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THE AURORED

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 18 No. 31 905-727-3300

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FREE

Week of May 24, 2018



HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC SCHOOL
315

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW? – Martino Milani, Luca Albanese, and Avery Groskopf, Grade 5 students at Holy Spirit Catholic School, took a break from French and Math on Thursday afternoon to help take their school yard to the next level with the Healthy Kids Community Challenge. For more, see Page 11.
Auroran photo by Brock Weir

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Hallmark decision sparks heated exchange over community needs

By Brock Weir

The push to convert 12 acres of Industrial Parkway South lands into fields to address Aurora's mounting sports needs has sparked accusations of electioneering around the Council table.

Council this week is expected to approve the design and tendering of building two baseball diamonds on the Hallmark lands, a plot of land purchased

by the Town at Industrial Parkway South and Vandorf Road in 2015 for municipal purposes.

The design of the diamonds, to the tune of \$3 million, was approved at the Committee level last week, but not before a delegation from former councillor John Gallo who said this \$3 million build would be a misuse of tax dollars.

"You purchased a property in 2015 for \$7.4 million," said Mr. Gallo. "It is 13 acres, the current value based on recent sales in Aurora is between 1.8

and 2 million per acre, which gives us approximately \$25 million. The zoning is being converted from employment lands to recreational, which will eliminate any property tax levy in perpetuity. That is not a small claim. Converting employment lands to anything is a serious thing in this Town and we have been told that time and time again. Property taxes generated on that property, if it were fully built out, would be in excess of \$1 million a year.

"Your proposal to spend \$3 million

Continued on page 24

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Ontario Votes 2018: Local candidates square off in prosperity forum

By Brock Weir

Week 2 of the 2018 Provincial Election campaign saw candidates from both of Aurora's ridings square off in a debate for the business community.

Hosted by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday morning, the

Continued on page 18



Newmarket-Aurora NDP candidate Melissa Williams, along with Bob Yaciuk of the Trillium Party, participate in last week's forum hosted by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. For full coverage of Week Two of the Provincial Election campaign, see Pages 18 and 19.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

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TOWN OF AURORA Notice Board



Council & Committee Meetings

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Tuesday, May 29	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Council (Special)
Tuesday, June 5	5:45 p.m.	Holland Room	Closed Session (if required)
Tuesday, June 5	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	General Committee
Wednesday, June 6	4 p.m.	Holland Room	Accessibility Advisory Committee Rescheduled to June 20
Wednesday, June 6	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Committee of Adjustment Rescheduled from June 7
Thursday, June 7	7 p.m.	Holland Room	Environmental Advisory Committee Rescheduled to June 14

*Meetings can be viewed online by visiting aurora.ca/gcstream
Council meetings are open to the public. For a full list of upcoming meetings, please visit aurora.ca.

Public Notices

Temporary road closure for Aurora Chamber Street Festival on June 3

Please be advised that vehicular traffic on Yonge Street between Wellington Street and Murray Drive will be temporarily prohibited on **Sunday, June 3** from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. (approximately) for the Aurora Chamber Street Festival.

What's Happening

Seeking Canada Day parade participants

The Town of Aurora is very excited to be hosting Aurora's Canada Day Parade on **Sunday, July 1**. Community Services is looking for interested community groups, or cultural performers that would like to participate in this annual event.

Anyone interested in participating in the parade should contact the Recreation Supervisor, Special Events at sware@aurora.ca by **Friday, June 15**. For more information please call 905-726-4762.

Register now for spring & summer programs

Registration is now open for Town spring & summer programs including aquatics and summer camps. There are many programs and activities for all ages. To view the recreation guide, visit aurora.ca/recguide.

Are you interested in becoming a candidate in the 2018 municipal election?

The next municipal election will take place on **Monday, October 22**.

If you're interested in becoming a candidate in the Town of Aurora municipal election, you can make an appointment with the Town Clerk to file your nomination paper and review a number of forms and procedures using a nomination checklist. To make an appointment, call 905-727-3123 ext. 4237 or email ccurtis@aurora.ca.

For eligibility requirements and more details about the nomination process, please visit aurora.ca/vote2018.

Compost Giveaway Day on June 2

Pick up free compost for your garden on **Saturday, June 2** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Joint Operations Centre located at 229 Industrial Parkway North.

This giveaway only applies to Aurora residents. Residents are responsible for scooping their compost. Please bring your own shovels, pails or bags. Backyard composters will be available for purchase at a discounted price of \$20 (cash only). Limited quantities are available.



Aurora Farmers' Market is now open

Browse through more than 40 vendors including farmers, food, artisans and community groups. During the operating season, the market hosts a children's craft every Saturday, special events and entertainment once a month.

This year, the market will have a new layout with more vendors in the park and more parking around the venue. Mark your calendars for **May 26**, the grand opening event! The festivities will include prizes, live music and family-friendly activities.

The market is located in Aurora Town Park every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. from the beginning of May to the end of October. Market operations continue rain or shine.

For more information, visit aurorafarmersmarket.com

What's Happening

Club Aurora wellness seminar - R.E.D. Warrior Moving Meditations

Register today for Club Aurora's R.E.D. Warrior Moving Meditations on **Saturday, June 23** from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. at the AFLC. For more details on this seminar, visit aurora.ca/fitness.

Yard waste collection has begun

A reminder that yard waste collection has started. Yard waste is collected with recycling every second week from April to November. Please place weeds, plant trimmings and leaves in paper yard bags, or any rigid open top container that has sturdy handles.

Remember to bundle and tie branches as follows:

- Individual branches must be no larger than 10 cm (4 inches) in diameter;
- Branches must be bundled with twine;
- Bundles must be no more than 22 kg (50 lbs) and no longer than 1.2 m (4 ft.)

Grass clippings are not collected in Aurora's curbside yard waste program. There are maximum weights for yard waste bags but no limit on the amount of yard waste placed for collection, providing that acceptable containers are used.

Upcoming Events at Aurora Public Library (APL)

Saturday Storytime-Drop In is on **May 26** from 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Optimist Room. Kids and their caregivers are invited to join the fun in Family Storytime! Explore the magic of books, songs and rhymes. Best for ages 6 and under.

Drag Queen Storytime-Drop In is on **June 2** from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Magna Room. A magical story time experience hosted by Eva Lasting! Enjoy stories that celebrate diversity and teach kids it's great to be who they are. Children will get to be part of the story, wear some silly costumes and even strut their stuff bringing out their inner performer. Ages: 3+

Teddy Bear Tea for Grandma, Grandpa and Me is on **June 2** from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Magna Room. Bring your favourite teddy and grandparent along for tea time. There will be crafts, activities and fun books to read. This program is for kids aged 3 to 10 accompanied with a grandparent or other older adult.

Visit the Town booth at the annual Aurora Chamber Street Festival

Visit the Town booth to check out Town information and learn more about Aurora's history. The festival is on **Sunday, June 3** from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. along Yonge Street in Aurora. The booth is located at Block #15 booth numbers 419 & 421 near Kennedy Street. We hope to see you there! For more information on this event, visit aurorachamber.on.ca.

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What's Happening



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12 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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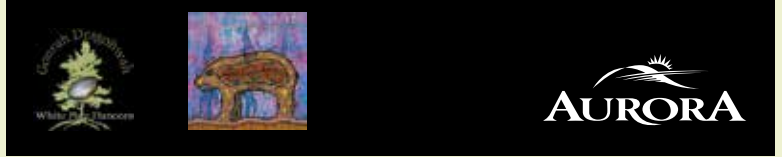
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JUNE is recreation & parks month

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aurora.ca/recreationparksmonth

CELEBRATING NATIONAL ACCESS AWARENESS WEEK

MAY 27 TO JUNE 2

The event, organized by The Town of Aurora Accessibility Advisory Committee, presents a variety of activities for staff and the community to enjoy and experience.

Taking place at Aurora Town Hall:

- ▶ **ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION FAIR**
Tuesday, May 29 to Thursday, May 31 • 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- ▶ **LUNCH AND LEARN SESSIONS** (speakers and topics to be announced)
Tuesday, May 29 and Thursday, May 31 • 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.
- ▶ **COMMUNITY MEET AND GREET**
Accessibility Advisory Committee and other participating agencies
Wednesday, May 30 • 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- ▶ **HISTORICAL MUSEUM DISPLAY** (All week)
Monday, May 28 to Friday, June 1

For more information
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Aurora Town Hall

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Basketball, golf, triathlon stars among the Sports Hall of Fame's Class of 2018

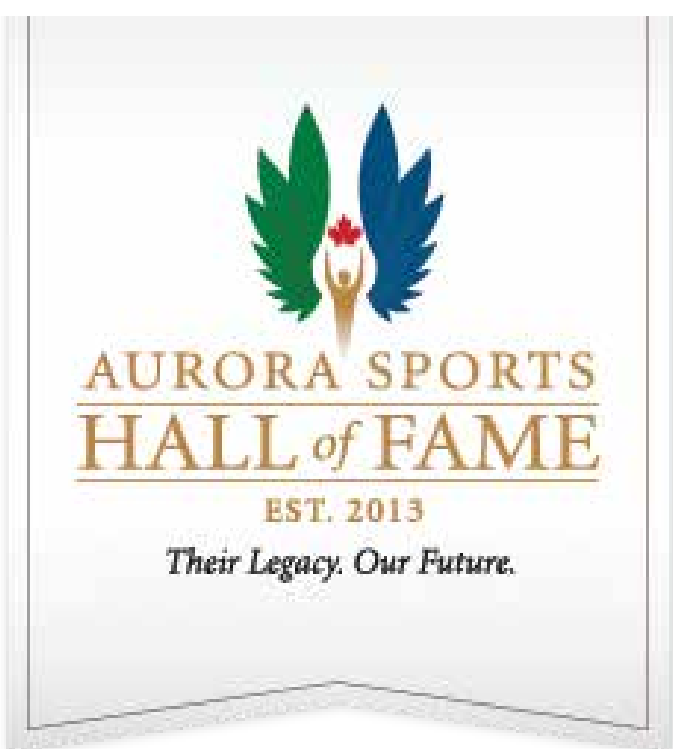
By Brock Weir

Their prowess on the basketball court, golf course, and the varied terrain of the triathlon have made them recognized individuals in their sports, but now they are being recognized by their hometowns.

Paolina Allan, David Morland IV, Robert Bain and Loring Doolittle were announced Tuesday as the Class of 2018 in the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame.

Ms. Allan and Mr. Morland are being recognized in the Athlete category – for triathlon and golf respectively – while Mr. Bain is being recognized in the Coach category for basketball, and Mr. Doolittle is being recognized posthumously in the Builder/Contributor category.

“On behalf of the Induction Committee, we are excited to announce this year’s four inductees,” says Stephen Forsey, Induction Committee Chair, Aurora Sports Hall of Fame. “All very deserving, from a



variety of sports backgrounds, they will help make our 6th Annual Dinner Celebration once again the gala of the year.”

Now a private triathlon coach, Ms. Allen was introduced as “the second female overall at Ironman Canada, is a UCI Masters Cycling World Championship qualifier and three time Ironman World Championship qualifier. She also has been named the Triathlon Ontario and Triathlon Canada Elite Long Distance Triathlete of the Year.”

A winner of the Ontario Junior Golf Championship, Mr. Morland is honoured as a “two-time All American on a Kent State Golf Scholarship,” as well as his participation on the PGA Tour from 2000 – 2002, and placing fifth at the Bell Canadian Open.

Mr. Bain, who has lived in Aurora for 20 years, is being recognized for his work as Head Coach of the York University Yeoman Men’s Basketball team for

Continued on page 25

CELEBRATING NATIONAL ACCESS AWARENESS WEEK MAY 27 TO JUNE 2

► The event, organized by The Town of Aurora Accessibility Advisory Committee, presents a variety of activities for staff and the community to enjoy and experience as we celebrate National Access Awareness Week!

Taking place at Aurora Town Hall:

- **ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION FAIR**
Tuesday, May 29 to Thursday, May 31 • 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- **COMMUNITY MEET AND GREET**
Accessibility Advisory Committee and other participating agencies
Wednesday, May 30 • 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- **HISTORICAL MUSEUM DISPLAY (All week)**
Monday, May 28 to Friday, June 1

► For more information
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or email accessibility@aurora.ca
Aurora Town Hall • 100 John West Way, Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

Highland Automotive Professionals is proud to introduce another team member

Stephanie Vanderwouw

My name is Stephanie Vanderwouw, I have been working for Highland GM for just a short time now. I am still new to the automotive industry, but am always learning new things each and everyday. I hope to continue to learn and gain as much knowledge as I can throughout my time here at Highland. I enjoy working with each and every individual, not just in the service department, but all-around Highland. Outside of work I am involved in an amazing training and performing dance community, that works on building confidence and self-love. I appreciate meeting new people and informing them to the best of my knowledge on any maintenance needed on their vehicle(s). If you have any questions or would like to set up an appointment, please contact me or anyone of our wonderful service staff.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

“We have a real choice” this election

(Re: Brock’s Banter, May 10)

One thing that hasn’t blown away is the bias toward the two main parties. Nowhere in a column about the forthcoming election are Andrea Horwath and the NDP even mentioned.

Tommy Douglas once called the Liberals and the (no-longer-progressive) Conservatives, the “Tweedle-dum” and “Tweedle-dee” of Canadian politics. We should recall that, according to Lewis Carroll, they “agreed” to have a battle, assuming that whichever prevailed no basic change would occur.

US novelist Kurt Vonnegut wrote this about the similar situation in the US (Harper’s Magazine, November, 1972): In the United States there are two imaginary political parties - the Republicans and the Democrats; there are also two real political parties - the Winners and the Losers. And, since both imaginary parties are run by the Winners, in every election this much is certain: the Winners will win.

We needn’t be so cynical. We do have a real choice - not between tired, corrupt Liberals and blustering, hypocritical Conservatives. We should stop being in thrall to the imaginary parties notice that there is a real option.

Howard A. Doughty
Oak Ridges

Give staff authority for parking woes: reader

I was sampling through old copies of The Auroran and saw the item regarding Lensmith Drive and no parking.

It was a separate agenda item involving sight line restrictions at the 90 degree road bend due to parked cars. Well, that is an old been there, done that work item for me. I also was in the job of being a traffic analyst for 25 years. The interesting part was the Councillor that encourages a review of all similar road bends throughout Aurora by Town staff.

And did the Aurora CAO or Manager of Engineering have any reaction to that? Why sure they can get that done for you ASAP!

Was it not foolhardy tasks like this that led to a noticeable departure of Town staff (senior or junior ranks) not long ago?

As a newflash for the Councillor, Aurora has hundreds of similar angle bends throughout the Town. And on-street parking restrictions are always a thorny issue to report on and deal with.

