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# THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

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# Budget trimmed, but deliberations continue

By Brock Weir

Aurora's 2012 budget last week, pointment that nothing had and Councillors went into another deliberation meeting Monday with this year's tax increase sitting at 5.18 per cent, down from the 5.55 set in December.

As Councillors prepared to take another kick at the can as The Auroran went to press, this 5.18 per cent impact, when combined with the Region of York's tax increase, translates into a 2.56 per cent overall tax hike for Aurora residents.

The reductions made at the January 16 meeting came from removing a \$10,000 contribution from the Smart Commute carpooling initiative, and delaying a contribution of \$100,000 into a fund to remove and replace trees killed by the Emerald Ash Borer for at least another year.

Before the changes were made, however, Councillor \$110,000 was shaved off Evelyn Buck expressed disapbeen removed from the budget as it was originally presented by Town Treasurer Dan Elliott.

> "You often use the expression 'wants versus needs'," she said. "There has been nothing removed from this budget, therefore we could come to the argument that everything we've approved in this budget are needs rather than wants. Yet, that's not true in my personal opinion."

> One of her top concerns was the retention of a consultant to eventually design sidewalks on both sides of Industrial Parkway.

> "People [do not] begrudge paying taxes as long as they feel they are getting value for their money," she said. "I have

> > Please see page 15

## Historic house's fate could be sealed this week

By Brock Weir

The fate of Aurora's George Browning House is likely to be sealed this week.

The historic Aurora home could be undesignated at Tuesday's Council meeting at the request of an owner to make room for a new Montessori School with Yonge Street access.

The owners of the home initially planned to use the existing building in their concept for the school using an adjacent laneway for school access and requested that the Town designate the building. The plan to use the building for the school, however, did not prove feasible according to the owner and Aurora's Heritage Advisory Committee approved their request to remove the designation last

"We consented to heritage designation and through the process we realised we weren't getting a laneway, and that laneway is our only access," said Stefano Bucciol, an owner of the house. "In working with the staff and the residents we have come up with a solution we think works. We have also explored moving the building [but] it is too fragile a building to even consider such a thing."

A final decision will be made Tuesday, but if last week's general committee meeting is any indication, its days are numbered. Councillors voted overwhelmingly in favour of the Heritage Committee's recommendation. Last week's debate sparked a discussion of finding a balance

Please see page 19



York Region's "kings and queen" held court at The Mansion on Friday afternoon for the official kick-off for the annual Mardi Gras for Southlake. Pictured above are (left to right) Aurora Mayor Geoffrey Dawe, East Gwillimbury Mayor Virginia Hackson, and Georgina Mayor Rob Grossi. Behind them are Newmarket Mayor Tony Van Bynen, Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Wayne Emmerson, and King Township Mayor Steve Pellegrini. Mardi Gras will be held Auroran photo by Diane Buchanan at The Mansion on February 18. Story on Page 8.



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#### **COMING EVENTS**

#### JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 11

Theatre Aurora presents The Laramie Project written by Moises Kaufman and directed by Sergio Calderon. The show runs January 27, 28, February 2 to February 5, and February 8 through February 11. Tickets are available now from the Theatre Aurora website at www.theatreaurora.com, by phone at 905-727-3669 or by email taboxoffice@bellnet.ca.

In addition to the performance, each performance night of The Laramie project will feature karaoke in the lobby before each show. Opening night will also feature a meet and greet with the cast and crew in the lobby following the performance. Performances on January 28, February 2, 3, 8, and 10 will also feature a question and answer session between the cast, crew and audience. SATURDAY, JANUARY 28

Aurora Farmers' Market returns to the Aurora Cultural Centre for the first Winter Farmers' Market of the year. It will be held at 22 Church St. from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Winter Photography - Outdoors and In Workshop at the Aurora Cultural Centre. Venture beyond snapping pictures to a realm of beautiful photos. Start the day at the Centre, tuning up your indoor shots at the Aurora Farmers' Market, then venture outdoors to learn enhanced tips and techniques to capture winter light. Working knowledge of your DSLR 35mm camera required; bring your equipment for an enjoyable excursion, then gather back at the Centre at the end of the workshop to view the results - and some warming hot chocolate. Advance registration is required; \$60 fee. Bring your camera, a lunch and appropriate outdoor clothing. To register call 905-713-1818 or contact info@auroraculturalcentre.ca 22 Church Street, Aurora.

JANUARY 28 - APRIL 22

Kleinburg's McMichael Gallery presents The McMichael Tree Project, a celebration of the artistic, cultural, and natural aspects of the tree with two breathtaking exhibitions, special installations, and a variety of programs. The programs start today and conclude on Earth Day, April 22. The McMichael Canadian Art Collection is located at 10365 Islington Avenue in Kleinburg. For more information call 905-893-1121

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

The Aurora Public Library presents Money Talks: Financial Planning in RRSP Season at 7 p.m. in the Magna Room. Admission is free. To pre-register, call 905-727-9493 and select option 4. You can also email

#### fryork-moneytalks@yahoo.com. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

SchoolHOUSE Concert at the Aurora Cultural Centre, featuring vocalist Judy Marshak, whose CD A Matter of Time was chosen by JAZZ FM91 as one of their "Favourite Releases of 2009." With a charming combination of jazz standards and classic pop (from Bill Withers to Henry Mancini), and a voice compared to the Norah Jones, Marshak and her popular ukulele accompaniment promise a relaxing evening of music in the heart of Aurora. Tickets, \$15 plus HST - light refreshments included; available in advance or at the door. 22 Church Street; wheelchair accessible at north entrance. For info please call 905-713-1818, or

#### info@auroraculturalcentre.ca. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

The Aurora Cultural Centre presents Story Quilts: The Threads That Bind Us. A 40 Year Retrospective of Angela Krotowski in the Blue & Red Galleries. From

traditional heritage-inspired designs, to contemporary commentaries, this collection of over 40 quilts gives voice to one woman's connection to the stories of her Canadian home. Artist Reception March 10, 1 all welcome. Continues through until March 31; Gallery Hours Tuesday - Saturday, 1 - 4 p.m. and during special events, 22 Church Street: wheelchair accessible at north entrance. For info please call 905-713-1818, or entrance. For this gradient info@auroraculturalcentre.ca.

The Aurora Cultural Centre presents Under Sacred Skies; panoramic oil paintings by Michael Fromowitz in the Great Hall Gallery. Artist Reception February 18, 1-4 pm; all welcome. Continues through until May 5; Gallery Hours Tuesday - Saturday, 1 - 4 p.m. and during special events; free admission. 22 Church Street; wheel chair accessible at north entrance. For info please call 905-713-1818, or info@auroraculturalcentre.ca FEBRUARY 9 - MARCH 31

The Aurora Cultural Centre presents Story Quilts: The Threads that Bind Us - a 40 Year Retrospective of Angela Krotowski. The artist will hold a reception for her work on March 4 from 1 - 4 p.m. All are welcome. Admission is free

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

The Aurora Seniors' Association is in the planning stages of Men Can Cook which has been set for this evening. Further details will follow.

FEBRUARY 11 - 12

The York Symphony Orchestra is excited to present
The Grand Tour, a pair of concerts based on what used
to be a rite of passage for many young Europeans up to the early 20th century. The concerts present a flavour of Europe including pieces from the Austrian Mozxard, the German Wagner, works from Spain including the work of Manuel de Falla, as well as music from Finland and Romania. February 11 concert will take place at Aurora's Trinity Anglican Church at 8 p.m. and the following evening at 7.30 at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. Tickets for the Aurora performance are available by calling 416-410-0860.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

The Aurora Cultural Centre, 22 Church Street, presents local historian John McIntyre with the illustrated heritage lecture "Antique Furniture From 19th-century Ontario." 7 p.m. start. Admission by donation gratefully received; complimentary light refreshments provided. Wheelchair accessible at north entrance. For info please call 905 713-1818, or info@auroraculturalcentre.ca FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17

The Aurora Cultural Centre, 22 Church Street, presents the first of four concerts in the 2012 Great Artists Piano Series, featuring great Canadian pianist Andre Leplante. Solo piano program will include works by Haydn, Liszt, Ravel, and Bach. Doors open at 7 p.m., concert at 8 p.m. General admission seating. Subscriptions for all four concerts: \$95 for adults, \$80 for seniors and students. Individual tickets for each concert \$30 adult, \$25 seniors and students plus HST. Fully accessible building. For info please call 905 713-1818, or

info@auroraculturalcentre.ca.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Family day at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum. 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Drop by and create some fun heritage crafts, tour the historical buildings and visit the gift shop. A great experience for the whole family! Admission: \$2 per youth. 14732 Woodbine Avenue,

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

John McIntyre will lead a heritage discussion entitled "Antique Furniture from 19th Century Ontario" at the Aurora Cultural Centre at 7 p.m. Furniture from pioneer Ontario to the days of the Industrial Revolution. Audience members are invited to also bring along questions about their own furniture. Admission by donation is gratefully received. Light refreshments are provided

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25

Bowl for Kids Sake 2012 will take place today at the Gateway Café and Lanes at 1 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. Five and 10 Pin lanes are available. Call 905-716-2149 for more information. Pledge forms, location maps, fundraising tips and event updates can be found online at

Aurora Farmer's Market at the Aurora Cultural Centre, 22 Church Street; 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Favourite market vendors with a wide selection of produce, bakery fare, jams & jellies, artisan goods - and more! Free admission. 22 Church Street; wheelchair accessible at north entrance.

History Hands-On (H2O) in Winter at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum. 12.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. Visit the Log Cabin and try your hand at some Pioneer chores. Help prepare treats in the Farmhouse kitchen and complete your lessons on a slate in the 19th century classroom. Admission is free, donations gratefully accepted. 14732 Woodbine Avenue, Gormley.

Residents are invited to participate in the Freezin' for a Reason Polar Dip to raise money to protect the Lake Simcoe Watershed. Participants must raise at least \$200 per person in pledges or \$600 for a team of four. Organizers promise awards for top fundraising individuals and teams, as well as for the "zaniest individual and team costume." To sign up, visit www.lakesimcoefoundation.ca and click on Events. The goal is to raise at least \$150,000 to "ensure our air, land and water are cleaner and greener for future generations

2nd annual "I Love Rock 'n' Roll" dinner dance will be held at the Mansion (formerly Dinardo's) tonight. A website www.iloverockandroll.ca is also up and running for further information. Tickets are available now by calling 905-727-8600 and expected to sell out fast so if you are planning to attend and don't want to be disappointed, get your tickets soon

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Jacqueline Stuart will lead a heritage discussion entitled "The Worst Place Inside the Corporation" at the Aurora Cultural Centre at 7 p.m. Where in Aurora could this building - and area - possibly be? Admission by donation is gratefully received. Light refreshments are

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Bob McRoberts will lead a heritage discussion entitled "Postcards of Old Aurora: The McRoberts Collection" at the Aurora Cultural Centre at 7 p.m. A digital unveiling of his vast and unique collection of local postcards, alongside current photos. Admission by donation is gratefully received. Light refreshments are provided.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Ron Wallace will lead a heritage discussion entitled "How the Word Got Around: A Historical Look at Local Newspapers" at the Aurora Cultural Centre at 7 p.m. A glimpse into past days of news media in Aurora - from an expert in the field. Admission by donation is gratefully received. Light refreshments are provided.

# **AURORA FARMERS' MARKET**



& ARTISAN FAIR's

# INDOOR MARKET

**SATURDAYS:** Jan.28, Feb.25, & Mar.31 <u>10 a.m. – 2 p.m.</u>

> All are welcome to the Aurora Cultural Centre, 22 Church St., Aurora

# ANNUAL GENERAL **MEETING**

SATURDAY, FEB. 11 1 - 3 p.m.

**Current and potential Vendors are** invited to this meeting at Aurora Town Hall, 100 John West Way.

**Please visit:** www.theaurorafarmersmarket.com for applications and more information.



# Town seeks input on "protecting" Aurora trees

By Brock Weir

Previously exempt, golf courses, school boards, and conservation authorities could soon be included in Aurora's tree protection bylaw.

