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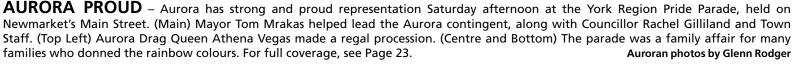
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New Stable Neighbourhood rules will protect communities: Council

Some residents and Council members disagree

By Brock Weir

New zoning standards will see real results in protecting Aurora's so-called Stable Neighbourhoods from incompatible new builds, according to Council.

But some area residents, and even some Council members, say the new changes do

> Aurora's Robert Thomas celebrates Stanley Cup win

> > By Jake Courtepatte

He may not have been on the ice when the final buzzer sounded in the St. Louis Blues' Game Seven win in the NHL's Stanley Cup Finals, but that could not stop the shine in Robert Thomas' eyes last Wednesday.

The Aurora native, plagued with an injury sustained by a Torey Krug hit in Game One of the series with the Boston Bruins, took to the ice in his jersey postgame to celebrate with his teammates.

Continued on page 19

not go far enough and fall far short of what set at 3.5 metres (or 4.5 metres to the peak local advocates have been fighting for.

number of changes to existing zoning bylaws as they pertain to the longestablished communities of Regency Acres and Aurora Heights, along with neighbourhoods surrounding Town Park and on Temperance Street.

The new bylaw, which will be formally enacted at a future Council meeting will see the maximum height of new builds pegged at nine metres, or 9.9 metres to the peak of the roof, whichever is less. The

of the roof, whichever is less), a maximum Last Tuesday, Council approved a lot coverage of 35 per cent or 235 square metres for a dwelling with an incorporated garage, whichever is less, while a dwelling with a detached garage would be limited to 40 per cent lot coverage or 215 square metres, whichever is less.

Gross Floor Area of a new build, a topic which garnered the most concern from area residents, will be set at 370 square metres, or 3,983 square feet. Residents made one last bid for change at the meeting, with Sandra Sangster,

Continued on page 12



TENTH ANNIVERSARY – The romantic sights and sounds of the tango set the tone for the official launch of the Aurora Cultural Centre's tenth anniversary season last week. For more, see Page 10. Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger



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who has returned to the Aurora/Newmarket area after 5 years away. Dean has opened a tull foot/ankle/knee orthopaedic clinic.

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Game of Roses: Garden Tour is Coming (this Sunday)

By Brock Weir

Whether you're a lifetime gardener or a new Aurora homeowner looking for some tips on how to make your garden grow, there will be something for everyone as Garden Aurora hosts its annual Aurora Garden Tour.

Garden Aurora – formally the Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society, which is now in the first year of its second century – will showcase ten gardens in and around Town this Sunday, June 23, each selected to show off a dazzling array of colours and creativity.

Running from 12 noon to 4.30 p.m., the self-guided tour will not only feature local gardens but, new this year, the "Game of Roses & Art in the Gardens" which will showcase locally produced outdoor art in each of the selected showplaces.

"We always look for gardens that are done by local gardeners, gardens for Aurorans by Aurorans," says event co-chair Judy Ryan. ""We don't choose gardens that are created and maintained by professional landscape companies because those "gardens aren't attainable for most of our visitors. We want to inspire our visitors to create their own beautiful landscapes and, in order to do that, inspire them when they walk into one of these gardens and say, 'I can do this.' It is not like walking into the gardens that are on some of the large estates in Toronto where there are thousands and thousands of dollars spent. There are gardens that you can do."

In short, if you've heard about the Aurora Garden Tour and thought, "been there, done that." You haven't really been there already, and you certainly haven't done that yet.

"There are so many fine gardens in Aurora that we have that we don't repeat a garden for 10 years," Ms. Ryan continues. "We revisit some gardens that have been on the tour because after 10

Desjardins

TOWN OF AURORA



Garden Aurora – formally the Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society – is gearing up for their annual Garden Tour this Sunday. Pictured above, members of Garden Aurora – Susan Abram, Judy Ryan, Donna Lewis, Terry Pressmar and Ken Smith – were exercising their green thumbs Monday morning at the CHATS (Community & Home Assistance to Seniors) garden.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir



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years the garden has changed and it will not be the same, but this year none of these gardens have been on the tour previously."

As these are all gardens by Aurorans, the tour will underscore the wide variety of plant materials that can grow and thrive in this community.

Garden Aurora member Donna Lewis says that there are still unique microclimates in Aurora and these pockets support unique plants.

"We have lots of new subdivisions coming in, so –

there are a lot of new gardens and people not [necessarily knowing] what can grow here," says Donna. "If you go on the tour of Aurora gardens, you will know what grows and you will see how they survive."

New this year, is a fresh commercial venture with Newmarket's New Roots Garden Centre.

Garden Aurora first formed this partnership last summer when the Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society marked its 100th anniversary with a special

AGM at Salvation Army's Northridge Community Church. The Garden Centre provided entrance landscaping, but have since faced business challenges as Yonge Street is reconstructed to make way for the Viva Rapidway.

"We reached out to them this year because of the construction on Yonge Street in a way to say thank you to do something to benefit our club, visitors, and maybe provide New Roots some exposure given the construction," says Ms. Ryan. "We have partnered with them and they have stepped up mightily in terms of discounts and a prize basket for our Game of Roses, which is wire art that comes from Kingcrafts."

Tickets for Sunday's Garden Tour are available now for \$15 from New Roots Garden Centre, Aurora Home Hardware, Blackforest Garden Centre, Caruso & Co, and this Saturday only at the Aurora Farmers' Market from 8 – 1 p.m.

For more information, contact Garden Aurora at 905-713-6660 or visit gardenaurora.ca.



PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PASSING OF BY-LAW

TAKE NOTICE THAT on May 28, 2019 Aurora Town Council passed **By-law 6182** to designate the following property to be of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:

50-100 Bloomington Road West De La Salle College

PT LT 71 CON 1 (KING) AS IN KI14654, EXCEPT PT 2 R679438, PT 10 65R10971, PTS 1, 3, 4 & 6, 65R14658, B77201B, A54471A, PTS 1, 2, 3 & 4, 65R29662 & EXCEPT PTS 1,2,3,4,5 & 6, 65R33118; S/T EASE OVER PT 1 65R1643 AS IN R186508; S/T EASE OVER PTS 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 & 19, 65R18188 EXCEPT PT 4, 65R29662, EXCEPT PTS 3,4 & 6, 65R33118 AS IN R495580; S/T EASE OVER PTS 4 & 17, 65R18188 AS IN R554169; S/T EASE OVER PTS 4 & 17, 65R18188 AS IN R556196; S/T EASE OVER PTS 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 18, 65R18188 EXCEPT PTS 2 & 3, 65R29662, EXCEPT PTS 2,4 & 5, 65R33118 AS IN R685895;

Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York, being all of PIN 03671-0060 (LT)

A copy of this By-law is available by contacting the Town Clerk upon request

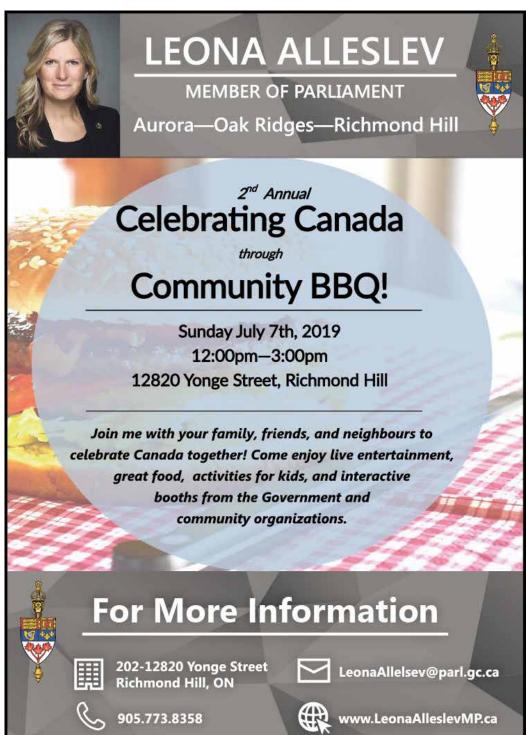
DATED at Aurora this 20th day of June 2019

Michael de Rond, Town Clerk, Town of Aurora, 100 John West Way, Box 1000, Aurora, ON, L4G 6J1

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



NATIONAL FINALISTS – You've stood up from the couch, put down your phones, and logged your hours of physical activity, and now Aurora is a finalist in ParticipAC-TION's Community Better Challenge. While it will still be some days before winners are announced, there was an early celebration this week when Aurora's Marybeth Jordan received the winning Fitbit from former mayor Geoff Dawe. Says Activate Aurora: he contest, promoting ParticipACTION's Community Better Challenge, was sponsored by Activate Aurora and Sport Aurora, who have been a regular fixture at the Aurora Farmer's Market, where they spread the word about this initiative, collected contest ballots, and drew the grand prize. The Challenge has now ended, and thanks to the efforts of both organizations, along with schools, fitness clubs, sports teams and other local businesses, Aurora has been named a national finalist in our bid to earn the title of "Canada's Most Active Community."



f /LeonaAlleslev @@LeonaAlleslev \@LeonaAlleslev \D Leona Alleslev





Residents warn of heavy coyote presence in east Aurora

By Brock Weir

Residents in Aurora's northeast quadrant are urging caution following an increase in coyote sightings in new developments.

Earlier this month, Jamie Kidder had just finished cleaning his garage around 10.30 a.m. when he sat down in a lawn chair to relax with a cup of coffee.

Shortly after he had a sip or two, he says he saw a coyote walk up the street, across his heighbour's driveway the two had "a little eye-to-eye" contact about three feet from his garage door.

Mr. Kidder, a resident in Aurora's 2C development just north of the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex at Leslie and Wellington, trains dogs and says he has an understanding of canine behaviour, and with the wild dog staring back at him, Mr. Kidder could tell he was hungry.

some "We had non-verbal communication and he decided that me being the big animal in my cave, it wasn't a good idea to try and get food, but down the street a guy was walking a small dog and [the coyote] toddled down the road to get him. I intervened and the owner got his dog up from the ground and I basically walked the coyote out of the neighbourhood."

Immediately after the encounter, Mr. Kidder called the Town to report his sighting -- but it was far from the last.

Tuesday.

Nor was there anything on Wednesday and Thursday.

That all changed, however, on the Friday. It was garbage day in the neighbourhood. When he was heading out earlier that morning, he didn't see much damage to the garbage left out by neighbours the night before, but when he came back around 11 a.m., he found a hungry female coyote shredding a garbage bag on the side of the street.

"That same day, I talked to a guy who has a small dog who said the night before he had to beat the coyote off his dog with a hockey stick," says Mr. Kidder. "I then talked to the neighbours because they have small children and dogs, letting them know to be aware. But the biggest issue came last Saturday



Jamie Kidder looks out at land designated for Aurora's new wildlife park on Friday afternoon from the driveway of his east Aurora home. He's just one of many area neighbours reporting close calls with coyotes. Auroran photo by Brock Weir

when my girlfriend and I were getting ready to head downtown. It was 3 p.m. and she saw a coyote running near the end of the street. Of course, she went straight into the house. There was a party of six or seven people kitty corner to our backyard and there were a couple of small dogs and four or five kids playing in another backyard on the opposite side. When I went into the backyard, I saw the coyote near the kids and there was an adult there basically trying to shoo the coyote away."

Later, the coyote headed in the direction of the party with the little dogs. With the party-goers warned to get the dogs inside, they scrambled when they saw the covote.