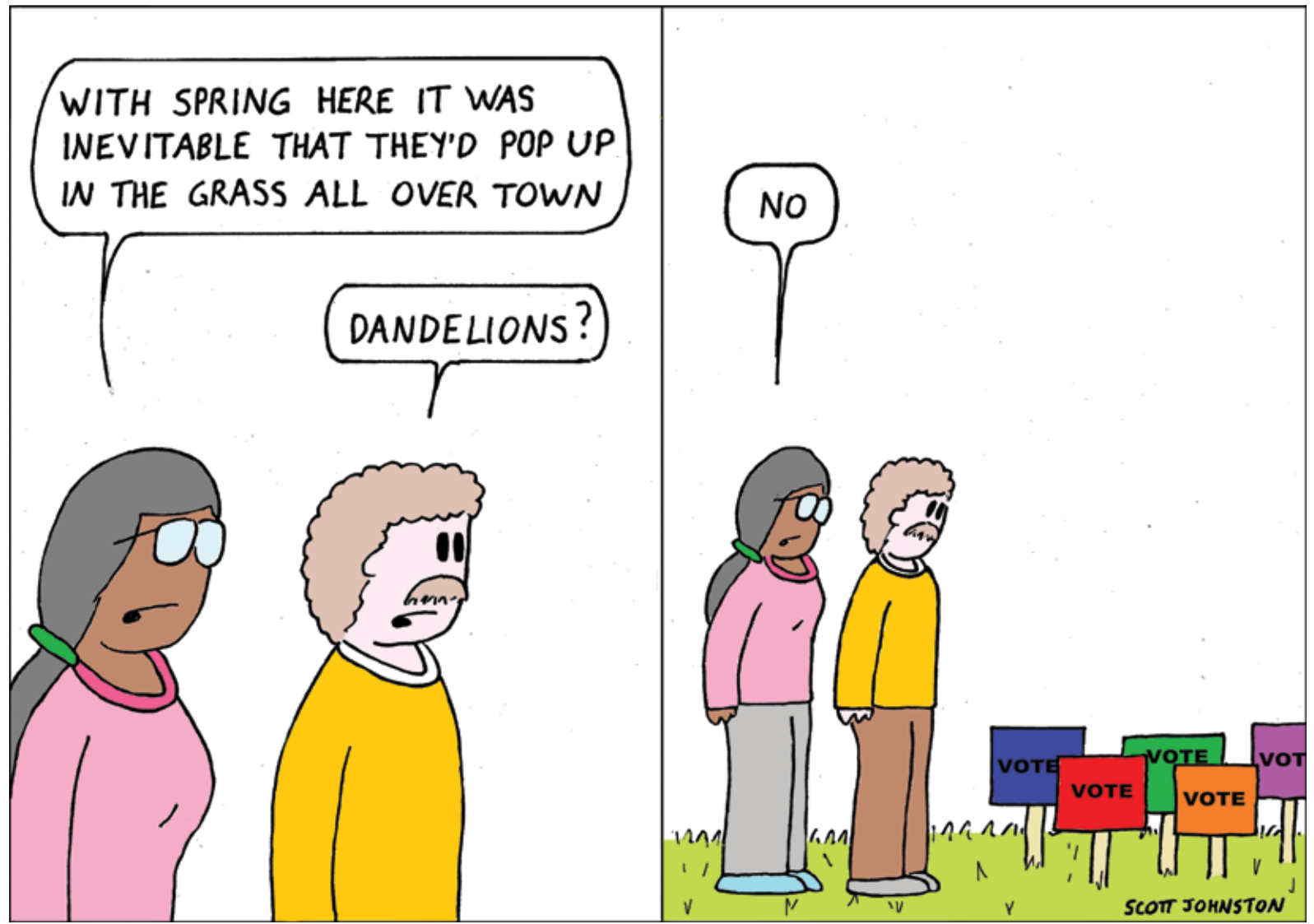
Some residents cry foul when restrictive signage happens and others, the often fast drivers, appear to need them to properly see others driving the opposite way.

Aurora’s no parking bylaw might need to contain a general provision entry; to restrict parking with appropriate signs back from curves, bends etc. But Council will overwhelm staff doing multi-page staff reports over Catch-22 issues like this.

Its better to give staff the authority to authorise installing no parking signs where persistent complaints arise. The general provision, comprehensive bylaw entries are several ones designed for logistical efficiency. And it helps ease the pain for subdivision motorists that refuse to slow down when driving around familiar curves or bends in their roads.

Mike Gough
Aurora

Machell’s Corners



Early Morning Woke-Up Call



BROCK’S BANTER

Brock Weir

“Well, I’m feeling woke.”

It was not what you expect to read on social media from someone who had pulled a rare all-nighter, but it seemed appropriate.

If you were one of the ones tackling the all-nighter, you do what you can to stay awake. Sometimes you self-medicate with caffeine. Sometimes that duty falls to heaps of sugary foods, snacks of all shapes and sizes, and, when all else fails, popping chocolate-covered coffee beans – you know, if you want to pull yourself out of a half-sleep to climb the walls like a Looney Tunes cartoon.

On Saturday, I guess that particular person was taking their “woke-ness” from wherever they could source it.

And, as we now know, this person with this singular social media proclamation was far from alone. We were all feeling just a little bit “woke” on Saturday morning. I’m not, of course, talking about a feeling of rising from slumber – although that too would have been appropriate after an all-nighter or a short cat nap before rising at 4 a.m. to catch the nuptials of someone you don’t even know, but in this case being “woke” is akin to being “aware.”

It’s a term that became particularly prevalent in the public consciousness in the lead-up to (and aftermath of) the latest U.S. Presidential Election where people claimed of being woke in all directions.

Followers of Bernie Sanders, for instance, claimed they were woke to the inner workings of the American financial system. While disciples of Donald Trump, on the other hand, claimed they were “woke” to what was “really” going on in the world which, in most cases, meant they finally found someone who was reflective of their myopic view of the world – or, at least, espoused principles that didn’t come close to challenging their own personal worldviews.

Nevertheless, audiences estimated at the multiple billions around the world were left feeling particularly “woke” after Saturday’s Royal Wedding between Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, now Duke and Duchess of Sussex, no matter what time of the day

they happened to get out of bed (or not) for the occasion.

Being “woke” is not something one typically associates with a Royal Wedding, a ceremonial occasion that is largely by the book, with little changing from ceremony to ceremony, other than, perhaps, the key players, the venue, and, to a lesser extent, the dress.

It is usually dictated by tradition, from the music selected, to the words being spoken, to the general choice of attire, but Saturday’s fare offered a few interesting and unique touches, from Gospel performances, to audience participation and the sermon delivered by Bishop Michael Curry of the American Episcopal Church.

His message was a simple one, but in the context of the Royal Wedding, it turned out to be anything but.

As the speech ran a significant amount of time, the cameras panned to various people in the congregation – royal and otherwise – to gauge their reactions. As varied as the reactions were, I expect they were very much reflective of the viewing audience at home.

But, all were engaged, and it provided plenty to talk about.

“The late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said, and I quote, ‘We must discover the power of love, the redemptive power of love. And, when we do that, we will make of this old world a new world, for love is the only way,’” he relayed. “There’s power in love. Don’t underestimate it. Don’t even over-sentimentalize it. There’s power, power in love.”

“If you don’t believe me, think about a time when you first fell in love. The whole world seemed to centre around you and your beloved. Oh, there’s power in love. Not just in its romantic forms, but any form, any shape of love. There’s a certain sense in which when you are loved, and you know it, when someone cares for you, and you know it, when you love and you show it – it actually feels right. There’s something

right about it, and there’s a reason for it. The reason has to do with the source. We were made by a power of love and our lives were meant – and are meant – to be lived in that love. That’s why we are here.

“There’s power in love to help and heal when nothing else can. There’s power in love to lift up and liberate when nothing else will. There’s power in love to show us the way to live. But love is not only about a young couple. Now, the power of love is demonstrated by the fact that we’re all here. Two young people fell in love, and we all showed up. But it is not just for and about a young couple, who we rejoice with, it’s more than that.”

Indeed it was. The Bishop went onto to illustrate the power to change the world, using the words of a spiritual created by slaves in the Antebellum Southern United States to illustrate how the power of love can have a potent power in all areas of life, from neighbourhoods, to governments, to business and commerce. That love can have the power, at the end of the day, to ensure no child would go to bed hungry ever again, that poverty could be eradicated in love, that a new kind of “human family” can be fostered.

That is, if the power of love is harnessed and pointed in the right direction.

It was a wedding with a message, and a message that many took to heart.

For some observers, it reflected a kind of “manifesto”, real or imagined, set forth by the couple in question.

Only time will tell if that is indeed the case, but it did send billions of people around the globe out into the world feeling a bit buoyed and empowered, and that is invaluable.

No matter where you stand on the Monarchy as a principle, it is hard to argue that having something else lead the conversation on TV, radio, social media, and even around the proverbial water cooler other than the Provincial Election or American politics was a nice and welcomed change of pace.

And, if the message delivered to a global audience of billions, however unlikely the venue, can actually bear fruit, so much the better.

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Deadline for submissions is Sunday at 1 p.m.

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TIME TRAVELLER'S DIARY

Michelle Johnson

You have likely heard the term “blood and thunder hockey” but do you know where it comes from? It's believed that this expression was first used over 100 years ago to describe the local hockey teams competing for the Allan Moore trophy.

Beginning in 1913, the Toronto & York Radial Railway awarded the Allan Moore trophy to the top team in the Metropolitan Hockey League. This was no regular trophy; it was credited with meaning as much to York North as the Stanley Cup meant to the NHL.

Aurora consistently had a team competing in the league against clubs from Newmarket, Queensville, Sutton and Schomberg. Along with the trophy came the stipulation that the team able to maintain champion status for three years in a row would become the permanent owners of the cup. Needless to say, this ignited a fierce competition, especially between Newmarket and Aurora.

During the 1910s and 1920s both Newmarket and Aurora had the experience of winning the trophy two years in a row, only to be beat out by the rival team in the pivotal third year.

When Newmarket beat Aurora in 1922, they organized a parade of 20-30 cars to travel down the streets of Aurora and brag about their championship status. According to the Aurora Banner, onlookers were horrified at the behaviour of the Newmarket team and the previous sportsmanship shown by the Aurora boys was praised:

“When Aurora won the cup two years in succession they did not go to Newmarket to celebrate, but held a smoker in their own town to which all the clubs in the district were invited” (March 25, 1922).

Yes, it *sounds* like superb sportsmanship, however; the Newmarket Era reported that the winning team's parade down the Aurora streets was met with “a shower of eggs, vegetables and what have you” (Newmarket Era, February 17, 1949).

To say the rivalry was fierce would be an understatement.

The Toronto & York Radial Railway folded in 1922 and the league followed soon afterwards along with the Allan Moore trophy. The trophy would lay hidden in the basement of a Pefferlaw restaurant until 1949 when it was rediscovered in time for a revival of the old league.

The revival, however, was short lived and the trophy once again fell out of sight although there were rumours of it being stored in a Councillor's basement in 1968.

One way or another (no one is certain how) the Allan Moore trophy ended up at the Aurora Fire Department and in 1995 it was donated to the Aurora Museum.

I think it's safe to say that Aurorans from 100 years ago would be quite proud, and very relieved, that the Allan Moore trophy is permanently ours. We welcome residents from across York North, and particularly our old rivals in Newmarket, to come to Aurora and view this iconic trophy, which is currently on display at the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame.

THIS WEEK'S POLL

Are you more or less likely to vote NDP today than you were at the start of the election campaign?

A) More B) Less

Go to www.theauroran.com to vote!

Previous poll results

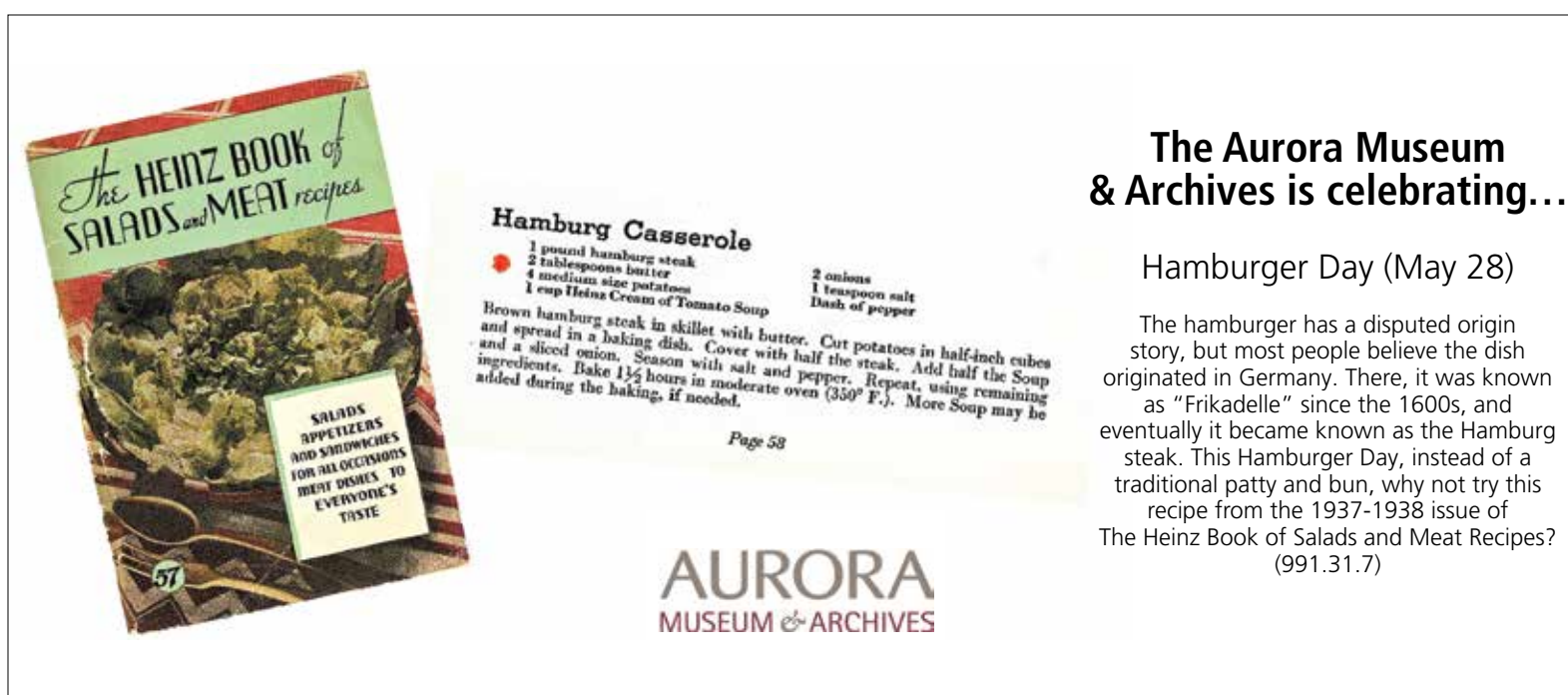
Are you following the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle?

RESULTS TO DATE MAY 22, 2018	YES	NO
	50%	50%

The Aurora Museum & Archives is celebrating...

Hamburger Day (May 28)

The hamburger has a disputed origin story, but most people believe the dish originated in Germany. There, it was known as “Frikadelle” since the 1600s, and eventually it became known as the Hamburg steak. This Hamburger Day, instead of a traditional patty and bun, why not try this recipe from the 1937-1938 issue of The Heinz Book of Salads and Meat Recipes? (991.31.7)



Your Monthly Update!

It has been a busy, but exciting month full of town halls, events in our community, and focussed parliamentary work in Ottawa. *Here are some of the highlights of the past month in case you missed them:*

Highlights in Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill

Federal Funding for the Alzheimer Society of York Region's Artwell Project The New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP) provides funding for projects that help seniors stay active, share their knowledge, and continue to enhance their learning skills. Since 2016, this program has helped a number of organizations in our community including CHATS, Mon Sheong Foundation, Shabad Aurora, and Pilgrim Feast Tabernacles Ministry. I was proud to announce \$25,000 in NHSP funding to support the Alzheimer Society's Artwell Project. This project allows local seniors living with Alzheimer's and dementia to express themselves through art. If you know a seniors organization that would benefit from NHSP Federal funding, please encourage them to apply before June 15th! Visit: www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/new-horizons-seniors-community-based.html

Visiting Schools in Our Community

One of my key priorities as your Member of Parliament is to focus on supporting the youth in our community and across our country. This past month I visited students at Richmond Green Secondary School and Cardinal Carter Catholic High School to discuss the role of a Member of Parliament, and the responsibility and opportunity youth have in shaping our country for the future.

Cannabis Regulations

Town Hall with MP Bill Blair Thank you to everyone who joined me



MP'S REPORT

Leona Alleslev, MP
Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill

for our Cannabis Regulations Town Hall. We had an informative and fact-based discussion on the laws the federal government is implementing to ensure cannabis is kept out of the hands of Canadian youth, and that deny profits from criminals and organized crime, and to clarify the responsibilities of each level of government in the implementation process.

Highlights in Ottawa

NATO Secretary General Visit to Ottawa As Chair of the NATO Parliamentary Association (NATO PA), I had the honour of welcoming the NATO Secretary General, Jens Stoltenberg, to Parliament Hill for the launch of the #WeAreNATO campaign, and to celebrate the 69th anniversary of NATO. This visit emphasized Canada's importance to the alliance, and that as a founding member of NATO in 1949, we must continue to strengthen our ties across the North Atlantic.

