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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper



Vol. 13 No. 16

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FREE

Week of February 28, 2012



Town Park was packed last week for Aurora's Arctic Adventure. Residents came out in droves to enjoy the perfect weather and activities from outdoor winter games (above) to ice carving, and live entertainment featuring McLaughlin & Friends, The Coyotes, and Aurora 2011 Teen Idol Amanda McDonald. Inset: Ben Tipton and Cole McLaughlin build an igloo during the event.

Auroran photos by David Falconer

Residents to have say on chicanes, speed bumps in north Aurora

By Brock Weir

Residents of north Aurora will have their say this May on the future of traffic control measures - including the now infamous chicanes and road closures - in their neighbourhoods.

Councillors are set to approve two reports on traffic control measures in two very different neighbourhoods this week, including the much debated existing traffic calming measures in Aurora's northeast quadrant, as well as a request for new traffic calming measures in the stretch of Kennedy Street between Bathurst and Murray Drive.

If recommendations are approved on Tuesday night, public consultation on the northeast quadrant will begin in early March and culminate in a public information session on May 15.

In his report to Councillors, Ilmar Simanovskis, Aurora's Director of Infrastructure said that residents of the

northeast quadrant, whose neighbourhood has been littered by often maligned chicanes, speed humps, restricted access roads, and controlled intersections would be consulted on the future of these features.

The control measures were approved by Council in the fall of 2006 and installed the following year. While feedback has shown they served their purpose in lowering traffic volumes, all has not been rosy from the perspective of the residents, said Mr. Simanovskis.

"The comments of the community residents have been generally positive as traffic measures have both reduced traffic infiltration and speeds," he said. "However, some complaints have been received relating to community access restrictions and perceived excess use of some traffic control measures such as the chicanes.

"As much of the current measures
Please see page 7

Council decides fate of Cultural agreement this week

By Brock Weir

After weeks of heated debates between Councillors and members of the public at large on both sides, Councillors are set to make their decision on the fate of the current agreement between the Town and the Aurora Cultural Centre this week.

Since The Auroran first reported the intentions of Councillors John Abel and Paul Pirri this month to introduce a notice of motion calling for the termination of their current contract with the Cultural Centre - giving both parties and stakeholders 12 months notice to draft a new agreement pleasing to both parties - arguments on both sides of the fence have been lobbed back and forth both in person and in the pages of this newspaper.

If the Councillors' notice of motion is passed at Council this Tuesday it

will invoke the termination clause in the Aurora Cultural Centre's agreement in the Town, which would give 12 months' notice for the current agreement to wind down. The Councillors said their intention is to use this window to strike an ad-hoc committee of Council, the Cultural Centre Board, and other stakeholders in coming up with an agreement that addresses concerns recently raised by Town Solicitor Warren Mar.

While Mr. Mar said that the Aurora Cultural Centre's board was in full compliance with the existing agreement he underscored a laundry list of concerns he had with what was actually contained in the agreement. The Town should examine the current governance structure of the Cultural Centre to "ensure the Town's interests are adequately represented and protected," he said.

The current agreement does not
Please see page 18

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In this week’s issue:

4

Columns & Letters

12

Sports

15

Crossword Puzzle

15

Senior Scape

16

At Your Service

17

Classifieds

18

Arts and Culture

ROYAL LEPAGE

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COMING EVENTS

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.

FEBRUARY 9 - MAY 5
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 p.m.; all welcome. Continues through until May 5; Gallery Hours Tuesday - Saturday, 1 - 4 p.m. and during special events; free admission. 22 Church Street; wheelchair accessible at north entrance. For info please call 905-713-1818, or info@aurora.culturalcentre.ca

FRIDAY, MARCH 2
The Aurora Cultural Centre presents Jane Bunnett Live in Concert with Very Special Guest Hilario Duran. Bunnett, a Member of the Order of Canada, is renowned for her Cuban roots-inspired and Latin Contemporary Jazz styles. She is joined by dazzling pianist Hilario Duran at the piano. This duo was recently nominated for a Juno Award for their album Cuban Rhapsody - don't miss their Aurora debut! Tickets, \$32, are available over the phone with a credit card, or in person at the Centre. 22 Church Street; fully accessible at the north glass doors. For info: www.auroraculturalcentre.ca or call 905-713-1818.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4
FREE Children's March Break Workshop. "Pioneer Ways in Sewing" - Learn to Stitch from Master Quilter Angela Krotowski, from basic stitches, completing a heritage knot to creating your own quilted heart fabric block to take home. No charge; pre-registration required as class size is limited. Intended for children ages 7 and up. Two time slots to choose from: 1p.m. - 2.30 p.m., and 2.30 p.m. - 4 p.m. To register contact the Centre at 905 713-1818, or drop by 22 Church Street; fully accessible at the north glass doors. For info: www.auroraculturalcentre.ca or call 905-713-1818.

The Writers Community of York Region (WCYR) offers another high caliber speaker and practical information for writers today at the Aurora Cultural Centre. Learn what works and what doesn't with distinguished author and speaker, Antanas Sileika. Antanas is the director of the Humber School for Writers, published author of four books, past winner of a National Magazine Award and the author of Underground, listed on Globe & Mail's top 100 books of 2011! Antanas will use samples of prose to review sentence structure and illustrate what works and why. WCYR meetings are open to the York Region community. They offer once-a-month opportunities to network with writers and hear dynamite industry speakers talk about essential aspects of the writing/editing/publishing/marketing and distributing world of books. Register in advance at <http://wcyork.ca/york/reserve-your-spot-for-our-next-lunch/> and save \$5! Meeting fee includes lunch. At the door cost to WCYR Members is \$25, and Non-members is \$30.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7
The Aurora Public Library presents Money Talk\$: Can We Succeed in the Bond Market? Money Talk\$ is a free monthly discussion group to exchange ideas and unbiased financial planning information. The presentation begins at 7 p.m. in the Library's Magna Room, and will be followed by a question and answer session. No financial products or services will be offered or sold. To pre-register, contact the Aurora Public Library's Adult Information Desk by calling 905-727-9493 and select option 4, or email fryork-moneytalks@yahoo.com.

MONDAY, MARCH 12
The Aurora Public Library presents MARCH BREAK - SUPER SCIENCE from 2 - 2.45 p.m. in the Magna Room. Bubbling potions, air pressure experiments, cool chemical reactions and more! Come out for this Super Science program that will both entertain and educate children. Ages 7+. Free tickets are available in advance by contacting Polly Ross, Children Services Librarian at 905-727-9494 x 280 or by emailing pross@library.on.ca.

MARCH 12 - 14
March Break Workshop Papier-Mache - The Ultimate Craft! Register now for this fabulous March Break 3-morning activity in order to create a project from start to finish. Choose from 3 projects - a monster, an animal or a décor piece for your room. Learn to build the form using easy household supplies. Bring a paint shirt, sketchbook and snack each day as well as your imagination! Pre-registration required - workshop requires all 3 mornings to complete the project. 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon each day; intended for children ages 6 - 12. Workshop fee \$75 includes all materials. To register contact the Centre at 905 713-1818, or drop by, 22 Church Street; fully accessible at the north glass doors. For info: www.auroraculturalcentre.ca or call 905-713-1818.

MARCH 12 - 16
The Aurora United Church hosts "Around the World With Jesus" a March Break Vacation Bible Camp from March 12 through March 16. Sessions run from 8.30 a.m. to noon for kids ages five to 12. Activities include movies, crafts, snacks, games, and music and registration is \$25 per child. To register, call the Aurora United church at 905-727-1935.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13
The Aurora Public Library presents MARCH BREAK - MUSIC WITH RUSS! from 10 - 10.45 a.m. in the Magna Room. Join Russ Clayton for a family-fun concert! Russ will sing and play instruments, making this an upbeat, high tempo musical adventure for families! Ages: Families. Free tickets are available in advance by contacting Polly Ross, Children Services Librarian at 905-727-9494 x 280 or by emailing pross@library.on.ca.

March Break Workshop - Cartoon Poster-Mania! Spend the afternoon learning to draw a favourite cartoon character on a poster-sized sheet. Learn the hints and tricks of making it authentic - by the end of the afternoon you'll have created artwork for your walls, and a new drawing skill to use again and again! 1 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.; children ages 7 - 12. Pre-registration required: workshop fee \$30 includes all materials. To register contact the Centre at 905-713-1818, or drop by, 22 Church Street; fully accessible at the north glass doors. For info: www.auroraculturalcentre.ca or 905-713-1818.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14
The Aurora Public Library presents MARCH BREAK - MAGIC SHOW: I LOVE TO READ! from 2 - 2.45 p.m. in the Magna Room. Join "Lofty" in this magical and entertaining show! A blend of magic, juggling, storytelling, jokes and of course participation, children will have a holerling good time. Ages 6+. Free tickets are available in advance by contacting Polly Ross, Children Services Librarian at 905-727-9494 x 280 or by emailing pross@library.on.ca.

March Break Workshop - Anime Basics. Learn the basics of the popular Japanese-style animation found in print and comic books characters. Cartooning expert Dirk Michiels will teach you the basics of drawing, colouring and shading such characters as Naruto, Bleach, Fairy Tail, One Piece and more. 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.; ages 11 - 15. Pre-registration required: workshop fee \$35 includes all materials. To register contact the Centre at 905-713-1818, or drop by, 22 Church Street; fully accessible at the north glass doors. For info: www.auroraculturalcentre.ca or call 905-713-1818.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15
The Aurora Public Library presents MARCH BREAK - CINDY COOK FROM POLKA DOT DOOR from 10 - 10.45 a.m. in the Magna Room. The Sing and Spell Show with Cindy Cook from Polka Dot Door. In this musical participation concert, Cindy will use puppets, songs, spelling games, riddles and different languages to show children that reading is FUN! Ages 3-6. Free tickets are available in advance by contacting Polly Ross, Children Services Librarian at 905-727-9494 x 280 or by emailing pross@library.on.ca.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16
The Aurora Public Library presents MARCH BREAK - ANIMALS @ THE LIBRARY from 10 - 11 a.m. in the Magna Room. WHIMZ Animal Fun! Join us for this fun, dynamic and educational presentation about the animals you may or may not see in your backyard! What animals will WHIMZ bring? Come and see for yourself! Ages 7+. Free tickets are available in advance by contacting Polly Ross, Children Services Librarian at 905-727-9494 x 280 or by emailing pross@library.on.ca.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17
You are invited to join the annual Friendly Neighbourhood Youth Road Hockey Challenge today at Newmarket's Riverwalk Community Commons. Organize your own road hockey team for Ontario's longest running festival and you could win a \$1,000 education award. There is no cost to enter and tourney players must be 12 years of age and up. Six players minimum per team. Open to all sexes. Pick-up games for all ages on the day of the event as well. To register or volunteer, visit www.tp productions.com and www.povertyacc.com/getinvolved.

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 provided.

Community Living Newmarket/Aurora District will be presenting its 2012 Community Service Award to Peter Miller, owner/operator, of McDonald's Restaurants of P. G. Miller Enterprises Limited at the Association's 10th Annual Tribute Dinner. The Dinner will be held on Wednesday, March 21, 2012, at 6 p.m., The Manor, Carrying Place Golf & Country Club, Kettleby. Cost: \$125 per person. Reserved table of eight: \$1,000. Proceeds in support of Community Living Newmarket/Aurora District. For tickets call: 905-898-3000 ext. 253 or visit www.clnad.com.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23
The Aurora Cultural Centre presents Soyeon Lee (www.soyeonlee.com), part of the Great Artist Piano Series. Winner of the prestigious Naumburg International Piano Competition, Ms. Lee will present "An Invitation to the Dance" program to includes works by Bartok, Schumann, Liszt and Albeniz. Individual tickets \$30 adult /\$25 seniors and students, plus HST. Doors open at 7 p.m.; concert at 8 p.m. General Admission seating. Tickets are available over the phone with a credit card, or in person at the Centre, 22 Church Street; fully accessible at the north glass doors. For info: www.auroraculturalcentre.ca or call 905-713-1818.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25
The Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum will host a pancake brunch today from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Celebrate the end of winter at this delicious event hosted by the Founding Friends of the Museum. Enjoy a pancake and ham brunch topped off with locally-produced maple syrup. Also join us for a fun and enthusiastic reading of Eric Carle's children's book Pancakes, Pancakes! by local story-teller Susan Murray. Interactive readings at 10.45 a.m. & 1.30 p.m. Drop in readings between noon & 1 p.m. Cost: \$6 for adults, \$3 for children under 12.

TUESDAY, MARCH 27
The Aurora Public Library presents MEDIEVAL STAINED GLASS from 7 - 8 p.m. In the Middle Ages, stained glass windows decorated churches and cathedrals. The light streams through in different colours for a beautiful glow. In this exciting workshop, we will replicate stained glass by using tissue paper to create our own Medieval windows. Ages 7+. Registration is \$7.50. For

more information contact Polly Ross, Children Services Librarian at 905-727-9494 x 280 or by emailing pross@library.on.ca.

MARCH 29 - APRIL 1
Every three minutes another Canadian is faced with fighting cancer. Throughout April, volunteers in Aurora and across Ontario will be working together to raise funds for the Canadian Cancer Society during Daffodil Month. Join the fight against cancer March 29 until April 1. Buy daffodils for \$7 a bunch or two bunches for \$12 at Metro, Real Canadian Superstore, Sobeys, LCBO, and No Frills and unite behind those living with cancer. Daffodil pins are also available for a donation throughout the month. Money raised during Daffodil Month helps the Society do everything it can to prevent cancer, fund research to outsmart cancer and empower, inform and support people living with cancer right here in Aurora. Visit fightback.ca or call 905-830-0447 ext. 3833 for more information about Daffodil Month, daffodil sales locations, where to get your daffodil pin or to volunteer.

APRIL 1 - APRIL 30
Artists from L'Arche Daybreak will mount their exhibit With Our Own Hands at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts this month. The exhibit will be open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and one hour prior to all ticketed performances. The exhibit will be closed to the public on Sundays unless a performance is taking place. "Those with intellectual disabilities have been called 'artisans of the heart' by Jean Vanier," said Richmond Hill artist and L'Arche supporter Jacquie Boughner in a statement. "In this exhibition, the Daybreak artists create works full of joy, life, and peace - a perspective of the heart with which to view and engage the world and society in which we live." For more information, contact L'Arche Daybreak at 905-884-3454.

APRIL 11 - MAY 15
A Bereavement Support Group for adults experiencing the death of a loved one is again being offered at the Aurora United Church for an eight week session, from 7 to 9 p.m. beginning Wednesday, April 11 and ending May 30. There is no fee for this program. It is non-denominational and is open to all in the community. For info call Paula at 905-727-2584 or email bereavement@live.ca.

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.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20
The Aurora United Church will hold its Spring Rummage sale today from 1- 8 p.m. with today being the individual sale. Items include clothing, linen, books, toys, and garage sale items. All proceeds fund local charities and some charities received leftover clothes filling their wish lists for their clients free of charge.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21
The Aurora United Church continues its Spring Rummage sale - this time its bag sale - today from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Items include clothing, linen, books, toys, and garage sale items. All proceeds fund local charities and some charities received leftover clothes filling their wish lists for their clients free of charge.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22
The fourth Annual Runway to Spring 2012 Fashion Event in Support of the Easter Seals Kids takes place today at the Country Day School Performing Arts Centre from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. hosted by Michele Denniston of

Century 21 Heritage Group of Richmond Hill. The event features many local restaurant, caterers and food specialists, and will bring together some of this year's trendiest fashion retailers from the surrounding community. There will be food samples and a wine tasting followed by a fashion show as well as a silent auction, raffle prizes, and a live band throughout the afternoon. Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$45 at the door. For more information contact event coordinator Michele McDonald at 647-454-6025 or flumpydog@gmail.com.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28
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.

