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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper

Vol. 11 No. 19 905-727-3300 theauroran.com FREE Week of March 8, 2011



This tree, believed to be more than 100 years old, was taken down last week by the property owners. The tree's historical designation was removed by Aurora Council, which passed the bylaw on August 17 last year. Council had previously designated the land it was sitting on of heritage interest, near Yonge and Wellington, in November, 2008. The owner of the property requested a repeal of the relevant bylaw in May and, according to the text of the bylaw, no objections were received by the Town after the owners requested the repeal. The owners (15278 Yonge St. Ltd.) have proposed a mixed use residential development of "not less than seven storeys" on the site with dwelling units above the first storey. A letter to the editor, about the tree's removal, appears on Page 4 of this week's Auroran.

Auroran photo by Cynthia Proctor

Councillors should “own” Code of Conduct - David

The report of former Aurora Integrity Commissioner David Tsubouchi was received by council and referred to staff for recommendations at last week's general committee meeting.

Mayor Geoffrey Dawe made the motion that Mr. Tsubouchi's report be referred to staff for a further report on options for "proceeding either with a new code of conduct, a new code of ethics, or a combination of the two."

Councillors were in receipt of a report from Mr. Tsubouchi who was tasked with reviewing the existing code of conduct and making recommendations for improvement and general comment.

In his report he said councillors should "own" the code of conduct if it is to be truly effective and improve areas that define confidentiality, gifts and hospitality, and the use of municipal property, both physical and intellectual.

"The code of conduct and process is an ongoing one that will need to be reviewed from time to time as informal and formal complaints create precedents," he said in his report. "In order for the code of conduct to be truly effective it is necessary that council 'owns' the code of conduct and embraces the values of accountability and transparency and adopt a culture of 'right thinking'."

Looking at Mayor Dawe's motion, however, Councillor Evelyn Buck said she would be loath to receive any report that could lead to the appointment of a new Integrity Commissioner.

"I don't believe that was the message we got from the people of Aurora at the time of the election and I could not support referring it to staff for a report," she said. "I won't say what I'm thinking but I can support receiving it but not referring it to staff for further deliberation."

Other councillors, however, disagreed that receiving the report and referring it to staff for comment would necessarily lead to someone filling Mr. Tsubouchi's vacant position.

"The two don't necessarily go together," said Councillor Paul Pirri.

Please see page 6

C of C document could be improved: Tsubouchi

Although David Tsubouchi said it is a "well drafted and thought out document", he said there are areas in which the code of conduct can be improved.

He made his views known in a review dated December 15, 2010 and submitted to councillors on the Friday in advance of last Tuesday's general committee meeting.

Clarification could be made in the areas the present code defines "confidentiality".

Mr. Tsubouchi recommended that "written information" be expressly included in the pertinent section along with the spelling out of various other types of confidential information which have been handled by council in closed session.


This confidential information includes items "relating to the security of the property of the Town; proposed or pending acquisitions or dispositions of land by the Town; labour relations and employee and collective bargaining; advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege and the communication thereof."

Mr. Tsubouchi recommended further clarification in sections pertaining to gifts, hospitality and benefits -

including what might be considered a "nominal gift" - noting that the Province of Ontario has a monetary limit of \$250 for Cabinet ministers.

"This would give more guidance as to whether a member could accept a sweat shirt for a fundraising event for the Terry Fox Run," he said.

The section related to the use of municipal property could too benefit from further clarification, not just for the use of physical property but also intellectual property, including the "inappropriate use of Municipal websites and other communications for purposes unrelated" to councillors' duties.



DAVID TSUBOUCHI

Petch House wins 3 month reprieve

The nearly 165-year life of Petch House has been extended for at least another three months after council postponed its demise to see what its 'Friends' can come up with for its future.

The move came at last Tuesday's general committee meeting where councillors considered a recommendation from Town staff not to proceed with restoring the log house when Richmond Hill resident Katherine Belrose appeared at the podium as a delegate.

Representing the "soon-to-be-incorporated" group of "heritage professionals" called Friends of the Petch House, Ms. Belrose asked for more time in order for her group to come up with a master plan for the building.

"I understand that it would be about \$50,000 to demolish that house and perhaps to deal with some of the materials," she said. "It is a huge amount of taxpayers' money and at the same time we are losing many other things."

Citing money committed for the house by Whitwell Developments and a further \$90,000 set aside in the budget for the house as losses, Ms. Belrose said dismantling the house would also be a loss of heritage.

Lawsuit opens Friday

Former Aurora mayor Phyllis Morris' \$6 million lawsuit against three local bloggers, among others, gets a day in court this week where the lawyer for the three named in the suit, Bill Hogg, Richard Johnson, and Elizabeth Bishenden, will move to have the claim struck.

Jordan Goldblatt, on behalf of the defendants, said Ms. Morris' claim is "defective" because it doesn't "set out the precise words that Ms. Morris says defamed her".

"We have asked for the claim to be struck for that reason and we've asked that even if we're wrong and the court is not prepared to strike the claim that Ms. Morris pay money into court to act as a security against the

"We're losing that vital piece of pre-railroad history," she said. "We do not have a building in the Town of Aurora that teaches us about this Town prior to 1850. We have an example in the City of Mississauga that just opened on February 11. It is a warm log house setting for Guide and Scout groups in the community."

"We have a reputation in the Town of Aurora," Ms. Belrose added of her group. "We know what we're doing when it comes to conservation and heritage."

In her remarks, Ms. Belrose asked for a two to three month "reprieve" to explore a number of options, incorporate the group, and come back to council with news, fundraising dollars, and "viable solutions" for the house, which might even include potential locations outside the Town "if it does not fit in with the Town's needs and wants".

"It means saving the last building of this area's early history where we can teach the heritage arts and I feel that it can be part of Aurora's museum and cultural offerings," she said.

Please see page 6



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COMING EVENTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

Amnesty International meets re human rights at Trinity Anglican Church in the Rectory (house beside parking lot), 79 Victoria Street at 7.30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call 905-713-6713.

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

Aurora's White Heather Pipes and Drums group presents its St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Party at the Aurora Legion from 6 p.m. to midnight. Included in the festivities will be a live band "Sundown", Irish dancers and pipes and drums. The Aurora Legion, Branch 385, is located at 105 Industrial Parkway North.

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.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

"The Fighter" is the movie at the Aurora Seniors' Centre tonight. It stars Mark Wahlberg, Christian Bale and Amy Adams. Movie starts at 6.30 p.m. and costs \$1.50 for members and \$2 for non-members. Price Includes the movie, refreshments and treats.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce March Networking Breakfast, sponsored by Kids & Company, is being held this morning at St. Andrew's Valley Golf Club, 4 Pinnacle Trail, from 7.30 a.m. to 9 a.m. This month's event features a continental breakfast, formal networking, and a business card exchange. Cost is \$15 for Chamber members or \$25 for guests.

TUESDAY, MARCH 22

"How do you know" is the movie at the Aurora Seniors' Centre tonight starring Reese Witherspoon and Jack Nicholson. Movie starts at 6.30 p.m. and costs \$1.50 for members and \$2 for non-members. Price Includes the movie, refreshments and treats,

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.

The third in a series of evening chats by Aurora historian Jacqueline Stuart happens this evening at the Aurora Cultural Centre, beginning at 7 p.m. Tonight "Our Aurora Heritage: Taking a Closer Look". There is complimentary admission and refreshments and no registration is required.

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.

The PowerStream information session, How to Manage



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Your Small Business Electricity Costs with Time-of-Use Rates has been rescheduled to this evening at the Aurora Public Library, Magna Room, 15145 Yonge Street. The presentation will provide business owners information about Time-of-Use Electricity rates and will be followed by a question period. Registration is at 5.30 p.m. and the presentation will start at 6 p.m. Cost is complimentary, and refreshments will be served.

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.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29

The Good Lovelies are in concert tonight at the Aurora Cultural Centre on Church Street, beginning at 7.30 p.m. General admission is \$20. For further information, call Jane Taylor, program co-ordinator, at 905-713-1818.

"Get Low" is the movie at the Aurora Seniors' Centre tonight starring Robert Duvall, Bill Murray and Sissy Spacek. Movie starts at 6.30 p.m. and cost \$1.50 for members and \$2 for non-members. Price includes the movie, refreshments and treats.

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.

