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# THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 16 No. 42 905-727-3300

theauroran.com

FREE Week of August 11, 2016 



**THREE STITCHES IN A 180-YEAR-OLD TAPESTRY** – Chris, Kelly and Andy McClure, children of Donald McClure and renowned Aurora artist Dorothy Clark McClure, grew up in “The Red House”, which served as their parents’ home and studio starting in 1968. The siblings have voiced concerns over proposals to move the building, which is among the very oldest in Aurora. For their story, please see page 6.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

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## Landmark “Red House” could be moved after 180 years

By Brock Weir

The Red House’s name is as good a descriptor as any for the red-brick home that has stood on the southeast corner of Yonge Street and St. John’s Sideroad since 1840.

But now, after 176 years of being a primary landmark – and one of three surviving buildings – of the former hamlet of Cosford’s Corners, the site, and the historic home that is on it, could soon be transformed.

The Red House, which gained fame in the 1960s and 1970s as the home

studio of renowned artist and historical preservationist Dorothy Clark McClure and, until earlier this year, most recently served as the Oakland Hall restaurant, is the subject of a plan now in the works which will likely see it moved to another location on site to make way for a potential new condominium complex.

According to Sharon Vattay, Heritage Specialist with the architectural firm Goldsmith, Borgal & Company, two scenarios are currently being examined for the site. The first would see the house moved closer to Yonge Street to make way for development closer to Old Yonge

Street in behind the present structure. The second option would be to move the house further back from Yonge, while still facing the street, to free up room for a future development.

Ms. Vattay presented each scenario, accompanied by property owners Fabrizio Lucchese and Gordon Steel, to Aurora’s Heritage Advisory Committee, seeking input from members before they delve into the hard work of drafting a plan and filing the necessary development applications with the Town.

“The first option would be to intensify  
**Continued on page 6**

## Next municipal budget needs to make up for \$860,000 “imbalance”

By Brock Weir

Council will get back down to regular business next month and, when they do, they will face 860,000 challenges.

The 2017 Budget Process is set to get underway this fall and, while Council Chambers have been quieter over the summer, municipal staff have been looking at ways to address \$860,000 worth of shortcomings in several areas.

“All together, we have about \$860,000 of a permanent budget adjustment that needs to be made,” said Dan Elliott, Treasurer for the Town of Aurora at Town’s Finance Advisory Committee (FAC). “We’re trying to strategize

around our table how we are going to achieve that with the budget directions that Council has approved for 2017.”

Last month, Council approved a number of directives for staff when it comes to preparing next year’s budget, including a municipal increase pegged at inflation – currently standing at 2.1 per cent – plus one additional per cent to boost reserves.

Over time, however, some departments – including Infrastructure & Environmental Services (IES) and Parks & Recreation, have had unaddressed shortfalls.

“The FAC heard from Parks & Rec  
**Continued on page 3**

## Councillor calls on further supports for families living with autism

By Brock Weir

Autism Spectrum Disorder now affects one in every 94 children and Councillor Sandra Humfries is calling on the Province to do more to support families impacted by the disorder.

Council is expected to weigh in on Councillor Humfries’ motion next month, which calls on the Province of Ontario to, among other requests,

**Continued on page 3**

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## COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
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No meetings the weeks of August 15 and August 22

Council meetings are open to the public and can be seen on Rogers TV, channel 10. For a full list of upcoming meetings, please visit [www.aurora.ca](http://www.aurora.ca)

\*Meetings can be viewed online by visiting [www.aurora.ca/gcstream](http://www.aurora.ca/gcstream)



### Town of Aurora Department of Parks & Recreation Services Multicultural Special Event Opportunities

The Town of Aurora's Multicultural Festival will be taking place on Saturday, September 10. The Town's Parks & Recreation Services department requests to hear from interested community groups, or cultural performers that would like participate in this event.

Interested parties are asked to email the Recreation Supervisor, Special Events at [sware@aurora.ca](mailto:sware@aurora.ca) by Tuesday, August 23.

For more information, please call 905-726-4762.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

**Help us shape Aurora's Cultural Precinct**  
Take our online survey!  
Give us your feedback about what changes, if any, you would like to see in the Cultural Precinct/Library Square area. Your input is essential to ensure that together we build a strong, central hub for our community to celebrate the creativity and culture of Aurora.  
To access the survey, please visit [www.aurora.ca/culturalprecinct](http://www.aurora.ca/culturalprecinct)

## YOUTH PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

### Summer Sessions in The Loft presents Choices

The Town of Aurora, in partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association, offers this FREE program to youth ages 12 to 17 that encourages informed decision-making and promotes positive choices.

Session 3: Prescription Drugs & Self Respect  
Wednesday, August 17  
Course Code: 43639

For more information or to register, please visit [www.aurora.ca/youthprograms](http://www.aurora.ca/youthprograms)

### Youth Engagement Committee

The Town of Aurora is now accepting applications to be a member of the Youth Engagement Committee for the 2016/2017 season. Open to Aurora youth ages 12 to 17. The submission deadline is Wednesday, August 31. Apply today!

For more information and application forms, please visit [www.aurora.ca/youth](http://www.aurora.ca/youth)

## Town Park



### A Community Storybook

The Aurora Museum & Archives is gathering stories from the community for our online project celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Town Park. Join us at the Aurora Public Library to share your story of Town Park and be a part of history!

Thursday, August 11 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Monday August 15 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.



### August Skylight Gallery Artist – Elizabeth Gibson

Don't miss *The Colours of Life – A Collection of Fine Art and Photos* by award-winning artist, Elizabeth Gibson, who has dedicated her entire life to the arts. This inspiring exhibit showcases a variety of subjects from flowers to buildings to icebergs. Using watercolours, pastels, photography, oils and silks, her passion is evident in each original piece.

Regular Viewing Times: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Aurora Town Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

**Your Tax Dollars. Your Say.**  
How would you like to see your tax dollars spent?  
Help shape Aurora's 2017 Budget!  
Provide your input and you could win \$250 towards your municipal tax account!  
Complete the Citizen Budget online survey today at [www.aurora.ca/budget](http://www.aurora.ca/budget)

### Blood Donor Clinic

When: Thursday, August 25  
2:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Where: Aurora Legion, 105 Industrial Pkwy N

For information and appointments, visit [www.blood.ca](http://www.blood.ca)

**MOVIES in the Park**  
**Featured Movie**  
Thursday, August 18  
**Kung Fu Panda 3 (PG)**  
Ada Johnson Park (60 Hartwell Way)  
★ Prizes for bringing a favourite stuffed animal to watch the movie with you!  
Sponsored By: Martial Arts, Royal Bank, RBC  
Arrive early to enjoy the stellar movie-themed activities and special pre-movie surprises!  
All movies start at dusk.  
Movies are FREE!  
A food donation for the Aurora Food Pantry is appreciated.  
For your seating comfort, please bring your own lawn chairs.  
**Inclement Weather?**  
For inclement weather-related inquiries, please call 905-726-4762.  
Please note, we reserve the right to cancel, amend or change activities.  
#AuroraMovies [www.aurora.ca/moviesinthepark](http://www.aurora.ca/moviesinthepark) 905-726-4762

**2016 Doors Open Aurora**  
Saturday, August 20 • 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
This FREE community event organized by The Town of Aurora offers an opportunity to explore the cultural heritage treasures of our town.  
Participants are able to tour buildings, take guided walking tours and view special exhibits and displays.  
To view the list of sites and to learn more, please visit [www.aurora.ca](http://www.aurora.ca)  
**Free Admission**

**TD PRESENTS Aurora's 2016 Concerts in the Park**  
7 p.m. to 9 p.m. • Aurora Town Park, 49 Wells Street  
**August 17: Gypsy Kings**  
A tribute to the Gypsy Kings, where Spanish flamenco and Romani rhapsody meet salsa funk.  
**Concerts are Free!**  
Food vendors on site (a nominal fee applies)  
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SATURDAY 11 AM - 11 PM  
SUNDAY 11 AM - 8 PM  
Age of majority from 8 pm to 11 pm  
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We reserve the right to cancel, amend or change activities.  
For health and safety reasons, pets will not be able to experience Aurora's Ribfest, service dogs excepted.  
For inclement weather inquiries, please call 905-726-4762.  
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# Politicians discuss whether deficits stem from “underfunding”

From page 1

and from IES that there are a number of areas where their budgets had been understated for a number of years and this is resulting in them running deficits in their operating groups despite their efforts to try and save and conserve,” said Mr. Elliott. “IES is running deficits in the areas of salaries because they have too much attributed to water costs when the guys actually don’t do that work in water, they do that on roads, so it is charged and then there will be an overspend in the budget.”

Deficits are also coming to light when it comes to energy use and utilities, said Mr. Elliott, despite a costly project begun in the last year’s budget to overhaul Aurora’s street lighting system to LED lights in an effort to save money.

“They have also got part-time staff at their facilities, which is underfunded,” he continued. “They have then turned around and said for some changes they are doing internally they are going to save money for a net offset. They are looking for almost a half a million dollar budgetary step up, net of their savings, which [comes to] \$480,000.

“In Parks and Rec, they’ve got things like their part-time and their contracts for their programming delivery that have been understated by about \$150,000

each and an area on utilities as well for their park lighting which is about \$310,000 total. They have some minor savings to bring it down to \$290,000. We looked around in the legal department, some shuffling around, and another \$10,000 that historically needs to be bolstered with some permanent funding and then we also have a decline in our penalties on tax revenues, so another \$75,000 there.”

When FAC met at the end of July, this financial discrepancy raised questions from Mayor Geoff Dawe and Councillor Michael Thompson, who sit on the committee with Councillors Harold Kim and Tom Mrakas. Although Mr. Elliott referred to the discrepancy as “underfunding”, Mayor Dawe questioned whether it would be more accurate to call it an “understatement.”

