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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper

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Can't apologize for something I did not do, Gaertner maintains

By **BROCK WEIR**
Auroran Staff Writer

Mayor Geoffrey Dawe refused to direct any of Councillor Wendy Gaertner's questions to staff at a budget meeting last Monday when she, again, refused to apologize to

council after accusing Town Clerk John Leach of "doctoring" Town minutes.

The February 14 meeting was the latest chapter in a controversy stemming from an incident earlier this month when Councillor Gaertner complained minutes showed she

moved a motion relating to Phyllis Morris' \$6 million lawsuit by calling for a recorded vote.

She insists she gave no indication she was moving the motion.

"We have unfinished business from the last council meeting," said Mayor Dawe at the start of the session. "Councillor Gaertner accused our statutory officer, the clerk, of 'doctoring' the minutes. We requested an apology and a retraction and Councillor Gaertner chose not to do that."

"I would like to offer her that opportunity to do that once more and, failing that, Councillor Gaertner, I will refuse to direct any of your questions to staff."

Once again, Councillor Gaertner demurred.

"Mr. Mayor, I had a look at the DVD and what I said had nothing to do with Mr. Leach," she said. "I said that if we as a council let the minutes stand."

Mayor Dawe then cut her microphone.

"Councillor Gaertner, it is the Chair's opinion that you impugned Mr. Leach, so my decision is either that you can apologize and retract that statement or I will refuse to direct any questions of yours to staff," interjected Mayor Dawe. "Your choice."

"That's fine," replied Councillor Gaertner. "I can't apologize for something that I didn't do wrong. I will just sit and enjoy the meeting."

Following a break for lunch, the meeting, which was attended by several members of the community, **Please see page 13**

Long-time Aurora resident, Lew Gloin dies at age 83

Lewis Gloin, a veteran newspaperman and long-time Aurora resident, died Friday at the Sunrise of Aurora retirement residence.

He was 83.

Born and raised in St. Thomas, Ont., Lew started in newspapers after graduating from high school. He wanted to write, but he took a job at the St Thomas Times Journal on the advertising side of the business because that was what was available.

Lew, the eldest of three boys, was born in 1927 to Herman and Norma Gloin. His early boyhood was overshadowed by the Great Depression.

owed by the Great Depression.

His father lost his store, and Lew later recalled men showing up at the door of their home offering to do menial tasks in return for a meal, and watching rootless souls who wandered the St. Thomas railyards looking for a departing freight to hop.

Lew was largely a self-educated man. He read voraciously – classical literature and philosophy, history and modern literature.

The breadth of his knowledge was awesome, and his children recall him launching into detailed discussions on topics as diverse as Roman Britain, British kings, Canadian prime ministers and the great battles of the American Civil War, among other topics.

After serving in the army, Lew returned to the news business as a reporter at the Sarnia Observer, where he became the paper's city hall columnist and later its city editor.

He met Jean Andrews, also a St. Thomas native, and they married in **Please see page 3**



LEW GLOIN



It may have been snowy and blowy outside Saturday, but a full house enjoyed the indoor Aurora Farmers' Market at the Aurora Cultural Centre, better known as the Church Street School. One of the successful vendors was McClellan Way's Toscana Bakery and they had Claire Mackichan on hand with her basket of bread to woo the customers. So many merchants took part in the market that it was necessary to locate some of them outside the Brevik Room in the hall, and Toscana was no exception. *Auroran photo by David Falconer*

Jazz Festival, Farmers' Market can co-operate, woman claims

The 2011 Aurora Jazz Festival and the Aurora Farmers' Market are looking towards cooperation when they again juggle space in the Town Park area on Civic Holiday Weekend at the end of July, Town Staff indicated last week, amid council concerns over the Festival's finances.

The comments came as Susan

Morton-Leonard, communications coordinator for the newly formed Aurora Festival of the Arts (AFA) organization overseeing the festival, came to the council podium at last week's general committee meeting to request a \$5,000 grant for the event.

"Our concern was there was some conflict with regards to both operations

happening at the same time and we wanted to ensure that was not going to occur," said Al Downey, Aurora's Director of Parks and Recreation Services. "We think it is a great event and we wanted to make sure it was promoted as an event that was beneficial to the Town and not one that was in **Please see page 13**

Briefly

Expected members

Aurora Council is expected to endorse the new membership roster of the Town's statutory boards and committees this week.

First up for approval is the Accessibility Advisory Committee. Councillor Wendy Gaertner is expected to be the Council member on the committee and Tyler Barker, Helen Kogan, John Lenchak, and Kayla Scott are expected to make up the citizen membership.

Councillors Sandra Humfries, Paul Pirri, and Michael Thompson are expected to join the Library Board along with citizen members Gregory Cook, Elaine Copsey, Charles Levine, Matt Maddocks, Marie Ranke, and Rino Roncadin.

Councillor John Abel is expected to represent council on the Nokiidaa Trail Committee, while Hank Gosar, Roy Harrington, Grace Marsh, David Mhango, and David Pierce will take their places as citizen members of the Committee of Adjustment.



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COMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

The Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society Annual Dessert Competition is being held this evening between 8 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North. Entries will be received as early as 6.45 p.m. and judging will begin at 8 p.m. Support this fundraising event which contributes to some very exciting speakers and demonstrators for members this year. Also, this would be a good opportunity to obtain a membership (required to enter the contest).

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce hosts the Mayor's Luncheon today. Aurora Mayor Geoffrey Dawe will be the keynote speaker and will talk about the Town's development of a new strategic plan and what that will mean for businesses in Aurora. The luncheon, sponsored by the Character Community Foundation of York Region, is being held at Dinardo's Mansion, 400 Industrial Parkway South. Please note this is a change of venue. Networking starts at 11.30 a.m., followed by lunch. Cost is \$40 for Chamber members and \$50 for guests – all are welcome but you must pre-register. Showcase tables are also available for \$30 at this event.

Fifteenth annual Aurora Optimist chess tournament takes place at the Aurora Legion today and features students from Aurora, Newmarket, Keswick, Richmond Hill, Vaughan and Markham. Event will run all day beginning at 8.45 a.m. and continuing until 3.15 p.m.

A Blood Donor Clinic happens today in Aurora at the Legion Hall, 105 Industrial Parkway North, beginning at 2.30 p.m. and continuing until 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

The Aurora Cultural Centre presents the launch of the Great Artist Piano Series, with Canadian classical pianist Anton Kuerti in an all-Beethoven program. First in a series of four piano concerts. Tickets are \$30 or \$25 for students and seniors. Subscriptions are also available. Show begins at 8 p.m. For information or to book tickets call 905-713-1818 or info@auroraculturalcentre.ca.

Join a group for a class that will help you create stunning flowers which will make your handmade cards or crafts come to life from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Aurora Seniors' Centre in Activity Room C. Cost is \$25 per person, which includes all supplies. Register at the front desk.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Bowl For Kids Sake, presented by the Big Brothers Big Sisters of York, will hold its Aurora Community Day today from 1 to 5.30 p.m. at the Gateway Café and Lanes. Call Mary Lynn Stephenson at 905-726-2149, extension 305 to book a lane for your team.

Explore different colours, textures and designs in glass with Daniela Weston while you create your own unique stained glass sun catcher at the Aurora Public Library. Event costs \$15 which includes all materials and is open for youngsters ages 9 to 14. Event lasts two hours and begins at 1.30 p.m.

The Aurora Legion celebrates its 65th anniversary today with a Candlelight Dinner. Cocktails are planned for 6 p.m., while the dinner begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$13 a head and are available at the bar.

A car seat clinic will be held today at 220 Edward Street, hosted by the Central York Fire & Rescue Service. Clinic begins at 10 a.m. and continues until 2 p.m. Clinics are based on First Come/First Served unless otherwise specified. Note it takes approximately half an hour per seat, and there may be a wait to have your car seat checked. Therefore you may want to bring snacks and drinks for your child(ren). Please make sure you bring your owner's manual for your car, the car seat manual and the child if possible.

Questions? Call 905-773-3394 or 1-800-268-1677.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

The Aurora Historical Society will hold its annual general meeting today from 2 to 3 p.m. at Hillary

House on Yonge Street, followed by an Open House from 3 to 5 p.m. at which time items from the collection will be on display and AHS board members will be
Please see page 15

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Saturday night's Mardi Gras dance, held at Dinardo's The Mansion in Aurora was a huge sold-out success. Several thousand dollars were raised for Newmarket's Southlake Hospital. There were also lots of items on tables around the room for the silent auction, including some that were unique. Getting ready to participate in the pomp and pagentry is Gail Bevilacqua, above.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Environmentalism honoured at Queen's Park this Friday

Aurora environmentalist David Tomlinson is among the recipients of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario's Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement (25 years or More), an

award which he will receive at Queen's Park this Friday.

Mr. Tomlinson is expected to also be on hand at this week's Council meeting where he will be recognized for his achievements,

alongside other local winners of the 2010 Ontario Heritage Trust Awards, including Dana Atkinson in the Built Heritage Category, historical activist Helen Roberts in the Lifetime Achievement Category (20 to 24 years), and Auroran editor Ron Wallace in the Cultural Heritage category.

"The Town of Aurora is pleased to recognize the efforts of the 2010 Ontario Heritage Trust Award recipients," said Mayor Geoffrey Dawe in a statement. "On behalf of Council and the community, our sincere thanks to these individuals for their dedicated hard work in preserving Aurora's built and natural heritage.

"Their contributions have directly helped Aurora protect and enhance its cultural heritage and unique character, leaving a lasting legacy for future generations to enjoy."

Mr. Tomlinson and Mayor Dawe, representing the Town, will attend the ceremony Friday at Queen's Park, which also honours other recipients in

Improving water services in the hands of the Region

Collaboration between the Region of York and its nine municipalities to improve water services in the area is in the hands of the Region following a recent presentation to Aurora Council.

The effort is part of a long-term strategy to improve water service levels and create sustainability, said Ilmar Simanovskis, Aurora's Director of Infrastructure, in a presentation last month.

"Back in April, 2010, in response to the ministry's condition, the Region pulled together a few workshops to determine how this collaboration would unfold and there has been significant meetings both with the Region and the Municipalities in developing a long-term strategy for which the Regional representatives will speak further to when they have an opportunity.

"The strategy results in bringing best-in-class practices to the table as well as including stakeholder engagement for all participating parties both at the public level as well as the Regional and local level...looking at 20 plus years for creating a sustainable system both from a conservation perspective as well as reducing inflow and infiltration to the sanitary system and reducing our operating costs."

The goal, said Rosa D'Amico, Manager of Infrastructure and Business Management for the Region, is to reduce the amount of water inflow and infiltration (I & I) into the Regional system beyond the next 20 years.

The plan has very tangible results that take into account environmental protection, minimizing spills and overflows, as

well as the health and safety of residents, she said.

"The intent of the strategy will be to break down the system into manageable sections and set goals about how much I & I will be coming into the area or into the catchment areas," she said. "We can then set up monitors to see how each area is achieving and when we see poor performing areas we will then know how to further investigate and mitigate those measures."

Achieving success in the strategy relies on collaboration with the municipalities in "continuous flow" monitoring and determining where I & I is occurring.

"Working with industry to develop strong programs and infrastructure standards will ensure the integrity of our systems," she said.



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Lew Gloin dies

From page 1

1953. Their first child, Christine, was born that year.

He left the Observer for the London Free Press, and then moved to Hamilton, where an upstart independent paper, the Hamilton Daily News, was challenging the Southam chain's established Spectator. The News lost the battle and folded after just a few months. Lew moved over to the news desk at the Spec.

