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Aurora's Community Newspaper

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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 15 No. 45 905-727-3300

theauroran.com

FREE Week of September 3, 2015



Budding firefighter Max, here with his mom, Lindsay, goes in for a closer look as Joe explains the ins and outs of being a member of the Central York Fire Services (CYFS). The CYFS were stationed at the northwest corner of Town Park on Saturday, coinciding with the Aurora Farmers' Market, giving kids a chance to get behind the wheel of their firetruck and get a closer look at the equipment. **Auroran photo by Brock Weir**

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Municipal hiring freeze fizzles – again

By Brock Weir

Despite general agreement that a closer watch needs to be taken at Town Hall to control new hires, a year-long freeze when it comes to new positions within the municipality has fizzled once again at the Council table.

A year-long hiring freeze was once again brought into the fore last week by Councillor Tom Mrakas, just two weeks after his initial pitch to Council to mothball any new positions in the year ahead failed on a tie vote with Councillor John Abel absent from the earlier meeting.

It was a repeat performance last week as, with Councillor Harold Kim's seat empty for the meeting in question, it once again failed – this time 3 – 5.

In his second pitch to Council, Councillor Mrakas said current hiring rates at Town Hall were just not sustainable. Crunching numbers, he presented a graph illustrating that between the years 2010 and 2015, Aurora's tax base had increased by 4.5 per cent, the population by 6.1 per cent, and staff numbers by 17.9 per cent.

"To me, and I think in any business, that is unsustainable," he said, suggesting eight new positions would

be pitched from staff during the upcoming budget process. "You can't keep going this way. I understand we hear all the time about growth and, personally, I think the only growth the residents are seeing is the tax rate, and that is unfortunate for them. In these five years, staff have asked for 35 positions and in those five years, Council has approved 30. During a time of transition, we have a new interim CAO, a new CAO coming in January, we're doing an organizational review which we have all said is the best thing to do; why would we hamstring

Continued on page 7

Alarm bells raised over the future of Aurora's last Doan house

By Brock Weir

Alarm bells have been raised at Council over the future of Aurora's last surviving legacy of the historically prominent Doan Family – and engineers will now be tasked with seeing if the remains of the building can be saved for future generations.

What's left of the house, located on Wellington Street East next to the former home of the Aurora Post Office, was originally slated to be incorporated into a new apartment complex planned to be built around it, following a proposal approved by Council, but the property owners and their engineers have said this

now might not be structurally feasible.

According to a report before the Town's Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC) last month, concerns about the structural stability of the remaining structure were first voiced by the property owners on August 5.

"The owner has undertaken several measures to protect the remaining structure in anticipation of the proposed development," said Marco Ramunno, Aurora's Director of Planning, in his report to the committee. "On July 30, the owners' consultant submitted a report [concluding] that the existing structure does not meet the standards for masonry

Continued on page 11

Deputy fire chief hangs up hat

By Brock Weir

After 35 years as a firefighter, Paul Leslie, Deputy Chief of the Central York Fire Services (CYFS), has officially hung up his hat.

Leslie's final day on the job was Friday, after nearly nine years with the CYFS.

"Timing and opportunity" have been the hallmarks of his career, he says, and when his 35th anniversary as a firefighter coincided with his 55th birthday, he figured it was the perfect time to pursue other opportunities.

"I have some new efforts I want to

Continued on page 15

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Accessible formats
905-727-3123 ext. 4212
accessibility@aurora.ca

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Thursday, September 3	7 p.m.	Holland Room	Environmental Advisory Committee
Tuesday, September 8	9:30 a.m.	Newmarket	Joint Council Committee
Tuesday, September 8	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	General Committee*
Wednesday, September 9	7 p.m.	Holland Room	Heritage Advisory Committee
Thursday, September 10	7 p.m.	Council Chambers	Committee of Adjustment
Thursday, September 10	7 p.m.	Leksand Room	Economic Development Advisory Committee

Council meetings are open to the public and can be seen on Rogers TV, channel 10. For a full list of upcoming meetings, please visit www.aurora.ca

*Meetings can be viewed online by visiting www.aurora.ca/gcstream



PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice of Pesticide Tree Injection for Control of Emerald Ash Borer in The Town of Aurora

Town-owned ash trees located on the streets and parks listed below will be injected for control of Emerald Ash Borer. Treatment will take place between the dates of **Saturday, August 1** and **Wednesday, September 30**, weather-permitting.

To Control: Emerald Ash Borer
Pesticide Product: IMA-Jet
PCP #: 31375, registered under the
Pest Control Products Act (Canada)
Pesticide Product Active Ingredient: Imidacloprid

For more information contact: Trugreen 1-800-565-5296 or Town of Aurora, Parks & Recreation department, at 905-727-3123 ext. 3222

Selected ash trees to be injected on the following streets:
Abbott Avenue; Albany Court; Allaura Boulevard; Allendale Drive; April Gardens; Ardill Crescent; Aspen Leaf Court; Autumn Way; Baldwin Road; Barr Crescent; Batson Drive; Baywell Crescent; Baywell Crescent Park Boulevard; Beatty Crescent; Bilbrough Street; Billingham Heights; Birkshire Drive; Blaydon Lane; Bonny Meadows Drive; Borealis Avenue; Bowler Street; Briardale Place; Bridgenorth Drive; Brookview Drive; Buttonwood Trail; Calmar Crescent; Carlyle Crescent; Carriage Walk; Casemount Street; Cashel Court; Catherine Avenue; Chapman Court; Charing Crescent; Chippingwood Manor; Chiswick Crescent; Cliff Road; Closs Square; Clubine Court; Collis Drive; Connaught Avenue; Conover Avenue; Copland Drive; Covent Crescent; Crawford Rose Drive; Dawlish Avenue; Deerglen Terrace; Delattaye Avenue; Devins Drive; Devlin Place; Downey Circle; Dunton Wood Crescent; Earl Stewart Drive; Fleury Street; Gateway Drive; Gilbank Drive; Gleave Court; Golf Links Drive; Gowan Lane; Gurnett Street; Hartwell Way; Haskell Crescent; Haverhill Terrace; Heathwood Heights Drive; Hill Drive; Hillary Place; Hogaboom Avenue; Hollandview Trail; Hollidge Boulevard; Jasper Drive; Kemano Drive; Kennedy Street West; Kidd Circle; Kirkvalley Crescent; Lanewood Drive; Laurentide Avenue; Loriview Lane; Mahogany Court; McClellan Way; McClenny Drive; Meadowood Drive; Millcliff Circle; Milloy Place; Mohogany Court; Morland Crescent; October Lane; Old Yonge Street; Orchard Heights Drive; Ostick Street; Parkland Court; Pederson Drive; Perivale Crescent; Petch Drive; Petermann Street; Pineneedle Drive; Reuben Street; River Ridge Boulevard; Sandfield Crescent; Sandfield Court; Sandfield Drive; Seaton Drive; Simmons Crescent; Sisman Avenue; Sommerton Court; Spence Drive; Spring Farm Road; Spruce Street; Starr Crescent; Steckley Street; Stemmlie Drive; Stoddart Drive; Stone Road; Tamarac Trail; Tannery Creek Crescent; Tecumseh Drive; Temperance Street; Tilston Grove; Timbertrail Crescent; Timpson Drive; Tonner Crescent; Tradewind Terrace; Trent Street; Turnbridge Road; Tyler Street; Underhill Crescent; Valemount Way; Valley Crescent; Wardle Gate; Watkins Glen Crescent; Watts Meadow; Wells Street; Weslock Crescent; Wilkinson Place; Williamson Terrace; Willis Drive; Windham Trail; Woodland Hills Boulevard; Zokol Drive.

Selected ash trees to be injected in the following parks:
Ada Johnson Park - Hartwell Way; Aurora Community Arboretum; Chapman Park - McMaster Drive; Harmon Park - Aurora Heights Drive; Jack Woods Park - Dunning Avenue; Lambert Willson Park - Industrial Parkway; Lions Park - Rueben Street; McMahon Park - Cedar Crescent; Norm Weller Park - McClellan Way; Optimist Park - Birkshire Drive; Rotary Park - Kennedy Street East; Seston Park - Tradewind Terrace; Summit Park - Orchard Heights Boulevard; Tamarac Green Park - Henderson Drive; Timbers Park - Milcliff Circle; Toms Park - Lanewood Drive; Town Park - Wells Street; William Kennedy Park - Kennedy Street West; Wilson Park - Moorcrest Drive.

Citizen Budget survey is back!

Aurora is once again launching Citizen Budget, an online survey that offers residents the opportunity to provide feedback on the service levels they want to receive from the Town.

The 2016 Citizen Budget survey will be available from **Monday, September 7** to **Friday, October 30** and can be accessed via aurora.citizenbudget.com.

The survey is open to Aurora residents only; one survey per person. Those who complete the survey will be entered into a draw for a \$250 Cineplex gift card.

Aurora's Citizen Budget survey covers 13 core service areas and lets residents adjust their tax contribution to each area. The tool adds all the changes to see how the choices affect the overall property tax contribution.

Results will be presented to Council in November for consideration as part of the 2016 Budget process. For full contest details, please visit www.aurora.ca/citizenbudget

September Skylight Gallery Artist

Catherine Fairs is the September Skylight Gallery artist. She has lived in Aurora for 32 years. Catherine paints from observation and work to capture the form, colour, space and light in objects and places. She has painted and exhibited both locally and in Italy and was an excited winner of "Best in Oil" at The Aurora Art Show & Sale in partnership with SOYRA in 2014 and 2015. Opening Reception is on **Thursday, September 10** from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Skylight Gallery, 3rd Floor at Aurora Town Hall.

Volunteers needed for Ribfest

Looking for Volunteer Hours? The Town of Aurora is looking for student volunteers at Aurora's Ribfest on **September 11, 12, and 13**. If you are interested, please contact Nicole Young at nyoung@aurora.ca or 905-727-3123 ext. 3133.

Scheduled service disruption at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex (AFLC)

The male and female fitness change rooms at the AFLC will be closed for repairs starting **Tuesday, September 15** and will re-open on **Thursday, September 24** at 5:45 a.m. The change rooms at the back of the building will be open and available for use. For more information call 905-727-3123 Ext. 3505

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO PASS BY-LAW NUMBER 5760-15 TO DECLARE AS SURPLUS AND SELL MUNICIPAL LANDS

45 Eric T. Smith Way, Aurora

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Aurora (the "Town") is providing notice of its intention to pass By-law Number 5760-15 on Tuesday, September 15, 2015, pursuant to Report No. PL15-061, for the purpose of declaring as surplus and selling land municipally known as 45 Eric T. Smith Way, Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York and legally described as (a) Lot 7, Plan 65M-4324; S/T easement in gross over Part 2, Plan 65R-34077 as in YR1961123, Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York, being all of PIN 03642-3451 (LT); and (b) Part of Block 11, Plan 65M-4324, Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York, being part of PIN 03642-3455 (LT), all together having an area of approximately 4.22 acres, more or less, as illustrated for location purposes only on Figure 1 (below).



The final version of By-law Number 5760-15 will be available on the Town's website, located at www.aurora.ca/agendasminutes, on **September 11, 2015** ahead of the Council meeting to be held on **Tuesday, September 15, 2015** at 7 p.m. at Aurora Town Hall in Council Chambers, located at 100 John West Way.

For further information, please contact Anthony Ierullo, Manager, Long Range & Strategic Planning, at 905-727-3123, ext. 4742 or by email at aierullo@aurora.ca.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO PASS BY-LAW NUMBER 5759-15 TO DECLARE AS SURPLUS AND SELL MUNICIPAL LANDS

63 and 75 Eric T. Smith Way, Aurora

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Aurora (the "Town") is providing notice of its intention to pass By-law Number 5759-15 on Tuesday, September 15, 2015, pursuant to Report No. PL15-054, for the purpose of declaring as surplus and selling land municipally known as 63 and 75 Eric T. Smith Way, Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York and legally described as (a) Lot 4, Plan 65M-4324; S/T easement in gross over Part 4, Plan 65R-34077 as in YR1961123, Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York, being all of PIN 03642-3448 (LT); (b) Lot 5, Plan 65M-4324, Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York, being all of PIN 03642-3449 (LT); and (c) Part of Block 11, Plan 65M-4324, Town of Aurora, Regional Municipality of York, being part of PIN 03642-3455 (LT), all together having an area of approximately 6.58 acres, more or less, as illustrated for location purposes only on Figure 1 (below).



The final version of By-law Number 5759-15 will be available on the Town's website, located at www.aurora.ca/agendasminutes, on **September 11, 2015** ahead of the Council meeting to be held on **Tuesday, September 15, 2015** at 7 p.m. at Aurora Town Hall in Council Chambers, located at 100 John West Way.