“The way I see it, these things have been historically underfunded for a period of years where there has been known discrepancies,” replied Aurora CAO Doug Nadorozny. “Because supplementals (supplementary taxes: money that flows into Town coffers mid-year for a variety of reasons, including re-assessment) in some of the other areas have been consistently high, there wasn’t a burning need to figure out exactly what the right number

should be to get it bang on because we have had that cushion. Council has recently stated that they want to get off those supplementals, not assuming those supplementals are going to come forward – because they eventually [will fall off].

“It is that transition period between relying on supplementals and getting of supplementals that you have to get your numbers really good and really accurate so you are budgeting appropriately. In a couple of the areas that have been identified, it is clear

that over time a misalignment has been allowed to continue because there wasn’t the pressure to fix it. Now, we’re drilling down to figure out what those are, but we are also pushing the departments to find some of the savings alone so that it isn’t at the expense of supplementals or of new revenue that we can figure out some ways to cover those differences.”

Drilling further into the department, he said they found real “imbalances,” a word Mayor Dawe said he “accepted” over “underfunded.”

## Decision on autism motion deferred to Sept.

From page 1

ensure oversight by professionals and parents based on development progress criteria and milestones and adopt new models of delivery.

First introduced to Council at the end of June, the Councillor’s Notice of Motion coincided on the very day the Province reversed its decision to reinstate Intensive Behavioural Intervention (IBI) therapy for those living with Autism after discontinuing it for children over the age of four.

Councillor Humfries calls on the Province to put in place a Direct Funding Offering model where parents receive funding directly in order to purchase services rather than a Direct Service Offering system where kids receive services directly from trained staff at one of Ontario’s nine regional service providers.

“I would like us to endorse this, it is quite serious,” said Councillor Humfries shortly after the Province reversed its decision. “This is the most common neurological disorder affecting one in every 94 children, as well as their friends and their community. It took our community up in arms [to see the decision reversed] and I am personally affected by it through very close friends that we provide parent relief for.

“If we support this, a message will be sent to the Minister of Children and Youth Services, the Minister of Health and Long Term Care, as well as Premier Kathleen Wynne.”

Council deferred the Notice of Motion to last month’s Council meeting at the request of Councillor Wendy Gaertner who said it would be a good idea to get the fine details on the Province’s turnaround.

“There are a lot of good things,” she said. “Then we can congratulate them

for the good things and lobby them for whatever they haven’t put in place.”

As that information had not yet been brought forward by the time of the July Council meeting, the matter was deferred to September, at the request of Mayor Geoff Dawe, to get further information on what needs to do need to be addressed. Although the Mayor said he questioned whether municipal staff would be the right people to bring those suggestions forward, the deferral to next month was carried none the less.

Progressive Conservative leader Patrick Brown also weighed in on the matter when he was in Aurora last month. The PCs took on the issue of IBI therapy as soon as the Province announced its plans earlier this year. Arguing that the decision meant the Province was sending the message that “Autism doesn’t exist past the age of five”, he said he was “disgusted” by the move but “proud” of their party’s work advocating for the reversal.

“Every day at Queen’s Park we brought up stories of children,” said Mr. Brown. “At the beginning of our two-month campaign, the Liberals were saying it was wasted money and it wasn’t needed, that IBI was a waste of time. Then two months later we held the Government in a complete reversal and they announced they were going to fund IBI for kids after five. It shows you the power of politics.


“The Liberals underestimated our determination, they underestimated the determination of (Dufferin-Caledon MPP) Sylvia Jones, who was our caucus point person on this. It shows you the power of politics. Now all those families are not going to be in the dark without service and we are very proud we were able to get a win for those families on this.”

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## After 23 years Lynn Hayzelden, who founded Skaters First in Aurora, will be retiring.



Nancy Sim    Lynn Hayzelden    Lindsay Smith    Deborah Botticella

Over 15,000 skaters have participated in ice skating lessons during this time.

“This has been truly an amazing time in my life. I have met so many wonderful families in our community. I had the opportunity to be the ‘first’ in Aurora to offer power skating, adult programs and special needs lessons in addition to the pre-school and youth programs.”

The success of Skaters First has been due in part to the wonderful staff. The coaches have always shared their love of skating with the students and two skaters made it to the Olympics in figure skating and a couple of other skaters went on to play in the NHL.

The new owners are Deborah Botticella and Lindsay Smith. Deborah has been with Skaters First for 23 years and Lindsay Smith for 7 years. They will continue to provide the excellent programs that you expect from Skaters First.

Skaters First office manager, Nancy Sim, will also be retiring.

“On behalf of Nancy and myself we would like to thank all the skaters and families for your continued support over the years.”

*Lynn Hayzelden*

**TOWN OF AURORA**  
PUBLIC NOTICE

**AURORA**

**SEEKING CITIZEN MEMBER**  
**CANADA 150 AD HOC COMMITTEE**

**Aurora Town Council invites residents to apply to participate as a citizen member of the Canada 150 Ad Hoc Committee.**

The Canada 150 Ad Hoc Committee has been established to make recommendations to Council and provide guidance in the development, promotion, collaboration and implementation of Town of Aurora community events and opportunities in celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Confederation during the year of 2017. Currently, one (1) citizen member is required to fill a vacancy.

**What is the application process?**

Appointment to advisory committees is open to all residents of Aurora, owners of land within the municipality or a tenant of land in Aurora. Applications must be submitted to the Town on the approved application form. Application forms and additional information can be obtained at Aurora Town Hall, the Aurora Public Library or by visiting the Town’s website at [www.aurora.ca/committees](http://www.aurora.ca/committees).

Applications must be addressed to the Deputy Clerk and submitted by email to [pthoma@aurora.ca](mailto:pthoma@aurora.ca), by fax to 905-726-4732 or mailed or hand-delivered to 100 John West Way, P.O. Box 1000, Aurora, ON L4G 6J1. Applications must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, August 26, 2016.

For additional information, please visit [www.aurora.ca/committees](http://www.aurora.ca/committees) or call 905-727-3123, ext. 4227.

Town of Aurora 100 John West Way, Aurora, ON L4G 6J1 | [www.aurora.ca/publicnotices](http://www.aurora.ca/publicnotices)

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**A thanks for community outreach following Fort Mac fire**

Over nine years ago, I left York Region for a new life in Fort McMurray. I was only supposed to stay for six months, but am still here and still loving this wonderful community.

As many of you know, our community was recently devastated by a forest fire nicknamed The Beast. You likely saw those images in the news.

I have never experienced such fear in my life. The shock and disbelief lingers at what we lived through; it shook us to our very core. Now, we continue to struggle while adjusting to the new norm for life here and the challenges of trying to clean up and rebuild.

A few days after the evacuation, I returned to the Region, staying with my mother; a chance to get away from everything, and try and put it all in perspective, coping with the loss of my home and all the treasured mementos it held.

Accompanying mum to various community events in Aurora such as the Rise and Shine Breakfasts, I was fortunate to meet people who had donated to the Canadian Red Cross relief efforts to benefit Fort McMurray.

It was such a pleasure to meet these people and thank them personally as one of the evacuees who has benefited from that effort. Please know those donations, including the funds donated by the Aurora Town Council, have truly helped many people.

I hadn't read a copy of *The Auroran* that first week home and as a result, didn't see the announcement of the benefit concert by the York Regional Police Male Chorus. Had I known, I would have definitely been there, knowing some of the members of that chorus and its co-ordinator, Supt. (Retired) Lowell McClenny.

The speedy and thoughtful organization of this musical benefit and the generosity of those attending were truly appreciated.

The efforts of the Aurora branch of the Royal Canadian Legion to help our local Legion members and families were wonderful.

The photo of our Legion still standing relatively unscathed with Canadian flag still flying while the majority of the community around it burnt to the ground served as a beacon of hope for many.

Putting the culinary touch on your fundraiser was fitting as our Legion does amazing Friday steak nights and a very tasty Sunday brunch. There are even a couple of members aged over 90 who are still active and founding members of the ROMEO Club – Retired Old Men Eating Out.

It was a relief to learn all those senior members were safely evacuated and some are already back.

The generosity, love and support shown by people such as yourselves has been very much appreciated here and gratefully received.

Again, thank you so much.

**Carol Christian  
Fort McMurray, AB**

**On convention appearances**

Appearances.  
Convention oratory.

