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THE AURORAN

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Week of January 26, 2010

Councillors unanimous in selecting Tsubouchi

Aurora Council has unanimously approved the appointment of former Markham ward councillor and Progressive Conservative Cabinet Minister David Tsubouchi as the town's new Integrity Commissioner.

The nod was given at last Tuesday's General Committee meet-

Mayor Phyllis Morris and Councillors Evelyn Buck and Alison Collins-Mrakas were absent from the

The appointment of Mr. Tsubouchi was met with high praise from council-

"I'm very, very pleased to hear of our choice for the new Integrity Commissioner," said Councillor Wendy Gaertner. "I think the gentleman has amazing credentials."

While Councillor Al Wilson said he initially questioned the timing of the appointment in the middle of an election year, Mr. Tsubouchi's credentials won him over.

"There are two wavs in my mind to look at this," Councillor Wilson told town staff at the meeting.

"One could look at this [as] our term is nearly over. Is it appropriate we are appointing someone who will take a new council six months into [his] term?

"The other side that I struggled with is...is it not appropriate to have one for the balance of our term? I am committed to the process so it is a difficult point in time. However, when I read the report Please see page 12



The Minister of Education has appointed Dave Cooke as the independent facilitator to review the accommodation review process undertaken by the York Region District School Board on Wells Street Public School.

The Minister agreed to this appointment based on a submission by the Wells Street community that argued the board failed to follow its own policy when trustees voted to close historic Wells Street Public School last September.

Mr. Cooke will spend several days consulting with members of the accommodation review committee, the Board and the WSPS community.

He will create a report based on his findings and submit it to the Minister by the end of March.

The facilitator has more than 30 years' experience in the public and education sectors, and was a Minister of Provincial Parliament from 1977 to

He resigned from parliament in 1997 to co-chair the Education Improvement Commission. Mr. Cooke has undertaken several administrative reviews for the Ministry.



Big Brothers Big Sisters of York board member, Maggie Thornton, cuts the cake as the organization celebrated its 40th birthday party in East Gwillimbury last week.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Group that assists youngsters turns 40

It was in May, 1969, when Big Gwillimbury. Brothers came to Aurora sponsored by the Aurora Rotary Club.

At that time the Junior Chamber of Commerce made space available in their clubrooms above a store on Yonge Street

Last week, a combined organization, Big Brothers Big Sisters of York celebrated their 40th birthday at Silver City theatre in East

By December, 1970, Big Brothers of York was incorporated to serve the municipalities of York County and Bradford West Gwillimbury.

Its mandate was to provide boys from fatherless homes with friendship by matching them with Big Brothers.

With the growth of the agency and the increased number of matches, in

Please see page 13



Aurora Mayor Phyllis Morris and Newmarket Mayor Tony Van Bynan will be queen and king at this year's Mardi Gras party, but before you go rushing out for tickets the event is sold out. Auroran photo by David Falconer

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COMING EVENTS

CONTINUING

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

York Highlands Chorus is an award-winning a cappella Sweet Adelines chorus, a group of women who gather Tuesday evenings at the Old Firehall, Newmarket, to sing, share in the harmony of friendship and learn the barbershop art form. York Highlands is always looking for new women who share the love of a cappella music. Call Karen at 905-726-2113 or Vikki at information@yorkhighlands.com.

The Upper Canada Chordsmen, Aurora-Newmarket's award winning chorus, is looking for male singers. The group sings about love, friendship, family, humour and brotherhood and meets every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Old Firehall, 140 Main Street South, in Newmarket .

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

Every Thursday, Martha's Table serves home-made soup, sandwiches, and dessert in St. Andrew's Hall at the Presbyterian Church, corner of Mosley and Victoria Street. Cost is minimal, and the volunteer-run program enabled the church to give more than \$5,000 to local charities in 2008 alone. You can enjoy lunch, conversation, and a sense of community between 11.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. weekly.

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

Aurora's Air Cadets meet every Tuesday night at Cardinal Carter School from 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m., and offer a program for 12 years and older boys and girls.

Aurora Opera Children's Chorus welcomes treble voices. It is a choir dedicated to nurturing and providing opportunities for children to express their musical abilities. The chorus is open to boys and girls ages 5-17. Contact the general director at keepsinging@rogers.com

CHAT'S Community Home Assistance to Seniors is looking for volunteers to assist with the activities in its Adult Day Program. The positions call for a commitment of a few hours a week at its Aurora location. Various times are available. Call Christine at 905-713-3494.

Every Wednesday from 6.30 to 8 p.m. the Pioneer Club for boys and girls, age three to Grade 4 and the Junior High Club for boys and girls, Grades 5 to 8, will be held at the Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South. For more information call 905-841-8884

A drop-in centre will operate every

Wednesday at the Community Bible Church on Bathurst Street just south of Henderson from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information e-mail Judy Hoffmann jhoffmann@sympatico.ca.

Scottish Country Dancing on Tuesday evenings at 8.15 p.m. at the Aurora Heights Public School and on Friday mornings at St. Andrews' Presbyterian Church beginning at 10.30 a.m. No partners are needed and beginners are welcome.

Aurora Rotary Club meets every Monday evening at 6.30 p.m. at Gabriel's on Yonge Street. New members are welcome. For further formation call 905-841-1352 or 905-713-

Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge 148 meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. at 15216 Yonge Street, south of Wellington. For more information call 905-830-9205.

Masonic Rising Sun Lodge meets the first Thursday of each month at the Rising Sun Temple, 57 Mosley Street, Aurora at 7.30 p.m.

Robertson Masonic Lodge meets the third Saturday each month at 57 Mosley Street at 10.30 a.m. Coffee Club at 9 a.m. and lunch at noon. Call 905-727-3032 or 905-727-1080 for more information.

Gamblers Anonymous meets every Tuesday night at Trinity Anglican Church, Victoria Street, at 7.30 p.m.

Progressive Euchre every Thursday night at the Aurora Legion at 7.30 p.m. Call 905-727-9932.

Canadian Federation of University Women holds monthly meetings at the Aurora Legion with a variety of speakers. Contact Beverley at 905-727-2151.

The Aurora Seniors Evergreen Choir practice in the West-McKenzie Hall of the Seniors' Centre, every Wednesday from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. under the direction of Enid Maize.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

Picture Perfect: The Story of Black's Photography. Aurora Public Library hosts this book event. Meet Aurora author Marnie Maguire, and learn about one of Canada's most successful home-grown businesses. 7 p.m. in the Magna Room. Free. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493 option 4.

Picking up the pieces for cancer survivors is a 10-week program that begins this afternoon at Hospice King-Aurora in Oak Ridges. The program offers an opportunity to come together, share feelings, hopes and fears and will provide tools and resources to move forward post cancer treatment. Sherri Magee's book "Picking Up the Pieces: Moving Forward After Surviving Cancer" will be used as the vehicle for discussion. For more information or to register, contact Trish Seguin, Visiting & Wellness Programs 905-773-0155 ext. 22 or e-mail t.seguin@hospicekingaurora.ca.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1

A PA day workshop, known as "how things were done", will be held at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum on Woodbine Avenue from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The workshop, designed for

children aged eight to 12, will have attendees participating in an assortment of hands-on activities, crafts, heritage cooking and traditional games. Pre-registration is required and participants must bring their own nut-free lunch. Cost is \$32 if you're a museum member, \$40 if you're not. Call 905-727-8954 or 1-888-290-0337 for further information.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Aurora Chamber of Commerce will hold a regular Networking Breakfast, sponsored by Neighbourhood Network at 7.30 a.m. at St. Andrew's Valley Golf Club. The 90-minute event will cost chamber members \$20 and those who aren't \$25.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Aurora Film Circuit presents "The Young Victoria", which chronicles the early and often turbulent years of a young girl who became queen of England. Barely 18 when she is crowned, she is vivacious, fond of parties, and prone to flirting with the gentlemen of the court. Sara Ferguson, Duchess of York, came up with the idea for the film and fought for more than a decade to have it made. Her coproducers are Academy Award winners Martine Scorsese and Graham King. Movie is shown at the Aurora Cineplex at 7 p.m. Tickets, at \$10, are available at Aurora Public Library or R & R Books on Edward Street.

Music for Life is an eight-week program that begins this afternoon at Hospice King-Aurora. No music training or experience is necessary. The program is open to individuals diagnosed with life-threatening illness, their caregivers or support person and those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. For more information or to register contact Trish Seguin, Visiting & Wellness Programs 905-773-0155 ext. 22 or e-mail

t.seguin@hospicekingaurora.ca.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Book launch for "Vision Speak", written by Aurora author Eden Remme Watt, will be held between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Aurora Cultural Centre (Church Street School, at the corner of Church and Victoria). The event will be held in the Research Room which houses the Aurora Historical Society's book collection. The Cultural Centre is just opening and this will be the first book launch held there. Local Bookseller R & R Revisited will be onsite to

sell copies of "VIsion Speak".

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

It's Family Day at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum on Woodbine Avenue from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$2. Call 905-727--8954 or 1-888-290-0337 for further information.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

The annual general meeting of the Aurora Historical Society will be held at the Church Street School Cultural Centre beginning at 8 p.m. The meeting will be held in Brevik Hall and will include a review of the society's work in 2009.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Today is Ski Day for the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. The annual event will again be held at Osler Bluffs Ski Club in Collingwood. The cost, \$115, includes return bus trip from and to Upper Canada Mall in Newmarket, a lift ticket, lunch and apres-ski events. The day begins at 7 a.m., ends at 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

10th annual Mardi Gras at DiNardo's Mansion on Industrial Parkway South in Aurora to support the Regional Cancer Program at Southlake, and this year has a fundraising goal of \$75,000. For more information call Sandra Humfryes at 905-727-1433, email her at shumfryes@ sympatico.ca or check the web site at www.mardigrasforsouthlake.com

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

The Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society presents its Dessert Competition and Social Meeting at the Aurora Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North, beginning at 8 p.m. All visitors welcome for \$2.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

The annual Sponsor-A-Student luncheon will be held today at the Tuscany Event Centre from 11.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Guest speaker is Bob Abrames and his topic is "Is Your Team in One Canoe?" Cost is \$40 for chamber members; \$50 for guests; and \$30 for students.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

Trinity Anglican Church on Victoria Street in Aurora presents the 90-male voice Tri-City Gospel Chorus at 7 p.m. There is no admission charge.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

The Dr. G W Williams Students' Council will host the second annual Spring Rummage Sale. Stay tuned for details.



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Parade leader returns

into the running last week to that this is a good thing.' organize the Town of Aurora's 2010 Canada Day Parade, there are only five months left to something she has done for the get that parade up and running last two years.

Ms. St Kitts' offer could save the town \$5,000 which was allo- the best interests of your comcated at the December 17 meet- munity and mine, and because ing of the Leisure Services of my personal desires not to see Advisory Committee for a contract person to administer the work of so many volunteers in parade.

This is a change of heart from Ms. St. Kitt's, who decided last year to leave the next parade up to the Town.