"There were a couple of little dogs running around quickly, people running after them. The coyote went into full predatory mode -- ears flat, back flat -- and started coming in, not looking at me, but looking past me to try and figure out how to get in, grab a dog and run away. I had to get as big as I could, roar at the covote until it

decided it wasn't a good idea to try and get by me. Once they are moving away, if you keep moving towards them they of the neighbourhood."

warning of coyotes.

Another neighbour, Alex Choy, says his small white dog Lua was attacked by two coyotes in their backyard.

The incident, he says, was witnessed by their 13 year old daughter, who subsequently had a panic attack.

"In front of the building where I live, there is construction going on and I believe the coyotes have lost their natural habitat," says Mr. Choy, noting his pup is recovering from surgery resulting from the coyote attack.

Mr. Kidder agrees with Mr. Choy's assessment of the impact swift development has had on the situation.

problem "The is with development of residential neighbourhoods reducing wildlife space, unfortunately, and this is my

opinion, when we do make these communities one after the other, trying to keep a small, natural wildlife area will keep moving away. I shuffled it out in the middle is not going to end up good," he says. "How many years ago Jamie Kidder isn't the only resident did people used to hunt black wolves and bears right here in the Aurora area? Why are they gone? I don't have anything against the coyotes, I am a dog lover, a canine guy, but they are predatory animals and nobody wants to do anything. The Town won't, Animal Control won't, MNR won't and YRP basically explained that if somebody is being attacked, call, and they will send the police over to shoot the dog. It seems kind of ... nobody wants to be the bad guy, but just like bears, wolfs and mountain lions, every other animal that is predatory to humans, that we have moved out of our residential areas, coyotes seem to hang around like raccooons but they are not -- these are predatory dogs and they will go after kids.

"It is going to be an unfortunate



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Voters "deceived" on Stable Neighbourhoods, says reader

Why are we unable to trust politicians to live up to their campaign promises?

It seems many have hidden agendas that do not serve the interests of voters who elected them.

Politicians have the unique ability to speak out of both sides of their mouths.

Some mislead voters by saying they will protect "stable neighbourhoods".

The Mayor and Council seem to be misleading residents in three neighbourhood study areas.

As Lenore Pressley said in her May 9 Open Letter to Mayor and Council: "They are treating us like fools."

The Town of Aurora hired a consultant who was charged with presenting a report to create neighbourhood stability within the three study areas.

This report turned out to be highly biased in favour of huge 4,000 square foot three-storey homes that could be 32 feet high.

The consultants' lack of logical standards and assumptions are highly unprofessional proving that he was unfamiliar with the very neighbourhood he was supposed to be studying. Why?

Mr. Mayor, we the people of the democratic Town of Aurora, cannot accept such flawed and arbitrary changes to our existing bylaws.

This whole matter seems to be a sneaky end run with ulterior motives, but it is not too late to be rectified.

We deserve a higher standard of representation.

Ron Miller

In defence of democracy

Our democracy continues to be shaken as we have once again witnessed Justin Trudeau and his Liberal government's attempt to tip the scales of justice and work to destroy people who have stood for what's right and in defence of the rule of law.

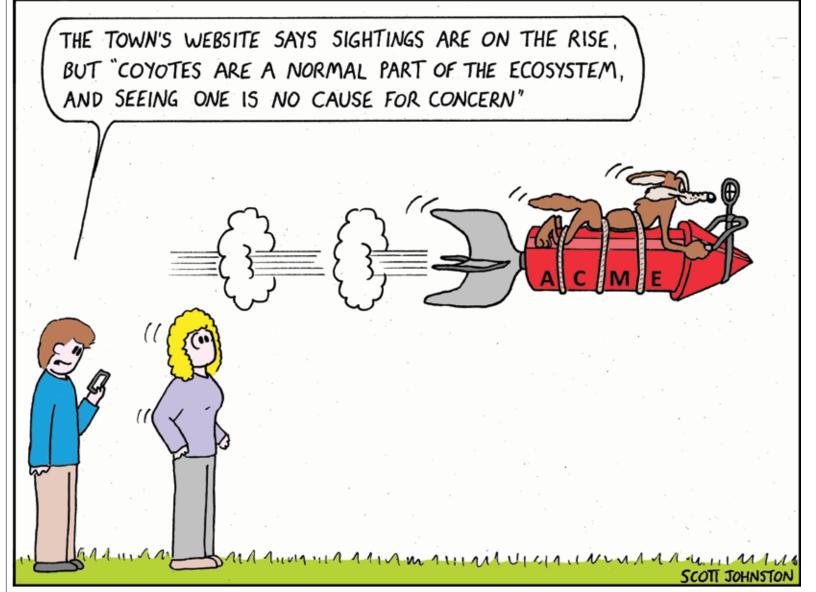
Mark Norman served as Canada's Vice Chief of the Defence Staff. He was charged with one count of breach of trust for allegedly leaking sensitive documents related to the procurement of a supply ship for the Royal Canadian Navy.

The Crown recently stayed its charge against Vice-Admiral Norman, citing that there was "no reasonable prospect of conviction." However, from the beginning of the trial, Norman's defence team has clearly stated that the Prime Minister's Office was attempting to direct the prosecution.

There is overwhelming evidence that Justin Trudeau and the Liberal government politically interfered in this case to defame Vice Admiral Norman, who served honourably for 38 years in the Canadian Navy.

The Prime Minister interfered when he refused to turn over critical documents to Norman's lawyers. He interfered when he refused to waive Cabinet confidence and provided heavily redacted, unreadable courtordered documents. He interfered when the Minister of National Defence refused to pay Norman's legal fees stating he was guilty before his case had been heard in court. The Prime Minister interfered by counselling key witnesses on what to say during Norman's trial.

Continued on page 5



Small goals, big consequences

Most of us are taught from a very early age that we can do anything we set our minds to.

This is the ideal that every parent tries to instill in their child as they grow up, encouraging them to cultivate their dreams, follow their heart, and pursue their deepest-held goals, even if they seem sometimes out of reach.

Every parent wants their child to succeed and be happy in whatever path they choose and, as children, try to buffer them from the reality that some circumstances in their lives – a financial barrier, for instance, or less opportunity to pursue some form of higher education - might make the path towards their own dreams a little bit more circuitous than their peers.

The ideas we have to make our impact on their world might seem a bit fantastical on the surface - like being a scrappy crime fighter inspired by Saturday morning cartoons, or being a daredevil influenced by superhero movies, or being an archaeologist, taking a leaf from the pages of Indiana Jones or any number of video games but, more often than not, they can form the seeds that germinate into something much more, something a little bit more grounded in reality, something with no less potential of making an impact.

A police officer, an athlete specializing in an "extreme" sport, or a history professor, anyone?

We also try to instill in the younger generations that every act, no matter how small, can have lasting positive consequences.

During Pride Month, for instance, there is no shortage of persons whose small or large acts of heroism or resistance can be pointed to as key building blocks in the fight for equality and making a better world for future generations.

Outside of Pride, there are reminders all around us - whether grandiose monuments, striking pieces of public art, or even a simple street sign bearing the name of an individual who served their community in some capacity – of difference-makers who dreamed small and large.

We can even find inspiration inside our wallets by taking out a \$10 bill and learning more about how an act of resistance as seemingly small as refusing to vacate a seat at the movie theatre you have duly paid for could strike a lasting blow to the roadblocks put up on the path towards Civil Rights.



Brock Weir

Yet, with some of our leaders, it seems that the significant impact seemingly insignificant goals and gestures can have is becoming increasingly lost.

Perhaps it is a product of bluster and bravado. Perhaps it is another form of resistance: resistance to accepting "inconvenient truths", because the shortterm pain on the road to long-term gain might not be good for political capital.

Either way, it is, in my opinion, a toxic phenomenon and one that needs to be addressed.

Case in point, the Federal Liberals announcement that Canada would pursue a nation-wide ban on single-use plastics while, at the same time, hold companies responsible for plastic waste to account.

"Canadians know first-hand the impacts of plastic pollution, and are tired of seeing their beaches, parks, streets and shorelines littered with plastic waste," said Prime Minister Trudeau in a statement. "We have a responsibility to work with our partners to reduce plastic pollution, protect the environment, and create jobs and grow our economy. We owe it to our kids to keep the environment clean and safe for generations to come."

Framing the initiative as one that will have a positive impact on future generations is always a safe bet and could be considered a platitude, but the announcement went further, reiterating Canada's global commitment to the environment.

"Plastic pollution is a global challenge that requires immediate action," the Liberals went on to say. "Less than 10 per cent of plastic used in Canada gets recycled. Without a change in course, Canadians will throw away an estimated \$11 billion worth of plastic materials each year by 2030. We've reached a defining moment and this is a problem we simply can't afford to ignore."

The ban, if ultimately passed into law, could see single-use plastics (defined here as plastic bags, straws, cutlery

plates, and the like) banned as early as 2021, "where supported by scientific evidence and warranted, and take other steps to reduce pollution from plastic products and packaging."

The legislation would also have the Feds work with the provinces and territories to introduce new standards and targets for companies that manufacture plastic products or sell them with plastic packaging so they become responsible for their plastic waste.

The announcement received a swift response from the Conservative opposition, and not without cause.

While the Government couched their proposed ban by saying these bans would only take effect "where supported by scientific evidence and warranted," there is little evidence yet to see how this will impact Canadian business, the manufacturing sector, and the bottom lines of the average Canadians.

These questions were rightly posed by Conservative leader Andrew Scheer but, alas, the party took his concerns one step too far in my view, and it played into that very symptom we seem to be experiencing of discounting what we can do close to home to make a lasting positive difference.

"Global problems require global solutions," said the Conservatives in response to last week's announcement. "Going after responsible Canadian consumers while ignoring the real problems that are happening around the world will do nothing to prevent plastic pollutions in our oceans."

Global problems do indeed require global solutions, hence international agreements from many of the world's most powerful nations, outlining, for instance, targets towards reducing greenhouse gases and having a positive impact on climate change, but change can indeed start at home.

A ban on single-use plastics will never be a magic bullet, but, if the scientific evidence and the numbers ultimately add up, it could very well be a step in the right direction.

Dismissing the suggestion out of hand by arguing Canada shouldn't bother looking at things we can do close to home, that efforts entirely within our own power, however small, are a fool's errand because the world's most detrimental plastic producers don't want to be part of the solution is a red herring and shouldn't be part of the argument.

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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...

International Tennis Day! (June 20)

Members of the 1911 Aurora Tennis Club pose for an image at an unknown location. To learn more about the history of tennis in Aurora, be sure to check out this week's Time Traveller's Diary column.

MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

Summer is just around the corner, and I would like to congratulate all of the recent graduates on their academic success and wish all children in our community a fun summer. It is always a great time to play outside. I know my sons look

forward to it.

This marked the year 75th Anniversary of D-Day. On D-Day, June 6th, 1944, Canadians fought for democracy and freedom. Some 14,000 Canadian soldiers came ashore at Juno Beach that day. At ceremonies across Canada, and in Normandy, France, Canadians stopped to remember and honour the 359 Canadian soldiers killed and the more than 700 that were wounded in Normandy.

The 2019 Aurora Chamber of Commerce Street Festival was held on Sunday, June 2. It was great see the streets filled with local residents, and many visitors from near and far attended this year's event. Thanks to ACC organizing team, volunteers, and all the vendors who worked hard to make it a great success. It is always great to see so many people on Yonge Street.

On Sunday, June 9, the 71st Annual Decoration Day ceremony was held at the Newmarket Cemetery. Residents joined together to commemorate and honour all those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. We will remember them.