Citizenship and Immigration Committee

In March, I became a new member of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Citizenship and Immigration. We have been studying the Immigration and Refugee Board's training, complaints and appeals processes, and are finalizing a public report of our findings. We have also begun a study on global migration.

First Timers Seeking Council

While we all (I hope) know that the provincial election is just getting underway, the next Aurora municipal election will take place on Monday, October 22. From the Town's website; there are three interesting things to take note of:

First, residents of Aurora will be able to participate in internet voting in the advanced voting period. This will allow voters to cast their vote on any device with an internet connection, from anywhere in the world.

Second, the number of Aurora Councillors has been reduced from eight (8) to six (6) Councillors.

Third, the election campaign period has been reduced. The first day that nominations can be filed is May 1, 2018. The deadline to file nominations for the regular election has been moved to July 27, 2018.

I am not sure how many new people we will have seeking Council seats. Below are some thoughts for the “newbies”.

Many trees have been felled in the study of democratic renewal and re-energizing both our electoral process and our public institutions. There have been a myriad of reports, studies, focus groups and polling done on this issue.

But whether or not we have good government fundamentally comes down to the occupants of the elected seats.



FRONT PORCH PERSPECTIVE

Stephen Somerville

We don't necessarily need to be governed by the best educated or by those with the highest incomes.

In fact, if you look at the experience of our contemporary leaders, they come from many different backgrounds. The current Prime Minister is a teacher by training, while the last one was an economist. The current Premier of Ontario previously led citizens' groups in a number of grassroots community projects.

We do need, however, to elect people who represent and reflect the best qualities of our community.

We need people who truly are of our community, in our community and for our community. They need to put the Town's interest ahead of their own narrowly defined self-interest. And the people we elect should have as their goal simply quality of, and selflessness of service, rather than longevity of

service.

Our Council needs people from all walks of life, who have enthusiasm and energy to burn, and who, although possessing strong opinions are at the same time consensus builders, who work hard and get things done.

This fall when I am looking for someone to support I begin the process by reviewing the brochures or simple pamphlets produced by the respective candidates.

I look for information on four broad areas; education, professional/vocational background, volunteer endeavors and accomplishments and the issues and answers that the candidate has identified as important.

We should be looking at the whole person. For instance, someone might not have much of a formal education, but their professional/vocational or volunteer accomplishments would make up for it. Or their stance on three or four important issues maybe particularly compelling.

Regarding education: Do they have any post-secondary training? If so, in what area? Do they have any specialized knowledge, i.e. energy, public safety, health, social work, education?

What have they done in their private life? What type of career have they had. Do they belong to any professional

Continued on page 24

Barton honoured by Board with Celebrating Student Success Award

By Brock Weir

His clear, booming voice has made him a natural at the morning announcement, and his gregarious personality has made him a familiar face in the halls, and now Andrew Barton, a student at Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School has been recognized for his achievements by the York Region District School Board.

Mr. Barton, 19, is now in his fifth year at Williams' Autism Community Class.

One of the class's founding students, he hit Grade 9 running, establishing himself as a regular and enthusiastic volunteer in the many programs and clubs Williams has to offer.

"Andrew is a dedicated, life-long learner," said teacher Debbie Wilmhurst in her nomination letter to the Board. "He continually strives to learn new skills, demonstrating initiative and leadership through his music, athletic talents and involvement in the school and community. Andrew has built strong, positive relationships with students, staff and community members through his participation in classes, clubs and school and community music performance."

Over the years, Andrew has taken it

upon himself to learn the acoustic guitar, teaching himself through listening and watching videos, and taking his talents to in-school assemblies, accompanied by his classmates, at lunchtime coffee house music events, and more.

"Andrew has an amazing skill of engaging his audiences and bringing joy to a roomful of people," said Ms. Wilmhurst.

Speaking to The Auroran last week, Andrew said he was thrilled to receive the honour.

"It makes me feel super proud and happy," he said. "I wanted to show my family I am very happy. I think everyone around the school knows I am a great volunteer and the best thing about volunteering is just growing up to be a good person."

Ms. Wilmhurst was approached to nominate Andrew by Williams Principal Christopher Hillmer and fellow teacher Mark Fuller, who works with Andrew on the Peer Mentor program.

"I thought it was a wonderful idea and fully supported it and prepared the nomination," she said "Together, over the past five years, we felt Andrew has demonstrated consistent initiative, positive outlook, and he is just involved and very enthusiastic. He is involved in so many activities in the school and



Andrew Barton is an active volunteer in the Williams community.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

in the community. We we just thought he was a great candidate. He brings happiness to everyone he talks to. He recognizes people by name, always has a polite, friendly greeting, always with happy exchanges. He wants to be part of everything that is happening, whether it is the Best Buddies program or Peer Mentors.

"Peer Mentors is a a specialized group here at our school you have to interview for and prepare and attend things on evenings and weekends. He prepared diligently for that, went through the interview process, and was selected. Whenever there is a concert or assembly, performance happening, posters to join this, Andrew volunteers and wants to be a part of that and I support all the students in the class in whatever their interests are."

Andrew was one of the first students to enrol in the school's Autism Community Classroom five years ago, and it was established as a core program offering math, English, science, geography, art and gym, along with social skills.

"On top of all that and included in all of that is work experience," said Ms.

Wilmhurst. "Andrew began working here in the cafeteria, he progressed and spent two years at Winners and is now working at a local veterinary clinic. Involved in all of that is transit training, so we take the VIVA, the YRT, the GO Bus and the GO train. They have learned how to do all that and then the program is individualized to each student's learning style and their interests."

Williams now has three Community Classrooms in addition to autism, including a classroom focused on students with developmental disabilities and students with mild intellectual disabilities.

"Together, I just think it is a real, great, strong community," said Ms. Wilmhurst. "The school itself has a very inclusive, welcoming atmosphere where all our students feel accepted and happy. For this job, it requires a great relationship with the students, the families and our school community and just watching the students grow and feel more comfortable and confident in themselves each year is special. Their enthusiasm for life keeps all of us growing."



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Advertorial



HEAVY LIFTING – Owen and Brandon were hard at work recently near Optimist Park, taking part in the Aurora Community Arboretum’s Annual Community Planting Day. This year’s efforts saw over 500 small trees and shrubs planted within the Arboretum, just west of its Birkshire Drive entrance.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

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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.

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

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Retirement Community in Aurora Focus Group Participants Needed

Kingsway Place*, a well-established retirement residence on Murray Drive, is undergoing an expansion. And we’d like your help!

We’ll be holding two focus groups on June 20 to gather opinions and feedback on building amenities, services and suites - for Kingsway Place and for future residences being built by its parent company, Fieldgate Retirement Living.

We’re looking for:

- Men & women aged 70 yrs+ and/or their adult children.

**Two focus groups will be held Wednesday, June 20th at:
10 am - 12 pm • 1 pm - 3 pm**

The focus groups will be held right at Kingsway Place and there will be 15 to 20 participants in each group.

To volunteer as a participant or to get more information, please email us at patw@kingswayaurora.com or call:

416-475-4820 With your input, we can build great residences!

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145 Murray Drive, Aurora

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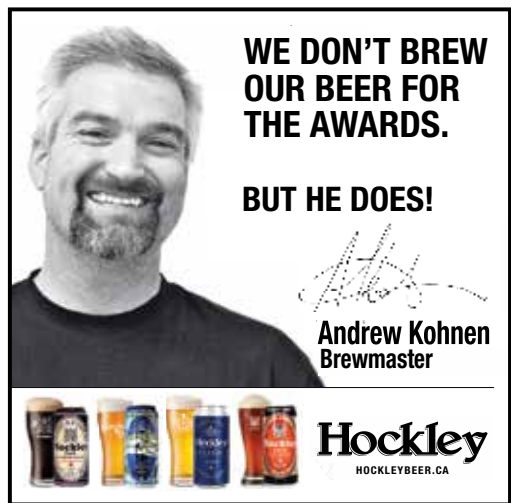
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Sponsorship opportunities could open for local recreation facilities

Council divided on how much is too much for businesses

By Brock Weir

Local businesses have had their names emblazoned on areas and pools for years, sponsorship opportunities that not only give the Town an infusion of cash, but a chance for businesses to increase their community profiles as well.

But those sponsorship opportunities could soon extend far beyond arenas and pools – within reason, according to Council.

This week, Council will consider a

staff recommendation to implement an enhanced recreation facility and sponsorship programs which could open up the naming and/or advertising rights to dozens of municipal recreation facilities.

“Research of other Ontario municipalities has helped identify a variety of additional indoor and outdoor opportunities to increase advertising and sponsorship revenues,” said John Firman, Manager of Business Support, for the Town of Aurora, in his report to Council. “Staff met with numerous existing and potential

I strongly object under the sponsorship enhancements recommendation to expand sponsorship assets to include outdoor rec facilities. A definite no to the splash pads, the picnic shelters, gazebos, the trail system signage, the playgrounds. I really do not want to turn those public spaces into an advertising opportunity

approach to facility sponsorship and advertising. Certainly it is an improvement on what’s happening now, even though we’re doing better, and I think that report bears that out as well in terms of the increased revenue. I am in favour of this and I do appreciate Robin’s work in this regard.”

From the standpoint of Councillor Wendy Gaertner, however, there could be too much of a good thing.

“I strongly object under the sponsorship enhancements recommendation to expand sponsorship assets to include outdoor rec facilities,” she said. “I am okay with baseball diamonds and soccer fields, not sure about the dog park, but a definite no to the splash pads, the picnic shelters, gazebos, the trail system signage, the playgrounds. I really do not want to turn those public spaces into an advertising opportunity.

“we need to take into consideration the user experience. All of these people pay taxes, do they really want to go to a playground and see advertising? With respect to the baseball diamonds, the actual facilities, to me that is something else. We have been advertising in the hockey arena for a long time. To me, that seems to be part of the established way of doing things, but really, do I want to go for a walk on the trail system and see an advertising sign?”

This was a sentiment shared by Mayor Geoff Dawe who said while he “appreciates” the Town is always looking for ways to increase revenues, it can go too far.

“I think there has also been a lot of ‘can we look at the concepts of advertising in the splash pads, the skateboard park, the picnic shelters, trail signs’... I think some things should be sacrosanct and I really wouldn’t want to see advertising in the splash pad, for example,” he said.

Councillor Michael Thompson, on the other hand, expressed concerns over a potential cost-break for first time advertisers, keeping in mind some businesses have already been advertising on rink boards for five years or more.

“Here’s a scenario where you have a long-standing business that has advertised for many, many years,” he said. “A competitor comes into Town and you give the competitor six months free advertising. How would that long-standing business receive that? Maybe give some more thought around who that new business is and whether or not we have existing advertising in those places that may or may not be viewed ad competition. If I’m a long-standing business and I have a 10 year relationship year after year, maybe I am okay with it, but maybe I’m not.”

advertising and sponsorship clients, as well as representatives of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and Welcome Wagon, and industry professionals, to obtain insights into how these programs can best be suited to support local businesses. Staff also consulted with the Town’s Economic Development Officer.”

Their findings could result in discounts for new and first-time advertisers securing advertising space in media such as rink boards and in-facility electronic screens for a period of time to reach new and wider audiences and broaden the number of sponsorship opportunities to baseball diamonds, soccer fields, dog parks, splash pads, tennis courts, skateboard parks, picnic shelters and gazebos, trail system signage, the Town Park band shell and playgrounds.

While members of Council welcomed additional revenue opportunities when the report was presented to them at the Committee level last week, some wondered whether the potential sponsorship opportunities went a few steps too far.

“I think Aurora has definitely been moving in the right direction with respect to advertising and sponsorship revenue,” said Councillor Jeff Thom, who got the ball rolling on expanding advertising opportunities last year through a Council motion. “I think it is a great source of revenue for the Town and I am pleased to see there will be a more engaged...and professional






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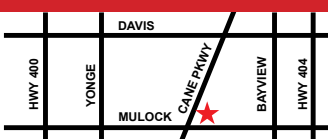
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200th anniversary will close a chapter on remains of 21 early church parishioners



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Over 20 long-forgotten interments from the early days of what is now Aurora United Church were found during recent excavations and demolitions of the site.

Photo by Anna Lozyk Romeo

By Brock Weir

Two hundred years is a long time in the life of any congregation.

Over two centuries, people come and go, founding families move away, and the very principles of the parish evolve as well.

Such is the case for Aurora United Church, which marks its 200th anniversary this year, but as they look to rebuild on their historic site at Yonge and Tyler after their disastrous 2014 fire, the congregation has had a sobering and poignant reminder of their roots as they look to lay the foundations for their future.

Earlier this year, homes on Tyler Street were demolished to make room for the reconstruction project, which will incorporate both the new Aurora United Church (AUC) and a new retirement home.

In between the footprint of the former church and the demolished Victorian homes, however, archaeologists discovered the remains of 21 members of the church's earliest foundations, the names of which have been lost to archival fires and time.

A ceremonial reinterment of these now-unknown forebears of what is now AUC will form one of the highlights of the anniversary year this fall.

"The [discovery of remains] was a surprise to the congregation," says AUC's Lorraine Newton-Comar. "You think that is inevitable, but that knowledge [of the graves] was not with our people. The last burial was in 1869, and I think over that time, because the archives were burned once before in our first fire, we had no idea. This has been a very slow, highly respectful process, and it has taken quite a while."

These numbers could grow this week as AUC begins archaeological excavation on their former Yonge Street parking lot, once a known part of the AUC cemetery believed to have been fully excavated decades ago.

"Once the first remains were found, we knew we needed to do something to mark our forebears in faith, so trustees will purchase a plot at the Aurora Cemetery, or whatever we need to purchase, and have a service to reinter the remains," adds AUC's Andy Comar. "We will have to wait until they are done and then we will

do that in one go. There will also be a marker in place as well so people know these were once people who belonged to the Aurora Methodist Church."

When the first remains were found, AUC was determined to find out just who they were.

"There was absolutely nothing, which was concerning," says Lorraine. "We thought the Town might have records, but [this cemetery] even predates the Town."

Any records the Church may have had on file were long since destroyed, so there was very little that could be done. What is clear from archives that do survive is the cemetery was closed in 1869 and, at that time, relatives were allowed the opportunity to reinter their relatives' remains elsewhere, but the conclusion now is that these 21 individuals were just not claimed – or had no one to claim them.

"This was lost to time," says Lorraine. "It is not a great, big piece of history, but it shows you that in a relatively short period of time, people just do forget and information is lost. That was certainly the case with us."

The 200th anniversary of Aurora United Church has been an unusual journey of rediscovery.

Had they still been in their traditional church building at this time – or, indeed, in their yet-to-be-built new spiritual home – celebrations would be rather different.

As they continue to share space with Trinity Anglican Church, the celebrations will be a bit muted by comparison, culminating in an exhibition at the Aurora Museum & Archives this summer and a special service on October 28.


"It is a little overwhelming to [be leading the parish during the anniversary] because we always talk about us being an 'in-between' after the fire and being here with our Trinity friends," explains Lorraine. "We have always talked about linking arms and pulling together after a trauma and all the sadness of that time. Everyone has just pressed in closer and it is working. We have retained the congregation for the most part, which is kind of miraculous. It is very seldom in a clergy-person's life that you ever experience anything like this and it has probably been the hardest we have ever worked

Continued on page 24

Join us at **TOWN PARK** this Saturday!



...Therapy Seekers band playing, several exciting door prizes, face painting and balloon animals for the children...



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Holy Spirit flexes green thumbs in reclaiming their oasis

By Brock Weir

Sledgehammers sent asphalt flying last fall as students at Holy Spirit Catholic Elementary School battled to reclaim their playground as a space for nature to thrive.

Now, nearly eight months later as spring finally warms up, the students were out in force on Thursday morning to take things to the next level – with a helping hand from Windfall Ecology Centre and the Healthy Kids Community Challenge.

