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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 17 No. 36 905-727-3300

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FREE

Week of June 29, 2017 CMCA AUDITED



"OUR CHILDREN ARE IN DESPAIR" – Activist Becky Big Canoe of the Chippewas of Georgina Island has a reflective moment at a roundtable on Truth & Reconciliation, which examined the past and looked ahead to the future.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

"When we don't stand up for one, we stand up for nothing"

By Brock Weir

There was once a time when Todd Jameison worked as the operations manager for a large lumber company.

It was a job with heavy responsibility and certainly not one the Oneida of the Thames man ever took lightly.

That world was upended, however, when his sons came home from public school one day and said, 'Dad, we're not native,' the image of two boys playing basketball in their driveways somehow in conflict with the idea of "native" held by their non-Indigenous classmates.

For Jameison, it was a moment, but a devastating moment, prompting him to quit his job to spearhead a program going into Ontario schools to educate students on what it actually means to

be Indigenous.

"After that day, my children had trouble standing up and saying they were Aboriginal at their schools with their friends," he explains. "I want them to be proud and I want them to stand tall, but peer pressure is very big and I want to stop that."

Mr. Jameison, now a resident of Brampton, recently shared his experiences along with a group of other Indigenous leaders from the surrounding community, including water walker Becky Big Canoe, an advocate for Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women, Cree and Metis Micmac Elder of the Wolf Clan Laureen (Blu) Waters, who currently works at Seneca College as an elder providing traditional teachings, and Collette

Youngchief, a Cree student and mother.

Hosted by the Aurora Public Library, it was designed to foster a dialogue on issues affecting Aboriginal communities and looking to the future.

Looking ahead, however, all agreed that education is a keystone towards reconciliation – that is, education for non-Indigenous Canadians.

"We have so many new Canadians who have never seen a First Nations person and the first thing they are waiting for are feathers and deerskins," says Jameison, who said the racial slurs of "Dirty Native" and "Dirty Indian" still percolate to the surface. "It puts blocks on our shoulders. Education is not on our end, education is on your end, and it has to be open. We have to be

Continued on page 21

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Dr. G.W. Williams to move to Bayview – if Board gets its way

By Brock Weir

It has stood near the corner of Dunning Avenue and Yonge Street for more than 50 years, but Dr. G.W. Williams' time as a destination for students in Aurora's south end might soon draw to a close.

The York Region District School Board (YRDSB) last week approved its 2017 Capital Strategy which calls for the construction of a new public secondary school on

Continued on page 8



Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School, pictured here on Sunday, could be moved to a new building on Bayview Avenue in as little as four years, if the YRDSB receives Provincial funding.

Auroran photo Brock Weir

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TOWN OF AURORA Notice Board



Council & Committee Meetings

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Tuesday July 11	6:45 p.m.	Belton Room	Council Closed Session (if required)
Tuesday July 11	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	General Committee
Monday July 10	7 p.m.	Belton Room	Heritage Advisory Committee
Rescheduled to Monday, July 17			
Tuesday July 11	6:45 p.m.	Belton Room	Council Closed Session (if required)
Tuesday July 11	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Council
Wednesday, July 12	7 p.m.	Aurora Cultural Centre	Aurora Cultural Centre Board
Thursday, July 13	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Committee of Adjustment
Monday July 17	7 p.m.	Belton Room	Heritage Advisory Committee

*Meetings can be viewed online by visiting www.aurora.ca
Council meetings are open to the public and can be seen on Region 7's Channel 90. For a full list of upcoming meetings, please visit www.aurora.ca

Canada Day 2017 • Holiday Hours

ANROBATAWN HALL • 180 John West Way
Aurora Town Hall will be **CLOSED** on **Monday July 3**. Regular business hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. will resume on **Tuesday July 4**.

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

AURORA PUBLIC LIBRARY • 1614C Yonge Street
Aurora Public Library will be **CLOSED** on **Saturday July 1**. Regular business hours will resume on **Monday July 3**. For more information, please visit www.aurora.ca or call 905-737-9444.

JOINT OPERATIONS CENTRE • 229 Industrial Pkwy. N.
The Joint Operations Centre will be **CLOSED** on **Monday July 3**. Regular business hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. will resume on **Tuesday July 4**.

WASTE COLLECTION
Residential waste collection is **NOT AFFECTED** by Canada Day. Please continue with your regular waste collection schedule. For more information on waste collection in Aurora, please consult your Waste Management Guide or Recycling Calendar.

RECREATION CENTRES
Recreation centres including the Aurora Family Leisure Complex and the Shomach Aurora Recreation Complex, will be operating with **modified hours**. For a full list of hours of operation and program opportunities including the ice skating pond, swimming pool and the outdoor pool, please visit www.aurora.ca.

The Aurora Senior Centre will be **CLOSED** from Saturday July 1 to Monday, July 3. Regular hours of operation will resume on **Tuesday July 4**.

EMERGENCY SERVICES
For non-emergency situations such as flooding, watermain breaks or downed trees, please call 905-737-5775.
FOR ALL OTHER EMERGENCIES, DIAL 9-1-1.

Public Notices

Service Disruptions
The following services will be disrupted on **Monday, June 26**:
-The **WIC** program will be suspended on **Monday, June 26**.
-The **WIC** program will be suspended on **Monday, June 26**.
-The **WIC** program will be suspended on **Monday, June 26**.
-The **WIC** program will be suspended on **Monday, June 26**.

Emergency Road Closure For Aurora's Canada Day Parade
The following roads will be closed on **Monday, July 3** for the **Canada Day Parade**:
-**Yonge Street** from **Bay Street** to **Bay Street**.
-**Yonge Street** from **Bay Street** to **Bay Street**.

Special - road application for Aurora's International Festival
The following roads will be closed on **Monday, September 11, 2017** for the **International Festival**:
-**Yonge Street** from **Bay Street** to **Bay Street**.
-**Yonge Street** from **Bay Street** to **Bay Street**.

Aurora Public Library Events

One Book, One Aurora (2017) Meeting
The following meeting will be held on **Monday, July 3**:
-**One Book, One Aurora (2017) Meeting**
-**One Book, One Aurora (2017) Meeting**

Heritage Advisory Committee
The following meeting will be held on **Monday, July 17**:
-**Heritage Advisory Committee**
-**Heritage Advisory Committee**

Committee of Adjustment
The following meeting will be held on **Thursday, July 13**:
-**Committee of Adjustment**
-**Committee of Adjustment**

What's Happening



Representative from Leisland, Sweden
The following meeting will be held on **Monday, June 26**:
-**Representative from Leisland, Sweden**
-**Representative from Leisland, Sweden**

Heritage Advisory Committee
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FOR ALL OTHER EMERGENCIES, DIAL 9-1-1.

What's Happening

Register for 2017 Spring and Summer Programs, Activities, and Summer Camps
The following programs will be held on **Monday, June 26**:
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Building grants for users on the Traffic Engineering Committee
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The WIC program will be suspended on Monday, June 26
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-**Emergency Services**

Heritage Advisory Committee
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-**Heritage Advisory Committee**
-**Heritage Advisory Committee**

Historic adventure marks Canada's anniversary, supports charities



By Mark Pavilons

A King pilot has combined his love of flying and adventure, into a very special goodwill trek part-way around the world.

Kingscross resident Steven Dengler and his father Bob, of Aurora, have created the C150 GlobalOdyssey (C150GO). It will be the world's first Canadian around-the-world helicopter flight, and the first-ever father-son global circumnavigation by aircraft.

In celebration of Canada's 150th anniversary, the Canadian crew – comprised of Bob, Steven, and helicopter ace Rob "Dugal" MacDuff – will fly a Canadian-made Bell 429 Global Ranger helicopter over 37,000 kilometres in just over one month.

Starting in Ottawa on July 1 and zigzagging the globe, the crew will visit more than 100 airports in 14 countries. Along the way, they will be joined by notable Canadians such as astronaut Dave Williams and hockey legend Guy Lafleur.

Dengler said the journey has been years in the making, involving some "unreal" preparations. What started as a "crazy idea" became less crazy as they sorted out the details.

This is a real chance for the trio to do something historic, but Dengler said his main motivation was the father-and-son connection.

The experienced fixed-wing and helicopter pilot said they chose the Global Ranger for the "fun factor" and the mystique surrounding choppers.

C150GO is a registered Canadian not-for-profit organization supporting both the Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation and True Patriot Love Foundation.

"This historic milestone in Canadian aviation has been years in the making," said Dengler. "But for this journey to make a real impact on the lives of Canadians, we want to give back by raising funds for Southlake and True Patriot Love. We are humbled by the work of these charities and are proud to have them as partners."

Southlake Foundation supports its world-class hospital and the community it serves. Southlake Regional Health Centre is a full-service hospital with a regional, clinically advanced focus, serving more than one million people who reside in the surrounding regions.

True Patriot Love Foundation (TPL) is a national charity that funds unique programs and innovative research in the areas of Veteran family health and support. It honours the sacrifices of members of the Canadian Armed Forces, Veterans and their families by bridging the gap between military and civilian communities.

The project has attracted some welcome corporate sponsors. Citizens can donate as well, and if you visit their website, you'll be directed to Southlake or TPL to contribute.

Along the way, C150GO will stop at several Canadian military bases while also visiting several national and international Canadian landmarks, including:

Confederation Bridge (Borden-Carleton, Prince Edward Island): One of Canada's most important engineering achievements, the Confederation Bridge opened in 1997 to connect Prince Edward Island to the mainland. Almost 13 kilometres in length, it is the world's longest bridge crossing ice-covered water.

Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site (Baddeck, Nova Scotia): In February 1909, Alexander Graham

Bell made his mark on Canadian aeronautical history when he financed and organized Canada's first powered flight at his estate in Baddeck. John McCurdy flew the AEA Silver Dart over Baddeck Bay and with it, ushered in the age of Canadian aviation.

Signal Hill National Historic Site (St. John's, Newfoundland): In 1901, Guglielmo Marconi received the first-ever transatlantic radio signal on historical Signal Hill. The transmission was sent from his station in Poldhu, England, where the G150GO crew will also visit in their travels.

Marconi Centre (Poldhu, England): The signal received in Newfoundland in 1901 was sent from this location in Cornwall, England. Built in 2001, the Marconi Centre Poldhu commemorates the first transatlantic transmission's 100th anniversary.

Dengler said their visit to the Canadian National Vimy Memorial (Vimy, France) is particularly poignant. This year marks the 100th anniversary of The Battle of Vimy Ridge, a defining moment in Canadian history. They hope to bring a wreath or perhaps an artifact with them.

Bell Helicopter Plant (Montreal, Quebec): Founded in 1935, Bell Helicopter stands at the forefront of aviation technology. Its Mirabel plant, opened in 1983, manufactures some of the world's most advanced helicopters, including the Bell 429 flown on the C150 Global Odyssey.

Dengler said it's an international celebration of Canadian accomplishments and culture.

Canada's 150th is a time to recognize Canadian achievements, and give ourselves a well-deserved pat on the back. This will be one of the most far-reaching Canada 150 projects and the crew is very excited about it.

Dengler said they will meet many foreign dignitaries and they hope to connect with Canadians abroad.

The team lifts off from Bolton's National Helicopters on July 1, heading to Ottawa for Canada Day celebrations

Continued on page 20

Submitted photo

Advertorial

Shoulder/Elbow/Wrist Pain: New Approach Delivers Remarkable Results



If you suffer from Shoulder/Elbow/Wrist pain (Injury/strain/tendonitis/Arthritis) you need to be aware of effective advancements that can eliminate years of pain, suffering, immobility and frustration.

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You may find that your pain or stiffness affects your work, housekeeping, leisure activities, exercise, sports or other activities. You go to the drug store or to your doctor and get pills to help relieve your pain. But you find the pain keeps returning. Alternatively the doctor may refer you to a specialist who may tell you that surgery is needed or is an option for you.

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

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

There is a new, natural, safe and highly effective approach that has helped many sufferers improve their lives dramatically: Laser therapy uses light to favor and accelerate the body's

It is the very latest in medical technology, with years of clinical studies supporting its safety and efficacy

natural healing process. The innovative Multiwave Locked System (MLS) Laser produces a safe, efficient and simultaneous effect on pain, inflammation, swelling and water retention, exceeding the limits of traditional LLLT (Low power) and eliminates concerns of HP (High power) laser therapy.

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

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

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The Sign You See Everywhere!

A Canada 150 poem from 1879

In 1879 the MP for this riding (then York North) was Frederick W. Strange.

Dr. Strange was the second owner of Hillary House, from 1869 to 1876, but had moved to Toronto in 1876. He won the York North seat in the 1878 election.

