

## April declared 'Special Olympics Month' in Aurora

**By Jake Courtepatte**

The Special Olympics are getting the star treatment for their tenth year in Aurora.

Celebrating a decade in the town on April 9, the occasion will be marked by a ceremony to raise the Special Olympics flag at Aurora Town Hall, with Aurora's Town Crier John Webster reading the proclamation.

Special Olympics Ontario-Aurora Coordinator Janet Mitchell said she is 'overwhelmed' with the progress of the program over its tenure.

'Aurora has created fantastic opportunities for residents with an intellectual disability, and I'm looking forward to seeing what we can accomplish over the next decade,' said Mitchell.

Mitchell also added that because the organization is completely volunteer based, it would not function without the 'hard work, dedication and enthusiasm demonstrated by our local volunteers.'

Coinciding with the fiftieth anniversary of the Special Olympics movement, Aurora's branch currently runs seven sport-specific programs for ages eight and up, as well as two non-sport-specific programs runs through the Town's Parks and Recreation department.