In 1962, he was recruited for the copy desk at the Toronto Daily Star, and Lew and his wife Jean and their three children — Christine, Doug and Alyson — moved to the Aurora Heights subdivision, still largely under construction at the time.

Their fourth child, daughter Jennifer, was born in Aurora, then a town of some 4,000 people.

Over the years Lew and Jean struck up friendships with people like Bob Buchanan, the publisher of the Aurora Banner, and Ron Wallace, also of the Banner and the proprietor of this newspaper, and lawyer Tom Manning, among many others.

The Gloin backyard was also where army veteran Lew first saw action.

He fought a decade-long running battle with the squirrels who swarmed the yard's bird feeders. At first he fought with threats, turning the air blue on occasion as he tried to scare them off.

Then he found a old Daisy BB gun for \$2 at a yard sale and began plinking at them. The gun was too old and weak to actually hurt the squirrels, or even hit

them very often, and they soon came to ignore him.

Later in life, he raised the surrender flag and began feeding both squirrels and birds equally.

Lew served on the Aurora Public Library Board, wrote infrequent but usually incisive letters to the editor and received several requests that he run for town council.

"Journalists shouldn't get involved in politics," he said each time.

The bar that is now Shoeless Joe's off Yonge Street became a favourite of Lew and Jean's more than a decade ago when it was still an independent establishment.

Lew had many friends there and could usually be found in the afternoons sipping Smithwick's while chatting with the waitresses and playing the trivia game, at which he usually excelled.

Lew leaves his daughter Christine, son Douglas, and daughters Alyson and Jennifer, as well as his granddaughters Allana Reoch and Madeline Candy.

He also leaves his brother Raymond of St. Thomas. He was predeceased by his wife Jean, and his brother, Peter.

Visitation will be Thursday, February 24 from 6 to 8 p.m., and the funeral is at 1 p.m. Friday, February 25 at the Thompson Funeral Home, 530 Industrial Parkway South.

In lieu of flowers donations to PEN Canada, St. Thomas Public Library, Aurora Public Library, or the charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.

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Poor Ronnie

By RON WALLACE

A trip into the past

It was like a trip into the past last Wednesday night at the Aurora Cultural Centre.

You know the place better as the Church Street School. Historian Jackie Stuart, that's her at the bottom of this column, was giving one of three lectures that are on her agenda, and last week's discussion centred around knowing the community and what's located where.

Amazing how much I don't know about Aurora. I had no idea where any of the photographs were, although all had been taken in Aurora.

Needless to say I didn't win any of the "Smarties" offered as prizes to people who recognized things a lot faster than I could.

And I was sitting with another Auroran historian, John McIntyre, who probably knew all the answers but wasn't giving away any secrets.

And my wife, Patricia, who was born and raised in Aurora, sat between us. She wasn't much help, either.

By the time I had figured out what a photograph was, some smarty had already answered it.

I figured we should attend this event, believing that no one else would show up, but the place - the Brevik Room on the second floor - was almost full.

The room brought back memories of the days when the old York County Board of Education started operating there in the late 60s.

I was a reporter for the Aurora Banner at the time, and as the newcomer, I got all the assignments no one else wanted.

And the Board had just been formed by the government of the day sending all those elementary and secondary boards for a hike. Anyone remember them?

Sam Chapman was York's first Director of Education, I recall, and former Aurora mayor, Keith Nisbet, was Aurora's first representative on the board. He was replaced by Norm Weller, I think.

But the room, now named after York Region Board of Education's Margaret Brevik, who died a couple of years ago, was two rooms, in fact, divided by an old wooden door that apparently still works.

The board, and a press table were in one room, the staff (Chapman et al) formed a line between the two rooms, and the public sat in the second room.

Yes, the door was open.

The reason I think Weller was on the board was because he was an Aurora volunteer firefighter at the time, and I can remember him leaving the room every time the fire hall (only a stone's throw away) alarm would sound.

Norm would suddenly disappear and shortly after that, the first fire truck would leave the Victoria Street hall.

Today, firefighting operations are staffed at two locations (Edward Street and Wellington East), and the day of the volunteer firefighter is history.

When the board of education decided to build its own building on Wellington West (we know it as Box 40), the Aurora Historical Society opened a museum in the Brevik room, and it was a good one.

Jackie was in charge of it, and Margaret, when she died, was a member of the Historical Society.

I miss the museum, and wonder if Aurora will ever have another one. There's a lot of chatter around town that suggests I'm not the only one who wonders that.



JACKIE STUART



We ran this photo last week, not knowing who was in the picture. A reader, Ted McClenny, recognized himself and provided the following information. The teacher is Mr. McDonald. The students are back row, left to right, Robert Beezer, Ronald Knowles, Gerald Chapman, Gerald Howell, Ted McClenny and Stephen Mills. In the third row, left to right, are Robert Bull, Jean Rowat, Janice Carter, Beverly Billings, Louise Brohm and Lionel Stephenson. In the second row, left to right, are Susan Hulse, Darlene Atkinson, Carol Morrison, Rosemary Gunton, Shirley Hayes, Joan Rose, Barbara Anthony, Doreen Chapman and Gail Milne. In the front row, left to right, are Robert Murby, Edward Griffith, Clifford Preston, Leon Ellis and Walter Routledge. In the meantime, we received another list of names from someone who would obviously rather remain anonymous and that person had Barbara Anthony between someone named Rose and Rosemary Gunton. However, there are only nine girls showing in that row in the photograph, so it's our bet that McClenny is right.

Letters to the Editor

He seeks co-operation from Town regarding second-hand smoke

To the editor,

The Canadian Cancer Society congratulates York Regional Council for calling on municipalities in the region to protect citizens from second-hand smoke by introducing new bylaws to prohibit smoking on restaurant patios and in parks and playgrounds.

Even outdoors, second-hand smoke is harmful to health.

It contains more than 4,000 chemicals including at least 50 known cancer-causing substances. Research has shown

that levels of smoke within half a metre of a single cigarette outdoors are comparable to indoor smoking levels depending on air conditions.

I urge Aurora Council to take action and join a growing list of more than 50 Ontario municipalities that have already implemented bylaws and policies going above and beyond the existing provincial Smoke-free Ontario Act.

The Canadian Cancer Society urges Aurora Council to support bylaws for smoke-free restaurant and bar patios that will protect the health of

patrons and staff and for smoke-free parks and playgrounds that will protect the health of children and caregivers.

Research has shown that smoking restrictions help motivate smokers to quit or cut back. Additionally, it should be noted that banning smoking in bars and restaurants has no negative impact on businesses and there is some evidence to show that business actually increases.

Tobacco is a major health issue that still needs the attention of municipal leaders.

Smoking restrictions

reduce the risk of exposing children to second-hand smoke and decrease negative role modeling.

The Canadian Cancer Society asks Aurora Council to fight back against cancer by introducing stronger protections against second-hand smoke including introducing new bylaws that would prohibit smoking on restaurant patios and in parks and playgrounds.

Alex Reil
Canadian Cancer Society
Ontario Division
Unit Manager
Holland River

Dangerous retrieving the mail, reader says

To the editor,

As a follow up to Mrs. Hughes' letter to the editor in the Feb. 1 issue of the Auroran, I totally concur.

Far too much time, money and effort is wasted in the municipal chambers of Aurora, while neglecting important safety issues such as Mrs. Hughes issue with unsafe winter side-walks.

I have a similar concern with unsafe conditions around the so-called "super mailboxes".

Those of us forced to retrieve our mail from a communal mailbox are often faced with having to either climb over very icy snowbanks caused by snow plows (if driving for the mail); or traverse an icy sidewalk to walk to the mail box.

Either way can be hazardous, especially for anyone with any kind of a walking

disability.

Since our mail is not delivered, our basic right is to be able to retrieve our mail safely.

I happened to meet one of my neighbors at the mailbox the other day who jokingly commented that "perhaps we don't pay enough property taxes".

I have complained to the Town and to the Post Office, both of whom were very polite and seemed to be making an effort to correct the problem.

However, to date, nothing has been done to alleviate the problem.

I suggest, like Mrs. Hughes, that our councillors do less bickering and put their energies to issues such as safety for young mothers, mature adults and indeed every resident concerned with winter safety.

Mrs Geibel
Aurora.

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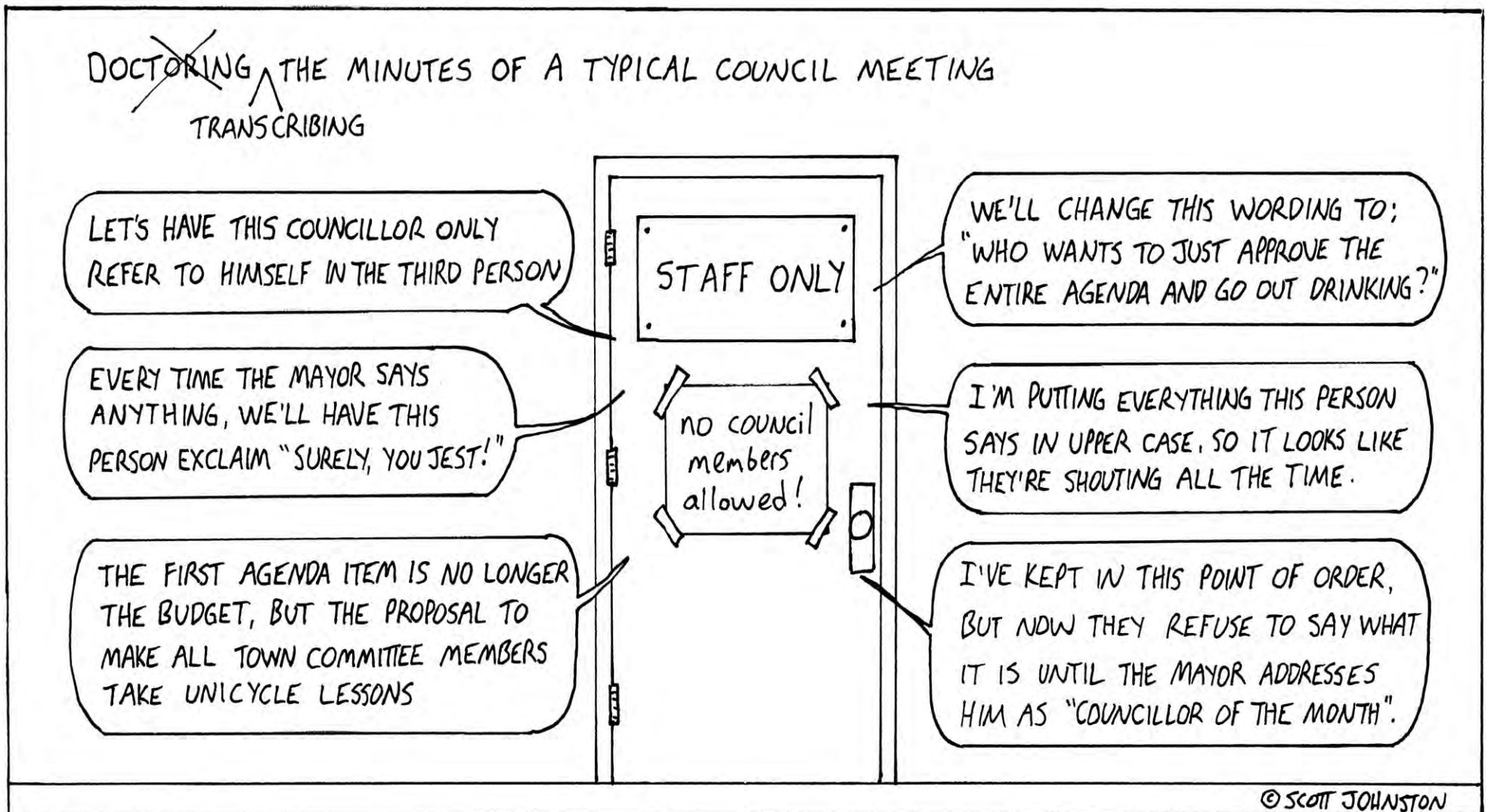
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Front Porch Perspective

Aurora budget speech - Pt. 2

By Stephen Somerville

continued from last week...