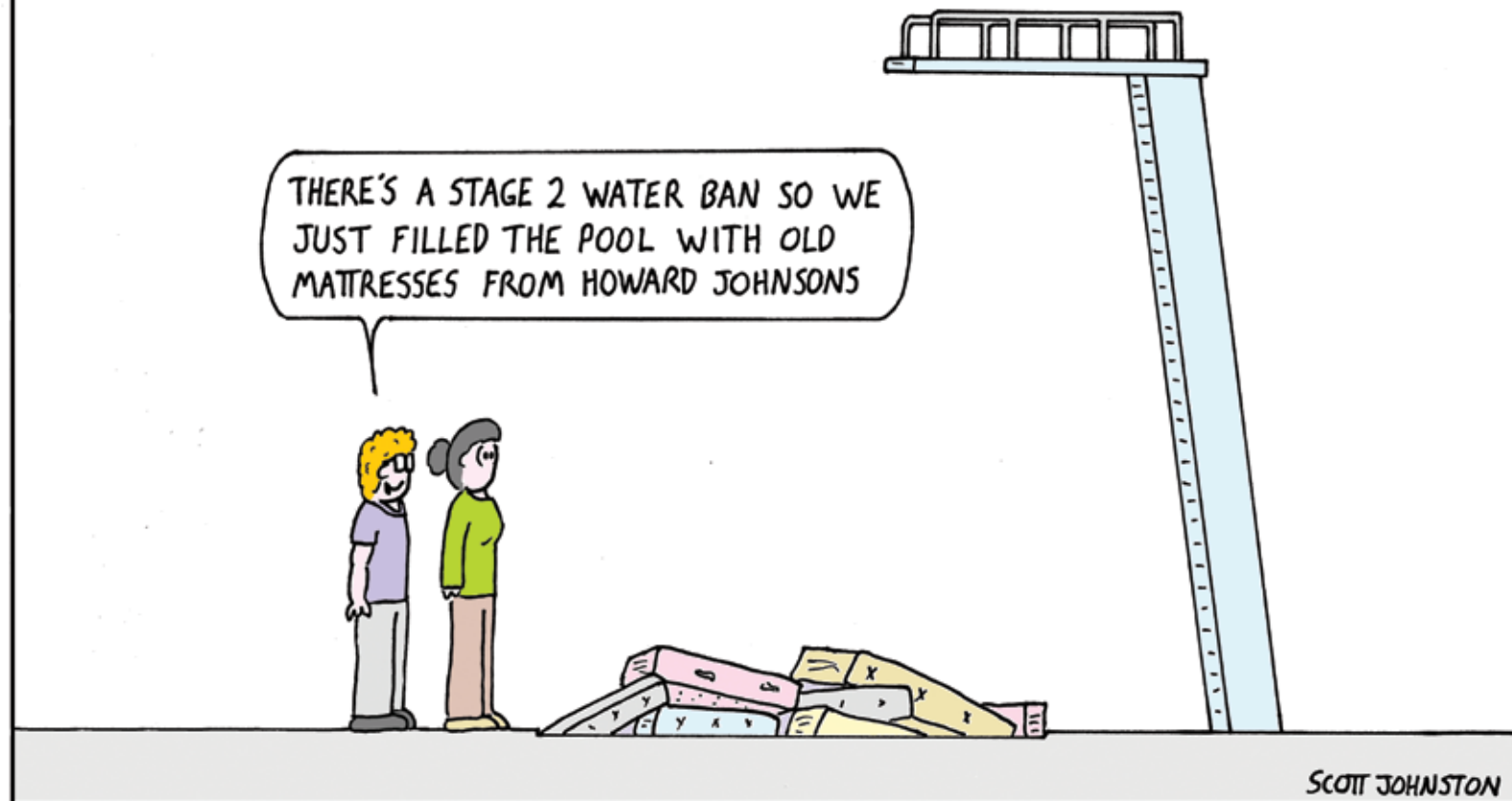
Trump is a combination of Mussolini (sticking his chin out) and Khrushchev (except Trump did not take his shoe off).

**Alex Vander Veen  
Aurora**

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

**Macell's Corners**

**IF THE OLYMPICS WERE HELD IN AURORA:  
THE HIGH DIVE EVENTS**



**It's time to build bridges**



**SENIOR  
SCAPE**

By **CHRISTINA DOYLE**

To those of you who are NOT seniors, I sincerely hope you enjoy this read.

As the temperatures soar and children are off from school, there are holidays planned for some, camps for others. Exams are but a memory so let's take a moment and think of those whose life is not so hurried.

Our seniors are here – spring, summer and fall and winter – in retirement homes, condos, hospitals, nursing homes, and apartments. For many, they live alone.

There were days in my younger years when I wished I was alone, alone from the kids, the job, the ridiculous schedule I kept, constantly searching for the “me time.” How much I tried to find some kind of quiet. In desperation I would go to my bathroom and just take a bath, for just a few minutes, not too far from the children but enough to savour a little peace and some sanity.

Now, as a senior, I wait for my daughter to call, at any time of the day, just to hear her voice. Whether it's about her sometimes frustrating job, her responsibilities or just life in general, it's so good to hear her voice and for her to say, “Hi Mom, how are you?”

I miss her every day and pray that all is well with her. It's her turn to be busy, to say “gosh mom, I have to go, I have a meeting that I am already late for.”

In our community of Aurora, it's time to build a bridge, between you and a senior. These precious souls are just waiting for you to enter their doors and spend but a few moments of your time, to be with them.

Students, please, if you can, go beyond the community hours, make a new friend.

You cannot imagine the good you

will do by giving of your time to our seniors. If you need some good advice, need a history lesson, a lesson on quilting, chess, bridge or even poker, our seniors demonstrate an incredible amount of talent and knowledge.

I can see how much time my mom spends watching TV.

If it wasn't for my frequent calls during the day, I wonder who else she would talk to during her long day. And when those days sometimes come when I cannot come and see her, I call and together on the phone we will watch the Price is Right, sharing some laughs, and making our own bids on the prizes.

We will make predictions as to who is going to win the showcase, all the while I know that she knows she isn't alone, that there is someone who cares about her. It is the best hour of my day spending it with my mother either on the phone or visiting her at her condo or having lunch together.

All of you who are not seniors, if you want to do a good thing I encourage you to visit a senior. I know already many of you volunteer. I have to see the great multitude of volunteers for the numerous causes in which many of you take the time to run, bike and raise funds for needed research in a medical field.

I am a product of research. I survived cancer thanks to you and your good works and Terry Fox.

However, our society has a huge number of seniors in every town and village. They need just a little of our time, to say “Hey, just thought I would

like to sit and chat or have a game of cards with you.”

Look within yourself and see the talents you possess and try and think of how others may truly enjoy and appreciate your gifts.

For that moment, you'll bring such joy and a great healing, a precious moment where they aren't thinking about what ails them, rather the laughter and joy you can give. It just starts with one heart at a time.

As a professional country music singer who no longer plays at bars or festivals, I have been singing for the palliative care at the hospital as part of a Sunday service. You sing a hymn that is familiar to them, and you can see their eyebrows rise or a grin appear on their faces.

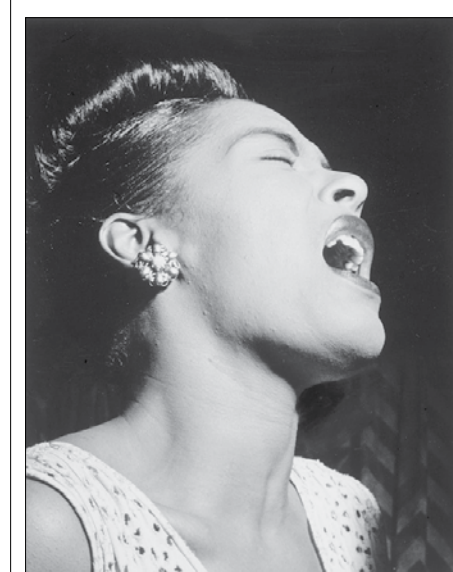
I feel so privileged to be able to sing to them and that isn't always easy at 9 in the morning!

Our communities need bridge builders. So many seniors are widows, who feel so lost without their lifelong partner and friend. They just need a reason to smile again. This July build a bridge with someone, and remember one day you will be a senior. How do you want to live your life?

**Seniors Centre News**

Activities are ongoing during August. Why not play badminton or ladies' pool on Monday mornings? Alternatively, you could play Bid Euchre on Tuesdays or Bridge on Wednesdays. Come out and get involved.

For more information on the Aurora Seniors' Centre and all it has to offer, drop by 90 John West Way, visit the web site [www.auroraseniors.ca](http://www.auroraseniors.ca), e-mail [asa@auroraseniors.ca](mailto:asa@auroraseniors.ca), or call 905-726-4767 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday to Friday.



**One | One  
Book | Aurora**

**Music  
Photography  
Contest**

The Auroran in partnership with **OneBookOneAurora**

Use your creative skills to bring your music experience to the viewer in this One Book One Aurora – inspired photography contest. Get close and intimate at a live performance or introspective with your art as you listen to a favourite piece. Winners to be announced at the Aurora Public Library's Ontario Public Library Week Open House on Monday, October 17th. Winning entries will be featured in The Auroran.

Send your entries labelled “Music Photography Contest” to [brock@auroran.com](mailto:brock@auroran.com)  
1st Prize: two free passes for a movie night AND a hardcopy of Under the Visible Life  
2nd Prize: a hardcopy of Under the Visible Life

Employees/Judges/Board members of APL and their immediate families are ineligible to win.

**THE AURORAN**  
Aurora's Community Newspaper

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



## The Aurora Museum & Archives is celebrating:

Vinyl Record Day  
(Friday August 12th)

Alma Gluck 1910 hit, Song of the Chimes, (music and lyrics by Lola Carrier Worrell) is ready to play on this 1920s La Vola phonograph (76.25.19). It was recorded in Camden, NJ on January 24, 1910 on 10 inch Red Seal single-faced shellac by the Victor Talking Machine Company. Shellac records were replaced by vinyl in the 1950s.



## MARKET MUSINGS

Jan Freedman

Once again, we were blessed with a simply gorgeous day on Saturday at the Farmers' Market. We experienced a slightly chilly start to the day with brisk gusts of wind, but we progressed to a warm, sunny day free of the recent humidity. After a slow start, we had a busy day with everyone in a great mood enjoying the relief from the suffocating heat of recent days.

You will be able to find just about anything that grows in Ontario now, short of the squashes. We still have strawberries, raspberries and blueberries. These have been joined by peaches, apricots, plums and melons. All the leafy greens are available along with broccoli, cauliflower, zucchini, new potatoes of many types, beets, onions, mushrooms, carrots, beans and more. Our two butchers are very busy with requests for something to barbecue to accompany the wonderful assortment of vegetables we offer. Why don't you stock up on your way to the cottage?

Everyone knows that Magna's annual Hoedown is approaching. Every year, several worthwhile groups are chosen to benefit from the funds raised by the Hoedown. This year, the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame is one of those groups and will be alternating with the Optimists at the Market to sell Hoedown tickets.

The Aurora Sports Hall of Fame was established in 2013 by Sport Aurora and with financial support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The ASHoF is a celebration of sport history and excellence, and is dedicated to recognizing the contribution of sport to the Aurora community. As a not-for-profit organization, it is affiliated with Sport Aurora, the Town of Aurora, the Aurora Historical Society, Aurora Museum and Archives, Canada's Sports Hall of Fame and the Canadian Association of Sports Heritage.

The mission of ASHoF is to honour, celebrate, preserve, educate, inspire and share the outstanding contribution of those who have brought recognition to Aurora through sport. The ASHoF selects and inducts worthy members into the Hall, collects and displays sport artifacts that represent the inductee's participation in sport as well as artifacts from other sport activities in town, and publicizes and shares sport history within and outside the town.

