

REN OASIS

- Sunrooms
- Large Screens
- Windows/Doors

905-726-4349
www.renoasis.com

NEW DEALS JUST DROPPED!

Check out this week's flyer to access all the savings.



905-727-4751
289 Wellington St. East
L4G 6H6

Come Visit Us!

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

Do It Yourself Doesn't Mean Do It Alone

BUY CANADIAN from Canadians

SHOP

BARRONS

...and Other Canadian Stores

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

THE AUROREDiv>

Aurora's Community Newspaper

TheAuroran.com

FREE

Week of June 26, 2025

PRIDE OF





Aurora was well-represented in Newmarket on Saturday evening as Main Street played host to the annual York Pride Parade. (Pictured Main) The Town's contingent was led by eye-catching balloons in a rainbow of colours. (Inset Left) Among the entertainers was Aurora-based drag queen Athena Vegas. (Inset Right) Ahead of the parade, Mayor Tom Mrakas collected signatures of participants on his Pride shirt. For more on the event, see pages 18 and 19.
Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger



A Trusted Name in Aurora Real Estate

Jeff Gordon
Sales Representative

MAIN STREET REALTY

Direct: 416-712-4071
jeffgordonproperties.com



Service You Can Trust. Since 1924

100 Years

1924-2024
Serving York Region



SUMMER COOL!



DAIKIN

905.727.4258 www.tholiver.com

omars
Shoes & Clothing



BIRKENSTOCK

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

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

Équipe Francobotique stands strong on the world stage representing Canada

BY BROCK WEIR

As Aurora's Équipe Francobotique, an accomplished French-language student team in the FIRST Lego League, settled into the opening ceremonies at this month's WAFFLE International Championships in Worcester, MA, they were amongst their peers from 28

nations – which were name-checked for an eager crowd. Well, with one complication. The Great White North was, for one reason or another, skipped over in remarks. By the end of the event, however, there would be no denying our local Grade 5, 6 and 7 students as they

raised the maple leaf after winning 1st Place in the Robot Performance Award in a very rare perfect score against 108 championship teams from around the globe. "Watching them in the stands, I was so proud of our team, but I was so proud of Canadians because we were

Continued on page 11



Équipe Francobotique recently wowed the world at an international competition.

Contributed photo

HAPPY CANADA DAY

NEW KITCHENS CABINET REFACING

BATHROOMS STONE COUNTER-TOPS BAR UNITS • CLOSETS



905-954-0967

INFO@CABINETMAGIC.CA WWW.CABINETMAGIC.CA

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



Helen and Paul Homes

Helen Avraam Neophytou
Paul Neophytou

ROYAL LEPAGE

Helen@HelenandPaulHomes.com 416-567-3415 Paul@HelenandPaulHomes.com 905-251-8130

THE LIND REALTY TEAM INC.

SERVICE WITH PROFESSIONALISM

LENARD LIND, BROKER OF RECORD

905-841-0000

15105 YONGE ST. SUITE 100 AURORA



KENNEDY STREET WEST AURORA

5200 SF POOL FINISHED BASEMENT



OPEN HOUSE

Sun, June 29 2-4pm — 211 Kennedy Street W. Aurora. Masterpiece Stone & Brick builders own home! 11 ft — 22 ft ceilings! Plank Floors on 3 levels! Open Concept Plan! 4+1 Bedroom with ensuite & custom organized closets, professional finished walk-up lower level with nanny or granny suite, gym, rec room and 3pc/2pc washrooms and two separate entrances! Upgrades galore! Inviting inground pool and professionally landscaped!

\$3,998,888

THE VILLAGE SHOW STOPPER

FINISHED WALK-UP BASEMENT



Wow Simply Sensational new build! Soaring 11 ft ceiling grd fl! 10 ft 2nd fl & bsmt! Hwd plank! 'Open concept' plan! MF den! 'Gourmet' Chef's centre isld kit w/quartz counters & butler's pantry! Huge finly rm /w custom gas fp & palatial windows. Primary brm /w enticing ensuite & organized his & hers walkin closet! Ensuite baths & organized walkin in all bdtrms! Bright prof finished 'open concept' lower level walkup basement /w inlaw potential!

\$2,998,888

60 FOOT LOT! 4+1 BEDROOM!

RENOVATED! FINISHED BASEMENT!



It's a beauty! In Demand Southwest Aurora location steps to park and nature! Updated centre island kitchen with quartz counters! Kitchen 'open' to spacious family room! Updated baths! Updated hwd laminate - vinyl floors! Fresh modern decor! Prof finished lower level recreation room, play room, 5th bedroom/Den and 2pc bath!

\$1,588,000

5205 10TH SIDEROAD, INNISFIL

HIGHWAY 89 TO 10 SDRD 4.17 ACRE BRICK DUPLEXABLE BUNGALOW



Sat, June 28, 2-4pm - 5205 10th Sdrd, Innisfil! Value here! 100ft frontage and widens to 186 ft at rear with trail! Full brick raised bungalow well kept by original owners! 3 bedrooms up - stone fireplace - sep dining room - big kitchen! Bright walkout lower level with separate entrance almost 2 bedroom in law suite, just need kitchen!

\$998,888

Aurora marks National Indigenous Peoples Day



National Indigenous Peoples Day was marked at Town Park on Saturday morning with a number of activities designed to showcase tradition – and how tradition relates to the future. Leading the morning in storytelling was Traditional Anishinaabe Grandmother Kim Wheatley (top left), while (top right) Mayor Tom Mrakas addressed the audience. (Middle Row) Several additional activities were also on offer, including water wishes, led by Ally, and a story walk led by Emily. (Third Row) Lily and Olivia participated in crafting. Elisa, Emily and Lisa kept the event going.

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger

Art Yard

Summer Camps

@Aurora Cultural Centre

CREATIVE ADVENTURES FOR AGES 4–12

Looking for an engaging, inspiring, and fun way to keep your kids busy this summer? Look no further! The Aurora Cultural Centre’s Summer Camps are back—and more exciting than ever. Led by professional artist educators, each week features hands-on activities in visual arts, music, theatre, and more—all in a safe, supportive environment that nurtures creativity and builds confidence.



Aurora Cultural Centre

**PERFORMING ARTS
GALLERIES
EDUCATION**

Junior Art Yard (Ages 4–7)

Weeks 1–8 | Full-day camps
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Designed for budding young artists, these playful camps include drawing, painting, mixed media, and creative crafts.

Senior Art Yard (Ages 7–12)

Weeks 1–8 | Full-day camps
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

For older campers ready to go deeper, explore advanced techniques, concept development, and collaborative projects with artist mentors.

Weekly Themes

Week 1: July 2–4 (Short Week)
The Wonderful World of Nature & Animals

Week 2: July 7–11
Artistic Imaginations

Week 3: July 14–18
Art & Science Fusion

Week 4: July 21–25
Eco-Art

Week 5: July 28–August 1
Art Through the Ages

Week 6: August 5–8 (Short Week)
Visual Art & Music Harmony

Week 7: August 11–15
Famous Artists & Their Styles

Week 8: August 18–22
Now Streaming: Animation

Pricing

Full-week camps: \$280
Short weeks (Weeks 1 & 6): \$224

Register Now

Spots fill fast—secure your child’s place today!

auroraculturalcentre.ca/summer-camps

Climate Action group calls on Aurora to push back on Bill 5

BY BROCK WEIR

Local climate activists are calling on the Town of Aurora to push back on the Ontario Government’s controversial Bill 5.

Formally entitled the Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act, the contentious piece of legislation is ostensibly designed to foster the economy and the development of homes, but critics say it removes critical protections for the environment while associated legislation may dilute the planning authority of local municipalities.

While the legislation has already been enacted through Royal Assent, advocates recently called on the Town of Aurora to push back against the Bill, citing that similar actions have caused the government to backtrack on other matters.

Delegating to this month’s Committee of the Whole meeting was Kathy Duncan of Climate Action Newmarket-Aurora.

Duncan said that following Royal Assent, legal action will be coming forward to protest the Bill and, similar to some backtracking on legislation related to the Greenbelt, such a push-back could prove effective.

“What it will impact is our right to shape our communities, to protect our lands, our water, our wildlife, and to be heard,” said Duncan. “Bill 5 is not just about speeding up mining projects – that’s only six of its 220-plus pages.... Bill 5 provides the framework to overrule any and all provincial legislation and create special economic zones, which can be anywhere: the Greenbelt, Oak Ridges Moraine, or Provincial Parks like Algonquin, and with legal disclaimers built into the

Bill such that there can be no recourse before, during or after any of the special projects.

“Bill 5 actually guts environmental and endangered species protections, leaving in place a vague conservation plan where added dollars are pointless given the reduction of species protections. As noted by Ontario Nature, it’s like bringing a bucket to a wildfire. At the hearings, nature groups pleaded endangered species are not a Jenga game. Even removing one could cause the entire system to fail. Bill 5’s gutting of the term ‘habitat’ essentially means this: You’re safe in your bedroom, but not your kitchen, your yard or your local grocery store. And once you’re out of the bedroom, that’s it. It’s like walking out of emerg with no recovery plan. Even fresh water is no longer a guaranteed protection.”

At hearings related to the Bill, Duncan said mining and energy companies noted that special economic zones were not needed and there was an appetite amongst them to keep in place strong environmental standards “to protect Ontario’s credibility internationally and their partnerships with First Nations communities were essential to their success.”

“We also heard Indigenous leaders say clearly they want to be at the table from the start, which they were not,” she said, noting the meeting that evening began with a land acknowledgement specifically citing the Chippewas of Georgina Island, the closest First Nation to Aurora.

“Bill 5 allows for ministerial zoning orders and special economic zone exemptions, which would override local planning. This includes the Town of Aurora’s Official Plan that’s already been signed off. There’s been

significant community consultation for that Plan, and essentially the Province could come along and completely annihilate it. Bill 5 could also allow the Province to force the Town to service growth areas that are not currently in capital budgets, burdening future taxpayers beyond current forecasts. It will strain water, wastewater, transit and road infrastructure. Within the 2024 Housing Needs Assessment, the Town notes that when done properly and regularly, housing needs assessments allow a community to answer fundamental questions, including how we can set meaningful housing targets and measure progress to support the right kind of housing for all residents. The provisions in Bill 5 risk this and are potentially at odds with Canada’s housing plan.”

Duncan noted her organization delegated to Newmarket Council on June 2 where Mayor John Taylor committed to sending a letter to the Province outlining concerns with the legislation and encouraged Aurora Council to follow suit.

Local Councillors, however, largely agreed that they need further information on the impacts the Bill will have on communities like Aurora before articulating their concerns to the Ontario Government.

“Mayor Taylor sent a letter to the Province outlining concerns, not opposition... and I agree with his sentiment that the Bills are complicated, they’re massive bills, they have a lot. There’s a lot of good stuff in it and there’s some stuff that there’s some concerns...” said Mayor Tom Mrakas. “We don’t have all the details. We understand the high-level of what the bills are suggesting...but they haven’t provided the details of what

they’re actually going to be enacting. We need to know the details before we actually come out and say whether we’re in favour, or opposed, or whether we have concerns.”

A similar perspective was offered by Ward 2 Councillor Rachel Gilliland, who said issuing a “blanket statement” on the entire Bill would be “ill-informed.”

“I’m sure there’s some good components to it with some good intent, but I think it’s safe to say that there are some things about it that are concerning,” she said, adding she would have liked to have seen more consultation before the Bills were passed.

NORTH YORK
HEATING, PLUMBING &
ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES

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

Tel: 905-727-6401 8 Industrial Pkwy. S.
www.nyhp.on.ca Aurora, Ontario

2025 ELEVATED LUXURY DESIGN

SPECIAL PROMOTION

Unlock an Additional 5% Rebate on Every Unit - Up to \$50,000 in Value!

Terms & conditions apply

BUILDING FEATURES AND FINISHES

- LUXURIOUS ROOF TOP TERRACES WITH BBQ STATIONS
- HIGH SMOOTH CEILINGS

- HARDWOOD FLOORING
- FLOOR TO CEILING WINDOWS
- PREMIUM 6-PIECE APPLIANCES
- SMART HOME SYSTEM

- 15 COMMERCIAL UNITS
- PREMIUM GOLF COURSES
- 5 STAR 2-STOREY RESTAURANT WITH 1,000 SF OUTDOOR PATIO

- WALKING DISTANCE TO GO STATION
- MINS TO HWY 400/404/407
- PARKING & LOCKERS

SALES CENTRE 18 Doctors Lane, King City • 437.882.5464

NOW SELLING - CLOSING 2026

KINGHEIGHTS.CA

DARYL KING
Sales Representative
905.907.5464
homes@darylking.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Readers support
Councillor’s motion
for 0% tax increase

First off, I welcome Councillor Gallo’s recent Motion not to increase property taxes 2.9% (or approximately \$1.7M on \$60M operating budget), in 2026, based upon the simple awareness of the economy and its outlook, alone.

There are also plenty of other legitimate reasons to reduce spending at this juncture, if Council directs staff accordingly.

Secondly, in response to the Mayor’s June 12 comments on the topic of a 0% tax increase, I RESPECTFULLY find them inaccurate and hypocritical. Therefore, I accept the opportunity to challenge these comments during a public discussion, preferably to be held in September (after summer vacations), so that these comments can be clarified, verified and challenged, as required, by the taxpayers.

Additionally, in last week’s paper, the Mayor was quoted as saying “I have no intentions of reducing service levels in 2026” while knowing that the results of the Town’s recent Budget Survey are not yet known and Question 7 specifically asks, “If you would like to reduce any existing service levels, for which services would you like to see a reduction?”

Participants are provided with a list of 14 different services, however, they can only select 3 for reduction.

Mayor Fact Check: Yes, the Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund is used to lower taxes, by deferring tax rate impacts and paying operating budget deficits, at year end. It can also be used to pay for salaries and benefits of staff. By-law 5553-13. Current posted balance, dated Dec 31,2023 = \$ 6,405,000.

Mayor Mrakas denounced the one-year 0% increase Motion for being a misuse of Reserve Funds, unsustainable, irresponsible, artificial and a threat to service levels. I disagree, after reading many budget documents. Therefore, instead of speaking in general terms and fear mongering over decaying infrastructure let’s simply reveal the facts and then discuss them respectfully and openly in order that everyone can make a more informed decision.

Who would oppose such a democratic and transparent process, if there is nothing to hide? A confident Budget team should welcome such an opportunity to reveal why they chose to create \$12.2M in new long-term debt this year (with York Region at 4.75% interest rate for \$8.2M of the cost of the new gym and \$4M for the extra cost of Town Square) instead of taking it from the \$133M available in the Reserve Funds.

Is new debt fiscally responsible? Sustainable? Artificial? Good planning? Is the budget volatility happening behind the scenes? Was the \$11M gym or \$59.1M Town Square considered critical infrastructure? Did the Mayor take from Peter to Pay Paul? Did he leave us with higher interest cost and drain \$34M from the Hydro Reserve Fund/safety net? Will we pay off this debt from the magical money pot? Did the Town need to cut any services or their existing service levels, this past year? Is the Town continually overspending and overlooking the voice of the people? Does the Town require any new infrastructure or do we have enough? What infrastructure has been ignored and now suddenly requires fixing over the next 10 years and requires an extra \$15M per year?

All of these questions are worthy of discussion especially, in a world where, I believe, trust and democracy are eroding and the largest political “win” at stake in

Machell's Corners



They desire a better country

Who are we as Canadians? It might seem like a simple question at first blush, but the more one thinks about it – and the more we think about it as a collective – the more complex a question it becomes.

