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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

VOL 28 | NO. 4 | 905-727-3300 TheAuroran.com FREE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 5, 2026



Lorris Herenda, Executive Director of Yellow Brick House, places a purple ribbon representing an individual lost to domestic violence, at their annual Breaking the Silence walk at St. Andrew's College on Sunday, November 1. **Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger**

Breaking the Silence can be as simple as saying "I believe you"

Yellow Brick House marks 10 years of fundraising walk

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

That was the poignant message delivered to the local community on Sunday, November 1, as Yellow Brick House, the local shelter for women and children escaping domestic violence, hosted its annual Breaking the Silence, Step Into My Shoes fundraising walk at St. Andrew's College.

The event marked its tenth anniversary this year with a renewed focus on prevention and education in combatting domestic violence.

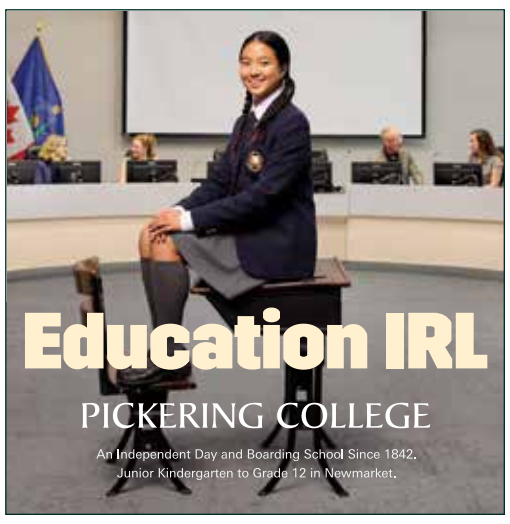
Underscoring the importance of education at this year's event – and in laying the building blocks of a better future – were Grade 11 students Madeline Yi and Emily Choi, who were invited to share more on the work they have been doing in their school community to highlight just that: "the critical role education plays in preventing abuse and violence."

"When we first learned about Yellow Brick House, we were students looking for a social issue that mattered to us and that was relevant to our community.

Continued on page 6



LEST WE FORGET – The Royal Canadian Legion's Poppy Campaign is now underway, with a number of opportunities to remember the fallen at various Remembrance Day commemorations set through November 11. Here, MP Costas Menegakis, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 385 President Stephen Boyne, Mayor Tom Mrakas, and MPP Michael Parsa, donning their Poppies at a flag-raising ceremony held at Town Park. For more on Remembrance Day, including upcoming events, see Pages 8 – 12**.** **Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger**



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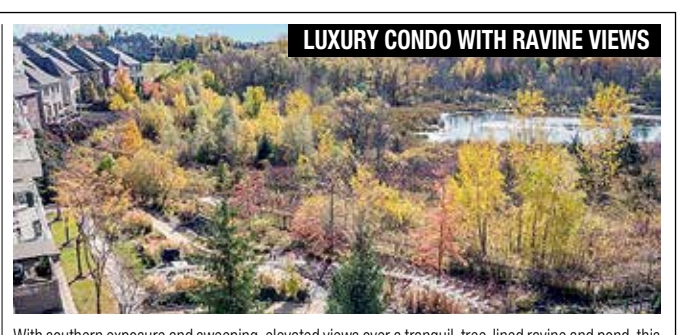
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TOWN OF AURORA

NOTICE BOARD

November 5, 2026

Council & Committee Meetings

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Tuesday, November 10	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Council
Thursday, November 12	7 p.m.	Video Conference	Committee of Adjustment
Tuesday, November 17	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Council Inaugural
Wednesday, November 18	7 p.m.	School House Mtg Room	Aurora Cultural Centre Board
Wednesday, November 18	7 p.m.	Aurora Public Library	Aurora Public Library Board
Week of November 23	No meetings		
Tuesday, December 1	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Public Planning

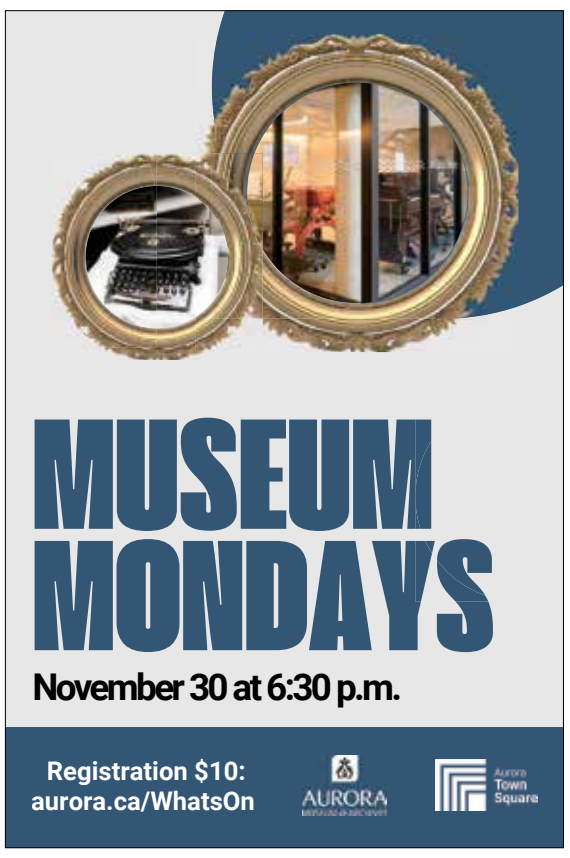
***Committee of the Whole, Public Planning and Council meetings are available to the public in-person and via live stream on the Town's YouTube channel.**

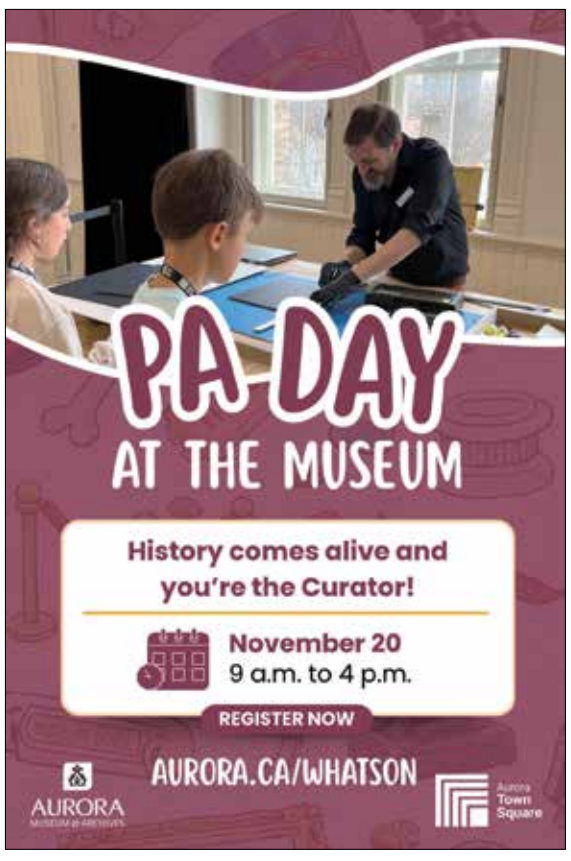
Online Skylight Gallery Exhibition

Featured Artists: Aurora's Royal Canadian Legion, Youth Remembrance Day Contest Winner - Artwork by Local Students

Through the annual National Youth Remembers Contests, the Legion National Foundation, in partnership with The Royal Canadian Legion and schools across the country, invite Canadian youth and children to honour Canada's Veterans and foster the tradition of Remembrance through visual art, poetry writing and video. Col. Fred Tilston V.C., Branch 385 in Aurora is proud to exhibit the 2026 local winners of the Youth Poster and Literary Contest. Enjoy touring this month's Aurora's Skylight Gallery exhibit, with artwork from Aurora's Royal Canadian Legion available for in-person viewing opportunities.







Fall 2026 Program Guide



The **Fall 2026 Program Guide** is available to view online at **aurora.ca/ProgramGuide**. Registration is open for Recreation and Aquatic programs. View the interactive guide and click on the code # to register online. Pay in-person at the A.F.L.C., A.R.C. or A.T.S.

Winterfest Camp – Junior & Senior

School is out for the Winter holidays. Take a break from the cold weather and join us for games, sport, crafts and more! Winterfest Camps are available for children aged 4 to 6 and 7 to 12. Full details at **aurora.ca/Camps**.

2027 Aquatic Leadership Courses

Aquatic Leadership registration is now open for all seasons of our 2027 Aquatic Leadership courses. Full details at **aurora.ca/AquaticLeadership**. Register online or pay in-person at the A.F.L.C., A.R.C. or A.T.S.



Calling all COACHES — Take the Level 1 (Learn to Train) Basketball Coach Certification

If you're 15+ and ready to build your skills on the sidelines, join us on **November 14 & 15** at the Aurora Recreation Complex for Level 1 (Learn to Train) basketball coach certification.

The Town of Aurora is proud to partner with York North Basketball Association and Ontario Basketball Association to help build stronger coaches and stronger sport in our community.

Quest for Gold reimbursement may be available for eligible participants.

Learn more and register: **aurora.ca/SportWorkshops.**



What's Happening



The Town is accepting parade applications for floats and walking groups!
Use your creative and festive ideas to light up our parade!
Deadline to register and be part of the magic is **Friday, November 6**.

aurora.ca/SantaParade



Are you a festive decorating enthusiast?
Do you have a knack for untangling lights like a pro?

Register you home or business for Aurora's Deck the Halls Tour.

The tour runs from **December 6 to 23** with big prizes to be won.
To compete register by **November 29, 2026**.

All Aurora residents welcome – homes, apartments and business storefronts!

aurora.ca/DeckTheHalls



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Community Reflection Space to be opened in sunset ceremony Monday

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Few people welcome the early sunsets that come with setting clocks back an hour, but it will help provide a perfect backdrop for a special ceremony set for Town Hall on Monday afternoon as the Aurora formally dedicates its new Community Reflection Space.

Construction of Aurora's Community Reflection Space, a new place for residents to gather in times of both grief and celebration, was completed earlier this fall in Town Hall's south forecourt. The November 9 event, which is set to begin at 4 p.m., will be a chance for residents to explore the space, get their creativity flowing, and break bread with their neighbours.

"It was important for us to have less of a ribbon-cutting feeling and more of a community gathering and dedication for what the space will be used for," says Michelle Johnson of the Aurora Museum & Archives, one of the Town's leads on the project. "The sun will be setting around 4.30 p.m. on November 9, but it just adds an extra layer of meaning. The event will focus on some reflection, remembrance, and creating points of community connections.

"There will be community members, partners, different elected officials and community organizations that have been vital to the process of getting it to where it is in attendance, along with members of the public at large. Everybody is welcome to join, and we hope that people do."

The seeds of the Community Reflection Space were first sewn at the Town of Aurora's Indigenous Relations Committee in 2023 as a "space that could potentially support Truth & Reconciliation," Johnson says.

"Since then, and through much consultation and discussion with the Committee and community members, the scope broadened to really serve all communities and individuals for those collective moments of grief, and personal moments of grief and reflection," she says. "While it did come from the Indigenous Relations Committee, it does have a broader scope to be that gathering place that people will go to when they want to be with community and have a more quiet, reflective moment.

"There is a community element and a personal element, so there will be some prompts through the space to encourage personal reflection, and then a community activity space where people will be able to, if they so choose, take part in the lighting of a candle or maybe having a small conversation with the spirit within which that space was designed to evoke. [It's] lighting a candle and thinking of a loved one or gathering in a small group to have a collective reflection or a remembrance about an issue or current event and have that intentional, mindful moment as we formally open the space and give everybody an opportunity to experience something like that, if they wish."

Monday's ceremony will feature brief remarks from community leaders, light refreshments in the form of a nice, warming soup, and what Johnson describes as a "symbolic community activity" in conjunction with that reflective sunset moment.

While the ceremony will offer residents what might be their first chance to really explore the space, they are also invited to imagine the possibilities for the future. The central podium, for instance, is equipped for performances, while plans for additional attractions include a wind phone similar to last year's installation in Sheppard's Bush.

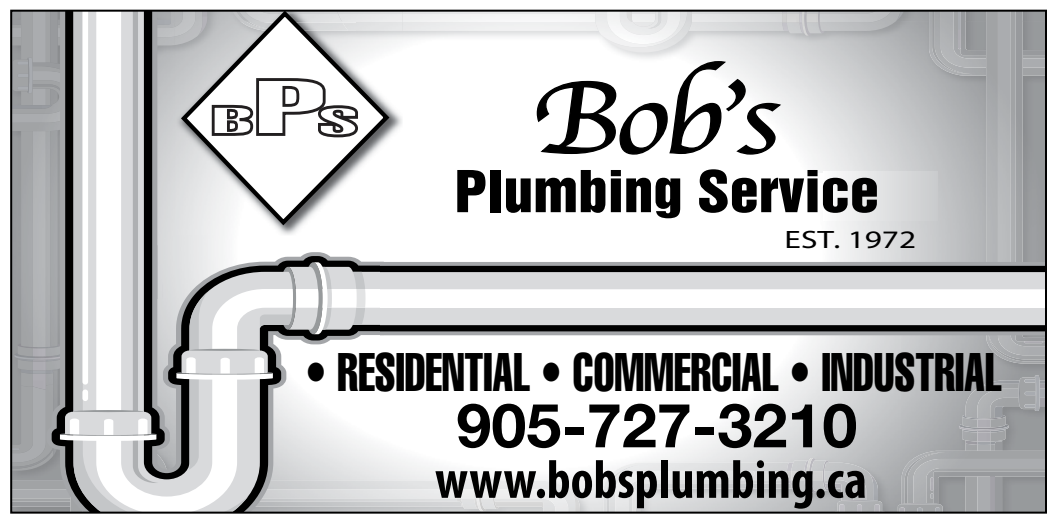


Aurora's new Community Reflection Space is located at the south entrance of Town Hall.
Auroran photo by Brock Weir

"We've already noticed anecdotally how many people are using the space; it's meant to be a community gathering space as well as a personal space that people can go to," says Johnson. "If you look down the side of the building where the sky ribbon (water feature) is, there's a gradation of privacy with solitary benches and less road noise, then it's more of a community space where everything connects."

