mrakas, the first dignitary to speak, addressing Mrs. Laing. “Chief Laing dedicated his career to public service and safety and taught us all to lead with compassion. I truly consider it an honour to have worked so closely with him, including on this state-of-the-art facility. I saw firsthand just how passionate he was about getting the fire station built, something he considered a career achievement when he finally completed it. I really can’t think of a more fitting way to honour him than by naming it the Ian Laing Headquarters. I also think it is perfectly fitting that [it is] also Central York Fire Services’ training facility as we all know how passionate a mentor he was.

“From his humour to his empathy, to his fierce protection of his staff, he was the type of leader you were simply lucky to have. Above all else, he cared so much about this community and the people who live here and he touched

so many lives. His impact is felt right through the ranks of Central York Fire Services, by staff at our respective Towns, and by members of both of our communities.

“The truth is we reserve naming facilities only for those who make the most significant and lasting contributions to our community and Chief Ian Laing truly did. He did so through his dedication to protecting this community, by ensuring Central York Fire Services continued to innovate, improve, and had the facilities, tools and personnel they need to keep us safe. He did so simply by being a leader who treated everyone equally, fairly, and with dignity.”

Newmarket Mayor John Taylor was next to speak, dedicating his remarks to Laing’s character behind the resumé.

“Chief Laing was a person who was values-based and a person of character. First, he brought passion – he brought such a passion for fire services and fire-fighting and the safety of communities with him to the job, you felt that every time you spoke to him.... Ian was taken from us so suddenly and so tragically we didn’t have a chance for his retirement. I want to say to Ian today that we thank you for what you did in building a team and keeping Central York Fire Services’ strong – understanding that passion, compassion, leadership, loyalty and positivity, will make a fire service be able to do its job so well. We thank you for this incredible structure that will lead this organization in a physical sense and really represents the two municipalities coming together. Thank you for the leadership you brought in protecting and providing safety to the communities of Newmarket and Aurora for so many years. Many people will never understand the contribution you made in their lives because it is often invisible, but it’s meaningful and we thank you for that.”

Tributes continued at the municipal level by Ward 2 Councillor Rachel

Continued on page 22



Learn Bridge in a Day? Yes! You can!

Date: October 5th, 2024

Time: 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

Location: Aurora Bridge Club
NVA Bldg., 406 Millard Ave.,
Newmarket ON L3Y 1Z9

Cost: \$50 includes materials & lunch

Contact: Denise Donovan, dcdonovan49@gmail.com
416-575-6754



NOTICE: Due to a technical error this updated ad was not published last week. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. The Auroran regrets the error.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Terry Fox Run raises more than \$11,000

The annual Terry Fox Run, held on Sunday, September 15 in the Aurora Community Arboretum, was a success thanks to many people. 25 volunteers arrived early to set up a registration station, refreshment table, water station, route signage among many other tasks. Most importantly, members of the Aurora community, from very young to the young-at-heart, came out to participate and support the Terry Fox Foundation for cancer research. To date, over \$11,000 has been raised by the many donors and participants getting us close to our goal.

On behalf of all the volunteers, I'd like to thank the following for their generous donations that contributed significantly to a great Run experience: COBS Bread Aurora Gateway Bakery, Tim Hortons, 304 Wellington E. and Aurora Real Canadian Superstore. We also appreciate how The Auroran newspaper promoted this year's Run with a front-page story!

The Don Valley REACT team of volunteers supported safety for everyone throughout the event. Thanks also go to the Town of Aurora staff for organizational help and to Mayor Tom Mrakas for participating in the opening.

Finally, this year's event benefitted from ground work done by previous Aurora Terry Fox Run Organizers and by support from the Newmarket Terry Fox Run team. For those who were not able to attend in person, you can still add your donation to the Terry Fox Foundation on-line at <https://run.terryfox.ca/55880>

We look forward to welcoming even more participants next year for the 45th Terry Fox Run on September 14, 2025!

Karen Fullbrook, Organizer
Aurora Terry Fox Run 2024

Don't forget your bike helmet: Region

Cycling is a popular and fun outdoor activity. Did you know wearing a helmet reduces your chances of a serious head and brain injury by absorbing the force from a crash or a fall by 85%?

Make sure you wear a properly fitted helmet that is Canadian Standards Association (CSA) approved.

Remember the 2V1 Shake, Shake, Shake Rule:

2: The helmet should sit two fingers above your eyebrow to the bottom of your helmet

V: Make sure straps make a "V" shape around the bottom of your ears

1: Ensure there is only one finger that can fit under the chin strap

Shake, shake, shake your head up and down and side to side to ensure a snug fit

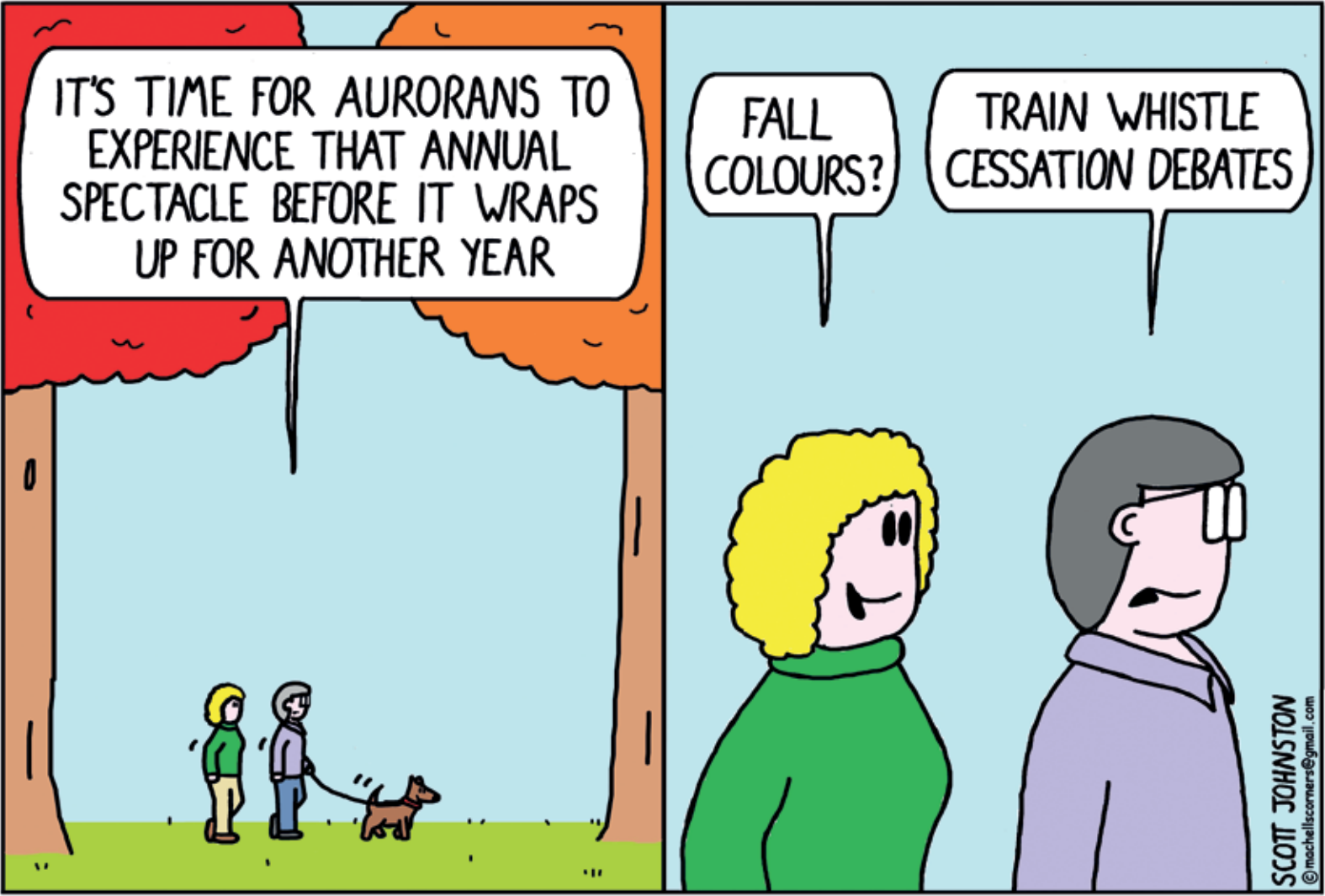
Helmets are not mandatory for adults, but children and youth under 18 are required by law to wear a CSA-approved helmet.

Research demonstrates the important influence of adult role models on children's helmet wearing behaviour. Children are more likely to wear a bike helmet if their adult riding companions wear helmets.

For more information, visit york.ca/cycling

Region of York

Machell's Corners



Watching history unfold and keeping it at the forefront

Many of my peers have spoken about not feeling like they had real, true roots wherever they lived because, as they grew up, they were bounced around from place to place and school to school.

While we didn't move around all that much when I was a kid – with a few brief interludes, most of my life up until I left for university in 2003 was spent in Newmarket – for one reason or another, I had to play a couple of not-so-rousing games of Musical Schools.

At the time, Newmarket was a far more rural community than it is today, yet it was a community in transition. The Town grew significantly as I went through my formative years and, as such, it was a simple matter of school boundaries being redrawn to ensure a largely equal distribution of students to teachers.

My first public school experience was at Prince Charles Public School, a place of learning built in the 1950s and named to commemorate the present monarch who, at the time of its opening, was still a few years away from being named Prince of Wales.

That was my educational home up until Grade 2, when the lines were redrawn and I became a student at Bogart Public School the following year. It was its first season of welcoming students, so it felt like we were sort of trailblazers as we were able to leave our stamp on the new, much fancier digs. We had the opportunity to leave something behind, too, as a tree sculpture was erected in its grand new foyer, its branches eventually groaning under the weight of birds each of us made from a heap of scrap metal that was brought in for such a creative exercise.

Three years later, the powers-that-be brought out the eraser and once again re-drew lines, redistributing many of us to a school that was, at the time, not yet complete – and without a formal name.

Before we took our places there, households were sent a survey asking what each family thought the name should be called. One option was an uninspired testament to local environmental features. Another suggestion was to name the school after the subdivision in which it sat – again, not particularly creative. The third suggestion was to name the school after a York Region teacher who recently passed and evidently meant a lot to the students she left behind, not to mention her family and friends.

Coming from a school that was named after an identifiable individual, and another that was named with the two-barrelled purpose of honouring



BROCK'S BANTER

Brock Weir

Bogartown, a largely forgotten village that was eventually swallowed up by Newmarket, as well as the founding family after which the hamlet was dubbed, naming the school after this impactful woman was my first choice as it would ensure her legacy would live on.

Alas, other families within the catchment area felt differently and opted to name it after the new subdivision and thus, the uninspired Stonehaven Elementary School came to be.

In the first two examples, at least from my perspective, history and heritage were clear and it inspired me to dig a little bit beyond the surface.