Leisure Services director Al Downey said the town was "charged with the responsibility to determine how we were going to move on with the parade" after Ms. St. Kitts decided to turn the parade "back to the town"

"Staff came up with a number of options that were discussed at she said. "That is what makes the committee. This was the option that [the committee] had accepted at the December meeting. It allowed the parade to continue as it was previously.'

"Mr. Downev's recommendation was that the staff take over Evelina MacEachern after listening to Ms. St. Kitts' presentation on the task. at Tuesday's General Committee Meetina.

"Hearing what Sher has said on the issue and the fact that this

Run gets new name

Bob Hartwell would have been proud.

The community race his running buddies put together to honour the late Aurora councillor has grown to an event that will benefit anyone who calls Southlake Regional Health Centre their hospital. "It's exactly what Bob would have wanted, an opportunity to reach out to the greater community to help countless numbers of people," said Barb Hartwell.

Last year's 8th Annual Hartwell Challenge was the first time proceeds went to support the development of the new Stronach Regional Cancer Centre at Southlake.

This year, the event has a

The "Run For Southlake" will not only include the ever-popular half marathon, five kilometre run/walk and kid's mini-mile but will be expanded to include a 10-kilometre run/walk.

It will take place Sunday, April 25th, at the Aurora mmunity Centre

Steve Hinder, who cochaired last year's event and was a friend of Bob's, is returning to chair the event this year.

"The new logo incorporates a silhouette of Bob and those of us who called him our friend will be able to see the smile on his face." Mr. Hinder said. "He would not, in his wildest dreams, have imagined himself as the reason this event will benefit so many people."

With a wide assortment of options available for participation, the Run For Southlake provides an opportunity for families and individuals to help raise funds to support their hospital.

To register, you can visit the website www. southlakefoundation.ca or for more information on how you can become a sponsor, call Catherine Hunter at 905-836-

Sher St. Kitts threw herself will bring the costs down, I think

"Time is running out and again," Ms. St. Kitts said. "I know the work that is involved. [It is in] the parade fall after the hard the community at large."

Ms. St. Kitts said she wanted to offer her services to organize and manage the parade and volunteers again in 2010, adding that she already has people on

"I have the names of those involved in the last parade easily at my fingertips to get this thing done quickly, and I have a list of bands and entertainment, which is one of my biggest concerns," such a great Canada Day parade.'

Ms. St. Kitts' offer comes after the Town began recruiting someone to helm the parade in November.

Despite putting the word out this process," said Councillor through advertisements, no one put their names forward to take

While Ms. St. Kitts said she would waive the \$5,000 fee proposed by the Leisure Services Advisory Committee, she said she would likely require \$1,500 to \$2,000 from the Town for an assistant to help with administrative duties.

"I do, however, ask for an honorarium for an assistant to help me with contacts, e-mail. and legwork to help get [the work] done fast and that money could be handled through the town treasurer," she said. "I don't want to be handling any money."

Ms. St. Kitts said she would also require a more "seamless operation", reporting directly back to the treasurer regarding expenses and accounting and with the town communications department to get the word out.

"I think if this proposal were acceptable, it would save the town possibly \$5,000 on someone who has no experience setting up, running, and promoting this important parade in this important year," she said.

Ms. St. Kitts said ensuring the town has a parade this year is especially important as this is an Olympic year.

"I think it is very important this year and given the speed in which we've pushed this over the last couple of years, it would be a heck of a shame not to see it bloom and blossom into a great one this year."

The Church Street School Cultural Centre was originally approached to take on the responsibility of putting on the parade, but according to Councillor MacEachern, as they are still getting ready "they felt this wasn't a good year for them to do this."



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Poor Ronnie

By RON WALLACE

Local authors are plentiful

I can't believe how many authors in Aurora and district have published books on the market.

David McKee of Aurora, whose book "Bala Boy" has been released is the subject of a feature story by our staff writer Brock

Basically, this is what he wrote:

In 1943, David and his family decided to make the long trek from Brantford to Sudbury via Yonge Street.

"We went up Yonge Street, the longest street in the world - and the most boring street in the world, I thought - when I was five years old," he said. "[In] the whole trip, there were three or four things that really impressed me, and one was the cenotaph here in Aurora.'

The cenotaph made a lasting impression on the 71-year-old Mr. McKee, and it is still fresh 67 years later.

"When we went by that, for a little kid going by mile after mile of nothing... wow," he said. "I remember that as being pretty spectacular.

In 1946, Mr. McKee and his family made an important move to Bala, to open up a summer lodge for Muskoka tourists.

This life change proved to be a formative experience for Mr. McKee, the results of which serve as the basis for his novel "Bala Boy", which he describes as "a fictional memoir, if there is such a

Actually, he admits about 50 per cent of the story is autobio-

The novel, which has been submitted for the Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humour, follows the youth and coming-of-age of Danny McGrew and his circle of friends.

Mr. McKee's youth in Bala was certainly eventful enough to provide material for a novel.

As a child, Mr. McKee's first job was setting pins at a local bowling alley before he began bussing tables in the resort area.

"On a poor night, you would make five or six bucks and on a big band night you would make \$15 or \$20 in tips, and you would get to see Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, the Dorsey Brothers, and Guy Lombardo for free," he said.

He also has a picture of himself sitting at a table just behind Count Basie at the piano.

Writing a novel on his childhood and youth allowed him the opportunity to immortalize people that had an influence on him as he grew up, he said.

There was a little girl who died when I was in public school and that kind of thing made an impression on me," he said. "I thought as long as those people are alive in my mind and in my book, there is at least one little form of immortality."

Another person who lives on in Bala Boy is Aboriginal labourer Adam White. White, he said, slept one winter in the back of a Mercury coupe, which he was allowed to stow at a local garage.

"He had a coal oil lantern with him for heat and that is how he spent the winter," he said. "He was a jack of all trades, and when I was a little boy I used to help him out. I was so impressed with what he was able to do with simple things."

He later came into contact with Adam White long after McKee became Dr. McKee.

"I was walking down the corridors of St. Mike's Hospital after I had been there about 20 years, came by a stretcher, looked down and there was Adam White," he said. "He was a very stoic and phlegmatic man and when I saw him, I went over and he was glad

Mr. McKee entered medicine following a course at the University of Toronto, and after a failed attempt getting work in Hawaii and a stint at the Vancouver Sun.

"(Medicine was) a chance to do some good," he said. "This going to sound unreal because it sounds unreal to me, but I thought to myself you can be a doctor for years and then go back to writing because I always wanted to write. Or you can be a writer for 30 years and not be a doctor."

Mr. McKee was a family practitioner in Toronto for two years and after four more years of training worked in anaesthesia and of the McKenzie Marsh intensive care, where he was in charge of the ICU at St. Michael's Hospital one week in four for 11 years.

After losing his wife of 41 years to cancer, Mr. McKee, who lived in Mississauga for 30 years, re-met his childhood sweetheart, Judy, who was a resident of Aurora.

"Judy worked at [Bala's] Dunn's [Pavillion] in 1954," he said. "I was there, we fell madly in love. I found out through a mutual friend that Judy was a widow and I remembered her. I thought, jeez, I'd like to see her again."

Mr. McKee says it took about three weeks to find her before finally contacting her, and he has been in Aurora now for six years.

He has five grown children, she has three of her own, and they have a collective pool of 20 grandchildren.

Mr. McKee's "Bala Boy" is self published.

It's on the shelf at R & R Books, along with Vision Speak, by Eden Remme Watt; Mind Walker, by Roy McConnell; Reflections from A Shadow by Malcolm Watts, five Sideroad guidebooks, cowritten by Aurora's Peter DeMille; the hardcover of the Black's Photography story, written by Aurora's Marnie Maguire, and the best seller of them all - Aurora, 1945-1965, written by Bracebridge resident Elizabeth Milner, who grew up in Aurora.



So, who's the man crossing the street at Yonge and Wellington, back in the days when the Queen's Hotel sat on the spot currently occupied by a Toronto Dominion Canada Trust branch? Here's a clue: this man was once the mayor of Aurora. To win a lunch for two at the Legion on Industrial Parkway North, call our office at 727-3300 AFTER noon Friday, January 29. If you're the first to call with the correct answer, the lunch is yours. Thank you to the several callers who identified last week's two house pictures. While changed a bit, the houses are still part of Aurora; one on Mark Street, and the other on Maple.

Letter to the Editor

Marsh already compromised by three items, reader states

To the editor,

Re: Nokiidaa Trail

During the last public meeting, on January 14, I made some comments, in response to what two panel members had presented, relative to the need for environmental assessments, and to the educational value of trails.

I would like to expand

on those comments. The route along the western edge of the McKenzie Marsh was not invented by the Aurora Trails Committee, of which David Tomlinson John Clements and I are citizen members, but was selected by the Nokiidaa Trail Organization.

This route, after considering alternative routes, was endorsed by the Trails Committee as the most practical route; as this route was not expected to measurably increase the negative impacts on the wetland complex.

The habitat conditions were deemed to have been compromised already when a) the subdivision houses were built far too close to the south pond; b) when the Hadley Grange development was given the green light; and c) when St. John's Sideroad was widened.

The route, with the envisioned boardwalk, also has the potential of serving as a means to educate, and to allow nature appreciation for people of all ages, ability, and means.

Getting people to appreciate nature is of Aurora's natural heritage.

Getting people to appreciate nature is one of the key components of the vision for the Aurora Trails Network.

Alternative routes at the eastern end of the marsh were discussed by the Trails Committee.

From a commuter's point of view, these alternatives would provide a elling to and from work, and on shopping expeditions, between Newmarket and Aurora.

These routes were set aside in favour of the originally planned Nokiidaa Trail route, because the land for that route is already owned by the Town of Aurora, and because, as stated above, the boardwalk and the routing were not expected to cause measurable impacts on the ecosystem, at any level beyond the negative impacts that have already been inflicted.

One of the alternative routes which I do favour. along the west side of the railroad, will require the purchase of costly private land; the other which I particularly favour, would be a routing along the western edge of the golf course.

It will require a willingness of the golf course owners to negotiate a trail right-of-way agreement, the placing of nets along a section of the golf course to protect trail users from errant golf balls, and the building of a structure within an existing creek

important, and will trans- underpass under the raillate into protecting more road, to lead the trail from the east to the west side of the tracks.

> It is, a bit, These types of solu-

Sounds complicated?

tions could, unfortunately, require years to be resolved.

One needs to have patience, when it comes to retrofitting Aurora with trails.

And perseverance.

Therefore, although more direct route, for these routes were not walkers and cyclists, trav-selected, I feel, and the

other members of the Trails Committee agree, that these possible commuter routings should be investigated further, and not be abandoned.

They have been included as future route options in the current draft documentation for a trails master plan.

If you wish to comment on this letter, please feel free to e-mail me, at ecopal@rogers.com.

