

- Sunrooms
- Large Screens
- Windows/Doors

905-726-4349
www.renoasis.com

STORE OPEN

Monday - Friday 7:30am - 7pm
Saturday 8am - 5:30pm
Sunday 10am- 4pm

CHECK OUR STORE FOR
IN STOCK SPECIALS
ON VANITIES

SHOP EARLY for best selection, **WHILE** Quantities Last!

905.727.4751
289 WELLINGTON STREET EAST, L4G 6H6, AURORA

BEST PRICE & VARIETY
from \$9.99

Box of **24** All Regular Brands
Plus Marley, Dunkin, Twinings Tea

905-751-0533 | 14-40 Englehard Dr.
NW. corner of Industrial Pkwy S.
www.barronshome.net

Aurora's Community Newspaper

TheAuroran.com

FREE

Week of January 25, 2024

\$100 FOR 100 YEARS – Gathered at the Newmarket flagship for Nature's Emporium to launch the countdown to the April 28 Run for Southlake were, from left, Newmarket-Aurora MP Tony Van Bynen, Joe D'Addario of Nature's Emporium, Southlake Chief of Staff Dr. Charmaine Van Schaik, Southlake Foundation President Jennifer Ritter, Southlake Regional Health Centre Board Chair Marilee Harris, Nature's Emporium's Mary D'Addario, Aurora Mayor Tom Mrakas, and East Gwillimbury Councillor Susan Lahey.

SUNDAY APRIL 28, 2024
Nature's EMPORIUM RUN FOR SOUTHLAKE
WALK, RUN, RAISE.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

A Trusted Name in Aurora Real Estate

Jeff Gordon
Sales Representative

RE/MAX Direct: **416 712-4071**
jeffgordonproperties.com

We are here when you need us this winter.

905.727.4258
www.tholiver.com

Blundstone

We strive to provide the best quality and customer service always.

15620 Bayview Ave. (LA Fitness Plaza) Phone: (905) 727-9391

Run aims to raise \$500K for Southlake's on its Centennial

Local hospital will mark 100th anniversary in 2024

BY BROCK WEIR
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The countdown is on for the annual Nature's Emporium Run for Southlake, and as the local hospital marks its 100th anniversary this year, organizers have set a bold fundraising goal to support

local healthcare: \$500,000.

Bold? Certainly. But no less achievable, said Jennifer Ritter, President & CEO of the Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation, as the Foundation and title sponsor Nature's Emporium gathered at their flagship Newmarket store on Monday afternoon to launch this year's Run.

The 12th Nature's Emporium Run for Southlake, which has its roots in the Hartwell Challenge, a run that used

to take place in Aurora in memory of former councillor and runner Bob Hartwell, will take place in Newmarket on Sunday, April 28.

Always a popular fundraising event which regularly raises approximately \$400,000 for the hospital each year, this year's event has an extra resonance celebrating a century of local healthcare – and this year's theme is \$100 for 100 Years.

Continued on page 9



Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MPP Michael Parsa announced funding for the York Regional Police at the YRP's Don Hillock Drive headquarters on Friday morning.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

Incidents of “hate and bias” rose by nearly 105% since October: York Regional Police

BY BROCK WEIR
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Crimes motivated by bias and prejudice within York Region have seen a “disturbing” rise in recent years, but from the start of the Israel-Hamas war on October 7, 2023, such incidents have risen by 104.5 per cent.

This was the staggering figure cited by York Regional Police Chief Jim MacSween on Friday afternoon as the Province announced a boost of

Continued on page 2

AURORA'S TOP SALES PRODUCER*

THE LIND

REALTY TEAM INC.

905-841-0000
LENARD@LINDREALTY.CA

LINDREALTY.CA

Thinking of Buying or Selling? Our Family is READY TO HELP Yours!

For Insider Tips Visit:
HelenandPaulHomes.com

Helen Avraam Neophytou
Realtor

Paul Neophytou
Broker

ROYAL LEPAGE

Helen@HelenandPaulHomes.com 416-587-3415
Paul@HelenandPaulHomes.com 905-251-8130

A Balanced Market is a great opportunity to Buy or Sell. Thinking of moving up....now is a great time!

Selling Real Estate in Your Community For 35 Years!

Sit Back And Let Me Take Care Of Your Real Estate Needs

Complimentary Staging, Professional Photos Digital Marketing, & Expert Negotiating

Testimonial: “A very friendly, prompt communicator, and a smart, creative negotiator.” – J & J

Top 5% Nationally of over 19,000 Royal LePage Agents 2023

Izzi Papat

SALES REPRESENTATIVE 905 717 0203 izzipopat.com izzipopat@rogers.com

More Provincial dollars will help YRP combat hate crimes

From page 1
\$300,000 over the next three years to combat hate crimes through its Project United program.

Friday’s announcement, which was led by Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MPP Michael Parsa, included a further \$2.4 million over the same time frame for the YRP’s Warrant Apprehension and Enhanced Bail Enforcement Projects, and \$1 million towards the development of Next-Generation 9-1-1 services.

The \$300,000 earmarked for Project United will come from funds forfeited as proceeds of crime, said Parsa.

“[This funding] will aid to develop a proper response towards the rise of hate crimes in our Region [including] specialized training for officers and increased community outreach,” he said. “This initiative also includes conferences and educational resources provided to students.”

MacSween noted that this will lead to “proactive, preventative strategies” that are aimed at “building trust and understanding within our community.”

“We have seen a disturbing rise in crimes motivated by bias and prejudice since 2018 with a 42 per cent increase in 2022 and a smaller, but still significant 6.5 per cent increase in 2023,” said MacSween. “However, since the war in the Middle East began in October 2023, that number of hate or bias incidents [has] risen by 104.5 per cent. That should truly be alarming to everyone.

“Project United will employ a multi-faceted approach to combat this disturbing trend, including specialized training for officers and increased community outreach, as well as educational resources for students across York Region.... We will



Aurora MPPs Michael Parsa and Dawn Gallagher Murphy were joined at Friday’s funding announcement by York Region Chair Wayne Emmerson, Mayors Tom Mrakas and Steve Pellegrini, and members of the Ontario Government and York Police Services Board.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

increase our community engagement with... and enhance our community partnerships to further educate the public on recognizing and reporting these types of incidents, which we know are typically under-reported. By focusing on a proactive, preventative strategies, Project United is aimed at building trust and understanding within our community: enhancing existing relationships with community partners in school, administrators to champion the values of inclusion, diversity and respect and providing our officers with specialized training they need for recognizing and investigate hate crimes and further educating our community.”

Project United, noted Deputy Chief Kevin McCloskey, is not specific to any one community within the Region of York, but it is aimed at training and instruction for YRP officers to address needs when they arise.

“Hate crimes are very nuanced and there are very specific things about incidents and language used that can impact people in ways that not everyone may understand or appreciate. That is critical for training,” he said. “Beyond that, a critical focus is to move it towards young people in our community. In order for us to move forward, we need to look at the new generation that is coming and is going to be the next leaders in our communities and teaching them and instructing them about hate crimes and about inclusion and acceptance is critical if we’re going to take some steps forward.”

The sharp rise in incidences since October 2023 has included both anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim “hate crime and hate bias incidents,” he added, but Police are also seeing a “strong element” of anti-Black racism and “anti-Asian sentiments at times as

well.”
“We want all people to feel comfortable in coming forward and reporting incidents to us,” said McCloskey. “We know there is a reluctance and we want to be very clear in our messaging that there should be no reluctance. We want to know about it, we want to hear about it, because that is the only way we can make a difference and help people address that and deal with that in their community. That is a big focus of our community meetings and relationships that we have forged with both faith leaders and community leaders within the Region and we do meet regularly at faith-based institutions or community centres in order to speak to our community and make sure that they understand that when they call us there is going to be someone who is coming, is concerned and will address their issue.”

SEEKING APPLICANTS FOR
THE TOWN OF AURORA'S
PARKS & RECREATION
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Town of Aurora is recruiting for a citizen member for the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee. The Committee supports and advises the Community Services and Operational Services Departments regarding the delivery of parks and recreation programs and activities within Aurora.

We are currently recruiting for 1 member to serve the remainder of the term.

Application deadline is
Sunday, February 11, 2024

For more details, visit:
aurora.ca/Committees

TOWN OF AURORA
PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PLANNING MEETING

AURORA TOWN COUNCIL will hold a Second Public Meeting to receive input on a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment application:
Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 7 p.m.
Aurora Town Hall, Council Chambers, 100 John West Way, Aurora Ontario

APPLICATION: The purpose of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment is to permit the development of a five-storey Men's Emergency and Transitional Housing Facility consisting of 55-units (68 beds), on the subject lands.
PROPERTY: 14452 Yonge Street
LEGAL DISCRIPTION: Block 454, Plan 65M-4642
APPLICANT: The Regional Municipality of York
FILE NUMBER: ZBA-2022-04

WARD LOCATION: 4

PROCEDURAL INFORMATION:
Parties interested in speaking during the public portion of the meeting may attend in person or electronically. To participate electronically, pre-registration is required. For more information, visit: aurora.ca/participation. The meeting will be live streamed at: youtube.com/TownofAurora. The Planning Report will be made available the Tuesday before the Public Planning Meeting date on the Town's website, by visiting the Agendas and Minutes section, located at: aurora.ca/agendas

CONTACT:
Any questions regarding the proposed application should be directed to **Adam Robb** of the Planning and Development Services Department at (365) 500-3104 or arobb@aurora.ca. Comments may also be mailed to the Planning and Development Services Department at 100 John West Way, Aurora, ON. L4G 6J1, faxed to 905-726-4736 or emailed to planning@aurora.ca prior to the meeting. Please quote the File Name and Number.

INFORMATION ABOUT PRESERVING YOUR APPEAL RIGHTS:
If a person or a public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of the Council of the Town of Aurora to the Ontario Land Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions the Town of Aurora before the approval authority gives or refuses approval of the subject applications, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.
If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Aurora before the approval authority gives or refuses approval of the subject applications, they may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.
If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Council of the Town of Aurora on the proposed application, you must make a written request to the Town of Aurora either by mail or e-mail to planning@aurora.ca. If you have done so previously as part of the first Public Planning Meeting, your information is already recorded as an Interested Party to receive all updates on the application.
If you have received this notice as an owner of a property and the property contains seven (7) or more residential units, the Town requires that you post this notice in a location that is visible to all of the property's residents.

PERSONAL INFORMATION COLLECTION NOTICE
The Town of Aurora collects personal information in communications or presentations made to Town Council and/or its Committees under the legal authority of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter c.P13, as amended. Pursuant to Section 27 of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.56, as amended, (the "Act") public feedback to planning proposals is considered to be public record and may be disclosed to any individual upon request in accordance with the Act. If you are submitting letters, faxes, emails, presentations or other communications to the Town, you should be aware that your name and the fact that you communicated with the Town will become part of the public record and will appear on the Town's website. The Town will also make your communication and any personal information in it, such as your address and postal code or email address available to the public unless you expressly request the Town to remove it. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Town Clerk at 905-727-3123.

AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDING OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS
The Town audio and/or video records Public Planning Meetings. If you make a presentation to Town Council or its Committees, you may be recorded. Pursuant to Section 27 of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.56, as amended, (the "Act") public feedback to planning proposals is considered to be a public record and may be disclosed to any individual upon request in accordance with the Act.

Dated at the Town of Aurora, this 23rd day of January, 2024.

aurora.ca/publicnotices



Charlie is pictured over the weekend hitting the ice at Machell Park.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

Aurora’s outdoor rinks open for all to enjoy

BY BROCK WEIR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

It took a while for true winter weather to get here, but the arrival of seasonal temperatures has a silver lining: it’s cold enough for Aurora’s outdoor rinks to welcome visitors once again.

Skaters were pleased to hit the ice at several local rinks last week, including Town Park, Ada Johnson Park, Machell Park and Confederation Park, and the long-range forecast looks like favourable conditions will continue next week.

“Prior to the winter season and the construction of the rinks, locations are inspected for holes/surface anomalies where the rink is to be placed, hoses are checked for cracks/breaks, signage installed, lighting systems inspected and timers set, and rink kits inspected to ensure all components are functional [and] viable for the upcoming season,” say Carley Smith, Manager of Corporate Communications for the Town of Aurora, on how locations are chosen each year.

“Construction of one rink, on average, takes four staff eight to twelve hours to construct and fill the rink with water (up to one week before frozen and ready for use). Once rinks are functional, they are inspected daily for safety by staff and flooded regularly to ensure the ice surface remains smooth. In addition, they are cleared after snow events with snow blowers and sweeping equipment.”

At press time this week, Town Park boasted one rink – an EZ-Rink with boards and liners, while Ada Johnson Park on Aurora’s east side offered two rinks – one for pleasure skating and the other for stick and puck play. The same two-rink configuration was set up at Machell Park, while Confederation Park prepared one rink strictly for pleasure skating.

“Rinks are located in Community Parks in different areas of Town to provide residents options close to their neighbourhoods,” says Smith.