Congratulations to the Toronto

June Update



MP's Report

Kyle Peterson, MP **Newmarket-Aurora**

season, as Canadians all across the country cheered on the Raptors throughout the NBA playoffs. We can all be proud of the Raptors winning their first NBA Championship! #WeTheNorth

Happy Pride Month! I was proud to see our community out in record numbers to the York Pride Parade held last weekend on Main Street, Newmarket. It was a wonderful celebration. Congratulations to the organizers and volunteer team for your hard work and efforts to make this year's event an outstanding success.

Every year, my family and I look forward to celebrating Canada Day in Newmarket-Aurora. This year, there are many activities planned to celebrate Canada's birthday. To find the full schedule of events, please visit the Town of Aurora website at www. aurora.ca

As this is my final MP Report, Raptors! What an incredible playoff I would like to say thank you all in Peterson@parl.gc.ca.

Newmarket-Aurora. It has been an absolute honour to serve you. We live in the best community in the best country in the world. What I will remember most is the amazing people we have here. I continue to be overwhelmed by all the wonderful organizations and volunteers that continually go above and beyond to serve their neighbours. Thank you for all you do.

I am extremely honoured to have represented Newmarket and Aurora in Ottawa. I am proud to have served with Prime Minister Trudeau and with our entire Caucus. I thank him for his support. I am also proud of the work accomplished in this term through the International Trade and Government Operation Committees that I served on. I had the good fortune of meeting many Members of Parliament, from all parties, who shared with me a commitment to serve their communities. I got along well with many, regardless of Party. I do wish politics could be less partisan, and I tried to work together with all.

Thank you to all, and I wish you a wonderful summer.

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 Federal matters. We are located at 16600 Bayview Avenue, Suite 202. You may reach us at Tel: 905-953-7515 or by email at Kyle.

Duck (et al) Season

Who would buy a slightly used stuffed duck?

We all have stuff to get rid of, whether it be well-used but still functional items that are no longer needed, or things we've been given that we graciously accepted, even if we didn't necessarily want them, or objects enthusiastically obtained in the heat of the moment that subsequently had us scratching our heads as to why we allowed that impulse to come over us in the first place.

Often these unwanted things end up cluttering closets, garages and basements, until eventually they will be pulled together for disposal. If you're crafty, they can be re-gifted, but most will be thrown out or donated to charity.

But for some people, they provide the perfect opportunity for a garage

I've participated in running some sales over the years, and my memories tend towards them being a lot of work, for little financial return. And one never gets rid of everything.

But some people are obviously unfazed by and even thrive on spending hours finding and tagging items, setting them out on tables, and having people scrutinize their lives ("what were they thinking having one of these?"), just to sell 20 things for an average of 50 cents each, then having to dispose of all the unsold

Maybe it's the social aspect of meeting new people. Or perhaps it's the result of some sort of excessive



INSIDE AURORA Scott Johnston

haggling gene being expressed.

But you can't discount these sales' popularity.

This likely explains why the everimaginative folks at Town Hall came up with the idea of holding a community garage sale. This idea isn't necessarily new in Town. After all, the annual Street Festival on Yonge Street had its beginnings as a sort of mega-garage sale.

So, the first Saturday in June, I headed over to the SARC to check it out, passing masses of signs along the way encouraging folks onto the side streets for other local garage sales.

Despite getting there just after it opened, many people were already returning to their cars armed with purchases. Others were poking hopefully amongst what was on offer from the few dozen or so sellers on

For the most part their tables were laden with the usual garage sale fare: kitchenware, books, cds, movies, clothes, artwork, knickknacks, sporting goods, toys and games.

In their zeal to sell, it even looked like some had taken to stripping their houses, as there were also floor duct covers, hardware and electrical

But it was the stuffed duck that drew my attention.

The taxidermy job wasn't bad, and the pose, with wings outstretched as if in flight, was a nice touch. I'm sure in its prime it was a fine specimen.

But it was obviously a mallard of a less than recent vintage, as it was now somewhat faded, shedding some plumage, and just generally bedraggled looking. I didn't see a price on it, but I expect it had a more than motivated seller, so it would be a bargain for whomever was interested.

But having passed the table a few times in my wanderings, it was still there when I left.

Since there was a fair-sized crowd, people seemed to be enjoying themselves, and it's probably one of the less expensive activities put on by the Town, I'm sure it will be back again next year.

As, no doubt will be most of the items purchased there last week, as their new owners remove them from storage and return to try to offload

Who knows; if you're really interested, you may even have another crack at that duck, although it may be a little dustier and few more feathers lighter by then.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In defence of democracy

From page 4

As the prosecution made clear: the documents that Justin Trudeau and the Liberals were fighting to keep secret were the very documents that resulted in Vice-Admiral Norman's charges being dropped.

In accordance with the National Defence Act, Members of the Canadian Armed Forces must be free from real or perceived partisanship and political engagement. So as Canadians we must ask why then, did the Minister of National Defence and the Prime Minister make public statements presuming Norman to be guilty in 2017 before having his day in court. Why were two unelected, partisan staffers - Katie Telford and Gerald Butts - from the Prime Minister's Office, who are not in the military chain of command, briefed by the Chief of Defence Staff on the RCMP's (claimed independent) investigation into Norman on January 9, 2017?

I asked these questions to the Minister directly during a Committee of the Whole on May 14, 2019. In his reply, he takes no responsibility for these politically charged actions. Our democracy is based on the fact that a standing army is accountable to the elected official (the Minister of National Defence) so that Canadians can trust our military is completely accountable to the will of the citizens. The Minister's actions call into question his understanding of his sworn obligation and jeopardizing the democratic governance of our military.

As the Vice-Admiral said, "the alarming and protracted bias of perceived guilt across the senior levels of government has been quite damaging and the emotional and financial impacts of this entire ordeal have taken a toll" on himself, his career, his family and our country.

So why does this matter to Canadians?

Democracy is fragile. When a government attempts to politically interfere to tip the scales of justice, then it brings not only dishonour to the sacred responsibility entrusted to those who hold federal elected office, but also of those who served and those who have served - and have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to Canada.

Like the SNC-Lavalin scandal, the rule of law for both our military and civil laws must prevail above all else. At the foundation of our democracy, individuals must remain innocent until proven guilty, and all must remain equal under the law as its core principles. The government repeatedly politically interfered to punish Vice-Admiral Norman for standing with honour and integrity. This calls into question our entire democratic system, the very institution of government itself, and the confidence that Canadians have in their government officials, who are entrusted by them to act with the highest ethical standards and integrity.

The members of our Canadian Armed Forces are willing to give their lives in service to country and to die for the values for which our nation stands - individual liberty, order and good government. Those who are responsible for the mistreatment of a respected and honourable colleague must be held to account, to ensure that those who serve in the Canadian Armed Forces are never again prosecuted for partisan, political purposes.

We have watched the Prime Minister attempt to destroy people who have stood in defence of the rule of law – and the price to those individuals has been high. If the Prime Minister behaves this way towards Ministers and to a distinguished and honourable Admiral of the Canadian Navy, then no one is safe.

So, the next time where we need an individual in Canada - from a Cabinet Minister to a highly decorated officer - to a junior public servant to an intern on a co-op program in a private corporation - will they be willing to stand and be counted to do what is right not what is easy? Or will they think twice because they know the price is too high?

> Leona Alleslev, MP **Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill**

THIS WEEK'S **POLL**

Should Canada ban single use plastics?

Yes No Unsure

Go to www.theauroran.com to vote!



One eRead Canada shines light on Indigenous voices with Glass Beads

By Brock Weir

Pick up your tablet or e-reader and borrow a free copy of Dawn Dumont's "Glass Beads" to join in a nation-wide conversation.

Through June 30, unlimited digital copies of Glass Beads, a novel of three interconnected short stories, are available to borrow for free with your Aurora Public Library membership.

Organized by the Canadian Urban Libraries Council, One eRead Canada is supported by libraries across the country and has been designed to create an opportunity for people across the country to read one book together and share their thoughts, feelings and experiences with each other.

Glass Beads charts the friendship of four First Nations people – Everett Kaiswatim, Nellie Gordon, Papequash and Nathan (Taz) Mosquito over two decades, and how historical, political and cultural shifts impact them, and members of First Nations

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"These young people are among the first of their families to live off the reserve for most of their adult lives, and must adapt and evolve," reads the synopsis. "In stories like Stranger Danger, we watch how shy Julie, though supported by her roomies, is filled with apprehension as she goes on her first white-guy date, while years later in Two years Less A Day, we witness her change as her worries and vulnerability are put to the real test when she is unjustly convicted in a violent melee and must serve some jail time. The House and Things That Can Be Taken establishes how the move from the city both excites and intimidates reserve

"As the four friends experience family catastrophes, broken friendships, travel to Mexico, and the aftermath of the great tragedy of 9/11, readers are intimately connected with each struggle, whether it is with racism, isolation, finding their cultural identity, or repairing the wounds of their upbringing."

When they Aurora Public Library



Ashley Nunn-Smith, Manager of Content, Access and Innovation for the Aurora Public Library, displays a copy of Glass Beads on her tablet. Glass Beads, by Indigenous author Dawn Dumont, is the selection for the One eRead Canada campaign, which is on now through June 30. Before Ms. Nunn-Smith is a selection of works penned by Indigenous authors available to borrow from the Library. Auroran photo by Brock Weir

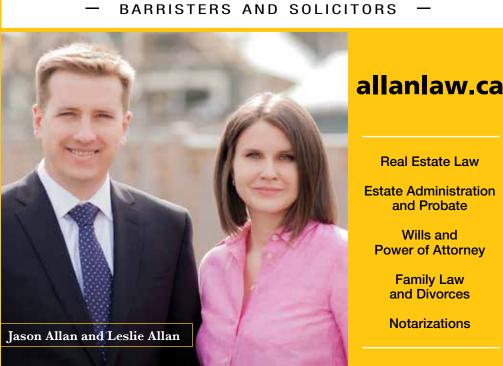
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(APL) first heard of this year's One eRead Canada program, they immediately jumped on board. According to APL's Ashley Nunn-Smith, Manager of Content, Access and Innovation, it was a way of maximizing opportunities for a key demographic.

While the APL's One Book One Aurora campaign is ongoing, this was a prime opportunity to have an unlimited number of copies of a single book available for the Library's growing number of members who prefer reading books on their devices because licensing e-books can often lead to limited available copies. Additionally, increasing access to an Indigenous author was a chance to provide both a "mirror" and a "window" for library users.

"Sometimes something like Indigenous reads, women's books, or Pride books, we sometimes [as readers] tend to shove them to the side a little bit for being for the people featured in the book, but we wanted to open that up and say there are some really great books out there that should be checked out," says Ms. Nunn-Smith. "It was also, of course, very timely with the National Inquiry into Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women just coming out and I think it is on people's radars. While this book is interconnected

short stories with four First Nations characters, the book doesn't have to be for the people depicted. We librarians talk about books being either a mirror or a window. This could be a mirror for some of our readers or, I think, a window for a lot of others."

For Ms. Nunn-Smith, Glass Beads will likely serve as a window into the lives of others and she's eagerly looking forward to savouring the book and joining in the conversation.

To join in the conversation, head over to aurorapl.ca to check out a copy for the e-reader or platform of your choice and then join the conversation on their online book club via Facebook and share your thoughts on social media using the hashtag #1eReadLivrelCanada.

"This is connecting people from coast to coast to coast," says Ms. Nunn-Smith. "This might be a different perspective that people haven't read before, then people can join the conversation happening around it, maybe they can be exposed to other people's perspectives of the book and see how it may or may not reflect their lives through the online discussion."

