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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Vol. 8 No. 3 905-727-3300 auroran.com FREE Week of November 6, 2007

Police HQ rejected in private meeting

According to reports, Aurora councillors have rejected the idea of York Regional Police moving its headquarters to Aurora.

The Auroran has learned the decision was voted on in a private meeting recently, after the group received a proposal to move the existing police headquarters from the Regional building in Newmarket to one with more space.

Apparently, the vote was tied 4-4, which would cause it to be lost.

However, councillors are not supposed to vote in private meetings.

According to reports, the four voting against the new headquarters were Mayor Phyllis Morris, and Councillors Stephen Granger, Evelina MacEachern and Wendy Gaertner.

One person was absent from the meeting.

Aurora is one of few municipalities within the York Regional Police coverage area not to have a police station.

York Regional Police have indicated their site on Industrial Parkway South, which is not a police station, is too small, and plans were in the works to move them to a larger site on town-owned land on Leslie Street.

However, this proposal would increase the amount of land required by police, although the headquarters would employ about 800 people.

Region of York officials have indicated the space used by police headquarters in Newmarket is required by the Region, so the police are being encouraged to find another head office.

The issue has not come before an open Aurora Council meeting.



School buses saved the day last week as Vic Paraninfo held his 35th annual treats for students from Wells Street School. Those students, however, have been transferred to Aurora Grove Public School, so it was necessary to bring in the school buses to transport the youngsters to Yonge Street. In the bottom photo, Vic got help from members of the York Regional Police while distributing candy to the costumed students. Auroran photos by David Falconer

BRIEFLY

Celebrating anniversary

The St. Andrew's College Dramatic Society will celebrate the 50th anniversary of Leonard Bernstein's "West Side Story" with a production of the famous musical that changed the face of musical theatre forever.

West Side Story will be performed at the Yonge Street college from Thursday, November 22 through Saturday, November 24 at 8. p.m.

Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased by calling 905-727-3178, ext. 260, or by emailing jane.bedard@sac.on.ca.

For more information on the St. Andrew's Dramatic Society, visit the website at www.sac.on.ca.

Dead birds

Town of Aurora officials are still waiting for results of what killed about nine Canada Geese in Aurora last week.

The birds were found near a stormwater management pond, east of Bayview Avenue, north of Wellington Street.

They were sent to the province for analysis, but at press time, no word had been received.

Debating reigns at St. Andrew's

Debating and public speaking appear to be a lost art at area secondary schools except at Aurora's St. Andrew's College where it remains very much alive.

At the third and final Fulford debating competition for 2007 held at De La Salle College in Toronto, St. Andrew's won three awards winning in both Senior and Junior Competitions for the first time in 21 years in either category.

St. Andrew's also won its first ever Coaches' Cup whereby the combined rankings across the three Fulford tournaments during the school year were the highest of the 21 participating Independent Schools.

The senior team members were

Please see page 17




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COMING EVENTS

During the month of November the Skylight Gallery in the Aurora Town Hall will feature the art of Rema Thompson presenting a variety of subjects in non-toxic oils. Regular viewing times are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Starting November 15 and continuing until April 15 from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. winter parking restrictions will be in effect on Aurora streets.

A drop-in centre will operate every Wednesday at the Community Bible Church, on Bathurst Street, just south of Henderson. Operating from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. it's open to all parents, grandparents and caregivers. For more information, e-mail Judy Hoffmann at jhoffmann@sympatico.ca.

Scottish Country Dancing is held every Friday morning at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church beginning at 10:30 a.m. No partners are needed and beginners are welcome.

Until Nov. 28, on Wednesday evenings, the Bereavement Support Group, for adults experiencing the loss of a loved one, will meet at Aurora United Church, 15186 Yonge Street from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. For more information, call Mary at 905-727-6984. There is no fee for this program.

Meet at Martha's Table, now in its third season. Every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., comfort food and a sense of community is available in the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church hall, Aurora. Any funds raised are directed to other community outreach projects.

Aurora Agricultural Society 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.

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, 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.

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 and interest groups. Contact Beverley at 905-727-2151.

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

The Aurora Seniors Evergreen Choir practice under the direction of Tom Rainsford and Enid Maize every Wednesday from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at the seniors' centre.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10
Christmas Bazaar at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Hall, Victoria and Mosley Streets. St. Andrew's Guild is presenting baked goods, crafts, and treasures from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Hot lunch will be served from 11 a.m. Tickets: \$7; \$3.50 for children under nine.

York Regional Police Male Chorus 15th Annual "In Harmony With the Community" Concert. St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, Leslie Street, Newmarket, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10. For further information call 905-727-2429 or 905-727-6470.

The Jitterbug Ball goes Hollywood in a unique and exciting Hospice King-Aurora fundraising gala at the Maple Downs Golf Club, 11101 Dufferin Street in Richmond Hill. Tickets are \$175 per person and may be obtained by calling 905-773-0155.

Aurora Seniors Square Dance at the Seniors Centre from 8 p.m. to 10:45 p.m. with Caller Bill Hands. Admission at \$5 per person includes light refreshments. Call 905-725-4767 for further information.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12
A pre-consultation meeting will be held for residents of southeast Old Aurora to discuss the Heritage Conservation District concept and to determine the level of community interest in bringing forward a formal heritage conservation district study.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15
Amnesty International meets at 7:30 p.m. at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street. Discussion and letter writing for human rights cases. For information, call 905-713-6713.

NOVEMBER 15-17
The Pine Tree Potters' Guild Pottery Sale at St. Andrew's Valley Golf Club, St. John's Sideroad with CHATS being the charity at the sale.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17
Big Brothers Big Sisters of York presents its Annual Gala "Catch A Dream" at DiNardo's Mansion, 400 Industrial Parkway South, with reception at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7:30 p.m. Evening includes cocktails, dinner, raffles, live and silent auction and dancing. Tickets are \$150 per person and may be reserved by calling 905-895-0289.

12th annual Christmas Fair & Artisans' Craft Sale, takes place in Lynett Hall, 16 Catherine Avenue, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sponsored by Our Lady of Grace Catholic Women's League.

Trinity Anglican Church presents 'Winter Wonderland' Christmas Bazaar from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church. Luncheon is served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Proceeds for A.C.W. Anglican Outreach and Parish needs.

The Town of Aurora Staff Together Committee (TOAST) will hold a silent auction and bake sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Aurora Recreation Complex with proceeds to the York Region Children's Aid Society "Holiday Gift Program". Call 905-726-4740 for more information or to make a donation.

NOVEMBER 22-24
St. Andrew's College Dramatic Society presents Leonard Bernstein's "West Side Story" at the college 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Tickets are \$20 and may be purchased by calling 905-727-3178, ext. 260, or by emailing jane.bedard@sac.on.ca.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23
Coffee House at Trinity Anglican Church.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24
Santa Claus Parade from 6 to 8 p.m. under the stars. Sponsors and volunteers required. Call 905-727-3123, ext. 4218, for details.

Aurora Seniors' Christmas Bazaar from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with baked goods, boutiques, hasty notes, paintings, greeting cards and silent auction.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27
Aurora Chamber of Commerce Business After Five networking program will be held at Rural Accents, 130 Hollidge Blvd., Unit B3, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Event is complimentary, but advance confirmation is necessary. Call 905-727-7262.

DECEMBER 1 & 2
The Optimist Club of Aurora hosts annual book sale at the Aurora Public Library, 15145 Yonge Street, on Saturday, December 1 from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., and Sunday, December 2 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. No credit cards or Interac. Proceeds support the youth of Aurora.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2
Aurora Historical Society invites you for a Hillary House family Christmas. Events will include Christmas carols in the ballroom where refreshments will be served, crafts for children to make in the workroom and a visit with Saint Nick in the

newly restored barn. The event runs from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$5. for adults and \$3 for accompanied children under 12. For more information call 905-727-8991.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4
Aurora Seniors are off to Lindsay for a Living Christmas Tree Musical including a coach bus trip, performance by an eight-person choir, visit to a tea room, shopping and dinner.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5
Tree Lighting Ceremony from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Town Hall with festivities, carol singing and tree decorating.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8
Aurora Historical Society invites you to an evening of Christmas music with piano recording artist Carol Gibson and singer Glori Gage, starting at 7:30 p.m. Performance will be followed with seasonal sweets and wassail bowl. Tickets are \$15 each and must be purchased in advance by calling 905-727-8991.

Aurora's York Chamber Ensemble, with the Trinity Festival Chorus, presents "Gifts for Noel," a choral concert at 7:30 p.m. The chamber orchestra, conducted by Tony Browning, is performing at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street. Tickets, available at the door, cost \$15; \$10 for seniors and students.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9
Amnesty International hosts its annual Write-a-thon at Aurora Public Library, 15145 Yonge Street from 2 to 4 p.m. Write cards of support to prisoners of conscience, or letters to governments re human rights abuses. For more information call 905-713-6713.

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Nancy Newman, left, and Bob Garden, right, present Chief Librarian Collette Abbott with a cheque for \$1,500 raised at an art show, put on by the Society of York Region Artists (SOYRA) that was held recently in the Aurora Library.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Road extension idea nearly caused loss of 150 trees

Today motorists and truckers use Industrial Parkway as a bypass around Yonge Street and it is hoped that more through traffic would do so.

But the reality of today's Industrial Parkway doesn't follow the original plan to open up the area to service the south-end industrial park.

In April, 1974, Reg Sheppard, who had donated a 58-acre conservation area to the community for public use, was upset when he learned Aurora Council planned to extend Industry Street through the bush to service its south-end industrial park.

He pointed out that he and his father had for more than 50 years paid taxes on the property and planted trees so that the bush would have undisturbed growth.

It was in 1971 when he made his land gift as a park

to be an oasis in the midst of paved streets and houses.

The property was donated to the Ontario Heritage Foundation and administered by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority.

Mr. Sheppard said the proposed roadway through the bush would defeat the purpose of his gift which was to allow people to roam through the property in perfect safety.

But after making the gift with no strings attached, he realized he had no legal recourse.

He added that 100 to 150 mature trees would have to be bulldozed to accommodate the roadway.

Town officials disagreed claiming the proposed road would only affect the edge of the wooded area and the affected area was mostly scrub.

It was also pointed out that the roadway would pro-

vide a good separation between the bush and the playing fields and would serve to keep children on the playing fields rather than let them wander through the woods.

In addition the proposed roadway had been planned long before Mr. Sheppard had made his offer.

Mr. Sheppard suggested that Ross Street be extended alongside the railway tracks, rather than Industry Street to the east, but this was seen as a simplistic view by town officials, as the intersection of Ross Street with Wellington Street was considered dangerous.

Staff members noted that as the Ontario Heritage Foundation was a Crown corporation, the town did not have the right to expropriate the land, so that any land for the roadway would depend on obtaining the Foundation's blessing.

Later in April, 1974, council authorized a proposal to the Conservation Authority to extend Industry Street south close to the edge of the bush area and parallel with the railway tracks, where the Industrial Parkway is today and it was a satisfactory solution to all parties.

As a result, the bush was saved.

Three Hallowe'en robberies in Aurora

Hallowe'en proved to be busy for officers responding to various calls around York Region, including Aurora.

Between 7 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 31, and 7 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, York Regional Police responded to more than 1,400 calls, including numerous nuisance calls, reports of egging of homes and vehicles and 10 reports of street-level robberies.

Three of those robberies occurred in Aurora.

In the incidents, victims were approached by suspects unknown to them who demanded money or Halloween candy while threatening the victim with violence.

None of the victims in the robberies suffered injuries.

In that 24-hour period, officers from the Community Oriented Response Units, the Traffic Enforcement Bureau, the Air Support Unit and uniform officers were out on

foot, bicycles and vehicles conducting extra patrols on residential streets and in parks, plazas and schools, in an effort to reduce Halloween-related crime.

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Bob is free...finally

After more than two years in captivity brought about by the seizure by Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources officials, Bob the Moose Head, owned by Ken Procyk of Aurora is finally free and back in Aurora, a little the worse for wear.

The moose head was acquired by Ken's grandfather as a gift when he worked in Alberta, was brought to Ontario and hung at the family cottage near Kingston.

When the cottage was sold, Ken inherited the moose head and brought him to his home in Aurora, but not having a suitable place to hang Bob, decided to sell him on e-bay.

Bob was quickly picked up by a bar owner in the United States.

Before shipping Bob, Ken contacted the Ontario government and both American and Canadian Customs to obtain the necessary forms and procedures for shipping Bob and no one told him it was illegal.

However, Bob was seized at the border before being shipped back to the Ministry offices in Aurora and the saga began.

Ministry officials approached Procyk and suggested he settle out of court by paying a \$250 fine, plus storage costs at the border and give up all rights to Bob.

That idea was refused and the case ended up in the courts.

By this time the Toronto Sun became interested in the story and Moosehead Breweries of New Brunswick agreed to pay the legal costs to defend Bob from the clutches of Ministry officials.

The case dragged on and finally when it got before Justice of the Peace Ann Forfar in the Newmarket court, she ordered that Bob be brought to the courthouse

over the objections of the Ministry solicitor.