In his maiden speech in the House of Commons (21 March 1879) he delivered the poem below. He did not give the author's name, but said it had been written by an old resident of the area in 1852. I have not been able to find the verse elsewhere except as a quotation from Dr. Strange's speech.

I am no expert on poetry, but I suspect one might describe this piece as "stirring," rather than "fine" or "exquisite"!

Here is how it appeared in Hansard (House of Common Debates, Fourth Parliament, First Session: volume 1, p. 629):

*I see thee, not at natal hour,
But ages hence, in sovereign power –
When the fleet iron-horse shall rear
From Nootka Sound to Labrador;
When thy rich belt, with commerce
spanned,
Shall send its wealth from land to
land,
And millions shall find happy homes
Where now the untamed buffalo
roams;
When teeming cities, villas fair;
And all the arts of peace are there;
When college, school and churches'
spires,
All glitter in solstitial fires;
And mountain, mine and spreading
plain
Diffuse their wealth from main to
main,
And jarring races, fused in one,
Rejoice in name – Canadian.*

Jacqueline Stuart
Aurora

Art In The Park – Celebrating Canada's 150th with The Maple Leaf Tour Summer

Canada Eh, Maple Leafs, Tim's Coffee, Red & White delight.

Join us at the Aurora Town Park, Saturday July 8, from 8.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. for the "Maple Leaf Tour Summer Event" festival of art, music, food, friends and fun that you and your family will not want to miss.

Kerry's Place Autism Services will host once again their Annual Appreciation Day BBQ & Art In The Park filled with a creative day of artistic life with fun activities for the whole family.

Stroll through the park and also enjoy on this day, the fresh and fabulous delicacies from our local farmers and vendors of the Aurora Farmers' Market.

This year's "Maple Leaf Tour Summer Event" features the following Art In The Park Artists: Attefa Ayyoubi, Deborah Campo, Maryam Ebrahimi, Carrie Eastwood, Ryta Iannello, Linda Lehman, Laurie Larson, Jenny & Meghan Martone Sharon Pozner, and Nancy Wood.

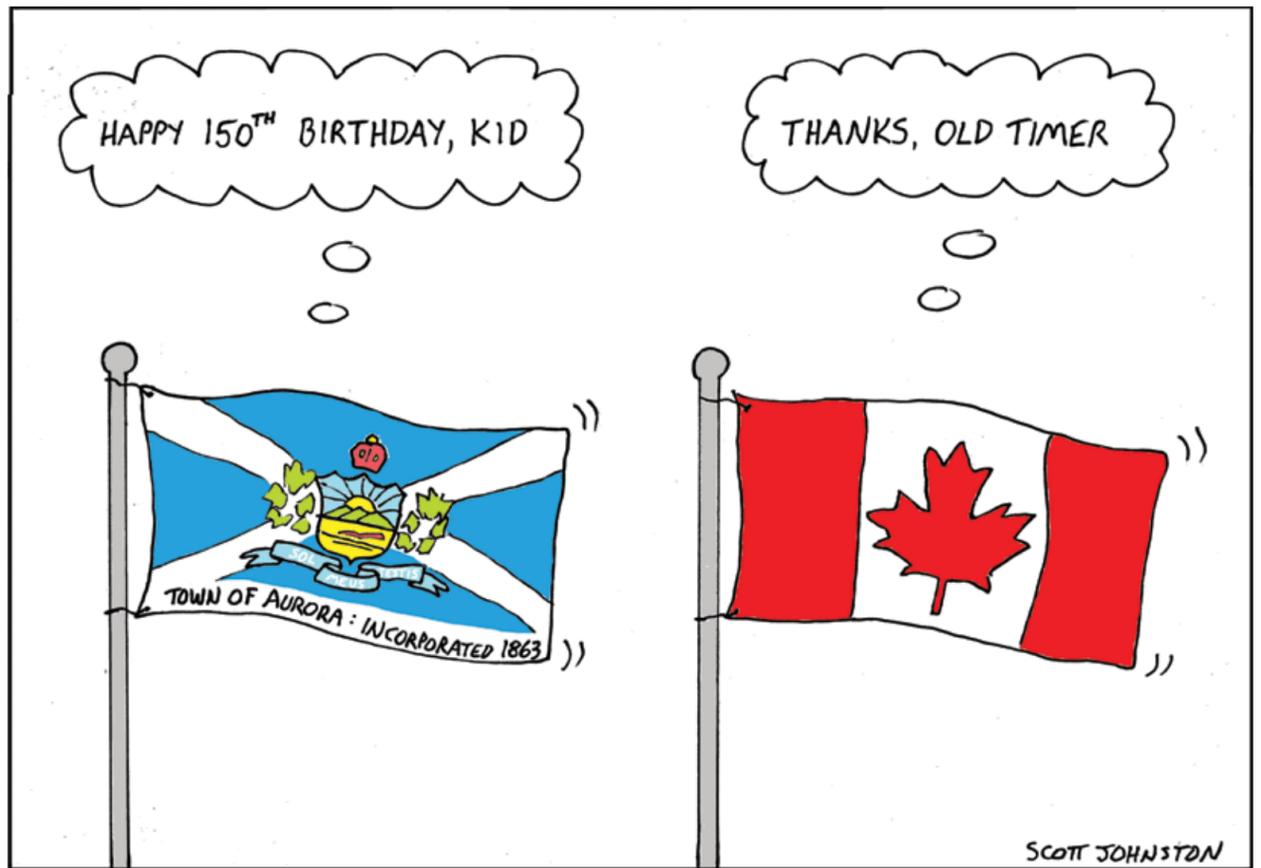
Enjoy the musical performance by the "Therapy Seekers" as a returning favourite.

Thank you to all the following participants which make Art In The Park 2017 a great event Kate Tansley, Cheryl Bolton, & Staff of Kerry's Place, The Lost Boyz Motorcycle Club, artists, musicians and our farmers.

It is indeed a pleasure to once again coordinate Art In The Park and the visual artists. I do enjoy so much the many friendships and memories this day brings. Happy 150th Canada!

Deborah Campo
Art In The Park 2017 Coordinator

Machell's Corners



Evolving Milestones



BROCK'S BANTER

Brock Weir

There were just a few items on our respective checklists.

Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap and shampoo? Check, check, check, check.

Luggage locks? Check, check. (And, if you had at least one overtly cautious parent, check, check, check and check.)

A money belt? Check.

Underwear and socks? Well, this was one area where they got pretty specific. The powers-that-be recommended eight checks a piece.

It was time to sharpen the pencil.

They were all pretty standard items in the manifesto given to us as high schoolers in what was, for many of us, our first true overseas trip as a group.

Bound for Europe, they were all pretty practical suggestions.

But then there was the footnote, suggesting each of us head over to our local MP's office to get a few bundles of Canadian flags and lapel pins to hand out just in case we happened to strike up a conversation with someone wanting a memento from the Great White North.

At first blush, it seemed like an unusual suggestion but, just in case there was a method to the madness, I duly made my trip to the office of then-MP Karen Kraft Sloan, her staff loaded me up with gear, and I was one step closer to crossing the Atlantic.

It was later explained that these pieces of Canadiana were particularly welcomed by people overseas, symbols of our role on the international stage past and present, whether it happened to be our peacekeeping missions or the Liberation of the Netherlands, the latter of which was, at that particular point in time, a point in history with living memories in abundance.

Of course, there was also the factor that our proud red-and-white flag was not the stars-and-stripes and that, in many parts of Europe, was seen as something of a balm to the soul. Well, let's face facts – it still is!

Before that, I hadn't considered how much could be charged in a flimsy piece of red and white pinbacked plastic, but the more I researched the prouder I was.

I suspect for many people in my generation, the earliest roots of patriotic pride were planted around 1992 when Canada was in the throes of Canada 125.

My elementary school was particularly enthusiastic about the milestone and it was, in retrospect, a pretty comprehensive crash course on what it means to be Canadian – or, at least what it meant at that time.

There were song circles in which maritime folksongs were lovingly shared by enthusiastic teachers of dubious maritime roots, electives on the history of the Canadian flag, and notes on provincial and territorial emblems.

the country, the Scots still dance, the Frontenac still welcomes guests, and although our oil workers have become rather beleaguered beast we still celebrate the legacy of Terry Fox and generations to come will have the image of Paul Henderson's goal seared into their minds.

As we prepare to mark Canada 150 this week, I am seeing a nation that has become less beholden to the ideas of Canada as a collection of landscapes.

I am seeing a nation that has also become less beholden as well to snapshots in time, whether it is celebrating our rich heritage of heroes and heroines of the past or defining the nation by what we have done as peacekeepers or in theatres of war.

Instead, Canada 150 seems to be defined as less of a celebration and more of a time to take stock of what Canada is and what we, as Canadians, would like our country to be.

This can be seen in ongoing – and increased – efforts to reach true reconciliation with our Indigenous peoples.

It can also be seen in the pride we, as a nation, have welcomed countless refugees from war-torn nations like Syria and gone the extra mile to help them build homes and new lives and becoming full and active members of our communities.

It can be seen as well, as recently as this past weekend where thousands of people from across Canada turned out in droves for their nearest Pride Parade, something that is – perhaps because or in spite of recent controversies in Toronto – becoming one of our most potent symbols of the human rights that have become synonymous with Canada.

Schools as well have become less focused on the chocolate box history of our country this time around and are focusing as well not just on Truth and Reconciliation, Inclusion and Human Rights, but also laying firm roots for the future, planting trees, gardens, and humanitarian efforts to leave legacies for those to come.

There is always room to celebrate our past, but in laying the foundations for our future, Canada 150 has the potential to become a solid exercise in the best of nation building.

The powerful symbolism of the Canadian flag will endure, the ritual of going abroad laden down with bags of lapel pins will do the same, but I would wager that 25 years from now, the student sitting in the terminal at Pearson, looking forward to their first great adventure, might have very different thoughts on that little pinback twirling absentmindedly in their fingers.

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



The Aurora Museum & Archives is celebrating...

The 150th Anniversary of Confederation (July 1)

To learn more about how Aurora has been at the forefront of July 1 celebration, come and visit our new exhibition entitled "Aurora: Canada's Birthday Town" – on now at 22 Church Street in the Aurora Room.

From us to you,
Canada, Happy 150th Birthday!

Sincerely, Aurora,
Canada's Birthday Town



POLITICS AS USUAL

Alison Collins-Mrakas

I'll have what she's having

I read recently about an appalling, yet not altogether unexpected trend in dining behaviour where patrons are "faking", for lack of a better word, their food allergies to get special treatment in restaurants.

Diners asking for all sorts of substitutions or alterations to the dishes on the menu to get what they want regardless of how ridiculous or difficult it will be for the kitchen to accommodate them.

And should the server balk at such requests? Well, the request is framed as a life and death matter, due to a supposed food allergy.

So, to recap, apparently people are pretending to have a deadly medical condition so that they can get tomato sauce instead of cream sauce on their pasta? Really? Good god, why not just wheel oneself around in a wheelchair as well so you can get the "good" parking space? You're already faking one medical issue, might as well go whole hog.

Honestly, that is just beyond appalling, but as I said, not unexpected.

Unfortunately, we now live in the era of me first, where everyone thinks they are entitled to special treatment regardless of their circumstances or even the context. And to make matters worse, their bad behaviour is rewarded.

You can't blame this on millennials; that age group that has been branded as the special snowflakes with outrageous expectations in terms of job prospects, etc. It isn't the 25 year olds that are demanding freshly squeezed pineapple juice in their mimosas instead of oranges; it's us "older" folks.

Why the accommodation in the first place? Why do restaurants bend over backwards to accommodate every crazy request for substitutions and alterations? Because people have realized that they have recourse if they don't get what they are asking for.

If they don't get what they want, they raise holy hell. In person or online – both of which can hit a restaurant's bottom line. Negative social media campaigns that target particular outlets after a "bad" dining experience have had tremendous impacts on the continued viability of those establishments.

And if holy hell doesn't work, then they threaten to sue.

And the threat of a lawsuit is not an idle threat.

Failing to address a diner's expressed food allergy – assuming it is in fact legitimate – is grounds for action at least civilly (where one can sue for damages) and in one recent case, criminally. A diner in Quebec has had a server charged for serving him salmon, something that he informed the server he is deathly allergic to. He took just one bite of the meal and ended up in a coma. So clearly he was not faking it.

But put yourself in the place of the restaurants. They are now put in the position of treating every diner's request as life and death or risk being sued. That's ridiculous. How in heaven's name are they supposed to deal with the myriad requests for changes? And how are they supposed to make any money? The profit margins on restaurants are already pretty slim; this just adds

Continued on page 11

June Update



MP's Report

Kyle Peterson, MP
Newmarket-Aurora

Summer is finally here! It has been a busy session on Parliament Hill and I am proud of the hard work and progress made

I am pleased to highlight some of the accomplishments I have been proud to work on.