For further information, please contact Anthony Ierullo, Manager, Long Range & Strategic Planning, at 905-727-3123, ext. 4742 or by email at aierullo@aurora.ca.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Youth Volunteer Fair Thursday, September 24

Need volunteer hours to graduate? Want to make a difference in your community?

Coming this Fall, the Town of Aurora presents the Youth Volunteer Fair on **Thursday, September 24** from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex. For more information please call 905-726-4760.

Aurora Seniors present Celebrating 10 years at The Aurora Seniors' Centre

The Aurora Seniors Association is celebrating 10 years at the Aurora Seniors' Centre. Please join us on **Sunday, September 20** from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more information please call 905-726-4767. We look forward to seeing you!

Seeking members for the Aurora Youth Municipal Basketball League

The Town of Aurora is proud to present the Aurora Youth Municipal Basketball League. Players in the league will practice one night per week, and have a game against another team each Saturday. Emphasis is placed on learning basic basketball skills, teamwork, and having fun in an encouraging environment. For more information please visit www.aurora.ca/recguide or Daniel Ridsdale at 905-727-3123 ext. 3128.

Club Aurora free programs for September

Club Aurora is holding several free programs this month, including Zumba Fitness on **Tuesday, September 8** at 9:15 a.m., BOSU on **Wednesday, September 9** at 11:20 a.m., TRX on **Thursday, September 10** at 7:15 a.m. and Yoga Stretch on **Friday, September 11** at 10:15 a.m. For more information, please call 905-727-1375.

Pro-Shops at The Aurora Community Centre and The Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex

The arena Pro-Shops at the Aurora Community Centre and the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex will re-open under new management, effective **Tuesday, September 1**.

Hockey Lion, an experienced arena Pro-Shop operator, currently operating in Richmond Hill and Markham will now be managing the Town of Aurora Pro-Shops.

Operating Hours are Monday to Friday from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sign up for the new Aurora Matters E-Newsletter



The Town is launching a new monthly E-Newsletter called Aurora Matters to help keep residents informed of events and what's happening in Town. The newsletter is available by subscription and will also be posted for reference on the Town website.

To subscribe, please visit www.aurora.ca/auroramatters

10th Anniversary

AURORA'S RIBFEST

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12	SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
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Canada Votes 2015 – Candidate Spotlight: Vanessa Long
(Green Party – Newmarket-Aurora)

Long aims to give hope to voters while addressing income gaps



Vanessa Long

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

By Brock Weir

Newmarket-Aurora voters can expect something different this time around from Green Party candidate Vanessa Long.

In the last Federal election, Ms. Long says she did everything she was expected to do but, in the process, “learned that it is not necessarily the way to do it.”

Case in point, she says, was a locally televised debate she characterises as everyone yelling over each other.

“I found that degrading,” she says. “That is not who I am, so I am not going to do that this time.”

Instead, Ms. Long says she is focused not only on taking the Green Party platform to voters but, in the process, instilling hope that their vote does indeed matter.

“For most people, what I have been hearing is they just don’t see a choice,” she says. “[The thought is] the economy is going to do what it is going to do, it doesn’t seem to matter who is going to be in charge, they are pretty much going to do the same thing. I am hearing a lot of frustration with the incumbent party, but you’re always going to hear that when you have a party that has been incumbent for as long as the Conservatives have.

“I get into a bigger conversation that democracy doesn’t just happen once every five years. They need to vote because it is a right that has been hard-won and then the rest of the time they need to be working on issues that are important to them, not just throwing their hands up and going back into their lives, which is so easy to do when we have kids, families, and jobs, and we’re just struggling to keep everything together to make ends meet.”

As she goes door to door, one of the Green Party planks she is most proud to explain is how the party would tackle what she describes as an “accelerating income gap” in Canada. The wealthiest two per cent of the population are getting wealthier and more people are falling off the bottom rung of the middle class ladder, she contends.

Locally, more and more people are taking advantage of programs and services offered by organizations like the Salvation Army and local food pantries and the need for such programs shows no signs of abating.

“It really bothers me our government does not seem to be making sure Canadians can actually make ends meet,

that we have a sustainable economy, one that is actually thriving well enough that Canadians actually have the jobs that make them enough money to pay all the bills,” she says. “The Green Party has a full platform that has been priced out by high-level economists and we have said very specifically this is how we would change Canada’s economy to make it green and sustainable, and better for Canadians.”

This entails focusing on developing a sustainable manufacturing sector across the country rather than “resource extraction and exportation,” she says.

Citing the party’s Vision Green platform, a blueprint of what Canada might look like by 2020 under a Green Party government, Ms. Long says addressing this income gap will go a long way.

The Greens, she says, are very big on income distribution through taxes. Income is a “good thing”, she says, and rather than taxing the good things, a Green government would instead tax the “bad things” like pollutions and choices that are less than environmentally conscious.

“If you’re a business owner and you run your own business, you will do better under a Green government,” says Ms. Long. “If you are a family, and if you make healthy choices, you will do better under a Green government. We believe in rewarding good behaviour, so if you want to buy a gas-guzzling SUV, you will pay a bit more than that. Carbon will be charged. It really depends on what lifestyle choices you make. Income is good. We believe in taxing what is bad.”

Ms. Long grew up in Alberta amid the oil industry and an environment that was decidedly Progressive Conservative. Although she says the Progressive Conservatives of Alberta are a different thing altogether from the Federal Conservatives, she says there was probably a time when her own politics leaned in the PC direction. But, after the 2004 election, she sat up and decided if she cared about the world around her it was time to get involved – and she found a more natural fit with the Green Party.

“I thought, I just can’t sit back and watch anymore while they destroy the country I love,” she explains, noting that under successive Liberal and Conservative governments she saw a shift towards emulating the United States on many fronts. “I see the selling out of Canada instead of focusing on building a strong Canada. I believe Canada is worth having as a separate entity. I like Canada and I think we have an incredible gift to give to the world and right now we’re not doing that.”

Canada was once seen as “fair arbiters” on the world stage, a status she says has been tarnished. The country needs to renew its commitment to the United Nations, the Kyoto Protocol, peacekeeping and social justice.

And, through proportional representation, Canada needs to ensure every vote matters.

“For me, success come in two directions. Nationally, I would love to see several Green MPs in a minority government that have the power to actually hold whoever is in charge to account, to move them towards a greener, more socially just Canada, to make sure they actually repeal Bill -51 and do the things they are promising to do.

“Locally, a successful campaign is one where I have represented the party well and I have given hope to people who thought there was no point in voting.”

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Travel Photography Contest



The Auroran in partnership with OneBookOneAurora

Send us your best photos from family trips, travel adventures, and summer time cottage fun.

Photo finalists will be published in the paper and the winner will receive two free passes for a movie night out, and a signed copy of this year’s OneBookOneAurora selection *Burmese Lessons!* (Courtesy of the Aurora Public Library) Email entries to letters@auroran.com. Deadline: Thursday October 8th.



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Holiday Service Schedule Labour Day – Monday, September 7



MUNICIPAL OFFICE

Aurora Town Hall (100 John West Way) will be **CLOSED** on Monday, September 7 for Labour Day. Regular business hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. will resume on Tuesday, September 8.

If you would like to pay a water or tax bill, payments can be placed in the drop-off box 24 hours a day outside of Town Hall. Please do not place cash payments in the boxes and remember to include your payment stub along with your payment. Alternatively, you may pay your bills through your ATM or through your bank’s online banking service. Parking tickets can be paid online at www.paytickets.ca



LIBRARY

The Aurora Public Library will be **CLOSED** on Monday, September 7.

For more information, please visit www.aurorapl.ca or call 905-727-9494.



WASTE COLLECTION

Waste collection is **NOT AFFECTED** by the Labour Day holiday. For information, please consult your 2015 Waste Management Guide and Recycling Calendar.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

As always, the Town will continue to provide essential and emergency services.

For Town-related emergency situations, please call 905-727-1375 or 905-727-3123 and follow the voice prompts.

FOR ALL OTHER EMERGENCIES, CALL 9-1-1



RECREATION CENTRES

Aurora Family Leisure Complex, 135 Industrial Parkway North | 905-841-7529

Saturday, September 5 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday, September 6 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday, September 7 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex, 1400 Wellington Street East | 905-726-4770

Saturday, September 5 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday, September 6 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday, September 7 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Please note:

- Summer operating hours end on Sunday, September 6
- Fall operating hours begin on Tuesday, September 8
- The Aurora Seniors’ Centre is **CLOSED** from Saturday, September 5 to Monday, September 7
- For fitness centre, gymnasium, pool and The Loft hours, please visit www.aurora.ca

Briefly

KINGSWAY ARMS SOLD

Aurora’s Kingsway Arms Retirement Residence has been sold for \$5.4 million. The owners of the residence, formerly known as the Aurora Retirement Centre on Murray Drive, announced their intentions to sell the property, which is comprised of 53 retirement living suites, back in July. The sale was announced Sunday. Kingsway Arms bought the residence in 2008 for \$3.7 million. It currently offers independent living support as well as dementia care. In a statement released back in July, Kingsway Arms said proceeds from the sale would be used to discharge two outstanding mortgages and other payments, estimating there will be \$1.65 million left once all payments are made.

AGM SET FOR HOSPICE KING-AURORA

Spirituality and hope often go hand-in-hand in hospice care, and this will be the topic of discussion led by Debbie Homewood as she speaks at the 32nd Annual General Meeting for Hospice King-Aurora. This year’s meeting will be held at Hospice’s headquarters at 350 Industrial Parkway South in Aurora, beginning with a reception at 11.30 a.m., with the meeting and lunch set for 12 noon. For more information, visit hospicekingaurora.ca or call 905-727-6815x22.

DID YOU PACK THE CONDOMS?

If you didn’t already spend this past weekend getting your teens off to their university frosh weeks, the Region of York wants to make sure you’ve packed absolutely everything for them – including calculators, computers and condoms. “The Regional Municipality of York encourages you to put a stop to sexually transmitted infections by knowing the risks and protecting yourself. Before you head to school, remember to play it safe, know the risks, protect yourself, and get tested and treated. York Region Public Health operates six sexual health clinics offering a wide range of sexual health services related to STIs and contraception in a non-judgemental setting. For more information, contact York Region Health Connection at 1-800-361-5653.”

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Candidate disagrees with Navy assessment

(Re: Canada's Navy under Harper is "just not seaworthy, August 20)

Unlike the previous Liberal government, who allowed Canada's military to fall into disrepair during what former Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Rick Hillier called a "decade of darkness", our Conservative government has provided our Armed Forces with the equipment they need to get the job done.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Stephen Harper, our Conservative Government increased the annual budget of the Canadian Armed Forces from \$13 billion in 2005, the last year the Liberals were in power, to over \$20 billion today.

When we first took office, we made several major purchases to make up for years of Liberal neglect. This includes five new C-17 Globemaster strategic airlift craft, 17 new C-130J Hercules tactical airlift craft, 15 Chinook helicopters, new Leopard II tanks, upgraded Halifax frigates and Aurora surveillance planes, and we launched the National Shipbuilding Program.

All these purchases greatly increased the capabilities of our Armed Forces, especially during the Afghanistan mission. Meanwhile the Liberals opposed our efforts - John McCallum, the Liberal member for Markham-Unionville, a former Liberal Defence Minister no less, said in 2008: "I think the Defence budget has gone up at an alarming rate."

With respect to the Royal Canadian Navy, thanks to investments made by this Government, our Navy is undergoing the most intensive and comprehensive fleet modernization in Canada's peacetime history.

The Halifax-class modernization program is giving our frigates new equipment, sensors, and weapons. Once modernized, these ships will have a world class, multi-role combat suite capable of conducting complex missions in both the open-ocean and coastal environments. The program is on track and on schedule.

During this intense period of transition, the Royal Canadian Navy will be able to count on its modernized Halifax-class frigates, its Victoria-class submarines and Kingston-class vessels to carry out tasks and missions set by the government.

Our Conservative Government remains committed to ensuring the Canadian Armed Forces have the equipment it needs and is delivering on this commitment.