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, 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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Two groups should meet council to discuss future of town museum

Councillors want representatives from the Aurora Cultural Centre and the Aurora Historical Society to appear before council to discuss the future of Aurora's museum, following an approval of a motion by Councillor Evelyn Buck to have contracts and other agreements which led to the creation of the Cultural Centre submitted to new members at the table.

"[Former Councillor Ron Wallace and I were] the two who moved and seconded that the funds be made available to the Historical Society to complete the renovations to the Church Street School," she said on her motion. "The museum had been in boxes for over three years and it was my concern that the community was being deprived."

The building had been sitting idle while the Town had been paying for utilities, she said, and the Historical Society had raised \$750,000 to complete renovations with the anticipated costs of \$1 million. They had also retained museum architects to create a "state of the art" facility for the sole purpose of providing the community with a museum, she added.

"This consistent direction has been to provide the community with a museum which the community has used and appreciated over the years," she said. "There was not a word of complaint, objection, or controversy when council decid-

ed to use hydro reserve funds to finish this building and give us a state of the art museum.

"There is no doubt in my mind that the community fully supported this investment for this purpose and we have no museum, and the key to understanding how that happened is in the contract and the consultant's study which I spent the last three days trying to absorb and understand the twists and turns that eventually led to there being no museum."

Councillor John Gallo, who supported the motion, was concerned that Councillor Buck's initial motion, however, only called for the documents to be distributed and felt that if there was nothing more added, that and budget requests made by the Historical Society might simply "fall off the table".

"I think in the last word of the motion we need to expand on it, not just for direction but what direction are we going to do? What is the next step? I fear nothing will be done about it."

The words "for the purpose of your review and direction within the budget process" were added by Councillor Buck, whose argument that the Town was in favour of reinstating the museum was bolstered by Councillor Sandra Humfries.

"I have received several calls from concerned citizens looking for the museum to be reinstated in Town," she said. "They

have put forth to me that there are environmental and temperature controls in the Cultural Centre where they felt those items would be on display eventually, so something obviously changed in the evolution of the Cultural Centre."

There is a lot of clarification and "defuzzification" needed in this matter, argued Councillor Chris Ballard, expressing concern that the issue had been turned into a "debate on one group versus another."

"Both are equally valuable," he said, adding that Hillary House is Aurora's

official museum.

"It worries me that we're pitting one against the other," he said. "We're not and we need both organizations, we need them both strong, and we need to know what the truth is. For that reason if supporting the motion allows us to have the Aurora Cultural Centre here to talk to us about who they are, what they do, the evolution, then I will support it."

Funds in question were taken from the Council's discretionary fund, which was comprised of 10 per cent of the hydro reserve, said Town Treasurer Dan Elliott.



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AFC plans next film

On April 11, the Aurora Film Circuit will present its next film "Made in Dagenham".

Tickets for those not holding subscriptions went on sale March 8 at the Aurora Public Library and Aurora Used Books, 95 Edward

Street.

Individual tickets are \$12 each.

All movies are shown at the Odeon Cineplex on Bayview Avenue in Aurora.

AFC's upcoming film lineup can be viewed at afc.library.aurora.on.ca

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- 3 Email your number one tip for reducing energy consumption to earthhour@aurora.ca and you'll be entered into a draw for an Apple iPad pre-loaded with apps designed to help you reduce your carbon footprint. The top 10 tips will be published on our Facebook page before Earth Hour.

If you're not online, and you'd like to take part, complete the contest ballot below and mail it to:
Earth Hour c/o The Town of Aurora, 100 John West Way, Aurora, ON, L4G 6J1.

To find out more about Aurora's five-year Corporate Environmental Action Plan, please visit www.aurora.ca/environment. You'll see we're working hard to reduce our carbon footprint.

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Power down from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 26. Together, we can keep the environment and our town clean and green for years to come.

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Mail-in contest ballot

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Phone number: _____

How do you plan to spend Earth Hour 2011? _____

What is your number one tip for conserving energy? _____



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Letters to the Editor

Word doesn't mean what he thinks it does

To the editor,

Since I don't have a Twitter account, and can rarely confine what I have to say to 140 characters or less, please accept the following as an old-fashioned 'Tweet' to Councillor Ballard:

I have previously applauded any councillor's use of social media in the interests of getting their views out there to the general public and you seem to have taken to Twitter like a duck to water - even Tweeting in the middle of a council meeting...

But lately it seems your Tweets have gone completely off the rails.

I thought it would be hard to top your manufactured controversy breathlessly sending out the breaking news that Wendy Gaertner had been "gagged" during the February 14 budget meeting but you succeeded on March 3!

On March 3 you Tweeted about "a Councillor" (you didn't have the balls to name Councillor Evelyn Buck) using the word "niggardly" during a council meeting saying it was "offensive" and questioning her "common sense."

Hell, let's go for the gusto and re-print your Tweet in full: "Councillor uses term "niggard-

Gaertner should get retraction from the mayor

To the editor,

Councillor Wendy Gaertner has been unfairly treated as a result of her attempts to correct Council Minutes at a recent meeting.

Her claim that she did not second a motion, which came out of closed session is valid, and is clearly demonstrated in the video record of the meeting in question.

Close examination of the video shows that Councillor Gaertner asked for a recorded vote immediately after the motion but she neither raised her hand nor spoke as Second.

Mayor Geoffrey Dawe and the clerk were not looking in her direction so it seems they must have jumped to the wrong conclusion.

There seems to have been undue haste in dispatching this matter.

The clerk stated what he believed the motion to be, but did not confirm the Mover and Second.

A clearer restatement of the motion by the clerk including names of Mover and Second would have provided an opportunity to get it right.

Mayor Dawe should show proper leadership by accepting that a mistake occurred, and by retracting the sanctions and criticism he has placed on Councillor Gaertner.

Robert Cook
Aurora

ly" during public meeting. Where's her common sense? It's offensive. What do you think?"

Well, Chris, here's what I think: I don't think that word means what you think it means.

The Oxford English Dictionary states...oh, wait...you also included a link in your Tweet explaining EXACTLY WHY this word is NOT offensive.

For those not in the know, it means "stingy" or "miserly". It has no relation to the "n-word" as you might want people to think.

Chris, you are trying to manufacture controversy out of thin air.

Are you going out of your way to try to discredit Evelyn - or even Wendy Gaertner or Sandra Humfryes since you didn't specify who it was aside from "her" - by trying to make it seem like she is, to use your cunning word choice, "offensive?"

It's too bad Evelyn has an aversion to the Code of Conduct or a complaint would be completely warranted.

An old-fashioned 'Tweet' to Councillor Buck:

Evelyn, if discussion of the Petch House continues on March 8 don't - whatever you do! - mention its "chinking."

Chris might get the vapours and swoon right before your eyes. After he Tweets it, of course.

An old fashioned 'Tweet' to Councillor Gallo:

John, you have the pleasure of sitting next to Chris at the table. Have the smelling salts ready just in case.

H. Grimset
Aurora

Town's history dies as tree removed

To the editor,

Something profoundly sad occurred on Thursday, March 3rd, in Aurora.

In our daily lives...the day to day activities...the impact of the loss of this tree is minimal but the very act and the reasoning behind it is like what

Mayor disappointed over Auroran letter

To the editor,

It was extremely disappointing that you printed the letter titled "Writers believe that Garbe should be fired", in the March 1 edition of The Auroran.

While the writers feel passionately about their subject, that does not make it right that they should be allowed to make such egregious allegations against any member of Town staff and it is totally inappropriate that those unsubstantiated allegations were printed by your publication.

If someone has an issue with our professional Town staff,



This water tower and power house were once located in downtown Aurora but where? Tell us exactly where they were located, what eventually moved into the power house, and what's on the property today and we'll treat you to a free lunch at the Aurora Legion. Call 905-727-3300 after noon on Friday, March 11, with your correct answer.

Letters to the Editor

Petch House "friends" get 3-month reprieve

To the editor,

At the March 1st general committee meeting, I represented a small group (the Friends of Petch House) and was given the opportunity to make a deputation.

We recommended a three-month reprieve based on the historical significance of the 1840s Petch House in what is now the Town of Aurora and beyond.

The Petch House is one of the oldest buildings in the area and the only known example of a locally built pioneer log house in the municipality (the Sheppard's Bush log house was moved from Pefferlaw).