The Aurora Seniors' Centre will hold its annual spring sale, including a white elephant sale, a book area, and amazing home baking. Members of the ASA's sewing, wood shop and knitting groups will also have their treasures for sale, along with members of the Aurora Farmers' Market. There is something special for everyone.

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.

SUNDAY, MAY 27
The 2012 Upper Canada Mall Easter Seals 10k Run and 5k Run & Walk will take place today in a new location - the Newmarket Riverwalk Commons in Downtown Newmarket and is expected to draw nearly 1,000 participants. The new venue located on Doug Duncan Drive offers a beautiful, flat and scenic run course through Fairy Lake Park and the Tom Taylor Trail System. For more information visit www.eastersealsrun.com.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18
The Doane House Hospice will hold its third annual Unique Craft and Gift Show today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Newmarket Community Centre (200 Doug Duncan Drive, Newmarket). For more information, call 905-967-0259.

CONTINUING
The Aurora Probus Club meets every second Wednesday of the month (except July and August) at the Aurora Legion. Memberships consist of retired and semi-retired PROfessional and BUSiness people, hence the name Probus. It is a fun fellowship with well-chosen speakers. New memberships are welcome. For more information call Marilyn Munslow at 905-727-9344 or Bob Saunders at 905-841-3558.

The Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society is always looking for new members of all ages. Monthly meetings with guest speakers are held on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m. (youth meet at 6 p.m.) at the Royal Canadian legion in Aurora. For more Information call Cindy at 905-713-6660.

York Regional Police Venturers have openings for boys and girls aged 14 to 17. Police Venturers meet every Wednesday night from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at 240 Prospect Street, 1 District police station community

Please see page 16

Advertorial

YOGA FOR LIFE...
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"I first met Andrea 3 years ago and her approach to yoga was a refreshing, stimulating change from yoga classes that I had previously attended. Andrea modifies postures to not only accommodate joint stiffness or injuries, but importantly reminds us to "listen to our bodies." As a health care professional, this is critical to me. When I see clients with yoga injuries, my immediate thought is they have the wrong teacher. Andrea lives the yoga lifestyle – she doesn't just preach it. It has become a integral part of my wellness routine." From the testimonials pages of the [yogaforlife](http://www.yogaforlife.ca) website: <http://www.yogaforlife.ca>

Yoga for life isn't about creating ideal toned bodies or achieving perfect poses, it's about helping people do the poses in ways that fit their bodies; learning to live a life of yoga oriented ideals on and off the mat. Students are encouraged to discover how the 'unseen elements' of yoga can affect their day to day lives. How they can meet and embrace what is on their minds – incessant thoughts and all; how they can listen to their hearts and learn to love their bodies – no matter what their limitations.

Yoga isn't simply about how long you hold a physical posture, your alignment, or how you look in a pose. It's not about forcing, or competing on any level. Yoga is a discovery of who you are at the

deepest level.

In Andrea's yoga classes, students are instructed to listen deeply and act from the quiet space within, without pushing past their abilities. Students are taught to be gentle and compassionate with themselves and this translates into their life off the mat.

"Andrea's yoga class has been life changing for me. I have finally been able to find peace in myself and that extends to my life. She's an enthusiastic and fun teacher who really helps you accept yourself and your body however it is."

For more information about yoga classes with Andrea Roth in Aurora On www.yogaforlife.ca. info@yogaforlife.ca



Jack and Joan Patterson, above, received the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Lifetime Achievement award at a ceremony on Thursday. Other winners, clockwise from the Pattersons, were Farsheed Ameryoun for Built Heritage, and Bob McRoberts for Cultural Heritage.

Auroran photos by David Falconer



Heritage promoters saluted in Thursday ceremony

By Brock Weir

One person in the crowd likened it to the Oscars for heritage - and five local heritage advocates had their chance to walk the red carpet and enjoy the spotlight Thursday as Aurora and the Province of Ontario honoured them for their achievements.

Among those honoured for their commitment to local heritage at Thursday's Heritage Celebration Ceremony at Town Hall were Jack and Joan Patterson, former deputy mayor Bob McRoberts, builder Farsheed Ameryoun, and local swan king Harry Lumsden.

The Pattersons were saluted for their work with the Aurora Historical Society, the Aurora Cemetery, and other projects around Town, while Mr. McRoberts was singled out for his work with the Society and preserving the heritage of local schools, while Mr. Ameryoun was saluted for the extensive catalogue of heritage buildings he has brought back to their former glory.

"Heritage can only flourish when citizens in communities like yours come together to recognize, protect, and celebrate the importance of our collective built, cultural, and natural heritage," Dawn Bennett of the

Ontario Heritage Trust told winners at the ceremony.

This year's Lifetime Achievement Award was dedicated to Mr. and Mrs. Patterson for their "exceptional contribution" to the preservation of Aurora's local heritage, according to Marco Ramunno, the Town's Director of Planning.

Mr. Patterson, he said, has been extensively involved with the Aurora Cemetery and his efforts have gone to not just serving the cemetery but also working to have its landmark Keeper's House and Dead House designated for future generations.

For over two decades, Mr. Patterson has worked with the Aurora Historical Society in many capacities including president and board member. He and Mrs. Patterson have spent recent years focused and dedicated to the enhancement of Hillary House.

In her citation, Mrs. Patterson was saluted for her work to raise funds for the renovation of the Church Street School in the 1980s as a member of the Aurora Public School reunion committee, as well as specific initiatives tied up to the continued development of Hillary House.

"As a member of the committee for more than 20 years, Mrs. Patterson helped plan and assist

with fundraising and educational events and oversaw the operation of the house, and supervised students from Aurora High School on a weekly basis during the school year," said Mr. Ramunno. "Her leadership was demonstrated in her creation of the gift shop at Hillary House to raise funds for [it]."

"Their passion and enthusiasm and dedication have helped preserve our local culture and they deserve these prestigious awards."

Mr. McRoberts was cited in the Cultural Heritage category for his dedication to heritage matters in his role as councillor, deputy mayor, and heritage committee member, as well as with volunteerism for the annual Doors Open Aurora event, which is gearing up for this spring. This well known math teacher was heralded for efforts closer to his day job.

"Mr. McRoberts worked hard to preserve photographs, archival materials, and other memorabilia related to the history of Aurora High School," said Mr. Ramunno. "Thanks to his tireless efforts, all these items are now preserved and on display at the school and the Aurora Historical Society."

Mr. Ameryoun, a co-owner of the Hartman's Corners school-house, who has refurbished a

number of significant heritage buildings scattered about Town from the inside out, was honoured in the Built Heritage category.

"His dedication to the restoration and rehabilitation of historic buildings is shown through the projects he has worked in Aurora," said Mr. Ramunno. "He was responsible for the design, project management and supervision of the restoration of [the school] and his work has positively contributed to Aurora's Cultural Heritage."

As for Aurora's natural heritage, that award went to Harry Lumsden. As The Auroran reported last week, Mr. Lumsden was Toronto bound on Friday evening to accept the Lieutenant Governor's Ontario Heritage Award at Queen's Park from Lieutenant Governor David Onley. Thursday's ceremony provided an opportunity for his achievements to be once again recognized at the local level.

"Known for his passion and dedication, Mr. Lumsden continues to share his knowledge of wildlife conservation with the public and continuously acts as an advocate for the protection and enhancement of the natural environment through community awareness programs," said Mr. Ramunno.

Six options for Aurora youth centre to be presented this week

By Brock Weir

Aurora kids need a youth centre just as much as their elders need the Seniors' Centre.

So says Aurora Parks and Recreation Director Al Downey.

Mr. Downey is set to present this week several options for Council's consideration in making a dedicated youth space for Aurora a reality. He told stakeholders earlier this month that he will be "trying his best" to give Council the best opportunity to make the right decision on the future of the project and enough time to make the best decision.

Once his presentation iden-

tifying six possible youth centre sites is made Tuesday evening, Councillors could make their decision on the best option presented to them - options which could range from building a new facility, tacking an addition onto a current municipal facility and public-private partnerships- on March 20, the lag accounting for March Break. This break, he said, would allow Councillors to "stew on it."

A decision on a youth centre has been a long time coming, added Mr. Downey.

"In 2001 we brought in our first youth coordinator and we had no programs focused on youth," said Mr. Downey. "Then

about three years later we were recognized by the province as a Youth Friendly Community. We were the only Ontario town that was actually recognized as such and we didn't have a youth centre. At the time we were running more programs in the week for youth than we were running for seniors and yet we didn't have a youth centre."

The Town of Aurora currently has programs for youth running out of 11 different facilities resulting, on average, in 50 hours of programming per week.

"These programs are the foundation of our community and we need to start nurturing

that foundation," he said. "I am hell bent on bringing it forward in 2012 and I want 2012 to be the year when we're really pushing to make something happen for our youth."

"So many times [youth concerns] are lost. Youth don't vote. They're not right in your face at Council [saying what they want] and in fact when they are it is kind of a new experience."

Youth have been engaged in the youth centre project dating back to initial surveys completed in 2004, which then evolved into youth focus groups by 2007. 3,000 youths have so far had their voices heard on what they want in a

Please see page 7

Briefly

BUSINESSES FLOCK TO LESLIE STREET, BRING JOBS

Aurora has welcomed a flurry of new businesses and Bulk Barn and Best Western are two more that are Aurora bound. In his keynote address to the Aurora Chamber of Commerce last week, Mayor Geoffrey Dawe said an 85 room Best Western Suites Hotel near Leslie and Wellington will come complete with a restaurant and conference centre. Bulk Barn's move into Aurora will be more than just the opening of a new retail outlet, but the location of its corporate head office on Don Hillock drive at Leslie. "This 70,000 square foot office will be accompanied by a 250,000 square foot distribution centre," Mayor Dawe told Chamber members. "It will employ 300 people with the potential for more."

POLICE WARN RESIDENTS TO BE CAUTIOUS OF ICE

Police are once again urging residents to stay off frozen ponds and lakes after the truck of a family in Jackson's Point went through the Lake Simcoe ice last week. While the family of four escaped unharmed, Police said they are worried the message to stay off the ice is not being heard. "It is crucial that citizens take individual responsibility in evaluating the dangers of any recreational activity," said the York Regional Police in a statement. "If you make smart, educated and safe choices, a potential tragedy can be avoided." Police warn citizens not to travel across lakes and streams until they are certain of the thickness, make sure they are dressed appropriately with proper flotation devices, and not to let pets onto unsafe ice patches.



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Brock's Banter

By BROCK WEIR

Turning the conversation away from plants

It has been over two months since we first learned the Town of Aurora had put in a bid to host the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall on their upcoming tour of Canada this May.

There is still no official word back yet on where the royal couple will go just yet, but it has been revealed that a number of other Ontario towns and cities, including Cornwall - a good fit for the Duchess - have also put in a bid. How will Aurora fare? Only time will tell, but when I mentioned to a friend the other day that the Town had expressed interest in hosting Prince Charles, I got a strange look.

"Come on, the guy talks to plants," the person scoffed. What ensued was a 30 second diatribe of their opinion of the Prince. If the conversation had been recorded and names removed to protect the innocent, one might get the impression we were debating the merits of George Carlin's Hippy Dippy Weatherman rather than the next king.

But is this a fair assessment? In this writer's humble opinion, it is not. As this is the last column of the first month of his mother's Diamond Jubilee year, I'll take this opportunity to explain why.

Like him or not, one would be hard pressed to deny that the Prince of Wales is a very unique individual. This man has been heir to the throne longer than any individual in our shared history of the Commonwealth and, in that time, he has had to forge a very unique identity for himself.

As King-in-Waiting, he has used every chance he's had to promote and fight for causes he believes in, a luxury which is not enjoyed by the person who wears the Crown. As he has had 60 years to make this fight known, he deserves to be known more than a person who exchanges pleasantries with his geranium plant.

For better or worse, he has promoted his classic and more traditional architectural beliefs. Better for artisans, heritage preservationists, and, of course, the Town of Aurora, which has won the Canadian prize which bears his name for heritage preservation...but worse for more modern architects passionate about building with glass, concrete, and new and innovative materials.

The Prince has also endured the onslaught of criticism being one of the first out of the gate to promote environmental causes like organic farming versus the embrace of genetically modified crops. He was criticised as a tree hugger when he encouraged sustainability not only from an environmental standpoint, but also from a community standpoint when he placed the cornerstone of his Poundbury initiative - a model village for traditional architecture, town planning, and innovative building materials.

ForestEthics - a Canada- and now North America-wide non-profit environmental group dedicated to protecting endangered forests, battling climate change, and working on overhauling the environmental policies of huge international companies - also found a champion in the Prince.

In fact, it even garnered extensive mention in his book *Harmony: A New Way of Looking At Our World*, a tome which the prince called "A call to revolution. The earth is under threat. It cannot cope with all that we demand of it. It is losing balance and we humans are causing this to happen."

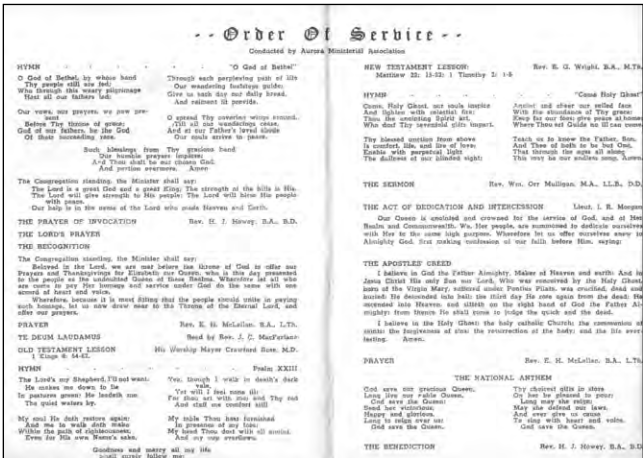
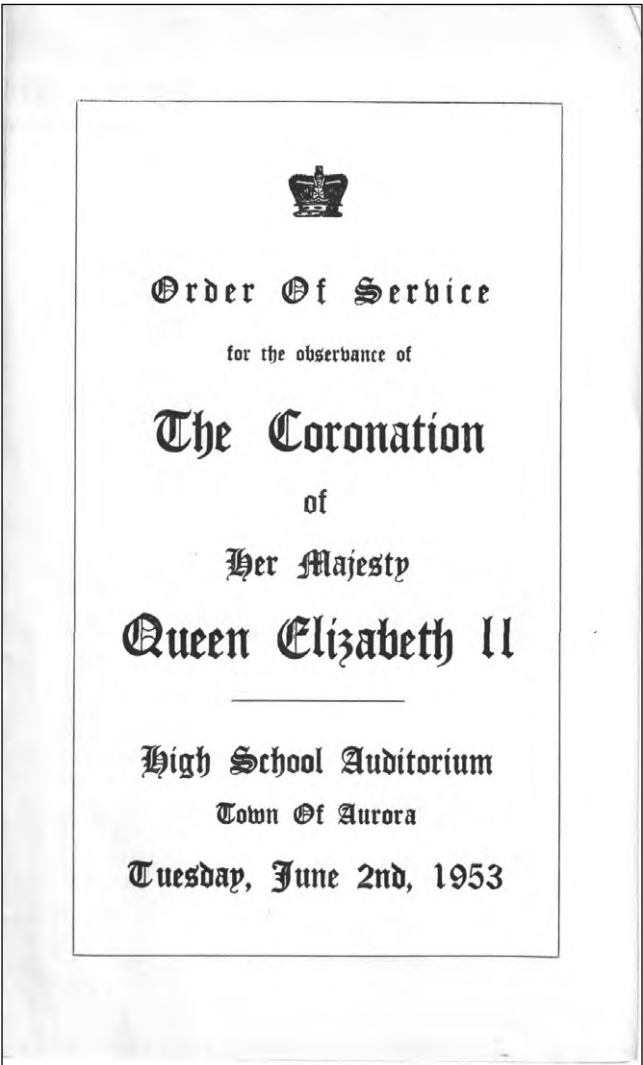
If Prince Charles brought this argument up 30 or 40 years ago, it would have been branded hogwash or hippy psycho babble. He did. It was. But maybe - just maybe - he was just a little ahead of the curve.