Costas Menegakis
Conservative Candidate
Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill

Sports proposal for Hallmark building is "pie in the sky"

(Re: Sports groups make pitch for Hallmark building, August 20)

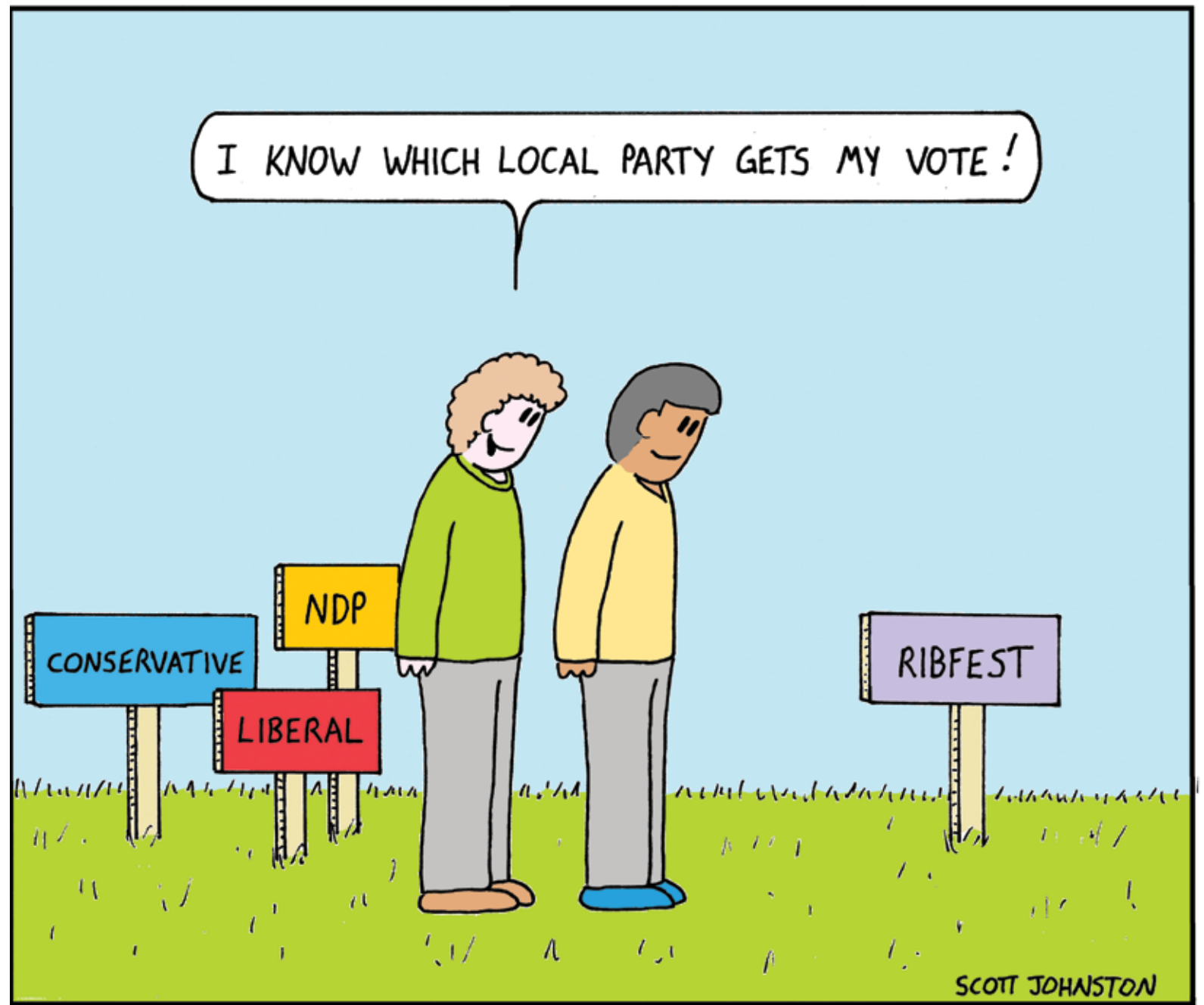
Regarding the proposal to turn the Hallmark building and surrounding lands into a mammoth sports development, I think Mr. Stephen Kimmerer must have been snorting fairy dust when he said, "You have no residential around it."

He should familiarize himself with Falconwood Hollow and Wycliffe Gardens, both of which provide attractive townhouse living to hundreds of people on the Vandorf Sideroad directly opposite Hallmark.

Also, Brookfield Development is about to build a 57 residential complex on the Timberlane property, which is also opposite Hallmark. To all those involved in this Hallmark pie-in-the-sky proposal I say: please get the facts straight before you gallop off in all directions.

Sylvia Herbinson
Aurora

Machell's Corners



As one record closes...

I feel the need to be somewhat circumspect this week, a feeling I don't often have.

You see, I had a lovely column written this week about a subject I feel particularly passionate about, but after considering my own personal track record, I've come to the conclusion that it might be safer to hold it for a week.

Take, for instance, a column I wrote in early 2013 when I pledged to renew my one-man campaign to secure Canadian-born actor - and Second World War veteran - Conrad Bain (of "Maude" and "Diff'rent Strokes" fame) a place on Canada's Walk of Fame.

Less than a week later, to paraphrase Mrs. Findlay, God got him.

Fast forward to the July 29, 2015 edition of The Auroran when I wrote a column entitled "Nobody Promised You A Rose Garden" on the future of the Mavrinac lands. The ink on that installment was barely dry when it was announced country singer Lynn Anderson, who shot to fame with the song, "I Never Promised You A Rose Garden" had died on July 30.

So, as not to tempt fate and be on the safe side, I will hold my column on Queen Elizabeth II until next week; instead focusing on the woman whose record is set to be confined to the history books next week by the same.

Lately, as news stories and retrospectives of the record-set-to-be-broken continue to flood in, my mind increasingly goes back to lazy afternoons I used to spend at my grandmother's house in Etobicoke. In a little sitting area she had in her bedroom, I used to perch at the foot of a chair with fraying upholstery (a "chaise lounge," as it was called in that particular household) leaning through The Country Life Book of The Silver Jubilee, which had pride of place on an adjacent white marble table.

What caught my attention at the time was not just The Queen and Prince Philip, who were, of course, the primary focus of that book, but the family tree on the back pages, illustrating the monarchs from Queen Victoria all the way down the line to the present Prince of Wales.

The sheer length of Queen Victoria's 63 year, 200+ days was a statistic I personally found intriguing.

For a kid of five or six years, that time span alone is staggering enough, but to be in the job that long was astounding.

It was a sense that only grew as I



BROCK'S BANTER

Brock Weir

got older.

How cool it would be, I thought, to have lived through at least a portion of the longest-reign in history.

At that time, and given the longevity of people of the day, Victoria was, for the vast majority of people - whether in the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, or New Zealand - very likely the only monarch they had ever known.

It certainly put Victoria's personal achievement into perspective.

The more I read about her, the more interested I became. Eventually, this same grandmother gave me a copy of a front page from The Globe and Mail dated Wednesday, January 23, 1901.

This was not an ordinary day in any corner of what was once the British Empire. The paper, then simply called "The Globe", featured an elaborately detailed woodcut of Queen Victoria, wearing a small crown, a white lace mantilla, dripping in jewels and chivalric orders - but, notably, the portrait was thickly bordered in two inches of black.

The headline was simple - "1837 - The Victorian Era Has Ended - 1901."

Below that, it carried the text of a telegram sent to Ottawa from the new monarch, her son King Edward VII: "Osborne, 6.45 p.m. - My beloved mother has just passed away, surrounded by her children and grandchildren."

By the time 6.45 p.m. rolled around, Victoria had reigned for an astounding 63 years, 216 days. It was a record, and one Victoria herself bested just a few years previously, trumping the 59-year record of her own grandfather, the notable George III.

Over that nearly 64-year period, the world changed in exceptional ways.

At the time of Victoria's accession in 1837, news of the death of her predecessor, and uncle, William IV, took over two months to reach British North America. Fast-forwarding to the end of her reign, her own demise was transmitted to the Dominions in just a minute or two, thanks to innovations

that completely transformed the way people communicated.

In 1837, the Industrial Revolution was, for all intents and purposes, a veritable storm in a teacup compared to the full-blown revolutionary storm it was by 1901, making the way people lived and worked almost completely unrecognizable.

By the time she assumed the throne, practical passenger travel enabled by the fledgling locomotive was still a few years away, photography had yet to be invented (or, accessible at the very least), and electricity was still quite an unknown phenomenon. By the end of her reign, an era to which she leant her name, automobiles were on the road, photographic portraits were commonplace, and homes around the empire were illuminated by Edison's lightbulb.

As of this writing, there are only five verified women left in the world, who were alive at the end of Victoria's reign, the youngest of whom is a 115-year-old woman in Japan who was just five months old when the Victorian Era drew to a close.

Living memories of this time are certainly a thing of the past, that is why I am particularly looking forward to the Celebration of the Queen's Reign set to take place next Wednesday, September 9, at Diamond Jubilee Park on John West Way at 2 p.m.

Not only will it be a very special one-off community celebration commemorating a very singular woman and her remarkable and continuing reign as Queen of Canada, but it will also be an opportunity to reflect how we, as a society, have evolved and changed over the last 63 years and 200+ days that Elizabeth II has been steering this ship, and the ships of state of 15 other Commonwealth Realms.

While Elizabeth II has been one steadfast mark of continuity, we have come a long way since that unforgettable footage of her was shot descending the steps of her plane in mourning black to meet her destiny in 1952.

It's not only a celebration of her, it's a celebration of us, our achievements, and I hope to see you there!

ON A FINAL NOTE...

This week, I would like to end with a special shout-out to my brother, Jeff Weir. The elder Weir celebrated his 40th birthday as this week's Auroran went to press. Happy Birthday, Jeff, and here's to the next 40!

THE AURORAN
Aurora's Community Newspaper

The Auroran Newspaper Company Ltd.
15213 Yonge Street, Suite 8

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Serving Canada's veterans "is one of the highest priorities" of government: Conservative candidate

Serving Canada's military veterans is one of the highest priorities we have as a government. The men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces are our best and bravest citizens and we owe them the best possible care when they are injured.

When our Conservative government was first elected in 2006, one of our first priorities was the implementation of the New Veterans Charter. This significantly increased the range of benefits and services that are available to disabled veterans. These services not only compensate injured veterans for their pain and suffering, but give them the support they need to restore their ability to function at home, in the community, and in the workplace.

Since implementing the Charter, we have made important improvements to the New Veterans Charter. We have improved income replacement for disabled veterans, introduced a new monthly supplement to help severely injured veterans, and increased the overall level of benefits provided to Disability Pension recipients.

Our Economic Action Plan 2015 built on these improvements. We have created a new Retirement Income Security Benefit to ensure that moderately to severely injured veterans have the necessary financial resources to maintain their quality of life in their retirement, along with an eligibility expansion to the Permanent Impairment Allowance.

We have also created a Critical Injury Benefit, a tax-free lump-sum payment to compensate our Armed Forces members and veterans who suffer severe and traumatic injuries sustained in the line of duty.

With all the improvements we have made, support for veterans has increased by 35 percent since our Conservative Government was elected in 2006. But that is not all. A re-elected Harper Government will further improve the Earnings Loss Benefit for Canadian veterans with service-related injuries. This improvement will allow veterans to earn up to \$10,000 in employment income before their benefit payments are affected.

Our party recognizes the tremendous service and sacrifice that Canadian veterans have made to our country. We owe them our deepest gratitude and respect. Just as we ended the Liberal's decade of darkness for our Canadian military by giving our troops the equipment they need to get the job done, we are also doing the same for our nation's veterans and their families.

Costas Menegakis
Conservative Candidate
Aurora - Oak Ridges - Richmond Hill

Reader ponders "endorsement"

(Re: Conservatives "allow families to make the decisions that impact them", August 20)

Given the recent article on Lois Brown and the recent musings of one of your columnists one wonders if The Auroran is now endorsing the CPC.

Geoffrey Smith
Aurora

(Editor's Note: As indicated by the header in the print edition of The Auroran, the article in question is one of a series of articles on each candidate running in Newmarket-Aurora and Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill. The series began, in alphabetical order, with Liberal candidate Leona Alleslev, followed by Conservative candidate Ms. Brown, NDP candidate Yvonne Kelly and continues this week with Green candidate Vanessa Long. As for Mr. Somerville, his opinions are his own.)

NEW AURORAN POLL

In a Federal election, on what basis do you tend to vote?
A) by local candidate B) by party C) both
Go to www.theauroran.com to vote!

Previous Poll Results
Who do you feel won the first televised Federal Election debate on August 6?
A) Stephen Harper B) Elizabeth May C) Tom Mulcair D) Justin Trudeau

RESULTS TO DATE September 1, 2015	A	B	C	D
	39%	16%	15%	30%

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



It will be hard to miss upcoming exhibitions and activities at Hillary House National Historic Site. Members of the Aurora Historical Society were joined by Mayor Geoff Dawe in front of the Yonge Street Landmark to unveil their new vertical signage, intended to catch the eyes of passers-by in either direction. Banners now on display trumpet the ongoing Tennis in Canada exhibition, as well as the legacy of the Hillary Family.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

"Shepherds" to be honoured Saturday



MARKET MUSINGS
Jan Freedman

We have been exceedingly fortunate this summer as far as the weather is concerned on Saturdays at the Farmers' Market. We have had sunny days, for the most part, with very little rain.