For more information on program, including links to the Facebook discussion, visit aurorapl.ca/content/ one-eread-canada.



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Speed limit reduction coming to John West Way

By Brock Weir

A speed reduction will be coming soon to John West Way.

Council last week approved a motion from Councillor Rachel Gilliland which will see speeds on the busy thoroughfare near Town Hall reduced by 10km/hour to a speed limit of 40km an hour, aligned with other area residential streets.

Additional traffic calming measures will also be investigated by municipal staff, including a possible three-way stop at Amberhill Way, just across the street from Town Hall and the Aurora Seniors' Centre.

"When John West Way was built, there were no condos, parks, schools, or community events [in the area]," said Councillor Gillland, speaking to her motion. "Even the Aurora Seniors' Centre wasn't there. Over the years, there has been a tremendous increase in pedestrians, events and new builds. In addition, we have also received notice of new rezoning of even more residential housing (a proposed apartment building) at the northeast corner of John West Way - even more traffic and more pedestrians."

Councillor Gilliland told Council she has heard from "many residents" regarding speeds and sightline issues in the area, complaints, she said, were corroborated by municipal staff who have heard similar concerns, particularly when it comes to the safety of kids trying to cross the street.

"I believe this issue needs to have a two-prong approach solution, one to reduce speed to 40 km an hour to meet all other residential streets and, two, to address the sight line issues," she said. "Local residents and visitors have shared their concerns with sight line issues around the bend, not only by driving north and south but also exiting Town Hall, Amber Hill Way and the Tim Hortons plaza. It simply is an accident waiting to happen. The safety in our neighbourhood

is a priority and there is a high concentration of secondary school students walking or driving to schools, seniors and residents with accessibility requirements, residents in general and tourists. The fact we have a sign posted saying 'Seniors' is an indication we need to be more aware. I say we can do better to keep our community safe and I hope that I can have the support from Council to move this motion forward."

Council duly supported the motion, but some were left to question why John West Way was an anomaly among local residential streets that have a 40 km/hour speed limit instead of a 50.

"My understanding is it was considered a thru-way at the time it was built and it wasn't considered a residential street at the time," said Mayor Tom Mrakas, responding to questions from Councillor Michael Thompson. "The speed limit was never changed."

"When I first saw the motion, I thought [of Mavrinac], Conover and certainly some of those major thoroughfares on that part of Town," replied Councillor Thompson. "They are all 40 km/hour, so I certainly support the motion."

Councillor John Gallo, who lives with his family just a few steps from John West Way, was also supportive.

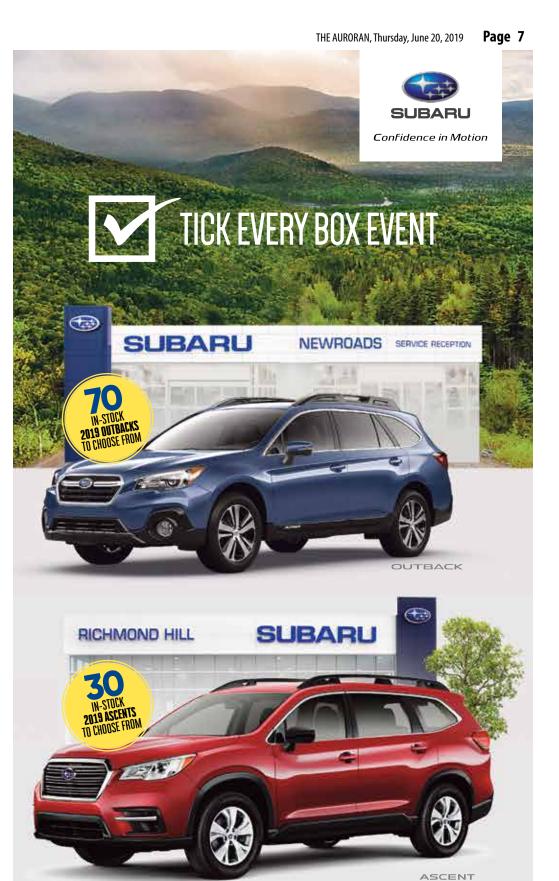
"Being a resident of the area for 23 years, I couldn't agree more," he said. "I am not sure what the solution is [on sight line issues], I think we still need to put our heads together, but there are definitely sight line issues and speed issues up and down the street. I challenge any other street in the Town of Aurora that has that amount of density of residents in that strip from Wellington all the way up to [Hollidge Boulevardl."

A further report on potential traffic calming measures, including that potential three-way stop, is expected to be before Council in the next few months.



FATHER'S DAY CAR SHOW - Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MPP Michael Parsa, second right, joined Val, Randy and Kingsway Place manager Ray Barlow at the Murray Drive seniors' residence on Saturday for their Father's Day Classic Car Show, Barbecue and Open House. Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger





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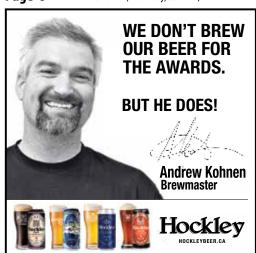
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BUSINESS FINANCE



STEAM Conference gives today's kids a taste of tomorrow's jobs

By Brock Weir

Filmmaking has sparked the imagination

for more than a century, but local students were able to lift the veil on cinematic magic this spring at the Brainpower STEAM Conference at Regency Acres Public



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Kyle, Reid, Jade, Ciarra, and Tiffany get some pointers in the kitchen.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

School.

Looking back on the school year just about to come to an end, students and teachers can look back at how snowfalls and cancelled buses that featured in the late start to the season couldn't keep students away from Regency Acres' second annual STEAM (Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math) Conference which gave students a flavour of various industry careers and how they can pursue them.

Facilitated by teacher-librarian Robin Morrison-Claus, this year's STEAM conference included courses ranging from cooking and knitting to animation, featuring a keynote address from Dave Doucette of Fast Motion Studios who, donning a high-tech motion-capture suit, opened students' eyes to the wide-ranging jobs awaiting them in the entertainment industry.

"This entertainment industry, which I lucked into in the last few years, is a perfect example of STEAM and also of 21st century skills," said Mr. Doucette, noting that the hard skills of science and math, are just as important as "soft" skills like arts. "Soft skills are absolutely essential in our industry. You have to be able to absolutely collaborate, communicate effectively, work within groups, be flexible, be entrepreneurial, be consistently innovative, so all these 21st century soft skills we talk about are probably more important, frankly, than the hard skills. Those are easy to come by, but the combination of the two skills are exactly what we need in the industry to continue to grow and maintain this industry."

Following his keynote, Mr. Doucette had the chance to work directly with students, running them through a workshop based around the idea of a production pitch. The premise saw students working on a film like The LEGO Movie and being approached by a director who needed a 10 second action sequence involving cars.

Students had to work together to come

up with an idea to pitch at a production meeting on how they might visualize a short action sequence and camera angles, mapped out with mock sets and toy cars, and the steps that follow after a successful sell

"It all starts with a pitch," he said. "What they're doing today is all under timelines that are very representative of our industry." If it sounds high stress, it wasn't. The aim of the STEAM conference was to instill in students the idea that STEAM itself can be fun, there are careers they can pursue in each of the areas, and goals that can be achieved that go beyond the school walls, said Ms. Morrison-Claus.

"We want the students to leave with a positive growth mindset, with those critical thinking and creative thinking skills, knowing that they can use those to get through their whole life, careers, and jobs they can love – not a job, but a fun thing to get through life with," she said. "Not every kid is a 'sit at the desk and learn' kind of kid. Many of our kids need that handson, they need the critical thinking, they need the problem solving, from a different aspect they don't get out of a textbook or a problem on the board.

"Our students last year talked about this day to the end of the year and when they heard I was starting to plan this year, the kids and parents were so excited – today's a snow day and we have three-quarters of our kids here because they want to participate."

Unfortunately, the inclement weather kept away instructors and students from other schools eager to participate, but, in keeping with the theme of STEAM, those beyond Regency Acres looking to participate were able to do so by online video conference.

"It is overwhelming how quickly you can effect change in the mindset of students by bringing in people outside of the educational walls," Mr. Doucette agreed, noting that events like these can have a

Continued on page 15

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Page 9

Council last week made a final decision that finally put in place protections stable our neighbourhoods.

My thoughts have always been clear whenitcomestostable neighbourhoods and that is that we as a Council and Town

needed to make changes to our zoning bylaw in order to align our zoning with the intent of our Official Plan.

And this would only happen through a three-prong approach:

- 1. The addition of site plan controls (which has already been approved)
- 2. Changes to the zoning, and
- 3. Implementation design guidelines.

This is what I have always stated that Council would do and Council did just that by approving the changes to the if you would like to get into contact zoning that including a maximum GFA (Gross Floor Area) of 3,983 square feet. The vote was 6-1 with Councillor Gaertner opposed.

These changes of the zoning bylaw along with the site plan controls and design guidelines will mitigate the situation that residents most take issue

with - where there is development for development's sake; growth that is not within the character of the community or compatible with our neighbourhoods.

Yes, our town evolve and

and appropriate growth; growth that meets the needs of and the vision for our community. And I believe that was achieved last week by this Council.

I am proud that this Council has been able to work together to move past politics and make a decision that seems to me to be a common-sense approach to improving planning in our community.

remains the fantastic community we call home!

4746 or by email tmrakas@aurora. more newsletters and council updates then please visit Mrakas.ca/contact to join the growing list of Aurorans that are staying informed.

grow; but it needs to be responsible

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That is all for this week. As always, with me please feel free to contact me anytime by phone 905-727-3123 ext. ca and if you would like to sign up for **Arthritis:**

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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.

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Tom Mrakas

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Photo by Lars Ingels

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Cultural Centre marks 10th anniversary with a Welcome Home

By Brock Weir

Just a few short decades ago, the Church Street School was a home away from home for generations of Aurora students.

It is a building that sparked the imagination for countless young minds and, over the last decade, sparks have continued to fly within its walls as home to the Aurora Cultural Centre.

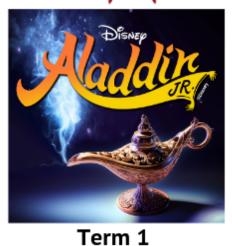
Now, as the Aurora Cultural Centre prepares to mark its tenth anniversary,



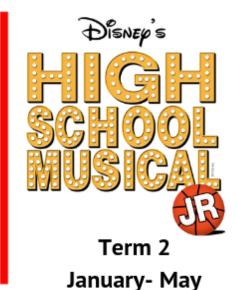
The Aurora Cultural Centre Team – Jane Taylor (Communications & Events Manager), Bonnie Kraft (founding Board member, music sponsor), Clare Bolton (Gallery Manager), and Suzanne Haines (Executive Director) – unveiled the Centre's 2019-2020 Season.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

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> an ambitious new season. The Aurora Cultural Centre lifted the curtain on its 2019-2020 season

last week at a dazzling evening for its patrons and loyal guests that featured live music and the sounds of dance on these historical walls. ringing through its historic walls.

"We are launching our tenth anniversary season, a season welcoming new and past artists to Aurora to celebrate ten years of delivering arts and culture to the community," said Suzanne Haines, Executive Director of the Aurora Cultural Centre. "We're proud to be here tonight after ten years of hard work, building capacity, with and for our partners, and gaining a reputation for strong, professional programming in the community.