Asked how the space might evolve in the future, Johnson says it's important to be "responsive to community needs."

"As more and more people become aware of the space and what it is, working with different community groups to let them know what's available for them and what they are able to program in that space and where other programs might be better suited elsewhere," she says. "I think it's incredible that a space like this has come to fruition, and Aurora, in its essence, handles some emotions and sentiments that aren't the easiest to talk about."





LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Public Health encourages early vaccination as flu activity increases

Fall respiratory virus season is already here and York Region Public Health is encouraging all residents aged six (6) months and older to get vaccinated against influenza (flu) and COVID-19.

The 2026-2027 flu season started earlier than usual, with cases expected to peak as early as mid-to-late November. Flu activity is higher now than it was in the same period during the last three flu seasons. Residents are strongly encouraged to get their flu and COVID-19 vaccines as soon as possible to help protect themselves and those around them.

Vaccination remains the most effective way to protect against severe illness, hospitalization and complications from respiratory viruses, especially for children, older adults and anyone with underlying medical conditions.

Each year, flu and COVID-19 viruses change, and the protection gained from previous vaccinations or infections can fade. By getting vaccinated every year with the most current vaccines, you can boost your protection against the most current strains and help reduce the spread of illness in the community.

Appointments for York Region Public Health clinics are available until November 6, 2026, across York Region and can be booked online at York.ca/VirusSeason. These vaccines are free of charge, and an OHIP card is not required. Eligible residents can also receive their vaccines at participating pharmacies, doctors' or nurse practitioner's offices and walk-in medical clinics.

Layering your protection with simple habits such as staying home when you're sick, washing hands often, covering coughs and sneezes and cleaning high-touch surfaces can help reduce the spread of seasonal viruses. Together, these measures help keep individuals, families and communities healthy while minimizing disruptions to work, school and daily activities.

More information about respiratory virus season and available vaccines is available at York.ca/VirusSeason.

The Regional Municipality of York consists of nine local cities and towns and provides a variety of programs and services to more than 1.3 million residents and over 58,000 businesses with 624,000 employees. More information about the Region's key service areas is available at york.ca/RegionalServices.

York Region Public Health

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

Machell's Corners



Remembering in Discomfort



BROCK'S BANTER

Brock Weir

(NOTE: This column originally appeared in the November 13, 2025 edition of The Auroran)

Remembrance Day services are always, in my view, a spectacular sight.

I've been a life-long sucker for pomp and circumstance, so the bands and pipers (bag and otherwise) that participate each year, not to mention the associated parades, and uniforms that have been cleaned-up and buttons polished to levels only seen at this time of year, is a perfect storm.

But it's not just pomp and circumstance solely for the sake of pomp and circumstance; it's potent, poignant, and never fails to lose its power.

This sight, unchanged in so many ways since the end of the First World War, had extra power this year due to circumstances well beyond our control.

The sheer number of people who gave their all to attend ceremonies on Tuesday, and those held over the weekend, despite a deep freeze and snow blowing in all directions, was a testament to how proud we are of the men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice for King, Queen and Country. It was also reflective of the pride we have in the men and women who served, experienced the horrors taken in by the fallen but, mercifully, came home to share their stories.

As impressive as the numbers were given the unseasonable weather of the past few days, however, I often wonder just how many more people might turn out if not for any number of circumstances.

Sure, there are those who are unable to get out and mark the occasion privately, or, if they're living on a congregate setting, in services ably spearheaded by residential staff to allow their residents to Remember – and a special shout out goes to teachers and education support staff who go above and beyond to help students Remember in-class as well.

But there are other circumstances, too.

Some might say such services glorify war and conflict; well, talk to anyone who has served and you'll likely say otherwise.

Some might argue that there aren't enough hours to take out of the workday to make the effort; first of all, the men and women who served might have learned a word we can't print in this newspaper to refute that, but, regardless, there are almost always ways to remember on the weekends.

Yet, for others, it's a matter of discomfort.

I know there are members of our communities who don't turn out for very personal reasons. Perhaps they had a beloved parent or grandparent, aunt or uncle, who served and the aforementioned power and potency of such ceremonies are simply too much for them.

Others still might find the music that so often accompanies such services too evocative of events in their past, at funerals, for instance, and would prefer to ride out these emotions in privacy.

Fair enough.

While I respect each person's individual reasons for not coming out for such occasions, to me it invariably seems like such a missed opportunity.

I'm also reminded of an experience I had many years ago when, as a loved one's life ebbed towards its close, some members of their family were reluctant to come and say their final farewells.

Saying goodbye is always difficult, and that goes without saying, but their reason for staying away often surprised me: they preferred to remember the loved one as they were in their prime, not as they were as their time came to an end. That certainly didn't help anybody and, when you can provide comfort at no cost to someone you love when they need it the most is, in my opinion, peak selfishness.

And, again, a missed opportunity.

There is some value in discomfort.

At last week's recent induction ceremony for the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame's Class of 2025, some of the honourees touched upon the lessons they learned in taking a loss on the field, on the rink, or whatever their arena, if you'll pardon the pun, happened to be.

Losing is never a comfortable experience, but it's one that you learn from and, hopefully, propels you forward.

Political circumstances here at home, south of the border, and well-beyond have come together to inspire people who have never been engaged in politics before to step out of their comfort zones, put their opinions forward and, if not in writing, speaking before the public – a hurdle that's difficult to clear in the best of circumstances.

Just last week, comedian Nikki Glaser hosted Saturday Night Live and certainly sparked a conversation. Her monologue, which touched upon several controversial topics, made many people uncomfortable – and brought about the inevitable online backlash, as most things do these days – but, if not laughing, it certainly got people talking.

Maybe, however, there a shift in the offing.

An October 13 article in the UK newspaper, The Independent, delved into the topic of whether or not trigger warnings, such as those at the start of a movie or news article that contain scenes which could adversely impact its consumers, are effective.

In her article, Rebecca Whittaker, cited a study which found "flagging potentially distressing content may encourage people" to read or watch further.

"Almost 90 per vent of young people who saw a trigger warning still chose to view the content out of curiosity, whatever the source of the warnings, and irrespective of whether they suffered trauma. One person even told researchers: 'Sometimes my brain wants to be triggered, so it grabs my attention more.'"

More than 250 people between the ages of 17 and 25 participated in the study. It also found that whether or not the participant had trauma history or PTSD had little bearing in whether or not they were going to heed the warming.

"Although trigger warnings are there to signal care and consideration, the evidence suggests they do little to prevent exposure to distressing material. Instead, they may simply pique curiosity, leading users to engage with content they might otherwise have ignored."

This is not to suggest in any way that people go and run roughshod over trigger warnings that might very well be relevant to their own experiences and their mental health, but simply to illustrate that comfort zones are highly individual and we are in control of whether or not we stay in them.

And how we Remember.

If you stay away from your local Cenotaph at this time of year solely because it might be an uncomfortable experience, perhaps 2026 is the year you step out of that comfort zone and take part in a remarkable example of community coming together for a common cause – something that is becoming increasingly rare in this day and age.

The men and women we gather to remember certainly stepped out of theirs to serve, and so-called creature comforts were barely a thought – aside, perhaps, from writing home about provisions and rations. Who knows, coming out next November might provide a valuable moment of catharsis.

For those who gathered on Tuesday and in the days that preceded it, it certainly wasn't a comfortable experience, either. But it completed the Act of Remembrance, and, I think we were all the richer for it.

THE AURORAN
Aurora's Community Newspaper

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AURORA MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

HISTORY THRIVES ON PAGE 5 WITH THE AURORA MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

FAST FACTS



Aurorachievers

It's that time of year again – when we pull out all the stops to celebrate the new inductees to the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame! The Aurora Museum & Archives oversees the collection, interpretation, and display of the artifacts that tell each inductee's story – whether they made their name on the ice, on the track, or behind the scenes. We have always enjoyed finding items that tell these stories from unique angles: trophies and medals in interesting shapes, and bold examples of commercial products featuring Aurorans. Here are a few examples from this year: a multi-pack of Extra chewing gum featuring Para Ice Hockey gold medalist Paul Rosen; a copy of the legendary NHLPA 93 video game featuring Shayne Stevenson on a 16-bit Tampa Bay Lightning team; a gleaming trophy plate awarded to Joe Bentolila by the Ontario Minor Hockey Association; and George Biondic's medal from finishing the 135-mile Badwater Ultramarathon in 2004. Come see these artifacts and more at the newly refreshed Aurora Sports Hall of Fame, located inside the Aurora Recreation Complex!



PARSA'S PERSPECTIVE

Michael Parsa, MPP
Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill

A Canadian Family Worth Holding Together

As November approaches, we honour the brave women and men who have served and reflect on the sacrifices they and their families have made in service to Canada.

On Wednesday November 11, we remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice, the veterans who returned home, and the members of the Canadian Armed Forces who continue to serve. We also recognize the families who stand beside them, providing support through the demands of military service.

Remembrance Day is an important opportunity to reflect on the cost of freedom and the importance of peace. It is also a reminder that the rights and freedoms we enjoy today are the result of the courage and dedication of those who have served and continue to serve.

Here in the community, I hope you take time to attend local Remembrance Day ceremonies, wear a poppy, and pause to reflect on the significance of this day. It is important to continue passing this tradition on to younger generations so they may better understand the sacrifices that have shaped Canada.

To the veterans, active service members, and the families who stand beside them, thank you for your service, sacrifice, and dedication.

Lest We Forget.



Senior Scape

By Christina Doyle

More Than a Legion: Veterans, Community and Remembrance in Aurora!

For 100 years, the Royal Canadian Legion has provided veterans with a place to connect, share their experiences and support one another. Today, the Aurora branch continues that tradition while welcoming families, young people and community members from all walks of life.

Stephen Boyne, President of the Royal Canadian Legion, says the organization remains an important place for veterans to come together. The Aurora branch currently has more than 600 members, including veterans, spouses, children and community members who may have no direct connection to the military.

Approximately 70 of the branch's members are veterans, many between the ages of 60 and 70. For them, the Legion offers something that can be difficult to find elsewhere—a community where shared experiences can lead to lasting friendships.

Those connections can extend across generations.

Veterans at the Aurora Legion have formed friendships that have lasted more than 50 years, demonstrating that the Legion is about much more than its history and traditions.

The branch offers a wide variety of activities designed to bring people together. One of its newest initiatives is Vet-Build, a model-building club developed in collaboration with Chris Duncan.

Held on the last Saturday of each month, the club gives veterans an opportunity to drop in, work on models, learn from experienced builders and, perhaps most importantly, share stories and spend time together.

Other activities include a song circle, Friday dinner and dances, and live music every other Saturday. These programs provide opportunities for members to socialize, develop friendships and remain actively involved in their community.

Remembrance Day is another important part of the Legion's work. Boyne explains that the Legion takes the lead in organizing and planning the annual ceremony at the cenotaph, including the activities, speakers and parade.

This year's Remembrance Day parade and ceremony will take place on Sunday, November 8, 2026, with a ceremony at the Cenotaph on November 11, 2026, at 10:45.

The event also highlights the important role young people play in remembering Canada's veterans. Through collaboration with local students and cadets, the ceremony receives valuable support from the next generation. Boyne encourages teachers to bring their students to participate and learn about the significance of Remembrance Day.

Among those contributing to the ceremony will be a student bagpiper from St. Andrew's College.

For Boyne, involving young people is an important way of ensuring that remembrance will continue.

He also wants to challenge a common perception of the Legion. As he puts it, "The Legion is not a bunch of old guys." There are young members, including people in their 20s, who have already gained experience serving Canada.

When asked about the level of support available to veterans today, Boyne says it is better than it used to be. However, he believes there is still an important gap in awareness. Many veterans are not aware of the benefits, support and resources to which they may be entitled.

That, too, is part of the Legion's continuing role: helping veterans find the support they need while providing a place where they can connect with others.

A century after its creation, the Aurora Legion remains both a place of remembrance and a living community. Its veterans carry memories of service, its members build friendships that can last a lifetime, and its younger participants help ensure that the stories of those who served are not forgotten.

For President Stephen Boyne and the members of the Aurora branch, the Legion is not simply a building or an organization. It is a community built around service, remembrance, friendship and belonging.

This Remembrance Day, wear a poppy to honour those who served and sacrificed for our country. Come visit the Aurora Legion, discover the many activities and programs available, and make some new friends. The doors are always open, and everyone in the community is welcome.

So, dear friends, let's come together as a community to honor the memory of those who served and sacrificed for our freedoms. It's an occasion to remember the past, support our veterans and work towards a more peaceful world.

Lest we forget.

Annual Holiday Marketplac

Join us on Sunday, November 8, 2026 between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at the Aurora Seniors Centre.

It's a great way to start the Holiday Season and do some holiday shopping.

Over 40 local vendors and artisans will feature unique gift ideas. Do some bidding at our Silent Auction then take a break from shopping to relax in our cozy tea room.

A wonderful day for the whole family! See you there!