When Bob arrived, it was found that his right eye had been battered since his seizure by Ministry officials.

After listening to all the evidence, Justice of the Peace Forfar freed Bob to which the Ministry solicitor announced he would appeal the decision but later waved the white flag and gave up.

Bob was returned to his owner.

Procyk and Bob were defended by Aurora lawyer Lonny Mark who said his

client should never have been charged in the first place, but admitted the legal journey had its moments.

Although Ministry officials had been quick to transport Bob into custody, they did not provide the same service for his return and once again the Sun stepped into the breach and for more than a week Bob was on display in the Sun office before being returned to Aurora.

Thus, a saga that seemed endless finally ended.

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Poor Richard

Ah, radio... such a treat

*The musical past brings back memories,
Of the musical greats of long, long ago;
Trying to find the same talents today,
Is a difficult task, as oldtimers know.*
- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

If you're in the over-60 generation, there are names and songs from the musical past that bring back instant memories, but unfortunately they are no longer heard, unless a person has them on a personal record or CD collection.

One such group was the Ink Spots, a legendary singing group with one of the most distinctive singing styles in the history of modern music.

They were unique.

You have to go back to the 1930s to trace the beginning of the Ink Spots as they toured bars in the Philadelphia and New York areas.

They began experimenting with a new singing style in which the bass talked the lyrics in the background while a couple of tenors sang the words in ultra-high register.

Their vocal gymnastics produced a new sound that caught on like wildfire with such hits as "If I Didn't Care", "To Each His Own" and "Prisoner of Love".

During the late 1940s and early 1950s, Bill Kenny, Happy Jones, Charles Fuqua and Deke Watson who was replaced in 1943 by Billy Bowen were at the height of their fame.

They appeared frequently on the Ed Sullivan and other TV shows, and appeared in the movie Pardon My Sarong with Abbot and Costello.

They appeared at Toronto's Casino Theatre several times before splitting up in 1952.

Another entertainer well known to the older generation was Arthur Tracy, the Street Singer.

He started in the early 1930s as a mysterious singer whose individual style made him an international sensation. He got his start as an ambitious kid from Philadelphia who sang in burlesque and vaudeville houses.

When big time radio dawned in the early 1930s, he was ready.

As a gimmick he called himself the Street Singer and kept his identity a secret while performing on CBS Radio.

The mystery routine worked, with the network being bombarded with pleas for the phantom singer to be unmasked.

This was done amid a flurry of publicity and he went on to become one of the leading singing stars of the era, appearing in Toronto for several concerts.

His biggest hit was "Maria, Rambling Rose of the Wildwood", a sentimental ballad.

He travelled extensively giving concerts but turned to the business world in the 1950s and faded from the public eye.

If you can remember the name Ish Kabibble, you're going back to the 1930s to a guy with a ridiculous name who sang ridiculous songs.

His real name was Merwyn Bogue, a native of Erie, Pennsylvania.

By the time he had graduated from university in 1930, he was an accomplished musician with dreams of becoming a big-time crooner.

Then he met Kay Kyser, the popular bandleader of radio's Kollege of Musical Knowledge.

Kay gave Bogue a job but made it clear there wasn't to be any romantic crooning as he wanted a comedian.

Bogue combed his hair into bizarre bangs, invented the name Ish Kabibble and recorded a nonsense song called "Three Little Fishes", which was an instant smash, selling five million records in the depression days when one million sales was considered a hit.

For several years he was a household name thanks to his records, radio shows and movies. Then the novelty wore off, the big band era faded and Ish was gone.

You may not recall the name Doodles Weaver but if you listened to radio back in the late 1940s, there's a good chance you'll recall The Great Horse Race played by Spike Jones and his City Clickers.

It was an insane type band that filled the airwaves with a cacophony of clangs, hisses, boos and indescribable sounds from cowbells to foghorns, but the band had many hits but the most memorable was "The Great Horse Race" featuring Doodles as a race announcer.

To the strains of the "William Tell Overture", Doodles sang the end of the race with Banana coming up through the bunch, Girdle in the stretch, Cabbage by a head and the winner is Beetlebaum.

Happy memories of days long gone.



We're not sure exactly when this photo was taken, but for sure it was before 1969. This is Aurora Council, and there are a few familiar faces. Front row, left to right, Dick Illingworth, Jim Murray, Mayor Clarence Davis, Jack Williamson and Walt Davis. Back row, left to right, Bill Trent, Evelyn Buck, Cliff Corbett, Pete Miller and Doug Gosbee, deputy-clerk. The photo was likely taken at the old Town Hall on Yonge Street.

Letter to the Editor

Frustrated Aurora councillor can't get motion reconsidered

To the editor,

People had such high hopes for this fresh new council. I still do. But it's taking so long.

Too many indefensible decisions have been made, too many lives damaged, while the power for change has yet to take voice.

In reaction, my natural tendency to be brutally candid has become more frequent of late.

Someone told me once they admired my courage to say what I think, despite knowing I would be hated for it. If it was a compliment, I didn't deserve it.

I don't believe a person should be hated for being straight forward, nor does it take courage.

All it takes is a powerful aversion to what passes for modern political discourse, a penchant for declaring the obvious and a willingness to risk for the sake of honesty; like a player in a high stakes poker game.

After the recent provincial election, the usual lamentations were heard about voter indifference.

Again we heard, there ought to be a law requiring people to vote.

Instead, what about a rule against simpering, insipid, nauseating, pandering, mind-deadening scrupulously artificial twaddle spread around in layers thick enough to choke a hundred horses, to obscure the fact candidates are diverting attention from the things people are really concerned about.

I have recently been frustrated in an effort to have council consider a review of signs in the North East Quadrant, locale of the infamous traffic calming measures.

My intention was to provide a measure of relief to neighbours, who have been deprived of their right to use roads for which they have paid.

Three council members supported re-consideration: Councillors Grace Marsh, Alison Collins-Mrakas

and myself.

Four, led by the mayor, voted it down. Councillor Bob McRoberts did not vote.

My notice of motion experienced a relatively arduous process with repeated reference to requirements of the Procedural Bylaw.

There seemed to be a peculiar determination to prevent the motion from appearing on the agenda or any other part of the public record, such as the Town's web site.

In an immediately previous meeting, other motions were presented and voted upon, involving significant expenditures, without benefit either of notice or a motion in writing, which are both requirements of the Procedural Bylaw.

They were expedited by the presiding member, Mayor Morris, with no regard for the rules and without intervention from the Director of Corporate Services whose job it is to advise council against contravening the legislation.

Nowadays in the town, one risks one's job to do it properly.

One motion was to provide \$65,000 additional to satisfy the demands of a handful of residents on Knowles Crescent for the completion of their driveways. The total has already escalated to \$71,000.

The second was to approve in principle \$400,000 to the South Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority for a project they have in mind.

Both motions were made in immediate response to requests made by delegations to council. Sears could not beat that level of service. We aim to please.

In last week's edition of The Auroran, can be found an advertisement on Page 2 displaying the motion so deliberately prevented from ever becoming public.

Municipalities are required by law to adopt a Procedure Bylaw for the purpose of consistency in orderly, open and trans-

parent conduct of public business.

Haphazard application is worse than no application. It bespeaks skulduggery.

Between Knowles and Holman Crescent there are 100 homes. Tax revenue to the town from both streets is approximately \$70,000.

That's the amount of extra money provided over and above the million dollars spent to construct an upgraded road for 51 homes on Knowles Crescent.

Half of the extra \$71,000 went into the hands of half a dozen residents to pay for driveway aesthetics far in excess of any neighbour on their street or mine (Holman).

At their request, we sidelined our Public Works and paid

a consultant \$11,000 to do the job.

He sat down with the residents individually and made a record of their requirements, which he then presented to council for information.

Anyone who wants to see how that extra money was spent should take a drive to Knowles and see for themselves.

Do I take exception to my neighbours and my tax money being spent that way? Damn right, I do.

Had I voted for that, I would have been in breach of trust to the people who elected me.

Malfeasance is the term used in the Oath of Office.

**Evelyn Buck
Aurora**

THE AURORAN

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Publisher Emeritus
Rosemary Schumaker

Editorial
Ron Wallace
ron@auroran.com

Dick Illingworth
dick@auroran.com

Photography
David Falconer
dfalconer@sympatico.ca

Advertising
Bob Ince
bob@auroran.com

Diane Buchanan
diane@auroran.com

Production
Cynthia Proctor
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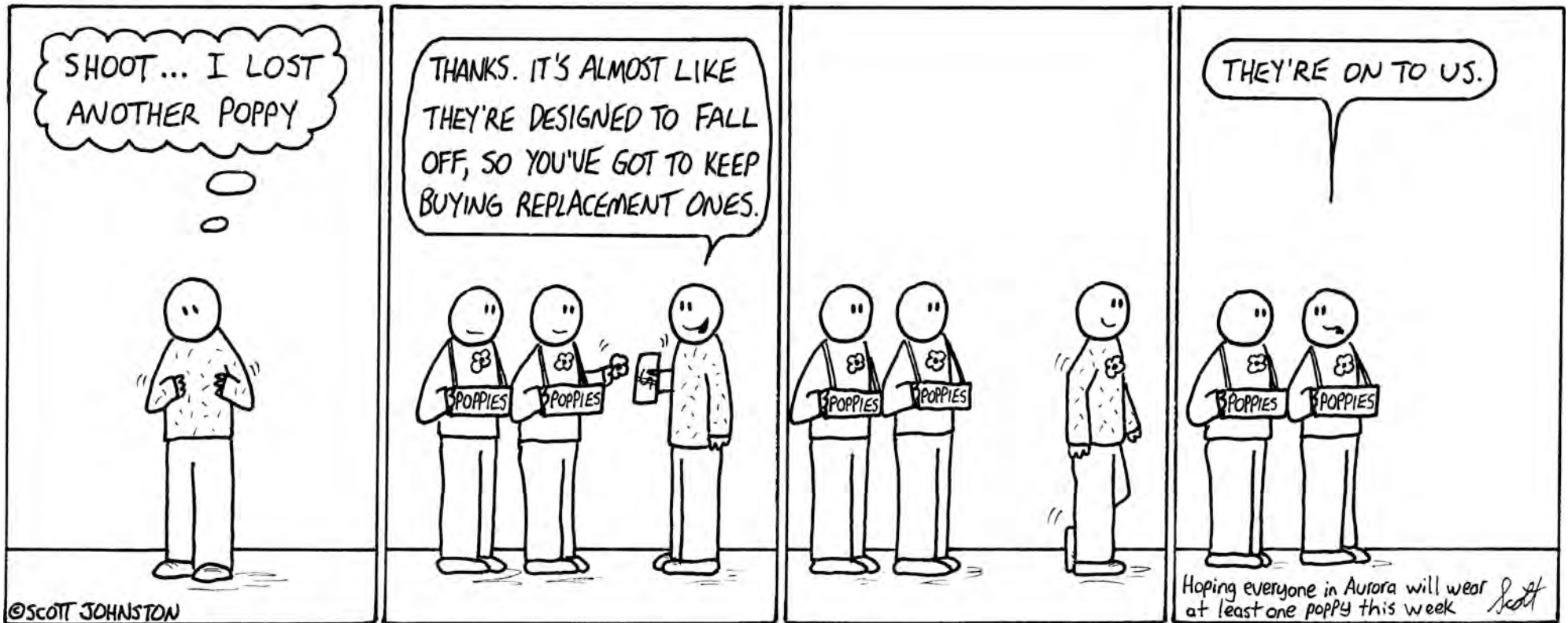
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rwall9999@aol.com

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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

A while back I was thinking about the great events that had been staged for the benefit of families in our community: the Santa Claus parade, the Easter Egg Hunt, the Horse Fair and Rib Fest quickly come to mind.

But something seemed to be missing; there had not been any town wide event celebrating Hallowe'en in Aurora.

That was about to change.

Two weeks ago I saw the advertisement in The Auroran for the Haunted Forest event to be held on Saturday, Oct. 27 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. in Sheppard's Bush.

I knew my family and my in-laws would be anxious to participate.

On that Saturday afternoon, I was wondering what my almost four-year old son would wear for the evening.

What follows is a partial transcript of the conversation:

Dad: Ryan, what are you going to be for Hallowe'en?

Ryan: I want to be a cow.

Dad: A cow?

Ryan: a cow.

Dad: You can be SpongeBob Squarepants, Harry Potter, Dora The Explorer, Spiderman, Bob The Builder, Captain Jack Sparrow, A Fireman...,

He cut me off.

Ryan: I want to be a cow, Daddy! (He stated rather exasperated.)

My 10-year-old nephew Brock, who was with us at the time, then chimed in with, "Uncle Steve, he has wanted to be a cow his whole life".

Ryan: It is my dream to be a cow, Daddy.

That sealed it.

My son is a cow.

My wife - as per usual - had the last word here.

She stated that, as Ryan is comprised of "probably 50 per cent Somerville DNA, he will be no doubt be known as a Mad Cow." Badda-boom!

Probably my DNA?