Several years ago, while one of our main national parties was in the middle of a contentious leadership race, a middle-of-the-pack contender for the party’s top job suggested that all those looking to secure Canadian citizenship should not only pass the regular questions on a citizenship test – such as those on our structure of government, geography, and the responsibilities that go along with citizenship – but also a test to affirm they share Canadian values.

Again, it seemed like a simple sentiment at the outset, but the deeper people delved into the merits of such a test, or an evaluation at the very least, the more complex, contentious, and ultimately nonsensical the suggestion seemed.

Sure, we as Canadians, have many things in common from coast to coast to coast, but in a Confederation like ours, the devil is truly in the details. What might be a core value for a citizen of Prince Edward Island, for example, might be wildly different from a citizen of Alberta. And this was always the case well before Wild Rose Country renewed their sabre-rattling efforts to divorce the rest of us for an uncertain future.

What it means to be Canadian, and the very idea of Canada itself, has become more overtly complex in recent years, a fact that can be attributed to many factors, including heritage, geography, resources, and sometimes an appreciation of what we aren’t rather than what we are.

Around this time of year, I almost invariably find myself thinking back to 1992, when Canada was celebrating its 125th anniversary as a nation.

While I wasn’t born in time enough to experience what appears to be a near-ecstatic level of patriotism when Canada celebrated its centennial in nation-building projects, Expo 67, and so much more – I’ve had to content myself with second-hand thrills through the memories and memorabilia my parents have shared with me – 1992 comes pretty darn close through my own then-youthful lens.

My elementary school in Newmarket embraced the anniversary wholeheartedly. In fact, much of the lessons and activities Prince Charles Public School offered that year seemed tailor-made to give students – at least those of us in the younger grades – a complete immersion in what was



BROCK’S
BANTER

Brock Weir

considered Canadian culture at the time.

In this environment, not unlike Ontario, Canada was essentially ours to discover.

We had a full menu of electives we could enjoy and there were far too many offerings to sample each and every one. We had to be a bit judicious in what we wanted to fit in. Where to start? Well, our once ubiquitous Heritage Minutes on television gave me a few ideas on where I wanted to start.

I can’t, of course, remember every single option that was available to us, but they offered walking tours of Toronto landmarks – hey, to students living in the ‘burbs, that was a glamorous, exotic, hot-ticket elective – as was a stroll to our local museum to learn about seminal moments in Canadian history that could be traced back to Newmarket in one way or another. There were crafting workshops designed to give us the fundamentals of Laura Secord and what she accomplished during the War of 1812 (some of my peers were quite surprised she was not, in fact, a chocolatier), an afternoon learning some of Canada’s quirkier folk songs (although, in retrospect, most of these were decidedly maritime numbers), a chance to sample some of our national dishes (poutine hadn’t really hit yet in these parts, if memory serves), and an opportunity to pour out some tempera paint and learn the basics of what was presented to us as Indigenous art.

It was a very European-centric view of what it meant to be Canadian 33 years ago, including the art session. It certainly was not led by an Indigenous instructor and to our sensibilities some three decades on, that was not the appropriate approach to take in imparting the characteristics of such traditional art forms.

We, as students, were not yet in a position to know better, yet our teachers were – but, as loath as I am to say about a time period in which I grew up purely due to vanity, it was a different time.

A quarter century on from Canada 125

came Canada 150, an anniversary that was significantly more muted by comparison for many reasons, not the least of which was the fact we are (and were) a nation that was coming to grips on some hard truths about our heritage.

The more we learned, the more that came to light, the more we were forced to challenge some of the idyllic, peaceful, and bucolic notions that were sold to us early on.

It was an uncomfortable process for some, but necessary, and I think we’re collectively stronger for it.

But even today there’s still much we have to do.

Last week, Premier Ford sparked a controversy when, in a press conference on Bill 5 and its impact on First Nations, he said he told his Minister of Indigenous Affairs, “When I first came into office [I said] treat them well, give them what they want, but there is going to be a point where you can’t just keep coming hat in hand all the time to the government. You have to be able to take care of yourselves.”

It didn’t take long for the Premier to apologize for his remarks, unfortunately made just days before National Indigenous People’s Day, an apology which Grand Council Chief Linda Debassinge said felt sincere.

It was something of a tempest in a tea pot, but, in many ways, it was indicative that we, as a nation, still have to travel a fair bit of road ahead.

There is a misconception I’ve never truly understood that recognizing our weaknesses is a weakness in itself. To my mind, recognizing our respective weaknesses – whether as individuals or as a collective – is a really a show of strength as it identifies areas in need of improvement and catalyses us to get off our duffs and do something about it.

It’s there, in my view, where one of Canada’s main strengths lies: our ability to grow and move forward together, always striving to improve and build upon who we are. It’s no accident that the motto of the Order of Canada is “Desiderantes meliorem patriam” – or, “They desire a better country.”

We all do, and it’s an objective we all have a duty to work towards.

We’re going into this Canada Day riding a wave of “Elbows Up” patriotism as we look to a future of strength amid uncertainty. But out of this uncertainty comes opportunity – not only to redefine ourselves on the world stage, but here at home, too, as we look to bolster our domestic bonds in the face of pressures from outside.

Let’s take advantage of it.

THE AURORAN

Aurora’s Community Newspaper

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

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

Founder
Ron Wallace

Publisher Emeritus
Rosemary Schumaker

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

EDITOR Brock Weir brock@lpcmedia.ca	GENERAL MANAGER Zach Shoub zach@lpcmedia.ca	PRODUCTION MANAGER Cynthia Proctor cynthiap@lpcmedia.ca	CLASSIFIEDS 905-727-3300 ex.102 cynthiap@lpcmedia.ca
ADVERTISING Zach Shoub zach@lpcmedia.ca	ADVERTISING Diane Buchanan diane@auroran.com	TODAYS NEW HOMES Zach Shoub zach@lpcmedia.ca	PHOTOGRAPHY Glenn Rodger grodger@rogers.com
ADVERTISING Karen Nemet karen@lpcmedia.ca	MOTORING Heather Erwin heather@caledoncitizen.com	DISTRIBUTION MANAGER Sheila Ogram sheila@lpcmedia.ca	

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada

Funded by the Government of Canada

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

News Media Canada
Médias d'Info Canada

EDITORIAL POLICY

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

ADVERTISING POLICY

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



Aurora’s commitment to recreation began in the 1940s with the formation of the Aurora Recreation Commission under Norman Bretz, later evolving into the Leisure Department, driven by the need for children’s play spaces. As early as the mid-1960s, the Parks Department—closely linked with the Works Department—was dedicated to maintaining and beautifying green spaces. This 1971 photo shows the Parks and Recreation team unveiling the “Toronto Locomotive” plaque, with Councillor Norm Weller (in white cap), a key figure behind “Aurora Canada’s Birthday Town” (2002.15.520). A big thank-you to all who work incredibly hard in the Parks and Recreation Department!

The Aurora Museum & Archives is celebrating... Parks & Recreation Month



Canada Day is a time for all of us to celebrate our great country in all its vast glory from coast to coast to coast.

We owe our deep gratitude to the brave men and women in uniform and especially to the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice for the rights and freedoms that we all enjoy today.

It is because of them that we live in a country that we proudly proclaim the true north strong and free. Whether you walk in a parade, party in one of our parks, celebrate at your cottage or at home, I wish everyone a safe and Happy Canada Day!

I confess that working in our nation’s capital feels like Canada Day every day.

I have focused these first two months on setting up an organizational structure that will best serve our community.

Members of Parliament (MPs) have a dual responsibility. In Ottawa, MPs focus primarily on legislative work. They are the voice of their constituents and must be mindful that decisions they make should be representative of the people in their constituency. In this regard, I have seized the opportunity to stand in Parliament and speak on a variety of issues on behalf of my constituents. This is an enormous privilege and an obligation I have pledged to fulfill every single day.

We live in one of the most diverse communities in Canada. People from over the world have chosen the great municipalities of Aurora and



COSTAS’ CORNER

MP Costas Menegakis
Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill

Richmond Hill as their home. I am honoured to have been appointed to Parliament’s Standing Committee for Citizenship & Immigration.

This is a file I am very familiar with, given my previous experience as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Citizenship & Immigration in the 41st Parliamentary Session.

Additionally, I have focused on setting up both my Constituency Office and my Parliamentary Office. Following a federal election newly elected Members of Parliament are only allotted office resources after a pre-determined period of time has been afforded to the previous MP to return House of Commons inventory and vacate the offices.

This process has taken some time, but I am pleased that both of my offices have now been staffed with qualified people, and we are fully operational and ready to serve.

If you are visiting Ottawa and would like a tour of Parliament Hill or to attend Question Period, my Parliamentary

Office will be pleased to make the necessary arrangements.

My Constituency Office can provide assistance to residents of Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill in accessing federal services. These services include but are not limited to:

- Assistance with Employment Insurance including maternity, parental, and compassionate care benefits
- Assistance with the Canada Child Benefit
- Assistance with Passport Applications
- Assistance with Social Insurance Numbers
- Assistance with the Canadian Pension Plan (CPP)
- Assistance with the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS)
- Assistance with Old Age Security (OAS)
- Assistance with the Canadian Revenue Agency
- Assistance with Immigration and Citizenship services
- Provide certificates of achievement or recognition for special occasions.

We can be reached by email at costas.menegakis@parl.gc.ca or by phone at (905) 773-6818.

Constituency Office
12820 Yonge Street, #102,
Richmond Hill, ON L4E4H1

Parliamentary Office
House of Commons, Wellington
Building, #510, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

In honour of Canada’s upcoming 158th birthday, I thought I’d take a look at what is arguably the most Canadian thing in Aurora; the mural at Yonge and Wellington.

For 24 years it has educated Aurorans and visitors alike with its eclectic mix of historical events (the Gold Rush), trivia (first in donut consumption), scenery (our prairies), sports successes (Barbara Ann Scott), wildlife (Canada geese), and famous Canadians (Mr. Dressup).

Of course, celebrating a country with so much in the way of history, achievements, and outstanding people over the past century and a half (and long before that), and only so much space in which to cram them all in, there will always be arguments over what was included and what was omitted - Rick Hansen over Terry Fox? The Group of Seven over Emily Carr? The snowmobile over Hawaiian pizza? The first CBC announcer over, well ... pretty much anything else?

There’s also the elephant in the room, namely the lack of Indigenous, Black, and other non-white representation. Fortunately, some of this has been in part addressed through the Diversity and Inclusion mural unveiled just south on Yonge Street a few years ago, and the Indigenous-inspired art now gracing Town Park and many of our Bell boxes around Town.

However, despite last-minute efforts that crammed a few more women into the design shortly before the mural was painted, there’s a decided shortage of



INSIDE AURORA

Scott Johnston

Mural Musings

female contributions.

The mural is not perfect, but it is impressive, in part for the quality of the paint, which has stood up to sun, snow, rain, salt and everything else thrown at it over almost two and a half decades. I think I’ve repainted my deck eight times in the same period.

Surprisingly for something that provides a historical perspective on our country, many of the themes that appear on it already seem a bit dated after only 24 years.

The space shuttle, for example, was leading edge technology when the mural was unveiled, but has long since been mothballed.

Our first Prime Minister, John A Macdonald, not only had his named misspelled when the mural was painted (it still is), but has since become much discussed for his role in the Residential School program.

And who would have thought that the

Hudson’s Bay Company (through the depiction of its famous blanket) would after 350 plus years itself have shuttered its doors and become a part of history.

Despite being dated, it’s also surprisingly linked to current events. Apart from the Bay’s recent demise, there was also the recent passing of astronaut and politician Marc Garneau. And who knows, with this month’s announcement of the significant increase in Canada’s military budget, maybe they’ll resurrect the AVRO Arrow program, or at least, afford some new uniforms and equipment for the soldiers represented on the mural.

But in the end, despite potentially showing its age, this artistic endeavor has brought some much-needed colour to our main intersection, inspired some discussions, and shone a light on some lesser-known Canadians, such as Emily Stowe and James Gladstone.

And even after 24 years, if casting a glance at it still evokes a small bit of patriotism that’s a good thing, because as the year has shown us so far, our country could use as much of it as it can get.

Happy Canada Day!

If you’re in Newmarket on Saturday July 5th, I’ll be signing copies of my cartoon books at Coles in Upper Canada Mall from 2-5. Feel free to drop by!

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



Time Travellers Diary

By Jacqueline Stuart

John B.

Intelligent, clear-headed, jolly – and handsome: these were adjectives used to describe John Benson Spurr a few years before he came to Aurora. Actually, more than twenty years before, but let us assume that the description remained accurate.

John B. Spurr (1866–1942) emigrated to Canada from England in the early 1880s, in his late teens.

His career would be in journalism. He worked as a reporter, editor, or publisher (sometimes all three) for the Dundalk Herald, the Creemore Advertiser, the Edmonton Times, the Toronto Junction Leader and Recorder, and the Toronto World. Meanwhile, he married Miss Emma Manning.

Something drew him to Aurora.

He apparently had rather deep pockets and between 1910 and 1912 he purchased at least three parcels of land here. The first was on the west side of Yonge, south of Ransom (more or less where the Highland Green condominiums are now). A residence and a large commercial greenhouse were already in place, and early in 1911 he and Emma moved into Town (they are not known to have had any children). In the 1911 census he was described as a “gardener,” which may not have been strictly accurate, and later that year he sold the greenhouse property.

At just about the time of that sale he bought a lot on Yonge just north of Cousins.

In 1912, he acquired twenty-one building lots lining the south side of Lepper Street (later Hillview), running west from George. The street was not immediately developed; some lots remained vacant for years. In the summer of 1913 Mr. Spurr did arrange for the construction of four identical houses in a row. Two still stand: have a look!

The Spurrs had many interests. They were active in Trinity Anglican Church, the Horticultural Society, the Dramatic Club, and the Choral Society. John B. had a fine baritone voice, played the clarinet, and published a number of songs over the years. He ran for Council four times, losing rather badly each time.

One of Mr. Spurr’s contributions to the Dramatic Club inspired me to take a little time trip. He was painting a drop scene: a painted curtain to be used between acts of a play while behind it the real set or scenery is being changed. I had to press the “invisible mode” button on my time machine: I would have been rather noticeable in the Mechanics Hall with just Mr. Spurr and some other club members present.

In the huge painting nearing completion we were at the top of Pansy Hill (the short steep hill on Tyler) and looking eastward on an autumn day. The view took in three landmarks: the Methodist (later United) church, the belfry of the public school on Church Street, and the spire of the Anglican church. It would have been a lovely scene, even if imaginary, but this was a beautiful painting of our Aurora. As I landed back in the present I wondered: whatever happened to that drop scene curtain?

Back to Lepper Street. The Spurrs moved on to Lepper Street themselves and it was there that Emma Spurr died in 1922, aged fifty-five.

Was Aurora just not the same without Emma? In 1924 John went to Florida for the winter but he never really returned. The 1940 US census gave his occupation as “reporter” but the “unable to work” column was ticked. John B. Spurr died in North Miami Beach in 1942.

As we wrap up the school year and look ahead to the summer months, I want to take a moment to speak directly to all the students in Aurora—whether you’re graduating, moving up a grade, or just catching your breath after a year of learning and growth.