For more information on the Aurora Seniors' Centre and all it has to offer, drop by 90 John West Way, visit the web site www.auroraseniors.ca, or call 905-726-4767 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday to Friday. The monthly Seniors Association bulletin is posted on our web site so for all the details on Association activities, clubs, events, bistro lunches, sports, and movies to mention a few, and town programs, trips and other valuable information concerning the Aurora Seniors Association, take a look at www.auroraseniors.ca!



GETTING THINGS DONE

Mayor
Tom Mrakas

I am incredibly honoured, humbled and grateful to have been re-elected as your Mayor for another four years!

To all the residents who placed their trust and confidence in me, thank you. Your support means more than words can express, and I promise to continue working every single day to earn that trust.

For the past eight years, we have accomplished some incredible things together. We've made historic investments in our community, strengthened our financial position, protected our green spaces, built new parks and facilities, supported our businesses and laid the foundation for an even stronger future.

And we're not done yet. There's so much more to accomplish!

I want to thank my incredible family, our dedicated campaign team, the hundreds of volunteers and every resident who knocked on doors, put up a sign, or simply offered a word of encouragement. I could not have done this without you.

On a personal note, this election was especially emotional for me.

This was my first election without either of my parents by my side. They were always among my biggest supporters, and not having them here to share this moment is something I feel deeply.

But I know they were here in spirit, watching over me every step of the way. And I know that somewhere up above, they're both smiling, proud of what we've accomplished and the person they've helped me become.

Mom and Dad, this one's for you.

To my fellow candidates and everyone who participated in this election, thank you. Democracy is strongest when people care enough to step forward, get involved and make their voices heard. Regardless of who you supported, your participation matters, and I thank you for being part of this important democratic process.

I also want to extend my sincere congratulations to all the members of our newly elected Council! I look forward to working together, bringing our ideas and perspectives to the table, and continuing to make the decisions that are in the best interests of our residents. We have an incredible opportunity ahead of us, and I am excited about what we can accomplish together.

Because at the end of the day, it's about working together to get things done for Aurora!

The election is now behind us. It's time to come together, put differences aside and focus on what matters most — the future of our town.

I've always believed that leadership isn't about making promises. It's about delivering results. It's about showing up, listening, making the tough decisions and doing what's right for our community.

That's the commitment I've made for the past eight years, and it's the commitment I make to you again today.

Aurora is my home. You are my neighbours. And serving as your Mayor continues to be one of the greatest honours of my life.

The best days for Aurora are still ahead of us!

Thank you for believing in our vision, trusting my leadership and giving me the opportunity to continue building on everything we've accomplished together.

Four more years. One incredible community. And a future worth working for.

From the bottom of my heart, THANK YOU, AURORA!



Among the dignitaries participating in this year's event were MPPs Michael Parsa and Dawn Gallagher Murphy, Aurora Mayor Tom Mrakas, Newmarket Mayor and Deputy Mayor John Taylor and Tom Vegh, Ward 1 Councillor-elect Lauren Hanna, and members of the York Regional Police.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

Breaking the Silence can be as simple as saying "I believe you"

From page 1

Domestic violence was an issue we had heard through the news, through people we knew, or even through friends of friends. But at that point, it was still something that felt somewhat distant," they said, addressing an audience that included MPPs Dawn Gallagher Murphy and Michael Parsa, Mayor Tom Mrakas, the Mayors of Newmarket and Richmond Hill, and Ward 1 Councillor-Elect Lauren Hanna, among others. "We started researching different organizations and learning about the work they were doing. When we discovered Yellow Brick House, we were drawn to its mission and the focus on supporting people experiencing domestic violence while also educating the community."

Visiting Yellow Brick House themselves "really changed our perspective," the students added.

"We heard about the experiences of survivors and families who had been supported by Yellow Brick House, and that is when this issue became much more real to us. It was no longer just a number or something we had read about online. It was about real people, real families, and real lives. One of the biggest things we learned was that domestic violence can happen to anyone. Sometimes people may not recognize the signs of an unhealthy or abusive relationship. And sometimes a person may be afraid to ask for help or even know where to turn. This is why we believe education is so important, especially for young people.

"High school is a time where many of us are beginning to experience relationships, as well as learn what healthy relationships should look like, so why wait until someone is already in a difficult situation to talk about these things? Why not give young people the knowledge and tools to recognize warning signs, understand boundaries, support their friends, and know where to turn for help?

"That is one of the reasons we believe so strongly in Yellow Brick House's public education program. When young people learn about these issues, that knowledge doesn't have to stop with one person. We take what we learn, and we share it with our friends, our classmates, our families, and eventually future generations. Education can become an ongoing conversation, and that is what breaking the silence means to us. It means being willing to talk about something that makes us uncomfortable. It means listening to others. It means challenging the stigma around asking for help. And most importantly, it means making sure people know that they are not alone."

Breaking the Silence takes courage, they said, but people are all too often afraid to speak up. Perhaps they're worried about what others might think, or they might not know how to start the conversation, but sometime it can be as simple as saying, "I believe you."

A school project might have been the students' first introduction to the work being carried out by Yellow Brick House every day throughout York Region, but it won't be the last. They don't want their involvement to end with the completion of the assignment and feel "we have a responsibility to keep talking about it and finding ways to help."

"The money raised in this event will help support Yellow Brick House's public education program, helping bring awareness and education into our communities and to young people," they said. "As you walk today, we encourage you to take a moment to reflect. Think about why you're here. Think about what you've learned. Think about how you can be a part of breaking the silence – not just today, but also the next day, and the next, and all the days after that. Because awareness only creates change when we turn it into action. We hope that everyone here will continue the conversation. Talk to your friends. Talk to your family. Learn the signs. Learn what a healthy relationship should look like, and if someone you know needs help, listen to them and connect them with support."

Sunday's event may have marked a milestone for the Walk, but it was also a chance to look ahead to another milestone for Yellow Brick House as an organization.

Lorris Herenda, Executive Director of Yellow Brick House, noted 2028 will mark their 50th anniversary in the community.

For her, it marks a half-century of "standing with women and children, of advocacy, prevention, and life-saving services."

"This anniversary is not just about looking back at what we achieved in the last 50 years. It's about looking forward to what we want to achieve in the next 50 years," said Herenda. "One of our top priorities is making sure that women and children have access to services when they need them, no wait lists, that every young person knows what a healthy relationship looks like, that every community can recognize the signs and respond accordingly – and we can accomplish this over the next 50 years.

"Today, with every step that you take, you're breaking the silence, and you're saying to survivors, we see you, we believe you, and we stand with you."





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From the fields of Flanders to peacekeeping missions and the
answered the call, and many still carry its cost today. How d
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At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.
ST. ANNE'S SCHOOL
WE REMEMBER

Changing face of what it means to be a veteran explored at Remembrance Dinner

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Members of the Canadian Armed Forces are put in harm's way every day to defend our interests and keep peace around the world.

But recent events at CFB Wainwright brought home that the danger faced by these dedicated men and women can be faced at home as well, while work during what is considered peacetime can be overlooked.

These were themes touched upon as members of the community came together last week at a special dinner hosted by the Aurora branch of the Royal Canadian Legion last week to mark the start of its annual Poppy Campaign.

Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MP Costas Menegakis, MPP Michael Parsa, and Mayor Tom Mrakas were among the dignitaries in attendance on October 24, while members of the Legion broke bread and shared personal perspectives.

Ordinarily, it's a dinner in which veterans of the Second World War and Korean War fill the room, but time and circumstance have made these ranks thinner than ever before, a fact reflected upon by Murray Charlton of 140 Air Cadet Squadron.

Speaking before the audience, the Cadet leader noted that he works to impress upon young people what it means to be a veteran when so many current service personnel often associate the term with soldiers of an earlier era.

"Every year at about this time I talk to the cadets and I say to them, 'Tell me your opinion – what is a veteran?' The response I get is astounding. They talk about their grandparents who served, whether it be in World War II, because World War I vets are no longer around and World War II vets are getting fewer and fewer [along with] Korean War vets, but they don't think about the conflicts that we've had recently," he said.

Charlton, who himself served in the Queen's York Rangers, has a long family history in the forces, including a grandfather who served in the First World War. Charlton served in the Rangers for more than 43 years before retiring in 2019.

Now working with teens in the Cadets, he said they don't often think about those who served in Afghanistan as veterans, but he tries to broaden their perspectives.



Legion President Stephen Boyne is pictured at last week's Remembrance Day Dinner with Pastors Fred and Carolyn Reid of Northridge Community Church. **Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger**

"I think [to] a kid a veteran is someone like their grandfather or their grandmother. I say, 'Well, how old do you have to be to join the Armed Forces in Canada?' The answers I get are astounding. They figure you have to be at least 20-years-old to join the Armed Forces. I say, 'No, you can join the Armed Forces at the age of 16, providing you turn 17 by the end of the year with your parents' permission.'

"The stunned looks that I get are astounding because they never had that idea. It never came about. I said, 'How old do you think people [were] deployed to Afghanistan?' They go, 'I don't know. 20s, whatever.' I tell them [about] one soldier in particular that was in the Rangers who deployed before his 20th birthday. He was 19 and he went over because he could speak the language and they needed people who could do that. He also went over and did a second tour of Afghanistan before he was 24.

"We've got young people nowadays who are deploying to Latvia to train up all the Ukrainian soldiers that are going through Latvia to get trained up to go defend their own country. I said, 'Think about that. Yes, your grandparents probably were involved in the service during World War II or Korea, depending on their age. Think about that: people who are as old as maybe your older siblings are deploying for operational tours.' To me, the reckoning that you get when you explain that to do them is earth-shattering because they never thought about it. A veteran is anybody who is willing to put a uniform on and put their life in harm's way to defend the country."

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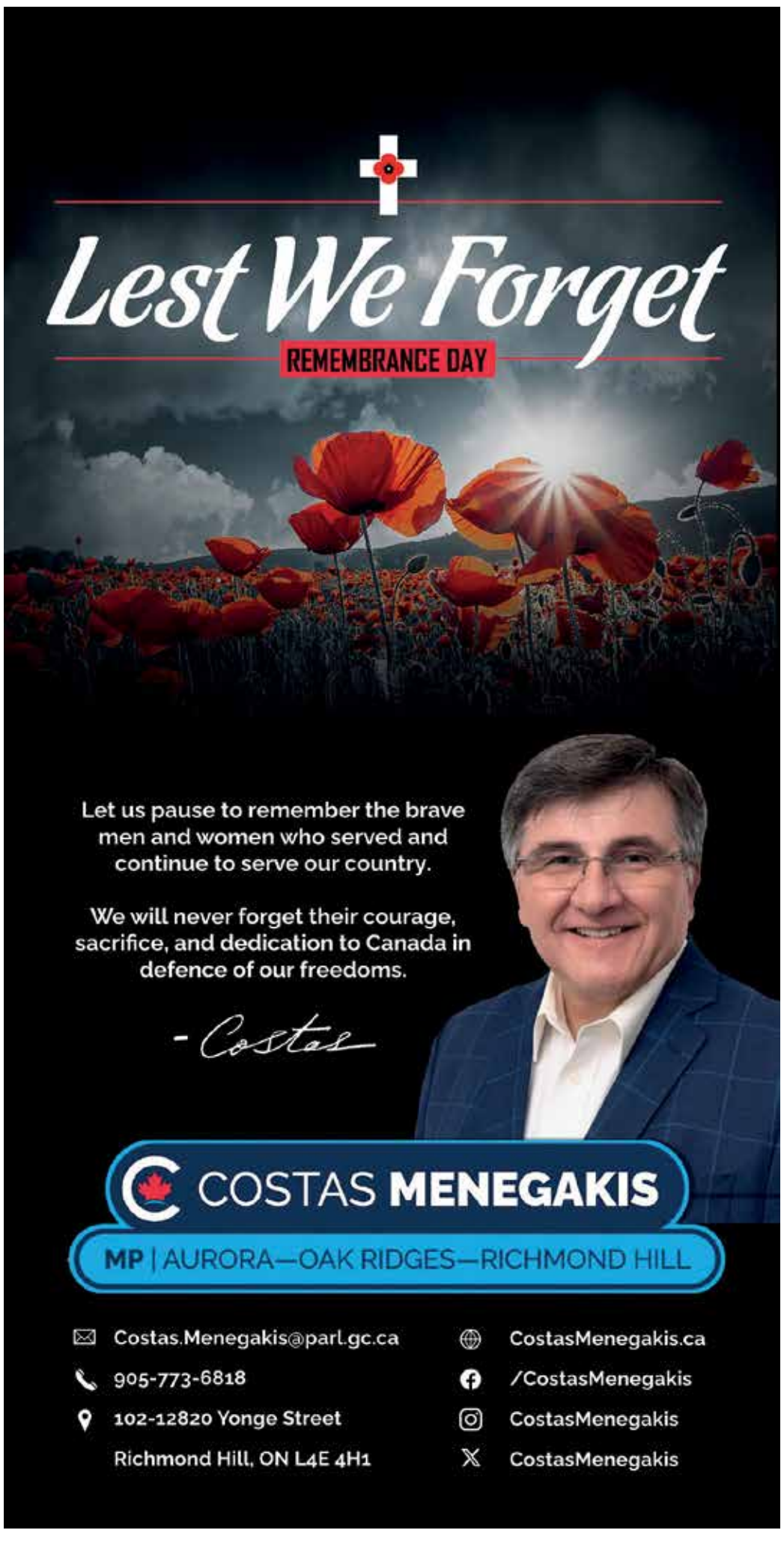
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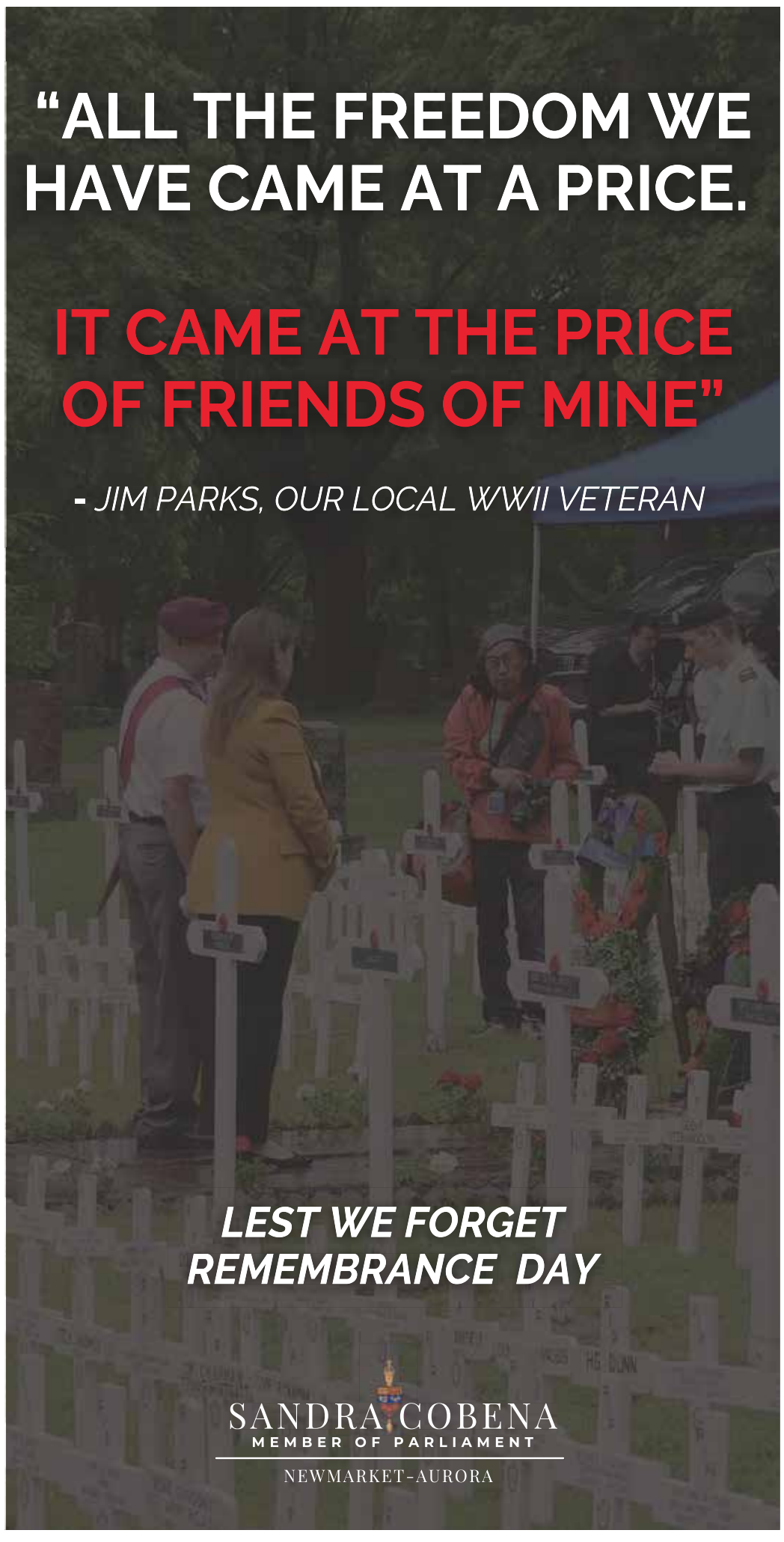