Hmm, that may be fodder for a future column. But I digress.

Since the ad in The Auroran stated that "pre-registration is recommended", which to us meant not mandatory, our plan was to show up a little early and register before the 6 p.m. events began.

One of Julie's friends called her around noon on Saturday and said that all tickets had been sold.

Julie then got on the phone to the event organizers and they said that they had been deluged with the response and might not be able to handle everyone.

The lady suggested we come early.

So we did, which turned out to be a good call.

I was told that the organizers expected - as this was the first year that the event would run - maybe 500 people. According to last week's Auroran, more than 3,000 people attended.

So we arrived at about 5.30 p.m. and registered. The price was certainly right - a bargain at \$4 per child.

My son was strutting around proudly in his cow costume and meeting up with his friends Jake, dressed as Spiderman; Matthew dressed as a Dead Zombie; and Emily dressed as Tinkerbell.

There was still light when we initially entered the forest which was fortunate because, once the darkness hit, Sheppard's Bush really was transformed into a haunted forest.

My munchkin might have been too afraid (okay - yes, me too).

The organizers did a phenomenal job. Obviously, a lot of work went into the event.

On the not-so-scary side of things, along the trail M&M Meats had hamburgers and there was a station with a special witches brew for thirsty revelers.

There was also a barn where the little ones could do arts and crafts.

The mayor was also there in her witches' costume meeting and greeting everyone. A number of her fellow councillors were also in attendance.

There were obviously some very scary things to behold.

The person with the chain saw hiding behind one of the shacks comes quickly to mind. In the darkness the person kind of looked like Evelyn Buck.

There was also scary storytelling in one of the shacks.

One kindly suggestion for Councillor Alison Collins-Mrakas, who is the chair of the Town anti-graffiti task force.

If you really want to frighten those children and young adults who have been responsible for defacing property in town - instead of storytelling in the old shelter - why not hold an actual Town Council Meeting in there and have these kids sit through it.

Tell the kids, "If you persist on your present course, you will end up having to attend these meetings for one solid year". Talk about scared straight!

The most frightening thing in the haunted forest was the man who was 'hanging' from a tree.

One town employee commented to all and sundry, "That's what happens if you don't use your green bin!"

You've been suitably warned.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Inside Aurora

By Scott Johnston

I don't know how we're expected to keep up with all the changing rules of the road in our town.

Take the other day, for example.

I was driving along an Aurora street, at the speed limit, minding my own business, when those unwelcome flashing blue lights appeared in my rear view mirror.

Moments after I pulled over, a thoroughly shaken policeman appeared at my window.

"Good day, officer. What seems to be the problem?"

His face was all red, and his eyes were so wide, you could see the white part all around them.

"Do you know how fast you were going back there?" he sputtered.

I thought for a second. Since pulling onto the street, I was sure it had been about 50 kph.

"52 kph!" he exclaimed, confirming my own mental estimate.

"Well, then," I agreed with a smile.

But that obviously wasn't the response he expected.

He was still breathing heavily, and I could see a vein throbbing in his neck.

"I wasn't speeding, was I?"

"Of course you were speeding! You can't go that fast along here!"

This was one of those streets in town that didn't have speed limit signs posted, so the limit should be 50 kph.

But maybe they had reduced it to 40 since the last time I came along here, and I hadn't noticed.

They have done that on a lot of local streets.

Craning my head out the window, and looking up and down the road, nothing seemed to have changed.

To be fair, I could certainly understand the officer's feelings on the issue.

Even without any official traffic calming measures, like speed humps, there were some stretches along this road where travelling 50 clicks seemed a bit much.

There were some tight turns, tons of senior citizens and other pedestrians, hardly any crosswalks, and people parked all over the place.

It was pretty dangerous at times.

But I didn't make the rules. I just obeyed the law. At least, I thought I had until now.

"Well, how fast can you go? I don't see any new speed limits signs along here. Isn't the speed limit on town roads 50 kph, unless otherwise posted?"

The officer looked up and down the street. There were definitely no new signs to be seen.

"Well, I suppose, but ..."

"So, can't people drive that speed on this street?"

I wasn't really sure why I had to explain all this.

I've been driving for years, and this all this seemed pretty obvious.

But for some reason the officer needed convincing, although he did seem to be calming down a bit.

"Okay...this time, I'll let you off with a warning."

He pointed an emphasizing finger at me.

"But don't ever let me catch you going this fast along here again!"

I appreciated that he didn't give me a ticket, although I still didn't understand what I'd done wrong.

I started the engine, and continued on my travels - much more slowly this time. Turning to exit onto John West Way, I looked back along the road.

I must admit, Municipal Drive, the former parking lot between the Town Hall and Seniors' Centre that was turned into a street by a former council, still feels more like a parking lot than a road.

But it was council's decision to make it a street, so if they want it to be safer for everyone, they really should eliminate some of that parking.

Or maybe post a reduced speed limit.

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

Life in the Fast Lane



BOUQUETS to the Trustees of the York Region District School Board for saving Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School on Dunning Avenue for the time being at least. Also, for conducting the meeting in a very businesslike manner and getting the board's business done in less than an hour.

BRICKBATS to motorists who are completely indifferent to stop signs as they proceed without even slowing down as if they owned the road and the police are nowhere to be seen. Police do, however, spend a lot of time at Edward Street and Harrison Avenue, where motorists continually ignore the stop signs.

BOUQUETS to nine-year-old Marie Neilson of Aurora on winning the Child Handler of the Year Award in the Jack Russell Terrier in Canada with her terrier "Beedee" and in the United States with "Northgate Kelly". She attends Highview Public School.

BOUQUETS to the Heart and Stroke Foundation and all the dedicated participants in the 6th Annual Walk for Heart as more than \$46,000 was raised for research and for the kind words about how Poor Richard's Aurora Cable "Our Town" helped to promote the event.

BRICKBATS to the unknown person on George Street who tossed out an old mattress for pickup and left it lying on the sidewalk making it difficult for Seniors from Resthaven to get by.

BOUQUETS to Ronda Theaker, Ross Mackay and Helve Reppo on being honoured by the Towns of York Toastmasters as the club celebrated Toastmasters Month in Aurora.

BRICKBATS to whoever was responsible for closing the Beaver gas station at Wellington and Mary Streets at the end of last month. It was the only "We Serve" station in town and its closing imposes a hardship on seniors and the handicapped.

BOUQUETS to Premier Dalton McGuinty with his huge majority if he will give priority to adopting the Frank Klees private member's bill regarding Organ Donations which passed second reading with all party support but was killed when the Legislature was dissolved.

BRICKBATS to a government system that allows a man with eight dangerous driving convictions and three lifetime driving suspensions to continue to drive resulting in his stolen pick-up truck colliding with two vehicles, a police pursuit and a violent collision causing injury.

BOUQUETS to Walter Bauer of Aurora for his letter to The Auroran suggesting an innovative alternative to the controversial and expensive traffic calming project by breeding more squirrels and installing "Squirrel Crossing" signs as no motorists wants to run over a squirrel.

BRICKBATS to United States officials for admitting they mishandled the Maher Arar case but refused to apologize or remove his name from the No-Fly list. What is so hard about saying "I'm Sorry"?

BOUQUETS to York Region on being presented with the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 2007 regional budget by the Government Finance Officers Association of United States and Canada.

BRICKBATS to the RCMP officers at the Vancouver Airport for subduing dazed and confused Polish immigrant Robert Dziekanski with a Taser 24 seconds after they arrived with little or no attempt to find out the problem.

BOUQUETS to Greg Cardelli of Aurora on winning \$63,000 on his Pro Picks lottery ticket after he won \$117,000 some years ago.

Letters to the Editor

PowerStream responds to hydro user's queries

The following letter was sent to Peter Saunders, copied to The Auroran, from Linas Medelis, PowerStream's Manager of Customer Relations, responding to his Letter to the Editor in a recent edition of The Auroran.

In response to your recent e-mail communication regarding electricity charges, we would like to take this opportunity to expand on issues raised.

By way of background, PowerStream is a Local Distribution Company (LDC) whose responsibility is limited to the distribution of electricity within the municipalities of Aurora, Richmond Hill, Markham

and Vaughan.

With that in mind, the cost of distribution is charged to our customers through a Monthly Fixed Charge and Distribution Charge which make up a portion of the total "Delivery" charge identified on your bill.

The charges levied by PowerStream account for approximately 20 per cent of your total bill and is fully regulated and approved by the Ontario Energy Board. The remaining charges on your bill such as Electricity, Regulatory, Debt Retirement and Transmission (the remaining portion of the "Delivery" charge) are collected by PowerStream on behalf of other market par-

ticipants including the Independent Market Operator, Ontario Power Generation, Hydro One and the Ontario Electricity Financial Corporation.

PowerStream does not retain any of those revenues nor does it have any control over what is being charged.

Rates charged identifies only a minimal increase in Delivery charges from 2006 to present.

In fact, these rates were approved by the Ontario Energy Board based on a rate submission specific to the cost of electrical distribution within the Municipality of Aurora alone.

What is more, with the

integration of Aurora into PowerStream operations and the introduction of harmonized rates, Aurora customers will experience a significant reduction in distribution costs effective November 1, 2007.

Given that rates are not the cause of the noted increase in costs between 2006 and 2007, we suggest that the cause of the spike in overall costs is due to an increase in electrical consumption as compared with the same period in 2006.

Unfortunately, PIPEDA legislation restricts the sharing of personal account information with individuals other than those who are identified as account holders. Therefore, we are unable to discuss specifics related to this account with you. We would be pleased to explain our findings and to further this discussion with the account holder if required.

Linas Medelis
Customer Relations
Manager
PowerStream Inc.

ED. NOTE: Be advised the Medelis response to Mr. Saunders included Aurora rates that were, for space reasons, removed from this letter.

It's good entertainment watching council on TV

To the editor,

While viewing a recent Town Council meeting (Wednesday, Oct. 24, ACI cable 10) I was witness to some of the best entertainment I have seen in a long time.

I truly recommend that the inhabitants of this fair village tune in to see how their hard earned tax dollars are spent.

Councillor Evelyn Buck, who appears to be a thorn in the side of just about everyone in and out of chambers, brought about a motion to "reconsider" the traffic calming in the North East Quadrant.

Her motion was soundly defeated, no help from Councillor Bob McRoberts, who despite his being elected by a majority of people outside his neighbourhood, fails to represent them by declaring a "conflict".

I cast a vote for this gentleman but regret it now. I don't agree with Councillor Granger's politics either (he voted against Buck's motion) but perhaps we should reconsider his past promotion of

a Ward system.

That would allow those councillors to then sit on their hands or not when it comes to their so called "conflict of interest".

I don't believe an elected official should have the power to declare a conflict when we have asked (designated) him or her to be our voice.

I find it laughable that after the defeat of the motion set forth by Councillor Buck, that Madam Mayor should reaffirm the good citizens of Aurora, that she wants to "hear from us".

To her I say, open your ears and your eyes.

No one is listening and they're more concerned with the "Aurora for Sale" campaign which was the main order of business on the agenda that night.

We cannot continue to favour small town, specific neighbourhood issues at the expense of others, when we are all being impacted by the same problems. That's progress and no matter how hard we try, you cannot hang on to that small town feel and cloister your neighbour-

hood while encouraging growth all around.

What we need is some town calming because from where I sit, the south east sector, it's a traffic war zone.

Mark Warburton
Aurora



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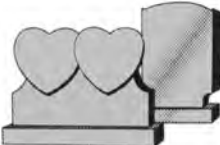


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Letters to the Editor



Photos by James Dunlap

Reader wants bouquet

An open letter to Dick Illingworth.

I am applying for a bouquet as offered in your column of Oct. 23 for anyone who can explain why Aurora Council agreed to spend taxpayers' money to plant vines along the chain link fence on the south side of Vandorf Road.

When Vandorf Road between Bayview and Industrial was "upgraded" a couple of years ago, the town-approved plan allowed the cutting of 72 mature trees - many in the hundred-year-old range.

These trees, shown in photos above, acted as a buffer between the industrial and residential areas and provided wind

shelter for those of us who walked along Vandorf.

The trees have been replaced by telephone poles and very immature saplings - neither of which provide shelter or a visual and sound buffer.

Residents of the condominium townhouses on the south side of Vandorf all pay taxes to the Town of Aurora.

In addition, we pay through our condo fees for services which other residential taxpayers receive and which are not provided by the Town for our developments: road maintenance and snow clearing, street lighting, and hydrant maintenance.

I believe the one-time cost of planting vines along the chain link fence has been paid many times over by the "south of Vandorf" taxpayers.

I'll be looking forward to receiving that bouquet in your next column - but could you make it a sapling instead, please!

**V. Johnson
Aurora**

Legion members set to remember

To the editor,

The Aurora Legion Branch 385 would like to take this opportunity to remind the citizens of Aurora and surrounding areas that the Remembrance Day Parade will take place this year on Sunday, Nov. 11 at the newly renovated cenotaph on Yonge Street.

We wish to extend an invitation to all citizens to attend the brief ceremony that follows a parade up Edward Street to the cenotaph.