My understanding of the forecast for September is for the continuation of warm and pleasant days. Combined with families returning to town from the cottage and the beginning of school we should have families coming out to the market in large numbers for the vast assortment of produce our farmers have available now.

The next vendor I want to introduce is someone who almost needs no introduction to most Aurorans.

He is Bob McRoberts, who has been an occasional vendor over the past three years, selling his book entitled "Postcards of Olde Aurora". The book contains 122 images of Aurora, mostly from 1900 to 1930 as captured on postcards of the day.

It is organized into such topics as streets, churches, schools, buildings, houses, parks, travel-by-rail and novelty cards. Since the book was finished in time for Aurora's 150 year celebrations in 2013, the subtitle is A Sesquicentennial Project. Copies are available via postcardsofolaaurora@bell.net.

Bob's earliest memory of collecting cards dates back to grade three when he would stop at a variety store on Wellington Street to buy a package of baseball or hockey cards on his way home from school for lunch.

A neighbor used to give him

stacks of Red Rose Tea cards as well. That was in 1960. Since then, he has collected many different things. It wasn't until 2005 that he thought to combine his long-standing card collecting interest with that of Aurora's history, through the collection of postcards of Aurora. Given the scarcity of these cards, he wishes that he had started earlier. In addition to the postcards, Bob also collects and sells non-sports cards.

Here is some of Bob's family background:

His grandparents, John and Iva Knowles, moved to Aurora to a house on Catherine Avenue in 1923. His dad was the new principal of Aurora High School in its brand new building on Wells Street. He held that position until his retirement 35 years later.

In those days, school administrators were also classroom teachers. Bob's grandfather taught mathematics. It seems to Bob that teachers often come from families of teachers. To wit, his father, Mac, was an elementary school principal, his mother, Nora, and her sister, Ruth, were both teachers, and his brother, Joe, and Bob himself are both math teachers.

Bob's son, Kyle, is a grade four teacher, his daughter, Marnie is an athletic therapist for the Canadian Wheelchair Rugby Team that won a gold medal at the recent ParaPan Games. His wife of 39 years, Kim,

manages LifeSpring Physiotherapy.

The last 22 of his 33 years of teaching were spent as the Head of Mathematics at Dr. Williams Secondary School in Aurora.

His grandfather and Bob both retired from the same school. Among the many other things that Bob does, he is a Board member for both the Aurora Historical Society and the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame, a member of the town's Heritage Advisory Committee, and a former Deputy Mayor of Aurora.

This year marks his 50th year as member of the Aurora United Church choir. He does some supply teaching, some tutoring, and sings a few solos. His days go quickly, he says, so life must be good. The Farmers' Market has been delighted to have Bob join us again as a vendor on several occasions.

Our next Special Event is our Apples and Honey Fest on September 5. In addition to the usual entertainment on the bandshell and fun activities for the children, we will be honouring two very special individuals in the history of the Aurora Farmers' Market: Nigel Kean who began the market in 2002 in the Temperance Street parking lot and Stephen Granger who shepherded us from about a dozen vendors to about 40 vendors at the Town Park.

Everyone who loves and attends the market owes a debt of gratitude to these two men and are encouraged to attend the ceremony awarding honorary lifetime memberships to both of them at 11 a.m.

See you at the Market!

Signs of Fall in Aurora



INSIDE AURORA

Scott Johnston

While it may technically still be summer, the signs of fall are all around us.

The winding down of the CNE, the odd branch starting to show its autumn colours, shorter days, a nip in the air, and kids gearing up for back to school.

And no, Federal election signs everywhere don't count, since those started appearing earlier in the summer.

But the above are the more obvious and traditional indications. There are other more subtle, yet unmistakable signs of fall, some of them unique to Aurora.

For example, you know fall is approaching when Council starts to talk about the next year's budget. We're still months away from the serious discussions, but around now the hints start appearing. There may be limited budget money now, but there's nothing like the anticipation of funding for future projects.

Related to this, of course, is the Council project deferral. Yes, you can tell it's September when items start getting shoved into next year.

"This may impact next year's budget. Perhaps we should consider this then?"

"Good idea. And that applies to agenda items two, three, six, seven, nine, ten, twelve and fourteen, as well."

"Excellent. Meeting adjourned."

fall is the mad scramble of folks to get things done around their properties. People seem to be in a flurry of activity, cleaning out eaves troughs, repairing fences, painting window frames, taking down last year's Christmas lights, and any number of other things they've put off all summer, because the weather has been too nice to waste doing chores.

And now with winter fast approaching, they're running out of time.

In the stores, you may think that fall is introduced by back to school stuff, or even Hallowe'en items. But the real sign the season has started is when you see your first hint of Christmas.

It could be a store display, or a flier, or even a commercial. Yes, even with four months to go, retailers can't pass up the opportunity to urge us to pry open our wallets and start Christmas shopping.

I remember when you wouldn't see anything related to December 25 until at least after Halloween, but then the retail-related calendar creep set in, and merchants started gearing up earlier and earlier.

Pipers, choirs and the Red Ensign will mark Queen's record reign

By Brock Weir

Over the sound of the White Heather Pipes and Drums, Canada's Red Ensign will be raised over Queen's Diamond Jubilee Park next Wednesday, September 9, to mark the record-setting reign of Queen Elizabeth II.

The Red Ensign, which served as Canada's flag when the Queen ascended to the throne in 1952, will be the first flag raised on the park's newly-installed flagpole, signalling the start of an afternoon of community celebrations planned to coincide with the milestone.

Queen Elizabeth II is set to overtake Queen Victoria's record as longest reigning monarch that afternoon, and to commemorate the occasion, the Town of Aurora will host a community celebration featuring not only the White Heather Pipes and Drums, but

also the Royal Canadian Legion Colour Guard, the Evergreen Choir of the Aurora Seniors' Centre, a citizenship re-affirmation celebration, and remarks made by Newmarket-Aurora MP Lois Brown, MPP Chris Ballard and Mayor Geoff Dawe.

"The [York Region Branch of the] Monarchist League was a champion of the concept and Councillor Jeff Thom is the one who proposed this for Council an once the subject matter was brought up, that's when I started looking into it and I have to say I really think the Town putting this on is something to be really proud of," says Shelley Ware, Special Events Coordinator for the Town of Aurora.

"With the red ensign being the very first flag going up the flagpole, the exact flag the Queen had [in 1952] is pretty significant. Among our volunteers at

the Summer Concerts in the Park and Movies in the Park is an English family who live in Aurora with two teenage boys. When we promoted the event, the two boys welled up with tears because they couldn't believe we were doing this in Aurora. The first thing they did when they went home was ask their parents' permission to come because it is the second day of school – and this was more important."

Queen Victoria set the record as longest-reigning monarch in the summer of 1897. By the time of her death in 1901, she had reigned a whopping 63 years and 2016 days – a record which is set to be busted by her great-granddaughter next week.

"It is an exceptional feat for Her Majesty the Queen to be on the throne for 63 years, to surpass the reign of her great-great grandmother, Victoria, who is a pretty important figure in the history of Canada as well," says Councillor Thom, who will emcee Wednesday's festivities. "It is a really interesting historical landmark I think we should be recognizing and it also gives Aurorans, and Canadians across the country the opportunity to celebrate our constitution and the civic institutions we have formulated as a country over the last 150 years and even beyond that."

"I hope people come away with the sense this is Canada's Monarchy. It is distinct legally and, I would say, culturally from the United Kingdom. The Queen and the Monarchy is part of the fabric of all those levels of government and, without noticing, it



Queen Elizabeth II is pictured in Ottawa in 2010 before a portrait of Queen Victoria.

Photo courtesy of the Ministry of Canadian Heritage

Is a very important part of our lives as Canadians."

The Celebration of the Queen's Reign gets underway Wednesday, September 9, at 2 p.m. at Queen's Diamond Jubilee Park (John West Way at Civic Square Gate). Festivities continue with a Community Tea at the Aurora Seniors' Centre at 3 p.m., followed by a Happy Hour Meet and Greet at the Royal Canadian Legion (105 Industrial Parkway North) at 4 p.m. All are welcome to attend – and local recipients of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal are encouraged to attend, wearing their medals.

Canada 150 celebrations come calling with money for arena, armoury improvements

By Brock Weir

When Canada celebrated its centennial in 1967, the nation-wide party included a boatload of Federal funding for new hockey arenas dotting countless towns, including the Aurora Community Centre.

50 years on, as the country counts down to Canada 150 in 2017, the Federal government is coming calling again, this time with more infrastructure dollars to give these venerable recreation spaces – and some of the newer kids on the block – a bit of a face lift.

Aurora has received \$422,100 through the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program.

The receipt of infrastructure funds was announced last week and was hailed by Mayor Geoff Dawe.

"I am very pleased the Government of Canada has acknowledged Aurora's significant capital needs by offering grants through the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program," said Mayor Dawe in a statement. "These types of investments are sorely needed to ease the growing financial burden on municipalities, which support roughly 70 per cent of infrastructure costs with a mere eight per cent of tax revenues."

\$140,300 of the pot will go towards improvements to the Aurora Community Centre, particularly replacing the ice plant condenser and boilers, adding LED lighting and some new exterior paint. The same amount will go to the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex (SARC) to replace the existing pool liner, improve lighting in both the pool area and the two arenas, replace boilers and improve exterior lighting.

A further \$91,500 will go towards the "rehabilitation" of the historic Aurora Armoury near Town Park, including asbestos and soil remediation, and \$50,000 to renovate public washrooms at Fleury Park.

When the planned improvements were announced at Council last week, they were hailed by members, but also raised some eyebrows, including – on the part of Councillor Wendy Gaertner – the fact the pool liner at the SARC needs replacement just nine years after the facility opened, and from Councillors John Abel and Tom Mrakas over the money earmarked for the Armoury.

"I am looking at the rehabilitation of the armoury and the fact they are only giving us \$91,000 when it is going to take \$275,000 to repair the asbestos and all of that," said Councillor Mrakas. Considering the fact [the Federal Government] gave it to us in

I am very pleased the Government of Canada has acknowledged Aurora's significant capital needs by offering grants through the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program.

this condition, I would have hoped they would have come up with a little bit more than that."

Councillor Abel expressed a similar view, adding: "We should have got that [financial commitment] when we negotiated with the Queen's York Rangers. We could have got it for nothing at that time, I am sure, because [the building] was surplus. However, it is good we're getting some of the money."

Going hand in hand with the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program is a separate Federal fund to help communities across the country celebrate Canada's Sesquicentennial. A further report on funding available for an Aurora party, as well as some suggestions on how Aurora can mark the occasion will be before Council as early as this month, according to Al Downey, Aurora's Director of Parks and Recreation.

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Councillors want more information on new hires before crunching numbers

From page 1

our new CAO with eight added new positions before he even walks through the door?"

Supporting the motion were Councillors Sandra Humfryes and Councillor Wendy Gaertner. In her arguments in favour, Councillor Humfryes said a potential hiring freeze is not intended to "cause negative feelings" as no one would be let go, and is standard practice in the private sector.

"It is to do more with less," she said. "Service levels are to be maintained or improved. It absolutely forces the organization, together across the board, to look at skillsets, look at what we have today and where we can redeploy. If you don't do it that way, if we don't deliver a message to ask the organization to look at it differently, we're not going to change the way we're thinking of doing business and we have to."

"Staff will step up to the challenge

and deliver an exceptional year ahead where service levels are not impacted. It just forces everyone to think differently."

Among those disagreeing with the principle was Mayor Geoff Dawe, who called the figures presented by Councillor Mrakas into question, noting the majority of people around the Council table had not yet been elected by the time the 2010 hires were approved.

"From 2011, which is when the majority of the people around this table took office, through 2015, there was a total of 18," said Mayor Dawe. "That would change that graph substantially. Whether it is right or wrong, I am not discussing, but for the majority of this table we have been responsible for a lot less in terms of staff."

He said he agreed with the view offered by interim CAO Patrick Moyle that a freeze such as this is normally examined in the context of a budget, along with service levels. Considering

something like this along with the budget allows Council to make a "fairly well-informed decision" he said of everything that is on the table. This was a view shared by the balance of Council who said they would like more information before them to see what the impacts might be if there was an all-out hiring freeze.