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Legion launches Poppy Campaign with ceremonies, flag-raisings











The Aurora branch of the Royal Canadian Legion launched its annual Poppy Campaign locally on October 23, with a flag-raising at Town Hall, followed by similar ceremonies over the subsequent days at Branch 385 on Industrial Parkway North and at Town Park that Saturday in conjunction with the Aurora Farmers' Market. **Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger**

Legion
Branch 385
Aurora

REMEMBRANCE CEREMONIES

PARADE & SERVICE
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 8TH
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Comradeship at the Branch
after the service.

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1st Sunday is Bid Euchre at 1pm
and the 4th Sunday at 1pm,
is alternating Euchre and Cribbage

Tuesday Nights:
Aurora Song Circle at 7pm
This is open to all musicians or people
who love music and just want to listen

Wednesday Nights: Blind Draw
Doubles Darts at 7pm

Thursday Nights:
Euchre at 7pm

Friday Nights:
Dinner at 5:30pm
and Dance starting at 7pm.
Small Cover charge
if just coming for the dance.

Saturday Afternoons
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2:30 - 5:30pm alternating weeks
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Please consider donating to a Poppy box,
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POPPY REPORT FROM 2025

Balance in Trust Fund January 1, 2025 - $99,825.18
Income from Campaign - $69,305.88
Sub Total Income - $169,131.06

2025 Campaign Expenses - $47,758.87
Grants 2025 - Veterans, Bursaries, Youth Education & Donations - $41,414.27
Total Expenses & Donations - $89,173.14

Grants in Poppy Trust Investments as of Dec 31, 2025 - $551.72
Cheques not cashed as of Dec 31, 2025 - $1,413.75

Balance in Trust Fund on December 31, 2025 - $81,923.39

Additional Revenue from Jan - Sept 2026 - $1475.22
2026 Campaign Expenses Jan - Sept 2026 $ 623.75
Grants & Donations Jan - Sept 2026 - $29,135.35

Balance in Trust Fund Sepember 29, 2026 - $53,639.51

Legion
Branch 385
Aurora

Your Donation help Veterans in need and many programs run by Legion, such as Operation Service Dogs, Hospital Trust Fund (to help Veterans pay medical bills), Homeless Veterans Fund, Youth Education Programs, Road to Recovery, Heroes Mending of the Fly, plus many more. We also support the local Army, Air and Navy league Cadet programs.

Thank you to all who have donated previously for the Poppy Campaign.

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Southlake Health announces new Georgina Advanced Care Centre

Southlake Health is proud to partner with Treasure Hill to bring its first Advanced Care Centre to Georgina. This marks a major milestone in the development of Southlake's Distributed Health Network and its plans to expand access to care closer to home for patients and families across northern York Region and southern Simcoe County.

"Today marks an exciting step forward in our vision to build a more connected health system for the communities we serve," said Paul Woods MD, President and CEO, Southlake Health. "Together with Treasure Hill, the Town of Georgina and our partners in care, we are bringing leading edge care, even closer to home through our Distributed Health Network."

This new community-based health facility will be located at the southwest Corner of Woodbine Avenue and Old Homestead Road. By bringing care closer to home, Southlake's Advanced Care Centre will improve access to care and enhance the patient experience.

This announcement follows a process launched by Southlake in May to identify a partner with the land and development expertise to help bring the Advanced Care Centre to life. Together, Southlake and Treasure Hill will advance plans in collaboration with the Town of Georgina for a purpose-built facility designed around the current and future health needs of the community.

"For Treasure Hill, community building extends beyond developing homes – it's about ensuring that our residents have access to the very best health care, when they need it most," said Nicholas Fidei, President, Treasure Hill. "We are proud to partner with Southlake Health to bring the first Advanced Care Centre to Georgina. There is no greater investment we can make than in the health and well-being of our families, friends and neighbours."

Over the next decade, Southlake's Distributed Health Network will transform how care is delivered across northern York Region and southern Simcoe County. The network will include a redeveloped Davis Drive hospital, a new hospital in East Gwillimbury, and community-based Advanced Care Centres in Georgina and Bradford West Gwillimbury. Together, these sites will create a more connected system of care, making it easier for people to access the right care, in the right place, while increasing access to meet the needs of some of Ontario's fastest growing and aging communities.

"This milestone reflects the power of strong relationships, partnerships, and a shared commitment to our community," said Mayor Margaret Quirk, Town of Georgina. "I want to recognize Treasure Hill, Southlake Health, the Northern York South Simcoe Ontario Health Team and everyone who has helped move this initiative forward. The Advanced Care Centre will enhance access to care for residents across Georgina at every stage of their life. This is about more than a new health care facility, it is about accessibility, dignity and ensuring our community has the health services it needs, now and for generations to come. I am incredibly proud of what we have accomplished together."

"Health care is a partnership, and we are so grateful for the philanthropic leadership of Treasure Hill. Over the years, their long-standing generosity has supported the care of patients and families at Southlake Health. Today's announcement takes that support even further in a new and exciting way. This is what is possible when we come together to bring leading edge care, even closer to home for our communities," said Jennifer Ritter, President and CEO, Southlake Health Foundation.

"As the Ward 3 Councillor, I am incredibly proud that the Advanced Care Centre will be located in our ward and serve residents across Georgina and beyond. I'm proud to have worked alongside the Southlake Foundation to support local philanthropic efforts that helped bring this transformative project to reality. Treasure Hill's commitment, together with the leadership of Mayor Margaret Quirk, Southlake Health and our community partners, has finally brought healthcare closer to home and I'm proud to have helped bring this vision to reality. I look forward to supporting future fundraising efforts and helping bring this historic healthcare investment to completion," added Dave Neeson, Councillor for Georgina Ward 3.

In 2024, the Town of Georgina, Southlake Health, and the Northern York South Simcoe Ontario Health Team signed a memorandum of understanding to work together to improve health and wellness for Georgina residents.

Care for All: A Population Health Needs Assessment for Residents in Georgina was released earlier this year outlining the community's current and future health and wellness needs to help inform how care is planned and delivered locally.

In April 2026, Ontario endorsed Southlake Health's vision for a Distributed Health Network, supported by a $10 million investment to plan for the redevelopment of the Davis Drive hospital and a new acute care hospital in East Gwillimbury. The two hospital sites will anchor the network, supported by community-based Advanced Care Centres, digital health, and system partnerships to expand access to care across the region.

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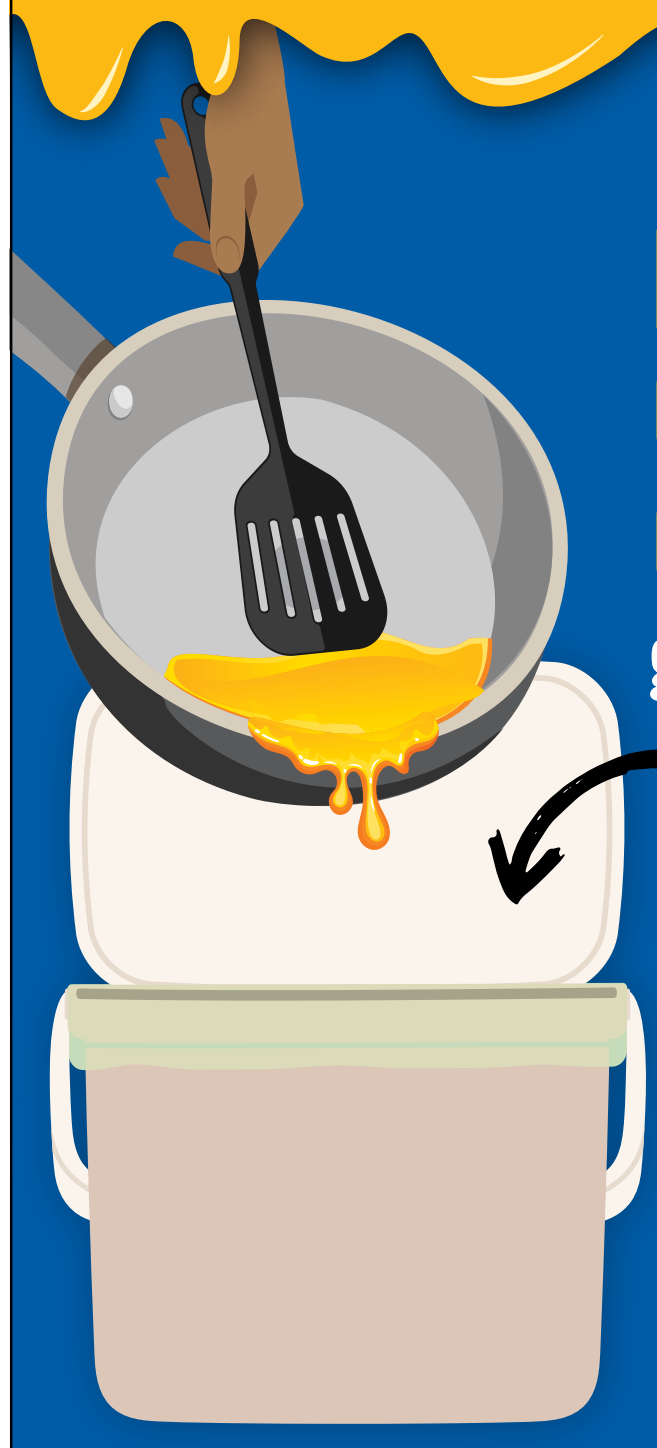
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Arts & Culture

Farmers' Market embraces spooky season at Season Finale

The Aurora Farmers' Market ended its 2026 season in style on Saturday with plenty of events to mark Halloween. In addition to their annual Costume Parade, the Market also played host to the second-annual No Tricks, Just Treats accessible Halloween event founded last year by Allison Hughes and Ward 1 Councillor-elect Lauren Hanna. (This Page – Clockwise from Top Right) Councillor-elect Hanna meets the event's ubiquitous Storm Trooper. Ward 5 Councillor-elect Jessie Fraser visited the Market with Neil and a furry friend. Lisa, Paul and Lando the Dog went with a Maritime-theme, taking on the riles of Anne of Green Gables, a fisherman, and a lobster, respectively. OPPOSITE: (TOP ROW) Costume parade winners Shawn, Charlize, with Jacqueline. Richard was on hand to bust a few ghosts. (SECOND ROW) All lined up for the Costume Parade. Sharon embraces the Autumn Spirit. (THIRD ROW) Creativity abounded – as did a Pocket Full of Sunshine here and there.