Once again this year it is anticipated there will be a good turnout for the parade itself with bands and marching troops taking part.

Of course, members of the Legion, honoured vets of WW. II, Korea and other members of the military who have taken part in subsequent Peace Keeping Missions throughout the world since that time, will be on parade.

Throughout the coming days you will see members of the Legion at various locations throughout the town offering the traditional poppies for donations to mark this year's Remembrance Day.

Proceeds from these poppies are used solely for the support of veterans who require assistance for home care or long term care facilities and/or their surviving spouses.

It is a very important function that Legions across the country take part in and, of course, this is a time of the year

for the Legion to ensure fallen comrades are not forgotten.

Regrettable as this is, we Canadians have yet again answered the call to assist others in foreign lands whom have been denied human rights and freedoms. We have so far sent thousands of troops on rotations into Afghanistan and will continue to do so for the coming months to years.

Some have paid the ultimate price and families have sacrificed sons, daughters, fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters for this cause.

This year, the "Heroes Highway" was created between Trenton and Toronto, to honour those who have been killed in action.

Many Ontarians have lined this portion of Hwy. 401 to hon-

our those who pass by.

However many of us do not have the opportunity to be on that highway as these processions sadly occur.

This Remembrance Day is a time when all of us can show our troops from the past and those of the present how much we appreciate what they have done or are doing for our country.

Please join us at the cenotaph Sunday, Nov. 11 at 10.45 a.m.

After the service a luncheon will be provided back at the Legion as our way of saying thank you for coming out to support us.

**Dave Franklin
Public Relations Officer
Aurora Legion**



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Heritage Centre a dream: reader

To the editor,

Helen Roberts, president of the Aurora Historical Society, in her letter in The Auroran recently, gave a glowing verse of the Historical Society wanting a Heritage Centre in Aurora.

There were no facts about how she was going to accomplish that goal.

She started in 2001. How much money did they raise in the last six years? How many members are there in the Historical Society? What are the annual fees?

She said she had a plan. What was the plan?

The Society was going to take an old school building, built for teaching children, and make it into a Heritage Centre.

The Town of Aurora spent \$800,000 to \$900,000 on this building before 2007.

The building sat idle for about three years, then, all of a sudden, the Historical Society cannot manage to do any more work on the school renovation.

Can the Town take over the renovation and then run the

operation?

The money from the Aurora Hydro sale comes to the rescue with a \$2.5 million renovation cost.

Now that number is wrong.

They need another \$1.4 million to do the job.

Who presented the \$2.5 million number? Was there an engineer doing numbers?

So far, \$4.4 million has been spent on the Church Street School.

We still have an old building for a Heritage Centre.

Aurora is not big enough for a Heritage Cultural Centre.

How many people did you have for your two-day open house?

People are too busy, working to live, than take part in a Heritage Centre.

I am sorry to rain on your dream, but you cannot make a silk purse out of a sow's ear.

For the money invested you could have had a new building designed for the purpose of artifacts.

**R.W. Hanes
Aurora**

New math?

To the editor,

While I enjoy the ranting of our small town's eccentric old aunt, Councillor Evelyn Buck, her math does not add up on the vote concerning the motion to reconsider the traffic calming measures for the NE quadrant.

There are nine votes on council. If one councillor declares a conflict, and abstains (McRoberts) and one is away (MacEachren) then there can only be seven total votes.

So the 5-3 vote, claimed by Auntie Buck is mathematically impossible.

It might be the new math, but I think it is more than likely the new medication.

**J. Ireland Richardson
Aurora**

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Nunsense

by Dan Goggin

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“Full service” not part of Esso’s new building

To the editor,

It was disturbing news to hear from the District Manager for Esso that the new Esso gas station, convenience store, car wash and Tim Horton Drive-Thru, currently under construction on Yonge Street, will not renew its "Full Service" benefit for elderly or disabled

customers.

Apparently this decision to delete this important service was based on the dollar factor.

The concept of doing something for the community of Aurora, and at large, has no meaning for greedy companies and their shareholders.

To compound the prob-

lem the "We Serve" Beaver gas station at Mary and Wellington has closed over a lease dispute leaving Aurorans bereft of this very needed service altogether, with the closest "Full Service" gas station in Newmarket.

The Town of Markham has created a precedent in demanding new stations to

have "Full Service" for at least 12 hours per day to qualify for an application to build.

Aurora Council is on record as supporting a request to the Canadian Petroleum Products Institute to review with its members the need to ensure that all gas stations make provisions for full service for

patrons with special needs and also a request to the Province of Ontario to address the issue.

Aurora's Accessibility Advisory Committee received the Markham resolution and forwarded it to council with a recommendation that it be supported, which was given.

But no further action has

been taken by Aurora Council.

So, wake up, Aurora councillors and follow Markham's example in order that Aurorans in need can use this very essential service.

Dorothy Clark McClure
2007 Citizen of the Year
Aurora

Reader believes speed laws there for revenue

Open letter to the Canadian federal government and the Ontario provincial government.

Aside from income tax being a "temporary tax" to pay for the 1st World War, which has never been removed, we, the public, demand the GST on gasoline and diesel fuels for transportation use, be returned 100 per cent to transportation, including roads and transit and that it

no longer "disappear" into "slush funds" as is currently the case.

For PST, the same applies.

Regarding the new "50 over - road racing law", recently I had the opportunity to morning commute on the 400 southbound rather than the 404.

What a pleasure!

Traffic was moving at 130 kph, well spaced, no lane hopping, all going to Toronto.

I have never seen a

police cruiser going 100 kph on our 400 series highways. They all travel at 120.

Our speed limit history tells us that the 80 kph/50 mph rural highways were designed and built for 98 kph/60 mph.

Our 100 kph/62 mph roads were designed and built for 112 kph/70 mph.

The original design speeds of these highways were reduced during a fuel crunch many years ago and never returned to their origi-

nal design.

Our cars today are better in many ways.

Almost everyone drives 90-95 kph on 80 kph highways and 120 kph on 100 kph highways.

Other than the "crazies", anyone who believes our speeding enforcement (tickets) are anything but revenue motivated is ignoring reality.

We, the public, demand that:

1) anyone driving more

than 20 kph under the posted speed limit be subject to a tow, impound and one-week license suspension;

2) anyone "driving" in the passing lane as opposed to passing suffers the same consequences;

3) Our 80 kph rural highways be returned to their design - 100 kph/62 mph (or 60 mph);

4. Our 100 kph - 400 series highways and others be posted at 120 kph since almost everyone is travelling

at that speed anyway.

Of course, speeds do occasionally need to be adjusted for road conditions.

In that case, do the "50 over" law or even "40 over".

The only reason to not return our speed limits to their designs, as above, will be governments not wanting to part with the cash cow revenue with no regard for the public.

Douglas Darke
Aurora



BRYAN MOIR

Second annual pumpkin give-away a success

Open letter to the citizens of Aurora,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for making the "2nd Great Pumpkin Give-Away" in support of the Aurora Food Panty, a resounding success!

After Thanksgiving, food banks are at their lowest levels.

With the Christmas season approaching the need is even greater.

Thank you Aurora, for beginning the restocking effort this past weekend.

We collected more than 300 pounds of food and received many generous

cash donations.

We look forward to our next "Great Pumpkin Give-Away" next year.

Bryan Moir
Chair
Great Pumpkin
Give-Away

Firefighters haven't seen money...yet

To the editor,

The arbitrator may have finally, after four years, smiled on the firefighters but the Town certainly is keeping up the frown.

As noted in last week's article the firefighters were to be paid in 30 days what was owed to them, however, they have yet to see a cent.

Green bin gang could solve woes for the dogs

To the editor,

I find it very sad to read on the front page of The Auroran that the poor dogs and owners have no bins to put their waste in.

Surely this should be a basic service to be provided and emptied by the green bin gang when they swing by the rest of the town, a service which the tax payers' money provides.

Mary Meredith
Aurora

The Central York firefighters have never let the citizens of either the Town of Aurora or the Town of Newmarket suffer with any reduction in their services during this long battle.

They are always there for the citizens PUTTING THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE as was shown last Friday when an unfortunate family lost their home in Aurora.

I think it is now time as the citizens of this town show that we support them and show the Town employees that the firefighters deserve the compensation that was awarded to them.

After all aren't we approaching the season of giving?

As you can imagine this is a very touchy subject but after four years you can understand the firefighters would like the public to know the whole story.

P. Whiten
Aurora



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Letters to the Editor

Beaten candidate cares about Town

To the editor,

I must say that Ms Rossi's letter last week to The Auroran made me smile.

I have always cared about Aurora and about the

politics in Aurora.

I cared before I was elected to council, I cared when I was on council and even though I lost in the last election I still care.

I guess what Ms Rossi is saying is that once you lose

you should quit caring. Well, to me that is a poor attitude and one that I will never accept.

If Ms Rossi is happy with everything that is happening in Aurora then I suggest that she watches a council

meeting or two to be able to say that all is well.

If she then says that everything is okay in Aurora I will be shocked.

I believe that everyone in Aurora should care about what is happening

in their town.

The voter turn-out in the federal, provincial and municipal elections show that there are too many people who do not care and take a lot for granted until something happens in their

backyard and then they care.

Well, Ms Rossi, I will continue to care and will get involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Aurora Historical Society or just by writing letters.

I do thank you for reminding me that I care.

Keep on writing to show that you care as well.

Nigel Kean
Aurora

ED. NOTE: Ms Rossi now holds the record for writing the shortest letter ever received by The Auroran...12 words.

Councillor leads vandalism fight

To the editor,

I would like to publicly thank Councillor Alison Collins-Mrakas for convening a community meeting at the Town Hall recently to address the issues of vandalism and mischief in our neighbourhood.

Alison lives in our neigh-

bourhood, so naturally she sees our concerns and hears from us regularly.

It will take a concerted effort on behalf of the town, the police and the residents to address the many concerns expressed that night.

There was a large turnout of residents who are prepared to be part of the solu-

tion in making our community safe.

We all have a role to play.

The one message heard loud and clear from the police was to call them to report any incident.

Whether you've had property stolen, damage done to your home, or even if your house has been egged, call

them.

Don't use the 911 emergency phone number but rather call 905-895-1221 and report the incident.

As well, make sure you contact the town's bylaw department.

That's the only way they will know we're dealing with this issue.

I appreciate the initiative taken by Councillor Collins-Mrakas and look forward to doing my part to help.

Jane Hinder
Aurora

Doves, balloons not good ideas

To the editor,

In response to any suggestions that white doves be released or balloons be used in parades and celebrations I ask what the detrimental consequences of these actions would be.

Can the doves survive out in the wild?

Are we sending them to predation and eventual starvation?

The balloons, as has been proven, may end up on the beach at Sable Island. Or in an animal or

fish gullet.

We all recognize these symbolic gestures as festive, well-intended and coming from the heart; however we also know what paving materials are used in the Road to Hell.

Can we not be imaginative and inventive and green? Any suggestions? Students: rise to the challenge!

Card-carrying bleeding heart, Sheila Cording
Aurora

ED. NOTE: We understand the “doves” in question return to their homes. However, we have never heard of

“homing doves”, however we have been told these birds are, in fact called white “rock doves”.



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Helping make the second annual Nightmare Before Christmas Charity Halloween Party sponsored by Aurora Cable Internet a success were, photo at left, Sher St. Kitts, Joe DiNardo, who freed up his DiNardo's Mansion for the event, and Olive Amson. In the photo at right, Bob and Cynthia MacWilliam attended as Anthony and Cleopatra. Funds raised will be used to help families at Christmas.

Auroran photos by David Falconer



Recommendations accepted by council

As a result of an application for a grant from the Cultural Spaces Program there is an expectation it will be accompanied with a business plan.

It was the intention of the Aurora Historical Society to apply to the Canadian Arts and Heritage Sustainability Program for a separate grant to assist with the development of a business plan.

Town staff members pointed out that while the intentions are good the application for a grant for the development of a business plan may take up to six months to be approved after which the plan would have to be developed.

They recommended Aurora Council proceed with the project.

It was also pointed out that the town would not lose its

opportunity to receive a grant under the Canadian Arts and Heritage Sustainability Program.

The staff report recommended council approve the hiring of appropriate personnel on a contract basis to develop a business plan for the Heritage Centre at an estimated cost of \$20,000.

It also suggested staff be directed to apply to the Capacity Building for Arts and Heritage Organizations, Canadian Arts and Heritage Sustainability Program for a project aimed at a strategic plan, training in financial sustainability and development of new and/or diversified audiences.

As the item was not lifted from the agenda for separate discussion, the recommendations were adopted as presented.

“Remembering those who fought for us”

FRANK KLEES, MPP, Newmarket-Aurora
650 Highway 7 East, Suite 210, Richmond Hill
1-800-211-1881

How Aurora got an access bus

Today the York Region Mobility Plus transit service provides a shared-ride door-to-door transportation service for persons who are unable to use accessible conventional transit services due to a functional limitation.

Riders must be pre-registered to use the service.