The recommendations are just under a year in the making and come as a result of a request from Council last January to review tree protection in relation to golf courses. Residents living around the Beacon Hill Golf Club had previously complained about the number of trees removed from

Proposed revisions also reduce the number of trees that can be removed on individual properties within a year to two trees, cut by half as things currently stand.

"During the consultation process, staff received a written submission from a local golf course suggesting the current Regional Tree Protection bylaw was sufficient enough to ensure that due process was in place to regulate golf courses and further suggested that the inclusion of golf courses in the revised bylaw could be seen as duplication," said Parks Manager Jim Tree in his report to Councillors.

"While the committee acknowledged the fact that the Regional bylaw is applicable, it is only applicable to woodlands greater than one hectare in size. The Town's revised bylaw will deal with treed areas on golf course lands less than one hectare which is not a duplication of the regional bylaw."

The tree protection measures come up for final approval at Council this week. If Councillors vote in favour of the new recommendations.

the Town will carry out "exten- added that tree protection sive" public consultations on should not hinder businesses. the matter before they are ratified and put into effect.

When the recommendation was debated at the committee level last week, however, Mayor Geoffrey attempted to make an amendment retaining the golf course exemption.

"They are adequately covered by the Region's bylaw and I think if there is one group of businesses that would exercise good stewardship it would be golf courses," he said.

While the Mayor's proposed amendment was supported by Councillor John Abel, the majority of Council shared the opposite viewpoint. Keeping golf courses exempt from municipal tree bylaws would create unequal footing between residents and local businesses, said Councillor John Gallo.

"I'm not sure why we would treat golf courses any different than me or anyone else in Town in terms of what I can take down and what they can take down," he said. "Why is there a distinction between the two? Why would we segregate the two?'

Councillor Chris Ballard said he agreed, arguing the Town should not be making distinction between businesses, types of businesses, and individuals. While golf courses would be welcome to make a pitch to Council during a public review process as to why they should be allowed to cut down multiple trees exempting them at this point in the game was "premature," he said.

Michael Councillor Thompson too agreed that it was premature to start making exemptions and tinkering with staff recommendations but

"The removal of those trees are often a direct result of feedback from their members or their customers of the experience they're having [on the golf course]," he said. "I do have concerns about placing restrictions on a business' ability to compete. I would like to put it in there and I would like to hear feedback from the golf courses and residents so I can weigh that in making my deci-

Aside from wanting to keep golf courses exempt from the tree protection bylaw, Mayor Dawe also proposed keeping the number of trees individual homeowners can remove at four rather than the recommended two, allowing more freedom for homeowners to essentially reap what they have sown.

"At my house a number of years ago we planted a number of Austrian pines and we planted them too close together," he said. "As they grew, they grew into each other and were stunted. It obviously cost me to buy the trees, it cost me to put them in, I did it wrong, now I have to come to the Town to get a permit to remove the ones that are dying. That strikes me as wrong. I think I should be able to take them off my own property."

The amendment failed

### Only 100 residents responded to tree survey

By Brock Weir

Proposed measures to protect Aurora's trees could result in increased costs, according to Town Staff, but they suggest a waiting period of a year to see what happens before determining how much of an increase measures will bring from an enforcement and work perspec-

"As with any revised or newly created bylaw there will be a period of time required to educate and communicate with our residents and businesses in order to ensure that the revised bylaw is enacted through a fair and open process," said Parks Manager Jim Tree.

The revisions, which are expected to be debated again this week, came about, in part, through public consultation in an online survey. The survey, however, only attracted 100 respondents.

"This could be considered a relatively low participation rate and not indicative of community-wide public opinion, given Aurora's gross population of over 52,000, however staff was advised by our communication department, who assisted in the survey, that this survey was among the highest participation in any previously recorded survey," said Mr. Tree.

"While the information obtained from the survey was helpful in assisting the Committee, it was not considered paramount or as a single resource in formulating the overall content of the revised bylaw; rather, the committee used a measured approach in guiding the reviewed process."

Town staff then turned to tree bylaws throughout the GTA, consultation at the Regional level, and internally with the Manager of Heritage Planning.

#### Brieflv

#### YRT TALKS RESUME

Negotiations between York Region transit drivers and operators are set to resume this week. On Monday, as The Auroran went to press, talks between the union and Veolia, the operators behind Viva, were expected to resume during the day. The new talks come after the Region cancelled its contract with First Canada, which operated nearly 30 Viva and YRT routes, last week.

#### TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

Local musicians will take part in the Raise the Barn 4 Round the Bend Farm dance, happening this Friday at 7.30 p.m. in Kettleby at The Manor. Round the Bend Farm was badly damaged by fire last fall and the fundraising dance is the brainchild of Aurora resident Steve Falk and King's Walter Karabin. Tickets are \$50 and available online at www.raisethebarn.eventbrite.ca as well as from TD Canada Trust locations at Yonge and Wellington in Aurora, at Green Lane in Newmarket, branches in King Township, as well as at the King Town Offices, the Nobleton Arena, Schomberg's Trisan Centre, and by phone at 416-525-1056. 90% of tickets had already been sold at press time and ticket holders will be able to enjoy the music of The Beatles, Rolling Stones, Stevie Wonder, and Aretha Franklin courtesy of the R&B band The Thursday Night Jam, as well as food, a silent auction and raffle.

#### NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2012 Character Awards, sponsored by the Character Community Foundation of York Region. The sixth annual awards ceremony will take place April 25 at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts, People can visit www.charactercommunity.com to nominate individuals and groups as Business Person of Character, Organization of Character, Citizens of Character, Educator of Character, School of Character, Community Hero, and persons demonstrating character in the fields of the environment, community, arts, and sports. The nomination deadline is Saturday, February 9 at 4 p.m.



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**Mayor Geoffrey Dawe** officially opened the new sales centre for Centro Condos earlier this month with an official ribbon cutting ceremony. He was joined on site at Yonge and Centre Streets by William Daniell, president of The Kaitlin Group, which is overseeing the project.

Auroran photo by David Falconer





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#### **Brock's Banter**

By BROCK WEIR

## Revisiting Heritage with "teeth"

In our January 10 issue, this column space was largely devoted to asking how Aurora can give its heritage designation some teeth.

The discussion came about as a result of several homes being added to the Town's list of significant properties in recent years and then being removed as quickly as they were added at the whim of Council, committee, and the property owners. whether they were just not feasible for projects or left to go to

Recent examples of historically designated buildings allowed to get to the "point of no return" where structural soundness and aesthetics are concerned include the Issac Petch Farm House on Wellington Street, and the 1841 Wells House in south Aurora where the Westhill development will take shape.

The George Browning House is next. While the owners have nixed their plans to use the existing building in their upcoming development plans, it is now too fragile, according to the owners, to move to a different site, and it has become an "eyesore" according to others.

I asked what could be done from the municipal level to help - or even compel - the owners of historic buildings to maintain their appearance and structural integrity and that ball could be set in motion as early as mid-February by Councillor Sandra Humfryes.

Speaking to Councillor Humfryes, a member of Aurora's Heritage Advisory Committee, last week, she said the issue has become a concern of hers.

"When you look at [the Browning House], your heart can't help but hurt for what had happened," she said. "Just thinking about the enormous amount of money to be invested, and for any individual to invest that kind of money - who has that? I think we need to ask what we can do to protect that from happening.

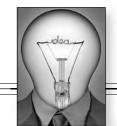
"I was trying to think about what we can do legislatively to help prevent this type of problem. There is probably an opportunity for us to investigate a grant opportunity or a low-interest loan to help some residents, and if we understand the state of disrepair, they can come to the municipality and say, 'this is our situation."

Councillor Humfryes conceded that this will likely result in a lot of work by Town Staff or perhaps an outside body to evaluate an applicant's claim, but said an avenue has to be available for people to be able to take a step back and be able to fix it up before "getting to the point of no return."

"I have had some conversations with the planning manager on this and they stated that some municipalities do have something like this and I think it is an opportunity for us to see what we can do," she said. "I know there is a lot of work behind it, absolutely, but if there is a chance that we can save our heritage homes and help keep them in an area where they can stay maintained and look beautiful and not get to a point of total disrepair, I think that is important."

The idea, however, is just that at the moment, and she added there is still more research to be done with Town Staff to make sure she is able to present to a "strong motion" to Council. If all goes according to plan, she hopes to have something on the table by the middle of next month.

I am a firm believer in credit where credit's due, and I would just like to take a moment to point out that last week's photo spread of the great art produced and displayed by soon-to-begrads of Aurora High School in the galleries at the Aurora Cultrual Centre was taken by our photographer David Falconer.



# 100 Watts

#### By Christopher Watts

Mark Twain's book "Roughing It" a coyote is described as "a long, slim, sick and sorry-looking skeleton" that is "a living, breathing allegory want."

Encounters with these creatures are on the rise in Aurora and many residents are demanding immediate

Instead, a coyote-whisperer workshop held at

town hall this past week, the brainchild of our MPP, evokes imagery from Saturday morning cartoons where endless convoluted schemes are explored.

Last Friday a child was bitten by a coyote, in Oakville.

It shouldn't have to happen here too.

Can Aurora's politicians look outside the ACME box before it backfires?



Dairy tokens, like the one above, used to go part and parcel with milk bottles and milk delivery, and Aurora's Cousins Dairy was no exception. The tokens were used not only for trading of dairy products but also for the identification and ownership of milk bottles as well. The Cousins family of Woodbridge built a modern dairy in Aurora on the site of the Royal Hotel in 1927. By 1928 it had taken over Wood's Dairy and Watson's Dairy. 40 years later, Cousins Dairy merged with Glenville Farms Dairy and Archie and Lorne Cousins became directors of the new company. This photo of the original dairy token, which still bears much of its original dark red paint, comes courtesy of the Aurora Historical Society's collec-

Letters to the Editor

# Still a chance to help Raise the Barn: Organizer

To the editor:

Thank you for the story about the Raise The Barn 4 Round The Bend Farm dance happening Friday January 27th.

This event has remind-

ed us how much good will people have in this area. The response to the event has been heart warming. It is almost as if people were waiting for the right way to reach out to the Feddema family to say

how much the place meant to them and that they wished them a quick return to normal after the fire. There is still a chance to show your sup-

Tickets can be pur-

chased and donations can be made online at http://raisethebarn.eventb rite.ca right up to the day of the event.

Steve Falk Aurora

# Reader agrees on 'No Tax Increase" letter

To the editor:

I have to agree with R. W. Hanes. It seems to me that the pleas for holding taxes to the rate of inflation or lower are not heard by Council and certainly not by those running Town departments.

When I used to run a business before retiring, I learned that Consultants generally are a waste of time, they seem to tell you what you already know. As a manager you are in a position to make decisions and and unpleasant. No means the mess left, just look at

no! Consultants are used as what is happening in Toronto an excuse to blame someone else for the bad news or simply put off making a decision.

We can see at every level of government when they try to please everyone. We finish up with massive deficits. I have said it before, you cannot rely on growth or increased taxes to bail you out. That might work for a while but unless you control spending life can get very difficult. The shame of it is that future Councils and gensometimes that is difficult erations have to deal with

for starters!

Aurora Council, stop wasting money on unnecessary projects that by exercising some common sense, decisions can be made!

**Robert Grattage** Aurora

#### -THE AURORAN-"Aurora's Community Newspaper"

The Auroran Newspaper Company Ltd. 15213 Yonge Street, Suite 8 Aurora, ON, L4G 1L8

> Founder Ron Wallace **Publisher Emeritus** Rosemary Schumake

Editorial **Brock Weir** brock@auroran.com

Advertising Bob Ince bob@auroran.com

Diane Buchanan diane@auroran.com Trish Miller-Kostin trish@auroran.com

Zach Shoub zach@auroran.com

John Gould john@auroran.com

Cynthia Proctor cynthia@auroran.com

Photography falconerdavid1@gmail.com

> Main Number 905-727-3300

**Facsimile** 905-727-2620

Classifieds 905-727-7128 classifieds@auroran.com

Subscriptions available within Canada and U.S. email: administration@auroran.com

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Publisher is not liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. Disputes must be brought to the attention of the publisher prior to the following edition.