Outdoor rinks at James Lloyd Park, which had previously been a rolled rink placed over its basketball court, and at Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Park, a location that has offered an old-fashioned rolled rink in the past, have traditionally been Town-built and run by volunteers, but these are not yet open.

“The Town historically has had good success with residents managing the maintenance of a couple rinks in Aurora,” says Smith of James Lloyd Park and Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Park. “However, the ability to create and keep ice consistently due to weather pattern changes has hampered their efforts in recent years as these rinks are still constructed using traditional means of snow cover, rolled and packed, then flooded to create the rink surface. It also takes a very dedicated and special type of volunteer to go out overnight in -10 or colder conditions to flood. It certainly is not for the faint of heart as it takes many hours of dedication. Currently we have volunteers for these rinks, but the rinks have yet to be established for 2024 in these locations.”

Weather fluctuations will mean the occasional down-time for the rinks that are presently open, but municipal staff will do “everything possible” to keep ice available to skaters until after March Break.

Next year is set to bring even more skating options to Aurora with the addition of a skate loop at the heart of the Aurora Town Square redevelopment.

“The new skate loop with be a different experience as it’s located in the downtown core within a Square, that will aim to be a community hub for cultural events and gathering,” says Smith. “It will allow people to skate on a loop and take in many of the other experiences that will be offered as part of the complex. The other existing rinks in Town will continue to operate in the park settings, offering pleasure skating and hockey opportunities.”

Are You Caring for An Older Loved One?

so much worry... so much time...
so much to do!

We can help you at an affordable cost!

- Care at home and in other residential settings
- Live in/out: 3-24 hours care and 24/7 care
- RN supervised
- Chronic disease care: Parkinson’s, Alzheimer’s, Dementia, Diabetes, Cancer Care, etc.
- Personal care: hygiene, bathing, and dressing
- Meal planning and preparation
- Light housekeeping; laundry
- Escorting to appointments; shopping
- Joyful companionship...and so much more

www.livingassistance.ca

Contact Brian Porter, Director, for advice
and care at 416.483.0070 (office) and
905.758.2486 (cell).

華語服務客戶經理: Helen Huang
華語: 416.880.6889 h.huang@laservices.ca

LIVING
ASSISTANCE
services

HOME CARE FOR SENIORS

20 years of the best care for seniors



THE MOST ECONOMICAL WAY TO
HEAT OR COOL YOUR HOME TODAY
IS WITH A HEAT PUMP SYSTEM...
DUCT WORK OR NOT.

SAVE HUGE UP TO
\$10,000

WITH GOVERNMENT REBATES
BEFORE IT’S TOO LATE (MARCH 31, 2024)

BY ADDING A WI-FI THERMOSTAT AND A HEAT PUMP
TO YOUR GAS FURNACE WHICH CREATES THE MOST
EFFICIENT SOLUTION TO HEAT AND COOL YOUR HOME.



THE
FIREPLACE STOP
HOME COMFORT CENTRES

FAMILY
OWNED
BUSINESS

6048 Highway 9
Schomberg, ON
800-843-1732

ESTABLISHED
IN
1987

Kempfenfelt
WINDOWS
& DOORS

BOOK YOUR SPRING 2024 INSTALL!

30 YEARS PROVIDING QUALITY WINDOWS, DOORS & GARAGE DOORS



NEWMARKET
569 STEVEN CRT
905.895.1554

BARRIE
92 COMMERCE PK DR
705.737.1554

VAUGHAN
167 CASTER AVE
905.836.1554



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Time to take action on homelessness: resident

I am glad that Aurora Councillors finally realize that homelessness is a crisis in this Town/Region, yet I hope the “not in my neighborhood attitude “will be dropped.

I find it somewhat ironic that a motion was put forward by Councillor Rachel Gilliland to have the Town address others, that all levels of government and stakeholders can support and collaborate together.

She states it may not move the dial in any direction, I will just add that the Region of York and Blue Door Selters are trying to have a Men’s Emergency and Transitional Shelter build in Aurora without me seeing much or any public support from the Town of Aurora elected officials in the press?

I do not know what will transpire, but without the Town of Aurora Councillors supporting/collaborating with the Region and its stakeholder; Blue Door; nothing will.

I do not think our Town has any means at present to aid the homeless whether it be warming centers, etc. If you shop downtown, one will see the homeless begging at stores/ gas stations and sleeping in bank ATM areas at night.

Putting forward motions for others to take care of the homeless does not cut it, in my opinion.

I’m no longer in field, but I do hold a college diploma in addictions/community and social service and know that no number of motions around a council table will do much good.

It takes action.
Come on, Aurora – the purposed shelter would be a good start for the Town to walk the walk and not just talk and I not mean walk the raised million-dollar walkway at the new Town Square.

John H Sargent
Aurora

(Editor’s Note: The project referred to in this article is a facility offering men’s emergency and transitional housing rather than a traditional shelter model)

Residents “don’t have right to make discriminatory comments” at transitional housing meeting: resident

Your recent article on the Region’s planned Shelter and Transitional Housing project highlighted the Ontario Human Rights Commissions view that the discriminatory comments made by some residents in a January 2023 public meeting could not legally be considered by the Town in deciding whether to proceed with the project.

Your article further noted that the Mayor had responded to the letter indicating that all not views of residents are considered in its decision making

There is another public meeting for the project scheduled for next month. I would strongly suspect the OHRC will monitor this meeting given what happened at the last one.

Particularly, I would hope they will monitor how the meeting is managed and chaired.

Residents do NOT have the right to make discriminatory remarks in a public setting.

Would the Mayor allow comments in a public meeting that he chairs that are racist, sexist, disparage someone’s religious views, comment on someone’s ethnicity, or criticize their skin colour?

Surely these types of comments would not be considered in the Town’s decision-making either; but would they be allowed in the first place?

Why is it OK for the meeting Chair to allow discriminatory comments about people because they are poor and unhoused? It is not me that said the Mayor allowed this discrimination at a public meeting he chaired – the OHRC said so.

Len Bulmer
Aurora

Machell’s Corners

LEAP YEAR ADDITIONS

AN EXTRA DAY TO THE CALENDAR

AN EXTRA \$600,000 TO THE BUDGET

SCOTT JOHNSTON
© machellscorners@gmail.com

Having the chance to meet yourself

Do you ever stop for a moment and think back on your formative years and wonder whether the “you of today” would have been friends with the person you were decades ago, or even as a child?

Maybe you have, maybe you haven’t, maybe you have no intention to. That’s fine. Perhaps you’re focused on always looking forward rather than backward, but recently I have found this to be a worthwhile exercise.

I’ve had plenty of opportunities to get to know my childhood self once again as we prepare to move after 20-odd years in the same abode.

The last time we were on the move, when I was just starting university, the moving process was greatly aided by a neighbour who, although helpful, didn’t have the best sorting system. As I’ve been working on excavating the contents of the basement, I’ve found dusty plastic totes that appear to have been packed with wild abandon – that is without any rhyme or reason for their contents.

Sorting? I guess there was no time for that.

Amid pieces of school room art going back to Grade 1, perhaps even earlier, were high school papers written well over a decade later; photos from no single year strewn about, once-fresh chestnuts that withered accordingly over the decades to little more than dust, ancient chocolates and candies left over from Halloween and Valentine’s Days of yore, and handfuls of Flintstones trading cards that somehow made their way into EVERY. SINGLE. BOX.

I don’t know how they managed it, but in some perverse way it is awe-inspiring.

I have to admit, however, going through some 15 totes of substantial volume was never an enticing prospect; but after going through seven grab-boxes of trash, opening up that eighth one and seeing a still-wrapped but melted piece of Quality Street solidified onto a wallet-sized image of Pebbles and Bamm-Bamm was more than a little disheartening.

Last fall, as this process hit its midway point, I wrote a bit about this. At the time, I had come across a cache of documents from my early school years where, at least on paper, I was experiencing some difficulty in the classroom.

For whatever reason, apparently I was lashing out at people, whether my classmates or my teachers, primarily verbally. There was a full run-down of



BROCK’S BANTER

Brock Weir

my behaviour, suggestions to my parents on what to do about it, some pages quite prescriptive, and even some “contracts” drawn up by my teachers, and signed by them, my parents and myself, agreeing to specific methods of dealing with frustration, anger, and more.

At the time, it was a slightly disconcerting discovery as I had no recollection of this apparently troubled time. I was reading about myself, yet it described a person I had no recollection of let alone a connection.

But things have turned in a more positive direction.

Over the last couple of weeks, as the clock has ticked down to moving day, we’ve done another deep dive into the basement. With the intention to cull even more ruthlessly than the first attempt over the fall, I found a couple of boxes that only made me smile.

One box contained scores of magazines from the first half of the 1990s I felt appropriate to save for future reference. These ranged from informative tabloid-adjacent “Where are they now?” volumes that updated us on what stars from the so-called “Golden Age of Hollywood” have been up to recently – to rags firmly in the tabloid camp, one of which was entirely, and inexplicably, devoted to celebrities, mostly of a certain age, caught at their very worst.

These were, mind you, celebrities my peers of that age had likely never heard of, but they were very well-known to me and, admittedly, still of great interest – although, today, there is little interest in seeing them at their absolute worst, but back then I had to take what I could get!

The other box contained a wild collection of elementary school presentations – on Bristol board, of course – through the years that were almost invariably on topics related to I Love Lucy. A presentation on newsmakers? Why, Lucille Ball (presented in a red heart) and Desi

Arnaz (presented in a black conga drum) of course! A poster for French class on the book we’re currently reading? While I’d wager that a lot of my peers wrote about the latest from R.L. Stein, for me it was the latest book on Vivian Vance.

These are enduring passions for me, but the funny thing is when I previously looked back on the interests that made me tick in these years, I remember being self-conscious of them, trying to keep them hidden and on the backburner as any time they came up, they would elicit no small degree of mockery at best and bullying at worst from my fellow youths.

I was so relieved this wasn’t quite the case and whatever light this represented wasn’t hidden under the proverbial bushes – my truth was lived, as one might say, damn the consequences.

One key conclusion was that if I met my young self today, I’d think I’d find him a good egg and we’d probably be friends – and that realization helped many other elements of my childhood fall into place.

A few years ago, thanks to Marie Condo, there was a movement to get rid of everything that didn’t spark joy, the theory being that it weighs you down – and not just as far as boxes are concerned. But who knows what will spark joy at any one period of time?

A few years ago, would an old Bristol board from a long-forgotten French class from 1994 spark joy? Probably not, but as I’m more reflective in this time of transition, it certainly did recently.

In fact, it has only reinforced my view that we – all of us – need to be kinder to ourselves – even if it is a version of ourselves in memory or with the material goods we’ve brought with us over the years.

Even if your childhood was no picnic, I can only hope your adult self can look back fondly on these building blocks that formed the foundation of who you are now, whether or not the surface memories are less than rosy.

If that is the case, I hope you learn from the experience and now have the tools today to have been a friend to that youngster who might have needed someone beyond their family in their corner during these formative years.

And, with this in mind, if you have a child in your life, whether they are your own, nieces or nephews, a godchild, or simply even a kid who belongs to someone in your friend circle, I hope you encourage their quirks, their interests, even if they seem just a little bit weird, and foster their wholly unique outlooks on life.

THE AURORAN

Aurora’s Community Newspaper

The Auroran Newspaper Company Ltd.
15213 Yonge Street, Suite 8, Aurora, L4G 1L8

Main number 905-727-3300
Fax number 905-727-2620

Founder Ron Wallace | Publisher Emeritus Rosemary Schumaker

Subscriptions available within Canada and U.S.
email: administration@auroran.com

EDITOR
Brock Weir
brock@lpcmedia.ca

ADVERTISING
Zach Shoub
zach@lpcmedia.ca

ADVERTISING
Karen Nemet
karen@lpcmedia.ca

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada

GENERAL MANAGER
Zach Shoub
zach@lpcmedia.ca

ADVERTISING
Diane Buchanan
diane@auroran.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Cynthia Proctor
cynthiap@lpcmedia.ca

TODAYS NEW HOMES
Zach Shoub
zach@lpcmedia.ca

MOTORING
Heather Erwin
heather@caledoncitizen.com

CLASSIFIEDS
905-727-3300 ex.102
cynthiap@lpcmedia.ca

PHOTOGRAPHY
Glenn Rodger
grodger@rogers.com

EDITORIAL POLICY
Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and letter writers are not necessarily those of The Auroran. Letters must include name and phone number; although number will not be published. Letters may be edited or refused. All contents protected by copyright.

ADVERTISING POLICY
Publisher is not liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. Disputes must be brought to the attention of the publisher prior to the following edition.