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger







CULTURALLY *speaking*

Article By:
Bonnie Kraft
GAMS Co-Artistic Director

Tea, Classics, and a Little Musical Magic

Imagine a leisurely Sunday afternoon, a welcoming room filled with friends, the pleasure of tea and delicious pastries — and, just a few feet away, two of Canada's most distinguished musicians creating something truly beautiful.

That's the experience that awaits you on Sunday, November 22, when the Great Artist Music Series presents the first concert of its *Tea and Classics* series at the Aurora Cultural Centre.

Unlike a traditional concert, *Tea and Classics* invites audiences to relax and enjoy exceptional live music in the intimate, cabaret-style setting of Brevik Hall. Seated comfortably at small tables, with tea, pastries and the company of friends, guests can savour the music in an atmosphere that feels more like a private musical gathering than a formal concert.

And what a wonderful musical pairing awaits!

There are certain combinations of instruments that seem almost made for one another. The flute and harp are surely among the most enchanting.

The flute's pure, singing voice floats above the shimmering strings of the harp. Together, their sounds intertwine so naturally that they become something greater than the sum of their parts — a beautiful musical alchemy of colour and expression.

And in the hands of two extraordinary musicians, that alchemy becomes something magical.

Flutist **Suzanne Shulman** and harpist **Erica Goodman** are among Canada's most accomplished and respected performers. Both have enjoyed distinguished careers as soloists and chamber musicians, performing with leading orchestras and celebrated artists.

Suzanne Shulman is admired for the warmth, expressiveness and sensitivity of her playing, while **Erica Goodman**, widely regarded as one of Canada's foremost harpists, has earned international recognition for her artistry and her championing of Canadian music.

Together, these two consummate artists offer us the opportunity to experience world-class musicianship *up close and personal*, where every subtle musical gesture, every exchange between performers, and every delicate nuance can be appreciated.

For Artistic Directors Bonnie and Norbert Kraft, that is the charm of *Tea and Classics*.

"There's something wonderfully special about hearing musicians of this calibre in such an intimate setting," they explain. "Add the warmth of good company, tea and a few delicious treats, and you have our idea of a perfect Sunday afternoon!"

After seventeen years of bringing exceptional musicians to Aurora through the Great Artist Music Series, the Krafts continue to delight in creating musical experiences that bring people together.

So why not make a Sunday afternoon of it? Bring a friend, settle in with a cup of tea, and let two extraordinary musicians remind you just how delightful an afternoon of beautiful music can be!

Tea and Classics: Suzanne Shulman, flute, and Erica Goodman, harp Sunday, November 22, 2026 | Brevik Hall, Aurora Cultural Centre

50 Victoria Street, Aurora Town Square | auroraculturalcentre.ca

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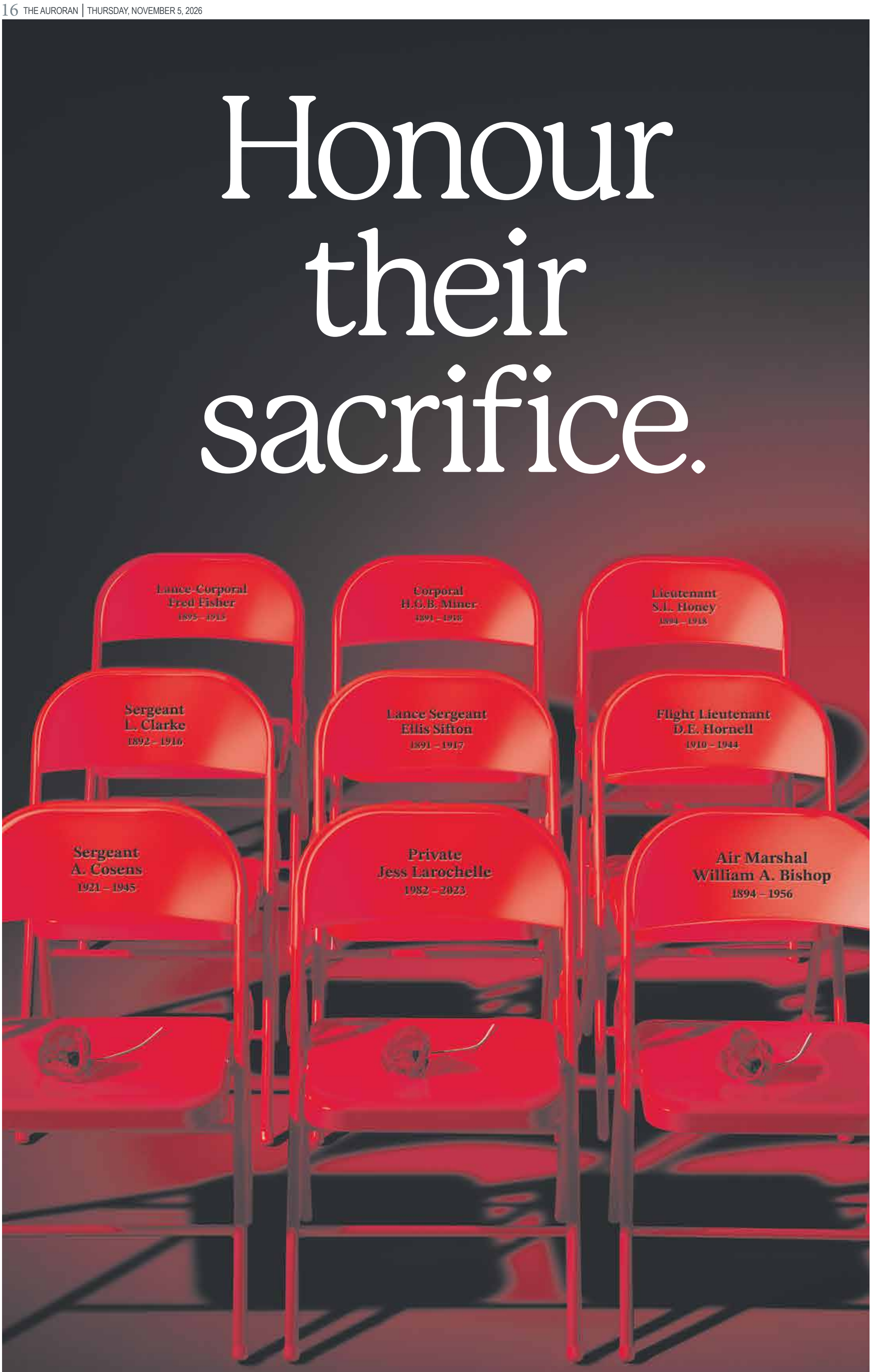
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Celebrating Diwali—the Festival of Lights— kicks off a cornucopia of cultural delights in November at Aurora Town Square

BY JIM STEWART
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of Aurora celebrates Diwali—the Festival of Lights—on Friday, November 6 at Town Square. The community celebration is the first of many exciting events being coordinated by Town staff in November.

Nichole Campsall, Cultural Development Coordinator for the Town of Aurora, described the importance of running a range of cultural events at public-owned properties: "Aurora Town Square opened in 2024. Over these years, we've been holding events to bring our community together. It's a great place to celebrate significant cultural events and holidays. Joining the Diwali festivities could be a new experience for some people in Aurora. Community is all about building connections and learning new things."

Campsall, who's been employed by the Town for eighteen years, was promoted in 2022 to take on the responsibility of preparing for the Grand Opening of Aurora Town Square. She's been coordinating events there for the last three years and explained the importance of the Festival of Lights—especially in the context of our shorter days and longer nights in the last segment of Autumn: "Diwali is one of those holidays that fills us with hope and it resonates with everyone. Looking forward to events that are happy and wonderful is a source of positive energy, especially with the time change we just went through on the weekend and the shorter days that have become more evident this week."

The heartfelt invitation to celebrate Diwali with family and friends is part of her role "to build relationships with cultural groups around the community" and Campsall noted in her website promotion that "This free, family-friendly celebration is an opportunity to gather, enjoy Indian culture and traditions, and welcome the Festival of Lights. Bring the whole family and celebrate the joy, light, and spirit of Diwali."

Campsall's Cultural Development team has planned a two-hour event for attendees on November 6 at Aurora Town Square.

Part 1 of the Diwali celebrations runs from 5-6 PM in Brevik Hall where attendees can enjoy at Bollywood Dance Workshop. Following the Workshop, guests will be welcomed and there will be a Diya lighting ceremony.

Part 2 of Friday's festivities will take place from 6-7 PM in Program Rooms A and B where Samosas will be served while supplies last. A Henna Artist, Craft Activities, and Photo Opportunities will round out the evening for attendees.

Following the Festival of Lights event, Campsall's crew will offer a cornucopia of cultural delights for Aurora Town Square visitors throughout November:

Lennon.Live on November 7 at 7:30 PM—a tribute concert celebrating the Beatles classics and solo anthems of John Lennon;

Martha Chaves on November 20 at 7:30 PM—an evening of razor-sharp stand-up comedy and storytelling;

Strange Advance on November 26 at 8 PM—the iconic Canadian new wave band-- which delivered cornerstone albums Worlds Away in 1982 and 2WO in 1985--will be live in concert and whisking audience members to the era that produced The Spoons, Simple Minds, Blue Peter, The Fixx, and Platinum Blonde as well as The Cars;

Neil Young Solo Acoustics by Candlelight on November 27 at 6:30 PM—an intimate candlelit acoustic tribute to one of Canada's greatest songwriters and performers;

Aurora's Christmas Market and 80th Anniversary Screening of It's a Wonderful Life on November 27-29—screening of the classic Christmas film at 3 PM in the Davide De Simone Performance Hall followed by the Christmas Market from 5-8:30 PM featuring festive vendors, seasonal treats, live entertainment by The Borealis Big Band, and holiday shopping.

As we hurtle ourselves into the shortest, darkest, and dampest days of the year, Nichole Campsall's Cultural Development staff offers Aurorans a series of festive community events at Town Square that will lift our spirits, warm our hearts, and brighten our November days and nights.

New bylaw regulating dust clears Council

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A new bylaw regulating dust emitted into the air from construction and renovation projects was given the green light at Council's last regular meeting of the 2022-2026 Council term.

"Respirable dust generated through residential construction activities, including the cutting of concrete, stone, masonry products and similar building materials may negatively impact neighbourhood properties, workers, and nearby residents," said the Town of Aurora in a statement. "A standalone dust bylaw provides clear and enforceable regulatory framework and reflects municipal best practices."

The new dust bylaw followed a motion passed by Council last year after being introduced by Ward 6 Councillor Harold Kim.

While the bylaw received wide Council support when it was reviewed at the Committee level on September 8, the intervening weeks brought forward some concerns from residents, said Councillor Kim.

"This isn't a token gesture. It's a framework with teeth that we don't have today," said Councillor Kim at the September meeting. "I've also heard from residents, parents especially, with honest concerns about dust and air quality near our schools. I take those seriously and they're a part of why I brought this [issue] forward. Their main point is about the section covering what a contractor must do to control dust.

"Some have suggested we scrap it and simply say no dust may leave a property, period, but almost any time you cut stone or concrete, some dust travels. A rule that strict would put every homeowner installing a driveway or interlock walkway offside, and our officers couldn't realistically enforce it. As well-intentioned as it is, it doesn't hold up. There's a fair point in there, though. A tarp shouldn't be enough if dust is still blowing into a neighbour's yard. There may be room to tighten that language so the measures actually have to work, not just be present. But we shouldn't rewrite that on the floor tonight. When we impose a requirement, we need to show we did our homework on it, and that's a proper staff review."