# Reader had first job at Aurora Dairy Bar

To the editor:

I was so excited to see the photos of the Aurora Dairy Bar.

I had my first job there as a waitress in 1951. I was paid 40 cents an hour & Art was my boss. Was he Lyle & Lil Sparks son? The kids would come in after the was finished. movie

remember one guy ordering a cherry Coke & then roaring with laughter when it overflowed, much to my embarrassment!

I would love to have an enlarged copy of these photos for my album. Would this be possible?

Philippa Hajdu





#### **Lois Brown**

By LOIS BROWN **MP Newmarket-Aurora** 

# Preparing for Budget 2012

1Z9.

Our strong, stable, national, majority Conservative Government is continuing to deliver results for families, seniors, and businesses thanks to your support and trust.

I am proud that our government remains focused on what, I am confident, is most important to Canadian families - job creation and economic growth.

As the global economy continues to recover, Canada has emerged in one of the best economic positions in the industrialized world. Last year we implemented the Next Phase of Canada's Economic Action Plan and its job creating initiatives such as the Hiring Credit for Small Business, the simplification of customs tariffs to facilitate trade and lower administration costs for businesses, a permanent \$2 billion annual investment in the Gas Tax Fund for municipalities and elimination of mandatory retirement.

The result has seen Canada as having the strongest job-growth in the G-7, with nearly 600,000 net new jobs created for hard-working Canadians since July 2009.

Canada continues to garner international praise for our strong economic policies and in fact, influential business magazine, Forbes, ranked us as the best country in the world in which to do business. The World Economic Forum ranked our financial system as the soundest in the world for the fourth consecutive year.

While that's positive news, too many Canadians are still looking for work and the global economic recovery remains fragile, as demonstrated through sovereign debt concerns in Europe and continued muted economic growth in the US.

Recently, Jim Flaherty, Minister of Finance, provided our government's Economic and Fiscal Update. Based on these findings, our government pledges to continue to take targeted action to support jobs and economic growth. Minister Flaherty also stressed that while we are on track to eliminate the deficit in the medium term, we are not immune to the challenges facing the global economy. Our next budget will therefore be very important to our future.

That is why I am asking for your input and personally inviting you to submit your suggestions on what you would like to see in Budget 2012. In particular, I would like your feedback on:

- How can we best protect and create jobs?
- How do we best secure Canada's economic recov-

- How should we balance the budget over the medium-
- How do we improve the well-being of Canadians?
- What your top priorities are for Newmarket-Aurora. Please take a moment to let me know how you want your federal tax dollars spent, and the priorities you would like us to focus on going forward. You can do so by completing my pre-budget survey located on my website at www.loisbrown.ca or simply by sending me your thoughts and suggestions. You can submit your feedback by email to Lois.Brown@parl.gc.ca, by fax to

I will be personally delivering all input received to Minister Flaherty.

905.953.7527, or by mail and in person to 16600 Bayview Avenue, Suite 206, Newmarket, Ontario, L3X

Suggestions heard at my past pre-budget consultations, such as the workshare program as one example, have been implemented.

You deserve a voice in deciding the future direction of our country and I hope you consider joining this important process. With your participation, we can help ensure the priorities of our community are heard loud and clear.



### **Front Porch Perspective**

By STEPHEN SOMERVILLE

2050...in Germany the proportion will decline to 1.6 from 4.1 in the same period."

"Increased retirement ages and lower benefits must be part of any package to reverse this totally unsustainable

Back home, the situation seems equally perilous.

As another Toronto Star story mentions, "both private and government-sponsored pension plans across the country are facing deficits as a result of falling stock market returns, historically low interest rates and changing demographics".

According to Aon Hewitt, the human resource consulting and outsourcing business of Aon Corp, only about four in ten Canadian workers have defined benefit plans, which seek to guarantee a set amount of income on retirement.

As a result, many such employers are switching to defined contribution plans in which the eventual payout is determined by the long-term investment performance of the plan fund. A defined contribution plan does not guarantee a specific payout but commits to invest a certain amount over time.

According to a senior executive at Mercer Consulting, "sponsors of defined plans carry their unfunded liability with them even if they convert to defined contribution plans. Severe underfunding of defined benefit plans could ultimately jeopardize payouts to retirees if the obligations help drive the company into protection from creditors."

Not a pretty sight.

Pensions: The ticking time bomb \_\_\_\_\_

In a lot of cases, for defined pension plans they don't have enough money to cover the plan's obligations to retirees. The amount of this unfunded liability is huge.

Just look at the Ontario Teachers' Pensions Fund - you know the guys who used to own the Toronto Maple Leafs.

In the 1980's I believe that they used to have almost 4 teachers working for every retired teacher. This ratio is now down to something like 2.3 and falling. Teachers' had a funding shortfall of \$17.2 Billion in 2010.

The experts tell us that there are a number of solutions to the issue including increasing the age of retirement and have employers and employees contribute equally.

The same Toronto Star article mentions, "The irony of the situation is that most Canadians don't have pensions - only about 6 million workers in Canada are members if employer pension plans, according to Statistics Canada."

We have a large public sector debt problem and as Mr. Drummond is providing advice to the government at \$1,500 per day, we should be getting his thoughts on the public sector pension issue as well.

> Stephen can be contacted at stephengsomerville@yahoo.com

You might have heard that former bank economist and provincial bureaucrat Don Drummond will be delivering a report to the Liberal government shortly outlining ways to reduce the deficit and debt and to make the delivery of government services more effective and efficient.

According to various media sources the medicine that Mr. Drummond will be delivering will be harsh; calling for deep spending cuts to all ministries - in some cases 30% - save education and health, although funding increases for these two portfolios will be limited as well.

This should really begin the long overdue debate on the cost, scope, reach and delivery of government.

One item that Mr. Drummond will not be tackling though is public sector pensions. This is really a ticking time bomb, and as tax payers, will ultimately affect all of

And the problem is not just in Canada.

A story in the Toronto Star two weeks ago outlined the problems that state funded pension obligations in nineteen of the European Union nations were about five times higher than their combined gross debt.

The story goes on to note that State pension obligations in France and Germany are three times the size of their economies.

"Last year, there were 4.2 people of working age for every pensioner in France. The ratio will fall to 1.9 by Letters to the Editor

# Aurora needs to be proactive in battling tree bug: Councillor

To the editor:

Aurora's Director of Parks and Rec presented to Council in November, the arrival of one Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Beetle in Aurora.

Based on the data from municipalities south of us, it is predicted that, if untreated, within 15 years, Aurora's 2,600 Ash trees will be destroyed. These trees will then be removed and will have to be replaced at an estimated cost of \$7 million. The Director recommended an EAB fund be initiated as an item for the 2012 Budget.

Council voted to remove this \$100,000 Budget Item at General Committee on January 16. Even without the fund, we can still have the opportunity to prepare an action plan this year.

Not only is there cost associated to combat the loss of 2,600 trees, there are significant economical and environmental costs to the community.

Data compiled from the US Forest Service has [been] calculated for Cost Effective Urban Forestry. A tree, over a 50 year lifespan, is worth \$161,000.00 in the production of oxygen, air pollution control, water recvcling, and soil erosion control.

Couple those facts with the effects that trees have on building energy use and the consequent reductions in emissions from power plants, the value of trees as a resource for improved quality of life is overwhelming.

I have contacted the offices of the Toronto and Oakville Forestry Departments. Both municipalities are waging a war on the EAB infestation. They

infestation was in its third year the municipalities became aware. Still they have dug deep and are mounting a defensive strategy to mitigate the carnage. There is much we can learn. When compared to Toronto and Oakville, Aurora has a huge head start with the looming battle.

EAB Recovery Plans are employed in both Toronto and Oakville. It is a 5 step approach to combat the EAB. (1) monitoring and detection, (2) community education, (3) insecticide application to high value trees, (4) removal and (5) replanting.

Aurora must be proactive. Our goal is to mitigate the devastation, minimize the expense to the Town and fast track the recovery process. We cannot afford to wait till next year to address the invasion!

Oakville is aggressively pursuing insecticide application to their high value trees. Even if insecticide program achieves beyond their expectations, over 50% of the ash tree population will succumb to

It is incumbent for Council to absorb the facts, and show leadership in addressing this problem. There is no magic pill that will stop EAB. That's just pie in the sky dreaming,

It's not too late. Council can consider before budget approval an EAB recovery plan, like the model Toronto and Oakville have developed.

I am going to bring this matter up at the Council for the Budget Approval (February 14) as I believe this investment is in the best interest of the Town of

had no warning. In fact, the Aurora. If residents agree that is money well spent, then their voice needs to be heard if this is to pass and be part of the 2012 budget. And with a plan going forward, it would aid in seeking regional, provincial, and/or federal funding assistance.

Consider the demand in 10 years for replacement trees. They will be driven higher as neighbouring municipalities afflicted with EAB compete with each other for the available tree inventory the nurseries are able to supply. Aurora can offset

nursery program of our own.

To offset the cost and to speed up the recovery process with older, healthier trees, I would advocate the planting of trees today. The cost of small young trees are just a few dollars. Planted today, in 10 years each tree would be worth hundreds of dollars. I have talked about this concept with some members of the Arboretum, and they are keen in participat-

Harvesting trees from local,

those pressures with a tree like-soil conditions to relatively close location, lessens the shock significantly, and ensures a healthier transplanted tree, which adds years again to the

recovery program. The time is now.

**Councillor John Abel** 



#### Coyotes are "proof positive" of development problems: Reader

To the editor:

Coyotes roaming around Aurora and other municipalities in York Region is very frightening, and is proof positive of some of the irresponsibility attached to the massive development that has taken place in the Region over the past 15 to 20 years.

The approval of so much development was obviously done with no regard whatsoever for the habitats of those wild animals who lived here long before any of us. It would appear that the planning process didn't take into consideration the displacement of this wildlife, and the consequence is now causing a dangerous environment for all.

Once again, the almighty dollar rules versus the safety of both the people and the animals.

There are several Covotes in the Mill Street and Tyler Street area, so people walking their dogs in that area may want to exercise some caution.

Heather Stewart **Aurora** 

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### **Aurora Seniors Duplicate Bridge Results,**

1st - Frank Lablans and Dennis McFadden 2nd - Bernie O'Brien and Mary Oglanby 3rd - Rose White and Gloria Smith

1st - Simmo and Lisa Piil

# Monday, Jan. 16/11

2nd - Mariion Warburton and Carol Gordon 3rd - Suzanne Nunn and Shirley Laurin

### Neighbours seek more input on Elderberry development

An infill development in respect to these homes," Aurora's Elderberry Trail he said. "There was more neighbourhood could get to it to inform them on the go-ahead at Council what was being proposed. this week amid some con- They expressed some cerns from Councillors relief in terms of the magthat residents have not nitude of the proposal. had a chance to have their Some anticipated that say.

Tuesday's Committee "private tial" in order to divide the area." lot into two for estate lots.

Associates, appeared some residents were before committee on unaware that the applicabehalf of the applicant to tion was up for approval speak in favour of what he last Tuesday and wanted described as a "modest a chance to have their infill development" which say. A public meeting on will allow the property "to move forward with some development as well as help the Town achieve its objectives with respect to the development of trails."

Last year his group met with the Ratepayers of Aurora Yonge South (RAYS) about the plans as well as surrounding property owners, but there has been no further discussion since that time, he said.

"At the time we discussed any screening that would take place with

there were more lots The recommendation, being proposed here. which was carried at last They were interested in General the kinds of homes that meeting, were being proposed and would see a plot of land, to the extent we had plans which is currently desig- available we did indicate open they would be comparable space" to "estate residen- to other homes in the

According to Councillor Eros Fiacconi of EGF John Gallo, however,

in who requested further notification on the status of the application, said Marco Ramunno, Aurora's Director of Planning.