"It has not always been easy, and the fruits of this labour are seen in the long-standing and loyal patrons, sponsors, board members, volunteers and staff. When we started thinking about the theme for this tenth anniversary, we kept talking about what we were hearing from artists: that the Aurora Cultural Centre felt like home. We remembered how excited we would get every time a student from the schoolhouse came to visit, and they talked about how it was a home for them. We thought about the history of this building and our part in making it an active place once again over the last ten years and decided not only to welcome home those in the community who may not have been here for a while to return, but also we wanted it to be a home for the next decade and beyond."

The theme of "Welcome Home" is very much reflected in the 2019-2020 Gallery Season.

According to Gallery Manager Clare Bolton, the last decade has seen the Cultural Centre evolve into "a welcoming home for creativity in the community and beyond."

"The idea of Welcome Home has become a familiar thread throughout this gallery season," said Ms. Bolton. "We highlight the importance of partnerships, inclusion and diversity. We're so incredibly proud of the

they are going back to their roots for community relationships we have been able to build with our groups, such as the Society of York Region Artists and the Pine Tree Potters Guild. Each year, on average, we have showcased over 200 emerging professional artists

> "For some artists, showcasing with us has been their first opportunity to present their work in a professional gallery. On numerous occasions, we have invited artists back to either teach at the Centre or become a participant in a group show, or bring another project to the Centre. Artists from diverse backgrounds consistently tell me how welcome they feel. We have built strong relationships as we have grown over the years, our ways of seeing programs develop to enhance the gallery experience for visitors. Artists have come into the galleries and facilitated demos, workshops, art talks, guided tours with the public, and we have been able to offer these programs at no charge."

Among the highlights of the Gallery





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Mixed Media Mashup Ages 7-12 | 1 pm - 4:30 pm \$95/short week \$115/full week 9 am - 4 pm | \$235/full week



For more details visit auroraculturalcentre.ca



Ms. Haines addresses patrons and long-time supporters of the Aurora Cultural Centre.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

Season will be the Pine Tree Potters Guild's 40th annual Juried Show and Sale, featuring nearly 50 new works from local artists. The Society of York Region Artists (SOYRA) will be back with their annual Showcase Exhibition, this year built around the theme of Curious Minds.

In the winter, young artists from Aurora's four high schools will once again have the chance to show off their talents at the eighth annual Mayor's Celebration of Youth Arts.

More broadly, August 31 will see the exhibition "Light Grows the Tree" take over the gallery spaces, curated by Liz Ikriko, which documents and showcases a community of Black artists, writers, collectors and curators in Toronto, photographed by four artists over the course of two months.

She Flourishes, a solo exhibition by Gaia Orion takes over October. Subtitled "Creating a Vision for a Peaceful World," it is intended to foster conversation about "women's qualities and leadership in today's world and how women have the powerful potential to transform."

Above the main floor gallery spaces, all varieties of music will form the Aurora Cultural Centre's upcoming live music season.

"I started here over a decade ago when these doors weren't even open and music ringing out in Brevik Hall was just a dream," said Jane Taylor of the Aurora Cultural Centre. "In the intervening years, we have worked with our community to bring a wide variety of professional performing artists to the stage to grow the number, variety and genres of concerts and to ensure there is a broad representation and a bit of experimentation as we push out the edges of our programming."

The Brevik Hall Music Series features "Canadian artists working in beloved genres and at the pinnacle of their craft," said Ms. Taylor, of the lineup that includes such artists as Rum Ragged, the Laila Biali Jazz Trio, Patricia O'Callaghan and Friends, and perennial Cultural Centre favourite John Sheard.

"These are award-winning artists who continue to make their mark on the Canadian Music landscape and frequently find themselves on the airwaves and in the recording studio and atop the awards podium," said Ms. Taylor.

Another highlight of the live music program is the return of the Great Artist classical music series, which is sponsored by Grammy Award winners Bonnie and Norbert Kraft. This year's lineup features a number of new, returning and emerging artists including Celil Refik Kaya, Janina Fialkowska, the Payadora Tango Ensemble, and Crozman & Chiu.

"From the first year that we started the classical music series, we have been able to present exceptional musicians coming to share their artistry with us, musicians who have played at Carnegie Hall with the great orchestras of the world, yet they have all expressed the specialness of playing in our intimate space, and for our wonderful Aurora audience," said Ms. Kraft.

"No matter how easy it is to listen to music on various devices, nothing compares to the experience of live music. In this day of ear buds and listening in the car, it is easy to forget that those digital downloads are not the real thing. Convenient, yeah, but a digital recording is only a sampling, a one-dimensional representation of the whole sound spectrum. Listening to music being performed right in front of us, oh, what a totally different experience it is. It is a whole other world; a world where we find ourselves catching our breath with a beautiful phrase, feeling our hearts race with excitement, our eyes opening wide at the performer's skill, or even sometimes feeling a tear welling up in what the music invokes in our soul, and all in the company of others around us. Live music has that power to bring us together at the deepest level."

For more on the 2019-202 Welcome Home series, visit auroraculturalcentre.ca.





SOLD OUT SHOW – Following the tenth anniversary announcement, everything but the sound of silence rang through the Aurora Cultural Centre as perennial favourite John Sheard took over Brevik Hall with his sold out show Homeward Bound: The Best of Simon and Garfunkel.

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger



New bylaws will come into force at future Council meeting

From page 1

speaking on behalf of the Town Park, Regency Acres and Aurora Heights Ratepayers Associations once again citing discrepancies with the numbers crunched by consultants retained by the Town recommend zoning bylaw changes.

Including just 75 homes on Temperance Street, among a total of 2,111 dwellings

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examined during the study, skewed the results. If they were taken out of the equation, the correct Gross Floor Area (GFA) should be 3,767 square feet versus the recommended 3,983.

As The Auroran reported last week, the Ratepayers came to Council pitching a compromise on the GFA, but this was ultimately rejected by Council, who decided





to go with the consultant's numbers much to the chagrin of Councillor Wendy Gaertner who said it didn't make sense to give an area as small as Temperance the same weight as the other, much larger neighbourhoods.

"How can we give 75 homes this type of importance," she asked. "This bylaw that Council is about to pass will have effects on hundreds and thousands of residents. As was said last week at the table, we have to uphold our OP and we have to respect the intent of compatible. Residents wanting to protect their quality of life have been coming here for many months. For all of those meetings, they asked for decreases in the height, decreases in the size. They were just asking for protections they felt were suitable for their neighbourhoods. None of that is going to be reflected in our bylaw. It seems to me they are now asking for one very small accommodation to use the weighted averages, so that a neighbourhood of 75 homes will not have the same statistical impact as a neighbourhood of 800. It makes sense to me.

"It is justifiable. Please don't deny them this small compromise."

This view was supported by Councillor Sandra Humfryes who said it was just a "small compromise."

"It is a small adjustment and it absolutely makes statistical sense in terms of what we saw presented this evening," she said. "Overall, it helps residents just make more sense of what is before them and I am just looking forward to moving forward tonight. Hopefully this will pass."

Councillor John Gallo was on a similar wavelength. The consultant, he said, did his job in coming up with the numbers, but the "onus" was on Council to look at the neighbourhoods in more detail and determine some of the outliers.

Other Councillors disagreed.

First to speak against Councillor Gaertner's amendment was Councillor Rachel Gilliland, who said the decision was down to the numbers supplied by the consultant and the numbers supplied by

the residents.

"Going back and forth with some of the inconsistent numbers, I just feel we're not really going to find that magic sweet spot, that magic number that is going to be exact for everybody to agree with," she said, speaking against Councillor Gaertner's motion to adjust the GFA.

These views were echoed by Councillor Michael Thompson who said there have been "a lot of different viewpoints" presented on this issue" with some wanting to see further reductions, some less restrictions and some in favour of the status quo.

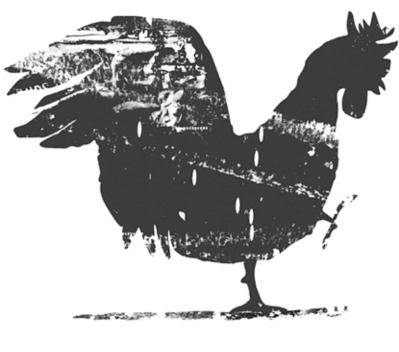
"The community is divided in their opinions," he said. "There is a majority view, there is a minority view, but regardless whatever Council decides on the number I would agree that it is a compromise. It may not satisfy everybody within the community, but we will have accomplished something. When this issue first started, there was great concern about some of the homes that were 5,000, 6,000 square feet. This, as Councillor Gilliland mentioned, the zoning bylaw was initially put forward... to reduce it by 33 per cent. That is something. I understand there are concerns about the methodology around the weighted average versus another approach...For me, I am comfortable in the number we have been presented."

Councillor Harold Kim approached matters from a broader perspective. While many of the residents in Council Chambers over the last few weeks were fighting for a reduction in the GFA, there were many other voices to consider, he contended.

"It is not a matter of whether you agree or not, but there is another half of residents in stable neighbourhoods who aren't here tonight and they have their perspectives as well," he said. "There are residents on all sides. I don't want there to be any feeling out there that Council's siding with one side or the other. I think we have come up with a number that an external consultant has come out with and I am fine with that."

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"Shame on us," says Gaertner following Stable Neighbourhoods fight

By Brock Weir

When the word "shame" rings out in Council chambers, it is usually from residents who have felt their voices were not heard by local lawmakers.

This word, however, was voiced by one of their own last week near the end of a vote on protecting Aurora's Stable Neighbourhoods.

Heated words were exchanged last week after Council voted down an amendment from Councillor Wendy Gaertner that would have seen numbers used by a consultant to come up with a series of zoning bylaw amendment recommendations retooled to exclude a pocket of 75 homes on Temperance Street from the equation -- an inclusion



some felt skewed the results.

Council rejected the amendment on a 4 - 3 vote, with Mayor Tom Mrakas, and Councillors Rachel Gilliland, Harold Kim and Michael Thompson voting

"There have been a lot of things I haven't understood about this process to make our zoning bylaws reflect our Official Plan," said Councillor Gaertner. "It seems so easy, it seems like it just should have happened so easily. The residents should not have had to fight for this. The planning department should have brought it forward when we looked at our comprehensive zoning bylaw. That didn't happen. The residents took it on. Why did it take so long to get the report to Council? Why do we have charts that say two different things and we don't have any explanation for the consultant? Why does Council expect to make a decision when they don't have the explanation of how the consultant came up to this conclusion?

"Council needs complete transparent information. We didn't have that. We're now at the very end of this chain and this decision will affect thousands of residents, the quality of a lot of lives. It is going to change the face of our community and if I was the residents, I would be saying, 'Go back to the drawing board, look at all the neighbourhoods separately. Do it right.' This is a change that is going to happen forever to this Town. The residents are sitting here and we don't give them one concession? I say shame on this Council and shame on the whole process that has hit so many roadblocks in the way of these residents. We have a very small group here tonight and that is because most of the residents have given up. They're frustrated. I will remind you that many of us on Council during the election said we would protect these residents. We have not provided them with one protection that they asked for. Again, shame on us."

Councillor Rachel Gilliland, however, was among the Council members who vocally disagreed with her colleague's suggestion that Council hadn't responded to residents' concerns.

"To suggest that we haven't really done anything, I disagree with," she said. "Maybe in the previous terms we haven't, as Council, done what we should. Yes, we did run on campaigns protecting stable neighbourhoods. This issue has certainly been a hot, hot topic and a very defining one for our neighbourhoods. We have heard a lot of strong opinions from both sides for and against. Finding a balance between the two will never be a perfect science or a perfect math, but we must stand together and make a decision to do something before it is too late, as we approach yet another building season.