Perhaps, looking on, it helped foster my love of history and that feeling of being even a minute part of it. And, truth be told, it also fostered a sense of place amid a lot of change.

On Saturday, while covering a very important community event in Aurora, I wondered whether the children that were quickly assembling for a related event a short time later at the same venue, would have the same sense of place in future years.

We had gathered at the Central York Fire Services' newest station to witness its re-dedication in honour of Ian Laing, who served as Chief of the CYFS from 2010 until his untimely and sudden death last November.

Community leaders stepped up to pay tribute to the Late Chief, from all levels of government, and having known Chief Laing myself, it was moving to hear these reminiscences about the man whose passion for the community, and, of course, safety, was clear even if you had the briefest of moments in his company.

One reflection, however, particularly stuck with me, and that came from his successor, Chief Rocco Volpe.

"Every time we step through these doors will be a reminder of the standard he set, the impact he had, and the difference he made in the lives of so

many," said Volpe. "Today, we do more than name a station – we honour a great man whose service will continue to guide us, inspire us, and remind us why we do and what we do."

I can only hope that it will do the same for every community member, not just those who had that lived experience with him – and that, in the end, is why these dedications are important.

A short time later was another historic event in Aurora's history – the opening of Aurora Town Square.

While I have written previously in this space that I found the name ultimately chosen for the space rather uninspiring as at least two existing local landmarks begin with "Aurora Town," the impact of the incredible downtown revitalization project was clear from the outset.

Walking through its doors on Friday evening, the night before the grand opening day itself, was an almost overwhelming feeling. As the Town of Aurora debated for the better part of four decades on what to do with the land on which it now stands, it was a surreal moment to realize it was finally here and filled with people, all of whom were bubbling over with excitement.

Part of that excitement, at least for me, was how perfectly the new builds dovetailed with the Victorian schoolhouse that has been a community hub since it opened its own doors in 1886.

And that excitement continued on Saturday as hundreds gathered to see the result, one which will be enjoyed by the community for generations to come.

There have been, of course, naysayers along the way, as there are with any big community projects, but given the reactions this past weekend, I'm confident the community as a whole will soon see its value and it will continue to be a hub of learning, discovery and growth for at least another 138 years.

For the Town of Aurora, it was a historic weekend and, for those who live beyond, a reminder of how much history and heritage is all around us if you take the time to look.

It also underscored the importance of paying tribute to the people, places and things that have come to define us, whether it's a facility named after a remarkable individual, or a brand spankin' new community space that is ushering in a bright new future – all while paying the utmost respect to the heritage that is at its heart.

Therein lie some strong roots.

THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

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is ready for...



A Night Out!

The time has come to head to Aurora Town Square and celebrate the Museum’s grand re-opening. We are excited to welcome you back with multiple displays and a brand-new exhibition in the Aurora Room. Just like today, people have always celebrated special occasions by donning their best and trying to beat the clock before the show starts! This luxurious coat (2015.11.83) is in a popular 1920s style. Corsets had become unfashionable following the total social upheaval that came after the First World War, and women’s clothing became more loosely fitted, including outerwear like coats. This stunning example is currently on display at Aurora Town Square. We are happy to welcome everyone back to the museum!



GETTING THINGS DONE

Mayor
Tom Mrakas

Aurora Town Square has officially opened, here are my remarks from this historic moment for our Town!

Good afternoon everyone, and thank you so much for being here with us for this very special and historic occasion. And let me be the first to welcome you to Town Square!

Aurora is now home to a world-class arts and culture hub – a central community gathering place where people can come watch a show, see a new museum exhibit, take an art class or simply meet a friend for a coffee at the new Armoury Café on the lower level.

There will be an interactive water feature in the summer and skating on this outdoor square in the winter – now named the Mirkopoulos Plateia after one of our very generous donors – “Plateia” is the Greek word meaning “plaza” or “gathering place” which is quite fitting as this is now an integral gathering place for our community.

This is a place for artists to create, and for community members to experience new things and celebrate together.

Town Square is going to energize Aurora for a very, very long time.

It is truly hard to overstate just how big a moment this is for our community.

It took a tremendous amount of work from so many people to complete Town Square – from current and former members of Council and staff, to our contractor, partners and architect.

And it took a tremendous amount of financial support from so many generous donors in our community, whose names are now enshrined forever on the donor wall in our atrium.

I want to thank all of them for their tireless efforts, and generosity, in helping us complete Town Square, the largest project in the Town’s history.

There are a few individuals I do want to recognize as well, because without their support, we wouldn’t be standing here today: Councillor Michael Thompson and Councillor Harold Kim, as well as former councillor Sandra Humfries.

From the very start of this process – all the way back to when we first started discussing a potential arts and culture centre in Aurora – they were such strong advocates for this project and the benefits it would bring to our community.

Michael, Harold, and Sandra, thank you so much for believing in this project and supporting it so vigorously.

And of course, I want to thank all of you, our community members.

This was a complex and long journey, and without your support and patience we simply couldn’t have gotten this done – we are so grateful that so many of you saw the value in this project.

I really do want you to feel connected to this building, and to this outdoor square, because this is your building – your space – for all of you to enjoy!

I also want to thank all of our amazing local businesses who have shown so much support for this project...

And many of them are offering great discounts and promotions to community members who have bought tickets to any of our grand opening events over the next three weeks.

Town Square really does have so much

Continued on page 27

Crossing Guarded



INSIDE AURORA

Scott Johnston

Aurorans love having wildlife around.

Okay, so maybe not when hornets take up residence outside your front door, or raccoons start nesting in your attic, but in general, people like seeing our local fauna.

There’s certainly a lot of it in the green spaces in the forms of fields, forests and wetlands that have been set aside for them in Town.

Measures have also been taken to ensure we don’t hit them with our cars. There are geese crossing signs on a section of street near me, which must have an interesting history, because in the 30-plus years I’ve lived in that area I’ve never once seen a goose on that road.

More recently, turtle crossing signs have been set up in various areas of Town. Not only that, but a volunteer group, the Turtle Tias, ensure that, amongst other things, these reptiles are kept off our roadways to ensure they don’t become involuntary speed bumps.

As anyone knows who has tried unsuccessfully to transverse Henderson Drive over the past few months during its reconstruction, a wildlife underpass for all manner of crawly critters is being installed near Case Woodlot.

These efforts seem reasonable, as apart from the guilt experienced after hitting any sort of animal with your car, there are other potential repercussions, for example, if you hit a skunk.

Plus, it’s safe to say that whatever you

hit won’t be all that happy, either.

This all came to mind recently during a vacation to Vancouver Island. The fairly remote area in which we were staying had a number of “watch for wildlife” signs with various animals depicted on them, but we had not seen anything from the road during our time there.

Then, at the end of our visit, as we were driving on the two-lane road at the speed limit of 80 kph on our way to the airport, a deer exploded unexpectedly from the shrubs beside us.

My previous experiences with large wildlife on the road had always been from a distance; a bear running across Highway 400 about a kilometre ahead of me north of Orillia, a deer well off the side of the road tranquilly watching as we drove by.

But this sudden hooved close encounter was something new.

Seeing the deer out of the corner of my eye, I hit the brakes. It didn’t,

running across in front so close that I couldn’t see its legs over the hood of the car. I can’t believe we missed it.

Having been awakened more effectively than by our morning cup of coffee, we continued on our way, thankful we wouldn’t be writing off our second rental car in as many trips to the Island (flying truck tire last time, but that’s another story).

Subsequent research showed that deer are especially active any time of year at dawn and dusk, but particularly in the fall. Also, that there are 9,000 car/deer collisions annually in B.C., with similar numbers in Ontario.

Although it’s unlikely that one would hit a deer here in Aurora, they are in Town, so it is possible. More likely is a surprise encounter in neighbouring rural areas like King or Whitchurch-Stouffville, where there are a lot of country roads where the forest comes pretty close on either side.

So, for the sake of all our local wildlife, and your own peace of mind (and potentially your insurance premiums), when you’re out in your car watch your speed, drive according to the conditions, and keep an eye open for all our resident creatures, in whatever form they may take, as they may not be watching as carefully for you.

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

Fall is here, and with it, the busyness of back-to-school and the resumption of many activities, including the return of the House of Parliament to session in Ottawa.

As always, it is an honour and privilege to serve as your Member of Parliament, representing you and working to make our country a better place for all.

In the House of Commons, it is our duty as MPs to represent our constituents and work collaboratively to create positive change in Canada. We have a duty to conduct ourselves with respect and integrity, setting an example for the kind of discourse and behaviour we hope to see more broadly in our communities.

However, what I have seen over the past week is disturbing. The name-calling and bullying of members—both inside and outside the House—is unacceptable. Not only does this hinder collaboration, but it also slows progress on the issues that matter most to Canadians.

Question Period is a time for MPs to hold the government accountable on policies, not a time for ad hominem attacks or repeated slogans aimed at getting social media clips.

Moreover, we are seeing deliberate efforts to block crucial legislation on



LEAH'S LETTER

Leah Taylor Roy, MP
Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill

issues like online harm.

Filibustering and obstructing progress not only wastes the time and resources of the House of Commons and in so doing, taxpayer money, it also stalls efforts to address real concerns.

Despite the challenges, I remain committed to moving forward. Our government has continued to deliver results. We have seen inflation and interest rates begin to come down, and the overall economic outlook is improving. According to recent polls, Canadians are starting to feel more optimistic about their future.

One of the central programs that our government introduced, and that continues to benefit families, is the Canada Child Benefit (CCB). This tax-free payment provides essential

financial relief to parents across the country. In our community, families have shared with me how the CCB has helped them cover necessities like childcare, groceries, and school supplies.

Our Early Learning and Childcare Plan is another significant achievement, cutting childcare costs in half for families with young children and making it easier for parents to balance work and family life. I have spoken with many parents in Aurora and Oak Ridges who have told me how this has greatly helped them with cost-of-living challenges, allowing them to access affordable childcare while pursuing their careers.

The Canada Carbon Rebate, sent to households every quarter, is another program that benefits 80% of families, especially those facing financial difficulties. This rebate not only helps families make ends meet but also supports our broader efforts to combat climate change, an issue that will affect generations to come.

I am also proud of the new Dental Care Plan, which has already helped hundreds of thousands of Canadians, including many seniors and children in Aurora, who

Continued on page 13

THIS WEEK’S POLL

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Truth & Reconciliation Day to be marked at Town Square

National Day for Truth & Reconciliation is September 30

BY BROCK WEIR

National Day for Truth & Reconciliation will be marked with several events in Aurora this Monday, September 30.

The poignant occasion, which is also Orange Shirt Day, will see several initiatives unfold hosted by the Town of Aurora, the Aurora Public Library and the Aurora Cultural Centre.

Observances will begin at Aurora Town Square at 5.30 p.m. with a gathering led by Anishinaabe Grandmother Kim Wheatley, Ancestral Knowledge Keeper Raiden Levesque and Elder Pat Floody, and featuring a sacred fire.