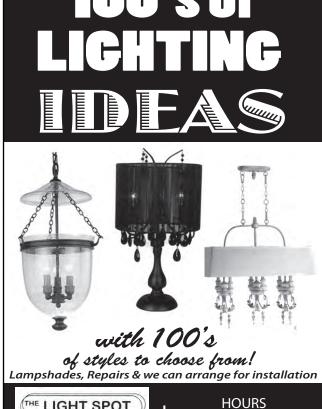
A further notification was mailed to residents in the neighbourhood on six "interested parties" responded, he said.

poor service when it doing it all over again." comes to mail because this is not the first time people in this area did not get notification from our Town," said Councillor John Abel.

Councillor Gallo asked the matter be deferred until February to allow

the lands in question was more residents to come September, out and voice their opinion attracting some residents but this did not find favour at the Council table.

"The public planning meeting was well attended by the people who have been notified and had an interest in how this property would be dealt with," said Councillor Evelyn January 5 and a total of Buck. "The abutting home owners were there and they had strong concerns. "It seems that this area I don't see any merits at of Elderberry has very all in deferring it and





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# Wildlife Park moves forward, but more issues need to be addressed: planner

By Brock Weir

Aurora's Wildlife Park came one step closer to becoming a reality last week after Councillors approved going forward with drafting a master plan for the project.

But, according to David Tomlinson, the man behind the plan, there will be a lot of work to do to ensure the project best serves the needs of wildlife and visitors who may want to take the wildlife in.

Mr. Tomlinson made a presentation to Council in a special meeting dedicated to the project last Tuesday. There, Councillors approved a recommendation from staff to award Mark Setter Associates and Cole Engineering the task of drafting the master plan.

"What an absolute labour of love and passion," said Councillor Sandra Humfryes to Mr. Tomlinson on the park project. "I can't even find the right words to put to what you have done for this community. I see this as a huge opportunity for

With that opportunity, however, comes the task of resolving outstanding issues and essentially putting the finishing touches on an area which Mr. Tomlinson said, from an ecological perspective, is largely complete.

One of the first tasks, he said, is screening the public from the wildlife so the public can see the wildlife, but not vice versa, as well as screening surrounding homes from the wildlife park.

"Although public access is highly restricted in these nature reserves, having full views of the area is not," said Mr. Tomlinson of similar projects in Europe, particularly in the United Kingdom, that have influenced his vision for the project. "Once you enter the blind you can see through the blind window and all the species. The birds don't think anyone is around so they are not disturbed."

Another key component, he said, is creating more habitat in the area. Since development has taken place over the last few years in the perimeter of the land set aside for the park, area grassland has been diminished as well as water

flowing into and out of ponds and bogs on the land.

"[Habitat creation] will do a lot to bring back the birds we have already lost," he said. "The other thing we have got is an issue with is buffer zones around the woodlands. There is no buffer zone around Sheppard's Bush and the car park off Industrial Parkway is built right against the woodlot. This has a bad effect on birds nesting in that section of woodlands."

The recovery of species would also be facilitated through flooding more areas and better managing water levels and this, said Mr. Tomlinson, could be achieved through making storm water management ponds better connected and better controlled to act as reservoirs during adversely dry or wet seasons.

Managing the water levels is "absolutely critical," he said, adding storing water during dry summers and doing a controlled release would enable shore bird scrapes to thrive, and the drying out of ponds at six year intervals to "reinvigo-

Mr. Tomlinson's ideal vision for the park also includes the Petch House. Conservation education, he said, was an important part of his plan, and the now dismantled log house would best serve as a visitor centre "of some sort". Rebuilding the home in the wildlife park would give the park a heritage aspect and would be able to serve as a visitors centre during the summer.

This, he said, would give the building a definite purpose. The building, however, is still slated to be re-built on lands just behind the Aurora Seniors' Centre at the entrance of the Aurora Community Arboretum.

"The future is going to depend greatly on the citizens of Aurora, the Town Council, the businesses, the developers and everyone involved in the wildlife park to work together and bring it to a satisfactory conclusion," said Tomlinson. "Its success will depend on everyone working together to achieve it and I think if it is built and managed properly it will become an example of how urban areas should look after their wildlife."





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# Nearby developments have had varied impact on wildlife

By Brock Weir

Development around the pairs were gone. lands slated for the wildlife park have been advanta- by the time the construction geous to some species and started on the east side "disastrous" to others, with a vengeance there was according to environmental- a tremendous amount of ist David Tomlinson.

remarks last week in a pres- ed the bobolinks." he said. entation on how the Aurora first incepted in the 1990s.

around the perimeter have been particularly beneficial for birds like yellow throated is for 15 species the effect sparrows, robins, geese, of development was disasgrackles, blue jays, and trous," he said. "This mallard ducks that are able to adapt to human develop- turkey, ruffed grouse, ments. A total of 19 species have benefited by urban development, he said, but there have also been species that initially benefited but things then took a "disastrous" turn.

Species in the latter group include killdeer, plover, and spotted sandpiper, which nest on disturbed ground.

"It becomes an ideal habitat for them," said Mr. Tomlinson of disturbed ground and construction developments. "It was very good for things like cliff swallows, which nested on half-built buildings but as soon as the building was completed the house sparrows moved in and drove the swallows away."

But, for more species than not, individual numbers have decreased. The bobolink, for instance, has had much of its grassland habitat reduced. In 2006, there were only three area. By 2009 those three

"The reason for that is construction noise and dis-Mr. Tomlinson made his turbance which has affect-

Area developers argued Community Wildlife Park at the Ontario Municipal project has developed since Board that development wouldn't result in any loss Housing developments of species, just a loss of population.

> "What really happened included marsh hawk, wild Virginia rail, coot, moorhen

birds.

"The number that were adversely affected, which was what the developer predicted, was about 23 species, which included kingbird, cedar waxwing, scarlet tanager, and northern flicker. There was also a half reduction in the number of red wing black birds that went from about 80 pairs down to about 40 pairs, so they were right about 23 [adversely affected species] but they were wrong about the disastrous effects."

When Mr. Tomlinson first started surveying the land in question in the late 1970s he recorded 78 species of birds on the site,

breeding pairs left in the and the rest of the wetland out of the 105 recorded nesting species in all of

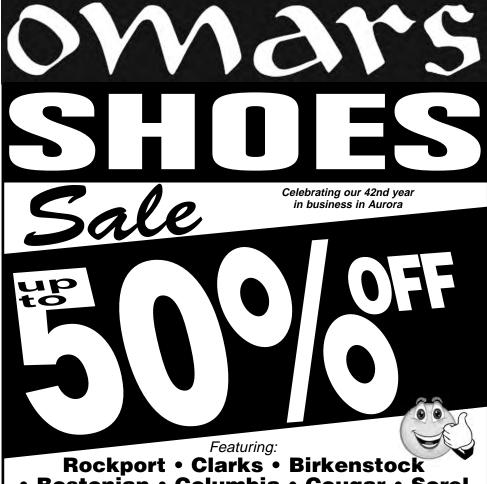
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Mardi Gras for Southlake founders Carolyn Hamill and John O'Bireck get into the festive spirit Friday afternoon at the official event kickoff. Over the last 12 years Ms. Hamill and Mr. O'Bireck have watched as their event, which started off as a smaller fundraiser for a local dance studio, has grown into the much larger community event it is today. Auroran photo by Brock Weir

# Mardi Gras follows tradition of giving: Founders

By Brock Weir

Aurora will have another chance to enjoy a taste of the Big Easy in local businesses culminating in the annual Mardi Gras For Southlake on February 18.

year's Mardi This Gras, which will be held at The Mansion on Industrial Parkway South, is the result of twelve years of growth and cultivation of a kernel of an idea to raise money for a local dance studio.

The idea was essentially born in a driveway, according to founders Carolyn Hamill and John O'Bireck. Putting their heads together to come up with ways of establishing ongoing fundraising activities for the School Jaymor of Dancing - where their Foundation, and then vision to get into play, but respective spent their time - they Stronach built on an idea that Mr. O'Bireck had fresh in his Southlake mind.

"I had just come home

Mobile, Alabama," said Mr. O'Bireck. "I had just been to a Mardi Gras and I did my research. [I learned] it has been happening every year for 150 years. We learned the whole idea of Mardi Gras is very philanthropic and about giving back to the people.

"The whole idea was to give back and ours was initially to give back to the children because what we wanted to do is make sure we could fund the kids who couldn't go on trips and that kind of thing. When it became [something for] the hospital, that is something that benefits everybody."

As the event for the dance school caught on, and gained momentum, organizers eventually aligned the event with the Regional Cancer Centre at Regional Health Centre.

"Southlake was very that day and I was pulling receptive because it was into my driveway from an already established

event," he said. "We weren't coming to them with an airy-fairy event, and we just continued on with the Mardi Gras."

Watching the fundraiser grow to such an extent has been a rewarding experience, according to Ms. Hamill, particularly when it comes to giving back and getting a large portion of the community involved as well.

"We have been very true to Mardi Gras traditions and it has been taking these traditions and watching it grow that we have really treated it like a small business in many ways," she said. "We have watched it grow like our baby over the years, watched it go through the hurdles, and it just gets bigger and bigger.

"It took about five Canadian Breast Cancer years from the initial daughters with what became the I have to say now we just build on all the good things, bring them forward, and add something new every single year. It is non-stop entertainment all for a good cause and it just doesn't get

better than that."

Building on the good things from years past, the 2012 Mardi Gras will see several new events and initiatives take place in the lead-up to the big event on February 18. These include a casino night with a Bourbon Street theme February 11, a Mardi Gras event at The Mansion staged by members of the Tamil community, and several restaurants such as Jonathan's and Aw! Shucks offering special Mardi Gras menu

"It's all about community and from that standpoint it has been very fulfilling to watch and to hear of the various groups that are working towards it," said Mr. O'Bireck. "It's a vehicle to raise money and it is a vehicle that we can continue on.

"The day that will be great is the day I am never involved in it but it is still running and will continue for 150 years like it has in New Orleans."

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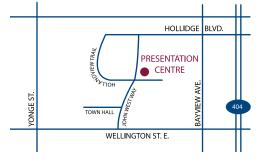




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# Eating disorder group challenges perceptions

By Brock Weir

Eating Disorders of York Region has set up shop to be in "the centre of it all", according to Janice Morgante, the group's executive director.

The organization recently moved from their headquarters in Richmond Hill to an office in Aurora's old post office building to have a more central location for people to utilize their services.

"Some people in the north find it is not convenient to travel all the way to the south, so we determined that Aurora is at the centre of it all," said Ms. Morgante. "We're really grateful that some of the people in Aurora have already found us and have talked to us on how they can support us.

"It's wonderful when people want to give back to the community. Because we're in the community, it is convenient for them and it makes it really accessible for us just to open our doors and invite what it is they would like to

Eating Disorders of York support and resources for people living with eating disorders whether one is suffering themselves or has a loved one going through the same experience. Their services include social support for individuals who have been left isolated or disadvantaged, and building relationships with other community groups.

"We all know someone who has been affected in one way or another [by eating disorders], although they might not be aware of it," said Ms. Morgante. "If we're able to be more informed and supportive, we can encourage people to feel free they can get the help. Sometimes people feel it is just their problem and they're not going to share it and it will get worse. The more we lessen the stigma around mental health or any kind of area where someone needs support it is beneficial and it takes a whole community

Stigma, she said, often stems Region was founded to provide from a lack of information about what eating disorders actually are and many people are "guessing entirely wrong." Each struggle with an eating disorder is as unique as the person living with it, she added, and perceiving anyone in a specific category is "harmful"

> "Sometimes we don't take the time to get to know someone and their circumstances and we just categorize them and put them in the box, and dismiss it," she said. "I think as a community the more frequently we're able to see what is unique in each person and identify with that and relate with that person's uniqueness, the less harm we can do."

Two individuals who have learned this first hand are co-op students from Rverson University which keep Eating Disorders of York Region trucking along. Nisha Thomas said that she sought out the group to further her studies in media literacy and advocacy and has earned a greater conception of what goes in to providing support for individ-

For fellow co-op student Tara Snow, work with the group has given her a greater understanding and insight.