We put more money in the pockets of nine out of ten families through the Canada Child Benefit, and strengthened the Canada Pension Plan so more Canadians can achieve a strong, secure, and stable retirement.

Budget 2017 will prepare Canadians for the changing economy and secures our place as a hub of innovation.

Budget 2017 makes significant investments in public transit systems, which will result in shorter commutes, less air pollution, and more time with family. It also invests \$11.2 billion in affordable housing to make sure all families have access to a safe and affordable place to live.

Budget 2017 is the first Federal budget ever to include a gender-based statement, which looks at the ways our policies and investments affect women and men differently.

We have made real progress in helping the middle class and those working hard to join it. Since December 2015, Canada's unemployment rate has dropped from 7.1 per cent to 6.6 per cent. In the last year, the Canadian economy has created over 300,000 new jobs.

We recently announced the Multilateral Early Learning and Child Care Framework, which will ensure more Canadian families have access to affordable, high-quality, and inclusive child care. Our Prime Minister signed agreements with the leaders of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, the Assembly of

First Nations, and the Métis National Council, establishing a process to advance shared priorities for Inuit, First Nations, and the Métis Nation.

Canada welcomed the European Parliament's approval of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada and the European Union.

CETA is a gold-standard agreement that will give consumers more choice, make it easier and less costly for businesses to compete, and create good, middle class jobs on both sides of the Atlantic. We have unveiled tax relief measures for deployed Canadian Armed Forces personnel and police officers. Canada unveiled its new defence policy, which establishes a credible, realistic, and funded strategy for our military, and, most importantly, will deliver the standard of service and care our women and men in uniform deserve.

Three important pieces of government legislation passed Parliament: Bill C-4, which restores a fair and balanced approach to labour relations; Bill C-6, which ends second-class citizenship and makes it easier for hardworking immigrants to become citizens; and Bill C-16, which ensures the full protection of

transgender people across Canada.

June has been a busy month throughout Aurora! I was honoured to attend the First Beginnings Pow Wow hosted by the Town of Aurora, celebrating our First Nations and Indigenous Peoples. I was also proud to attend the Queen's York Rangers 2799 Army Cadet Corps 51st Annual Ceremonial Review Parade and I congratulate the cadets on their hard work and a job well done!

Thank you to all who attended and supported the York Region Pride Parade. It was a wonderful family friendly celebration and I was proud to see many of our residents, community organizations and local businesses participating and showing their support for our LGBTQ2 community.

Congratulations to all students in our community who have graduated! I extend my best wishes on all your future endeavours.

This weekend is Canada's 150th Anniversary of Confederation! I look forward to joining together with you at the festivities here in Aurora as we celebrate Canada's 150th! I encourage your family and friends to share with our community "What Canada Means to You" by recording a video or a photo and share it on social media using the hashtag #NewmarketAurora150. Happy Canada Day!

As a reminder, you can reach out to my Constituency Office and my staff at any time. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require information or assistance on any Federal matters. We are located at 16600 Bayview Avenue, Suite 202. You can reach us at Tel: 905-953-7515 or by email at kyle.peterson@parl.gc.ca

The Dangers of Sport Specialization

A colleague recently tweeted out that that early specialization has been proven to result in poorer performance in sport at the elite level.

I wrote in response that, "Early sport specialization has no place in the Canadian sport system, but parents crave it. Local sport organizations need leadership and courage."

The response to the tweet was immediate. I have never seen as many retweets and likes on anything I had ever written. Such was the overwhelming support from researchers, high-performance coaches, sport leaders and yes, even parents.

I watched Jordan Spieth last weekend win his second Professional Golf Association (PGA) tournament of the year and his tenth in his four short years on the PGA Tour. The story has it that Spieth actually asked his parents if he could quit other sports at the age of 12 to concentrate on golf and they discouraged this; wanting Jordan to play team sports and develop other skills, some of them personal. He became a standout pitcher in baseball, point guard in basketball, and quarterback in football, yet still became an outstanding professional golfer. Our own Wayne Gretzky also was a multi-sport athlete; playing baseball and lacrosse in his youth.

The U.S. Olympic Committee Report on the Formula for Developing Elite Athletes showed that in the 2000 Olympic Athletes in that study, most Olympians

did not specialize in their sport until very late in their development. Even then, some continued to participate in other sports. A similar study from Germany also showed that virtually NO Olympians achieved their athleticism and success if they specialized too early in sport.

Note here the average number of sports played by the US Olympic Teams surveyed. Age 10 and under- 3.11 sports; Ages 10-14 – 2.99 sports; Age 15-18 – 2.2 sports; Ages 19-22 – 1.27 sports and Ages 22-older – 1.31 sports. It is clear then. To have a better chance at becoming truly excellent at any single sport, athletes must participate in many sports.

But wait a minute! Every coach has heard about the 10,000 hour rule haven't they? The rule states that athletes have to practice at least 10,000 hours to become excellent at their sport. The logic is compelling that the more you practice, the better you get and the higher you achieve, right?



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Ron Weese

Not so fast, say the high-performance coaches.

What they now say is that athletes have to have 10,000 hours of deliberate, high-quality practice in many athletic activities to become athletes. That can and should start, particularly in the early years, in many sports. Athletes need to be able to learn how to run for any ground-based sport but learning to swim and skate exposes them to other locomotion skills for the future.

They need to be able to have balance and be stable in movement. They need to be able to manipulate objects like balls of all kinds with both hands and feet and be able to strike and throw and catch them with various implements. Then they need to be able to use those skills in many environments and be motivated to do so. By the way, that is called physical literacy and it doesn't often occur playing a single sport.

The real issue is that, across all North America, we have a serious drop-out problem with youth sport. Statistics show that by the age of 14, 70% of youth quit.

Why is this happening? It isn't fun anymore. Too many games, too much pressure to perform, too many over-use injuries. Kids get bored when they don't have a chance to switch gears with a new season and a new sport, meet new friends and learn new skills. Physiotherapists are seeing more kids

Continued on page 25

THIS WEEK'S NEW POLL

Are you looking forward to the Canada 150 Celebrations?

Yes No Unsure

Go to www.theauroran.com to vote!

RESULTS TO DATE	YES	NO	UNSURE
June 27, 2017	33%	50%	17%

Mural project will bring together your vision of your community



Artist Ted Hamer of the Aurora Cultural Centre will lead the mural creation.

Aurora photo by Brock Weir

By Brock Weir

Ted Hamer likens Canada to “a big village.”

If the muralist were to translate this into his medium of choice, you would likely see depictions of different members of the community, perhaps even multigenerational, all working together towards a common goal.

But this isn't Mr. Hamer's story, this is your story, and he wants to hear from you about “What makes Canada Great?” Your ideas will be incorporated into a new outdoor art installation that will be created over the summer months and, if all goes according to plan, will become a focal point outside the Aurora Cultural Centre.

Mr. Hamer is leading the Centre's “Canada 150 Milestone Murals” project. A multidisciplinary artist based in Toronto, he joined the team at the Aurora Cultural Centre earlier this month, taking the role of Community Arts Facilitator.

The Mural Project officially launched this week thanks to a Federal cash infusion announced by Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MP Leona Alleslev and you will have the opportunity to weigh in on that all-important question at this weekend's Canada Day Festivities, as well as two upcoming Community Consultations at the Aurora Cultural Centre on July 13 and August 3.

“What I am asking is for people to share their story,” says Mr. Hamer. “Instead of coming up with one cohesive image, I want people to tell their story of what

makes Canada great. It could be a memory they have of Canada, of their lives in the country, but we will have these handouts where they can write or draw anything they want. From their ideas we will create a tapestry instead of a single image.”

As he delves deeper into the project, he says he is excited to facilitate a mural project such as this as it is a piece of public art in which the community can really take ownership.

While many artists like to focus on the work they create in their own studio and perfect their craft almost in isolation, Mr. Hamer says in mural-making you are “confronted with the public daily or hourly.”

“It is a learning process and also an opportunity where the community can come together and create a shared vision of what they want on their walls,” he says. “It is the public's voice. Murals are a public gallery. There are areas in the world where you can just walk around for hours and every wall is different, every wall is a different story. It is a gallery for the public and the world.”

With little over three weeks on the job, Mr. Hamer says he is familiarizing himself with the Aurora experience. So far, he and the Cultural Centre have developed four themes that have been specified in the Federal grant, and they focus on Truth & Reconciliation, Nature & The Environment, Where We Are Today, and Bright Future Ahead.

The main threads of the project, they have left the possibilities very open-ended. Asked what his own idea of Canada

is, Mr. Hamer says he sees the nation as “a land where we break down barriers between genders, sexualities, classes and whatnot.”

“I have travelled around the world a lot and I have seen areas where people are separated and alone,” he says. “We are kind of all condensed around the border and the lakes and we seem to have formed stronger communities. My image of Canada is kind of a big village.”

Keeping this in mind, he is also cognizant of the fact Canada 150 is not seen in all quarters as a unifying celebration. He says he has struggled with the idea that so much money is being put into these kinds of events when there are communities in need, particularly “the Native population, which is in desperate need of improvement by the Government.”

“I see this as almost an olive branch of where do we go from here? Personally with the project I would like some native voices in it and they can speak to this

project any way that they feel fit. I would like it to be a discussion. I don't want to censor images and I want it to really help us move forward. There are some serious questions to be raised and I think a serious discussion is in order.

“I hope they take away a creative learning experience and to see that art doesn't have to be in a house in a room. You can make it in public, you can display it in public, you can work together on a piece and the energy and spontaneity that comes out in mural making is just incredible and that is what I want people to see. I want them to come away with a vision of their community they are a part of.”

Ideas for the Milestone Mural will be taken at Party in the Park this Friday, June 30, from 4 – 8 p.m. at Town Park. Community consultations will be held at the Aurora Cultural Centre on Thursday, June 13 from 3 – 6 p.m., and again on Thursday, August 3 at the same time.

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Monday July 24th
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Board hopes to have word on new Williams building by January

From page 1

Bayview Avenue near Borealis and moving the entire Williams staff and student body to the new location.

Now, the next step will be hearing from the Ministry of Education on dollars to make the construction of a new high school happen.

It was a significant turnaround for the YRDSB who had, until that point, been firmly opposed to the idea of moving Williams, stating that the business case just wasn't there.

Despite low enrollment at both Williams and Aurora High School on Wellington Street West, they said they had specific thresholds when it came to student numbers before a third high school – or even a move – could be considered. Students had to already be in place, creating an overcrowding situation, before Ontario would consider funding a new high school facility.

This flew in direct opposition to a passionate campaign led by parents in Aurora's northeast who said the Board needed to act on building a high school on the land they already owned.

The burgeoning northeast developments are part of Williams' catchment area, but the YRDSB offers no busing to get students to and from school. This, they said, leads to challenges – both physical and financial – in getting students where they need to go, leading them to look for alternatives outside the YRDSB.

Low enrolment in turn, they argued, leads to a downturn in the quality of education Dr. G.W. Williams can provide when it comes to extracurricular activities and fostering an energized school environment.

The momentum for a new high school began to turn near the end of

last month when the YRDSB presented its Secondary School Strategy, which examined the communities of Aurora and Oak Ridges.

"Continuing enrolment growth at Richmond Green Secondary School and under-enrolment at Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School are the critical accommodation issues of these areas that could be addressed in the Capital Strategy. Staff recommended that an opportunity for public input be provided to the affected communities. This allowed staff to present the accommodation options requiring capital approvals and receive other options the public suggested," says the YRDSB.

During these public information sessions, fourth options were presented by the Board.

The first was a Status Quo option, which would keep both schools on track as far as plans already announced by the YRDSB to boost student numbers at both Williams (an International Baccalaureate Program) and Aurora High School (fostering the growth of French Immersion).

The second option presented was to introduce boundary and program changes to balance population numbers in both schools.

The third option was to build a third secondary school on the Bayview lands while leaving Williams as it is.

The fourth, which ultimately won the first battle, was to relocate Williams.

"Data supports that the Town of Aurora only requires two secondary schools," said the YRDSB in its report. "To address growth in East Aurora, staff is recommending that Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School be relocated to the Board-owned site in northeast Aurora to address student growth. This would better align the two secondary schools in Aurora to existing and future students. This is supported by community feedback.

"The 2017 Capital Strategy list includes a project for the replacement of Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School.

Staff will apply to the Ministry of Education for funding at the next capital priorities submission opportunity. If approved, the potential opening of a relocated secondary school would not occur for a number of years. Staff are also recommending retaining the Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School Building and undertaking a boundary review process to address the southwestern portion of the school boundary prior to the opening of the relocated school."