Congratulations on completing another school year! You’ve shown resilience, dedication, and heart—qualities that will serve you well, not just in school, but in every step you take in life.

To our graduates, this is a moment to be proud of. Whether you’re graduating from elementary school, high school, or post-secondary, you’ve reached a milestone that reflects years of effort, growth, and perseverance. The road ahead is full of possibilities. Embrace new opportunities, stay curious, and never doubt your ability to make a difference—whether it’s in your community, your chosen field, or the wider world. Your future is full of promise, and your hometown of Aurora is cheering you on every step of the way.

To all the other students—those finishing up another grade or heading into new classes next fall—



GETTING THINGS DONE

Mayor Tom Mrakas

Message to Aurora Students

this is also a time to celebrate. Every chapter in your learning journey is important. The effort you’ve put in matters.

Take time this summer to recharge, reflect, and enjoy the well-earned break. And come September, return ready to take on new challenges, meet new goals, and continue becoming the best version of yourself.

To the teachers, school staff, and families—thank you. Your encouragement and support have helped shape and guide these students through another year. It truly takes a community to raise and inspire the next generation, and your efforts do not go unnoticed.

On behalf of the Town of Aurora, I want to wish every student a safe, happy, and memorable summer. Enjoy the warm weather, spend time with friends and family, and make the most of everything this season has to offer. And remember—learning doesn’t stop when school ends.

Summer is a great time to explore new interests, volunteer in your community, or simply discover more about yourself and the world around you. Keep striving, keep growing, and never stop believing in yourselves.

Have a great summer, and I’ll see you around Town!

New reporting platform will chart incidents of anti-queer discrimination in York schools

BY BROCK WEIR

A new reporting system will soon launch to track and share incidents of anti-queer discrimination within York Region schools.

The GUARD Platform is an initiative from pflag York Region that has been funded in part through a Rainbow Grant from the Community One Foundation.

Tristan Coolman of pflag York Region says GUARD has been years in the making and will encourage the Boards to take action through a data-driven approach.

Incidents of discrimination can be an opportunity to spur positive action, says Coolman, and the new platform will help identify such opportunities in annual reports based on received feedback.

“This is coming from a place of better identifying those opportunities. We know the opportunities are there just with the stories that have come over to us over the years and continue to come to us today, but if we’re going to be really assessing and providing recommendations to both school boards at a formal level, there needs to be a data-driven approach,” says Coolman. “This is where we’re asking for the community’s support to let us know about what they have reported at both school boards, what the outcomes have been, so that we can actually formally release this as an annual report.

“In terms of the platform and how people can access it, it’s going to be through a number of different

mediums to make it as accessible as possible. Folks can access a website that will go live. They will be able to share with us some initial demographic information and then details of the incident and other particulars that will be necessary. They can also leave a text message of details, they can leave a voicemail, and they can leave an email as well. We’re trying to make this as accessible as possible for people to communicate these incidents in a way that is most comfortable for them.”

Over the years, Coolman says pflag has received a number of examples that related to GUARD’s mandate.

There have been instances of students and parents making the decision to change schools, “and sometimes change school board as well” due to this form of discrimination, says Coolman.

“We are going through the finer detail on the survey tool in particular to make sure that we’re asking the right questions,” he says. “There’s a lot of detail we would like to gather, but we also want to be very mindful of the amount of information that we gather as a volunteer organization and how much we have to sift through. We want to focus on incidents that have already been reported, so it is our expectation of folks [who] use the tool that they’re going to be sharing incidents have been reported. If they still want to share incidents that haven’t been reported, we are interested in discovering why folks have chosen not to report those incidents at school boards and maybe

the factors that prevent them in their perception of why they haven’t engaged with reporting tools at their school boards. That’s going to be important to truly understand.

“The goal here isn’t to intervene in active or past incidents, rather it is to understand what the outcomes have been, or why folks haven’t reported so that we can share that information with each school board. I think it’s going to be incredibly valuable for both school boards. Both of them recently conducted their Every Student Matters surveys as they’re mandated to do by the Province, and particularly there was an internal survey at the York Catholic District School Board where they openly acknowledged they didn’t receive enough respondents from queer staff members and students. It’s not that there aren’t any or there’s a low number of them at York Catholic, but for some reason they didn’t respond to that survey. That begs the question of why didn’t they want to engage with a school board-led initiative like that? Perhaps we’re going to get some additional answers through our survey.”

As this is a first-time initiative for pflag York Region, Coolman says the organization is open to feedback on the platform itself and encourages members of the community to engage.

He says he hopes it turns out to address “a need that perhaps they haven’t even thought they needed with this issue” and that it “galvanizes the community to see that they can

The goal here isn't to intervene in active or past incidents, rather it is to understand what the outcomes have been, or why folks haven't reported so that we can share that information with each school board.

be creative in advocacy efforts but also supportive at the same time in trying to exact change.”

“The success for us is to get the report out and to get community engagement. We would love to see further action at each school board, but that’s really going to be up to them. We can’t force their hand, but we can certainly apply pressure, and that’s what we hope this survey does and the report that will come out in close to a year thereafter. Obviously, the ideal success is that we see rapid and meaningful change at both school boards, but I would, just personally speaking, I don’t know if I can even have full faith in that, because it’s really up to the trustees, it’s up to the decision-makers at both boards to have to want it.

“The report will involve a grade, and I know that school boards are very well-accustomed to handing out grades but not receiving them, so I’m sure they’ll be interested in the grades that they’ll receive, and all from the community themselves.”

ONE STOP SHOPPING

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

CUSTOM NEW KITCHENS

CABINET REFACING

BATHROOMS • STONE COUNTERTOPS

BAR UNITS • CLOSETS

PROUDLY SERVING THE GTA FOR OVER

30 Years

HAPPY CANADA DAY!

PROMO

SAVE

The TAX 13%

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

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM

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

905-954-0967

info@cabinetmagic.ca

www.cabinetmagic.ca

Follow us

100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEE

BUY Canadian

Grade 12 Williams student recognized for human rights work

BY BROCK WEIR

Hamza Khokhawala, a Grade 12 student from Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School, is marking the end of his high school career with significant recognition from the York Region District School Board.

Khokhawala was one of four York Region students to be honoured by the YRDSB with their annual Human Rights Ambassador Award. He was recognized alongside Keyao Tang of Markham, Darleen Julman of Thornhill, and Shariah Golding of Newmarket.

The YRDSB bestows these awards each year in recognition of students who have “made exceptional contributions to advancing the principles of human rights, equality, diversity, inclusion, and/or anti-discrimination in their schools.”

For Khokhawala, it was recognition of a long-held passion.

“Hamza embodies respect, dignity, and justice,” said the Board in Hamza’s citation. “As founder of the Financial Literacy Club at Dr. G.W. Williams, he promotes educational equity by making financial knowledge accessible to all students.

“In Grade 11, he helped develop anti-Islamophobia workshops for Grade 9 and 10 students. Now in Grade 12, he leads the Muslim Student Association (MSA) and co-presides over the YRDSB Regional MSA, mentoring students and advocating for equity. He revived the first in-person Regional MSA meeting since COVID, restoring a vital space for connection. Hamza is also a key planner for Williams’ first-ever Iftar dinner, promoting cultural awareness.

“His leadership is defined by action—creating programs, mentoring peers, and fostering a school culture where all students feel valued and empowered.”

Hamza tells The Auroran that learning he was receiving the award was a “surreal” moment.

Nominated by his teacher, Zahra Murad, with whom he worked closely in getting the MSA up and running, he says he and his peers were motivated to move forward with such an organization because they felt the voices of Muslim students were “not being heard.”

“We wanted to foster a sense of community amongst these people and amongst these students, and collecting the Muslim youth together and have a sense of upbringing that way,” he says. “We created this school board-wide initiative and initially we were very small with three or four executives.”

Things snowballed quickly following an initial rollout of events large and small and, as he prepares to leave for the next chapter of his education, it now boasts a team of 15 leaders.

“Around the school board, we saw disparities in that sense of community,” he says when asked why the MSA struck a such a chord throughout the Region. “When students first see the fact this is like a club they can belong in and see themselves identifying...that grew our reach. There are schools in York Region, in certain places, that don’t have many Muslim people in general, so when you’re in areas where you feel like you’re alone, or you feel there’s no one there who understands you, we were kind of that facet where students who are Muslim could go and find that sense of belonging.

“I think that was a big part of our growth, especially so incrementally after our first event, and after our second event the amount of people just skyrocketed. Initially we had a great network of teachers around the school board who either helped their Muslim student associations, or were Muslim-identifying and had connections to students who are also the same. With teachers, that word of mouth, and... the connections got bigger and bigger throughout.”

Given recent world events, it also



(From Left) Shariah Golding, Keyao Tang, Darleen Julman, Hamza Khokhawala. YRDSB Image

helped create an environment where Muslim students could have a safe place to go as “it’s not easy to do that in schools that don’t have that big of a population.”

Even at Williams, Hamza said there were a few stumbling blocks in getting this off the ground. He recalls finding posters they’d put up to advertise the burgeoning group ripped down, which contributed to a feeling of discomfort.

“We didn’t really know why they did that, but we had our assumptions that maybe their thoughts didn’t align with what we were trying to do and there were moments where some of our executives were like, ‘No, we just don’t feel comfortable because of everything that is going on and we don’t feel like we’re in a safe place to be in a position like this.’ The fact that other students were making these students uncomfortable and [feeling unable] to do something that they were generally passionate about because of their safety and because of their reputation as a whole, it kind of affected me and I was like, maybe something bigger, something more powerful could have a stronger reach, stronger breadth.”

The goal posts of the MSA were

then moved beyond the YRDSB itself to inspire other school boards across the GTA – and beyond – to follow their lead.

As Hamza prepares to leave Williams for McMaster University to pursue business and humanities with the ultimate goal of becoming a public policy or corporate lawyer, he’s looking back knowing that he and the team have left a long-lasting legacy here in York Region both with the MSA and in their efforts to further financial literacy.

“It surprised me how many people were interested in taking it over,” he says of the financial program. “We started finance in Grade 11 and it was just me and my friend originally. Then, my second year in Grade 12, a couple of our friends wanted to join to help us out. Eventually we had a group of five people – but that was worrying because all of us were in Grade 12. We were all graduating, which meant we had no one to hand the club off to after the year. My co-president and I created an application form, posted it, and we had over 25-plus applicants for the positions and we only had four positions. That surprised us because we didn’t think we

Continued on page 21

MAZDA
FIND OUT
EVENT

1.95 %

PURCHASE FINANCING
FOR 36 MONTHS*

+

UP TO A \$1,000

BONUS ON ANY MAZDA ADDED
PROTECTION PLAN ON SELECT MAZDA3,
CX-30, CX-5, CX-70 AND CX-90 MODELS**

+

UP TO A \$3,500

MAZDA BONUS ON SELECT
CX-70 AND CX-90 MODELS^

2025 CX-5 GX AWD

LEASE EQUIVALENT TO

\$110^{††}

/WEEK AT 4.05 % APR

\$221^{††} bi-weekly for 48 months.

\$600 down. Excludes HST.

2025 CX-70 GS-L AWD

LEASE EQUIVALENT TO

\$145^{††}

/WEEK AT 1.99 % APR

\$289^{††} bi-weekly for 36 months.

\$0 down. Excludes HST.

CX-70 Plug-In Hybrid Also Available

2025 CX-90 GS-L AWD

LEASE EQUIVALENT TO

\$148^{††}

/WEEK AT 1.99 % APR

with \$150 down

\$296^{††} bi-weekly for 36 months. Excludes HST.

CX-90 Plug-In Hybrid Also Available

■ Limited time finance offer provided through Mazda Financial Services on approved credit. Representative finance offer based on a new and previously unregistered 2025 CX-90 MHEV Signature model (WXKG85 AA00). Vehicle Price is \$66,847.35. 1.95% finance APR for 36 months. Monthly payment is \$1,913.22, which includes: \$2,195 freight and PDE; \$100 A/C charge; regulatory fees (up to \$12.50); Retailer administration fee (up to \$795); lien registration fees (up to \$58.85, including lien registering agent fee); as well as all other applicable fees, levies and duties (all of which may vary by region and Retailer). 36 monthly payments required. Licence; insurance; registration; and applicable taxes are extra. \$0 down payment or equivalent trade-in required. Cost of borrowing is \$2,028.63 for a total obligation of \$68,875.98. Retailer may sell for less. Retailer order/trade may be necessary (but may not be available in all cases). Conditions apply. Offer ends June 30, 2025, and is subject to change or cancellation without notice. Visit mazda.ca or your local Mazda Retailer for more information. ▲ \$3,500/\$3,500/\$1,000/\$1,000 Event Bonus ("Bonus") is available on new and previously unregistered 2025 CX-90 PHEV/2025 CX-70 PHEV/2025 CX-70 MHEV/2025 CX-90 MHEV models that are purchased or financed/leased (on approved credit) and delivered between June 3 - 30, 2025, from an authorized Mazda Retailer in Canada. Bonus will be applied to the negotiated selling price of the eligible vehicle before taxes and: (i) has no cash surrender or other value; and (ii) cannot be applied to past transactions. Conditions apply. See mazda.ca or your local Mazda Retailer for details. ▲▲ Get a bonus off the purchase of a Mazda Added Protection Plan with the purchase of a new and previously unregistered model between June 3 - 30, 2025, as follows: (i) \$500 Bonus: 2025 Mazda3, CX-5, 2025 CX-30; or (ii) \$1000 Bonus: 2025 CX-70 or 2025 CX-90. The applicable discount will be applied to the selling price of the Mazda Added Protection Plan before taxes and: (i) has no cash surrender or other value; (ii) does not apply to fleet sales; and (iii) cannot be applied to past transactions. Conditions apply. See mazda.ca or your local Mazda Retailer for details. †† Offer available on retail leases of new 2025 CX-5 GX (NX185AA00)/2025 CX-70 MHEV GS-L (X1F85AA00)/2025 CX-90 MHEV GS-L (VX1F85AA00) with a lease APR of 4.05%/1.99%/1.99% and 104/78/78 bi-weekly payments of \$221/\$289/\$296 for 48/36/36 months, the total lease obligation is \$23,533/\$22,560/\$23,271, including down payment (or equivalent trade-in) of \$600/\$0/\$150 and \$0/\$1,000/\$1,000 Event Bonus. First monthly payment is due at lease inception. 20,000 km per year mileage allowance applies; if exceeded, additional 10¢ per km applies for CX-5 (15¢ per km for CX-70, CX-90 models). Offered leasing available to retail customers only. Offers include \$22.50 Tire Stewardship Fee (all models, covering the cost to Mazda Canada of collecting and recycling tires), \$12.50 OMVIC charge, freight and P.D.E. of \$2,195, \$100 Air Conditioning charge (all models), \$1 oil filter fee and \$795 administrative fee. The administration fee is intended to cover various costs, including documentation, processing, administrative, and other expenses related to the purchase, sale, or lease of the vehicle. Offers exclude HST. Licence, insurance, taxes and down payment (where applicable) are extra and may be required at the time of purchase. Retailer order/trade may be necessary on certain vehicles. Offers valid June 3 - 30, 2025, while supplies last. Lease and finance on approved credit for qualified customers only. Offers subject to change without notice. Visit mazda.ca or see your retailer for complete details.



Happy CANADA DAY!



AuroraTransitAutoGlass.com
11 Allaura Blvd #10 Aurora Ontario
905-713-6420 1-888-728-4778



FRANKIE PANINI

ITALIAN
GELATERIA
PASTICCERIA

15117 YONGE ST, AURORA – on the east side of Yonge

Happy Canada Day!