By the end of 2006 the regional Mobility Plus transit service, which had assumed all local mobility transit services had approximately 6,000 customers registered which meant about 284,000 trips annually, an increase of 8.9 per cent over 2005.

In was back in 1990 when Aurora Council realized the need for a transit system for the physically disabled and in May it created an Advisory/Eligibility Committee to start the project and determine who was eligible to ride on the transit system.

The six-member committee was comprised of two residents who could use the system, plus a doctor, a transportation official and representatives from the local seniors group.

The committee was chaired by Charles Wheeler,

During the inaugural meeting, the story was told of one lady who had to make weekly visits to York County Hospital in Newmarket and the normal taxi fare was \$30 round trip.

The Access Bus would be able to take her to the hospital and return for 90 cents, the normal bus transportation fare.

Using a factor of 1.8 per cent of the population as disabled and eligible for the Access Bus, with 26,000 residents in Aurora at the time, there was the potential of 468 users.

Any resident of Aurora, who because of a physical disability was unable to use the conventional transit system was eligible to use the Access Bus

More specifically it was determined that anyone unable to climb or descend three steps or walk a distance of 175

metres was deemed eligible for the service.

Requests for temporary service due to post-operative or temporary loss of mobility would be considered for a specific period of time.

To register for the system, citizens were required to phone the town office and an application form was mailed to the applicant.

The completed application was reviewed by the committee and, if approved, a registration card was issued.

The Access Bus covered the area within the town's boundaries and door-to-door service was provided to and from Newmarket's York County Hospital and York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill.

While the Access Bus did not serve other destinations in Newmarket or Richmond Hill, the bus would take passengers to the municipal boundary for transfer to a bus operated by the neighbouring municipality.

The mobile service was available Monday to Friday, with fares the same as the regular bus service.

The vehicle was available on weeknights and weekends for charter.

Once registered, all a disabled person had to do was phone the mobility bus dispatcher, with trip reservations to be made 24 hours in advance with any cancellation to be made at least two hours before the scheduled pickup time.

The provincial Ministry of Transportation guaranteed a minimum subsidy of 50 per cent of the operating costs of the mobile transit system with the balance to come from fares and the municipality.

Council engaged Edutran Transportation to operate the bus at an estimated annual cost of \$50,000.

In April, 1991, then-Aurora Mayor John West accepted the keys to Aurora's first Access Bus to transport the disabled from Steve Mitchell, Community Programming Director of Aurora Cable Internet.

The Cable Company was the first team to register for the 1990 Timberlane Tennis

Charity Classic.

The Tennis Charity Classic was organized by Timberlane and then-Councillor Tim Jones and raised \$28,000 towards the purchase of the specialty van for the transportation of the disabled in Aurora.

The Province of Ontario contributed \$25,000 towards the Access Bus.

The Timberlane Tennis Charity Classic continued to fund the operation of the Access Bus until the service was taken over by the region.



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New tack shop

Hard to believe in the horse country that surrounds Aurora, the town has been without a tack shop for decades. All that changed recently when Kim Salerno, above, opened Pony Up on Mosley Street, just east of Yonge Street.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Local horticulturists shine in competition

Members of the Aurora Horticultural and Garden Club won top honours in a recent Design Division of the Ontario Horticultural Competition.

Shirley Binns was the big winner.

She came first in the Rural Ontario Gems Competition, first in "Down By The Bay, Some Like It Hot", which was judged the Best Mass Design, "Tri-County Friendship, Beautiful Ontario-Keep it Green", which was judged Most Creative Design and

the Special Design Class "So Glad You Are Here".

Other Aurora winners included Mary-Ann Vercammen who received an Honourable Mention in the Winter's Blast category and a first in Beach Treasurers, a third in Cool, Clear and Clean, first in Visions of Our Future and a third Now and Forever.

Letty Barolot came third in Down by the Bay, first in Cool, Clear and Clean and second in Now and Forever.

Pedestrian nightmare

In 1774 when Lt. Gov. John Graves Simcoe planned Yonge Street as a military route between Lake Ontario to Lake Huron in the event of an attack by the United States.

Little did he realize the traffic havoc he was creating for Aurora Council at the Yonge and Wellington intersection when society entered the motorized age from the horse and buggy era.

Then Robert Macell opened a general store at the intersection in the early 1800s that started a chain of commercial activity that would add to future traffic problems.

In March, 1986, regional engineers recommended that Wellington Street be widened to four lanes from Harriman Road on the west to Industrial Parkway on the east.

It was pointed out that the widening was needed for future left turn lanes off Wellington Street and to relieve existing and future congestion, especially at Yonge Street.

The engineers estimated the widening could take 20 to 30 years by acquiring land as buildings were replaced.

Aurora Council of the day opposed the proposal as it would destroy the town's efforts to preserve the nature of the historic core.

As it turned out, Wellington is four lanes to Yonge, then narrows to two lanes east to Industrial Parkway where it becomes four lanes again.

About the same time in addition to the traffic volume at the intersection, citizens complained that the busy intersection was dangerous for pedestrians as motorists were turning right even though pedestrians had the right of way.

Enter the scramble.

A member of council suggested a different type of pedestrian lights be installed so that all lights would signal red to vehicular traffic in all directions so that pedestrians would be free to cross anyway they wanted.

It was known as a scramble intersection, and was nothing new since it is used in Europe extensively and has

been used at busy corners in other Canadian cities.

Regional engineers rejected the proposal claiming traffic at the intersection had reached capacity and to delay it any more with a scramble intersection would only make it worse.

Last month, Toronto Council endorsed the idea of the scramble intersection at four major downtown intersections: Yonge and Bloor; Bay and Bloor; Yonge and Dundas; and Bay and Dundas.

The intersections, popular elsewhere but seldom seen in Canada, features stopping traffic in all directions so that pedestrians can cross any way they want. Then in the next sequence pedestrians are stopped from crossing in all directions so that cars can move without interference.

Also known as the Barnes Dance after traffic engineer Henry Barnes who introduced the idea in Denver, the scramble intersections are in use in several American cities and in countries as varied as Israel and Sweden with Japan having about 300 such intersections.

Aurora could have been a Canadian leader but cars won out over pedestrians and the Yonge Wellington intersection remains one of the busiest and most difficult to navigate in York Region.

Monday Night Hockey League Standings

TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Highland Chev-Cad	5	0	1	29	16	11
Priestly Demolition	5	1	0	29	12	10
Masterclean Contracting	3	2	1	30	27	7
Tom & Jerry's	2	2	2	20	22	6
FPL Aggregates	2	3	1	22	22	5
Rec Cycle N' Sports	1	3	2	21	28	4
Baldwin's	2	4	0	26	30	4
Law Insurance Brokers	0	5	1	14	31	1

WEEKLY SCORES

Highlands Chev	5	Priestly Demolition	8
Baldwin's	2	Law Insurance	1
FPL Aggregates	6	Tom & Jerry's	5
Rec Sports	4	Masterclean	4

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Tigers clobber two opponents

Aurora Tigers Provincial Junior A hockey team had little trouble knocking down two opponents with a combined score of 19-4 over the weekend.

At home Friday night,

Aurora was up 7-0 before allowing the Villanova Knights any daylight at all.

Tigers went on to win the match 10-2, with all the scoring happening in the first two periods.

Saturday, the Tigers travelled to Orangeville and handed the Orangeville Crushers a 9-2 drubbing, this time leading by eight before Orangeville scored.

The wins came in spite of

the fact that the trio of Head Coach Jerome Dupont and forwards Mike McLaughlin and Jordan Watts were all absent for the contests.

They're spending a week in Trail and Nelson, British Columbia, taking part in the World Junior 'A' Hockey Challenge.

All three are members of Team Canada East.

In Friday's encounter, Aurora got a pair of goals from David Morley, who also contributed an assist for a three-point night.

Singles went to Paul Dupont, Sam Yearsley, Connor McGarry, Mark Thorburn, Jeff Harbach, Thomas Middup and Tyler Turcotte.

Four of Aurora's goals came from the power play.

Sam Yearsley and Jeff Harbach led the way for the winners with two goals each, while singles went to Thomas Middup, Michael Sardella, Paul Dupont, Michael Colavecchia and Mike Bodley.

Tigers attendance continues to slump with only 250 attending Friday night's game in Aurora, however that was 100 more than were at the game in Orangeville.

Aurora, who has played fewer games than any other team in the nine-squad north division, is firmly entrenched in fourth place with 26 points, only eight behind Newmarket and Huntsville, who are deadlocked at the top of the heap with 34 points.

Couchiching holds down the next spot with 29 points.

Tigers will play three games this week, two of them out of town.

On Thursday, they'll meet the Couchiching Terriers in Couchiching; then head to Stouffville for a game Saturday against the Spirit.

The big game will be Sunday afternoon at the Aurora Community Centre when they meet arch-rival Newmarket Hurricanes in a contest that gets underway at 2.30 p.m.

Novice Panthers start season with three wins

The Aurora Panthers Novice Girls hockey team has started the regular season by winning their first three games.

The team capped off their great start with 5-0 and 4-1 wins over the Kingston Ice Wolves last weekend.

The Panthers currently sit atop on the Eastern Division of LLFHL (Lower Lakes Female Hockey League) tied

with the Whitby Wolves.

Jasmine Grant had all four goals in the team's most recent victory.

Leah Capodagli made a great pass to set up Grant's fourth goal of the contest while Kailey Persons, Lauren Ianni and Calista Liotta led the team on defence. Ali Iwai and Florence Awde had strong games while newly signed

Emerson Elliott contributed three points over the two games against Kingston.

The team's strong start can be attributed to hard work and selfless play as directed by head coach John Giannitsopoulos.

Panthers played a home and away series against Belleville this weekend, but results were not available at press time.

Skating results

The following members of the Aurora Skating Club successfully completed tests recently at the club.

		Free Skate
	American Waltz: Marilena Perri, Nicole Calvert.	
	Rocker Foxtrot: Alessia Chiovitti.	
		Intro Interpretive: Krista MacDonald, Sara Budwani.
		Bronze Interpretive: Sara Budwani, Jenna Shamata.
Skills	Senior Silver Dance	Free Skate Elements
Preliminary: Emma Smith, Nicole Marino, Amanda Incognito.	Paso Doble: Elyse Glen, Raquel Burgess.	Preliminary: Stephanie Morawietz.
Junior Bronze: Stephanie Morawietz.	Blues: Jacqueline Relke, Jihyun Cha, Kendall Mannella.	Junior Bronze: Katherine Morawietz, Tejia Rom-Colthoff.
Senior Bronze: Courtney Tidona.	Kilian: Sierra Chovanec, Alana Fabriccino.	
Senior Silver: Hailey Riggs, Jihyun Cha.		
Gold: Elyse Glen.		

Preliminary Dance

Dutch Waltz: Julie Briscoe, Gaenor Laverty, Remington Friel, Caroline Kewley, Annabelle Alberton, Jennifer Scott.

Canasta Tango: Megan Howe, Sarah Kim, Megan Bailey, Rachel Kennedy, Alana Wise, Elise Popa, Molly Brenzel, Julie Briscoe, Jacqueline Lavergne, Madison Jakubas.

Baby Blues: Sydney Lambert.

Junior Bronze Dance

Swing: Sara Reynolds, Alexandra Johnston.

Willow Waltz: Julia Steiner, Courtney McGrath, Dylann Miller, Nicole McCausland, Rebecca Cunha, Jasmine Biasi.

Senior Bronze Dance

Ten Fox: Alicia Saunders, Alicia Alberton.

Fourteen Step: Shelby Oleosovsky.

European: Katherine Morawietz, Courtney Tidona.

Junior Silver Dance

Keats Foxtrot: Sabrina Brochu, Becky O'Malley, Kailee O'Connor, Kaitlin VanWinckle.

Harris Tango: Christina Kubiw-Kalashnik.



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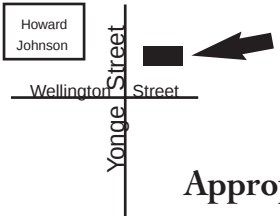
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Leaked report caused conflict

It's much more peaceful today, but back in 1990 there was considerable conflict and bitterness among trustees serving on the York Region Board of Education.

In January, 1990, Trustees Paul Bennett, Bill Crothers and Joe Jonsson called a press conference and released copies of a 55-page report on Meeting the Challenge of Growth without the authority of the Growth Committee or the Board of Trustees.

At the subsequent Board meeting Education Director Bob Cressman and Board Chairman Harry Bowes said they were afraid the Board would never be able to work together as a team, because of the mistrust and resentment resulting from the leaked report.

They said they had never seen a board so split and it was the first time they had witnessed trustees being demoted from their posts as sub-committee chairmen as trustees on a 12-6 vote took the unusual step of removing Bennett, Crothers and Jonsson from their positions as chairmen of the three sub-committees.

Cressman said the report was badly flawed and was back in the hands of the Growth Committee for discussion as members had not had the opportunity to discuss the report before it was leaked.

1990

Committee chairperson Trustee Jane Robertson said the report was primarily the wish-list of the three people who acted in an inexcusable manner to get what they wanted.