A SOLUTION TO THE PICTURE PUZZLE

Last week, The Auroran ran two photos submitted by Eileen MacDonald of she and her late husband Murdo arriving at their wedding reception 72 years ago at - you guessed it - the George Browning House on Yonge Street near Tyler. As their daughter Maggie told us, the home was owned at the time by Eileen's parents David and Florence Shankland (the piper on the right in the second photo). The couple were married at the Aurora United Church. While most of the buildings seen in the original photo have vanished, if you squint, you can see the cupola of the Church Street School.

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER

Finally, I would like to extend my congratulations to our own Scott Johnston who was recently accepted into the Association of Canadian Editorial Cartoonists. Scott became a member of the group last week which was founded to promote the interests of staff, freelance, and student editorial cartoonists. A sample of Scott's work, featuring the Town of Aurora's worn and battered piggy bank, is now showcased on the Association's website featuring subjects as wide ranging as Michael Ignatieff to Fidel Castro, and from Mel Gibson's legal troubles to the death of Elizabeth Taylor. Well done!



While Queen Elizabeth II succeeded to the throne 60 years ago this month, she had to wait 16 months for her Coronation to be organized before being crowned. This also afforded Aurorans the opportunity to prepare their own celebrations, such as the Coronation service held by the Town of Aurora on Coronation Day – June 2, 1953. The service was complete with prayers led by clergy, including E.H. McLellan and J.C. MacFarlane, as well as a lesson read by Mayor Crawford Rose.

Last week, this space was dedicated to the Coronation of George VI and employees of the Sisman Shoe Company marking the occasion with a parade float. Resident Ed Griffith contacted The Auroran on Saturday identifying the man dressed in the farmer costume as his father Frank Griffith, a long time resident of Aurora. He added the man in the lumberjack costume may be George Griffith.

To submit a letter to the editor please send your email to letters@auroran.com –deadline for submissions is Saturday at 1 p.m.

Letters to the Editor

Reader disagrees with Buck over Cultural Centre

To the editor:

You know that a Councillor is getting old when they forget to follow the first rule of a successful politician: never speak too plainly.

You don't want people seeing just how arrogant, biased and small minded you really are. Evelyn should have followed the fine examples of Councillors Abel and Pirri. Have you ever heard sweeter words of praise being slathered all over an Aurora institution at the same time its financial and political basis for operating was being ripped from under it?

But you are apparently too seasoned a politician to

forget how to shift a debate to your liking.

Cultural Center staff and hundreds of volunteer supporters voicing concern that your irresponsible and myopic actions are threatening something they consider an important, even essential, part of their lives? Evoke your supreme authority and suggest the board commit political suicide by resigning!

Don't want to recognize the value of world class art, music and lectures that the Cultural Center brings to our community? Denigrate their programs by calling them a "sing-along" or equate what the Cultural Center provides to 'garbage collection', as the other 'nice' Councillors have

Cultural Centre issue "blown out of proportion": reader

To the editor:

As a proud resident of our town, I believe this whole "Aurora Cultural Centre" issue has been blown out of proportion.

I believe it just the right of the taxpayer to expect expenditures to be reported an open and transparent way.

I firmly believe that if the Town is supplying or supporting the facility in any way, the Town should be involved, and the citizens of Aurora have a right to know.

The Aurora Cultural Centre has many great events and it is very valuable to the Town. I believe that all Councillor Abel is

doing is asking that the agreement be restructured -- much like a professional football team might attempt to restructure the contract of a star player midway through the contract to give the team more flexibility and more money to maybe add another player.

Nobody is saying the Cultural Centre is going to be shut down. It seems to me that all Councillor Abel would like is a more streamlined and clear contract as it relates to the Town and the Cultural Centre.

I respectfully see nothing wrong with that.

**Tyler Barker
Aurora**

done! Don't want to spend the budget that you promised to provide in service to your community? Evoke the "class card", pitting "elites" (i.e.: anyone that supports the Center) against "taxpayers" (i.e. those that do not)!

I might have only one vote, but that vote makes me your boss and your responsibility is to keep your promises and to support the people that have voluntarily assumed the huge burden of

enriching our community. You may not value art, music or ideas but no one elected you to deny them local access to those things. Lastly, my class has nothing to do with my value of our wonderful Cultural Center.

As Oscar Wilde said, "We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars".

**David Price
Aurora**

—THE AURORAN—

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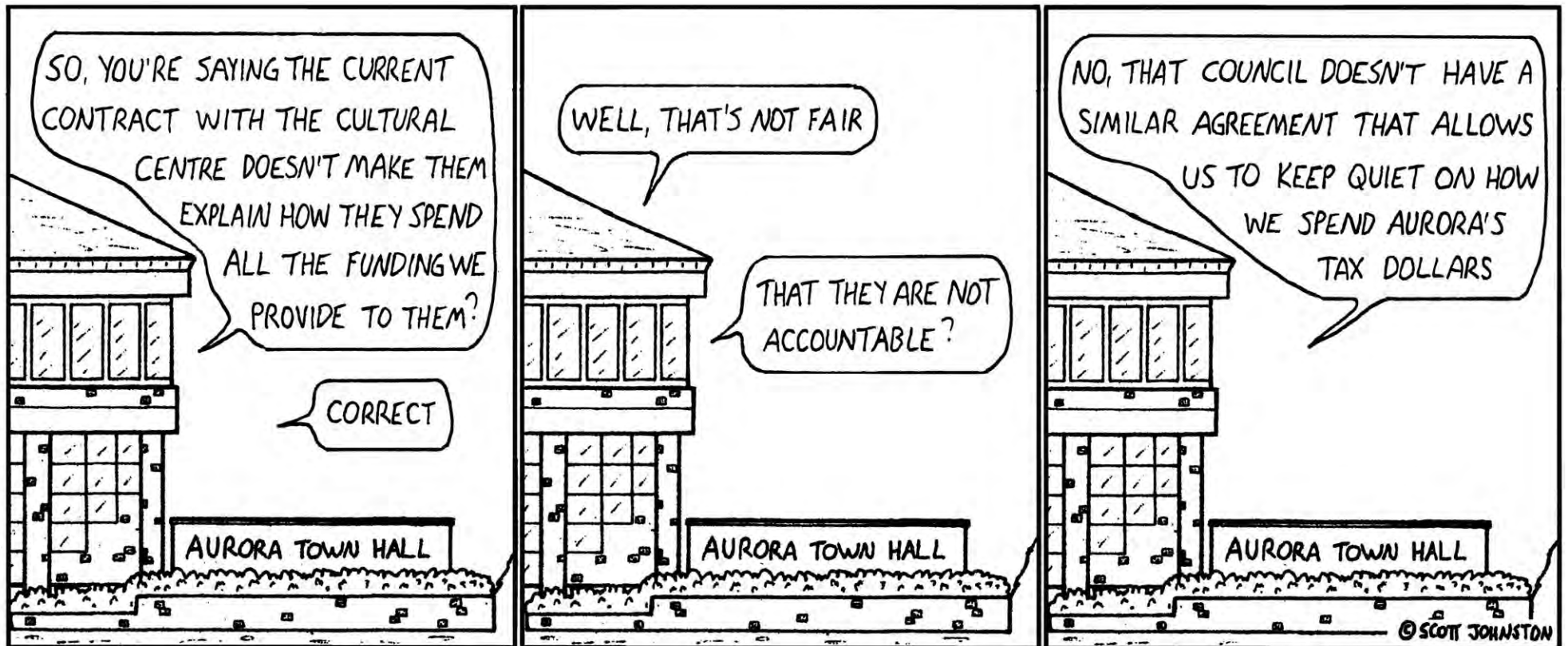
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Machell's Corners

by Scott Johnston



Frankly Speaking

By FRANK KLEES
MPP Newmarket-Aurora

"If it wasn't for the McGuinty government's reckless and irresponsible spending over the past 8 years, we wouldn't need a Drummond Report"

That was my response when first asked about my reaction to the so-called Drummond Report when it was first released on February 15th.

Officially known as the Commission on the Reform of Ontario's Public Services, this quartet of academics was charged by Premier McGuinty with the task of telling him how Ontario can get back to a balanced budget by 2017-18.

Dubbed the "Drummond Report" after the Chair of the Commission Don Drummond, an economist and former federal bureaucrat, its co-authors are Dominic Giroux, President of Laurentian University and former Ontario government bureaucrat, Susan Pigott, V.P. Communications at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, and social service activist and Carol Stephenson, Dean of the Richard Ivy School of Business at the University of Western Ontario.

An interesting group, and I'll let you pass judgement on Dalton McGuinty's wisdom in choosing them to advise him on how best to chart the course for our province for the next decade.

An Awakening...

If nothing else, this report has given Ontarians a wake-up call. The Commission projects that if the McGuinty government continues on the course it's on, Ontario's deficit would reach \$30 billion by 2017-18 and the net debt would

reach \$411 billion!

Remember just a few months ago, when during the provincial election we were assured by the Premier that all is well in Ontario? We were told that we could rely on his "steady hand" during these times of economic uncertainty, and you may even recall the promises of new programs that ushered him back into office. And now, less than four months later, his own blue ribbon commission tells us the province is heading towards bankruptcy unless we make drastic changes.

"Ontario faces more severe economic and fiscal challenges than most Ontarians realize."

This quote from the Drummond Report says more about our government than it does about our economy. I would suggest that the reason Ontarians don't realize that we're spending ourselves into a crisis, is because their government has been hiding an ugly truth. That truth is that long ago, the taxes that unsuspecting citizens thought were paying for their public services, didn't even come close to covering the costs.

And rather than living within our means, successive governments spent money they didn't have to give people what they wanted, but didn't need. The result? The fiscal mess we're in today and the need for a Drummond Report.

362 Recommendations

Here is a sampling of the recommendations made by Mr. McGuinty's hand-picked Commissioners:

- Cancel the full-day kindergarten program (except in

schools where it's currently being offered now) because of its "prohibitive cost."

- Eliminate 70 per cent of the 13,800 additional non-teaching positions created in school boards since 2002-03.

- Cap increases in health spending at 2.5 per cent or less until 2017-18 and cap at 5 per cent thereafter.

- Expand the scope of practice of frontline health care providers.

- Reform the arbitration system to include "ability to pay" criteria and increase transparency of decisions.

- Review of public sector agencies to ensure efficiency of services.

- Review all energy subsidy programs and end the McGuinty government's 10 per cent Clean Energy Benefit.

- Require public sector unions to compete with private sector unions, not-for-profits and businesses to provide and deliver services.

The complete report can be found at a link on my website at www.frankklees.com.

"The government must take daring fiscal action early, before today's challenges are transformed into tomorrow's crisis."

That's the message Dalton McGuinty's Commissioners have delivered to him. It will be interesting to see what he does with the advice.

As always, I welcome your advice and comments. You can contact me at 905-750-0019 or through my website at frankklees.com.



Inside Aurora

By SCOTT JOHNSTON

Not many people notice, because it's not a holiday or anything, but since this is a leap year, we have an extra day this month.

You can look at this a number of ways. If you're a "glass half full" sort of person, you can say it's a gift - an extra day to live to the fullest and enjoy.

If "glass half empty" is more your style, then you can moan that it's yet another day of winter, or that much further from our next long week-end.

I definitely fall into the "half full" category, at least when it comes to this day.

For those who were born February 29th, it's a special day, as they celebrate a milestone that only happens once every four years.

Because for these people there are more years without birthdays than there are with them, some feel that people born on this date are really shafted recognition-wise. However, I don't think this is the case.

I know someone whose birthday is that day, and he's told me that on years where there is no February 29th, everyone makes an extra special fuss over him because he doesn't "have" a birthday. Then every four years, he gets especially well treated when he has a rare "real" birthday.

The only real downside he has is having to put up with all those jokes about being forced to wait 64 years before he's allowed to drive, or 76 before he can legally drink.

For those who appreciate cards, presents and related recognition, the worst time to be born must not be February 29th, but on or around Christmas. Your special occasion would get lost in the whirlwind of the season, and there would likely be a lot of "combination" gifts ("happy birthday, and by the way, this is your Christmas present, too").

Of course, one doesn't have a lot of choice if they're born on February 29th, but this date can be selected for other occasions.

I've heard it said that some people specifically pick February 29th as a day to get married, as they can then get away with having to remember their anniversary only once every four years.

In fact, I've heard this said a lot, because I've been accused of it.

Yes, this week after 20 years of marriage, my wife and I will be celebrating our fifth anniversary.

I can assure you that I have a very good memory for special occasions, and that my choice of this day two decades ago was more for its timely uniqueness than as an excuse

for excessive frugality.

I assume (and hope) my wife was thinking the same thing at the time.

But that doesn't stop folks from immediately latching onto the "getting out of remembering" theme when they find out. I can only guess that they must personally have a hard time remembering their own anniversaries every year, so expect it to be four times harder for us.

Although it's fun having an unusual date, it does present some challenges. It's difficult, for example, to find cards for those in-between years. I can assure you from years of looking that Hallmark has yet to make one that says "Happy 4 1/4th Anniversary".

But we haven't missed an anniversary yet, either a full or a fractional one, and are looking forward to Wednesday.

So, for all of you glass half empty folks out there in late February, I encourage you to think positively. Whether you like it or not, 2012 is giving us another day. You might as well make the most of it.

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

Glass Half Full

Public meetings and consultation set to look at traffic concerns

From page 1
have achieved the desired outcome, some residents believe that reduced measures may be warranted to allow for better community access and ease some of the aggravation of travelling through this quadrant."
Determining the future of the chicanes and road closures will be done in consultation with the residents, according to Mr. Simanovskis, and this consultation will include the development of a questionnaire for neighbours on the traffic calming initiatives, an online survey for the public on the Town's site, the May 15 meeting, and analysis of the data collected.
"Any alterations of the existing traffic control measures will have an impact on the type and speed of flow through traffic," said Mr. Simanovskis. "The effect of any alterations will be difficult to predict and have the potential of both alleviating some of the current concerns

but also introducing new issues.
"Prior to making any alterations to the current measures, it is important to understand what the current community opinion is and what, if any, are the desired changes. Public feedback and consultation will be critical in formulating any recommended changes to the northeast quadrant traffic control measures."
In addition to the northeast quadrant, Council will also be tackling the request of several homeowners in the Kennedy Street area to implement traffic control measures primarily to address excess speeds on the thoroughfare.
Council initially denied the request for traffic calming measures like speed humps and chicanes, but asked for them to come back with alternative calming measures that would also address residents' concerns.
At the time, several warrants

had to be met for traffic calming measures to be considered and installed on Kennedy Street, but activities in the area did not justify it. Such warrants included traffic volume and the effects on streets jutting off of Kennedy. 13 neighbourhood streets have access to Kennedy Street in the stretch in question and this access was taken into account when recommending traffic calming measures be denied.
When the idea was floated, objections were raised by both the Central York Fire services and York Region transit.
"Responses from relevant agencies were not in favour of installing traffic calming measures due to their negative impact on response time for the emergency and transit vehicles," said Mr. Simanovskis at the time. "Therefore, this warrant has not been satisfied due to the responses received."
These alternative measures considered and implemented

were the distribution of Road Watch brochures encouraging residents to report "aggressive driving" to police, the installation of two Road Watch signs on both approaches of the stretch to "alert and remind residents

and motorists of the program", and a request to the York Regional Police to "monitor and conduct regular speed enforcement on the street."
A future measure includes the installation this spring of a

driver's feedback speed message trailer.
Residents are set to speak to Council on the traffic issues before approval this week with at least one delegate scheduled to appear at press time.