At 7.30, events will move indoors as the Aurora Cultural Centre presents A Concert for Truth & Reconciliation in

the new Performance Hall, hosted by Dr. Cynthia Wesley-Esquimaux and featuring Zeegwon Shilling, Jeff Monague a.k.a. Myiingan Minanaakwhe, and the Evan Redsky Band.

Additional programs will be offered by the Aurora Public Library both preceding and on the day itself.

On Saturday, September 28, at 1 p.m. at the Aurora Town Square Performance Hall, the Library (APL) will host a screening of the documentary WaaPaKe, followed by a discussion. On the day itself, virtual screenings will be offered of the film Wilfrid Buck.

“For generations, the suffering of residential school Survivors has radiated outward, impacting Indigenous families and communities,” says the APL, which has undertaken a year-long program, Indigenous Teachings, to shine a light on Indigenous authors, filmmakers and much more. “Dr. Jules Arita Koostachin’s deeply personal documentary moves beyond intergenerational trauma, with an invitation to unravel the tangled threads of silence and unite in collective freedom and power. This documentary is part of a broader initiative to explore and address the lasting impacts of residential schools on Indigenous communities. Additionally, the evening will feature a film discussion following the screening.

“Lisa Jackson’s portrait of Cree Elder Wilfred Buck moves between earth and sky, past and present, bringing to life ancient teachings of Indigenous astronomy and cosmology to tell a story that spans generations. Adapted from Buck’s rollicking memoir, ‘I Have Lived Four Lives’, the film weaves together stories from his life, including his harrowing young years of displacement and addiction.”

As the APL team worked to finalize details on the program, they shared the excitement of having these learning opportunities so close to home.

“That respect when you sit with elders, you’re not asking questions – you should have your mind free and empty, being present to listen and absorb,” says APL’s Nelia Pacheco of the documentary programs. “If you come in with a full mind, you’re not absorbing it...both films were, to me, about being present. It’s all about what’s happening at this point in time and being accountable.

“It’s all about accountability and if we don’t own up to it, we can’t heal and move on.”

Jodi Marr, APL’s Acting CEO, says the Indigenous Teachings program has been a success in spurring a conversation, whether it’s watching a documentary or while wrapping a book as part of the Canadian



Library patrons, including Shelley, have been hard at work wrapping volumes for The Canadian Library Project, a nation-wide initiative they have brought to Aurora through APL’s Indigenous Teachings program.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

Library Project, which aims to shine a light on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

“It’s not just a film to watch, people are feeling like there’s something they can do and learn from and give back with,” says Marr. “It’s been really nice to connect in a more thoughtful way with Truth & Reconciliation and start to consider those things as an organization as well with our community.”

Shelley Ware, Special Events Coordinator for the Town of Aurora, agrees there is “so much to learn and listen about.”

“With the 5.30 portion of the Truth & Reconciliation Gathering, it’s really going to be focusing on the Truth – the truths that are hard to hear, the truths that are hard to wrap your head around, which is important with the work that we all need to do in terms of taking meaningful steps towards reconciliation.

“We have been lucky to have this tri-partnership (with the APL and Cultural Centre) all focused on the same objective and the same goal, which is to create a space where everyone feels welcome, everyone knows they are invited and welcome to attend with some key elements that will help us learn more while we listen – and to be able to process, reflect, and be able to continue that movement forward.”

For more information on this week’s observances, visit aurora.ca/truthandreconciliation.



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BUSINESS & FINANCE



The team at Hyundai of Aurora are looking forward to a bright new future as part of Weins Auto Group, including (below) a new dealership location on Wellington Street East near Highway 404, as seen in this architect’s rendering.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

Hyundai of Aurora has bold vision for the future as part of Weins Auto Group

BY BROCK WEIR

For nearly 70 years, Weins Auto Group has become synonymous with excellence across the Greater Toronto Area – and now they’re bringing this standard to the local community as the proud new owners of Hyundai of Aurora.

Weins Auto Group acquired the Aurora Hyundai dealership on Wellington Street East at Mary Street earlier this year and while they’ve worked to set a new standard at its current location, they are excited to expand this vision further in 2025 with a new dealership location just further east on Wellington near Highway 404.

This new dealership will not only further the Hyundai of Aurora brand, but bring Genesis Aurora into the community as well.

“Our journey with Hyundai began in 2008 and we proudly

opened Genesis Markham in 2017,” says Hyundai of Aurora General Manager Tigran Avagyan. “With Genesis Aurora set to open in the near future, Weins is dedicated to elevating automotive experiences. This spirit resonates with our core values embedded in the Weins name – representing information, inspiration, innovation, and improvement, guiding us as a compass – West, East, Information, North, South – towards our global reach and unwavering commitment to surpassing boundaries.”

“At Hyundai of Aurora, we’re thrilled to uphold this tradition of excellence. I am personally delighted to join this dynamic team at such a pivotal time. With over 10 years of experience with the Hyundai brand, I have witnessed its growth into an industry leader, combining quality with cutting-edge sustainability and technology. From the latest electric

vehicles (EVs) to advanced hybrid models, our dealership is excited to offer a diverse and exciting lineup that caters to the modern driver’s demands,” says Avagyan.

Hyundai has been a brand that has been of interest to Avagyan since he first started in sales more than a decade ago.

Over the last 10 years, he says the brand has “grown significantly” and has been at the forefront not just in making “exciting cars” but staying ahead of the competition by “always changing, always growing.”

“It’s a pretty cool brand to be a part of,” he says. “Our vision with Weins Auto Group as a company is they always strive to grow and improve. This dealership is an older building, it has served the community well, but we’ve really outgrown the space. I think we’re ready for something bigger to accommodate our customers better.”

“Our commitment to the community remains paramount. Hyundai of Aurora has always prioritized building lasting relationships and we pledge ongoing support by engaging in community events and strengthening local partnerships. We aim to enrich the lives around us and give back to the communities that have supported us.

“Under the leadership of our new management team, Hyundai of Aurora is set to redefine automotive excellence in our community. We invite everyone to visit us, our dedicated team, and explore our wide range of vehicles. Whether you’re interested in a test drive, learning more about Hyundai’s latest innovations, or servicing your current vehicle, we are ready and eager to assist. Join us as we steer into a promising future, committed to sustainability, innovation and community investment.”



Architect’s Rendering courtesy of Hyundai of Aurora

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Green Side Up Contracting puts shovels in the ground for Aurora Food Pantry

Company owner encourages other businesses to step up with support

BY BROCK WEIR

Aurora-based Green Side Up Contracting has put shovels in the ground to help raise more than \$20,000 for the Aurora Food Pantry.

The company is in the midst of its annual Blowout Sale and, through this initiative, five per cent of revenue from construction jobs sold between September 9 and December 31 will be donated to the Aurora Food Pantry.

“My goal, and we need your help, is to donate \$20,000 on December 31, 2024,” said Green Side Up owner Jay Saveall in an email to clients. “With your help, reaching this goal is very simple. Hire a well-reviewed contractor, receive some free upgrades, defer a portion of the project for nine months, and 5 per cent of the revenue will go directly to a charity that will immediately impact the community.”

This is not the first time Saveall and Green Side Up has conducted a “big give” – in 2022, the company supported Welcoming Arms to the tune of \$7,000.

“The demand has drastically spiked,” Saveall told The Auroran on why he and the company chose to support the Food Pantry this year. “The number of people using the Food Pantry has increased year over year. Things like gas, groceries, and everything is so expensive right now. People are stretched right out, and talking to the Food Pantry, they are struggling with it.

“\$20,000 worth of food – I just know in my heart and my mind that what we do is definitely helping the community.”

Saveall has been inspired to give back to the community in which he lives and works from a young age.

His parents came to Canada from England “without much money” and Saveall says he has struggled himself over the years.

“I have been in this community for 48 years, I know Aurora very well, I know all echelons of people and I know there are struggling people out there. We’re working with the community – not only the people who need the food, but also families that want to do something – maybe their cash flow is a bit tight as well, so this is a win-win for everybody. It’s a win for the people who need the food, it’s a win for the customer, it’s a win for Green Side, and it’s a win for the community because we spend all our money in Town.”

While Green Side Up is doing their part, Saveall adds he would like to see other businesses step up to the plate to help fight local food insecurity through supporting the Aurora Food Pantry. Some businesses, such as The Residences on Yonge, have come up with their own unique ways to help the local food bank, but he stresses there is always room for more hands on deck.

“If it has a positive end result for the community, I am happy to challenge,” he said.

For more information on the initiative, visit greensideupcontracting.com.

For a full list of the Aurora Food Pantry’s current needs, visit aurorafoodpantry.ca.

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New Fire Chief building team while furthering Laing’s legacy

BY BROCK WEIR

The Central York Fire Services in the midst of change, and newly-minted Chief Rocco Volpe is set to lead the way.

Volpe’s appointment to the CYFS’ top job was announced last week and the new Chief of the fire service serving Aurora and Newmarket has hit the ground running to build his team while looking for opportunities to further the legacy of the late Chief Ian Lang, who was less of a boss and more of a mentor to his successor.

When Laing died suddenly last November, it was the end of “nine wonderful years” of learning; but it was also a time of self-discovery as Volpe was tasked with filling the role as Acting Chief for 10 months “to keep things on track” while the Towns considered the future.

They found the perfect fit with the Acting Chief, who first took a leadership position 15 years ago within Whitchurch-Stouffville’s fire department and, through their nine years working side-by-side, Volpe says he felt Laing was “preparing me for that next step.”

But Volpe didn’t always aspire to a career in fire service.

When he was 18, he began getting his feet wet in law enforcement, but soon enough that gave way to a career in forestry – first with the then-City of Scarborough and this led him to a return to school with the goal of studying urban forestry. Here, he faced a number of challenges, including working to clean up the infamous 1998 Ice Storm that crystallized swaths of Ontario and Quebec.

“I got deployed in the Great Ice Storm to assist with emergency services – fire and police – and we were assisting taking trees and frozen lines off people’s houses in all that,” he recalls. “Then when I got to work in those



Central York Fire Services’ new Chief Rocco Volpe received congratulations from Newmarket-Aurora MPP Dawn Gallagher Murphy at the dedication of the Ian Laing Headquarters on Saturday morning.
Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

communities, I was surrounded by a lot of firefighters, conversations happened, and [they] said, ‘Rocco, you kind of have great skills for the fire services’ and I asked questions about it, met a couple of people. After the ice storm, I circled back and asked them about the fire service.”

From there, he dedicated his time to night school to pursue this new career path – and his instructor found there were transferrable skills from his career in urban forestry.

He started off as a recruit firefighter in Richmond Hill 26 years ago, where he learned this important role from the ground up. His superiors nudged him towards the training side of things and there he found a particular niche.

“I went to school to learn about adult education and enhance those skills, and I taught for a good eight or nine years as a training officer and I

taught a variety of training programs, recruits and all that. I think it goes back to the person that I am, being people-oriented, wanting to do good for the people in the community,” says Volpe who, after going back to university to further his career as an instructor, found a permanent role in Stouffville.