"I am not in favour of making this decision until we see all of the information, exactly who is being asked for," said Councillor Paul Pirri. "I am not saying that we're going to hire. I think it is wrong to infer based on the past there will be another eight hires. All I want to do is look at this as a whole. I want to know why our staff is indicating why they think they need to be hired and we can make that decision in an informed manner across the Council table."

In stating his opposition, Councillor John Abel cited growth – particularly if there was an influx of people coming

in to use municipal facilities due to a greater population.

"I think staff is getting an idea of where this Council is going," he said. "We want to see a little more diligence on some of the spending. It has been known and I think they are getting the idea that come budget time they are not going to be coming in with a bunch of new hires open. I think through the CAO every course will be explored before that is brought for Council's consideration. It is a little more responsible to have these discussions at budget time when we have all the facts and impacts and directors being able to present why they are coming forward rather than us just making a decision in the summertime."

Nevertheless, a further motion to defer the motion calling for a hiring freeze to the aforementioned budget talks failed on a tie vote, with Mayor Dawe, along with Councillors Abel, Pirri and Thompson voting against it.

Straight talk coming on where your tax dollars are going

By Brock Weir

If you're looking for a little straight talking about where your tax dollars are ultimately going, you're in luck.

Council gave the green light to take Aurora's annual budget – and other financial matters facing the town – back to basics with regular "financial health status reports" floated by Councillor Sandra Humfryes.

In her motion to Council, Councillor Humfryes said the municipal budget process can often be very complex and focused, to a point where "most Aurora residents do not fully understand the health of the Town." A financial health status report would be compiled each fiscal year following the approval of a budget, making sure it is "clear, concise and meaningful" to residents, avoids financial jargon, and really highlights the bang each

taxpayer is getting for their buck.

This includes the amount of cash Aurora has in the bank, the value of the Town's assets and investments, and the overall health of various financial reserve accounts.

"We need to be able to articulate to our residents our overall financial health," said Councillor Humfryes. "I think it is a great opportunity for us to sit back and present to residents [saying] very basically we have this much money in the bank, our investments are making this much, we owe this much, and we are looking pretty good."

"It is [about] having that general understanding of how good we are really doing. I know we have that out there in various forms, but in plain wording we can all relate to so residents will understand where we

Continued on page 13

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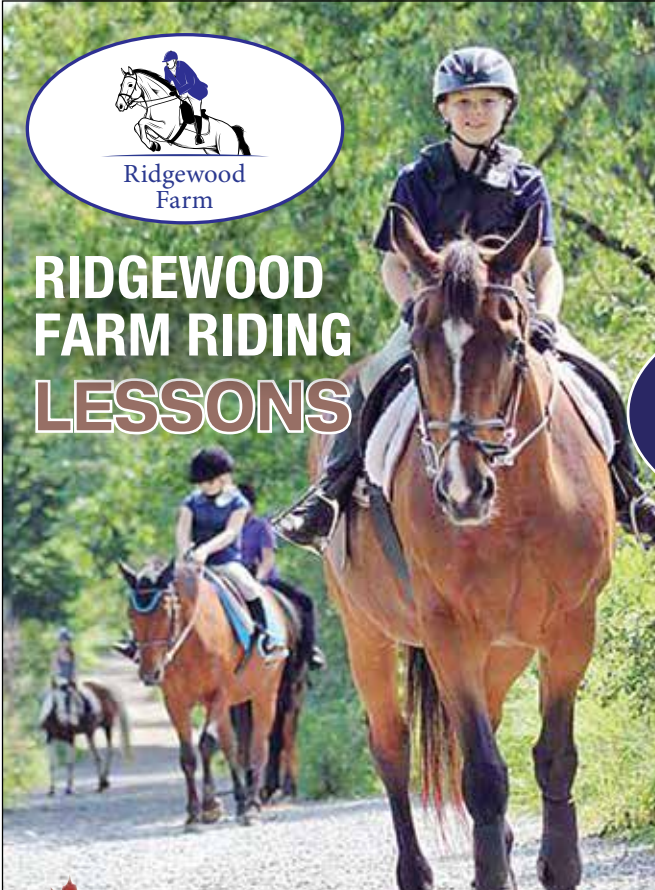
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Veterans, servicepeople sound off at Liberal roundtable

By Brock Weir

They were looking for an avenue to engage politicians on issues facing today's soldiers, and the grassroots advocacy campaign led by Clayton Goodwin and Eric Rebiere landed at the Aurora Cultural Centre last week as a host of area Liberal candidates held roundtable talks on veterans' issues.

"We came here to engage any party that is willing to stand up and fix veterans' affairs from the actual problems that have been created or seem to have been invented under the Conservative Party of Canada," said Cpl. Goodwin, who noted their campaign is in its infancy.

By the time of last week's meeting, it was not yet four weeks old but they wasted no time since the writ was dropped to find ways to have their voices heard.

"[The Conservatives] have done austerity measures of \$1.13 billion and this has actually harmed veterans and veterans' families. The programs they have actually put in place never actually see statistics. They just seem to pump out propaganda to say, 'Look at us, everything is good.'"

It's a view Mr. Goodwin and Rebiere disagree with, and this sentiment was shared by the local politicians assembled.

Led by Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill candidate Leona Alleslev, herself a retired member of the Royal Canadian Air Force, she was joined by former Minister of National Defence and Veterans' Affairs, and Markham candidate John McCallum, Newmarket-Aurora candidate Kyle Peterson, King-Vaughan candidate Deb Schulte, Vaughan-Woodbridge candidate Francesco Sorbera, and Durham candidate Corinna Traill, who is challenging current Veterans Affairs Minister Erin O'Toole in the riding.

The roundtable discussion was intended as a way to engage local veterans and servicemen and women with recently discussed planks of the Liberal platform for veterans, including the re-establishment of lifelong pensions for injured veterans (which can be accepted either as a traditional pension or a lump

sum payment), an \$80 million annual pot to create a Veterans Education Benefit, which panellists likened to the American G.I. Bill, a \$100 million investment to support veterans' families, and the re-opening of nine Veterans Affairs offices closed by the Conservative government.

"I have very close friends who have been affected by their time in the theatre either by physical injuries or post-traumatic stress (PTSD) and I have watched them be unable to get the support they need and, in many cases, they have been ignored or rejected," said Ms. Alleslev. "These are not the values of the country I served in the military to defend and it is to return and restore those values to which Canada stands that I am running for office."

"Our servicemen and women stand for the very best of what it means to be Canadian. They have put their lives on the line for us and that commitment has come at a high cost: 158 members of the Canadian Forces have lost their life during the Afghanistan mission but sadly the suicide tally is even higher with over 170 suicides of service personnel since 2004. Thousands more were wounded or suffer still through PTSD and we owe a sacred trust to our veterans and their families, all of them. It is an obligation we must meet with respect and gratitude."

No veteran, she said, should be "forced to fight" their own government for support and compensation earned and deserved and the restoration of life-long pensions and the other platform planks will go a long way in "honouring their past service" and securing them "a bright future" as they transition to civilian life.

"Future generations of brave men and women should know they will be looked after when they finish their service to Canada," she concluded. "There should never be any doubt in their minds."

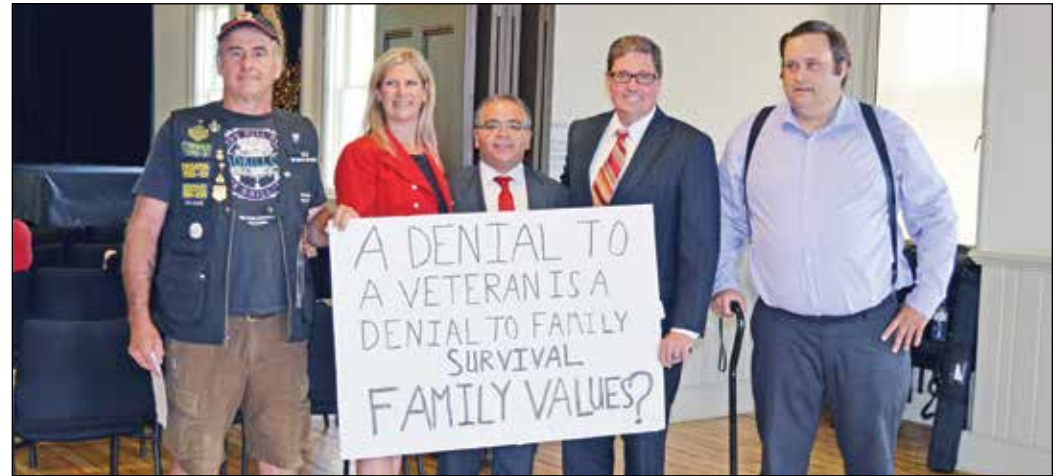
Of the approximately 23 guests in the audience, the treatment of veterans and their families was uppermost in their concerns, as well as whether Canada's servicemen and women would return to a peacekeeping role rather than a combat role should the Liberals form the next Federal government.

Above all, they wanted assurances

these platform planks were indeed something that could be counted on and the government could afford.

"Every single item we commit to, we do studies on how much it will cost and after we have announced all our major items we will come forward with a complete accounting of everything we have

committed to," said Mr. McCallum. "We are in deficit today. Experts say that. The government denies it. When we come to power, you're right, there is going to be a mess. We have had eight deficits in a row, but I would argue [that with] our team of economic people, we are best placed to clean up that mess."



Veterans Eric Rebiere (left) and Clayton Goodwin (right) brought their campaign to the Aurora Cultural Centre last week, to a roundtable led by Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill candidate Leona Alleslev and joined by fellow candidates Francesco Sorbera (Vaughan-Woodbridge) and Kyle Peterson (Newmarket-Aurora).
Auroran photo by Brock Weir

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THE AURORAN Arts & Culture

Culture Days at the Aurora Farmers' Market and Artisan Fair

By Jan Freedman and Shirley Wiedemeyer

Whatever one's cultural heritage, food occupies a prominent role in their way of life and in their distinctive customs and celebrations.

Food is much more than mere sustenance; it is a source of pleasure, comfort and security.

Food also is symbolic of hospitality, social status and religious significance.

What we choose to eat, how we prepare and serve it and when we eat are all influenced by our cultural heritage.

In addition to nourishing our bodies, food is also evocative of time and place. We can all remember special family gatherings and celebrations

which featured treasured family recipes. Most of us have fond memories of favourite foods such as Mom's roast chicken,

Aunt Charlotte's stuffed peppers or Grandma's apple pie or honey cake. There are certain aromas from the kitchen guaranteed to tantalize the taste buds such as bread baking, coffee brewing, cinnamon or even bacon frying. Of course, everyone has his/her own favourite aromas reminiscent of times spent enjoying meals when travelling and with friends and family.

In celebration of Culture Days this year, the Aurora Farmers' Market and Artisan Fair will be hosting a Soup Fest on Saturday, September 26.



Amazingly, soup culture dates back to 6000 B.C. when soups featured hippopotamus. All cultures include soup in their culinary

repertoire. Notable among them are Chinese Hot and Sour soup, Japanese Miso soup, Italian Minestrone, Eastern European Beet Borscht, Hungarian Goulash, American Gumbo and Eastern Canadian Fish Chowder. In different cultures soups are eaten at different times of the day. For example, in China and Myanmar, soup traditionally is eaten for breakfast.

Since Culture Days occurs during our harvest time, our six Market chefs/cooks will have an abundance of fresh, local fruits and vegetables to

choose from to create their delicious soups. They have been asked to select their major ingredients from our farmers and to finish the soups in front of visitors to the market.

One exception this year will be the chef/cook who will be creating a soup from the Burmese culture to tie into our community's OneBookOneAurora initiative featuring "Burmese Lessons" by author Karen Connelly.

Soup Fests are always a very popular event at the Farmers' Market so please mark your calendars to include a visit to the Market on your way to or from events at the other participating venues.

Look for your passport to fun and creativity in The Auroran and at participating venues. Take part in family-friendly activities, win prizes and celebrate food culture as part of your daily life.

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Commonwealth champion joins local gym as boxing coach

By Jake Courtepatte

When one door closes, another one opens.

While Aurora's Donovan Boucher may have hit a bump in the road two decades ago that sidetracked his boxing career, a late comeback and a love of the sport has landed him a spot as the new head coach of boxing at Fearless MMA.

Born in Jamaica, a young Toronto-based Boucher got his start at Sully's Gym in Toronto around the age of twelve, persuaded to check it out by an amateur boxer friend of his.

"At first I said no, because I was interested in and good at other sports, like soccer," said Boucher.

But the sport of boxing was in its

heyday in the 1980s, with the likes of Sugar Ray Leonard, Mike Tyson, and Muhammad Ali in the ring, who Boucher said he really admired. He joined and quickly realized he excelled at the sport.