Speaking to The Auroran last week, Dawn Adams, Senior Manager of School and System Operations for the YRDSB said they took into consideration all the feedback they had received from advocates for a secondary school in the northeast.

Doing a further study, she said, ensured that all voices were heard in the process.

"At those meetings we did hear a lot of people talk about the same things we had already heard," she said. "We heard from other people who wanted us to do other things than relocate to help us with Williams' declining enrollment. In addition, we expanded the strategy to include North Richmond Hill, Oak Ridges and Aurora as there is a ripple effect. When we look at Aurora alone it tells one story but when we looked at accommodation needs across northern Richmond Hill, Oak Ridges and Aurora, we could devise a large strategy."

Added Accommodation Planner Trina Sprayson: "We were very aware that we had a community that was disenfranchised and not being well served by public education."

The planners said funding submissions to the Province are due in September and, although they are not sure when a funding announcement might occur, they said it could be as early as January.

Should the Province approve funding for a new Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School, it would take a minimum of four years to come to fruition, allowing time for designs and the full site plan process.



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Parents “cautiously optimistic” about possible Williams move

By Brock Weir

East Aurora parents who have been vocal advocates for the need of a new high school to address the needs of families east of the GO tracks are “cautiously optimistic.”

They welcomed last week’s decision of the York Region District School Board to earmark moving Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School to address population growth but say there is much more advocacy work to be done, not only for this case but for others down the road.

“I am quite pleased they are looking at this situation in its entirety,” says parent Sandra Manherz of the Board’s move to look at the distribution of high schools throughout Aurora and Oak Ridges. “I am quite pleased that the Board is at least looking at the area as a whole in trying to determine what the issues are and what the problems are in the Region and that they are looking to create some sort of solution to address that.”

“Up until a year ago, the Board had commented to us there wasn’t a problem but now they are actually looking at the situation, taking the broad perspective and seeing what is happening in the community and that, in and of itself, is good.”

That being said, they are stopping short of declaring victory, after all any possible move of Dr. G.W. Williams is contingent on Provincial funding.

That will be a challenge, she says, and until that funding comes forward they are merely “cautiously optimistic” that change will come about.

“There are two fights that are happening with regards to this issue: there is the local issue with regards to the school and then there is a Provincial issue with regards to the funding model.” The funding has been a significant hurdle in this battle for both the parents and the York Region District School Board in that students have to already be in place, creating an overcrowding situation, before the Provincial dollars start to flow, rather than anticipating future growth.

“Our group continues to kind of

fight both battles,” she continues. “The funding model in general looks at rural areas, growing areas and stable communities are all created equally but I believe each of them have their own needs and the current funding model doesn’t look at it that way. On top of that, they don’t tend to look at the Region as a whole. They tend to divvy out Catholic and Public school numbers and in our situation it kind of doesn’t illustrate what is actually happening in our community right now. The funding model still needs some improvements.”

Over the course of public talks over the future of Williams – whether the current building needed to be shuttered and rebuilt eastward, or whether a third public secondary school was needed to complement both Williams and Aurora High School – it was pointed out by both Board members and parents alike that enrollment at St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Secondary School on Wellington Street East was picking up significant enrollment from teens on the east side of Bayview whose families had been clamoring for a more local high school option.

The parents say they are working to address that gap for the future, convening talks with Newmarket-Aurora MPP Chris Ballard to discuss that issue as well as Progressive Conservative Leader Patrick Brown.

“What we’re looking for is a great solution for Aurora as a whole,” says Ms. Manherz. “I think with regards to the York Region District School Board the option of relocating Dr. G.W. Williams may be a good solution for all of the issues that have been presented, the issues being low enrollment, low funding, problems with programming. I think they have done a good job in creating a solution that will ideally address those things.”

“By relocating the school I believe those issues will be resolved and we will have a larger number of students that will actually utilize the facility. In turn, if you have an increase in enrollment there will be an influx of new teachers. Funding will come back up and, with that, more programming opportunities. I think that solution as a

whole for the community will provide better opportunities for our students in the Williams catchment area to actually

access a facility that can provide good quality care and education to the students in that catchment area.”



Chris Ballard
MPP Newmarket-Aurora

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Poppy got into the festive spirit as Canadian Tire on Bayview Avenue hosted the Canadian Tire Jumpstart Family Fun Day, featuring a barbecue and games and activities for the whole family. 100 per cent of the proceeds raised will go towards helping children in Aurora get into organized sports.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

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THE AURORAN ARTS & CULTURE

Sometimes it takes a village to make a home: young authors

By Brock Weir

12 months might not sound like a long time, but if you're a new Canadian, a lot can be packed into that senior year.

Recently, Brooke and Keira Elliott, their mom Jill Donohue and several members of their local neighbourhood, made a short trip to a nearby apartment bringing with them a cake and plenty of smiles.

It had been a year since Aurora's Heritage Conservation District came together to help Nancy, an integral part of their community, welcome her

children to their new home.

She wasn't bringing home newborns but, as a skilled worker from the Philippines, she was finally able to bring her two children to Canada after nearly a decade's separation.

"Nancy had been with us for many years and away from her own kids for almost 10," says Ms. Donohue. "She has looked after us and helped us, and every year she would go back and visit her family and it always broke my heart. She left her kids when they were one and four and I just couldn't imagine doing that. What she had to go through



Local students Brooke Elliott, 14, and Keira Elliott, 9, have shared their community's story of giving in the latest Chicken Soup for the Soul book.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

grew and spent more time in school. Industrious, Nancy began taking part-time jobs with the neighbours doing everything from helping with kids to the doing of laundry.

"People knew her and when I sent out the email I just mentioned that after 10 years Nancy is finally going to be able to bring her kids here but, because we are born here in abundance, we couldn't imagine not being here with our children," says Jill suggesting they pool their resources to surprise her. "Everyone was like, 'Oh, my gosh!' It was just an email out to the 70 ladies on the neighbourhood mailing list and they all eagerly said, 'Absolutely!' Everyone has something extra that is going to go on the curb, or that they are going to put on Kijiji, and there was even a brand new TV."

Those who didn't have any particular items to donate were all excited to offer their services. Some reached out to local schools to secure books for the children – now in their tweens and teens – in the languages of home, others collected clothes so they would be welcomed to Canada with full closets, and others offered their design expertise, whipping out pads of graph paper to make sure that everything they collected fit perfectly into Nancy's new digs.

"It was all perfect!" says Keira. "Everybody had their designated job and it was like this whole neighbourhood was meant for that job."

Soon enough, their efforts were greeted by the newly reunited family of three who were clearly overwhelmed by the community effort.

"Nancy could hardly stand up," says Jill. "She couldn't believe what happened and was so overwhelmed."

Now, the community efforts continue.

Authors published in Chicken Soup for the Soul have the opportunity to take advantage of a program where they can obtain quantities of the books at discounted rates, which can then be sold to benefit local charities. The Elliotts and Ms. Donohue continue to pay it forward and are selling copies of the new book at \$20 per copy (two for \$30, and so on incrementally) to benefit Yellow Brick House.

"Nancy and I hope that by sharing this story we can inspire someone else to do something," says Jill. "I think we should do a house every spring and it is our hope this story will inspire others to reach out and help."

versus the blessings we have living here!

"When she finally got permission from the Government to go home and get her kids, there was an apartment available in our neighbourhood, she rented it, and said to me, 'Our mattresses are going to arrive after I'm gone. Could you let them in?' I said, 'Sure,' but in my mind I thought, 'They are not going to come home to just mattresses. We can do more than that.'"

That thought quickly turned into action and the story of how a simple email sent through the network of the close-knit community is detailed by daughters Brooke and Keira in the newly published Chicken Soup for the Soul: The Spirit of Canada.

"Mom came to us and said, 'What if we set up Nancy's whole apartment,'" says Keira. "At first we were like, 'What? How are we going to do all that?' Soon, I don't know how mom did it, but there were tonnes and tonnes and tonnes of new furniture at our front door and I think it all fit perfectly into their new spot."

How mom did it was through a simple email.

For many residents of the Heritage Conservation District, Nancy was a familiar face. Although she started working in Canada for Brooke, Keira and their parents, her services were needed less and less as the girls

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FANCY SOME TIME WITH JUSTIN BEAVER? – Aurora artist Deborah Campo invites you to come and take a look at – and even have a picnic with – her Canada 150 display. On through the end of July on the north lawn of her St. John's Sideroad and Old Yonge Street Home, the garden features Polaris the Polar Bear, "Justin Beaver", a wooden replica of Ms. Campo's "Peace Flame Tree" (the real deal in steel is at Town Hall) and a multitude of maple leaves.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

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Library Square set for fall demolition following Bridge battle

By Brock Weir

Community groups occupying the former Aurora Public Library and Seniors' Centre buildings on Victoria Street will have to vacate to make way for the wrecking ball by October 1.

Council, sitting at the Committee level last week, reaffirmed its decision to clear the buildings to make way for the demolition – and ultimate construction of Library Square – after a lengthy debate last week.

Near the start of talks, Council members heard a delegation from Olly Smolak of the Aurora Bridge Club who, on behalf of the group which currently calls the Old Library home, said they were at an impasse with Town Staff on finding a suitable new home that meets the needs of their large organization.

As The Auroran reported last week, the Aurora Bridge Club was feeling the heat of the move.

They estimate to accommodate their 932-strong membership at their busiest times they would need to lease a space of at least 2,000 square feet.

However, at this time, the best alternative the Town could open up was 800 square feet.

“What we pay now in rent allows us to offer a reasonable price for people who are playing bridge,” he said, noting that leasing a privately-owned space to meet their standards could cost up to \$6,000 a month.

Raising member fees could give the Club \$2,000 a month to work with, but no more.

While Council members said they sympathized, tasking staff to continue to work with the tenants, they largely agreed they had to continue moving forward.

Speaking against the full-speed-ahead approach, however, were Councillors John Abel and Wendy Gaertner who said they objected to

moving forward with the demolition plan for Library Square before designs were ready on what will ultimately replace the buildings.

“To do the demolition, you should have the design and funding all approved and in place,” said Councillor Abel. “To demolish it just for the sake of demolishing it and then go through the process, it could be months or years before we get the final design and the funding all in order. It would make more sense to put the design and the funding in place and then say it is time to do the demolition.

“We are not doing anything right and we haven't done it from the very beginning. We should be thinking long-term and planning ahead. Why we are doing this to our community is beyond me. I can't support anything unless we put things in place. It would be like tearing down an arena and telling the kids you can't play hockey anymore, and we don't know if we're ever going to build one again, so go and play somewhere else.”

Others, however, disagree and said demolition is the necessary first step in creating something that will ultimately address the crunch for public spaces.

“We are challenged,” said Councillor Michael Thompson. “The Town continues to grow and we don't have enough public community spaces and we don't have enough sports facilities. We continue to look this term at addressing all of those needs and art of the driver on library square has been the fact there is a plan to build a facility adjacent to the Church Street School to accommodate more public space. We as a group made a choice to move forward with the demolition of those facilities.”

Similar viewpoints were offered by Mayor Geoff Dawe and Councillor Paul Pirri who expressed a degree of frustration that what was once a nearly unanimous decision to proceed with demolition was now in question when confronted with needs of the Aurora Bridge Club – particularly when there are other community groups who use the facilities as well.

“I have seen less flip-flopping at fishing tournaments than I have seen here tonight,” said Councillor Pirri. “Council unanimously decided to move forward with the demolition of those buildings. To claim now that we weren't in favour of demolishing those buildings is disingenuous. We need to move forward. There are solutions to be found. It is difficult when you're staring at the problems now but I have full faith in being able to come to something that works for all of the tenants.

“We're doing this to build more community space. To be paralyzed by a catch 22 and not make a decision because it is easier than moving forward, that is not what we're elected to do. We're elected to move forward, we're here to make decisions and sometimes the tough decisions are the right decisions and in the long run this is the long decision. Nobody says it won't have growing pains but we need to move forward so this situation doesn't happen with Councils in the future.”

POLITICS AS USUAL

From page 5

another barrier to keeping them afloat.

Let's just call this new trend what it is – selfishness. It diminishes the very real medical conditions of other people just so that you can get your own way.

I have a moderate food intolerance myself. If I accidentally ingest it, I can have a reaction that ranges from annoying to very unpleasant, but not lethal. I generally handle it by inquiring what is in the meal I would like to order. If it has something that can be easily removed (say pickles on a burger) then I ask if that can be done. If it has something that I know will cause a reaction I simply don't order it. I don't expect the restaurant to accommodate what can clearly be handled through common sense on my part.

I am not clear when we moved from viewing our preferences as rights but I hope it moves back to some semblance of normalcy, soon.