“That’s where I started making an impact in the community,” says the Newmarket resident. “Although it wasn’t my community, it was the next best thing because I was just next door. Within 10 minutes, I was in Whitchurch-Stouffville and I got to make change there, where I served for five or six years.”

It was also there where he met Laing and, as he tells it, “I just followed him along.”

“There were a lot of lessons I learned in the nine years I spent with him, but one thing that sticks out to me is he always taught me to be on time,” he says. “One of the things that Chief Laing was a stickler on was your work started at 8.30 and he expected you to be in your office and ready to go for 8.30. He always had expectations when meetings started at certain times that you were available in the seat, getting that meeting started, as he demonstrated it. Another thing he taught me about was dress attire and holding that professionalism. He was a big advocate for wearing a tie, a dress cap every morning. I would wear my dress cap every morning, my tie, and when I was with other fire departments we just never had that.

“Other things he taught me was to be fair, friendly to staff, but then he told me there was an element of the Fire Chief’s position that you would have to be firm and that’s the piece that Fire Chiefs tend to struggle a little bit with because the buck stops with the fire chief and there are those uncomfortable conversations you have with staff, or those matters

that people don’t really like to deal with, like discipline and absenteeism. It taught me to be fair, friendly and firm. When you’ve spent nine years with someone, he taught me other pieces like the political acuity side of things.”

Chief Volpe describes himself as a “person who loves relationships and community.” Friendships, he says, “outlast the work” and that is something he wants to underscore in his new role – both within the CYFS and as a community leader in Aurora and Newmarket.

“I would like to work with the team and generate different community events we can open our doors to and enhance the community involvement with us,” he says, adding these efforts will build on their annual Open House, which was held this past Saturday, and their outreach to potential recruits through their Inspire events. “Those are always the staples, but just looking to those community events, how could we integrate better into the community?”

“CYFS is just in the mix of creating a new leadership team. I am excited because we’re going to be posting for two Deputy Fire Chiefs. I’m excited to bring two people into those roles. We have fabulous people in the fire service and I will just want the ability to be a resource for them, a mentor, someone that they can have a conversation in the hopes that I can influence them, that perhaps they would like to take that next step from Deputy to Fire Chief and remove any barriers, any challenges they have, and do this together.

“I will be seeking for the highest educated, sought-out individuals out there and hopefully between the team we can have a fresh start and I can get their ideas in how we can make ourselves that much better and what kind of stamps we can put onto CYFS in furthering Chief Laing’s legacy.”

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Homeward campaign a success for Southlake, local family

BY BROCK WEIR

Southlake Regional Health Centre has reached the conclusion of its \$2 million Homeward Campaign, which aimed to collect much-needed funds for much-needed equipment for the hospital’s birthing unit – and the campaign went over the top with more than \$2.5 million reached to date.

Helping to lead the Homeward Campaign at the community level were Aurora residents Chris and Wendy Neal who know all too well the importance of having top-notch maternal and child care close to home.

“We are so incredibly proud to have led this important campaign for our community,” said Wendy Neal. “Southlake has a special place in our hearts, having cared for our twin girls in the NICU over 20 years ago when they needed it most. However, we know that more advanced equipment has become available since then. When we think of our children potentially having kids in the future, it is impossible not to be affected by the idea that without the community’s support, they might rely on the same equipment that their parents used.”

Added Chris: “Families in our community should have access to the very best, so to be able to give back, honouring that advanced and compassionate care we received means the world. We’re so grateful to all the donors who stepped up to lend their support.”



Members of the Neal family celebrated the completion of Southlake Regional Health Centre’s Homeward campaign this month. They’re pictured here with members of the Southlake and Southlake Foundation communities. **Contributed photo**

As the Neals prepared to welcome their twin girls more than 20 years ago, they went to Southlake to learn more about what to expect. One of their most vivid memories of this visit was walking through a small room and being told “not to worry about it.”

The room in question is where high-risk births took place in case they needed to be flown to Toronto’s SickKids for help.

Less than 36 hours after welcoming Sarah and Zoe, that room they weren’t supposed to worry about was at the forefronts of their minds.

“Wendy’s water broke around 11 p.m. on a Sunday and we tore up to the hospital not having slept yet and we barely slept that night because she was high-risk with

the twins,” Chris told The Auroran at the start of the Homeward Campaign in 2022. “We were on monitors and nurses were coming in every 20 minutes. Wendy gave birth to Sarah at 12 noon the next day and late that night, Wendy called and woke me up and said, ‘We have a bit of a problem. You need to be here.’” It’s a call no parent wants to get – or make – but that was the reality of the situation. Chris and Wendy were separated, their girls were separated, but they got the help they needed.

It was 22 years before they were in that room again – but this time it was for a good cause: to make sure parents, and their children, wouldn’t have to go through the same thing.

Fundraising for the Homeward Campaign has enabled Southlake’s Maternal Child Care Program to replace integral equipment and tech in its Birthing Unit and NICU.

“As a Level 2C NICU with ability to care for infants born as early as 30 weeks, equipment for these areas is highly specialized and purpose-built for Southlake’s tiniest patients,” says Southlake. “Since the inception of the campaign, generous donors have enabled Southlake to purchase new infant warmers that use radiant heating to keep babies warm, state-of-the-art

incubator care stations that provide continuous warmth to newborns while promoting the growth and stability of babies, and NICU care stations designed to address premature babies’ changing and complex care demands. In addition, the hospital has replaced fetal monitors that watch mom and baby’s vitals during the birthing process, has expanded the hospital’s obstetric ultrasound capacity, and will soon leverage centralized monitoring in the Birthing Unit so that clinical staff can view all patient vitals.

“Having access to this level of advanced equipment is truly a game changer for our hospital,” said Puneet Sandhu, Director of Surgical, Maternal Child and Pediatric Programs. “This equipment empowers us to respond swiftly and efficiently to critical situations, ensuring newborns receive the care they need during those vital first moments of life. These critical upgrades give our talented clinical team the ability to handle emergencies with even more confidence, as they provide increased precision and continuous monitoring of the little ones in our care. We’re so grateful to our community for supporting these important improvements, and are thrilled to bring this level of care to new moms, dads, and their babies who depend us.”

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Walking the Path of Truth and Reconciliation

Join us in acknowledging and learning from the past as we work towards a future of unity and understanding.

Let us foster a community that embraces diversity and respects the history and culture of Indigenous peoples.



Dawn GALLAGHER MURPHY
MPP for Newmarket–Aurora

905-853-9889

✉ Dawn.GallagherMurphy@pc.ola.org
@dawn Gallagher Murphy ✕ MurphyGallagher
f Dawn Gallagher Murphy

LEAH'S LETTER

From page 5

previously could not afford dental care. This program will expand next year to cover even more Canadians without insurance, ensuring that everyone has access to this critical healthcare service.

These are all programs that that have been voted against by the official opposition, yet these investments in Canadians, support individuals and families while providing significant economic benefits and long-term savings.

But of course, fall also brings wonderful things—beautiful foliage, cooler weather, and opportunities to gather and celebrate. I am enjoying the start of fall and look forward to seeing you at the newly opened Aurora Town Square, Farmers Market, or at Town events for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – an important opportunity to learn and reflect on Indigenous History in Canada.

We also have several important local highlights and events to celebrate this fall. The Terry Fox Run was a tremendous success, raising over \$11,000 for cancer research, thanks to the dedication of our volunteers, participants, and donors.

Congratulations to our new Fire Chief Rocco Volpe, and a special mention to the Central York Fire Services (CYFS) for the naming of their new fire station. Don't miss the Farmers Market, which continues through October, and be sure to support our local Fall Food Drives.

Additionally, I want to remind you that nominations for the King's Coronation Medal remain open for Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill. If you know of a resident who has made a significant contribution to our community or brought credit to Canada abroad, please submit a nomination by emailing my office. The deadline for nominations is

September 30, 2024.

As always, my priority is to advocate for you and represent you in Parliament. If you need assistance with any federal matters or wish to share your thoughts on specific policies or programs, I encourage

you to reach out to my constituency office at 905-773-8358, via email at leah.taylorroy@parl.gc.ca or on my website <http://leah.taylorroymp.ca>

Enjoy the beautiful fall weather and I look forward to seeing you around Town.

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October 11
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October 29
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October 30
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Leah
TAYLOR ROY
Member of Parliament
Aurora • Oak Ridges • Richmond Hill



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Telephone: 905-773-8358 • Fax: 905-773-8374




www.leah.taylorroymp.ca

f LeahTaylorRoyMP
in @leah_taylor_roy
✉ leah.taylorroy@parl.gc.ca
@Leah_Taylor_Roy

May we walk together,
hand-in-hand,
on a path to truth
and reconciliation.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
is Monday September 30th

**TONY Van Bynen**
Member of Parliament Newmarket-Aurora

Constituency Office: 905-953-7515 • email: Tony.VanBynen@parl.gc.ca • website: vanbynen.ca

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

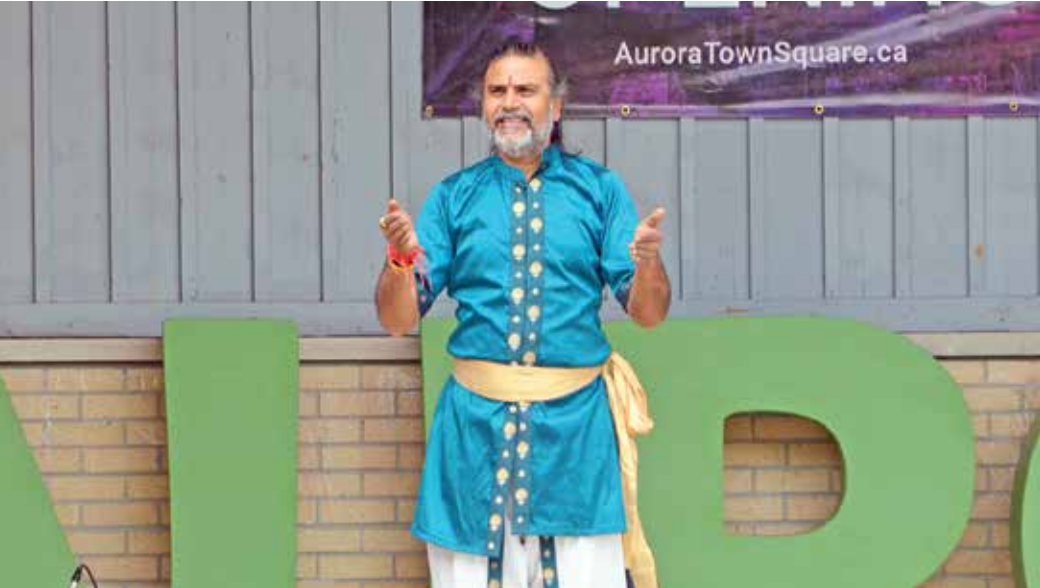
Monday, September 30, 2024



MICHAEL PARSA, MPP
Aurora–Oak Ridges–Richmond Hill

13085 Yonge Street, Suite 201
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Multicultural Festival was



Auroran photos by Brock Weir



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celebration of music and dance



Aurora's annual Multicultural Festival offered a feast for the eyes as performers representing many of the cultures reflected in the Aurora community took over the bandshell with showcases of music and dance. Among the performers were the Orient Dance Company with a showcase of Chinese dance, Huariapungo, representing the culture of Ecuador; the Panwar Music and Dance Company, flying the flag for South Asian nations; and Yavir, representing Ukraine. The start of the Festival took place at Town Park, before attendees formed a procession to the newly-opened Town Square where Multicultural festivities continued. The event was emceed by Shaheen Moledina, who is pictured here with Shelley Ware, Special Events Coordinator for the Town of Aurora.