"Prior to this I held a few misconceptions of my own," she said. "I didn't know how multifaceted it was, how complex eating disorders are. I guess I was guilty of categorizing it and boxing it and trying to think that fit into only a couple of circumstances. Through service users, testimonials, and research I learned that it was a way larger issue than I once perceived it to be."

Primarily through selffundraising efforts, Eating Disorders of York Region continues to do presentations for thousands of students in schools across the Region and has recently completed an outreach project mailing information packages to over 700 family doctors in York Region. To finance these continued and expanding efforts, the group is now spearheading a "friend raising" campaign of supporters who will take on their own fundraising efforts for the cause.

"We would like to go the next step, which is providing more support, which is hard to do," she said. "We don't at this point, have enough revenue to do what we

Co-op students Tara that surrounds eating ing with them. Snow and Thomas join Janice support for those liv-Morgante, executive director of Eating Disorders of York Region, in their new headquarters on Yonge Street in Aurora. The organization recently moved to **Aurora from Richmond** Hill to be more central to their clients. They are working to help combat the stigma

Nisha disorder and provide

Auroran photo by Brock Weir



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A young art patron takes notes on a painting last week, part of a display celebrating the 25th anniversary of SOYRA – the Society of York Region Artists – at the Aurora Cultural Centre. SOYRA was founded in September 1987 to provide a forum for artists of all levels to exchange ideas and further artistic goals. Over 60 SOYRA artists are represented in the 25th anniversary exhibition currently on display at the Church Street landmark through Auroran photo by David Falconer February 5.

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#### Spotlight on Our New Partner

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Ashley's Partnership represents Stewart Esten's forward-looking perspective to continually meet our client's legal needs. Senior Partner Bill Leslie states, "Ashley is a bright, knowledgeable, client-centred lawyer. Her appointment will further deepen the services and expertise offered by our partners and senior lawyers"

Ashley is a graduate of Osgood Hall Law school and the

University of Guelph. She was called to the Bar in 2007. Ashley is a strong advocate with a preferred area of practice in medical malpractice and personal injury law. With a diverse practice. Ashley also represents clients in respect of contract disputes, negligence issues, property matters, equine disputes, and creditor's remedies. Ashley is an active member of the community and serves as the legal representative of the Royal Victoria Hospital Research Ethics Board. As a resident of Aurora, Ashley is pleased to meet with clients in both York Region and Simcoe County.

When Ashley is not at the office, she can be found at the farm enjoying the company of her two horses and competing in show jumping events.





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Week of January 24, 2012



#### **HOUSE LEAGUE**

103 Timbits Toronto/White 10 - Cayden Connelly 1G, Colm Macheachern 1G, Kevin Wasserman 2G 1A, Daniel Nozdrachev 1G, Sam Belman 2G, Justine Chu 1G, Parker Jalbert 1G. 102 Timbits Boston/Gold 4 - Chase Keeler 1G, Anthony Carbone 1G 1A, Jordan Dool 1G, Matthew Gianforcaro 1A.

103 Timbits - Toronto/White 4 - Justine Chu 1G, Wyatt LaPlante 1G, Cayden Connelly 1G, Luke Bonellos 1G, Dimitri Iriotakis, shutout. 105 Timbits PittsburgH/Black 0.

103 Timbits Toronto/White 2 - Kevin Wasserman 2G, Matthew Siarkas 1A. 105 Timbits Pittsburgh/Black 1 - Robert Malandrino 1G, Eric Kaszuba 1A.

405 McDonald's - Black 9. 401 McDonald's - Red 5.

401 McDonald's - Red 12 - Mitchell Weatherall 4G, Daniel Rheeder 2G, Logan Kidder 1G, Rony Wahab 1G, Liam Vivian 1G, Ethan Mohamed 1G, Anthony Miranda 2G. 409 McDonald's - Teal 7 - Tommy Collins 1G, Tommy Collins 1G, Brendan Sanford 3G, Brendan Dilworth 1G, Brian Turner 1G, Andrew Campbell 1G.

401 McDonald's - Red 7. 410 McDonald's

405 McDonald's - Black 5 - Jack Nicholson 2G, Ian Hilgendorff 2G, Cody Fisher 1G. 409 McDonald's - Teal 1 - Brendan Sanford 1G.

401 McDonald's - Red 9. 407 McDonald's - Kelly Green 4.

405 McDonald's - Black 5 - Carson Purcell 1G, Jack Nicholson 2G, Ian Hilgendorff 2G, Mark Clutterbuck 1A, Eric Flicker 1A, Joshua Anselmo 1A. 409 McDonald's - Teal 5 - Brian Turner 1G, Brendan Dilworth 1G, Brendan Sanford 2G 1A, Nicholas Leontis 1A.

**408 McDonald's - Grey 3** - Jack Viney 2G, Sebastian Negulescu 1G, Christian Romas 1A, Brennan Powell 2A. **406 McDonald's - Purple 2** - Zoe Rodger 1G 1A, Jackson Galbraith 1G, Joseph Franze 1A.

907 Crabby Joe's 4 - Sean Foxwell 1G, Joshua Bell 3G, Neil Duggan 1A, Tyler Futterer 1A, Kevan Cress 1A, Austin Megit 2A. 903 A.D.C. Aluminum 3 - Franco Porano 1G 1A, Trevor George 1G, Matthew Sanita 2A, Benjamin McGowan 1A, Michael Tanel 1A.

909 Manhattan Trophies Ltd. 3 - Dustin Partanen 1G, Brian Pedron 1G, Chris End 1G, Mackenzie Smith 1A, Adam DeRoos 1A, Ben Black 1A. 901 Rogers TV 2 - Andrew Walter 1G, Nic Venosa 1G, Mac Cawfield 1A.

910 INARIA 7 - Cody Child 2G 2A, Matthew Walker 1G 1A, Scott Wheeler 1G 1A, Bailey Miller 2A, Peter Sandwell 1A, Lukas Marek 1A. 911 AHPA 1 - Russel Johnson 1G, Austin Tanaka 1A.

905 Continental Ingredients 5 - Brendan McDonald 1G 1A, Patrick Tardif 1G, Dylan Sutton 1G, Austin Boudreau 1G, Paul Ashbourne 1A, Massimo Longhin 2A. 912 Pizza Pizza 2 - Gregory Milligan 2G, Casey Severini 1A, Seth Rogers 1A.

904 North York Plumbing & Heating 8 - Josh Lawlor 2G 2A, Jason Glionna 2G, Matt Reeves 1G 1A, Liam MacKichan 2A, Declan Johnston 2A, Scott Barker 1A, Graeme

#### Aurora Minor Hockey Association Results, up to January 22, 2012

McDonald 1A. **906 ATS Healthcare 2** - Adam Durante 1G, Eliot Harkin 1G, Michel Hache 1A, Sam Steenhorst 1A, Scott Kostin 1A, Dylan Lyons 1A.

908 Benson, Kearley IFG 6 - James Johnston 6G, Mark Presacco 3A, Liam Devlin 3A, Kentner Arkell 2A. 902 Aurora Chrysler 2 - Cameron Staples 1G, Scott Taylor 1G, Michael Hosmer 1A, Matthew Roach 1A.

1006 Caruso & Company 7 - Andrew Kimber 2G 1A, Alex Woodward 1G, Jim Tatum 2G, John Dinicolantonio 1A. 1008 Danny & Scotty Puck Bandits 1 - Ty Brochu 1G, Josh Ashfield 1A.

1004 BMO Bank of Montreal 3 - Jesse Bentolila 1G, Justin Killens 1G, Evan Jones 1G, Cody Rundle-Sanderson 1A, Kelley Hudson 1A, Josh Bentolila 1A. 1008 Danny & Scotty Puck Bandits 3 - Graham Joiner 1G, Ty Brochu 1G, David Marshall 1G, JP Hudon 1A, Jamie Poutney 1A, Lucus Poleto 1A.

1002 INARIA 1 - W Reid 1G, Zack Henderson, shutout. 1003 Tom & Jerry's 0.

1006 Caruso & Company 6 - Brian Tree 1G, Alex McDonald 1G 2A, Chris Fafalios 1G, Jim Tatum 1G 1A, Reid Sisson 2A, Nick Zebrowski 2A, Tyler White 1A, John Dinicolantonio 1A. 1001 Pizzaville Aurora 1 -Mike Nonnewitz 1G, TJ Ground 1A.

1007 Crabby Joe's 2 - Steadman Dinning 1G 1A. 1005 BrokerLink 1 - Jason Eberlin 1G, Ryan Eberlin 1A.

#### **REP LEAGUE**

Tyke A. Stouffville 8. Aurora 0. Tyke A Markham 8. Aurora 1.

**Tyke A - Georgina 3. Aurora 2 - Thomas** Guilbert 1G, Tucker Kauffeldt 1G,

Tyke Select A - Aurora 3. Thomas Guilbert 2G, Emmett Ross 1G, Jake Worthman 1A. Richmond Hill 1.

Novice AA - Markham 3. Aurora 2 - Todd Cook 1G, Anton Sopov 1G, Dylan Andersen 2A. Novice AA - Markham 3. Aurora 1 - Todd

Novice A - Newmarket 5. Aurora 2 - Hunor Kristof 1G 1A, Lucas De Palma 1G 1A, Ryan Cariou 1A.

Novice A - Richmond Hill 5. Aurora 2 - Ethan Solilo 2G, Hunor Kristof 2A, Ryan Cariou 1A.

**Novice A - Nobleking 5. Aurora 2** - Ryan Fowler 1G, Max Reeves 1G, Ethan Solilo 2A, Jake McMillan 1A, Aiden Kirchmair 1A.

Novice AE - Aurora 4. Stouffville 3. Novice AE - Aurora 6. Markham 3.

Novice AE - Aurora 6. Markham 3. Novice AE - Richmond Hill 6. Aurora 1.

Novice AE - Aurora 8. Newmarket 1.

Novice AE - Aurora 8. Newmarket
Novice AE - Aurora 2. Stouffville 2.

Novice AE - Aurora 2. Stoutfylle 2
Novice AE - Aurora 5. Orillia 4.

Novice AE - Aurora 2. Innisfil 2.

Novice AE - Aurora 9. Schomberg 0.

Novice AE - Orillia 3. Aurora 0. Novice AE - Aurora 4. Stouffville 2.

Novice AE - Aurora 7. Newmarket 1.

Novice AE - Aurora 9. Newmarket 0.

Novice AE - Aurora 7. Georgina 2.

Novice AE - Aurora 2. Markham 2. Novice AE - Aurora 6. Innisfil 1.

Novice AE - Aurora 4. Georgina 0. Novice AE - Aurora 9. Markham 0.

Novice AE - Orillia 4. Aurora 3. Novice AE - Richmond Hill 5. Aurora 3 Novice AE - Aurora 10. Bradford 2.

Novice AE - Orillia 5. Aurora 2.

Novice AE - Aurora 5. Schomberg 2. Novice AE - Aurora 5. Markam 1.

Novice AE - Aurora 7. Newmarket 1.

Novice AE - Aurora 5. Richmond Hill 1.

Novice AE - Aurora 5. Bradford 0.

Novice AE - Aurora 6. Georgina 3.

Novice AE - Aurora 3. Bradford 1..

Novice AE - Aurora 5. Schomberg 1. Novice AE - Aurora 5. Innisfil 0.

Novice AE - Aurora 4. Markham 0.

Minor Atom A - Aurora 6. Richmond

Minor Atom AE - Aurora 6 - Joshua Torres 1G 1A, Zachary Grant 1G, Carson Tidd 2G, Curtis Manley 2G, Sam MacLeod 1A, Cole Nip 2A, Sean Haw 2A, James Sproul 2A, Carson Klein 1A. Stouffville 4.

Minor Atom AE - Aurora 5. Richmond

Atom AA - Aurora 7 - Evan Pringle 5G, Malcolm Johnston 1G, Luke O'Keefe 1G, Ben Liotta 1A, Stephen Whittle 1A, Wesley Reid 1A, Andrew Wolanski 1A. Stouffville 1.