Klaus Wehrenberg Aurora

THE AURORAN \equiv

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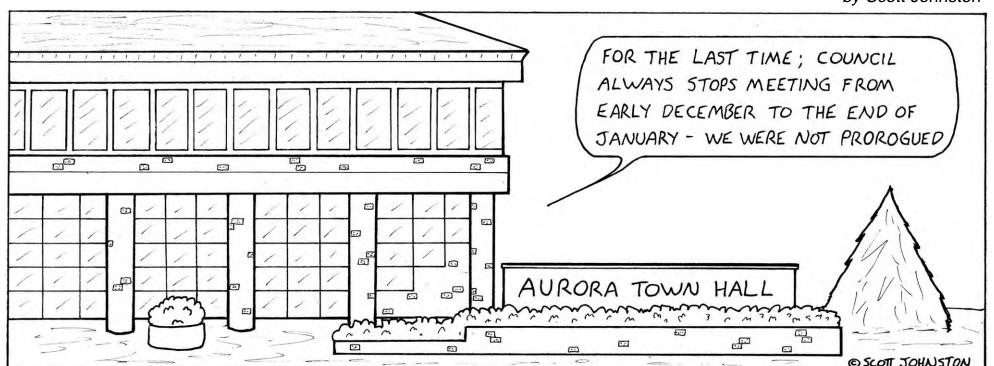
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Machell's Corners





Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Election coverage

The editor/publisher of this paper and I have a good relationship.

Ron Wallace has never told me or ever suggested to me that I write about a particular topic.

That is not to say that he agrees with my views.

As Ron has written on more than one occasion, he is happy to have me around because since our views are so divergent, he always has something to comment about!

Ron has also saved me from myself on many occasions by editing out some stupidly smart aleck or flippant comment that he felt was "pithy".

I have written 176 columns thus far and Mr. Wallace has only once refused to publish my column.

This incident goes way back to the summer of 2006 and the reason cited was unfair publicity for one of the municipal candidates.

The first part of my column started off innocently enough. "The candidates are coming! The candidates are coming!

It is approaching that time again, as the children get ready to return to school, the day-light gets shorter and the nights get cooler, that the municipal candidates start to come out from their summer hibernation.

I have been checking my mailbox every day anxiously awaiting the first campaign pamphlet and I have also been waiting patiently for the first municipal candidate to come to my door.

We do have a winner.

Meet candidate X."

The column then goes on to describe the pamphlet that I found in my mailbox and the results of a subsequent phone interview that I had with candidate X.

This is the e-mail from the editor rejecting my column:

"Hope you had a good holiday.

Unless you plan to write a similar column about everyone who is running in the municipal election, I won't allow this one.

And, regardless, I wouldn't allow it to appear until nominations are closed, and by then there won't be enough weeks to cover them all...because I agree with you, there will probably be about 20 candidates for council alone...not to mention the mayor's race."

I responded with my own e-mail - outlining the reasons why the column should be run.

Included among my reasons was that "this column would be published over two months prior to the actual election taking place, so I would think any publicity value would be lost by then".

In addition to my response I also sent the editor a revised version of the column that contained the following two paragraphs;

"Before any of the other councillor/mayoralty candidates write to the editor or e-mail me that The Auroran should not be providing free publicity for any one particular candidate by virtue of this article - please understand that this column is not an endorsement of candidate X.

As Aurora does not have a ward system, municipal candidates are therefore free and encouraged to seek support throughout all of Aurora, and as no one knew that I was writing this column, all prospective candidates had a fair chance at being the first one to come to my door or leave something in the mailbox."

No dice. The editor was not buying either my arguments or my revisions.

The e-mail from the editor to moi:

"The reason you're writing the column in the first place is the reason for my decision.

"For the mayor to continue his column would give him unfair advantage over any challengers.

"That's why we stopped it and replaced it. He understood that. He'd be the first one in my office if I allowed your comments to appear.

"Publicity, as you know, good, bad or indifferent, is still publicity, and any public mention of a candidate, via a column particularly, is a plus for whoever is mentioned.

"Candidate X gets a mention because he/she was, apparently, the first candidate to knock on your door.

"What about candidates - myself included - who hate door knocking, and depend on other methods to get elected?

"Because we (they) elect not to knock on doors, does that make us (them) any less competent?

"You can bet if I ran your comments on candidate X, every candidate would be in my office demanding similar coverage.

"You're right, we will do something closer to the election by providing space to each candidate in the paper.

"If candidates elect not to respond, that's their problem.

"But The Auroran will not select a slate nor recommend who should be the mayor of the community."

I was very disappointed and puzzled at the time as to why he would not publish my contribution.

In hindsight, however, the editor was right in not allowing the column for the clear reasons he enunciated above and he was also right regarding The Auroran's editorial policy.

Next week: Transparency associated with political ads in The Auroran

Stephen can be contacted at: stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Heard About Town

By David Heard

While pondering the next installment of this column I against the pavement on its inaugural jo

became aware of a powerful presence near my desk.

The gentleman informed me he was a ghost writer of sorts and offered up a suggestion of a topic to pen.

On the gentleman's lapel there was proudly displayed a campaign button which boasted the slogan;

"I'm sticking with Dick"

The community spirit visiting me was none other than Mr. Bouquets himself; former mayor, journalist, and master of many trades, Mr. Richard Illingworth.

With a deep calming tone of voice he directed me to do what every person who writes for a publication should do, and fast.

This was to play up to my editor and thank him for the opportunity to serve up some creativity with a heap of love for my home and many generations of family before me.

I recalled viewing a photo which appeared several weeks ago in this publication showing said editor on the floor playing with his grandchild.

There were two loves of his in that photo; however I will focus on the less important one.

The early 1980s brought the sight of a train making its way along Yonge Street with its steel wheels thundering

against the pavement on its inaugural journey through Aurora.

Yes, I did say 1980 and this was a train of great detail which also travelled to many destinations in Ontario making award-winning stops in Kitchener, Halliburton, and here.

Locomotive, coal car, flat car and caboose were all part of this "Little Engine" That Did.

Passionately this was built by the youth of the community and those individuals tried very hard to stay on the rails and be a positive influence to their peers and citizens.

What does this have to do with the Man at the helm here at The Auroran?

Easy, the big kid loves trains and we together have discussed about the future of our "Goddess" Aurora and those who will lead the next generation.

In the past, it was the dedication of approximately 20 members (if I recall correctly) of the "Aurora Leo Club".

The train has been decommissioned and is long gone but the memories of the many parades and awards live on.

The future with young community-minded citizens bonded together for a united cause is as bright as the Borealis that shares our town's name.

It is the responsibility of us adults to use the most powerful tools we have to assist these individuals with keeping, maintaining and reaching their dreams.

Those implements are found on each side of the head. I remember reading a quote of an author whose name eludes me: "hearing simply happens, listening is a choice".

By listening to the future leaders and what they envision for our community moving forward is the healthiest investment we can make.

I hear the train coming...

Youth engineering change =

One very successful year in the young group's fundraising efforts compiled more dollars than the Parent Service Club.

They supported local causes and regularly visited the seniors of the area.

The drive and determination of these young people was inspiring to me and I fondly remember the car washes, dances, Easter Seals campaign support and awareness to Guide Dogs for the visually impaired.

The involvement helped me through a very tough and troubling period of my life and the friendship and teamwork are good to look back upon.

Mayor says thanks to those who helped Salvation Army

To the editor,

Thanks to the generous donations from our community, the 2009 Salvation Army Kettle Drive in Aurora was a tremendous success with \$31,733.56 raised in support of the Salvation Army's community programs and services.

Aurora's commitment and support has continued to build on the success of this annual kettle drive, originally championed by former Aurora Mayor John G. West in 1979.

Mr. West was very active in

volunteering, helping to collect Wilson and Wendy Gaertner. and count kettle donations and in the recruitment of volun-

With his dedication, he expanded the amount of kettle locations in Aurora and encouraged volunteers through local public caroling displays.

On behalf of Aurora Council, I would like to thank Deputy Mayor Bob McRoberts for serving once again as the Town Council liaison for the campaign and as a volunteer along with Councillors John Gallo, Stephen Granger, Al

We would also like to thank the numerous individuals and groups who volunteered their time to stand with a kettle to collect donations; Central York Fire Services for promoting the Kettle Drive and for emptying the kettles and delivering the donations to the "Counting House" at Aurora Town Hall and Aurora's Corporate and Financial Services staff who generously took turns using their lunch hour to count the donations!

This year there were eight

kettle drive locations in Aurora.

Thanks to the following local businesses: LCBO, 14824 Yonge Street; LCBO, 15830 Bayview Avenue; Metro, 1 Henderson Drive; Canadian Tire, 14700 Yonge Street; Walmart Supercentre, 135 First Commerce Drive; Brewer's Retail Store. 14800 Yonge Street, Unit 191; Home Depot, 15360 Bayview Avenue; and Real Canadian Superstore, 15900 Bayview Avenue.

Special recognition also goes out to Info Aurora staff and volunteers for their support in answering telephone inquiries and scheduling kettle locations and to Neighbourhood Network for providing additional assistance with promoting and scheduling volunteers.

The Aurora Kettle Drive would not be such a great success without the incredible generosity of Aurora residents and volunteers who helped make this year the most successful kettle drive ever!

For more information on the Aurora Salvation Army Kettle Drive, please contact the Salvation Army at 905-895-

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The history behind McKenzie Marsh

To the editor.

Aurora more than 11 years ago, there was a controversy over the widening of St. John's Sideroad and some opponents believed this would destroy McKenzie Marsh.

the community and the marsh continues to flourish. It is one of my

favourite spots for three out of the four seasons and I have spent quite some time there watching the birds and wild life.

The fourth season I leave to the hockey play-

In the current discussion of the Nokiidaa Trail, some believe a boardwalk connecting the Aurora and Newmarket trails would destroy the natural habitat.

Yet when looking into the history of this marsh I was surprised to discover that the natural habitat was a forest swamp in the

It was cleared by the early settlers who turned the area into grazing land and the current ponds were man made in 1973 when McKenzie family, Environment Canada and Ducks Unlimited built a dam on the north end.

The original "natural space" does not exist.

It has been changed over the years, not only by the settlers but also later by the building of Yonge Street, St. John's Sideroad, the railway tracks, the dam and senior's residence.

If a connecting boardwalk is tastefully designed and is integrated into what we have already created, it will enhance the community's use of this wonderful little area along with the trails in Newmarket and Aurora.

It seems to me that there are more birds and animals there now than there were 11 years ago and that if the connection is made we will be wondering a few years from now what all the fuss was about.

Allan Scott

When we first moved to

I remember the hyperbole, the signs and the placards, yet when I look at what the final product has been I believe it has become quite an asset to

To the editor.

cerning her apparent aversion to as yeas and nays. compromise, Councillor Evelyn trumpet a defense of the indefen-

"Indefensible" is a rather uncompromising term, notably because it also apparently applies to the decisions (the judgment) of her fellow Town Councillors.

I would again remind Councillor Buck that the Town Councillors present voted 7 to 1 for the proposed reconstruction, with only her opposing.

7 to 1 is normally taken to represent sizable unanimity.