Funded by the Government of Canada

Canada

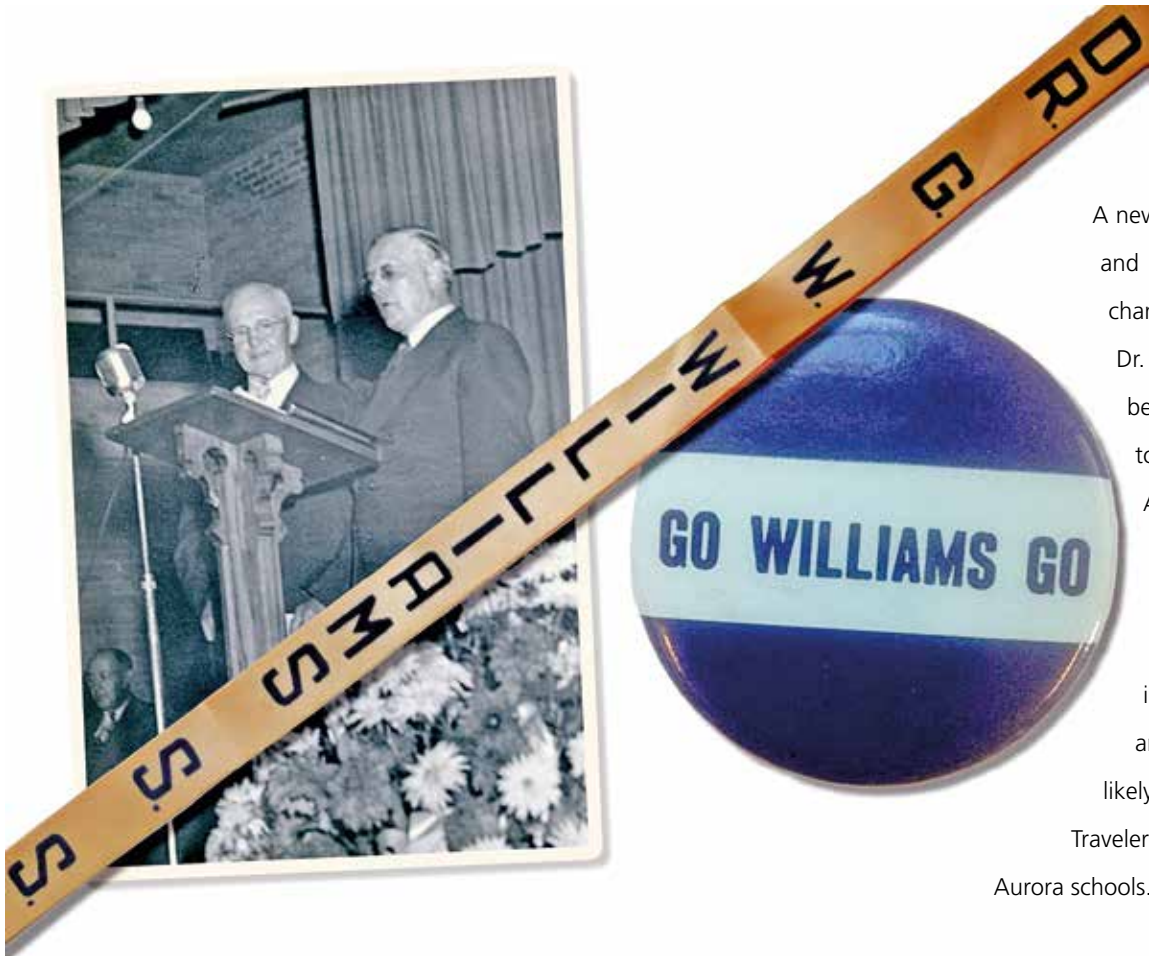
To submit a letter to the editor, please send your email to brock@lpcmedia.ca. Deadline for submissions is Sunday at 1 p.m.

News Media Canada
Médias d'Info Canada



The Aurora Museum & Archives is celebrating...

An Aurora Education Stalwart



A new school is a reason to celebrate. Students and teachers get a fresh facility and a chance to lead others by example. The new Dr. G. W. Williams secondary school, being built off Bayview, will be a great boon to our Town, ushering many thousands of Aurorans into their adult lives. This would certainly make the Dr. himself happy, as he was here (997.29.20) at the original school's dedication. Also shown are a cheerleading ribbon from the 1960s (2016.5.37a) and a school-spirit bolstering button likely from the 1970s. Take a look at our Time Traveler's Diary below for more about Williams and Aurora schools.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Resident wants points to be considered for successful implementation of housing proposal

A proposed Men's Emergency and Transitional Shelter is likely going forward and will be built by York Region on their land (near the new Pumping Station) at 14452 Yonge Street, the southern entranceway to the Town of Aurora.

The Shelter will offer a variety of wraparound services for men who are homeless and will be run for York Region by a contracted service provider.

I urge you to get involved as citizens of Aurora to make sure that these four areas, at a minimum, are addressed when planning for its successful implementation:

1) Aurora Council (in consultation with York Region/the future Operator of the Shelter) should have a strategy and plan to communicate about and support this proposed shelter so that it integrates successfully into the Aurora community and makes a good impression for the general public at the entranceway to Town. This should involve, but is not limited to, a Good Neighbour Agreement (spelling out expectations between the shelter and the residential/business community nearby) and the establishment of a Community Liaison Committee.

2) The Shelter should have an accompanying Emergency Services Strategy and Plan. While there currently exists a York Region Community Safety and Well-Being Plan (note: it is a general plan not specific to this Shelter), there should be a Plan for the Shelter specifically covering, for example, naloxone onsite and in the community, potential encampments on site, unsafe behaviour, etc.

3) There may be a Drop-In at the proposed men's emergency and transitional housing site that would be open to any York Region resident that identifies as male, 16 years of age and older, who may be at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Typically, drop-in programming operates during daytime and early evening hours. Question: Where will the Drop-In homeless men go at the end of the evening if there is no bed or they don't meet the criteria to be admitted? Perhaps the Aurora Council could consider a phased in approach for the Drop In component contingent on when the rest of the Emergency and Transitional components are proven to be successfully implemented, for example, after a duration of at least a year of successful operations for the proposed Shelter.

4) It is my understanding that an Agreement between the Town of Aurora and York Region will be negotiated spelling out the responsibilities each must follow regarding the Shelter. This must include what happens when there are violations of the "Good Neighbour Agreement". This York Region/Town of Aurora Agreement must involve public input before being finalized. I learnt of this concept based on a newspaper report that this type of Agreement was enacted between the Town of Whitby and Durham Region recently for a new Men's Shelter in Whitby.

Joyce Deutsch
Aurora

THIS WEEK'S NEW POLL

Did you make a New Year's resolution?

YES NO

www.theauroran.com

RESULTS TO DATE

JANUARY 23, 2024

YES
20%

NO
80%

Has the name for the new public school to be constructed in north-east Aurora been selected?

January 17 was the final day for residents of the school's catchment area to vote for one of the three names on the short list. Two of the names refer to the pines found along a trail near the school. The third is in honour of the renowned writer Margaret Atwood.

Aurora already has a few schools bearing people's names. One of them, Devins Drive Public School, actually bears the name of the street on which it is located – what a sensible idea! – but that street was named for a person. Dr. Clifford Devins practiced medicine in Aurora for almost thirty years and was a longtime member of the public school board.

Lester B. Pearson Public School has a slightly blurred local tie. Young Lester did live in Aurora when his father was minister of the Methodist (now United) church from 1900 until 1903. It seems unlikely that a school would have been named for that little boy, however, had he not become prime minister of Canada 60 years later.

One school named after a person with a very strong local connection is the Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School.

David Garnet Wolsley Williams was born in King Township in 1888 and lived virtually his whole life in King or Aurora.

To the residents of Newmarket and Aurora, I wish to extend my warmest wishes for a year filled with prosperity, peace, and good health.

Community safety is rated in the top three priorities by the residents in York Region. I am proud of our government's investment of \$3.7 million to the York Regional Police services as this reiterates our goal to ensure the safety and security of the people and property of the residents of Newmarket—Aurora and across York Region.

This funding will provide York Regional Police with the advanced tools and training they need to continue their exemplary services in our fight to combat hate crimes, to enable important technology and infrastructure upgrades, and be able to efficiently monitor and enforce bail conditions. This significant funding will enhance community safety by directly addressing the challenge of repeat offenders, and escalating hate crimes, providing residents with a greater sense of security and well-being. Additionally, the substantial investment of over \$1 million in advanced 9-1-1 system technology will lead to quicker, more efficient emergency responses, benefiting everyone in need of urgent help. Public safety is a top priority for our government, and we're fully committed to equipping our police with the resources they need to protect our communities.

Every long-term care resident is entitled to live with dignity and experience the quality of care they deserve. I am heartened by an investment by our government of \$72.3 million in a new investigations 10-person unit that



Time Travellers Diary

By Jacqueline Stuart

As a very young man he worked on the family farm, but decided to become a doctor. He had to return to high school to obtain the entrance requirements for medical school. Perhaps that was when he became especially conscious of the importance of education.

Within a decade or so of leaving high school (again), he had become a doctor; returned to Aurora as the junior partner in a practice, married, purchased the practice, and joined the high school board.

Dr. Williams remained on the school board for 48 years, 35 of them as chairman. Following his retirement from the board in 1961 it was announced that Aurora District High School would be renamed The Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School.

A special gathering was also held to pay tribute to Dr. Williams' long service and I attended that 1962 event.



DIALOGUE WITH DAWN

By Dawn Gallagher Murphy
MPP, Newmarket-Aurora

will have the authority to add more accountability in the long-term care sector, and will help address the most serious forms of non-compliance in these homes such as:

- failing to protect a resident from abuse or neglect,
- repeated and ongoing non-compliance,
- failing to comply with ministry inspector's orders,
- suppressing and/or falsifying mandatory reports, and
- negligence of corporate directors.

By providing the new investigators with the ability to refer cases to prosecutors as needed, this team will help to improve compliance with the Act, keep residents safe and provide comfort and certainty to residents and their families. The work of the Investigations Unit will complement Ontario's existing robust inspections program and is in addition to a wider suite of changes the government introduced over the last two years to strengthen compliance and enforcement

Uncertain as to whether it was an open house or invitation-only occasion, I pressed the "invisible mode" button in the time machine. A good thing I did: the 130 guests were all men!

The numerous speeches naturally included many references to the length of Dr. Williams' tenure.

After the speeches, he was presented with a grand leather chair. The evening's host, dentist Elmer Henderson, forgot to invite the guest of honour to speak, but Dr. Williams managed to get a word or two in. He teased Dr. Henderson and his oversight: clearly Dr. Williams was not the only one getting on in years. He ended up by inviting those present to visit him at home and try out the leather chair for at least five minutes: he would not charge them for an office call [those were pre-OHIP days].

As the evening wound down, I wound up my machine and returned to the present.

After his very long attachment to Aurora, Dr. Williams spent his last days in a nursing home in Newmarket, where he died in 1974.

If Dr. Williams' spirit ever visits "his" school, it will have to shift direction since in about two years it will be in a new building in north-eastern Aurora. It will be within walking distance of that new public school, unnamed at the time of writing.

in the long-term care sector, such as doubling the number of inspectors.

Recently, I visited The Rose of Sharon Services for Young Mothers, who support about 300 pregnant and parenting young mothers. It was a privilege to recognize the \$17,200 Ontario Trillium Foundation grant provided by our government. This funding has been instrumental in upgrading their kitchen, including the addition of essential appliances like new refrigerators and an oven, which will significantly enhance their ability to provide nutritious meals. The collaboration with local businesses, notably Best Brand Appliance's contribution, is a heartwarming example of our community's commitment to nurturing these young families. This project supports vital nutrition and fosters a sense of collective responsibility towards our community's well-being.

It was an honour for me to participate in the regional governance review held for York Region by the Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy. Our goal is to ensure two-tier municipal structures are providing effective and accountable government that is supporting getting more homes built. I specifically questioned how our local municipalities are implementing forward looking zoning for transit supportive densities in specified areas around transit stations. This is what I hear from residents, intensification around transit in Newmarket-Aurora should be a priority.

Please contact me at my office, 905-853-9889, if you have any questions or would like to discuss provincial matters.

\$3.7M for York Regional Police

The new funding will go towards combatting hate crimes, upgrading infrastructure, and enforcing bail conditions.



**Dawn GALLAGHER MURPHY**
MPP for Newmarket–Aurora

📞 905-853-9889 ✉ Dawn.GallagherMurphy@pc.ola.org

📧 dawngallaghermurphy 📧 MurphyGallagher 📧 Dawn Gallagher Murphy

Canada needs to spur the growth of new small businesses

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) called last Friday “a sad day for many Canadian small business owners.”

The reason: many businesses will be unable to repay the emergency government loans they received in the middle of the pandemic.

Approximately 900,000 businesses took out loans. But many had little choice – small businesses such as restaurants were forced by the government to close their doors for long stretches, and many struggled to survive. Now, with the loan deadline kicking in, some of them will go under.

It’s not just the weight of the government loan payments crushing these businesses – it’s also the current business climate.

According to the CFIB, only about 50 per cent of small businesses have returned to the sales levels they enjoyed before the pandemic. When you add on top of that the rising cost of doing business, coupled with high inflation and labour shortages, it’s no wonder we’re bracing for a spike in business bankruptcies.

It’s tough running your own small business in the best of times. But just as frustrating is the fact that we make it increasingly difficult for Canadians to open up their own business in the first place.