Atom AA - Aurora 3 - Wesley Reid 1G, Stephen Whittle 1G, Malcolm Johnston 1G, Evan Pringle 2A, Ben Liotta 1A, Andrew Wolanski 1A. Stouffville 1.

Atom AA - Aurora 9 - Harris Goan 3G 1A, Stephen Whittle 2G, Ben Liotta 1G 2A, Wesley Reid 1A, Evan Pringle 3A, Quinn Bruckner 3A, Malcolm Johnston 2A, Luke Jarvis 1A. Trevor Dungey 1A. Stouffville 1.

Atom A - Aurora 4 - Anthony DiPietro 1G, Matthew McConnell 2G, Andrew Park 1G 1A, Dylan Prescott 2A, Jason Gage 1A. Innisfil 2.

Atom AE - Markham 3. Aurora 2 - Alex Sandras 1G, Matthew Gram 1G, Jack Patterson 1A, Tyler Sawyer 1A.

Minor Peewee AA - Stouffville 6. Aurora 3 - Jaedon Jackson 1G, Nicholas Rountes 1G, Ty Boisseau 1G 1A, Andrew Jorgensen 1A, Anthony Capraro 1A, Matthew Hollett 1A.

Minor Peewee AA - Aurora 6 - Ty Boisseau 2G, Matthew Ferry 1G, Julien Aben 1G 1A, Andrew Jorgensen 1G 1A, Brandon Vaughan 2A, Ben Fleischaker 1A, Nicholas Keller 1A, Nate Legros 1A, Jaedon Jackson 1A, Nicholas Rountes 1A. Stouffville 2.

Minor Peewee A - Innisfil 5. Aurora 4.

Minor Peewee A - Aurora 3. Innisfil 2.

Minor Peewee AE - Aurora 6 - Colin

Windle 1G, Mathew Hastings 2G, Thomas Morra 1G 1A, Carson Venneri 1G 1A, Fin Reeves 1G 1A, Fraser Ciocca 1A, Peter Chimienti 1A, Andrew Cundari 1A, Lucas Surace 1A, Parker Lantz, shutout. **Olean 0.** 

Minor Peewee AE - Binghamton 2 Aurora 1 - Colin Windle 1G.

Minor Peewee AE - Aurora 2 - Francesco Scuglia 1G, Lucas Surace 1G, Andrew Cundari 1A, Nicholas Vamvakaris 1A, Braden Reid 1A, Mathew Hastings 1A. Bridgewater 2.

Minor Peewee AE - Aurora 1 - Colin Windle 1G, Fin Reeves 1A, Peter Chimienti 1A, Anthony Palmieri, shutout. Opponent 0.

Peewee AA - Richmond Hill 3. Aurora 1.
Peewee AA - Richmond Hill 7. Aurora 2.
Peewee A - TNT 2. Aurora 1 - Stewart

Gable 1G, Reid Carpenter 1A, Thomas Kostoff 1A.

Peewee A - TNT 2. Aurora 1.

Peewee AE - Aurora 9. Schomberg 0...

Peewee RS - Aurora 5. Oshawa 1.

Peewee RS - Aurora 11. Leaside 0.

Peewee RS - Aurora 8. Scarborough 1. Minor Bantam AA - Markham 1. Aurora 0.

Minor Bantam A - Orillia 9. Aurora 2 - Tristan Kuchar 2G, Alistair Johnston 1A, Cameron Zinner 1A.

Minor Bantam A - Orillia 7. Aurora 3 - Shaun Broad 1G, Will Ashton 1G, Tristan Kuchar 1G, Alec Magnante 1A.

Minor Bantam AE - Aurora 3. Georgina 1.

Minor Bantam AA - Markham 3. Aurora 2 - Evan Woodhead 1G 1A, Tyler Williams 1G, Evan Cherubini 1A.

Bantam AA - Aurora 3 - Hudson Yeomans 2G, Chris Klinowski 1G. Markham 0.

**Bantam AA - Aurora 3** - Hudson Yeomans 1G, Peter Andreakos 1G, Jack Ellison 1G. **Markham 2.** 

Bantam A - Orillia 5. Aurora 2.

Bantam AE - Aurora 3 - Brady Mulhern 1G 1A, Joe Battiston 1G, John Partland 1A, Michael Fisher 1A. Innisfil 2.

Bantam AE - Aurora 5 - Hunter Jones 1G, Christian MacGillivray 1G 2A, Joe Battiston 1G, Austin Riswick 1G, Brady Mulhern 1A, Michael Fisher 1A, Liam Joiner 1A, Johnny Sherwood 1A, John Partland 1A, Matthew Bellerby 1A. Innisfil 2.

Minor Midget AA - Aurora 4. TNT 0.
Minor Midget A - Aurora 1 - Kyle Nice 1G,
Matthew Kostiw, shutout. London 0.

Minor Midget A - Aurora 4 - Liam Coll 1G 1A, Robert Stokes 1G 1A, Nathan Sinclair 1A, Erik Balkovec 1A, Jack Caldwell 2A, Zac Cowl 1A. Kingston 2.

Minor Midget A - Aurora 6 - Jordan Nanos 2G 1A, Erik Balkovec 1G 1A, Zac Cowl 1G, Liam Coll 1A, Jack Caldwell 3A, Austin Persaud 2A, Nathan Sinclair 1A, James Thomson 1A. Beach City 4.

Minor Midget A - Aurora 1 - Liam Coll 1G, Erik Balkovec 1A, Jack Caldwell 1A. Whitby 1.

Minor Midget A - Aurora 3 - Jordan Nanos 1G, Evan Jackson 1G, Jack Caldwell 1G, Erik Balkovec 1A, Liam Coll 1A, Zac Cowl 1A. Newmarket 2.

Minor Midget A - Aurora 3 - Zac Cowl 1G, Erik Balkovec 1G, Nathan Sinclair 1G, Kyle Nice 1A, Robert Stokes 1A, Alec Ground 1A, Matthew Kostiw, shutout. Kingston 0.

Minor Midget A - Aurora 4 - Liam Coll 2G, Liam Beresford 1G 1A, Jack Caldwell 1G, Erik Balkovec 1A, Nathan Sinclair 2A, Kyle Nice 1A, Matthew Tozer 1A, Jordyn Thomson, shutout. East Gwillimbury 0.

**Minor Midget AE - Whitby 4**. Aurora 1 - Graham Robinson 1G.

Midget AA - Aurora 4. Richmond Hill 4. Midget AA - Richmond Hill 4. Aurora 1. Midget A - Nobleking 1. Aurora 0.

Midget A - Aurora 2. Nobleking 1.

Midget A - Aurora 4 - Matt Skoulikas 2G, Eric Archibald 1G, Ryan Hughes 1G, Quincy Ing 1A, Zach Ferry 1A, Jody Nonnewitz 1A. Nobleking 0.





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# Tigers end week on a high note

By Kevin Michie

The Aurora Tigers second place hopes took a big step backwards last week, losing two of their three games.

The squad opened up their week on Thursday in Newmarket, against the North Division leading Hurricanes.

The Tigers came out strong in the first and were able to open up a lead early in the period, thanks to Taylor McCloy. The marker by McCloy, however, would amount to the only goal of the night for Aurora.

Newmarket goaltender Pucciarelli shut the door after that, and Newmarket took advantage of some undisciplined Tigers play. Following a Ryan Johnson high sticking penalty, Newmarket tied the game up and late in the first the Hurricanes took the lead on another power play goal while Evan Fong was sitting in the penalty box serving a too many men on the ice

The one goal lead would prove to be enough, handing the Tigers a heartbreaking loss to kick off their week.

The Tigers didn't have

loss as they were on the ice the following night against the Markham Waxers, a team the Tigers were chasing for second place in the North standings.

a win without one of their key offensive contributors, Andrew Goldberg, as the forward was out playing for the St. Michaels Majors of the remaining in the regular OHL. Goldberg would return the following the night.

Both teams battled to a 1-1 tie after two periods of play in Markham on Friday, before Aurora collapsed in the third.

Markham scored three unanswered in the final frame to seal their victory, and hand Tigers goaltender Brett Sinclair his third loss in four games in January. Sinclair has been sitting on the bench more often than starting this month, giving backup goaltender Kevin Entmaa a chance to shine and the following night at home against the Waxers, he did just that.

Entmaa made his fifth start in nine games this month on Saturday - the most action he's had this season - and made the most of it. The goaltender faced 41

much time to dwell on the Markham shots, and turned away 38 of them to help the Tigers salvage, what would have been a disastrous weekend, with a 4-3 win.

The Tigers' backup goaltender is now 4-1 on the Aurora would have to get month and has cast doubt around whether Sinclair will be able to carry the Tigers into the playoffs.

Aurora has six games season, therefore giving a bit of time for Sinclair to reclaim his starting position back before the playoffs. If Entmaa continues to hold the hot hand however, Tigers

coach, Richmond, will not shy away from playing his backup goalie.

With the Tigers sitting five points behind Stouffville for second place in the North with only six games remaining, Aurora's chances to grab a second place seed before the playoffs seems slim. Combine the point differential and the fact that Stouffville holds two games in hand and Tigers' fate looks

The Tigers will wrap up a busy January in Huntsville on Sunday against the Otters.

### **AURORA TIGERS NOVICE AE SCORES**

Thursday Jan 5, 2012

Markham VS. Aurora Tigers - 1-5 83 Lucas DePalma 1G, 1A, 44 Luca Decristofaro 2G, 2 Matteo Rossi 1G, 2A, 5 Ryan Weeks 1G, 10 Nicholas Petinarelis 2A, 77 David

> Saturday Jan 7, 2012 Newmarket VS. Aurora Tigers - 1-7

lacovetta 1A, 76 Liam Taylor 1A.

77 David Iacovetta 1G, 83 Lucas DePalma 1G, 1A, 10 Nicholas Petinarelis 1G, 1A, 44 Riley Pearl 1G, 87 George Rappos Jr 1G, 2A, 9 Jordan Dimatulac 2G,1A, 42 Ayden

4 Ryan Dunbar 1A,

#### Monday Jan 9, 2012

Schomberg VS. Aurora - 1-5 77 David lacovetta 1G, 40 Riley Pearl 1G, 2A, 87 George Rappos Jr 1G, 1A, 5 Ryan Weeks 1G, 9 Jordan Dimatulac 1G,1A, 4 Ryan Dunbar 1A,

#### Tuesday Jan 10, 2012

Innisfil VS. Aurora - 0-5 77 David Iacovetta 2G, 87 George Rappos Jr 2G,1A, 83 Lucas DePalma 1G,1A, 5 Ryan Weeks 1A, 9 Jordan Dimatulac

#### Saturday Jan 14, 2012

(1 of 7 playdown games) Aurora VS. Markham - 4-0 87 George Rappos Jr 1G, 40 Riley Pearl 1G,1A, 77 David lacovetta 2G, 9 Jordan Dimatulac 1A.

Saturday Jan 21, 2012 (2 of 7 playdown games) Markham VS. Aurora 0 - 3 76 Liam Taylor 1G, 83 Lucas DePalma 1G, 5 Ryan Weeks 1G, 33 Chris Childerhose 2A, 2 Matteo Rossi 1A.

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# Aurora Takes Empire State Tourney

AE Tigers are the 2012 Scott Reid, Don Lantz, Mathew Hastings, Max Empire State Club champs. Drew

eight hours in between Pino Fodero. Second row: games, the boys "worked Andrew Cundari, Braden Francesco hard to gain consistency and grab some momentum en route to a second place finish in pool play and advanced directly to the finals," according to Joe Chimienti.

Aurora faced off against the Binghamton Senators in the finals, a team they had previously lost to in pool play.

"With a lightning fast start, the Tigers took a 1-0 lead in the first minute of the game," said Mr. Chimienti. "In a very well played game by both teams, the Tigers early lead turned out to be the difference and the boys captured their third tournament championship victory with a 1-0 win."