Clearly, the vote involved weighing informed options (notably, locations for the sidewalk) in the light of the requirements (safety, costs, etc). That's the way Town Councils are supposed to work.

I recognize there's a history to the issue of sidewalks on Nisbet Drive and elsewhere. I also sympathize with residents who have an understandable complaint. Nevertheless, the Town Council of Aurora did what they were elected to do. They handled a difficult matter in a reasonable and effective way.

Councillor Buck says of herself, "I don't compromise on commitment".

Perhaps Councillor Buck is confusing not compromising on commitment with a commitment to not compromise.

Writer responds

to councillor letter

At present, votes at Town In answering my letter con- Council meetings are recorded

Perhaps they should rather Buck comments on my right "to be recorded as defensible and

Councillor Buck could dictate the defensibility/indefensibility of each motion.

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Johnston for mayor: Kroon

To the editor,

Since things are so busy around here, I finally had the opportunity to catch up with some of my important read-

And when I finished that, I also had a chance to peruse, as quickly as possible, some back issues of The Auroran.

Now, I say quickly, because I have to try to skim over it as lightly as I can to prevent me from being mired in another puddle of primordial prose courtesy of Ms. Heidi Stocklin, or another one of Councillor Buck's "look at me, I'm better than everybody else" letters.

And I see where the ol'

girl has taken to submitting more than one a week now.

Not satisfied to seeing your name in print only once a week, eh, Councillor Buck?

But as fortune would have it, I happened to come across Scott Johnston's "2009: The Year in Review in Aurora" in the January 5, 2010 issue.

Brilliant as usual, Mr. Johnston, and just let me make one comment...

Scott Johnston for Mayor! Step aside, Phyllis! Get your 200 bucks back, Nigel! Don't even think about it,

None of you has a chance against this guy!

Because finally there is a potential candidate with more than the average share of common sense. (Good to know there's more than just me...)

Just consider having someone with Scott's grasp of the issues (to say nothing of reality) in charge of your town for a change.

Are you with me folks? You need to start a campaign to recruit Scott Johnston for mayor!

He could win, you know! imagine the possibilities if he did win!

Then the bells would ring and the banners would fly, Aurora, 'cause happy days would be here again!...

Prosperity is just around the corner! Harmony in the council chambers! Functioning municipal services for all! Lower taxes! Dancing in the streets!

Just imagine the hope! Imagine the change! Imagine Scott drawing himself in the paper every week!

What am I talking about? I should know better

It is Aurora, after all...the town where common sense goes to die...sigh...

Looks like you folks are in for another long long four years.

Hugo T. Kroon Bethesda



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Integrity Commissioner money could be better spent on other items

To the editor,

I am disappointed that the council of the day is pushing ahead with the appointment of an integrity commissioner.

To me, if this position is neccessary or not should be decide.

There are only 10 months remaining in their term and to me there is nothing that pressing to appoint someone at this time.

left up to the next council to why would anyone burden the future council with such an appointment that could well burden future councils.

> If the council is looking to spend money perhaps they should be looking at a project that would benefit many residents and make Aurora a more compassionate Town.

> What about spending that money or part of that money to help the food bank find a better home, perhaps the old seniors' centre in the centre of town?

This is just one suggestion, but to me, it makes more sense than hiring more staff at this time.

Nigel Kean

At a cost of \$60,000 + Tsubouchi selected

From page 1

and saw what the recommendation is, I think Mr. Tsubouchi, his credentials, reputation, his knowledge. his background...any municipality should be honoured to have an individual like that protecting them."

The final approval of Mr. Tsubouchi depends on a finalized agreement between the town and Mr. Tsubouchi, the intricacies of which are still being fine tuned. While Mr. Tsubouchi's one-

vear contract has a limit of \$60,000, it is entirely dependent

"It may certainly be less," said Aurora Chief Administrative Officer Neil Garbe.

have a tentative start date for Mr. Tsubouchi as July this year. The term will last for a period

Staff working on the contract

of one year from the actual signing date. Council will also have the opportunity to extend Mr.

Tsubouchi's contract by two one-year periods. One of the issues that arose from Tuesday's meeting was the

FORMERLY

OAK RIDGE MEATS

issue of who the Integrity Commissioner would report to.

Town Solicitor Christopher Cooper encouraged council to "resolve to include in the Code of Conduct some sort of contingency whereby if it happened that the individual so designated under the code was away, then an alternate could be designated to receive it."



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Members of the Aurora U12 girls soccer team held a bake sale Saturday at the Aurora Dome and raised almost \$1,200 for the people in Haiti. They are, left to right, Melanie Schouter, Claire Bar, Jade Northcut, Mikalya Purdy, Sierra Muschette, Alex Curran, Selena Mangoni, Taylor Thalheimer, Georgia Kastanis and Alessia Mangoni. Auroran photo by David Falconer





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Student hopes to collect total of a million pennies

million pennies?

Quick answer is \$10,000.

That's how much money Aurora's Bronwyn Andrews hopes to raise for the children

So, how much is one of earthquake-torn Haiti.

As of Saturday morning, she had collected 100,000 pennies and the collection

Aurora's Highland Chev

Children and parents at the Light of Christ Child Care Centre responded to the Aurora Rotary Club's request to raise money for the purchase of ShelterBoxes for homeless people in Haiti, following a recent earthquake there. In three days, the group raised \$200, and Jessie Bairos-Retsas, left, and Julia Walkley-Sherman, presented the money to the Rotary Club last week.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Cadillac has donated the use set up at the Canadian Imperial of a pickup truck to house the pennies.

Bank of Commerce.

Account 5306582.

British Import

Neighbourhood

Highland Chev Cadillac.

Involved so Newmarket Mini Bins. Keller

You may deposit funds or e-

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Carmichaels Hair Salon,

Lending Centre and Aurora

far are

Shoppe,

Dominion

Bronwyn, 15, a Grade 10 mail funds to Transit 04592. student, has started an initiative, which is taking off, to raise that much money for the Haiti

Mayor of Aurora, Phyllis Morris along with MP Lois Brown, have joined with local merchants to support the cause.

Bronwyn has chosen the charity "Free The Children", one of the approved government charities that can have their funds matched dollar for dollar.

If she reaches her goal, it will be matched by the government to be a grand total of \$20,000.

One million pennies weighs about a ton.

But, Bronwyn needs your

"We are asking our friends and family to help her assist the children of Haiti," said her mother Sarah. "We will pick up any jars of pennies, or any other denomination of donation you can offer. Call 905-751-

A bank account has been

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Aurora's QYR members visit New Zealand

By BROCK WEIR **Auroran Staff Writer**

While many of us recently spent time getting back into our work routines after a nice, relaxing holiday, two members of Aurora's Queen's York Rangers Army Cadet Corps were flying back across the Pacific to Canada after the trip of a lifetime

Civilian Instructor Major Paul Lenort and Army Cadet Sabastian Kuchma were two of a select group of 16 cadets and four instructors sent to New Zealand for the Army Cadet League of Canada's 2009 International Expedition.

The group gathered together in Vancouver for their December 27 departure to Auckland.

From Auckland they travelled through the country, performing various activities on terrain ranging from rolling meadows to steep mountains.

The expedition focused on teaching the "practical application of [Cadets'] environment" and environmental stewardship.

They arrived back in Canada January 10.

"I screamed like a girl," said Major Lenort jokingly on learning he had been selected to supervise the trip. "I was very excited."

Major Lenort, who grew up in Aurora, and now works for the York Catholic District School Board, said he has had a 30-year relationship with the Queen's York Rangers.

He started with the Rangers as a cadet, working his way up through the ranks, becoming a commissioned officer in 1989.

He said being involved with the Queen's York Rangers and the Cadets program has afforded him many opportunities he would not have otherwise. and he felt fortunate to land the New Zealand trip, even though it did present some challenges.

"Driving on the other side of the road is a challenge," he said. "We did roll a trailer, we hit the soft shoulder and it went crazy. We had it back under control... then it tipped over. Minor issue. Nobody was hurt."

But, he said, the trip provided far greater experiences than just a minor mishap.

"Kayaking in Milford Sound was glorious," he said. "It was sort of a misty, mystery day and it was a lot of fun. Then, where we normally think of hiking we think horizontal with maybe a little slope, there, what they call 'tramping', is mostly vertical.

"We really enjoyed the tramping because we were going through the most gorgeous scenery and you go up the mountain, look back and you see valleys,



Queen's York Rangers Army Cadet Sabastian Kuchma hikes on the Army Cadet League's International Expedition to New Zealand during the **Christmas Holiday. Kuchma and Major Paul Lenort** were among a group of Canadians travelling throughout the country to practice self-reliance, training in a challenging leadership, teamwork, and environmental stewardship.

> high lakes, waterfalls, and said he was "beyond excitglaciers calving off. It sounds just like thunder. What an amazing sound that was!"

Major Lenort said normally the chances of going on an international expedition with someone from your own corps are rare, but that is what happened when Cadet Sabastian Kuchma was chosen to go as well.

Eighteen-year-old Mr. Kuchma, who has been involved in the Cadets program since he was 12,

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ed" when he got the news he was going to New Zealand.

"I was jumping for joy," he said with a laugh. "The cost of flying down to New Zealand is ridiculous enough, but all that was covered by the Cadets section of the [Department of National Defence]."

Mr. Kuchma is no stranger to international expeditions, having also taken part in a five-week trip to visit other cadets in the United Kingdom.

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Lenort along for the trip with a laugh. "We do not was a "bonus".

made it that little bit bet- Well, we weren't terrible at ter," he said. "We could it but...not my game!" talk, have our little inside jokes when we needed to, his time with the cadets and have our bit of fun."

For Mr. Kuchma, his a close. personal highlights of the trip included sea kayaking near waterfalls, sailing, and hiking.

He said that while he found the vertical climbs particularly challenging, "the people you're with make it all the more fun."

Another highlight he said he thinks is shared by his fellow cadets was the opportunity to celebrate New Year's in the country which first welcomed

"It was one of the best New Year's I've had." he said. "I thought about calling home but I realized it would be the year before!"

The trip also provided the group with opportunities to visit with New Zealand cadets.

Kuchma said they spent a lot of time discussing their similarities and differences, but perhaps their most striking difference came out of something outside the cadet program's purview.

"Afterwards we played

He said having Major cricket with them," he said play cricket. We went over "Having him on the trip and were terrible at it.

> As Mr. Kuchma is 18, program will soon come to

While his brother, who preceded him in the cadets program, is currently awaiting deployment to Afghanistan in the Spring, Sabastian is unsure of what he is going to do with his Cadet train-

Before his time comes to a close, however, Mr. Kuchma said he is going to take a stab at landing a spot on the next international expedition next year.