HelenandPaulHomes.com
Helen Paul
Avraam Neophytou Neophytou
Realtor Realtor 905-251-8130
ROYAL LEPAGE CONNECT REALTY, BROKERAGE

Each office independently owned and operated

Call Direct: 416-587-3415
Helen@HelenandPaulHomes.com | Paul@HelenandPaulHomes.com

Proudly serving our community this

CANADA DAY

and every day!

**BUILT STRONG.
BUILT CANADIAN.
BUILT WITH AURORA
HOME HARDWARE.**



289 Wellington Street East L4G 6H6 Aurora | 905.727.4751

*Sending warm wishes
to you on this day!*

Happy Canada Day



Monica Stohr
Sales Representative - Royal LePage
416.618.1714



Happy CANADA Aurora

Canada
From Aurora's L


Wishing you a
Happy
Canada Day





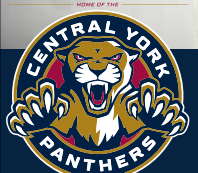
John Gallo
Councillor
johngallo.ca
ward5@johngallo.ca

Registration
closes
July 31ST



Happy Canada Day

...from everyone
at the CYGHA.
We are proud Canadian
female hockey players
representing York Region
in Canada.



CENTRAL YORK GIRLS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
905-727-0269 | info@cygha.com | 14845 Yonge Street, Unit 6 Box 130, Aurora
Office Location: 2nd floor of the Aurora Community Centre
CYGHA.COM | CENTRALYORKPANTHERS.COM



HAPPY Canada Day!



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

Happy CANADA DAY

**Games & Fun
BBQ + PRIZES
Music by
Ainsworth Degrandis 5-7pm**
All Ages Welcome 11am - 7pm



Branch 385
Aurora
105 Industrial Parkway 905-727-5642

HAPPY CANADA DAY!





ALMAC
INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS

HAPPY CANADA DAY!





MD
MCLAREN DOORS

Happy Canada Day



GRAND OPENING of GELATO July 5th

FREE GELATO*

on that day!

*LIMIT ONE PER CUSTOMER

Yonge St. (South of Wellington) at Church St. | 905-727-7666

“Happy Canada Day”

From The Lind Realty Team Inc.





LENARD LIND, BROKER OF RECORD

LENARD@LINDREALTY.CA
905-841-0000

ANAB NSF ONTARIO'S ONLY... ISO 9001 REGISTERED
RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE COMPANY

WWW.LINDREALTY.CA

ANAB NSF ONTARIO'S ONLY... ISO 9001 REGISTERED
RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE COMPANY

15105 YONGE STREET, SUITE 100, AURORA, ON L4G 1M3
(2 Blocks south of Wellington on the East Side)

IEM Basketball

York Region's largest basketball organization for girls & boys. Over 2000+ players & over 175+ coaches. One of the fastest growing basketball leagues in Ontario. Over 150+ teams in Newmarket, Aurora, Keswick, East Gwillimbury & Bradford.



HAPPY CANADA DAY



FALL, WINTER, SPRING & SUMMER PROGRAMS

Register online at www.iembasketball.com
905-836-6195 info@iembasketball.com

MWP

METRO WIDE PAVING



Since 1986

Happy Canada Day!

EAST: 416-757-5997 WEST: 416-626-5675
metrowidepaving.ca

Happy Canada Day



Canada's Birthday Town!

Local Businesses

HAPPY CANADA DAY

Kempfenfelt

WINDOWS & DOORS



STRONG & FREE



HAPPY CANADA DAY!

Raffaella

RAFFAELLA DHINGRA

SALES REPRESENTATIVE
Earning Your Business With Integrity & Professionalism

416 558-7600
rdhingra@royallepage.ca
www.dealwithdhingra.com
Servicing York region Area



HYUNDAI OF AURORA

WEINS AUTO GROUP



Happy CANADA DAY

HYUNDAI OF AURORA
www.hyundaiofaurora.com

(905) 841-8190
305 Wellington St E,
Aurora, ON L4G 6C3





Andrew Cowen



SOLD ON COWEN
A HISTORY OF SUCCESS



Susan Cowen

Wishing you the very best this CANADA DAY



RE/MAX
HALLMARK YORK GROUP REALTY LTD.
Member of the RE/MAX Group of Companies

SoldOnCOWEN.com 905-727-1941

R.E.D.


Remember Everyone Deployed

Join us to send gratitude to those serving us.



Happy CANADA DAY

Brian & Dianne Harrison



AURORA SPORTS HALL of FAME

EST. 2013
Their Legacy. Our Future.

AURORASHOF.CA


PROUDLY CELEBRATING THE SPIRIT OF SPORT, COMMUNITY, AND COUNTRY.


FROM AURORA TO ALL OF CANADA

HAPPY CANADA DAY!






#AuroraONProud #CanadaDay #ASHoF

Happy Canada Day





DAWN GALLAGHER MURPHY
MPP for Newmarket–Aurora
Building Our Community Together

 905-853-9889
 Dawn.GallagherMurphy@pc.ola.org
 dawngallaghermurphy  MurphyGallagher
 Dawn Gallagher Murphy

Canada Day is not just a date—it’s a feeling. A quiet pride in who we are and what we’ve built. It’s the red and white flag waving on a neighbour’s porch. It’s the sound of children’s laughter at the park. It’s the stillness of a moment when we remember how lucky we are to call this land home.

For many of us, Canada has been a place of opportunity. A place that rewards hard work, embraces hope, and invites us to dream bigger—for ourselves and for our children. My own story, like so many others, is shaped by that quiet generosity. And I will always be grateful.

But this year, we celebrate at a time of growing worry. Families are struggling to keep up. Prices are rising, crime is more visible, and far too many are feeling left behind. The need at our food banks, the pressure on our streets—these are not signs of a strong economy. They are reminders that we must do better.

And yet, I believe in Canada. Because I believe in Canadians. I see it in every conversation at a local market, in every small business that opens its doors with hope, and in every volunteer who shows up—not for recognition, but because it’s the right thing to do.

This is who we are. A country built not just by policy, but by principle. Not just by Parliament, but by people.

So, on this Canada Day, let’s not just wave the flag. Let’s live the values it stands for—compassion, responsibility, freedom. Let’s look out for one another. And let’s commit, again, to building a country where no one is left behind.

CANADA DAY

Pancake BREAKFAST

Join MP Sandra Cobena to celebrate Canada Day at Joia on Main.

**497 Timothy Street – Newmarket**

**9:00 – 11:00 AM**

**Tuesday, July 1st**




You’re invited




..to join us for a **Canada Day PANCAKE BREAKFAST** in the heart of Newmarket–Aurora! Enjoy free pancakes, real maple syrup, and great conversation as we gather to celebrate the country we’re proud to call home.

“Bring your family, bring a friend, and let’s kick off Canada Day together in community and celebration.”


RSVP to: sandracobenaeventsrsvp@gmail.com



HAPPY Canada Day



The True North Strong and Free

**COSTAS MENEGAKIS**
MP | AURORA—OAK RIDGES—RICHMOND HILL

Wishing you and yours a happy and safe

CANADA DAY!





MICHAEL PARSA, MPP
Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill

905-773-6250
michael.parsaco@pc.ola.org

Local robotics team making real difference in water health

From page 1

the only team from Ontario there and here was our little team of students up on stage with their Canadian flag held up and proud, presenting to the whole world,” says teacher-coach Renee Northrup. “Everyone was talking about the French team from Canada against students who were all the way up to Grade 10. They’re five years older and in high school and these guys got it done!”

This pride was shared amongst team members on Friday afternoon when they sat down with The Auroran to reflect on their experiences – just an hour before setting out that evening for a celebratory night at Cineplex seeing How to Train Your Dragon.

“It means a lot to come back having first place in a robot match because this is my first year ever doing robotics, and I’m surprised we got this far,” says student Chase.

It shouldn’t come as much of a surprise though for residents – and local sponsors – who have followed the team as they’ve gone from strength-to-strength year over year.

“I’m really proud because it’s really hard to get a perfect score, and it’s [with] 108 teams, so it’s really hard to get first place in a robot game, so I’m really proud,” notes student Patrick.

Each year, students must build a robot that can take on a number of challenges related to that season’s chosen theme: Water.

When asked what helped the team rise to the top, Northrup listed three key attributes: grit, perseverance and hard work.

“These eight kids never gave up,” she says, noting a few of the obstacles they encountered themselves throughout the series of games, including falling just shy of a perfect score in one area when a couple of the krill fell out of the whale their robot was trying to feed. “It was such an accidental thing, but everything went perfectly. We were so proud of them. We thought this would be their maximum score, but the kids were like, ‘Oh, no, we came to this competition with a robot capable of doing a perfect score, we’re going at this again.’ In their very last match, the second last session of the matches before the very end of the international competition, the kids went to the table, just looked at each other and said, ‘You know what? We’re going to do this.’”

“Scott and I, the two coaches, stood there and watched as they got every single mission done perfectly on the table and we had five seconds to spare at the end and watched the other team finish up and we cheered like crazy. We’re super proud of them. They just never gave up.”

Adds student Madeline: “I was like, ‘Yay! We did it! I felt proud of our team for achieving our goal. That’s why we

came to this competition.”

As they celebrated their win in front of the international crowd, Équipe Francobotique also had the chance to let the world in on an innovative solution they presented here in Aurora last month at the Town’s Youth Innovation Fair, which centred on new ideas to monitor freshwater lake health.

“It’s a huge honour to present their innovation project on the main stage during the Closing Ceremonies in front of thousands of people in attendance from 28 different countries, 108 teams and all of their coaches and extras that came to watch them in competition,” says Northrup. “There were also 3,000 people on Twitch that watched them live as they presented on stage.”

“It felt great and I felt nervous at the same time because thousands of people were watching us present our innovation project,” adds Allegra.

In the near future, however, many more thousands might benefit from the innovation project as the team takes it to the next level with a grant through the Learning for Sustainable Future fund and a partnership with the Federation of Ontario Cottagers’ Association to deploy their product – a new kind of buoy – into a lake in northern Ontario.

“Our solution addresses the problem of missing or incomplete water quality data in Canada and worldwide,” explains Chase. “As a solution to this problem, we’ve created Century 226, a low-cost, autonomous, durable, reliable, and multi-parameter water quality measurement system that can be deployed in most freshwater bodies around the whole entire world.”

“What makes our project so different,” Patrick continues, “is that it’s very low-cost so researchers who don’t have much money can buy it and, as it’s autonomous, you don’t need to send a professional researcher in a boat to collect data. They can just take their phone, put it close to the buoy, and Bluetooth connects it to the phone.”

Madeline adds from there the data can be downloaded and sent into an international database.

“The Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association (FOCA) has agreed to not only pay for construction of the buoy, which is quite large, about a metre-and-a-half wide by a metre-and-a-half wide, and they’re actually going to deploy it in August and it’s becoming the major research focus for FOCA for the next two years – their little elementary school project!” says Northrup. “They’ve really revolutionized water quality measurement for Ontario and maybe worldwide once this thing gets deployed because their industry partner is going full ahead and is going to be deploying their idea, which is super-incredible!”



The team is pictured at the Worlds.

Contributed photo

VENDORS WANTED

ORANGEVILLE CITIZEN

HOLLY FEST

A HOLIDAY ARTISAN SHOPPING EXPERIENCE

BE PART OF THE MAGIC

We’re decking the halls and inviting YOU to be part of a magical holiday shopping experience. We’re looking for exhibitors to be part of the Orangeville Citizen’s first ever Christmas show – HollyFest!

This will be a fully decorated event including drapery for each booth, entertainment and even Santa Claus!

Saturday, November 22, 2025 - 9am to 4pm; and
Sunday, November 23, 2025 - 10am to 3pm
Indoors at the Orangeville Fairgrounds,
247090 Side Rd 5, Mono, ON L9W6K5



To apply to be a vendor at the show, scan the QR code or email shows@lpcmedia.ca for a vendor application form.

Deadline for applications is:
August 29th, 2025



OPEN FOR DELICIOUS BUSINESS

On Wednesday, James Griniaris and Kali Petropoulos realized their dream as they formally opened PD Diner on Wellington Street East, just east of Industrial Parkway. PD stands for “Poached Dreams” and specializes in delicious, traditional comfort food. The couple, who moved to Aurora in 2019, are building on the legacy of James’ parents who previously owned a restaurant in North York for more than 30 years, the very business that James was raised in and helped develop his love for the business. Now, they’re picking up where his parents left off – or, as they joke, “poaching their dream.” Don’t worry, at last week’s Grand Opening with Mayor Tom Mrakas and representatives of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, James’ father George was busy in the kitchen, just like he did for all those years! The restaurant is located at 230 Wellington Street East. Pictured here from left to right are Nedra, Shayla of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, Kali, Mayor Mrakas, James, Debra Wilson of the Chamber, and Nakita with little Liam.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger



Hockley

NOW AVAILABLE AT
YOUR LOCAL
CONVENIENCE STORE

HOCKLEYBEER.CA
info@hockleybeer.ca

BUSINESS & FINANCE



Costs of after-hours warming and cooling stations explored by Council

BY BROCK WEIR

As the community looks forward to the end of a heatwave, local lawmakers are considering the feasibility of being able to open cooling and warming stations in future summer and winter seasons.

The move comes on the heels of a motion put forward this past spring by Ward 5 Councillor John Gallo, calling on municipal staff to explore the feasibility of just such a venue within an existing facility, in consultation with the Region of York, as well as for a report back to Council on associated costs and operational requirements.

The resulting report is before Council this month, but Councillor Gallo contends the staff recommendations considered something more elaborate than what he

had in mind.

“Municipal facilities are open for all York Region residents to access air conditioned or heated spaces during operating hours, which may vary by municipal facility,” said staff. “Depending on the facility, access to water fountains, washrooms, computers, telephones and wi-fi may be offered. Currently there are none that operate on a 24-hour basis. Warming and cooling centres do not provide dedicated programming, services or supports for people experiencing homelessness, and are intended to provide respite during extreme weather.

“Consideration needs to be given to what program delivery model the Town of Aurora would use in establishing a 24-hour warming and cooling centre, given there are currently no comparable programs in the Region which blend existing warming and cooling centre functions with emergency and/or seasonal shelter and drop-in functions.”

The report touches upon costs that could be related to providing sleeping arrangements, such as the purchase of cots, food, and in offering medical support.

“Should the Town opt to provide overnight accommodations as part of the 24-hour warming and cooling centre program, it would require additional resources to provide accommodations, including storage, overnight staffing, and security, along with bedding, meals, or other basic needs typically offered at emergency and transitional housing facilities and drop-in programs.”

Offering these services, staff note, could entail overtime costs for staff.

These services, however, are beyond what Councillor Gallo said envisioned

when Council approved his motion.

“I can sense when staff is not necessarily in favour of a particular initiative or project, and to me this is one of those exercises,” said Councillor Gallo. “It was supposed to be a feasibility study, and maybe I miscommunicated in terms of the scope of it [but] it was never my intent, and I’ll call it a high-level service.

“What I was looking for was an ability, under extreme circumstances, particularly in the winter, for anyone, a place to stay warm between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., which is when our facilities are closed – not meal services, not three or four staff, not even cots; an ability for someone who is in the cold to be able to have a warm place in one of our facilities, either the Seniors’ Centre, the Dome, or one of our other facilities. That was the intent I was trying to accomplish, not full-service.”