The Aurora Legion hosted the 16th annual Aurora Optimist Chess Tournament last week and this year there were more players than ever. For the first time there were four senior kindergarten classes in the tournament. The Aurora winners head to Regional finals and, if successful, the Provincials. Pictured above, Jackson Templeman ponders his next move.
Auroran photo by David Falconer

Approving a youth centre would send the right message: Downey

From page 3
youth facility, added Mr. Downey, and these voices were included in the 2012 Youth Needs analysis which was approved last summer.
"We get [youth] hot and bothered by the fact we're thinking about doing a youth centre and then we let them down," said Mr. Downey. "It's really difficult to get them involved unless we are 100 per cent committed. The moment I hear Council say, 'We're building it!' then I can get them involved and engaged. They don't want having a youth centre talked about. They want to talk about what it is going to be. They want to know that it is actually going to happen."
In that vein, Mr. Downey likened the situation to the development of the Aurora Seniors' Centre.
"The seniors were really good at identifying what they needed and they were hell bent on making sure everything happened at their facility," he said. "They said, 'This is our home and we want everything to happen here.' I would love to see the same commitment to our youth, us saying 'You're important and we would like to be able to do something for

you."
Earlier this month, when asked what Councillors would like to see in Mr. Downey's report when it comes down, the reactions were mixed. Councillor Chris Ballard, for instance, said he was yet to be convinced that a dedicated youth facility was what the youth of Aurora really wanted and that using an existing facility on a trial basis might be in order.
"When I have talked to youth about 14-18 around town and asked what sort of things they would like and what they need, what I have got is they don't want any large facility," he said. "They certainly don't want anything that reminds them of going to school with lots of adults hanging around and overseeing. They want a fair number of un-programmed [activities] because our youth's lives are programmed every minute and many of them, I believe, are looking for a place to go and enjoy each other's companies and unwind."
Councillor Ballard said he also wanted a more sound business case for the project knowing exactly what the costs are going to be to run a youth centre along with "strong proof

that the Aurora taxpayer and the youth of Aurora" want the space.
For Councillor Paul Pirri, on the other hand, all the evidence was there for him to prove the case that a youth centre is needed and wanted in the community.
"The business plans and studies have been addressed," said Councillor Pirri. "We have had a need identified, just as the need was identified for a seniors' centre and that facility is booked up. They're even looking at new ways to get new things in that facility. I think the business plan and the business need is there. You just have to have looked at it."
Councillor John Abel also rejected the idea of a makeshift building to gauge youth interest.
"There is no need to put a drop in centre in an abandoned grocery store as a case study," he said. "Drop-ins didn't work in the 1970s, why would you use that as a business case in the 21st century? Where is the leadership in that? Listen to the community needs, what the Town Staff have presented, and the decision to build a multi-purpose facility is a clear and logical way to go."



The Regional Municipality of York

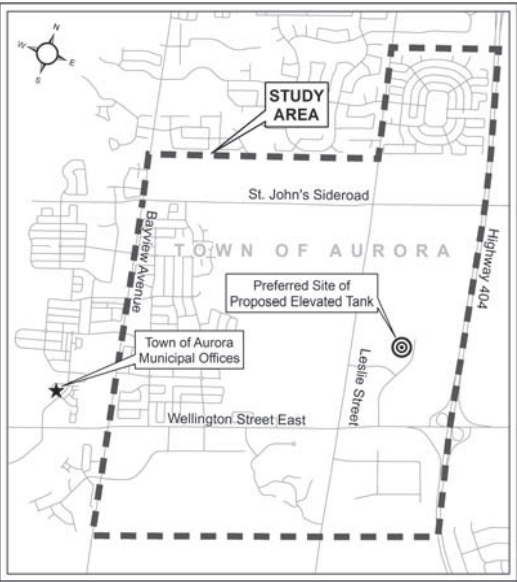
NOTICE OF STUDY COMPLETION

MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY
AURORA EAST WATER STORAGE FACILITY

Town of Aurora

The Regional Municipality of York (York Region) has completed a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment study (Class EA) to identify the location for a new elevated water storage facility to serve the Aurora East Pressure District (the Project), as recommended in the York Region Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update (November 2009).

The Class EA study has been conducted in accordance with Schedule B of the *Municipal Class Environmental Assessment*, (October 2000, as amended in 2007). The purpose of the Class EA study is to address the long-term water storage needs to meet peak demands and fire flows within the Aurora East Pressure District. The preferred location for the construction of the new elevated tank is shown in the figure below.



Subject to the comments received as a result of this Notice and the receipt of other necessary approvals, York Region intends to proceed with construction of the Project in spring 2013.

A Project File has been prepared for the Study. The Project File describes the problem, the assessment of alternatives and the preferred solution, as well as the public and agency consultation program conducted during the Class EA study.

The Project File is available for public review at the following locations during regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.):

The Regional Municipality of York Clerk's Department 17250 Yonge Street, 4 th Floor Newmarket, Ontario	Town of Aurora Clerk's Department 100 John West Way Aurora, Ontario
---	---

The Project File documenting the Class EA study is available for public review for 30 calendar days from February 23, 2012 to March 23, 2012. Interested persons may provide written comments to the York Region representative listed below within the review period.

Afshin Naseri, P. Eng, PMP
Project Manager
Capital Planning & Delivery Branch
Environmental Services Department
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 6Z1
Phone: 905-830-4444 ext. 5062
Fax: 905-830-6927
Email: afshin.naseri@york.ca

If concerns regarding the Project cannot be resolved through discussions with York Region, a person may request the Minister of the Environment issue a Part II Order for the Project. **A Part II Order Request must be received by the Minister at the address below no later than March 23, 2012.**

The Honourable Jim Bradley
Minister of the Environment
77 Wellesley Street West
11th Floor, Ferguson Block
Toronto, ON M7A 2T5

A copy of the Part II Order request must be sent to:

The Regional Municipality of York
Clerk's Department
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

Thank you for your participation in this study.

This Notice first issued February 23, 2012.

Comments and information regarding the project are being collected in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Assessment Act. Other than personal information, all information received may be included in the Project documentation which will become part of the public record.

Local businesswoman helps St. Kitts residents get back on their feet

By Brock Weir

Tears and gratitude are two words which encapsulate Aurora resident Lisa Bensadoun's recent trip to St. Kitts.

Ms. Bensadoun recently returned from the tiny Caribbean nation after a brief residency as part of a team on the ground as part of her Bachelor of Science training program from the North American School of Podology.

The 40-strong team, which included students, doctors, nurses and educators, set up a clinic for three and a half days which oversaw the treatment of over 700 residents with extreme foot conditions that might not have otherwise been treated. Particularly prevalent were foot conditions brought on by diabetes.

"A lot of people we saw never had foot care before," said Ms. Bensadoun. "The majority of people I saw were all diabetic. There were a lot of conditions we recognize now as podologists that we don't treat and diagnose, but we can recognize and refer. We recognized a lot of serious problems, but we were able to direct them to see a physician."

In addition to the problems brought on by diabetes, other prevalent issues with the patients they saw in St. Kitts included calluses - which, when cracked, can lead to more serious health concerns - and ingrown toenails. When these ailments, the treatment for which is relatively

common in Canada, were addressed and treated, Ms. Bensadoun said there were "a lot of tears, a lot of gratitude, a lot of thank you gifts and cards."

"Their appreciation was overwhelming," she said. "Aside from the dramatic cases of foot related problems I was seeing, which I have never seen in all the years I have been working, I couldn't get over their gratitude."

"When you see the need for foot care and the fact that they don't have any access to that care, you realise what a necessary service it is and it was something that was so needed and so necessary. I had one woman come in one day and thank me and say it was the first day she can remember walking without pain because I had relieved an ingrown toenail. She had just worked through the pain because it was part of her existence. She didn't know what it felt like not to have that pain and that was how dramatic I felt our care was for these people."

Ms. Bensadoun, who has been an Aurora resident for over 20 years, has worked in the aesthetics field for 12 years, operating By Lisa Esthetics. Through her work she said she found a real hole in the pedicure field of addressing things above and beyond the traditional treatment, such as calluses and corns, that can't be addressed in "a normal spa environment." Podology, she said, is the middle ground between a pedi-

curist and a podiatrist.

Her student work at the North American School of Podology afforded her the chance to participate in their Caribbean residency program and while they were there, the Parliament of St. Kitts and Nevis announced their approval of a program which would allow the group to continue their work on the island every six months.

"I am signed up and ready to go," she said with a laugh on being able to return not just to provide treatment but also providing practical advice on how St. Kitts residents can use readily available materials at hand to put their best foot forward.

"Most people just seemed to walk in flip flops or barefoot and when we pointed out proper supporting shoes and how it could help, and that the pain in their hips and legs was coming from improper footwear I think that had a huge impact on people," she said.

"We gave recommendations as simple as even getting pieces of foam and showing them how to cut out portions to stick in and create an arch to bear support. Even without having access to custom made orthotics we were really able to improvise with materials and products we know they have access to and show them how to adapt to footwear and, when they are looking for footwear, what to look for.

"I think the biggest impact [on me] was probably a new perspective on the



Aurora podologist Lisa Bensadoun (above left) spent a week earlier this year on the ground in St. Kitts and Nevis treating citizens for minor and severe foot ailments and showing how materials on hand could be modified to help alleviate chronic foot, knee, and hip pain. The response from St. Kitts residents, she said, was "overwhelming" when they came to seek treatment, as the line-up in the inset photo illustrates. The clinic was part of her residency at the North American School of Podology.

care that we have here and take for granted. I came back with a determination to educate and make people more aware."

Changes coming to Aurora bus routes this summer

By Wendy Soloduik

Residents of Aurora who don't use public transit are the ones being taken for a ride in York Region.

Currently, it costs riders of Route 34, one of Aurora's main routes, \$3.50 to get on the bus. Taxpayers supplement that fare by \$49.09 for a total cost of \$52.59 per person, per trip.

This high regional subsidy, based on the average of 28 riders per day (24 rush hour, four off-peak), is not "fiscally responsible", according to Rick Leary, general manager, York Region Transit (YRT).

Similarly, Route 31, which takes riders to destinations along Yonge Street, has an average of 64 riders a day (54 during rush hour, 10 off-peak) whose fares are subsidized by York Region taxpayers "in the \$12 range", according to Mr. Leary.

Mr. Leary, the former COO of Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority who replaced the YRT's first head Donald Gordon in 2009, said the anticipated growth in York Region (generally accepted as 30,000 new residents a year) will require a bus system in

place to reap the social and environmental benefits. Changes must be made now to "not to eliminate services, but to make efficiencies" in order to keep the YRT viable.

The balance between the need for transit service in a growing York Region, and the financial impact to residents was first identified in 2000, thus giving birth to the YRT.

During its first five years, the YRT focused on start-up. During the second five, growth became the hot topic. Now, in the third year of the final five of a 15-year plan, the YRT is focused on realignment and "matching capacity with demand," said Mr. Leary, whose organization oversees over 30,000 ft. of road surface, 11 involved organizations, and four municipally run bus companies.

In 2011, the York Region Transportation Committee began looking at route structures to identify service inefficiencies.

"Last year in the spring, we went to all the involved municipalities," said Mr. Leary. "We wanted to know where service was going to exist."

The information gath-

ered, in combination with public input, heard in August and September 2011, suggests there are "too many buses" in "a lot of underperforming routes", Mr. Leary told The Auroran. "Underutilized routes will be combined. (We are) reducing services to make the existing routes perform better."

For residents of Aurora, this means: "You will not have as many options, but you'll still have service," he said.

By combining routes, eliminating transfers and realigning bus routes with GO Bus terminals, riders in Aurora can anticipate being on the bus seven to eight minutes longer. The first wave of route modifications will begin this July.

In April 2012, the YRT will host a second wave of public input hearings to discuss the proposed 2013 service plans, which will further refine services. Meeting dates have yet to be determined.

Although route changes have not been made public yet, "riders will be made aware of any service changes through the YRT website (www.yrt.ca), social media, newsletters on the

bus, bus stop service alerts and information left with local high schools and SmartCentres," said Leary.

In 2014, the results of both the 2012 and 2013 service changes will be assessed to ensure the YRT is "sustainable and fiscally responsible for the spending of tax dollars," said Mr. Leary. "Everything will be based on capacity and demand."


In the long term, Mr. Leary said, "I can't tell you what I'm going to do with those routes, but I can't just sit here."

The proposed service changes to routes in York Region (including Aurora) beginning this July will save an estimated \$1 million in 2012. These funds will be "reshuffled" into other, higher performing routes to increase ridership - a ridership that has tripled since 2001, from 7 million to nearly 22 million. Proud of the numbers, Leary says, "Going forward, it has to be a quality ridership".

The proposed YRT service changes may inconvenience riders in the short-term, but may ultimately keep the organization afloat. The YRT is banking on it.

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Finding the time - and a dime - for Aurora's clock tower

By Brock Weir

If you use the Aurora clock tower to set your watch or as a landmark, you may have noticed the venerable post office timepiece fell silent over the fall.

The clock, which has regularly chimed the hours for nearly 100 years, was silenced between November and January while new equipment was installed. The problem was a failure in its time keeping mechanism. A faithful

restoration of the clock would have entailed a specially fabricated replacement part and installation to the tune of \$8,000.

The Dol Family, owners of the building, opted, however, to convert the clock to an electric movement for \$6,500.

"[Horologist David] Abernethy has been retained to complete the work and has assured me that none of the original clock works will be replaced or removed; this will ensure that the integrity of the

clock will remain intact and preserved should it be determined at a future time to replace the worn escapement," wrote co-owner David Dol. "The original mechanical chime will continue to function as it has since 1916, upon being rewound by us on a weekly basis.

"We believe that this approach to repairing the clock makes the most sense, in that nothing of the original works will be altered or displaced and the electric movement will be

far more reliable and less labour intensive in the ongoing maintenance of the clock."

Mr. Dol was commenting in a letter to Mayor Geoffrey Dawe, correspondence which was reviewed by the Town's Heritage Advisory Committee earlier this month. He requested the Council and committee consider making a financial contribution of 50 per cent of the \$6,500 estimated cost to repair the heritage structure.

When the committee reviewed the request on

February 13, now former committee member David Heard presented an idea, which got the enthusiastic support of both its members and initially the Dol family, to finance the restoration through public and private sponsorship.

"I thought there is probably a good way to bring the community together with this," Mr. Heard told The Auroran of the now aborted plan. "What I suggested to committee is that we approach the citizens of the Town to come forward and help pay for the cost of this.

"I think this is a good way to bring awareness to maintaining our heritage, to get citizens rallying around a cause. Even though it is a small thing, it will bring some enthusiasm into our community and bring awareness of our heritage."

The plan hit a snag, however, when Mr. Dol reconsidered the part of the plan which would have seen a plaque erected in the foyer below the tower recognizing everyone who contributed the restoration costs and the brakes were ultimately pulled on the plan.

"I just said [to Mr. Heard] that we don't want to do it as a fundraising thing," said Mr. Dol, noting that the original request to have part financing - just a contribution, not necessarily 50 per cent - was still on the table. "If the Town didn't have any funds in place for it, we understand.

