

LEATHER DINING CHAIRS from **\$129**

COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

From Feb. 2 to 23 the paintings of Donna Greenstein will be featured in the Skylight Gallery of the Town Hall. The gallery is open from 8.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Aurora Opera Company is seeking 30 children (ages seven to 12) to participate in the main stage musical "Children of Eden" as animals and grandchildren in the children's chorus. No participation fee, and no experience necessary. Auditions in February. Rehearsals Sunday afternoons from mid-February (excluding March break) to April 20. Contact Aurora Opera Company at keepsinging@look.ca.

Until April 15, winter parking restrictions are in effect and parking is prohibited on all streets from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. daily.

The 3rd Aurora Scouting Group has spaces available in Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers. For registration information or to volunteer call 905-726-2393 or 905-841-0556.

Meet at Martha's Table, now in its second season. Every Thursday from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., you will find comfort food and a sense of community at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. A lunch of hot soup, sandwiches, and dessert will be provided.

Voice is a group of aspiring writers ages 12 to 19 interested in developing writing skills, working on a magazine and embarking on creative adventures with similarly minded people. The group meets in the Marjorie Andrews Room of the Aurora Library on the last Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. Call the Library at 905-727-9493 for more information.

Aurora Seniors present a movie night every Tuesday from 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Admission is \$1 for members and \$1.50 for guests.

Aurora Zen Meditation Group meets weekly every Wednesday evening at Healing Hands Wellness Centre on Wellington Street East at 7.30 p.m.

Aurora Agricultural Society (organizer of the Aurora Fair & Horse Show) meets the first Monday of every month from 6.30 to 9 p.m. at the Aurora Community Centre. New members welcome. For more information, call 905-713-6773, e-mail at info@aurorafair.ca, or visit www.aurorafair.ca.

Aurora Rotary Club meets every Monday evening at 6.30 p.m. at Gabriel's on Yonge Street. New members welcome. For further information, call 905-841-1352.

On the first Wednesday of every month from 9 a.m. to noon, a satellite constituency office for Vaughan/King/Aurora MPP Greg Sorbara will be open in the councillors' lounge at the Town Hall. Call 1-877-880-6770 for information.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge #148 meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. at 15216 Yonge Street (south of Wellington). For more information, call 905-830-9205.

Masons' Rising Sun Lodge meets the first Thursday of each month at The Rising Sun Temple, 57 Mosley Street, Aurora at 7.30 p.m.

Robertson Masonic Lodge meets the third Saturday each month at 57 Mosley Street at 10.30 a.m. Coffee club at 9 a.m., lunch at noon. Call 905-727-3032 or 905-727-1080.

Gamblers Anonymous, every Tuesday night, Trinity Anglican Church, Victoria Street, 7.30 p.m.

Progressive Euchre every Thursday night.

Aurora Legion, 7.30 p.m. Call 905-727-9932.

Canadian Federation of University Women has monthly meetings at the Aurora Legion with a variety of speakers. There is also a selection of interest groups. Contact Beverley at 905-727-2151.

Dancing at the Legion, 8 p.m. every Friday night.

Bid Euchre at the Legion, 1 p.m. every third Sunday.

York Regional Police Male Chorus is looking for members from Aurora and area who would like to volunteer by joining the choir. Men, 16 years of age and older, are invited to visit any Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. in committee room B, York Region Administrative Centre, 17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket. For more information, call volunteer chorus supervisor Lowell McClenney at 905-727-9676.

Queen's York Rangers free camps for boys and girls, 12 to 18. Aurora Squadron runs Friday evenings at the Aurora Armoury. For further information, call 905-726-8600 any Tuesday evening between 7 and 9 p.m.

The Aurora Seniors Evergreen Seniors Choir practice under the direction of Tom Rainsford every Wednesday from 3.30 to 5.30 p.m. in the West McKenzie Hall of the Seniors' Centre.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

Last day for nominations to the town's Advisory Committees, including Economic Development, Environmental, Heritage, Leisure Services and Traffic Safety. Call 905-727-3123 ext. 4220 for more information.

A public information session will be held at 7 p.m. in the Leksand Room of the Town Hall regarding the proposed development of a five-storey building on Yonge Street across from the hotel.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

St. Andrew's College Open House from 7 to 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Fish & Chips, shuffleboard and dancing at the Aurora Legion. 6 p.m. For further information, call 905-727-9932.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with Aurora Cable Internet presents the sixth of the 10-part monthly series of free computer workshops. 7 p.m. Magna Room. Register at the Adult Information Desk, on line, or phone 905-727-9493, option 4.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

A no tie dinner to celebrate Tim Jones and his 28 years of service on Aurora council will be held at DiNardo's Mansion. Tickets are \$100 each or \$700 for a table of eight. Proceeds to the Southlake Regional Cancer Centre. Call 905-727-6188 for details.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Aurora Seniors' Association presents "A Winter Cabaret", featuring Cara Chisholm and Brian Roman. Limited tickets are available at the Centre, 5 Municipal Drive, and R & R Revisited, 75 Mary Street, Unit 3. The matinee begins at 2 p.m.

Roarin' Twenties Valentines Party, Aurora Legion, 7 p.m. Tickets \$10. For further information, call 905-727-9932.

Aurora's Arctic Adventure takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Machell Park with outdoor public skating, dog sleds, horsedrawn sleigh rides, outdoor winter games, professional ice carving demonstration and face painting. Call 905-726-4762 for further information or to volunteer.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Aurora Film Circuit presents the Canada-U.K. co-production "Snow Cake", starring Alan Rickman and Sigourney Weaver. Tickets are available

at R&R Revisited on Mary Street in Aurora and at the Aurora Public Library, at a cost of \$10 each. Screening time begins at 6.45 p.m. with a welcome and door prizes. Movie at 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Justin Trudeau will be guest speaker at an Aurora Chamber of Commerce luncheon. He has a message for students and the Chamber is seeking corporations to sponsor a student for the luncheon at a cost of \$40. To sponsor a student call the Chamber office at 905-727-7262.

Happy Valentine's Day and happy birthday, Dorothy.

FEBRUARY 14 to 17

Aurora's Marquee Productions presents Rogers and Hammerstein's "Cinderella" at the Newmarket Theatre at 7.30 p.m. with 2 p.m. matinees on February 17 and 18. Call 905-713-1040 for tickets.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Ski Day at Osler Bluffs Ski Club in Collingwood. Space is limited to 56 people so early booking is necessary. Cost is \$110. Call the Chamber office at 905-727-7262 to reserve.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Aurora Writers' Group presents "Writing A Page Turner", a day-long seminar at St. Andrew's Church from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fee is \$38 in advance; \$42 at the door. To register, call Susan Stevenson at 905-751-1674 or e-mail brianhenry@sympatico.ca.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Aurora Public Library presents "Take A Deeper Look" with Aurora historian and former Aurora Museum curator Jacqueline Stuart. 7 to 8.30, Magna Room. Free. Pre-register at the adult information desk or phone 905-727-9493, option 4.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Pancake Tuesday at the Aurora Legion. 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. For further information, call 905-727-9932.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Aurora Historical Society annual general meeting at Hillary House at 8 p.m. Guest speaker is David Tomlinson. Call 905-727-8991 for additional information.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Business After Five meeting at Highland Chevrolet Cadillac, 15783 Yonge Street. 5.30 to 7.30 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Aurora Public Library presents author and independent publisher Collette Yvonne who will discuss getting self-published. 1 to 5 p.m. with a \$2 per person fee. Pre-register at the adult information desk, or phone 905-727-9493, option 4.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Aurora Horticultural Society presents a "Question and Answer Session with Master

Gardeners" at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North beginning at 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

The York Chamber Ensemble, conducted by Aurora's Tony Browning, presents the Fourth York Region Youth Concert. In this strings concert, young performers add their bows to those of chamber orchestra members. The concert takes place at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street, beginning at 7.30 p.m. Tickets, available at the door, are \$15; \$10 for students and seniors.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

This is International Women's Day and the Women's Centre of York Region announces a day of celebration, education and inspiration for all Enterprising Women at at Cardinal Golf Club. For more information, call Shelley Lundquist at the Women's Centre in Aurora 905-727-5837, extension 107.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Aurora Historical Society meets at Hillary House at 8 p.m. with Curator Cathy Molloy as guest speaker.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25

Trinity Anglican Church presents the return visit of The Tri-City Gospel Chorus. Come and hear this 85 voice male choir sing in four part harmony. No admission charge; however an offering will be taken up. 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

Aurora Horticultural Society presents a "Rhododendron Woods" at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North beginning at 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

Deadline for the Aurora Library's Second Annual Poetry Contest for Teenagers to celebrate National Poetry Month based on the theme Murmurs. There are two categories, one for those in Grades 7 to 9 and the other for Grades 10 to 12. For more information call 905-727-9493.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Aurora Historical Society meets at Hillary House with a Show and Tell and Pot Luck Dinner at 6 p.m.

APRIL 20 to 22

Aurora Home Show, Aurora Community Centre.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

Aurora Horticultural Society presents an "Aurora Urban Oasis-Aurora Arboretum" at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North, beginning at 8 p.m.

MAY 9 to 12

Marquee Productions presents the musical "The Secret Garden" at the Newmarket Theatre at 7.30 p.m. with 2 p.m. matinees on May 12 and 13. Call 905-713-1040 for tickets.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

Twelfth Annual Aurora Street Festival on Yonge Street. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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About 80 people attended the official opening of Aurora's HSBC bank branch last week. Participating in ribbon cutting ceremonies were, left to right, Sean O'Sullivan, Jane Holler, Aurora Mayor Phyllis Morris, Jeff Dowle and Oak Ridges MPP Frank Klees.

Auroran photo by Rob Schuetze

Dogs get the heave-ho from War Memorial Park

The question whether dogs will be allowed in War Memorial Park has been settled.

Aurora's general committee endorsed a staff report last week that the Town's Licensing and Control Bylaw be amended to prohibit dogs in certain town parks and other town property where posted.

A decision by the outgoing council prohibiting dogs from accessing the War Memorial Park and for staff to post the necessary signage was put on hold for a decision by the incoming council after receiving clarification from the Aurora Legion.

The issue began last October when Dr. Don McLean of the Aurora Animal Clinic in the Edward Street Plaza appeared before council to seek permission to retain the pedestrian gate from the rear of the plaza into the War Memorial Park to enable his staff to take dog patients for a walk in the rear portion of the park.