Continued on page 23

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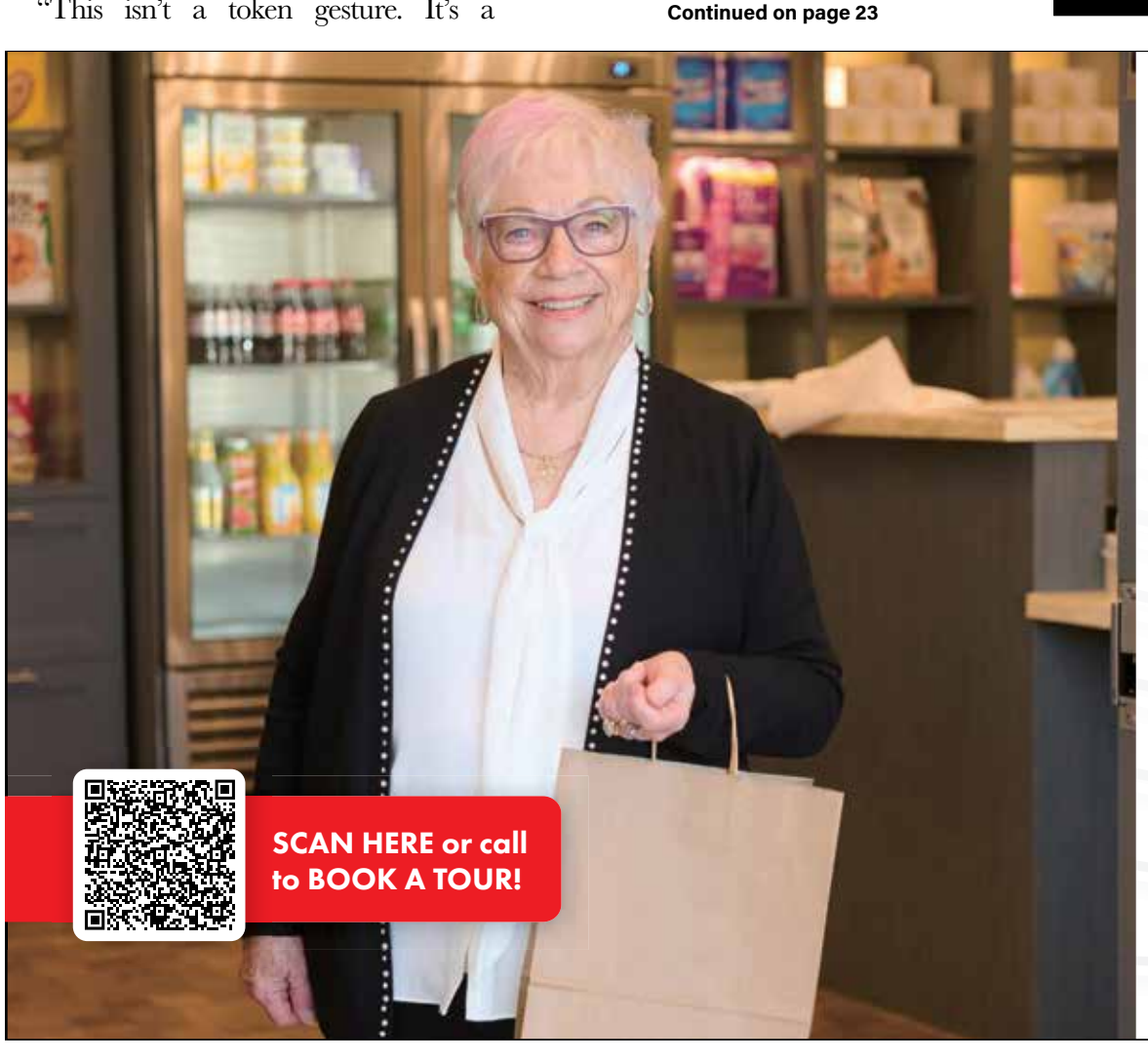
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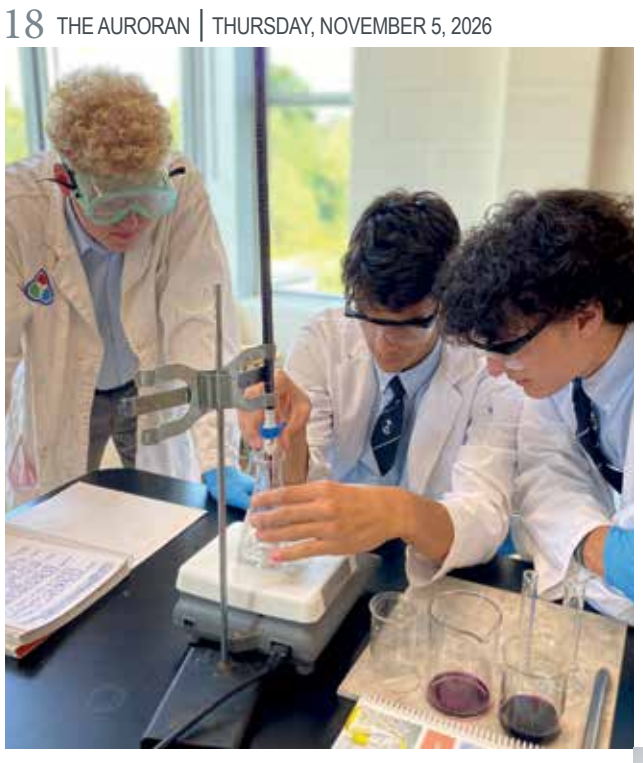
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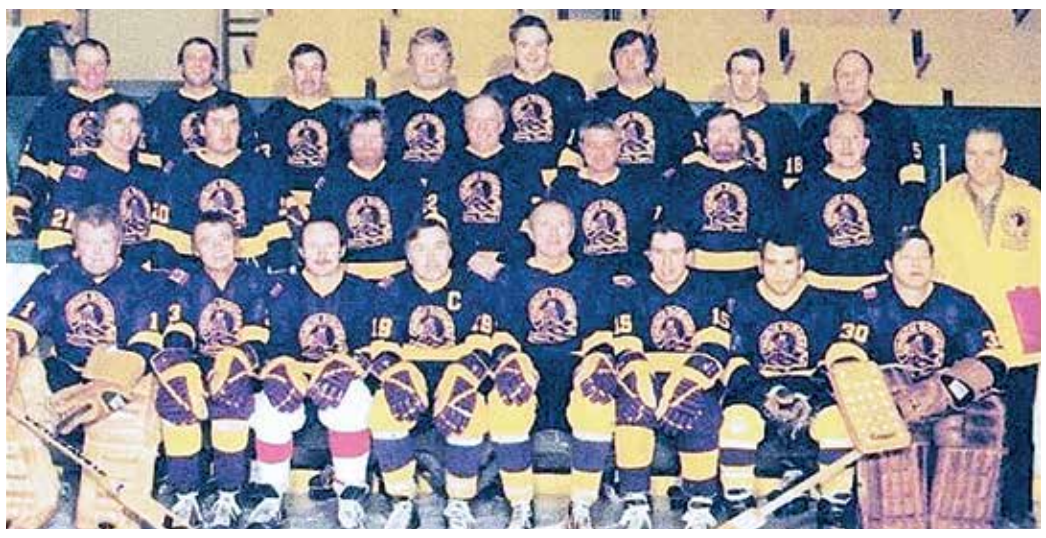
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VOL 28 | NO. 4 | 905-727-3300 TheAuroran.com FREE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 5, 2026

Community-spirited Aurora Church Dodgers will set historical precedent as first team enshrined in the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame



The Church Dodgers

Photo courtesy of the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame

AURORA SPORTS HALL of FAME
EST. 2013
Their Legacy. Our Future.

BY JIM STEWART
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Aurora Sports Hall of Famer Alex Ansell's connection to Old Timers hockey in York Region runs deep and the inspirational 90-year-old applauds the upcoming induction of the Aurora Church Dodgers.

Although other Aurora-based teams like the 2004 and 2007 Junior Tigers won Canadian championships, the Church Dodgers will be the first team inducted into Town's Sports Hall of Fame.

The engaging Ansell offered many reasons why the Dodgers – who had their ice time at 10 a.m. on Sundays – should be the inaugural team enshrined: "The Dodgers were a community team. They ran their Old Timers Hockey program from 1967 to the mid-90's – over 25 years of contributing to charities and service clubs in the community."

Ansell added that the Church Dodgers blazed international trails long before it was fashionable for local Canadian amateur hockey teams to travel overseas: "In addition to starting the Old Timers Hockey traditions in the Town in the late-'60s, they went to Sweden in 1974 and represented Aurora in Leksand in an exhibition hockey series. It was a novelty to have Canadian teams play overseas. The team was responsible for Aurora being twinned with Leksand after the cultural exchange in 1974. The Dodgers not only represented the community and the country – they put back into the community in many ways. The proceeds from all their tournaments went to the Rotary Club and other charities and service organizations in Aurora. They also entertained the community in exhibition games at the ACC by playing against the NHL Old Timers, the Flying Fathers featuring legendary Father David Bauer and Les Costello, and they also played the Hockey Mothers. My wife played for the Hockey Mothers and they kept getting whistles. The Dodgers were entertaining and they were truly a community team."

As Ansell sips his coffee at the Tim Hortons at Haida and Wellington, he recalls with fondness the beginnings of Old Timers hockey in Aurora and how the Church Dodgers were local trailblazers in the Masters Division of the sport: "Tom McPherson founded the Dodgers in 1967 – he was not only a founding member – he was the Dodgers' first Captain. It was good group of guys – they were local businessmen. They were good guys to play against and they were good rec hockey players. There was a lot of camaraderie there."

When Ansell helped found the Aurora Old Timers in 1975, he set up an Old Timers League that started in Oak Ridges and featured six teams in its inaugural year: "The Dodgers, the Old Sweats, our team The Aurora Old Timers or Azoics, the Richmond Hill Sudsers, East Gwillimbury, and the Newmarket Antiques. It was recreational hockey – I was the secretary and treasurer of the league for 30 years. Each team was responsible for its players. If you wanted to get competitive, you went to tournaments. I played against the Dodgers at least four-to-five times a year and I went to one tournament with them in the Masters' Games in 1984. We would borrow each other's players for out-of-town tournaments. Our Aurora Old Timers team even won the Church Dodgers tournament at least once in the 1980s. Teams were away every weekend at tournaments. We played in five every year and the Dodgers had their own pet tournaments, especially in Pointe-Claire on the island of Montreal. The Dodgers even had their own bus."

In addition to praising the Dodgers' resourcefulness, Ansell expressed his sadness that so many of the Church Dodgers have passed on. However, the legendary league executive and player noted with delight that the original Captain and co-founder of the Dodgers Tom McPherson would be available to accept the enshrinement on behalf of the defunct organization: "It'll be great to see Tom accept the Induction on behalf of the Dodgers. I was lucky to play against Tom and the rest of the league. I was connected to the Old Timers Hockey League for over fifty-one years. Tom and I saw a lot of people come and go – over 800 guys who played in the league up til 2004 and there's probably been 1,500 guys that have played in the league. It's great that a team from that league is bring recognized by the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame. We tried to find as many Dodgers as we can for the Induction Ceremony."

Ansell – who was enshrined in the inaugural ASHoF Class of 2014 as a builder – is looking forward to the 14th annual ceremony and participating in the procession of inductees:

Continued on page 20

AURORA SPORTS HALL of FAME
EST. 2013
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Future Hall of Famer of the Month

October 2026



Ian Smith

CARDINAL CARTER CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Ian Smith is a dedicated student-athlete at Cardinal Carter who exemplifies the values of school sport through his work ethic, competitive spirit, leadership and respect for others. A Grade 12 student, Ian balances the demands of academics, two sports teams and competitive club soccer.

A member of his school's boys' soccer and flag football teams, Ian brings determination and a strong team-first mentality. In flag football, his desire to win is matched by his understanding that success depends on teamwork and leading by example. His contributions over the past two years have helped establish a positive team atmosphere and his commitment extends beyond his play through the way he conducts himself both on and off the field.

Ian's passion for soccer began at the age of four and continues to drive his development. He has spent much of his adolescence competing with the Aurora Football Club at the Ontario Player Development League (OPDL) level. A technically skilled player with excellent ball control, Ian can make an impact from his preferred position on the right wing or in centre attacking midfield. His coachability and determination make him a valuable member of the senior boys' soccer team.

Beyond athletics, Ian demonstrates leadership through his involvement in his school community. As a student in the Grade 12 Leadership class, he works closely with students in the Functional Life Skills program and has shown an ability to connect with students with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Ian's ability to balance his many commitments while remaining dedicated to his teammates, his studies and personal development speaks to his maturity and discipline.

Congratulations, Ian!



Skinner's three-point period impels Tigers to 4-2 win

BY JIM STEWART
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Rookie winger Max Skinner scored one goal and dished out two assists in the second period to lead the Aurora Junior Tigers to a 4-2 win over the Wellington Dukes in Prince Edward County on Friday night.

Tommy Nitsopoulos, Sebastian Catalano, and Thomas Leone added one goal each to dispatch the second-place Dukes in front of 414 fans at Lehigh Arena.

Tigers' Head Coach Ilir Mehmeti provided reasons for his team's key road win: "We came out and dominated the first nine minutes – keeping them hemmed in. So much of this game is mental and we started feeling pretty good about ourselves after taking it to them for the first two periods. We didn't let them come out punching. We dictated the game for two-and-a-half periods."

After a scoreless first period during which Wellington goaltender Dryden Riley stymied Aurora centre Javian Nei's penalty shot at 1:41, the Tigers erupted for three goals in the middle frame to take a commanding 3-0 lead.

Coach Mehmeti was pleased with his team's second frame effort – a sore point with the Tigers in many games this season: "We made a new rule for second periods: we told them we're going to change lines every 20-30 seconds. At many points on Friday, we changed every whistle and we were fresh in the second period. We came out firing."

Nitsopoulos implemented his Head Coach's game plan by opening the scoring 1:52 into the second period – finishing a feed from Skinner – for his 4th of the season.

Skinner's 12th of the campaign at 13:35 put the visitors up 2-0. Captain Anrijs Bundzenieks and Danil Kolzin earned assists.

With 1:32 left in the second period, Catalano tallied his 1st of the season to give the Tigers a three-goal lead. Coach Mehmeti described his veteran blueliner's game-winning goal: "Catalano jumped up in the play really well, getting the pass from Skinner, and it was an outstanding finish."

Skinner – the Tigers' leading sniper with 19 points which ranks him fifth among OJHL rookies in scoring – earned his third point of the period and First Star of the Game honors. Aurora's bench boss complimented Skinner's three-point outburst in the second period: "When he gets opportunities, he's an exciting, dynamic young player. He was instructed in practice on Wednesday to pass the puck in the lanes and he did it during Friday's game, especially in the second period."

Just 2:15 into the final frame, Leone, with a helper from the speedy Nei, increased the home side's deficit to 4-0. Coach Mehmeti described the importance of quick goals by Nitsopoulos and Leone to start both the second and third periods against the Dukes: "We've talked about the importance of getting the first one and, in both cases, it set the tempo for the period. We want to throw first. Come game time, I'm intense, and I want them to be intense."

Despite the Tigers' intensity, the Dukes finally got a puck past Tigers' goaltender Colby Booth-Housego mid-way through the third period when Presley Kelly-Wright tallied a power play goal at 9:35.