He added he didn’t disagree when the report noted that these services fall under the purview of the Region of York, but said more was needed in the face of extreme weather events.

“At 11 p.m. when [municipal facilities] are closed, they have nowhere to go,” Councillor Gallo continued. “I sure certainly am not in favour of spending \$170,000 for this, notwithstanding the importance of it, and let’s not forget someone in our community passed away from the cold this past winter in our border. So, if that’s not motivation enough to try to do something and not rely on upper tier governments to the extent we can, and to the extent that the taxpayers are okay with doing this type of thing, I’d like to propose a pilot project for this winter. We pick a facility...and let’s see how it goes with very minimal staff, and perhaps we can even

get some volunteers to reach out to various service groups.”

Ward 3 Councillor Wendy Gaertner offered a similar viewpoint.

She said she voted for the initial motion with something very specific and simple in mind: a place where people can go if it’s cold and, for whatever reason, find themselves without power.


She cited one instance this past winter meeting a senior couple warming up at the Aurora Public Library when their neighbourhood lost power.

“I am hoping we can provide something for anybody in Aurora, if they’re cold – and, in fact, I think the heat kills more people than the cold and we are going to have some very warm summer days with climate change,” she said. “It’s already started and there just should be a place where the people that we are supposed to [take care of] can go.”

Added Ward 1 Councillor Ron Weese: “I believe we should be helping the most vulnerable and, of course, keep any tragedies from happening in those severe weather events, but I think this is far too much. We have to be conscious of our expenditures, and I think as Councillor Gallo suggested, there’s a simpler way to go about this.

“I agree...we should have a pilot process looking at the simpler way to do it and using our existing facilities and resources rather than assigning cots and food and Wi-Fi and a variety of other things.”

Council is expected to green-light a further motion this week calling for a further report by September on a pilot project involving a warming centre within an existing municipal facility for the 2025-2026 winter season.



DAMIR VRANCIC
LAW OFFICE

BUSINESS LAW,
REAL ESTATE,
WILLS & ESTATES

905-841-6411

Providing valued and trusted
legal advice since 1983

Chamber grants could help take your small business to the next level

BY BROCK WEIR

If you’re a small business looking for a boost to take things to the next level, the Aurora Chamber of Commerce’s 2025 Small Business Grants could lend a helping hand.

The Chamber is accepting applications for their Rise Up, Scale Up, and Media grants now through August 29.

Five businesses will be recognized by the Chamber with grants this year – with the Rise Up and Scale Up Grants providing grants of \$2,500 each for four individual businesses, while a Media grant will entail \$5,000 in services from Addison Marketing Solutions to help one winning business develop their websites, social media profiles, and more.

“I think we’re entering a time where every little bit of help is going to be welcomed,” says Debra Wilson, Interim President of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. “The uncertainty with what we’re facing right now with the economy, with some people suggesting we might be heading into a recession, I would say [businesses should] use every tool in your toolbox. If there are grants available, you should be applying. You should keep all options open...because, as we all know, it’s uncertainty that creates chaos for business and we’re in a moment of uncertainty right now.”

This year’s two Rise-Up grants are available for businesses generating revenues under \$50,000 and be a for-profit business operating within Aurora for less than two years and considered in the “start-up” stage.

Businesses considering applying for the Rise-Up grants must have a “clear mission and purpose,” says the

Chamber, along with demonstrating “a clear need for funding and how the grant funds will be used.” Businesses must also demonstrate how the grant funds will have a positive impact on the business community and the broader community.”

The two ScaleUp grants this year are designated for businesses generating revenues between \$51,000 and \$200,000, with at least one employee or contract equivalent employee working for the business. Successful business applicants will need to have been in operation for at least two years, and also have a clear mission and purpose, and a demonstrated need for the funding.

The Media Grant, sponsored by Addison, will be awarded to a for-profit business that generates revenue up to \$200,000, and be able to demonstrate a clear need for the services Addison can provide.

“Addison Marketing has come back again with a very generous media grant where they can help a small business with their website, their social media, anything in that realm that Addison can help them with, they’re prepared to help those businesses,” says Wilson. “Last year, Eric Harbottle from Addison Marketing said that he really, really enjoyed the experience and was able to make a big difference in the company that won last year.

“We’re really looking forward to helping these five businesses that will be eligible and qualify.”

For more on the grant program, including a full list of eligibility criteria, and how to begin the application process, visit www.aurorachamber.on.ca/grants.

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



Contact me for an auto insurance quote today.



Richard Gong, Agent
905-727-6333





Partners in Your Business

ROBERTS & COMPANY
Chartered Professional Accountant

Call us at **905.727.8046** or visit www.robertscpa.ca

Nominees announced for Aurora Chamber’s 2025 Business Excellence Awards

Chamber of Commerce celebrates 45th anniversary this year

BY BROCK WEIR

The countdown is on for one of the year’s most celebratory nights in the local business community as the Aurora Chamber of Commerce announced the nominees for their 2025

Business Excellence Awards on Monday night.

This year’s nominees were celebrated with a reception held last week at the Aurora branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. The event stirred excitement not only for this fall’s Business Excellence Awards ceremony and dinner set for October, but also the Chamber’s milestone 45th anniversary serving the Aurora community.

“I think it’s great to see the longevity of the Chamber and to see it morph and grow over the time that I have been involved,” says Aurora Chamber of Commerce Interim President Debra Wilson, who has been a member of the organization since 2008. “We’ve seen it grow, we’ve seen it change with the times, we came through COVID, and we had to do a lot of adjusting there – now we’re helping our businesses migrate through tariff time. To have an organization like the Aurora Chamber of Commerce survive the ups and downs of 45 years and still be here, strong and celebrating our leadership is quite an accomplishment.”

The Chamber’s anniversary will be recognized at this fall’s ceremony with a new category recognizing Legacy of Leaders, which will honour some of the Chamber’s longest-standing members – a fitting addition for an evening built around the theme of “Celebrating Our Leaders Past, Present and Future.”

As such, this year’s nominees reflect both long-standing and up-and-coming



Nominees for this year’s Business Excellence Awards were celebrated at the Royal Canadian Legion last week. Winners will be announced at the annual Business Excellence Celebration dinner, set for October 23 at the Royal Venetian Mansion. **Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger**

Chamber members who have enhanced the local business community in the areas of community participation, the non-profit sector, the world of young entrepreneurship, manufacturing export, IT and Media Professional Services, and businesses that work in Children/Youth Recreation & Education.

This year’s nominees are:

- NON-PROFIT**

 - Aurora Cultural Centre
 - CHATS (Community & Home Assistance to Seniors)
 - Community Living Central York
 - Windfall Ecology Centre
- COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION**

 - Aurora Orthodontics
 - Flow Water
 - Neighbour Media
 - NewRoads Aurora Toyota
- YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR**

 - Yehya Chehade, Studio 95 Training and Athletics
 - Brittney Jones, Socials & Stilettos
 - Julia Livia, RISE Event Planning

- Lindsay Strom, Key Advantage Team**

I.T./MEDIA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

 - Addison Marketing Solutions
 - Flagship Software
 - Foundation BTS
 - Neighbour Media

CHILDREN/YOUTH RECREATION & EDUCATION

 - Aurora Family Martial Arts
 - Aurora Music Academy
 - socialskilled
 - STEM Minds

PEOPLE’S CHOICE

 - Aizadfood
 - Allegra Aurora: Marketing, Print, Mail
 - Chocolate & Company
 - Flow Water
 - LD Human Resources
 - Midas Auto Group
 - Monaco Interiors
 - Mondo Del Café
 - Neighbour Media
 - Omars Shoes
 - Rosegold Health Inc.
 - Sunrise of Aurora
 - The Aurora Skin Clinic
 - The Maverik Inc.

Thrive Gymnastics

The nomination process this year saw a great response, says Wilson, who adds the selection committee will “have their work cut out for them” as they visit the nominated businesses over the summer to determine the winners. The People’s Choice winner will be determined by public vote beginning in September.

“There’s a lot of great companies that have been nominated this year,” says Wilson, noting awards ceremonies like these are invaluable in shining a light on businesses throughout the Aurora community. “One of the things we’ve constantly heard [during the process] was, ‘I didn’t realize we had a company like that in Aurora’ and ‘I wasn’t aware they were in Aurora.’ I think sometimes our businesses operate we don’t really know what they do; this is a great opportunity to learn more about what’s right here in our backyard.”

For more on this year’s nominees, the selection process, and tickets for the 2025 Business Excellence Awards, which will be held Thursday, October 23, at the Royal Venetian Mansion, visit aurorachamber.on.ca/business-celebration-2025.



2025
Business Excellence
Celebration

CELEBRATING OUR LEADERS
PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FINALISTS!

NON-PROFIT

- AURORA CULTURAL CENTRE
- COMMUNITY & HOME ASSISTANCE TO SENIORS (CHATS)
- COMMUNITY LIVING CENTRAL YORK
- WINDFALL ECOLOGY CENTRE

YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR

- YEHYA CHEHADE, STUDIO 95 TRAINING AND ATHLETICS
- BRITTNEY JONES, SOCIALS & STILETTOS
- JULIA LIVIA, RISE EVENT PLANNING
- LINDSAY STROM, KEY ADVANTAGE TEAM

I.T./MEDIA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- ADDISON MARKETING SOLUTIONS
- FLAGSHIP SOFTWARE
- FOUNDATION BTS
- NEIGHBOUR MEDIA

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

- AURORA ORTHODONTICS
- FLOW WATER
- NEIGHBOUR MEDIA
- NEWROADS AURORA TOYOTA

LEADER IN MANUFACTURING EXPORT

- CLEANRIVER RECYCLING SOLUTIONS
- TREASURE MILLS

CHILDREN/YOUTH RECREATION & EDUCATION

- AURORA FAMILY MARTIAL ARTS
- AURORA MUSIC ACADEMY
- SOCIALSKILLED
- STEM MINDS

Join Us on October 23rd!

Arthritis: New Approach Delivers Remarkable Results



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

What does this mean for you?

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

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

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

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



Pictured outside the Scott-Webster House at the annual Fleury Street party on Friday night were Town Crier John Webster and wife Mary, and Dan Revington, the present homeowner.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger

Fleury Street gathers for “historic” party and recognition

BY BROCK WEIR

Each year, as the summer approaches, residents of Fleury Street gather for their annual street party.

It’s always a chance to catch up with neighbours and have some fun before summer holidays get underway, but this year’s party was extra-special as it featured the unveiling of a historic plaque marking 48 Fleury Street – and helping to do the honours was Aurora’s official Town Crier, John Webster, whose family once called the dwelling home.

Webster’s grandfather, Donald (Dan) Webster, a notable local school trustee, made the house a home for many years and, today, it’s known as the Scott-Webster house, sharing recognition with the building’s first owner, Walter Scott.

Also on hand for the ceremony was local historian Jacqueline Stuart, whose research helped make the case on why the house, which lies within the Town’s only Heritage Conservation District, was deserving of a little extra recognition.

“It’s actually one of those cases where the house itself is not particularly distinctive, but is one of – actually, in this case, a block full of homes all much of the same period from the nineteen-teens and somewhat similar styles,” Stuart explains. “If you change just one of them – if you took down #48 and made it into a fake French chateau, it’s really going to spoil the look of the street. It’s going to upset it. This keeps the flavour of the street.”

She describes it as an example of a “pleasant house” for Aurorans with “comfortable incomes” according to the era, not necessarily “hugely wealthy people.”

“There are a couple of values [of the house] – one is the context. There is kind of a flavour to that street and you don’t want to put it at risk by changing one of the houses hugely or something like that,” Stuart continues. “The other value is generally known as ‘associative value’ if it is associated with a particular industry [for example], but it is usually a person. This Donald Webster – or Dan Webster, as he was confusingly known – was very well-known in the community,

lived here forever, but he was on the school board for 30 years and continued to Aurora in that way for a long time – and in lots of other ways, too, I’m sure. That was a particular distinction.”

Designations like these help preserve “context” in Aurora, she adds.

“I mean, I would put a huge glass dome over Aurora and not change anything – old, new, whatever, let’s just keep it exactly what it is – however, that is not going to happen, and of course, it shouldn’t,” says Stuart with a laugh. “You have to have places for people to live, a huge problem these days.”

She says she’s glad homes in the Fleury Street area are part of the Heritage Conservation District, but says more can be done to preserve the community’s architectural flavour in years to come.

“Fleury Street is in a special area and after that district was established, quite a few people in Southeast Old Aurora, south of Wellington, east of Yonge Street, wanted to establish a Southeast Old Aurora Heritage Conservation District,” says Stuart of streets in and around the Town Park area. “That [idea] went quite a distance down the road, but it was eventually rejected, I suspect, because of a certain amount of – I’m never sure whether it’s misinformation, disinformation, or just gossip; who knows, but word got out that, ‘If your property is in an area like that, you’ll never sell it because’ because there are restrictions around changes to your house – but they’re not humungous restrictions, really, but there are some. People who lived in the proposed new district began objecting to its designation because they were fearful of whatever would happen to their own properties if they decided to alter them.

“I was disappointed that that southeast area did not achieve overall designation because, again, there’s streets, parts of streets and so on that have a particular aura, if you like, that I think is worth preserving. It seems to me now every couple of months you drive down the street and see another house has been demolished and has been replaced by a giant.”

The Meadows of Aurora

A 55+ Christian Lifestyle Community

- ✓ INDEPENDENT LIVING
- ✓ ASSISTED LIVING
- ✓ MEMORY CARE

Book a Tour

...to see our Independent Living model suite!

440 William Graham Drive
Call today at: 905-503-5560 or, email: sales@tmoa.ca

MORE THAN A HOME. A COMMUNITY

VOTED #1 IN AURORA*

LARGE 4 TOPPING PIZZAS

\$16.97 each

Lowest Delivery Fee
Guaranteed
(905) 713-1189



Registration is open!

Tuesday, September 16, 2025
Cardinal Golf Club, King, ON

Join us for our Tee Off for Hospice 2025 Golf Tournament and help us raise funds in support of Margaret Bahen Hospice and Doane House Hospice!

Reserve your spot today! Early bird rates end July 31st

Sponsorship opportunities available!

To register, scan the QR code or visit:
<https://tee-off-for-hospice2025.raiselysite.com/>



Wednesday, November 5, 2025
Stonehaven Banquet Hall,
Aurora, ON

We are looking for help from our community to make this event a success.

Please consider donating:

- Gift cards valued at \$25 or more for our raffle
- Gently loved handbags for our auction

For volunteer opportunities: please email us at events@myhospice.ca

Save the date and stay tuned for more information on tickets and sponsorships!



653 Queen Street, Newmarket ON L3Y 2J1 | events@myhospice.ca | 905-967-1500 ext. 134

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

UP TO
\$33
VALUE

FREE

WHEN YOU SPEND
\$300 OR MORE
in-store or through PC Express™
online pickup or delivery

**2 PC BLUE MENU®
LEAN BEEF BURGERS
FROZEN, 133 G
AND 2 PC GIGANTICO™
HAMBURGER BUNS 8 1/5**
209-429-5454, EA/2094295454_EA

PREPARED IN
CANADA

4 DAYS ONLY! THURSDAY, JUNE 26TH TO
SUNDAY, JUNE 29TH, 2025

APP
EXCLUSIVE
OFFER*

Open the app.
It's as easy as that!