Over the past few months, the Holy Spirit community has reclaimed over 115 square metres of playground as garden space.

Now, the students have moved operations to the front of the building, transforming the otherwise plain Stone Road entrance to the school into something of a Victory Garden.

“We’re planting all different types of plants,” explained Grade 5 student Martino Milani, as he and his fellow students listed off sneezeweed, swamp milkweed, wild strawberries, Canadian rye, and hairy beardtongue as among the plants and flowers they had already put in place – all species native to Canada.

“The kids are getting out there and planting lots of native species,” said Gemma Goldstein of the Healthy Kids Community Challenge. “We de-paved 115 square metres to allow water to infiltrate and have less run-off into Lake Simcoe, now the kids are really getting involved: they are learning how to dig a hole and how to plant with all the safety precautions around it. They are also learning about all the different plants with information sheets so they can read up on all the native plants.

“Then, they are going to be maintaining them, so they are going to be the ones who are going to be taking control.”

And, by late Thursday morning, the students were more than eager to do just that.

“We joined the Green Team because we love nature,” said Luca Albanese. “We chose the Outdoor Committee because we wanted to work outside and the whole winter we just waited and listened and we weren’t able to do our job. Then we told our teacher we were getting bored, so that is why she chose us to come out today.”

The Holy Spirit de-paving project is one of a number Windfall is spearheading in York Region, and the second in Aurora behind Light of Christ Catholic Elementary School in Aurora’s southwest.

Windfall continues to make grant applications to expand the program both within Aurora and York as a whole.

“It has been a really positive experience,” says Ms. Goldstein. “Students love that they now have a beautiful place to play instead of a concrete jungle, basically. They even have some interaction with nature when they get out. They love getting out and gardening instead of being inside an indoor classroom, they get to enjoy the weather, come out and plant and learn a bit about the environment and what they are doing – and know that what they are doing is not only fun, but they are actually having an impact, too.”

“There are so many benefits to doing this. For their school, it looks much more beautiful. The kids will have a nice place to hang out and they will be doing something huge for the environment. It can be really impactful for the environment.”

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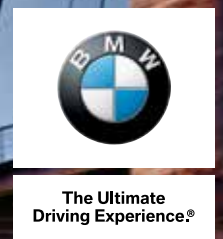


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Historical Society's three-part World War One exhibition wraps with the end and aftermath

By Brock Weir

William John Mugford was probably like so many other Auroran men of his generation when he signed up in the name of King & Country to fight for Canada in the First World War: imbued my patriotism more than a little sense for adventure.

But, again like so many others of his generation, he returned a broken man.

By the diagnosis of the day, the Sisman Shoe Factory employee came back home suffering from shell shock, having to start what was essentially a new life with treatments that only understood the most superficial intricacies of his malady.

His story was one almost lost to the sands of time, but one that is brought to life once again by the Aurora Historical Society in their final look at the First World War.

WWI: Canada, Star of the Empire is on now at Hillary House National Historic Site.

It is the third of the Aurora Historical Society's three-part examination of The Great War, which launched to mark the centenary of the conflict in 2014.

While the first two exhibitions focused on the lead-up to the war and the war itself, the latest show gathers up local artefacts and, perhaps more importantly, very personal local stories to illustrate how Victory was achieved

and the lingering aftershocks of the conflict.

"We go through various aspects of the war, including underage soldiers, the effect of shell shock on soldiers, and we dive into that," explains curator Erika Mazanik. "William John Mugford basically, for the rest of his life, felt like something was after him. We found his medical records and it was quite sad. He was basically under heavy shelling and artillery fire for two straight years in the trenches, and that is going to have its effect on anybody. Part of the problem was when he returns home, that doesn't just go away. Because they felt shell shock was a physical ailment and literally meant your brain was rattling around inside your head, they couldn't prove that happened to you, they didn't believe you that it was a war problem; they thought you were weak and it was just your problem. They didn't give you pensions or anything for it. He was really not given any support in that area.

"He was originally working at the Sisman Shoe Factory and originally had to go. He became a labourer after the war, but we don't know if that is because Sisman wouldn't hire him just in general or because he couldn't do the skilled work of a machine maker. We know he died in the 1950s and seemed to have never quite recovered after the war. That is a common story after the war with soldiers. That is why in the 1920s, prohibition was



Aurora Historical Society curator Erika Mazanik's inventory of Aurorans who took part in the First World War was a labour of love, and welcomes any input to make it as complete as possible.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

such a big deal because they weren't allowed to talk about it, they were told they were weak if they had it and they drank. For me, that was completely understandable for what they had been through, but others tried to shut that down."

Uncovering the stories of individual soldiers over the course of the last four years is something Ms. Mazanik describes as the "pinnacle" of her work.

The fruits of her labour are seen not only in the exhibition itself, but in a large chart now on display on the second floor of Hillary House representing her best efforts to make a comprehensive list of every single Auroran who took part in the conflict.

It is as complete as possible, she says, but there is still the possibility that there is a name omitted, or a name misspelled due to inconsistencies in contemporary data ranging from enlistment papers to local media reports.

"If someone sees a name missing, please tell me, I'd love to know," she urges. "I think the fact some of them haven't really been remembered ever or in many years and haven't had people looking at their personal stories, to be able to take even a little bit of time I had to look at each of them was really meaningful. I really felt a connection to some of them. These were people in our community and I wanted to share their story."

As the Aurora Historical Society's

look at the First World War is at its conclusion it will, in some ways, carry on next year as the Society launches its new exhibition. Keeping the plight of Mr. Mugford in mind, the Society will devote 2019 to a closer look at the history of Mental Health.

"I've always thought that was an interesting area that can have some modern practical applications," says Ms. Mazanik, adding she would love to have community input on the program as well. "I have been in contact with people in the mental health field and people who have had personal stories and trying to not only share the history of the institutions, terminology and how far we have come, but current resources for people to use.

"I think mental health is always an issue we have to work on to destigmatize and have people find the right terminology because sometimes people just don't know the right words that are acceptable anymore. The first institution for mental health in Ontario was called the Provincial Lunatic Asylum. Before that, anyone who was ill just went to jail because they didn't know where else to put them. We'll start in that area and see how far we have come and point out where we have left to go."

Hillary House National Historic Site is located at 15372 Yonge Street and is open Wednesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



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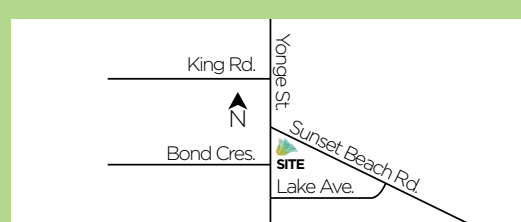


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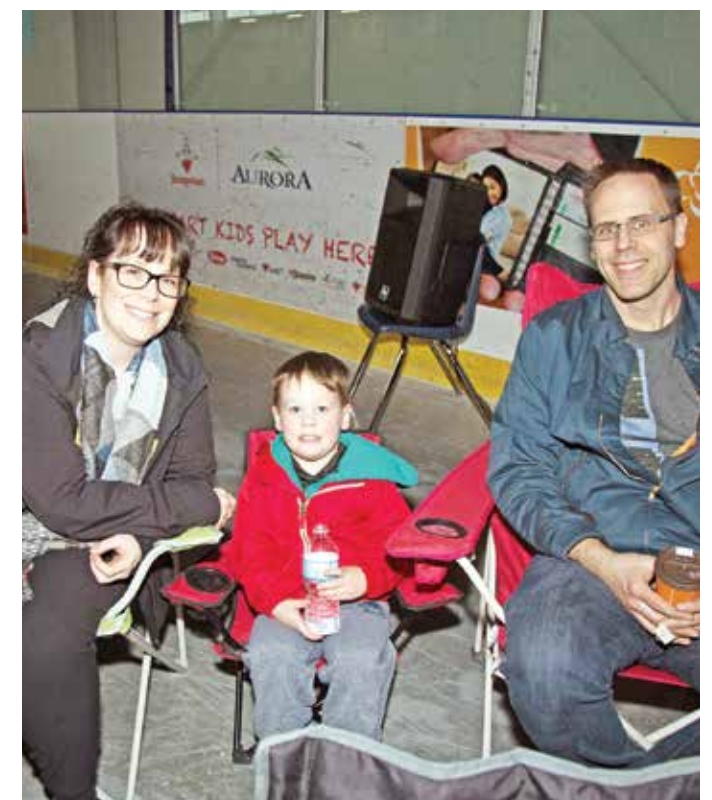
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Paddington's In Good Company



Paddington Bear was in good company as scores of local families filled the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex to recreate his trademark hat for the official kickoff of the Movies in the Park season. This year, the kick-off took place in a location with more predictable weather as Aurorans settled in for a screening of Paddington 2. Activities include crafts, games, a chance to learn more about the Town's Summer Camp programs, and an opportunity to collect items for the Aurora Food Pantry. For more on the full lineup of the 2018 Movies in the Park season, visit www.aurora.ca/moviesinthepark. Pictured here are: (Top Row) Town of Aurora staff and volunteers grab some popcorn and get into a bit of pre-show fun. Jen tries her hand at the hula hoop. Jacob and Mia get crafty. (Second Row) Avery and Bryan get into a sticky situation. Into the spirit of things. Kevin, Van and Melissa.

Auroran photos by Glenn Rodger

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CELEBRATION AHEAD OF SUNDAY'S GARDEN SALE

Federal and Provincial representatives helped the Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society celebrate its 100th anniversary this spring, marking the deep roots they've planted here in Aurora.

They marked their Centenary at Northridge Community Church, welcoming not only MP Kyle Peterson (Newmarket-Aurora), and Leona Alleslev (Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill), but also renowned garden expert Mark Cullen for an inspirational talk. The Garden Club will be back in action this Sunday at Home Hardware (Wellington Street East) where they will host their annual Plant Sale.

"We are again joining to make this our best plant sale ever," say organizers. "Our members will be donating plants from their own gardens in this area so you know they will work for you. Great member and nursery plants at fabulous prices, giveaways and more make this a must visit to Aurora Home Hardware."

Home Hardware is located at 289 Wellington Street East, and the sale will run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Auroran photo by Diane Buchanan

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Get your hands dirty for Community Garden season

By Brock Weir

Ivor Roberts is hard at work tending to his tomatoes, zucchini, cucumber

and lettuce plants. The 79-year-old Aurora resident loves to garden and sees the value of getting out and getting your hands dirty as well as the pride of producing your own food.

He's an active member of the Aurora Community Garden, a plot of land on Industrial Parkway South, divided up into plots shared by local gardeners, facilitated by the York Region Food Network; a plot of land that isn't quite large enough to keep up with demand.

But, now that the warmer weather and Community Garden season is here, it's doing its best to keep up.

Mayor Geoff Dawe was on hand earlier this month to launch the Community Garden Season. Joined by Joan Stonehocker, Executive Director of the York Region Food Network, and representatives from Miller Waste, who dumped off a fresh load of compost to help keep the veggies growing, the occasion was a way to highlight both the value of – and demand for – such a space.

"It's nice to have community gardens that are directed by the community," says Ms. Stonehocker. "When a group comes together and asks for space, that is a perfect opportunity to put in



From Left: Miller's Jon Durzi, Mayor Geoff Dawe, Joan Stonehocker of the York Region Food Network, gardener Ivor Roberts, Chantal McCallum, Garden to Table Coordinator for the York Region Food Network, and Ken Wakeman.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

a community garden. We always have a waiting list as gardeners come back year after year, but once they decide to leave, we move down the waiting list."

For those too late to make the cut, Ms. Stonehocker says they try to direct the would-be gardeners to a similar plot maintained by Windfall Ecology Centre, but they too are chock full of enthusiastic people working the soil.

Community Gardens are a perennial issue in Aurora.

There have been no shortage of local gardeners coming to Council clamoring for more space, but as much enthusiasm as there is around the table for more, efforts always stumble when neighbours object to them being built close to their respective yards.

"It's not really attractive, but in the right places, it is good," says Mr. Roberts.

This is a view shared by Mayor Dawe who said finding the right location is key moving forward.

"There is always a challenge as to where you want to put them and it is the same issue with trails: when they go in after the fact, it causes a lot of angst, so it requires a little bit of forward planning," says Mayor Dawe. "I would think somewhere out in the 2C area would be an opportunity [for more gardens] because we have a lot of space out there. It might be too late in terms of the Highland Gate development area, but there might be an opportunity...to incorporate some community gardens in there as well."

The Hydro Corridor, he adds, might be another – albeit contentious – possibility.

"Some people have a problem with that, and I understand that, but I don't have an issue with it going under the Hydro corridor. To me, it is wasted

space, so why not use it for something? Down at the Finch Subway, they use it for parking, so I think community gardens would be a much better use of that space."

There is always room for more community gardens, adds Ms. Stonehocker.

Community gardens, she says, foster an understanding of where your food comes from and, having fresh food from your own back yard or your community garden also "brings the community together."

"There are all sorts of wonderful things from community gardens; it is good for health and it is good for the environment," she says. "I think there are all sorts of misconceptions about community gardens and one is that they are going to solve food insecurity, which they aren't. There is no way we're going to grow enough food to solve all of that. Another misconception is they are bothersome, and I think they are quite the opposite. They bring people together; it is an education for young and old alike, and there are lots of opportunities to get involved with your neighbours."

The York Region Food Network has been managing community gardens in York Region for over 25 years, starting with the first plot in Markham. From these early days in 1993, the program has expanded to four York Region municipalities.

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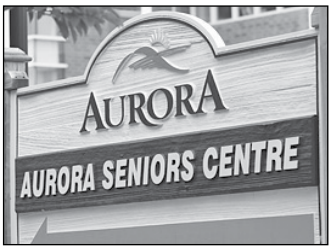
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SENIOR SCAPE

Dave Legallais

The benefits of staying active

Researchers have concluded that remaining physically and socially active throughout life, especially as we age, can be extremely advantageous in maintaining both physical and mental wellbeing as well as keeping feelings of loneliness and isolation at bay.

The more we are able to exercise and keep socially active the more chance we have of feeling fulfilled and healthy.

One of the best places for seniors to find an outlet for both exercise and social interaction is at a local Seniors' Centre. Seniors' Centres offer a wide variety of activities and clubs to fulfill a wide range of interests and abilities. They are also a meeting place for people in the community to gather together.

At the Aurora Seniors' Centre you can find a wide range of physical activities to become involved with such as: Pickle Ball, Bocci, Zumba, the Walking Club, Chair Tai Chi or Chair Stretch. For those interested in more artistic endeavours there are the Sewing, Knitting or Woodworking clubs as well as the Drama Club or the Choir.

Along with the above options, the Centre offers many games including: Bridge, Bid Euchre, Snooker, Ping Pong or Mahjong. This is just a short list of the many activities available.

The Aurora Seniors' Centre also acts as a social gathering place.

It's a wonderful spot to get together with friends for the Wednesday lunch, Tuesday night movie or the Friday night dance. Others opt to just sit in the lounge and chat at their leisure. There also are a wide range of outings including: day trips to the Blue Jays game or the casino, or trips to see both local and professionally staged plays. Recently some of our members headed out for a four-day trip to Chicago.

One of the most rewarding activities at the Centre is the volunteer program. There are numerous jobs that need to be done that involve people of diverse talent and experience. Volunteers report that they really enjoy their work at the Centre.

Being both socially and physically active cannot prevent or cure a chronic illness, however, exercise does boost the immune system which can decrease the impact of certain diseases.

Exercise is one of the best ways to increase bone density. Bone is a living organism and by exercising you increase blood flow, which aids the bone in staying strong. This can help enormously in easing osteoporosis and can help prevent fractures.

As well, physical exercise has significant impact on your cardiac system and helps lower blood pressure. Both physical exercise and socially active pursuits help with overall health.

People who are isolated and lonely have more problems with sleep issues and depression. By getting out and being among people, seniors can ease or slow down the progression of many brain disorders such as dementia.

Finally, being around people and pursuing activities you enjoy helps create a better quality of life.