"Priorities: As this is the first budget that our new team is bringing forward, we want to send a message of focus and also to set a tone.

"From our discussions with Aurora residents, there is widespread concern about our crumbling infrastructure.

"A significant proportion of your tax dollars will go toward fixing older roads, and replacing older equipment and vehicles.

"People: Our community is what we make of it.

"What we want is to have a Town where every individual can enjoy the activities and programs that our community has to offer.

"We know there are children in our community who

would love to play hockey, baseball or soccer but their families cannot afford the annual fees.

"Therefore, we are setting aside \$75,000 every year to be used so that children, under the age of 19, can have access to community sports groups.

"To encourage people in our community to vote we are also setting aside \$30,000 for election prizes.

"All those who actually cast a vote in municipal, provincial and federal elections will be eligible.

"Four draws will be done after every election.

"Those who vote could win a cash prize of \$2,500.

"Finally, our council also believes in accountability.

"To this end the following Ways and Means Motion will be tabled in this chamber this afternoon.

"Be it resolved that council will direct Town Staff to

produce a quarterly or semi-annual scorecard or specific update for the citizens of Aurora that will be published in the local newspaper (that would be The Auroran) so the citizens can monitor the progress on these agreed upon budget priorities.

"The 2011 Aurora Budget document is understandable, it is prudent and it lays out our priorities for the next four years.

"But above all, this budget is about people and how we can, together, make a safer, happier, healthier and better Aurora.

"Thank You."

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Inside Aurora

By Scott Johnston

"I have a complaint about a recent council decision."

At these words the mayor shifted nervously in his seat, and a hush fell over Open Forum.

The gentleman at the podium continued;

"You've done a major disservice to one of Aurora's most distinguished citizens by your recent decision to change the street address of Town Hall."

With a sigh of relief, the mayor interjected, "You may not have heard, but you'll be pleased to know that we just switched it back to John West Way."

"That's what I'm complaining about."

"I don't understand," the mayor responded. "You don't want it changed?"

"No, although I have the greatest respect for the former mayor, and all the important work he did for this town."

Seeing the puzzled expressions of the council members across from him, the speaker clarified;

"By changing the Town Hall's address from Municipal Drive, you have now slighted one of this town's greatest citizens, for whom this street was named."

"Not John West?"

"No, my late uncle, Frederick Municipal."

"Wait; your uncle's last name was 'Municipal'?"

"Yes."

"I must admit my family didn't think his contributions to the town were as significant as Mr. West's - he was

actually a pretty anonymous type of man.

"So we were certainly surprised when a previous council honoured him by changing the Town Hall's address to be on a new street bearing his name.

"But having done so, you can't just take that away from him."

"Well, I don't think Municipal Drive was specifically named after your uncle," said the mayor, trying to absorb the new direction this issue had taken, "or anyone else as far as I know."

"Are you inferring my Uncle Fred doesn't deserve recognition?"

"No, no," the mayor added hastily. "I'm sure he was a great man, and I assure you we had no intention of slighting your uncle by changing the street address back to John West Way."

"So, what are you going to do about it?"

"Well, er"

"We can change it back again," suggested a councillor near the end of the table, prompting grumbles from some members of the audience.

Sensing the unrest in the crowd, one of his colleagues chimed in, "Maybe we can use both names; 'John West Way - Frederick Municipal Drive'."

Before this line of thought could go any further, one of the staff in attendance interjected; "I don't think a name that long would fit on a standard town street sign."

"And even if it did, the font would be too small to

read."

"Maybe we could alternate addresses every year," suggested another elected official. "At this stage we certainly have a full set of both signs on hand."

"Perhaps our staff could review all these suggestions, and come up with a few more", the mayor said, neatly lobbing the issue across the council table to the town staff sitting opposite.

"Umm...perhaps there's some other way your uncle can be recognised, rather than with a street address," a staffer suggested, thinking rapidly. "With a plaque or other memorial?"

"An excellent idea," the mayor enthused.

Addressing the man at the podium, he promised; "We'll get our staff to look into it and develop some options, and report back to council at a future meeting."

As the mayor closed Open Forum, the staffer in question suppressed a sigh and scribbled some notes on the paper in front of him.

Having to draft yet another dubious report for council was one thing, but to add insult to injury, he'd bet a colleague that the Town Hall address issue had finally been put to rest.

Now he was out of pocket ten bucks.

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

State of Address

Letters to the Editor

If you didn't finish first or second, your team subsidizes leaders, AMHA volunteer claims

To the editor,

Has the Aurora Minor Hockey Association (AMHA) forgotten the spirit of house league hockey? My son's tyke house league team recently

received an invitation to play in the upcoming March Madness hockey tournament, which sounded like a great idea. Reading a little further I learned that the entrance fee was \$750 per team.

Which is fine, and even though some families might find it stretch, I recognize that tournaments cost money to run. Unless of course you're the first place team in the league, in which case your

tournament fee is completely paid, or the second place team who gets half their fee paid. All the other teams get to pony up the full \$750! Now is it just me or does this seem to be contrary to

the spirit of house league hockey at the Tyke level? As context, let's remember these are mostly seven-year-olds who are supposed to be learning the rules of the game, fair play, team work, developing a

love for the game and having fun! This is where the focus is supposed to be, according to the league rules and 'fair play' section of their own web site. I must have missed the part where winning teams get subsidized by losing teams in house league.

Immigration make-up changing, he says

To the editor,

What kind of Canada do we want? By changing Canada's immigration system over the past five years, the Federal government has altered the make-up of the immigrants coming into our country. According to Statistics Canada, many more immigrants are now in the "economic" class, with far fewer immigrants in the "family" class. For example, the share

of immigrants in the "economic class" rose dramatically from 29 per cent in 1992, to 56 per cent, by 2003. The number of "family class" immigrants dropped significantly from 70,517 to 60,027, from 2006 to 2010. Canada was founded by families and many immigrants are now frustrated by the government's road blocks to bring their families to Canada. For example, in 2006,

spouses, children, parents and grandparents of newcomers made up 28 per cent of the total on newcomers; but by 2010 it was down to 21 per cent. Lastly, the number of refugees decreased from 32,499 to 24,693, from 2006 to 2010. Furthermore, Citizenship and Immigration reports the number of temporary workers rose dramatically from 139,004 workers in 2006 to 182,322 by 2010. Instead of just "nannies

and farm workers," temporary workers are now seen as "a major source of low cost labour," and are streamed into jobs such as office cleaners and other semi-skilled jobs. As a result of the change in policy, these changes have altered the characteristics of landed immigrants. The educational attainment of entering immigrants rose dramatically. Specifically, 17 per cent of the newcomers had a degree in 1992; but

by 2004, 45 per cent had a degree. But the story of immigration takes a hard turn to the left, since immigrants in the skilled economic class were more likely to enter low income than their family class counterparts, possibly because the family class immigrants often entered an already economically established family. According to Statistics Canada, this relative disadvantage observed for the skilled class people increased significantly, from 1992 to 2004, when the number of skilled class immigrants rose.

The government should reconsider the path they are charting for Canada and its immigration policy. Families founded this country and they have provided a safety net and support systems for other family members when they enter Canada. There's lots of room for the more competitive aspects of hockey at the Rep level. Let's keep financial incentives for winning OUT of house league. Perhaps an alternative would be for all teams to pay their fair share and reduce the entrance fee for all. But maybe that's just crazy talk... If you agree, please contact the AMHA or your team coach to let them know. Perhaps it's not too late to fix this one and send a message as well.

Program offers interest-free loans

A new York Region-based program offers \$1,000 interest-free microloans to residents who are survivors of domestic violence and other circumstances through the Next Step Loan program from the Moving Forward 2015 Foundation. A non-profit foundation in operation for the last 17 months, the foundation was inspired by a volunteer visit to Aurora's Yellow Brick House, said Georgina Lee, president of the foundation, to council recently. As a new resident in Vaughan, Ms. Lee said from moving from another part of Ontario she was not familiar with the Yellow Brick House shelter despite being a victim of abuse herself. "We had a chance that day to learn about the shelter, the outreach programs, and the work that they were doing, as well as the capital campaign to raise funds for a second shelter," she said. "We were all in awe of the work that was being done [by Yellow Brick House] and when we left that meeting we felt there was something we could do as a small group of Vaughan residents within York Region to make a

difference." What came out of their inspiration was the Moving Forward Foundation, which has since become an incorporated, not-for-profit organization seeking a charitable license. With six members, including four men, and a member of the York Regional Police, their first event raised money for women at a nearby shelter. Money went to purchase new winter clothes, and coats for their kids, and anything left over went towards the daily management of the shelter. Further fundraising initiatives brought about furnishing the homes of three women and their children who were transitioning out of a shelter to start new lives. "We furnished homes from top to bottom, everything they needed, and that was through the generous donations throughout York Region," said Ms. Lee. "We turned \$4,000 into \$15,000 worth of merchandise that furnished three homes." The idea for branching out into a microloan program came after a speaking engagement on vio-

lence against women to York University students. Talk turned to funds being raised for the December 6 Fund which gives similar microloans of \$750 to women in the Toronto and Peel Region. "We took that program and spent three months researching throughout York Region to see if a program like that was available here - the answer is no - and to see if there is a need and absolutely there is a need," said Ms. Lee. "York Region does not have this program. There are other programs that are run by the Salvation Army but nothing like this. December 6 was amazing." With help from the Executive Director of the December 6 foundation, the Next Step Loan Program came into being. "[Recipients] may not all be victims of domestic violence, there could be some other circumstances that has made their lives come to the point where they are rebuilding," she said. "They can use the money

towards rent, furniture, whatever they may choose. "They are referred to us through an agency such as a social worker, or someone working through an outreach program. We have already started to administer loans and this type of program is in desperate need here. We learnt just how great the need is by working with organizations such as Sandgate Shelter, Yellow Brick, Blue Door Shelter, the Housing Help Centre, and [the Canadian Centre for Abuse Awareness]." The foundation is looking to expand the program to focus on York Region Residents that are at risk, have a low income, or are thinking about leaving York Region for better quality "geared to income" and other forms of affordable housing, something Ms. Lee says is minimal in this area. For more information on the program and foundation, call 289-517-6399.

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Dean Smalley, vice-president of A and B Courier Service, right, shares a moment with Richard Farmer, head of Big Brothers Big Sisters of York Region prior to Saturday's fundraising Bowl for Kids Sake scheduled for Aurora. Expected to bowl for the group is York Region's new police chief Eric Jolliffe. A and B is a major BBBSY sponsor.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Aurora water is fine, report says

At Tuesday's general committee meeting, Ilmar Simanovskis, Aurora's Director of Infrastructure, submitted his annual report on water quality.