"Here we are today faced with the same opportunity to make a positive change now. My fear is if we keep trying to please everyone it will never happen and monster homes will still be built overshadowing our small homes, blocking sun and losing the privacy we so much enjoy. We cannot deny that new homes have been torn down in the past 13 years... It is important that we include them in these changing neighbourhoods as they are now part of that neighbourhood. It is not fair to exclude them. What we're trying to focus on is mitigating these monster homes in scale and harmonizing a traditional balance while maintaining character."

Mayor Tom Mrakas also took exception to Councillor Gaertner's comments.

"I know exactly what each and every one of you said," said Mayor Mrakas, touching upon her reference to campaign platforms. "I know what I said, and I said it was a three prong approach we need to take: we need to implement site plan applications for single dwelling homes, we need to make some changes

to the zoning to meet the intent of the OP (Official Plan), which I think we are doing, and lastly, we need to implement design guidelines and that is what we're doing. I think this will better protect our stable neighbourhoods and bring it in line with our OP."

Although Councillor John Gallo supported Councillor Gaertner's initial motion, he ultimately said it was time to move forward.

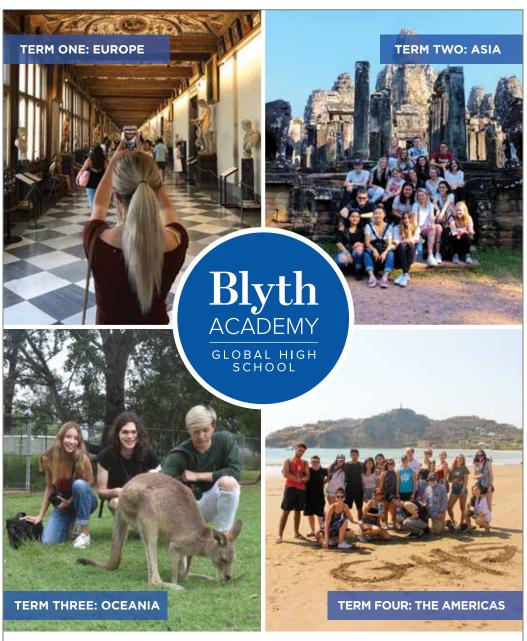
"Was it the best process we took? Probably not, but I guess we have learned from it," he said. "Are we as close as we could have gotten? Probably. Would I have done some things differently? I think so. Can this be tweaked? I also think it can. I agree with Councillor Thompson and others that a more comprehensive look at them to see whether or not there are some areas we can perhaps remove, but I am all in favour of moving forward, putting this behind us and getting it done."

STEAM provides context for learning"

From page 8

lasting impact on whole schools. "Kids buy into this because it is for them and for their future, and gets them outside the narrow walls of education which already they feel is limiting in their scope and their ideology of why are we learning this? When they see the bigger context - and context is everything in education right now.

"It gives a context for learning and it is a matter of selling it, walking it and talking it. You have to deliver as a teacher to actually do this. The most important in the data that we've got is students who are the worst behaved, are the first to buy into this and come into line. It changes the tone of the classroom and the school almost immediately and that was an unexpected result."



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Royal Road residents get partial exemption from new Stable Neighbourhood rules

By Brock Weir

Residents of Royal Road living between Edward Street and Cameron Avenue will be exempt from new rules governing Aurora's Neighbourhoods.

The exemption was made at last week's Council meeting, which saw a series of changes made to the kinds of new builds that will be allowed in Regency Acres, Aurora Heights, and the community surrounding Town Park.

Requests for the exemption came at the previous week's General Committee meeting where resident Sina Daniell made her case.

Due to the unusually wide properties of the nineteen lots in question, this section of the neighbourhood was an anomaly, she said, and should be looked at separately.

"Our unique and special pocket of Royal Road...consists of 19 homes, all with consecutive lot frontages of 78, 80, 90 and up to 100 feet," said Ms. Daniell. "I am asking to be exempted from the proposed zoning

We will not have the vertical massing issues for the very simple reasons that all of the 19 consecutive lots have large lot frontages. The proposed unprecedented and unreasonable changes to our pocket were either an oversight or a mistake which needs to be corrected immediately. We do not have issues and will never have issues based on the current zoning bylaw, which bylaw we relied upon when purchasing our large frontage homes.

"This proposed zoning bylaw is capping our maximum footprint to 2,540 square feet, inclusive of garage. A reasonable person cannot argue that the maximum footprint on two completely different lot frontages be exactly the same. All of the homes in our pocket have 50 – 100 per cent wider lot frontages and are not consistent with the other lots in the study. By reducing the coverage and also capping it, is in fact reducing our coverage by 35 per cent, compared to what we are allowed today. In addition, you are taking away our rights to a three-car garage on such large frontages. Where else in the GTA are residents with comparable

a three-car garage? I could not find one. This is extreme and excessive and takes away our rights and enjoyment of our properties. It also takes away the possibility of building a decent-sized bungalow, which is discriminatory."

exemption was fellow Royal Road resident Neil Asselin, who said although he lives on the other side of Royal Road, he saw Ms. Daniell's concerns as an example on how the Stable Neighbourhood Study before Council "failed to capture the nuance of the Town Park neighbourhood [and] the different architectural styles."

Council members did not formally pass a resolution addressing the Royal Road residents' concerns at the Committee level, but it proved a factor the following week when the new rules were up for final ratification.

The motion to exempt the specified section of Royal Road was made by Councillor Sandra Humfryes, who agreed the area was an unusual situation.

aren't quite similar in terms of the

bylaw changes as we are the outliers. lot frontages prohibited from having large, large size," she said. "They should be removed from the area."

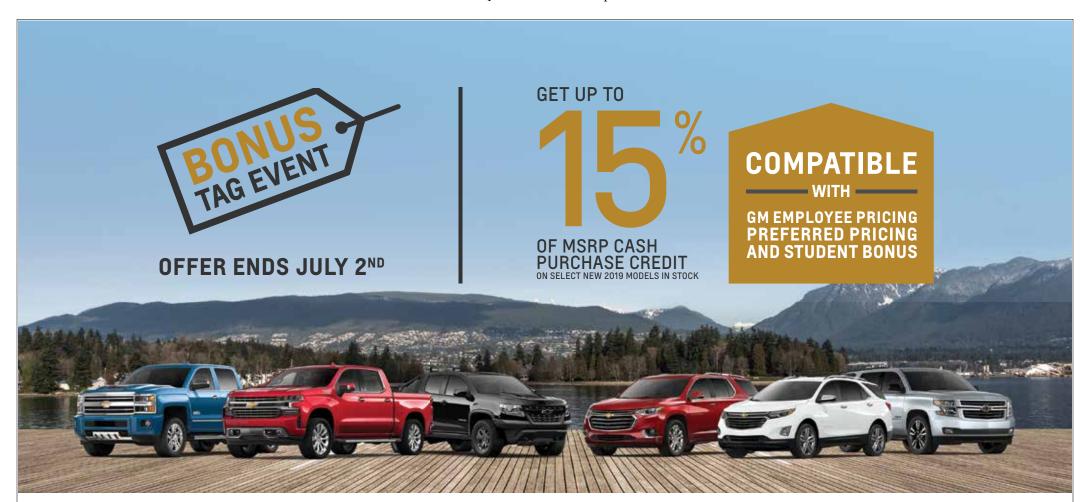
> Councillor Humfryes echoed the comments made by Mayor Tom Mrakas last week where he said he was worried an exemption might lead to exceptionally large homes in the area, Also speaking in favour of an but said the exemption fit in this case.

> > "I understand there might be a need on this street and I can't disagree, but Councillor Thompson made a recommendation last week to have a more comprehensive study after all this [to look at possible exemptions] and just have a more comprehensive examination of all the neighbourhoods," said Councillor Harold Kim, adding if Royal Road was used as a "benchmark" he was not in favour of the amendment because there was no rush in this situation.

> > "I think we can take a little bit of time [for] a more detailed examination to see if there are other streets that might require an exemption," he concluded.

While Council pushed through the exemption for Royal Road, they opted "There are a number of lots that to go down this path of waiting for a

Continued on page 25





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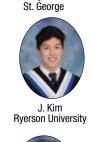






























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SECTION B

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Week of June 20, 2019

York9 FC earns historic first league win over Pacific FC

After a little patience, and a lot of effort, the monkey is finally off of the back of York9 FC.

The Canadian Premier League posted their first-ever league win on Saturday against Vancouver's Pacific FC, in their sixth try. Both sides entered the contest desperate for a win, with just one combined in the first CPL season.

"The boys put a great shift in today," said York9 FC head coach Jim Brennan. "We knew what was at stake; this was a game that we had to win, and we came away with the three points."

Though the squad has found success

in the Canadian Championship schedule, playing their way to the second round of the nation's most prestigious tournament, success at the CPL level has proven difficult to find: York9 posted a pair of losses and three draws before finding their first threepoint effort, which came in the form of a tight 1-0 win.

Brennan praised a change in formation, led by fullbacks Morey Doner and Divaeddine Abzi, as the cogs in the wheel of success.

"I call them three-lungs," Brennan said. "Because they keep going and going and going, these boys, up and down that line."

Goalkeeper Nathan Ingham, who picked up the clean sheet, seconded Brennan's thoughts, saying the two took to the new lineup "like ducks to water."

It was Ingham who deserved much of the praise however, when a handball inside the box in just the seventh minute meant a Pacific FC penalty kick. Ingham kept the ball out to keep the game at a scoreless draw.

In the 36th minute, an own goal provided by Pacific FC's Ryan McCurdy proved to be the only tally of the match.

"It's always fun to be a part of a winning locker room," Ingham said. "It was tough, but we had a lot of experience in our room."

As an added bonus, the win came in front of the club's home fans at York Lions

Stadium, providing the dedicated base with a much deserved three points.

"Football without fans is just a workout, the fans mean a lot to me," said Ingham. "When we got back from the Dominican, they're waiting for us at the airport. They traveled in thousands to Hamilton for our home opener, and they've had to battle conditions every time we've played at home so far."

The win vaults York 9 FC into fifth place in the seven-team league, going ahead of both Pacific FC and FC Edmonton. Next up is a meeting with FC Edmonton Wednesday night following press time, while a home game is on the horizon on Saturday in hosting Halifax Wanderers FC at York Lions Stadium, with a kickoff set for 3:30 p.m.



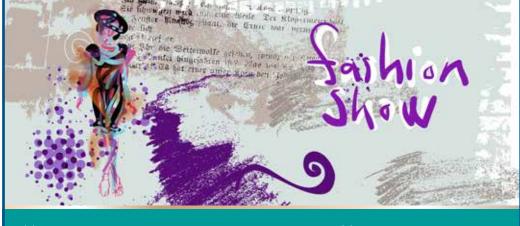
Goalkeeper Nathan Ingham earned a clean sheet in his first CPL victory with York9 FC in a 1 - 0

Photo courtesy of CPL Media



game against Pacific FC on Saturday.