It was in that gym that he was spotted by Toronto promoter Tony Unitas, who Boucher said "recognized the talent in him." At the age of just thirteen, he was asked to participate in his first amateur bout, which he proceeded to win.

"I thought it was just great. Winning a trophy at that age was an accomplishment. After that I was looking for the next one. And it all started from there."

He turned professional in 1985 and quickly rose to the top of the boxing world. He says one of his best career moments is when he took just two rounds to defeat Olympic silver medalist Shawn O'Sullivan in 1988.

He won the Commonwealth welterweight belt in 1989, a title that he held onto for three years.

He was even promoted by the legendary Don King, getting his name on cards in both the United States and Europe. By 1996, he held an impressive professional record of 30 - 5, eighteen coming by way of knockout.

It was the same year that a controversial brain scan would put his boxing career on hold for over a decade. The Ontario Boxing Commission refused to license Boucher after finding some anomalies in the scan, albeit inconclusive ones.

"They didn't really know what the spots were, they wouldn't let me fight for about ten years," said Boucher. "I was pretty depressed about that."

Another brain scan in 2007 showed no issues, and Boucher decided to get back into the young-man's sport at the age of 45. He won his first two bouts back in Montreal and Edmonton by unanimous decisions, before his dream of becoming Canada's oldest boxing champion fell apart in the light middleweight title bout at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto. He officially retired one year later.

When Fearless MMA became affiliated with Boxing Ontario this past June, he saw the opportunity to teach youth in the community discipline and direction.

"You have to make the time for what you want, and that's what I want to teach them."

The gym is located at 110 Connaught Avenue in Aurora, and is open to all ages, abilities, and fitness levels. The 6,000 sq. ft. space is home to a full-size competition boxing ring, a 20-ft. MMA cage, 25 hanging heavy bags, and much more.

"It's not all about hitting and getting hit," said Boucher. "We offer up boxing as a form of fitness, and as a great workout for anybody."

You can check out their website at www.fearlessmma.ca.

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“Disappointment” around Council table over state of heritage house



The remnant of the David Wilson Doan House are currently fenced awaiting a further study on its structural stability.
Auroran photo by Brock Weir

From page 1

construction.”

Gary Templeton, representing the property owner, told the committee the “serious problems” found in the building would jeopardize the plan to attach it to the planned apartment development and, instead, the owners would replicate the façade in its new construction.

The HAC, however, decided not to make a decision just yet, recommending Council approve a third-party peer review “to be conducted with experience in the preservation of heritage buildings” hired by the Town and paid for by the property owner, to determine how the front façade can be saved – and that is just what Council did last week.

In making their decision, Councillors expressed their alarm and disappointment that structural problems are being found this late in the game.

“I don’t believe the scope of the work was to find out whether or not they could keep the structure in ways they hadn’t thought of or reported back on yet; it was simply whether or not they could keep things as is,” said Councillor Jeff Thom, a member of HAC. “They didn’t ask him to explore whether or not it could be kept or what could be done. There was no other way for us to determine whether

the façade could be kept.

“We felt that – although it wasn’t unanimous – until you can demonstrate all other avenues to save the façade have been exhausted, we wouldn’t be agreeable to having that façade ripped down. If they have to do another study, it shouldn’t be the Town to have to pay for it because, in our opinion, it should have been done in the first place. The onus is on them to demonstrate that no matter what you do, that thing has to come down.”

This was a sentiment shared by many members of Council, including Councillor John Abel, who served on HAC in the last term of Council, who said he believes the demolition crew took down more of the building than they should have. Mr. Ramunno, however, poured cold water on this view, stating they had demolished what was agreed to by Council in 2013, underpinning the rest to try to save it with bracing in place.

“They took away half of what I thought was being preserved and it looks very weak,” said Councillor Abel. “I am not an engineer, but it looks like they want to see this fall. One way to do that is take half the structure and leave it for a heavy wind. I am a bit perturbed at what I am seeing. It looks like they’re staging for the rest of it to come down.”

He was not alone – this view was shared by Councillor Sandra Humfries, who also served on the committee in the last term of Council when this plan was approved. She said she as “very concerned” with this property and has been “panicking” watching it unfold.

I think it is important to be able to clearly identify why this case is different than the other cases we have. I am a little concerned we don't have a policy or any guidelines to steer the decision-making with regards to this.

“An engineer with some experience in historical architecture and preserving it should have been hired in the very beginning, not just an engineer, and that is why I think [the property owners] should be liable,” added Councillor Wendy Gaertner. “I am very disappointed because this is the Charles Doan House, the only one remaining, and on our main streets. It really is a shame it has come to this and I just don’t know how that was left to happen.”

Other Councillors, however, were less enthusiastic with saddling the property owner with the costs of another engineering study. Councillor Tom Mrakas, for instance, said he agreed with it in principle, but if the Town-hired engineer came back with the same conclusions, the property owner shouldn’t have to shoulder the cost.

Councillor Michael Thompson, on the other hand, said it is important to be “clear” on why Council is asking for a third-party review because these requests are often made at Town Hall. Highlighting similar requests made by residents surrounding the former Highland Gate Golf Course on plans to redevelop the land, it could set a precedent.

“I think it is important to be able to clearly identify why this case is different than the other cases we have,” he said. “I am a little concerned we don’t have a policy or any guidelines to steer the decision-making with regards to this.”

The house in question was built by David Wilson Doan, the one-time postmaster, in the 1870s, part of a cluster of homes in the vicinity owned by the Doan Family, including Castle Doan, demolished in 1982, and Doan Hall, demolished in 1969.

Calls to Mr. Templeton were not returned by press time.

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FREE Week of September 3, 2015

Tigers struggle out of the gate in OJHL pre-season

By Jake Courtepatte

Last season's OJHL regular season champions are still searching for their first win of 2015/16, but the real action is yet to start.

Aurora Tigers prospects had their chance to prove their worth in two pre-season games with the Orangeville Flyers last week, but came up well short in both games.

In front of a few hundred curious fans at the Aurora Community Centre last Wednesday, the Tigers struggled early as former South Central Coyotes goalie Ryan Franz let a weak shorthanded goal through his legs just one minute in. With the 2 - 0 score in the second, forward Alex Formenton scored the Tigers' first goal of the year on the powerplay, just twenty seconds in on a 2-on-1.



The Aurora Tigers open their regular season next week after a pre-season that saw them lose back-to-back games against the Orangeville Flyers. **Auroran photo by Jake Courtepatte**

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Hunting and Fishing Guides Minimum Wage: Rate for working five or more hours in a day whether or not the hours are consecutive	\$110.00	\$112.60
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That would be all for Aurora's offence, as Orangeville put two more past Saginaw Spirit prospect Josh Boyko for a 4 - 1 win.

The Tigers then traveled to Orangeville on Saturday where they were blanked 7 - 0 on almost forty shots from the Flyers.

"Orangeville's a good team, but our guys didn't really show their best effort," said head coach Mark Joslin. "We had a lot of defensive breakdowns."

Ex-CCHLer Cole Skinner earned the loss, giving up seven goals over 38 shots. Boyko took over the last seven minutes, but wasn't tested much.

With a high number of prospective players seeing action in the pre-season, the turnover of the roster has certainly increased as of late. Only about ten players from last year's squad are now expected to suit up again for the Tigers this year.

"Those guys have been great," said Joslin of the returnees. "I'm the new guy to them, but we've worked well together."

Two of the Tigers' biggest pieces of the puzzle have now decided to move on to different leagues. Cameron Morrison, the rookie hometown sensation who led the Tigers in goals last year, will now be suiting up for the USHL's Youngstown Phantoms. Leading point-scorer Johnny Curran requested a trade to the British

Columbia Junior Hockey League.

"It's difficult to replace guys like that, but we'll do the best we can," said Joslin.

One of the Tigers' most recent additions is forward Cole Hepler, a 20-year old American who spent last season with the Northern Ontario Hockey League's Elliot Lake Wildcats.

"He's a strong two-way player," said Joslin.

Hepler had 23 goals and 43 assists in his 52 games with the Wildcats last year.

First-year coach Joslin said that eight of his players are away at OHL camps this week, which says a lot about the young talent on his team.

The regular season is set to kick off next Thursday with the Tigers in Newmarket to face the Hurricanes. The Tigers are pleased to announce that their home opener, September 12 against the new Markham Royals, will be free to the public this year.

"It's a gesture to the town of Aurora to come out and see some great hockey," said Joslin.

The first 500 fans will also receive a free Tigers tee-shirt, and Canadian rock group Platinum Blonde's Mark Holmes will be dropping the ceremonial puck. Puck drop is at 7.30 p.m.

For stats, schedules, and more information, visit www.auroratigers.pointstreaksites.com.

Barbarian women claim second OWL title in four years

By Jake Courtepatte

The Aurora Barbarians are once again the holders of the Ontario Women's League Cup, using an 11-try effort to defeat the top-seeded Toronto Saracens 63-31 in the tournament final at Fletcher's Fields on Saturday afternoon.

Neither side was allowed ample time to ease into the match, with both teams attacking strongly to start off the game while making the most of their possessions. Wasting little time, the Saracens scored the match's first try just two minutes into the game, but the Barbarians replied quickly with a try of their own five minutes later. The Toronto-based club capped off the early scoring with a try at the 13-minute mark to lead 12-7.

Aurora captain Tyson Beukeboom was issued a yellow card 18 minutes in, but was joined on the sidelines shortly after by a member of the Saracens. With the Saracens still playing with 14 women, the Barbarians took advantage of the return of their captain to the pitch with a try to tie the game. The Barbarians then regained the lead heading into halftime, adding another tally to go up 17-12 just before the interval.

While little separated the two sides throughout the opening half, the second half was commanded by the Barbarians. Aurora carried their halftime momentum right through the second half with the club scoring eight tries throughout the final 40 minutes, including four in the opening

Continued on page 13



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U18 Barbarian girls are best in Ontario

By Jake Courtepatte

It was an underdog victory for the under-18 Aurora Barbarians girls on Sunday as they took the title of best rugby squad in the province.

The Barbarians, who finished their season with a 4-2-0 record, turned things around in the playoffs after losing two of their final three games in the regular season.

In early August, the seventh-seed Barbarians battled the second-seeded Balmy Beach, with the Barbarians pulling off a surprise upset winning in overtime 17-12. They faced an even greater challenge in the U18 semi-finals the week after, taking on the top-seeded Oshawa Vikings.

The Vikings had the Barbs number earlier in the season, winning both of their league games by scores of 49-12 and 25-10. This game, however, would be all Barbs, as some excellent defense and two tries from Mia Rogers were enough to secure a spot in the championship with a 14-10 victory.

With the top two seeds eliminated at the hands of the Barbs, they would face the number-three Oakville Crusaders in the finals on Saturday.

Fletcher's Field in Markham was abuzz as over 150 fans packed in to watch the Barbs take on the high school powerhouse of Oakville, where the OFSAA 'AAA' gold medal winner of Oakville Trafalgar resides.

The Crusaders came on strong, pinning the Barbs in their own end for the first ten minutes. They finally earned a turnover at a ruck, and Eryn Roberts ran the length of the field untouched for the Barbs' first try.

Julia Giannitopolous converted to give the Barbs a 7-0 lead.

Although Oakville put the pressure back on after the kick-off, Aurora's defence stood tall and allowed Linzi Kruger to score a try in the corner just before halftime. Although the convert was missed, the Barbs led 12-0 at the break.

It was much the same in the second with the Barbarians' strong defence outplaying a surmounting Crusaders' offense. But Oakville finally broke the line at around the fifteen-minute mark, scoring an unconverted try to make it 12-5. They would add another ten minutes later to close the gap to 12-10.

But that would be as close as they would get to the Barbs as Rebecca Godden added a late insurance marker that was once again converted by Giannitopolous for a 19-10 victory.

"It's awesome, but we are not done yet," said head coach Nick Daniels after the game.

After securing the top spot in the Toronto division, the Barbs quickly turned around to provincial championships back at Fletcher's on Sunday. They cruised past London St. George in the semi-final, winning 33-5. Facing the Hamilton Hornets in the



The U18 Aurora Barbarians girls rugby squad is tops in Ontario after defeating the Hamilton Hornets 42-7 in the provincial final on Sunday.

Photo courtesy of Rugby Ontario

final, the Barbs jumped out to a 21-0 lead by halftime.

Led by two tries each from Roberts and Vyk Brochu, and six conversions

Barbs last champs in 2012

From page 12

ten minutes of the second frame. The Saracens managed to respond with three tries of their own, but it was not enough to keep pace with the Barbarians' rampant scoring frenzy. Aurora walked off the pitch with a convincing 63-31 victory, becoming the 2015 OWL Cup champions.