In his report he noted there were no orders issued to the Town by the Ministry of the Environment under the Safe Water Drinking Act 2004 for the 2010 reporting year.

There were, however, three "microbiological

adverse" test results that were found last year, including one at the 42 Boulding Drive sample station, and one each at the 58 Stone Road and 25 Willow Farm Lane stations.

In all three cases, the water mains in the area were flushed and three new samples were taken.

"All follow-up results returned negative and the occurrence was deemed a sampling error."

Aurora producers celebrate Parker Quartet's Grammy

While musicians Jessica Bodner, Daniel Chong, Karen Kim, and Kee-Hyun Kim of the Parker Quartet celebrated their Grammy Award win for Best Chamber Music Performance in Los Angeles on February 13, their producers, Aurora's Bonnie and Norbert Kraft, celebrated over Skype.

With Norbert out of town, Ms. Kraft said she started searching online in the afternoon and found the awards pre-telecast ceremony was being live streamed online.

"Both my husband and I - even though we were 100 miles away from each other - were Skyping and watching the live stream," said Ms. Kraft. "We were able to see the awards as they happened. I was extremely pleased."

"Even the nomination is just fantastic, so you're not really thinking of a win because the other people that were nominated are really all so wonderful. I was really, really excited and I was very, very happy for the musicians because although we're the producers it is really about the musicians."

Ms. Kraft said the Grammy win is sure to give a "fantastic boost" to the careers of the quartet.

They are, she said, "extremely talented" and a "phenomenal" group of musicians who deserve every bit of their acclaim.

"I thought, 'Good, Grammy Judges. You got it right'."

But while Norbert and Bonnie Kraft do not get their own version of the golden gramophone to put on their mantle or in their trophy case, the Grammy win for the Parker Quartet gives them their own shot in the arm.

"It's really fantastic for them - and us, too!" she said. "It sort of validates what we do and it is always nice to be acknowledged and appreciated. We really [don't get the award, but] we were mentioned and it was very sweet because the musicians that actually went up [to the podium] acknowledged us and we were one of the first that they thanked."

"That is all we need, just to know that we've helped some folks along the way and I guess what we get is the satisfaction that our work is on the right track. The word gets out so it is our hope that other great musicians will come to us and want us to work with them and I think that is the best that anybody

could ask for. Our reputations are enhanced and we are able to attract other great musicians to work with us. The satisfaction of that is just great."

The Krafts started working with the Quartet when they were teamed up through the group's Concert Artists Guild, which engages young artists through audition and competition, and with Naxos Records, for which the Krafts are North American producers.

Through Naxos, international musicians recording in North America will come to the Greater Toronto Area to record with them, including groups close to home like the Elora Festival Singers, whose Kraft-produced album was also up for a Grammy on February 13. They are in the midst of teaming up again, but will lightening strike twice?

"[With the Elora Festival Singers], we're doing a very special CD of all Canadian music, choral music, and we are really excited about that because, again, it is going to be distributed internationally," said Ms. Kraft. "We're really, really happy about that."

"That is our next project coming up and then there are a couple of people, two Spanish guitarists who live in Germany, are coming to record with us in April and then in May we have a pianist coming from New York and on it goes."

The Krafts too have been instrumental in bringing classical music to Aurora, particularly at the Aurora Cultural Centre with the Great Artist Piano Series.

As The Auroran reported last week, the series kicks off this Friday, February 25 at 8 p.m. with a performance by internationally renowned pianist Anton.

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Cynthia's Chinese Restaurant
16715 Yonge Street, Newmarket
Time: 11:30 am Networking
12:00 noon Luncheon
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Sponsored by **Kids & Company**
Continental breakfast, formal networking,
business card exchange
St. Andrew's Valley Golf Club
4 Pinnacle Trail, Aurora
Time: 7:30 am – 9:00 am
Cost: \$15 Members, \$25 Guests

TUESDAY, MARCH 22 -- LUNCH & LEARN
Credit Card Fraud, Your Customers, and Your Business...
Presenter: **Brian Musker, Xposure Managed Networks**
Aurora Chamber of Commerce
14483 Yonge Street, Aurora
Time: 12:00 noon – 2:00 pm
Cost: \$20 Members, \$30 Guests

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30 -- BUSINESS AFTER FIVE
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103 Timbits White 6 - Stefano Iaversi 3G, Remy Pietrangelo 1G 2A, Max Reeves 1G, Marchel Woods 1G, Matteo Rossi 2A. **104 Timbits Blue 5** - Lucinda Eveleigh 1G 1A, Emmett Ross 1G 1A, Jake Worthman 1G, Aidan Quinn 1G, Christopher Kouloras 1G, Gavin Loria 1A, Christopher Goncalves 1A.

108 Timbits Grey 4. 106 Timbits Powder Blue 1.

101 Timbits Red 2. 107 Timbits Kelly Green 1.

107 Timbits Kelly Green 4. 108 Timbits Grey 1.

103 Timbits White 3 - Stefano Iaversi 2G, Maxwell McConkey 1G. **105 Timbits Black 2** - Myles Graham 1G, Liam Taylor 1G.

102 Timbits Gold 5 - Peter Mueller 1G, Hunter Kolm 2G, Jake McMillan 1A, Jake Andersen 2A, Ben Charette 1G, Luka Rodrigues 1G, Ryan Clutterbuck 1A. **106 Timbits Powder Blue 0.**

205 Caravan Kids Black 9 - Stefan Fazari 2G 3A, David Ho 1G 2A, Jackson Galbraith 2G, Matthew Cowl 1A, Harrison Gruenig 1G 1A, Ethan Joiner 2G 1A, Gianluca Rotondi 1G 1A, Aaron Murphy-Sealy 1A, Cole Spragg 1A. **201 Caravan Kids Red 3** - Carson Tidd 2G, Evan Winter 2A, Peter Simsirir 2A, Jonah Spataro 1G, Luke Pignatelli 1A.

206 Caravan Kids Powder Blue 5 - Ian Hilgendorff 2G, Corson Haywood 1G 1A, Christopher Marton 1G, Ethan Edwards 1G, Griffin Charnley 1A. **204 Caravan Kids Blue 2.**

202 Caravan Kids Gold 7 - Liam Vivian 1G 2A, Brennan Powell 2G 2A, Daniel McKay 1G, Jonathan Avgousti 2G, Giancarlo DeAppollonia 1A, Thomas Raeburn 1A, Tommy Green 1G 3A. **203 Caravan Kids White 1** - Ethan Mohamed 1G, Devon Bourrie 1A.

410 HS Financial Orange 4 - Andrew Fiorini 1G 1A, Brendan Dodd 1G, Kyle Kasak 2A, Zachery Diaz 1G 1A, Carter Beacom 1G, Becham Georgiou 1A, Peter Leontis 1A. **403 Optimist Club Of Aurora White 2** - Chris Sands 2G.

401 Chouinard Bros. Red 8 - Nicholas Vamvakaris 4G 2A, Dylan McFee 2G, Colin Windle 2G 1A, Dalton Slind 1A, Jessey van Soest 1A. **407 H.J. Pfaff Audi Kelly Green 4** - Mathew Hastings 2G 1A, Jack Viney 1G, Sean Kiah 1G, Christopher Siarkas 1A.

410 HS Financial Orange 2. 405 Novintro Black 2.

401 Chouinard Bros. Red 12 - Nicholas Vamvakaris 8G 2A, Andrew End 1G, Ben Pitre 1G 1A, Dalton Slind 1G 1A, Steven Seitz 1G. **408 Crabby Joe's Grey 9** - Jacob Cowl 4G 1A, Wade Dane 1G, Callum Gorrell 2G, Ryan Funston-Clarke 2G.

401 Chouinard Bros. Red 5 - Nicholas Vamvakaris 5G, Ben Pitre 1A, Benjamin Masset 2A, Dylan McFee 1A. **404 Tilemaster Blue 3** - Claudio Basso 1G, William Reid 1A, Ethan Cohen 1G, Matthew Parkin 1A, Giuliano Iervasi 1G.

410 HS Financial Orange 2 - Brendan Dodd 1G 1A, Cameron Lang 1A, Colby Harrison 1G. **407 H.J. Pfaff Audi Kelly Green 2** - JP Schnabel 1G 1A, Shayne Colin 1G 1A.

409 Pfaff VW Teal 4. 408 Crabby Joe's Grey 1.

405 Novintro Black 3 - Alexander Mueller 1G, Matthew Winters 2G, Anthony Miranda 2A. **403 Optimist Club Of Aurora White 1** - Ayrton Ochab 1G, Brandon Urman 1A.

405 Novintro Black 2 - Christopher Barnett 1G, Jacob Pitecca 1A, Matthew Winters 1G, Anthony Miranda 1A, David Doroschenko 1A. **404 Tilemaster Blue 2** - Andrew Campbell 1G, Adam Wochenmarkt 1G.

402 Omar's Shoes Gold 3 - Noah Dempsey 1G, Jack Gauthier-Moulton 1A, Michela Venosa 1G, Christopher Walsh 1A, Francesco DeBartolo 1G, Jacob Turriff 1A. **407 H.J. Pfaff Audi Kelly Green 1** - Sean Kiah 1G.



AURORA MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
Results to Sunday, February 20



408 Crabby Joe's Grey 7 - Gregory Gatzopoulos 4G, Mateo Gisonni 1G, Callum Gorrell 1G 1A, Jacob Cowl 1G 1A, Callum Gorrell 1A, Ryan Ruuskanen 2A, Ryan Funston-Clarke 1A, Tristan Flyod, shutout. **410 HS Financial Orange 0.**

604 Orr & Associates Insurance Brks Ltd. Blue 5 - Ben Kissack 4G, Tarek Koudmani 1A, Tyler Wilson 1G. **610 Swiss Chalet & Harveys Orange 4** - Chris Aldis 2G, Matthew Lancaster 1G 1A, Jordan Kagan 1A, Noah Murphy-Sealy 1G, Robert Iervasi 1A.

601 Municipal Engineering Solutions Red 6 - Troy Lane 2G, Nicolas Pearce 2G, Anthony Livia 1G, Christian Pearce 1G, Evan Knowles 1A, Jordan Bodimeade 1A, Devon Browning 1A. **605 Lakeshore Valu Mart 0.**

606 Aurora Chrysler Powder Blue 2 - Luke Viera 1G, Will Ashton 1G, Alex Carter 1A. **611 Gmarkets Inc. - Purple 1** - Jayson Perkins 1G, William Morin 1A.

608 Crabby Joe's Grey 7 - Jack Dion 3G, Connor Tripp 3G, Tristan Macklin 1G, Wyatt Dane 1A, Harrison Ghazouli 1A, Matthew Colucci 1A. **609 IOOF Aurora Lodge #148 1** - Michael Montesanti 1G.

610 Swiss Chalet & Harveys Orange 5. 607 Envirocar Kelly Green 2.

604 Orr & Associates Insurance Brks Ltd. Blue 4 - Justin Miller 2G, Sean Nguyen 2A, Ben Kissack 1G, Ryan Simmons 1A, Nathan Sherrard 1G, Tyler Wilson 1A. **602 Wedi Corp.Com Waterproof Tile Solutions Gold 1** - Ted Baek 1G, Dustin Crossley 1A.