According to the Business Development Bank, fewer Canadians are starting their own businesses compared to 20 years ago.

The decline in new business start-ups matters for many reasons. It matters because small businesses are the country’s biggest job creators and they’re also the source of many of our new technologies and products.

But most importantly, it matters to millions of Canadians. The pursuit of economic freedom is what drives many Canadians to start their own business. It’s a dream held by Canadians of all ages and backgrounds and beliefs – the desire to be your own boss and chart your own path to financial success.

And for many entrepreneurs and business owners, myself included, it has been the key to achieving financial independence.

But that dream is becoming harder and harder to



THE PRINCIPLES OF AN ECONOMIC CHARTER OF RIGHTS

By Frank Stronach

achieve.

Over the years, we’ve added more and more hurdles for Canadians trying to get their business up and running – everything from new fees and forms to registrations and licenses. Starting your own small business shouldn’t be difficult.

We should do everything we can to encourage people to start a small business, rather than install roadblocks at every step of the process. To spur the growth of more small businesses, there are a number of measures we can take.

One of the most important would be to scrap all of the forms, licenses, permits and fees that are not absolutely essential in launching a new business. It wouldn’t take long to draw up that list, and it would save new business owners invaluable time and money.

Beyond that, we also need to start fostering entrepreneurship skills and training in our high schools in addition to technical skills apprenticeships. Both these roads will lead to the creation of many new small businesses and will give young Canadians a path to financial rewarding careers.

Getting government off the backs of our small businesses is one of the key elements in the national economic charter of rights I’ve proposed. But we also need to remove all of the many barriers that are keeping small businesses from being formed in the first place.

If we did that, we could set off a chain reaction of economic growth that our country hasn’t seen for many years.

To learn more about the economic charter and how it could generate economic growth and prosperity, email me at info@economiccharter.ca. Or to learn more about the economic charter, visit: www.economiccharter.ca.

Author Bio

Frank Stronach is the founder of Magna International Inc., one of Canada’s largest global companies, and was inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame.

fstronachlpc@gmail.com

Bail compliance, 9-1-1 programs boosted by Province

BY BROCK WEIR
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

York Regional Police received a significant boost from the Provincial government on Friday afternoon.

At the YRP’s Aurora headquarters on January 19, Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MPP Michael Parsa announced the Province will contribute \$2.4 million over the next three years towards programs related to the YRP’s Bail Compliance and Warrant Apprehension Program and its Enhanced Bail Enforcement Project.

Additional funding of \$1 million was announced to help the YRP implement Next-Generation 9-1-1, which is designed to improve capacity.

“The Bail Compliance and Warrant Apprehension Program will augment our dedicated Warrant Apprehension and Community Supervision Enforcement team, which manages offenders on bail, community supervision or those with outstanding warrants,” said the York Regional Police. “This team is responsible for investigating the whereabouts of violent offenders wanted on warrants and the management of offenders released into the community on Probation, Provincial Parole and Conditional Supervision Orders. The Enhanced Bail Enforcement Project will centralize bail intake across York Region including Release Orders and Variances issued by the Ontario and Superior Courts of Justice in Newmarket, as well as those from the courts in Toronto.

“The Enhanced Bail Enforcement team will triage, complete data entry and dissemination to other members of the organization through an in-house bail compliance dashboard. Bail compliance efforts and outcomes will be captured for data analysis and performance measurement, providing real-time data to inform our bail management approach.”

Next Generation 9-1-1, which the CRTC has mandated for implementation by next year, will “modernize telecommunications networks that will result in new voice, text and multimedia services, including the capability to send and receive texts, videos and photos.”

Once implemented, the system will include interactive mapping, as well as automatic call and text features.”



Cabinet Magic

CUSTOM NEW KITCHENS
CABINET REFACING
BATHROOMS • STONE COUNTERTOPS
BAR UNITS • CLOSETS

ONE STOP SHOPPING
Designer Handles and Knobs
Sinks and Faucets
Sharp Appliances
Kitchen Accessories
Ceramic Tile
Vinyl Flooring
And much more

PROUDLY SERVING THE GTA FOR OVER

30 Years

SAVE UP TO 20%
"Buy More Save More"
See store for details, some conditions apply

The bitterness of poor quality is remembered long after the sweetness of a low price has faded from memory.

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM

1100 GORHAM ST. UNIT #20,
NEWMARKET, L3Y 8Y8

905-954-0967

info@cabinetmagic.ca
www.cabinetmagic.ca

 Follow us

 **100% GUARANTEE**

 **BUY Canadian!**

Caribbean Fusion will bring dance and music to APL for Black History Month



BY BROCK WEIR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Charlene Hines loves to dance but, for her, it's about more than moving her body to the rhythm. Each beat is evocative of the history of Black Canadians, their journey, and is also an opportunity to teach and learn.

This has been a driving force behind the DOAHL Academy, a Markham-based dance studio run by Charlene and Gregory Hines, as well as the force behind a presentation that will take place in the Aurora Public Library's living room space on the afternoon of February 13 to mark Black History Month.

“It’s the secret to why we overcame such adversity,” Charlene Hines tells *The Auroran*. “It’s what got us through really tough times – singing, clapping, stamping our feet, moving, it’s what kept us unified, it gave us hope, it’s what gave us strength and it continues to be a driving force behind the Black community.”

"In Black History Month, which I feel should be every single month because there is just so much to learn, it's obviously a heightened time when people's ears are opened up and their hearts and mindsets are a bit more focused on the Black community, what we have to say and what we have to educate them with."

The Aurora Public Library stives to “celebrate our diverse community throughout the year and you never want to limit it to just February for Black History Month,” adds Reccia Mandelcorn, Manager of Community Collaboration for the Aurora Public Library, who reached out to DOAHL with an idea.

“I found through all my years of programming that nothing brings a community together as much as food and music,” says Mandelcorn. “It doesn’t matter what your origins are or what culture you come from, these two things are building blocks that help us learn, cultivate and grow as a community. I was thinking we would do something fun and special to celebrate Black History Month and I thought about programming a dance performance, followed by a community workshop, that would get us all moving to the rhythms I personally love.”

Moreover, she adds, it was important to find a Black-owned and operated dance studio to make it all possible, and that's how she connected with the Hines.

From Mandelcorn's perspective, their mission emphasizing the power of dance to bring communities together and share culture was perfectly "in

sync” with APL and, as the program has developed, excitement has kept pace.

The program set to be offered next month is Caribbean Fusion, which will showcase a variety of dances that are emblematic of the rich diversity of that region of North America.

"It is really important to us that with every performance that we are educators," says Hines. "I find that we hear music and can sometimes clump them into one category. It's important to know the differences between Reggae and Dance Hall music, your Calypso music versus Soca, and even traditional. Even with traditional you have so many different countries and elements, so we will be bringing work from West Africa."

The power of dance to bring people together was always evident for Gregory and Charlene.

Her interest in African-Caribbean dance can be charted back to the age of three. It was something she grew up with, and her interest subsequently expanded to include Hip Hop, which was at the initial core of DOAHL.

“We were trying to bring it to a more professional level in Canada [as] it was already that way in the States,” says Hines. “We had to do something different here in Canada. When we opened up the dance studio in 2003 or 2004, it was really about having a voice in York Region. It wasn’t until performance opportunities started to open up in different spaces that were interested in what we had to offer that I really started to see the impact on other communities and how interested they were and how dance and movement unified us.

“I look at these opportunities as opportunities to be seen, to be heard, to be accepted – for everyone in that room to see that we are the same – the same but, again, different cultures because of where we come from, but the same in the sense of just having the same vision, the same wants. We want this for our entire country, our entire world, but in our community, which is York Region, a more fused vision of our diverse country. That is what Canada is all about and I would love to see that more within our communities.”

Caribbean Fusion will take place in the Aurora Public Library's living room space on Saturday, February 13, at 3 p.m. and all are encouraged to attend. Come in comfortable shoes, says Mandelcorn and, if your footwear is less than sensible, you can simply take them off and take part in your socks or bare feet.

The event is free, open to all ages, with no registration necessary.



RESERVE • DINE • TAKEOUT



BUSINESS & FINANCE



“Beer, it’s the best damn drink in the world.”

Cheers to Jack Nicholson



Chamber of Commerce celebrates 75 grads who improved skills with university partnership

BY BROCK WEIR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce celebrated another success story last Thursday afternoon when they welcomed 75 people from across Ontario to Aurora in order to celebrate their successful completion of the Business Acumen Certificate Program through the Schulich School of Business at York University.

The program is a partnership between the Chamber and York University to allow employees of businesses in many sectors to continue to learn and hone their skills, and was made possible through grant funding via Ontario’s Skills Development Fund.

The Chamber received \$391,000 from the Province to get this program off the ground and was a resounding success.



The team from Commport Communications were among the graduates celebrated at the Royal Venetian Mansion on Thursday morning.
Auroran photo by Brock Weir

Bob's Plumbing Service

EST. 1972

• RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL

905-727-3210

www.bobsplumbing.ca

Partners in Your Business

Brian Roberts
CPA, CGA, LPA

ROBERTS & COMPANY
Chartered Professional Accountant

Call us at 905.727.8046 or visit www.robertscpa.ca

“The feedback I received from local participants and the HR and executive teams at the companies [at which they are employed] has been incredibly positive,” said Sandra Ferri, President & CEO of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, at a reception held at the Royal Venetian Mansion. “I congratulate the participants for their commitment to personal and professional development as it is that commitment that sets you apart. I applaud the companies for investing in their employees and recognizing the time away from their daily positions would be offset by the skills developed through this program...which will serve as a solid foundation for future growth. I encourage all of you to become life-long learners, be open to opportunities and challenges and know that you’re capable of taking on those challenges.”

Words of encouragement were also offered by assembled dignitaries including MPPs Michael Parsa and Dawn Gallagher Murphy, as well as Mayor Tom Mrakas.

Addressing “current and future leaders” among the graduates, Parsa said “we value you, you’re integral to the success” of Ontario.

“More than 90 per cent of our economy is dependent on the work that you do at your companies and organizations,” he said. “To the management that came forward and nominated individuals to be a part of this program, congratulations to you as well for recognizing these individuals.”

Gallagher Murphy saluted both the grads and the wide-array of industries and companies they represented, stating that each of the business demonstrated the value of investing in its employees.

“This is what this program is all about: investing in your employees to further enhance your skillsets and that results in a win for the employee, for the business and, of course, a win for Ontario because we are all further building our economy and investing in Ontarians,” she said. “That is the most important way our Province can be the best possible place to live, work and raise a family – by investing in our people.”

Added Mayor Mrakas: “I think we all know how competitive an economy it is right now and learning new skills to strengthen your business acumen is critical to success. It is not just critical to you, it is critical to our entire community as you play such a vital role in making our towns and cities amazing places to live.”

These words were echoed by Carlo Sicoli, Director of Business Development and Partnerships with the Schulich Executive Education Program, who said there is “no longer one single transition from graduation to work.”

“Many years ago, you’d graduate and then you just go to work. That’s what my dad told me to do,” he reflected. “Life has changed, it is a very competitive market and you need new skills. I commend you for taking 30 hours of your time to do it, but it gives you that body of work. Your new skills are a body of work you bring to your job every day

“We have worked with a number of organizations such as this and the stories that you hear about people developing new skills and taking on new projects at work, or moving into new roles, it is a material benefit to the community. I would like to thank the Government of Ontario for taking that step. This is a real game-changer.”

DRIVE BUSINESS SUMMIT

ACCELERATING SUCCESS: INNOVATE, COLLABORATE, ELEVATE

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
ADAM RODRICKS
National Director of Social Growth & Experience
KPMG

CANADA'S TOP SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGIST

February 8, 2024
9am - 12:30pm

Stonehaven Banquet Hall

AURORACHAMBER.ON.CA/DRIVE-BUSINESS-SUMMIT (905) 727-7262 | INFO@AURORACHAMBER.ON.CA

Introducing...

Balanced, Nutritious Meals that can Support Your Health and Well Being

With over 200 fully-prepared, frozen meals and free delivery* why not let us take care of the food so you can focus on taking care of everything else on your list!

Call us today at 905-713-5718 or visit HeartToHomeMeals.ca

HEART TO HOME MEALS
DELICIOUS MEALS MADE FOR SENIORS™

*some conditions may apply

Nature’s Emporium Run aims to raise \$500K for Southlake’s Centennial



Jennifer Ritter, President & CEO of the Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation speaks at Monday's launch of the 2024 Nature's Emporium Run for Southlake.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

From page 1

“We had somewhere close to 12,000 people in our community – individuals, families, friends, colleagues – come out and we raised north of half a million dollars... to support advanced and replacement equipment,” said Ritter at the January 22 event. “It’s everything from the most advanced tools like PET CT, MRIs, CTs, equipment you hear us talk about and we recently brought to Southlake; to things you can’t underestimate the importance of, like comfortable and safe beds and IV poles, lifts, stretchers and transfer stretchers.