As a result council adopted a resolution that the new fence should include an access gate providing the clinic pay the cost of the gate and that staff consult with the Aurora Legion prior to the construction of the gate.

The Legion convened a

special meeting of its Board of Directors and reported to council by phone that they did not support allowing dogs in the park.

Councillor Al Wilson questioned if it was a blanket bylaw.

Staff replied that any future requests when approved by council could be posted without amending the bylaw every time.

Councillor Evelyn Buck disagreed with the report saying that while she agreed with the prohibition of dogs from the animal clinic, she objected to the prohibition applying to other dog owners who were taking their dogs for a walk.

She also questioned enforcement and was advised that it would be carried out by the canine control officers as in other areas of the municipality.

She said she could support the proposal to deny the animal clinic from using

the park but couldn't support a blanket provision and was supported by Councillors Wendy Gaertner and Grace Marsh.

Councillor Wilson disagreed claiming it was unfair to restrict one citizen but allow others.

Town staff had carried out what council had directed them to do, he said.

Dr. McLean also appeared before the Legion Board of Directors to make a similar request as he had made to council and after listening to his presentation, the Board decided the park surrounding the Cenotaph was a sacred memorial site for Whitchurch, King and Aurora.

Based on the Legion response, the general committee endorsed a staff report that the bylaw be amended to prohibit dogs in certain town parks and other town property where posted.

Mayor heads to retreat

Aurora Mayor Phyllis Morris had a dilemma last week and asked council for direction regarding a regional council retreat that had been organized for the incoming council last October.

The retreat is set for Niagara-on-the-Lake Jan. 31.

Following the municipal election in 2003, Aurora Council approved a retreat at the Nottawasaga Inn resort near Alliston, which was boycotted by Ms Morris along with Councillors Wendy Gaertner and Nigel Kean on the basis that such an event was not in accordance with the Municipal Act.

During the term she objected to closed assembly or workshop meetings in spite of a written legal opinion by an external solicitor, a known expert in municipal affairs, who advised that such working sessions were permissible under certain conditions.

Now as a member of regional council, she was forced to make a decision as to whether to attend the regional retreat to represent the town or not.

In a memo from Regional Chairman Bill Fisch, it was pointed out that recent amendments to the Municipal Act permitted closed assemblies or workshops including retreats with-

in the municipality or adjoining municipalities.

As Niagara-on-the-Lake was outside the provisions of the Municipal Act, regional officials contacted the Ministry as arrangements had been made for the retreat prior to amendments to the Act, and authority was granted to carry on with the retreat.

The regional chairman also asked members to submit items to be included on the agenda for the retreat.

Mayor Morris said while she preferred attending the retreat, she had concerns about contravening the Act.

Councillor Evelyn Buck said that if Mayor Morris was reluctant to attend, she (Ms Buck) would be willing to take her place.

There was a general consensus of the general committee members that Aurora should be represented at the regional retreat and that the mayor should attend.

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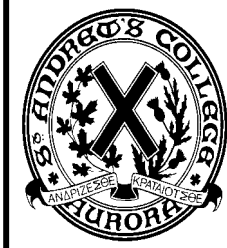
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Aurora Annie speaks out

*Groundhog Day comes once again,
Six weeks of weather to foretell;
Aurora Annie joins the others,
Saying she wants to raise a little hell!*
- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

On February 2nd, as they have done for years, Punxsutawney Phil and Wiarton Willie will come out of their burrows to look for their shadow and, if they see it, six more weeks of winter will follow.

Not quite as well known nationally as the other two, Aurora Annie has appeared occasionally around Tannery Creek since the mid-1970s.

She claims she isn't a groundhog, but a woodchuck and woodchucks are related to the more intelligent marmot clan.

She claims that with her woman's intuition, she can foretell political events as well as weather.

When asked how she became interested in politics, she said it was when her burrow was under the Wellington Street West administration building and political posturing of members of council and school trustees kept her awake.

When the new Town Hall was built, she got lonely and bored listening to the trustees and moved closer to the Town Hall so she could keep track of what was going on at council and further afield.

Her chest filled with pride as she pointed out six female candidates had entered the Aurora council election race and all six were elected, including the mayor.

She expressed disappointment that Belinda Stronach had dropped out of the Liberal leadership race as she would have added some glamour and colour and spoke English to be understood, even if her French was marginal.

Annie wondered what language Stephen Dion spoke.

She also pointed out the excellent Liberal leadership race carried out by Martha Hall Findlay who kept battling to the end and gave the boys a run for their money.

Then, south of the border, she noted that Senator Hillary Clinton is making a determined bid to become President of the United States.

Aurora Annie predicts she will make it to get rid of that war-mongering George Bush and the Republicans.

She is also encouraged that Liberal Leader Stephen Dion has promised more women candidates in the next federal election, but hopes that he does not parachute women candidates in safe Liberal ridings as Jean Chretien did.

Women candidates are quite able to win the nomination over the lowly males, she said.

Annie feels sorry for dumped federal Environment Minister Rona Ambrose who was only doing what boss Stephen Harper decreed, although Annie admitted that Rona seemed to care more for her hair than she did the environment.

But Annie says that she would rather have a Rona than that awful pit bull Baird guy Harper put in her place.

He loses his temper anytime a question is asked.

Annie also questions the rather subdued behaviour of Councillor Evelyn Buck in this new female dominated Aurora Council as her roar has disappeared and appears quiet and subdued, and Annie wonders if it's the lull before the storm. Annie learned it had returned at the last meeting.

Forgetting the gender bit for a moment, Annie questioned how the Aurora budget was progressing and expressed concern that Aurora was in a bit of a financial bind, as some capital projects were being deferred to future years in order to keep the tax rate reasonable this year.

Annie is concerned about the environment and the lack of positive action by all levels of government because of the potential economic impact.

Annie warns that if politicians don't act to protect the environment now, they needn't worry about the economy as there will be no one here to enjoy it.

With all the troubles in the world today, Annie is pleased to see women play such a significant role in trying to save the world and take over the reigns of government, as men have made such a mess of it.



This Aurora hockey team captured the 1938 championship in the North York Interscholastic Hockey League. See anyone you know? We don't have first names, but the five in the front row are W. Walker, T. Graham, W. Preston, R. Lloyd and R. Rawlings. In the middle row are D. Wilcox, H. Folliot, G. Armstrong and P. Knowles. In the rear are Mr. Adams, the coach; H. Neilly, S. Westcott, O. Hoikka and someone named Hughey. Photograph was taken on the front steps of Wells Street School, but at the time it was Aurora's only high school. Thanks to Brian Knowles for supplying the photo.

Letters to the Editor

Winter Cabaret promises to be awe-inspiring event

To the editor,

The Aurora Seniors' Association (ASA) presents Brian Roman and Cara Chisholm in a 'Winter Cabaret' Saturday, February 10th, and I do not exaggerate when I say these performers are grand and eloquent, serene and outrageous, polished and patriotic, gifted and clever enough to steal not only our hearts but our minds as well, leaving us gaping in astonishment at the magic of dance, poetry and music. These are my words attempting to fashion an understanding of the talented duo who will entertain the seniors on the second Saturday in February.

It has been said that music has charm enough

to calm the savage beast, and I do believe that to be true; so let the echo of melody, song and dance, do what nature intended for civilized humanity, and let us immerse ourselves in pleasure; surround ourselves with the wonder of music, and let our sophisticated beasts become soothed and satisfied, tranquil and serene, while quietly inspired and motivated by the magnetism of song and dance.

If we could live the joy the performers portray, what else is there in this world to want?

All thoughts, all delights, are influenced, emphasized and given added significance in the magnitude and dimensions of talented performances that beguiles and

utterly absorbs our beings, flashing like lightning and then continuing as soft as a zephyr on a warm summer evening, and then springing once more to melody with the best words in the best order to the best music and the best performance our entertainers can deliver.

The sublime simplicity of pure talent comes from deep within the immensity of their flair for entertaining.

Clever and gifted are nice words to describe, but hardly strong enough to depict the performers who are so awe-inspiringly gifted as to seem almost a creation apart.

These performances

by Cara Chisholm and Brian Roman are love affairs among the audience and the performers.

To soar to the heights of entertainment as completely as Brian and Cara achieve, calls for reciprocal feelings of closeness, familiarity, attraction and desire to gratify the audience by the artists, and for the artists to be gratified in turn by the great joy and pleasure aroused in the audience.

Tickets for this event are on sale at R and R Revisited bookstore on Mary Street and at the Aurora Seniors' Centre.

**Brian Warburton
Aurora**

Eliminate pay raise for council: reader

To the editor,

I see that once again we are at budget time and looking at a hike in taxes, and once again I am not hearing any talk of rescinding the pay raise given to councillors.

When we are looking at taxes going up (as they always do) why is a pay raise to town council considered sacrosanct and written in stone?
A whole bunch of little

things, like eliminating the pay raise, would add up, and possibly ease the inevitable.

Why did this raise also include a tax free element?

I would have complained about the whole issue earlier but somehow I never saw anything in the papers about it until Dick Illingworth did his year-in-review articles (and I was looking for it every week).