So, whatever you choose to do, whether it be activities at the Seniors' Centre or activities and people you choose to be involved with throughout your community, if you get out there and participate in life it's a safe bet you will be happier and healthier!

As a member I chatted with recently said about the Aurora Seniors' Centre, "Joining the Centre has really had a positive effect on my overall wellbeing."

HAPPENINGS AT THE SENIORS' CENTRE

With a Joyful Song is the title for this year's Evergreen Choir Spring Concert on Saturday, May 26 at 1:30 pm. The cost is \$5 but children 14 and under are free with a ticket. It is a fun event and is usually sold out. Tickets are on sale now at the Reception desk.

The Aurora Seniors Association

Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 13. Members in good standing are invited to participate and there is a barbecue that follows for those attending. The cost is \$2.

Snooker League is a mixed player activity that started recently and has met with tremendous success. The new league starts in June. They play on Tuesdays and Thursdays and it is a lot of fun. If you are interested, you may sign up at Reception.

Ladies Foursome at the Herongate Barn Theatre will be performed on Thursday June 21. The cost is \$99 for members and \$110 for non-members. The trip includes lunch and premium seating for the show. You leave by bus at 11:15 a.m. from the Stronach Recreation Centre. For information contact Andrew Bailey at the Aurora Seniors Centre at 905-727-3123, ext. 3611.

GMC WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE

TRUCK NATION

GET UP TO \$11,000 TOTAL VALUE ON SELECT NEW 2018 TRUCKS INCLUDES GM CARD APPLICATION BONUS*

CANYON	ELEVATION	SIERRA HD
2018 GMC CANYON EXTENDED CAB 4WD	2018 GMC SIERRA 1500 DOUBLE CAB 4WD ELEVATION EDITION	2018 GMC SIERRA 2500 DENALI 4WD WITH DURAMAX DIESEL ENGINE
LEASE FOR \$146 @ 1.9% FOR 48 MONTHS*	GET UP TO \$11,000 TOTAL VALUE	FINANCE TODAY FOR 0% FOR UP TO 72 MONTHS* (0.2% APR)
BI-WEEKLY LEASE RATE	OR 0% FOR UP TO 72 MONTHS* (2.37% APR)	PLUS GET \$5,772 TOTAL CREDITS
INCLUDES \$4,000 TOTAL VALUE	PLUS GET \$8,400 TOTAL VALUE	

BONUS TAG EVENT \$1,500 BONUS CASH ON ALL NEW 2018 SUVS*

2018 GMC TERRAIN DENALI SHOWN

2018 GMC TERRAIN SLE FWD
LEASE SELECT VEHICLES TODAY FOR

\$159 @ 0.9% OR 10% OF MSRP CASH CREDIT

BI-WEEKLY LEASE RATE

FOR 48 MONTHS* WITH \$1,150 DOWN PAYMENT

- STANDARD 9-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
- FOLD-FLAT FRONT PASSENGER SEAT
- NEXT GEN GMC INFOTAINMENT SYSTEM* WITH 4 USB PORTS*

ON SELECT NEW MODELS IN STOCK THE LONGEST EQUALS \$3,780 (BASED ON SLE AWD - 2.0L WITH MSRP OF \$37,800)

2018 GMC ACADIA DENALI SHOWN

2018 GMC ACADIA SLE-1 AWD
FINANCE SELECT VEHICLES TODAY FOR

0% FOR UP TO 72 MONTHS* PLUS \$1,500 BONUS CASH OR 10% OF MSRP CASH CREDIT

PURCHASE FINANCING

- PREMIUM SEATING FOR UP TO 7 WITH EASY ACCESS TO THE THIRD ROW
- AVAILABLE 20" BRIGHT ALUMINUM WHEELS WITH MIDNIGHT SILVER ACCENTS
- AVAILABLE 3.6 L V6 ENGINE WITH ACTIVE FUEL MANAGEMENT* TECHNOLOGY AND 310 HP

ON SELECT NEW MODELS IN STOCK THE LONGEST EQUALS \$5,280 (BASED ON DENALI WITH MSRP OF \$52,800)

GMC PRO GRADE PROTECTION | COMPLIMENTARY 2-YEAR/40,000 KM LUBE-OIL-FILTER MAINTENANCE | 5-YEAR/100,000 KM POWERTRAIN LIMITED WARRANTY | AVAILABLE 48 LTE WITH BUILT-IN Wi-Fi HOTSPOT (1 GB/2 MONTH TRIAL)

*Regular GM Card Application Bonus - Offer applies to individuals who apply for a Scotiabank® GM® Visa® Card (GM Card) or current Scotiabank® GM® Visa® Cardholders. Credit valid towards the retail purchase or lease of one eligible 2018 model year ("MY") Chevrolet/GMC delivered in Canada between May 1, 2018, to May 31, 2018. Credit is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive) and credit value depends on model purchased; \$750 credit available on: Chevrolet Colorado (excluding 2SA model); and GMC Canyon (except 2SA); and \$1,000 credit available on: Chevrolet Silverado, Silverado HD; and GMC Sierra or Sierra HD. Offer is transferable to a family member living within the same household (proof of address required). As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Company (GM Canada) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. Void where prohibited. See your GM Canada dealer for details. GM Canada reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason in whole or in part at any time without prior notice. *Bonus Tag Event Offers are valid towards the retail purchase of an eligible new or demonstrator 2018 MY GMC SUV or full-size SUV delivered in Canada between May 1, 2018 - May 31, 2018. \$1,500 Bonus Cash and Up to 15% Off MSRP Cash Purchase Credit cannot be combined with each other. \$1,500 Bonus Cash is a manufacturer to consumer incentive (tax inclusive), valid toward retail purchase, lease and finance transactions. \$1,500 Bonus Cash is available on new 2018 Acadia, Terrain, Yukon, Yukon XL, Savana. Up to 15% Off MSRP Cash Purchase Credit is a manufacturer to dealer incentive (tax exclusive), valid toward retail cash purchases only on select 2018 models in dealer inventory the longest as of May 1, 2018. Not compatible with special lease and finance offers. By selecting lease or finance offers, consumers are foregoing this credit which will result in higher effective cost of credit on their transaction. Credit is calculated on vehicle MSRP, excluding any dealer-installed options. Credit value will vary with model purchased; models receiving a 10% of MSRP Cash Purchase Credit are: Acadia, Savana, Terrain, Yukon and Yukon XL. On all offers: Models not eligible for these offers are: Bolt EV, Colorado, Canyon, ID and HD trucks, all Cadillac models, all 2017, MY or earlier models, vehicles not noted above, and these exclusions noted above. As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Company (GM Canada) to verify eligibility. These offers may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Conditions and limitations apply. Void where prohibited. See Dealer for full program details. GM Canada reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason in whole or in part at any time without prior notice. **Lease: Eligible 2018 GMC Canyon Extended Cab 4WD: lease based on suggested retail price of \$36,120, includes \$750 manufacturer-to-consumer GM Card Application Bonus (offer applies to individuals who apply for a Scotiabank GM Visa Card (GM Card) or current GM Card cardholders) (tax inclusive), \$500 manufacturer-to-dealer lease cash (tax exclusive), \$1,250 manufacturer-to-dealer Delivery Credit (tax exclusive) and \$1,500 manufacturer-to-dealer Truck Nation Credit (tax exclusive) towards the lease of an eligible new 2018 GMC Canyon Extended Cab 4WD at participating dealers. Bi-weekly payment is \$146 for 48 months at 1.9% interest rate on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. \$2,475 down payment is required. Total obligation is \$17,693 plus applicable taxes. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by dealer and region) are extra. Option to purchase at lease end is \$16,254. See dealer for details. Discounts vary by model. Dealer may sell for less. Limited time offer, which may not be combined with certain other offers. General Motors of Canada Company may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. Offers may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Total Value: Eligible 2018 GMC Sierra Double Cab Elevation Edition 4WD: Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada for vehicles purchased between May 1, 2018, to May 31, 2018. Limited time offer, which may be combined with certain other offers. General Motors of Canada Company may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. Finance: Eligible 2018 GMC Sierra Double Cab Elevation Edition 4WD: Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada from May 1, 2018, to May 31, 2018. 0% purchase financing offered on approved credit by TD Auto Finance Services, Scotiabank® or RBC Royal Bank for 72 months on a new 2018 GMC Sierra Double Cab Elevation Edition 4WD. Other trims may have effective rates higher than 0%. Participating lenders are subject to change. Rates from other lenders will vary. Down payment, trade and/or security deposit may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example: \$40,000 financed at 0% nominal rate (2.37% APR) equals \$555.55 monthly for 72 months. Total Value consists of \$2,550 manufacturer-to-consumer GM Card Application Bonus (offer applies to individuals who apply for a Scotiabank GM Visa Card (GM Card) or current GM Card cardholders) (tax inclusive), \$1,000 manufacturer-to-dealer Delivery Credit (tax exclusive), \$1,600 manufacturer-to-dealer Truck Nation Credit (tax exclusive) and \$1,500 manufacturer-to-dealer Bonus Cash (tax inclusive) towards the lease of an eligible new 2018 GMC Sierra Double Cab Elevation Edition 4WD at participating dealers. Bi-weekly payment is \$159 for 48 months at 0.9% interest rate on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. \$1,150 down payment is required. Total obligation is \$17,672 plus applicable taxes. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by dealer and region) are extra. Option to purchase at lease end is \$13,200. See dealer for details. Discounts vary by model. 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(Clockwise from Top Left) – Liberal candidates Chris Ballard (Newmarket-Aurora) and Naheed Yaqubian (Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill), PC candidates Michael Parsa (Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill) and Christine Elliott (Newmarket-Aurora), Trillium Party candidate Bob Yaciuk (Newmarket-Aurora), Libertarian candidate Serge Korovitsyn (Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill), and NDP candidate Melissa Williams (Newmarket-Aurora).

Auroran photos by Brock Weir

Ontario Votes 2018: Local candidates square off in prosperity forum

From page 1

forum focused on “Prosperity” with topics ranging from hydro prices to affordable housing.

Participating in the debate were Chris Ballard (Liberal, Newmarket Aurora), Christine Elliott (Progressive Conservative, Newmarket-Aurora), Serge Korovitsyn (Libertarian, Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill), Michael Parsa (Progressive Conservative, Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill), Melissa Williams (NDP, Newmarket-Aurora), Bob Yaciuk (Trillium Party, Newmarket-Aurora), and Naheed Yaqubian (Liberal, Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill).

The luncheon attracted a crowd largely made up of Chamber members so, it was no surprise to anyone in the room that the first question out of the gate focused on business.

The first question was directed at the Liberal party and questioned how the party plans to strengthen business competitiveness in the face of rising taxes, electricity costs, and other burdens.

“In the Liberal party, we want to create the strongest possible economic climate so businesses can survive and businesses can thrive,” said Ms. Yaqubian. “We do understand, as the question implied, that

some costs are going up, but they are going up everywhere and not just here. The Ontario Electricity Board’s numbers show Ontario is smack dab in the middle of other jurisdictions in North America when it comes to hydro pricing and that our economy is actually leading right now in North America.

“We brought in \$500 million in initiatives to support small business. Back in 2010, in the middle of the recession, we actually cut the Capital Tax to support growth and we lowered the small business corporate tax rate from 4.5 to 3.5 per cent. We have done what we can to provide businesses with relief including lowering hydro bills through our Fair Hydro Plan. We need to make sure you’re innovative and you’re the leading edge in your industries.

“When it comes to infrastructure, we have invested more than \$190 billion over 13 years, whether it is transit, roads, bridges, hospitals and schools. Fortunately or unfortunately, you can see some of the evidence of that on Yonge Street right now. Ontario leads the country right now in foreign direct investment. Throughout the whole North America, 80 per cent of North America’s foreign direct investment is coming directly into Ontario and we think that is a good thing. We believe

strengthening business competition and business competitiveness in Ontario is strengthening the competitiveness of our people.”

Naturally, wildly different perspectives and visions were offered by the two main parties vying for votes. Tackling the question on behalf of the Progressive Conservatives, Mr. Parsa said, as being part of a family business himself, it is an issue which hits close to home.

“I have experienced the tremendous challenges we’re facing due to the skyrocketing hydro rate, high gas prices, and a government that is hostile towards small businesses by making it harder and unaffordable for the average business and their families,” said Mr. Parsa. “In Aurora, there are about 1,300 businesses operating and over 4,700 businesses in Richmond Hill. Each business collectively employs about 91,000 employees. Under the current government, Ontario has lost more than 300,000 manufacturing jobs. These are 300,000 well paying jobs that have left our province. With skyrocketing hydro rates, cap and trade and strangling red tape, Ontario is no longer open for business.

“There is no secret to creating good paying jobs in our province. It starts with lowering taxes, cutting red tape and reducing hydro rates for everyone. We need to attract businesses to Ontario, not drive them away as this government has done. A PC government would start by lowering corporate taxes from 11.5 per cent to 10.5 per cent, we would cut the second tax bracket by 20 per cent for the middle class earning between \$43,000 and \$86,000.”

A PC government, he added, would reduce hydro bills by 12 per cent across the board.

“This will help everyone. We will make Ontario more efficient and we will put more money into your pocket. Our plan is to strengthen businesses and its competitiveness in the Province. Under a PC government, we will ensure once again our Province is open for business.”

Ms. Williams is a small business owner in Newmarket and Aurora as well and she said an NDP government would be focused on making things fairer for business.

“I have months where my hydro bill does go up to \$1,200 a month,” said Ms. Williams. “When we sold Hydro, we’re up to 71 per cent increase in hydro right now. I know Mr. Ford is saying he is going to fire the CEO, but I think that might be a little

difficult to do when it is a private company. You’re not able to just go into any business and fire someone working in a private company. What the NDP is planning to do is buy back hydro, put it back into public hands and cutting 30 per cent is going to reduce my costs by at least \$400 a month, which is a savings for me of close to \$5,000 a year.

“The other thing the NDP will be doing is making the business and education tax fairer. For some businesses, depending on where they are based in the province, some of them are paying 15 times higher than other businesses and there is no rhyme or reason for this. We are going to be looking at making that BET fairer. There is also going to be a \$180 billion investment in infrastructure over the next decade to help those small businesses. We are looking at making the public sector the key client for small businesses – any products or services a government needs or requires, we would put into place a percentage they would have to get those products from small businesses.

From the perspectives of the candidates representing the Libertarian Party and the Trillium Party, all three parties were offering more of the same.

“We will create an environment where we can create more private sector companies which will compete with the government-run businesses,” said Mr. Korovitsyn of the Libertarian vision. “If the government-run business is successful, let them be successful. If not, it is going to die by itself.”

Added Mr. Yaciuk: “I have been in business for over 38 years, get the government out of our way. You guys are really good at what you do. Every time you see a document come to your door in your mail sack that says from the government, are you feeling happy? You know you’re being screwed somewhere.

“40 plus per cent of the people in Ontario are getting some or all of their income from the Government of Ontario. That is not sustainable but we pretend it doesn’t count because the governing powers right now are using to ensure their vote base. Vote for something different. You’ve been abused by the PCs, you’ve been abused by the Liberals and then you forget how the PCs abused you and why you threw them out and then you’re going to go back to the liberals and PCs. Let’s break the cycle of abuse. Vote for the Trillium Party of Ontario for something different.”

Away from home for the June 7, 2018 General Election? You can still vote!

If you reside in Ontario and will be away on June 7, 2018, you can still vote:

- at your returning office from **May 10 to June 6**;
- at your returning office from **May 26 to June 6** with assistive voting technology;
- at any advance poll in your electoral district during advance voting from **May 26 to May 30** from **10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. ET**; or
- by mail, starting **May 10**. Your marked ballot must be received by Elections Ontario’s head office no later than **6:00 P.M. ET** on election day, **June 7, 2018**.

If you wish to vote by mail, call us collect at **416.649.1046** or visit **elections.on.ca**.

To find your returning office or advance voting locations in your area, visit **elections.on.ca** or call us at **1.888.668.8683** (TTY: 1.888.292.2312).