Notice of Commencement and Public Meetings GO Rail Network Electrification Trenton Project Assessment Process

MetroLink, an agency of the Province of Ontario, is approving the assessment and system into England Express Rail, the Ontario Transit, and Metrolink from 2017 to 2021 to meet the needs of the GO Rail Network Electrification Project. The purpose of this notice is to advise the public of the assessment and system into England Express Rail, the Ontario Transit, and Metrolink from 2017 to 2021. The purpose of this notice is to advise the public of the assessment and system into England Express Rail, the Ontario Transit, and Metrolink from 2017 to 2021.

The Project

MetroLink is proposing a GO Rail Network Electrification Project, which includes the assessment and system into England Express Rail, the Ontario Transit, and Metrolink from 2017 to 2021. The purpose of this notice is to advise the public of the assessment and system into England Express Rail, the Ontario Transit, and Metrolink from 2017 to 2021.

The Study Area

The study area for the project includes the following corridors: Barrie Corridor, Kitchener Corridor, London Corridor, and Windsor Corridor. The purpose of this notice is to advise the public of the assessment and system into England Express Rail, the Ontario Transit, and Metrolink from 2017 to 2021.

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- Barrie Corridor
- Kitchener Corridor
- London Corridor
- Windsor Corridor
- Union Station Rail Corridor
- Lakeshore West Corridor
- Lakeshore East Corridor



Public Meeting Information

Public meetings will be held on the following dates and times: Monday, June 29, 2017; Tuesday, July 4, 2017; Wednesday, July 12, 2017; and Thursday, July 20, 2017. The purpose of this notice is to advise the public of the assessment and system into England Express Rail, the Ontario Transit, and Metrolink from 2017 to 2021.

Comments

Comments on the project will be accepted until the following date: Monday, July 24, 2017. The purpose of this notice is to advise the public of the assessment and system into England Express Rail, the Ontario Transit, and Metrolink from 2017 to 2021.

The public meeting will be held on the following dates and times: Monday, June 29, 2017; Tuesday, July 4, 2017; Wednesday, July 12, 2017; and Thursday, July 20, 2017.

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For further information on the project and other related information, please visit the project website.

If you would like to be notified of project meetings and other related information, please contact the project website.

Project Website: www.go.com/electrification
 Project Website: www.go.com/electrification
 Project Website: www.go.com/electrification

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By James Brown

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Aurora gears up for Canada 150 Celebrations

By Brock Weir

Cakes are being made, parade-marchers are practicing their paces, and national and community bands are polishing up their brass – Aurora’s Canada Day Celebrations are just around the corner.

This year, as the nation marks 150 years since Confederation, organizers say the pressure is on to make this year’s festivities extra special, beginning with, as tradition dictates, the Canada Day Parade.

For the second year running, the Canada Day Parade will feature a shortened route, beginning at Mosley Street in the north, running south on Yonge Street to Murray Drive.

It will showcase colourful floats, community organizations, children’s groups, and marching bands.

“Everything is framed in the Canadian context,” says Shelley Ware, Special Events Coordinator for the Town of Aurora, if this year’s extra “infusion” of Canadian pride. “The parade has a very strong multicultural theme to it. We have many different cultures represented with their performances, including Mexican dancers in full Mexican costume, a flare of colours from a variety of colours infusing the traditional marching bands, and we have also increase the size of the Governor General’s Horse Guards’ presence this year.”

Following the end of the parade



at 11 a.m., the party shifts once again to Lambert Willson Park for celebrations through 10 p.m.

The festivities begin with a free pancake breakfast from the Optimist Club of Aurora, while quantities last, a ceremonial cake cutting led by Mayor Geoff Dawe, Citizen of the Year Peter Van Schaik, Members of Council, and leaders from Aurora’s “twin”, Leksand, Sweden.

The first half of the celebrations in the park will also include performances from the Aurora Community Band, which will debut a new original composition, a Birds of Prey show featuring Canadian wildlife, and Canadian musicians throughout the day.

“After the Birds of Prey visual performance, we will be moving into Blue Radio, a tribute to Blue Rodeo, and we will also have one of our local bands, called The Chums, perform,” says Ms. Ware. “Then we will have our annual Aurora Teen Idol competition before capping the event off with The Wheat Kings, a tribute to The Tragically Hip, before a really dynamic fireworks display.”

Ms. Ware is hoping the torrential

downpours experienced this week will have cleared well in advance of the Canada Day Party, particularly for the Fireworks Display.

“There is probably more pressure to want to get it right and to ensure that we’re trying all things from all angles, and also hoping that we are meeting the expectations within the community,” says Ms. Ware of

the extra-special Canada Day. “The whole Canada 150 theme is a very easy theme to work with because our history is very vast, very diverse and very rich, so it is easy to pull elements from to celebrate which we have been able to infuse throughout all of our events to date and those being executed this summer onwards to the end of the year.”

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Winning streak snapped for Aurora FC

By Jake Courtepatte

The Aurora United FC women were brought down to earth on Saturday, conceding a goal for the first time in four matches in a 2 – 1 loss to Vaughan Azzurri.

It took just four minutes for the powerhouse Vaughan squad to find the back of the net, doubling their lead at the 63-minute mark.

“Our game plan was to be aggressive and to limit the time they had on the ball because they are a team that will try and dominate the ball,” said head coach Gianni Cimini.

“We were aggressive and we did try to put pressure on them and we ended up having a lot of possession as well. I thought it was an excellent game and overall I was pleased with how the girls followed through on the game plan.”

Sarah Stratigakis scored Aurora’s only goal with under twenty minutes to go in the match.

Goalkeeper Patricia Koutoulas had her streak of three clean sheets broken in the match, though she made a tough save on a penalty kick late in the game to give Aurora a chance.

“Patricia has been very good for us this season,” said Cimini. “The team has full confidence in her and it wasn’t a surprise to me that she could come up in a big moment like that one.”

Despite Aurora earning the majority of the chances in the final minutes, time ran out on the game-tying goal.

“At the end we were pushing and pushing and pushing and we had a lot of chances in and around the box, off a cross, corner kick, set-pieces,” said Cimini.

“The girls were striving for it and sometimes an inch this way, an inch that way, and you get a better opportunity. I felt that they really pushed through the whole ninety minutes.”



Aurora United goalkeeper Patricia Koutoulas sends the ball out of her zone in AUFC’s 2 - 1 loss to Vaughan Azzurri on Saturday.

Photo by Martin Bazyl

Despite the loss, a recent string of victories has AUFC in the middle of the pack in the League 1 Ontario standings with a record of 3-4-0.

Aurora Jays’ winning streak hits six games

By Jake Courtepatte

Over a month has passed since the last time the AA Aurora Jays last saw a loss.

They have left a trail of wins and postponements in their dust during the current six-game winning streak, as well as wins in ten of their last eleven.

“It feels like the most complete lineup we’ve had in a number of years,” said player manager Rob Wilson.

Their most recent victory came on Sunday when the sun shone on Mansfield after a week’s break, facing a Cubs lineup going the other way in the standings.

Aurora was able to take a 4 – 1 lead after falling behind 1 – 0, before the Mansfield bats took hold and brought a 6 – 5 lead into the top of the seventh inning.

Aaron Giroux, the first batter up in the inning, was hit by the first pitch he saw before Chris Fafalios reached base on a single.

Thomas D’Andrade then laid down a bunt to advance both runners, while Brad Crosby brought them both home by hitting one to the fence.

“In the last few weeks Crosby’s approach has looked more like his league-leading (on-base-percentage) last year,” said Wilson. “He’s a big part of our lineup, so to see him coming around is a great sign for us.”

“In baseball it’s rare to set up a plan four batters deep and have it come through, so it was a fantastic sign to see all four guys do their job. Especially given the irregular schedule with all the rain.

“We could have asked Fafalios to

In baseball it's rare to set up a plan four batters deep and have it come through, so it was a fantastic sign to see all four guys do their job. Especially given the irregular schedule with all the rain.

bunt and play for the tie, but we put faith in our guys and they got it done when it mattered.”

Chris Rettie cashed in Crosby as an insurance run before the inning was over, earning an 8 – 6 victory.

Veteran Andrew Bukovec went five innings on the mound, before handing the ball to Zach Wiseman and eventually Lehmkuhl who earned the final two outs.

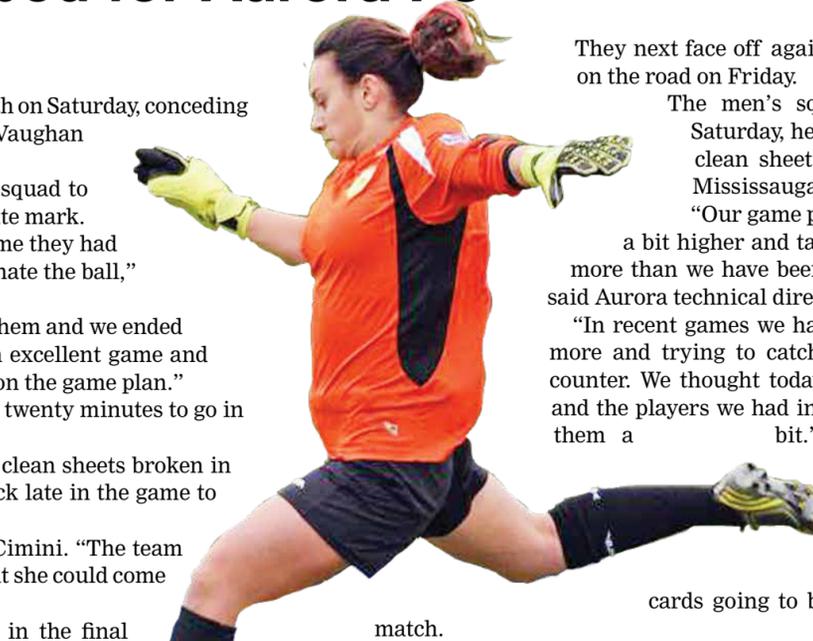
Next up for the Jays is a meeting with the Midland Indians (4-6-2) at Tiffin Park on Thursday.

They return home on Tuesday to host the league-leading Orangeville Giants at Lambert Willson Park.

Lineups were also announced last week for the annual All-Star game held in Midland, with Giroux, Fafalios, Lehmkuhl, and Ian Rettie getting the call for the Jays.

The All-Star game goes the second weekend in July at Tiffin Park.

For stats, schedules, and more information, visit www.ndbl.ca.



They next face off against Durham United (3-3-1) on the road on Friday.

The men’s squad was also in action Saturday, held to their second straight clean sheet in a 1 – 0 loss to North Mississauga SC.

“Our game plan was just to press them a bit higher and take the game to them a bit more than we have been doing in recent games,” said Aurora technical director Dave Di Placido.

“In recent games we have been sitting back a bit more and trying to catch the other teams on the counter. We thought today with the lineup we had and the players we had in there that we could go at them a bit.”

Mississauga notched the game’s only goal at the 34-minute mark, with a handful of yellow cards going to both sides throughout the

match.

“But yes, it was very scrappy,” said Di Placido. “There were a lot of whistles and dead ball situations. I think we prefer to try and play, keep the game moving a bit and free-flowing, and I think it hurt us a bit having so many stoppages. Especially when down a goal, it killed any momentum we could generate.”

Aurora will try to regroup on Friday when they visit the winless ProStars FC.

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Minor PeeWee Jays score big in Brampton tournament



The Minor Bantam Aurora-King Jays won the annual Bolton AA tournament last weekend.

Photo by Don Maclean

By Jake Courtepatte

The wins just keep coming for the Minor PeeWee Aurora-King Jays.

The AAA squad's latest accomplishment is a championship win at the annual Brampton Minor Baseball tournament, rallying from an opening day loss to trounce their opponents on Saturday and Sunday.

Stung by Scarborough 6 – 5 on Friday, the Jays returned with a 9 – 5 win over the Brampton Royals and an 11 – 1 beating of the Waterloo Tigers, advancing to Sunday's semifinal against the Richmond Hill Phoenix.

There the Jays put up a massive 17 runs to move on to the afternoon's final, where they met Scarborough in a winner-take-all rematch.

Aurora-King swiftly took the game and the championship by a score of 9 – 2.

No strangers to gold medal performances, the Jays won the Mosquito Newmarket Silver Bat Championship in 2016, as well as the Mosquito Aurora tournament, the Mosquito YSBA Championship, and the OBA Mosquito Championship.

They were also finalists in the Richmond Hill Green and Gold AAA Championship.

Playing through a particularly rainy season, the Jays have managed a 6-1-1 record in eight regular season YSBA games so far.