**Dave Watson
Aurora**

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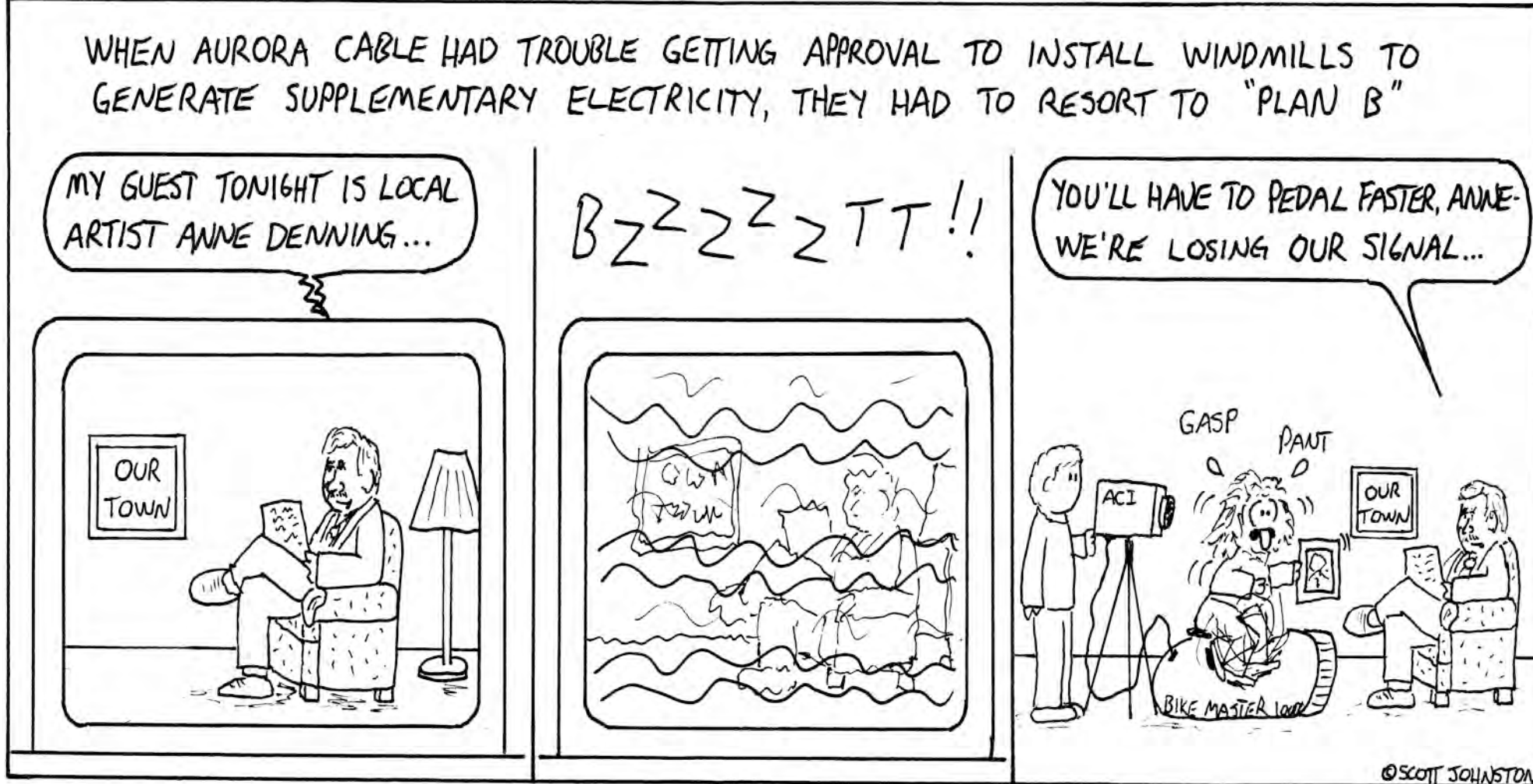
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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Interesting facts on town website

After examining some of the Aurora budget information my head is still spinning.

There are a lot of charts, numbers, power point presentations and spreadsheets to peruse.

But there are also some other interesting numbers out there.

And these other facts and figures present one with a pretty good picture of what Aurora is today and what it may look like in the future.

It's the information that is publicly available from the Town of Aurora website, under the Economic Development section.

It also serves as a handy jumping off point for people to begin asking questions about the issues of growth, the level, quality and costs of services, and the appropriate level of taxation in our community.

If nothing else, the following information will provide the reader with some handy statistics with which to regale your dinner guests or annoy family members!

Aurora has a current population of approximately 50,000. Our population has more than doubled since 1986 and is expected to grow to 56,000 by 2011 and to 75,400 by 2026.

We are the fifth largest of the nine municipalities that make up the Regional Municipality of York.

York Region is the fastest growing part of the Greater Toronto Area with a total population of 933,400.

Interestingly, 8.7 per cent of the Aurora population is over the age of 65.

The largest segment, or 30 per cent, is made up of 14,896 people in the 25 to 44 age bracket.

Our population is predominately of English origin (69 per cent) with Chinese at nine per cent and Korean and Russian at eight per cent.

Seventy-six per cent of the resident labour force commutes to employment outside Aurora.

As of September 30, 2006, there were 9,921 single family homes in Aurora.

They account for 67 per cent of the total homes here. Town/Row/Link homes comprised the next largest segment at 16 per cent.

Also, as of September 2006, the average price of housing in Aurora was \$331,000, with single family detached at \$516,000, semi-detached at \$306,000, Condo Townhouse at \$341,000, Townhouse/Row/Link at \$279,000, and condominium at \$205,000.

A single family detached homeowner in Aurora, with a home valued at \$300,000 would pay \$1,036 for Aurora's share of the taxes, which, according to the Town website, is "considered average for municipalities in Southern Ontario".

There may be arguments over that number, but many people forget the town also collects taxes for the Region of York and the school boards.

The number of housing permits by dwelling type has had a 'boom and bust' cycle.

A total of 1,181 permits were issued in 2003; 349 in 2004; 41 in 2005; and as of Sept. 2006, 395.

Single family dwelling permits comprised the largest number at 60 per cent in 2003 but only 36 per cent last year.

The October, 2005, average apartment rental rate for the group of Aurora, Newmarket and Whitchurch-Stouffville was \$783 per month for a one-bedroom and \$883 per month for a two-bedroom.

The Town has an unemployment level of 4.5 per cent, which is lower than the comparable provincial level.

As of 2001 (the most current stats on the website), the average income of all Aurora families was \$111,019.

The Town's manufacturing base is comprised of two main strengths: printing and related activities and advanced manufacturing activities.

The most interesting information, though, was from a Town of Aurora Economic Sector Analysis completed

in April, 2006, by UrbanMetrics Inc.

The report selected five Ontario jurisdictions - Ajax, Pickering, Oakville, Burlington and Milton. UrbanMetrics compared a range of demographic factors and a range of business cost elements.

The two most noteworthy demographic statistics were that Aurora had the second highest population and employment growth behind Milton from 2001 to 2006 and that Aurora had the second highest housing prices behind Oakville in 2006.

Aurora was compared with the other areas based on business expenses such as property tax and development charges, utilities, real estate costs and housing costs.

On an over-all basis, Ajax had the best ranking, while Aurora was tied for second (with three other jurisdictions) with Oakville the lowest ranked.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Cathy's Corner

Understanding Ecclesiastes

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 tells us there is a time for everything.

For everything there is a season (In Aurora, there are two seasons: Winter...and Construction, a.k.a. the invasion of the pylons...a.k.a. "The Cat In The Hat Comes Back");

And a time for every matter under heaven (or before council...as long as you're prepared to sit through every matter under heaven because all the matters come before the matter that matters to you);

A time to be born (this is not an exact science - Jennifer was born 13 days late, and Nadia was born eight days late. Tim, however, was almost born in an Oldsmobile...because, of course, nobody expected him to be on time!) and **a time to die** (how did we live through labour?);

A time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; (so don't plant before Victoria Day or you'll be plucking up what you just planted! Trust me on this - I'm a gardener, I know these things!);

A time to kill, (weeds, mostly) and **a time to heal** (because killing weeds can kill your back);

A time to break down (April 30th), and **a time to build up** (May 1st to April 29th...so you can break down and pay your taxes on April 30th);

A time to weep (April 30th), and **a time to laugh** (when your kid gets a \$52 tax refund);

A time to mourn (that vacation you thought you could afford), and **a time to dance** (at the Aurora Hoedown

instead);

A time to throw away stones (rip out the old interlock because it has become a weed sanctuary), and **a time to gather stones together** (put in new interlock - the weed-free variety);

A time to embrace (when your kids are little), and **a time to refrain from embracing** (when they reach adolescence and no longer want to be seen with you);

A time to seek (wisdom), and **a time to lose** (weight); **A time to keep** (your sanity), and **a time to throw away** (mate-less socks that threaten your sanity);

A time to tear (your hair out), and **a time to sew** (Halloween costumes that are so complicated they make you want to tear your hair out);

A time to keep silence (when your mother is yelling at you), and **a time to speak** (when your mother asks you where the hell you've been all night);

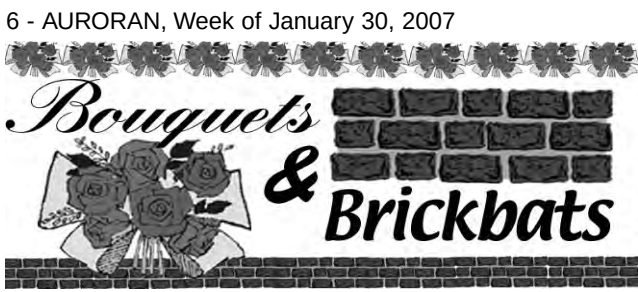
A time to love (coffee, chocolate...each other...life), and **a time to hate** (construction and pylons...);

A time for war (every Sunday night in the laundry room), and **a time for peace** (when Super-She Dragon Mom waves the white flag...or facecloth...or dryer sheet...or athletic sock).

Indeed, there is **a time for everything**. Now if only we had time for everything, huh?

Cathy Vrancic welcomes e-mail at:
laughingmatters@aci.on.ca
or cathyvrancic@hotmail.com

6 - AURORAN, Week of January 30, 2007



By DICK ILLINGWORTH

BOUQUETS to Christine Horne of Aurora on playing the role of young Hagar Shipley in the movie "The Stone Angel" an adaptation of Margaret Lawrence's novel. Christine attended George Street Public School and Aurora High School. The Stone Angel is expected to premiere at the Cannes Film Festival in May.

BRICKBATS to people who leave a message on a telephone answering machine and you can't call them back as they talk so fast you can't distinguish their phone number. Talk slower and repeat the number.

BOUQUETS to St. Andrew's College Saints for winning the recent MacPherson hockey tournament at the Aurora Community Centre by defeating the Edge School from Calgary 3-2 in the final game. It was the sixth time in the 24 years of the tournament that the host team won.

BRICKBATS to former York Region Police Chief and now head of the Ontario Provincial Police Julian Fantino for reining in the talkative Sergeant Cam Wooley for his comments on the driving habits of Ontario motorists. Fantino just lost the best public relations asset in the force. Cam gave law a human touch.

BOUQUETS to the same Julian Fantino for bringing back the familiar black and white OPP cruisers, as they were more visible on the highways, whereas the current white cruisers look like any other white car. Now if he can only get rid of those awful cowboy hats.

BRICKBATS to the McGuinty Liberal government if they adopt Bill 140 which requires additional paper work and processes that will reduce the limited time of care that seniors currently receive in nursing home, which is already low.

BOUQUETS to the successful Crime Stoppers program carried out in Toronto. There were 6,876 tips last year that led to the clearing of 616 cases, 530 arrests and 2,994 charges. Officers also recovered \$3.3 million in property and more than \$23 million in drugs. How about York Region?