Pictured above in the

Reeves,

Aurora's Minor Peewee back row, left to right are Reid, Fraser Ciocca, Joe Lombard, Thomas Morra, With a 7 a.m. start and Chimienti, Vito Palmieri, Peter Chimienti. Third row: Carson Venneri,

Joseph Grassa, Fin Reeves, Lucas Surace, Colin Windle, Nicholas Vamvakaris. In front: Parker Lantz, Michael Scuglia, Fodero, Anthony Palmieri

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Sheri Fiegehen, Marketing Specialist for Community & Home Assistance to Seniors (CHATS), and Tim Jones, CHATS Director of Development, attend a Mardi Gras-themed fundraiser for the service group at the Aurora Cultural Centre on Friday night. Auroran photo by David Falconer

# Budget trimmed, but deliberations continue

From page 1

an Aurora budget since we outlook over the next few started to give away years, look to 2014 and groups like the Arboretum problem grow exponentialand the Cultural Centre. In ly I don't mind addressing conscience I cannot it and trying to beef it up assure the people who in all those years," said elected me that they are Councillor getting value for their Thompson of the Emerald money.'

voted in favour of delaying deferred." the funding to address the out the bulk of Aurora's John Abel. Although operating budget, it was a practice what it preaches tives to combat the inva-said, put the current sive bug.

#### Leash-Free Park closed

By Wendy Soloduik

Tell Rover his free reign is over... at least until Wednesday.

According to the Town of Aurora, the Leash Free Dog Park, located at Industrial Parkway North at St. John's Sideroad, will be closed today, Tuesday January 24 (the Park was also closed Monday), from 7 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. in order to accommodate wood chip mulch delivery and installation by the Parks Department.

But don't worry, Rover can run free again tomorrow, while dog-loving residents of Aurora mix and mingle.

"I am happy to postnot been able to support pone it a year, look at our non-elected 2015, and should the Michael Ash Borer plans. "But for Councillor Buck was this current budget year I one of four councillors who would like to see it

It was a matter of being emerald ash borer, a proactive, however, for species expected to wipe Councillors Paul Pirri and ash trees in the coming Councillor Pirri said he years. For Councillor was a firm believer in the Sandra Humfryes, who old adage "a stitch in time made the motion removing saves nine", Councillor the funding from the 2012 Abel said Council should matter of waiting to see if in light of the view the preany developments turned vious Council's deferral of up from research being items in the fire budget undertaken for alterna- over the years. This, he

Council in a tight spot when the fire budget came to a head.

"We should practice what we've been preaching," said Councillor Abel. "Although it states that \$100,000 seems like a lot of money, I think it is prudent that we show leadership and say, 'Let's put a little bit aside.' I think there are tremendous ideas that we could move with that \$100,000 in a revolving sort of situation to lessen the impact [of removing and replacing trees] even further.

"I would like the community to know we're planning ahead."

Councillors Abel and Pirri were ultimately the only Councillors who voted against removing the money from the budget. Councillors Ballard, Gaertner, and Gallo were not in attendance.

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57					58	59	60	61	62		63			64
65					66						67			
68		+				69	1					70	1	+

#### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Point one point E of due S
- 4. Slithered
- 8. The brain and spinal cord (abbr.)
- 11. Direct the steering of a ship 13. Chops with irregular blows
- 15. Plural of hilum
- 16. Incline from vertical (geo.)
- 17. Simple word forms
- 18. Paddles
- 19. Roman garment
- 21. Meat skewers
- 23. Ethiopia (abbr.)
- 25. The cry made by sheep
- 26. Beatty-Bening movie
- 30. Concealed
- 33. Political action committee
- 34. High rock piles (Old English)
- 35. Scottish County (abbr.)
- 36. Goat and camel hair fabric

- 37. A very large body of water
- 38. Fabric stain
- 39. Israeli city \_\_\_\_ Aviv
- 40. Shoe's underside
- 42. Military legal corps
- 43. Patti Hearst's captors
- 44. Undecided
- 48. '\_\_ death do us part
- 49. Supervises flying
- 50. Many headed monsters
- 54. Literary language of Pakistan
- **57**. Halo
- 58. Hawaiian hello
- 63. Lubricants
- 65. Mild exclamation
- 66. Greek fresh-water nymph
- 67. Nickname for grandmother
- 68. A restaurant bill
- 69. Automaker Ransom E.
- 70. A young man

#### **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Schenectady County Airport
- 2. Small water craft
- 3. Opposite of ecto
- 4. The woman
- 5. Skeletal muscle
- 6. Devoid of warmth and cordiality
- 7. Decameter
- 8. Italian goodbye
- 9. Mediation council
- 10. Impudence
- 12. A desert in S Israel
- 14. Japanese seaport
- 15. Nob or goblin
- 20. Ingested
- 22. Swiss river
- 24. Protects head from weather
- 25. Lava rock
- 26. Designer identifier
- 27. 34470 FL
- 28. Petrified ancient animal
- 29. Gas used in refrigeration

- 30. Journeys to Mecca 31. Eighth month, Jewish calendar
- 32. Small indefinite quantity
- 33. Taps
- 41. Extremely high frequency
- 44. Iguanidae genus
- 45. From the Leaning Tower's city
- 46. Cologne
- 47. Moses' elder brother (Bible)
- 50. A minute amount (Scott)
- 51. Hindu name for 4 epochs
- 52. Faded and dull
- 53. Radioactivity unit
- 55. The face of a clock
- 56. The inner forearm bone
- 59. Tai language of the Mekong
- 60. Embrocate
- 61. Possessed
- 62. Public promotions
- 64. Sorrowful

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Look in next weeks issue for the solution for this week's puzzle.





**Conquering Computers** 

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Making use of computer technology is not for everybody and is certainly not for all seniors, primarily because age dynamics factor into the process learning increasing age.

For the vast majority of people however, computer technology remains within reach, a statement verified by a great majority of seniors who have learned.

Many seniors refuse to bow to diminishing faculties by dismissing any misgivings and mastering computer basics.

A feeling of dominating intimidation and anxiety eases the learning process; worries hinder progress impeding the learning process.

Typically, mature students suffer unease and anxiety at the prospect of computer lessons. However, the first few lessons, while introducing the student to the computer environment, also underline that friendly persuasion rules the environment. learning Progress appears to falter a little at the beginning, while the student adjusts to the

From beginnings fraught with misgivings, interest, persistence and ability forge a pathway to success. If the anxiety factor could be eliminated - and it is eliminated with time and a little success the learning process becomes more exciting.

The Seniors' Centre Computer Club offers a popular basic computing course.

In varying degrees of advancement, lessons are also available in PowerPoint, Excel, Publisher and Word to senior students' meet requirements, as demand dictates

Work produced in any of the courses listed above, including graphics, can be copied to many files, pro-

grams and tasks, including email. Work produced through word processing and requiring calculations, will copy easily to Excel and copy back to Word with the calculations completed, and copy again to e-mail when complete.

The majority of members in the Seniors' Centre possess some computing skills, but it seems that many would benefit with further instruction or a refresher course.

Anybody can attain computer literacy. While anxiety or trepidation constrains some seniors from immersing in this fascinating modern technology, the door is open to all seniors who wish to advance their personal skills, and a little success will encourage the most nervous student.

Now is the time to sign up for instruction commencing in February; the sooner the Computer Committee knows what instruction is required,

the more time they have to respond adequately!

If you have any topics to suggest or present, concerning computing or any topic that would engage the interest of members, please communicate to committee member Jeff Walker directly, if you have his acquaintance or through a volunteer at the front counter if necessary.

Whatever topic you bring to the notice of Jeff will hold his attention, stirring his imagination to conceive spinoff topics. Please get involved by making a suggestion or by offering to make a presentation! Imagination is a powerful force among seniors and may carry contemporaries to new worlds of thought, but without imagination we stagnate, we go nowhere!

Euchre is available now in the Seniors' Centre on Tuesday evenings between 6.30 and 8.30 p.m. Card games appeal to a wide audience of seniors, offering a fellowship and society of likeminded seniors.

As membership for evening and weekend activities grow, the opportunities for increased hours of operation also grow, and a larger number of seniors can access the bounty of close interaction among their fellow seniors than anywhere else locally.

Members gain admittance to the Seniors' Centre officially, by presenting a membership card. In practice, many members gain entrance on sight alone because of regular attendance and consequent easy recognition.

Joshy Kallungal proposes to streamline entrance to the Seniors Centre by allowing possession and use of activitv fee cards to substitute for membership cards.

This is an important matter affecting each member on every visit to the Seniors

Centre and deserves consideration and debate by the Operations and Activity committee, followed by review by the full Board of Directors if deemed worthy of further consideration.

Presenting a valid membership card on each visit by well-known regular members has merits and frustrations.

Would the majority of elderly members accept automatic validation, requiring member production of an easily forgotten membership card on each visit?

The Aurora Seniors' Centre represents Aurora to the world to the finest degree.

All members of society aspire to long healthy life, and probably view the Seniors Centre as a boon to retired life. Study of the membership validation, albeit with a cautious and prudent approach to this issue requiring vigilance, will serve seniority best, now and into the future!

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# **AURORAN POLL**

Please participate in our POLL Common com - scroll to the go to www.theauroran.com - scroll to the bottom right side of the home page to...

The Town of Aurora passed a Council resolution earlier this year that would have allowed them to seek to recover the \$55,000+ of public money spent in former mayor Phyllis Morris' defamation suit against three local bloggers, among others, if she had

> Now that Ms. Morris has dropped the suit, should the Town still seek to recover the money?

YES, it was a misuse (122) of Public money RESULTS AS OF JAN 23, 2012

NO, It would cost more (30)money to pursue it

**78**<sub>2</sub>% **19**<sub>2</sub>% **2**<sub>6</sub>%



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Alison Collins-Mrakas -THURSDAY nights at 7 p.m.

#### THEAURORAN.COM

#### Go to the site using your smartphone. Here's how:

- 1. On your 'Smart Phone' browser go to getscanlife.com and download the free application
- **Scanlife.com** reader (or any app you prefer) onto your phone. 2. Press the download button when the site auto-detects your device.
- 3. The app will be downloaded to your phone.
- Click on the ScanLife icon to scan QR codes or barcodes.

"Our Town" with Alison



If you don't have a smart phone, go to www.theauroran.com -click on the video -to go to TVA

#### Watch community Affaired just posted

- St.Andrew's Pipes and Drums St.Andrew's Hockey
- St. Joseph's Catholic School 50th Anniversary
- Artists in the Valley
- Central York Fire Services Open House

& much more... go to www.theauroran.com

Vatch for new community videos each week. If you have an upcoming event and would overed by theauroran.com please have your event co-ordinator email cynthia@auroran Thank you to our videographers: Steve Mitchell and Sean Casey

# Shows from the Market

K.O. Creations Cocoa Cannelle Chef: Mr. Spinners Chef: Pascal Jan's Country Pantry FERRET GIRL -Colin Haskin **Nov 26 Indoor Farmers** 



Market - Cultural Centre If you don't have a smart phone go to

www.aurorafarmersmarket.tv

**Next Farmers Market January 28, 2012 Aurora Cultural Centre** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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The deadline for all classified advertising copy is Friday at 3 p.m. each week. More than 1,000,000 copies delivered to Aurorans each year!

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Interested

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Simcoe-York Group of Newspapers is currently hiring for the position of Editor at one of our local newspapers.

The editor will be expected to:

CAREER

- Produce several bylined new and feature stories each
- Generate story ideas and follow up on news tips
- Coordinate and edit content and columns submitted for publication
- Take photographs
- Show proficiency at using social media, Mac computers, and QuarkXPress, InDesign, Photoshop and other programs necessary for the publication of a weekly newspaper
- Work some evenings and weekends, as required

#### Qualifications:

- Diploma in journalism preferred
- Candidates should have experience working on the editorial side of the newspaper industry
- Excellent writing, editing and photography skills
- Valid driver's license and a reliable vehicle

The ideal candidate will have a distinct willingness to cover both community events, local politics, and be able candidates should to work in a team-oriented forward their cover vet self-motivated environment.

letter and resume to rs@simcoeyorkprinting.com Simcoe-York

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- Accurately complete run sheets to ensure accounting maintains current files on all Clients.
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- Address customer concerns in a timely and
- appropriate manner.
- Attain and/or surpass sales targets.