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger and Brock Weir

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Traffic calming measures could be coming to Tamarac Trail

BY BROCK WEIR

Additional traffic calming measures could be coming to Tamarac Trail, following concerns voiced by a resident earlier this month.

This week, Council will consider a recommendation from Town staff to install flexible signs near Tamarac and Alberty Crescent, which is currently a three-way stop.

Area resident Christina Choo-Hum came to Council earlier this month with concerns about the intersection. Her driveway is one of two on the opposing side of the three-way intersection. It's a situation that has made turning in and out of her driveway difficult as "people don't believe cars are turning into those driveways" when more than one driver is at the intersection.

"They will proceed right while I'm turning into those driveways," she said. "It becomes very dangerous, especially for people who don't actually live in these houses who are turning into these driveways."

"I think this one is really, really challenging because it's this double-wide driveway that is a daily hazard. There hasn't been a day I haven't pulled into my driveway and not had to really grip my wheel and really have a little bit of nervousness pulling in."

The three-way stop was installed in July as a way to improve area traffic flow and pedestrian safety, but the resident said there hasn't been a marked improvement since then.

"There is a need for traffic calming and I totally acknowledge that – we're looking for other measures that might actually result in traffic calming for the neighbourhood," she said. "[Neighbours] weren't looking for a stop sign; they were looking at something to calm traffic, as was I. We're still looking at something to calm traffic [better] than this measure. They connected with me and said they are still seeing the same sorts of traffic concerns that they were having and this isn't providing the

remedy that people were looking for, originally."

Council listened to the concerns at this month's Committee of the Whole meeting and tasked staff with reporting back to Council on the matter. At the time, however, Director of Planning Marco Ramunno said Council directed staff to install the stop signs, with the additional measure of installing flexible traffic bollards along Tamarac still on the table.

"If Council wants to direct staff to revisit the placement of the stop sign, it's something we can do, but it was installed in the location as identified in the report back in the spring. Council also did direct us to install the flexible safety traffic bollards and we're working on that."

In the resulting report, staff said they have reviewed resident feedback and collision data, finding "no safety-related concerns" at this and other similar three-way stop intersections where at least one driveway is on the fourth side. The report also found "there were no safety conflicts between vehicles pulling out of the driveways" at the intersection in question, based on a 24-hour monitoring of the corner.

"Staff monitored the subject all-way stop intersection for 24 hours to determine whether there are safety conflicts between vehicles accessing the driveways at the intersection and vehicles traversing the intersection on Tamarac Trail," reads the staff report. "A speed study was also undertaken to determine whether speeds were reduced at the intersection of Tamarac Trail and Alberty Crescent (west leg) as a result of the stop sign installation."

"Staff have reviewed video recordings taken at the intersection on Monday, September 9, 2024. Based on this review, there was no indication of vehicle conflicts between vehicles accessing the driveways at the intersection and vehicles traversing the intersection on Tamarac Trail. Vehicular speeds on Tamarac Trail have been reduced as a result of

the conversion of the intersection of Tamarac Trail and Alberty Crescent (west leg) to an all-way stop controlled intersection. Staff undertook a speed study over a three day period and the results of this work indicated that vehicle speeds (85th percentile speeds) on

Tamarac Trail near the west leg of Alberty Crescent have been reduced by 6 km/h (from 53 km/h to 47 km/h) as a result of the conversion of the intersection of Tamarac Trail and Alberty Crescent (west leg) to an all-way stop controlled intersection."

Notice of Public Consultation on the Issuance of a New Long-Term Care Home Licence for Communauté du Trille blanc LTC - Aurora located in Aurora, Ontario

The Ministry of Long-Term Care (MLTC) is reviewing a proposal from Communauté du Trille blanc (the Proposed Licensee) for issuing a long-term care (LTC) home licence for Communauté du Trille blanc LTC - Aurora (the Home), a 160-bed long term care home proposed to be located at 100 Bloomington West in Aurora, Ontario.

The proposal involves:

- the development of 160 LTC beds allocated by the Ministry of Long-Term Care (the "ministry") to be included in the proposed 160-bed development project, subject to meeting all licensing requirements under the *Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021* (the "Act"); and
- the approval and the issuance of a new licence with a term of up to 30 years for the operation of 160 "New" beds, following the development of the Home.

If you have comments or opinions and would like to bring them to the attention of the MLTC, you may:

Present them orally at a Zoom public meeting, to be held on **October 17, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.** There are two options to join this public meeting:

- By Videoconference: Join online via the following link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82000023019>
- By Phone: Dial-in to the public meeting using the following Zoom dial-in information **+1 647 374 4685** or **+1 647 558 0588**. When prompted, please key in the participant passcode **820 0002 3019#**. Please key in any digit if prompted to provide a participant ID.

Submit them in writing on or before **October 28, 2024** by:

a) sending an email at LTC_Homes.Licensing@hillandknowlton.com;

- OR -

b) sending by mail to:
Long-Term Care Licence Consultations
c/o Hill & Knowlton
50 O'Connor Street, Suite 1115
Ottawa, ON K1P 6L2

Details regarding the consultation and meeting will be posted on the Long-Term Care Consultation Registry located at <https://ontario.ca/page/ontarios-long-term-care-licensing-public-consultation-registry> on **September 14, 2024**. You may also email LTC_Homes.Licensing@hillandknowlton.com to receive more details on the meeting.

Please include the name of the LTC Home and quote **Project #24-053** on all written submissions. As part of the MLTC's review, the Director will consider all written and oral submissions before making a final decision relating to the proposal.



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Adam '24, Class Valedictorian,



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Vol. 25 No. 52 905-727-3300 *TheAurora.com* **FREE** Week of September 26, 2024

82 “Tweeners” enjoy eight sports at Sport Aurora’s All-Girls, All Sports One Day” event at AFLC



Sport Aurora’s All-Girls, All Sports one-day showcase took place at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex, shining a light on scores of sports available in the community.

Aurora photos by Jim Stewart

BY JIM STEWART

Sport Aurora’s inaugural “All Girls, All Sports/ One Day” event was enjoyed by 82 participants at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex on Sunday morning and afternoon.

Eight local sports clubs—KO Club Martial Arts, Elevation Athletics Badminton, Alpha Cheerleading, Town of Aurora Archery, Aurora Diggers Softball, Storm Volleyball, Spectrum North Baton Twirling, and Performance Fitness—put dozens of enthusiasts through their paces to deepen the youngsters’ love of sports and provide them with recreational options.

Sport Aurora President Ron Weese discussed the genesis of the event.

“All-Girls All Sports/One Day’ grew out of our All Sports/One Day demonstration events with a new focus on an all-girls event. We targeted ‘tweeners’ ages 8-14 because this group tends to drop out of organized sports. We’ve invited this group today to the Leisure Complex to learn something new and get re-engaged.”

Laurie Mueller, the masterful organizer behind Sport Aurora’s many events, was pleased that the first AGASOD was “sold out with five on a waiting list.”

“We’ve got over 80 participants for the morning and afternoon sessions. A key component to today’s success was the role of the U18 Panthers Rep Hockey team. We have three or four U18 Panthers in each group to serve as mentors in a leadership capacity.”

Mark Dubeau, President of the Central York Girls Hockey Association and a Panthers Coach, was coming off a big 6-2 U22 Panthers’ win in Kingston to kick off the first weekend of the top club’s hockey

season.

Coach Dubeau was even more pleased with the 18U club’s active participation in Sunday’s event

“We want all Panther teams to be leaders in the community – great examples to all girls in all sport, not just hockey.”

Mueller, Sport Aurora’s Executive Director, described the end-of-session process and the critical role of the Panthers.

“The 18U Panthers are going to sit together at the end of the day with their groups. The Panthers are going to do a non-structured talk about girls in sport, they’ll encourage the girls to stay in sports at any level, and get a feeling on how the day went for the girls here at the Leisure Complex.”

In addition to thanking the U18 Panthers group leaders and the eight local sports clubs for providing expert instruction, Mueller also thanked “Canadian Women in Sport’ for sponsoring today’s eight-sport event. A big thank you to ‘Next Play’ for providing a grant that covered the costs of fields, extra equipment as needed, and permits.





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Late Post Alert – Well they say better late than never! Congratulations to all the provincial athletes on their first competition of the year 2024 at Waterloo Invitational! What a great way to get “our feet wet”. There were Solos, duets and teams.

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Heroic 41-save performance by Tigers’ Christopher Thompson not enough in Aurora’s 5-0 loss to King Rebellion

BY JIM STEWART

Aurora goaltender Christopher Thompson earned Third Star of the Game honors by turning aside 41 shots fired at him by King Rebellion shooters on Sunday afternoon, but the Tigers could not beat rookie netminder Erik Powers in a 5-0 loss at the Nobleton Community Centre.

Powers—in his first start of the season—made 42 saves to earn the shutout much to the delight of the 390 fans who packed the arena for the first Junior A hockey game in King since 1987.

It was the Tigers’ fourth consecutive loss as their month-long road trip rolled on inexorably this weekend with stops in Haliburton County and King Township.

When the Tigers took the ice in Nobleton on Sunday for a 3 p.m. puck drop that included red carpet ceremonies to mark the Rebellion’s home opener, the road-weary Aurora team was coming off a tough 5-2 loss to the Huskies at SG Nesbitt Arena on Saturday afternoon.

The Tigers trailed 3-0 after two periods of play in Haliburton.

Aurora forward Parker Bonsignore’s power play marker at 2:19 of the final frame pulled the Tigers to within two goals, but Isaac Larmond restored the Huskies’ lead at 11:16. Thirty-eight seconds later, Aurora’s Andreas Mikrogiannakis narrowed his team’s deficit to two. However, Sam Black tallied Haliburton’s fifth goal at 15:56 to provide the Huskies’ margin of victory.

Former Aurora Tiger Carson Littlejohn—who was a prized acquisition in a multi-player deal with the Toronto Junior Canadiens in Fall 2023 – fired a power play goal in the first period for the Huskies and added one assist against his old club on Saturday afternoon.