Four minutes later, Justin Doak's unassisted goal at 13:15 pulled Wellington to within two and the Dukes continued their 20-shot final period barrage.

Although Booth-Housego bent a bit amid the blitz, he did not break in the one-sided second half of the third period. He earned 3rd Star of the Game honors by turning aside 18 of the 20 shots in the final 20 minutes of play. The value of Booth-Housego's 38-save performance was captured by his Head Coach's superlatives: "Outstanding. Rock solid. We got into some penalty trouble in the third period, but Colby was our fifth player on the penalty kill to make it seem more like 5-on-5. The confidence that builds when goalies make saves is so important and has been against Wellington in both our wins against them. Lucas Carpino was outstanding against the Dukes, too, when we beat them at home."

Booth-Housego's acrobatics on Friday were a significant part of the Tigers' second straight victory this season versus the perennially-strong Dukes. Coach Mehmeti explained that his club's wins this month over Wellington are part of the Tigers' growing confidence: "I feel that it's time that these kids believe that we can beat any team. We've been at the top of our game in both games so far against Wellington. No one intimidates us. I continue to care about the way we play, and not the results, but the results are getting better and three of our losses this month could have been wins."

With the two-goal victory, Aurora (7-10-0-0) strengthened its hold on eighth place while the home ice loss dropped Wellington (11-6-3-0) into third place in the OJHL East standings. The Tigers host the tenth-place Lindsay Muskies (4-11-0-2) at 7 p.m. on Friday, November 6.

Fans are invited to bring non-perishable food items to the Tigers-Muskies tilt as part of a "Hockey Ends Hunger" co-sponsored event with donations going to the Aurora Food Pantry. The Fourth Annual "Hockey Ends Hunger" Charity Game will take place at the Aurora Recreation Complex on Saturday, November 28. Puck drop is 5 p.m.



Hall honours Church Dodgers

From page 19

"There's more and more people in the procession. It's great to recognize these individuals for their athletic ability and to recognize the builders who have over time built sports in Aurora. The Hall has come a long way and features a lot more diversity."

As we wrapped up our interview at Tim Hortons and completed our traditional NHL Upper Deck card-trading session that has become a Rite of Autumn across Canada, the spry nonagenarian reflected on his enduring connection to the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame and voiced a small degree of comedic trepidation regarding the walk to the stage on November 5: "I hope I don't trip and fall ... It's a great lineup of people this year. It's an honor to belong and you're humbled by being there. It'll be a great night."

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Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Aurora's business community came together at the Royal Venetian Mansion on October 22 for the Aurora Chamber of Commerce's annual Business Excellence Awards.

It was a chance to not only celebrate some of the key businesses that help provide the backbone of the local economy, but celebrate long-standing Champions and emerging names on the scene.

Over the course of the evening, the Chamber recognized its annual Chamber Champion and announced this year's recipients of their grant programs, that help emerging businesses take their operations to the next level.

Recognized as this year's Chamber Champion was Brian Roberts of Roberts & Co., a long-standing contributor to the Chamber in various capacities, including its Board.

"Our 2026 Chamber Champion is a man who proves that accountants can have personalities, and not just during tax season," joked Alison Mumford, Executive Director of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, in her presentation. "You may know him as the owner of Roberts & Co. Professional Corporation, your go-to guy when the CRA comes knocking. Perhaps you know him from his volunteer work with 100 Men Who Give a Damn, the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame, or his many years of service to the Aurora Chamber.

"He's a former Chamber Board Director, who now sits on our Finance Committee, generously volunteering his time every month to make sure our finances are in good shape, and perhaps more importantly, that myself and our Treasurer can confidently explain them to the rest of our Board! He's also a long-time Street Festival volunteer, alongside his wife Trish…. Outside of his community commitments, he's a devoted family man, husband to Trish, father of three, avid Blue Jays fan, and still finds time to help out on his family farm outside of Tillsonburg – because apparently crunching numbers, raising a family, volunteering across Town, and cheering on the Jays aren't enough to keep him busy.

"He's generous with his time, incredibly dependable, and somehow manages to make accounting seem like a social activity."

Each year, the Chamber presents a Rise Up Grant, recognizing promising new businesses that are "building their foundations and taking exciting steps towards growth." This year's grant recipients are Lanette Ware-Bushfield of A WWB Production Inc. (A Work It Ware-Bushfield Production), and Swing Core Golf.

The second grant, the Scale Up Grant, which supports established businesses take the next big step, "whether it's expanding their operations, reaching new customers, or investing in their futures," were Attuned Relationships and Aizadfood.

The third grant, facilitated in partnership with Addison Marketing Solutions, is the Media Grant, which helps local businesses "elevate its marketing and reach new audiences." This boost went to Aurora Family Martial Arts.

"One of the greatest privileges that we have at the Chamber is the opportunity to recognize and support the incredible businesses in our community," said Mumford. "It's not every day that you get to hand a cheque to help bring their ideas to life. Behind every business is someone who has taken a risk, worked incredibly hard, and believed in what they're building. Being able to play even a small part in their success is something we're incredibly proud of. And we're excited to see what these businesses accomplish next."





Newmarket-Aurora MPP takes on key role on A.I. in Ontario

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Ontario Legislature resumed last week and Newmarket-Aurora MPP Dawn Gallagher Murphy returned to Queen's Park with a new role: Parliamentary Assistant to the Associate Minister of Artificial Intelligence Adoption.

The new role is certainly in the wheelhouse for MPP Gallagher Murphy after she introduced a motion in the Legislature back in 2024 related to the "ethical and transparent use of AI" in government, a motion which found widespread support across party lines.

Looking ahead to her new role, Gallagher Murphy told The Auroran she was "extremely excited" about the task ahead and was eager to get started.

"I think it's important when we talk about protecting Ontario, AI has to be a part of it because we're protecting Ontario's digital sovereignty," she says. "Ever since [the motion came forward] I have been working on AI initiatives, specifically in my last portfolio in long-term care, because in healthcare there's so much happening."

The Ministry's role, she says, will include moving a number of programs forward from the pilot stage to a point where they can scale up to the next level.

"Since 2023, the government has invested $214 million that has been committed to the Critical Technologies Initiative program. I find this very exciting because since 2023, when we look at the numbers, we've managed to retain and create over 65,000 jobs and train over 14,000 really highly skilled workers…. It has also led to the generation of 700 new intellectual properties in this Province."

Two years is a long time in politics, and it's an even longer time in the world of AI, where advancements have been rapid and continuous. Through that lens, Gallagher Murphy says it's key to stay on top of technology as "AI is basically improving and upgrading itself almost every single day."

"This is a brand-new Ministry, so we're going to be setting the course and I'm looking forward to working with the Minister on that," she says, noting the digital sovereignty will be integral going forward, along with developing high-paying skilled jobs.

A prime example of that, she added, was last month's announcement of Audacity North, a new med-tech incubator that, in partnership with York University and the Schulich School of Business, will take root in Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville.

While this is just one leap forward, there remain concerns within the community on many fronts when it comes to AI, including the retention of existing jobs and the environmental impact of data centres.

"We've come out with our first initial version of a data centre playbook. There will be no tax dollars, basically, to incentivize data centres to come into Ontario. However, we do believe that there is a place. We do believe because they're already here in Ontario [and] we want to focus on ensuring that the energy that is required for those data centres, the taxpayer will not have to pay anything more or have their rates increase because of data centre usage. They have to obviously secure and be paying for that energy," she says, adding there have been recent talks with the Great Lakes Legislative Caucus about how data centres could impact water.

"At the end of the day, there is technology out there to allow these data centers to stay cool without utilizing the water in the Great Lakes. Technology is always advancing. I do see our government working with those businesses who want to bring a data center here, but doing it, obviously, very respectfully to respect the taxpayers because we don't want any increases. But at the same time, we want to ensure that there's opportunities because the need is going to just grow for the amount of data that is required, especially when it comes to generating AI that will give us those things that we do want: higher quality potential care in the life sciences…but also to make things more efficient for workers.

"I think it is also important for us to educate our younger population to understand that this is going to be an opportunity to help them be more efficient in the jobs of tomorrow. That, to me, means not replacing their jobs, but ensuring that they have the skill sets to be able to work with AI technologies. When they're working with AI technologies, this is the future. They are going to become more efficient and it's going to be amazing to see what can be achieved."

New bylaw regulating dust clears Council

From page 17

Ward 1 Councillor Ron Weese said he had had resident feedback as well since Council's first sweep of the matter in the first half of the month, many of which were outlined by Councillor Kim.

Councillor Weese asked the Bylaw department about mitigation strategies that can be put in place to keep dust to a minimum.

"Wet cutting is part of those suggested measures," said Bylaw Manager Alexander Wray on some of the best practices. "The added step of going further to HEPA filters generally falls under provisions that the Ministry of Labour would enforce and those are related to employees and workplace safety matters. To impose that standard would be something we would look at, but I would suggest even with the way the Bylaw is written right now, it would not necessarily be the be-all and end-all solution. We just need to be mindful that imposing that additional standard, we're also asking our residents and business owners, because the bylaw is applicable to both homeowners and businesses to potentially incur additional costs."

Weese said he was less concerned about the additional costs than the health and safety of residents "as construction is going on next door."

"This allows us to look at other methods to try to respond to the complaints that we have," he said. "I'm in favour of the bylaw as well."

Support also came from Ward 3 Councillor Wendy Gaertner, Ward 5 Councillor John Gallo, who said he recently saw construction work generating considerable dust at Thomas Coates Park, and Mayor Tom Mrakas, who highlighted the importance of Bylaw responding to these concerns in a timely fashion.



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Already in the holiday spirit? Sign up for the Deck the Halls Tour

BY BROCK WEIR
EDITOR
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Halloween is now in the books, and some have already turned their attention towards the holiday season.

If you've already started decorating your home for Christmas and the winter holidays, the Town of Aurora wants to hear from you.

The Town is inviting residents and local businesses to participate in the annual Deck the Halls Tour, "a treasured holiday tradition that showcases the creativity and festive spirit of our residents."

Aurora's Deck the Halls Tour is a drive-by tour that goes from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. from December 6 to 23. Houses or businesses will showcase their lights and festive decorations.

Register your home or business to participate in the tour at aurora.ca/DeckTheHalls. The first 20 homes to register will receive a gift card from Aurora Home Hardware. Some conditions apply.

If you're not decorating your home and business, that doesn't mean you can't participate. You will have your chance to vote for your favourite tour location, with a top prize being awarded for Best Decorated Home or Business, and Honourable Mentions.

For more information, visit aurora.ca/DeckTheHalls.

From Big Ideas to Bold Action: Aurora CNX Returns to Fuel Aurora's Innovation Ecosystem

CONTRIBUTED

On November 19, the Town of Aurora will host its signature innovation and entrepreneurship event, highlighting the newly launched Audacity North project and creating new opportunities for founders, innovators and business leaders to connect, collaborate and grow.

Aurora CNX is more than a networking event. It is a place where ideas are challenged, refined and strengthened through conversations with people who have the experience, expertise and connections to help move them forward.

"Communities grow when people are willing to think big, take risks and work together," says Mayor Tom Mrakas. "Aurora CNX creates opportunities for entrepreneurs and innovators to connect with leaders who can help accelerate their ideas. We're excited to showcase how the conversations that started last year have evolved into Audacity North and inspire the next generation of innovation."

The evening will feature the story behind the recently announced "Audacity North" a plan for the creation of Canada's largest MedTech innovation hub; in partnership with Megalab, The Schulich School of Business, and YSpace (York University).

This will be followed by interactive "collision stations", designed to foster practical conversations, new partnerships and future opportunities.

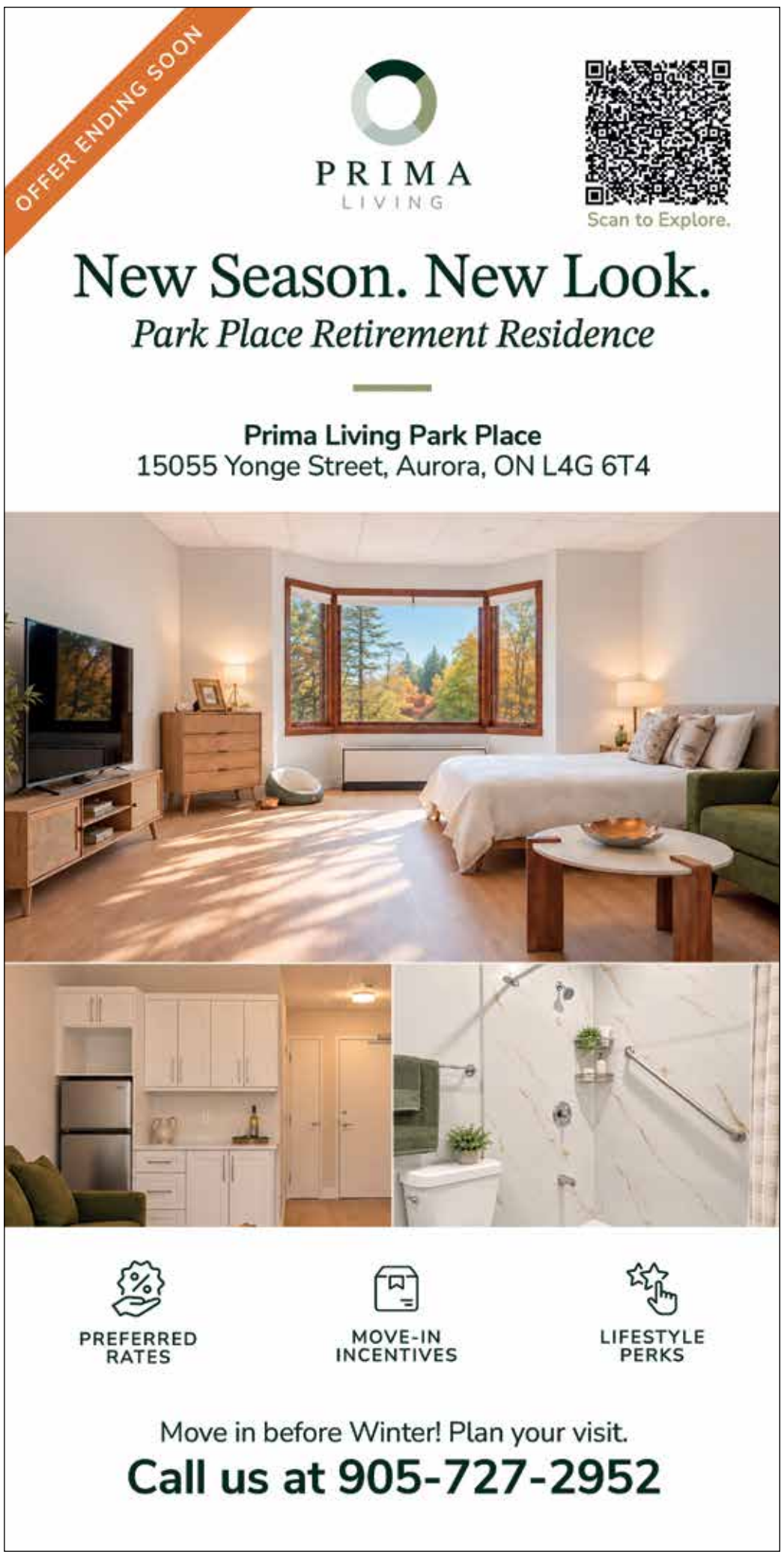
Whether launching a start-up, scaling a business, exploring a new concept or looking for fresh perspectives, Aurora CNX brings together people from across sectors who share a common goal: turning potential into progress.