"We just thought we don't want a plaque in our lobby for the fundraising effort. If a local dentist in Town was to put their name up there on a plaque and we have a dentist in the building, you can see how it can make people a little bent out of shape because of the years they have been paying through rent to maintain the building, including the clock. If somebody else's name comes up for a \$25 contribution, it is not right."

At last week's General Committee meeting, Councillors deferred the matter back to the Heritage Advisory Committee for further recommendations. The news the fundraising plan was dead on arrival was "disappointing" to Councillor Sandra Humfries, who sits on the Heritage Committee.

"It was a way to raise some awareness and excitement in Town," she said. "The committee felt in full support of this and it was a great way to raise awareness of a heritage building property.

"The original ask of the owner was that Council consider supporting 50 per cent [but the] thought from committee was they would like Council to pay 100 per cent because they felt the heritage building and clock was an advantage that we all enjoy and is a monumental building in our town."

Flag upkeep bylaws could "restrict expression"

By Brock Weir

Passing a bylaw requiring business and home owners to keep the Canadian flags they fly in tip top condition, could "restrict expression", according to Town Solicitor Warren Mar.

Mr. Mar made his comments in a report before Councillors at last week's General Committee meeting which was passed by consent. Council is expected to give its final approval of the report this Tuesday. Mr. Mar was responding to concerns raised late last year by Councillor Evelyn Buck, who brought forward a notice of motion in December calling for a bylaw requiring property owners to take more responsibility to replace the maple leaf if it gets torn, faded, or ragged.

"A Canadian flag flying in disrepair is disrespectful and offensive to community standards and such negligence is

unacceptable," said Councillor Buck in her motion.

"The purpose of my motion is not to require anybody who doesn't want a flag to fly a flag," she elaborated at the time. "If the property owners take it upon themselves to fly the country's flag then the least they could do is keep it in good repair. If they get ragged very quickly, take it down. Don't let it fly in shreds."

During the debate, however, questions were raised at the table on whether the municipality had any right to create legislation such as that. In Mr. Mar's opinion, which was tendered last week, the Town might not.

In his report, he said an analysis of legal principles suggested that regulating the condition of the flag might not be authorised "under the property standards regime and is likely beyond the powers of the municipality," resting under the

purview of Federal laws.

"A bylaw prescribing or regulating the condition of the Canadian flag would inevitably restrict expression," said Mr. Mar. "It is difficult to assess whether such a restriction could be justifiable without specifically considering the scope of any such constraint contained in the bylaw. However, given that the regulation would specifically target a very political symbol, it would be difficult to justify a by-law that has the affect of limiting certain political views and has a small impact on municipal interests."

Mr. Mar looked at other property standards bylaws in the GTA but could not find any specific provisions on flags. Some, however, have what he described as "provisions describing generic requirements for sign maintenance" like keeping them in good

repair.

"Flags could fall into the category of a sign and are specifically included in the definition of signs in the case of the Town of Newmarket and the City of Vaughan," he said. "However, its applicability to the Canadian flag may be problematic."


Mr. Mar goes on to cite considerations under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms which, he said, has indicated in cases that municipal sign bylaws had been found to violate expression "by restricting the ability to display signs with commercial content."

"It could be argued that the purpose of such a bylaw would be to protect the aesthetic character of the Town or the national symbol of Canada," said Mr. Mar. "The Canadian flag is a federal matter and the Town would likely not be able to pass a valid bylaw attempting to regulate this symbol."



Teams from across Aurora, including the Aurora Town Council and the Aurora Optimists, above, came to Gateway Cafe and Lanes on Saturday for the A & B Courier Big Brothers Big Sisters of York Bowl for Kids Sake, which raised money for the organization that matches kids with mentors. At press time, the event was estimated to have raised over \$19,000 for the organization.

Auroran photo by David Falconer



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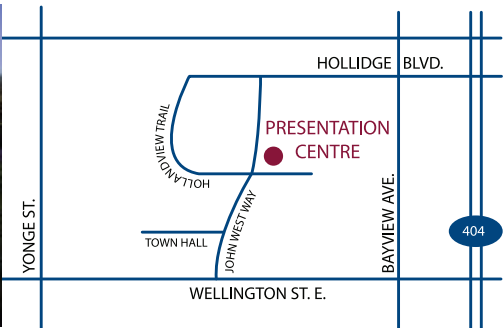
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Week of February 28, 2012

Tigers fall behind two games to one in semi-finals

By Kevin Michie

It's not the start they wanted, but the Aurora Tigers will live with it.

After a dramatic game one overtime victory over the Stouffville Spirit, the Tigers have slipped a little and are looking up at a 2-1 series deficit.

The Tigers opened up their OJHL second round against the Spirit, who received a bye into the second round after finishing second in the North Division, with the expectation that the series was going to be a war.

Aurora finished with a less-than-impressive 1-5 record against the Spirit in the regular season, so the Tigers knew they faced an uphill battle.

They opened up game one on a very promising note, however, as the club jumped out to a 2-0 lead, with Chad Bennett supplying the Aurora offense.

The Spirit cut the lead to one, thanks to a Drake Caggiula goal. The Tigers, however, answered with a goal of their own, off the stick

off Dylan Sikura, and opened up another two goal lead.

The lead evaporated as the third period progressed, and the Spirit drove the game into overtime.

Just before overtime, though, the game took a dramatic turn when Spirit all-star Christian Finch was given a double minor for spearing. The penalty carried on into overtime, and the Tigers made Stouffville pay for the untimely penalty - Daniel Lisi scored the winner with just a few seconds remaining in Finch's penalty.

The Tigers carried the momentum from the overtime victory into game two, back in Aurora, hoping to once again jump on Stouffville early.

The Spirit, however, seemed more prepared for the Tigers attack and this time opened up a two goal lead.

Undeterred, the Tigers battled back to score three unanswered goals to give them the lead just over two minutes into the third period.

Stouffville moved their

intensity up a notch following the Tigers third goal and were able to respond just over a minute later, after Aurora forward Nick Angelo took an elbowing penalty. Caggiula scored the equalizer, his second goal on the night, and fourth in two games.

This time, the Spirit had the momentum heading into overtime and, like the Tigers did in game one, Stouffville used it to put the Tigers away.

Stouffville's Andrew Doyle took a pass heading up the side boards and with one quick snap, put the puck past Aurora goaltender Brett Sinclair, ending the game.

"That's overtime, it's a one shot game," said Tigers Head Coach James Richmond. "The boys played well [but] we got to be better next game. It's been the same all year, with those one-goal games [against Stouffville]. We're there with them; we just have to play smarter."

The overtime game marked Aurora's third trip to the extra session in four



Aurora Tigers' Andrew Goldberg stick handles towards the net during game two against the Stouffville Spirit Friday night at the Aurora Community Centre.

Auroran photo by Kevin Michie

Members come out in force to support Club Aurora plans

By Brock Weir

Club Aurora - the fitness facility at the Aurora Family Leisure Complex - will be kitted out with new equipment to the tune of \$125,000 over four years following committee approval last week.

The decision came after several members came forward pleading the case of the fitness club. The debate over whether to spend the money on the facility began earlier this month after representatives presented a business case for the club's future.

The plan was designed for a future promoting overall community fitness with a goal for "maximum wellness", according to Al Downey, Aurora's Director of Leisure Services. The club, he said, has experienced a decline of 20 per cent in membership over the past five years and, along with new marketing strategies, changes in their membership requirements, and incentives for new members, equipping the gym with up-to-date equipment is a strategy to stop and perhaps even reverse that trend.

When the plan was first presented to Council, reception from members was mixed. While some were supportive of the plan, others like Councillor Chris Ballard wanted a more "robust" busi-

ness plan to come back to Council. Councillor Evelyn Buck, on the other hand, questioned the wisdom of the Town subsidizing a business that is in direct competition with private enterprise.

The members who came before Councillors last week, however, portrayed the Club as a vital - and integral - community institution for all demographics.

"The fact that the equipment is in need of repair is proof of the success of the fitness centre," said Dr. Peter Waxer. "Fitness equipment does not require upkeep or repair when it sits idle. Clearly the request for repair funds speaks to the fact that Club Aurora fitness centre equipment is well used indeed."

Dr. Waxer added that it is very common for private clubs to up and leave town when their profits dip - something he experienced when he ventured away from Club Aurora - but was pleased to be welcomed back into the club's "unique" atmosphere.

"Club Aurora is well known as a warm and supportive environment where assistance is available and never forced on club members," he said. "This approach appears to be universally appreciated by other members of the centre."

Nellie Bavdek, a member from the beginning, said she has heard firsthand from younger members who come and go that the reason they don't stick around is due to their outdated equipment. Adding that the club is a beneficial place for fitness for seniors such as herself, she underscored the personal touch she had received from instructors after an accident last year.

"They advised me and helped me get back into my regular program of exercise," she said. "I feel that our club is not only a place of fitness, but also [helps] us keep moving and stay healthy."

Ms. Bavdek was not the only member to pinpoint the customised service they feel Club Aurora offers to members of various fitness levels, interests, and capabilities.

As a long-time foster parent, member Michael Snell said Club Aurora has been particularly welcoming of teenagers and "instrumental" in his mentoring of teens.

When one of his former foster children suffered a near fatal head injury, Mr. Snell said the staff worked painstakingly to help him get back on track. This point was brought home by a representative of the ABLE Network, a local group which works with adults with intel-

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106 Timbits - San Jose Teal 4 - Bradley Gardiner 3G, Adriano Fanuzzi 1G, Vince Russo 3A, Samuel Spong 1A, Alex Nechadim 1A, Ryan Blakley 1A, Noah Daly 1A, Joseph Trovato 1A. **108 Timbits - Atlanta Sky 3** - Marco Djordjevic 2G, Thomas Bradley 1G 1A, Blake Iezzi 1A, Kian Barraclough 1A, Alex Rogers 1A.

101 Timbits - Calgary Red 5 - Luke Davison 1A, Luca Pugliese 1G, Dexter Cole 1A, Stephen Gummersall 1G, Brent Davison 1G, Kellan Sherman 1A, Artem Tuzhin 1A, Matthew Keizer 2G, Ian Gage 2A, Isabelle Mouratidis 1A. **104 Timbits - St. Louis Blue 3.**

106 Timbits - San Jose Teal 8 - Bradley Gardiner 1G, Adriano Fanuzzi 2G 1A, Sam White 1G 1A, Joshua Mcleod 2G, Alex Nechadim 2G, Charlie Akkermans 1A. **102 Timbits - Boston Gold 5** - Matthew Gianforcaro 4G, Anthony Carbone 1G, Dante Fallone Cita 2A, Jack Charbonneau 1A, Jordan Dool 1A.

105 Timbits - Pittsburgh Black 1 - Daiki Negishi 1G, Charlie Cobbold 1A. **103 Timbits - Toronto White 1** - Sam Belman 1G, Cayden Connelly 1A, Anthony Minichiello 1A.

203 Caravan Kids - Toronto White 5 - Aidan Quinn 4G, Stefano Iervasi 1G, Kai Silcox 2A, Simon Handal 1A. **202 Caravan Kids - Boston Gold 2** - Caspar Timothy 1G, Cristian Troubitsin 1A, Jackson Maclean 1G, Rory Callaghan 1A.

201 Caravan Kids - Calgary Red 7 - Jonah Spataro 1G, Alexander Mascioli 2G, Omar Ozturk 2G, Aiden Peel 1A, Marchel Woods 1A, Liam Parris 3G. **204 Caravan Kids - St. Louis Blue 2** - Andrew Flores 1G, Liam Morassutti 1G.

406 McDonald's - Purple 1 - Jackson Galbraith 1G, Griffen Charnley 1A. **405 McDonald's - Black 1** - Eric Flicker 1G, Cody Fisher 1A.

404 McDonald's - Blue 2 - Johnathan Avgousti 2G, Ethan Edwards 1A. **407 McDonald's - Kelly Green 1** - Harrison Colby 1G.

408 McDonald's - Grey 8 - Brennan Powell 3G, Christian Romas 3G, Matthew Pelan 1G 1A, Nathan Smith 2A, Sebastian Negulescu 2A, Jack Viney 1G, Ethan Medeiros 2A, Jacob Peticca 1A. **403 McDonald's - White 7** - Aidan Otoole 2G, Kyle Fowler 1G 2A, Justin Foster 3G, Carter Beacom 3A, Ethan Moulds 1A, Francesco Dinardo 1A, Eddie Zorzit 1G.

409 McDonald's - Teal 2 - Brendan Sanford 1G, Andrew Campbell 1G, Jesse Strom 1A. **402 McDonald's - Gold 2** - Stefan Fazari 1G, Thomas Raeburn 1A, Ethan Joiner 1G, Austin Martin 1A.

401 McDonald's - Red 6. 410 McDonald's - Orange 2.

603 Optimist Club of Aurora 1 - Elias Pasani 1G, Jayson Perkins 1A. **607 Crabby Joes 1** - Nathan Sherrard 1G, David Tonelli 1A.

603 Optimist Club of Aurora 3 - Jason Cox 1G 1A, Adam Mizuguchi 1G, Austin Hendy 1G. **609 Kumon Aurora - East 2** - Liam Patterson 1G, Josh Hookey 1A, Ethan Brooks 1G.

610 IOOF Aurora Lodge #148 8 - Colin Boorn 2G 1A, Niklas Seidel 2G 3A, Jacob Cann 1G, Aidan Burbank 1G 1A, Sean Mackrell 1G 3A, Adam Vanderkolff 1G 1A. **605 Crossley Contracting Ind. Restoration 2** - Brett Lassen 1G, Noah Murphy-Sealy 1G, Christopher Foschia 1A.

604 Omar's Shoes 8 - Tristen Macklin 2A, Peter Leontis 2G, Andrew Warner 2G 2A, Jacob Leblanc 1G, Joshua Fallavollita 3G. **611 Rotary Club 1** - Ryan Cameron 1G, Lucas Alberico 1A.

606 Dr. Weaver's Drillers 2 - Dillion Varone 1G, Nicholas Keizer 1G, Matthew Bolger 1A. **609 Kumon Aurora-East 1** - Josh Hookey 1G, Stanley Volchok 1A.

612 H.J. Pfaff Audi 6 - Jack Camplin 2G, Chris Walsh 1G, Evan Knowles 1G, Jordan Kagan 1G, Dylan Cowell 1G 1A. **602 Aurora Home Hardware Bldg Ctr 1** - Matthew Parkin 1G, Adam Powell 1A, Kyle Dungey 1A.

608 Mastermind Toys 8 - Evan Lambert 5G 1A, Jack Hosmer 2G, Nolan Roy 1G, Nicholas Sever 1A, Louie Simonin 1A, Kyle Gillies 1A,



Aurora Minor Hockey Association

Results, up to
February 26, 2012



Christian Loria 1A, Ryan Mascarenhas 1A. **607 Crabby Joes 0.**

809 Danny & Scotty Puck Bandits 2. 804 Optimist Club of Aurora 0.

801 Diamond Groundskeeping Services 4 - Joey Hodgson 1G, Colin Dyer 2G, Greg Rutherford 1G 1A, Tyler Bundy 1A, Liam Richardson 1A. **807 Crabby Joe's 1** - David Leeper 1G.

808 Laurion Law Office 2. 806 Backyard Pool & Spa Co. Ltd. 2.

804 Optimist Club of Aurora 3. 810 Benson, Kearley IFG 1 - Geoff Siow 1G.

803 McAlpine Ford 5 - Michael Walsh 2G 2A, Markus Hamann 1G, Adam Ashraf 2G, Grant Kavanagh 1A, Joshua Lye 1A. **802 Aurora Home Hardware Bldg Ctr. 3** - Allister Johnston 1G, Nicholas Hatzitolous 1A, Santino Denuzzo 1A, Zachary Machell 1A, Justin Laird 1G, Lockhart McMann 1G.