On Sunday afternoon, after the dignitaries exited the ice surface in Nobleton, the Rebellion and Tigers fought to a scoreless draw after twenty minutes of play in what amounted to the “Battle of the 6’5” Goalies.” Powers and Thompson put forth entertaining efforts for the fans assembled at the venerable arena that was home to the COJHL Nobleton Devils from 1985-1987. In addition to Powers’s 42-save, First Star of the Game performance, Thompson kept the 0-4 Tigers in the game by turning aside 41 of the 46 shots he faced in a heroic effort.

The Rebellion’s power play struck twice in the second period to break the scoreless tie. Dylan Coers’s blast from the blue line through a maze of red and white jerseys eluded Thompson high glove side at 2:46.

Evin Kojokaro, who scored the Rebellion’s only goal in an 8-1 loss to the Toronto Patriots on Saturday night, staked the Rebellion to a 2-0 lead at 8:23 of the middle frame when Thompson got a piece of the puck, but it trickled past him inside the right post.

King opened up a three-goal lead on a brilliant individual play by Artem Narbekov who burst down the left wing, created a breakaway with a power move to the net, and fired a low shot along the ice that beat Thompson 95 seconds into the third period.

Simon Wang, the Boston University commit who rushed the puck brilliantly all game, banged in Captain Aaron Andrade’s rebound off the left wing to provide the home side with a comfortable 4-0 lead with six minutes remaining. McCharles’s conversion of Andrade’s perfect pass provided a five-goal cushion with just over two minutes left in the contest.

Opening Ceremonies on the Red Carpet in King


King Mayor Steve Pellegrini led a delegation of dignitaries onto the red carpet at centre ice, welcomed both teams and 390 spectators to the first Junior A hockey game in King Township in almost 40 years, and presided over the ceremonial puck drop between Rebellion captain Aaron Andrade and Tiger Assistant Captain Antonio Cerqua. Mayor Pellegrini acknowledged the Rebellion’s recent win over the CJHL champion Collingwood Blues and invited all King residents to come out and watch the team play.

“Enjoy this thrilling season. I encourage all of you to attend all the Rebellion’s home games here at the Nobleton Community Centre and at their permanent home at the Zancor Centre. Go out and see them on the road, too. Let’s get ready to enjoy some great Junior A Hockey here in King.”

The sightlines in the Nobleton Community Centre were clear and the Rebellion looked resplendent in their home red jerseys with the team logo representing, as Mayor Pellegrini pointed out, “The Rebellion of 1837 in Lloydstown.”

The King Rebellion (2-2-1) is the

rebranded version of the Brantford 99ers franchise which was given approval by the OJHL to move to King City in the Spring of 2024.



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Families flock to new Headquarters for CYFS Open House



Families from across Aurora and Newmarket descended on the newly-minted Ian Laing Headquarters on Saturday for the Central York Fire Services’ annual Open House. The event featured an array of activities and demonstrations designed to let the public get up close and personal with their local fire department and come home with a few safety tips of their own. (Top Row) Jaxson sees what it takes from Jason. Ben and Leo. (Middle Row) Julia, Chloe and Mariel. Guests took a ride on the Tim Hortons’ Express Train. (Third Row) Remy and Mory. Evelyn and Justin.

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger

Distinguished life of Ian Laing celebrated at CYFS dedication ceremony

From page 3
Gilliland, who serves as chair of the Joint Council Committee (JCC), which oversees the governance of the CYFS.

She hailed Laing as a “remarkable individual whose courage, dedication and leadership” left an “indelible” mark on the community.

“As we stand before this building, it is only fitting that we recognize the legacy of our beloved late fire chief, Ian Laing,” she said. “I had the pleasure of working on JCC for the last six years, from concept drawings, budgeting, to finally watching this award-winning building come alive right before our eyes. This was a project Chief Laing was proud to open. By renaming station 4-5, we’re not just commemorating one individual; we’re also celebrating the spirit of community, bravery and service it embodies. Let this honour serve as both recognition of past achievements and inspiration for future generations. May we always strive to uphold the values Chief Laing has instilled us: teamwork, friendship, respect, and an unwavering commitment to our community.”

Region of York Chair Wayne Emmerson, next to speak, saluted Laing as “more than a firefighter and fire chief” but as a “leader, a mentor and a friend to so many.”

“His unwavering dedication to protecting our communities defines his career and his life. He truly embodied the spirit of service, courage and resilience that every firefighter aspires to. Today, we commemorate not just Chief Laing’s years of service, but the immense impact he had on those around him. In naming this station in his honour, you’re ensuring a lasting legacy and every member of the fire services will think of Ian when they’re at this station. This station is a reminder of his dedication, leadership, and profound impact on our community.”

The federal level of government was represented by Newmarket-Aurora MP Tony Van Bynen who, as one-time mayor of Newmarket, helped oversee the consolidation of fire services.

“We could not have made a better choice,” he said, recalling the hiring of Laing in 2010. “He was a consummate firefighter – dedicated and proud of his chosen career, and absolute in his regard to provide his community with the absolute best service. I will miss the sparkle in his eye and the stories told by a gentleman I was proud to call my friend. To his wife Deborah and your family, I hope that today’s ceremony and naming reinforce for you the respect, gratitude and admiration of our community for Chief Laing. He

would be honoured to know his name is proudly attached to this firehall.”

At the Provincial level, Newmarket-Aurora MPP Dawn Gallagher Murphy recalled her first visit to the fire hall where Laing proudly showed her “every nook and cranny” of the space with much excitement.

“You know what was the most important? It was the twinkle in his eye and how his face just lit up when he was talking about the firefighters – how they dedicated their lives to the safety of our community members,” she said, addressing CYFS members. “This station is an amazing facility. However, it is truly about the women and the men who work here... it is all about you. You are Chief Laing’s legacy. Thank you for all your courage, your leadership, and your empathy.”

Added Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MPP Michael Parsa: “Chief Laing’s legacy lives on through you, lives through the fire fighters who follow in his footsteps, and his headquarters, which will forever be recognized by his name.”

Laing’s successor, Chief Rocco Volpe, closed the ceremony with memories of working side-by-side with Laing over the last decade of his career.

“He was a visionary who was always one step ahead of everyone, finding ways to improve our service and keeping our firefighters and the people we serve safe. On a personal note, Ian and I shared many chats, going over all the details of the day’s events, brainstorming for the future. We always had our green tea afternoons because it became our tradition and I always treasure the moments of reflection and our friendship. I can’t forget Chief Laing’s one-line zingers. He dropped them effortlessly, leaving the room in laughter. Try as I might, I have never been able to deliver them quite as flawlessly as he did but I’ll keep trying.

“Every time we step through these doors will be a reminder of the standard he set, the impact he had and the difference he made in the lives of so many. Today, we do more than name a station – we honour a great man whose service will continue to guide us, inspire us, and remind us why we do and what we do.”



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New bylaws will register basement apartments, third suites but Councillors question whether it goes far enough

BY BROCK WEIR

A new bylaw coming up this fall will allow homeowners to register two additional dwellings on their property, but some lawmakers question whether the new legislation will make things safer for renters.

The bylaw in question, which is up for consideration at this week’s Council meeting, is poised to come back to lawmakers for enactment this November. It’s the result of the Ontario Government’s More Homes Built Faster Act.

Under the new legislation, municipalities are required to allow additional residential units across the community in detached, semi-detached, and townhouse units and “within an accessory structure located on the property.”

The intent, say municipal staff, is to allow up to three units on one residential lot. Current bylaws allow a total of two units per lot.

“The Town established [the bylaw] on August 14, 2012, which requires the registration of second units. The proposed Registration Bylaw will include ‘additional residential units’ (ARUs), which applies to both second and third units within a single-unit dwelling and additional units in an ancillary building,” say staff. “As per Planning Act, the by-law would permit the registration of one ancillary unit, such as a garden suite or a laneway home, with a self-contained residential dwelling unit within an accessory building with its own facilities and sleeping area, to be located at the rear or side yard

of a detached, semi-detached, or townhouse dwelling.

“The Town’s proposed Registration By-law will include a section on inspections and enforcement which was not included in the current Registration By-law. As this by-law would be authorized pursuant to the Municipal Act, the inspection and enforcement practices would be the same as those utilized by the Town with respect to other by-laws authorized by the Municipal Act. It should be noted that while the inspection regulations allow for entry onto the property, it does not allow entry into the building without the owner’s consent. Therefore, the enforcement capabilities of this by-law will be limited.”

Council first reviewed the recommendations at the Committee of the Whole meeting earlier this month, but voted to defer it until November after Ward 1 Councillor Ron Weese brings forward another motion – potentially as early as October – that addresses the overriding concern with the draft bylaw: enforcement.

“Enforcement [is] one of the biggest problems with this particular bylaw,” he said. “[The report says] it will not allow entry into buildings or dwellings unless consent is provided by an occupant, which limits the Town’s [authority]. If you’re creating a policy, you’re creating a rule that is unenforceable, then it is really not much good to us. My direction is to look at something that has some enforcement powers to it.”

These were concerns reflected by

Ward 3 Councillor Wendy Gaertner, who said the licensing of second suites has “always been very problematic.”

“It’s really hard to get people to register their second units and it basically is a safety issue because if they’re not inspected, we don’t know that they are safe,” she said. “If they don’t get registered, we don’t inspect them. Before we add a third unit to this... I would like to see what Councillor Weese has come up with.”

Similar sentiments were echoed by Ward 2 Councillor Rachel Gilliland and Ward 5 Councillor John Gallo.

“I’m not so sure it is going to make a big difference on the overall outcome,” said Councillor Gilliland.


On Councillor Weese’s upcoming motion versus what was on the table, Councillor Gallo added, “This sounds like it could be revised in a significant way, in a positive way, where we can accomplish entry whereas this isn’t allowing that. I have no issues [delaying the bylaw until after the motion] unless there is some urgency

in passing this now, to wait to hear what comes out of the resolution, and hopefully put it all together.”

Whether or not the matter was urgent was also questioned by Ward 4 Councillor Michael Thompson, who was told by Town Solicitor Patricia Desario that there was some urgency, but even if Council waited until November, enforcement powers were limited.

“We do not have authority to enter into people’s homes,” she replied. “It’s very difficult to do so. We did have, from bylaw, a standard operating procedure that we did a couple of years back. At the time, we did say that one way to enter the property would be more through a search warrant because legislation does not give us the authority to enter into people’s homes. While it could wait until November, it might be the same answer.”

Added Mayor Tom Mrakas, “The legislation allows it (third units) regardless of what we do.”