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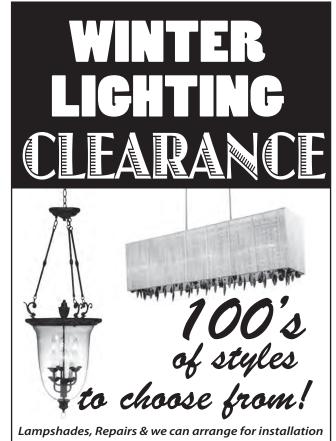


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404 Los Angeles Purple Mastermind Toys 6 - Owen Bourrie 4G 1A, Matthew Glionna 1G 1A, Vyktoria Brochu 2A, Jackson Clements 1A. 405 St. Louis Blue Laurion Law Office 5 - Austin Hendy 2G 1A, Jayson Perkins 1G, William Morin 1G, Sam Speranini 1G 1A, Brayden Reid 1A, Liam Patterson 1A.

410 Los Angeles Grey McAlpine Ford 1 - Joshua Fallavollita 1G, Tyler Justice 1A. 401 Florida Red Chouinard Bros 1 - Dylan McFee 1G.

602 Boston Gold Tilemaster 9 - Ryan Batten 2G, James Power 1G, Chris Broughton 1G, Andre Cristillo 3G, Rory Hamilton 2G, Zachary Keller 1A, Randy Sutton 1A, Paul Mason 1A, Austin Skelhorn 1A, Stewart Reid 1A. 606 Pittsburgh Black Rival Concepts 2 - Justin Laird 1G, Parker Jackson 1G, Parker Jackson 1G, Lucas Ackerman 2A.

801 Florida Red A.D.C Aluminum 4 - Andrew Walter 3G, William Allen 1G, Stephen Faiello 1A, Matthew Iamonaco 2A, Daniel Bresolin 1A. **803 Toronto White AHPA 1** - Daniel Antoniel 1G, Liam Devlin 1A.

811 Colorado Burgandy 1 - Dylan Indos 1G, Michael Slack 1A, Nick Holliday 1A. 808 Philly Orange Pizza Pizza 1 - Michael McCreesh 1G, Russell Johnson 1A, Graham Killby 1A.

806 Pittsburgh Black Continental Ingredients 4 - Nicholas Bertrand 1G 2A, Eric Bulloch 1G, Brian Pedron 1G, Michael Hosmer 1G, Trevor Stephens 1A. 813 St Louis White 3 - Morgan Walker 1G, Kienan Osborne 2G, Dylan Sutton 1A, Jimmy Brookes 1A, Jason Glionna 1A, Mackenzie Smith 1A, Andrew Hall 1A.

807 Pittsburgh Powder Blue 4 - Matthew Reeves 1G 1A, Christopher Sanita 1G, Matthew Warner 1G, Mitchell Palmer 1G, Ethan Cullen 1A, Kieran Cullen 1A. 812 Dallas Kelly Green 1 - Josh Bell 1G.

804 Los Angeles Purple Caruso & Company 3 -Duncan Eveleigh 1G, Gregory Milligan 1G, Kentner Arkell 1G, Brian Langdon 1A, Adam Durante 1A. 802 Boston Gold Manhattan Trophies 1 - Ryan Dowling 1A, Mac Cawfield 1G.

809 San Jose Teal 3 - Cody Child 2G, Jamie Pountney 1G 1A, Brendon McDonald 1A, Matthew Pelkola 1A. 810 Los Angeles Grey 2 - Collin Laird 2G, Ryan MacMillan 2A, Garth McBride 1A, Lucas Marek 1A.

811 Colorado Burgandy 2 - Quinn Harris 1G, Nick Holliday 1G, Josh Lawlor 1A, Michael Slack 1A, Ryan Byerlay 1A. **806 Pittsburgh Black Continental Ingredients 1** - Eric Bulloch 1G, Brendan Elliot 1A.

804 Los Angeles Purple Caruso & Company 3 -Billy Haddock, shutout, Brian Langdon 2G, Jesse Borin 1G, Gregory Milligan 1A, Kentner Arkell 1A, Duncan Eveleigh 1A. 813 St Louis White 0.

802 Boston Gold Manhattan Trophies 3 - Corey Young 2G, Nic Venosa 1G, Alex Seto 1A, Matthew Foschia 1A, Quinn McGowan 2A, Max Brown 1A, Michael Liscio 1A, Andrew Walter 1G. 801 Florida Red A.D.C Aluminum 1 - Justin Chalmers 1A, Andrew Walter

812 Dallas Kelly Green 1 - Francois Bicego, shutout, Kyle DeSouza 1G, Andrew Staples 1A, William He 1A. 805 St. Louis Blue Orr & Associates 0.

808 Philly Orange Pizza Pizza 3 - Johnathan Read, shutout, Michael McCreesh 1G, Russell Johnson 2G. **809 San Jose Teal 0**.

810 Los Angeles Grey 7 - Sam Mason, shutout, Collin Laird 3G 1A, Carson Roell 1G, Declan Johnson 2G 1A, Trevor Rice 1G, Lucas Marek 2A, Garth McBride 1A, Tyler George 1A, Ryan MacMillan 1A. 807 Pittsburgh Powder Blue 0.

905 St. Louis Blue 5. 906 Pittsburgh Black Ruff N Redi 1.

902 Boston Gold CW Coops 2. 904 Los Angeles

Purple 2.

901 Florida Red Aurora Chrysler 3 - Chris Fafalios 2G 1A, Cameron Albert 1G, Josh Ashfield 1A, Alex Cackirovski 2A, Marty Wood 1A. 903 Toronto White Optimist Club of Aurora 1 - Ryan St-Germain 1G, Mike Mildon 1A, Matt Maceachern 1A.

1001 Florida Red 7 - Adam Clark 3G, Michael Takahashi 2G 1A, James Harkin 1G 3A, Sean Takahashi 1G 1A, Scott Quagliarini 1A, Brandon Connolly 2A, Michael Bernier 1A, Tyler Lamantia 1A, TJ Ground 1A. 1007 Pittsburgh Powder Blue 1 - Madison Weber 1G, Adrian Clark 1A

1002 Boston Gold 3 - Dakota Hendy 1G, Wesley Seminara 1G 1A, Devin Scudds 1A. 1012 Dallas Kelly Green Envirocar 2 - Adam Stubbs 1G, Scott Cunningham 1G, Liam Martin 1G, Michael Madigan 2A.

1011 Colorado Burgandy Graystones Restaurant 4 - Lucas Cristillo 1G, Ryan Antoniel 1G 1A, Jordan Gerace 1G, Chris Blumreisinger 1G, Justin Killens 1A, Andrew Cosentino 1A, Scott Tonello 2A, Matthew Mears 1A. 1003 Toronto White CAA 2 - Ian Weston 2G, Matthew Miller 1A, Brody Hunter 1A.

1009 San Jose Teal 9 - Andrew Mangialardi 2G 1A, Dylan Skelton 2G 1A, Cory Blom 3G, Ryan Jones 1G, Chris Tillsley 1G, Stephen Thompson 1A, Sean Maule 1A. 1005 St. Louis Blue Sentia 2 - Evan Casselden 1G, Geoffrey Gianopoulos 1G, Craig Bennett 1A.

1003 Toronto White CAA 2 - Spencer Palmer 1G, Evan Campbell 1G, Jaret Meron 1A. 1009 San Jose Teal 1 - Michael Bar 1G, Chris Tillsley 1A, Robert Anderson

1007 Pittsburgh Powder Blue 4 - Logan Weber 1G, Madison Weber 1G, Andrew Wilkins 1G 1A, Adrian Clark 1G, Aaron Empinen 1A, Viktor Grabovskyy 1A. 1005 St. Louis Blue Sentia 4 - Craig Bennett 2G 1A, Andrew Osmond 1G 1A, Marcel Lamanna 1G, Evan Casselden 1A, Garrett Lewis 1A, Michael Reilly 1A.

1010 Los Angeles Grey 4 - Tristan Miller 2G 1A, Dylan Jolivet 1G, Scott Parry 1G 1A, Matthew Schmitt 1A, Ben Slimkowich 2A, Scott Tremblay 1A.1002 Boston Gold 3 - Jonathan Boehmer 1G, Kevin Tree 1G 1A, Mark Tanel 1G, Michael Mourtzanos 1A, Dakota Hendy 1A.

1001 Florida Red 5 - Adam Clark 1G, Brandon Connolly 1G, Michael Takahashi 1G 1A, James Harkin 1G 3A, Michael Wood 1G 1A, Tyler Lamantia 1A. 1006 Pittsburgh Black 3 - Matthew Semeredy 1G, Hayden Sands 1G, Jordan Adams 1G, Robert Horton 1A, Adam

1012 Dallas Kelly Green Envirocar 8 - Michael Morson 2G 2A, Curtis Stobo 1G, Daniel Cervone 2G, Brett Allen 2G 1A, Adrian Tobin 1G, Scott Cunningham 1A, Chris Tambos 2A, Jake Hindley 1A, Jonathan Alcock 1A, Adam Tomlin 1A, Michael Madigan 1A. 1013 St. Louis White 7 - Kamran Karamchi 1G, Spencer George 1G, Jay Finch 3G 3A, Chris O'Hara 1G, AJ Howard 1A, Nick Di Nallo 1G 1A.

1008 Philly Orange Aurora Home Hardware 6 - Sheldon Rivard 1G, James Chappell 1G 3A, Tanner Brewer 1G 1A, Brett Richardson 1A, Alexander Dunn 1A, Robert Revington 1A, Branden Bortolin 1A, Kyle Ozols 1A, Taran McGowan 3G 3A. 1004 Los Angeles Purple 3 - Brendan Strachan 1G 1A, Brett Matthews 1G, Sean Ellison 1G, Daniel Howie 1A, Zachary Andrews 1A, Carter Schaefer 1A, Clayton Arnold 2A.

1001 Florida Red 5 - James Harkin 1G 1A, Scott Quagliarini 1G, Tyler Lamantia 2G, Adam Clark 1G, David Scott 2A, Sean Takahashi 1A. 1005 St. Louis Blue Sentia 2 - Andrew Osmond 1G, Garrett Lewis 1G, Colin Munn 1A, Marcel Lamanna 1A.

1012 Dallas Kelly Green Envirocar 6 - Jamie Cherutti 2G 1A, Brett Allen 1G 1A, Scott Cunningham 1G, Michael Morson 2G, Curtis Stobo 3A, Daniel Cervone 2A, Liam Martin 1A.1011 Colorado Burgandy Graystones Restaurant 2 - Alex Payne 1G, Lucas Cristillo 1G, Josh Bentolila 2A, Chris Blumreisinger 1A.

1008 Philly Orange Aurora Home Hardware 8 - Egan Fennell 1G 1A, Sheldon Rivard 1G 2A, Christian Davies 2G, Tanner Brewer 1G 1A, Kyle Ozols 1G, Branden Bortolin 1G, Taran McGowan 1G 2A, Brett Richardson 2A. 1013 St. Louis White 7 - Jamie Hawkins 1G 2A, Nick Di Nallo 1G 1A, Chris O'Hara 2G 2A, Kamran Karamchi 1G, AJ Howard 1G 1A, Jay Finch 1G 1A, Spencer George 2A, Alex Thompson 2A.