905 Continental Ingredients 4 - Austin Boudreau 1G 1A, Massimo Longhin 1G 1A, Jake Arcangeli 1G, Paul Ashbourne 1G, Ben Goldman 2A, Brady Wilson 1A. **903 A.D.C. Aluminum 3** - Harris Riopelle 2G, Thomas Scougall 1G, Matthew Sanita 2A, Jonathan Caporusso 1A, Christopher Sanita 1A.

904 North York Plumbing & Heating 7 - Kienan Osborne 2G, Liam MacKichan 1G, Alexander Harrison 1G, Graeme McDonald 1G, Declan Johnston 1G, Josh Lawlor 2A, Matt Reeves 1G 2A, Omar Rahal 1A, Keith Jarvis 1A, Kevin Wood 1A. **912 Pizza Pizza 4** - Casey Severini 2G, Michael Liscio 1G 1A, Tyler Hindley 1G, Kyle Strachan 2A.

909 Manhattan Trophies Ltd. 4 - Michael McCreesh 1G 1A, Mackenzie Smith 1G 1A, Kevin Siery 1G, Matthew Pelkola 1A, Chris End 2A, Brian Pedron 1A, Andrew Stobbe, shutout. **910 INARIA 0.**

901 Rogers TV 7 - Ryan Dowling 2G 1A, Alexander Seto 2G 1A, Andrew Walter 2G, Carson Elliott 1G 1A, Scott Cosentino 2A, Matthew Foschia 1A, Paul Louis Steiner 1A, Mitchell Waite 1A. **907 Crabby Joe's 1** - Joshua Bell 1G.

902 Aurora Chrysler 4 - Ben Hankins 2G, Scott Dunlop 1G 1A, Matthew Roach 1G 1A, Cody Mulhern 2A, Michael Hosmer 1A, Alexander McDonald 1A, Christian Frappier 1A. **906 ATS Healthcare 3** - Sam Steenhorst 2G, Michel Hache 1G 1A, Derek Capone 2A, Dylan Lyons 1A.

911 AHPA 5 - Paul Neophytou 2G, Russel Johnson 2G, Mitchell Carter 1G, Joey Stel 2A, Kieran Cullen 1A, Ethan Cullen 1A, Ryan Byerlay 1A, Joshua Carducci 1A. **908 Benson, Kearley IFG 3** - Mark Presacco 2G, Luc Martineau 1G, Zackery Landry 1A, Duncan Eveleigh 1A, Elias Jeries 1A.

901 Rogers TV 7- Andrew Walter 4G, Ryan Dowling 1G 1A, Paul Louis Steiner 1G 1A, Mitchell Waite 1G 1A, Mac Cawfield 4A, Alexander Seto 1A, Carson Elliott 1A, Billy Haddock, shutout. **906 ATS Healthcare 0.**

911 AHPA 3 - Russel Johnson 1G 1A, Graham Kilby 1G, Paul Neophytou 1G, Mitchell Carter 1A. **907 Crabby Joe's 1** - Neil Duggan 1G, Joshua Bell 1A.

909 Manhattan Trophies Ltd. 2 - Kevin Siery 1G, Mackenzie Smith 1G, Matthew Pelkola 1A, **912 Pizza Pizza 1** - Jake Allen 1G, Carson Roell 1A, Tyler Indos 1A.

908 Benson, Kearley IFG 7 - Mark Presacco 1G 1A, Zackery Landry 1G, Elias Jeries 1G, Liam Devlin 1G, Kentner Arkell 1G, Andrew Foresi 1G, Andrew Roche 1G 1A, Jordan Stephenson 3A, Ben Bryant 1A, James Johnston 2A, Matthew Warner, shutout. **910 INARIA 0.**

902 Aurora Chrysler 1 - Michael Hosmer 1G, Christian Frappier 1A. **905 Continental Ingredients 1** - Austin Boudreau 1G, Dylan Sutton 1A, Jake Arcangeli 1A.

904 North York Plumbing & Heating 4 - Josh Lawlor 2G Graeme McDonald 1G 1A, Eric Staueble 1G, Omar Rahal 1A, Kienan Osborne, shutout. **903 A.D.C. Aluminum 0.**

1005 BrokerLink 3 - Jerry Diaz 1G, Eamon Reilly 1G, Trevor Best 1G, Cooper Riswick 1A, Matt Clarke 1A, Jason Eberlin 1A. **1008 Danny**

& Scotty Puck Bandits 1 - William Miller 1G, David Marsillo 1A, Graham Joiner 1A.

1003 Tom & Jerry's 3 - Andrew Martin 1G 1A, K Piper 1G 1A, D Kovac 1G, Ryan Dalcin 1A. **1001 Pizzaville Aurora 2** - Carter Schaeffer 1G, Chase Riddell 1G, Daniel LaFlamm 1A, Mike Nonnewitz 1A.

1007 Crabby Joe's 3 - Jamie Cherutti 1G, Steadman Dinning 1G, Matt Miller 1G, Spencer Barker 1A, Nick Theodoropolous 1A, Cameron Grieg 1A. **1006 Caruso & Company 2** - Nick Zebrowski 1G, Tyler White 1G 1A, Reid Sisson 2A.

1004 BMO Bank of Montreal 3 - Nick Heintzman 1G, Evan Jones 1G, Josh Bentolila 1G, Zachary Pyle 1A, Chris Youtoff 1A, Jesse Bentolilla 1A, Anthony DeCesare 1A, Cody Rundle-Sanderson 1A. **1002 INARIA 1** - L Ghegin 1G, Jake Hindley 1A, A Reid 1A.

1007 Crabby Joe's 6 - Jamie Cherutti 2G, Steadman Dinning 4G 2A, Braydon Jackson 3A, Stefan Richardson 2A. **1002 INARIA 4** - Jake Hindley 2G, D, Fusco 1G, Sasha Dajia 1G 1A, M Bishop 2A, Z Wong 1A, L Ghegin 1A.

1001 Pizzaville Aurora 5 - John Haralampopoulos 3G, Marco Ghegin 1G, Braedon MacKenzie 1G 2A, Keegan Weatherhead 1A, TJ Ground 1A, Daniel LaFlamm 1A, Mady Schaefer 1A, Stephen Cantarutti 1A. **1008 Danny & Scotty Puck Bandits 2** - Graham Joiner 1G, William Miller 1G, Ty Brochu 1A, Conner Fennel 1A, Josh Ashfield 2A.

1004 BMO Bank of Montreal 4 - Justin Killens 1G, Alex Heintzman 2G 1A, Chris Youtoff 1G, Anthony DeCesare 2A, Nick Heintzman 1A, Royce Kirby 1A, Evan Jones 1A. **1005 BrokerLink 2** - Ryan Eberlin 1G, D Diabelo 1G, Zach Seto 1A, Trevor Best 1A, Thomas Hagias 1A.

1003 Tom & Jerry's 3 - J.P. Sunseri 1G, Quinn McGowan 2G, David Baccialeri 1A, Ryan Dalcin 1A, T Litmanovitch 1A. **1006 Caruso & Company 3** - Chris Fafalios 1G, Tyler White 2G, Taylor Butler 1A, Ryan Kennedy 1A.

Rep League

Tyke - Select B - Aurora 6 - Andrew Parsons 1G, Fionn Keon 1G 2A, Thomas Bradley 1G, Kevin Wasserman 1A, Jake Andersen 1A, Adam Rame 1G, Bradley Gardiner 1G, Adraino Fanuzzi 1G, Sam White, shutout. **Ajax 0.**

Novice AA - Aurora - 3 - Anton Sopov 1G 1A, Dylan Andersen 1G, Todd Cook 1G 1A, Michael Crowe 1A, Nicholas Pisapia 1A, Jack MacFarland, shutout. **Richmond Hill 0.**

Novice A - TNT 3. Aurora 0
Novice A - TNT 2. Aurora 1- Caydon Visser 1G, Jake McMillan 1A, Max Reeves 1A.

Novice A - TNT 3. Aurora 0
Novice AE - Richmond Hill 3. Aurora 1.
Novice AE - Richmond Hill 2. Aurora 1.
Minor Atom AA - Barrie 6 . Aurora 2 - Zachary Kolm 1G, Carter Beswick 1G, Liam Mahoney 1A.

Minor Atom AA - Barrie 16. Aurora 1 - Ethan Cameron 1G, Jake Adams 1A.

Minor Atom A - Barrie 4. Aurora 1.
Minor Atom A - Barrie 4. Aurora 1.

Minor Atom AE - Aurora 5 - Carson Tidd 1G, Zachary Grant 2G, Jonathon Gagnon 1G 2A, George Worth 1G, James Sproul 1A, Alexander Arcuri 2A, Liam Graham 1A. **Markham 2.**

Minor Atom AE - Aurora 5 - Jonathon Gagnon 1G 2A, Alexander Arcuri 1G 1A, Carson Tidd 1G 1A, James Sproul 1G 1A, Liam Graham 1G 1A, Zachary Grant 1A, Carson Klein 1A, Max Piorischin, shutout. **Markham 0.**

Atom AA - Barrie 2. Aurora 1.
Atom AA - Aurora 3. Barrie 2.

Atom A - Aurora 5 - Anthony DiPietro 1G, Anthony Iacovetta 2G, Blair Crabbe 2G, Dylan Prescott 1A, Spencer Morrison 2A, Sam Ashton 2A, Andrew Park 2A, Matthew McConnell 2A. **TNT 1.**

Atom A - Aurora 8 - Dylan Prescott 1G, Spencer Morrison 2G, Blair Crabbe 2G, Connor Thomas 1G, Craig Therkildsen 1G, Sam Ashton 1G 1A, Jason Gage 2A, Andrew Park 2A, Matthew McConnell 2A, Jack Campbell 2A,

Anthony Iacovetta 2A. **TNT 2.**

Atom AE - Aurora 1 - Luke Catania 1G, Alex Sandras 1A, Matthew Gram 1A. **Markham 1.**

Atom AE - Aurora 3 - Jeremy Gonsalves 1G, Alex Sandras 1G, Tyler Sawyer 2A, Luke Catania 1A, Matthew Gram 1G 1A. **Markham 2.**

Atom AE - Aurora 5 - Jack Patterson 2G, Alex Sandras 1G 1A, Owen Romano 1G, Ryan McCartney 1G, Luke Catania 2A, Tyler Sawyer 1A, Russell Tanaka 1A, Daniel Babcock 1A. **Markham 4.**

Minor Peewee A - Aurora 3. Nobleking 2.
Minor Peewee AE - Richmond Hill 2.
Aurora 1 - Colin Windle 1G, Joseph Grassa 1A.

Peewee AA - Markham 3. Aurora 0.
Peewee AA - Aurora 5. Georgina 2.

Minor Bantam AA - Stouffville 5. Aurora 3 - Jack Pecora 1G 1A, Tyler Williams 1G, Bryan Manweiler 1G 1A, Evan Woodhead 2A, Deven Duguara 2A.

Minor Bantam AA - Aurora 2 - Evan Cherubini 1G, Tyler Williams 1G, Bryan Manweiler 1A, Jared Reeves 1A, Jack Pecora 1A. **Stouffville 1.**

Minor Bantam A - Innisfil 3. Aurora 2 - Christian Arcuri 1G, Alistair Johnston 1A, Alec Magnante 1G.

Minor Bantam A - Aurora 3 - Alistair Johnston 1G 1A, Adam Caicco 1A, Tristan Kuchar 2A, Austin Kiraly 1G, Colin Kostin 1G, Christian Arcuri 1A. **Innisfil 1.**

Minor Bantam A - Innisfil 3. Aurora 2 - Eric Shennan 1G, Alistair Johnston 1A, Tristan Kuchar 1G, Nick Pearce 1A, Christian Arcuri 1A.

Minor Bantam AE - Newmarket 4. Aurora 1 - Christian Pearce 1G, Daniel McConnell 1A.

Minor Bantam AE - Aurorra 5 - Spencer White 1G 1A, Brendan Ramsay 1G 1A, Jack Bryant 2G 1A, Jeff Mckay 1G, Nicolas Pearce 2A, Eric Shennan 1A. **Georgina 4.**

Minor Bantam AE - Stouffville 3. Aurora 2.

Minor Bantam AE - Georgina 3. Aurora 2.
Minor Bantam AE - Newmarket 2. Aurora 0.

Bantam AA - Aurora 3. Stouffville 2 - Andrew Klinowski 2G, Jack Ellison 1G.

Bantam AA - Aurora 2 - Lucas James 1G, Jack Ellison 1G. **Stouffville 3.**

Bantam A - Innisfil 2. Aurora 1.
Bantam A - Innisfil 5. Aurora 4.

Bantam AE - Aurora 3 - Matthew Bellerby 1G, Brady Mulhern 1G, Johnny Sherwood 1G 1A, Hunter Jones 1A, John Partland 1A. **Barrie 2.**

Bantam AE - Innisfil 4. Aurora 1 - Joe Battiston 1G, Christian MacGillivray 1A.

Bantam AE - Innisfil 3. Aurora 2 - Alex Bernier 1G, Joe Battiston 1G, Brady Mulhern 1A.

Bantam AE - Schomberg 3. Aurora 2 - Johnny Sherwood 1G, Hunter Jones 1G, Alex Bernier 1A.

Minor Midget AA - Richmond Hill 5. Aurora 3 - Connor Cowl 1G 1A, Brett Thiessen 1G 1A, Quentin Campbell 1G 1A.

Minor Midget AA - Aurora 5 - Quentin Campbell 3G, Spencer Green 1G 2A, Lucas Pozzebon 1G 1A, Brett Thiessen 3A, Ty Varga 1A, Tait Snedden 1A, Tristan Joseph 1A. **Richmond Hill 2.**

Minor Midget A - Aurora 3 - Jack Caldwell 1G 1A, Erik Balkovec 2G. **Orillia 3.**

Minor Midget A - Orillia 6. Aurora 1 - Erik Balkovec 1G, Zac Cowl 1A, James Thomson 1A.

Minor Midget AE - Aurora 5 - Nathan Nealon 2G, Nicholas Steiner 1G 1A, Parker Baile 1G, Graham Robinson 1G 2A, Brett Bond 1A, Harry Smith 4A, Ryan McGolrick 1A, Mitch Arnew 1A. **Newmarket 1.**

Minor Midget AE - Aurora 4 - Nathan Nealon 1G, Ryan McGolrick 1G, Ben Ashton 1G, Graham Robinson 1G 1A, Brett Bond 1A. **Newmarket 1.**

Midget A - Nobleking 7. Aurora 4.
Midget A - Aurora 2. Nobleking 2.

Midget A - T Nobleking 3. Aurora 1.
Midget A - Nobleking 4. Aurora 2.



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Playoff series likely far from over for the Aurora Tigers

From page 12
in regulation or four over-
times, it doesn't matter," he
said.
"It's a tough loss," added
Aurora's Jeff MacPherson.
"Coming back from 2-0, we
thought we had that one, but
then a couple [of] bad
bounces and it ends up in
the back of our net."
Even with the loss,
Richmond noted that there

were no big differences
between games one and
two, only the fact that this
time the Spirit got the goal in
the extra frame.
"We won in overtime
there, and they won in over-
time here, so not a lot
changed," said Richmond. "I
just think we have to be
smarter."
As some players exited
the Aurora Community
Centre following the loss,

Richmond told them to
"bounce back" in the hopes
that his players wouldn't
dwell on the loss.
The message may have
not gotten through, though,
as the Tigers jumped out to
a sluggish start in game
three on Sunday.
The Spirit opened up a 2-
0 lead though the first ten
minutes before the Tigers
responded on the power
play to cut the lead in half.