GET
30,000^{pts}

back
in points

for every \$100* spent on
BBQ grills, Grilling Accessories,
Patio Sets, Outdoor Furniture and Patio accessories,
coolers, camp chairs and camping accessories.

CELEBRATE WITH
**CANADA'S
SUPERSTORE**

**REAL CANADIAN
SUPERSTORE**
PROUDLY CANADIAN

SAVE
6.10 LB

9⁸⁸ LB
21.78/KG

CLUB
SIZE

STRIPLOIN
GRILLING
STEAK
CUT FROM
AUSTRALIAN
GRADED BEEF
21672490_KG



CHICKEN
DRUMSTICKS
FRESH
2000-4494_KG

SAVE
1.80 LB

2⁴⁹ LB
5.49/KG

CLUB
SIZE

SEEDLESS
WATERMELON
PRODUCT OF U.S.A.
11 LB AVERAGE
2006732601_EA

SAVE
4.00

3⁹⁹

PICNIC
WEATHER

SWEET
BICOLOUR CORN
PRODUCT OF U.S.A.
NO. 1 GRADE
2013177001_EA

SALE

5/\$2
OR .50 EA

CRACKER BARREL
CHEESE BARS 400 G OR
SHREDS 250-320 G
SELECTED VARIETIES
21290384_EA/21290384_EA

UP TO
SAVE
2.00

5⁹⁷

CRACKER BARREL
TEX MEX

UP TO
SAVE
2.00

\$8

PC PACIFIC
LARGE WHITE
SHRIMP
COOKED OR
RAW PEELLED
OR RAW
ZIPPERBACK®
31-40/LB 400 G
FROZEN
207888 88_EA/20791381_EA



SALE

2⁹⁹

COUNTRY
HARVEST
BREAD 600-650 G
OR BAGEL 6'S
SELECTED VARIETIES
21178597_EA/21178642_EA



PREPARED IN
CANADA

SALE

6⁴⁷

LIBERTÉ GREEK
650/750 G OR
MÉDITERRANÉE
900 G OR YOP NO
SUGAR ADDED
DRINKABLES
8X93 ML YOGURT
SELECTED VARIETIES
21353457_EA/2139011_EA



PREPARED IN
CANADA

SALE

3³³

GENERAL MILLS
RETAIL SIZE
CEREAL
SELECTED VARIETIES
297-430 G
21104047_EA/21104055_EA



SALE

1⁷⁹

HEINZ BEANS
OR PASTA
SELECTED VARIETIES
398 ML
20040390 063_EA
20177278006_EA



SALE

2⁴⁹

LAY'S POTATO
CHIPS
SELECTED VARIETIES,
165-235 G
21241032_EA/21663082_EA



POOL
WEATHER

SALE

12⁷⁹

COCA-COLA
OR PEPSI SOFT
DRINKS
SELECTED VARIETIES
24X35.5 ML
203066870 02_C24
203081970 01_C24



PREPARED IN
CANADA

SALE

25⁶⁹

MOLSON
CANADIAN
BEER
SELECTED VARIETIES
12X473 ML
21626675_C12



UP TO
SAVE
3.00

14⁹⁹

GAIN LIQUID
4.25 L OR FLINGS
25/42'S LAUNDRY
DETERGENT OR
SCENT BOOSTER
515 G
SELECTED VARIETIES
21671135_EA/21549761_EA



UP TO
SAVE
2.50

5⁴⁹

LISTERINE™
MOUTHWASH
OR KIDS
SMART
RINSE 500 ML
SELECTED
VARIETIES
21081222_EA
21356391_EA



GET
1,000^{pts}
(\$1
back in
points)

UP TO
SAVE
3.00

12⁹⁹

BOOST READY
TO DRINK
SHAKES
SELECTED VARIETIES
AND SIZES
20986361_C06
20990880_C06



SALE

\$15

PC® STELLA
STAINLESS
STEEL TUMBLER
SELECTED VARIETIES
40 OZ
21563029_EA/21621836_EA



**Optimum™**

Thursday, June 26th to Saturday, June 28th

Your points are worth more.

**Bonus
Redemption
Event**

Redeem
70,000^{pts}
and get
\$80^{off}*
your purchase of
\$80 or more

OR

Redeem
150,000^{pts}
and get
\$175^{off}*
your purchase of
\$175 or more

OR

Redeem
250,000^{pts}
and get
\$300^{off}*
your purchase of
\$300 or more

That's an extra
\$10
value!

That's an extra
\$25
value!

That's an extra
\$50
value!

Limited time offer, subject to change or cancellation. Redemptions at points level available while offer lasts as specified above in a single transaction. In cases of insufficient spend amount causing customers not being able to optimize the offer, the system will automatically suggest/default to a lower redemption threshold, so that customer can always redeem the least amount of available points and achieve the maximum value of offer available. Customer can however choose to redeem a higher amount of points and forfeit portion of the value available if desired as per the PC Optimum® Program Terms and Conditions. In no event will customers receive extra points in lieu of the forfeited value as part of this offer. Redemptions must be in increments of 10,000 points up to a maximum of 500,000 PC Optimum® points in one transaction. Applicable fees and taxes payable on full purchase price before application of redemption value. Not redeemable for cash or credit. Exclusions apply. Visit pc optimum.ca/company-policy/terms-and-conditions for further details.

Flyer prices effective from Thursday, June 26th to Wednesday, July 2nd, 2025

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



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



Silver Tire Changeover

Includes

- ✓ 4-Wheel Tire Balancing
- ✓ 4-Wheel Brake Inspection
- ✓ Seasonal Tire Change (on rims)
- ✓ 4-Wheel Alignment Service

\$289.95 +HST

www.auroratoyota.ca

THE AURORAN

Sports • News • Coming Events
Classifieds • At Your Service



Now Open
Flooring Superstore

Your friendly local flooring experts

Floors Direct **NORTH**

NEWMARKET SHOWROOM
105 Harry Walker Pkwy N.
Unit 1, Newmarket, ON L3Y 7B3

T: 905-235-4400 | F: 905-235-4411
Inquiries@floorsDirectnorth.ca

Vol. 26 No. 37 905-727-3300 *TheAuroran.com* FREE Week of June 26, 2025

Sport Aurora’s “All Sport-One Day” event provides expert instruction in eight sports at McMahon Park

BY JIM STEWART

All Sport-One Day, one of Sport Aurora’s signature events, rolled out in pleasant June conditions at McMahon Park on Saturday.

Sponsored by a grant from ParticipAction Community Challenge and presented by Novo Nordisk, 40 registered participants enjoyed eight sports over the morning and afternoon sessions.

Tennis, rugby, Jiu Jitsu, Soccer, Pickleball, Lacrosse, Lawn Bowling, and Martial Arts were on the menu at McMahon.

Laurie Mueller, Executive Director of Sport Aurora, said she was pleased to see the ideals of her organization manifesting themselves at the site of Aurora’s oldest sporting club.

“Whenever Sport Aurora is true to our mission, it makes me happy. When we’re providing a multigenerational, multisport experience, we’re creating well-rounded athletes, not single-minded athletes.”

Mueller pointed to the expertise present at the event as coaches from local organizations deepened the kids’ appreciation of the eight sports being promoted.

“Our sessions are being led by terrific

coaches and players from the Aurora Community Tennis Club, Aurora Barbarians Rugby Football Club, Rising Star Soccer Academy, Elevation Athletics (Pickleball), St. Andrew’s College Lacrosse, and Shaolin Martial Arts which is celebrating its thirtieth year in Aurora. Cavalo Martial Arts is joining us for the first time and providing first class instruction in Jiu Jitsu.”

Although the event at McMahon Park served athletes aged 6-18 on Saturday, there has been considerable clamoring by parents for an All Sports-One Day of their own. Lo and behold—by popular demand and coming to an Aurora park near you on September 27—an eight-sport day for “big kids” will be in place.

Mueller explained the impetus for this new event in the Fall at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex: “It came about as a result of parents asking for an event for them. Parents were so pleased with the experiences of their children at ASOD that they kept asking for an event for adult participants. What better way to make the car ride home even more enjoyable than to see parents committed to trying new sports, too. We can foster staying physically-active for all ages with this new range of events.”



Youngsters try out some lawn bowling as part of Sport Aurora’s All Sport-One Day event.

Auroran photo by Jim Stewart

At the heart of the recurrent success of All Sport-One Day is the range of volunteers who work selflessly for the participants to keep them safe and move them from station to station.

Larla Lees, ASOD Chair and a Sport Aurora staffer for over ten years, outlined the growing volunteer spirit sweeping the seasonal event: “We have six new volunteers—two from Microtel Hotel, one from Northridge Community Church, and three from Brad Jones Karate—who are helping us today.”

Lees—whose husband Robert and children Karin and Connor are fully invested as All Sport-One Day volunteers and were fanning out across McMahon Park serving in a number of capacities on Saturday—noted that “The entire family is here today—helping out with the program.”

The giving spirit of the Lees family, as well as the team of community-spirited rookies and selfless veterans like super-volunteer Anthony Garramone, was alive and well in Sport Aurora’s twentieth year of service to the Town.

Sport Aurora’s recent reunion at Microtel reassembled the original team which generated the organization’s mission and vision.

Clearly, Saturday’s event at McMahon Park in 2025 reinforced Sport Aurora’s purpose as envisioned by its founders in 2005.

Catching up with “Kitch”—a visit with Stanley Cup-winning Coach and ASHOF 2016 inductee Mike Kitchen

BY JIM STEWART

Schomberg’s Mike Kitchen was enjoying cottage life at Balsam Lake on Saturday afternoon, despite “the darkening grey skies overhead.” The veteran NHL defenseman and Stanley Cup-winning coach was also looking forward to a round of scramble golf on Thursday morning at Cardinal West in support of long-time friend Brent Morning’s King Proud Charity Golf Challenge.

Morning’s annual event raises funds for the King Chamber of Commerce Morning Youth Grant, King Township’s Lions Clubs, and Easter Seals Ontario to send children with disabilities to Easter Seals Camps in Ontario.

“Kitch” expressed his admiration for the event’s inspirational chief organizer: “Brent’s an individual who is full of energy—he loves to be on the pulse of everything. I’m so happy for Brent for all the great things he’s done for Easter Seals and it’s a pleasure to help out by playing in his tournament.”

His connection to the Morning family goes back decades.

“Brent’s mom and dad and my parents were life-long friends. We were in Schomberg and they were in Kettleby—our family was in construction and they were in water haulage. When I was with the Leafs, and Bobby Orr was connected to the Easter Seals, Brent was a Timmy.

I’d see him skating with his walker. We reconnected when I was coaching with the Leafs after I finished playing in the NHL. I liked supporting Brent through his Easter Seals skates—then, he ran his golf tournaments starting in 2014. He lost his mother and father recently so it’s been an emotional time for him. I just spoke to him the other day about the tournament.”

The sold-out Shotgun tourney is being emceed by legendary Canadian skier Brian Stemmle—a lifelong friend of Morning. Kitchen will share a golf cart with the four-time Olympian on Thursday and acknowledged that “Stemmle can hit a golf ball.”

Both Stemmle and Kitchen also share the honor of being inducted in the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame.

Stemmle, a four-time Olympian, was inducted into the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame in 2013. His playing partner on Thursday, who played for the nomadic Kansas City Scouts-Colorado Rockies-New Jersey Devils franchise from 1976-1984 and coached the Toronto Maple Leafs, St. Louis Blues, Chicago Blackhawks, and Florida Panthers, was inducted into the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame in 2016.

Kitch’s gratitude was evident when he discussed his enshrinement.

“Being inducted was terrific. I was quite honored. Growing up in Schomberg, I left a small town and played for the Aurora Tigers for two seasons when they were in

the Metro Junior B league. It was a great league back then before the OJHL was formed. Rick Hampton and I were only 15-years-old when we played for the Tigers in 1971-72. I went from playing for the Tigers to playing for the Marlies where we won a Memorial Cup in 1975. I never thought I’d play in the NHL. I had a modest goal: to play one game in the NHL. Nearly five hundred games later – what a run.”

Kitchen’s remarkable run as a player began when he was drafted 38th overall

Continued on page 20



AURORA TRANSIT AUTO GLASS



INSURANCE CLAIM SPECIALISTS
We do the paperwork!



Need Windshield Chip Repair or Replacement?
AuroraTransitAutoGlass.com

11 Allaura Blvd #10 Aurora On L4G 3N2

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





NewRoads
Automotive Group™



Caring For Our Community **newroads.ca**



York Pride marks 25th anniversary



⇒ **WE BRING MORE “YES”
TO YOUR PROJECT**

When it comes to tackling any project, having the right tools can make a huge difference. With more than 14,000 types of equipment available for rent, Sunbelt Rentals is here to help you Make It Happen. Easily reserve what you need online or by phone.

Long weekend special, pick up on Friday and return Tuesday for a one and a half day rental charge. Some conditions may apply. Don't know exactly what you need? Let our team help.

800-667-9328 or sunbeltrentals.com



York Pride celebrated its remarkable 25th anniversary in the community with a spectacular – and colourful – Pride Parade, which took over Newmarket's Main Street on Saturday evening, along with two days of events at Riverwalk Commons. Among the participants this year were Premier Doug Ford and members of his caucus – including Aurora MPPs Dawn Gallagher Murphy and Michael Parsa – along with York Region's Mayors and Members of Council – including Mayor Tom Mrakas and Newmarket Mayor John Taylor, CYFS Chief Rocco Volpe, representatives from dozens of community organizations, and hundreds of people lining the street to celebrate or simply show their support.

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger

with dazzling evening Pride Parade



Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger



Final Release

YOUR LIFE RENEWED

Last chance to live in this popular community, perfectly located by the Trent River. You will enjoy the accessible and amenity rich location surrounded by nature’s harmony with lakes, forests, conservation areas, parks, hiking trails and more. Something special awaits you in affordable Hasting’s Estates.

**ALL BRICK BUNGALOW & 2 STOREY
DETACHED ON 44’ TO 50’ LOTS
FROM THE MID
\$600’s**



Register Now - myhastingsstates.ca



Traffic calming measures aren’t doing the trick in Tamarac Trail neighbourhood: residents

Lawmakers consider traffic warrants in the face of community feedback

BY BROCK WEIR

A stop sign installed last year to help calm traffic on Tamarac Trail and surrounding streets is not having a significant impact on the problem it aimed to solve, according to residents.

Neighbours recently delegated to Council asking the Town to consider further traffic calming measures in the community as the street continues to experience heavy volumes.

The number of vehicles travelling through the neighbourhood, however, is below the established threshold for such traffic calming measures, according to municipal staff, leaving Councillors questioning whether it’s time to review the warrants themselves.

“Tamarac was not designed [for] heavy traffic and only has one sidewalk. This creates a serious safety concern for residents on the opposite side who must cross the street to access the bus stops, the mailbox, or the park,” said resident Katelyn Harris. “It’s especially dangerous for children, seniors and families. The curve at the east end creates a severe blind spot and drivers come around with little time to react and at excessive speeds.”

The neighbourhood saw two “serious accidents” this past winter alone, she contended, and in another instance a school bus lost control.

“These incidents should not be happening on a residential street with a 40-kilometre limit,” she continued. “On Halloween, my two daughters and I were nearly struck while crossing the street after trick-or-treating. Incidents like this are far too common and deeply concerning. We’re asking for additional guidance and support. The stop sign has not been enough. We need effective traffic calming solutions, whether it’s speed humps, curb extensions, or other proven measures to make our streets safer for everyone.”