"It's an amazing feeling," said Beukeboom. "We worked hard all year for this." The Barbarians' scoring output included 11 tries and four converts en route to putting up 63 points, while the Saracens countered with five tries and three converts for 31 points on the day. The Saracens had a positive outlook to end the day as they were awarded the OWL's league championship trophy, which the club secured in July with their 9-1-0 record, attaining 45 of a possible 50 points. Both sides earned convincing victories in their OWL Cup semifinal matchups two weekends prior to the final - the Saracens got by 2014 OWL Cup runners-up Yeomen Lions 52-22, while the Aurora Barbarians defeated 2014 OWL Cup champions Waterloo County 57-15 to secure a berth in the final.

The Barbarians last took home the championship in 2012. They fell to the Saracens in overtime the following year.

from Giannitopolous, the Barbs took the championship by a final score of 42-7.

Mikhaila Irving was awarded the team's most outstanding player at a Barbarian award banquet over the weekend.

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Reports will be "clear, concise"

From page 7

are and when we do make decisions in investing in new facilities, or would like to hire a few more staff resources - with good reason - we can say we're doing good and we can move forward."

The proposal received an enthusiastic response from Council, with Councillor Wendy Gaertner saying "clear and concise" would be welcomed by residents.

Budget talks often focus on communicating with residents about how their money is being spent and the value they are getting for every dollar, added Councillor Michael Thompson. This is a natural progression.

"We have communicated it in the past, we have seen reports other municipalities have done, and I know for myself I am a little envious because I thought there are certainly municipalities out there that do a phenomenal job of communicating that value to residents. It is their money and they should have a clear and easy understanding of the value they are getting for their tax dollars. It is that simple. I find it has been a challenge in the past, so I am fully supportive of this and looking forward to seeing how we're going to communicate that to residents."



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Trudeau lays groundwork for deficit pledge in Newmarket-Aurora stop

By Brock Weir

Awating Tuesday's announcement of a technical recession, Liberal leader Justin Trudeau questioned, on a campaign stop in Newmarket-Aurora last week, how his NDP counterpart would be able to deliver on his promise

of a balanced budget in the next year. "Mr. Mulcair has now committed to balancing the budget next year even though we are right now in deficit," said Mr. Trudeau. "My question for him is which programs is he going to cut? He needs to come clean on what's off the table. I have said very clearly that we're

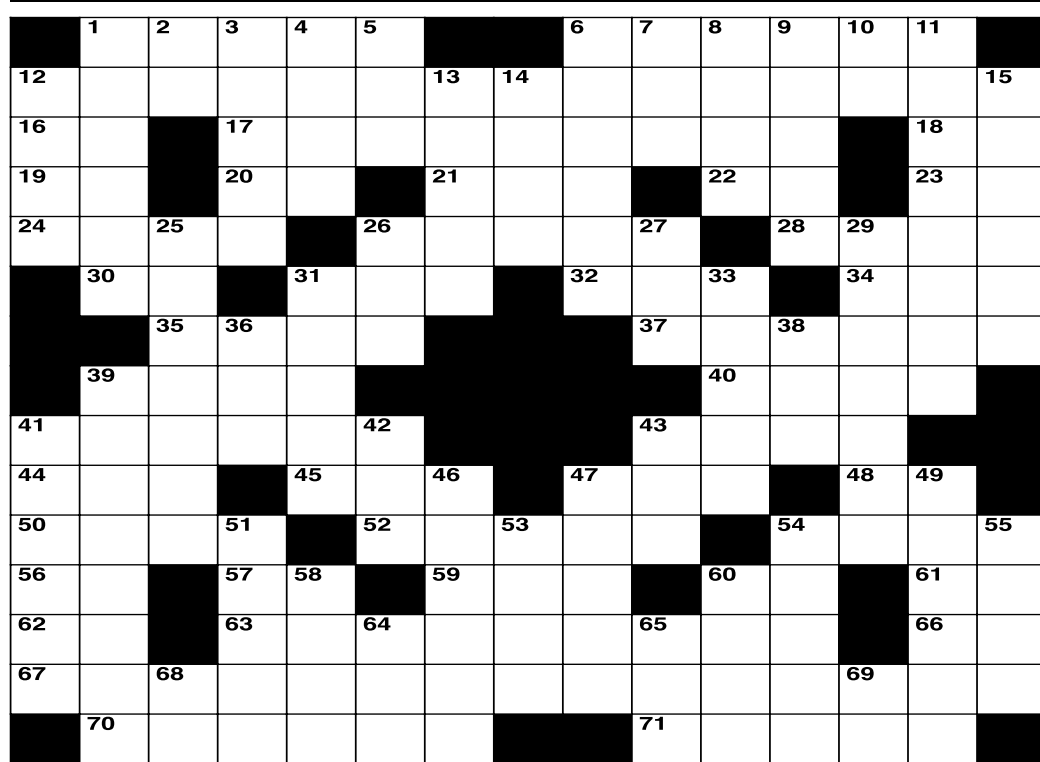


Liberal leader Justin Trudeau is welcomed by teachers in Newmarket-Aurora last week. Auroran photo by Brock Weir

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Recesses
- 6. Slandorous defamation
- 12. Fruit phrase: Life is just
- 16. Undergraduate degree
- 17. A way of damaging
- 18. Indicates position
- 19. Equally
- 20. Manuscript (abbr.)
- 21. ___ Lanka
- 22. Thus
- 23. 4th tone of scale
- 24. Town or commune in France
- 26. Sharp inclination
- 28. Watering holes
- 30. 1st state (abbr.)
- 31. Cattle genus
- 32. Type of American Indian
- 34. Before
- 35. Hairless
- 37. Hosts film festival
- 39. African tribe
- 40. Loud crowd noise
- 41. Quarter
- 43. Swiss capital
- 44. Sandhurst (abbr.)
- 45. Golfer Snead
- 47. Bachelor's of Applied Science
- 48. A radio band
- 50. Assist in some wrongdoing
- 52. SW German state ____: Württemberg
- 54. Rosary component
- 56. Expresses surprise
- 57. Hot Springs state (abbr.)
- 59. Soak flax
- 60. Atomic #73
- 61. Exist
- 62. Megabyte
- 63. Energy in the form of waves or particles
- 66. Farm state (abbr.)
- 67. WWII flyer's phrase: On
- 70. Store fodder for preservation
- 71. Lubed

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Lowered in prestige
- 2. Turin river
- 3. Moves through water
- 4. Disappearing shade trees
- 5. Standard operating procedure
- 6. A shrill cry
- 7. Japanese apricot
- 8. Emergency Response Notification System (abbr.)
- 9. Sparta's ancient rival city
- 10. The Ocean State
- 11. Jack-tar
- 12. Sleeveless Arab garments
- 13. Abstains from food
- 14. Waxed finish
- 15. Conditions of balance
- 25. Cloud of interstellar dust
- 26. Turf
- 27. Political action committee
- 29. Repentant act
- 33. Salesman's items
- 36. Every
- 38. Neither
- 39. African nation
- 41. Hindu's creator god
- 42. The bill in a restaurant
- 43. Edict
- 46. Maritime
- 47. Small bright tropical fish
- 49. Cockered
- 51. Mountain lakes
- 53. No longer alive
- 54. Unoriginal
- 55. Costly
- 58. Finger millet
- 60. Aaron Spelling's child
- 64. Dekaliter
- 65. Initial public offering
- 68. Not out
- 69. Thou

Last Week's Puzzle Solution

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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

committed to investing in Canadians, investing in growth, investing in infrastructure – and I will have a lot more to say about that in the coming days.”

That was a commitment that was certainly kept as little more than 24 hours later; Mr. Trudeau announced his party was proposing three years of deficits in order to get, in their view, the economy on track. And, indeed, he did have much more to say about that in the coming days, but the whistle-stop in Aurora's northern riding lay the groundwork for the announcement ahead.

“Mr. Harper and Mr. Mulcair seem to think everything is just fine with the Canadian economy,” said Mr. Trudeau. “I don't. I think the Canadian economy needs investment: investment in the middle class, investment in infrastructure, investment that is going to lead to growth and opportunity. One of the reasons Canadians are cynical about politics and politicians is regularly certain politicians will say things they know simply are not true.

“Mr. Harper did that in the 2008 election when he promised not to go into deficit. He has done that many, many times and Mr. Mulcair, he has done that in his entire career as a politician. I won't do that. I am going to tell Canadians the truth. We need investment and growth and that is what we're focused on. We're not going to make political promises about balancing the budgets when we know right now we are in deficit and we are going to need to grow our way out of it.”

Mr. Trudeau's stop in Newmarket-Aurora was not to talk about budgets, but to visit Newmarket's Spectrum Educational Supplies, where he announced a new tax benefit for teachers and early childhood educators.

A Liberal government, he said, would introduce a Teacher and Early Childhood Educator School Supply Tax Benefit, which would be available regardless of income level and provide a cash benefit of up to \$150 per year on up to \$1,000-worth of school supplies and educational materials.

Joined at the announcement by Newmarket-Aurora Liberal candidate Kyle Peterson, Mr. Trudeau highlighted his previous career as a teacher.

“As I often told my students, a problem may seem insurmountable, but it can be solved if we work together to understand it clearly, articulate it openly, and tackle it differently,” he said. “That is why our plan to grow the middle class is about investing in people. I know very well as a teacher that sometimes you have out of pocket expenses to help enhance the activities in your classroom; everything from gold star stickers to times table posters. Unfortunately, those expenses are not recognized by our Federal tax system.”

Added Mr. Peterson: “Both of my parents were teachers and I understand the commitment teachers have to education in general and to their students in particular. All of the teachers assembled today should be applauded, especially as we get ready to get back to the school year.”

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Prevention remains Paul Leslie's mandate after retirement

From page 1

undertake with my family and a couple of other things I would like to pursue that I just haven't had the time to get involved in so far," he says. "Education is one. I have a penchant for instruction, so I am looking at teaching opportunities. I would love to get involved in some more civil service areas like human rights issues and prevention efforts for violence against women."

If "timing and opportunity" have been a hallmark of his career, so too have the education and prevention components.

Leslie says he was never one of those guys who wanted to be a firefighter growing up, but when he was a young man, "just at loose ends" and sharing an apartment with his brother, a job posting came up for the Toronto Fire Service. It had the makings of an excellent career, he thought, and ultimately had the good fortune to be hired.

"It was the view this was a very honourable thing to be doing and this was a fulfilling career," he says. "The privilege of being able to work in a profession that benefits your community, where you're not having to worry about profit-driven efforts, you're able to look at what is best for the people in your community. That is a pretty privileged position to be in and I realised pretty early on I was a pretty lucky guy."

Beginning his career in Toronto, many of his duties fell under the umbrella of fire prevention, performing inspections with staff, keeping an eye on the city's larger construction projects and ensuring they were being built safely, were often the orders of the day. High rise fires, at the time, were quite prevalent in the 1980s which spurred a close examination on just how fires were being fought.

After working with the Toronto

Department on how to address that issue, he spent the next 17 years working at the Ontario Fire Marshall's Office, working on a number of investigations, as well as looking at how to encourage some behavioural changes across the province.

"We did a lot of work with...some changes in how to approach both code enforcement and public attitudes towards fires, not accepting poor behaviour of people not having working smoke alarms, endangering their children by not having working smoke alarms," reflects Leslie. "The fire service, up until the last 10 or 15 years, has been quite tolerant of that and I was involved with a number of people who were pushing to change that and make it so it was not a socially acceptable thing to not have working smoke alarms needlessly cause a fire and endanger or kill your family or



Deputy Fire Chief Paul Leslie.

Photo courtesy of the CYFS

children.

"Coming to the CYFS, there was a huge opportunity with this department as it has continued to grow to help us focus on our growth and ensure our fire fighters are given the training and he support to do the exemplary job they do."

Moving from the Fire Marshall's Office to the CYFS was a more hands-on experience, and that was part of the appeal. It was rewarding, he said, to make things happen at a local level and to flex some muscle in a new position.

"To be a good deputy chief, you need to be able to lead people and that is an individual and personal challenge to ensure that you're bringing the right approach to the job to encourage your staff, to motivate your staff, to support your staff and ensure they are having a rewarding and challenging career," he says. "It is a very fulfilling challenge but it is a constant challenge."

Councillor urges re-think on Emerald Ash Borer treatment

By Brock Weir

Despite Council approving the chemical IMA-JET for treatment of ash trees across Aurora set to be decimated by the invasive Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) beetle, one Councillor is urging a re-think of this course of action, citing environmental concerns.