Unfortunately for the Tigers,
that deficit would continue to
grow as the second period
got under way.
The Spirit would go on to
score four unanswered
goals following the Tigers
opening goal, and it wasn't
until about five minutes were
left in the final frame that the
Tigers were able to respond.
The end result was a 6-2
defeat, and 2-1 deficit in the
best-of-7 playoff series.

Heading into game four
Tuesday, the Tigers will look
to get back on their game
plan, which is to get as many
pucks to the net as possible
while at the same time get-
ting bodies in front to screen
and tip.
"We just need to keep
getting shots to the net and
pucks are going to go in,"
said Tigers captain Jarrett
Fennell. "Garbage goals are
going to win this series.
Going off legs and sticks,
that's what it's going to come
down to."
The first three games of

the series have been
aggressive, well-penalized
and filled with trash talk.
Those three factors lead
fans and coaches to believe
that this series is far from
over.
"I don't think it's going to
go less than seven [games],"
said Richmond. "We just
need to [keep doing] what
we've been doing, just chip-
ping away and getting pucks
at their net for chances."
Puck drop in game four is
scheduled for 7.30 p.m.
Tuesday at the Aurora
Community Centre.



Two Aurora teams meet in Havelock tourney

**By Javed Khan
(Sport Aurora)**
Aurora Reds (Team 401)
won the Havelock
Tournament last weekend.
On Sunday February
19th the Aurora Reds won
the 8th Annual Jamie
Gratton Memorial
Tournament held in
Havelock, ON. The 2-day
tournament hosted six
Atom division teams from
across Ontario.

The previous day, the
Flames met a very strong
team from Brock who came
back from a 3-0 deficit to
finish in a 4-4 tie. Team
Reds' goals came from
Mitchell Weatherall, Logan
Kidder, Hunter Coleman,
and Hunter Edwards.
After a re-group and rest,
the Reds were victorious in
the second game by a 6-4
margin over Waterford.
Goals came from Mitchell
Weatherall (2), Liam Vivian,

Logan Kidder, Anthony
Miranda, and Rony Wahab.
The Reds carried the
momentum into the final
game on Sunday, February
19th against the only other
Aurora based team - the
Aurora Flyers (Team 410).
A true team effort was
shown in the final game
with strong defensive plays
and solid goaltending by
Joey Livia. The team was
victorious in the champi-
onship game 8-3 over the
Aurora Flyers. The team
was led by four goals from
Rony Wahab while other
goals came from Anthony
Miranda (2), Mitchell
Weatherall, and Liam
Vivian. The coaches and

parents are very proud of
how the players dug deep
and played very well
through the tournament!
Front Row (Left to Right):
Logan Kidder, Liam Vivian,
Cooper Paterson, Hunter
Edwards, Rony Wahab,
Adam Khan, Jason Xue,
Daniel Rheeder, Ethan
Mohammed, Goalie: Joey
Livia
Second Row (Left to
Right): Anthony Miranda,
Mitchell Weatherall, Alex
Murgida, Hunter Coleman,
Andrew Scott
Back Row: Coaching
Staff (Left to Right): Keith
Scott, Paul Weatherall, Eric
Edwards, Jamie Kidder

Novice AE Scores	
Feb 12	lacovetta 1G, 2 Matteo Rossi
Richmond Hill Vs Aurora 6-2	1G, 10 Nicholas Petinarelis 1A,
42 Ayden Whilby 1G, 87	83 Lucas DePalma 1A, 76 Liam
George Rappos Jr 1G, 77 David	Taylor 1A, 42 Ayden Whilby 1A.
lacovetta 1A	Feb 18
Feb 13	Richmond Hill Vs. Aurora 3-1
Aurora Vs Richmond Hill 3-4	9 Jordan Dimatulac 1G, 4
5 Ryan Weeks 1G, 77 David	Ryan Dunbar 1A

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4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS

Kathy van Nostrand, CGA
Brian Roberts, CGA
Bonnie Smith, CGA
Steve Beaumont, CGA

Joanne Hook
Teresa Ariganello
Laura Moffatt
Marilyn Card
Patsy Pugh

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Senior Scape

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Youth and seniors see eye to eye over chess

Birnie Prost, Tom Bozinowski and this writer, all members of the Aurora Seniors' Association (ASA) Chess Club, and non-member Radu Lupan, played in the Reading Hart House Chess Tournament during three days this month.

One hundred and twenty players registered for play, divided into four playing strength sections including under 1600, 1900 and 2200 with the Open designed for powerful players the best of whom have the ability to compete among the strongest chess players in the world.

About twenty children played chess among about 100 older players all the way to players in their seventies. Tom and I celebrate our 77th birthdays February and April of this year.

After the conclusion of personal games, and while other games continued late into the evenings, mothers would round up their children to get them home, and they were reluctant to leave the chess scene where, with adults, they excel at chess.

Chess is probably the most respected board game invented by man. I cannot imagine any activity other than chess where children level the playing field with adults, by demonstrating skill and playing expertise as firmly and emphatically as they do.

A man and woman sharing the same surname were my opponents on the last day and I believe they were father and daughter. I won a two-hour game against the father in the morning and a two hour and 40 minute game against the daughter in the afternoon. Other games continued as long as six hours!

Birnie Prost dared to enter the under 2200 section where he played excellently, and earned some points while Tom Bozinowski played in the under

1900 section and played well, scoring points and losing or tying close games. Tom and Birnie are a credit to the ASA. Often, the wins, ties and losses fail to record accurately the closeness of the games and the powerful play of Tom and Birnie, against superior opposition, reinforced the idea that senior life can be intense.

Radu, with plenty of enthusiasm, but the least experienced among us, did not score well in the under 1600 section but found chess tournament experience a thrill. This writer, also in the under 1600 section, tied for third and won \$100 in prize money.

Computers pair winners with winners, and as a consequence, my opponents all played with success during the tournament, vying for top places and incredibly disappointed to lose any game. I was astonished at my success. I scored a loss, tie and four wins over three days and six games, worth four and a half points with the joint winners scoring five points.

A chess game played well can collapse easily with a single error, a scenario experienced by Birnie during the tournament. He is still criticising himself mercilessly for a momentary lapse of close attention.

Birnie, Tom and I play chess with everybody, so for those who wonder where their chess skills rate, the Seniors' Centre Chess Club tests abilities.

I instruct chess at Lady of Christ School in Newmarket during Friday lunch hour, and at Rouge Woods and Bayview Hill community centres in Richmond Hill, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

I assist as a section leader at the Optimist School Chess Tournament in Newmarket each year and attest that chess has an attraction that continues

to appeal to all ages.

The Seniors' Centre Chess Club invites men and women chess players, 55 years and older, to join with us every Tuesday commencing at 4.00 p.m., and you will delight yourself - and us - competing on the chessboard.

Eager members pursuing varied interests in the Centre impress their love of life on whatever they do, and the Carpet Bowling enthusiasts play to win. They get moderate exercise, compete with each other in the lighthearted zest of casual play, enjoying good company, filling retirement years with meaningful pleasures as planned and intended.

If your health remains decent and your physical condition permits exercise, do something. Do not waste what remains. Life offers tremendous rewards to those who get up and go, or refuse to waste away in useless inactivity.

If you have talent of any description, if you love to do something, do it and do it in the company of like-minded members. Leisure shared with others offers a sweeter measure of pleasure!

The mounting years show in our bodies, but minds, as restless as in youth, hold the ravages of time firmly at bay. You, as master or mistress of destiny, can steer life in the direction of maximum satisfaction.

The best beliefs, customs and social practices learned through the formative years or with which we gain acquaintance from written works, now serve our needs magnificently.

Those who follow after we pass, will benefit from lives lived today; a little of what we believe and practice will seed and flourish and new heights of senior life waits for those who strive to achieve and take hold of a brave new world of seniority.

Club equipment upgrade needed because of good use: members

From page 12
lectual disabilities.

"Our participants look forward to working out at the gym and they receive great support from the Club Aurora staff to reach their individual fitness goals," said Joan Hurst. "The ABLE Network's goal is to be community based and inclusive. Our participants exercise along with other members of the community. The workouts are fun and challenging and being a member of Club Aurora also promotes the development of esteem, self advocacy, and self confidence."

During discussions on the recommendations before committee, Mayor Geoffrey Dawe said it was "heartening" to see such community support for the gym.

"Mr. Downey was asked to provide us with a business plan and I would say he did that well," said Mayor Dawe on Mr. Downey's "robust"

report. "I supported this the first time through and I support it even now."

While Councillor Paul Pirri also gave Mr. Downey kudos for the "robust" information provided, Councillor Ballard said he still had reservations. Although he said he would support the recommendation, he still wanted information on its target audience, market, and how they are going to market to them.

"I think the people here tonight really demonstrated a good cross section of who our target market is and I would like to see in the business plan and the execution of it, more information of how we are going to attract more people who were here tonight," he said.

"Obviously the first thing we need to do is have decent equipment. Nobody is going to join if they come in and find the place is falling apart. That's step one. Step

two and three are to do with marketing and advertising and I am looking forward to seeing more of that and see the numbers grow at the facility so we can justify to all the taxpayers in Aurora that we have done our homework, we know who our audience is, we know there are lots of people who want to attend and they are joining."

Aurora Seniors Duplicate Bridge Results

February 13, 2012

N/S

1st - Carole Bell and Nan McLean

2nd - Dennis McFadden and Suzanne Nunn

3rd - Frank Lablans and Frank Henriques

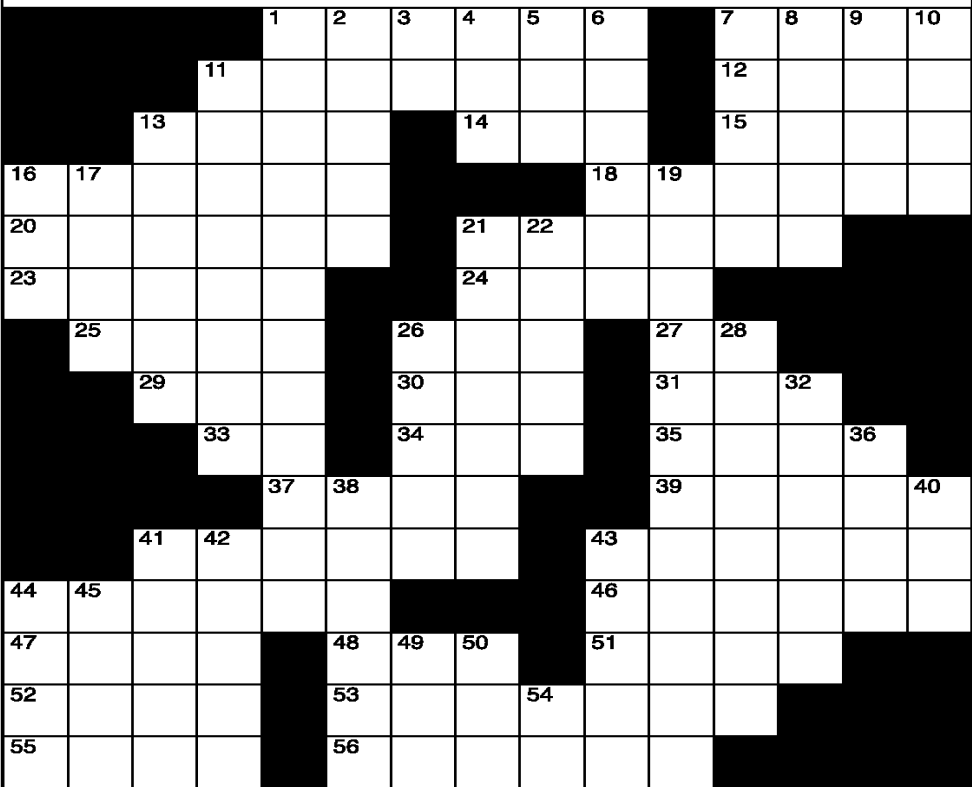
E/W

1st - Carol Gordon and Marg Cyr

2nd - Sophie Clark and Mitzi Brown

3rd - Don Newman and Murray Sinclair

CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- Warning devices
- Ancient Hebrew dry measure
- 22nd state
- A scheme or program
- Belonging to inventor Whitney
- Finished cloth border
- Seize (obsolete)
- Something on fire
- Great peninsula of SW Asia
- Suspenders (Br.)
- Having a cheerless disposition
- Toto's terrier breed
- Whale ship captain
- A single undivided entity
- Short term memory
- Charlotte's author White
- 7th Greek letter
- Muslim people of NW China
- Long tailed rodent
- Yukon Territory
- Curved shape
- A gait faster than a walk
- Not working
- Ancient priest
- Notated a musical work
- Took a quick look
- Aged coloration
- Enrolls
- Extended narrative poem
- Angry
- Write bad checks
- A. Webber's lyricist Tim
- Any longer
- A wild Asian goat
- 3 dimensional sound system

CLUES DOWN

- Give nourishment
- Emits coherent radiation
- Blood type
- Goes with Sis Boom Bah
- Woman (French)
- Key fruit
- Plural of 7 across
- Cadet
- Ethnic group of China and Vietnam
- Portico boundary pilaster
- Briskness
- ___ May, actress
- Easy as 1, 2, 3
- Wife (German)
- "Taxi" actor
- Fully developed
- About ohms
- Fissile sedimentary rock
- Hair clasp
- Men's hairpiece
- Stadium level
- Serious plays
- Tooth doctor (abbr.)
- A line of verse
- Chickpea plant species
- A superior grade of black tea
- High spirited, vivacious
- W. Samoan capital
- Social insect
- Coloring substance
- Mister

Last Week's Puzzle Solution



COMING EVENTS

From page 2
room. This is a joint program between York Regional Police and Scouts Canada. There is a Scouts Canada membership fee. Service uniforms are provided. High school students can earn community service hours through the program. If interested, visit a meeting. For further information visit York Regional Police volunteer website or contact volunteers@yrp.ca.

Trinity Anglican Church "Clothes Closet", located at 44 Metcalfe Street, Aurora, is the local source for gently used women's, children's and men's clothing. All monies raised are used to support the needy of Aurora, since it goes directly to the "Welcoming Arms" Ministry. Open weekday mornings, 9.30 a.m., to 11.30 a.m. and Wednesday evenings 6.30 to 7.30 p.m. The Bag Sale happens the last Monday of each month.

At the request of its director, Richard Heinze, the Evergreen Choir's time of practice will be increased to 90 minutes. Registration is now available at the front desk of the Aurora Seniors' Centre for the season until June 2012. The fee for the coming sessions remains the same: \$50 per member. New members are always welcome. It is not necessary to be able to read music, nor

will you be asked to audition, to enjoy being part of this experience. For more information call the seniors' desk at 905-726-4767.

GRANAurora, the local Grandmothers To Grandmothers group, meets monthly to raise awareness, generate funds and lobby on behalf of the grandmother care-givers in AIDS-ravaged Africa. For more information call Kay at 905-841-9318 or Joan at 905-727-5586.

Alateen meets every Sunday at 8 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, corner of Victoria and Mosley Streets. Al-Anon meets every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at the Aurora United Church on Yonge Street. For more information go to al-anon.alateen.on.ca.

The Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North. Visitors are welcome for only \$2. For more information call Ray at 905-727-6168.