1005 St. Louis Blue Sentia 5 - Craig Bennett 2G 1A, Louis Lamanna 2G, David Naccarato 1G, Michael Orschel 1A, Keenan Vanrooyen 1A, Colin Munn 1A. 1003 Toronto White CAA 4 - Jaret Meron 2G, Ian Weston 2G, Ryan Laird 1A, Matthew Miller 1A, Adam Reid 1A, Jordan Fantin 1A.

Rep League games

Oshawa 4. Tyke Select B 2 - Liam Mahoney 1G, Jace Jackson 1G.

Novice AA Tigers 11 - Evan Pringle 4G 1A, Malcolm Johnston 3G 1A, Anthony DiPietro 3G, Cory Read 1G 1A, Wesley Reid 3A, Luke Jarvis 1A, Ben Liotta 1A, Russell Tanaka 1A, Michael Orlandi 1A, Noah Dempsey 1A, Matteo Orlandi, shutout. Newmarket 0.

Georgina 3. Novice AA Tigers 1 - Malcolm

Novice AA Tigers 7 - Ben Liotta 2G, Wesley Reid 1G 2A, Evan Pringle 1G 1A, Cory Read 1G 1A, Russell Tanaka 1G, Trevor Dungey 1A, Malcolm Johnston 1G 3A, Matteo Orlandi, shutout. Newmarket 0.

Novice A Tigers 5 - Brendan Sanford 2G, Andrew Park 1G 2A, Jeremy Gonsalves 4A, Jack Campbell 1G, Craig Therkildsen 1A, Stefanie Baxter 1A, Adam Wloka 1G, Matthew Gram 1A, Spencer Morrison and Diam Matthew, shutouts. **Bradford 0.**

Minor Atom AA Tigers 5. Georgina 0.

Minor Atom AA Tigers 1 - Ben Spittle 1G, Ty Boisseau 1A. Georgina: 0.

Minor Atom AA Tigers2. Georgina 1.

Newmarket 4. Minor Atom A Tigers 0.

Richmond Hill 4. Minor Atom AE Tigers 2 - Carson Yeomans 1G, Fraser Ciocca 1A, Adam DePiero 1G.

Atom AA Tigers 2 - Morgan Frost 1G, Graydon Belgue 1A, Jack Liotta 1G, Ryan Thornhill 1A, Max Goldman 1A. Georgina 1.

Atom AA Tigers 5 - Morgan Frost 2G 1A, Brady Futterer 1G 2A, Brennan Young 1G 1A, Graydon Belgue 1A, Jack Liotta 1G, Philip Wolanski 1A. Georgina 1.

Atom AA Tigers 2 - Brennan Young 1G, Brady Futterer 1G. **Georgina 1.**

Richmond Hill Stars 2. Atom A Tigers 1 - Thomas Kostoff 1G.

Atom A Tigers 4 - Jordan Torres 2G, Colin McGoldrick 1G 1A, Thomas Kostoff 1G, Alexander Simardone 2A, Lucas Dane 1A, Eric McGhie 1A, Kyle Rice 1A, Chris Pettit 1A. East Gwillimbury 1.

Atom AE Tigers 5. East Gwillimbury 0.

Atom AE Tigers 9. East Gwillimbury 2.

Atom AE Tigers 8. East Gwillimbury 0.

Minor Peewee AA Tigers 4 - Jack Pecora 1G 1A, Daniel McConnell 1G 1A, James Wyndham West 1G, Alec Magnante 1G, Cameron Morrison 1A, Taylor Kauffeldt 1A, Jared Reeves 1A.TNT 1.

Minor Peewee AA Tigers 6 - Patrick Servideo 1G, Evan Woodhead 2G 1A, Jack Pecora 2A, Austin Kiraly 1A, James Wyndham West 1A, Jared Brown 1A, Alec Magnante 1A, Graham Sanford 1A, Daniel McConnell 1G 2A, Taylor Kauffeldt 1G, Keegan Matthew 1G, Cameron Morrison 1A, Adam Leader, shutout. TNT 0.

Minor Peewee AA Tigers 3 - Alec Magnante 2G, Cameron Morrison 1G, James Wyndham West 1A, Keegan Matthew 1A, Patrick Servideo 1A, Taylor Kauffeldt 1A. TNT 1.

Minor Peewee A Tigers 9 - Bryan Manweiler 2G, Matthew Liscio 1A, Mathew Tyndall 2G 1A, Tristan Kuchar 2G, Colin Kostin 1G 1A, Spencer White 1G 1A, Evan Cherubini 1A, Jack Bryant 1A, Cameron Zinner 1A, Brendin Ramsay 1G. Markham 3.

Markham 3. Minor Peewee A Tigers 2 - Evan

Cherubini 1G, Spencer White 1G 1A, Ryan Coveart 1A, Mathew Tyndall 1A.

Minor Peewee AE Tigers 2 - Cameron Anderson 1G, Tyler Williams 1G, Michael DaCosta 1A, Matthew MacDonald 1A, Jeffrey McKay 1A,Graham Dynes, shutout. Richmond Hill 0.

Barrie 3. Peewee AA Tigers 2 - Hudson Yeomans 1G, Nicholas Papousek 1A, Jake Appleby 1G, Nathan Romanchych 1A.

Peewee AA Tigers 4 - Nathan Romanchych 1G 1A, Chris Klinowski 1G, Hudson Yeomans 1A, Peter Andreakos 1G, Jake Appleby 1G 1A. Barrie 1.

Peewee AA Tigers 7 - Eddie Duffy 1G 1A, Will Thompson 1A, Nathan Romanchych 1G 1A, Chris Klinowski 2G 1A, Jake Appleby 1G 1A, Peter Andreakos 1A, Nicholas Papousek 1G 1A, Andrew Klinowski 1G 2A. Barrie 4.

Peewee A Tigers 2. Innisfil Winterhawks 0.

Peewee A Tigers 4. Newmarket 3.

Newmarjket 2. Peewee A Tigers 1.

Peewee AE Tigers 4. Barrie 1.

Minor Bantam AA Tigers 6 - John MacDonald 1G 3A, Spencer Green 1G 3A, Lucas Pozzebon 2G 2A, Erik Balkovec 1G, Konner McMillan 1G, Shadoe Storm 1A, Jake McKee 1A. Georgina 2.

Minor Bantam AA Tigers 2 - Jake McKee 1G, Lucas Pozzebon 1G, Spencer Green 1A. Georgina 1.

Barrie 3. Minor Bantam A Tigers 2 - Paul Neophytou 1G 1A, Connor Cowl 1G, Jake McKee 1A, Tait Snedden 1A.

Minor Bantam A Tigers 4 - Paul Neophytou 2G 1A, James Johnston 2A, Connor Cowl 2G 1A, Graham Robinson 1A. Barrie 2.

Minor Bantam AE Tigers 2 - Ben Ashton 1G, Nelson Hossack 1G, Mitch Arnew 1A, Kyle Nice 1A, Matthew Heintzman, shutout. Richmond Hill 0.

Bantam AA Tigers 2. Barrie 0.

Bantam AA Tigers 5. Barrie 2.

Bantam A Tigers 2. Markham 0.

Bantam A Tigers 4 - Quincy Ing 2G 1A, Matthew Pryse 1G, Andrew McDonald 1G, Daniel Fiori 2A, Vincent Ruscica 1A, Eric Archibald 1A. Markham 3.

Newmarket 3. Bantam AE Tigers 2 - Casey Severini 1G, Paul Steiner 1G, Trevor George 1A.

Bantam AE Tigers 6 - Sasha Dajia 1G 2A, Peter Sandwell 2G 1A, Zach Ferry 1G 1A, Casey Severini 1G, Sam Steenhorst 1G, Connor McQuillan 1A, Massimo Longhin 2A, Connor Moody 1A. Innisfil Winterhawks 3.

Bantam AE Tigers 2 - Paul Steiner 1G, Zach Ferry 1G 1A, Trevor George 1A. Newmarket 0.

Minor Midget AA Tigers 3 - Andrew Papousek 1G 1A, Ty Brochu 1G, Sean Nishimura 2A, AJ Killens 1G 1A, Evan Collict 1A, Adam Balaban 1A. TNT 0.

Minor Midget AA Tigers 3 - Christopher Bull 1G, Andrew Papousek 2A, Evan Collict 1G, Matt Roy 1A, Ty Brochu 1G, Andrew Buchanan 1A, Ryan Kaszuba, shutout. TNT 0.

Minor Midget AA Tigers 8 - Evan Collict 2G 1A, AJ Killens 2G 2A, Andrew Buchanan 1G 2A, Dylan Hussey 1G 3A, Adam Balaban 2G, Mark Robertson 1A, Andrew Papousek 4A, Christopher Bull 2A. TNT 1.

Innisfil 7. Minor Midget A Tigers 2 - Reid Sisson 1G, Dylan Woyslaw 1A, Ryan Hughes 1A, Tyler White 1G, Matt Melito 1A.

Minor Midget A Tigers 3 - Matt Melito 1G 1A, Matt Skoulikas 1A, Alex Woodward 1G 1A, Marco Ghegin 1G 2A. Orillia 1.

Barrie 5. Midget AE Tigers 3.

Barrie 2. Midget AE Tigers 0

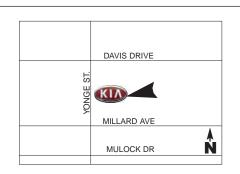
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Tigers lose pair of games to barely hold playoff spot

The Provincial Junior A Aurora Tigers barely kept their playoff hopes alive this week, winning one and dropping two games in what has not been the most successful start to the New Year the team has ever seen.

Sunday afternoon at the Aurora Community Centre,.a shootout was required to settle a game between the Tigers and the Trenton Golden Hawks .

Unfortunately, for Aurora, the Tigers lost the shootout and went down to a 6-5 loss to the Golden Hawks.

That loss came on the heels of a 6-3 victory Friday night in Aurora over Georgetown, which was preceded by a 5-3 loss to Bramalea earlier in the week.

Holding onto the final playoff berth, the Vaughan Vipers played Villanova Monday night, but results were not available at press time.

Vaughan is a mere two points back of Aurora who, with 10 games left in regular season play, had a chance to pick up a "four-pointer" Sunday afternoon.

However, both teams were tied at five when reg-ulation

Playing four on four in the overtime solved nothing, but Trenton outscored Aurora 2-1 in the shootout.

Friday night, in Aurora's first home game of the new year, the Tigers wasted little disposing of the Georgetown Raiders 6-3. The first period was fast paced, with the Tigers getting some serious chances, hitting posts and crossbars but coming up empty on the scoreboard.

It seemed to shock the Raiders that the Tigers were ready to play, so they started to hit. But so did the Tigers.

In the second, Tiger scoring leader Lucas VanNatter broke in to score with 90 seconds gone to put Aurora on the board.

Georgetown finally beat Aurora goalie Curtis Black on a powerplay with just over eight minutes gone in the period.

But, less than two minutes later, Tigers restored their lead.