Bennett defended the report claiming all the recommendations were starting points for exami-

nation and accurately reflected committee discussions and said it should have a public airing.

Columnist Dick Illingworth received special criticism for attacking the three trustees and referring to petty trustee politics and completely missing the significance of the report.

In many ways it was a shame the report and its 25 recommendations got caught up in conflict as some of the recommendations had merit such as neighbourhood schools to

reduce the number of children being bussed.

Other recommendations included further investigation of year-round schools, the feasibility of developing a standard school design to achieve savings and a program to bring older schools up to the standard of new schools.

About the only good thing to come out of the leaked report was the ensuing conflict forced the trustees to do more

board business in the open instead of behind closed doors.

Currently, Bill Crothers

is the chairman of the school board, a position he has held for several years.

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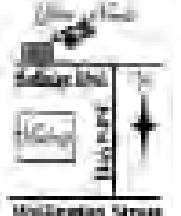
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- b) **Internet and On line Safety**
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Constable Sarah Riddell of the York Regional Police
and Aurum Nadigel of the
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health will be presenting.

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Tod Dungey – principal 905-727-3131 ext. 156
Les Kerr - guidance counsellor 905-727-3131 ext. 172

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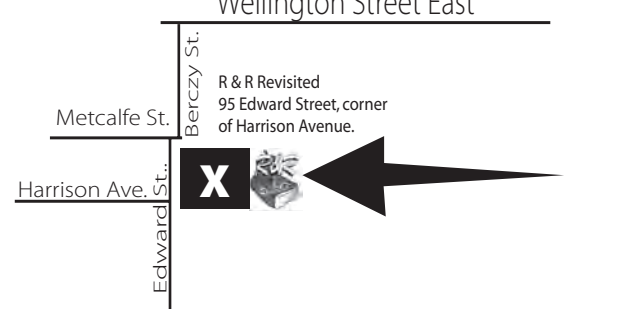
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House League Tyke

106 Tim Hortons Bruins 5 - Taylor Tuck 2G 1A, Julien Aben 1G 1A, Ben Spittle 1G 1A, Michael Fodero 1G. **101 Tim Hortons Flames 2** - Parker Lantz 1G, Michael Vivian 1G, Wayne Freeman 1A.

105 Tim Hortons Avalanche 7 - Braedon Joynt 3G 1A, Jack Snedden 3G 1A, Evan Bryan 1G 1A, Brooke Cumming 1G 2A, Keegan Fischer 1A. **Tim Hortons Leafs 5** - Nate Legros 4G, Quinn Bruckner 1G, Jessie VanSoest 1A.

104 Tim Hortons Penguins 2 - Brandon Vaughan 1G, Joshua Tambos 1G, Mathew Romano 1A, Scott Rumble 1A, Taliegh McGrath 1A. **103 Tim Hortons Senators 2** - Cameron Harbaruk 2G, Benjamin Godber 2A, Ben Liotta 2A.

107 Tim Hortons Sharks 12 - Andrew Jorgenson 6G 2A, Anthony Magnate 2G 1A, Dillon Verone 1G 2A, Francesco Scuglia 1G, Brayden Reid 1G, Julia Russo 1G. **108 Tim Hortons Wild 3** - Jaedon Jackson 2G, Nicholas Keller 1G.

Minor Atom

301 Diamond Groundskeeping Red Flames 6 - Connor Braund 1G, Michael Dowling 2G 1A, Jacob Fenchak 2G 1A, Jack Bishenden 1G 1A, Christian Pearce 2A. **303 McAlpine Ford White Senators 5** - Collin Dyer 3G, Michael Montesanti 1G, Cory Brear 1G, Justin Nisbet 1A, Adam Wilson 1A, Ryan Simmons 1A, Jordi Severini 1A.

302 Rec Cycle N' Sports Yellow Bruins 4 - Alistair Johnston 3G 1A, Daniel Della Rocca 1G, Liam Desouza 1A, Marc McCombe 1A. **306 Optimist Club Pittsburgh Black 2** - Harrison Jarvis 1G 1A, Kyle Hunter 1G, Alex Sesto 1A.

304 Pharmasave Burgundy Colorado 5 - James Eydt 2G 1A, Alex Carter 1G 1A, Connor Reilly 1G, Tyler Williams 1G 1A, Matthew Colucci 1A, Matthew MacDonald 1A, Georgio Venose 1A, Anthony Loduca 1A. **305 HS Financial Blue Leafs 4** - Jordon Screech 2G, Cameron Screech 1G 1A, Connor Tripp 1G, Austin Hendy 1A, Jayson Perkins 1A, Matthew Johnson 1A, Riley Callaghan 1A.

301 Diamond Groundskeeping Red Flames 5 - Christian Pearce 3G, Michael Dowling 2G, Michael Jollimore 2A, Jacob Fenchak 2A, Nicholas Pearce 2A. **306 Optimist Club Pittsburgh Black 2** - Tarek Koudmani 1G, Ben Kissack 1G, Christopher Aldis 1A, Max Bruckner 1A.

304 Pharmasave Burgundy Colorado 6 - Connor Reilly 2G 1A, Matthew MacDonald 2G, Tyler Williams 1G 1A, Alex Carter 1G, Anthony Loduca 2A, Will Ashton 1A, Jordon Elliot 1A, James Eydt 1A, Giorgio Venosa 1A. **303 McAlpine Ford White Senators 3** - Michael Montesanti 3G, Ryan Simmons 1A, Mark Tait 1A, Brett Wilson 1A.

305 HS Financial Blue Leafs 2 - Connor Tripp 2G, Aidan Woolsey 1A, Jayson Perkins 1A. **302 Rec Cycle Yellow Bruins 1** - Alistair Johnston 1G.

Minor Midget

901 - 5 - Peter Durst 1G, Michael Delplavignano 2G, Andrew Osmond 2G, Michael Gray 2A, Tyler Friars 2A. **902 - 2** - Brandon Hurst 1G, Neil Gaston 1G, Eric Seguin 1A.

906 - Woods Brother Drywall - 4 - Paul Duggan 2G, Matt Raponi 2G, Scott Parry 1A. **904 - 0**.

903 - 5 - Iain Briscoe 1G, Marco Santella 2G, Dexter Speller Drews 1G, Geoff Giannopoulos 1G, Nick Orsatti 2A, Keenan Van Rooyen 1A. **905 - 4** - Drew Coley 1G, Sean Ellison 1G, David Naccarato 1G, Ian Stock 1G, Michael Orschel 1A, Garrett Lewis 1A, Sean Ellison 1A, David Naccarato 1A.

905 - 1 - Ian Stock 1G, Evan Jones 1A. **904 - 1** - Chris Dynes 1G, Colin Munn 1A.

906 - 5 - Paul Duggan 2G, Dylan Lastuk 1G, Grant Wood 1G, Nick Palumbo 1G, Carter Schaefer 3A, Grant Wood 1A, Brendan Beatty 1A, Aaron Bentley 1A. **902 - 1** - Liam Braithwaite 1G, Caleb Gould 1A.

903 - 5 - Julian Biasoni 1G, Nick Orsatti 2G, Marco Santella 1G, Devin Scudds 1G, Keenan Van Rooyen 1A, Scott Cunningham 2A, Jordan Adams 2A, Marco Santella 1A. **901 - 3** - Peter Durst 1G, Michael Delpavignano 1G, Daniel Sampieri 1G, Tyler Friars 2A.

905 - 8 - Rhys Williams 1G, Ian Stock 1G, Michael Orschel 1G, Connor Dinwoodie 1G, Drew Coley 1G, Sean Ellison 1G, David Naccarato 1G, Evan Casselden 1G, Sean Ellison 1A, Evan Casselden 2A, Ian Stock 1A, Micahel Orscel 1A, Drew Coley 1A, David Naccarato 1A. **902 - 0**.

904 - 2 - Anthony Marsillio 2G, Colin Munn 1A. **903 - 2** - Julian Biasoni 1G, Geoff Giannopoulos 1G, Iain Briscoe 1A.

901 - 4 - Tyler Friars 1G, Peter Durst 1G, Matt Volkmann 1G, Mike Gray 1G, Tyler Friars 1A, Peter Durst 1A, Matt Volkmann 1A, Mike Gray 1A. **906 - Wood Brothers Drywall - 3** - Matthew Raponi 1G, Dylan Lastuk 1G, Paul Duggan 1G, Aaron Bentley 1A, Mattew Raponi 2A.

906 - Woods Brothers Drywall - 2 - Matthew Raponi 1G, Paul Duggan 1G, Cameron Meikle 1A, Dylan Sutherland 1A. **905 - 1** - Sean Ellison 1G, Garret Lewis 1A.

903 - 6 - Geoff Gianopoulos 4G, Robert Fiorini 1G, Michael Coggin 1G, Robert Horton 1A, Marco Santella 1A. **902 - 0**.

901 - 3. 904 - 1 - Anthony Marsillo 1G, Chris Tillsley 1A.

901 - 3 - Peter Durst 2G, James Hilchuk 1G, Peter Durst 1A, Tyler Friars 1A. **905 - 0**.

906 - Woods Brother Drywall - 2 - Brendan Beatty 1G, Matthew Raponi 1G, Cameron Miekle 1A, Carter Schaefer 1A, Dylan Sutherland 1A. **903 - 2** - Scott Cunningham 1G, Nick Orsatti 1G, Julian Biasoni 1A.

904 - 3 - Anthony Marsillo 1G, Chris Tillsley 1G, Colin Munn 1G, Chris Tillsley 1A, Anthony Marsillo 1A. **902 - 2** - Geoff Gianopolous 1G, Aaron Morrison 1G, Eric Seguin 1A, Michael Moody 1A.

Select

Newmarket Redmen Tyke Select 14. Aurora Tigers Tyke Select 2 - Matthew Ferry 2G, David Blom 2G.

Newmarket Redmen Tyke Select 7. Aurora Tigers Tyke Select 0

Rep Games Novice

Aurora Tigers Novice A 2. Newmarket Redmen Novice A 1.

Aurora Tigers Novice AA 3 - Jack Liotta 1A, Devlin Kauffeldt 1A, Mark Kalmisto 1A, Morgan Frost 1G, Thomas Wilson 1G, Jonathan Malowney 1G. **Newmarket**

Redmen Novice AA 0.

Aurora Tigers Novice AA 2 - Brady Futterer 1A, Morgan Frost 1G, Dimitri Mikrogiannakis 1G, Alexander Simardone 1A, Josh Brecht 1A. **Newmarket Redmen Novice AA 0.**

Minor Atom

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom A 4 - Shaun Broad 1G, Mitchell Law-Heese 2G 1A, James Wyndham-West 1A, Brendin Ramsay 1G 1A, Daniel McConnell 2A. **Newmarket Redmen Minor Atom A 2.**

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom A 1 - Nicholas Sansalone 1A, James Wyndham-West 1G. **Newmarket Redmen Minor Atom A 0.**

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AA 2 - Jack Pecora 1A, Taylor Kauffeldt 1G, Patrick Servideo 1G, Michael Da Costa 1A, Ethan Cox 1A. **Newmarket Redmen Minor Atom AA 1.**

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AA 3 - Cameron Morrison 2G, Colin Kostin 1A, Patrick Servideo 1G. **Newmarket Redmen Minor Atom AA 1.**

Newmarket Redmen Minor Atom AE 3. Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AE 1 - Mathew Tyndall 1G, Connor Gonsalves 1A, Riley Walsh 1A.

Newmarket Redmen Minor Atom AE 3. Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AE 2 - Connor Downs 1G, Mathew Tyndall 1G.

Atom

Aurora Tigers Atom AA 1. Newmarket Redmen Atom AA 1.

Aurora Tigers Atom AA 2. Newmarket Redmen Atom AA 0.

Aurora Tigers Atom AE 5. Newmarket Redmen Atom AE 1.

Aurora Tigers Atom AE 3. Newmarket Redmen Atom AE 2.

Minor Peewee

Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee A 1 - Lucas Pozzebon 1G. **Newmarket Redmen Minor Peewee A 1.**

Newmarket Redmen Minor Peewee A 4. Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee A 3 - Lucas Pozzebon 1A, Jake McKee 1G, Connor Cowl 1G, Evan Jackson 1G, Paul Neophytou 1A.

Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee AA 3 - Sean Foxwell 1A, Lucas Pozzebon 1G, Erik Balkovec 1A, Brett Thiessen 2A, John MacDonald 1A, Quentin Campbell 1A, Matt Doty 2G. **Newmarket Redmen Minor Peewee AA 1.**

Newmarket Redmen Minor Peewee AA 2. Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee AA 0.

Peewee

Aurora Tigers Peewee A 4 - Matthew Pryse 1A, Eric Damecour 1G 1A, Hayden Trask 1G, Quincy Ing 2A, Ben Hankins 1G, Peter Sandwell 1G, Eric Archibald 1A. **Newmarket Redmen Peewee A 2.**

Aurora Tigers Peewee A 3 - Hayden Trask 1G 1A, Braden Casselden 1A, Quincy Ing 1G 1A, Ben Hankins 1A, Vincent Ruscica 1G. **Newmarket Redmen Peewee A 2.**

Aurora Tigers Peewee AA 4. Newmarket Redmen Peewee AA 4.