To vote in this election, you must be:

- 18 years of age or older on June 7, 2018; and
- a Canadian citizen; and
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Provincial candidates tackle positions on how to tackle debt

By Brock Weir

Ontario's debt has been a hot topic for months leading up to the official start of the 2018 Provincial Election, and Wednesday was no exception as the Aurora Chamber of Commerce hosted an all-candidates forum.

It was the first time that confirmed candidates in both of Aurora's ridings were able to challenge each other's positions face to face in a forum largely focused on business and prosperity.

Participating in the debate were Chris Ballard (Liberal, Newmarket Aurora), Christine Elliott (Progressive Conservative, Newmarket-Aurora), Serge Korovitsyn (Libertarian, Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill), Michael Parsa (Progressive Conservative, Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill), Melissa Williams (NDP, Newmarket-Aurora), Bob Yaciuk (Trillium Party, Newmarket-Aurora), and Naheed Yaqubian (Liberal, Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill).

First to tackle the debt issue was Ms. Elliott, a file she said has been "grossly mismanaged" by the Liberal government over the last 15 years.

"Since taking office in the last 15 years, the Liberals have tripled Ontario's debt and it is expected to reach \$400 billion should they be re-elected," she said. "The cost to service that debt is now the third largest expense in government after health care and education, and they just announced their deliberate intention to increase that debt with their recent budget. As a result of this government's plan to run six consecutive multi-million dollar deficits, Moodie's has recently downgraded Ontario's position from stable to negative. These are your dollars. Your money. Not for services, not for health care, not for education

— simply to pay the bankers and creditors.

"The Liberals often say they are the party that cares. I would say there is nothing caring about spending money we don't have, especially at election time, borrowed off the backs of future generations. I have three 27-year-old sons and like many of you I'm sure I can't bear the thought of leaving them so far down a financial hole that they are never going to be able to get out of it and they are never going to be able to have the same quality of life. Despite what the Liberals say, everybody in this room knows that nothing is free. Unlike the Liberals and the NDP, we don't spend money we don't have. As one of our five priorities, we have committed to restoring trust, responsibility and accountability in government."

Ms. Elliott touted PC leader Doug Ford's plan to set up a commission to find out what the "true state of finances in Ontario is" and "stop the waste of taxpayers dollars" on things like cancelled gas plants and E-Health.

"We will make sure that fiscal prudence will come from setting priorities. We will set them based on the needs of all Ontarians."

Tackling this position on behalf of the Liberals was Chris Ballard who said there was some "oversimplification" at the table in not recognising "good debt and bad debt."

"We borrow money to buy a house because we have to live somewhere. We borrow money, many of us, to buy a car because we have to get to work. It is similar with the types of investments we're making here in Ontario," said Mr. Ballard. "We have made a deliberate choice to invest in healthcare, child care, seniors care, and as a result, we still have a small deficit, less than one per cent

of GDP. We did the hard work in years gone past to bring the province back to balance, and I can tell you having attended some pretty feisty Treasury Board meetings there was a lot of wrestling to get us back to that balance. We have chosen to invest in infrastructure, in health care, in education and other important services that help build a sustainable community.

"We're doing things like making prescription drugs free for children and youth and for seniors, and we have invested in free tuition and invested in child care because all of these things mean we get to live in sustainable communities which support sustainable businesses. We have also made the largest investment in public infrastructure in the Province's history, more than \$190 billion over 13 years. If you look at what is happening with our GO Train service, we are still on track to bring 15 minute all day electrified service to Newmarket-Aurora. We have invested in roads, bridges, highways, hospitals and schools and all along the way we have generated a booming economy: 820,000 jobs last count, I believe the last Stats Can report is over 1 million since the great recession of 2008, over 400,000 jobs under this Premier alone. That is 500 jobs every day that Premier Wynne has been in office. Our unemployment rate is the lowest it has been in over 20 years. Not my stats, Stats Can."

Ms. Williams, on the other hand, likened the Liberal Government as a house — one which now has a "leaking roof."

"After so many years of mismanagement we need to fix that," she said. "We have homelessness, which is big in Newmarket-Aurora. We have people that have cavities that need to be filled. We have seniors we need to make sure can access...

and make sure they retire safely as well as with dignity. I, like you, do not want to leave my children or grandchildren with any debt. The NDP does have a costed plan that has been approved by Kevin Page, the former Parliamentary Budget Officer and when I look at Mr. Ford, he has recently promised to cut \$24 billion in taxes. He also will be adding new spending that needs to come from somewhere.

"The NDP will address a decade-long trend of funding cuts and freezes to services and we will address this by addressing the sustainability in which we fund these services. We will close loopholes and corporate income tax giveaways and, of course, ask the wealthiest of Ontarians to contribute a little more and pay their fair share.

Continued on page 29



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FREE Week of May 24, 2018

Lacrosse Saints close CISAA season with a loss



The St. Andrew's Saints got their revenge on the Upper Canada College Blues with a 7 - 4 win on the road in CISAA action last Friday.

Auroran photo by Jake Courtepatte

By Jake Courtepatte

The varsity St. Andrew's Saints will be in tough while looking to repeat as CISAA lacrosse finalists.

In a league that has annually seen St.

Andrew's do battle with St. Michael's College of Toronto for the lacrosse title, Upper Canada College surprise SAC with a 15 - 7 win to open the season in late April, before the Saints bowed to St. Michael's 11 - 6 in week two.

The Saints got the better of Upper

Aurora FC shutout in League 1 week four

By Jake Courtepatte

A few chances off the bar was all that Aurora FC could muster in week four of the Ontario League 1 season, failing to find the back of the net on either the men's or the women's side.

Still in search of their first win of the season, the Aurora FC men did battle with the Oakville Blue Devils on Sunday, who were looking to keep their unbeaten streak alive.

Oakville opened the scoring at the 16-minute mark on an in-close chance that left Aurora keeper Ryan Collins little room for error, though Collins redeemed himself on a stopped penalty kick only a few minutes later.

Aurora's best chance came at the 58-minute mark when Dylan Rennie was found by a lob at the back post, but sent his header just wide of the net.

Putting on the pressure late in the one-goal game, Aurora was stymied by an Oakville defense that has yet to relinquish a goal through the first four games of the season.

The 0-2-2 Aurora men continue their toughest stretch of schedule this

week when they return to the pitch against the Toronto FC III, who sit tied atop the table at 3-0-1 with Oakville.

Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. Sunday in Toronto.

The women's side was stymied as well despite another strong effort from goalkeeper Meghan Phillips, who held the powerhouse Hamilton United Elite scoreless through the game's first 45 minutes, thanks to a pair of offside calls ruling out two balls that found the back of the net.

Phillips stood no chance on the game's opening goal at the 52-minute mark, making a diving stop before the rebound ended up squarely on the foot of a Hamilton forward.

The match was put out of reach soon after on a nice header past Phillips.

Aurora head coach Siamac Kavianpour said he was "happy" with his team's efforts, adding that he has seen improvement each game with the team's rookie players.

The women will look to rebound after a week's break when they host FC London (2-0-1) on June 2 at Stewart Burnett Park.

Canada last Friday, beating the Blues 7 - 4 in an uncommonly low-scoring game, switching to a defensive system they will be looking to emulate when they meet UCC in this weekend's CISAA semifinal.

The varsity Saints reached last year's final before bowing out to St.

Michael's 10 - 7, a rematch of the 2016 final that saw the Saints earn their first Independent league title since 2009.

The Under-14 Saints squad had their season ended by Upper Canada in last Wednesday's league semifinal, falling on the road by a score of 10 - 5.

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Barbarian women rush to perfect start to OWL season



The Aurora Barbarian women's squad opened the OWL season with a 2 – 0 record after a win over the Toronto Scottish at Fletcher's Field on Thursday. **Auroran photo by Jake Courtepatte**

By Jake Courtepatte

The Aurora Barbarian first women are picking up right where they left off.

Aurora's representatives in the top-tier Ontario Women's League played to a 2 – 0 record to open the season after an eight-try effort against the Toronto Scottish at Fletcher's Fields on Thursday, putting up a 55 – 24 win after a heavy-scoring second half.

The win came just four days after a whooping of the Markham Irish in the season opener, where Aurora rode fourteen tries to an 86 – 0 shutout.

The 2017 OWL finalists are tied atop the leaderboard with the Toronto Saracens, who have also opened to a 2 – 0 record.

The women return to the field on Saturday to take on the 1 – 1 Toronto Nomads.

The Aurora men were able to pick up their first win of the season following a slow start, riding three tries to a 23 – 14 win over the Barrie RFC on Thursday.

Both the Barbs and the Ajax Wanderers take a 1 – 1 record into their 3 p.m. matchup at Fletcher's on Saturday.

Race is on for the 12th Annual Moraine Adventure Relay

The twelfth annual Oak Ridges Moraine Adventure Relay is fast approaching.

One of the largest events of its kind in Ontario, this unique race will engage over 400 canoeists, runners and trail cyclists covering either 160 km of beautiful Oak Ridges Moraine trail for the Full Relay, or the last 80 km of the trail for the Half Relay. The big event is on Saturday, June 9th.

We are looking for Ontario residents to create and register recreational, corporate or elite teams to compete in the event. Many teams are formed by neighbours and friends in communities across the Moraine and further afield. We encourage residents to consider starting their own team to compete in one of the two races of this exciting event. Already we have registered around 30 teams for the two Relay races and we expect several more will join in before the Relay day.

The Full Relay course runs 160 km from Gore's Landing on Rice Lake south of Peterborough, westward to Seneca College in King City. The course is divided into fourteen stages of varying distances consisting of water, road and trail portions. With the exception of the 2-person canoe stage, one team member will complete each stage; however, an individual may do multiple stages. Thus, Full Relay teams may include up to 15 members. The race starts at 8 a.m. All teams are expected to complete the route by 11:30 p.m.

New this year is the Half Relay, which covers half the distance (80 km) with seven stages of biking and running for a team of up to seven people. The Half Relay course covers the last half of the Full Relay race from the Purple Woods Conservation Area in Oshawa to the

Finish Line in King City. The Half Relay race starts at 1 pm. It occurs concurrently with the Full Relay race, and is open to recreational and corporate teams. Elite teams are only entered in the Full Relay.

The Adventure Relay is the major annual fund raiser for the Oak Ridges Trail Association. Proceeds from team entries are used to improve signage and parking lots, build foot bridges and boardwalks, and to purchase and operate maintenance equipment to keep the trail clear and safe for all users. Tax-deductible donations can be made at www.oakridgestrail.org/donate/pledge-racer-moraine-adventure-relay.

The price to participate in the Full Relay for recreational and elite teams is \$600. For Corporate teams, the price to participate in the Full Relay is \$2,000, and for the Half Relay, \$1,750. The price to participate for a recreational team in the Half Relay is \$450. If you're not up to competing, you could become a Relay volunteer at one of the 15 checkpoints along the trail to record in and out times, supply refreshments, take photos, and cheer on the competitors!

Competitors are expected to come through Aurora, stopping at a checkpoint at Sheppard's Bush Conservation Area between 7.15 and 8.15 p.m.

To find out more, check out the Adventure Relay website, <http://www.oakridgestrail.org/adventure-relay/> and follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/21365674512/>. For all checkpoint locations with driving directions and maps, go to www.oakridgestrail.org/adventure-relay/course. For more information on registering for the Relay or volunteering for the event, call Michele at 905-833-6600 or 1-877-319-0285 or email us at: info@oakridgestrail.org.

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MAY 16



Sabrina Razack is an Educator for the TDSB, with NCCP certifications in basketball, track and field, and has coached multiple sports. Long-term athlete development (LTAD) is improving the delivery of sport and physical activity, but there are roadblocks for girls and young women. Sabrina will explore key issues in supporting them as athletes and leaders.

TEAM DRIVEN SPORT LEADERSHIP

MAY 30



Dave Cooper is a former international tennis coach, author, and sport consultant who currently works as a corporate leadership coach. Having coached professional and Olympic athletes, Dave will present powerful new concepts that players, coaches and teams can use to dramatically improve performance while increasing mental toughness, confidence and leadership skills.

SPORT FOR PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

JUNE 06



Vicki Keith Munro is one of the most successful marathon swimmers in the history of the sport. She holds 16 world records, and was the first to cross all five Great Lakes. Vicki is also a Member of the Order of Canada. Be inspired by this world-class athlete who has coached athletes with a disability at the highest levels, and has raised more than \$1 million to support programs for children with disabilities.

COACH TRAINING - WHERE DO I START?

JUNE 13



Jeremy Cross is Director Coach Development at Coaches Association of Ontario, and has worked with Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment, University of Waterloo, and the Orlando Magic. Getting your coach development, training and NCCP education can seem overwhelming. Jeremy will take you through a variety of entry points for your coaching education, and set you on the right track.

EXPLORING RISK AND PLAY

JUNE 20



Brandy Tanenbaum is the Injury Prevention Program Coordinator at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. Safety in sport is essential, but must be balanced with risk. Growing evidence demonstrates that learning to successfully deal with risk is an essential life skill. Brandy will explore the connection between play, risk and physical literacy as part of healthy childhood development.

..... These are live webinars: 7:30 - 8:45 pm

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Aurora Minor Hockey Association



IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING 2018/2019 REGISTRATION

PRICE GOES UP June 1, 2018

In-House Registration dates: Saturday May 26 (10 am – 1 pm)
Wednesday May 30 (6 – 9 pm)
AMHA Office at the Aurora Community Centre
Yonge/Aurora Heights Drive

On line registration is available for players who have previously played with us through our website link at www.auroraminorhockey.com. All new players must register in person.

REGISTRATION fees for the 2018/2019 season are:

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\$610.00 Players born 1998 through 2012*

(Registration fees increase by \$50 on June 1, 2018 and \$100 on July 1, 2018)

\$ 60.00 Non-Resident Fee (if applicable)

*New players with Aurora Minor Hockey must submit a copy of a birth certificate or passport and proof of residency.

A 10% discount applies to families with 3 or more players.

Refunds will be issued to anyone withdrawing prior to September 1, 2018 (less a \$25 admin fee).