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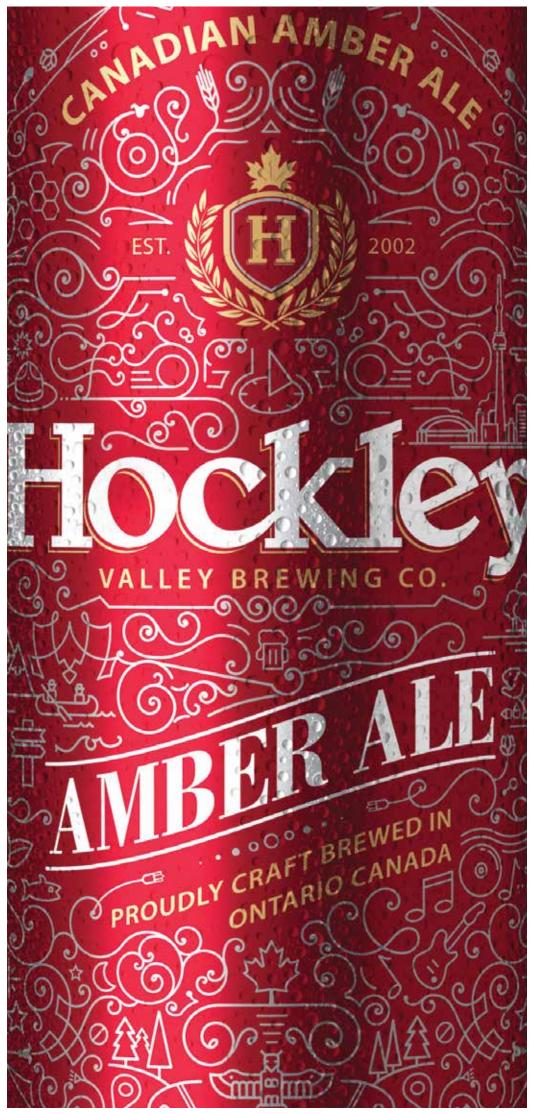


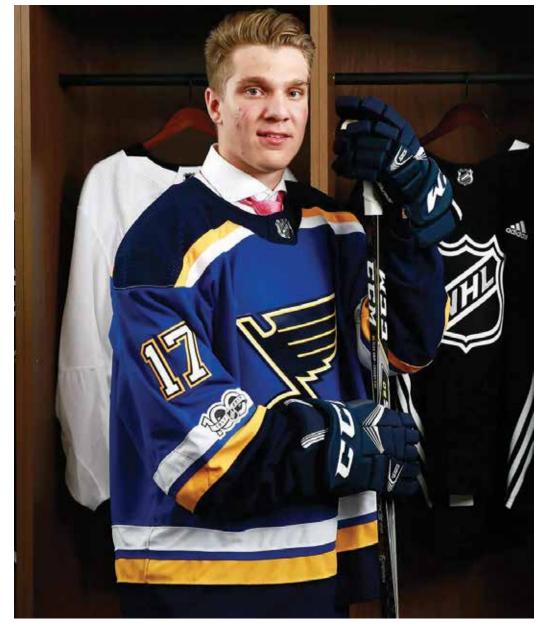


Former Saints are Stanley Cup Champions









Aurora's Robert Thomas earned his first Stanley Cup championship last week as a member of the St. Louis Blues.

Contributed photo

From page 1

"Just incredible," Thomas told a throng of reporters during the celebration. "It's the greatest accomplishment of my life, so

That list of accomplishments is growing at a ridiculously rapid rate, and he's only a teenager: Thomas has so far seen a pair of OHL championships, a Memorial Cup, an IIHF World Junior championship, and now a Stanley Cup.

"I feel like I'm on top of the world."

The 19-year old St. Louis Blues prospect was honoured in October of 2018 at the Mayor's Breakfast of Champions as the 2018 Athlete of the Year, sponsored by Sport Aurora.

A staple in the York-Simcoe Express AAA minor system from a young age, the Canadian hockey world first caught a glimpse of Thomas on the gold medal winning Team Canada at the 2018 IIHF Under-20 World Championship in January.

The 2017 first-round draft pick of the St. Louis Blues capped off an incredible Ontario Hockey League season as the leading scorer of the Hamilton Bulldogs, leading to hearing his name called as the league's Most Valuable Player following the Bulldogs championship title in May of last year.

London Knights in scoring when he was traded to the Bulldogs in a blockbuster in January, setting up Hamilton for their successful run.

Though the Bulldogs were forced to give up a promising prospect, four second-round draft picks, and a third round pick to acquire the prized centreman, the Aurora native led his team the remainder of the season in putting up four goals and 25 assists in 22 games with his new club.

He spent the better part of three OHL seasons with the Knights, catching the eye of scouts after a successful stint in the York-Simcoe Express minor system and with the St. Andrew's Saints varsity

Thomas joins another former Saint as two of the newest members to win the prized Cup, that of Michael Del Zotto, class of 2008. On the opposite end of their careers, Del Zotto joined Thomas in the press box for the final game after a decade in the big show, yet told reporters it was "unbelievable" to win his first Stanley Cup ring.

It is still unclear as to whether or not Del Zotto will see his name engraved permanently on the mug, as rules state you must play 41 regular season games to earn the honour, whereas Del Zotto



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Canada

Job Grant Programs delivered by the Government of Ontario

Mental Health in Motion sets \$275,000 fundraising goal for local programs

By Brock Weir

The local chapter of the Canadian Mental Health Association will mark its first century in our community by lacing up and pumping up the bike tires for Mental Health in Motion.

A Ride, Run, or Walk for Mental Health, the Mental Health in Motion event will take place this Sunday, June 23, at Newmarket's Upper Canada Mall.

Organizers have set a fundraising goal of \$275,000 which will stay in this community, directly benefiting mental health programs across York Region and South Simcoe, including MOBYSS, the Mobile York South Simcoe mobile health clinic for youth between the ages of 12 and 25.

Formerly the "Ride Don't Hide" fundraiser, the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) has rebranded and rejigged the event for maximum inclusivity.

"This is our seventh annual event," says Nigel Evans of the CMHA. "We have been growing this event exponentially year over year and last year [the organization] decided they wanted...a message that was all-encompassing for mental health. This is more than just a ride and we changed it around to encompass a run/walk for 5K to get more family involvement. Not everyone has a bike, but everyone is willing to walk

While the Ride, Don't Hide name was chosen to underscore the ongoing fight to battle stigma around mental health issues, organizers say this is still the focus and the rebrand helps them engage and deliver their message on a whole new level.

"We're not being coy about it," says Catherine Matzig of the CHMA. "It's right there in your face in the title of the event, and it is as open as possible. This is a great day for all ages and all athletic abilities. You don't have to be an athlete or have any kind of specialized equipment in order to participate and be a part of the day."

The day itself has a mission to promote mental health awareness and raise funds for local services designed to improve mental health and addictions care in South Simcoe and York Region. They aim to engage and encourage public awareness around participants' own mental health by being physically active and enjoy quality time with friends and family in a community setting, along with increasing the profile of the CMHA in both communities.

Registration will begin at Upper Canada Mall at 6.30 a.m., along with breakfast and fresh coffee being made available for the early birds. Warm-ups for the 100 km ride will begin at 7.15 a.m. for a 7.30 a.m. departure. Participants in the 60 km ride will begin warming up at 8.15 a.m. for 8.30, with the 20 km ride participants warming up 10 minutes before their 10.10 a.m. start and the 5 km riders holding back until their 10.25

The 5 km run/walk will get underway at 10.35 a.m. after a 10.30 a.m. warmup.

Live entertainment will run from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will feature Junonominated singer Tyler Shaw.

"This is a great thing to do with your family or a group," says Ms. Matzig. "It is an opportunity to meet lots of new people who live in this community and are interested in activities that grow and boost community involvement. We will have lots of health information and community information there as well. It is just a great way to spend a Sunday morning."

For more information on how to get involved with Mental Health in Motion including registration information and how to donate to individuals or teams, visit cmhainmotion.ca.



CMHA volunteers helped spread the word of this weekend's event at the Aurora Street Auroran photo by Brock Weir

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Theatre kids connect with seniors through song

By Brock Weir

Selections from the Beatles and Dolly Parton songbooks rang out through the halls of Aurora's Sunrise Senior Living on Wednesday as young kids connected with residents through the power of music.

About a dozen Sunrise residents gathered around as Katie McClure of Marquee Theatrical Productions' Broadway Babies program and her kids held an impromptu jamboree, the first of a series of programs at seniors' residents throughout Aurora and Newmarket intended to foster intergenerational connections.

The curtain lifted on Marquee's "Rock of Age" program.

"Music is huge in the development of the children in our programs, but we have learned about intergenerational programs that connect young ones with the aged people as well and it really opens up their minds," says Marquee's Sheryl Thomas. "Music just brings people together and it reaches even those who can no longer speak. My mom had Alzheimer's and as soon as there was music on, she became alive again. It's amazing how music can really reach people - and seniors just love little children. They're hilarious to watch, so there is a nice interaction."

Ms. McClure set up her song circle with ukuleles and guitars of her own, along with tambourines and pairs of maracas that were shared amongst the kids and the seniors. Songbooks



Musician Katie McClure was joined by her family at Sunrise Senior Living to kick off Marquee Theatrical Productions' new Rock of Ages program.

TIME TRAVELLER'S

DIARY

By Erika Baird,

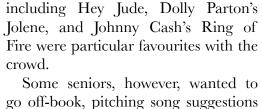
Executive Director/Curator

Hillary House National Historic Site

Auroran photo by Brock Weir







filled with selections from the Beatles,

go off-book, pitching song suggestions of their own, and if a particular song they liked wasn't in the book, they took it upon themselves to lead a capella renditions of How Much is That Doggy in the Window? and Mairzy Dotes showing the youngsters how it's done.

"We're going to be adding some pages

to our songbook!" said Ms. Thomas following the song circle. "I'm also going to ask my dad to come in because my mom was in a home like this and they used to bring in music programs. My dad knows all these songs and plays the guitar, so maybe he can join us. I think he would get a kick out of giving back to the community that way."

Marquee's Rock of Age program is currently booked each Wednesday morning through to the beginning of July.



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A time traveller in Aurora in 1911 may find themselves looking up on a new sports club forming right before their eyes when walking by Trinity Anglican Church, the Aurora Lawn Tennis Club. (Aurora Banner, 1911). An annual

membership cost \$2.00 for man, and because the Hillary's had had a court \$1.00 for women (it being one of the few on their property since the 1880s. sports women were allowed to play!).

12th century France, tennis was only popularized world-wide in 1873 when wrote an instruction book and sold it with a kit that contained everything needed to play, making it easy to ship around the world. But it's journey to Canada was not a direct one.

In early 1874 a group of British army officers stationed in Bermuda were seen playing by a Mrs. Mary Outerbridge of Staten Island, New York.

Mrs. Outerbridge was so thrilled with the game, she had a kit ordered to her home and built the first court in the United States. It was at her home that Canadian Isidore Fredereick Hellmuth saw his first tennis match, it was "love" at first site, and it was he who played in that first match in Toronto later that same year.

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Canada, with clubs being formed across the country throughout the last decades of the 19th Century.

When Aurora established its club, it rotated meetings Trinity between Church Anglican and Hillary House,

For his contributions, Dr. Robert Although the game has origins in Michael Hillary was named honourary club president in 1912. As membership increased the Hillary's later installed Englishman, Major Walter Clopton two clay courts at the back of the Wingfield, standardized the game. He property to accommodate all those who wished to play.

By 1937, the club had become too large to be held at either Hillary House or at Trinity Anglican Church, and a new home was found at McMahon Park, at the corner of Spruce Street and Maple Street, Aurora.

The club still resides there today, now known as the Aurora Community Tennis Club.