BRICKBATS to the contractor responsible for the construction of the new Bell building on Yonge Street for permitting work to proceed on a Sunday with the annoying noise of equipment, contrary to the noise bylaw. But who do you call on a Sunday?

BOUQUETS to former Aurora Councillor Chris Sorley for his excellent letter to The Auran regarding council's actions dealing with the Aurora Cable Internet proposal. His letter should be mandatory reading for the members of council who couldn't see the light.

BRICKBATS to the City of Brampton for applying to the Ontario Municipal Board for approving the rezoning of 2,430 hectares of agricultural land in northwest Brampton to accommodate growth for the next 25 years. By that time there won't be any farms left to feed the people, but bigger is better, right?

BOUQUETS to the McGuinty government for adding two state-of-the-art drugs proven to reverse the progression of osteoporosis to the Medical Drug Plan assisting about 530,000 sufferers, many who couldn't afford to purchase the drugs in the past.

BRICKBATS to the federal government for permitting security measures in the U.S. International Traffic in Arms Regulations, which prevents citizens of some countries from being involved in the construction of American strategic military weapons, causing the Bell Helicopter plant north of Montreal to reassign 24 workers to bring it in line with American security regulations on a \$849 million contract for the U.S. Army.

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ACI's wind turbine issue returns to council chamber

A classic battle involving three residents of Ridge Road and Aurora Cable Internet continues to take up much of council's time and the fight is going around in circles seemingly going nowhere.

ACI submitted an application to the Committee of Adjustment for their transmission site at the west end of Ridge Road to permit three wind turbines and a storage trailer to be erected on the site to supply the site with a backup power supply.

The Committee of Adjustment provided conditional approval for the minor variance in September, 2005.

The residents launched an appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board.

The OMB dismissed the appeal in April, 2006, and authorized the variance subject to various conditions.

The conditions included proceeding with the application as approved by the Committee of Adjustment; that the wind turbines and shipping container be set back a minimum of 50 metres from any property lines; and for the wind turbines to meet noise requirements of the Ministry of the Environment.

Also included in the ruling was that written confirmation be submitted to the Committee of Adjustment from the Planning Director that the applicant has satisfied all the requirements of a minor site plan agreement including a noise impact study.

Subsequent to the OMB decision, it was brought to council's attention that ACI had located a shipping container on the site prior to the execution of the site plan, resulting in council requesting a staff report.

Town staff members reported that two meetings had been held with ACI officials prior to the submission of the minor variance application.

It was staff's understanding that the shipping container would be placed permanently on concrete pads adjacent to the exist-

ing building to store batteries and other equipment required for the storage and conversion of wind energy.

Following the residents' complaints, staff carried out an on-site inspection and it was found the shipping container did not meet the definition of a structure as it was still on a trailer, and the rural zoning of the transmission site did not prohibit the parking or storage of a trailer.

In deciding compliance with the zoning bylaw the determination was that if the shipping container was a trailer, it was in compliance with the bylaw, but if it was a structure, it did not comply.

As previously stated following the on-site inspection it was determined it was a trailer on jacks and was in compliance with the bylaw.

Staff members recommended that a meeting be arranged as soon as possible with ACI officials to expedite the completion of the site plan and to move on with the completion of the project.

Ms Kelly Breedon, Walter Mestrinano and Jim Beesley, residents of Ridge Road, appeared before the general committee to continue their opposition to the project.

It was claimed that ACI had not completed the noise study to meet MOE guidelines and they expressed concerns about the type of batteries in the shipping container in case of a leak and contamination of local wells.

It was also pointed out that Central York Fire Services were unaware of the project.

In spite of the staff report, the delegates still questioned whether the shipping container was a trailer or a structure.

Several questions were asked by councillors sitting in general committee last week seeking clarification and trying to determine the main points of dissention expressed by the delegates, which seemed to centre on the question whether the trailer was a

container or a structure.

Following a recess by members of the committee, the discussion continued as to the use of the land, and the lack of a site plan, with some members of council wondering how ACI could be in compliance.

It was also suggested that an examination of what was in the trailer and comments from fire officials were necessary.

Staff members said the fire department had received notice of the Committee of Adjustment hearing the same as other stakeholders and it was doubtful if an inspection of

the trailer could be carried out without an invitation from ACI.

Peter Scott, of ACI, who was in attendance, nodded to signify that an invitation would be forthcoming.

When questioned about timelines in the OMB report, staff members said the timing was open-ended.

It was finally decided to require the fire department to carry out an inspection with a written report and for the mayor and Chief Administrative Officer to arrange a meeting with ACI in an attempt to resolve the issues.



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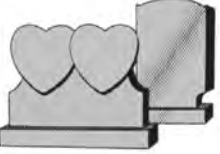
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Mark Promane, a lead alto sax player in many Toronto musicals, recently dropped in to help members of the Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School jazz band, as it prepares for Music Fest Canada. The fest will be held in Vancouver in May. Above, Mark, an Aurora resident, centres instructor Penny Sedore and musician Ben Davis. Mark will play in an upcoming presentation of the Phantom of the Opera.

Wellington Gallery readies for annual student exhibit

Aurora's Wellington Gallery will showcase the talents of local art students in its upcoming Class Act III exhibit. The event runs from Feb. 8 to 28. The juried art exhibition was open to high school, college and university students living in York Region. All entries are critiqued by a panel of art professionals including fine artists and gallery staff. Awards will be announced at the exhibit

reception Sunday, Feb. 11 from noon to 5 p.m. The art department of the first place winner will also receive a donation from the gallery. "We are extremely impressed with the calibre of the art that has been entered," said gallery owner Emil Simon. "We want to encourage this next generation of artists and give them the opportunity to gain exhibiting experience." The public is welcome to attend.

Some of the art featured in the exhibit will be available for purchase. Students will receive 100 per cent of their sale price as the gallery will not take a commission. The gallery offers 3,000 square feet of space and is located at 32 Wellington St. West, one block west of Yonge and Wellington. It is wheelchair accessible and free parking is available. The gallery operates Tuesday, Wednesday, and

Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment.

Subdivision street gets a new name

Mattamy Homes is developing a property on the south side of the St. John's Sideroad east of Bayview Avenue and "Street A" is about to get a new name. A representative from Mattamy Homes reviewed the town's approved bank of street names and selected the name Kidd. The proposed name "Kidd" comes from Thos. A. Kidd, who served in World War I and whose name is on the Aurora Cenotaph.

Normally, street names are adopted as recommended by staff without discussion but in this case the item was brought up by Councillor Wendy Gaertner. Noting that other street names in the area included the first name, such as Lewis Honey Drive, she suggested Kidd's full name be used. However, committee members pointed out that the full name could be misread as "Toss A Kidd" resulting in the staff recommendation that the street be named only Kidd. The recommendation is expected to be endorsed by council this week.

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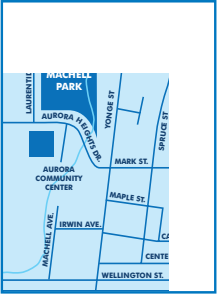
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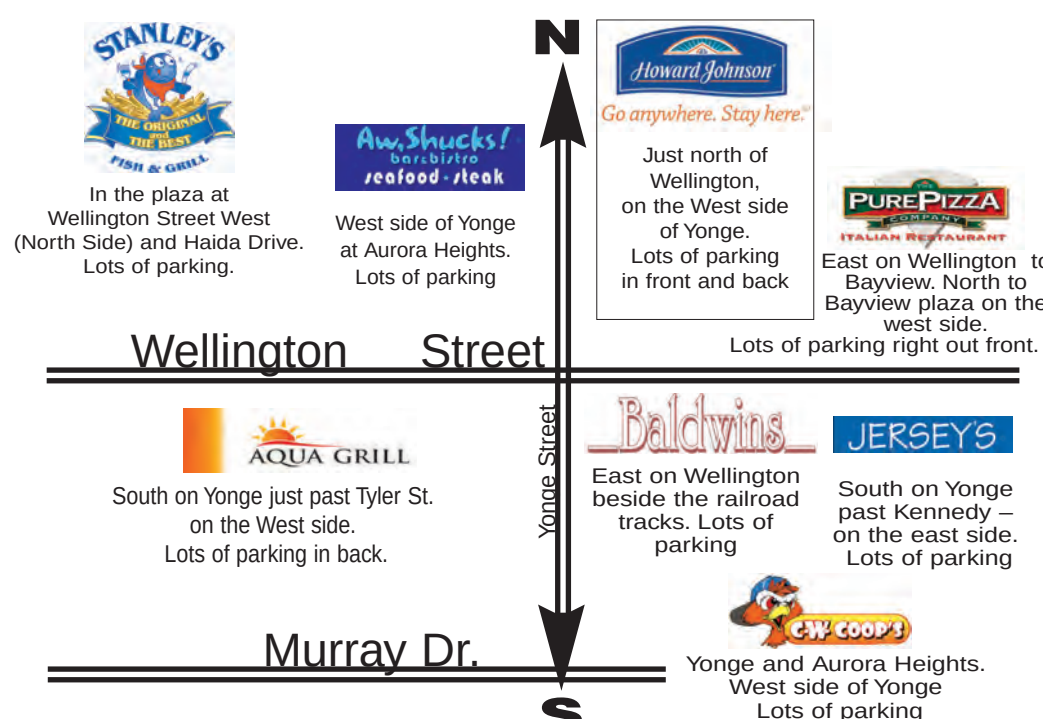
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Add six more points as Tigers win three

A victory of the St. Michael's Buzzers Sunday night on enemy territory was particularly rewarding for Aurora's Provincial Junior A Tiger hockey team.

Beating the St. Mikes Buzzers is a task in itself but doing so in their barn where they've only lost two games all year is an even bigger accomplishment.

That's what Aurora did by defeating their hosts 5-3 and completing another three straight wins last week.

Leading the charge was the line of Doug Henderson that accumulated seven points.

Henderson had one assist while his linemates, Paul Zanette and Andrew Favot each contributed three points with Zanette scoring twice and

Favot adding a single.

"Zanette could have had the hat trick but instead he decided to dish off and give Andrew the empty netter, unselfish to say the least," said Coach Jerome Dupont.

Dupont was satisfied with his team's effort despite the fact there still is some work required.

"We battled all night but at times we make it more difficult on ourselves than it needed to be," he said.