“When we have an event like this, it is the community coming together to raise funds to help us [support] the incredible people and team we have at Southlake – so innovative, so brilliant, so compassionate – but they are working against aging infrastructure

and an aging building. We haven’t had a significant infusion or transformation of our hospital in some time, aside from our award-winning top three cancer centre. We’re constantly working on renewal and Southlake is an absolutely incredible place to come for treatment. We’re trying to make it even more so by giving our fantastic clinicians and staff the tools they need.”

These needs were underscored this week by Southlake Chief of Staff Dr. Charmaine Van Schaik, a pediatrician and lead of the hospital’s Maternal Child Program.

To say the funds raised by the Run are “meaningful” to her team and the entire hospital community is a “gross understatement,” she said, particularly in a geographic area that is among the fastest-growing in Ontario and with an aging population.

These factors have contributed

to making Southlake one of the “most over-crowded hospitals in the Province,” she said.

“Each year, Southlake’s Emergency Department sees more than 115,000 visits. To put that into perspective, that’s an average of 315 visits per day, which means a new patient every four-and-a-half minutes,” said Van Schaik. “Even with our volumes, we consistently rank as one of the top three hospitals for our Best Emergency Department Assessment Times in the Province. Results like this and many other instances of our hospital delivering exceptional care to our community are made possible in part thanks to the generosity and commitment of our sponsors, our supporters here today, and the thousands of participants who will fundraise for the Nature’s Emporium Run for Southlake Each year. Because of those fundraising efforts, our participants and the donors who sponsor them, we purchase critical equipment, create new and innovative healing spaces, and meet the urgent needs across the hospital that the government does not fund.


“When our Run participants fundraise for Southlake, they are literally putting tools in the hands of my fellow clinicians so we can continue to provide the compassionate and excellent care that you and your loved ones expect from us. On behalf of all the medical staff and staff at Southlake, especially the patients of Southlake who benefit from the generosity of everyone in this room and beyond, thank you.”

Similar sentiments were expressed by Nature’s Emporium founder Joe D’Addario, who said participants and donors have joined them to make a “significant impact” on area healthcare.

“We’re deeply grateful for the

ongoing commitment and enthusiasm our community shows,” he said. “As we look forward to lacing up our sneakers and to run on April 28, to begin fundraising efforts, let’s remember that each dollar raised helps us provide leading edge care close to home. When you walk or run for Southlake, you are investing in a new way of delivering healthcare. You are fundraising to keep the hospital patient care facilities up to date and to give healthcare experts the tools they need to deliver the best possible care for our communities.”

For more on the 2024 Nature’s Emporium Run for Southlake, including how to register for the event and sponsor a participant, visit runforsouthlake.ca.



DAMIR VRANCIC
LAW OFFICE

**BUSINESS LAW,
REAL ESTATE,
WILLS & ESTATES**

905-841-6411

Providing valued and trusted legal advice since 1983

**BUILDING
COMMUNITY
*for everyone***

PROPOSED EMERGENCY AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING AT 14452 YONGE STREET

COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE

Meet the team, ask your questions and learn more.
This is a drop-in event. There will be no formal presentations.

Monday, January 29, 2024
Doors open from 5 to 8 p.m.
Aurora Public Library
15145 Yonge Street

Travel by York Region Transit will be reimbursed.

Community members of all ages are welcome, including local business owners and service providers.

Scan here





york.ca/14452Yonge





Shadowpath makes sure love is in the air this Valentine’s at local gallery



Shadowpath actors are pictured rehearsing in the Royal Rose Gallery last week ahead of the February 10 performance.

Photo by Felix Gray

BY BROCK WEIR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Everybody has a story that can inspire. This is a philosophy that drives York Region’s Shadowpath Theatre Productions and has served to inspire a new immersive theatrical experience they’re bringing to Aurora’s Royal Rose Gallery on Saturday, February 10 – just in time for Valentine’s Day.

“Aurora In Love” is a series of seven plays that will be staged in the gallery, penned by local playwrights that have been inspired by local stories. The plays will be staged throughout the multi-level gallery over the course of an hour as dynamic performers bring these stories of love and romance to life.

“We have always been interested in re-telling local stories,” says Shadowpath’s Alex Karolyi. “We go directly to the community to get inspiration for our material because everybody’s got a story and sometimes you just have to ask – and people love sharing!”

This is an approach that Shadowpath has taken many times over their 21 years of production, but not always related to a theme.

Last fall, they staged a Halloween production at Hillary House National Historic Site, but now, in the thick of winter, they’re shifting from the spooky to the seductive.

“It starts with a lot of research and exploration – we even went into wedding stores in Aurora and asked, ‘Do you have any stories you want to share?’” says Alex.

“We received stories that way and we also talked to a local officiant about stories. We got this whole pot of possible stories and our writers [picked], saying, ‘I’ll give this one a try.’”

Seven plays were ultimately selected and range from a story of romance from the Second World War, to the lighthearted, each showing off the many facets of love and romance.

Weaving together each of the plays will be the character of “Dr. Love” who Alex describes as a “boisterous, flamboyant woman who loves to be in love,” trailed by her sidekick Omar, “shy and a little bitter with his love experience” whom the good doctor prefers to address as “Amor.”

“Every community has stories to share and their stories could actually animate and activate everyday spaces within that community. It is kind of a celebration of identity and history and community all coming together at once. People will say, ‘I don’t have anything to share,’ but everybody does. Everybody’s voice, perspective and history is meaningful and important. Other people can relate to it or connect to it so people should open up and share their own selves, stories, more openly in general.

“This is about love and love has many different various forms and sometimes there’s even negative love like obsession or madness that can be under the broad category of love. We wanted this project to not just be love in a traditional man and woman who fall in love, that kind of typical story. Yes, we have that, but we also wanted to have different scenarios, perspectives,

relationships. We have same sex love, and we’re trying to look at love in a diverse lens, bringing more diversity into people’s experiences with love.”

Aurora in Love will feature “The Peacekeeper” by Alex Karolyi, “Mira” by Maissa Bessada, “In Transit” by Chantal Forde, “Love Languages” by Alex Karolyi, “Round Two” by Chantal

Forde, “Dr. Love” by Alex Karolyi, and “The Kiss” by Karolyi, Jona Villa and Paige Madsen.

The show will run at the Royal Rose (15210 Yonge Street) on Saturday, February 10, from 2 – 3 p.m., from 4.30 – 5.30 p.m., and finally from 7 – 8 p.m.

Tickets range from \$26 - \$34 and can be secured at shadowpaththeatre.ca.

Advertorial

Arthritis: New Approach Delivers Remarkable Results



If you suffer from Arthritis you need to be aware of effective advancements that can eliminate years of pain, suffering, immobility and frustration.

You may have told your doctor you suffer with one or more of the following: sore, stiff knees, painful achy hips, low back pain, mid back pain, neck stiffness or pain, hand stiffness, shoulder pain or elbow pain.

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

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

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

There is a new, natural, safe and highly effective approach that has helped many sufferers improve their

lives dramatically: Laser therapy uses light to favor and accelerate the body’s natural healing processes. The innovative Multiwave Locked System (MLS) Laser produces a safe, efficient and simultaneous effect on pain, inflammation, swelling and water retention, exceeding the limits of traditional LLLT (Low power) and concerns of HP (High power) laser therapy.

What does this mean for you?

Our patients have reported a 90-95% relief of their symptoms, more mobility, increased flexibility and vastly improved function!

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

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

Come in and allow us to help you achieve the results you deserve! Call (905) 773-2225 to book your FREE consultation and examination at King West Wellness Centre 141 King Rd., Unit 10, Richmond Hill (In the Home Hardware Plaza)

APARTMENT LIVING

and so much more

AMENITIES AND SERVICES

THAT GO FAR BEYOND JUST AN APARTMENT

Call today!

Limited 1-bedroom apartments available.

DELMANOR

Aurora

Inspired Retirement Living™

25 BUTTERNUT RIDGE TRAIL

AURORA

905-503-9505

DelmanorAurora.com



669 WELLINGTON ST. E., AURORA
(905) 727-1948 | 1-866-979-3635

BOOK YOUR WINTER TIRES,
BEAT THE RUSH.



www.auroratoyota.ca

THE AURORED

SECTION B

Sports • News • Coming Events
Classifieds • At Your Service



Now Open
Flooring
Superstore

Your friendly local flooring experts

Floors Direct
NORTH

NEWMARKET SHOWROOM
105 Harry Walker Pkwy N.
Unit 1, Newmarket, ON L3Y 7B3
T: 905-235-4400 | F: 905-235-4411
Inquiries@floorsDirectnorth.ca

Vol. 25 No. 16 905-727-3300 TheAurora.com FREE Week of January 25, 2024

Ella Newman-Mixon scores OT winner in U22 Panthers' 4-3 victory over Bluewater to salvage homestand



U22 Panthers call-up goaltender Audrey Thomas put forth a valiant effort in Central York's 3 - 0 loss to the Cambridge Rivulettes in OWHL action on Saturday at the SARC.

Injury-plagued Central York Panthers lose two hard-fought home games versus Etobicoke and Cambridge

By Jim Stewart

The U22 Central York Panthers bounced back from two consecutive home losses with a 4-3 overtime victory over the Bluewater Hawks at SARC on Sunday afternoon. Ella Newman-Mixon's unassisted goal, her ninth of the season, provided the OT heroics versus Bluewater as the Panthers (19-9-0-2) earned a much-needed win after tough defeats to the Etobicoke Dolphins (22-0-0-1) and Cambridge Rivulettes (16-8-1-2) earlier in the week.

Quick starts by the Panthers, which generated early goals in all three periods versus Bluewater (16-9-2-1), were the keys to Sunday's victory.

Amber Esterbrooks—who tallied a hat trick against the London Devilettes last Saturday – opened the scoring 25 seconds into Sunday afternoon's game against the Hawks. Esterbrooks' 17th goal of the season was assisted by Cheyenne Degeer and Zoe Li.

90 seconds into the second period, Erica Buckley, with assists from Klaire Essex and Clara Williams, increased the Panthers' lead to 2-0.

The Hawks responded with a flurry of goals in the second period.

Bluewater's leading goal scorer, Robyn Storey, tallied two in less than nine minutes to tie the game 2-2 and Molly Battram gave the visitors a 3-2 lead with three minutes left in the middle frame.

Panthers' points leader Cheyenne Degeer, with helpers from Li and Esterbrooks—tied the game two minutes into the third period and the

teams remained deadlocked at 3-3 after sixty minutes of play.

The scrappy Degeer's fifteenth goal of the season moved her into ninth place in the OWHL scoring race with 34 points.

Esterbrooks and Li earned their 13th and 17th assists of the season, respectively, on Degeer's tying goal to solidify their place among the OWHL's Top 20 scorers at #16 and #18.

With 9:09 left in overtime, Newman-Mixon fired the puck past Hawks goaltender Ella Willoughby to give the Panthers a much-needed win and end the weekend on a high note. Isabelle Whynot returned between the pipes for the Panthers and blocked 17 of 20 shots to earn the W—her 10th of the season.

Sunday's winning effort was noteworthy in that the U22 Central York Panthers and their U18 call-ups continue to weather an outbreak of injuries this season.

The valiant amalgam has maintained their #3 ranking in the 20-team OWHL, despite having up to nine players on the Injured List. However, two of the top teams in Canada visited Aurora this week to challenge the injury-decimated junior club and the results reflected the uneven current rosters with almost half the Panthers skaters relegated to the sidelines.

Prior to their big comeback win versus Bluewater, the short-handed Panthers suffered a pair of home losses at SARC: 3-0 to the seventh-place Cambridge Rivulettes on Saturday afternoon and a 3-2 heartbreaker to the second-place Etobicoke Dolphins on Wednesday night.

Etobicoke and Cambridge have been ranked as high as #1 and #12, respectively, in Canada.

After the tough loss to the Rivulettes on Saturday afternoon, Panthers' Head

Coach Steve Dempsey, who has also coached Ontario university hockey for over fifteen years, said he has never seen so many injuries afflict any of his teams.

"We were down at least nine players today. It's been tough on the players, especially the 18U callups who are playing in their games, too. There's been lots of wear and tear on two teams stretched pretty thin by the number of injuries we've had over the last few weeks. Both our goalies were unavailable for today's game, including one that was in the hospital this morning."

Coach Dempsey spoke approvingly of the play of emergency callup goalie Audrey Thomas who was tested early and often by the Rivulettes and kept the Panthers in the game by shutting out the visitors for over half the game.

"I was happy with her performance. When Audrey tracks the puck, she plays very well."

The veteran bench boss thought the turning point of the game versus Cambridge—in addition to hearing about his "starting goalie being hospitalized this morning with heart problems"—was the inability of his team to score an early goal on home ice.

"We needed to set the tone by scoring the first goal. That would have given us more energy."

After the teams battled to a scoreless tie after twenty minutes of play, high energy forward Erica Buckley was awarded a penalty shot at 17:18 of the second period. Buckley's wrist shot on Cambridge netminder Jordy Demarnis sailed just wide of the left goal post.