#### The successful candidate will:

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- have sound knowledge of sales and marketing
- have excellent communication skills, verbal and written have the ability to work indiviually and as a team with
- minimum supervision have strong computer knowledge in Microsoft Office;
- experience with design applications an asset
- have the ability to meet deadlines and work under
- be extremely organized and detail oriented
- have strong time management skills have strong presentation skills

#### Qualifications:

- College Diploma in business, marketing or related field preferred or 3 years sales experience
- Valid driver's license and aood drivina record

candidates should forward their resume and cover letter to rs@simcoeyorkprinting.com

Interested

and qualified

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### Simcoe-York Group of Newspapers

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The purpose of this full time position is to develop the business by selling advertising and concepts to both new and existing clients.

To be considered for this role, you must have cold calling experience. You will possess a pleasant phone manner and excellent communication skills, initiative, self-motivaion and a strong commitment to customer service. You need to have a consultative approach as the role is challenging and engaging. You will be

set targets and goals. Experience in publishing is advantageous, but not essential.

able to pursue opportunities to reach

**Interested** applicants are invited to forward a letter of application accompanied by resume to

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# -THE AURORAN - Arts & Culture



Aurora quilter Angela Krotowski displays some of her handiwork before it goes on display at the Aurora Cultural Centre next month. The vivid blue and red quilts on the front represent an orca and a loon, inspired by the art of the Haida people. In her right hand, Ms. Krotowski holds a patriotic design, and in the other hand is a quilt of special significance. This garden quilt incorporates materials she herself made, as well as contributions from her mother, daughters, mother-in-law, and grandchildren. The quilts will be unveiled February 9. Auroran photo by Brock Weir

# Pre-play events follow Shepard's last night

Theatre Aurora's lobby will be transformed into the Fireside Bar this Friday just prior to the Laramie Project.

The Laramie Project, a play written by Moises Kaufman and members of The Tectonic Theatre Project, is based on the true story of the 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay student, at the age of 21. The case led to a number of advances in American hate crime legislation.

A cast of 10 will embody over 60 different characters in the show, bringing the story to life. The production is expected to be a departure from regular Theatre Aurora offerings, including new special effects features, and five pieces of music especially composed for Theatre Aurora.

On Friday, however,

the sound of karaoke will fill the lobby of the Henderson Street venue.

debut performance of Theatre will be trans- members will be welcome their production of The formed into The Fireside to sing too." Bar - the last place Matthew Shepard was seen alive," said director Sergio Calderon. "It happened to be karaoke that October night evening so we will be doing the same.



The Laramie Project features Peter Shipston. Photo by David Glover

"The cast will be singing songs they have chosen before the show "The lobby of the starts [and] audience

> Karaoke performances will occur before each performance on January 27-28, February, 2, 4, 8, and 10. Starting with the performance, second select members of the cast will reconvene on stage following the play to field questions from the audience.

"I feel this is a very important part of putting on a show like this, as some audience members are bound to have questions," said Mr. Calderon.

Tickets for all performances are on sale now www.theatreaurora.com or by phone at 905-727-3669, or by email at taboxoffice@bellnet.ca.

The show closes on February 11.

# These aren't your grandmother's quilts

By Brock Weir

People don't generally associate the humble art of quilting with a renegade's art, but local quilter Angela Krotowski is no ordinary quil-

Ms. Krotowski, a resident of Aurora for over 20 years, said she has always been a bit of a "renegade" when it comes to politics and when the Federal Government proposed cuts to VIA Rail service, that made her put the needle to fabric and send out a message.

"[The cuts] really bothered me because I came from a tiny town in Saskatchewan that really depended on the railroad," she said. "I said, 'Okay, in 12 days I will make a quilt that has something to do with the budget. I flew out to Vancouver with my sewing machine and a whole bunch of fabric and on the way back I made a quilt to protest the budget and it carried on from there.

"Sometimes I come on a little strong with the political quilts, so I have some people who say, 'Let's not bother with her, that's all she does,' but others say, 'That's exactly how

She said she welcomes her quilts creating a dialogue, and that dialogue will certainly reign through the Cultural Centre when over 40 years of her quilts go on display on February 9. While the protest quilt will certainly be on dis-

play, the exhibition, entitled "Story Quilts: The Threads That Bind Us" will encompass a lifetime's work.

Ms. Krotowski first took up quilting in earnest in the late 1960s as a complete beginner. Although her mother made functional quilts, she had more decorative ideas, and hit the Toronto libraries to learn how to put her ideas into action.

"I started that way just by doing the step-by-step from the books and just by gosh and by golly it evolved until 1974 when all my children were then going to school, I had a little free time, and I started teaching quilting. I was self taught and I didn't really know what I was doing, but I was quilting and it was kind of

When she started off her quest to learn the art of quilting, she was dismayed to find only two books in the Toronto Public Library system bearing only a remote relation to quilting. Perhaps thinking the paltry amount of books available was related to demand, she could be forgiven for being surprised when 78 people signed up for her first course at what was then Royal York Collegiate.

"I could only take 12 students," she said with a laugh. "There was a great deal of interest, I think, in picking up the handwork that was something that had been done many years ago, but wasn't really taught to that generation. I think that's why it had been lost for one generation and then it came back with a vengeance in the early 1970s and it just hasn't stopped."

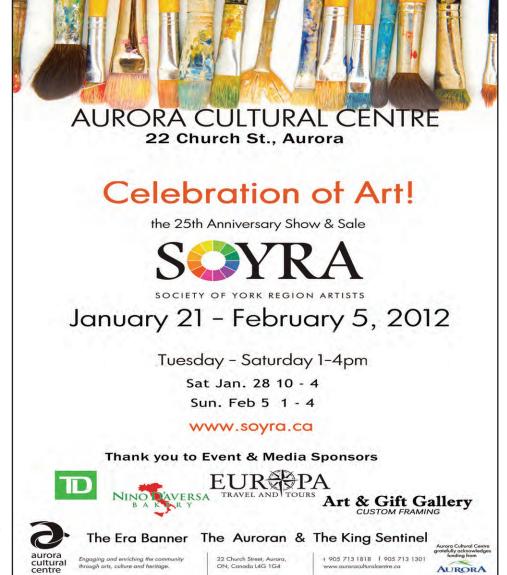
And while the quilting scene has evolved since then, Ms. Krotowski, said she believes it still hinges on three basic principles.

"I always feel that it is a first the 'head' for designing, then your 'heart', how you're going to feel about the thing coming from your ideas and if you really think you can do it, and then it comes down to your 'hands.'"

The artists' exhibition will include lessons for young quilters between the ages of seven and 12, and a public showing of her "Dresden plate" quilt made from squares created by King City resident Pearl Miller in the 1940s and given to Angela by her greatgrandson Carl Phillips, also of King, to carry out her intentions.

While she is no longer teaching adults the fine art of quilting, she is taking the time she has left over to finish the hundreds of pieces that she started during her teaching career but never had the time

"I thoroughly enjoy working with fabric and I thoroughly enjoy working with colour, and I sometimes think, 'Alright, enough! Just back off, learn how to play bridge and clean the house,' but that would be boring," she said.



# Historic house's fate could be sealed this week

preserving between Aurora's heritage and the rights of property owners.

"[I'm] interested in taking a practical view of what this Council's responsibilities are," said Councillor Evelyn Buck. "[The owners] did everything they could [to use the building]. They started out working along the lines that they would use the building and use it for the best advantage for their plans, but they were unable to do so.

"The building has been an eyesore ever since I came to Aurora and 30 years ago our planning officials had the opportunity to see inside the building and what she told me it was not unlike a structure from a Stephen King horror movie. I think we've carried this heritage thing to ridiculous limits.'

Councillor Chris Ballard, on the other hand, said he agreed that Council has to keep in mind the best interest of the community, but that was as far as he was prepared to agree. Being in

By Wendy Soloduik

Simcoe

(LSRCA) this February.

Conservation

Aurora to take a long walk \$200

bear swimmers

business is "fraught" with risk, and the owners of the George Browning House took the risk to buy the property.

"I fear that we focus too much on that, we focus too much on the needs of business people or the individual owner with these properties and not enough on the needs of Aurora to preserve its heritage," he said. "I am really concerned and won't be voting in favour of demolition. I think we have an obligation to the greater community, but I think the obligation is to preserve our heritage, not set a precedent and not allow this building to be torn down."

Mayor Geoffrey Dawe agreed that nobody wants to see Aurora loose bits and pieces of its heritage, but asked the question, "If the owners walked away from the property, what would happen to it?"

"Who would step in and restore it?" he asked. "These owners were originally going to do that based on a proposal that we found acceptable. We asked them

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Mayor Geoffrey Dawe to wear wacky costumes

encourages residents of and must raise at least

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to come back and they came back with one. I think we should be going with Advisory the Heritage Committee."

Councillor Sandra Humfryes chaired the meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee which recommended paving the way for the house's demolition. She said it was a difficult decision for the committee to come to and the concerns of the owners and surrounding residents and business owners before arriving at their recommendation.

"Of course it breaks our hearts to lose anything that we love about Aurora, but what I have heard from the applicant is they are doing everything in their power to keep [anything of significance and make] an entryway into this building that dedicates it to the Browning House," she said.

"We wish we could keep that building [but] I don't think we have the authority in our municipality to do anything about the buildings that are losing their glory and upkeep."

"[We want to] raise at

least \$15,000 to ensure

our air, land and water are

cleaner and greener for

future generations to

enjoy," said the LSRCA. In

y.kramer@lsrca.on.ca or

905-895-1281 ext. 251.



Stories, poems and songs were on the menu Tuesday evening at Bonsai Hill on Yonge Street. Here, Sterling Dillinger, performed one of his poems at the regular gathering of poetry and performance artists and aficionados in

Auroran photo by David Falconer

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#### Region of four. Awards for the a statement. Authority most funds raised by an For more information on individual and team as well the annual polar bear dip, Mayor Dawe, the York as for the "zaniest" individcontact LSCF event coordinator Yvette Kramer at

Region representative for ual and team costume will the LSRCA, will be cheer- be awarded following the ing for brave residents as dip. they dip into Lake Simcoe during the Annual 'Freezin' for a Reason' polar bear dip in support of the LSRCA Foundation, on Saturday, February 25.

Proceeds raised by polar dippers, who will enter the icy waters at Innisfil Beach Park during Winterfest, will go to priority restoration, protection and educational programs as well as year round projects within the Lake Simcoe watershed.

"The Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority has an enviable record of leveraging funds raised through events like 'Freezin' for a Reason Polar Bear Dip' and I would encourage our residents to get 'in' on this event!" said Mayor Dawe. "It will be a great way to beat the February blahs!"

Mayor Dawe, who is "not much of a swimmer at the best (make that the warmest) of times", will cheer participants from Aurora, King Township, Innisfil, Newmarket, East Gwillimbury, Bradford, New Tecumseth and the other member municipalities, during the event.

Brave dippers can register a team, and set up a fundraising page www.lakesimcoefoundation.ca

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#### **Aurora Historical Society APPLICATIONS FOR 2012 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Aurora Historical Society will be filling up to three [3] vacancies on its Board of Directors at the next Annual General Meeting on February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012

#### **VACANCIES:**

**Director** - Up to three [3] positions for a three [3] year term.

#### **Criteria for considering potential candidates:**

In order to secure a strong Board with outstanding organizational skills, priority will be given to those who demonstrate leadership qualities and skills such as finance, corporate law, planning, fundraising, communications and public relations, etc. Candidates must also have related experience with non-profit organizations, time and energy to contribute as members and volunteer workers on committees, special events and other activities.

#### Information template:

- Name of proposed candidate
- Job title
- Maximum 250 word Biography highlighting involvement in nonprofit organizations

Please send all suggestions for candidates to the AHS Nomination Committee for consideration no later than February 14th, 2012.

For further information or to indicate interest, please send Résumé or CV to: ahs@aurorahs.com.



#### **Aurora Historical Society**

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