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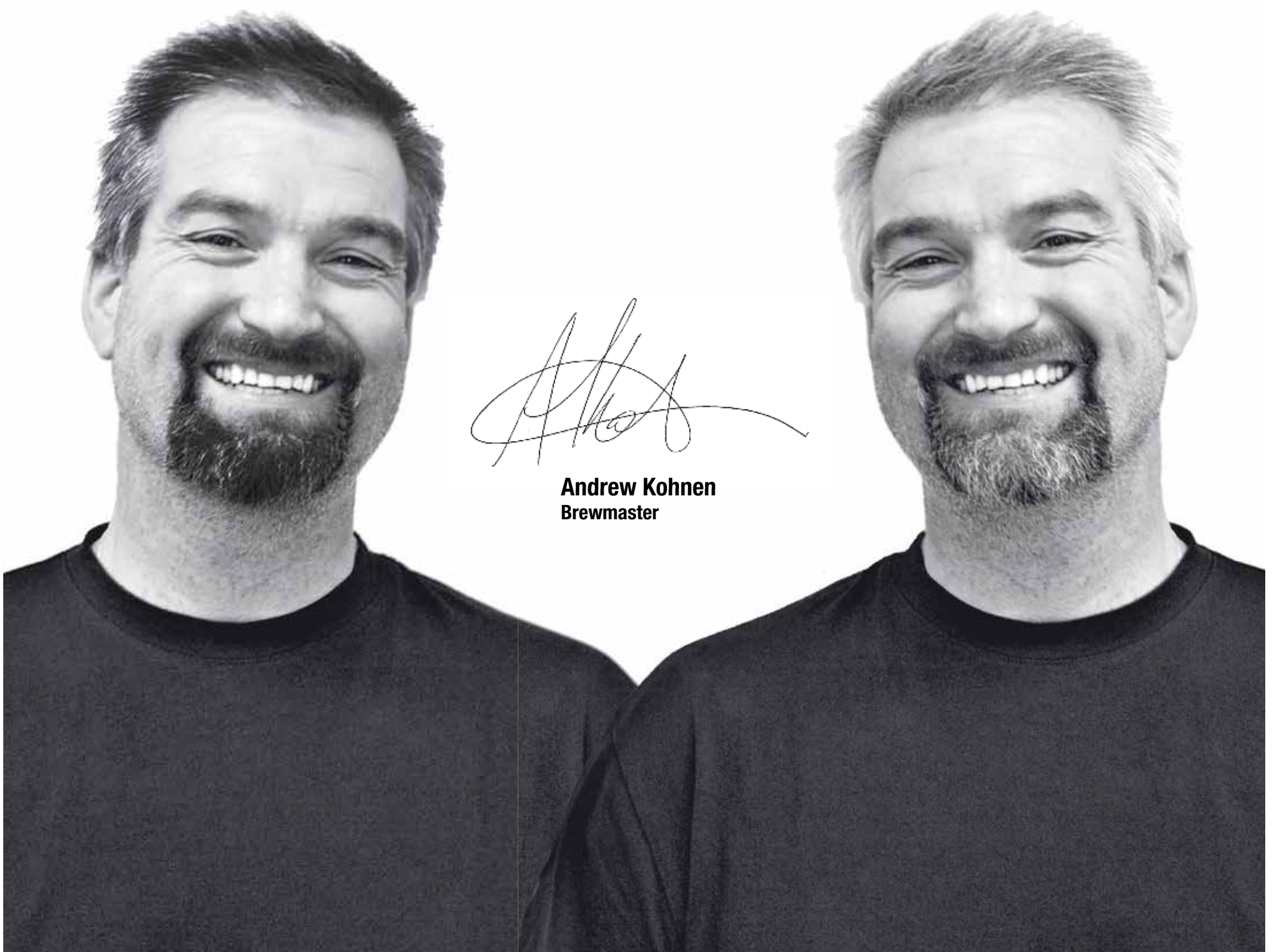


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Two baseball diamonds the likely bet for Hallmark lands

From page 1

on two baseball diamonds with a value of \$25 million plus \$3 million is \$28 million for two diamonds. That is \$14 million per diamond. It is my view that the cost to build the Stewart Burnett Baseball Diamond in 2009 was around \$1 million, excluding the land. To summarize, you have an asset worth \$25 million. Should we decide to build the baseball diamonds, it is a \$25 million investment and a loss of property taxes forever.”

Mr. Gallo went on to suggest the Town sell the Hallmark lands, take the proceeds and invest in repurposing current recreational assets to address the growing needs of baseball and soccer within the community, including adding baseball diamonds to Machell Park, across the street from the Aurora Community Centre.

This was a position adopted by Councillor John Abel following the delegation.

“I am looking at fiscal responsibility. If I am going to construct a ball diamond, I am going to do it in the most responsible way,” said Councillor Abel. “We have to look at the whole picture here. If you tell me I am going to build a ball diamond for \$4.5 million, that is not responsible. You have to look at little harder and do a little better than that. Yes, we looked at the Hallmark lands and I think we had our eye on the building and looking at leveraging that into a multi-sport facility.”

“We have to think long-term for our community. We can’t be giving away employment land. We have to guard and make that available for the long-term sustainability for our community. If we have an opportunity to move that land and sell it, [with the money we gain] we can build our multisport facility with that.”

The Councillor said it would be a better use of funds to construct two further baseball diamonds at Machell Park.

The problem, however, as pointed out by Councillor Jeff Thom, is going into last week’s General Committee meeting, building sports fields on the Hallmark lands was one of the top pledges made by Councillor Abel on the website touting his mayoral bid.

“I will provide sports facilities/fields at Hallmark Lands at GW Williams and the new Bayview High School to be built,” said the website on Tuesday evening before the passage was removed on Wednesday morning.

“I am just simply mentioning your position has changed, it’s public,” said Councillor Jeff Thom.

Meanwhile, Councillor Wendy Gaertner added, “This is sounding a lot like election-speak.”

“I never thought of buying this land in terms of taxes and tax laws, but at the end of the day...we have to look at community benefit and we have been looking at a piece of land for so long and there is nothing,” she continued. “Who knows, we might get lucky and find another piece of land somewhere – people have mentioned Bloomington – but we have other needs. Soccer has needs, we have all other kinds of needs. We need all the land we can get.”

This echoed a view shared by most members of Council, who argued the Town is not in the business of flipping land and that there are acute needs of sports groups that need to be addressed.

“Going in, when we chose to purchase, it was always going to be purchased for recreational,” said Councillor Michael Thompson. “This change from industrial to recreational was known when we purchased the land and Council made that decision – no different than when we acquired other pieces of land last term. We decided to purchase Mavrinac and, again, we did that for municipal purposes for the community benefit. The decision at that time was, no, we weren’t going to flip the land and make a profit on it, we were buying that land for

a goal and a purpose and it was for the community benefit. Yes, we could turn around and flip this land.

“There is a possibility to make a profit, but that is not why we’re here. We’re here to address the needs of the community and that is why we buy those lands. We’re not looking to purchase and flip those lands; we’re looking to purchase those lands to address the shortfalls and needs of the community, especially our sports and rec. I have a hard time putting that into the equation about what the cost of it is because... regardless of whether it is going to be baseball fields or soccer fields, whatever it is, we were buying it for that purpose and if you want to do that kind of math, I don’t think that is really genuine.”

Added Councillor Tom Mrakas: “I wouldn’t be in favour of [Machell Park] because I wouldn’t want to take away from one organization and give to another. I don’t think that makes sense. As far as selling the lands, if we sell these lands, yes, we would make a profit at this point but we would have to buy lands and the price has gone up to buy lands. We realistically wouldn’t be making a profit; we would actually be losing a valuable piece of land that we could actually convert into sports fields and provide more services for our residents.”

Mayor Geoff Dawe echoed Councillor Thompson’s sentiments, bringing the minds of Council back to the fight to secure lands on Mavrinac Boulevard for what is now Thomas Coates Park.

“If we were in the business of buying and selling, which I don’t believe is the business a municipality should be in, we should have flipped Mavrinac,” said Mayor Dawe. “We could have tripled our money, a developer would have bought it, they could have put all sorts of houses on there, and we would have made tax dollars that way. The Council of the day elected to make a park there, so obviously we have precedent for buying land and turning it into recreational property.”

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Anniversary designed to draw community together

From page 10

as a team – but the most fulfilling work we have ever done in the church.”

Adds Andy: “It is an anniversary to be celebrated. We were hoping they would be in a new building by now, but it was not to be. The anniversary celebrations during the year are probably a little bit less than what

we would have done if we were in our own building, but certainly to mark this, it is a historic occasion. The things we’ve planned are geared towards bringing the congregation together, bringing former members and friends...and we will encourage people to come back and be a part of the celebration.”

FRONT PORCH PERSPECTIVE

From page 5

organizations?

Have they participated in any volunteer activities? If so, for how long and in what capacity? Are they or have they been in the past a coach, referee or administrator for any of the local sports organizations?

If not presently a member of Council, have they attended any of the public Council meetings? Do they sit on any of the community committees? Are they part of any ratepayer group?

Have they taken the time to write letter(s) to the editor on a particular issue in the past? What was the issue that made them write?

And finally, there are certainly lots of municipal issues for local voters to chew on; growth, the level of spending,

stable neighbourhoods, to name a few, but what will be the top three issues that a candidate keys on?

The brochure does not necessarily need to be expensive or ornate, but it should be visually appealing to the eye and should attempt to provide a balanced view of the candidate.

For those who are seeking office for the first time, spend time on making the brochure/pamphlet a good one. For many candidates it is the first point of contact with the voting public, and as my mom always said, first impressions are important.

Stephen can be contacted at stephengsomerville@yahoo.com

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Sports clubs underscore pressing need for fields, diamonds

By Brock Weir

As Council moves to set a use for the Hallmark lands this week, one thing is clear for Aurora's sports clubs: they need more elbow room.

Various teams and clubs made their pitch to members of Aurora's Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee earlier this month ahead of Council's vote last week.

The meeting was a time for groups to make their final pitches after Council referred the Hallmark issue to the Committee for their added input. At the meeting, municipal director Robin McDougall presented Committee members with the hard numbers on the usage of existing sports fields and swelling membership numbers for each club that regularly uses municipal facilities.

It was also an opportunity, however, to hear from groups that hadn't yet had a chance to weigh in.

"I clearly have 60 – 65 people on a wait list every single year, we're growing four to five teams every single season and we have had to obtain permits in Newmarket and Markham because there aren't any senior diamonds available," said Judy Robar of the Aurora Mixed Slo Pitch League, which was founded in 2015. "We used to use the Complex, we used to use Optimist Park, they are gone to the youth, which is great and I am hoping the youth continue to grow as a league, but there are no senior diamonds to accommodate. We are a huge growing sport and I am the only coed league in Aurora. We're really hoping to get some more diamonds so we can stay within the Town."

Costs of the Hallmark lands, on the other hand, were top of mind with Roy Cohen, President of the Aurora Youth Soccer Club, who suggested adding a

I clearly have 60 – 65 people on a wait list every single year, we're growing four to five teams every single season and we have had to obtain permits in Newmarket and Markham because there aren't any senior diamonds available

baseball diamond to Machell Park to relieve some of the pressure on groups like the Aurora King Baseball Association.

"If we used Machell and adding a baseball diamond there or two and making that a showcase facility, it would be a lot less," said Mr. Cohen. "The Hallmark could go for temporary soccer fields until you find a proper economic use for it where it is not as taxing. \$7.5 million for two baseball diamonds sounds expensive to me, and that is what I would look at – a more prudent, fiscally responsible avenue, because that is a lot of money for two baseball diamonds."

The costs of the Hallmark land were acknowledged at the meeting by a number of Council members in attendance, including Councillor Michael Thompson, who said while the land is "expensive," Council has been struggling to purchase lands adequate for sports needs.

Class of 2018 announced Tuesday

From page 3

an impressive 38 seasons.

"He earned 11 first place finishes in the OUA East Division, six Conference Championships, and won 700 career victories. He was the OUA East Coach of the Year nine times and twice National Coach of the Year."

Although Mr. Doolittle died in 1996, his is a name which remains familiar with Aurorans.

"He was born and raised in Aurora and was an amateur al-star athlete that excelled at hockey, baseball, and lacrosse. He was an umpire with Baseball USA, a professional hockey referee in the OHA, AHL and Western League, and an NHL Official."

The Class of 2018 will join 25 honoured members into the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame at an induction celebration dinner set for November 8 at St. Andrew's College. Thus far, their ranks include 14 athletes, three coaches, seven builders, and one member of the media.

The Aurora Sports Hall of Fame was established in November 2013, by Sport Aurora and with the financial support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation. The Aurora Sports Hall of Fame (ASHOF) celebrates its 5th year, in celebration of sport history and excellence; dedicated to the recognition of the important place that sport has assumed within the fabric of Aurora

"When opportunities came forward, we have done our best because there have been situations where we have been in bidding wars with developers and that is not always the best use of tax dollars," said Councillor Thompson. "In this particular situation, whether it is a multipurpose field or artificial turf, baseball, or a bricks and mortar building, land cost to me was always going to be a [part of it]."

Mayor Dawe, on the other hand, took up the suggestion that needs could be addressed further by exploring the possibility of carving out soccer fields on Moraine lands and lands on the

floodplain on which little can be built except for parking lots.

"If anyone is going to treat the land properly, it should be the municipality to actually be sensitive to the land use and, at the same time, be able to use that land for recreational purposes," said Mayor Dawe. "It is definitely worth exploring and I am not sure how we would even start that, to be frank, but there is a huge percentage of Aurora that is Moraine and you can carve out a lot of fields wherever they may be. You may not be able to put the kind of [built facilities on it] but maybe for some areas that is not needed as much."

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The price is wrong for auctioning off naming rights to new Aurora parks: Council

By Brock Weir

Auctioning off the naming rights to new neighbourhood parks and parkettes has been a long-standing way to raise money and awareness for many community groups and organizations over the years, including Southlake Regional Health Centre.

But is the prestige of a local park bearing the name of yourself or a loved one in perpetuity wearing thin? That's the question Council members are grappling with after recent naming auctions have garnered little more than an opening bid.

A policy will soon be coming forward on land donation practices after Mayor Geoff Dawe and other Council members said the most recent auction failed to raise a flurry of bids.

These concerns were raised during a vote last week on a laundry list of names for an equally long laundry list of parks and parkettes in new neighbourhoods that are soon to become operational.

Among the parkettes that raised eyebrows were the Richard and Sandra Gladden Park on DeGraaf Crescent, which was the result of the winning bid at the 2013 Southlake Gala and the Jean Marie Iacovette Parkette on Thomas Phillips Drive, the selection of the winning bidder last year.

"The Public Facilities Naming Policy 1997 ensures consistency in the recommendations being submitted for consideration," said Parks Manager Sara Tienkamp in her report to Council. "One of the goals outlined in the policy is to remember/retain the memories of past residents, facilities or events which depict our heritage."

We're looking at a sliding scale based on the size of the park and its presence in the community to make sure there is an appropriate amount of money that goes back to the community,

Among the criteria are the geographic or historical significance of the specific location, historical or prominent individuals, families and groups, a significant donation that was instrumental in making the parkland a reality, or a name appropriate to the park's function.

"Nine different park blocks in the Town are unnamed, of which six have been developed and two are anticipated to have construction completed in 2018," said Ms. Tienkamp. "The majority of the park blocks are part of the 2C development area. In accordance with corporate policy on naming facilities and parks, staff has compiled a list of suggested names to possibly be used in the naming of the parks with no formal designation. All of the names presented have been researched by Cultural Services staff for their historical significance as original landowners or who had prominent connection to the lands."

Those suggested names with historical significance include Trent Park on Alex Brodie Drive, which carries the name of the family that owned the original farmland from 1882 to 1941, Edward Coltham Park on

William Graham Drive, so named in honour of the family who owned the land from 1900-1963 and its patriarch who was described in a contemporary obituary in the Aurora Banner as "one of the best known farmers in the section...highly respected by all."

Johnathan Bales Parkette on Joseph Hartman Crescent honours the original settler of the land, as does Benjamin Pearson Parkette on Woodland Hills Boulevard and John Ashton Parkette on Vines Place.

"We should be going with the staff recommendations for these reports," said Councillor Jeff Thom at last Tuesday's Council meeting after issues were raised at the Committee level the previous week. "If we decide, as a Council, that we want to create a policy for the auctioning off of naming rights for various Town assets, we should come up with that policy first before we begin to allocate Town assets that are going to be named off in that fashion. I think if we're going to create some sort of process whereby we can have different groups auction off certain assets that we decide, we should have a policy in place before we do that so we don't get into trouble."

Councillor Michael Thompson offered a similar perspective.

"I do support the idea that we have to be cautious about reserving these parks for future fundraising events because we have no policy around it," he said. "I think it is a good idea in general, but as we have seen with the Hoedown and the Mayor's Golf Tournament, there are more organizations than there are the ability to fund. You need to have a policy around it, otherwise there is a whole host of organizations out there within the community that would love to have a fundraising event like that to raise funds for whatever needed projects they have.

"I think we should focus on developing a policy for that and, for the time being, follow through on the staff recommendations before us so this development can move forward. Once we have that policy in place, then start talking about preserving future parks [for fundraising purposes]."

And that is exactly what is going to happen.

While CAO Doug Nadorozny said there is a policy for park naming and a donation process, there is more work to be done to ensure there are "appropriate minimums" in place when a park is being auctioned off "so it doesn't go for a nominal value."

"We're looking at a sliding scale based on the size of the park and its presence in the community to make sure there is an appropriate amount of money that goes back to the community," he said.

Council's decision also confirmed the name of "Thomas Coates Park" as the new name for Mavrinac Park, which formally opened with a ceremony on Tuesday afternoon.