Panthers' goalie Thomas displayed her athleticism after the missed penalty shot with a pair of saves against the rapid-firing Rivulettes at 9:30, but Cambridge banged in a rebound during a power play goalmouth scramble to put the visitors up 1-0.

The Rivulettes added two goals in the third period to provide their three-goal margin of victory. Demarnis earned the shutout by repelling the Panthers' final five minutes of offensive pressure with Thomas pulled for an extra attacker.

NORTH YORK
HEATING, PLUMBING &
ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES

We sell
all types of
Filters
Humidifiers
Air Cleaners
& Water Pumps

Tel: 905-727-6401
www.nyhp.on.ca

8 Industrial Pkwy. S.
Aurora, Ontario

**AURORA TRANSIT
AUTO GLASS**



**Need Windshield
Chip Repair or Replacement?**

Visit:
www.auroratransitautoglass.com

11 Allaura Blvd #10 Aurora On L4G 3N2

905-713-6420 1-888-728-4778





NewRoads
Automotive Group™



Caring For Our Community newroads.ca



Frank Castiglione’s 2-goal performance earns OJHL First Star of the Game honors in Tigers’ 7-2 loss to Oakville

By Jim Stewart

Tigers’ rookie forward Frank Castiglione’s two-goal performance earned him OJHL First Star of the Game honors on Saturday night in Oakville, but Aurora’s 7-2 loss to the Blades was the struggling team’s fifth in a row.

The Tigers ended their six-game

road trip with a 1-5 record. The young team’s “Road Trip from Hell”—which opened in a promising manner with a 4-3 win over the Caledon Admirals – rolled into Toronto on Friday night.

Sixth-place St. Mike’s (22-14-1-5) shut out Aurora’s rookie-laden lineup 6-0. With two losses on the weekend, the eleventh-place Tigers fell to 11-

29-2-2 and nineteen points out of a playoff berth.

Castiglione, a bright light in an otherwise dismal season, scored both goals in the second period versus Oakville. The Blades, who reside in sixth place in the OJHL’s Eastern Conference, took a 2-0 lead heading into the middle frame on Saturday night.

Castiglione’s ninth of the season at 4:04 narrowed Oakville’s lead to 2-1. Assists were earned by Tigers’ hard-hitting rookie forward Adam Matar and Captain Keegan Decaluwe.

Gleb Akimov restored the Blades’ two-goal lead at 5:51, but Castiglione fired a puck past Mikkel Christensen six minutes later to pull the visitors to within one. Rookie forward Jobey Pearson from Squamish, BC added a helper on Castiglione’s tenth of

the campaign, and Matar drew his second assist of the period.

However, the Blades fired four unanswered goals by Kenny Belanger, Noah Tyrell, Eric Bonsteel, and Aidan Taylor to establish their five-goal margin of victory.

Oakville outshot Aurora 50-38.

The road-weary Tigers, who have not played at the ACC since December 16, have an opportunity to recalibrate this weekend when they play their first home games of 2024. On the brink of elimination from the playoffs with only twelve regular season games remaining, Aurora hosts the tenth-place Pickering Panthers (14-24-1-4) on Friday and the eighth-place Lindsay Muskies (20-16-1-4) on Saturday.

Puck drop for both “must-win” games at the ACC is 7:30 PM.



9th Annual Winter Fresh

❄️ **Trivia Night Extravaganza**

February 2nd, 2024
Doors open at 5:30pm

❄️ Stonehaven Banquet Hall
63 Eric T Smith Way, Aurora, ON

Tickets: \$95 Table of 8: \$760
Includes: 3 course dinner, Prizes, Booze Pull
Live and Dessert Auctions

Purchase tickets at:
www.WinterFresh2024.eventbrite.ca
For more information call Joanne at 905-841-3101 x202

An evening of community gathering, delicious food, fun and entertaining trivia to raise funds and awareness for food programs in York Region.



Tired of Shovelling Snow?

Live carefree with us this winter

Enjoy homecooked meals, weekly housekeeping & a full activity calendar.

Spend the winter amongst new friends at Kingsway Place Retirement Residence.

Stay 3 months and get the 4th month free*

*Terms and conditions apply



by **FIELDGATE**
Retirement Living



Call 905-841-2777 or visit kingswayaurora.com

145 Murray Dr, Aurora

Vince’s presents cheque to CHATS in support of vital services for seniors



From left: Giancarlo Trimarchi (President, Vince’s), Mona Shaher (Fundraising and Community Engagement Lead, CHATS), Kelly Broome (Vice President Philanthropy & Communications, CHATS), Grant Waddell (Board member, CHATS), Maria Ciarlandini (Vince’s Community Ambassador), and Andrea Sheppard (Fund Development & Communications Lead, CHATS).

Contributed photo

By Neil Moore

Representatives from Vince’s and Community & Home Assistance to Seniors (CHATS) gathered to hear the results of the 2023 Community Product Initiative (CPI) – and to present a cheque for the proceeds from this successful, year-long campaign.

The independent grocer was pleased to announce that \$28,869 was raised to support CHATS and their home and community services for older adults and caregivers living in our community.

“CHATS was thrilled to have been selected as the Vince’s Community Product Initiative recipient for 2023,” said CHATS CEO Christina Bisanz. “The past few years have been particularly difficult for many older adults in our community. While the pandemic escalated social isolation, the current economic challenges have put unprecedented pressure on food and housing security for our regions’ most vulnerable seniors and their family caregivers.”

Indeed, organizations like CHATS have been stretched, with increased demands for services and support, both directly and from their partners in health and social care.

“We are grateful that Vince’s has recognized the importance of investing and contributing to CHATS’ crucial services that enable older adults to live independently and safely in their own homes and communities,” she continued. “The funding we received from this program will ensure that no senior gets left behind.”

Support for CHATS and previous recipients of Vince’s CPI has involved all four stores, participating vendors – and Vince’s customers. Working with participating vendors, Vince’s identifies a variety of items – typically staples – and then sets aside 15 percent of sales from these Community Products throughout the year.

“We are pleased to support the vital work being done by CHATS, and to play a role in making life a little easier for the older adults who rely on their services,” said Vince’s President Giancarlo Trimarchi. “This has been a great partnership, and we are pleased that CHATS has been so ‘hands-on’ in working with us on this campaign. I’m also proud to announce that we have raised approximately \$150K since launching the initiative in 2018. And we look forward to raising significant funds in 2024!”

“After a year of partnering with CHATS, I am truly impressed by the organization and the opportunities and programs they provide to seniors in our communities,” added Vince’s Community Ambassador Maria Ciarlandini. “It has been an absolute pleasure working alongside the CHATS team.”

For 2024, the recipient for Vince’s Community Product Initiative will be Toonies for Tummies.

This is a Grocery Foundation initiative that directly benefits nutrition programs in the vicinity of participating stores.

These programs are increasingly vital to the 1 in 3 children at risk of going to school on an empty stomach.

“Like many of the programs Vince’s supports, Toonies for Tummies is a game-changer, making communities better by filling hungry tummies at school,” said Shaun McKenna, The Grocery Foundation’s Executive Director. “What also makes this program unique is that every toonie will remain in the local community. We’re indebted to the wonderful team members at Vince’s, the company’s leadership, who are wholeheartedly committed to the communities where they operate and, of course, the brands and tremendous guests. We each play a role in nourishing neighbourhoods, and this campaign will go a long way in doing just that,” added McKenna.

M&M FOOD MARKET

**JOIN CANADA'S LARGEST
FROZEN FOOD RETAILER!**



**A FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITY
IS NOW AVAILABLE AT
AURORA-WELLINGTON**



**A TURNKEY
FRANCHISE
OPPORTUNITY
NEVER LOOKED
SO GOOD!**

For more information, visit
mmfoodmarketfranchise.com



HearingLife

Love your ears



Keep hearing
Keep connecting
Keep laughing
& keep being you



FREE
30-Day
Trial*

Do you look forward to catching up with your friends? Untreated hearing loss can make you feel distant in social situations you used to enjoy.

Our personalized hearing care approach helps you find the right fit for a FREE 30-day trial.*

Why Choose

**HearingLife**



90-DAY
risk free purchase,
no return fees



PRICE
match policy**



350+
clinics across
Canada



FULL-SERVICE WARRANTY

Your hearing aid purchase goes beyond the point of sale

Get started with a **FREE** hearing test today!*

Aurora
15461 Yonge Street, Unit 5
1-888-479-7207

Mention code: **NSP-TBYB-AURN**



Book online
HearingLife.ca/Try

*A comprehensive hearing assessment is provided to adults ages 19 and older at no cost. The results of this assessment will be communicated verbally to you. If you request a copy of the Audiological Report, an administrative fee will apply. Child hearing tests are conducted at select locations for a fee, please contact us for more information. 90-Day Risk-Free Trial begins at the date of purchase. Information within this offer may vary or be subject to change. Limit one offer per customer per year. Offer not valid in Quebec. Offer not applicable for industrial hearing tests. Some conditions apply, see clinic for details. **Ask your clinician for more information. If you are quoted a lower price on an identical hearing aid with the same features, options and services, HearingLife Canada Ltd. will match that price. Conditions Apply. Ask our hearing care professionals for more details.

Cultural Centre celebrates grants of \$320,000 to restore Brevik Hall, get back on their feet



Pictured on the heritage floorboards of Brevik Hall, the performance space inside the historic Church Street School, on Friday were Shelley Wister Smith of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MPP Michael Parsa, Aurora Cultural Centre Executive Director Suzanne Haines, and Mayor Tom Mrakas.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

BY BROCK WEIR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The historic doors of 22 Church Street, the long-time home of the Aurora Cultural Centre, swung open to welcome guests to a special event for the first time since 2019 – this time to celebrate grant funding from the Government of Ontario.

The landmark, well-known as the Church Street School, was a fitting place for the announcement as a large portion of the \$320,800-worth of grants were earmarked to restore heritage spaces within the building, specifically the Brevik Hall performance area.

Of the total grant funding, \$195,800 was awarded to the Centre through Ontario’s Resilient Communities Fund, which was designed to help non-profits get back on their feet following the global pandemic, with the balance set for significant improvements to the Hall.

“People in Aurora...have a much longer history with this facility than I have and that’s what we want to preserve,” said Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MPP Michael Parsa of the building that first opened its doors as a school in the 1880s, and has served the community in various capacities ever since.

Brevik Hall was, he noted, the setting for one of the very first events he hosted as an MPP following his first election in 2018.

“We want to make sure [we preserve] that history and in order to do that, we have to make sure that’s backstopped and supported through investments as well. That’s where I want to thank the Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Ontario Government, that always does great work.”

Each year, volunteers with the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) sift through more than 1,000 grant applications intended to support non-profits.

Local OTF volunteer Shelley Wister Smith, said the Centre provided “two strong grants” to the reviewers to help the Centre with staffing costs, workshops for staff, and the \$125,000 capital grant for Brevik Hall.

“Brevik Hall has been a central part of our communities since the late 1800s,” said Wister Smith. “With these grants and all the other work happening on site, it should continue to do so for many years to come. Congratulations on what you have achieved so far and we’re all looking forward to seeing the work when it’s completed.”

Welcoming guests to the space, which has been temporarily shuttered due to the significant addition being added on to the school as part of the Aurora Town Square redevelopment, Aurora Cultural Centre Executive Director Suzanne Haines said the new funding will help make the Hall an integral part of the Square experience.

“The Ontario Trillium Foundation has a very special place at the Aurora Cultural Centre and support for the social sector across Ontario,” said Haines. “The Aurora Cultural Centre has had many strong and meaningful partnerships with OTF through the years and the Ontario Trillium Foundation has continued to be a valued partner to support us in delivering programs in the artistic and cultural needs of our community.

“All not for profit organizations, especially in the arts, are emerging from COVID still and programs have had to change and grow differently. Having the Resilience Grant that recognizes the need for us to rebuild our structure and deliver programs makes us a far stronger organization and the Capital Grant will renew and upgrade Brevik Hall to a fully functional artistic gathering space, allowing this performance room to be used for a wider variety of activity within Aurora Town Square as a much more effective companion to the new performance hall being built beside us.”

**Enjoy the journey
I'll take care of the rest.**



Contact me for an auto insurance quote today.