On another powerplay two minutes later Alexi Pianosi scored.

Tigers led 3-1 after two peri-

With just under five minutes gone in the third, Jeff Vanderlugt scored his second of the game,

and the eventual game winner. Fewer than 15 seconds later

the Raiders got within two. But another 11 seconds later Aurora restored its threegoal lead.

Another minute later. Jeff Vanderlugt blocked a Raiders point shot that caromed to Cerilli and he again found VanNatter for a breakaway goal to make it

Georgetown was able to muster one more goal in the remainder of the game.

Earlier in the week, the wheels fell off the Tigers' wagon in the third period as they dropped another game to a team below them in the stand-

This time, the Tigers went into the third with a 3-1 lead and finished with a 5-3 loss to the Bramalea Bues at the Powerade Centre Wednesday

The game started well for the Tigers as Sloan Stewart scored with seven minutes gone in the game. Seven minutes later, the Blues tied it up.

With just over 16 minutes gone in the period Jeff Vanderlugt scored to send the Tigers to intermission with a 2-1

With just over four minutes gone in the second and the Tigers on a powerplay, Stewart again found the net to pad the Tigers lead.

In the third, the Blues got their momentum, scoring with three minutes gone in the period. By the middle of the period they had the lead and didn't give it back

After a very successful December, the Tigers have had a less than spectacular January, amassing only six of a possible 16 points.

The Tigers have had a dismal 2010 to this point; losing to teams below them in the standings, and not showing up against the better teams in the league. Once only a point away from fourth place, they have fallen to seventh place in the

Georgetown started the Tigers' year by blanking them 4-0 in Georgetown.

With the way the Tigers have played since then, there wasn't much optimism going into the game that the Tigers would fare well against the third place - and surging - Raiders Freday night.

But Aurora had different ideas and came up with a win.

Aurora plays three games this week, including two at the Community Centre. Friday, they host the Milton Icehawks in a game that begins at 7.30 p.m.

Saturday, they're on the road and play Villanova in the after-

Then Sunday, Aurora is back in the Community Centre to host Mississauga Chargers in a game that starts at 2.30

BRAMALEA 5 AURORA 3

First period

A - Sloan Stewart (Morley, Sardella) 7.37

B - Scott Benzoni (Brand, Gard) 14.28

A - Jeff Vanderlugt (Cerilli) 16.12

Second period

A - Sloan Stewart (Morley, Pianosi) PP 4.12

Third period

Chris Gard (Mastrodicasa, Ciotti) PP 3.02

B - Scott Benzoni (Clements, Krasnokutsky) 8.25

Kelly Barchan (Krasnokutsky, Defazio) 9.13 B - Joshua Burnell (Ciotti,

> **AURORA 6 GEORGETOWN 3**

First period

No scoring

Ranieri) PP 18.56

Second period

A - Lucas VanNatter (Cerilli, Taylor) 1.31

G - Dorian Peca (Van Dyk, Borges) PP 8.32

A - Jeff Vanderlugt (VanNatter, Pianosi) PP 10.07 A - Alexi Pianosi (Morley, Vangog) PP 13.37

Third period

A - Jeff Vanderlugt (Cerilli, VanNatter) 4.30

G - Sean Teakle (Rodrigues,

Basso) 4.41 A - Daniel Lisi (Vangog,

Pianosi) 4.52 A - Lucas VanNatter (Cerilli,

Vanderlugt) 5.57

G - Justin Basso (Teakle, Borges) 9.29

AURORA 5

First period

T - Jamie Haines (unassisted)

A - Sloan Stewart (Sardella) 17.18

A - Daniel Lisi (Vangog) 17.42 T - Logan Gabel (Frydrysek, Labbe) 17.57

Second period

T - Brad Gehl (Haines, Beauchamp) 3.17

A - Lucas VanNatter (Vanderlugt, Secco) PP 9.50 Morley David (Chiarantano, Taylor) PP 12.42

Third period

T - Chris Beauchamp (unassisted) 9.49

T - Nick Frydrysek (Gehl,

MacPherson) 10.49 A - Nick Vangog (Pianosi, Morley) 12.30

Overtime

No scoring

Shootout

Trenton 2 Aurora 1.



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Ducks haul in 70 medals at Pickering swim meet

The Ducks swim team from Aurora went south weekend for the Pickering Winter Fest Swim Meet and picked up a total of 70 medals.

The competition was the first of the new year for the Ducks and the bar was set high for 2010.

The Ducks left the pool deck in Pickering weighted down with the heavy load of medals earned in dominating the competition.

In total, the team won 25 gold medals, 22 silver and 23 bronze.

The gold medals were won by 16 different swimmers; 10 were from individual swims while six were the result of relay team efforts.

Head Coach Reg Chappell was enthusiastic about the 16 swimmers who received gold medals and the tremendous amount of improvement made this year.

"The work on our stroke technique and the discipline is beginning to pay off," he said.

Samantha Kaczor, 11, won a total of seven individual gold medals, one relay gold, one relay silver, and an individual bronze.

Her efforts won her the top points trophy for 11year-old girls.

In her signature event, the 50 metre butterfly, she won the gold medal by



Victoria Bridges, left, and Samantha Kaczor enjoy some free time with coach Reg Chappell, during a recent swim meet in Pickering. The pair won a total of 12 medals while they and teammates brought home a total of 70.

narrowly out-touching 11year-old nationally ranked distance freestyler Madeline Paradkar of Markham Aquatic Club.

Two backstroke events the 100 metre and 200 metre - were also highlights for the young swimmer.

She has been training diligently to master the technique in backstroke, and the results show that she has done just that.

Victoria Bridges, 10, also won a top points trophy, for the 10 & under girls category.

Her event winnings included three individual gold medals, one relay gold, and an individual bronze. Of her individual medals, she won one in each of the four competi-

tive strokes, showing her abilities as a well-rounded swimmer.

Cassie Beach, 14; Victoria Wicks, 13; and Kevin Boehnke, 18, also won multiple individual gold medals in the meet.

Other winners included: Shannon Meadway, 8, 100 Breast, Silver; 50 Fly, Silver.

Marcha Koren, 11, 50 Breast, Bronze,

Gladys Moraru, 11, 100 Free, Silver; 50 Back, Silver; 200 Ind Med., Bronze.

Karina Robb, 11, 50 Fly, Bronze; 100 Fly, Bronze.

Kirsten Douglas, 11, 100 Ind. Med., Silver.

Madisson Donovan, 12, 200 Free, Gold; 50 Breast, Bronze.

Lise Cinq-Mars,12, 50

Fly, Bronze; 100 Fly, Karina Robb, Sam Kaczor. Silver.

Sam Anderson, 12, 50 Breast, Gold; 100 Bronze; 200 Breast. Breast, Silver; 100 Fly, Bronze.

Ind Med., Bronze. Pallas Yao, 15, 50 Free, Silver; 200 Free, Gold; 100 Back, Silver; 100 Breast,

Summer Mortimer, 16, 50 Free, Gold: 100 Back.

Maxwell Jones, 9, 100 Free, Silver; 50 Back, Bronze; 50 Fly, Gold.

Laird Douglas, 9, 100 Breast, Silver.

Dominik Hykel, 11, 100 Free, Bronze; 200 Breast,

Matthew Doyle, 11, 50 Breast, Bronze; 100 Ind Med., Bronze,

Joey DiLisi, 12, 50 Breast, Silver; 200 Breast, Bronze.

Alejandro Hernandez, 13, 50 Breast, Bronze.

Jerry Peng, 13, 50 Fly, Silver; 100 Fly, Bronze; 400 Ind Med., Bronze.

Andrew Recine, 17, 50 Breast, Bronze.

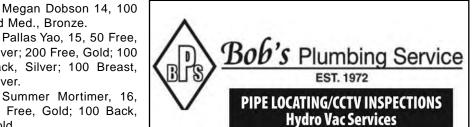
11 & Under 200 Free Relay - Gold - Gladys Moraru, Victoria Bridges, Karina Robb, Sam Kaczor.

11 & Under 200 Medlev Relay - Silver - Gladys Moraru, Marcha Koren, 12 & 13 year old 200

Free Relay -Silver -Victoria Wicks, Megan Dobson. Sarina Phoebe Samuelson.

14 & 15 year old 200 Sarina Yao, 13, 50 Fly, Med Relay - Silver - Pallas Yao, Victoria Wicks, Cassie Beach, Madisson Donovan.

16 & Over 200 Free Relay - Gold - Andrew Recine, Alejandro Hernandez, Jerry Peng, Christian Baldesarra.



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By CYNDY SKILLINS PACT chair

Who is Dave Woodford?

After a morning with Sergeant David Woodford I felt privileged having spent time with this veteran officer.

His business card reads Sergeant, Media Co-coordinator Highway Safety Division Ontario Provincial Police. He is so much more than that, though.

He is a happily married dad with three daughters and two grandchildren.

The family lives in the country on 10 acres of land.

His wife is a court reporter and also has a catering business. They also have an ice cream parlour called Banana Splitz in

Sgt Woodford really loves his job. His eyes smiled as he shared with me information about himself, his history and his family. Many of us see him on TV or hear him on the radio talking

about mishaps on the roadways around Ontario along with driving tips and advisories. With his friendly on-air personality a viewer/listener could

believe he is talking directly to them. In many cases he is doing

OPP has a mission statement of "Policing Excellence through our People, our Work, and our Relationships" I asked



Who is Dave Woodford?

Sgt. Woodford if he has a personal mission statement and he said it is "Saving Lives". Sgt. Woodford has been in policing for 26 years.

He started in Cardinal, Ontario, at the age of 27. There were three men on the Cardinal force. He also volunteered with their local fire department and

had the option to work either with the police or fire services. He stayed in policing as he felt comfortable with the community policing philosophy.

He moved to Napanee Police for three years and when OPP took over the Region Dave became part of the OPP family. He came to OPP's Highway Division in Aurora in 1993.

He started his service focus early at the age through to 16 as a boy scout.

As an adult he has been active with the Lions Club, minor hockey, minor baseball and even now he and his family billet hockey players and exchange students.

Sgt. Woodford has held his current position since Cam Woolley retired in 2008.

Dave's job has many demands yet his enthusiasm is infectious as he explains his duties. His day starts at 5 a.m., usually with phone calls from the media asking for information.

The calls are constant throughout the day on his blackberry, phone, cell, radio or computer. He works with the HET (Highway Enforcement Team) and Traffic Support Team for OPP and is responsible for on-air interviews, media releases,

on site accident duties and numerous general public meetings.

He also trains and coaches other officers in media relations. Dave also finds time to be an active member of the Ontario Provincial Police Association as Secretary for 10 years, Detachment Rep. and currently is also a Uniform Director.

Many people think that Highway Division work is all about writing tickets and going to the scenes of collisions.

While that may be part of their duties, it's not everything. If you think about it, every "bad guy" uses a road to get to and away from the scene of a crime so all aspects of policing are needed by the officers of our Aurora OPP Highway Division.

There are several messages that Sgt. Woodford constantly repeats as they are of significant value.