Also scoring for the Tigers were Daniel Michalsky and Brett Connolly with the game winner.

Last thursday night, Aurora ventured up the road to Newmarket territory and handed the Hurricanes a 4-1 beating.

A two-week layoff had Joey

Piccone chomping at the bit to get back in the Tigers line-up and if his two-goal performance was any indication of things to come, there won't be any way to keep him out of the uniform.

His performance, and the goals scored by Mike Dahlinger and Alain Goulet, helped Aurora to the victory and in doing so allowed the Tigers to sweep the season series six wins to none.

The only way these two teams could see each other again this year would be if both win their first round of the playoffs.

Tyler Gordon stopped 15 of 16 shots sent his way and in a bizarre turn of events during the game Aurora scored three goals in a span of one minute and eight seconds while

Andrew Eastman was serving a minor penalty.

The three shorthanded goals will likely be considered a modern day Junior A record.

Friday night, Aurora was back in the friendly environment of the Aurora Community Centre and defeated the pesky Stouffville Spirit 4-3, thanks mainly to its goaltending.

When Mike Lalonde was acquired by the Aurora Tigers from the North Bay Skyhawks what they received was a second number one goaltender and he proved just that in stopping 31 of 34 shots during the game.

Some of his saves bordered on the spectacular.

"He kept us in the game in the first when we were badly outshot and that gave us the momentum to battle back from a two-goal deficit," said Coach Dupont.

The line of Joey Martin, Daniel Michalsky and Mike Martin contributed two points each to the victory.

Martin and Michalsky each scored a goal and added an assist, while Dahlinger contributed two assists.

Other goal scorers were Zanette with the game winner

and Colin Williams when he roofed a backhand top shelf.

Tigers were in Oshawa for a game against Durham Tuesday night, but results were not available at press time.

On Friday the St. Michaels Buzzers are here for a rematch.

Game time is 7.30 p.m.

On Sunday they face the Pickering Panthers in another game at the Aurora Community Centre.

Game time for that one is 2.30 p.m.

Aurora has now won 40 of the 45 games it has played this season and is currently on a six-game winning streak, Tuesday's game excepted.

Soccer crisis eases as school board adds fields

The field crisis faced by the Aurora Youth Soccer Club earlier this year has eased.

York Region District School Board and St. Andrew's College have both confirmed the organization will use their fields, this board fields this year; St. Andrew's, next summer.

The soccer club officially launched its outdoor registration earlier this month, thinking they had lost the use of five standard fields and one mini-field at St. Andrew's and three standard fields and a mini-field at Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School.

However, the school board informed the group the Williams' fields will be available for the upcoming season, in addition to two fields at Aurora High School, which were lost to the soccer club last year.

Access to those fields will allow the AYSC to move many Sunday house league practices back into the week.

The group will also continue to work with the school board in the hopes of upgrading some of the existing fields.

"Any repairs done to a field will make the playing experience for our players that much better," said AYSC house league vice-president Nina Douvinos. "The addition of fields we thought were previously lost is nothing but good news."

Meanwhile, official word was received from Kim

Sillcox, St. Andrew's College Communications Director, that the AYSC can play at that school in 2008.

St. Andrew's is carrying out some needed repairs to their field to prepare for the National Private Schools Soccer Tournament this year, and confirmed the AYSC would be welcomed back next season.

"The addition of fields to this year's complement is very good news and will help alleviate some of the stresses felt by the AYSC this summer," said AYSC President Ron Weese. "We are still, however, faced with field shortages in Aurora."

Some competitive teams have been asked to move

games to Friday evenings, while house league teams will still have to use the indoor facility at the Aurora Sports Dome for some of their practices, he said.

"The return to St. Andrew's College is certainly welcome for 2008," Weese added. "We thank St. Andrew's for the offer and look forward to renewing our relationship."

The Aurora Youth Soccer Club is a volunteer-directed sports organization founded in Aurora in 1964.

Currently, it serves 2,800 families and handles about 4,100 players between the ages of five and 19.

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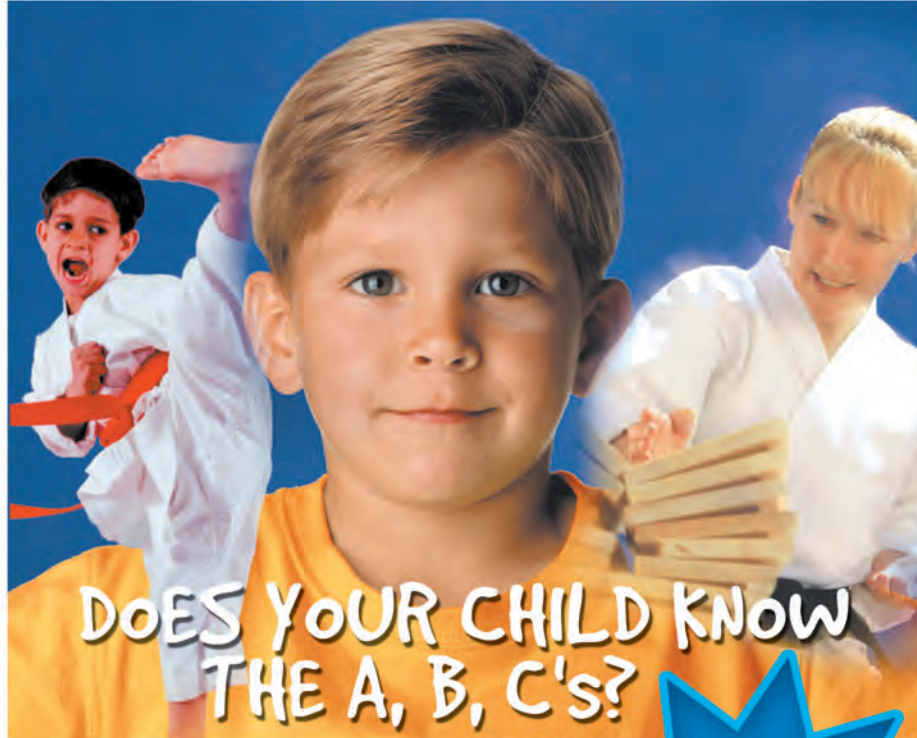
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Skating results

The following skaters represented the Aurora Skating Club at the 2006 Skate Canada – Central Ontario Midway East Area Competition held recently at the Bob Fallis Sports Centre in Bradford:

FREESKATE

- Canskate - Red:** Aluisa Greco-Daniels (Flight 1), 5th; Kabella Greco-Daniels (Flight 1), 4th.
- Canskate - Orange:** Lily Biasi (Flight 1), 3rd.
- Canskate - Purple:** Andrea Christakakos (Flight 1), 3rd.
- Canskate - Green:** Annabelle Alberton (Flight 1), 7th; Caroline Kewley (Flight 1), 4th; Gaenor Laverty (Flight 1), 3rd.
- Canskate - Burgundy:** Rachel Kennedy (Flight 1), 4th; Jacqueline Lavergne (Flight 1), 5th.
- Introductory A Ladies:** Alicia Alberton (Flight 8), 2nd; Megan Bailey (Flight 2), 3rd; Jasmine Biasi (Flight 5), 2nd; Sarah Blois (Flight 6), 3rd; Monica Churchill (Flight 9), 3rd; Cassandra Ciciarella (Flight 9), 6th; Brianna Gibbons (Flight 3), 4th; Rachel Glynn (Flight 4), 2nd; Amanda Incognito (Flight 6), 2nd; Madison Jakubas (Flight 1), 4th; Sidney Lambert (Flight 7), 2nd; Courtney McGrath (Flight 8), 1st; Mari Mueller (Flight 9), 7th; Katie Pearson (Flight 9), 2nd; Sarah Reynolds (Flight 5), 5th; Emma Smith (Flight 7), 1st; Julia Steiner (Flight 4), 3rd.
- Introductory A Men:** Matthew Rainsford (Flight 1), 3rd.
- Introductory C Ladies:** Jackieanne Abbey (Flight 5), 2nd; Ashleigh Calvert (Flight 3), 3rd; Erin Forster (Flight 1), 7th; Nicole McCausland (Flight 4), 6th; Dylann Miller (Flight 5), 6th; Stephanie Morawietz (Flight 2), 1st; Stefanie Smylie-Crea (Flight 3), 5th.
- Introductory C Men:** Matthew Warner (Flight 1), 1st.
- Pre-Preliminary A Ladies:** Alessia Chiovitti (Flight 2), 1st; Julia Chiovitti (Flight 4), 5th; Samantha Duncan (Flight 5), 2nd; Shannon Lacombe (Flight 7), 3rd; Mackenzie Maunder (Flight 8), 2nd; Kailee O'Connor (Flight 8), 1st; Becky O'Malley (Flight 9), 4th; Marilena Perri (Flight 3), 2nd; Tejia Rom-Colthoff (Flight 6), 2nd; Alyssa Simon (Flight 5), 3rd; Carley Steiner (Flight 5), 1st; Kaitlin VanWinckle (Flight 4), 4th.
- Pre-Preliminary B Ladies:** Savannah Hendy (Flight 1), 6th; Molly Oulahan (Flight 2), 1st.
- Preliminary A Ladies:** Nicole Calvert (Flight 4), 2nd; Amber Ciolfe (Flight 2), 3rd; Shauna O'Connor (Flight 2), 4th; Jacqueline Relke (Flight 1), 1st; Courtney Tidona (Flight 3), 4th.
- Preliminary B Ladies:** Alana Fabbicino (Flight 4), 1st; Robyn Fioda (Flight 1), 4th; Kendall Nannella (Flight 2), 3rd; Taylor McDowall (Flight 2), 3rd; Hailey McGrath (Flight 2), 5th; Matherine Morawietz (Flight 1), 2nd; Kailey Riggs (Flight 2), 1st; Tayler Sim (Flight 2), 2nd.
- Preliminary C Ladies:** Samantha Galati (Flight 2), 1st; Katie Sutton (Flight 1), 3rd; Raquel Burgess (Flight 1) 4th.
- Junior Bronze B Ladies:** Jennine Brunton (Flight 3), 2nd; Sierra Chovanec (Flight 1), 1st.
- Senior Silver Ladies:** Meaghan Jones (Flight 1), 2nd.