The ASHoF is the primary keeper of the rich sport legacy of Aurora. The Hall relies on the financial support of individuals, businesses, and organizations who value sport excellence and who wish to advance the work of the ASHoF. The donations are directed to building and preserving the assets of the Hall as it grows, ensuring that the Hall properly reflects its place in the sport history of Aurora. Supporting the Hall's mission and work effectively helps support their goal of educating and inspiring all the Hall's visitors.

Like our vibrant Farmers' Market, sport is part of the fabric of a healthy community. Sport promotes active lifestyle choices, long-term mental and physical health benefits, social inclusion and community spirit and pride. Sport is a fantastic instrument for engagement and the Hall endeavours to celebrate that key role for individual and community betterment.

In the fall of 2016, the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame is moving from the third floor of Town Hall to new, larger quarters at the Stronach

Continued on page 9

## AURORAN POLL

Following the Republican and Democratic National Conventions last week, which candidate would you support in the U.S. Presidential Race?

A) Hillary Clinton B) Donald Trump C) Other

Go to [www.theauroran.com](http://www.theauroran.com) to vote!

RESULTS TO DATE	A	B	C
August 9, 2016	80%	15%	5%

## A Happening Month

August is known as the "dog days of summer" where the days are long and lazy - and people have a chance to re-connect with their communities and their families. Nonetheless, this August will see many events happening, both globally and locally.

Of course, the Olympics are well underway in Rio - and I must admit I have long been a fan of the Olympics, and especially cheering on our Canadian athletes. This year will be no exception. I was very excited to see Rosie MacLennan, from King City, was chosen as Canada's flag bearer as she enters the Games to defend her Olympic gold medal from the 2012 London Games. I am especially looking forward to cheering on our newest athletes who are, for the first time, experiencing such exciting times. This past weekend I watched as sixteen-year-old Penny Oleksiak made Canadians very proud, winning not one, but two medals in swimming. These events are inspiring for so many young athletes.

On a sadder note, the Tragically Hip will be performing their final tour this summer due to frontman Gord Downie's brain cancer. Their final concert will be in Kingston on August 20. I grew up with the Hip, and like

We're fortunate to have such a varied array of wildlife living here with us in Aurora.

I realize you may question that when hornets take up residence in the soffit above your front door, but in general, it's relaxing to see the groundhogs, ducks, chipmunks, cardinals and all manner of other critters that call our Town home.

Of course, with the abundance of wildlife it is necessary to watch for it when out driving. As cute as a bunny can be, one prefers to see them with their insides on the inside, so to speak.

To prevent excess roadkill, the Town has helpfully installed cautionary animal-related warning signs in some areas. There may be other species represented, but I've seen them for turtles, ducks and geese.

As suggested by the signs I've seen, these usually these appear near water, but there's a lot of water in Town in the form of creeks and ponds, and there are not signs at all of the adjacent roads. It got me thinking how they decide where signs should go.

Presumably they're located along stretches of road that see regular animal crossings. However, there is a sign in my neighbourhood showing a trio of geese.

I've lived in this area many years and pass through that spot probably a hundred times a month at all times of the day in all seasons. In all of the probably couple thousand times I've



## MP's Report

Kyle Peterson, MP  
Newmarket-Aurora

countless Canadians, am sad to see them go. They are Canadian treasures. I have seen them a few times, both in a festival setting and in arenas. They are great performers. I will miss them, but the music will live on.

Locally, Ribfest happens on August 26 -28th to cap off a great summer before many kids head back to school, and I look forward to attending and seeing David Wilcox, Haywire and all of the other great entertainment lined up at Machel Park.

This past month, I was also proud to take part in an announcement on July 21st with the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario. Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development,

the Hon. Navdeep Bains joined us in Newmarket for the \$15 million investment in York University and partners, Southlake Regional Health Centre and the University Health Network. This funding will support the management of chronic disease through developing clinical applications as well as medical devices to improve outcomes for patients, reduce costs for health care providers and create nearly 130 highly skilled, well-paying jobs for Canadians working in this field.

As a thank you to our community and to celebrate a wonderful summer, I will be hosting a barbecue on August 21st from 1:00 pm to 3:30 p.m. at Fairy Lake, Newmarket. I encourage you to drop by and say hello. It is always a fantastic opportunity to get out of the office and speak with so many great people in our community.

As a reminder, you can reach out to my office and my staff at any time. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you need any information or help.

We are located at 16600 Bayview Avenue, Suite 202. You can reach us at 905-953-7515 or by email at Kyle.Peterson@parl.gc.ca.

## Critter Crossing



## Inside Aurora

Scott Johnsoton

been through there, I've never once seen a goose.

Perhaps this is reminiscent of a situation that occurred on my in-laws rural street some time ago. There was herd of deer in the area, and one seemed to be hit by a car every week or so.

Eventually, the municipality relented to all the calls for a deer crossing sign and installed one along that stretch of road. To my knowledge there were never any deer hit after that, but no one saw them in the area anymore either, so I think that "success" may be more based on the fact that by that stage there weren't any deer left to hit, than due to the effectiveness of the sign.

Perhaps that's what's happened near me with the geese. Maybe at one point there were some, but they all got picked off, and by the time the sign was installed, that local population was extinct.

Either that, or they have developed

some sort of avian cloaking technology.

Apart from sign location, I'm also curious about what critters go on a sign. There is no end of wildlife in York Region, and most of it must cross a road at some point.

Why don't we see signs for squirrel crossing, or for toads, or other animals we see in Town? Certainly, raccoons seem to be the most common casualties, so should warrant a sign or two. Perhaps ducks and geese have better lobby groups?

But I guess there are other implications. If we had signs for every potential species, you'd never see any scenery when driving other than a solid wall of orange hazard signs.

As for the cost to produce, install and maintain so many signs, that would be a big budget item for the Town right up there with funds allocated to lawsuits, and studies for Library Square.

Bottom line; there can't be signs everywhere, and not every species can be represented, so you may not be aware that wildlife is prone to running out along certain stretches of road.

While that may not cause too much concern if it's a chipmunk, it could be something that has a greater physical impact, like a deer, or a skunk.

So keep an eye out.

Feel free to e-mail Scott at:  
[machellscorners@gmail.com](mailto:machellscorners@gmail.com)



Two year old Nikita samples some free black currants at the Aurora Farmers' Market. The Market convenes every Saturday on Wells Street and in Town Park from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Auroran photo  
by Brock Weir

# Heritage committee members concerned about moving local landmark

**From page 1**  
the site and that would require moving the Red House forward, closer to Yonge Street and that would clear up the plateau of land which would allow for some development in behind," said Ms. Vattay. "Scenario number two comes about because there is an agreement in place to purchase the adjacent property to the

north and the building could be relocated there, freeing up new areas to be developed on the plateau area and separating the designated building from this new development, all the while addressing the environmental sensitivities on the site as well."

While Ms. Vattay conceded she understood there might be "some hesitation" over the relocation of the building both from philosophical and logistical standpoints, she showed several examples of work their company has completed across southern Ontario, including the relocation of a historic mansion in the heart of Downtown Toronto.

"There are pros and cons to both scenarios that I would like you to think about," she told the Committee. "The cons of having it on site is it is very hard to successfully introduce a larger building behind a heritage house. The pros and cons of moving it to Old Yonge Street, the con is it is losing its original location but the pros are many because it could be returned to a residential use and there are many options of designing an addition."

Stakeholders came to the Committee in this early stage to collect feedback to shape their plan and members didn't disappoint with some members saying moving the building was an inevitability, while others were either firmly opposed or leaving the door open for future talks.

"My preference would be not to move it," said committee member Martin Paivio. "It has presence and I think it

would be a shame to have it moved."

Added fellow member Barry Bridgford: "I would like to see it retain its visual relationship to Yonge Street. One of your proposals would keep it in more or less a visual line. It could be closer to Yonge Street, but it would be occupying more or less the same position from Yonge Street. The other proposal of moving it north I am aghast at because it is no longer in its traditional historical context. I have this leery thought of moving that delicate old masonry house even westward that short distance."

This was a concern shared by Councillor Jeff Thom, Chair of the Heritage Advisory Committee, citing a number of recent examples over the course of the past two years where the moving or partial demolition of a heritage structure has led to issues resulting in the buildings being damaged and ultimately written off.

"It almost sounds too good to be true that you can move it and there are never any problems, but in that short time as a committee this year we have had some problems," he said. "We're constantly

barraged with the need for intensification, and I can appreciate that. The Province puts immense pressure on municipalities to conform, but we do also have these designations and the Ontario Heritage Act that allow us to set aside properties that should remain as they are and have great historical value."

Ms. Vattay and her associates offered several examples of successful moves, noting that this one would be done right.

"Because the heritage part of this development is a sensitive issue [it was recommended] that we do communicate with this committee early on so that we can get that feedback before it is designed onto paper, which then seems more set," she said. "We're doing that to make you part of the plan."

This was an aspect, in particular, that appealed to Councillor Wendy Gaertner.

"This is a very significant opportunity for us," said Councillor Gaertner. "Thank you for including us so early in the process so hopefully we can have some meaningful input and that we can all be pleased at the end of the day, which would be best."

## Family who called Oakland Hall home concerned about proposed move

By Brock Weir

The first time Andy McClure arrived at the house that is now known as Oakland Hall, he wandered off to the garage, leaving his parents Donald and Dorothy wondering where he had run off to.

When he emerged, they asked him what he was doing and he said "I was playing with the little girl." There was, however, no little girl.

By the time they moved into their new home in 1968, however artist Dorothy Clark McClure had her own run-in with the little girl in the front parlour.

Apparition or not, the ghostly little girl's connection to the historic home, otherwise known as The Red House Studio has been lost over the 180 years of time that has passed since it was first constructed, but Andy, his sister Kelly and their brother Chris – and indeed their father, Donald – are living stitches in the tapestry of this unique corner of Aurora.

Chris and Donald were not quite as open to the idea of ghosts as the other family members were, with Chris saying he pooh-poohed the whole idea, but the siblings laugh recalling coming home from a trip with their mother to find their dad, who was staying home by

himself, with a shotgun by the bed after hearing a party of yore echoing from the stairs.