Newmarket Redmen Peewee AA 4. Aurora Tigers Peewee AA 2.

Newmarket Redmen Peewee AE 3. Aurora Tigers Peewee AE 1.

Aurora Tigers Peewee AE 2. Newmarket Redmen Peewee AE 1.

Minor Bantam

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam A 2. Newmarket Redmen Minor Bantam A 1.

Newmarket Redmen Minor Bantam A 8. Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam A 1 - Sean Nishimura 1A, Jesse Bentolila 1A, Brian Puskar 1G.

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AA 5. Newmarket Redmen Minor Bantam AA 2.

Newmarket Redmen Minor Bantam AA 4. Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AA 3.

Bantam

Aurora Tigers Bantam A 2. Newmarket Redmen Bantam A 2.

Newmarket Redmen Bantam A 2. Aurora Tigers Bantam A 1 - Matt Miller 1G.

Aurora Tigers Bantam AA 2 - Steadman Dinning 1A, Chris Smith 1G 1A, Josh Beaton 1G. **Newmarket Redmen Bantam AA 2.**

Aurora Tigers Bantam AA 3 - James Harkin 2G, Steadman Dinning 1G 1A, Kyle McCreedy 1A, Jamie Cherutti 1A, Josh Beaton 1A. **Newmarket Redmen Bantam AA 0.**

Newmarket Redmen Bantam AE 5. Aurora Tigers Bantam AE 2 - Brett Matthews 1A, Kamran Karamchi 1G, Michael Divencenzo 1G 1A, Cameron Annear 1A.

Newmarket Redmen Bantam AE 3. Aurora Tigers Bantam AE 1 - Jamie Saabas 1G, Daniel Howie 1A, Spencer George 1A.

Minor Midget

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget A 4 - John-Caleb Ross 1A, Sean Agostino 2G, Tyler Tisdale 1A, Conor Sheridan 1A, Ryan Jones 1A, Aaron Beally 1G, Peter Axiotis 2A, Paul Keilty 1G, Max Lerner 1A, Matthew Pellegrini 1A. **Newmarket Redmen Minor Midget A 3.**

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget A 2 - Sean Agostino 1G, Ryan Jones 1A, Paul Keilty 1G, Max Lerner 1A, Matthew Pellegrini 1A. **Newmarket Redmen Minor Midget A 1.**

Newmarket Redmen Minor Midget AA 3. Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AA 2.

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AA 7. Newmarket Redmen Minor Midget AA 1.

Newmarket Redmen Minor Midget AE 3 - Tyler Briand 2G, Eric Sickle 1A, Brandon Bowes 1G. **Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AE 1** - Miles Curtis 1A, Michael Machin 1G, Adam Stubbs 1A.

Newmarket Redmen Minor Midget AE 5 - Brett Costa 2A, Tyler Briand 2G, Jonathan Townsend 2G 1A, Jeff Horton 1G 2A, Wesley Wright 2A, Adam Stoikos 1A, Kyle Floro 1A. **Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AE 3.**

Midget

Newmarket Redmen Midget A 8. Aurora Tigers Midget A 1.

Newmarket Redmen Midget A 7. Aurora Tigers Midget A 3.



The Baha'i Communities of King City and Aurora joined forces recently to clean up a stretch of the King Sideroad between Jane Street and Weston Road. Taking part were, front row, left to right, Kathy Mosleh, Bianca Talebi and Tara Mosleh, all of Aurora, and Mateen Mehri from Newmarket. Back row, left to right, Farzeen Mehri, Newmarket, and John Ebata, Joliana Ebata, Elenora Ebata and Cathy Blue, all of King City.

Photo by Muriel Home

A long time coming for this development

Today it is known as Estates of Deerborn Crescent on Kennedy Street West but over the years from 1985 residents of Kennedy Street had to put up with what appeared to be a derelict property which had become a garbage dumping ground.

At the time it had been zoned for residential purposes with an approved plan for a subdivision of about 50 lots but development had never proceeded in spite of many promises by the developer.

Over the years council received many complaints from residents about the poor condition of the vacant property.

In October, 1999, when council threatened to cancel draft approval the applicant

promised to proceed with development in 2000 resulting in council granting a year's extension on condition that active progress must occur within six months. The developer promised development would proceed in 2000.

By May, 2000, citizens continued to complain as no activity had occurred within the six months as required by council and it was suggested the extension to the developer be revoked and council tell the residents of what options were open.

Meanwhile, the dumping of garbage and debris continued.

Staff members advised they had been unable to contact the developer to ascertain his intentions and

recommended a letter be sent to him and he be required to respond in writing setting out a timetable for bringing this development to a conclusion and that if a response was not received within two weeks, options to extend would be removed.

Developer David Hirsch appeared before council in July, 2000, to request a further one-month extension on the basis that he had hired new consultants.

A divided council granted the extension after a heated debate with the extension granted on a 6-3 vote with Mayor Tim Jones and Councillors Phyllis Morris and John West in opposition.

By November, 2000, if the developer's commitments were carried out, residents

would see houses instead of mounds of dirt and debris.

Finally, in October, 2002, equipment was moved onto the site and promotional material distributed for 52 limited edition homes called the Estates of Deerborn Crescent.

Transit rates increasing

Users of York Region Transit and VIVA will pay more for public transit in the new year, as regional council approved a fare increase of 25 cents bringing the price of a single zone ride to \$3, reported to be the highest in the GTA.

A single zone monthly pass will now cost \$95 and a monthly express pass \$115. Fares will not be affected for seniors, students and children.

The region has made significant investments in public transit in recent years including capital dollars for equipment and infrastructure and related service hours increases to residents.

In order to balance the capital investment and operating costs incurred by the region, a review of the fare structure is carried out on an annual basis.

With the increase in the cost of gas and other operating costs, staff recommended the revised fare structure at a recent regional council meeting.

There was little objection from regional councillors to the

increase in the proposed cash fare, but there was considerable opposition to the proposed increases for seniors and students plus the proposed increases for monthly passes.

It was pointed out that the investment in regional transit was to get people out of their cars and there were fears that the pro-

posed increases would defeat this objective, resulting in a motion to refer the report back to staff for reconsideration which was adopted.

Other than deleting the increases for seniors, students and children, the approved fare increases are the same as originally presented.

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Thank you to Gord James, Broadcaster, 1050 CHUM for being the Master of Ceremonies, the Judges and the Business Achievement Awards Committee for their talent and time. As well, congratulations to those who received plaques of Distinction.

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Members of the young choir "Musical Kool Kids" belt out a song during performance of "Spirit" held recently at Aurora United Church. The group and several others performed to a full house and they were charming. Proceeds from the event will go toward an initiative to build an orphanage wing through Heart For Africa, a humanitarian organization led by former Aurora resident Janine Maxwell, now living in Atlanta, Georgia.

"Spirit" rocks United Church

By **MARCIA KAYE**
Special to The Auroran

The spirit of Broadway soared over Aurora recently as more than 400 people packed Aurora United Church for the spectacular "Spirit: A Broadway Revue."

The musical and multimedia extravaganza showcased songs from well-loved Broadway musicals, chosen for their timeless spiritual themes.

But this was no ordinary recital.

In fact, it was almost like a Broadway musical itself, from opening overture, through lavish production numbers to the exciting finale.

Singer Lisa Kyriakides rocked the house right from the start with a rousing, audience-participation version of "The Age of Aquarius" from Hair, accompanied by a live five-piece band.

Then Steve Falk belted out "Heaven on their Minds" from Jesus Christ Superstar, followed by Linda Henshaw's lovely rendition of "What I Did For Love" from A Chorus Line.

Musicals from every decade over the past 50 years were represented: Godspell, The Phantom of the Opera, Rent, Mamma Mia and many more.

While many of the musical selections focused on themes of hope and love, the concert's message went beyond mere lyrics.

All proceeds from the evening go toward building a new wing for an orphanage in Swaziland, a desperately poor African country where 44 percent of all children are orphans, mostly due to AIDS.

The 90-minute show, written and produced by Dean Antonakes, was 13 months in the making and involved more than 50 musicians and technicians.

It follows a tradition

begun in 2006 to offer contemporary programming geared to all ages.

Performers, too, were all ages.

The young choir Musical Kool Kids and the Teen Chorus charmed the audience with songs from Annie. "For Good," the beautiful duet from Wicked, was brought to glorious life by two young women, Demi Antonakes (Dean's daughter) and Andrea Pang.

David Pilkey produced fine solo work on "Can You Feel the Love Tonight" from The Lion King, accompanying himself on keyboards.

The senior choir, always in top form, provided superb back-up vocals in several numbers, and talented young soloists included Wesley Bells on violin, Stuart Linley on trumpet and Ellen Lever on flute.

A special treat was an appearance by Dean's father, Michael Antonakes, singing the role of Jacob in a medley of songs from Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat.

In the 1950s Antonakes was a professional actor in several off-Broadway productions and TV shows in New York City.

He has appeared more recently in Boston productions of Fiddler on the Roof and Showboat. An academic with a PhD in comparative literature, Antonakes, paraphrasing the playwright Anton Chekhov, confided during intermission, "Teaching is

my wife, but acting is my mistress!"

The evening was a feast for the eyes, as well as the ears.

Video and PowerPoint backdrops co-developed and coordinated by Dean's son Michael, accompanied every song, the effect sometimes delightful, sometimes haunting.

When the church's musical director, Mark Ruhnke, sang "Bring Him Home," the stirring solo from Les Misérables, the slide show featured the faces of several Canadian soldiers killed in Afghanistan. The poignant tribute moved several audience members to wipe away tears.

The PowerPoint images also included inspirational quotations from many religions and cultures, such as the Jewish proverb "If God lived on earth, people would break his windows".

Interspersed between musical numbers were thought-provoking readings taken from classical poets Yeats, Whitman, Tennyson and others.

Bringing the evening to a spectacular close was Trish Dynes' inspiring rendition of Hair's "Let the Sunshine In."

It brought the audience to its feet, clapping, cheering and singing along, almost as if, despite the blustery weather outside, the church was indeed filled with the sun's warmth and light.

Afterward, band member Dylan Tanner, 18, who has played guitar at sever-

al Toronto clubs including the El Mocambo, the Opera House and the Reverb, said, "We've been rehearsing for two months, but it was worth it. That was really, really fun!"

"I thought the concert was absolutely wonderful and very exciting. There's so much musical talent at this church," said audience member Jackie Catto.

Dean Antonakes was delighted with the response to the production: "I am very proud of the broad support we received from so many AUC committees, volunteers and church staff members. It was truly a delight to play again with my good friends in our Worship Band. But most of all, I am inspired by a remarkable group of talented teens who, with their young voices and music abilities, added considerable Spirit to the event."

The initiative to build the orphanage wing is through Heart For Africa, a humanitarian organization led by former Aurora resident Janine Maxwell, now living in Atlanta, Ga.

For more information, go to www.heartforafrica.org.

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Senior Scape

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Seniors assist Alison's project

Earlier this year, Aurora Councillor Alison Collins-Mrakas identified a cold weather need for gloves and scarves for school children.

Subsequently, she spear-headed a program "Warm Hearts Warming Hands" in conjunction with the Character Community Department within the Town of Aurora, and called for volunteer knitters and sewing machine operators to correct this and other clothing needs.

When problems concerning school children surface, often the best support available is the nurturing, understanding of women and as a result, the Aurora Seniors Association (ASA) ladies, among others, responded under the guidance of Joan Levert.

Ladies who participated included Winnie Gritten, Marge Shaw, Heather Pearson, Delia Bernardi, Grace Rock, Joan Levert and Joan Wilkinson.

Their support was crucial in achieving a successful conclusion to this venture.

Throughout the summer, these ladies toiled tirelessly to remedy this lack of necessities and local children will benefit accordingly.

Fifty sets of hats or head bands (for older children), scarves and neckbands, mittens are almost completed which will fulfill the ASA commitment in full.

Some yardage of fleece material will still be available and Joan promises to continue sewing until the fleece is used up entirely.

And interestingly, the bits and pieces of discarded material will be sewn up into old pillow cases to be donated to animal shelters for cats and dogs to curl up on, thus saving a little landfill capacity.

My group played chess in the same time period and in close proximity to this excellent group of ladies, so I am well aware of the effort they made through the months of summer and we made good neighbours, as the knitting, sewing machines and chess turned out to be quite compatible.

The knitting and sewing is winding down now and therefore, I want to acknowledge Councillor Collins-Mrakas for identifying this frosty children's problem initially and for everybody who subsequently heeded the call for help and contributed time, effort and materials.

Clearly the ASA ladies have answered Alison's appeal and delivered a capable, measured and concerted effort that I am proud to recognize in this article.

November 13, starting at 10 a.m., Dave Greenaway will conduct a computer club Q&A session, which will allow any computer related question to be posed to the group present.

This means that you may provide the answer to somebody else's problem and you might resolve a difficulty of your own.