Tennis still lives on at Hillary House, in 2015 funds from the Pan-Am Games Community Celebration Fund allowed for the revival of the original grass court, found on the north lawn. Now everyone can be a time traveller, and experience tennis as it was played over 100 years

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Newmarket's Main Street was a sea of rainbows on Saturday as it once again played host to the York Region Pride Parade. (Top) The Aurora Public Library celebrated the community's diversity in their contingent - which also included the team from The Auroran. (Second) Ontario Premier Doug Ford marched in the parade along with Deputy Premier (and Newmarket-Aurora MPP) Christine Elliott, York Simcoe MPP Caroline Mulroney, and King-Vaughan MPP Stephen Lecce, among others. (Third) Families descended on the parade route, and each side of the street was packed. (Fourth, Left) Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MP Leona Alleslev participated with her team while, (Fourth Right) outgoing Newmarket-Aurora MP Kyle Peterson marched with former Newmarket mayor Tony Van Bynen, who is vying for the nomination to replace him in this fall's Federal election. (Fifth) The AIDS Committee of York Region shared their message.

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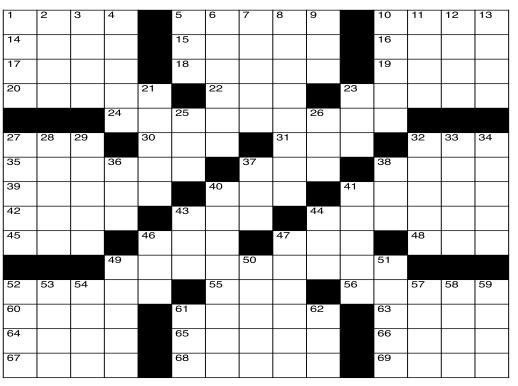
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Drains

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- 5. Cleveland baseball team
- 10. Leans in for apples 14. Language spoken in India
- 15. Norwegian parish 16. Wings
- 17. "Family City, USA"
- 18. Prague
- 19. Tottenham footballer Alli
- 20. Cakes
- 22. A way to save for retirement 23. Good gosh!
- 24. HBO Dust Bowl series
- 27. ELO drummer Bevan 30. Kids' game
- 31. Computer giant
- 32. Luxury automaker 35. Made disappear
- 37. Mandela's party
- 38. Greek personification of Earth
- 39. Semitic lords
- 40. Where to put groceries

- 41. Healthy lunch 42. Greek mountain
- 43. Disfigure
- 44. Ramble on 45. Partner to carrot
- 46. Figure
- 47. Mock 48. Former CIA
- 49. Salts
- 52. Bleated 55. Never sleeps
- 56. Cavalry sword
- 60. Scottish island
- 61. Cyprinid fishes 63. Italian seaport
- 64. Fruit tree
- 65. Old World lizard
- 66. U. of Miami mascot
- 67. Gentlemen
- 68. Cover with drops, as with dew

33. You should eat three every day

- 69. Don't stick it out

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Broken branch 2. A distinctive quality
- surrounding someone
- 3. Commoner 4. It can be poisonous
- 5. Recipe measurement
- 6. Eager
- 7. City in Finland 8. Acting appropriately
- 9. Pitching stat
- 10. Cops wear one
- 11. Evergreen genus
- 12. Lacking hair
- 13. Witnesses
- 21. Supplies to excess 23. This street produces nightmares
- 25. Cool! 26. Basics
- 27. Type of jazz
- 28. Remove
- 29. Seaport in Finland 32. Large formation of aircraft
- 37. Swiss river 38. Talk

34. Dips feet into 36. Patti Hearst's captors

- 40. Humorous conversation
- 41. Gurus
- 43. Actress Gretchen 44. Hitters need one
- 46. Offer
- 47. Flower cluster 49. The Navy has them
- 50. Palmlike plant
- 51. Vaccine developer 52. Guys (slang)
- 53. Jai ___, sport 54. Assert
- 57. Beloved movie pig
- _ Clapton, musician

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- 59. Gamble
- 61. Hit lightly 62. Carpenter's tool

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THINGS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW

THURSDAY, JUNE 20

The Aurora Historical Society's Speaker Series continues tonight from 7 - 9 p.m. with Jeremy Hood on "Norman Rule in Medieval Sicily: A Cultural Mesh or Mess?" The 11th century conquest of Sicily and Malta by the Normans marked a large-scale cultural shift for the islands' inhabitants. The new Latin Christian rulers navigated the existing Islamic and Greek administrative systems and adapted them as necessary. With primary source documents and artifacts, Jeremy Hood will investigate some examples of this famed cultural mingling, revealing personal experiences and everyday realities of the Medieval Mediterranean, 15372 Yonge Street, Aurora Ontario. \$5/Member, \$7/Non Member. For more information call 905-727-8991 or leigha.cooney@aurorahs.com

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

Canadian Tire (Bayview Avenue) will host a car wash, raffle and bake sale today in support of Jumpstart Charities. Founded in 2005, Jumpstart Charities help kids overcome financial and accessibility barriers to sport and recreation in an effort to provide inclusive play for kids of all abilities. Customers and the community are invited to participate in this fun, family-friendly initiative. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., 15400 Bayview Avenue, Aurora.

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

AURORA GARDEN TOUR - Join Garden Aurora for the Annual Aurora Garden Tour showcasing beautiful gardens in our area. The Tour is Sunday, June 23 from 12 noon to 4:30 p.m. rain or shine. Tickets are \$15 and for sale at Aurora Home Hardware, Black Forest Garden Centre, Caruso & Co., New Roots Garden Centre and The Aurora Farmers Market (June 22). Same day tickets can be purchased at Garden #1. Celebrating 101 years in our community, Garden Aurora is partnering with New Roots Garden Centre to provide amazing discounts and an After Tour Celebration. Not to be forgotten is our Game of Roses and Art in the Gardens. More information at 905-713-6660 and www.gardenaurora.ca.

SATURDAY, JULY 6

SUNRISE YOGA - Set on the grounds of Hillary House National Historic Site join us for a morning Hatha voga class from 8.30 - 10.30 a.m., instructed by our friends at The Yoga Nest Aurora. After the session, enjoy a light breakfast and tour of Hillary House. \$20.00 per person. Participants are required to register prior to this program, and to bring their own yoga mat. For more information call 905-727-8991 or leigha.cooney@aurorahs.com

David and Dierdre Tomlinson invite you to visit their English flower garden, Merlin's Hollow, at 181

Centre Crescent which is open rain or shine today from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This month's opening will feature summer flowering perennials, pond and water garden. Merlin's Hollow was designed by David, a landscape architect, to create a series of gardens within a garden. Enclosed by high cedar hedges, each garden has its own distinct character and a series of arches invite visitors from one garden to the next. For further information, call 905-727-8979. The next open day is

SUNDAY, JULY 7

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

THURSDAY, JULY 25

The Aurora Historical Society's Speaker Series continues tonight with Ted Barris on "Dam Busters: Canadian Airmen and the Secret Raid Against Nazi Germany." It was a night that changed the Second World War. The secret raid against the hydro- electric dams of Germany's Ruhr River too years to plan, an untried bomb, and included the best aircrews Allied Bomber Command could muster - many of them Canadian. The raid marked the first time the Allies tactically took the war inside Nazi Germany. It was a mission that became legendary. Based on the personal accounts, flight logs, squadron war diaries, maps and photographs of the Canadians involved, Dam Busters recounts the dramatic story of these young Commonwealth bomber crews tasked with the highrisk operation against an enemy prepared to defend the Fatherland to the death. Special Venue: Aurora Royal Canadian Legion Branch 385 – 105 Industrial Pkwy N, Aurora, ON L4G 4C4. 7 - 9 p.m. \$5/Member, \$7/ Non Member. For more information or to register call 905-727-8991 or leigha.cooney@aurorahs.com.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

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

Metcalfe residents have to wait

From page 15

more comprehensive evaluation when faced with a similar request for homes on Metcalfe Street.

Homeowners on Metcalfe Street living close to the GO Station were asking for an exemption of their own, said Councillor Humfryes, as their proximity to both the GO Station and nearby industry put them just outside of what would be considered a stable neighbourhood.

David Waters, Planner for the Town of Aurora, said there was some

"validity" to removing the properties from the Stable Neighbourhoods study, but said the properties in question are being examined by the Region of York as part of their MTSA (Major Transit Station Area) study and there might be more questions down the road.

"It is important to wait and see what happens with the Regional Planning or the MTSA to see where the boundary is and if they include it," said Mr. Waters. "At this point, they can decide whether they move forward or not with any kind of redevelopment scenario."





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Our 81 graduates received offers of admission to programs at a diverse group of top universities across Canada and around the world. Well done, Grads! We wish you all the best.

Kareem Khalil, University of Exeter

Victtoria Ardellini, Queen's University **Jackson Bain, Wilfrid Laurier University** Savannah Bell, Queen's University Amanda Benlolo, Queen's University Adriana Benoit-Meschino, University of Guelph D.J. Bochmann, Wilfrid Laurier University Stefania Borrelli, Queen's University Mira Cantor, McGill University **Jack Daniel,** York University Ali Dashti, McMaster University Jason Davies, Ottawa University Adrian Dinoiu, McMaster University Vanessa Elefteriadis, University of Toronto Kitt Empey, Wilfrid Laurier University Georgia Ewert, University of Ottawa Simona Fiorini, Queen's University **Jeremy Garbe**, Carleton University Christian Ghezzi, Wilfrid Laurier University **Julia Gille**, Western University **Colleen Glynn**, University of Waterloo Daya Gosal, University of Toronto Teagan Grant, University of Wisconsin Matisse Gurdulic, University of Guelph Nabil Hakim, Gap Year **Heather Hudson**, Queen's University Kate Ilnitskaya, University of Toronto **Leighton Jull, University of Guelph Dima Kalander**, York University

Shayaan Khan, Syracuse University Anaïs Leiva von Bovet, King's College London Abraham Litwin-Logan, University College London **Jade Lowry,** Huron at Western University Claire Luba, Western University Tyler Magarelli, McMaster University Amanda Malowney, Queen's University Jessica Mantella, Dalhousie University **Zack Martin**, Wilfrid Laurier University **Alessia Masini**, University of Guelph **Lexie McKay, Brigham Young University David Meneguzzi**, McMaster University Carter Moore, McMaster University Russell Morden, Carleton University Victoria Morgan, Wilfrid Laurier University Casey Mull, University of Guelph **Alexandra Nichols**, Dalhousie University Kaitlin O'Connor, Dalhousie University Wilson O'Neill, Western University Kirsten Orzechowski, Dalhousie University Julian Pasquali, McMaster University Olivia Pessine, Wilfrid Laurier University Zoey Pietrobon, York University Jordan Robertson-Reid, Boston Conservatory at the Berklee College of Music Thomas Rocks, Mount Allison University

lan Rokas, University of Waterloo

Rayan Saleem, McGill University Massimo Sardo, Ryerson University **Andrew Schaus, Western University** Julia Serena, Wilfrid Laurier University Will Sherman, Brock University Sereena Siddiqi, University of Birmingham Julia Sinclair, York University lan Sokullu, University of Waterloo **Stacey Speranza**, University of Toronto Nicholas Suriwka, St. Francis Xavier University Sophia Tauro, Dalhousie University Maeve Tebbutt, London School of Economics and Political Science **Daniel Torrealba**, Western University **Rebecca Train, Western University Aleen Tumi, McMaster University Brian Turner,** Wilfrid Laurier University Laura von Schilling, Wilfrid Laurier University Kabir Walia, Queen's University **Aly Weiss**, Carleton University **Allyson Whitmell**, University of Toronto Patrick Wilson, Queen's University Madelyn Wixson, Wilfrid Laurier University **Emily Wright**, University of Waterloo Kitty Wu, University of Edinburgh Amy Wyndham-West, Dalhousie University

Brynlyn Rowntree, Queen's University

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