Having grown up in the house, they are concerned about proposals to lift the building and move it closer to Yonge Street on the same lot, or to an adjacent lot just north of the property, to make way for a new development that is likely to be a condominium complex.

"I can tell you exactly what mom would be saying right now," says Andy.

"She would be saying a lot, let me tell you!" Kelly interjects. "She would be saying that, historically, what happens in this moment is the plan is to move the house or relocate it, but something happens: a wall falls down, there's a fire, a crane swings to the left and it hits something, and it is just torn down. It is not anyone's fault, but that's the way it is."

Patting a faded red brick near the historical plaque showing the building's designation, Chris offers a similar sentiment.

"This is old community kiln brick with mortar and it is kind of like lifting a stack of pancakes with one finger," he says. "Logistically, we're wondering if it is possible."

"Mom would be worried that it won't

Continued on page 7



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# Doors Open Aurora 2016 Event

By Jeff Healey  
Town of Aurora

The Aurora Rising Sun Masonic Lodge located at 57 Mosely Street is one of the Doors Open Aurora 2016 sites.

The Masonic Lodge served as the Methodist Episcopal Church from the time of its construction in 1877 until it was sold to the Masons in 1885.

On December 5, 1877, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Aurora officially opened its doors and held its first dedicated service on Sunday, December 16, 1877. From 1877 to 1885, the building served as a church with A.T. Ferguson as the congregation's first pastor. It was part of the King Circuit of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1885, the Methodist Episcopal Church united with the Wesleyan Methodist Church and moved into the United Church on Yonge Street. That same year, the congregation decided to sell the property to the Masons, who began to use it as their lodge hall.

Originally, the Masons' old hall, built c. 1866, was located at the rear of the Ough property on Centre Street in 1897. The Anglican Church purchased the old Masonic Hall and relocated it for use as their parish hall.

The interior is an exceptional example of Masonic architecture in Ontario. The pictures displayed at the entrance are of the Lodge Masters that have served the lodge since 1860. Many

## Former owners reminisce about Oakland Hall

From page 6

get to the place it is supposed to."

"Mom" certainly had a strong connection to the house. The late Aurora artist told *The Auroran* shortly before her death that she was always "one step ahead of the wrecking ball" when it came to documenting heritage buildings in the area with her paint brush and sepia pens.

She and her former husband Donald secured the house after first laying eyes on it in 1967. In a brief history of the building, she wrote about first seeing the house on a painting excursion and the beautiful house on the hill taking her breath away.

"We were invited inside the house and a curious thing happened," Dorothy wrote. "I immediately fell in love and announced, 'You are living in my house!' to the puzzled owner, Mr. Holland. Then, another strange thing occurred somewhat later when a car with a lady driver stopped in front of our home in King and she offered \$25,000 in cash for it, even though there was no For Sale sign. She didn't even look inside."

Then, a few days later, Mr. Holland called The McClures offering it to them for \$25,000 plus a mortgage. Dorothy described it as "some kind of divine intervention."

The Hollands were just one of a series of families since the land was first purchase by Reuben Burr in 1805. The home, which some historians speculate has been incorporated into the present structure, was bought by Thomas Cosford, and it changed hands several more times before being purchased by George Leacock, brother of the humourist Stephen.

"The person who built the house,



of the masters were also the founding builders of Aurora. The artwork in the lodge room on the west wall was painted by Ms. Stevenson, a wife of a lodge member, in 1902.

One should take note of the numerous symbols like the rising sun in the large medallion at the

east end symbolizes the beginning of the day and the Masonic all seeing eye represents the eye of God that oversees our life's actions.

At the top of the hall are three framed documents that symbolize the 1860 issuing of The Rising Sun Lodge's charter. Finally, the floor area, referred as the Masonic pavement, has contrasting colours that symbolize the uncertainty of life. This Masonic Lodge is associated with The Rising Sun Masonic Lodge, one of the oldest, if not the oldest, fraternal organizations in Aurora and the world.

The Town of Aurora is proud to present the Aurora Rising Sun Masonic Lodge as a Doors Open Aurora 2016 site. Make sure to visit Aurora Rising Sun Masonic Lodge from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, August 20 to learn more.

For more information about Doors Open Aurora, to volunteer for the event, and to print a copy of the Doors Open Aurora 2016 Map Guide, please visit [www.aurora.ca](http://www.aurora.ca) and click on the Doors Open icon on the front page.

Thomas Cosford, was a carriage maker and carpenter," muses Andy. "That is a craftsman and mom and dad are both craftspeople. They care about the quality of the way things are made and they have always instilled in us that details matter and the finish matters. It is one of those things that is not so prevalent in our contemporary culture, but you could always see that here."

The siblings home that continues, whatever the future holds for the Red House and Oakland Hall.

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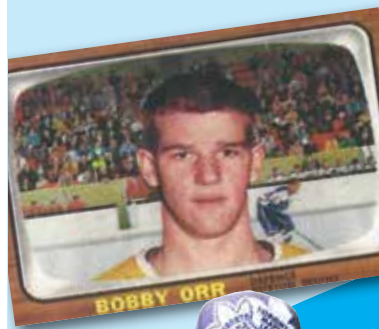
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# 100 Men Who Give A Damn keep it simple for a good cause

By Brock Weir

Frankly, dear readers, they do give a damn – and next month 100 of them plan on coming together to give one unsung local charity 10,000 reasons to smile.

Just ask representatives from Doane House Hospice who, this past spring, were the first benefactors of the inaugural meeting of the Newmarket-Aurora chapter of 100 Men Who Give a Damn. An offshoot of the growing “100 Women Who Care” movement, both organizations bring together people from the community with a commitment of bringing \$100 to each meeting. The end goal is to raise \$10,000 in just one hour for the charity or cause of their choice.

“When somebody told me about this thing where you could make a difference in an hour, it resonated with me,” says Michael Smith, a founding member of the local 100 Men Who Give A Damn movement. “There are some charities that scramble and claw just to keep the lights on and I think sometimes we forget about that.”

Ahead of each quarterly meeting, members are invited to nominate the charity of their choice. A week before the gathering, the nominations are thrown in a hat, three contenders are pulled, and representatives from each respective charity are invited to come and make a pitch on the work they do in the

community and how they are prepared to spend the \$10,000 likely to be raised once the members vote.

“This came out of the blue for a lot of people and at our first meeting we only had about 40 people there,” says Mr. Smith. “We only gave them two and a half weeks’ notice and that was kind of on purpose; I wanted to have an organic groundswell.

“We explained the guidelines – and we call them guidelines because guys hate rules – and number one is we’re all here for the same reason of giving back. Number two, if you can’t come but you have committed, find a wingman and make sure they bring your money. Number three, majority rules. Where this speaks to most men is you can put your own personal flair on it. Guys hate meetings, so keep it simple, keep it transparent, keep it local, and keep it to scenarios where I think a lot of great charities get eclipsed by some of the bigger ones.”

Another guideline is they have to give it to one charity decided by the majority and there is “no backing out.” At their last meeting, however, halfway through counting the donations, a member who chooses to remain anonymous, came up to Mr. Smith and said, “No one is coming out of here without any money. Here is \$3,000.”

So, at the end of the night, Doane

House Hospice received funding for their arts programs, as did Belinda’s Place, the Newmarket shelter for single women in York Region, and the Jennifer Ashley Children’s Charity, which helps seriously ill children and their families with special treatment needs, medical expenses, and financial assistance in times of need.

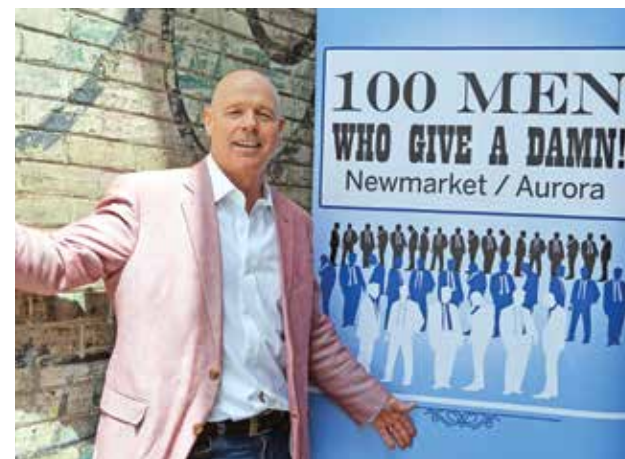
“As people walked out of the room that night, all I heard was, ‘I get it now. I have three friends I’m bringing,’” recalls Mr. Smith. “I think 100 Men Who Give A Damn resonates with people and it can only grow. It means we can have more impact with more charities.”

“I would suggest there are people out there who have never had the opportunity to give and never thought they would have much of an impact. One hundred bucks times one hundred guys

has impact. That is the reason why I do it, but why do I give a damn? It is my home. When we started our business, my partner and I concurred in basic core values: help and never do anything you wouldn’t do for your own mum and dad.

“You’ve got to do it in your community, otherwise you wait for someone else to do it and you will never get it done. Here, the math is simple, it’s quick, it’s transparent, there’s no admin cost and it’s local. If you want to have an impact on a local basis in a very short period of time, 100 men times 100 bucks is great math.

*The next meeting of 100 Men Who Give A Damn will take place at Aw, Shucks! on September 22. For more information on the group, visit [www.facebook.com/groups/100menwhogiveadamna](http://www.facebook.com/groups/100menwhogiveadamna).*



Local businessman Mike Smith, founding member of the Newmarket-Aurora chapter of 100 Men Who Give A Damn says the testosterone-fuelled offshoot of the 100 Women Who Care movement provides local men to make a significant difference in just one hour.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

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# Jim Irvine liked to be ahead of the futuristic curve

By Brock Weir

Technology changing at a rapid pace is nothing new.

It has moved along at a good clip since the dawn of the Industrial Revolution, kicking into high gear about 50 years ago as communications evolved at a breakneck speed.

This was something that excited Jim Irvine, co-founder of Aurora Cable (later Aurora Cable Internet, or ACI) in his over 40 years at the helm of the uniquely Aurora company before it was sold to Rogers Communications.