We explained that we see the Petch House as a viable place for pioneer education that

helps the citizens of Aurora connect with the area's pre-railroad history and the story of our early settlers. Particularly, we see the Petch House fitting in well with newer initiatives that emphasize sustainability, local food and innovative farming.

The House could also be a home to one or several groups that work in these areas.

Recent coverage in the Toronto Star allowed a number of heritage experts across Ontario to study a photo of the House.

All agreed this type of heritage building comes available only once in a blue moon.

There are very few structures left with old growth wood of this size.

Preserving and restoring the Petch House is of vital impor-

remarkable Oak tree near Yonge and Wellington.

The tree had been designated historical.

It was, to many of us, thought safe to live its life supplying shade, food for squirrels, home for the birds and for many a touchstone to our town's rich history.

When, I do not know, it lost its status under the last administration and March 3 the chain saws cut it down.

It was well in excess of 100 plus years old.

It was completely healthy and I looked at its massive trunk and it was clean and clear of any rot.

It stood strong for years, even the changes around it, it remained healthy.

Developers were the only blight it had on its strength.

Once again, a developer destroys what nature and history have provided us with as a rich and sustainable hometown.

This act was totally disrespectful, remarkably sad, and unnecessary.

If you really were a respect-

tance.

While it would be better for the House to find a home in Aurora - that's where it belongs - an acceptable alternative would be to conserve the building and to move it to another home in another municipality.

The Friends of Petch House have three months to put a plan together that will keep the Petch House in Aurora using the funds that were originally set aside for that purpose.

They will be launching a website in mid-March to share information about the Petch House, to receive community input, and to feature a series of heritage log house success stories collected from various communities and private owners.

They will be organizing a number of activities, including a

"Run For History" to generate support and input for the project just prior to council's June deadline.

Saving the Petch House involves saving the LAST building of the area's early history where heritage arts such as spinning, quilting, farming, and working with wood can be demonstrated in the right setting.

It is the belief of the Friends of Petch House that the House can and should be part of Aurora's museum and cultural offerings.

Anyone wishing to help the Friends of Petch House put together the best possible plan for the House is invited to contact Katherine Belrose at kbelrose@gmail.com.

Katherine Belrose
Richmond Hill

ful company you would have included the tree in your development plans.

Please, current mayor and council, regard the current residents of our town (includes the mature trees) as of more

value than the developer's wishes or whims.

Their impact is at times irreversibly bad.

C. Skillins
Aurora

THE AURORAN

“Aurora’s Independent Community Newspaper”

Published weekly by The Auroran Publications Inc.
at 95 Edward Street,
Aurora, L4G 1W1

Publisher Emeritus
Rosemary Schumaker

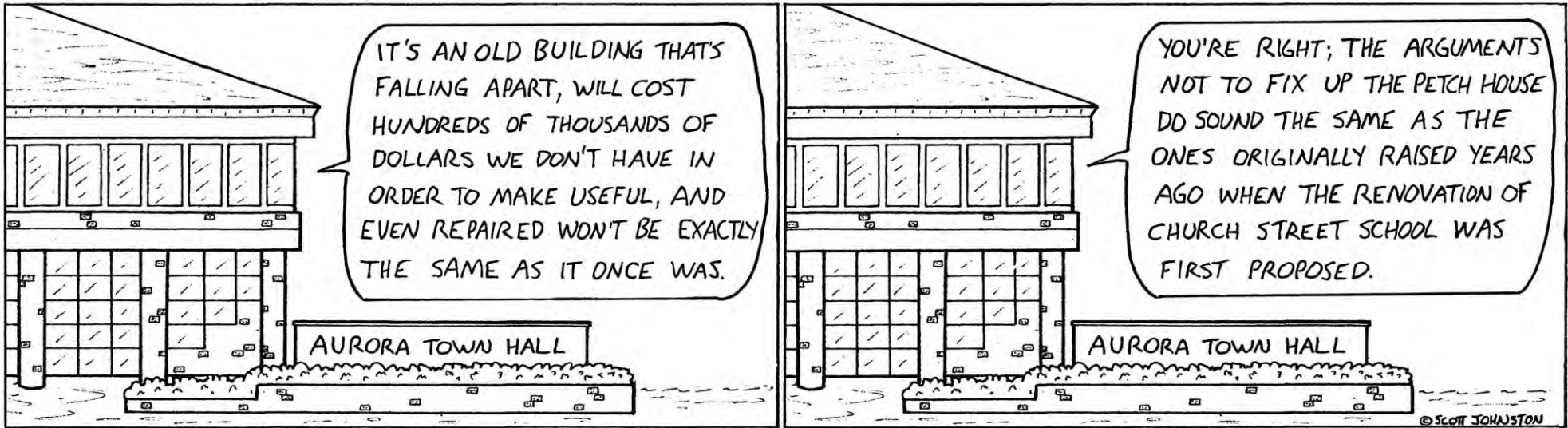
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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

My column two months ago regarding customer service or I should say, the lack of it in certain instances, struck a chord with a number of readers judging by the amount of e-mails that I received. It was not my expectation to pen another column about this topic so soon, but I thought I had to, given what transpired back in late January.

It was without a doubt, the worst case of customer service that I have ever experienced in Aurora, or probably anywhere for that matter.

The reason that I am writing about it now and not a couple of months ago is that I was too angry and the words that I would have chosen to use would have made the Nixon White House blush.

On a Sunday evening, a week or two prior to the Superbowl, we decided to have my wife's family over for a take-out dinner. Julie tried to phone ahead to place an order but the phones were busy so she sent me with a list.

I arrived at this fast food outlet - that serves both chicken and pizza - at about 5.50 p.m.

There were not many people ahead of me in line; maybe three of four and a couple of other customers had already placed their order.

There was one cashier, a store manager and probably four or five people preparing the food. A driver would appear to pick up orders for delivery.

The store manager saw that the line was getting longer so he asked me to come to another cash register and he would take my order, which he did, and then I waited, and waited and waited for

my order to be filled.

What I saw and experienced over the next 50 minutes or so was rather breath-taking in its stupidity.

The cashier, although not young, was very inexperienced, and having trouble processing most of people's orders. The store manager constantly assisted her in taking orders.

I had no problem with this; a new person learning the ropes requires patience. We have all been that employee at some point in our working lives.

However, the manager kept walking in and out of the store every few minutes, leaving the cashier on her own and the lineup was starting to grow and the customers were becoming less pleased by the minute.

After 20 minutes or so, the manager left and did not return.

What astonished me is that this manager had to know that his staff was not prepared to handle things.

I can understand that he needs to go home, but he saw that things were picking up so he could have had someone come out from the back to assist.

I was standing near the front of the store where they processed the orders and I did not hear him say to anyone that he was leaving.

This inexperienced cashier became all flustered and repeatedly asked one of her co-workers preparing the food in the back to come and help her at the cash. Her fellow worker said "no" a number of times, until, at last, he came out to lend a hand.

But the two of them were not very adept at handling the orders, especially if any customer was presenting a coupon.

Then, to exacerbate the situation, the actual food being given to the patrons was wrong.

I would estimate of the 15 or so food orders, 11 or 12 were wrong. Things like, potato salad instead of coleslaw or large fries instead of small fries or...you get the picture.

While all this was going on, I was patiently and quietly watching customers come and go, while waiting for my pizza and chicken.

After waiting for one-half hour, I inquired about my pizza. From the response that I received, I was pretty sure that they had forgotten about my order.

Other people were watching me wait, and after a while, I struck up conversations with a number of the customers. And I will tell you that the discussions all centered on one thing; how bad the service was.

Finally, after about 55 minutes, I had my pizza, chicken, fries and coleslaw - and the order was right.

My family and in-laws were wondering if I had gone to downtown Toronto to pick up our order. I said "no" and explained the situation; everyone was in stitches as I regaled them with this story.

As you can imagine, I will be looking elsewhere for take-out chicken and pizza in the future.

In the meantime, please remember, a happy customer means a customer that will be coming back.

Cheers.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Inside Aurora

By Scott Johnston

We need to resurrect Aurora's status as a "capital". And I don't mean taking over from Ottawa.

We have enough - more than enough - politicians here in town already, thanks.

What we need is to stand out.

To be recognized as the place for something or other.

Let's share our town pride with the world.

This isn't a new concept, as it has happened here a number of times in the past.