SOLO DANCE

- Pre-Preliminary:** Emma Smith (Flight 2), 1st.
- Preliminary:** Nicole McCausland (Flight 2) 8th; Kailee O'Connor (Flight 2), 1st.
- Junior Bronze:** Jackieanne Abbey (Flight 2), 6th; Samantha Duncan (Flight 2), 1st; Shauna O'Connor (Flight 1), 3rd; Becky O'Malley (Flight 2), 5th; Marilena Perri (Flight 1), 1st; Alyssa Simon (Flight 1), 4th; Kaitlin VanWinckle (Flight 2), 4th.
- Senior Bronze:** Nicole Calvert (Flight 1), 8th; Jihyun Cha (Flight 1), 2nd; Zahra Rajan (Flight 1), 4th.
- Junior Silver:** Jennine Brunton (Flight 2), 3rd; Sierra Chovanec (Flight 1), 3rd; Amber Ciolfe (Flight 2), 5th; Jacqueline Relke (Flight 1), 1st.
- Senior Silver:** Allie Sutton (Flight 1), 5th.

SHOWCASE

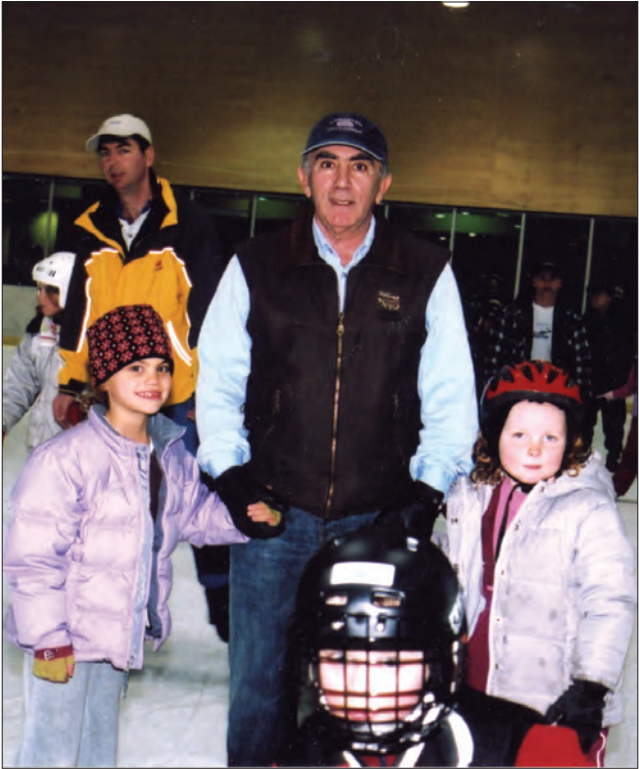
- Pre-Preliminary:** Shannon Lacombe (Flight 1), 2nd; Alyssa Simon (Flight 1), 6th; Carley Steiner (Flight 1), 5th.
- Preliminary:** Alana Fabbicino (Flight 1), 1st; Kendall Mannella (Flight 1), 2nd; Taylor McDowall (Flight 1), 3rd.
- Junior Bronze:** Jordana Goldman (Flight 1), 2nd.

CREATE-A-SKATE

- Primary:** Tejia Rom-Colthoff (Flight 1), 4th.

TEAM ELEMENTS

- Pre-Preliminary I:** Aurora Frosty Feet - Emma Smith, Ashleigh Calvert, Nicole McCausland (Flight 1), 4th; Shooting Stars - Monica Churchill, Stephanie Morawietz, Dylann Miller (Flight 1), 1st; Blandy's Hawaiian Skaters - Madison Jakubas, Molly Brenzel (Flight 2), 3rd; Tootsie Rolls - Julia Steiner, Jasmine Biasi, Courtney McGrath (Flight 2), 2nd.
- Pre-Preliminary II:** Blandy's Sweet Tarts - Marilena Perri, Alessia Chiovitti, Savannah Hendy (Flight 1), 1st; Sugar & Spice & Everything Nice - Matthew Warner, Tejia Rom-Colthoff, Mackenzie Maunder (Flight 1), 2nd; Blandy's Designers - Kailee O'Connor, Julia Chiovitti, Molly Oulahan (Flight 2), 4th; Snap, Crackle, & Pop - Carley Steiner, Samantha Duncan, Shannon Lacombe (Flight 2), 5th.
- Preliminary:** Aurora Ice Jammers - Amber Ciolfe, Nicole Calvert, Shauna O'Connor (Flight 1), 6th; Blandy's Snowflakes - Robyn Fioda, Katie Sutton, Raquel Burgess (Flight 1), 7th; Ice Bunnies - Kaitlin VanWinckle, Becky O'Malley, Katherine Morawietz (Flight 1), 5th; Small & Tall - Tayler Sim, Hailey Riggs, Samantha Galati (Flight 1), 2nd.
- Junior Bronze:** Blandy's Chicklets - Allie Sutton, Nicole Relke, Sierra Chovanec (Flight 1), 1st.



Vaughan-King-Aurora Member of the Provincial Legislature Greg Sorbara held his annual skating party in Aurora last week and hundreds took advantage. The event was held at the new Recreation Complex on Wellington Street East, near Leslie.

Photo by Jim Jackson

Rec Cycle set to provide services at new complex

Aurora's Rec Cycle N' Sports will provide pro shop services at the town's new recreation complex if a committee recommendation is endorsed by council this week.

The complex was completed in September, 2005, and in an effort to provide pro-shop services during the first phase of occupancy a Request for Proposal was issued.

Two firms picked up documents but only Rec Cycle N' Sports submitted a proposal.

Due to the lack of responses a second RFP was issued in February, 2006. There was no response.

Last November another RFP was issued with revised rental terms of reference with only Rec Cycle N' Sports responding.

The revised terms of

reference listed a five-year contract, a flat rental rate of \$2,400 annually with a 10 per cent escalation clause per year, liability insurance of \$2 million and the tenant responsible for all equipment.

Staff recommended an agreement be entered into with Rec Cycle N' Sports and it was endorsed by the general committee without debate last week.

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NEWS FLASH

Coming this Friday

Feb 2nd—7:30 p.m.

Russ & Mave Moyer

Russ is a former business man for 20 years. He is the Founder & Director of Eagle Worldwide Ministries. Russ walks in the office of an Apostle and Prophet.He and his wife Mave pastor the Revival Centre in Hamilton.

For info. visit: www.eagleworldwide.com

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Come hear the Word of the Lord.

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1st & 3rd Fridays of each month

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Also Men's Breakfast – 8:30 a.m. Sat Feb 3rd

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MAY I HELP “YOU”?

Monday night
hockey
Results as of
Monday, Jan. 22

TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	PT
Tom & Jerry's	12	22	5	8	35	26
Law Insurance Brokers	10	42	6	9	36	22
Rec Cycle N' Sports	8	71	5	7	60	17
Highland Chev-Olds-Geo-Cad	7	63	6	6	50	17
Priestly Demolition	7	81	5	7	58	15
Baldwin's	5	92	5	6	63	12
FPL Aggregates	5	11	0	41	72	10
Masterclean Contracting	4	11	14	7	67	9

Results, Monday, Jan. 22

Highlands Chev	9	Tom & Jerry's	5
FPL Aggregates	1	Masterclean	4
Rec Sports	4	Law Insurance	6
Baldwin's	1	Priestly Demolition	1

Player standings, Monday, Jan. 22

NAME	TEAM	G	A	PTS
John Archibauld	Highland's	18	8	26
John Anderson	Rec Sports	13	10	23
Mark Sedore	Priestly	17	5	22
Ed Kilroy	Rec Sports	11	11	22
Bruce Chappell	Highland's	6	16	22
Steve Kavanah	Baldwin's	10	10	20
Steve McDonald	Law Insurance	9	11	20
Craig McConnell	Law Insurance	13	5	18
John Yaremko	Law Insurance	12	6	18
Darryl Thompson	Tom & Jerry's	14	4	18
Scott Crabb	Highland's	6	12	18
Kevin Brown	Rec Sports	9	17	
Jason Muise	Priestly	7	9	16
Charlie Steenhorst	Rec Sports	2	13	15
Brad McMillan	Tom & Jerry's	8	7	15
Pat O'Mahony	FPL	6	8	14
Gerald Briand	Baldwin's	7	6	13
Ed Jackson	Baldwin's	3	10	13
Chris Neal	Highland's	7	6	13
Mike Nisbet	Priestly	6	6	12
Colin Leech	Priestly	3	9	12
Darren Yaremko	Law Insurance	4	8	12
Vince Greco	Tom & Jerry's	4	8	12
Frank Balkovec	Law Insurance	2	10	12
Kevin O'Keefe	Baldwin's	6	5	11
Brian Horton	Baldwin's	2	9	11
Steve Robertson	Highland's	4	7	11
Jerry Mackrell	Tom & Jerry's	5	6	11
Pat Davies	Priestly	6	5	11
Mark Lemmon	Law Insurance	4	7	11
Dean Iwai	Tom & Jerry's	4	7	11
Bob Ince	FPL	5	5	10
Ron Van Noort	Masterclean	7	3	10
Jerome Flanigan	Priestly	3	7	10
Dave Holden	Tom & Jerry's	5	5	10
Alain Boudreau	Masterclean	7	3	10
Joel Reeves	Tom & Jerry's	2	8	10
Paul Gibson	Law Insurance	2	8	10
Dave McQueston	FPL	3	6	9
John Leeder	FPL	5	4	9
Peter Briand	Baldwin's	4	5	9
Andrew Dalton	Rec Sports	3	6	9
Hugh Alcorn	Masterclean	0	9	9
Scott Thomas	Tom & Jerry's	0	9	9
Mike Kensit	Masterclean	5	4	9
Doug Adair	Rec Sports	4	5	9
Mike Casey	Priestly	4	5	9
Scott Sheppard	Rec Sports	1	7	8
Bill Collins	Masterclean	1	7	8
Dave Caverley	FPL	3	4	7
Doug McGrath	Baldwin's	3	4	7
Dan Smith	Rec Sports	3	4	7
Mike Slimkowich	Masterclean	2	5	7
Tom Hussey	Masterclean	3	4	7
Brad Wilson	Highland's	3	4	7
Jack Radecki	FPL	4	2	6
Doug Hackett	FPL	1	5	6
Ken Rumble	Highland's	5	1	6
Jody Matthews	Highland's	3	3	6
RonThieson	Tom & Jerry's	0	6	6
Steve Rezwick	Rec Sports	1	5	6
John Spicer	Rec Sports	1	5	6
Angelo Nasato	Masterclean	1	5	6
Mike Caicco	Priestly	1	5	6
Mike Dinner	Priestly	1	5	6
Craig McConnell	Law Insurance	4	2	6
Hal Horton	Baldwin's	2	3	5
Jason Hurlbut	Baldwin's	1	4	5
Gord Lee	Law Insurance	2	3	5
Les Nip	Highland's	0	5	5
Bill Hanlon	Masterclean	3	2	5
Steve Bromley	Masterclean	3	2	5
Mike O'Connor	Priestly	3	2	5
Phil Podstatsky	Priestly	4	1	5



Aurora Minor Hockey Association

Website: www.aci.on.ca/amha

Results as of Sunday, January 28



House League

Tyke

105 Tim Hortons Leafs 4

- Kyle Rice 2G 1A, Joshua Schmitt 2A, David Robertson 1A, Ty Boisseau 1G, Hayden Edwards 1A, Matthew Nitsopoulos 2A, Andrew Sutherland 1A, Colin McGoldrick 1G.