But Mr. Irvine, who lost his battle with cancer at the age of 87 this spring, also knew the value of being a big fish in a small pond.

If you are an Auroran of a certain age, chances are you remember Mr. Irvine coming to your door with a live cable wire trailing behind him. According to his daughter, Linda, he would drag this along with him to make his well-known sales pitch to Aurora residents who were still enjoying their three channels via their TV antenna.

Before he hooked it up to their television sets, potential customers were skeptical, she says.

“The classic thing was, ‘Why would I pay for something that I can get from my antenna for free?’” Linda recalls with a laugh. “Then he would attach the cable to their television and show seven whole channels! The he would say, ‘That’s why you would pay for it.’”

Linda, who worked alongside her dad at ACI until they sold the company to Rogers, says he bought into the company in 1965 when a friend said they had the infrastructure for the company in place but were at a loss at

how to sell their product. He bought in for a third of the company and the family moved to Aurora in 1967.

“We were independent because he wanted to be his own boss, I am convinced of that,” says Linda. “We were independent because he could provide a better product than anyone else who was trying to buy him. We were independent because it was his baby. He helped build it up from the ground up of nobody having cable in Aurora to 95 per cent of people in Town having cable and I think that was very important.”

Before the Irvines sold up to Rogers, technology was changing every six months. That is something Linda says “excited” her father as there were so many potential products and services that could be rolled out.

“He knew these things were coming and he was visionary in that kind of way,” she says. “He just got technology even though he didn’t know how it was going to evolve. He just knew that something could happen with whatever the cable was bringing into the house.”

“When you have a smaller infrastructure, it is far easier to upgrade all of your equipment to a faster unit. When you become a Rogers, you can deploy it in certain markets. He wanted it always to be a manageable thing. We had many instances where we could have expanded out to King City, and we had the Oak Ridges portion of Richmond Hill, but Dad said, ‘That’s too much. Let’s just stay where we are’ and he concentrated on being the best he could be in a smaller venue.”

Eventually, however, the time



Leonard James “Jim” Irvine

came to sell. After resisting multiple overtures, he relented when his wife Shirley, who rarely waded into the business realm said it was time. That, says Linda, made him sit up and take notice.

“He toyed with the idea in the last 10 to 15 years and he really tried to understand why [he should sell, arguing], ‘I’m getting all this money, and then I would have to invest money into something I believe in and, oh, that would be cable TV.’ But, he just grabbed onto retirement and we had a blast.”

At the end of the day, Jim Irvine was all about people, she says. Every Sunday the family would gather for a large-scale family dinner that rivaled Christmas and Thanksgiving spreads, and the honorary family extended well into the community.

In retirement, their shared passion was golf.

Mr. Irvine was laid to rest June 17 following a service at Trinity Anglican Church.



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**From page 5**

Aurora Recreation Centre (SARC). This new, more accessible location will feature interactive and larger displays of the celebration of sport in Aurora. Be sure to visit the new location.

The Farmers’ Market’s next Special Event is our popular Community Corn Roast on Aug. 20. We have invited the Mayor and Town Councillors to assist in roasting and serving the corn to the public. There will be a fabulous band playing at the Bandshell, corn-y

crafts for the children, a draw for a Market bag plus more. At 11 a.m., Mayor Dawe will be distributing Town of Aurora Volunteer Awards to six of our long term members. Please join us for this exciting event. See you at the Market!

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**MARKET MUSINGS**

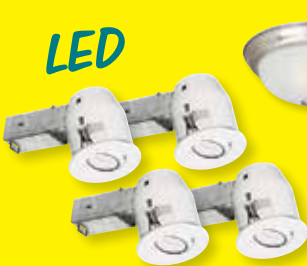
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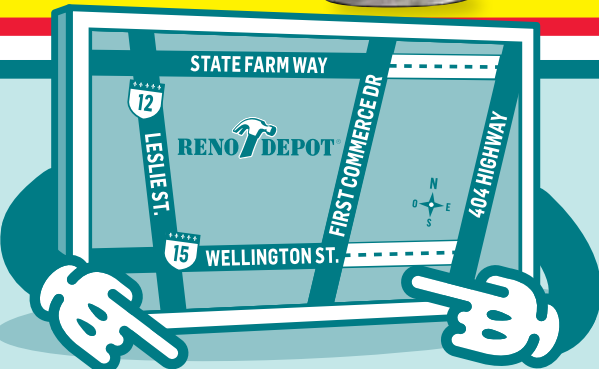


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# THE AURORAN ARTS & CULTURE

## Local author charts recipes and traditions of Italian immigrant life with *Si Mangia!*

By Brock Weir

Luciana Longo stood off to the side as she watched her parents perform a

“ritual” she grew up with.

Her mother gathered mason jars and got them ready for the big moment, while her father set the traditional tables and machinery for the task ahead. It was Labour Day weekend, a traditional time for Italian immigrant families to gather and make their stores of tomato sauce for the year ahead. It is the perfect time of year when the tomatoes are at the peak of their flavour, and each family has their own tradition on how to achieve that perfect blend.

But, as Luciana watched the scene so familiar to her unfold, she leaned in to get a closer look.

“I noticed my parents were getting older and if they were to pass away I really wouldn’t know how to go about making tomato sauce from Step A to Step Z because even though I had participated in this ritual for so many years, I would usually wake up when they had already started.

“In that moment, I noticed this was not just about making tomato sauce; it was about their deep sense of connection with the land, and I wanted to capture that.”

The result is “Si Manigia! Memories, Lessons and Recipes from Italian Immigrant Life,” a new cookbook by Ms. Longo, a first-time author.

As a child, Ms. Longo says she grew up with a mother who loves to cook.

Author Luciana Longo shows off her book *Si Mangia!* in her Aurora kitchen.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir



While spending time in Italy with her grandmother, she learned how to make some of the more traditional Italian dishes, pasta from scratch, and old recipes handed down orally from generation to generation, but it took her a long time to realise these traditions needed to be set down on paper.

Children of Italian immigrants don’t grow up eating a lot of junk food in the house so, when she was a teen, she freely admits to becoming a bit rebellious with her eating habits, turning to Chef Boyardee, for instance, to stave off hunger – “to Italians, eating anything out of a can is a foreign concept” – but came back around to healthy eating in her 20s.

“As I started to record the recipes, memories started to emerge of just being the child of Italian immigrants and most of those involved either the preparation, cultivation or preservation of food,” she recalls. “I started to record some of the memories that came out of that and while I did so, a deeper layer emerged in that I saw themes in these stories. The themes led to my dividing the book into 10 chapters, each centred on a particular lesson that emerged.

“They all revolved around the joys of community, interdependence, and the themes also revolved around finding gratitude in simple things. Most Italian immigrants came here to escape the poverty of their childhoods. They grew up in postwar Italy and had humble means when they got here, but in the stories I found they really found a sense of joy in simple things like family gatherings and family dances, and different rituals involving the celebration of food.”

Once a year, for instance, Ms. Longo says her parents hike into the local forest gathering edible mushrooms for the day. The bounty they bring home turns into a celebration, inviting friends and relatives over to share in the harvest.

One year, Ms. Longo says she attempted a vegetable garden and, looking back she realised she didn’t actually share the tomatoes with anyone, whereas her mother would have taken the best of the crop, loaded up her basket, and loaded down the neighbours with fresh, vine-ripened goodies.

“I realised as I was writing the book that there is a life lesson for me,” she says. “I started to do that and made a conscious effort to connect with my neighbours as my parents did. The core message I wanted to deliver was the sense of community I think many of us long for, especially if we grow up in a suburban environment and our lives revolve mainly in the private realm. I hear a lot of people longing for a sense of community and I think the proliferation of social media is symbolic of that.

“I have had an amazing response [to the book] from my family and some of my relatives were actually in tears. One of my cousins thanked me for capturing their childhood because they could relate. The interesting thing is many of my readers are non-Italians and they could also relate. I think from a social history perspective, the story of the Italians also captures the spirit of a time when people lived in villages and people from other countries could relate to these practices.

“Some of the recipes might seem a little daunting, but most of the recipes are fairly straightforward. I think one of the beauties of Italian cuisine is it is very simple to prepare. Homemade pasta takes some time to learn, but the rest is really quite simple and based on a few fresh quality ingredient. I hope anyone who feels they would like to experiment with Italian cuisine will feel inspired to do so.”

*Si Mangia!* is available now at [www.lucianalongo.ca](http://www.lucianalongo.ca) or via [amazon.ca](http://amazon.ca).

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Courtesy of the Aurora Museum and Archives

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Thank you to Magna Hoedown for supporting this exhibition.



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# Theatre Aurora gets seriously fun with new theatre school



Richard Varty, Director of Theatre Aurora's Young Company, leads aspiring actors and dancers through a movement exercise, which was filmed for a commercial to promote their new Theatre School.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

By Brock Weir

Getting up on stage and singing your heart out is one thing, but putting on an entire production is something else entirely.

But, behind the scenes work is just as important as what's happening on stage and, this fall, local kids can get a taste of both – and maybe find their professional niche – as Theatre Aurora launches its new Theatre Aurora Young Company.

A youth component has been part of Theatre Aurora's mandate almost since its inception half a century ago, but new directors of the Young Company are working on a new curriculum that will be launched this September that will give students a full flavour of everything it takes to put on a show – a more serious take to what's been going on, perhaps, but one that is seriously fun.

"We really wanted to emphasize the development of skills in this theatre school as opposed to just putting them into a performance," says Kim A. Reihe, the new director of the TA Theatre School, Young Company, and Theatre Kids. "The hope is that some or most of these kids will eventually go onto post-secondary work or in a professional career. There is always a building of their skills, so as we go through the entire year they won't be starting at the base where they started before. We will improve on their particular skill.

"We are in the process of writing our curriculum right now and what we're going to do every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., the first two hours will be workshop and skills development and from 1 – 3 p.m. we will actually have rehearsals for a full length production which this year will be A Christmas Story. We're trying to align the skills they learn in the morning and [put them into action] in the afternoon during rehearsal so there is a direct correlation between what they learn and how to apply

it."