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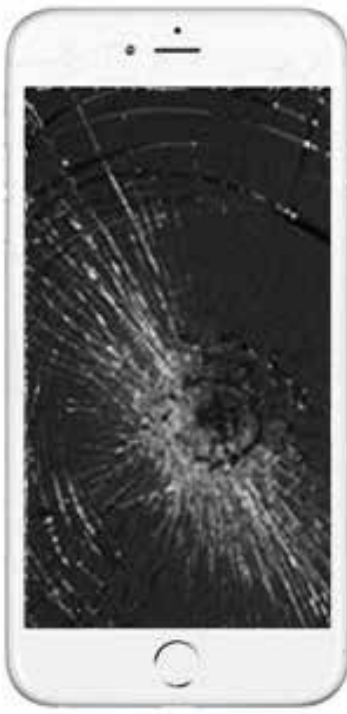

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CHATS awarded the prestigious June Callwood Award for Voluntarism



The Province of Ontario recently presented CHATS – Community & Home Assistance to Seniors, with the Excellence in Volunteer Management Award, as part of the June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award for Voluntarism.

Presented by the Honourable Laura Albanese, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, CHATS was recognized for its Volunteer Engagement Model. The CHATS model, which focuses on strengthening connections between volunteers and supervisors, creating volunteer empowerment and encouraging personal growth, was cited as an exemplary demonstration of why the Selection Committee chose CHATS.

Chris Ballard, Minister of the Environment, recognized CHATS on its exemplary achievement.

“CHATS is a role model for other not-for-profits throughout Ontario. Their strong commitment to providing a quality experience and motivational engagement ensures that volunteers not only give to their community, but also receive a sense of personal satisfaction. I congratulate them on being selected for the prestigious June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award for Voluntarism”.

This year, 12 individuals and four organizations from across Ontario were recognized. The June Callwood awards recognize dedicated individuals and

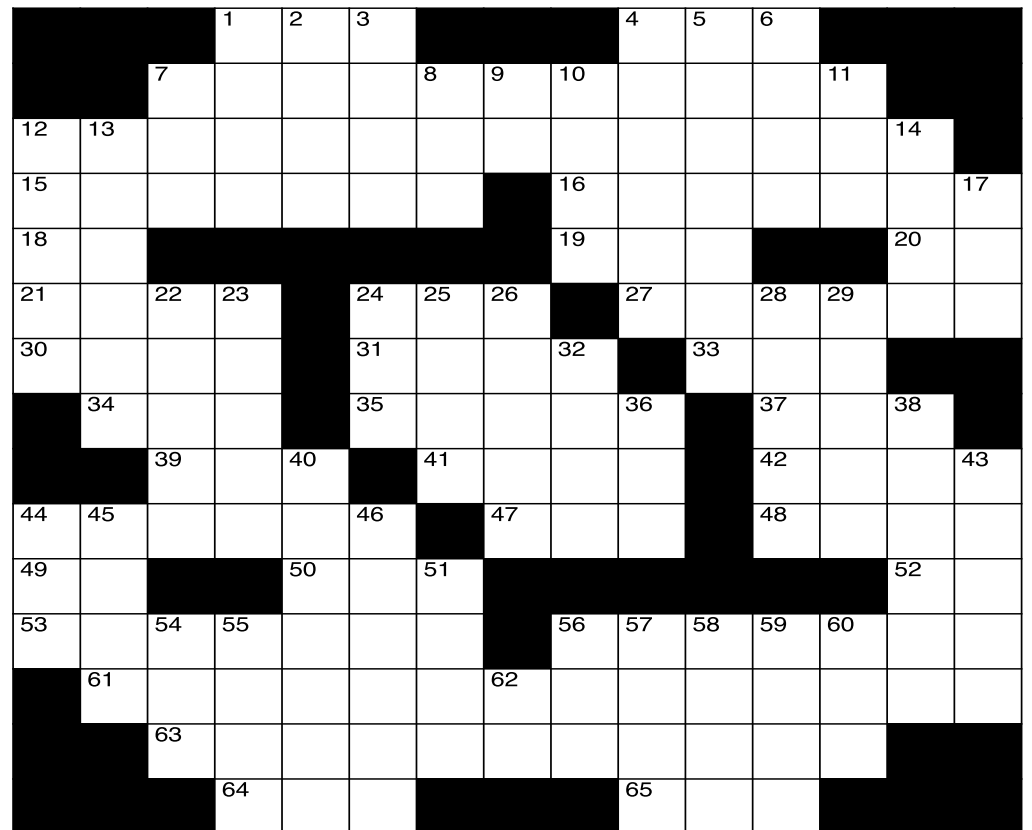
organizations who, like the late June Callwood, demonstrate exceptional leadership, creativity and innovation in their service to their communities and others.

Christina Bisanz, CEO of CHATS acknowledged the honour of being chosen for this award.

“Our volunteers are the heart and soul of our organization. Collectively they

provide 33,700 hours per year. Without their support and caring CHATS would not be able to deliver many of the services that we provide to enable seniors to live independently, safely and with dignity in their own homes as long as possible,” she said. “Their passion and commitment is invaluable and makes a positive difference in the lives of so many seniors and their caregivers.”

CROSSWORD

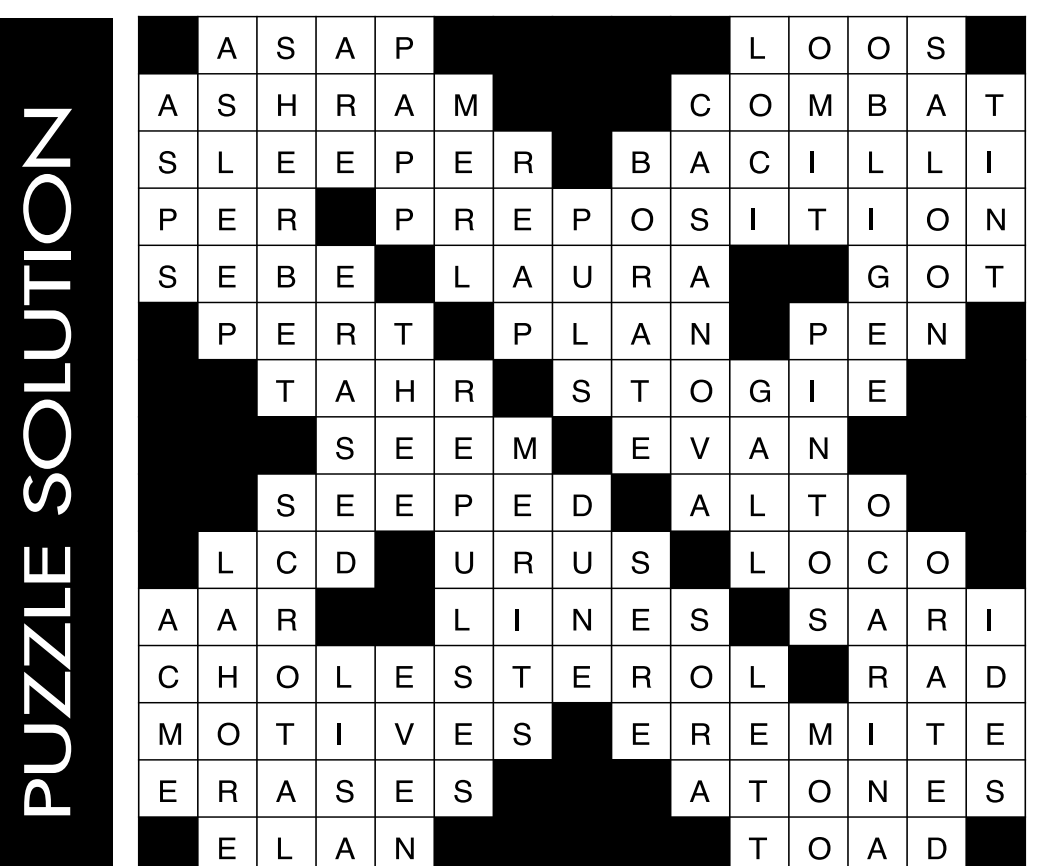


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Small lump
- 4. Helps little firms
- 7. A way of performing
- 12. Lawyers
- 15. Stirred up
- 16. Believed in
- 18. The Bay State (abbr.)
- 19. Makes computers
- 20. Sodium
- 21. As fast as can be done (abbr.)
- 24. Institute legal proceedings against
- 27. More compact
- 30. Ethiopian river
- 31. Quantitative fact
- 33. No (Scottish)
- 34. A concession of no great value
- 35. Tony-winning actress Daisy
- 37. More (Spanish)
- 39. Russian space station
- 41. Helicopter
- 42. At the peak
- 44. Makes ecstatically happy
- 47. Excellent
- 48. Material body
- 49. The Golden State (abbr.)
- 50. A unit of plane angle
- 52. Argon
- 53. Fancy
- 56. Fried mixture of meat and spices
- 61. How green plants use sunlight
- 63. Without wills
- 64. Unhappy
- 65. Meat from a pig's leg

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Mentor
- 2. Lyric poems
- 3. A dry cold north wind in Switzerland
- 4. Trapped
- 5. Used for road surfacing
- 6. Cuckoos
- 7. Prefix “away from”
- 8. Seth McFarlane comedy
- 9. Not out
- 10. “The Simpsons” bus driver
- 11. Popular HBO drama (abbr.)
- 12. Acclaimed Indian physicist
- 13. Removes
- 14. One-name NBA player
- 17. Revolutionary women
- 22. Smell
- 23. Ground-dwelling songbird
- 24. Midway between south and southeast
- 25. American state
- 26. Keen
- 28. Khoikhoi peoples
- 29. Int'l defense organization
- 32. Samoan money
- 36. A sign of assent
- 38. One from Somalia
- 40. Boat race
- 43. Trims
- 44. French coins
- 45. Indigenous Scandinavian
- 46. Flew alone
- 51. Loch where a “monster” lives
- 54. Japanese title
- 55. Pros and __
- 56. Present in all living cells
- 57. Something to scratch
- 58. Branch of Islam
- 59. Appear
- 60. Former CIA
- 62. Yukon Territory



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The cycle needs to stop, say parties beyond Big Three

From page 19

We need to be able to improve the integrity of the tax system of Ontario. Our plan is one that focuses on undoing years of underfunding, while addressing the fiscal challenges we face as a province. We will make investments in Ontario that makes life better for everyone. We will protect middle class families from

tax hikes and we'll only count on the revenues we know we can rely on."

For the other two candidates, it was once again, from their perspective, more of the same.

"How about we do like every household does: if you don't have the money, don't spend it," said Mr. Yaciuk. "That's a good start. When I hear other parties say, 'yeah, we're

going to balance the budget in 2020' it is kind of interesting because that is the equivalent of somebody coming to your house, a dinner party, and saying, 'John and I were thinking about not spending more money than we make in two years.' You'd laugh at that and say, 'What's wrong with you?' Stop spending what you don't have.

"Christine's boss, Doug Ford, said they are going to have a commission to find out what the true state of affairs is. The Auditor General did that. Are we not trusting the Auditor General right now? If not, let's can the Auditor General. No, we trust the Auditor General. Why are we duplicating work? This cycle has to stop, for Pete's sake."

THINGS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW

SATURDAY, MAY 26

AURORA FARMERS' MARKET: Seasonal fresh fruits & veggies, delicious goodies and unique crafts will be waiting for you at the Aurora Farmers Market & Artisan Fair today from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Town Park. (49 Wells Street). Theaurorafarmersmarket.com.

The Aurora Senior Association Evergreen Choir warmly invites you to attend our annual Spring Concert "With a Joyful Song" under the direction of Dr. Richard Heinze. The concert takes place on Saturday, May 26 at our new time: 1:30 pm, doors open at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$5. Children under 14 are free, but tickets are required. They are available at the reception desk of the Centre, 90 John West Way, Aurora. For more information, call 905-726-4767. Light refreshment will be served at intermission.

SUNDAY, MAY 27

The Aurora Garden Club, which is celebrating 100 years in our community, and Aurora Home Hardware, are joining forces again for the annual Garden Aurora! Plant Sale. Members will be donating perennial plants from their own gardens in this area so you are assured they will work for you. Great member and Nursery plants at fabulous prices, giveaways and more (it is our Birthday), make this a must visit. We sold out by noon last year so come early for best selection.

The Pet Valu walk for Dog Guides will take place

today from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon at Sheppard's Bush. This spring, residents and their four-legged "best friends" are preparing to walk together for the Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides. Each walk is organized by a member of the community. By participating in the Walk, you can help provide life-changing Dog Guides to Canadians with disabilities. Walk routes are accessible to all. For more, visit walkfordogguides.com/locations/walk.cfm?ID=1259.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

The Aurora Community Caf  is open today – and each Wednesday – from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of Victoria and Mosley (Entrance off Victoria). Now serving lunch, along with fresh baked goods, lunch, coffee, tea, juice, a DJ and live music.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1

The ESC Renaissance Community is pleased to host their second Relay for Life event on June 1! Relay For Life is a community fundraising event where Canadians across the country join together in the fight against cancer. Relay participants will walk or run together around our soccer field, passing a baton to their fellow participants and working together toward one common goal: the fight against cancer. For more information, contact Genevieve Porter at gporter@cscmonavenir.ca.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

The Town of Aurora is pleased to present its community pow wow on Saturday, June 2 from 12 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Lambert Willson Park (135 Industrial Parkway

North). All residents and visitors are invited to join this celebration. The New Beginnings Pow Wow theme this year is, "Our Future Generations" and the event will feature traditional dance, drumming and food. Pow wows promote cultural pride in an inclusive setting and play an important role in many Indigenous peoples' lives as a forum to share their heritage with non-Indigenous attendees.

Performers leading the event will be: Host Drum: Little Creek Singers, Arena Director: Mr. Mawla Shawana, Master of Ceremonies: Mr. Leo Linklater. The White Pine Dancers also welcomes all nations to participate in the pow wow. If you are interested in participating, please contact Rod Nattagog at bluestonecloud@hotmail.com.

The Aurora Public Library will host Drag Queen Storytime from 10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. in the Magna Room. A magical story time experience hosted by Eva Lasting! Children are invited to come get involved in stories that they will love! These stories will help children learn that it's great to be who you are! Parts of the event will be interactive (but participation is optional). Children will get to be part of the story, wear some silly costumes and even strut their stuff bringing out their inner performer! Feel free to come dressed in your best glamorous outfit!

MONDAY, JUNE 4

Canadian Blood Services will host a blood donor clinic at the Aurora Legion today from 2.30 p.m. to 7.30

p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

The PROBUS Club of Aurora holds their monthly meeting today from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North, Aurora. This month's entertainment will be: Joseph Thomson, singing & playing the guitar. For more information on this month's speaker please call Cliff White at 905-841-2421. New Members Welcome! Call Gary Gilbert at 905-895-2849 or be our guest at the meeting.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

The Aurora Community Band will host their concert "An Uprising Built on Hope." Come enjoy the beautiful sounds of Aurora's band at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street, beginning at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students, and available at the door by contacting auroracommunityband@gmail.com.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

Garden Aurora 100 Years! Garden Tour 2018. Celebrating 100 years in our community, the Aurora Garden Club presents our Annual Tour of Gardens. Our own members will be opening their private paradises to you and will be available to answer your questions. This is a self-guided tour from 12:00 Noon to 4:30 PM, rain or shine. Tickets are \$15.00 at Caruso & Co. 15210 Yonge St. Aurora, Black Forest Gardens 15445 Keele St. King City, New Roots Garden Centre 17235 Yonge St. Newmarket and Aurora Farmers Market Saturday June 9, 16, 23. Same day tickets will be sold at Garden #1. More information at www.gardenaurora.ca or 905 713 6660.

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- Diploma in journalism preferred
- Candidates should have experience working on the editorial side of the newspaper industry
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

All persons having claims against the Estate of Richard Ronald Wargalla, late of the Town of Aurora, who died on the 12th day of June, 2017, are required to file proof of the same with the undersigned on or before the 18th day of June, 2018. After that date, the Estate Trustee will proceed to distribute the Estate, having regard only to the claims of which he shall have notice.

DATED this 10th day of May, 2018.

Glenn Wargalla by his solicitors, GARVEY & GARVEY LLP 972 Clarkson Road South Mississauga, Ontario L5J 2V7

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