Ten-year-old Mika added: “I really love my street, but I’m not allowed to walk to the park

by myself or even walk my dog because it’s not safe. There are too many cars and they go really fast, especially around the big curve. My parents and I are scared that cars won’t see in time to stop. There’s only a sidewalk on one side of the street and we live on the side without one. That means I have to cross the road just to go to the park. Last Halloween, my mom, my sister and I were almost hit by a car and we were crossing the street to go home. It was really scary. I just want to be able to walk to the park or walk my dog like everyone else without having a high chance of getting hit.

“And if you do need a fundraiser, I could sell baked goods or anything for more money. I would do anything to save my street.”

But, as the traffic volume didn’t meet the criteria required, Councillors suggested it might be time to review the numbers and the courses of action they can take to solve the problem.

“As a Council, we need to take it seriously when residents come forward and say they feel unsafe,” said Ward 3 Councillor Wendy Gaertner. “I don’t know what the solution is, but I think we should try something other than the warrants.”

Director of Planning Marco Ramunno said that staff are in Council’s hands when it comes to warrants, and lawmakers can direct them to put traffic calming measures in place at their discretion.

“If we can have some conversation about [warrants] offline to see what solutions we can have for some of these smaller streets that don’t have the volume and so they don’t pass the warrants, but they still have safety issues that they need to address,” said Ward 1 Councillor Ron Weese. “I think there’s some work that needs to be done here.”

While Ward 2 Councillor Rachel Gilliland considered the residents’ concerns, she questioned the value of the warrants.

“Anybody can come up the street and decide they want some sort of traffic calming,” she said. “We have to really decide whether or not we’re going to adhere to the policies we have in place.”

Catching up with “Kitch” A visit with Stanley Cup-winning Coach and ASHOF 2016 inductee Mike Kitchen

From page 17

by the Kansas City Scouts—an NHL expansion franchise in flux in 1976.

“The team was folding up – we found out after being drafted that the team was not going to operate in Kansas City. Paul Gardner and I got drafted by Kansas City that year and we were told that an oil man from Texas was buying the team and moving it to Denver to a brand new rink—the McNichols Sports Arena—which had been built for the Denver Nuggets.”

The steady defenseman reflected on life as a member of the Colorado Rockies from 1976-77 to 1981-82.

“We didn’t draw big crowds in Denver, but they were loud. The fan support – when we played Philadelphia in the playoffs – was tremendous. We sold out the arena for those playoff games, but the team struggled as an expansion franchise. We would have never left Denver if they had today’s marketing strategies.”

The Scouts-Rockies franchise was on the move again in 1982 and Kitchen offered insights into how the only franchise he played for in the NHL settled into its new east coast location: “We moved to New Jersey and became the Devils. It was a big move that took us from the mountains and wide-open spaces of Denver to huge population centres in New Jersey. Even finding a place to live was challenging. We had a different kind of roster in the first year with the Devils. I was the longest-serving player in the franchise that went to New Jersey. My last year with the team showed the promising transformation of the roster when future champions like Kirk Muller, John MacLean, and Ken Daneyko became core players for our team.”

The eight-season NHL veteran highlighted a local opportunity that spurred his transition from player to coach as he resettled into his post-playing days in Central Ontario.

“The coaching staff with the Newmarket Saints of the AHL invited me to help out during my time off work and all of it evolved into coaching opportunities in the NHL.”

After serving as an assistant coach with the Saints, Kitchen transitioned to the role of Assistant Coach with the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Florida Panthers, Head Coach of the St. Louis Blues, and experienced the high point of his coaching career as an Assistant Coach on Joel Quenneville’s Stanley Cup-winning Blackhawks teams in 2013 and 2015. When asked which championship was more satisfying from a coaching perspective, Kitchen noted both titles came in very different seasons.

“In 2013, it was a shortened season. We came out of the gates, had a great regular season, and carried it into the playoffs. When Bickle scored the tying goal late against Boston in Game 6, we put out the Bolland line and just wanted to get into overtime and regroup. We had no idea that Bolland would score the Cup-winning goal seconds later. He was such a spirited player. He had that personality where he could get under the skin of other players. Dave played a big game for a guy who didn’t have

a lot of meat on his bones.”

Kitchen contrasted the sprint to the Cup in 2013 with the marathon experienced by the Hawks in 2015 versus Tampa Bay: “When we lost Michal Rozsival for the rest of the playoffs, we were down to four core defensemen and the Ducks had a heavy team that looked to forecheck our defensemen and wear them down. We countered by telling our forwards to get back quick on the puck and stretched out the Ducks which frustrated their forechecking. We won a tough series against them and then beat the Lightning. We were an exhausted team after three successful post-seasons in a row. We were edged out of the 2014 Western Finals against LA on an unlucky bounce in Game 7 that bounced off two of our players and over Crawford’s shoulder or it would have been three Stanley Cup finals in a row. Then we won four more series the next season. Duncan Keith told me after we won in Game 6 that he was glad we finished off the Lightning in six games. He confided at the time that ‘I’m not sure I could have handled a Game 7.’”

Coach Kitchen noted that in 2015, the Blackhawks “had great momentum in the playoffs—the old rule is you hang on to momentum as long as you can and get it back immediately if you lose it.” He marveled at the Blackhawks dynastic run that he enjoyed from Summer 2010 to 2016-17.

“Winning two Cups in three years—so many players and coaches never get these opportunities—it’s so hard to get to the Finals. You need bounces—luck, breaks, and health.”

While winning the Cups with Chicago were Kitchen’s career highlights as a coach, his most cherished memory as a player was winning the Memorial Cup in 1975.

“They had won in 1973 with George Armstrong as their coach and we were lucky to have George as our coach in 1975. He helped stabilize our team when John Tonelli left us in March to sign as a 17-year-old with Houston of the WHA. It left a big void, but we battled our way through an eight-game series with Kingston, another eight-game series with Sudbury, went seven games with the Hamilton Fincups, and won the Memorial Cup in Kitchener. We were fortunate to have Leafs legends like Bower and Duff with us during road trips and they would tell stories on the bus.”

However, Kitchen reserved most of his praise for another Leafs legend.

“George Armstrong kept things simple for us. If we had a question, he’d more than answer it. He never complicated the game. We would play a game of hog to warm up for practice with everyone on the ice. The goal was to keep the puck for as long as you could and he’d play the game with us. We couldn’t move the puck off him—he was still so strong. He told us that he learned how to hold on to the puck with the Leafs or he’d be benched for two games. Despite all the Stanley Cups and Memorial Cups, he was a modest individual.”

It’s evident that after an engaging chat on Saturday afternoon, Schomberg’s Mike Kitchen is imbued with the same quality.



Bob's Plumbing Service

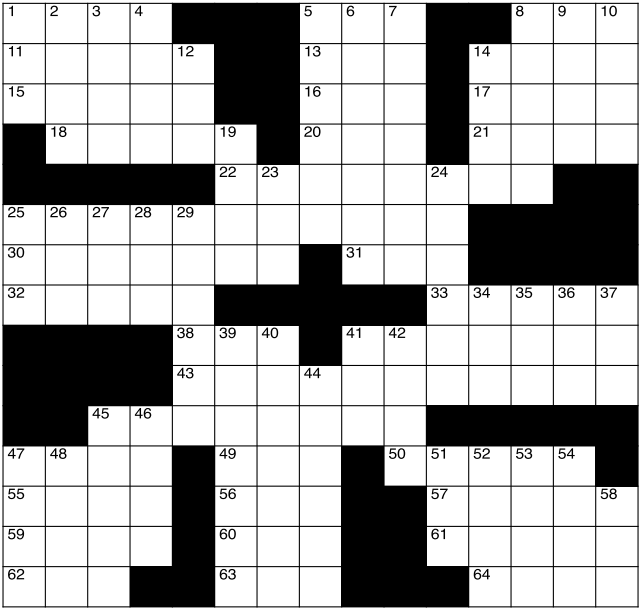
EST. 1972

• RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL

905-727-3210

www.bobsplumbing.ca

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

1. Computer manufacturer

5. Noted space station

8. Kurt Russell film “Captain”

11. Automaton

13. Everyone has one

14. Incline from the vertical

15. Fights

16. Dunn & Bradstreet (abbr.)

17. Finishes off

18. Places to store things

20. Dutch painter Gerard

21. Smaller quantity

22. There’s a North, South and Central of these

25. In an early way

30. More spacious

31. Short-term memory

32. One who possesses
33. Sesame

38. Forbid

41. A way to explain

43. Not around

45. Evoke or suggest

47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea

49. Dekameter

50. Fencing sword

55. “Luther” actor Idris

56. Affirmative (slang)

57. Afflicted

59. One point north of northeast

60. Born of

61. Arabic name

62. Hong Kong food stall: ___ pai dong

63. Not the start

64. Post

CLUES DOWN

1. Creative expression

3. City in ancient Syria

4. College army

5. More disturbed

6. Pays no attention to

7. Restored

8. Competitions

9. Lyric poems

10. Famed American lawman

12. Expression of disappointment

14. Scars

19. Satisfy

23. Central European river

24. Brass instrument

25. One who gets paid to perform

26. Propel with oars

27. Long period of time

28. Woman (French)
29. Type of plane

34. Pitching stat

35. Pointed end of a pen

36. Pro sports league

37. Body part

39. Inoffensive

40. Yellowish cotton cloth

41. Feline

42. Does not tell the truth

44. Set out to attract

45. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation

46. Abba __, Israeli politician

47. Repair

48. Genus of flowering plants

51. Tributary of the High Rhine

52. Prejudice

53. C. European river

54. Restrain

58. Father

Puzzle No.TAJUNE2625 • Solution in Classifieds

Grade 12 Williams student recognized for human rights work

From page 7

made that much of an impact in people to actually take it over next year, but it ended up working out. That was the kind of legacy we were able to leave and inspire others.”

They took a similar approach to finding the next round of leaders for the MSA, opening it up to anyone who was “interested in making a true change in the community” – and the new team is already in place for the 2025-2026

school year.

“I do want to say that all these different opportunities, whether it be the award or whether it be these leadership skills, anyone can do them,” he said. “I didn’t originally do it to have a leadership position because that wasn’t my motivation. A lot of people in high school usually join clubs or sometimes they start new things just to have those president titles under their name. They can apply for university,

apply on a resume, stuff like that. But in my opinion, it’s not about that. It’s more about what you think is very interesting and where you see caveats or gaps in your school and that you could fit or you could fix it, your own perspective.

“That’s a huge piece of advice I’d like to give to those who are recently starting off high school or maybe they’re recently starting off applying or getting these positions. Do what you’re passionate about, because even then, that’s what

is most impactful on the application anywhere, whether it be a job, whether it be at university, whether it be stuff around those areas. If you’re truly passionate about something and you can talk about it more [than] just, ‘oh, I’m just a leader in this,’ it’s so much more impactful and so much more beneficial to you as an applicant, because you’re someone who can actually speak on your achievements, not just have your achievements.”

SUPPORT
LOCAL
SMALL
BUSINESS

AT YOUR
Service

CLEANERS

TOPMAX
Cleaning
Services
RELIABLE PROVIDERS

FREE
• Free estimate and a free quote
• Call us today 647-333-3760

Call for a **FREE** ESTIMATE

Our Services: **OFFICE • MEDICAL • DAYCARE
COMMERCIAL • JANITORIAL**

647 333 3760

CONCRETE

DO YOU HAVE
SUNKEN CONCRETE?

Liftec Slabjacking Inc.

“We raise sunken concrete”

DO NOT REPLACE

WE RAISE SUNKEN CONCRETE
At A Fraction Of The Cost
Of Replacement

**Call Today For A
Free Estimate!**

www.liftec.ca ~ 1-866-280-7770

CONTRACTORS

ALLCON
CONCRETE & HAULAGE LTD.
647-891-0937
KING CITY, ONT.

Concrete / Interlock

- Walkways - Curbs - Patios - Walls

Fiberglass Pools

- Supplied - Installed

Excavation / Demolition

FREE ESTIMATES

CONSTRUCTION/RENOVATION

RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION & RENOVATION

Specializing in...

FINISH CARPENTRY
ARCHITECTURAL
**MOULDINGS &
PANELING**
**BUILT-IN UNITS
& CABINETS**

WINDOWS & DOORS
**KITCHENS &
BATHROOMS**
FINISHED BASEMENTS
FRAMING & DRYWALL
DECKS & FENCES

We work with licensed sub-trades to complete your renovations electrical, HVAC, and plumbing requirements.

Invest in your home today!
Call me for a free consultation!

RAVENWOOD JOINERY LTD.
CUSTOM CONSTRUCTION & RENOVATION
BRAD STRENTSE
647 217 7239

CREMATION

Roadhouse & Rose
FUNERAL HOME

Call us
for more
information

- Dignified
- Respectful
- Inexpensive

Affordable Cremation Services

www.roadhouseandrose.com | 905-895-6631

DEMOLITION

SAFE ALLIANCE DEMOLITION LTD

Residential | Commercial | Industrial

Health and Safety Consulting
Exterior Mechanical Demolition
Interior Selective Manual Dismantling
Fully Insured & Bonded

**25 YEARS
EXPERIENCE**

sales@safealliancedemolition.com
P.O. Box 66, King City, Ontario L7B 1A4
437-882-5464 416-799-6994

DRIVEWAY PAVING

TAR AND CHIP

Tar and Chip is an economical alternative to asphalt paving with a rustic country appearance, that also provides a solid surface and is a solution to ruts washout and potholes.

Country Driveways, Tar and Chip, Recycled Asphalt, Grading and Graveling, Free Quotes.

tarandchip.ca • info@tarandchip.ca • 647.456.2010

ELECTRICAL

DANIEL'S ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION

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

Established 2001

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

EXTERIOR CLEANING & WINDOWS

REX
WINDOWS & HOME

Exceptional window
& eaves cleaning

interior - exterior - commercial

(647) 393 7397
info@rexwindows.ca
Contact for a free quote

AD

If you are reading
this ad, our
advertising works!

TO ADVERTISE CALL 905-727-3300 EXT 102

EXTERIOR STUCCO

PAD STUCCO
EXTERIORS

• Custom Homes • Renovations
• Repairs/Replacements

• Licensed and Insured • 25+ Years Experience

Phone: 416-989-0417 Email: info@padexteriors.ca
www.padexteriors.ca
Servicing the GTA & Southern Ontario

LANDSCAPING/RENOVATION

SUNSET BEECH

TREE

CARE

Pruning • Removals
Consulting • Bracing • EAB

647-989-3509
irbryant@gmail.com

LANDSCAPING

HOME

RENOVATION

CALL
to make your
appointment
416-219-4530
416-625-4441

ASA
CONSTRUCTION INC.

Zonta
Landscaping

& Renovating

Fencing
Decking
Interlocking
Stone Work
Kwik Kurb

Basements
Flooring
Bathrooms
Kitchens

(647) 668 4949
zlr.ca

**PLEASE
RECYCLE
THIS PAPER.**

*Together,
we can make
a difference.*

PAINTING

S & S PAINTING

**TOP QUALITY
GUARANTEED**

30 YEARS EXPERIENCE • AURORA RESIDENT

416-520-6252

At Your Service
continued on the next page.