909 North York Plumbing & Heating Teal 2 - Scott Wheeler 1G, Drew Davison 1G, T. Thiessen 1A, Cameron Albert 1A. **905 ATS Healthcare Black 1** - Drew Marshall 1G.

910 Philly Orange 3 - Daniel LaFlamme 1G, Sam Steenhorst 1G, Ryan St. Germain 1G, Stefan Richardson 1A, Brian Pedron 1A, Graeme Allison 1A. **904 St. Louis Blue 1** - Alex Woodward 1G, Eric Bulloch 1A.

906 Ruff-N-Redi Powder Blue 1 - William Tang 1G, Josh Lawlor 1A. **908 Crabby Joe's Grey 1** - Jamie Poutney 1G.

903 Optimist Club of Aurora White 2 - Ryan Dowling 1G 1A, Andrew Walter 1G, Nicholas Bertrand 2A. **902 Boston Gold 1** - Tyler Indos 1G, Kienan Osborne 1A.

901 Graystones Restaurant Red 3 - Andrew Martin 2G, Kieran Cullen 1G, Stephen Faiello 1A, Mark Presacco 1A, Kevin Langdon 1A, Ethan Cullen 1A, Cameron Staples 1A. **907 Wooder Food Safety Consulting Kelly Green 2** - Gabriel Bauset 2A, Tal Litmanovitch 1G, Cody Sandersun 1G, Stephen Cantarutti 1A, Matthew MacEachern 1A.

901 Graystones Restaurant Red 2 - Andrew Martin 1G, Mathew Hart 1G, Ethan Cullen 2A, Cameron Staples 1A. **903 Optimist Club of Aurora White 1** - Nicholas Bertrand 1G, Kelly Hudson 1A, Ryan Dowling 1A.

904 St. Louis Blue 3 - Konstantin Bakdonow, shutout, David Roberts 1G, Andrew Gibbs 1G 1A, Alex Woodward 1G, Josh Carducci 1A. **902 Boston Gold 0.**

905 ATS Healthcare Black 5 - Zachary Cook 1G, Michael McCreesh 1G 1A, Dylan Lyons 1G 1A, Vince Duggan 1G 1A, Adam Durante 1G 1A. **910 Philly Orange 1** - Brian Pedron 1G, Daniel LaFlamme 1A.

907 Wooder Food Safety Consulting Kelly Green 2 - Michael David 1G, Liam Devlin 1G, Massimo Longhin 1A, Daniel Antoniel 1A., **908 Crabby Joe's Grey 6** - Tyler White 1G, Jason Eberlin 1G 1A, Jamie Poutney 1G, Ryan Eberlin 1G, Marco Ghegin 1G, Trevor George 1G 1A, Eamon Reilly 1A, Ryan Dalcin 1A.

906 Ruff-N-Redi Powder Blue 5 - Josh Lawlor 2G, Zachary Seto 1G, John Dinocolantino 1G, Alexander Seto 1G, Dylan Sutton 1A. **909 North York Plumbing & Heating Teal 1** - Robert Bulgaretti 1G, Matthew Roach 1A.

1002 CW Coop's Aurora Gold 5 - Andrew McKay 1G 1A, Kasey Piper 1G, Dylan Cross 3G, Eric Abel 1A. **1003 A.D.C. Aluminum White 1** - Mark Tanel 1G, Christopher Piron 1A.

1001 Pizzaville Aurora Red 6 - Nick Di Nallo 1G 1A, Spencer George 1G 2A, Jamie Hawkins 1G, Kamran Karamchi 2G 1A, Josh Klinowski 1G, Adam Tomlin 1A, Alex Payne 1A, Victor Grabovsky 1A. **1004 Global Caffè Blue 2** - Matt Pellegeni 1G, Christopher Waller 1G, Carter Schaeffer 1A.

1008 McAlpine Ford Grey 4 - Jamie Cherutti 1G, Jaret Meron 1G, Trevor Best 1G, Kevin McCrudden 1G, Lucas Hargrave 1A, Matt Miller 1A, Stephen Newby 1A, Brody Hunter 1A. **1006 BMO Bank of Montreal Powder Blue 2** - James Harkin 2G, Alex Heintzman 1A.

1006 BMO Bank of Montreal Powder Blue 7 - Michael Bernier 1G 2A, Brandon Pederson 1G, David Scott 3G, Tyler Lamantia 1G, Michael Morson 1G, Alex Heintzman 1A, Adam Clark 2A, Michael Wood 1A. **1001 Pizzaville Aurora Red 1** - Jamie Hawkins 1G, Egan Fennell 1A, Aidan Morris 1A.

1002 CW Coop's Aurora Gold 4 - Andrew McKay 1G 2A, Kasey Piper 2G, Ben Slimkowich 1G, Logan Weber 1A, Cameron Annear 2A, Eric Abel 2A. **1005 Aurora Home Hardware Black 4** - Chris Blumreisinger 1G, Justin Killens 1G, Ryan Antoniel 1G 1A, Brandon Giniotis 1G, Joseph Lombardi 1A, Lucas Cristillo 1A, Chase Riddell 1A, Chase Riddell 1A, Jesse Bentolila 1A, Andrew Cosentino 1A, Josh Bentolila 1A.

1003 A.D.C. Aluminum White 5 - Christian Avolio 1G 1A, Chris Smith 1G 1A, Christopher Piron 2G 1A, Jamie Saabas 1G 1A, Mark Tanel 2A, Charlie Still 1A. **1004 Global Caffè Blue 0.**

1009 Backyard Pool & Spa Teal 9 - Brett Matthews 1G, Daniel Howie 2G 1A, Brendan Strachan 3G 2A, Liam McGoldrick 1G 2A, Luca Battiston 2G, Sean Maule 2A. **1007 CAA South Central Ontario Kelly Green 1** - Tanner Brewer 1G, Branden Bortolin 1A.

1002 CW Coop's Aurora Gold 5 - Ryan Kennedy 1G, Cameron Annear 1G, Dylan Jolivet 1G, Andrew McKay 1G 3A, Dylan Cross 1G 1A. **1008 McAlpine Ford Grey 3** - Matt Miller 2G, Kenton Gamble 1G, Stephen Newby 1A, Lucas Hargrave 1A.

1004 Global Caffè Blue 4 - Carter Schaeffer 3G, Lucas Poletto 2A, Jordan Snowie 1A, Jordan Adams 1G 1A. **1006 BMO Bank of Montreal Powder Blue 4** - Brandon Pederson 3G, Adam Clark 1G, Brandon Connolly 1A, Michael Morson 3A, Robert Horton 1A, Alex Heintzman 1A, Michael Wood 1A.

REP LEAGUE

Tyke Select B - Aurora 1 - David Iocovetta 1G. **Bradford 0.**

Tyke Select B - Aurora 5 - Myles Graham 2G 1A, Calum Ormond 1G, Dylan Andersen 1G 1A, Aiden Quinn 1G, Riley Pearl 1A, Jack Sutherland 1A, David Iocovetta 1A. **Bradford 4.**

Novice AA - Georgina 3. Aurora 2 - Ethan Cameron 1G, Geoffrey Wilson 1A, Zachary Kolm 1G.

Novice A - Innisfil 2. Aurora 1 - Jonathan Gagnon 1G, Jace Jackson 1A.

Novice AE - Aurora 2. Georgina 1.

M Atom AA - Aurora 1 - Luke O'Keefe 1G, Ben Liotta 1A. **Richmond Hill 1.**

M Atom AA - Aurora 3 - Tyler Sawyer 1G, Dylan Prescott 1G 1A, Luke Jarvis 1A, Andrew Park 1G, Myles Vasilevski 1A. **TNT 1.**

Minor Atom A - Orillia 4. Aurora 0.

Minor Atom AE - Aurora 2 - Luc Catania 2G, Carson Williams 1A, Ryan McCartney 1A. **TNT 2.**

Minor Atom AE - Aurora 2 - Russel Tanaka 1G,

Thomas Childerhose 1G. **TNT 2.**

Minor Atom AE - Aurora 4 - Alex Sandras 2G, Rony Wahab 1G 1A, Thomas Childerhose 1A, Evan Robertson 1G. **TNT 1.**

Atom AA - Aurora 5. Richmond Hill 2.

Atom AE - Schomberg 3. Aurora 1 - Justin Evans 1G, Finn Reeves 1A.

Atom AE - Schomberg 4. Aurora 3 - Francesco Scuglia 1G, Lucas Surace 1G, Finn Reeves 1G 1A, Justin Evans 1A, Sebastian Giorgio 1A.

Atom AE - Aurora 4 - Braeden Joynt 2G 2A, Braden Reid 1G 1A, Stephen Silverio 1G 1A, Lucas Surace 1A, Nicholas Keller 1A, Finn Reeves 2A. **Schomberg 3.**

M Peewee AA - Barrie 6. Aurora 3.

M Peewee AA - Aurora 2. Newmarket 1.

Peewee AA - Etobicoke 4. Aurora 2 - Evan Woodhead 1G, Alec Magnante 1G, James Wyndham West 1A.

Peewee A - Barrie 3. Aurora 2 - Daniel McConnell 1G, Tristan Kuchar 1G, Mathew Tyndall 1A, Bryan Manweiler 1A, Cameron Zinner 1A.

Peewee AE - Aurora 2 - Nick Pearce 1G 1A, Connor Downs 2A, Michael DaCosta 1G 1A. **Stouffville 1.**

Peewee AE - Aurora 1 - Connor Downs 1G, Michael DaCosta 1A, Jordi Severini 1A. **Stouffville 1.**

M Bantam AE - Newmarket 2. Aurora 1.

M Bantam AE - Newmarket 6. Aurora 4.

Bantam AA - Auroa 6 - Lucas Pozzebon 2G, Brett Thiessen 2G 1A, Quentin Campbell 1G 1A, Austin Lane 1G, Nick Scott 3A, Spencer Green 1A, Jake McKee 1A. **Newmarket 3.**

Bantam A - Tigers 4 - Jack Caldwell 1G 2A, Liam Beresford 1G 1A, Erik Balkovec 1G, Liam Coll 1G. **East Gwillimbury 1.**

Bantam A - East Gwillimbury 4. Aurora 3 - Jack Caldwell 1G 1A, Austin Persaud 1G 1A, Liam Beresford 1G, Liam Coll 1A, Erik Balkovec 1A, Evan Jackson 1A.

Bantam A - East Gwillimbury 1. Aurora 3 - Liam Beresford 2G 1A, Erik Balkovec 1G, Jack Caldwell 1A.

Bantam AE - Aurora 10 - Brett Bond 1G, Nathan Nealon 2G, Ryan McGolrick 1G, Kyle Nice 2G, Nicklaus Steiner 2G, Scott Kostin 1G 1A, Joel Gouveia 1G, Kyle Strachan 1A, Brayden Beswick 3A, Nelson Hossack 1A. **Ajax 1.**

Bantam AE - Aurora 4 - Nicholas Steiner 2G, Nathan Nealon 1G, Kyle Strachan 1G, Joel Gouveia 2A, Ryan McGolrick 1A, Kyle Nice 1A, Brett Bond 1A, Nathan Nealon 1A. **Ajax 2.**

M Midget AA - Aurora 1. Newmarket 0.

M Midget AA - Aurora 3. Newmarket 2.

M Midget A - Aurora 3. Stouffville 2.

M Midget A - Aurora 5. Stouffville 1.