Councillor Wendy Gaertner raised the issue, stating her own research has led to environmental questions. Speaking to the matter ahead of a region-wide working group assembled to address the EAB across the area, Councillor Gaertner suggested it was time for Council to do some "research on the chemical behind it" before forging ahead with the IMA-JET treatment.

"It is a chemical that is going to be very dangerous to our bees and if we don't have bees, we don't have pollination and then we will really be in trouble," she said.

Last week, Councillor Michael Thompson said he and the rest of Council had been at the receiving end of "fairly technical information" from residents and requested Al Downey,

It is a chemical that is going to be very dangerous to our bees and if we don't have bees, we don't have pollination and then we will really be in trouble.

Aurora's Director of Parks and Recreation to weigh in on it.

The issue of IMA-JET and its impact on the already dwindling bee population was considered by Council when they last approved the treatment at the end of May.

"Council has already made a decision to move forward with IMA-JET, so that is the chemical staff are proposing to use," said Mr. Downey at the time. "There are some discussions with regards to that chemical, I am aware of that, but we feel confident this chemical is not going to be airborne, which is

the concern. It is contained within the trees.

"There is an opportunity for other municipalities, however, within the Region, to also look at alternative chemicals as well as alternative treatments and learn from each other with regards to the best methods in treating the Emerald Ash Borer."

Earlier this year, Council voted to ditch plans to treat the ash trees with the previously approved TreeAzin chemical in favour of IMA-JET on the recommendation it might ultimately prove both cheaper and more effective than the other. By that time, ash trees on public lands had already received a preliminary treatment with the TreeAzin, but the spread of EAB both on public and private land marched on. "Recent information obtained by staff from the manufacturer of TreeAzin suggests that consideration be given to treating ash trees in at least one consecutive year in areas where EAB infestation is moderate to heavy," said Mr. Downey at the time. "Unfortunately, this information was not available or provided by the manufacturer when the Town embarked on the treatment program. Staff do not believe this information was withheld or that the product was misrepresented as it was relatively new to the market and has shown good results in preliminary trials and testing in Oakville.

"Unlike TreeAzin, which is a biologic, low toxicity, non-chemical product, IMA-JET contains the chemical compound imidacloprid which is highly toxic to EAB larvae and is applied in the main tree trunk at grade level as the tree roots flare. The product is encapsulated within a sealed plug system such that no chemical contact can occur on the outside of the host tree. It is from the neonicotinoid family of pesticides and is currently the subject of controversy in the agricultural and apicultural industry as it has been linked to the decline of honey bee colonies in some parts of the province."

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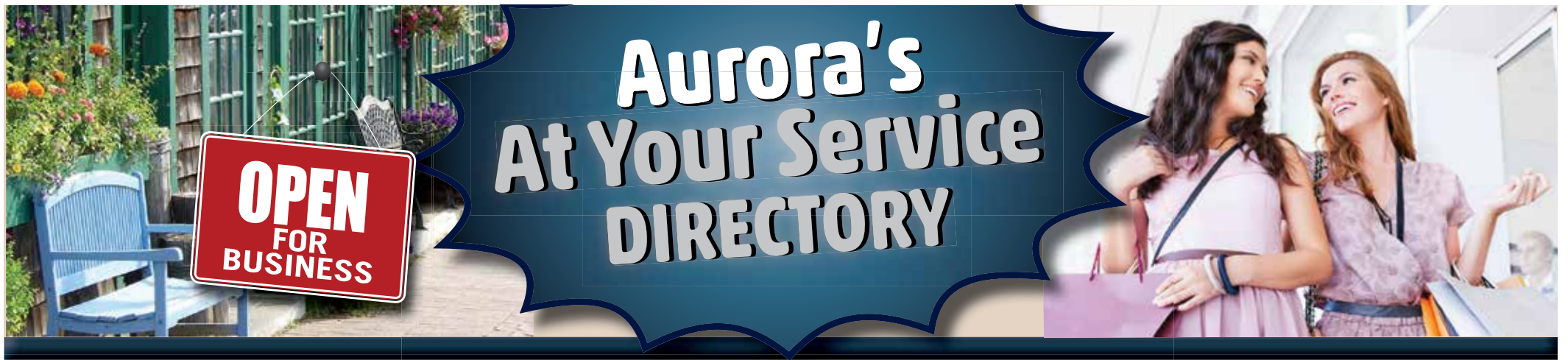


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 larry.candopro@yahoo.ca
 www.candoproroofing.com

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- SkyLights
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Call 905 727-3300 x 102

THE AURORAN CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

FULL TIME POSITIONS

- Welders (6 Positions) - MIG - \$18-20/hr
- Factory Machine Operators: - \$14-16 / hr. - skilled labour - days, afternoons, nights
- Also - CNC, Water Jet, Wet Saws Op's
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- Shuttle Drivers (G Lic.) - 20 positions Alliston, Automatic and Standard transmissions
- Resumes only, no phone calls
- Only qualified persons will be contacted

DaveG@motivatedstaffing.com
 905-951-6300 Tel/Fax
 866-274-7231 Toll Free

REGISTERED RECES required for local school aged child care centers in Aurora. Must have experience working with children ages 4-12 years. Available for part time split shift Monday to Friday 7 - 9 am and 3 - 6:30 pm. Please contact Marisa at amongfriendsdaycarecentres@hotmail.com

EXPERIENCED MEAT CUTTERS and labourers wanted. Cutting and deboning poultry products an asset. Labourers, \$11-\$14/hr. Butchers with minimum two years experience - \$16/hr. Apply to Abate Packers Ltd by email at: jobs@abatepackers.com or by fax: 519-848-2793.

GENERAL HELP WANTED

AURORA Yard worker: 416-564-4330. Nikki

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Competitive wages • Vehicle an asset with km paid
 Able to work flexible hours 5-7per day • Training provided
 Day time hours no evenings or weekends
 Take pride in work as well as have good work ethics

CALL SPAR-CLEAN INC.
 905-967-0445 (8am-5pm) for further details.
 Visit our web site at www.spar-clean.ca

VEHICLES WANTED/WRECKING

WE PAY \$325-\$3000 for your scrap cars & trucks. 24/7/ Free towing. 705-500-2844 or 905-462-1346.

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Continued Growth has Created Several Opportunities to Join a Transportation / Distribution Company in Bolton, ON

Courier Driver
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Forklift Operator - Various Shifts Available

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We offer competitive wages and an employee benefits plan. Please forward resume to Geordie Ledson at Email: - hr@cavalier.ca Fax.: 905- 951-7387 or call 905 951-8785 ext. 5225

Visit us online at: www.cavalier.ca

It's Almost Back to School Time & We Still Have Openings for School Bus Drivers

FREE TRAINING NOW for September routes. Be part of a world-class company, perform a great community service and get paid for it! Ideal steady part-time job.

You won't have to work weekends, nights, school holidays or even the summers. Ask about our special limited-time hiring & training incentives (and more incentives if you already have a Class B licence). Also ask about child ride along.

Call 1-877-914-KIDS or email canadajobs@firstgroup.com www.firststudentinc.ca

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FOR RENT

APARTMENT FOR RENT - 3 Bedroom upper - newly renovated, separate entrance. Yard and parking. Walk to GO Station. No pets/no smoking. Completely furnished. \$1600 available Sept 1st. 905-727-8046 x 22.

1 BEDROOM MAIN FLOOR. Available September 1, 2015. Suitable for one professional. 416-564-4330. Nikki

Municipal Maintenance Inc.

MUNICIPAL MAINTENANCE JOB FAIR

We are currently hiring for Landscape and Snow positions

Our positions offer:

- ✓ Year Around Full Time Employment with Guaranteed Income
- ✓ Competitive Industry Compensation Rates
- ✓ Health and Safety Training
- ✓ Experience is an Asset, not a requirement (training is provided)

If you are interested please send your resume to Nicole at nicole@municipalgroup.net

All Applicants must have a valid driver's license

We are hosting a **JOB FAIR** on Tuesday September 8, 2015 from 10:00am to 2:00pm

The location of the Job Fair is 52 Proctor Road, Schomberg Ontario

Please bring your resume

To advertise in The Auroran Classifieds
 Call 905-727-3300 ext. 102

IN MEMORIAM



David Henry Peirce
September 8, 1941 – September 5, 2013

*In loving memory of a dear husband,
father, and grandfather,
You are loved beyond words
and missed beyond measure.*

COMING EVENTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

The Town of Aurora's Movies in the Park's 10th Anniversary Season concludes this evening. Tonight, enjoy The Lego Movie under the stars at Norm Weller Park (250 McClellan Way). Arrive early to enjoy the pre-movie surprises! All movies begin at dusk.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

PARTAGEZ LE FRANÇAIS: Enjoy this free French language conversation group which welcomes adults from francophones to beginners looking to put their French conversation skills into action. Francophones and stronger speakers are encouraged to share their French language skills with less strong speakers. 3 – 5 p.m. at Country Style Bistro (14980 Yonge Street, Aurora).

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

The PROBUS Club of Aurora holds their monthly meeting today from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Royal Canadian Legion (105 Industrial Parkway North). This month's speaker will be Terry Reardon, and his topic will be Winston Churchill & Mackenzie King – So Similar, So Different. For more information, call program chair Cliff White at 905-841-2421. New members are always welcome – call Gary Gilbert at 905-895-2849 for more information, or attend the meeting.

Today, Queen Elizabeth II overtakes Queen Victoria's record as longest reigning monarch in the history of the Commonwealth. Come to Queen's Diamond Jubilee Park on John West Way (at Civic Square Gate) this afternoon at 2 p.m. for a public celebration, before moving across to the Aurora Seniors' Centre for a special tea and a happy hour at the Royal Canadian Legion.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

The Aurora Community Band will hold its first rehearsal of the 2015 – 2016 season at the Aurora Cultural Centre, 22 Church Street, beginning at 7 p.m. The Band is looking for new members as it enters its fifth year of community music making. Brass, woodwind or percussion players with some concert band experience are welcome to attend two complimentary rehearsals before a membership fee applies. Further information: auroracommunityband@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Candidates from Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill will be on hand at the Aurora Cultural Centre this evening to answer your questions at Vote Smart, an all-candidates initiative launched by Aurora university student Kelsea Walsh. It is intended to be a "one-stop-shop" for voters to help differentiate what each candidate and their party stands for. 6.30 – 9 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Candidates from Newmarket-Aurora will be on hand at the Aurora

Cultural Centre this evening to answer your questions at Vote Smart, an all-candidates initiative launched by Aurora university student Kelsea Walsh. It is intended to be a "one-stop-shop" for voters to help differentiate what each candidate and their party stands for. 6.30 – 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Hospice King-Aurora will hold their 32nd Annual General Meeting today at Hospice King-Aurora (350 Industrial Parkway South) 11.30 a.m. reception, followed by the meeting at 12 noon and a light lunch. Speaker: Debbie Homewood, RP, with "Spirituality and Hope in Hospice Care." For more information, call 905-727-6815x22 or visit www.hospicekingaurora.ca.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Join the Aurora Seniors' Association to celebrate their 10th anniversary at the Aurora Seniors' Centre. See how far we've come! 1 – 4 p.m. 90 John West Way. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call 905-726-4767.

PARTAGEZ LE FRANÇAIS: Enjoy this free French language conversation group, which welcomes adults from francophones to beginners looking to put their French conversation skills into action. Francophones and stronger speakers are encouraged to share their French language skills with less strong speakers. 3 – 5 p.m. at Country Style Bistro (14980 Yonge Street, Aurora).

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Aurora-Newmarket meets today from 7.15 – 9 p.m. with speaker Becky Big Canoe. Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North, Aurora. All are welcome. For more information, contact Judy Craig at 905-895-8713.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

The Tom Taylor Trail Ten Miler kicks off today at Newmarket's George Richardson Park at 8.30 a.m. This year's run supports Inn From The Cold. For more information, visit 4tmiler.ca/registration.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Aurora-Newmarket meets today from 7.15 – 9 p.m. with speaker Wayne Hingston presenting on orchids. Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North, Aurora. All are welcome. For more information, contact Judy Craig at 905-895-8713.

To submit your event send details in 100 words or less to letters@auroran.com with the subject line "Coming Events".

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Sat., September 5 Billik
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CATERING AVAILABLE – ASK FOR DETAILS

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FRESH BLOOMS – Luda Flower Salon, located at 130 Hollidge Boulevard, held their Grand Opening on Monday. Celebrating the occasion are Luda, Talgat, holding baby Alexandra, Elen, Councillor John Abel, who brought greetings on behalf of the Town and Council, and Olessya.

Auroran photo by Diane Buchahan

Brewmastered.

Andrew Kohnen
Brewmaster

Hockley
IT'S ALL TRUE.

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