Early in its history, in 1853, Aurora's distinction of being the northern terminus of the rail line from Toronto earned us the title of "Head of Rail".

I'm not sure if this was an actual moniker, but around that time we were also known as the "Home of the Fleury Plough", based on that invaluable farm implement that was built in great numbers in the factory on Wellington, just west of Yonge Street.

In fact, this plough was so associated with Aurora that it was placed on the town crest.

A number of years later Aurora was known as the "Chicken Capital of Canada".

This was due to the large poultry plant located in the north end of town, and not on the fact that our politicians were afraid to balance the town's budget without implementing huge tax increases, a tradition that continues to this day.

But I digress.

More recently, the celebrations first staged in the late 1960s earned Aurora the title of "Canada's Birthday Town".

All great identifiers, and ones of which we could be truly proud.

But sadly, with the extension of the railway farther north, the loss of our plough factory and poultry plant, and the general apathy towards Canada Day (a few

years ago it even looked like we would permanently lose the parade), those once proud monikers are all pretty dated.

So we need a "fresh" identifier. Something contemporary.

I know; we currently have the tagline "you're in good company". But that's pretty generic.

And you have to be careful how you pronounce "you're in", because if you don't clearly separate the two words when you say it to your friends from out of town, you'll get snickers.

And what does that phrase mean, anyway?

That we're all united in dodging pot-holes and traffic calming devices on our streets, putting up with brown lawns every year during the annual water ban, and spending most of the summer with our cars, patio furniture, windows, pets and anything else exposed to the outdoors coated with construction dust and clouds of fluffy dandelion seeds?

Who wants to celebrate that?

No, we need to build on something uniquely Auroran, and advertise it to the world.

There are certainly no end of good things we can rave about; the work we've done to protect and celebrate our history, the success of our amateur athletes and sports teams, our ever-growing trail system and green spaces, our tremendous cultural events, volunteers and community spirit...

There must be something out there we can celebrate.

But we'd better do it soon, and get the word out, or we'll inevitably inherit by default some other tagline that, while appropriate, is not one we're keen to repeat.

For example, I don't think residents will be bragging about, or businesses flocking to set up shop in, a town

widely known as the home of the "World's Most Dysfunctional Council".

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

A capital idea

Letter to the Editor

Ambassador says thanks for bowling

To the editor,

I would like to thank all of the folks who participated in last Saturday's Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids at the Gateway Bowl in Aurora.

In total we raised more than \$21,000 but that total can still rise with your help.

You can still donate online at <http://www.bbbsy.ca>.

To all of those who bowled and donated, thank you on behalf of Big Brothers Big Sisters of York Region.

Special thanks go out to Frank Klees, Newmarket Aurora MPP, the top fund raiser, Lois Brown, MP, John Abel and Aurora Council plus the many other

individuals who were there.

The day was all about having fun while raising money for this great charity.

We did both.

Thank you also goes out to Mary Lynn Stephenson and the great staff at BBBSY who worked so hard to make this event happen.

There are many other events to come including a golf tournament in May.

If you are interested in golfing please call Mary Lynn or go to BBBSY.ca.

Thanks again.

Nigel Kean
Aurora
Ambassador for
BBBSY Bowling

Council should own Code, Tsubouchi says

From page 1
But Councillor Buck questioned the logic of having a

Lawsuit set for this week

From page 1
defendants' cost."
In their factum prepared for the hearing scheduled for Friday in Toronto, the defence expands on the argument that the words are not spelled out and that her suit is "fundamentally flawed" because she has not "pled the words on which she brings her claim."

They go on to argue that this is indeed a Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation (SLAPP lawsuit) and "a plaintiff commencing SLAPP litigation must be held accountable where she uses court proceedings in an abusive, unfair, or vexatious manner."

Without the particulars outlined in Ms. Morris' statement of claim, the defence's factum states they cannot plead to it "in its present form".

In addressing evidence from Town Solicitor Christopher Cooper, the factum reiterates what has been previously released that Mr. Cooper did not allege the three named in the case were moderators of the website and that he "refused to answer questions about an undertaking for damages that Morris had sworn on the Norwich Motion."

Ms. Morris' suit "uses the justice system as a mechanism by which to silence or chill public debate on a matter of public interest - specifically, her tenure as mayor," they go on to argue asking that it be looked through the scope of a SLAPP.

code of conduct in the first place without an Integrity Commissioner.

"It is respectfully submitted that no leniency or curative deference can be provided to the plaintiff in this litigation," they added.

Their factum also addresses the issue of taxpayer dollars being used to fund Ms. Morris' suit, of which the Town has been billed upwards of \$55,000 thus far.

Ms. Morris, they claim, "wrapped her claim in the vestiges of her public office" and waited until the '10th hour' of this motion to even supply a further response to a demand for particulars (albeit still defective), despite being aware of the Moving Defendant's position since November, 2010."

"She is represented by skilled counsel, who have had access to public funds for the bulk of this litigation."

In their evidence for Friday, Ms. Morris' legal team has compiled a number of documents they claim shed light on the ownership and moderation of the Aurora citizen website, including an e-mail from October 28, 2010 from former mayoral candidate and former Councillor Nigel Kean to the recently defeated Ms. Morris and Evelina MacEachern.

In this post-election e-mail, Mr. Kean forwarded a message from Mr. Hogg saying he was "launching a new blog to encourage wider discussion on issues of importance to the people in Aurora."

The forwarded message was prefaced by Mr. Kean's statement to Ms. Morris and

"If we are proceeding to give staff the task of reporting back to us on reading this and

Ms. MacEachern that "this apparently was [sent] the same time when Dawe, according to a good source, started his planning to run for mayor. I kept it as I felt that some day I would need it. The day is now."

Also included is a copy of an October 23, 2009 post on the Aurora Citizen from Ms. Bishenden introducing herself as a "guest-moderator...until about mid-November" on the site, and a print-off from now mayor Geoff Dawe's campaign website which cites Mr. Hogg as his campaign strategist, without any further commentary from the plaintiff's team.

The defendants estimate they could incur \$200,000 in costs to bring this to trial, something Mr. Goldblatt said could take years if it does indeed go to trial.

"Realistically it won't be heard by a court until about 2013 or so," he said. "Procedurally the action is very, very new. A statement of claim has been filed. We say, of course, the statement of claim is defective. At some point if the claim is not struck then the next thing you have to do is put in a statement of defence and then you have to put in all your documents, and then you have examinations for discovery where the parties get to sit and ask questions of each other."

"All those procedural steps take months and then even after that you have mediation and [then] a pre-trial so there is still a lot of work to be done."

reporting back to us we're indicating we have not listened to the people during the election," she said. "This whole thing has cost us, some of us more than others, thousands and thousands of dollars and what do we see for it? I think the message was pretty clear during the election. The people of Aurora want to have done with this and receiving it is all I can do."

During the course of the debate Town Solicitor Christopher Cooper appeared to agree with Councillor Buck's assessment that "a code of conduct is of no use without an Integrity Commissioner" when looking at the Municipal Act.

"It is my understanding based on a reading of the scheme within the Municipal Act that it was intended that the code of conduct if one is put in place by a municipality be made enforceable by the Integrity Commissioner so one without the other doesn't seem to fit, or under the scheme of the act, perhaps wouldn't work," he said.

For the moment, however, the extant code of conduct and code of ethics remain on the books until otherwise directed by council, said Aurora CAO Neil Garbe.

Referring the report to staff would allow them to get back to council on what other municipalities are doing to enforce a code of conduct and also look at the options to have either code or just one.

"If there is a code of conduct complaint then we would have to deal with that in due course and bring options forward at that time," he said. "But they are still on the books until council changes that."

Historic house wins reprieve

From page 1
Ms. Belrose was one of several people who responded to the Town's earlier outreach seeking expressions of interest as to what to do with the house.

As The Auroran reported last week, her proposal was described as a "restoration with [a] green approach" and called for using the building to express its historical significance, implement green initiatives and "involve a dedicated team of craftspeople in the restoration."

As for the uses, she suggested a pioneer kitchen with restored wood stove, a wireless-equipped parlour, garden installations "with contemporary applications", a permanent location for a non-profit group of artisans, and creating a basement for heritage storage.

To finance this, she suggest-

ed establishing a not-for-profit group (as suggested last Tuesday) to bring partners onboard and look at government subsidies, sponsorships, and donations.