M Midget AE - Aurora 5 - Eliot Harkin 3G 1A, Connor Moody 1G 2A, Collin Laird 1G, Jeffrey Lam 1A, Matthew Reeves 1A, Peter Sandwell 1A. **TNT 3.**

M Midget AE - Aurora 5 - Connor Moody 1G 1A, Christopher Tsianos 1G, Eliot Harkin 1G 1A, Collin Laird 1G, Casey Severini 1G, Daniel Jones 1A, Peter Sandwell 1A. **TNT 3.**

Midget AA - Markham 2. Aurora 1.

Midget AA - Newmarket 6. Aurora 3.

Midget AA - Aurora 3. Markham 2.

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Selkies swimmers oppose council guideline

Councillors passed a motion at a council meeting earlier this month to use the 2008 draft of the Pool Allocation Policy as a guideline for the future, despite vehement opposition to the move over the last several months by the Aurora Selkies Swim Club.

At the February 1 discussion, in which it was demonstrated by Town staff that demand for pool lane time by local clubs clearly outweighs the supply, prompted Mayor Geoffrey Dawe to wonder if it might present a revenue opportunity for the upcoming budget.

"The commercial side comes out in me - if our pool time is so desirable we should be putting our price up," he said. "We should be auctioning off the time that is there. We know we have a challenging budget coming up - well, here's one way to get some revenues up.

"I'm sure [Al Downey, Aurora's Director of Leisure Services] wouldn't mind some additional revenues coming into his department. Why isn't that an option?"

Mayor Dawe's comments came during a lengthy debate regarding the merits of the Selkies' request for additional pool time, what they termed "fair and equitable distribution" when compared with the Aurora Ducks

Swim Club and the Master Ducks.

The general consensus at the council table, however, was that it was not council's place to be an arbitrator between two or more private commercial enterprises, which the swim clubs are.

Selkies owner Yvonne Cattrall came before General Committee earlier that evening to answer questions that had cropped up at previous council meetings.

Although she said the swim hours allocated to the clubs in Aurora was the envy of those based on other towns, her concerns lay that the 2008 policy might take into account outdated membership numbers.

"I'm hoping those numbers I had for my club years ago would not be used and that we would be looking at current numbers on teams," she said, adding she was sure that if the three clubs in question sat down in a "businesslike manner" they could come up with a solution.

Mr. Downey, however, said that was unlikely.

"[The clubs] have expressed to me that they just want this to be resolved," he said. "They do not believe they need to continue stating their case. It is clear that they feel there is a competitive club trying to acquire more time they feel they have had

over a period of time and we have competing businesses for a defined amount of pool time.

"They have expressed they aren't happy with moving forward with a pool allocation policy that has a negative impact on their ability to run their businesses. They believe that the Selkies are the last in and should be the first out. I don't think they are interested in having a conversation with a competing club looking to take the time away from them."

The first motion councillors considered was to have the matter deferred for maximum of three months, asking that the clubs meet as a group with Swim Ontario and the Director of Leisure Services and come to an agreement based on 2010-2011 numbers.

That motion, however, failed to pass.

When asked by Councillor John Gallo to clarify the municipality's role in all this, Mr. Downey indicated that as these are businesses the Town has no specific obligation to provide pool space to any of the clubs.

"In saying that, they provide a service that helps promote and encourages athletic endeavours that aren't being serviced by the municipality," he said. "They are teaching kids how to grow in

the sport and I think that is a great thing. 298 lane hours [available to clubs] - no one does that and I wear that as a badge of pride. We are doing our very best to ensure that if they have people who are interested in participating in recreation we have a venue for them."

Councillor Michael Thompson agreed that mediating between these businesses was not the business of council, although it would be more appropriate if council was discussing a broader picture scenario such as how many lane hours to allocate to the whole community, he said.

Doing so, however, could set a bad precedent.

"I don't like the idea of setting a precedent where we become the mediator of choice and then all of a sudden council meetings become the place for the yoga instructor, the aerobics instructor, the soccer fields, all of these different user groups to come before us and say they need more time because their membership is growing," he said. "I don't think that is really the best use of council's time."

If Council approved the 2008 pool policy it could only be implemented once and it wouldn't be reviewed year after year, noted Mr. Downey, but added the Town needed to solve this problem.

When the motion passed at general committee came before council the following week for final approval, Councillor Wendy Gaertner proposed an alternative motion which would have seen the 2008 draft policy adopted with 2010-2011 enrolment numbers - as verified by Swim Ontario - used and the number of Aurora residents in each club "clarified".

That motion failed to pass.

"With regards to the motion, staff provided their best professional recommendation at general committee and those are the recommendations that were approved at general committee and brought forward to council," said Mr. Downey in response to Councillor Gaertner's motion. "We believe [there] is difficulty in implementing the 2008 draft policy as written and do not recommend using (it) at this point until surplus time is available."

The Town is primarily concerned about Aurora residents in the group, so if one swim club has 200 members with only 40 residents of Aurora, those residents take precedence," said Mr. Downey.

"Those are not of concern to staff when allocating pool time and that is where our concern lies," he said.

Mr. Downey is expected to submit a report to council in June or July outlining the advantages and disadvantages of implementing three-year terms for pool lane allocation.



In case you're already missing the Aurora Tigers, we present this photo of the final game, taken last week and showing Aurora's Justin Periera and Orangeville Flyer Vito Carnavale battling for position in Orangeville. Back to back wins by the Tigers last week, including this 3-2 victory over the Flyers, last week were not enough to make the playoffs as Aurora finished one point behind Brampton for the final playoff position. The Flyers, meanwhile, tangled with the Newmarket Hurricanes Sunday and came up on the wrong side of a 5-3 score, even though they managed to tie the game at three early in the third period. Orangeville won the right to meet Newmarket after they eliminated the Huntsville Otters in two overtime games last week. Meanwhile, Stouffville handed the second place Markham Waxers a 5-3 thrashing to tie that series at one game each after Markham won the first match 6-2 Friday. The Newmarket series continues in Orangeville Wednesday night, with the third game slated for Newmarket Thursday and the fourth match scheduled for Orangeville Friday night. All games begin at 7.30 p.m.

Auroran photo by Steve Mitchell

Town issues tender to build Nokiidaa piers

Council has given the go-ahead to award a \$61,750 tender to install helical piers for the Nokiidaa Trail boardwalk through the McKenzie Marsh.

The vote, which also authorized a further \$25,000 for pier extensions "pending soil and site conditions", came at a recent council meeting.

The tender for the piers is the first of a total of four calls for pricing required in the trail link extension, according to a report by Al Downey, Director of Parks and Recreation Services.

"This is the most time-sensitive part of the project in that the works must be completed during the winter months while the ground is frozen," said Mr. Downey in his report. "Any delays in approving this particular tender will result in the boardwalk portion of the project being postponed until the winter of 2012 which would require a re-tender of the works and most likely an increase in the project costs.

"During the extensive consultative process with Hadley Grange, there were commitments from the Town that we would provide site-monitoring and ongoing inspections of the works in

progress. Staff has retained the services of two of the experts...and arrangements are being made to ensure that the works will be inspected and follow-up reports will be made available to those wishing to view them."

Council's authorization sees the start of Phase Two of the Nokiidaa Trail link and boardwalk, which is the implementation phase.

At the meeting, however, some councillors questioned the retention and cost of various consultants in the project.

A consultant was engaged in Phase One of the project for the design, explained Mr. Downey. Further consultants were also engaged to address concerns shared by residents of the neighbouring Hadley Grange seniors residence.

"We retained them for their expertise in the design and preparation of the tender documents," said Mr. Downey. "We have a cost for their services for inspection and we will be implementing that if this tender is awarded."

When asked by Councillor Chris Ballard if he could estimate what the two "experts" would cost the

Town, Mr. Downey said he was unable to as that would be determined by the amount of their time the project would take up and various other factors.

"It will be dependent on what conditions we meet out there, how often we need them out there depending on what issues arise, so I can't tell you ultimately what it is going to cost," said Mr. Downey. "We feel the amount of money that has been estimated for these works is well within budget and we're going to be fine in terms of budget, but I couldn't give you a definitive number because, quite frankly, once we commence the work, that is when we're going to find out."

Although concerns had been raised by Hadley Grange residents, things might be looking up from their perspective, according to Councillor Sandra Humfries.

"I had a great conversation with Jim Tree this week with assurances of all the great work that will be done implementing this trail and one of the greatest things I heard which I think will make the residents happy is there will be no fence on the boardwalk," she said.

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Monday night hockey results

TEAM STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts.
Masterclean Contracting	14	3	3	85	44	31
Highland Chev-Olds-Geo-Cad	9	7	4	63	60	22
Copper Creek	10	9	1	79	73	21
Rec Cycle N' Sports	8	8	4	58	59	20
Baldwin's	9	10	1	83	89	19
FPL Aggregates	8	10	2	65	73	18
Priestly Demolition	6	11	3	69	85	15
Tom & Jerry's	6	12	2	59	70	14

WEEKLY RESULTS

Copper Creek	7	Masterclean	4
Tom & Jerry's	1	Baldwins	1
Priestly Demolition	2	Highlands Chev	4
Rec Sports	2	FPL Aggregates	1

PLAYER STANDINGS

	G	A	Pts.
John Archibald Copper Creek	19	18	37
Tom Hussey Copper Creek	13	20	33
Mark Sedore Priestly	20	12	32
Al Perkins Baldwin's	17	14	31
Paul Wolanski Copper Creek	12	15	27
John Andersen Rec Sports	15	10	25
Ryan Spampinato Tom & Jerry's	13	12	25
Steve Kavanagh Baldwins	10	15	25
Ryan Bryce Masterclean	13	11	24
Darren Yaremko FPL	12	12	24
Brad McMillan Baldwin's	11	11	22
Pat O'Mahoney Masterclean	14	7	21
Gareth McDonald Priestly	6	15	21
Ed Kilroy Rec Sports	8	12	20
John Leeder Baldwin's	9	11	20
Rob Carnegie Masterclean	2	18	20
Phil Podstatzky Priestly	13	6	19
Don Nichols Copper Creek	9	10	19
Alain Boudreau Masterclean	5	14	19
Kevin O'Keefe Highland's	8	10	18
Glen Bince FPL	7	11	18
Ed Jackson Baldwin's	6	12	18
Craig McConnell Highland's	4	14	18
Rob Blakely Masterclean	10	7	17
Steve Robertson Masterclean	9	8	17
Ken Fisher Highland's	11	5	16
Jeff Sleep Rec Sports	11	5	16
Doug Adair Rec Sports	7	8	15
Dave Caverley FPL	6	9	15
Darryl Thompson Tom & Jerry's	6	9	15
Ron VanNoort FPL	8	5	13
Gerald Briand Baldwins	6	7	13
Dave Mayberry Priestly	6	7	13
Ron Thiessen Tom & Jerry's	6	7	13
Nick Weedon Rec Sports	3	10	13
Billy Fetherston Priestly	7	5	12
Murray Campbell Highland's	6	6	12
Raz Khamissa Tom & Jerry's	6	6	12
Chris Neale Copper Creek	5	7	12
Steven MacDonald Tom & Jerry's	6	5	11
Mike O'Connor Copper Creek	6	5	11
Ken VanNoort Baldwins	4	7	11
Mike Caicco Copper Creek	2	9	11
Hugh Alcorn Masterclean	1	10	11
Bob Nunn Baldwin's	5	5	10
Ken Rumble Highland's	5	5	10
Sam Speranini Masterclean	5	5	10
Vince Greco Tom & Jerry's	4	6	10
Craig Gellatly FPL	4	6	10
Ken Heinrich Rec Sports	3	7	10
Andrew Dalton Rec Sports	2	8	10
Brandon Chappell FPL	5	4	9
Scott Harris Tom & Jerry's	5	4	9
Brett Vickers FPL	5	4	9
Craig Donaldson FPL	4	5	9
Jody Matthews Highland's	4	5	9
David deWulf Priestly	3	6	9
Scott Thomas Tom & Jerry's	3	6	9
Richard Fava Tom & Jerry's	1	8	9
Rob Stroud Masterclean	5	3	8
Paul Gibson Tom & Jerry's	4	4	8
Bruce Ing Highland's	3	5	8
Peter Briand Baldwin's	2	6	8
Mark Lemmon Masterclean	2	6	8
Dennis Tonello FPL	1	7	8
Les Nip Masterclean	6	1	7
Gerald Briand Baldwin's	3	4	7
Jerome Flanagan Baldwin's	3	4	7
Jason Hurlbut Highland's	3	4	7
Brian McCartney FPL	3	4	7
Marty McDermott Highland's	2	5	7
Jason Moring Priestly	2	5	7
Dan Cote Baldwin's	1	6	7
Scott Pogue Priestly	3	3	6
Charlie Steenhorst FPL	2	4	6
Brad Wilson Rec Sports	2	4	6
Julian Dalcin Priestly	1	5	6
Doug Ikeda FPL	0	6	6

Power may come from rooftop

The Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex could become a hub of solar power generation in Town if plans for a \$1.8 million solar panel project for the building's roof, which could bring \$200,000 into Town coffers annually over 20 years, come to fruition.