THINGS... *you ought to know*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25

Garden Aurora's speaker series continues with Lynn Short, introducing the concept of Neekaaniganaa (All Our Relations in Ojibwe) We will discuss the importance of including native plants into your garden landscape. We will talk about native species vs. invasive species vs. cultivars, their advantages and disadvantages. Join us for free at The Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Pkwy North (lower rear entrance) Doors open at 7 p.m., meeting starts at 8:00 pm, followed by our flower show, coffee and snacks available. For more information, please visit www.gardenaurora.ca.

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

The Aurora Farmers' Market will take place at Town Park today from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Aurora's Grungefest will take over Aurora Town Square's performance hall this evening, beginning at 6.30, with tributes to Nirvana, Foo Fighters, and Pearl Jam. Monkey Wrench 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Lounge Act Band (Tribute to Nirvana) 8:00-9:00 p.m.; Pearl Jamming 9:30-11:00 p.m. Relive the raw energy of 90s grunge as top tribute bands bring Pearl Jam, Foo Fighters, and Nirvana to life. From Eddie Vedder's intensity to Dave Grohl's energy and Kurt Cobain's spirit, this electrifying night will transport you to rock's most iconic era. Don't miss this ultimate grunge experience! For more, visit boxoffice.auroratownsquare.ca.

MONDAY, JUNE 30

DANCE IN THE PARK – Aurora Town Park – 7 – 10 p.m.: Bring out your dancing shoes and kick off the Canada Day festivities with the Dance in the Park! There will be fantastic live bands, great food and the Rotary Beer Garden. Celebrate the start of Canada Day by dancing up a storm. For more information, visit aurora.ca/canaday.

TUESDAY, JULY 1

Celebrate Canada Day in Canada's Birthday Town beginning along Yonge Street with the Canada Day Parade, which begins at 10 a.m. Aurora's Canada Day Festivities will be starting with the Canada Day Parade at 10 a.m. The route will be travelling north on Yonge Street from Murray Drive to Aurora Heights Drive. The fun continues at Lambert Wilson Park from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and again from 6.30 – 10.30 p.m. It's time to have some fun and celebrate Canada's Birthday! Festivities include live entertainment and children's activities. Be sure to participate in our Passport Activities which include interactive activities for each Province and Territory, reflective of their history and landscape. There will also be a variety of food vendors to enjoy. In the evening, enjoy back-to-back live bands, capping off with fireworks at 10 p.m. There will be a food vendor on site to enjoy. For more, visit aurora.ca/canaday.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2
Aurora's Concerts in the Park Summer Series gets underway tonight at Town Park from 6 - 9 p.m. Tonight's entertainment: the Dave Mowat Trio. Be at Aurora Town Park on Wednesday, July 2, where from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., the air will be filled with authentic and heartfelt blend of country and Chicago blues. The trio of Dave, Terry, and Clayton bring the history

and tradition of the blues to every note they play. Available for purchase, enjoy a variety of delicious food vendors and licensed beverages. Concert is free to attend, however if you are able, to bring non-perishable food donations to support the Aurora Food Pantry, it would be appreciated. Whether you consider yourself a dedicated blues fan, a lover of bluegrass, or are simply looking for an enjoyable way to unwind and connect with your community, come check out this fun evening of live music! Remember to bring your lawn chair and blanket!

SATURDAY, JULY 5

The Aurora Farmers' Market will take place at Town Park today from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

Aurora's Concerts in the Park summer series continues this evening. From 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Aurora Town Park, experience X&Y skillfully bring Coldplay's famous musical catalogue to life, performing their timeless hits live for you to enjoy! While enjoying Coldplay's greatest hits, treat yourself to a variety of food vendors and licensed beverages available for purchase. Concert is free-to-attend, however if you are able, to bring non-perishable food donations to support the Aurora Food Pantry. Bring your cozy blankets and lawn chairs, gather your friends, and immerse yourself in an atmosphere of musical joy and celebration! Don't let this memorable tribute pass you by!

ONGOING

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

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From page 4

all of this, will be awarded to the position of the next elected Strong Mayor.

So, to help kickstart this meeting, I will initiate the first rebuttal to the Mayor (and all others opposed to the said motion) by answering where the extra 2.9% (or \$1.7M) can come from based upon referenceable facts (located on the Town's website).

The Town currently has \$133M, in 32+ separate Reserve Funds. You're richer than you think.

In 2024, these Reserve Funds earned \$6.5M in interest. \$1.5M went to the 2025 Operating Budget & \$5M went back into Reserves. Yes, we can do the same again next year.

The Town ended 2024 with a \$1.4M Operating Surplus which Council approved to go back into Reserves.

However, this year, Council can vote to use any surplus to pay down next years' tax increase.

Council can vote not to charge a 1% fee on property taxes to go straight into Reserve Funds, knowing the current balance is \$133M.

Starting on January 1, 2026, the Town \$60M (approx.) Operating Budget will be reduced by \$1.4M because the Province has transferred the cost of Blue Box Collection to the producers of the actual waste instead (which is expected to create higher prices at the store). Confusingly, the Town Budget states that they will still have \$1.4M to put into Reserve Funds

even though they will no longer charge for Blue Box Collection.

The Town earns \$300,000 in net profit, on one property lease alone (on Yonge Street).

Every year new property tax revenue is received from newly built homes (and sometime business). These new revenues often generate \$1.5M per year which should drive taxes down. Right? This is what is implied when Town documents claim "growth pays for growth".

Other annual non-tax revenue sources, such as grants, can be used.

Hiring and wage freezes, including at York Region.

The Mayor can start voting against multiple York Region's tax increase motions, especially the ones where Aurora taxpayers are not the primary beneficiary, like the Metrolinx/TTC new subway line which is not being built in Aurora but we pay an equal share with all municipalities.

Lastly, the Town should never expect stable funding from the Provincial or Federal Government to manage our community expenses, especially so during tariff wars and the threat of a recession when both income and sales tax revenues are greatly reduced.

I look forward to future discussion which will improve the Budget Process understanding, transparency, oversight and ensure alignment with the wallet and the needs of the taxpayer.

Shawn Deane
Aurora

“Zero, baby!” says reader on proposed budget figures

For one year, just to get the Mayor and the staff off the addiction of getting everything they want disguised as “necessary to keep service levels high”. They, like the rest of us, can

learn to tighten their belts too. Find efficiencies, please. Calling this one year “pause” irresponsible is irresponsible!

H. Richard Helbig
Aurora

SUPPORT
LOCAL
SMALL
BUSINESS

AT YOUR
Service

PAINTING & HOME IMPROVEMENTS

FOUR SEASONS PAINTING & HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Please Inquire About Our Senior Services & Discounts.

2 professional hardworking guys

15% OFF PAINTING PROJECTS

TILING • WASHROOM /KITCHEN RENO • INTERLOCK RELEVEL
FENCES • ROOF REPAIRS/TROUGHS • FOUNDATION PARGING
ELECTRICAL/PLUMBING • SENIORS DISCOUNTS

Call Claudio 416-723-4860 or, 905-727-0862
fourseasonsrenos@gmail.com

PROPANE

PROPANE AND APPLIANCE SALES

- RESIDENTIAL
- COMMERCIAL
- INDUSTRIAL

INSTALLATIONS
SERVICE • DELIVERY

CARLING PROPANE INC.
Toll Free 1-866-952-0146 www.carlingpropane.ca

RENOVATIONS FENCES/DECKS

SUMMER RENOVATIONS INC.

Build/Repair Fences
Build/Repair Decks

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

RENOVATIONS/REMODELING/LANDSCAPE

A&A IDEAL RENOVATION

Home Remodeling • Electrical • Plumbing
Kitchen & Bathrooms • Finished Basement
All Flooring Work • Drywall • Painting
Deck & Fences • Landscaping

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

416-219-4530 Alex 416-625-4441

PEST CONTROL

GOT MICE?

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

RENOVATING BATHROOMS

www.stronorbathworks.com

Over 25
Years Experience

Call:
(416) 996-8225

TREE SERVICE

BORA TREE SERVICE

CLEAN TREE REMOVAL & MORE
CALL or TEXT: **(416) 820-4050**
WILL BEAT ANY QUOTE

WATER

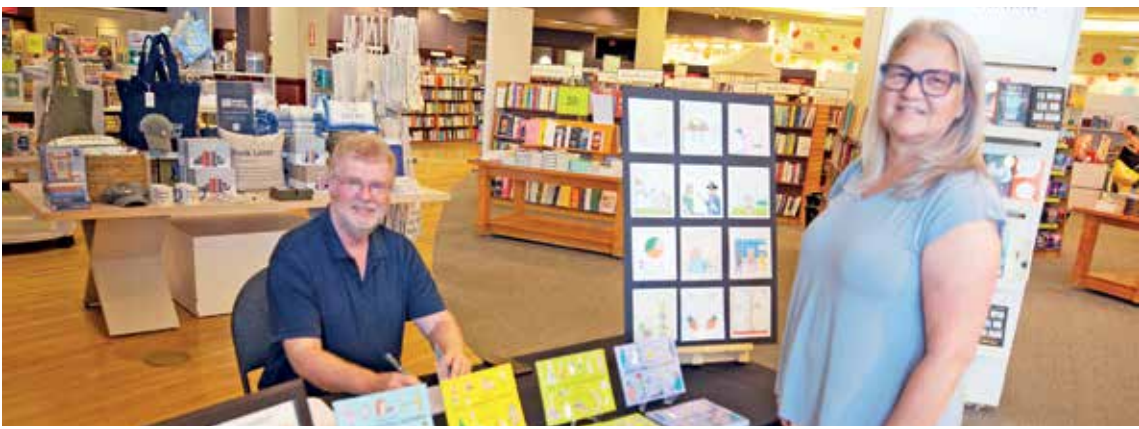
DOES YOUR WATER SMELL OR TASTE OF CHLORINE?
OUR CHLORAMAX TWIN SOFTENS YOUR WATER AND REDUCES:
• Chlorine
• Chloramines
• THMs
• Pesticides & Herbicides
• Taste & Odour

Water Depot UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT!
15483 Yonge St., Aurora
905-751-0845 www.waterdepot.com

AUTHOR SIGNING

Auroran cartoonist Scott Johnston was at Newmarket's Chapters-Indigo location over the weekend signing his latest volume of work, including a copy for Maggie, pictured here. If you missed this event, mark your calendar for July 5 as he signs further copies at Coles, located at Upper Canada Mall, from 2 – 5 p.m.

Auroran photo by Glenn Rodger



AURORAN CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSE/OFFICE FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT, 3 bdrms/loft, work & live setup in Oak Ridges. Ample Parking. Unique flexible home space including for office, medical, spa, retail etc. Rent \$3100/mo + hydro & water. foreveryoung235@hotmail.com

FOR SALE/LEASE

Inmode Optimas Max system
complete with 3 handpieces. This system is brand new and would typically retail for \$149,000.00. Training if needed. Price and terms are negotiable, with a lease option available.

OPTIMAS MAX ENABLES YOU TO:

- Offer comprehensive treatment packages.
- Increase patient satisfaction with superior results.
- Generate recurring revenue streams.
- Maximize ROI with multiple treatment capabilities.

Please contact Owen for more information at **416-275-4554**

STORAGE AVAILABLE: 20 yard sea can container for storage located in Nobleton. Safe location. For more information, please call 905-859-0817

TO ADVERTISE
CALL DIRECT 905-751-6013

STUMP REMOVAL

By Stump Grinder

In Aurora
Call Gerry 416-460-4185

Trusted Tree Maintenance & Removal

SHERWOOD
— MAINTENANCE GROUP —

- Aerial Pruning
- Canopy Maintenance
- Planting & Fertilizing
- Storm Risk Prevention
- Arborist Reports & Plans
- Tree & Shrub Appraisal
- Urban Tree Removal
- Storm Debris Clean-Up

Fully trained & insured with leading techniques & equipment

647-400-6998 | 647-338-8733
smgtrees@gmail.com www.smgtrees.com

TOP DOLLAR FOR SCRAP AND USED CARS

We pay from **\$300-\$20,000**

CASH ON THE SPOT

Free Tow!

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

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

BEHIVE & OTHER HOCKEY
PLAYER PHOTOS FOR SALE
Mainly 1940s
Most NHL Teams
Call Raymond
905-751-1665

HANDYMAN & RENOVATIONS

All around the house

Call:
416-876-5566 (Steff)

TO ADVERTISE
CALL DIRECT 905-751-6013

ALL JUNK REMOVAL

BASEMENTS • YARDS
GARAGES • GENERAL CLEAN-UPS
SMALL MOVES • ODD JOBS
Very Reasonable Rates

Call to enquire:
905-832-9655
or, text pictures to:
416-876-2219

HANDYMAN PROJECTS
INTERIOR • EXTERIOR

30 Years Experience

FREE ESTIMATES
Painting & Repair
John: **647-671-5179**

!!! WANTED !!!

WE PAY FOR GOLF BALLS
Pay \$0.15 to \$0.40 per ball
Year Round! Pick-up available!
416-889-9365. Peter
NO MIN QTY OR NO MAX!!

Thanks to Our Newspaper Carriers

We appreciate your dedicated service to our publication and our community.

ATTENTION CARRIERS WANTED

Apply Today!

KIDS, ADULTS, SENIORS
EARN SOME EXTRA MONEY!
Deliver **THE AURORAN**.
Routes available in your area.
Email your name and address to denise@lpcmedia.ca

THE AURORAN NEWSPAPER

In Print & Online
denise@lpcmedia.ca
www.theauroran.com

PUZZLE SOLUTION

A	C	E	R			M	I	R			R	O	N				
R	O	B	O	T		A	G	E		H	A	D	E				
T	I	L	T	S		D	N	B		I	C	E	S				
	R	A	C	K	S		D	O	U		L	E	S	S			
						A	M	E	R	I	C	A	S				
P	R	E	M	A	T	U	R	E	L	Y							
R	O	O	M	I	E	R		S	T	M							
O	W	N	E	R							B	E	N	N	E		
						B	A	N		C	L	A	R	I	F	Y	
							U	N	A	V	A	I	L	A	B	L	E
			R	E	S		O	N	A	T	E						
M	O	A	B			D	K	M		S	A	B	E	R			
E	L	B	A			Y	E	P			A	I	L	E	D		
N	E	B	N			N	E	E			R	A	B	I	A		
D	A	I				E	N	D				S	E	N	D		

Think you can sell?

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

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

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

EXPECTATIONS:

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

DESIRED SKILLS & EXPERIENCE:

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

COMPENSATION:
Base + Commission

Let's Talk.

EMAIL RESUME FOR CONSIDERATION:

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



VILLANOVA COLLEGE

GRADES 4-12 CO-ED • KING CITY, ON

Villanova College Congratulates the Graduating Class of 2025!

This exceptional group of 82 graduates has earned an impressive \$3.1 million in scholarships and received over 420 university acceptances from more than 26 institutions across international, national, and provincial levels—including prestigious offers from Villanova University and Harvard University. Among these remarkable accomplishments, the highest individual scholarship offer reached an extraordinary \$550,000. As they embark on the next chapter of their journeys, we are proud to see them emerge as confident, compassionate leaders dedicated to serving others. We celebrate their achievements, resilience, and bright futures. Congratulations, Class of 2025!



Number of
Graduating Students

82

**\$3.1
MILLION**



This year's graduating
class received over \$3.1 million
in University Scholarships!

✓ **ACCEPTED**

420+

University acceptance offers
our graduates received

Highest individual
scholarship offer

\$550K

**York Region's Only Independent Catholic School
Grades 4-12 Co-Ed**

www.villanovacollege.org • King City, Ontario