101 Tim Hortons Red Wings 1

- Liam Desouza 1A, Dimitri Mikrogiannakis 1G, Jacob Cann 1A.

104 Tim Hortons Flyers 4

- Mathew MacDougall 2A, Jack O'Keefe 1A, Christian Ramirez 2G, Thomas Wilson 2G, Tanner Arnold 1A, Shamus Quinn 1A, Sean Anderton 1A, Connor MacGrath 1A, Anthony Issaris 1A.

102 Tim Hortons Bruins 2

- Stephen McNeil 1G, Christian James-McDonald 1A, Eric McGhie 1A, Liam Crone 1A, Keaton Thompson 1G, Katerina Dajia 1A.

109 Tim Hortons Wild 5

- James Samson 1G 1A, Stewart Gable 1G, Cameron Dyer 3G.

103 Tim Hortons Senators 3.

106 Tim Hortons Penguins 4

- Reid Carpenter 1G, Jack Camplin 2G, Andrew Currie 1G, Aidan Burbank 1A, Ryan Thornhill 1A, Evan McKenzie 1A.

108 Tim Hortons Sharks 4.

110 Tim Hortons Thrashers 7

- Ariz Bhimani 2A, Rhys Perry 2G, David Tonelli 2A, Johnathan Martin 1G 1A, Gordon Scott 1G 1A, Jeremy Rusnell 1G 2A, Ethan Brooks 2A, Brennan Young 1G 1A, Andrew Warner 1G.

107 Tim Hortons Lightning 2.

Novice

201 Diamond Groundskeeping Services 5

- Michael Montesanti 1G, Jordi Severini 1A, Adam Caicco 4G, Blake Holtby 1A, Ryan Simmons 2A, Justin Nisbet 1A, Conor Braund 1A, Riley Callaghan 1A, Ryan D'Antimo 1A, Collin Dyer 2A.

204 Hitz 4

- Riley Walsh 1G, Connor Gonsalves 1G, Kristian Dimitriadis 1G, Alex Hoffmann 2A, Giles Miller 1A, Jamie Finlay 1A, Michael Jollimore 1G.

203 McAlpine Ford 3

- Matthew Ciano 1G, Tristan Kuchar 1A, Spencer White 1G 1A, Christian Arcuri 1A, Keegan Matthew 1G 1A, Adam Wilson 1A.

205 Mastermind Toys 3

- Max Bruckner 1A, Matthew Barnett 2A, Alex Carter 1G, Carter Eby 1A, Will Ashton 2G 1A.

Minor Atom

304 HS Financial Services Inc. 7.

301 Optimist Club of Aurora Inc. 3

- Cameron Screech 2A, Dennis Semenovych 1G 1A, Alexander MacKinnon 1A, Matthew Hall 1G, Joey Hodgson 1A, Anthony Georgieff 1G.

306 Danny's Boys 6.

302 Rec Cycle N' Sports 3

- Michael Imseis 2A, Michael Fisher 1G, Bryn Burbank 1G, Matthew Neice 2A, Joshua Lye 1A, Hunter Jones 1G.

303 Tilemaster 7.

305 Aurora Canadian Tire 2.

Atom

406 Ab Cox Pontiac Buick GMC 5

- Terrence Lepore 2A, Scott Taylor 3G, Andrew Kaszuba 1G, Tyler Hindley 1A, Callum Forrest 1G.

401 Shoppers Drug Mart Aurora 2.

402 Orr & Forster Insurance Brokers 3

- Ben Black 1A, Morgan Walker 2G 1A, Ben Tomlin 1A, Russell Johnson 1G, Jonathan Caporusso 1A.

405 Laurion Law Office 1

- Spencer Robb 1G.

404 All Pro Source For Sports 4

- Victor Chadarov 2G, Lucas Marek 1G, Samantha Sanita 1A, Kevin Siery 1G, Mathew Sanita 1A.

403 Delph & Jenkins Surveyors 3

- Alex Cicchino 1A, Brayden Beswick 1G, Joseph Veneziano 2A, Luke Gregoris 1A, Matthew Walker 1G, Max Brown 1G, Scott Dunlop 1A, Jonah Blaser 1A.

407 Dr. Steiner's Drillers 4

- Mathew Pelkola 1G, Nicolas Steiner 1G, Adrien Ramirez 1A, Brian Langdon 1G, Mathew Reynolds 1A, Wyatt Jones 1G.

408 Greenpoint Laser Products 3.

Minor Pee wee

502 ACI 6

- Zachary Ferry 3G.

501 Millennium Devils 0.

Pee wee

601 Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre 7

- Arun Partridge 5G 1A, Brandon Farr 1G 1A, Nicholas Theodoropolous 1A, Gregory Olejnik 1A, Evan Jones 1G.

602 Chevalier Chrysler 2.

604 Fresh Water Industries 3

- Kelley Hudson 1G, Christopher Karagiannis 1G, Stephen Canatrutti 1G 1A, Peter Teti 1G, Wesley Howe 1A.

605 Recreation Leisure Services 1

- Jonathan White 1A, Braedon Mackenzie 1A, Brendan Kirasack 1G.

Minor Bantam

702 ACI 5

- Eric Abel 1G, Eamon Reilly 1A, Michael Wood 2G, Michael Reilly 2A, Ricky Evans 1A, Nick Sbrolla 1G 1A, Rosario Arcuri 1G.

709 ACI 1.

710 Central York Professional Fire Fighters 6

- Kamran Karamchi 4G 1A, Cooper Catt 1A, James Phillips 2G 1A, Robert Bince 1A.

706 Cosentino Produce 5

- Jonathon Boehmer 2G 1A, Joey Lombardi 2A, Lucas Cristillo 2A, Colin Sandquist 2G, Andrew Cosentino 2A, Alexander Payne 1G, Logan Weber 1A.

Bantam

801 Supreme Collision Centre 4

- Alex Heintzman 3G, Marco Santella 1G, Chris McGill 1A.

803 I.O.O.F. Aurora Lodge #148 2

- Spencer Dexter 1A, Peter Durst 2G, Trevor Smith 1A, Michael Madigan 1A.

802 Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre 3

- Garrett Lewis 2A, Adam Colacitti 2G, Anthony Marsillio 1G.

804 Manhattan Trophies 2

- Matt Volkmann 1A, George Marshall 1A, Dylan Teacher 1G, Michael Moody 1G.

806 Wood Brothers Drywall 5

- Matt Raponi 1A, Brandon Hurst 1A, Adam Gitto 2G 1A, Grant Wood 1G, Connor Dinwoodie 2G 1A, Ryan Bagshaw 1A, Paul Duggan 1A.

805 Barb Blaser - Re/Max 3

- Nick Orsatti 1G, Robert Fiorini 1G 1A, Michael Gray 1G 1A, Scott MacNeil 1A, Marlin Young 1A.

Minor Midget

904 Pizza Pizza 12

- Cody Benson 1A, Ethan Shore 1G 3A, Jason Nadeau 2G, Kevin Nandlall 2G, James Collett 1G 1A, Taylor Bryce 1G, Michael Shoesmith 2G, Graeme Smart 3G 2A.

901 Emilio's Pizza 1.

Midget

1001 1.

1003 1.

1009 4.

1002 3.

1007 Pizza Pizza 8.

1004 C.W. Coops Aurora 3.

Rep Games

Minor Atom

Newmarket Redmen Minor Atom A 2.

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom A 0.

Newmarket Redmen Minor Atom A 2.

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom A 1.

Minor Midget

Newmarket Redmen Minor Midget A 5.

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget A 2.

Newmarket Redmen Minor Midget A 4.

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget A 3.

Midget

TNT Midget A

Midget A 6.

Aurora Tigers Midget A 2

- Spencer McCartney 1G, Jamie Tuck 1A, Scott Gray 1A, Ian Weston 1G.



Mayor is guest at director meet

By BRIAN WARBURTON

The Aurora Seniors' Association welcomed Mayor Phyllis Morris to their January Board of Directors meeting.

She appeared impressed with the calibre and dedication of the directors and chairpersons of several standing committees who were present, and who each gave a brief summary of their spheres of responsibility.

The mayor graciously noted current matters of interest and issues that should receive attention in the short term.

She was able to draw on her considerable experience and offer suggestions on how we might approach issues existing now.

When any group, such as the board, debates issues without resolution, eventually, an echo chamber is created for our own voices, repeating the same arguments endlessly.

This is the reason a fresh and distinguished voice of experience adds a quality to our deliberations, the value of which cannot be overstated.

Town coordinator, Kelly Hamilton, who was also in attendance, was able to inform all present that shortly, the ASA would have a new part time coordinator to assist in the operation of the ASA.

Tom Yates took group photographs and no doubt they will be prized possessions for years to come.

Some of the issues facing the ASA are:

- A name for the new building and signage informing visitors where we are located.

- An awning for the rear deck, plus stairs to allow safe passage for seniors to the park below.

- Electronic equipment to allow members to swipe a membership card upon entering the building, which would verify membership and attendance.

- Someone from the ASA to sit on the Leisure Services Advisory Committee [LSAC], to represent the town - not only the ASA - and report to Al Downey, Recreation Director, and to the ASA.

If you feel you could do this, please contact Charles Sequeira at the ASA.

The first two items are finishing touches to the centre and the last two items are new and very worthwhile.

Ann McKenny, a highly respected volunteer of long standing, organizes the ASA Bingo, which is held in the centre Fridays from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m.

Ten popular games are played and Ann would like to see a few more players come to enjoy the Bingo. We have a normal group of participants of 25 to 30 and there is room for more.