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Aurora Town Square donors celebrated at reception, performance

The Norman Dance Company inaugurated Aurora Town Square's Davide DeSimone Performance Hall on Friday night as donors and supporters of the downtown revitalization project were honoured at a reception. Facilities named after donors include: TFP Aurora Developments Atrium; Shining Hill Box Office; Shining Hill Visual Arts Studio; Shining Hill Multipurpose Studio; Addison Hall Dance Studio; Treasure Hill Bridge; Nichols Family Foundation Program Room; McAlpine Ford Lincoln Conference Room; Joyce and Jim McAlpine Collections Storage Area; Charlieville Development Reading Garden; Davide DeSimone Performance Hall on behalf of Royalpark Homes; Delmanor Amphitheatre; and Mirkopoulos Plateia.

Auroran photos by Brock Weir

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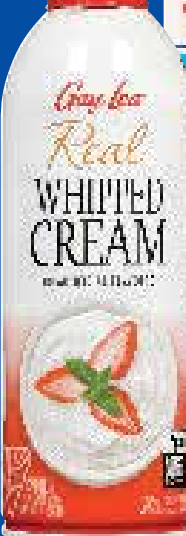
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Pomp and circumstance – and a whole lot of fun – heralds AURORA TOWN SQUARE OPENING



Pomp and circumstance gave way for a whole lot of fun on Saturday afternoon as the Town formally opened Aurora Town Square. (Top Row) Celebrations began a block away at Aurora Town Square where members of the St. Andrew's College Pipes and Drums brought residents from Town Park to the Square, led by Town Crier John Webster and his wife, Mary, passing the historic Church Street School along the way. (Second Row) Hundreds had assembled in the Delmanor Amphitheatre by the time the procession arrived on Mirkopoulos Plateia for the formal ribbon cutting. Formal remarks were delivered by Webster and (Third Row, Left) Traditional Anishinaabe Grandmother Kim Wheatley. (Third Row, Right) Following the ribbon cutting, Mayor and Council cut a celebratory cake, which was enjoyed by (Fourth Row, Left) the assembled onlookers. (Fourth Row, Right) Inside, Lyana, Wen and Mary took in the heritage elements of the Church Street School. (Fifth Row) Patricia Wallace and former councillors Sandra Hymfries and Alison Collins-Mrakas enjoyed the café. Jonah and Nash took in new exhibitions at the Aurora Cultural Centre. (Sixth Row) Jane Taylor of the Aurora Cultural Centre and Webster are pictured at the meeting point of heritage and new where the Cultural Centre merges with the TFP Aurora Developments Atrium. Michael takes in the 250-seat Davide DeSimone Performance Hall on behalf of Royalpark Homes. (Seventh Row) John and Sherry take a seat in the Treasure Hill Bridge, which connects the Aurora Public Library to the new Aurora Town Square building.



Aurora Town Square opens with fanfare

From page 1

“Town Square is going to energize Aurora for a very, very long time,” said Mayor Mrakas prior to the Friday night performance. “It’s a stunning visual metaphor of our past and present coming together in one place.”

“The reality is all great towns and cities have lively, dynamic downtowns with world-class amenities,” he continued, showcasing the various amenities among the highlights of the project, from the Treasure Hill Bridge connecting the Aurora Public Library to the Church Street School addition, the outdoor plaza, which will serve as an all-season gathering space, top-notch display and storage areas for the Aurora Museum & Archives, and studios throughout the building

“Aurora Town Square is a cornerstone of Aurora’s downtown revitalization, integrating the Town’s past, present and future,” said Webster the following afternoon, as cloudy skies gave way to blazing sunlight. “We are standing in the midst of Aurora’s proud history, in celebrating the official ribbon cutting of a project created with an inclusive and sustainable focus. Aurora Town Square is a dynamic and innovative hub in York Region for residents, local businesses, and visitors alike, celebrating everything arts, culture and heritage.”

These sentiments were echoed by Mayor Mrakas, who was joined on stage for the ribbon-cutting by Ward 1 Councillor Ron Weese, Ward 2 Councillor Rachel Gilliland, Ward 4 Councillor Michael Thompson, Ward 5 Councillor John Gallo, Ward 6 Councillor Harold Kim, former councillors

Sandra Humfries and Jeff Thom, CAO Doug Nadorozny, and Robin McDougall, Aurora’s Director of Community Services.

“Aurora is now home to a world-class arts and culture hub, a central community gathering space where people can come watch a show, see a new museum exhibit, take an art class, or simply meet a friend for a coffee at the new Armoury Café on the lower level,” he said. “There will be an interactive water feature in the summer and skating on this outdoor square in the winter, now named the Mirkopoulos Plateia (plaza) after one of our very generous donors.

“It’s truly hard to overstate just how big a moment this is for our community. It took a tremendous amount of work from so many people to complete Town Square – from members of Council, former members of Council and staff, to our contractor partners and architects. This not only was a four-year construction project, this is something our community has talked about for 20 – 30 years... It took a tremendous amount of financial support from so many generous donors in our community whose names are now enshrined on the donor wall in our atrium. I want to thank all of them for their tireless efforts and generosity in helping us complete Town Square, the largest project in the Town’s history.”

Thanking the former Council members for “believing in this project and supporting it so vigorously,” the Mayor also thanked the community as a whole.

“This was a complex and long journey and without your support and patience, we simply couldn’t have gotten to this spot we’re at today. We’re so grateful that so many of you saw the value in this project. I

really do want you to feel connected to this building and this outdoor square because this is your building, your space, for all of you to enjoy....

“Town Square really does have so much to offer our community and I can’t wait for all of you to get inside and take a tour. The Davide DeSimone Performance Hall on behalf of Royalpark Homes, really the centrepiece of the indoor space, can be configured in so many different ways to support various events from concerts, to plays, to trade shows. In the coming days, it will host film premiers, musical and dance performances, including Sloan, our grand opening headliner on October 11. While Sloane is already sold out, there are many more performances, film screenings and events to attend.

“The Aurora Cultural Centre and Marquee Theatrical Productions, two of our wonderful community partners, will continue with exciting programming year-round in the performance hall. We’ve also ensured the building has a state of the art, environmentally-controlled collection space, including the Joyce and

Jim McAlpine Storage Area so the Aurora Museum and Archives can safely exhibit our incredible local artefacts and they are preserved for future generations.”

The Treasure Hill Bridge, he added, is a “stunning architectural achievement” that is an event space in and of itself – as demonstrated at Friday night’s reception – while the green roof will “reduce energy consumption and stormwater run-off while creating a habitat for birds and pollinators.”

“Town Square is set to truly become the beating heart of our community. But this is much more than an arts and culture hub. Town Square is a central part of our efforts to revitalize downtown,” said Mayor Mrakas. “It is our hope Town Square will help attract more people from across the Region into our downtown core, which will support existing businesses, encourage new ones to open up, and create new jobs and exciting opportunities. Town Square will usher in a new era for our downtown at a time when more and more people are moving to our community to seek that high quality of life Aurora has become known for.”

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GETTING THINGS DONE

From page 5

to offer our community, and I can’t wait for all of you to get inside and take a tour.

The Davide DeSimone Performance Hall on behalf of Royalpark Homes, really the centerpiece of the indoor space, can be configured in so many different ways to support various events, from concerts to plays to trade shows.

In the coming days, it will host film premieres and musical and dance performances including Sloan, our grand opening headliner, on October 11.

While Sloan is already sold out – there are many more performances, film screenings and events to attend – visit AuroraTownSquare.ca for more tickets.

The Aurora Cultural Centre and Marquee Theatrical Productions, two of our wonderful community partners, will continue with exciting programming year-round in the Performance Hall.

We’ve also ensured the building has state-of-the-art environmentally-controlled collections spaces, including the Joyce and Jim McAlpine Collections Storage Area, so that the Aurora Museum and Archives can safely exhibit our incredible local artifacts and that they’re preserved for future generations.

The gorgeous Treasure Hill Bridge you all see, which spans the outdoor square and connects the new addition to the Library, is a stunning architectural achievement and can be used as an event space itself.

Our green roof will help us reduce energy consumption and stormwater runoff, while creating a habitat for birds and pollinators.

The inviting TFP Aurora Developments Atrium, featuring the exposed brick of the historic Church Street

School, is a stunning visual metaphor of our past and present meeting in one place.

And the Mirkopoulos Plateia, which features the Delmanor Amphitheatre, will be a place where our community can gather for important celebrations.

Town Square is set to truly become the beating heart of our community.

But this is much more than an arts and culture hub.

Town Square is a central part of our efforts to revitalize the downtown, something that’s so important to so many community members.

The reality is that all great towns and cities have lively and dynamic downtowns, with world-class amenities.

And Town Square will help attract more people from across the region into our downtown core, which will support existing businesses, encourage new ones to open up, and create new jobs and exciting opportunities.

Town Square will usher in a new era for our downtown at a time when more and more people are moving to our community to seek out that high quality of life Aurora has become known for

It is now time for what we’ve all been waiting for!

I’d like to invite our current members of Council, former councillors and Town staff to join me to cut this ribbon and officially open Town Square. Come on up!

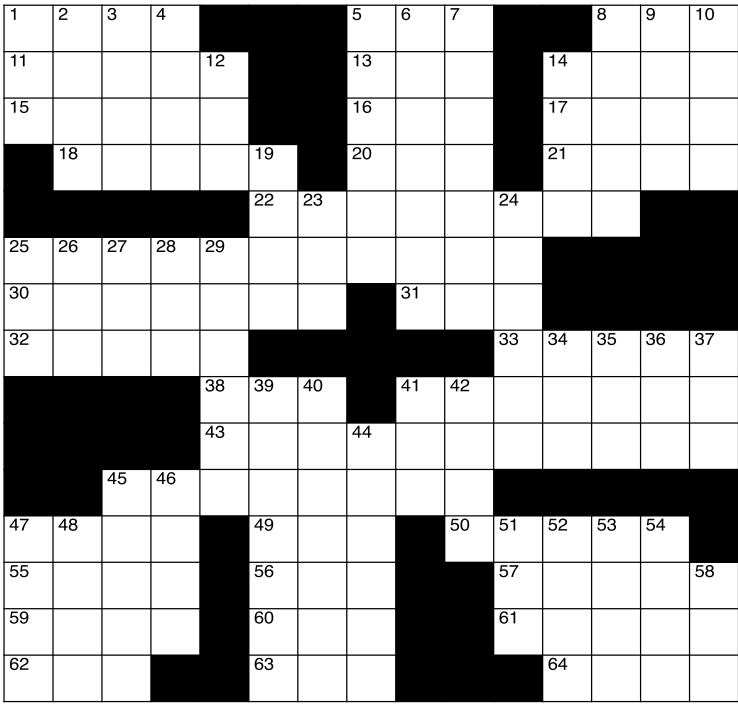
What an incredible moment, I’m absolutely thrilled.

I want to again thank all of you for joining us this afternoon for this historic occasion.

And again, thank you all for your support on this project.