Congratulations to head coach Jordan Keon, assistant coaches Greg Davison, David Walker, and Ryan Windle, and players Nichoals Burdo, Luke Davison, Ryley Emery, Fionn Keon, Nathan Lambert, William McKenzie, Owen Norris, Tyler Pridham, Finn Walker, and Nathan Windle.



The Aurora Farmers' Market drew out crowds on sunny Saturday this past weekend when they hosted their annual Strawberry Festival. (Top) Kayleigh and Kelsea with some freshly picked pints of delicious berries. (Middle) Entertainment throughout the morning was provided by the Aurora Community Band. (Bottom) Themed crafts were made by Sienna, Meghan, Emily and Camryn.

Auroran photos by Brock Weir

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Highland Gate park approval delayed amid legal questions

By Brock Weir

Plans for a 21-acre park through the heart of the Highland Gate redevelopment plan have been put on the back burner for a week to allow stakeholders to get some legal clarity.

Council, sitting at the Committee level last week, voted to put their approval of the park's concept plans on ice until July 4 after some legal uncertainty swirled through Council chambers.

At issue are a number of features earmarked for the park, particularly lighting along proposed trails.

Although area residents have differing views on various amenities agreed to by proponents Highland Gate Developments Inc. (HGDI), the Highland Gate Ratepayers Association, and Council in Minutes of Settlements executed by the Ontario Municipal Board, the trail lighting has been a recurring theme in the process.

Many residents are advocating for a passive recreation park without the lighting and, as trail lighting is specifically mentioned in the Minutes of Settlement, it is the view of the Town Solicitor that any deviation from the plan would be in violation of the agreement.

This is worth a second look, said resident Gordon Weir, delegating to local lawmakers last week.

As an area resident, as well as a lawyer, he offered a differing view of the Minutes of Settlement.

Over three quarters of homeowners, he said, want a "natural and unencumbered park with no lighting structures or activity equipment" and following through on the wishes of residents would not be in violation of the agreement.

"Removal of the lighting, structures or playground amenities that are acceptable to Town Council need not be renegotiated and are not contrary to the minutes of settlement," said Mr. Weir. "The minutes of settlement to do not need to be changed. In fact, the minutes of settlement themselves anticipated changes and modifications. The Minutes themselves stipulate that

provision of all parkland amenities must be to the satisfaction of the Director of Parks and Recreation, that is to say the Town. Secondly, all covenants by the owner to provide parkland amenities have been made to the Town only. These undertakings or covenants may be waived by the Town as they see fit. Simple, elementary, fundamental contract law.

"These are undertakings the developer gave to the Town, not to the Ratepayers' Association, not to anybody else. Legally speaking, the minutes of settlement endorsed by the OMB make it clear the Town retains discretion as to the nature and use of the open space parkland and that is why it is called a concept, that is why it is a conceptual parkland design. It is intended to be modified, amplified, taken back, fine-tuned and so on and so forth."

Mr. Weir's view was bolstered at the podium by Highland Gate resident Bob Callow who said he was speaking on behalf of what he described as an "ad-hoc association of homeowners" who will be directly impacted by the park development.

"We have a historic opportunity with a piece of land that is irreplaceable to create a passive park that will educate and delight our children and grandchildren for generations," he said. "In every election, the issues of openness and transparency to the people of Aurora are cornerstones to the election and what we firmly believe in. In the case of what to do about the parkland, sometimes there has been a distinct lack of transparency."

"The ordinary person did not have the details we have today. We were asked to support the Board and that they ratify the agreement based on some very broad brush stroke figures. We did not know all of the details. We believe for Council to make a decision on this park you should know the validity of the information you are given."

From the perspective of Town Solicitor Patricia De Sario, however, the Minutes of Settlement have particular terms and if Council makes any decisions that are "in direct conflict

with those expressed terms" then they would be going against the agreement.

This was enough for Councillor Paul Pirri, who motioned to refer the item back to staff until July 4, to allow for a closer look.

"Ultimately, I think we can debate these issues until we are blue in the face but without the expressed okay from the other two parties I don't think anything can be changed," he said. "I want an itemized list of everything our residents have asked us to change, I would want to present that list to the other two organizations to see if they are amenable to making changes where we would require their knowledge and then, if they come back and they say yes, great, we can come back and have a debate on whether or not we're going to change those. If they come back and say no, any debates that we have would be an ineffective use of our time

because ultimately we need them to be supportive of any changes we make."

Others, including Councillors John Abel and Wendy Gaertner said they were in favour of the suggestions made by residents.

"We're here to represent the residents," said Councillor Gaertner. "If the majority of them around the golf course don't want lighting then we should listen to them."

Added Mayor Geoff Dawe: "All of the parties have committed to act reasonably and cooperate in order to implement the minutes of settlement. We can't be seen to be delaying the situation. I think that is a sensitive issue. We need to be very cognizant that the conversation is between Town Staff, HGDI and the Highland Gate Ratepayers Association. We have to be very clear who the parties are and where that discussion happens."

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BREAKING GROUND IN BUSINESS PARK – Holten Transportation is the latest company coming to Aurora's Business Park. Representatives from the company and Cambria Design Build were on site at Eric T. Smith last week for the official ground breaking ceremony, which included Mayor Geoff Dawe.

Auroran photo by Doug Sherritt

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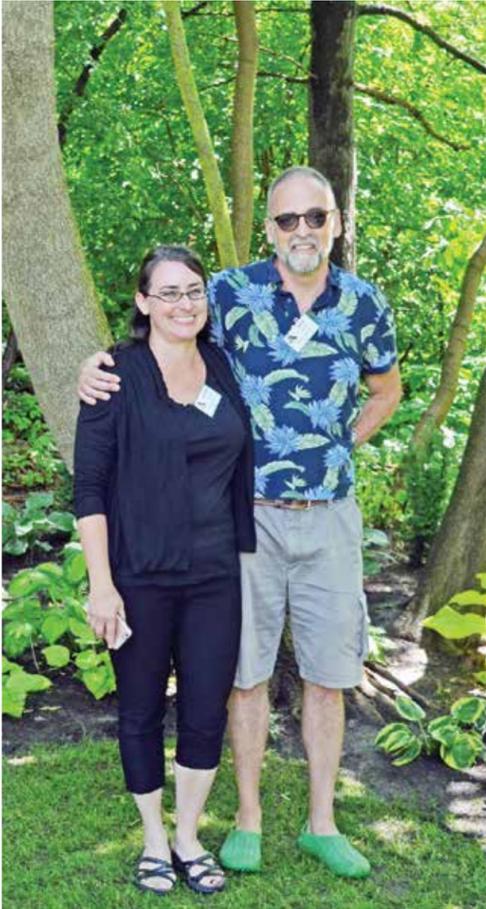
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Rain takes break for Aurora Garden Tour



Despite a wickedly wet start to the day, the sun eventually shone down on Aurora's greenest thumbs on Sunday for the annual Aurora Garden Tour, hosted by the Aurora Garden Club & Horticultural Society. Featuring six local gardens, plus one in Newmarket, it brought out crowds of garden lovers and nature lovers alike. (Clockwise from top left) Jennifer Steeves and Herb Goltz in their Connaught Avenue garden. Michelle takes a quick snap of a mother robin keeping her eggs warm in the branches of a small potted tree on Gurnett. Volunteers in the St. Andrew's Court garden of Trevor. Steve with his own miniature backyard "Algonquin Park" on Rush Road. Volunteers provided a colourful, flowery greeting to the first garden on Pineneedle. (Centre) Garden lovers were well prepared for any weather event. **Auroran photos by Brock Weir**

K I N G C E L E B R A T E S

CANADA 150

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KETTLEBY ROAD BETWEEN KILL AND JANE

Saturday the first of July at 4pm

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SCHEDULE

- 4:00PM OPENING BY MESSENGER OF GREAT FIRST BATTLES
- 4:15PM WELCOME TO THE SCENE
- 4:45PM LUNCH & CO
- 5:45PM CASH DRAWING
- 6:45PM MARCH ON MARCH SQUARE OF THE MESSENGER OF GREAT FIRST BATTLES
- 7:30PM FIRE LIGHTING AND WELL WISHES FROM GUESTS AND LOCAL
- 8:15PM GLENMORANGIE LAND

ENTERTAINMENT

- HISTORICAL TALKS OF KETTLEBY
- CRAFT BOWLING
- DEMONSTRATION
- KIDS & ADULT GAMES
- FACE PAINTING
- HERB MARKET
- CHILDREN
- PIZZA BOOTH
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- TRICKS FROM THE MARCH
- NATIONAL ANTIQUE
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Journal

CHARTWELL PARK PLACE RETIREMENT RESIDENCE: BENEFITS OF SOCIALIZATION

Do you know a senior who is experiencing feelings of loneliness?

According to Statistics Canada, frequent social participation is integral to seniors' quality of life. Agency expert Hilarie Clower told the CBC: "Social engagement—meaningful involvement with friends and family—is a component of

Combating depression

Seniors who are experiencing feelings of sadness or depression may benefit from interacting with their peers in a retirement village. According to a study published by The Journal of Family Psychology, older adults suffering from depression who took an weekly social calls reported improved mood and quality of life over the course of the study.

Lower aging risks

According to the University of Michigan, when seniors often have to eat with fellow members of their retirement community, they have a greater chance of consuming more food. Researchers found a link between the amount of local seniors ate and the number of social interactions they had, concluding that seniors who engage in more social with the food is healthier and better.

Chartwell Park Place Retirement offers many opportunities for socialization—whether they are enjoying lunch with friends in the dining room, participating in a music class, taking a dance class or joining an organized outing.

If you're interested in learning more about Chartwell Park Place retirement life and what programming, visit chartwell.com to download a sample activity calendar.



"Successful aging." From shared meals to bridge tournaments with friends, there are a number of ways seniors can socially engage.

"Social engagement—Involvement in meaningful activities and maintaining close relationship is a component of successful aging."

while living in a retirement residence. Though the transition to a retirement home may be difficult at first, the benefits of improved socialization can significantly improve a senior's mental and physical health.

Improved cognitive health

Seniors who lead an active social life may experience improved memory, according to the American Journal of Public Health. Researchers studied the social lives of adults over the age of 60 and how frequent interactions with friends affected their cognitive abilities. They concluded that social interaction had the ability to delay memory loss in older adults, meaning that increased brain functioning which occurs during socialization helps the brain to remain healthy and active.



Moments That Matter

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New chapter in the life of Armoury – but what?

By Brock Weir

The Aurora Armoury is set to be one of the centrepieces of this Friday, June 30's public celebration marking the 150th anniversary of Town Park, but it became something of a political football last week in a heated exchange over the future of the Downtown Core.

The fracas went down at last week's General Committee meeting between Councillors John Abel and Michael Thompson.

In a lengthy – and oftentimes heated – debate over accommodating the over 900 members of the Aurora Bridge Club who will be displaced to prepare for the demolition of Library Square, Councillor John Abel insisted the solution was right in front of them – the Aurora Armoury.

This came as something of a surprise to other members of Council as they all met in a Closed Session meeting on May 23 to discuss a letter of intent regarding the use of the Aurora Armoury.

While we don't yet know what this proposal for the Armoury's use will ultimately be, many Councillors said it puts the historic Mosley Street building out of the running for a Bridge Club solution.

"The obvious place is in the Armoury and it is right there in Town Park," said Councillor Abel. "A letter of intent is a document containing a declaration of the intentions of the writer and, furthermore, a document outlining one or more agreements between two or more parties before the agreements are finalized. That is why we're not talking about the Armoury. It is Town-owned. We have a need for it. Why we're not talking about this in closed session when we have an obvious demand for that space is beyond me.

"It is perfect. It is perfect for the cadets, it is perfect for the bridge club and it is perfect for our community. When we do plan things, we think long-range and we have known for a long time that we need programmable space. It is a fact. I have

known it since I started on Council six years ago. We do not have enough facilities. We shouldn't be moving our Town-owned facilities and entering into agreements when we need that space. It has got to be declared surplus."

While Mayor Geoff Dawe cautioned Councillor Abel that he was straying into an area covered by Closed Session confidentiality, he said he had not revealed anything that was not already on the public record.

Continuing, he said Council decided in December to go ahead with the Library Square demolition all the while approving a further motion to preserve the main features of Town Park, with a report on future "enhancements" at a later date as part of the ongoing strategy to realize Aurora's "Cultural Precinct."

"It's poor planning on the part of our Town that we have this conundrum," he contended, addressing the Bridge Club. "We really could have been repurposing the armoury knowing that we're going to displace the tenants and then put in some programmable space in Library Square so we can move you back. That armoury has been identified in report after report as something we can use for our community. We did repurposing studies. We know that we can find a use for that armoury and

right now is a perfect example. I think it is our obligation to plan and I don't know why we can't use the armoury. It is just natural that we would be using the armoury."