Last week, Mr. Reihe, along with Richard Varty, Director of the Young Company, and director Sophia Bengall were on site as film crews shot a new commercial advertising the school with some of this past season's members of the Young Company.

Richard was on stage with the kids putting them through their paces as the crew filmed a movement exercise, familiar terrain for the director.

"As soon as I was done post-secondary, I found myself going out for auditions and professional parts and I didn't realise I wasn't trained nearly as well as I should have been to be thrown out into such a crazy field," says Richard. "There are experiences I have garnered over the last couple of years that I want to pass onto young and emerging artists to they are more prepared for the world that I wasn't!

"We're hoping to give audition workshops so they are a little bit more prepared for that, along with script analysis and things they can take with them as they move on with their lives, whether they want to stick with the arts or not. They are very handy skills they can bring into whatever professional capacity they are into."

They also want to stress the fact, he says, that the end result will be a completely student-run production. They want to teach from the very start that young artist can be directors or lighting board operators, not just actors and people on the stage. They will be able to independently produce their own theatre, not just taking a script in hand and being told where to stand.

"It is taking their own work and adding their own creative flavour to it," he says.

Adds Sophia: "We're trying to make it a bit more formal in training but, with that said, theatre should always be fun, especially when you are working with kids or youth. You want them to be having a good time. Part of our program is to get them to

feel comfortable amongst one another and to be able to let loose and be silly on stage, or whoever wants to be on stage. It is going to be more formal training, but we don't want to call it 'more formal' in the sense of it being rigid or less fun than it would have been."

This year's Theatre School will have three sessions, the first one running from

September 24 through December 22, which is the final evening of performance after 12 weeks of workshops and rehearsals.

A winter/spring section will run from January to May and include introducing young artists to drama festivals.

For more information, visit [www.theatreaurora.com](http://www.theatreaurora.com).

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## Aurora United FC sides blanked at Sheppard's Bush



Aurora's Sarah Stratigakis dribbles around a Vaughan defender in Aurora United's 2-0 loss to Vaughan Azzurri at Sheppard's Bush on Sunday.

By Jake Courtepatte

Neither side of the semi-pro Aurora United Football Club could find the back of the net in a full day of action Sunday at Sheppard's Bush.

The Aurora women fell victim to the Vaughan Azzurri 2-0, while the men followed up with a similar 2-0 loss to the Sanjaxx Lions.

It was a tougher matchup for the women's squad, who were up against the recently-crowned League 1 Cup champs, a season-long knockout tournament that culminated last week.

"It was a little bit of a test for us against the Cup-winning team," said Aurora head coach Arman Mohammadi. "And I think we were able to show that we are able to play and compete against them. They had that motivation to go with them and I can't say if there was anything else in it. I feel it was a pretty balanced 90 minutes."

Aurora kept Vaughan off the board until the 39th minute of play, when Ashley Nater sailed in a long strike past Aurora keeper Marissa Zucchetto.

They doubled their lead after 65 minutes and held the game scoreless the rest of the way.

"First half, it was a little bit of a struggle for us to try and get our little momentum into the game and Vaughan did a good job of pressing in our half," said Mohammadi. "But second half I think we dealt with it a little bit. We informed the girls a little bit of what we wanted to do to change that and I think we created a lot of chances so we had momentum."

"Unfortunately we weren't able to score and in football, if you don't score,

the other team will put the ball in the back of your net."

The men's side followed up by giving Sanjaxx the early lead, a corner kick that was converted in close. Sanjaxx put Aurora away for good with under four minutes to go.

Though showing flashes of brilliance from some All-Star players throughout the season, both the men and women of AUFC have struggled to find their footing in their inaugural season of League 1 football.

Sunday's loss was a crucial blow to the Aurora women, who will need to put up a combination of wins and ties in their final three regular season games to have any hope of moving up the standings ladder.

Aurora sits seventh in the nine-team league, five points back of both North Mississauga FC and the Kingston Clippers. Next Saturday's challenging match with Durham United FA (7-1-3) could be the decider, as the women close out the season at home against the two lower-ranked teams, the Sanjaxx Lions (1-10-0) and Darby FC (1-8-2).

The men's side sits one point up on Scarborough's Masters Futbol for seventh in League 1's East division.

The final three games of the season are a three-way battle for sixth between the two and Toronto Skillz FC, currently three points up on Aurora. The rest of the East has locked in a winning season against the three.

Aurora's final road game of the season will be Sunday at 3pm against the Oakville Blue Devils (5-6-3) before contests at Sheppard's Bush the following two weekends hosting the Kingston Clippers (7-3-5) and Durham United FA (8-3-2).

## Aurora man cycles 200 kilometres for cancer research

By Jake Courtepatte

Michael Cornacchia had to take a big first step when he first signed up for a two-day, 200-kilometre charity bike ride two years ago.

He had to buy a bike.

The Aurora resident completed the 2016 Enbridge Ride to Conquer Cancer in late June for the second time. Participants ride from Toronto to Niagara Falls in support of Princess Margaret Cancer Centre.

"I know some very avid cyclists, where 200 kilometres wouldn't be much for them," said Cornacchia. "But for somebody who doesn't cycle it can be quite a challenge."

After some minor training, he admitted that taking to the road for the first time in 2015 was "a bit nerve-racking," and the heat during the 2016 Ride didn't make it much easier.

"It's just really satisfying when you reach the finish line though."

Cornacchia first became involved with the event through his sister-in-law, who introduced him to "Team Lindsay" a few years ago, a team that has grown to over 20 members and raises thousands each year.

"I went to the finish line three years ago," said Cornacchia, "and saw her cross and thought 'hey, this is something I could maybe do.'"

Team Lindsay started with only six members eight years ago. The team was named after a Toronto woman who was diagnosed with brain cancer when she was eight months pregnant. Lindsay was able to cycle a portion of the ride last year for the first time, crossing the finish line with her family and friends.

Two out of five Canadians will be diagnosed with cancer in their

lifetime. Every day, 539 Canadians will be diagnosed with cancer and 214 will die from the disease. The Ride brings together communities of riders, survivors and their supporters for one common goal - to conquer cancer in this lifetime.

Cornacchia is one of the millions of Canadians to personally be affected by the disease. When he was 20-years-old, he lost his mother to breast cancer.

Though the ride may still be new to the non-cyclist, he's taken part in the plethora of charities across Ontario that benefit the cause since her passing.

"I've done the CIBC Run for the Cure, and I've always been involved," he said. "So I guess I just thought this would be fun to do, but also something to challenge myself while also working towards a greater cause."

As Canada's largest cycling fundraiser, the Ride to Conquer Cancer has raised over \$155 million for cancer research across the province since 2008.

To raise such a massive amount of funds, the preparation for next year's ride begins the minute the riders step off their bikes.

Team Lindsay puts on a number of events throughout the year, like 50/50 draws, a bowling night, garage sales and a successful annual boat cruise on Lake Ontario.

Cornacchia said the team is always open for more recruits willing to join, as well as sponsorship opportunities.

"We're just looking for other people, and corporations and businesses that want to work with us to help us out with these events."

A link to Cornacchia's 2017 fundraising page can be found by searching for his name under the "Donate" section of [www.conquercancer.ca](http://www.conquercancer.ca).



Michael Cornacchia of Aurora was one of over 4,000 participants in June's Ride to Conquer Cancer, pictured here at the event with fellow rider Jennifer Kelleway.

Photo provided by Michael Cornacchia.

## Rare grand slam highlights Jays' first round sweep of Indians

By Jake Courtepatte

One of the rarest feats in the game of baseball went down at Lambert Wilson Park in Aurora last Tuesday.

Down three runs to the Midland Indians in the bottom of the seventh inning of the North Dufferin Baseball League playoff opener, the Aurora Jays' Chris Fafalios knocked a walk-off grand slam out of the park to win the game by one run, known as an "ultimate grand slam."

In a tight 2-2 game heading into the top of the sixth inning, the Indians blew up the score with four runs plated, holding onto a 6-2 lead into the seventh. With a new pitcher on the mound for the final inning, the Jays loaded the bases off reliever Ryan

Beckett and cashed in on a sacrifice fly for a three-run game.

They followed up with a walk, before Fafalios slammed what manager Rob Wilson called a "no doubter" to left centre field for a 7-6 win.

Only 28 players in the history of Major League Baseball have accomplished an ultimate grand slam.

The thrilling win was the kickoff of an eventual sweep for the Jays in the best-of-three series, who entered the first round as underdogs.

Knocking off the Indians on their home turf Thursday by a score of 9-5, they returned Saturday to book their ticket to the semifinal round with a 9-0 shutout.

Wilson said their win over Midland

was reminiscent of the Jays' upset by the Orangeville Giants last season, also in the first round.

"They had a solid season like we did a year ago, and like Orangeville did to us last year, we managed to spoil a strong season with a round one 'upset'. Midland is a great club and it took our best three-game set of the season to beat them."

As the sixth-ranked team heading to the second round, the Jays biggest challenge of the entire postseason perhaps comes this week.

They will face the first-place New Lowell Knights, who swept their series against the Bolton Dodgers by a combined score of 32-4.

The Knights lost just four games over the

26-game season, but Wilson said his team will head into the semis "with confidence."

"Round one really ignited a fire in our club. After a regular season where it felt like we never had all the cylinders firing in sequence, now it feels like everything is clicking. To see our pitching and offense start to reach potential, overshadowing some great defensive plays is encouraging."

Coming off a shutout by New Lowell early in the season, the Jays season finale featured a 9-0 stomping of the Knights.

Despite being annual contenders, the Jays are still in search of their first Strother Cup championship.

The schedule is yet to be released, as the first round continues, but a tentative starting date is set for this Saturday.