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CLUES ACROSS

- Unequaled
- ...-fi (slang)
- Synthetic resin
- Chadic language Bura-__
- Influential come Election Day
- Bucket
- European river
- Earn a perfect score
- Horizontal passage
- Barely sufficient
- Dekaliter
- Goo Goo Dolls hit
- Australian city
- Female servants
- Plumbing fixtures
- Tooth caregiver
- Book of Esther antagonist
- Say aloud
- Thyrotrophic hormone
- Absolute
- Untimely
- Area or neighborhood
- Juicy fruit
- Expresses distaste, disapprov:
- S. American rodents
- Swedish rock group
- Influential American presiden
- Volume
- Begged
- Resinlike substance secreted by certain lac insects
- Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- Good friend
- Body part
- Tableland

CLUES DOWN

- Barrels per day (abbr.)
- Body parts
- Invests in little enterprises
- Rock legend Turner
- Dug into
- Laughed
- Northern European nation
- San Diego ballplayer
- Eight
- Substitutes (abbr.)
- Moved swiftly on foot
- Compensated
- Volcano in the Philippines
- Speak ill of
- One who publishes
- Expression of bafflement
- Macaws
- Matchstick game
- We all have our own
- Divinatory
- Explosive
- Follows sigma
- Sea eagle
- Type of bread
- Bit used with a set of reins
- Time away from work
- Parts per thousand (abbr.)
- Lots on your plate (abbr.)
- Actor Brosnan
- It's part of packaging
- Towards the oral region
- Public Theater creator Joseph
- Ancient Syrian city
- Swiss river
- Mollusk
- A French abbot
- Hoagies
- Not present (slang)



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AURORA Recycles!

SEPTEMBER 21 - 28
Discover a new class or workshop from September 21 - 28, with the Aurora Cultural Centre's Discovery Days, a series of free, short interactive demos for you to try out a new class or workshop! From Adult sessions in Indigenous Beading to Printmaking, Painting and so much more, to Early Years Music for Toddlers & Caregivers, and Comic Drawing for Children. All Discovery Days demos are offered on a drop-in first-come, first-served basis - no registration required, but limited spaces available. Find your new Fall class or workshop while discovering the new Aurora Town Square! For the full Discovery Days schedule, visit [AuroraCulturalCentre.ca](#).

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
Garden Aurora's speakers Series continues with Kenneth Brown, speaking on the enjoyable activities of the autumn gardening season, planting new bulbs, harvesting and preparing for winter's blanket of snow. Join us for free at The Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Pkwy North (lower rear entrance), Doors open at 7 p.m., meeting starts at 8 p.m., followed by our flower show, coffee and snacks available. For more information, please visit [www.gardenaurora.ca](#).

The Aurora Historical Society's Speaker Series continues this evening from 7 – 8.30 p.m. with Ted Barris. Hybrid (in-person or over Zoom) \$12.50/person. In his 22nd book of non-fiction, Battle of Britain: Canadian Airmen in Their Finest Hour, Ted Barris has assembled unknown stories of Canadian airmen, ground crew, engineers, aeronautical designers, medical officers and civilians, who answered the call and turned back the very real threat of Nazi invasion. Meet the Canadians who helped secure victory in this WWII life-and-death struggle.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
The Aurora Cultural Centre is thrilled to kick off our 2024-

2025 season in the new Performance Hall at Aurora Town Square! Featuring Juno-nominated jazz-folk-R&B phenom Barbra Lica and her five-piece band, and supported by Charlotte McAfee-Brunner ("Trombone Charlotte") the upstart discovery of the Toronto jazz and roots music scene. NEW - Reserved seating! Tickets \$40 (HST incl); 7.30 p.m. Licensed bar. For details and to purchase visit [AuroraCulturalCentre.ca](#).

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28
The Aurora Farmers' Market continues at Town Park today from 8 a.m.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
The Town will honour the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on Monday, September 30 at Aurora Town Square. This gathering has been developed through partnership with the Town of Aurora, Aurora Cultural Centre, and members of the Indigenous community. This day is focused on the Truths and meaningful steps toward Reconciliation. The Town of Aurora encourages you to join in the Ceremony and Community Gathering focusing on the truths. The Aurora Cultural Centre also welcomes you to join in the reconciliation efforts. By participating in both gatherings, it is hoped to create a more wholesome experience. Details below.

Ceremony and Community Gathering @Aurora Town Square, 5.30 p.m. – This evening gathering focuses on remembering the children who did not come home, those who have lived as survivors and their families. It is important to recognize and commemorate the difficult history of residential schools, their ongoing legacy and the trauma experienced by so many. This evening will provide the opportunity to learn, to have a safe space for meaningful reflection and a sacred fire starting at 5:30 p.m. Ceremony and gathering led by Anishinaabe Grandmother Kim Wheatley, Elder Pat Floody, Ancestral Knowledge Keeper Raiden

Levesque and Spoken Word Poet Sarah Lewis.

Concert for Truth and Reconciliation – Aurora Town Square Performance Hall @ 7.30 p.m. – Presented with the support of the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Aurora Cultural Centre is honoured to commemorate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation through the power of music. Join Indigenous musicians and leaders in the Performance Hall for an evening featuring reflections in song. Consider wearing orange to honour thousands of Survivors of residential schools.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5
Martha Chaves and guest host Ali Hassan (Radio Host - CBC's Laugh Out Loud) will bring the house down with "I Got My Papers!" The Nicaraguan-Canadian comedy celebrity and émigré returns to Aurora along with special guests Fiona O'Brien and Danish Anwar. NEW - reserved seating at the Aurora Town Square Performance Hall! Tickets \$40 (HST incl); 7.30 pm. Licensed bar. For details and to purchase visit [AuroraCulturalCentre.ca](#).

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9
The Aurora Historical Society's Speaker Series continues this evening from 7 – 8.30 p.m. with Arlene Chan. Hybrid (in-person or over Zoom), \$12.50/person. Pioneers, Heroes and Game Changers. Extraordinary Chinese-Canadians defied the odds and overcame challenges to make a lasting difference. Stories of courage and determination celebrate their legacies. Join us in listening to personal and local histories about these impactful individuals.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10
Colours of Fall Concert at Town Park – 6.30 – 8.30 p.m.: As you nestle into your blanket while nibbling on some good ol' fashioned roasted corn, enjoy the unforgettable music of Neil Young performed by tribute band, After the Gold Rush. You will be

"Rockin' in the Free World" and have a "Heart of Gold" after joining us for an authentic experience. Community corn roast, pumpkins and carving tools will be provided for families to showcase their carving skills (while supplies last).

ONGOING
Partagez le Français: Ce groupe accueille les ADULTES / 18+ (des francophones aux débutants capables de converser) - qui cherchent à mettre en pratique leurs compétences Conversationnelle en français. Over Zoom with a nominal fee of \$2.50. RSVP by visiting [meetup.com/Partagez-le-francais](#). For more information, email [partagez.york@outlook.com](#).

Support AbuseHurts' Delivering Hope Full Circle Program textile recycling and donation program. In the current COVID climate, a greater number of people are wanting to donate or get rid of unwanted items, increasing the need for more outlets being available to receive the items. This program will provide a convenient way for people to donate or get rid of used/unwanted clothing, blankets, linens and furniture and will help lessen the amount of items ending up in landfills. Materials that were previously perceived as waste will now be seen as a valuable resource further encouraging redistribution. The items will be recycled in the following ways: To be given to individuals who are survivors of violence and are transitioning from shelters into new homes; To be sold in our store; To be sold to a textile recycler, which makes for an ongoing source of funding for Abuse Hurts enabling them to provide their services to the thousands of people that require them each year. When and Where: Monday and Wednesday, every week, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., with 30-minute time slots – only 1 drop off per time slot. If you do not have an appointment, we cannot accept your donation. The Abuse Hurts Warehouse is located at 1208 Gorham St, Unit 4, Newmarket - rear unloading dock. Visit [AbuseHurts.ca](#) to select your drop off time slot.

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BRAND NEW HOME ON SPACIOUS DOUBLE LOT
Brand new custom-built executive home on a premium 96' x 126' lot in Richmond Hill. This masterpiece boasts an open concept layout, high-quality craftsmanship, 10' ceilings, chef's kitchen with quartz counters and Bosch appliances, spa-like ensuite, spacious bedrooms with walk-in closets, and a 38' x 126' easement. Perfect for luxury living.



PRESTIGIOUS REGAL CREST RESIDENCE
Magnificent newly built 'Regal Crest' home in OakRidge Meadows offers 10ft ceilings, gourmet chef's kitchen, and a spacious open concept layout. Features include 4 bedrooms with ensuites, main floor office, and 2nd floor laundry. Enjoy nearby nature trails, Lake Wilcox, and convenient transit access.



ELITE AURORA MANSION OPPORTUNITY
Brand new luxury mansion with 3-car garage, finished basement, separate entrance, and elevator in South Aurora's exclusive Royal Hill community. This 5-bedroom, 6-bathroom home boasts upgraded finishes, an Italian chef's kitchen, spa-like primary suite, and a finished lower level with home theatre. Assignment sale.



SOPHISTICATED BUNGALOW IN VAUGHAN
Sophisticated stone and brick Bungalow in sought-after Vellore Village! Nestled on a landscaped lot, this stunning home features a chef's kitchen, soaring family room, formal living with fireplace, main floor primary suite, and a fully finished lower level with separate entrance. Perfect for families seeking luxury and comfort.



LAKE WILCOX LUXURY HOME HAVEN
Brand new custom executive home being built on a 150' lot in Lake Wilcox. This 4+1 bedroom, 5 bath home boasts upgraded features perfect for family living and entertaining. Chef's kitchen with JennAir appliances, open concept living areas, luxurious primary suite, and a finished lower level. Close to Lake Wilcox Park and trails.



LUXURIOUS 'FERNBROOK' HOME IN AURORA
Presenting the exquisitely designed 'Fernbrook' executive home in Princeton Heights, Aurora Estates. This expansive lot property boasts premium finishes and a gourmet kitchen, with customization options available. It includes four generously sized bedrooms, each with its own private bathroom.



PEACEFUL BUNGALOW RETREAT NEAR LAKE
Discover this upgraded walkout bungalow on a serene cul-de-sac near Little Lake. Enjoy modern living with three upgraded bathrooms, a spacious kitchen with stainless steel appliances, a private backyard with a waterfall, an oversized garage, and direct access to nature. Close to schools, parks, and amenities.



PRESTIGIOUS HOME WITH PREMIUM FENCED LOT
This executive home boasts a 3-car garage with an EV port on a premium lot in a prestigious community. Enjoy a grand 2-story foyer with a 3-way fireplace, a chef's kitchen, a private deck, a luxurious primary suite, and a finished walk-out lower level with a gym, recreation room, and additional office.



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CDS

The Country Day School

EDUCATION WITH BALANCE

CDS Quick Facts

820

STUDENTS ENROLLED
IN GRADES JK-12

100

ACRE CAMPUS IN KING

18

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

79

CDS GRADUATES IN 2024

90%

ONTARIO SCHOLARS

99%

UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCE
FOR THE CLASS OF 2024

AP

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OFFERINGS AVAILABLE

48

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3

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