Council authorized Town Staff recently to go ahead and apply to the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) for a 250 kilowatt system at the SARC.

According to a staff report prepared by Aurora CAO Neil Garbe and Ilmar Simonovskis, Director of Infrastructure and Environmental Services, the application is "non-committal" and can be withdrawn at any time.

"Application approval does not commit the Town of Aurora to design and installation of a system or a contract with the OPA," they said in their report. "The benefit of the immediate submission of the application is that the Town will ensure the current rates under the FIT (Feed-in Tariff) Program."

A business case for the project is expected to appear before council in the spring and include four options for council to consider.

The first is sole proprietorship that would see the system fully owned and operated by the Town. This option has the highest financial return for the town but incurs investment, operation, and maintenance costs, they said.

The second is roof space rental.

According to their report, this presents the least amount of risk for the town, but on the flipside of the coin, it brings in the least amount of revenue.

The third is joint equity, which would see a partnership with a third party and would have significant return compared with option two.

The final option would see the power generated from the rooftop panels of the SARC funnelled directly into SARC operations.

"This is the least favourable option, considering the Feed-in Tariff program pricing is four to five times higher than our current cost of buying power from the grid."

Various buildings around Town have been assessed for their usefulness in solar power generation - described in the report as Solar Photovoltaic Development - since 2009.

The assessment program examined all flat roof structures in the Town for their potential, looking specifically at the size, age, and geographic positioning of the roof, as well as exposure to sunlight and the use of each

facility.

"The Self Assessment Report...identified the Stronach Recreation Complex as the best candidate facility for a solar PV development project in the Town of Aurora," said Mr. Garbe and Mr. Simanovskis. "The Self Assessment Report indicates the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex could possibly support up to a 265-kilowatt system."

The project will contribute towards the Town's Corporate Environmental Action Plan in reducing greenhouse gases, and creating a "stable and secure source of energy for a significant power using facility," they said.

It will also "invest in a project that generates an above aver-

age return when compared to available municipal investment options."

When the project was first discussed in-depth at the general committee meeting at the first of this month, however, Councillor Chris Ballard expressed concern that now wasn't the right time to move forward with the project until further details could be fleshed out during the budget process.

"I would like to see a more detailed report with regards to other options," he said. "I think it is highly commendable that staff are looking for ways to generate revenue for the town, I'm all for that, but I want to make sure we have a good business case in front of us that examines all the

alternatives."

Town Staff and fellow councillors assured him that what they were voting on simply gave staff the right to proceed with the application process, one that would put the Town at a \$500 risk.

Mr. Garbe added that it was the preference of staff to move forward to secure the FIT rate provided by the Provincial government.

"There is a placeholder in the budget for the full amount to own and operate in the budget," he said. "We would still need to bring forward a business case on all the options regardless of what council decides to do. We're hoping to get our application in to preserve the rate."

Aurora expects to reduce wastewater

Aurora Council is expected to formalize its approval of remedial works to reduce external flows in the Town's wastewater collection system, a project that has an upset limit this year of \$1,530,000 outside of taxes.

This is the final year of the Town's three-year contract with Fer-Pal Construction, which began in 2009, to look at reducing flows into the system.

In the first two years of their contract, Fer-Pal inspected mainline sewers east of Yonge Street to assess the age and condition of the pipes, and identify those pipes which should be re-lined.

They also performed 246 manhole inspections, re-lined 2.3 km of the identified problem areas in the sewers, and cleaned a further 900 metres of the system.

This year's plan includes conducting further manhole inspections, looking at an additional 12 km of sewer line through CCTV, performing various spot repairs in priority areas, and completing the outstanding 1.1 km of sewer relining previously identified.

"The entire three year program had been originally budgeted at \$4,400,000," said Ilmar Simanovskis, Aurora's Director of Infrastructure. "The planned expenditure for 2011 is \$1,710,000 for both remediation and consulting work. This is in line with the 2011 Budget and the Building Canada Fund agreement."

According to Mr. Simanovskis, the work performed under this contract

has produced results, including extending the life of 5.8 km of sanitary sewer by 50 years and eliminating all infiltration into the system for those 5.8 km of the sewer system.

"The ultimate measure of success for the program will be the actual measure of extraneous sewer flows within the same study area after all the remedial works have been completed," said Mr. Simanovskis. "The flows will be compared to the base line results that were presented during the initial Region of York investigation stage. To date, however, the redeploy-

ment of the sewer flow monitoring devices has yet to be done through the Region of York.

"As such, until the monitoring devices have had a chance to record a representative period of typical flows, the final measures of success will be unknown."

At Tuesday's meeting, Mr. Simanovskis also submitted his annual report on water quality to Council. In his report he noted there were no orders issued to the Town by the Ministry of the Environment under the Safe Water Drinking Act 2004 for the 2010 reporting year.

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Town wins a pair of United Way awards

The Town of Aurora has been honoured with two awards from the United Way of York Region (UWYR) for its 2010 United Way Employee Payroll Deduction Campaign.

For the second consecutive year, the Town has won the Municipal Challenge Award in the 1 to 299 employees category, which recognizes municipal organizations

that have significantly increased support for the United Way in a given year.

In 2010, the Town's staff participation increased from 48 per cent in 2009 to 70 per cent.

The Town also won the Quantum Leap Spirit Award in the same employee category that acknowledges organizations that had the highest

increase in employee contributions for the year.

The Town's 2010 payroll deduction campaign raised just under \$15,000 for the UWYR, increasing campaign dollars by more than 57 per cent from 2009.

UWYR presented the awards to the Town of Aurora at Le Parc Banquet and Conference Centre in

Markham.

"This is a fantastic accomplishment. I would like to thank staff for their continued dedication to a worthy cause that directly impacts the community we work to serve," said Neil Garbe, the Town's Chief Administrative Officer to a recent council meeting. "These two United Way of York Region awards exemplify

staff's ongoing commitment to helping those in need."

"Congratulations to the staff and volunteers at the Town of Aurora for such a successful and awardwinning employee campaign," said Daniele Zanotti, United Way of York Region Chief Executive Officer. "On behalf of the one in three people and 100 beneficiary community

programs and agencies United Way supports every single day, a most heartfelt thank you."

During the 2010 payroll deduction campaign, Town staff participated in a kick-off breakfast and once a week had the opportunity to participate in fun dress up days such as Crazy Hat, Tacky Shirt and Wild Hair Day.

Two groups can co-exist, woman says

From page 1

conflict with the Farmers' Market.

"It was clear to council that there was cooperation between the operations of the Farmers' Market and the operations of the Jazz Festival. We are in receipt of [a memo from the Market] and therefore our concern with regards to fencing off the park and restricting any access or

operations to the Farmer's Market is eliminated. The permits do not overlap and in fact there is an indication that the Farmers' Market will be part of the Jazz Festival operation and I think that is a win for everyone."

The AFA has "demonstrated flexibility" and respect for the Farmers' Market by agreeing not to open the Festival on Saturday, July 30 until the mar-

ket is closed, said Ms. Morton-Leonard, adding that she hoped the vendors would also enjoy the "Festival Marketplace" to increase sales.

Organized by the AFA, the same group as in previous years but renamed and rebranded, according to Ms. Morton-Leonard to reflect its growth as a group as well as its new status as a not-for-profit organization, she said the 2011

Jazz Fest will appeal to those looking for "staycations" to avoid rising gas prices.

"Having a quality music and arts festival so close to Toronto and the GTA provides Aurora with an economic advantage that cannot be ignored," she said. "Festivals are important for social wellbeing, a time to meet with family, friends, and make new acquaintances, and how many places can you go and

pay only \$5 per adult for a great time?

"Aurora should be proud to be the host town for a music arts festival that has gained both regional and provincial attention and respect."

This year's Festival will also include visual artists, a children's music and craft camp, and, as mentioned, a Festival Marketplace which is expected to highlight local artisans and showcase "ethnic food".

The event will also serve to bring awareness to Safe Haven and the Canadian Centre for Abuse Awareness.

While the Town is satisfied there will be cooperation between the two groups, Mr. Downey, however, said erecting the fence will be an endeavour solely for the AFA.

"It has been requested by the Jazz Festival to do it but it is not a request that we are entertaining," he said. "We feel that is an operational issue for the Jazz Festival and that they are welcome to erect fencing as long as it does not interfere with the operations of the park or the Farmers' Market, and from all indications that isn't going to happen."

For Mayor Geoffrey Dawe, however, there were still some questions on the difference between a "non-profit organization" and a "not-for-profit organi-

zation" and the financial impact each designation would entail.

Aurora Treasurer Dan Elliott said that was something he would need to research on whether the AFA was a registered charity, a registered foundation, or simply a non-profit organization.

"If they are indeed a registered charity or organization they must file financials as you say with the CRA," Mr. Elliott replied to Mayor Dawe. "With respect to asking for financial accountability as it were for some of the other organizations...with respect to smaller organizations it is not necessarily our practice."

Council passed a resolution waiving the \$975 permit fee for Town Park as well as approving \$2,000 sponsorship at the end of the evening with the request the AFA make "a short presentation on the results of the festival, the benefits paid to the charities, attendance, and a brief financial synopsis of the event" be made by the end of October.

Ms. Morton-Leonard, however, was expected to appear before council this week as a delegate before last week's resolution is given final approval to request \$5,000 platinum sponsorship from the Town and answer any questions that cropped up at last week's meeting.

Mayor uses "discretion" to silence Wendy

From page 1

including former mayor Phyllis Morris, Councillor Ballard immediately asked Mayor Dawe to justify his actions.

"I haven't yet memorized the procedural bylaws - I'm almost there, but not there yet - or the Code of Conduct, but I am just wondering if you can explain to myself and council two things: I am interested about how the matter of Councillor Gaertner was brought to the table. Do we not have to have some sort of resolution on the table to introduce that?"