At this point, Councillor Thompson called a point of order to Councillor Tom Mrakas, who chaired last Tuesday's meeting.

"Councillor Abel knows full well why we can't use the armoury," said Councillor Thompson. "He is not being honest. He was in closed session, he voted for it, he knows full well what is happening with the armoury."

Ultimately, Councillor Mrakas ruled in favour of Councillor Thompson's Point of Order; and added, "It is knowledge of every Councillor sitting here at this table of the discussions in closed session. I agree with Councillor Thompson that you are fully aware of those discussions and the direction that was presented to staff and it is misleading to the public to state otherwise."

Concluded Councillor Abel, making a failed notice of motion calling for demolition plans for Library Square be halted until a design for its replacement had been approved: "We should be looking after our community. Let's bring the community back into this Council."

Advertorial

Local Investors Turning to Mortgages

This month, as banks and Home Capital Group turn down Canadian borrowers seeking a mortgage, local investors step up to fill the increased demand.

"Private lenders are now overwhelmed. They are taking many deals turned away by Home Trust," said Victor Camba, a mortgage agent who specializes in matching borrowers with individual investors.

Home Trust, Canada's biggest non-bank lender, was a conduit for many Canadians to have home ownership. During its struggles in recent weeks, it has scaled back on lending, leaving many borrowers in the lurch.

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

He prefers to offer loans below 80% of the value of the property to limit losses in case of a housing price downturn. Unlike mutual funds or stocks, a mortgage investment is collateralized with real property within the Greater Toronto Area, including Aurora and Newmarket. Loans are typically 1 year in duration and can earn investors up to 12% interest rate.

"It used to be investors went to their lawyer or accountant and said, 'I have a few million dollars and I want to lend this out and make a good return,'" Victor said. "They are still around, but now there are opportunities for the retail investor with cash, a line of credit or an RRSP."

For those who want to invest in real estate without the hassle of tenants or repairs, there will be a free workshop on how to become a lender. Details below:

Date: Thursday, July 6th at 6.30pm

**Where: Aurora Town Hall
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Register Online Today
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More investors are becoming lenders

Now there are opportunities for the retail investor with cash, a line of credit or an RRSP

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

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

"We take into consideration all sources of the client's income,

Aurora and King duo take off Canada Day

From page 3

that day.

From there, they head up the coast to Baffin Island, then off to Greenland and Iceland. The route goes from west to east to take advantage of the prevailing winds and Dengler pointed out a tail wind is always an advantage. The Bell 429 can comfortably travel 400 nautical miles at a time, and two legs of the journey push the envelope.

Two of the longest stretches run from Baffin Island to Greenland (392 NM) and Greenland to Iceland (400 NM). The luxurious, spacious cabin of the Global Ranger will be altered to accommodate extra fuel.

They will be travelling in the summer months, so they don't expect much in the way of bad weather. But, they are cautious and their journey all depends on conditions.

They have the benefit of the extremely reliable twin-engine Global Ranger, used as a search and rescue helicopter. They also rely on the most modern tracking technology.

"It's going to be an adventure," Dengler said.

While trips over water are problematic, they will be flying over some very remote parts of Russia. The crew will fly through Russia from July 14-21.

Most of the journey's challenges are operational and organizational in nature and involve clearances and permission from various authorities around the world.

Dengler is quite excited about meeting people on the ground as they make their way around the globe. In some instances, they may be sleeping on someone's couch in Chelyabinsk and Dengler said "that's quite something."

"2017 is Canada's year. On this the 150th anniversary of Canadian confederation, we will travel across the country and the world with a message of pride, goodwill, friendship," said

Dengler. "C150GO is truly a global endeavor, and it would not be possible without the generous support from our partners."

The C150GO team will post live updates online throughout their journey on their website at www.c150go.ca, and on social media using the "C150go" handle.

C150GO is actively seeking sponsorship partners. A chance to make a mark on Canada's history, sponsors will benefit from increased recognition during a year of global gratitude, spikes in tourism and nation-wide celebration. Three sponsorship tiers are currently available, providing benefits that range from a sponsored leg of the tour to an official C150GO helicopter visit.

To learn more about the C150 Global Odyssey, to become a sponsor or to view the complete C150GO itinerary, please visit www.c150go.ca

Founder of Dynatec Mining in 1980, Aurora's Bob Dengler is a recognized pioneer of modern Canadian mining, growing the company over 25 years into an industry leader employing over 1,500 people. Bob has a true adventurous spirit; in 2014 he summited Kilimanjaro and in 2015, flew his Bell 429 from Toronto to the top of Baffin Island, a 4,400-nautical-mile journey.

King's Steven Dengler is a Canadian entrepreneur with over 20 years of leadership in the tech space. In 1993 he co-founded XE, the world's trusted currency authority. A renowned financial technology innovator, Canadian investor, and startup mentor, Steven is a proficient pilot of both fixed wing aircraft and helicopters.

A retired test pilot for the Bell 429 Global Ranger, Rob "Dugal" MacDuff is a distinguished helicopter professional with over 12,000 hours of flight experience. Rob has helped other notable Canadians pursue their love for flying, including hockey legend Guy LaFleur.

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1867-built homes will be Canada 150 proud

By Brock Weir

On Saturday, Canada will mark very important milestone, but as old as the nation gets, Aurora will still have a few years on it.

Those homes that were here at the moment Canada was actually a unified nation will soon be able to bear that mark of distinction with a special commemorative plaque issued by the Town of Aurora.

Council recently greenlit a heritage plaque program that will see the owners of homes that built in Aurora the year Queen Victoria unified Canada East (Ontario), Canada West (Quebec), along with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick receive these special markers.

The plaque initiative was brought forward by Councillors Tom Mrakas and Jeff Thom.

In their motion, they said it is a matter of taking pride in – and promoting – heritage properties.

“We sat down and talked about this and I think it is a great thing to move forward because it is a great way to celebrate the 150th birthday of Canada while also promoting and celebrating our Town heritage at the same time,” said Councillor Mrakas. “I think it is an excellent way to combine them both and utilize the fact that it is Canada’s 150th birthday. I am looking forward to identifying those properties that were constructed in 1867.”

Added Councillor Thom, “I am sure all of Council is interested in heritage

preservation and commemoration and I am happy to support this.”

Looking ahead to the actual plaque program, Marco Ramunno, Aurora’s Director of Public Planning, said Aurora has an inventory of at least 20 homes built on or before Confederation and, using this information at their disposal, it would be relatively simple to whittle down a list of homes and buildings to be honoured.

The final number is 24.

Before Council approved the program, however, a note of caution was offered.

In some cases, heritage plaques signify a heritage designation. This, they said, would not be the case with the Canada 150 plaques.

“We already have commemorative plaques that we give out,” said Councillor Mrakas. “If you do get presented this commemorative plaque, it does not mean that your house or property will be designated or listed. It will just celebrate the fact that your property was constructed 150 years ago.”

The motion received widespread support of Council.

“I think it is a really great way to use the Heritage Reserve Fund,” said Councillor Wendy Gaertner on how the Town plans to pay for it.

The design of the plaque – and the list of homes set to receive them – will be unveiled during Canada Day Celebrations at Lambert Willson Park on Saturday morning.

THINGS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW

JUNE 5 – JUNE 30

Town Hall’s Skylight Gallery features Zorica and Nenad Miric’s artwork in their show called “A Potpourri of Colour, Numbers and Dance”, which is about their passion for paint and dance. This mixed media display includes art combined with numbers with a vivid expression of motion and music intertwined with stories that numbers hide. Visit the Skylight Gallery this month and enjoy how the artists’ play with colours and shapes as they share their passion for dance. Artists’ reception is Friday, June 23, from 7 – 9 p.m.

Teen Idol competition, and fireworks at 10 p.m.

SONG DEBUT – The Aurora Community Band will debut a new specially commissioned “anthem” today at Lambert Willson Park. The Band will perform from 11.30 a.m. to 12.15 p.m.

Play alongside Paul Coffey and other former NHL greats in the Paul Coffey Celebrity Hockey Classic at The Sports Village in Vaughan this November 9 and 10. Register your team now and don’t miss the chance to hit the ice as teammates of former NHL greats, while providing much needed funds that help kids with physical disabilities in your community succeed. Registration is \$1,500 per team or \$100 per player (non-refundable/non-receptible) plus a minimum of \$300 per player in fundraising. Register through July 1. celebrityhockeyclasses.com.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

CONCERT IN THE PARK – Join the Town of Aurora as TD presents Concerts in the Park - Carl Berger. Don’t miss this fun, interactive and musical adventure. This JUNO nominated children’s musician will exceed your expectations. Concerts are free. Food vendors on site, for your seating comfort, please bring your own portable chair. A food donation to the Aurora Food Pantry is greatly appreciated. 7 – 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 8

ART IN THE PARK – Art in the Park returns to Town Park today from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in conjunction with Kerry’s Place Appreciation Day 2017. The event will feature and artisan show and sale, music festival, performances by “The Therapy Seekers”, face painting and crafts for the kids, all with a chance to take in the Aurora Farmers’ Market at the same time.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29

Canadian Blood Services will host a blood donor clinic today from 2.30 p.m. – 7.30 p.m. at the Aurora Legion (105 Industrial Parkway North). Canadian Blood Services estimate that 100 donors are needed at this particular clinic so give today. You have the power to give life!

SATURDAY, JULY 1

Happy Canada Day!

PARADE – The Town of Aurora hosts the annual Canada Day Parade today from 10 – 11 a.m. The parade begins on Yonge Street at Mosley and will continue south to Murray Drive. Kids can participate in pre-parade sidewalk chalking at 9.30 a.m. outside the Aurora Public Library. This well-attended annual event is a much-anticipated day for countless spectators and a fantastic opportunity for local businesses to get involved with the community.

FESTIVITIES – The Canada Day Party continues from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. at Lambert Willson Park Events kick off with free pancakes, a cake cutting, music performances, free swimming, free public skating, a classic car show, games, crafts, music, the Aurora

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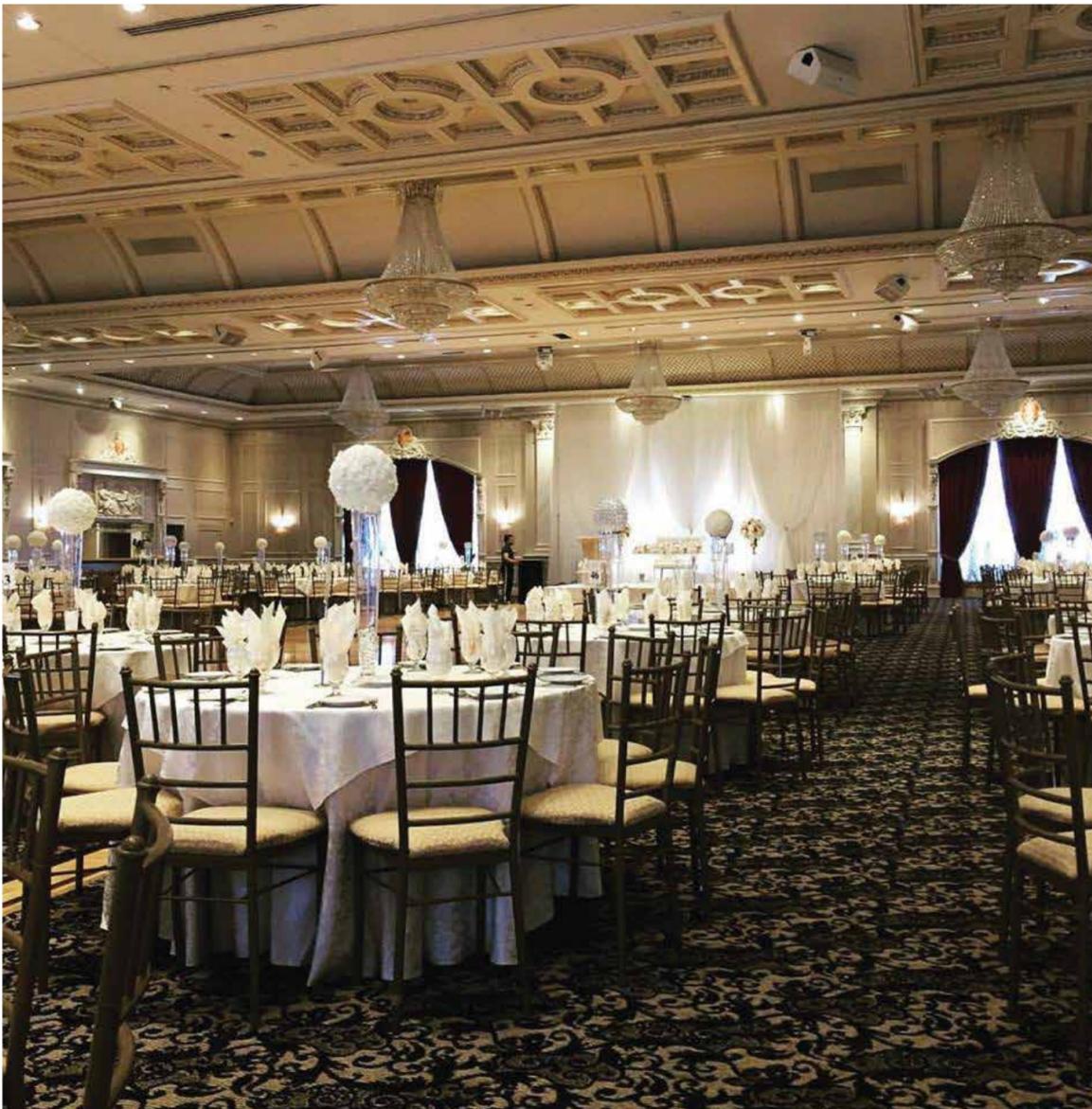
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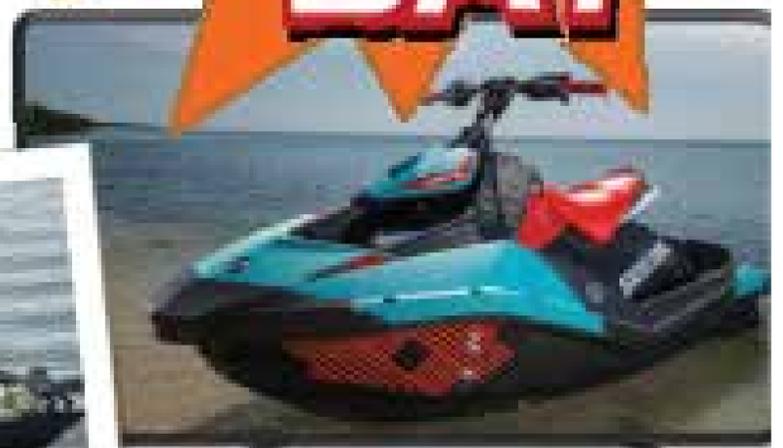
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A long road ahead for Reconciliation, say Indigenous leaders