I should add that in addition to Ann we have Cliff Davies, a man with excellent vocal cords who calls the bingo numbers and who is a leading singer in the seniors' Evergreens Choir.

If you plan to take in the Cabaret show in February, please purchase your tickets soon, or they will be gone.

I do not exaggerate when I say the wood shop appears to be a popular project, so if this interests you, come over to the centre, sign up and get involved.

Kennel Inn contract okayed another year

Without question or comment, Aurora's general committee agreed last week to give preliminary approval for the animal control services contract with Kennel Inn to be extended for one year at a cost of \$164,500.

This was a change from June, 2004, when representatives of the Aurora Residents Pet Care Association appeared before council to oppose a one-year extension of the contract based on what they claimed were inadequate facilities at the shelter.

In addition to approving the contract, councillors directed staff to seek alternatives.

Following a Request for Proposals in December, 2005, the general committee considered a staff report suggesting the town enter into an agreement with the Town of Georgina and Wayne Jones Animal Control Services for a total price of \$153,490.

That recommendation was defeated and council renewed the contract with Kennel Inn for \$153,000.

Over the years animal control services in Aurora has been a controversial issue, dating back to the 1950s when the service was provided by a private contractor which was terminated due to the number of citizen complaints.

Then in the early 1960s, the service was provided by the Ontario Humane Society from a shelter at Mary and Industry Streets.

In 1976 the Society terminated the service due to the high operating costs and public criticism, resulting in council signing a contract with Kennel Inn on a year to year basis.

Canine control was peaceful in Aurora until June, 1998, when complaints were received

about the conditions at Kennel Inn, but council was advised the operation met all the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Two years ago in response to council's direction, staff members conducted numerous meetings with other municipalities concerning the provision of an animal control service.

In December, 2004, an Expression of Interest was released by Vaughan on behalf of the five participating municipalities including Aurora and three submissions were received, resulting in a Request for Proposals.

All three respondents - Kennel Inn, Earth Rangers and Toronto Wildlife Centre - submitted proposals and after review, the staff committee recommended that all three submissions were unacceptable as all failed to meet all the conditions of the RFP.

The staff committee also investigated the feasibility of building a joint facility, including the cost of land and construction, as well as operational costs.

After considering all the options, in December, 2005, Aurora Council agreed to enter into a one-

year contract with Kennel Inn.

At last week's general committee meeting, staff recommended that until such time as a long term solution was determined, the town and other municipalities serviced by Kennel

Inn renew contracts annually.

The 2007 contract with Kennel Inn at a cost of \$164,500 was endorsed by the general committee without discussion and is expected to be approved by council this week.

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Wal-Mart meeting is set

From page 1
enough for both outlets.

The skirmish will continue at the public planning meeting.

At last week's general committee meeting Prakash David, Manager of Development for Smart Centres, formerly Whitwell Developments, briefed the newer members of council on the background of the proposed development.

He said his firm has 175 shopping centres with a wide variety of retail outlets and the proposal for Wal-Mart was based on the company's new format type of stores and by combining the two planned stores into one building there was a saving

of 25 per cent.

He said there would be a high level of landscaping with the planting of 500 trees around the perimeter and to break up the parking lot.

He said that Smart Centres planned to invest \$75 million in the project and when finished would gener-

ate \$2 million in taxes annually.

Following the public meeting on February 28, he hoped the development could be approved by council by March 27 so the construction could start in May to be open for business early in 2008.

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RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

Original Church St. School plans

When the historic Church Street School reopens as a Heritage and Cultural Centre it will come close to the original plans made by council back in December, 1977.

After two years of deliberation, Aurora Council stepped in to preserve the school where former Prime Minister Lester Pearson first attended classes.

Providing it proved economically and structurally feasible, the building which formerly housed the York County Board of Education was planned to provide space for a local museum and art gallery.

It would also accommodate cultural and recreational facilities for senior citizens and other groups.

One area was to be named after Pearson and another to honour J.M. Walton, Mayor of Aurora from 1923 to 1928 and 1939-40.

He was a historian and many of his artifacts were donated to the museum.

It was also agreed to designate the building under the Ontario Heritage Act to qualify for provincial funding.

ORIGIN OF THE NECKTIE

"According to Extraordinary Origins of Everyday Things" the necktie's history can be traced back to 17th century France.

A regiment of Croatian mercenaries in the service of Austria appeared in France in 1668 wearing linen and muslin scarves about their necks.

The fashion-conscious French were taken with the idea and began sporting neckwear of linen and lace, knotted in the centre with long flowing ends.

The French called the ties "cravats", named for the Croats who started the trend.

The fashion spread quickly to England but might have died out but pleasure-loving Charles II decreed that neckties must be worn at court.

By the next century Beau Brummel became famous for his massive neckties and his innovative ways of tying them.

LEISURE COMPLEX CALLED A WHITE ELEPHANT

In June, 1988, Aurora Councillors Norm Weller and Richard Barker branded the four-month-old Leisure Complex "a white elephant" due to lower than expected attendance figures.

Town staff had projected that 750 memberships for the

"Snow Cake" next on the film circuit

Next on the list of Aurora Film Circuit movies is "Snow Cake", which will be shown at the Cineplex Odeon Aurora cinemas Monday, Feb. 12.

A limited number of individual tickets (at \$10 each) are available for advance purchase at both the Aurora Public Library and R & R Revisited on Mary Street in Aurora.

Subscription tickets are sold out. Subscribers are asked to bring their subscription cards to each screening.

Activities get underway at 6.45 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m.

Screened at the 2007 Toronto International Film Festival, "Snow Cake" is an intimate drama about the relationship between an autistic woman and a man recovering from a traumatic car accident.

Set in Wawa, "Snow Cake" unfolds gently as it introduces its quirky, flawed protagonists.

Alex (Alan Rickman) is a quiet, sullen man practically collapsing under the weight of existence, who one day offers a ride to Vivienne (Emily Hampshire), an innocent and sociable hitchhiker.

Through no fault of his own, Alex has a freak accident that claim's Vivienne's life but leaves Alex virtually unscathed. Overcome with guilt and remorse, he sets out to find Vivienne's mother, Linda (Sigourney Weaver), who turns out to be autistic.

Staying with Linda for a few days, Alex also meets Linda's neighbour Maggie (Carrie-Anne Moss), an estranged soul who seems able to fit in anywhere.

The movie runs nearly two hours.

complex would be sold by July but by mid-June only about 406 had been sold.

However, the number of casual users between February and May was more than 4,000.

Town staff suggested the unexpectedly high number of casual users indicated many Aurorans were trying out the facility before committing themselves to purchasing a membership.

Weller said he had visited the complex and found one person in the pool and one in the fitness centre and that the ice plant had been shut down for a month as there were no rentals.

Barker said the building had not been well designed as alterations were already underway to provide additional change rooms for adults.

Calling it a white elephant may not be out of line, he said.

The proposed alterations report from Mayor John West provided three options; a one-storey addition to cost \$445,000, a two-storey addition with the second floor to be used for day care at an estimated cost of \$610,000 and a small addition for day care at the front of the building at a cost of \$265,000.

AURORA IN 1867

Dominion Day in Aurora in 1867 was observed as a public holiday and the stores were closed and the flags were raised to enjoy the holiday.

The York Volunteers mustered early in the morning and fired a "feu-de-joie".

A cricket match and various other games were played in the afternoon with many spectators watching the cricket match with the Aurora Brass Band playing throughout the day.

Also if anybody wanted to buy property in Aurora at that time, quarter acre lots were available on Wellington Street from \$150 to \$200 each, on Metcalfe, Larmont and Wells Streets for \$100 each and Yonge Street for \$300, with three years to pay at six per cent interest.

BUS DRIVER AVERTS TRAGEDY

In January, 1967, Joy Babinok of Oak Ridges was the driver of a school bus when the brakes on her vehicle failed on a steep hill and sent the bus loaded with 39 young passengers out of control.

She warned her little passengers to take emergency precautions and then maneuvered the speeding bus away from a group of pedestrians standing at a corner.

Three children were injured and a number shaken up when the bus hurtled through a fence and slammed into a tree near the intersection of Bathurst Street and the St. John's Sideroad.

Nancy Prentice was in satisfactory condition at York County Hospital with a broken jaw and Carol Watson and her brother Barry were treated for minor injuries and released.

Mrs. Babinok remained in the bus to calm the frightened children until police and an ambulance arrived on the scene and then she was taken to the hospital suffering from shock.

She was later released.

The parents of all the children on the bus were asked to have their family doctor check their children in case of injury.

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DEATH NOTICE

Crabtree, Hilda Mary
(nee Willingham)

Born February 25, 1908 – Died January 25, 2007. Predeceased by husband Jack in 1976. Hilda leaves behind her son Ron and his wife Denise, granddaughters Suzanne, Audrey, Renée and eight great-grandchildren. Hilda and Jack, along with her parents moved to Aurora in 1933 and lived in their home on Kennedy Street until she entered Resthaven Nursing Home in 2003. Hilda was always bright and fun loving, a kind and attentive mother and a doting grandmother. She will be greatly missed by all of us. A memorial service was held at Thompson Funeral Home, 530 Industrial Parkway South, Aurora, 905-727-5421 for family and close friends on Tuesday, January 30, 2007 at 2 pm. We would like to thank the staff at Resthaven Nursing Home for their loving care while she was there and for making her last days as comfortable as possible.



MEMORIAL

Dear Dana:
February 2, 2007.

It has been ten long years since your passing and no words can describe how much we miss your wonderful spirit and your kind and loving heart.

Living without you has been so difficult and painful; we have had many sad holidays remembering the joy you brought just by walking into a room with a smile and your cheerful voice - "Hi guys". Your love of life, your thoughtful and caring ways is always with us.

Kaitlin is like you in many ways. We are so proud of who she has become with the guidance of Dave, Kelly and Dean, the family and your many friends. Dave's Rita has become our family too, you would be very happy.

We have survived with the help of the good lord who has blessed us with 10 wonderful grandchildren. You would have had so much fun with them, but our family can never be whole again without you and now your Dad. You were both such an essential part of our lives. We know that the two of you are reunited and are together again and we miss you both terribly.

Never a day goes by that we don't think of you, but after all these years you were right; many times it is with a smile. Give a big hug to your Dad for us.

Until we meet again...

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Mom, Darryl & Jan, Dean & Kelly and families.

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