Her proposal called for \$50,000 for heritage, fundraising, and technological consultants and a further \$300,000 for basement, interior heritage features, and the installation of new technology.

When asked last week about her previous proposal by Councillor Wendy Gaertner, Ms. Belrose described it as the "ultimate log house preservation project."

"If you take it down to a grassroots level you say, yes, we want to restore, we have an opportunity to work with some individuals who can do it at \$120,000, then we can slowly

build over time the technology," she said. "It only costs \$1,000 to outfit a small cabin with enough solar energy to run a few appliances and you can heat with a wood stove effectively."

When asked by Mayor Geoffrey Dawe what council could expect if they were given the reprieve, she added they would come back with a report through the Heritage Advisory Committee, a plan for organized events with sponsors, including perhaps a "Running for History" fundraiser, and a budget.

Ms. Belrose's request for a delay was well received by most members of Council who were curious as to what the group might come up with.

"We'll give it one last chance and we can evaluate everything at that time," said Councillor

John Abel. "I think it is worth going forward with this motion."

"I certainly applaud their dedication, their desire, and I would certainly like to see what they have to say when they come back," added Councillor Michael Thompson. "I think deferring it to the beginning of June makes sense."

Councillor Gaertner moved the motion to defer until June, which was passed by council with Councillors Paul Pirri and Evelyn Buck voting against it, the latter of whom also made her hopes for the next three months known.

"With any luck the damn thing will crumble!"

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Town increases money given to Jazz Festival

The Town of Aurora upped their sponsorship of this summer's 2011 Jazz Festival by \$2,025, plus the previously recommended \$2,000 sponsorship grant and \$975 waiver for the use of Town park despite concerns from Councillor Evelyn Buck that this sponsorship, provincial grants, and admission charges constitute "double dipping".

Susan Morton-Leonard, communications coordinator for the newly formed Aurora Festival of the Arts, the not-for-profit organization overseeing the Festival, appeared before a recent council meeting to again make her case for increased sponsorship and to address concerns that stemmed from her appearance before general committee the previous week.

Describing the \$5,000 as a "drop in the bucket" when taking into account infrastructure costs, staging and security, Ms. Morton-Leonard explained the organization has applied for a \$25,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to make the festival a success.

"In order to even begin the process of writing grants you have to demonstrate that you have a measure of success and we have demonstrated that for two years," she said. "That is why they are seri-

ously looking at us."

While they have not actually received the grant, their request for further funding from the Town caused some concern for Councillor Buck who said it was "double dipping" out of the taxpayers' pockets, considering the \$5 admission charge for patrons.

"I think it is perfectly reasonable for an admission charge to be made and for whatever opportunities there are for foundation grants to contribute to make it an even greater success," said Councillor Buck. "At the same time, when you are taking from businesses in the community and you ask for the council, who are the tax collectors, to take it out of the pockets without a by-your-leave. I don't think that is appropriate and I won't be supporting it."

For other councillors, however, showing municipal support for the event was important in going forward.

"I think for the amount of money this organization is asking for, the return on our investment is absolutely phenomenal, bringing a minimum of 10,000 people to Downtown Aurora this year and most likely with the success of this year's event, even more in years to come," said Councillor Chris Ballard.

Economic and cultural

tourism are the "underpinnings" of a modern economy, he added, and the municipality has to support cultural events in the downtown core as a way to support the downtown core itself.

"I also have some concerns that if the Town does not fully support this organization that when Trillium and some of the other funding organizations are looking at their other applications in months ahead they might question why their own community isn't wholeheartedly supporting them."

Councillor Michael Thompson concurred with Councillor Ballard's assessment, noting that in his work with the Ontario Trillium Foundation he knows "for a fact" the Foundation likes to see a "buy in" from the various levels of government.

As for Councillor Buck's stance that what was approved Tuesday was "double dipping", Councillor John Gallo said that it happens "all the time" in the Leisure Services department.

"When I go to the Leisure Complex and I go swimming I pay to go for swimming," he said. "I also realize that that whole fee is subsidized. I pay for part of that through my taxes. It is no different in this case if you want to consider that double dipping. We double dip all the time."



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HOUSE LEAGUE

102 Timbits Gold 3 - Peter Mueller 1G, Jake McMillan 1G, Yi Yang 1A, Liam Morassutti 1G. **104 Timbits Blue 1** - Gavin Loria 1G

108 Timbits Grey 2. 105 Timbits Black 1.

206 Caravan Kids Powder Blue 2 - Matthew Pelan 2G. **202 Caravan Kids Gold 1** - Quinn Spicer 1A, Liam Vivian 1G.

205 Caravan Kids Black 4 - Ethan Joiner 1G 1A, Matthew Cowl 2G, Nathan Clark 1A, Jackson Galbraith 1G. **203 Caravan Kids White 2** - Ethan Mohamed 1G, Nathan Mohabeer 1G, Joshua Turriff 1A.

204 Caravan Kids Blue 5. 201 Caravan Kids Red 4.

401 Chouinard Bros. Red 10 - Dylan McFee 3G, Nicholas Vamvakaris 6G 2A, Colin Windle 1G, Dalton Slind 1A. **409 Praff VW Teal 1** - Christian Fermo 1G, Christian Ridd 1A.

401 Chouinard Bros. Red 13 - Colin Windle 3G 1A, Dylan McFee 4G 1A, Steven Seitz 1G, Jason Iaboni 1G, Dalton Slind 1G 2A, Ben Pitre 2A, Raffaele Parente 1A, Hunter Gilpin Maier 1A, Austin Martin 1A, Nicholas Vamvakaris 3G 1A. **403 Optimist Club Of Aurora White 3** - Christopher Walker 1G, Dylan Clark 1G, Chris Sands 1G 1A, Ayrtton Ochab 1A.

410 HS Financial Orange 5. 408 Crabby Joe's Grey 5.

404 Tilemaster Blue 4 - Giuliano Iervasi 3G, Claudio Basso 1A, William Reid 1A, Liam Collins 1A, Matthew Parkin 1A, Ethan Cohen 1G. **406 Mastermind Toys Powder Blue 2** - Nicholas Sever 1G, Carter Wilmsmeyer 1G.

401 Chouinard Bros. Red 6 - Nicholas Vamvakaris 5G, Ben Pitre 1G 1A, Colin Windle 1A, Dalton Slind 1A. **405 Novintro Black 1** - Matthew Winters 1G.

610 Swiss Chalet & Harveys Orange 4 - Max Bruckner 1G 1A, Alex Tashos 1G 1A, Chris Aldis 1G, Mark Ruzsak 1G, Robert Iervasi 1A, David Tonelli 1A, Niklas Seidel 1A, James Mcdonald 2A. **606 Aurora Chrysler Powder Blue 1** - Will Ashton 1G, Girogio Venosa 1A.

601 Municipal Engineering Solutions Red 9 - Christian Pearce 2G 1A, Troy Lane 1G 2A, Matthew Glionna 1G 2A, Owen Bourrie 2G, Nicolas Pearce 1G 1A, Cameron Palmer 2A, Spencer Bain 2A, Evan Knowles 2A, Jordan Bodimeade 1G, Anthony Livia 1G, Theo Meadows 1A. **604 Orr & Associates Insurance Brks Ltd. Blue 3** - Ben Kissack 1G 1A, Tyler Wilson 1G 1A, Adam Wilson 1G, Justin Miller 1A.

605 Lakeshore Valu Mart 4 - Blake Van Der Valk, shutout, Jack Bishenden 1G, Michael Dowling 1G, Jordan Reeves 2A, Daniel Della Rocca 1G, Jacob Hatton 1G, Josh Hookey 1A. **611 Gmarkets Inc. - Purple 0.**

611 Gmarkets Inc. - Purple 2 - Stanley Volchock 1G, Jayson Perkins 1A, Austin Hendy 1G. **608 Crabby Joe's Grey 2** - Connor Tripp 1G, Liam DeSouza 1A, Jack Dion 1G.

601 Municipal Engineering Solutions Red 6 - Christian Pearce 2G1A, Troy Lane 1G 1A, Spencer Bain 1A, Evan Knowles 1A, Cameron End 1A, Matthew Glionna 1G, Nicolas Pearce 2G. **607 Envirocar Kelly Green 1**- Jacob Cann 1G, Ryan Motazedian 1A.