From page 1

open to questions.”

In many instances those questions are tough questions.

For Big Canoe, asking a simple question can lead to a tug on a tiny thread which can lead to something far more significant. Once you begin to talk about one issue facing Indigenous Peoples, you quickly see how they “all tie together.”

“They go to economics, capitalism, resource extraction and things of that nature,” she says. “We continue to find fronts where we need to fight but there aren’t enough of us. There aren’t enough educators, lobbyists and researchers; it is usually just poor folks hopping in a car and going to the scene.

“If you put your children into school and they begin to learn the truth and history that you were denied, you should be angry at your own government and education system for shortchanging you the way they did. We so badly want to teach our grandchildren their true heritage and we only have little pieces of it left. We have to be able to make a climate generally for that kind of knowledge to be valued by everyone in society.”

Waters too believes that everything comes down to education.

Part of Reconciliation, she says, involves acknowledging that the Indian Act was meant to “annihilate every indigenous person” and there needs to be accountability.

“Whether or not people were directly involved, anyone who is Canadian is accountable,” she explains. “We are all treaty people because it takes two people to make a treaty. As a Canadian, everybody is accountable. Then it takes change in action. That change comes through further education.

“A lot of people walk around not knowing who the indigenous people are because, as Todd says, they are looking for the feathers, the headdresses, the jingle dresses, fancy shawls, and breech cloths. We are looking or that perspective because that is what we learned from TV and history. That is not what indigenous people look like. There are blonde-haired, blue-eyed indigenous people walking beside you



Participating in the Roundtable discussion were, from left, artist and teacher Todd Jamieson, advocate Collette Youngchief, Elder Lauren (Blu) Waters, and Becky Big Canoe. **Auroran photo by Brock Weir**

every day and you haven’t got a clue because of a lie that you were told, because of histories you were given from one side.

“We all have to be accountable, we all have to acknowledge what has happened in history and we all have to make changes because, as Indigenous people [we] have to sit down and say, ‘I know you didn’t make the Indian Act, however you’re perpetuating the Indian Act by carrying on the story-tellings, by carrying on the jokes, by hearing someone else make comments that are not called for.’ Whenever we don’t stand up for one we stand up for nothing.”

As a young mother and college student, Collette Youngchief saw this perpetuation in action, so much so that when her children were ready for school, she registered the boys under a different last name, a move she tearfully says she regrets.

“Coming here, it was so exotic to be Native,” says Youngchief. “I am so proud of my last name, but to do that to my sons, it hurts a lot that I chose to do that and made a choice for them. The name represents something; as opposed to them being ashamed of it, they are very proud of it.”

In addition to education, Big Canoe says in order to achieve true reconciliation land will have to be given back. Young Indigenous people, she says, are “dying, they are committing

land back we’re looking at extinction.”

Adds Mr. Jamieson: “For Truth and Reconciliation to be a factor, it has to come both ways. We need to come forward a little bit too. We have, for a long time in our history, given, given, given but we never got anything back. If we stop giving we’re never going to meet in the middle. Through Truth & Reconciliation I hope we get that voice. We’re holding big dreams.”

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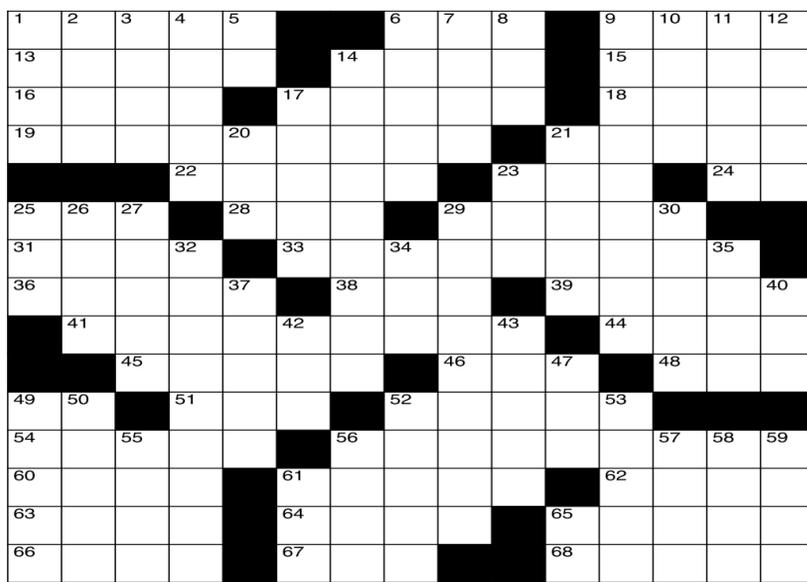


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CLUES ACROSS

1. Pile up
6. Midway between south and southeast
9. Canadian law enforcers
13. Bollywood director Prawaal
14. Body part
15. Ancient Greek City
16. Steep cliff
17. Korean ruler
18. As might be expected
19. Takes kids to learn
21. Absorption unit
22. Parts of the feet
23. Political action committee
24. Cerium
25. Former CIA
28. Of she
29. Japanese city
31. Expression of sorrow
33. Artificial body in orbit
36. Expressed violent anger
38. A way to surface
39. Northern gannet
41. Outer part of something
44. Nothing
45. Fathers
46. Siesta
48. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
49. Of I
51. Cash machine
52. Discounts
54. ___ Dickinson, poet
56. Watches over
60. Hindu queen
61. Steep banks
62. Fertility god
63. Port on Danube
64. Liquids
65. Greek war dance
66. In addition
67. Data acquisition system
68. Crash an aircraft

CLUES DOWN

1. Curved shapes
2. “Beastmaster” actor Singer
3. A female domestic
4. Starches
5. Without name
6. An air cavity within a bone
7. Relaxing places
8. Midway between east and southeast
9. Editing
10. Baseball team
11. Intended to be sung
12. Video game Max ___
14. Makes free
17. French young women
20. Express delight
21. Takes to the sea
23. Monetary unit
25. Paddle
26. Hit with an open hand
27. Gurus
29. Sings to
30. Book of maps
32. Publish in installments
34. Ink (slang)
35. American inventor
37. Unclean
40. Snag
42. Mars Excursion Module
43. Abnormal rattling sounds
47. For each
49. Country music legend Haggard
50. Electronic communication
52. Drenches
53. Type of sword
55. Lodgings
56. Messenger ribonucleic acid
57. Figure skater Lipinski
58. Acquire by one’s efforts
59. Stony waste matter
61. Offer
65. Without issue

THE AURORA BRIDGE CLUB



The Aurora Bridge Club, founded in 1965, has been a popular destination for duplicate bridge lovers across York Region and beyond for 52 years. We currently have over 250 members and are located in the old Victoria Street library in Library Square.

Unfortunately, this building will be demolished in the near future, and the Town of Aurora is unable to provide us with a new location on town property. **We desperately need a new location for our club!** We are a non-profit organization lacking the

resources to rent the expensive retail space currently available in Aurora.

We need approximately **2000 square feet** with easily accessible washrooms, a small kitchen area, and adequate parking for 30 or more cars.

We are able to pay for renovations on an appropriate property but need a reduced rent to be able to continue.

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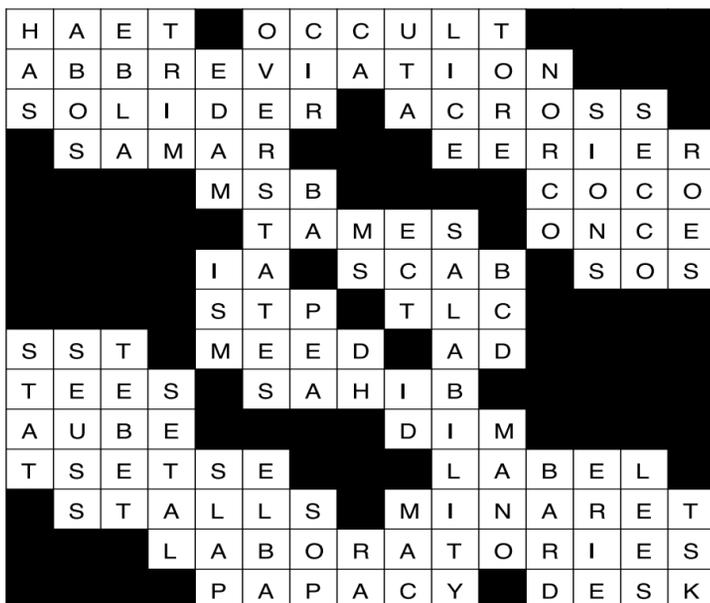
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ACTIVATE AURORA

Ron Weese

Continued from page 5

at younger ages with painful and sometimes debilitating over-use syndromes.

So what does this mean to parents and the kids who want to excel in sport? The message is that the path to excellence requires someone to become a true athlete; a motivated and highly skilled player that is durable. For this, a child should be involved in multiple sport experiences; and the sooner the better.

So when a well-meaning advisor suggests the road to sport success involves year-round training in anything; if they suggest more competition and sport specific

training, be very careful you are focused on the real prize; developing a child who is competent at many things, confident to try new activities and motivated to engage in many different sports.

Sport Aurora, Activate Aurora and the Town Municipal Recreation Department are moving towards a multi-sport focus to help kids develop fundamental movement skills and the confidence to participate. To learn more about this, please contact us at info@activateaurora.ca and feel free to follow me on Twitter @ronweese

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DEATH NOTICE

Reigate, Kenneth James

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the peaceful passing of our father, Ken, on Monday June 26, 2017, in his 87th year, at Southlake Regional Health Centre, Newmarket. Dad was predeceased by our mother, Patricia (nee Vinette) and his partner Bernice. He is survived by his four children, Terry Harrison (Bob), Bob Reigate, Diane Weir (Bill), and Ken Reigate, along with his granddaughters Nicole and Sarah (Ahmet) and his great grandchildren Jasmine, Lily, Ali, and Adem. He also leaves behind his brother Doug Reigate, and sister Carole Jordan, who will keep him in their hearts forever. A proud brother to eight siblings, he was blessed with many nieces, and nephews, who along with their families have many fond memories of him. Dad will be cremated and his ashes interred with those of our mother. A Memorial Service to honour his life will be held at the Thompson Funeral Home, 530 Industrial Parkway S., Aurora (905 727-5421) on Wednesday July 5 at 2:30pm. On-line condolences may be left at www.thompsonfh-aurora.com

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QUALIFICATIONS:

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



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