From my experience over the years with this popular Q&A program, many difficulties have been resolved, so if you are new to computing or to the ASA,

attend the session and perhaps you will benefit.

Everyone is invited to attend including those inexperienced and only considering purchasing a computer.

The indefatigable and excellent photographer, Tom Yates will focus a presentation, November 20, on "Basic Photo Design Ideas applicable to Digital Photographs".

Tom's photographic presentations attract many participants, particularly with the present day popularity of digital cameras which has revolutionized the capacity to shoot many photographic views with the ability to discard easily.

Many amateur photographers merely point the camera and shoot relying on the camera design and luck to produce a good quality photograph, leaving the potential to produce excellent photographs of quality, unrealized.

This session by Tom will focus on designing and producing better digital images, and excellent images.

If you have questions relating to composition or lighting or any design problem, bring them up at this session and let Tom give you the advantage of his expertise.

Good interesting questions enhance the experience for all participants and for Tom, too!



Two of three Toastmasters of York were honoured recently in Aurora as part of Toastmasters' Month celebrations. Ross Mackay, left, won an accredited speaker award and Ronda Theaker was presented with her Distinguished Toastmaster award by President Brian Brennan. A third Toastmaster, Helve Reppo, was out of the country but would have been honoured as the club's first woman member. She has been with the Toastmasters of York for 30 years.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Students love debating

From page 1

Stewart Powell and Ryan Cole while Adam Moryto and Bobby McDonald made up the junior team with David Kyle as coach.

St. Andrew's debaters continued to prepare over the summer for the upcoming International Independent Schools' Public Speaking Competition in Reading, England.

As host of last year's competition the college is in the unique position of taking six students this year and competition will be tough as the local debaters vie for the six spots.

The Fulford was established in 1948 by his widow in memory of George Fulford, distinguished Canadian jurist and Senator who died in the late 1940s.

For the first 30 years the Fulford League consisted of St. Andrew's College, Upper Canada College, Trinity College School and Bishop Ridley College plus University of Toronto Schools.

In the late 1970s, Appleby College and Lakefield College School petitioned the League for entry and were included.

Andrean Rupert Ray was the first official League President from 1980 to 1983 during which time membership grew from seven to 17

schools with the addition of girls' and co-ed schools. There are now 21 schools.

Three tournaments are held during the school year, in the spring, fall and winter for Junior Grades 9 and 10 for the Bryan Jones Trophy in memory of a Lakefield College teacher and debating coach, and Seniors Grades 11 and 12 for the Fulford League Senior Trophy.

The Coaches' Cup is awarded to the school that amasses the highest overall rankings in two out of the three Fulford tournaments in a school year.

In April, 1986, St. Andrew's hosted the tournament with participation from most of the private schools.

A total of 24 debates took place at any one time with approximately 60 judges.

The topic of the debate was "Resolved that Gambling is a National Sickness".

At that time schools did not debate as teams of debaters were selected at random and points awarded to individual debaters.

Based on the points scored, the two top seniors and the two top juniors squared off in a debate on "Life is a Gamble" with each team represented by a senior and a junior member with the opposition winning indicating that life was not a gamble.

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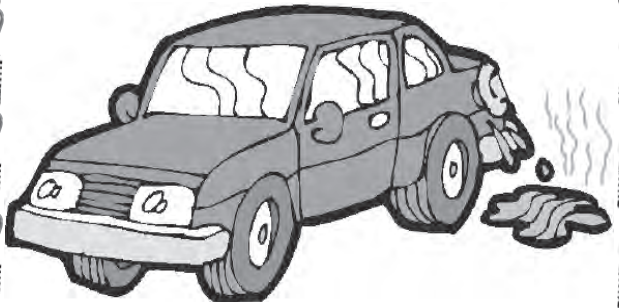
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RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

When Miss Canada visited Aurora

In October, 1983, the former Canadiana Roller Rink on Edward Street, now a storage depot, hosted Fashion in Motion '83.

The show featured new 1983 cars and the latest fashions, plus entertainment and refreshments.

There was no charge to get in, and everything was free.

New cars were provided by 13 local dealers and the fashions modeled in the show were from York Region clothing stores with local models arranged by Flare School of Modelling.

It was so successful it was repeated in 1984 as a three-day event and once again local car dealers and clothing stores participated.

There were accessory booths displaying extras for cars and for the ladies there were fashion booths offering facials, manicures and beauty counselling.

The highlight of Saturday evening was the appearance of Miss Canada, Jodi Yvonne Rutledge, a 22-year-old from Winnipeg.

Then Mayor Dick Illingworth welcomed Miss Canada to the municipality and presented her with a printed decorated plate with Aurora scenes done by Dorothy Clark McClure.

BEAUTIFUL BUT TAKE THEM DOWN

In May, 1967, the Township of King installed 10 new Centennial road signs on highways within the municipality but on orders from the Department of Highways, they had to be removed.

Apparently, only provincially authorized signs were allowed on provincial highways.

King City located on a regional road was allowed to keep its signs, but Nobleton lost its signs on Highway 27 and Oak Ridges on Highway 11 lost their signs even though they were celebrating the Centennial.

Aurora, a few miles north of Oak Ridges on Highway 11 (Yonge Street) was allowed to keep its signs due to a connecting agreement with the province.

By the way, in 1967, some of Oak Ridges was part of King Township. Today, it all belongs to Richmond Hill.

REBATES

In June, 1998, the province amended the Municipal Elections Act to permit Ontario municipalities the option of offering rebates of up to \$350 to contributors to municipal election

campaigns depending on the amount of the contribution.

Aurora was one of the few municipalities in the province to act on the option, which was similar to the tax rebates offered to contributors to federal and provincial election campaigns.

About a month later Aurora was quick to reverse its decision to take advantage of the rebate option as it was feared it would open the floodgates.

JUST WONDERING

In April, 2006, the York Region Environmental Alliance planned to expand its anti-idling challenge following the successful partnership between Markham and Newmarket, the first in the region.

As Richmond Hill was anxious to embark on the project, Aurora was invited to consider a similar partnership.

The request was forwarded to a general committee meeting to discuss possible costs and the potential of finding a sponsor.

In June, the Environmental Advisory Committee approved the project in principle and recommended the installation of anti-idling signs containing the town and committee logos.

In July, it was recommended that the town designate no-idling zones in front of town facilities and allocate funds in the 2007 budget for the signs and to accept the Richmond Hill challenge.

Nothing has been done. What happened?

In July, 2003, Aurora Council authorized staff to commence the process for an exchange of land between the town and the region with the town receiving the former Water Tower site at the south end and staff was directed to investigate and provide options for its use and submit a report to council.

The exchange has taken place and the region has built a water treatment plant at the north end of Machell Avenue where the former sewage treatment plant was located, while the former water tower site is unused.

What happened?

In June, 2005, officials of Southlake Regional Health Centre made a presentation to council regarding the capital costs of constructing the new cancer care clinic and submitted a resolution they requested council to adopt.

The resolution requested that council direct the CAO and Treasurer to work with hospital

officials to develop an appropriate funding mechanism in accordance with the Municipal Act which would achieve their goal of collecting \$6.9 million from Aurora over five years with a levy of \$80 per year per household for the five years.

Council referred the report to staff and for the CAO to work with the CAOs in the hospital catchment area to develop the appropriate mechanism to raise the requested funds over the five-year period.

Later, in a report to council, the CAOs recommended that the province re-impose a development charge on hospital capital costs caused by growth which had been eliminated by the Harris Progressive Conservative government.



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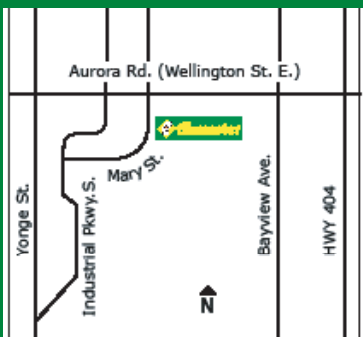


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This is the view that greets commuters on the southbound GO Train to Toronto, once the train crosses the Yonge Street overpass. This sound barrier is covered with graffiti that offends some riders and Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees has promised to look into the matter.

Auroran photo by Rob Schuetze

Klees views town graffiti

Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees boarded the GO Train in Aurora last week to see for himself the walls of graffiti that line the tracks in Aurora.

Riders of the GO Train

House will be a restaurant

A house on Temperance Street will become a restaurant.

With council agreeing to waive a road widening requirement in the official plan for the street, the green light was given to convert the house into a restaurant.

The house is located across from the Farmer's Market location in the Temperance Street parking lot and is south of the Bacon Basketware building.

Councillor Evelina MacEachern asked when Planner Terry Kelly knew about the requirement and suggested a two-week delay.

The planner replied he was aware of the official plan requirement about the road widening but understood he could work it out with staff during the preparation of the site plan, but had just learned that it was only council who could approve the waiving of the requirement.

He said there was some urgency as the applicant wanted to complete construction of the parking lot before winter.

Councillor Evelyn Buck pointed out the number of buildings on Temperance Street close to the road and that road widening was almost impossible, especially in the older part of town.

She suggested the request be approved.

With assurances from Works and Planning staff that they had no objections and as it had been done before in other areas of the town, council adopted the Buck motion.

service complained to the MPP about the graffiti while he was campaigning at the Aurora GO Station during the October provincial election.

"A number of people expressed concern about the graffiti and I promised to look into it," he said. "One individual told me that some of it was highly offensive and he was embarrassed to have his young daughter exposed to it. That's why I wanted to see for myself."

Klees invited photographer Rob Schuetze of Aurora to ride the train from Aurora to King City with him Friday morning and had no trouble finding the displays along the rail line.

He met later in the day with Heather Green,

Aurora's Provincial Offences and Property Standards/Licensing Officer who is coordinating an Ad Hoc Committee that has a mandate to address the issue of graffiti within the Town of Aurora.

The Committee, chaired by Councillor Alison Collins-Mrakas, has the responsibility to develop recommendations for a graffiti abatement program for Aurora in cooperation with community groups, the business community and York Regional Police.

"Apparently this is an issue that is of growing concern," said Klees. "The number of graffiti sites is expanding and includes both public and private property. Fences, buildings, utility boxes and even street

signs are being used as canvas. In some cases the messaging is not only offensive, it can be downright intimidating. It's something that has to be dealt with now before it gets completely out of hand."

The MPP said he will support the Town of Aurora's Ad Hoc Committee's work and will investigate the possibility of provincial support for a graffiti abatement program.

Another district being considered

A second heritage district for Aurora is now being considered.

More than 60 people attended a neighbourhood meeting at St. Andrews' Presbyterian Church hall last week to discuss the potential of conducting a heritage conservation district study in the southeast quadrant of Old Aurora.

The meeting was hosted by the Heritage Advisory Committee of Aurora and featured displays and presentations about the heritage conservation district concept.

Following the meeting

and a question and answer session, attendees were asked to complete a survey to help determine neighbourhood interest in the possibility of proceeding towards a heritage conservation district study in the future.

Residents also were able to comment on boundaries for the potential new area.

Copies of the survey are available on the Town of Aurora website, www.e-aurora.ca.

For further information contact Michael Seaman, Community Planner at 905-727-3123, ext. 4351 or mseaman@e-aurora.ca

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Aurora - Newmarket artists- vistas

Limited Quantities Available

EMBASSY GREETING CARDS

220 Industrial Pkwy. South, Unit 38

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Until November 30th

Celebrating our 40 Year Anniversary

with our famous

Wiener Schnitzel

\$9.95

plus taxes

in-house only

GRAYSTONES Restaurant
905-727-9561

Holiday Season Events




Holiday Seasonal Buffet
 Available every Friday, Saturday and Sunday
 Saturday December 1st - Saturday December 22nd
 Featuring...Carved Roast of Beef Au Jus & Yorkshire Pudding,
 Roast Turkey with Dressing and Gravy and all you can eat Crab Legs
 Assorted Christmas Sweets and much more...
 \$25.95* per person

Seasonal Lunch Buffet
 Available Monday to Friday in the month of December
 Reservations for groups of 10 or more
 \$15.95* per person

Dinner Theatre
 Nunsence...A Musical Comedy
 November 23 & December 7, 8, 14 & 15
 Doors open at 6 pm., Showtime is 8 pm.
 \$49.95 per person, Show Only - \$25.00 per person
 (Both include taxes and gratuities)

New Year's Eve 2007 Decadent Dinner in The Terrace Café
 This 4-course menu has something for everyone...
 Join the gala after for a nominal charge.
 \$39.95* per person

New Year's Eve Gala 2007 in the Queen Elizabeth Ballroom
 Live music by The Coyotes, Cash Bar
 with complimentary Hors D'oeuvres,
 Extensive Mouth-Watering Buffet, Midnight Sweet Table,
 Complimentary Champagne at midnight and Party Favors!
 \$165 per couple (Includes taxes and gratuities)

Open for Christmas Day Buffet, New Year's Day Brunch,
 Private Function Rooms and Sunday Brunch

*Prices quoted before taxes and gratuities unless otherwise noted.



(905) 727-1312
 15520 Yonge St., Aurora
www.hojaaurora.com