610 Swiss Chalet & Harveys Orange 2 - Niklas Seidel 1G, Alex Tashos 1G, Max Bruckner 1A, Mark Ruzsak 1A, Chris Aldis 1A. **609 IOOF Aurora Lodge #148 0.**

603 Diamond Groundskeeping Services



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HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
Results to Sunday, March 6



White 6 - T. McKechnie 1G, J Samson 1A, A Skelhorn 1G 1A, C Dyer 2G 1A, A Mizuguchi 1G, J Camplin 1G, J Kypreos 4A. **605 Lakeshore Valu Mart 2** - Michael Dowling 2G, Brendan Ross 1A, Patrick Facca 1A.

810 Pizza Pizza Orange 3 - Max Brown 2G, Mitch Palmer 1G, Carson Elliott 1A, Troy Foster 1A. **812 Municipal Engineering Solutions Burgandy 8** - Josh Bell 2G 2A, Patrick Bourrie 1G, John Sherwood 2G 1A, Nicholas Baczynski 2G, Derek Capone 1G 1A, Nick Armour 2A, Luc Martineau 1A.

811 Caruso & Company Purple 5 - Riley O'Brien 2G 2A, Omar Rahal 1G, Matt Walker 1G 1A, Victor Chadarov 1G, Austin Tanaka 1A. **801 Rogers Red 8** - Brett Bond 3G, James Johnston 2G 1A, Erick Bortolotti 1G 2A, Kevin Wood 1G, Brady Wilson 1G, Randy Sutton 2A, Alex Harrison 2A.

809 AHPA Teal 10 - Russell Johnson 4G 2A, Bradley Snoutlen 4G 3A, Graham Killby 1G 1A, David Leeper 1G, Jake Arcangeli 1A, Michael Arcuri 1A, Brayden Babineau 1A, Tyler Hindley 2A, Michael McKerracher 1A, Tyler Bundy 1A. **802 Manhattan Trophies Gold 4** - Neil Duggan 2G 1A, Ian Dunlop 2G 2A, Adam Petit 1A, Mitchell Arnold 2A.

806 Laurion Law Office Power Blue 2 - Geoffrey Siow 2G, Eric Cumiskey 1A, Francois Bicego, shutout. **805 Aurora Home Hardware Black 0.**

808 Crabby Joe's Grey 1 - Morgan Walker 1G, Brendon Ruskanen 1A. **803 Rotary Club Of Aurora White 1** - Cameron Pyle 1A.

807 Danny & Scotties Boys Kelly Green 12 - Declan Johnston 3G 3A, Mitchell Carter 2G, Matthew Hall 2G, Cameron Screech 1G 1A, Ben Goldman 1G 2A, Brendon McDonald 1G, Josh Mohabeer 1G 1A, Ben Black 1G, Michael Hosmer 1A, Joseph Hodgson 1A, Colin Dunlop 2A, Alex Negri 1A. **804 Frontline Fire & Safety Blue 1** - Jerry Jensen 1G.

907 Wooder Food Safety Consulting Kelly Green 6 - 910 Philly Orange 0.

906 Ruff-N-Redi Powder Blue 4 - Josh Lawlor 2G, Nick Theorodopolous 1G 1A, Mackenzie Macintosh 1G, Zachary Seto 2G, William Tang 1A. **902 Boston Gold 1** - Trevor Rice 1G.

903 Optimist Club of Aurora White 4 - Quinn McGowan 2G, Ryan Dowling 1G, Kelly Hudson 1G 3A, Mac Cawfield 1A, Matthew Foschia 1A, Nic Venosa 1A. **905 ATS Healthcare Black 1** - Vince Duggan 1G.

910 Philly Orange 5 - Daniel LaFlamme 2G, Thomas Scougall 1G, Stefan Richardson 1G, Brian Pedron 1G, Alexander Deblasis 2A, Sam Steenhorst 1A. **907 Wooder Food Safety Consulting Kelly Green 8** - Mackenzie Wooder 1G 3A, Cody Sandersun 2G 2A, Massimo Longhin 1G 2A, Daniel Antoniel 1G, Matthew MacEachern 2G, Bailey Miller 2A, Gavin Matheson 1A.

901 Graystones Restaurant Red 2 - Mark Presacco 1G, Cameron Staples 1G, Stephen Faiello 1A, Kieran Cullen 1A. **904 St. Louis Blue 2** - Nicholas Reinholdt 1G, JP Hudon 1G, Jordon Caruso 1A.

908 Crabby Joe's Grey 7 - Quinn Harris 3G, Patrick Tardif 1G 1A, Tyler White 1G 1A, Jamie Poutney 1G 2A, Marco Ghegin 1G 2A, Chris Beach 1A, Trevor George 1A. **909 North York Plumbing & Heating Teal 3** - Robert Bulgaretti 1G, E Foxwell 1G, C Mulhern 1G, Austin Boudreau 1A, Drew Davison 1A, Matthew Roach 1A.

909 North York Plumbing & Heating Teal 1 - Francesco Vallacorsa shutout, C Mulhern 1G, Justin Stevens 1A, Austin Boudreau 1A. **901 Graystones Restaurant Red 0.**

908 Crabby Joe's Grey 7 - Ryan Eberlin 2G 1A, Quinn Harris 2G, Ryan Dalcin 1G, Daniel Mcdonnell 2A, Jason Eberlin 1G 1A, Chris Beach 1A, Marco Ghegin 1G 4A, Eamon Reilly 2A. **910 Philly Orange 1** - Brian Pedron 1G, Ali Akbar 1A.

906 Ruff-N-Redi Powder Blue 3 - Josh Lawlor 1G, Chris Falfalios 1G, John Dinocolantino 1G, Nick Theorodopolous 1A. **903 Optimist Club of Aurora White 3** - Quinn McGowan 2G, Evan Jones 1G, Kelly Hudson 1A, Nicholas Bertrand 1A.

902 Boston Gold 5 - Mitchell Royce, shutout, Tyler Indos 2G 1A, Graham Joiner 1G, Daniel Bresolin 1G, Jesse Borin 1G, Ward Benn 1A, Dylan Indos 1A, Taylor Brewda 2A, Connor Flynn 1A. **907 Wooder Food Safety Consulting Kelly Green 0.**

904 St. Louis Blue 3 - Konstantin Bakdonow, shutout, Nicholas Reinholdt 1G, JP Hudon 2G, Matt Clarke 1A. **905 ATS Healthcare Black 0.**

REP LEAGUE

Tyke Select - Aurora 8 - Owen Hollett 1G, Todd Cook 1G 1A, Nicholas Giorgio 2A, Owen Papulkas 1G 1A, Charles Huxley 2G, Ryan Bryden 2G, Michael Crowe 1G, Gage Gonsalves 1A, Caden McHenry 1A, Christian Haggith, shutout, Parker Holmes, shutout. **Tecumseh 0.**

Tyke Select - Burlington 3. Aurora 1 - Nicholas Giorgio 1G.

Tyke Select - Dorchester 3. Aurora 2 - Ryan Bryden 1G, Nicholas Giorgio 1G, Todd Cook 1A, Jacob Hoffrogge 1A.

Tyke Select - Aurora 3 - Todd Cook 1G 1A, Nicholas Giorgio 1G 1A, Ryan Bryden 1G, Caden McHenry 1A, Charles Huxley 1A, Christian Haggith, shutout, Parker Holmes, shutout. **Ajax 0.**

Tyke Select - Aurora 3 - Ryan Bryden 1G, Owen Hollett 1G 1A, Michael Crowe 1G, Caden McHenry 1A. **Ajax 1.**

Tyke Select B - Unionville 3. Aurora 0.

Tyke Select B - Unionville 3. Aurora 0.

Novice AE - Richmond Hill 4. Aurora 3.

Novice AE - Aurora 2. Richmond Hill 2.

Novice AE - Aurora 6. Richmond Hill 5.

M Atom AA - Markham 1. Aurora 0.

M Atom AA - Aurora 4 - Ben Liotta 1G, Anthony Iacovetta 1G 1A, Luke Jarvis 1A, Craig Therkildsen 1A, Harris Goan 2G, Wesley Reid 1A, Tyler Sawyer 1A. **Markham 1.**

Atom AA - Aurora 2. Richmond Hill 2.

Atom AA - Aurora 2. Richmond Hill 1.

Atom AA - Richmond Hill 5. Aurora 1.