York Highlands Chorus is an award-winning a capella Sweet Adelines chorus, a group of women who gath-

er Tuesday evenings at the Old Fire Hall, Newmarket, to sing, share in the harmony of friendship and learn the barbershop art form. York Highlands is always looking for new women who share the love of a capella music. Call Karen at 905-726-2113 or e-mail Vikki at information@yorkhighlands.com.

The Upper Canada Chordsmen, Aurora-Newmarket's award winning chorus, is looking for male singers. The group meets every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Old Fire Hall, 140 Main Street South, in Newmarket.

The Optimist Club of Aurora meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Aurora Legion. New members are welcome. Call 905-727-5012 for more information.

The Aurora Lions have moved to their new meeting place at the Aurora Legion in the Coulson Hall where they have three meetings per month. The second Monday of the month is the dinner meeting at 7 p.m., the third Tuesday is the business meeting at 7.30 p.m. and the fourth Monday is a dinner meeting at 7 p.m. The club is welcoming people to come out to the meetings to see

what the Aurora Lions are all about and consider joining the Lions and reach out to the community in many events. For further details go to their website at www.auroralionscanada.com.

The Aurora Rotary Club meets every Monday night at Gabriel's Restaurant on Yonge Street. New members are welcome. For further information, go to their website at www.rotaryaurora.com.

Meet for lunch and a sense of community at Martha's Table, based in St. Andrew's Hall at Aurora's Presbyterian Church. The thriving, volunteer-run program reopens September 1. Lunch, featuring soup, sandwiches, and dessert, is offered between 11.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. Net receipts go to local charities. The hall is on the corner of Mosley and Victoria Streets.

The York Regional Police Male Chorus is looking for new members. You do not have to be a police officer nor are you required to read music to volunteer. The group rehearses Monday evenings between 7.30 and 9.30 p.m. For further information, contact the chorus supervisor at 905-727-9676 or the co-ordinator of volunteer services for YRP at 905-830-0303, extension 6717.

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should the Town still seek to recover the money?

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- 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 to work in a team-oriented yet self-motivated environment.

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Aurora author Joanne Boldt reads her book *I See Me* with three-year-old Claire at the Aurora Public Library on Thursday. *I See Me* encourages readers to see themselves in the world around them.

Auroran photo by Brock Weir

Author wants readers to build a community that reflects them

By Brock Weir

During her four year recovery from a horrendous car accident, Aurora resident Joanna Boldt had a lot of time to reflect on the direction of her own life.

She had long established herself in a marketing career, but decided she wanted to travel a new life path. The nearly five years of surgery and rehabilitation, she said, gave her a need to go and "cleanse." Focusing on naturopathy and cleansing opened her eyes to a new way of being, she said.

This new way of being - and thinking - is reflected in her book *I See Me*, which is published by her own publishing group Looking Glass Press. *I See Me* is a journey through the natural world guided by two bears - one a "wise elder" and the other a cub - as they look for reflections of themselves in the world around them.

The idea for the book grew from a seed planted in her mind by her then six year old daughter Caleigh.

"We were at a spiritual mother-daughter retreat led by a friend of mine and at the end we were supposed to look into each other's eyes and say what we saw there," said Ms. Boldt. "She looked into my eyes and said, 'I see me.' I thought she was doing it wrong because I knew she was just seeing herself in my pupils. Then I felt, 'Oh, there's something important there,' but I didn't quite know what it was.

"At another retreat we did

virtually the same exercise and we were looking into each other's eyes and I got everything from, 'I see love', 'I see such happiness,' and 'I see such peace', to 'I see such pain and anguish.' I put it all together and I thought they weren't seeing me, they were seeing themselves reflected."

The idea to invest this idea in following the journey of two bears through their own habitat came from a sense of wanting to include "sacred images" in her story. The bear, she said, is known in many cultures as being a good parent, and as her story was largely about "mother earth" it made it a good fit.

"I want people to start looking around them at the earth in a different sort of way as opposed to being removed from it," she said. "They should always see themselves as being connected to it.

"We are on a finite planet and we have finite resources so it is a wakeup call and a reminder that we are here for a reason and we have an important job to do, not just to get profit but to steward this planet and use it to the best of our capabilities."

Since its original publication, Ms. Boldt has been busy selling her book online through Looking Glass Press, health and wellness outlets like Nature's Emporium in Newmarket, as well as a booth at the Aurora Farmers' Market - including the indoor market last weekend at the Aurora Cultural

Centre.

As more readers have found themselves reflected in the pages of the book, the more feedback she receives and Caleigh, the inspiration behind the book, is pleased to have played an integral role in its development."

"She is as proud as proud can be," said Ms. Boldt of her now 13 year old daughter. "This is one thing on my bucket list of things I have done that no one can take away from me. It's a little something I have birthed and left on this planet that will be here hopefully after I have gone."

As for other readers, she hopes they finish her book coming away with the understanding that they are not alone in this world and there is so much to see and do beyond peering at a TV screen or a computer monitor. If one looks outside the tube, she said people will discover something "that is miraculous in the wonderful, natural world."

"If they pause for a moment, go into nature and be still, explore, and be open, they will hear and listen to so much more interesting dialogue, symphonies, and see so much going on," she said. "Everything you see around you is part of who you are. That's the big message.

"Do you see this community reflecting who you are? If you don't, get involved, take action, volunteer somewhere, be an activist. What's reflecting back at you right now? It's reflecting who you are."

Termination of Cultural Centre contract up for debate Tuesday

From page 1

specify any standard on what the Cultural Centre's financial statements must say before payments are made by the Town to the organization, he noted, adding that Council could consider winding down its funding commitments and letting the Cultural Centre fly solo.

Mr. Mar also suggested Council consider requiring their approval of the Centre's budget before any payments of public money are paid to them.

Both Councillors maintain that their intention is neither an attack on the Cultural Centre, its board, or its staff, nor is it an attempt to shut down the Centre all together. They said, simply, it is the only way they can address Mr. Mar's concerns in a timely fashion.

"The board has indicated their willingness to begin negotiations as soon as possible at the convenience of the Town...that because of our commitment to begin negotiations we don't see the reason to invoke the termination clause," said Cultural Centre Board Member Bonnie Kraft on the notice of motion as it stands now. "If the termination clause is there because of the Town's desire to begin negotiations it is unnecessary and it can have negative consequences."

The Cultural Centre, which sent out a press release Friday calling on all its supporters to show up at Town Hall Tuesday evening in solidarity, insists that invoking a termination clause sends a bad message to the community and could impede their ability to deliver services, including booking artists in the long term.

"I believe our position is very clear," Ms. Kraft added. "We are looking forward to working with the Town and discussing our agreement going forward. I believe the Councillors when they say that they acknowledge the Centre is doing wonderful things for the community, so I personally believe in their genuine intention for coming to an agreement for renegotiating our agreement going forward from 2012 that will ensure that the Centre continues to offer to the community its wonderful offerings."

According to Board President Rob Layton, Councillors Abel and Pirri proposed a change to the motion which removed the termination clause in bringing the negotiations forward, but it contained some conditions on

"what the terms would be with the new agreement."

The proposed revisions replaced the termination clause with "[advancing] the end of the term to February 28, 2013." The reworked notice of motion also stated a new agreement needed to cover "financial reporting and accountability" between the Town and the Centre, clear key performance indicators, the "establishment and maintenance of partnerships and relationships with other cultural service providers within Aurora", and a provision for Council representation on the board.

If the Board took the Councillors up on the suggested revision, a new Cultural Services agreement would have been drafted and presented to Council for approval by November 27 of this year. But this revised motion was not to be.

"It was very late in the game and we really couldn't manage to get our board together in a few hours to have that kind of discussion," said Mr. Layton. Unfortunately we weren't able to commit on what he was looking for, so my understanding is it didn't allow him enough time to withdraw his motion so the original motion stood.

"They removed the termination then said we would have to commit to renegotiation by an earlier day and they specified some of the things we would have to agree to for that to happen. They were things we really needed to

discuss as a board. We're a volunteer board and we can't really gather people up in half a day to do that kind of stuff. It is pretty significant things we're talking about, why it needs a little bit of thought about it."

Councillor Pirri, however, disputes the assertion that there wasn't enough time to bring the revised wording to the board.

"Having met with the board on a Monday night we had informed them that we would draft something up with our Town Solicitor that removed the termination clause that caused the board so much concern," said Councillor Pirri. "John and I had something to them by 3 p.m. and we were told at 5:30 p.m. that we did not allow them enough time to look over the proposed amendment.

"Wednesday morning we had informed them again that the offer was on the table until we had to submit any new motions for printing on the agenda. We received an email back from the board's vice president claiming that the board would be meeting and that they would [give] our offer its due consideration. We never heard back from the board or one of its representatives on the matter.

"Councillor Abel and myself had offered the board the concession they were looking for with an eight day window to accept or turn it down. I find it hard to believe that we did not offer them enough time."

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Healthy Habits & Lifestyle Lessons

By WENDY SOLODUIK

Staring an elephant in the eyes

Even the impossible is possible when you have a plan.

Take for instance the problem of eating an elephant. It may seem impossible, but in fact it is quite possible when time is not an issue.

Achieving a fitness goal is much the same as eating an elephant. Anything is possible when it is planned, realistic and measurable. This may mean readjusting the timeframe you've set for yourself to meet your goal. Shorten it up (if you dare) or give yourself some breathing space. Either way, all working plans need room for a contingency.

Recently I was reading an article in a popular magazine about a woman who was working hard to achieve her fitness goals. While out for a run one morning, she began to realize that she hadn't lost a single pound in months, yet she was working out intensely six days a week. There, on the spot, she decided to stop exercising all together. In an experiment to "see what would happen" the girl threw in the proverbial towel.

To ensure her decision would not be detrimental to her health, the lady in the story books an appointment with her family doctor to tell him her intentions, and to question him on what she could expect. "Not much," was the answer she received. The reasoning was this - since she was consuming calories before and after her workouts (in the form of protein/energy bars and

sugar-laden drinks) she wasn't burning many additional calories. In terms of muscle loss, since she wasn't an Olympic athlete, the changes to her physique would be minimal.

This came as a shock to our girl, who then left her physician's office, more determined than ever not to exercise.

One month later, she weighed-in. Amazingly, she had lost three pounds. How could this be? She was sleeping in, spending more time with friends, even enjoying a cocktail or two on occasion. Had all of her prior efforts been in vain?

With the pressure now off, the girl decided to start running once again - this time, because she actually wanted to. She felt better than ever and the break had reaffirmed her commitment to her fitness regime.

The moral of the story? Exercise should be fun and when it's not tied to an agenda, which is the case with most of us Weekend Warriors, you can play with the timeframe and still reap great rewards. Remember this plan the next time an elephant gets in your way.

Update: Okay, the Universe is definitely listening to me. After my first column was published, on my love for running and fear of the treadmill, my son decided (while I was in the shower) to try on my running shoes (many sizes too big) and run on the treadmill like mommy does. Of course he fell off, and since the machine was butted against a wall, he

had nowhere to go but under the belt. Six hours in the Emergency Room and a million bandages later, he will survive, but with a nice scar to tell the story of how when he was seven, he took on a treadmill, and lost.

Last night (Sunday) was the first time I've exercised since my son's accident. Literally consumed with guilt - that I wasn't in the room when it happened - and fear - I believe I'm suffering from post-traumatic stress, as I keep reliving having to pull him out from the treadmill belt while it greedily sucked him back in until I hit the emergency stop button - I've been punishing myself by allowing my fitness level to drop. When I was done working out, I cried on the living room floor. Happy that I'd broken through and sad that my decision to not exercise had set me back in the progress I had previously made. It was like starting all over again.

Unlike the lady in my earlier story, the time off didn't help me - and ultimately did my son a further disservice by not setting a good example.

I will work out again today - no doubt with the weight of this burdensome elephant still on my back - because I have a plan. Although Nike already brilliantly coined the phrase, "Just Do It", that is, in fact, the basis of my plan. I may not like who I am today, based on the choices I made yesterday, but I'm sure as hell going to like what I'll be tomorrow, by choosing to start today.



Three Aurora churches presented pancake dinners last Tuesday which attracted very enthusiastic crowds. At Trinity Anglican Church, Catherine Moroziuk and Margaret Clowater couldn't wait to dig in!

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Trustee hopefuls make their case Tuesday

By Brock Weir

Nineteen people vying for the vacant Aurora-King Trustee position on the York Region School Board will have their chance to make their pitch at a public meeting Tuesday night.

The candidates will have 10 minutes apiece to sell what they have to offer to the community at a meeting of the York Region School Board on February 28. The meeting will be held at their offices on Wellington Street, just west of Yonge, beginning at 6 p.m.

While the Board said one of the 20 applicants was deemed ineligible for missing the deadline, the nineteen that made the cut are O.P. Lamba, Michael Miceli, Svetoslava Topouzova, Kirsten Eastwood, Peter Adams-Luchowski, Ernest Reynolds, Aleksandr Noudelman, Malcolm Watts, Dave Williams, Salvatore Amenta, Sandra LeLacheur, Sam Manougian, Eric Shoub, Nancy Kelley, Gila Martow, Elliott Frankl, Angus Duff, and Steven Mayers.

The decision on which can-

didate will go on to fill the vacancy left by Gord Kerr, who resigned from the position in January citing work commitments, will be handed down on March 5, with the victor sworn in on March 6. This will be done in an appointment process of the Board rather than a by-election as some had hoped for.

One person person pushing for a by-election was

Mayor Geoffrey Dawe, who said that Dave Williams, who faced off against Mr. Kerr in the October 2010 election, was his choice for the job.

"Of the 12,400 some-odd votes, they were only separated by about 400, so it was pretty much an even race," said Mayor Dawe. "It strikes me that the public has essentially spoken as to who should already be there."

Elderberry Trail development given the green light

By Brock Weir

An infill development in Aurora's Elderberry Trail neighbourhood got the go ahead at Council this month amid questions from some members and residents of the impact the development would have on neighbours.

The recommendation to proceed with the project, which would see a lot in the Elderberry Trail neighbourhood designated "estate residential" from "private open space" to pave the way for two estate residential lots was passed on February 14.

This final recommendation came before Councillors in January but was deferred until the following month after neighbours complained they hadn't been adequately notified that a decision on the land was imminent.

At the general committee meeting of February 7, Councillors were divided on the issue. Councillor Wendy Gaertner, for instance, questioned what assurances the Town had to control storm water run off from the development, while Councillor John Gallo wanted to make the plan subject to further Council approval.

Others such as Councillor Paul Pirri said the matter had been adequately discussed and debated at the Town's Committee of Adjustment and did not require further discussion. "Empty space contributes damn all to Town coffers," she said. "Let's get on with it. Every month we miss is lost revenue."

When Councillors took the last kick at this parcel of land the following week,

there were continued questions from Councillor Chris Ballard on any potential drainage issues the construction of two additional homes would have on neighbours.

"What assurances do we have as Council and nearby residents that a new development on this property is not going to impact nearby residents, that there won't be flooding on their properties because of any development on these two parcels?" he asked of the Town's planning director.

Marco Ramunno, Aurora's Director of Planning, said controls were in place on the property as there would be in any other residential development in Town.

"First, as part of the background information, the applicant has to provide a number of background stud-

ies, and one was a storm water management report to demonstrate the two lots could be developed with no adverse impact to adjoining lands," said Mr. Ramunno. "We do have existing easements that are registered on title for the storm water management purposes to ensure that long term ponds won't be developed on and soils maintained."

Council ultimately approved the plan with Councillors Ballard, Gaertner, and Gallo in opposition.

The lot in question was originally designated parkland when the Elderberry subdivision was first developed in 1978. Shortly thereafter, that designation changed and the Town accepted cash in lieu of parkland and the property was made private open space.




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