"The second question is I am interested in knowing which section of the procedural bylaw of the Code of Conduct gives the Chair the authority to stop recognizing a councillor from exercising what I think are the councillor's rights to ask questions of staff.

"I think under the Code of Conduct we can ask for an apology, we can cut their pay along those lines but can someone explain to me what gives the mayor authority to do what happened today."

Mayor Dawe simply replied it was at his "discretion" to do so.

Just prior to the general committee meeting the next day, Mayor Dawe said his actions were needed because a "very severe accusation" was made towards a member of staff.

"It was completely inappropriate," he told The Auroran. "Based on what we're allowed

to do in our procedural bylaw was really why that action was taken."

But Mayor Dawe was reluctant to say what actions can be taken at future meetings.

"I didn't want to see it happen at all, obviously," he said. "We will just have to wait and see what unfolds over the next week. I don't want to make any prejudgement."

As Councillor Gaertner was off sick for the February 15 General Committee Meeting, she returned calls from The Auroran on Thursday, declining to answer any questions on the matter unless they were submitted by e-mail.

Submitted that afternoon, a reply came on Friday morning.

In her response, she said after reviewing the minutes of the council meeting, and watching the meeting itself both on Rogers Cable and on the Town produced DVD she feels that the motion attributed to her in the minutes was "inaccurately recorded".

"Minutes of any meeting are to provide an accurate record of that meeting," she said. "I objected to being named as the mover of a motion. The minutes were referred to the Town clerk for review and correction, if necessary."

"In communication with staff over the next two weeks, I tried to ensure an accurate [sic] would come forward. The council agenda of February 8th once again, per the recordings of the December 14 meeting, contained inaccurate min-

utes. I e-mailed and spoke with members of staff concerning this. I asked that the DVD be available for viewing. Council would then be able to make an informed decision. It was not."

"After much discussion it was apparent to me that council was in danger of passing inaccurate minutes...I did everything in my power to ensure that the minutes were presented correctly. There was no reason for this to become an issue at the council table."

At Monday's meeting, Councillor Gaertner said she had no idea what was to happen and "in response to the Mayor's assertion" that she had insulted staff, was prepared to "clarify" what she said regarding the "doctoring" but that her microphone was cut off.

Councillor Gaertner, too, at press time, said she was unsure of what action she would take Tuesday "if there is a further infraction of our procedural bylaw" where improper conduct is described as such that "the continuation of the meeting is rendered difficult or impossible."

"Clearly that was not the case," she said.

Last week, when asked if this incident has given him any food for thought pertaining to the future of the Code of

Conduct or the appointment of a new integrity commissioner following David Tsubouchi, whose term ended Sunday, Mayor Dawe said he hadn't thought more of pursuing that issue.

"The Code of Conduct has not been struck, it is still in force," he said. "What we committed to was to review the Code of Conduct and if the Code of Conduct came back and said we should have an Integrity Commissioner, then we would look at that, but at this point we do not have an Integrity Commissioner."

"We do have the option of actually farming this out, if you will, to another Integrity Commissioner, which other municipalities have done. I believe Vaughan has an Integrity Commissioner... so that is obviously an option."

Councillor Gaertner's objection to the original minutes stemmed from the vote taken pertaining to a confidential memo regarding Ms. Morris' lawsuit against three local bloggers, among others. Councillors voted 5-4 to remove the item from the agenda and put it to a vote at a later date.

The memo was on the agenda Tuesday night, but results were too late for The Auroran's press time.

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Speaker presents EFT March 3rd

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Louise Miller will present a self-management healing method, Emotional Freedom Techniques (EFT) Thursday, March 3rd at 2 p.m.

It is understood that ETF is based on self-control of every day stress, and stress often flares out of control, creating anxiety which, in turn, can deepen significantly.

Web sites, which offer documented advice on accessing and implementing ETF, have a place in modern day society, and several listed sites offered by Louise, assume significance in pursuing this ETF initiative.

The web sites I looked at offer numerous signed testimonials supporting ETF, but testimonials fail to impress

me.

Regardless of testimonials or unnamed scientific communities, if ETF can succeed in teaching stress control to the broad population, then close attention to everything Louise has to say, may well pay a rich dividend.

Good health relies on many variables, including a healthy life style; therefore, when illness or accidents strikes, good health may return with medical intervention, and no doubt the medical advice will include advice on taking it easy, which to me translates into managing stress levels.

In addition, and in agreement with the council of ETF, many people believe that a mind at peace and able to

deal with the stresses of everyday living, will fare better than a mind in turmoil.

Louise, through ETF, offers a self-management healing method, based on stress control, which should lead to tranquility of mind.

The question that requires explanation or clarification is how ETF approaches the subject and what novelties if any offer improved prospects for achieving a stress free life.

I truly hope that ETF proves successful.

Good times rely on the common desire for good hearty laughter, which has the power to captivate whole audiences completely, and just in time, the Silver Stars arrive full of enthusiasm and

energy and with a bonanza of entertainment laughs, aptly named "Just for Laughs".

These guys and gals get their kicks out of life by stirring up excitement, and doubling audiences over with laughter.

Animated, active, lively and robust, healthy family entertainment has a capacity to lift the vibes and quality of many people, reaching across the generations and soaring indiscriminately, to convulse with laughter the young all the way to the elderly, as an audience that can laugh together as family.

Everybody must express their wish for distractions of entertainment, either as part of an audience or as a mem-

ber of the entertainers.

The "Just for Laughs" presentation is Sunday, February 27th, at 2 p.m. and is suitable for all audiences including children.

Everyone is welcome with tickets at \$5 in advance or at the door.

A thought that invariably lifts moods is that of longer days and the thought of spring scheduled this year to arrive Sunday, March 20th.

Seniors, who have spent the winter securely behind closed doors through the depths of winter, can once more venture into the garden, or take leisurely walks and stop for a pleasant conversation with a neighbour, met casually while outdoors.

Simple pleasures express succinctly the social forces that draw seniors to the same environment where self-expression is open and natural with the simplicity of seniors whose desire is to find meaningful ways to spend their years of retirement.

Organized interests offer

the choice of time and of the activity or hobby, and eventually a choice or choices emerge from the seeming confusion of conflicting interests and the embarrassment of riches in interesting new acquaintances who offer friendship.

A new circle of friends is limited in size by practicality, even though many other friendly faces share time in the Centre, and often share occasions when a large group engages in a similar activity.

Always a decision requires finalizing even when the decision to accept seniority requires acceptance of retirement and the relentless passage of years.

Acceptance of retirement poses little problem for most new seniors, but a few cannot relinquish the memories of a younger age.

Acceptance of seniority and membership in the Seniors' Centre, allows life to flow so much more smoothly with few days lacking in company.

New school proposed for Aurora

Councillors were expected to formally approve the site plan for a new elementary school at Mavrinac Boulevard and Hartwell Way this week after passing it at general committee last week.

The proposed new school is approximately 62,379 square feet in floor area and will sit on a 5.36 acre site, bordered on three sides by existing residential development and by Ada Johnson Park to the west.

According to a report by Marco Ramunno, Aurora's Director of Planning, the new three-storey school will have a capacity of 576 stu-

dents.

"The school will be three storeys in height from the north elevation and two storeys in height from all other elevations," he said. "This is due to the sloped topography of the site whereby a standard two-storey prototype was not suited. Less grading overall will need to be done to the site with the proposed site of the school."

Portables will be permitted on the property but the location for the buildings was not included in the site plan.

"Staff recognizes the potential requirement of

portable classrooms and will request that they not be located in the front yard where possible," he said. "Portables for public schools under the Planning Act are permitted without site plan approval, however are subject to the requirement of a building permit."

Amenities included in the site plan proposal include a parking lot of 54 spaces, including two barrier free spaces, to accommodate staff.

There will also be a landscaped buffer between the parking lot in the northern section of the site and residential lands, as well as the

planting of both coniferous and deciduous trees.

Landscaping will also be done on the border adjoining Ada Johnson Park.

"Access to the school site will be from Mavrinac Boulevard," Mr. Ramunno noted. "A total of two access points will be along the front of the building for drop-off and pickup as well as access to the parking lot located along the northern boundary of the property."

"The Town's Infrastructure and Environmental Services Department are satisfied with the parking, manoeuvring and site access plans."

COMING EVENTS

From page 2

available to answer questions.

Your chance, and your friends and neighbours, to laugh your socks off at the Aurora Seniors' Centre this afternoon as the "Silver Stars" drama group performs in skits and joke telling on stage at 2 p.m. "Just for Laughs" is a comedy show. Tickets are on sale for \$5 at the Centre's front reception desk. Treats are available during intermission. For further information, contact Judy Buchanan, the Silver Stars producer/director.

MARCH 14-18

A March Break Vacation Bible Camp will take place at the Aurora United Church from 8:30 a.m. until noon for children aged 5 to 12. the camp will include movies, crafts, snacks, games and music. Cost is \$25 per child. Call the church at 905-727-1935 to register.

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

Seedy Sunday happens today at the Aurora Legion from noon to 4 p.m. Seedy Saturday and Sundays are the days when the new gardening season begins in earnest. You can have an opportunity to learn more about gardening, hone and share your gardening skills, and buy or exchange vegetable and flower seeds. Details at <http://www.living-raw-foods.com>. For further information call 416-277-5432.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

Retired York Regional Police Chief Armand La Barge will be honoured by the Community Living Newmarket/Aurora District at its ninth annual Community Tribute Dinner tonight. The event will be held at The Manor, Carrying Place Golf & Country Club, 16750 Weston Road in Kettleby. The dinner is the major fundraising event of the year for Community Living and all proceeds will go to support people who have an intellectual disability. Tickets are \$125 each (\$1,000 for a table of eight) and can be purchased online through the Community Living website at www.clnad.com or by calling 905-898-3000, ext. 258.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Embarrassed by your bare wrists? Get beading! Show off your sense of style with a unique beaded backpack pin and a fashionable suede bracelet made at the Aurora Public Library from 6.30 to 8 p.m. This program is for youngsters aged 9 to 14 and costs \$8 which includes all materials.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

The Aurora Farmers' Market & Artisan Fair final day at the Aurora Cultural Centre, formerly the Church Street School, happens today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Site is fully accessible at the north entrance. For further information call 905-713-1818 or info@auroraculturalcentre.ca.

MONDAY, MARCH 28

Annual General Meeting of the Aurora Community Arboretum will be held in the form of a Meet and Greet at 7.30 p.m. in the Aurora Town Hall.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

The annual Rotary Club of Aurora Frog Race takes place today in Tannery Creek. Money raised is going to Easter Seals Camp Merrywood in support of a family in Aurora with three disabled children. Tickets will be available at the home show or through any Rotarian.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

Join local resident Phillip Hodgson for an interactive seminar to learn about today's popular youth drugs, the impact on the individual, the family and the community, warning signs, and where to go for help. Phillip is a psychotherapist and counsellor who works and lectures in the field of addiction. Event begins at 7 p.m. in the Magna Room at the Aurora Library.

SATURDAY, MAY 14

"I Love Rock & Roll" dinner dance takes place this evening at Dinardo's Mansion on Industrial Parkway South beginning at 6 p.m. Dance to the music of Freddie Vette and The Flames and meet and have your picture taken with Elvis Presley, who is really Kevin Mills from Richmond Hill. Tickets sell for \$60 a person, which includes a three-course meal and are available at Aurora Used Books, 95 Edward Street. Proceeds go to the Aurora-Newmarket District of Community Living.



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