M Peewee AA - Aurora 3. Barrie 3.

M Peewee A - Aurora 4. Orillia 3.

Minor Peewee A - Aurora 5 - Jack O'Keefe 1G 1A, Thomas Kostoff 1G, Jordan Torres 1G, Eric McGhie 1G, Reid Carpenter 1G, Alexander Simardone 2A, Colin McGoldrick 1A, Stewart Gable 1A, Mark Kalmisto 1A. **Barrie 3.**

M Peewee AE - Richmond Hill 2. Aurora 1.

M Peewee AE - Aurora 2. Richmond Hill 2.

M Peewee AE - Richmond Hill 5. Aurora 2.

Peewee A - Aurora 4 - Anthony Orlandi 1G, Evan Cherubini 1G, Mathew Tyndall 2G, Jack

Bryant 1A, Eric Shennan 1A, Colin Kostin 1A, Bryan Manweiler 1A. **Innisfil 2.**

Peewee A - Innisfil 3. Aurora 2 - Mathew Tyndall 1G 1A, Cameron Zinner 1G, Tristan Kuchar 1A.

Peewee AE - Georgina 5. Aurora 2 - Jordi Severini 1G, Zach Fletcher 1A, Cameron Anderson 1A, Michael DaCosta 1G, Connor Downs 1A, Nick Sansalone 1A.

Peewee AE - Georgina 2. Aurora 1 - Charles Bennett 1G, Jordi Severini 1A, Cameron Anderson 1A.

Peewee AE - Georgina 2. Aurora 1.

M Bantam A - Nobleking 7. Aurora 6.

M Bantam A - Aurora 3. Nobleking 0.

M Bantam A - Nobleking 3. Aurora 2.

M Bantam A - Aurora 4. Nobleking 2.

M Bantam AE - Aurora 4. Stouffville 3.

Bantam AA - Aurora 3 - Lucas Pozzebon 1G 1A, Spencer Green 1G, Quentin Campbell 1G, Brett Thiessen 1A, Connor Cowl 1A, Austin Lane 1A. **Whitby 2.**

Bantam AA - Aurora 7 - Lucas Pozzebon 2G, Spencer Green 2G, Matt Iwai 1G 2A, John MacDonald 1G 2A, Konner McMillan 1G. **Whitby 3.**

Bantam AA - Whitby 3. Aurora 2 - John McDonald 1G 1A, Spencer Green 1G 1A, Lucas Pozzebon 1A.

Bantam AA - Whitby 3. Aurora 1 - Jake McKee 1G, Quentin Campbell 1A.

Bantam A - Aurora 5 - Liam Beresford 2G, Austin Persaud 1G 1A, Shadoe Storm 1G, Kyle Nice 1G, Graham Robinson 2A, Jack Caldwell 2A, Evan Jackson 2A, Erik Balkovec 1A, Mitch Arnew 1A. **Orillia 4.**

Bantam A - Orillia 5. Aurora 3 - Paul Neophytou 1G, Austin Persaud 1G, Shadoe Storm 1G, Graham Robinson 1A, Liam Coll 1A.

Bantam AE - Aurora 3 - Nathan Nealon 1G, Brian Langdon 1G, Brayden Beswick 1G, Brett Bond 1A, Nelson Hossack 1A, Robert Doswell 1A. **Stouffville 2.**

Bantam AE - Aurora 3 - Nicklaus Steiner 1G, Nathan Nealon 1G, Brian Langdon 1G, Parker Baile 1A, Kyle Nice 2A, Brett Bond 1A, Kyle Strachan 1A. **Stouffville 2.**

M Midget A - Aurora 2. Uxbridge 0.

M Midget A - Aurora 10. Uxbridge 3.

M Midget AE - Barrie 4. Aurora 3 - Matthew Reeves 1G 2A, Daniel Jones 1G 1A, Eliot Harkin 1G, Kyle Fedec 1A.

M Midget AE - Barrie 3. Aurora 1 - Matthew Reeves 1G, Daniel Jones 1A.

M Midget AE - Aurora 4 - Eliot Harkin 1G, Collin Laird 1G, Connor Moody 1G, Jeffrey Lam 1A, Sasha Dajia 1A, Matthew Reeves 1G. **Barrie 4.**

M Midget AE - Aurora 4 - Christopher Tsianos 1G, Matthew Reeves 1G, Kyle Fedec 1G 1A, Connor Moody 1G 1A, Connor McQuillan 2A. **Barrie 1.**

Midget AE - Aurora 4. Orangeville 4.

Midget AE - Orangeville 4. Aurora 3.

Midget AE - Orangeville 4. Aurora 0.



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Victoria Andreakos, 15 and Brooke Webster, 15, both of Aurora, are members of Women's Hockey and play for the Toronto Aeros Midget AA team. Recently, the team won a gold medal in the OWSA Provincial Championship title, an annual tournament, that handles more than 24 teams from across Ontario. The squad will now travel to St. Albert, Alberta, to represent Ontario at the National Championship Tournament. Victoria is first on left, second row, while Brooke is third from right in the third row.

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Swimmer sets a pool record

The Aurora Selkies Swim Team attended the Newmarket Stingrays Invitational Swim Meet recently and during the two-day event, they enjoyed many successes, personal best times and Top 10 placements from the 32 swimmers who participated.

The following swimmers achieved "Top 3" place medals:

Myko Smid, 10, 100 metre backstroke (10 & Under Boys), 1st; 50 metre breaststroke (10 & Under Boys), 2nd; and came third in the 100 metre freestyle (10 & Under Boys).

Valentin Sasarman, 10, was first in the 200 metre free (10 & Under Boys).

Daniel Berezovski, 12, was second in the 100 metre butterfly (12 Boys).

Constantin Sasarman, 12,

came third in the 50 metre freestyle (12 Boys).

Christina Smid, 10, was first in the 50 metre butterfly (10 & Under Girls) and second in the 100 metre freestyle (10 & Under Girls).

Domenika Tinajero, 10, came third in the 50 metre backstroke (10 & Under Girls) and 50 metre freestyle (10 & Under Girls).

Sydney Dysart, 12, was

third in the 100 metre freestyle (12 Girls) and Natalia Blair, 13, was third in the 100 metre breaststroke (13-14 Girls).

In addition to placing first in the 200 metre freestyle (10 & under Boys), Valentin Sasarman broke a pool record with his time of 2:40:90.

Selkies swimmers are looking forward to competing in the 2011 Pentathlon Meet in Etobicoke April 9th and 10th.

Tiger coach named Team Canada assistant

Head Coach and General Manager of the Aurora Tigers, James Richmond said it was exciting to find out he had been named Assistant Coach for Team Canada's U20 hockey team in Finland next month.

"I'm looking forward to it, we got work to put a team together, but we're working on it now."

Richmond said he went through the admissions process to be selected for the position, but isn't ready to celebrate.

"I'll celebrate when we win. It's a super accomplishment, but if we don't win, it won't mean a lot. It's great to be picked."

Richmond will be coaching alongside NHL legend and former Atlanta Thrashers Head Coach John Anderson.

Anderson has much experience to give to the team, having played 12 seasons in the NHL, with eight of those seasons as a member of the Toronto

Maple Leafs.

He also coached the Atlanta Thrashers for two seasons.

"I've met John and worked with him at the High Performance Camps," said Richmond.

"He is a real humble guy and very knowledgeable."

Richmond said he looks forward to learning and sharing knowledge along the way.

With his 12 years in coaching and his experience leading the Aurora Tigers to a 22-25-3 finish this season; he hopes his years, as a coach will prepare the team for the ice.

In preparation for the upcoming tournament, Richmond will be scouting players throughout Ontario who will have finished their season before April first.

"I'm out at rinks every day and night watching the players. There is no science to it; you have to figure out who will be

there. If there are any upsets, then I'm in trouble."

Richmond said the selection of 20 players for Team Canada will be one of the hardest tasks.

From April 8th to 10th Richmond and Anderson will be preparing the team in Orangeville at a Teen Ranch.

The ranch will offer an Olympic sized ice surface, allowing the players to build as a team and prepare themselves for the international tournament.


To be eligible to compete, the chosen players must have been


eliminated from the current hockey season and have been born between the years 1992 and 1994.

For the third year in a row, the Ontario Hockey Association has received an invite from Hockey Canada to compete in the Under 20 Three Nations Tournament.