Richard Gong, Agent
905-727-6333



POINTS DAYS

FRUIT & VEG

MEAT & SEAFOOD

GROCERY

BABY SHOP

HOME

SAVE
FOR
REAL™



REAL CANADIAN
SUPERSTORE®

CHICKEN
DRUMSTICKS
FRESH
20004494_KG

1.99
LB
4.39/KG



CLUB
SIZE

FARMER'S MARKET™
WHITE OR RUSSET
POTATOES 10 LB BAG
PRODUCT OF CANADA
CANADA NO. 1 GRADE
2060102001_EA



SAVE UP TO 3.50

2.49

ATLANTIC
SALMON PORTIONS
SKIN ON
20840675_KG

9.88
LB

21.78/KG



CLUB
SIZE



COCA-COLA OR
CANADA DRY
SOFT DRINKS
24X355 ML OR
NESTEA ICED TEA
20X341 ML
SELECTED VARIETIES
20308197001_C24/21021553_C20

10.49



REAL CANADIAN
NATURAL SPRING WATER
24X500 ML
20154975_C24

SAVE .50

1.99



OUTSIDE ROUND
ROAST OR STEAK
CUT FROM CANADA AAA GRADE
BEEF OR USDA CHOICE GRADE
20820318_KG

SAVE UP TO 7.00 LB

4.99
LB

11.00/KG

\$30
Value¹

Optimum™

30,000 pts



APP EXCLUSIVE OFFER

Open your PC Optimum™ app or visit pcoptimum.ca to get the offer

when you spend \$300* or more
on almost everything in-store
or through PC Express™
online pick up *see back page for details. ¹At least \$30 value in points



SAVE UP TO 1.20

1.29

UNICO CHICK PEAS, BEANS
OR LENTILS 540 ML OR TOMATOES 796 ML
SELECTED VARIETIES
20313447002_EA/20314629001_EA



SAVE UP TO 8.50

7.99

HIGH LINER PAN-SEAR,
SIGNATURE CUTS, BITES OR SHRIMP
SELECTED VARIETIES, FROZEN, 425-600 G
20845018_EA/21309516_EA



SAVE 1.00

\$3

FARMER'S MARKET™
MANDARINS
PRODUCT OF SOUTH AFRICA
2 LB
20099819001_EA



SAVE 4.00

21.99

TIDE LIQUID 4.55 L
OR PODS OR
FLINGS 48/61/81'S
LAUNDRY
DETERGENT
SELECTED VARIETIES
21184841_EA/21367165_EA



Optimum
1,000 pts

\$1
Value

SAVE UP TO 2.30


3.99

DOVE DEODORANT
45-76 G OR HAIR CARE
142-198 G/195-355 ML
SELECTED VARIETIES AND SIZES
20302753001_EA/20322123002_EA

Prices and offers effective from Thursday, January 25th to Wednesday, January 31st, 2024 unless otherwise stated.
Please see in-store or online at superstore.ca for your particular store's hours. Customer Relations: 1-866-596-RCSS (7277)


f i d p superstore.ca

15900 Bayview Avenue Aurora, Ontario, L4G 7Y3 905-726-9532



“Beer, it’s the best damn drink in the world.”

Cheers to Jack Nicholson



HOCKLEYBEER.CA

Winterfresh is an evening of fun that will foster fresh food programs in Aurora, beyond



York Region Food Network

BY BROCK WEIR
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

When you think of fresh food, the Canadian winter isn’t often the first season that comes to mind – but the seeds set to be sown by the community at WinterFresh next Friday, February 2, will come into full bloom later this year.

WinterFresh, a Trivia Night Extravaganza hosted by the York Region Food Network at the Stonehaven Banquet Hall on Eric T. Smith Way, will be a fun way for residents to “test their knowledge for a cause.”

Proceeds from the event will benefit food security programs spearheaded by the York Region Food Network (YRFN), including expanding its Affordable Fresh Food Market to all nine York Region municipalities, including Aurora.

“One of our new programs that

has been incredibly successful is the Affordable Fresh Food Market, and the funds from WinterFresh will be going to food markets that we’re hosting in York Region in some of the communities that are identified as lower-income communities,” says YRFN’s Joanne Witt.

“We are taking these Affordable Fresh Food Markets right to the community so they can come to it; it’s pay-what-you-can but, if they can’t, we’re not letting anyone leave empty-handed! It’s an opportunity for people to come and get fresh produce right in their neighbourhood, right in their community, to be able to use for dinners with their families.

“The Affordable Fresh Food Markets are currently in Newmarket, Stouffville, Georgina, Markham and Richmond Hill and we have received some seed money from the Region of York to get them going and we’re hoping by the end of 2024 we’ll have the Affordable Fresh Food Markets in all nine municipalities in York Region.”

This year’s WinterFresh is the ninth such event hosted by the YRFN and is the first to be held since 2020.


As a trivia fundraiser, ticket-holding individuals, couples, teams and tables have the opportunity to test their skills in a variety of areas, including food. There will be a three-course dinner as well, followed by raffles, prizes, and a booze pull, where each ticket-purchaser will receive a mystery tippie with a value of at least \$20 – determined by the number on the ticket.

“It’s a lot of fun and you know you’re going to get at least the value of what you’ve paid,” says Witt. “You might get lucky and get something of an even higher value!” In addition, we’re having a live auction – we have a donation from Costco of a \$500 gift card, an amazing hand-made acoustic guitar-shaped fire pit that was created and donated by a gentleman, and we also have our cake auction. We’re looking forward to it being another great event for us. We’re still looking for sponsors and live auction prize donors. We have some people who aren’t able to attend who have either donated to the event or purchased tickets that can be used... maybe by some of our volunteers or people that we support who would love to be at the event but maybe it is not within their budget to be able to do so.”

All money raised from WinterFresh will go back into the Affordable Fresh Food Market and will be used to secure fresh produce, “especially at this time of year when our farmer partners don’t really have much to give us because it is the winter, but we have local businesses, restaurants and grocery stores that, during the winter months, we can buy produce from them either at cost or at a really discounted rate to make sure we have lots to take to the markets.

“It’s a fun night for people who like trivia or just spending some time with friends and family at an event – and it just supports a great cause!”

For more information on WinterFresh 2024, including tickets and sponsorship information, or for any other York Region Food Network programs, visit www.yrfn.ca.



NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT & PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

HIGHWAY 48 BLOCK MUNICIPAL SERVICING CLASS EA

Study Background

C. F. Crozier & Associates Inc. on behalf of the proponent is undertaking a Master Environmental Servicing Plan (MESP) Study for the proposed water and wastewater servicing solutions, collector roads and stormwater management facilities that will support the future growth of the Highway 48 Block in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and City of Markham. The Highway 48 Block Landowners Group is the proponent, with the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and the City of Markham as key stakeholders for the MESP Study.

The MESP Study is being conducted as a Master Plan following approach #2, as outlined in the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process. Significant background work has been undertaken for the Study Area. As part of the work related to the ongoing MESP process, it was identified that a Municipal Class EA would be beneficial to the overall development process for the Study Area. As part of the Class EA, opportunities for public and stakeholder engagement are required and important to ensure everyone has an opportunity to learn about the project and to offer feedback. The MESP Study will identify both exempt and Schedule B projects and satisfy Schedule B requirements for the applicable projects.

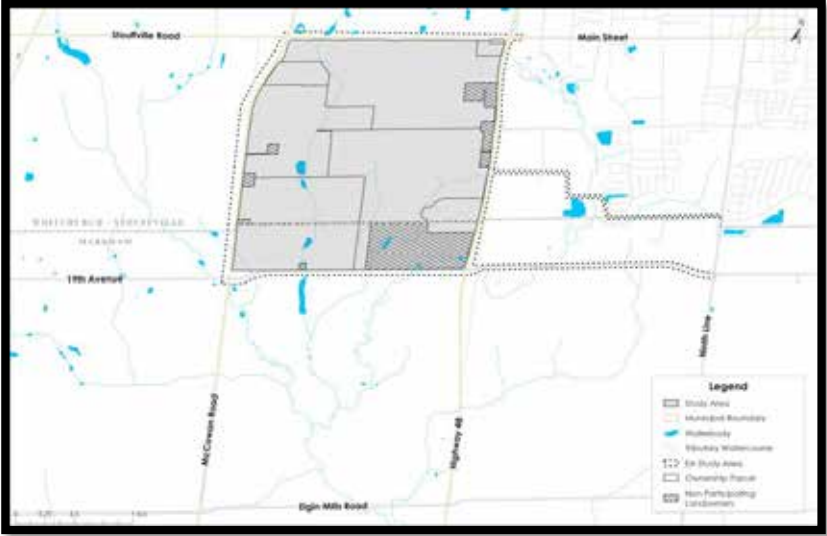
Public Information Centre

To ensure that those interested in this project have an opportunity to provide input to and receive feedback from the study team, a Public Information Centre (PIC) will be held as outlined below. The PIC will be an “open house” format and present study background information, the various solutions considered, evaluation of the alternative solutions, selection of the recommended solutions, and next steps.

Date: January 31, 2024

Time: 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Location: Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville Council Chambers: 111 Sandiford Drive, Whitchurch-Stouffville, ON L4A 0Z8



Following the PIC, information presented at the PIC and other relevant project information will be available on the Town’s website www.townofws.ca and the City’s website www.markham.ca.

Comments

Please submit any comments or concerns by **February 14, 2024**. Any input received by that date will be incorporated into the MESP document, which will be available for public comment when the study is completed. For further information, to be added to the project mailing list, or to provide your comments, please contact:

Khurram Tunio, M.Eng., P.Eng.
Senior Project Manager
C.F. Crozier & Associates
ktunio@cfcrozier.ca

David Wilcox, P. Eng.
Senior Project Manager
C.F. Crozier & Associates
dwilcox@cfcrozier.ca

This notice was first issued on December 8, 2023.

Personal information – such as an individual’s name plus address or telephone number – is collected under the authority of the Environmental Assessment Act for the purposes of carrying out a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Personal information will become part of a public record that is available to the general public unless you request that your personal information be confidential.

Save the Date

Mark Your Calendars for
Hike for Hospice 2024!

Join us for this walk that will bring a lot of fun for all our families and friends!

All proceeds will allow us to continue providing essential hospice palliative care services to the York Region community.

HIKE FOR HOSPICE

Saturday, May 11th, 2024

1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Fairy Lake in Newmarket

Sponsorship opportunities available.

Sign up for our email list to stay in touch on more event details. Please email us at events@myhospice.ca



HANDBAGS FOR HOSPICE IS BACK!

Stay tuned for more details!

We are in need of:

- Gift cards -> \$20+ in value from any retailer
- Gently loved handbags

Drop off locations

- Margaret Bahen Hospice
- Doane House Hospice

Sponsor the event to show how you support Hospice.

Get in touch with us at events@myhospice.ca to get involved.



No previous experience required – just a friendly smile and willingness to help!

We need your support

Are you interested in joining our mission to make a positive impact in your community?

We're looking for volunteers to join our event committees, be a community ambassador at upcoming home shows and help us with 50/50 tickets in the community. Join us today!

Email us at events@myhospice.ca to learn more!



653 Queen Street, Newmarket ON L3Y 2J1 | events@myhospice.ca | 905-967-1500 ext. 632

Advertising generously donated by an anonymous donor. Charitable registration #896696804 RR0001

THINGS...you ought to know

THROUGH JANUARY 27
Continuing in the Aurora Cultural Centre Gallery – Perennial Darkness: A Themed Group Exhibition. Artists present their personal connection to the renewal of shorter days and longer nights. Through January 27 in person (February 9 online). Gallery visits and events are always free. Location: Aurora Town Hall, 100 John West Way, 2nd Floor. For information, visit AuroraCulturalCentre.ca.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27
“Nu-jazz” piano jazz keyboardist Elizabeth Shepherd brings her five-piece band, including Michael Occhipinti on guitar, for a unique night of jazz, R&B, pop and hip-hop. Special supporting guest artist Charlotte McAfee-Brunner opens the set. \$30 (HST incl.); 7:30 p.m. Location – NC Aurora Armoury. For info and to purchase, visit AuroraCulturalCentre.ca or call the Box Office at 905 713-1818

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31
100 Women Central York Region will

host its monthly meeting tonight at the Aurora Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North. The social visit is 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. and the meeting is from 7 – 8 p.m. For more, visit www.100womencyr.ca or email 100womenwhocarecentralnyorkreg@gmail.com

FEBRUARY 17 & 19
There will be twice the fun this year as the Town of Aurora hosts two days of its popular Arctic Adventure on Saturday, February 17, and Monday, February 19 at Town Park. All activities run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and will include professional ice carving, professional lumberjacks, outdoor winter games, live entertainment, mini-snow tubing and more.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24
York Symphony Orchestra Presents: A Night at the Opera tonight at 8 p.m. at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria St, Aurora, L4G 1R3. YSO’s popular opera concert returns, with music of Mozart, Verdi, Puccini, Bizet, Donizetti

and others! Arias, duets and excerpts from your favourite operas, featuring four guest soloists: sopranos Michelle Dubinsky and Daniela Agostino, tenor Alvaro Vasquez Robles and baritone Brian Dearden. Tickets at Eventbrite.ca or at the door

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

Support AbuseHurts’ Delivering Hope Full Circle Program textile recycling and donation program. In the current COVID climate, a greater number of people are wanting to donate or get rid of unwanted items, increasing the need for more outlets being available

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



Who does what in our community

CLEANERS



TOPMAX
Cleaning
Services
RELIABLE PROVIDERS

Call for a **FREE** ESTIMATE

Our Services: OFFICE • MEDICAL • DAYCARE
COMMERCIAL • JANITORIAL

647 333 3760

CREMATION



Roadhouse & Rose
FUNERAL HOME

Call us for more information

- Dignified
- Respectful
- Inexpensive

Affordable Cremation Services

www.roadhouseandrose.com | 905-895-6631

DECKS & FENCES +

SUMMER RENOVATIONS INC.