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## COMING EVENTS

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 11

**DISCOVERY DAYS FOR KIDS AND THE AHS:** Join the Aurora Historical Society for our summer children's program Discovery Days for Kids! Each day will consist of a kid-friendly tour of Hillary House National Historic Site followed by a fun heritage craft or activity. Programs include Medical Detectives, Nature Seekers, Arts and Craft, Back to School, and our ever-popular Dig It! For more information, contact Leigha at 905-727-8991. 1.30 - 3.30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*

**MOVIES IN THE PARK** - The Town of Aurora's popular Movies in the Park continues this week with a screening of Batman vs Superman: Dawn of Justice at Norm Weller Park (250 McClellan Way). All screenings start at dusk. Fearing that the actions of Superman are left unchecked, Batman takes on the Man of Steel, while the world wrestles with what kind of a hero it really needs. The screening is free, but a food donation to the Aurora Food Pantry is appreciated. Arrive early to enjoy the stellar movie-themed activities and special pre-movie surprises. Prizes for those who dress up as their favourite super hero!

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

**DISCOVERY DAYS FOR KIDS AND THE AHS:** Join the Aurora Historical Society for our summer children's program Discovery Days for Kids! Each day will consist of a kid-friendly tour of Hillary House National Historic Site followed by a fun heritage craft or activity. Programs include Medical Detectives, Nature Seekers, Arts and Craft, Back to School, and our ever-popular Dig It! For more information, contact Leigha at 905-727-8991. 1.30 - 3.30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*

**Legion Cookout** - Come to the Royal Canadian Legion (105 Industrial Parkway North) tonight for some country cooking at the Western BBQ and Corn Roast featuring chicken and ribs with corn and baked beans. Wear your cowboy boots, hat and plaid. Entertainment provided by Still Kickin' gets underway at 7 p.m. Ticket are \$20 and you do not need to be a Legion member to attend.

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17

Leap from reality into The Balloon Tree, a play inspired by Phoebe Gilman's children's book of the same name at this free family theatrical event at the Aurora Cultural Centre. Two performances: 11.15 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets are limited and should be picked up in advance. Allow your imagination to run free as we follow Princess Leora on a magical adventure through her village in search of the one object that will save them all: a balloon. Up against her evil uncle, the Archduke, and all the guards

in the kingdom, she cannot make it without the help of the villagers and, of course, the audience! For more, call the Aurora Cultural Centre at 905-713-1818.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora's Concerts in the Parks series continues this evening with Gypsy Kings, tonight at 7 p.m. at Town Park: A tribute to the Gypsy Kings where "Spanish flamenco and Romani rhapsody meet salsa funk." Sponsored by Canadian Blood Services. Donations to the Aurora Food Pantry will be gratefully accepted.

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

**MOVIES IN THE PARK** - The Town of Aurora's popular Movies in the Park continues this week with a screening of Kung Fu Panda 3 at Ada Johnson Park (60 Hartwell Way). All screenings start at dusk. Continuing his "legendary adventures of awesomeness", Po must face two hugely epic, but different threats: one supernatural and the other a little closer to his home. The screening is free, but a food donation to the Aurora Food Pantry is appreciated. Arrive early to enjoy the stellar movie-themed activities and special pre-movie surprises. Prizes for bringing a stuffed animal to watch the movie with you!

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

Partagez le Français! This free French language conversation group welcomes adults from francophones to beginners looking to put their French language conversation skills into action. Francophones and stronger speakers are encouraged to share their French language skills with less strong speakers. 3 - 5 p.m. at Country Style Deli and Bistro (14980 Yonge Street).

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24

Aurora's Concerts in the Parks series concludes this evening with Desire: Tribute to U2, tonight at 7 p.m. at Town Park: End the season by dancing the night way to a tribute to U2. Bono's Irish rock group are the best-selling music artists in history! Sponsored by State Farm. Donations to the Aurora Food Pantry will be gratefully accepted.

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

**MOVIES IN THE PARK** - The Town of Aurora's popular Movies in the Park continues this week with a screening of Inside Out at Aurora Town Park (49 Wells Street). All screenings start at dusk. After young Riley is uprooted from her Midwest life and moved to San Francisco, her emotions - Joy, Fear, Anger, Disgust and Sadness - conflict on how best to navigate a new city, house, and school. The screening is free, but a food donation to the Aurora Food Pantry is appreciated. Arrive early to enjoy the stellar movie-themed activities and special pre-movie surprises. Come dressed up in your favourite colour

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14			15					16				
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	28			29					30			
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38			39	40							41	
42			43					44	45			
46		47	48			49			50			
51				52	53	54			55		56	57
		58						59				
60	61					62	63				64	
65						66					67	
68						69					70	

### CLUES ACROSS

- Greenwich Time
- English sailor missionary
- Type of wheat
- Wreath
- Hesitate
- Hollyhocks
- Not even
- Former talk show host
- Rugged mountain range
- Greek muse
- Ancient Greek comedy
- Jeopardizes
- Singer DiFranco
- Calcium
- Employee stock ownership plan
- Gemstones
- Got the job
- Tantalum
- Red deer
- Not a pro
- Coffee alternative
- Aluminum
- Northern Italian language
- Smart \_\_: Wiseacre
- Sanskrit rulers (pl.)
- \_\_ hoc
- Mousse
- Closures
- Russian lake
- Small lunar crater
- Appear with
- Beginning
- Type of Chinese language
- Jewish composer
- Sensation of flavor
- Payment (abbr.)
- High-class
- Clocked
- Midway between east and southeast

### CLUES DOWN

- Shine
- They spread the news
- Indicates water limits
- Determines value
- Capital of Okinawa
- Chinese river
- Sign language
- Passover feast and ceremony
- Yemen capital
- A tributary of the Missouri River
- Sounds
- Andorra-La Seu d'Urgell Airport
- Korean name
- A metal-bearing mineral valuable enough to be mined
- Outer layer
- African nation (Fr.)
- From Haiti
- Polish river
- Paul Henri \_\_, Belgian statesman
- Retailer
- Supreme being
- Tears into pieces
- European Union
- Coerced
- She ran the Barker gang
- Send wire
- Optical device
- \_\_ Bond, civil rights leader
- Cigar
- Spiritual being
- Possess
- Thomas \_\_, English poet
- Dials
- Sharp mountain ridge
- Pigeon shelter
- Month
- Letter of the Greek alphabet
- A citizen of Thailand
- Suffix

## Last Week's Puzzle Solution

**PUZZLE SOLUTION**

S	A	M	P	S		P	E	T		P	A	R	D		
P	L	E	A	D		R	A	R	E		Y	U	A	N	
E	A	R	N		A	E	R	I	E		R	R	N	A	
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T	Y	K	E			I	T	S			M	U	S	C	I

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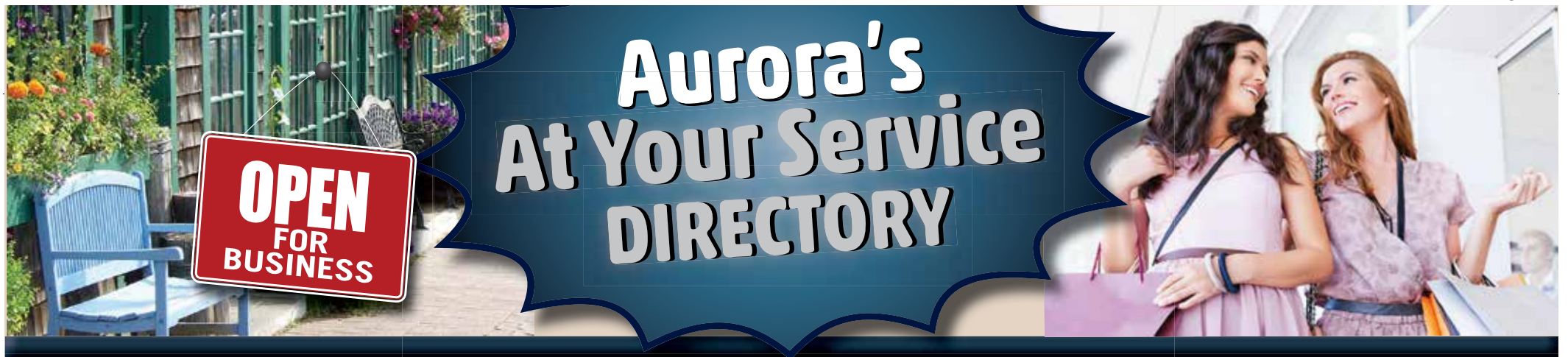
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DEATH NOTICE

COLLINS Evelyn "Evie" Dorothy



Born and raised in Oshawa, Evelyn Dorothy Collins (née Reid) with family by her side, passed away peacefully at Southlake Health Centre in Newmarket Thursday, July 28th, 2016. Evie was in her 80th year. Predeceased by her beloved husband Mel Douglas Collins, father and mother Bill & Isabel Reid and brother Leslie. Loving and cherished mother of Brian, Heather, Sheila and Dawn. Also dearly remembered by Mary, Rob, Stuart and Will and sister-in-law Lorna. Evie will be greatly missed by grandchildren Jacob and Lena and her ever faithful pet, Chloe Ella Katie Collins. Evie attended school in Oshawa and studied further Physical & Occupational Therapy at the University of Toronto. In her youth a member of The Girl Guides Association Canada, obtained rank of a Gold Cord Guide. Evie achieved Grade Eight in piano playing by studying under the Royal Conservatory of Music of Toronto. Traveling to Scotland for work experience she met her husband Mel. Once married, the couple settled in Ontario and work began for Evie at the Toronto East General and Orthopaedic Hospital. As a physiotherapist Evie continued work with the Regional Municipality of York under the Home Care Program for decades. Evie enjoyed singing with the Sweet Adelines. She was also a volunteer with The Heart & Stroke Foundation and The Kidney Foundation. Relatives and friends are welcome to attend Evelyn's Celebration of Life Service to be held at McINTOSH-ANDERSON-KELLAM FUNERAL HOME LTD., 152 King Street East, Oshawa (905-433-5558) on Sunday, August 14th, 2016 at 2pm. The family encourages relatives and friends to wear bright colours. Donations to The Heart & Stroke Foundation or The Kidney Foundation would be appreciated by the family. Online condolences may be shared at [makfuneralhome.com](http://makfuneralhome.com).

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