The three nations in the tournament are Canada, Finland and Sweden.

This year the tournament takes place between April 13th and 17th in Helsinki, Finland.

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Committee says okay to starting Nokiidaa trail

The Nokiidaa Trail link through the north end of Aurora to Newmarket is expected to come one step closer to completion this week if council awards a \$243,598.49 tender through a cost-sharing agreement with Newmarket.

The tender costs are for a bridge linking Aurora with Newmarket across the West Holland River and for trail-related works within Newmarket that will connect to the bridge.

Newmarket committed to paying 100 per cent of their associated project costs, according to an Al Downey, Aurora's Director of Parks and

Recreation Services, report.

The two towns have been working together on all aspects of design details, cost sharing, and ongoing trail maintenance, he said, which has resulted in a Trail Construction and Operations Agreement "that will serve as the official document to guide all aspects of cost sharing and trail operations".

While the document is currently with Aurora and Newmarket's solicitors, Mr. Downey recommended the tender be awarded so work could be started "as soon as possible".

"The Town of Aurora will continue to act as the project administrators and pay for the works," said Mr. Downey. "In order to facilitate this arrangement in the absence of a final agreement, staff has obtained a written commitment from the Town of Newmarket to pay 100 per cent of all costs associated with the Town of Newmarket works upon 30 days of receipt of all invoice for monies owed to the Town of Aurora."

Of the tender amount, \$162,515.90 will be owed by the Town of Newmarket, while Aurora will pick up the \$81,082.59 remainder.

"The forecasted amount for the Town of Aurora's share of this project was estimated to be \$98,650; the actual Tender amount is \$81,082.59," said Mr. Downey.

In their letter, the Town of Newmarket agreed to pay the costs in that amount "subject to Newmarket firstly approving any extra works to be paid out of the 15 per cent Contingency and the Provisional items", and this caused concern for Councillor John Gallo.

"There is a little caveat [in the letter] and...my concern is that we're moving forward with this without their complete sup-

port of paying for it and I'm wondering if in addition we have not executed the cost-sharing agreement with them as of yet," said Councillor Gallo.

Asking staff if it was close to being completed, he wondered if it might be worth delaying the approval of the contract until the agreement is finalized.

Mr. Downey, however, said Newmarket was concerned with ensuring that if there are any overruns on the project they have some say on it and "how they are going to be addressed".

"Us being the project man-


agers, we certainly understand that if we do run over the budget there may be additional funds required from Newmarket and they would like the opportunity to say whether or not they wish to move forward with that project or reduce the scope of that project as opposed to providing additional funds," he said.

Speaking to Councillor Gallo's second concern over the timeline, Town Solicitor Christopher Cooper said that discussions are underway about drafting the agreement.

The item is up for approval at this week's council meeting.

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Good Lovelies come to Aurora

The Juno Award-winning group The Good Lovelies will bring their own unique brand of folk music to the Aurora Cultural Centre March 29, as part of their CD release tour for their new album "Let the Rain Fall". The group, comprised of Caroline Brooks, Kerri Ough, and Sue Passmore, has gained a considerable following since their formation in

2006 with their work combining "light-hearted song writing, exquisite three-part harmonies, constant instrumental swapping and witty on-stage banter," according to Jane Taylor, Program Coordinator for the Aurora Cultural Centre; and they walked away with a 2010 Juno Award for Best Roots/Traditional Album in the process. "They have appeared

across Canada from the Montreal Jazz Festival to the Mariposa and Hillside Festivals, as well as on national tour with Stuart McLean's radio show The Vinyl Cafe," said Ms. Taylor in a statement. In this, their Aurora debut, the Good Lovelies are expected to perform songs from Let the Rain Fall as well as selections from their previous releases.

By the time they arrive at the Cultural Centre's Brevik Hall, the group's CD release tour will have taken them from Winnipeg to Sudbury, from Thunder Bay to Sault Ste Marie, and from Penetanguishine to London. The March 29 concert begins at 7.30 p.m. and tickets are available for \$20 apiece through the Aurora Cultural Centre.

Bahai's of Aurora came together recently to celebrate Ayamm'i'ha which is for four days at the end of February. It is a time of gift giving, socializing and celebration. From March 2 to March 21 the Bahai's of the World will fast from sunrise to sunset for the spirit of sacrifice prayer and an invigoration of one's life. On March 21st they will celebrate the Baha'i New Year.

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Success is the child of audacity and audacious success has nurtured the Aurora Seniors Association (ASA), which no doubt accounts for the expanding list of senior achievements, year after year.

Now, semi-retired businessman and former Aurora town councillor, the well-organized Dave Griffith, throws his hat into the recreational ring with his revival of square dancing.

Square dancing began Monday, March 7th, and is planned for each Monday at 12.15 p.m.

Square dancing has proved its popularity over the years and many seniors will enjoy once again the camaraderie and aptitude to learn this dance.

For those who need to learn or improve their skills, the potential to acquire skills in square dancing ranks very high, so if you need a social outlet for noontime dancing skills, seize this opportunity.

Winter slows seniors down but spring is a reawakening of life and the persuasive dance calls of Dave Griffith will banish lethargy with a renewed enthusiasm for square dancing.

Dave's life long passion for music and people, shows itself

with this great dancing initiative.

Jane Stangl, long time member of the Seniors' Centre, approached Dave as we discussed his career.

She asked about square dancing, after hearing rumours.

Jane's interest is typical of the interest gathering for this dancing initiative, and her enquiry was opportune and timed exquisitely.

She has not danced for 30 years but that makes little difference, she is welcome.

Therefore, square dancers and all who aspire to be square dancers should bring desire and enthusiasm, and in partnership with square dancing, you will forge a match designed for dancing pleasure, almost guaranteed to excel in the arena of senior dancing. With a little natural talent, you will answer.

Almost everything we do at the Centre relies on one or more people who know what is required via action or with words of enthusiasm to fire up seniors for the good times.

Answering the call for action, Dave steps up to the square dancing plate ready to call the dancing moves, and ready to teach the novice or offer clarity to dancers a little on the rusty side.

Dave was born and raised in Aurora and is immensely proud of his hometown.

The "Just for Laughs" comedy show achieved all it set out to do, creating laughs, excitement and interest for the "Silver Stars" entertainment group.

The crowd showed enthusiasm for the jokes and skits and once the laughter started, it was highly contagious.

Jim Edwards, who pretended to fall in one of his skits, misjudged his pretended fall and rolled off the stage for real, but without suffering any apparent damage.

The shock to the audience was palpable and clearly witnessed by everyone present, but Jim really made it look quite professional the way he controlled the tumble.

Nevertheless, the unplanned part of the tumble should serve as a warning to all entertainers to tighten up on safety precautions, while on stage.

Former councillor teaches square dancing

By BRIAN WARBURTON

With this success, the heartbeat of the Silver Stars beats more strongly than ever, and the performance was a triumph for laughter.

The response of the audience would have been a credit to a much younger audience and speaks well to the energetic quality and character of the onstage troupe who hung it all out for laughter.

This selection of comics were rays of sunshine, no less, rambling through their skits and jokes with all present firmly in tow and repeatedly convulsing the audience with laughter and

enthusiasm for even more.

Laughter is truly the sunshine of life, and the Silver Stars presented their show well and success will stoke enthusiasms for more of what the fertile minds of entertainers can conjure from endless conceptions and trial and error, which together produces novelties.

Spring approaches with its promise of renewed growth of grass, leaves on trees and endless spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils and tulips and a host of other flowers from bulbs.

Moreover, with spring, the

great outdoors beckons seniors too long hiding from the cold and snow, and the wonder of life reawakening or renewed continues as it has for eternity.

The blossoms on trees are among the triumphs of nature and make springtime the most pleasant time, and stunningly beautiful, year after year.

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Four selected for AHS board

Four new members were added to the Aurora Historical Society's executive following last week's annual general meeting at Hillary House.

Made directors were Bill Newman, Shauna Hook, Patricia Wallace and Theresa Buck.

They will join president Suzanne Reiner, who returns to the post for another term.

Other executive positions will also remain for another term.

They include Bob McRoberts, treasurer; and John Smale, treasurer.

Other directors include Wayne Keilty, John McIntyre, and Wendy Browne.

Electing not to serve for another term are Andrew Kipfer, past president; Teresa Chieduch, Helen Roberts and Martin Watson.

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