Build/Repair Fences
Build/Repair Decks

BIG OR SMALL GIVE US A CALL!
(Free Estimates) **647-287-7168**

ELECTRICAL

DANIEL'S ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION

Electrical Lights • Chandeliers
Ceiling Fans • Tracklights • Repairs
Cable Light • Clean Chandeliers, Etc.

Established 2001

Cell: 416-456-5336 | dagwtw5@gmail.com

NOT EVERYONE
needs your services all the time,
but if you want to be there when they do...
advertise in The Auroran
Classifieds & At Your Service Directory.
Call Direct: 905-751-6013

LANDSCAPE /GARDENING

SUNSET BEECH

TREE



CARE

Pruning • Removals
Consulting • Bracing • EAB

647-989-3509
irbryant@gmail.com

Charles Emerson
Tree Service

ISA Certified Arborist



Free Consultation
Tree Removal & Pruning
Bucket Truck Service
Cabling & Bracing
Stump Removal
Emergency Work
Property Management
Arborist Reports
Year Round Service
Fully Insured

905-801-5891

www.charlesemersontreeservice.com
charlesemersontreeservice@hotmail.com

MORTGAGE



MORTGAGE
SISTER
in Aurora

Mortgage Agent L2

Contact Me Today
905.906.7783

SCAN TO SAVE MY NUMBER ON YOUR PHONE

Continuing the legacy YOU deserve

Jessica@CapitalConnection.Me

PAINTING/CONTRACTING



S & S PAINTING

TOP QUALITY GUARANTEED

30 YEARS EXPERIENCE • AURORA RESIDENT

416-520-6252

PEST CONTROL

GOT MICE?

PEST ZERRO.ca

Servicing All of Your Pest Control Needs, Call:
647.200.2687.

PROPANE

PROPANE AND APPLIANCE SALES

- RESIDENTIAL
- COMMERCIAL
- INDUSTRIAL

INSTALLATIONS
SERVICE • DELIVERY

CARLING PROPANE INC.

Toll Free 1-866-952-0146 www.carlingpropane.ca



RENOVATIONS

A&A IDEAL RENOVATION

Home Remodeling • Electrical Plumbing
Kitchen & Bathrooms • Finished Basement
All Flooring Tiles • Hardwood Laminate
Drywall • Painting • Deck & Fences

Fully licensed and insured. One year warranty on all labour. **NO JOB TOO SMALL!**

416-219-4530 Alex 416-625-4441

SKYLIGHTS

WE FIX SKYLIGHTS



- Skylights replaced?
- No mess in your home
- Leak-proof-Guaranteed!
- Licensed & Insured
- 10 year Guarantee

BRIGHT SKYLIGHTS PLUS



Call Joe to check your skylights!
416.705.8635

brightskylights@gmail.com

www.brightskylights.ca

WATER

DOES YOUR WATER SMELL OR TASTE OF CHLORINE?

OUR CHLORAMAX TWIN SOFTENS YOUR WATER AND REDUCES:

- Chlorine
- Chloramines
- THMs
- Pesticides & Herbicides
- Taste & Odour



Water Depot UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT!

15483 Yonge St., Aurora
905-751-0845 www.waterdepot.com

AURORAN CLASSIFIEDS

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Faith Fellowship

meeting on Sunday mornings
at the Aurora Seniors Centre 90 John West Way

10:15-10:45 a.m. Bible Class (Proverbs).
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
sermon series on Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome
Children's Bible Time during the sermon

www.faith-baptist-aurora.org 905-773-6575

SERVICES

TOP DOLLAR
FOR SCRAP
AND USED CARS

We pay from
\$500-\$1,600
CASH ON THE SPOT

Open 7 days a week
Call Albert: 647-501-5932



Free
Tow!

ALL JUNK
REMOVAL

BASEMENTS • YARDS • GARAGES
GENERAL CLEAN-UPS
SMALL MOVES • ODD JOBS
905-832-9655

WE PAY CASH
for scrap vehicles - any size.
We also buy
construction and farm equipment.
Open 7 days a week.
Call 905-859-0817 (Peter)

PRO-HYGIENE
Dental



INDEPENDENT
DENTAL
HYGIENIST



Andrea Freitas RDH



30 Prospect St. Suite 203 | Newmarket
happydent416@gmail.com | By appointment (416) 779-4771
WWW.happydent.ca

Think you can sell?

Come join a dynamic, fast paced, growing entrepreneurial company looking for driven, enthusiastic sales representatives. A rewarding, lucrative opportunity for the right candidate.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Sell advertising in our local community newspapers across numerous regions for maximum growth
- Be part of an ever growing team, developing new verticals and supplements for new revenue and income opportunities.

EXPECTATIONS:

- Have a positive attitude
- Willing to work hard and enjoy rewards in a team environment
- Willing to take chances and learn from your peers

DESIRED SKILLS & EXPERIENCE:

- Sales Driven
- Great Personal Skills
- Some Sales Skills Preferred but would be willing to train the right candidate
- Works Well with Deadlines and Budgets
- Organized with an Intermediate Knowledge of Microsoft Excel

COMPENSATION:

Base + Commission

Let's Talk.

EMAIL RESUME FOR CONSIDERATION:

Zach Shoub
416-803-9940
zach@lpcmedia.ca



OBITUARY

Douglas James Parkinson



Douglas James Parkinson passed away January 19, 2024 at the age of 91. Douglas' parents, Maude (née Scott) and Frederick Parkinson were born in England but met in Toronto where Doug was born on August 15, 1932. He was an absolutely devoted husband to his wife of 64 years Marlene (née Coulter) Parkinson. In eight weeks, they would have celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. They met when he was just eleven years-old and Marlene was six. They were a very rare type of couple who never ran out of conversation and made each other laugh every day.

Doug, or as Marlene called him Dougy, had three children – Tracy (Stevenson), Nancy (Fowler) and Doug (Parkinson Jr.). He had 6 grandchildren – Connor Parkinson, Emerson Parkinson, Nolan Parkinson, Paige Stevenson, Sean Stevenson and James Fowler. Doug was predeceased by siblings Jack Donnelly, Bob Donnelly, Raymond Donnelly and Joan (née Parkinson) Cotter.

Before his retirement, Doug worked as a Sheet Metal Worker and was a very proud member of the Sheet Metal Workers Union Local 30. Doug loved his retirement years travelling often to Florida, California, the Caribbean and England. He went to New York City often to enjoy jazz shows amongst other adventures. Doug loved jazz music – in particular Stan Kenton, Frank Sinatra and Miles Davis. He was a talented bongo player and when the bongos weren't around he would tap on anything with his fingers until Marlene had had enough!

He loved to ride his bike around the streets of Aurora, where he lived for 55 years, and was a skilled skater. Later in his eighties, he loved to spend summers in a rustic cabin on Lake Rosseau where his daily highlight was sitting on the dock with Marlene sipping a coffee with a splash of Bailey's and 'a bun' as he called his donut or muffin. He loved watching old Western TV shows such as Hop Along Cassidy and The Lone Ranger.

Doug's friends will tell you that he was a gentleman and extremely loyal. He was shy but had a wicked sense of humour. He will be forever missed and eternally loved by all who knew him.

The Parkinson family will be grieving privately. However, they will host a memorial (party!) with family and friends to celebrate Doug's life this Spring. Details will follow in the coming months. In the interim, thank you for leaving any messages, memories or photos of Doug here on this website.

Memorial contributions in honour of Doug may be made to LOFT Community Services (loftcs.org/).

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.ThompsonFH-Aurora.com



TO ALL CARRIERS AND DRIVERS

Your services is appreciated!

Thank you for delivering the newspaper through all kinds of weather to make sure residents of Aurora get up-to-date Aurora news, community events and all the great products and services available through local businesses...all year!

WE THANK YOU

Advertise in THE AURORAN
Classifieds or our At Your Service Directory!
Call direct: 905-751-6013



#1 TEAM IN YORK REGION | TOP 10 TEAM IN CANADA | #14 TEAM WORLDWIDE FOR RE/MAX*

For the Royal Treatment | Allow Us To Help You

WWW.DARYLKING.CA



Daryl King
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

From Listed To Sold We'll Get You There

CONTACT THE DARYL KING TEAM TODAY

905.907.5464

homes@darylking.com



RICHMOND HILL'S ULTIMATE LUXURY

Discover luxury in Richmond Hill's executive home with a double Lot Size, ensuring added value and potential. This masterpiece boasts an open layout, 10' ceilings, a chef's kitchen, and a spa-like ensuite. Spacious bedrooms feature walk-in closets, and a 38' x 126ft easement provides extra space or potential expansion. Priced at \$3,080,000.



11+ ACRES MEDITERRANEAN GEM

Nestled on 11+ acres, this estate, radiates charm. Long driveway leads to a residence with a grand entrance, split staircase, and sunlit open-foyer. Spacious living/dining with wood fireplace, and eat-in kitchen overlooking a stunning backyard. Family room with fireplace, dual walkouts to an inground saltwater pool. Offered at \$1,998,000.



RICHMOND HILL'S SERENE 2-ACRE HAVEN

Embark on a unique opportunity with this extraordinary 2-acre forest property. Revel in remarkable usability and privacy. The backyard features a stunning interlock patio, in-ground pool oasis, enclosed gazebo, and expansive grass area—a canvas for endless customization. Your dream haven awaits! Offered at \$3,899,000.



ZONED FOR 35% HOME BUSINESS - RICHMOND HILL

Fully renovated Richmond Hill executive home, 4-car garage, finished basement, solariums, and pool with waterfall. Ideal for remote work, near schools, parks, and amenities. Zoning allows for 35% of the sqft. to be used for home business! Includes sunroom, indoor hot tub, fenced backyard. Asking: \$2,999,000.



GEORGINA ISLAND WATERFRONT RETREAT

Escape to this 5-bed, 4-bath waterfront retreat on Georgina Island, under an hour from Toronto. Revel in stunning sunsets at the westerly-facing 4-season lake house on Lake Simcoe. Enjoy the sunroom, cedar deck, and create family memories around the fire pit. Over \$200K in extras available. Offered at \$778,000.



TORONTO'S ELITE HOME RENOVATION

Fully Renovated Masterpiece, \$500K+ Upgrades: Stone, Stucco, New Driveway, Hardwood, Stylish Staircase. Chef's Kitchen, Wall-2-Wall Cabinets, High-End Appliances. New Ensuites & Closets in Bedrooms. Extended Deck for Nature. Finished Basement, 3 Ensuites—Perfect for Inlaws. Priced at \$1,849,000.



DESIRABLE BUNGALOW LIVING

Exceptional 4-bed, 3-bath bungalow in Innisfil. Open concept, 9ft ceilings, hardwood floors, chef's kitchen with quartz counters. Family room opens to a fenced backyard. Luxurious primary suite, finished lower level with extra living space. Conveniently located near amenities, schools, parks, water, and highways. Offered at \$1,158,000.



Serene 4-Bed Home in East Gwillimbury

Explore a pristine 4-bedroom townhome in serene Mount Albert—a new gem ideal for families or as an income property. Just 15 minutes from vibrant Newmarket and Stouffville, it strikes a perfect balance between tranquility and city life, backing onto a park for scenic views and peaceful walks. Offered at \$758,000.



Modern 1-Bed + Den in North York

Discover a welcoming 1-bed + den unit in North York. Enjoy an open concept, unobstructed views, and abundant natural light. Features 1 locker, 1 parking. Close to top schools, Empress Subway, Loblaws, and Mel Lastman Square. Don't miss out on this prime location! Offered at only \$648,000.



2-BED CONDO: DOWNTOWN AURORA

Spacious and bright 2-bedroom condo in downtown Aurora. Newly carpeted master bedroom, fresh laminate, and flawless paint. Comes with two parking spots. Conveniently close to Go Train, schools, restaurants, parks, recreational complex, and a short drive from Hwy 404. Offered at \$549,900.



Prime Development Opportunity - Mt. Albert

Uncover potential in this expansive vacant land at 20697 Highway 48 in Mt. Albert, Ontario. Strategically located for future development within 5 years, it boasts proximity to amenities, thriving communities, and robust transportation networks. Invest in the flourishing growth ahead. Offered at only \$3,880,000.



Riverside Delight: Ideal Investment Home

Perfect for first-time buyers or investment. Move-in ready, centrally located near amenities. Well-maintained home with cozy living spaces, finished basement for potential rental income. Fully fenced yard with deck. Close to Lake Simcoe for year-round activities. Offered at only \$799,000.

We Speak Your Language



For a FREE home evaluation or more information on Real Estate, please call or email us. 如需免费房屋评估或更多房地产信息，请致电或发送电子邮件给我们。

Follow Us on Instagram

Discover More Featured Listings. Your Perfect Home Is Just a QR Code Away.

*The Daryl King Team consists of 43 registered Sales Representatives. **All data compiled by Re Stats Inc. from TREB for closed transactions +/-2.5% on volume basis in 2020. ***Based on data collected within Re/Max network in Canada in 2020. Not intended to solicit clients currently under contract with another Brokerage.