Event Details
Aurora CNX 2026
Thursday,
November 19, 4 to 7 p.m.
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The event is free to attend and welcomes businesses and entrepreneurs at every stage of their journey.

To register, please visit: aurora.ca/CNX.





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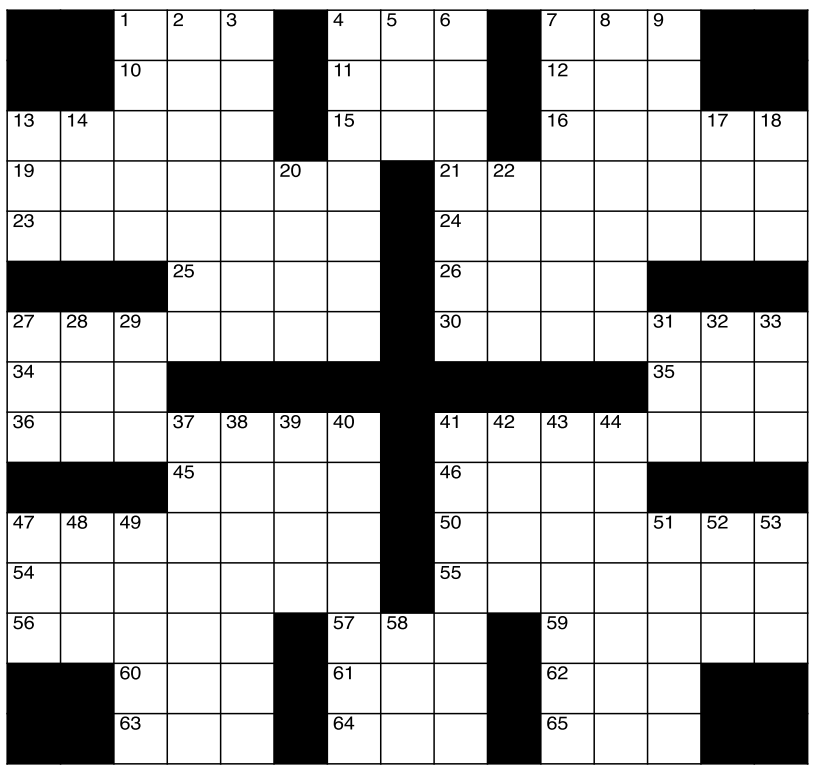
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Tire pressure metric
4. Request
7. Clairvoyance
10. 007's creator Fleming
11. Male adult
12. Norse mythological figure
13. Coffin cloths
15. Breeze through
16. Ladyfish genus
19. We all take them
21. Nobleman's jurisdiction
23. Members of U.S. Navy
24. Rummy-like card game
25. Unable to move
26. Type of horse
27. Parted
30. Woman's cloak
34. South American plant
35. Prohibit
36. Something one takes
41. Dish detergent manufacturer
45. Romanian river
46. Personification of pity
47. Makes upset
50. Discuss again
54. Medical instrument
55. Support
56. Informal term for money
57. Catch doing something wrong
59. Prehistoric people
60. Large African antelope
61. Automobile
62. "Losing My Religion" rockers
63. High-resolution scientific instrument
64. A major division of geological time
65. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

1. Indoor plant
2. Fit to be sold
3. Rather
4. Collected
5. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
6. Irish rap group
7. Ageless
8. Lists indicating curriculum
9. Pokes at
13. Public television station
14. They __
17. Cooking tool
18. Separately managed account
20. Iron-containing compound
22. Swiss river
27. Former French coin
28. Electronic countermeasures
29. Taxi
31. Helps little firms
32. Unhappy
33. Midway between northeast and
37. Glowing
38. Lists of items to be discussed
39. An informal body of friends
40. Indispensable quality
41. Neural structures
42. Brews
43. A place to dock
44. Festive singer
47. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
48. Northernmost point of mainland Wales
49. Most worthless parts
51. Type of "bear"
52. Take or consume
53. Defunct European organization
58. Swiss river

Aurora expands CityView Portal with online licensing applications

The Town of Aurora is making it easier for residents, applicants and businesses to access municipal services with the expansion of licensing applications through the Town's online platform, called CityView.

Through the expanded online service, users can apply for a variety of municipal licences and permits, upload required documents, make payments and track the status of their application online, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For many licensing transactions, applicants can now complete the entire process without having to visit Town facilities or make an in-person appointment.

Licensing applications available through the CityView Portal include Sign Permit Applications, Refreshment Vehicles, Driving School Instructors, Taxi and Limousine services, Places of Amusement, Mobile Sign Installers, Second Hand Goods, Salvage Yards and Pawn Shops, along with many other licensing application services. Registered users can also submit By-law complaints through the portal.

"Making Town services easier to access is an important part of how we continue to modernize and improve the way we service our community," said Mayor Tom Mrakas. "Expanding CityView gives residents and businesses the flexibility to apply, pay and track their applications online, on their own time, while making the process simpler and more transparent from start to finish."

The portal provides real-time updates on application progress, reduces paperwork and streamlines the overall application process. Many transactions can be completed in just a few minutes, from wherever it is most convenient for the applicant.

Municipal licensing plays an important role in protecting the public and maintaining community standards. Licensing helps ensure applicable businesses and services meet municipal requirements, obtain required training, operate safely and responsibly, manage occupancy where applicable, and minimize impacts on surrounding properties. It also provides the Town with a framework to regulate businesses and address concerns when issues arise.

To access the CityView Portal and explore available online services, visit aurora.ca/CityView.

THiNGS... *you ought to know*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Trinity Anglican Church, Aurora, will host its annual Trinity Christmas Market today from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 79 Victoria Street, Aurora. Featuring artisan vendors, specialty coffee in their cafe, a silent auction, children's face painting, premium fashions from the Clothes Closet, a bake table and more. A hot and cold luncheon will be available from 11 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Come join us and get warmed by the Magic of Christmas.

* * * *

Aurora Historical Society's Intimate Concert Series continues this evening, starting at 6.30 p.m. at Hillary House. The Intimate Concert Series brings exceptional live music into the historic Hillary House Ballroom, where audiences can experience classical performance in a uniquely close-up and welcoming setting. The violin-piano duo Gemmell & Smith bring their dynamic, emotionally rich chamber music to Hillary House in November. Violinist Corey Gemmell and pianist Benjamin Smith are known for their virtuosic technique, interpretive depth, and engaging rapport with audiences. Tickets are $75 per person and available at aurorahs.com.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

The aurora Community Band hosts its Annual Holiday Market today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Trinity Anglican Church, 27 Victoria Street, Aurora. Free Entry. Music, food, gifts, and more. For more information, visit auroracommunityband.ca or email auroracommunityband@gmail.com.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

The Town of Aurora's Santa Under the Stars Parade returns to Yonge Street tonight from 6 – 8 p.m., travelling south from Orchard Heights Boulevard to Murray Drive. This night time parade is full of magic, with beautifully decorated floats, incredible marching bands and a few special guests including the Jolly man-in-red himself. Remember to bring your letters for Santa as Canada Post will be out collecting them before the parade begins. For more information, visit aurora.ca/santaparade.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

FIRESIDE HOLIDAY MARKET, second-annual event in support of mental health programs – today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Northridge Community Church, 15338 Leslie St, Aurora, ON. Shop local for gifts, crafts, jewelry & baked goods. Free admission, FREE parking & festive family fun. FREE photos with Santa! @sisterz_co_

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* * * *

Support AbuseHurts' Delivering Hope Full Circle Program textile recycling and donation program. 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 at occasional pop-up sales; 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, every week, 10:30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m., with 15-minute time slots, and Wednesdays from 10.30 a.m. to 3 p.m. with 15 minute timeslots. If you do not have an appointment, we cannot accept your donation. Visit AbuseHurts.ca to select your drop off time slot. Located at 120 Harry Walker Parkway North, Newmarket.

OBITUARIES - FOREVER IN OUR *Hearts*

MARY KATHLEEN ELIZABETH (KAY) VALENTINE



A shining star left the building.

Mary Kathleen Elizabeth (Kay) Valentine chose to take her final bow with her daughter by her side.

Kay was the loving mother of Kim (Paul), Keith (pre-deceased), and grandmother of Brittany (Todd).

Born in Middlesex, England, lived in Ireland and at 13 emigrated with her family to Canada. She became an elementary school teacher and taught in many schools across York Region until her retirement in 1997. A woman of many talents, Kay was an avid bridge player and recently learned to play snooker.

Kay loved community theatre where she excelled as an actor and most recently as a director. She worked with theatre companies in Richmond Hill, Newmarket and her home group Theatre Aurora.

Over the years, she made lifelong friends from all walks of life. She will be missed by so many who will feel her loss deeply.

"May your memory be a blessing to all who knew you"

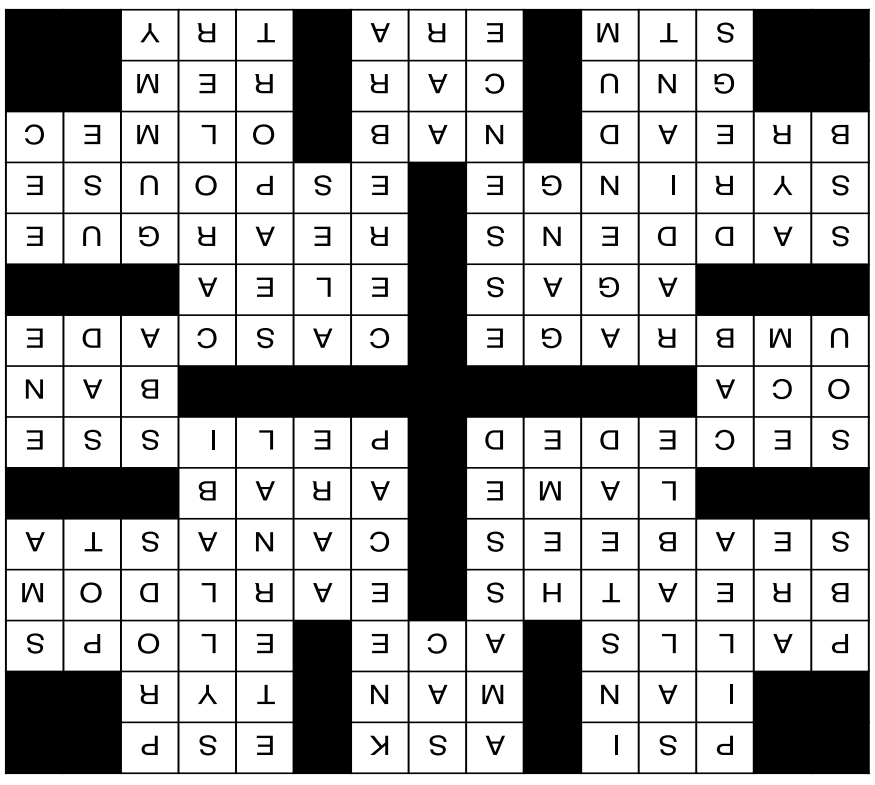
A Celebration of Kay's Life took place on October 25th from 2:00-5:00 pm at Theatre Aurora, 150 Henderson Avenue, Aurora.

At Kay's request, please wear bright colours.

Memories and messages of condolence may be left at www.peaacefultransiton.ca.

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UNITAS • VERITAS • CARITAS

VILLANOVA COLLEGE

GRADES 4-12 CO-ED • KING CITY, ON

VC by the Numbers

600
ENROLMENT

53
ACRE CAMPUS

Grades **4-12**

460+
UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCE OFFERS FOR CLASS OF 2026

&

$2.5 MILLION IN SCHOLARSHIPS

16:1
Average Student Teacher Ratio

100 PERCENT
UNIVERSITY PLACEMENT