- * Wear vour seat belt.
- * Make sure children in your care are properly belted.
- * Slow to the proper speed of the highway and conditions.
- * Do not drive impaired either by drugs, alcohol or fatigue. * Be attentive to the task of driving; do not get distracted.

Auto collisions, deaths and injuries are avoidable. They cost us a great deal emotionally and physically.

Listen to Sgt. Woodford's message.

Next time you get into your car, put on your safety belt and start the engine think about Sgt. Woodford and the other OPP officers that are out there helping us all arrive alive.



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TED STRACHAN

Aurora's Ted Strachan joined RCAF in 1952

In the immediate aftermath of World War Two, the Soviet Union and United States emerged as the world's new "superpowers".

The deterioration of relations between these nations and their respective allies began what was to be known as the "Cold War" and which lasted until the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991

One of many Canadians who joined the military during this uncertain time was Aurora's Ted Strachan.

Born on June 21st, 1936, in Vancouver, Ted joined the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) in 1952 at Sea Island Airport as "reserve support" which was a high school summer training program with 3055 Technical Training Unit.

When asked why he joined up, Ted responded in typical low-key pilot fashion by saying "they paid and fed me and trained me besides giving me an ill-fitting uniform with unpolished buttons."

With a desire to fly foremost in his mind, Ted started his career after two weeks of officer personal selection at London's Grumlin Field, then on to six weeks officer training, then 37 weeks of basic flying training on Harvard aircraft at Claresholm, Alberta.

He then moved on to Portage LaPrairie, Manitoba, for 12 weeks of advanced flight training on T-33 Silver Star jets, followed by six weeks gunnery and bombing training at MacDonald, Manitoba, after which he was released to the Home Reserve Squadron 442 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Upon completion of his civilian schooling. Ted joined RCAF Regular Force in January, 1956, whereupon he under took an instrument training Saskatoon. course Saskatchewan, then transferred to the CF100 Operational Training Unit (OTU) in Cold Lake, Alberta, before being posted to 425 Squadron in St. Hubert, Quebec, flying CF100 Mark III's, IV's & V's.

His call sign while at 425 Squadron was "Blacksheep 8" and he was aptly nicknamed "Scratch" and "Stretch" due to his tall stature.

During his military career, Ted flew a variety of aircraft including the AT 6 Harvard, De Havilland Chipmunk, C 45 Expeditor, P 51 Mustang, B 25 Mitchell, the T-33 Silver Star jet, De Havilland Vampire, CF100 Canuck and F86J Sabre fight-

One memorable situation that Ted recounted was when he was stationed at St. Hubert:

"I stayed late in the mess one Friday evening after beer call telling war stories (lies), I was living in single quarters, when I was approached by Station Duty Orderly Officer and drafted to be 'Officer -in-Charge' of fighting a fire on a mountain near St. Hillaire,

"The mountain was owned by a retired army general and the fire was accidentally started by boy scouts on a camping

"It took three days and nights of no sleep to bring the fire under control.

"We found out later the local fire department could have taken over at any time but staved quiet so they could spend the weekend with their

"Of course, after the weekend was over, they joined us and took full credit for winning the battle over the fire "Bli La Montaigne".

"We were too tired to object - I slept for two days after the fire was out. I still have today, a favourite spot in my heart for those who fight fires in mountainous and treacherous regions."

Ted left the RCAF in January 1960, to pursue a position as a pilot with Air Canada, flying with them for the next 28 years in a variety of aircraft including the Vickers Viscount, DC9, DC8, L1011 and B767.

Ted and his wife, Carol, herself a senior Air Canada hostess, have lived in Aurora since 1991 and are both active members of the Colonel Fred Tilston Legion Branch 385.

His own involvement with the Royal Canadian Legion her of Branch 55 in Port Hardy, British Columbia.

Mentoring group celebrates birthday

From page 1

in two rooms of the Church Street School and remained there until 2001 when a move was made to the former library due to renovations at the old

moved its operation to on Victoria Street. Newmarket.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a Glen non-profit organization committed to serving those at risk children who with some extra attention could strive to achieve their full potential and grow into adults who would contribute positively to society.

The concept of the organization started in Cincinnati in 1903 when businessman Irving Westheimer noticed a little boy searching through some garbage for food.

He invited the boy, Tom, to a organization. decent lunch and when he took the boy home and saw his family's appalling conditions, he offered the boy's widowed mother and oldest sister jobs in his factory.

As the friendship between the man and the boy flourished, he convinced other men at his club to begin similar relationships and it was one of the boys who coined the phrase "Big Brother".

The group's single biggest fund-raiser is the annual Bowl for Kids' Sake, which happens in several bowling alleys throughout York Region every

In Aurora, it's slated for the Gateway Cafe and Lanes,

As York is one of the fastest growing areas in Canada the need and the demand for the program has increased. More and more children are growing up without the direction of a significant role model.

In 1995, Big Brothers of York introduced In-School Mentoring, a cooperative effort between the agency and the York Region District City School Board.

The program is designed to promote the healthy development of boys and girls in Grades 2 and 3.

It addresses the needs of goes all the way back to 1961 children who with extra support where he was a founding mem- and encouragement would feel good about themselves rather than fall through the cracks.

Anti-idling program will educate drivers

see new signs telling them to turn off their engines in a new anti-idling "education program".

As the Town does not have an official anti-idling bylaw, the move is seen more as a pre-emptive educational measure.

"I would say for probably five years now, the [Environmental Advisory Committee] has wanted to adopt an anti-idling bylaw," said Councillor Evelina MacEachern. "It is a costly bylaw to monitor and enforce so what the committee has decided to do is educate instead of policing." Councillor MacEachern

said this is akin to "educating the public".

She added that while the recommendations made two and a half years ago, the new signs are now ready to go and it is "a question of waiting for the ground to thaw to erect

The councillor said the signs will be installed outside town facilities such as arenas where idling engines seem to be a particular

By November, 2003, if a 1977 the agency was located person was looking for a Big Sister, it was necessary to contact Big Brothers.

After merging at the national level, Big Brothers of York became Big Brothers Big Sisters of York and continued That's where the group was to work out of their temporary when it ran out of room and facilities at the former Library

> At a launching ceremony, Walterhouse, agency's first executive director and Bill Ferguson the first Big Brother were in attendance.

> Morag Wolfe, executive director of the agency said they would now be able to respond to the wishes of the community including many of the existing families who want Big Sisters.

The former Big Sisters of York decided to stay separate united with Girls Incorporated, an American

By May, 2005, Executive Director Wolfe, who is currently the head of the new organization, reported that at the end of 2004 there were 108 Big Brother and Big Sister matches, a 37 per cent increase over

In April, 2006, after more than 30 years in Aurora, Big Brothers Big Sisters of York moved to Main Street in Newmarket due to a growing demand for services and the need for larger permanent accommodation.



Hospice King-Aurora We're pleased to introduce two new Wellness Programs:

Music for Life music therapy group One of the main reasons people participate in music therapy is because it makes them feel good. It can be a safe place to explore fear, joy, anxiety and anger. Join us for a hands-on musical experience where you can explore the meaning of music through listening, playing and creating. No music training or experience is necessary. Music for Life runs for eight weeks and is open to individuals diagnosed with life-threatening illness, their caregivers or support person and those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

Music for Life runs Sundays for 8 weeks starting

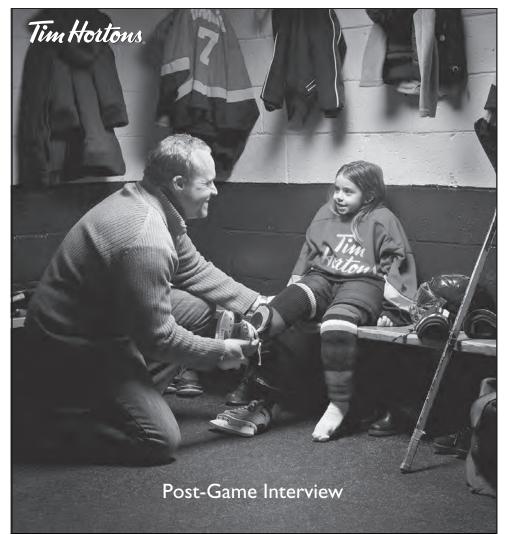
Sunday February 8th @ 1:30 to 2:30pm at Hospice King-Aurora.

Picking up the Pieces for cancer survivors How do you move forward with your life after you have been affected by cancer? This practical program offers an opportunity to come together, share feelings, hopes and fears and will provide tools and resources to move forward post cancer treatment. Sherri Magee's book "Picking Up the Pieces: Moving forward after surviving cancer" will be used as the vehicle for discussion. Picking Up the Pieces runs for ten weeks starting on

Wednesday January 27, 2010 @ 1:30pm - 3:00pm at Hospice King-Aurora.

Other Wellness Programs available: Art Therapy, Yoga, Reiki, Reflexology & Bowen. All are facilitated by certified professionals. All programs & services are offered free of charge. Donations are welcomed

Hospice King-Aurora offers specialized services to support those living with life-threatening illness, people who care for them and those who are bereaved. Care © Compassion © Support For more information or to register, contact: Trish Seguin, Visiting & Wellness Programs (905) 773-0155 x22 or email t.seguin@hospicekingaurora.ca



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dance Miller Judy studied academic painting and drawing in Florence, Italy. She has appeared on City Line TV.



Senior Scape

Seniors get help from students

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Aurora Seniors Association (ASA) consists of tation was offered of the membership, cobbled together from seniors from all walks of life that fit together like a jigsaw puzzle.

intermingling, the participants all of the other working parts are transformed into a membership studded with many members playing more than one part.

Emerging from this medley of active seniority are many caring hearts, dedicated to assist the vulnerable in every way imaginable, and at this time, teaching school children to knit blankets to cover orphans in Africa has cates that 541 e-mail inspired help directed to the needs of the orphans.

The willing hearts of ASA seniors allied with the moral dynamism of grade school children in Aurora's Northern Lights School, signifies the ASA and would like to beginning of a vigorous and important event.

The children of Grades 4 and 5, attending Northern Lights School have raised their awareness to the challenge of adversity imposed on children by loss of parents, and have received their first knitting lesson from the ASA Knotty Knitters, and the lesson went well.

Five seniors had volunteered to teach knitting and others joined in and helped to make the teaching session a fun event.

What is required now is for yarn and wool to be donated, largely by people who will do so unseen and who ask little or no recognition for what they donate.

The wool supplies are crucial and will be utilized immediately or in the near future to alleviate the need for blan-

If anything is left over it will be used for whatever or wherever a needy cause arises.

Following this humane commitment, the savagery of an earthquake hit Haiti.

The earthquake numbing in its ferocity and devastation. The severity of the earthquake so soon after Christmas, serves to focus our minds where we can assist to mitigate disaster.

The commitment to knitting blankets will continue while the ASA will address the needy in Haiti with a musical event, which is in the early stage of organization.

The proceeds of this musical event, will be donated to the needy in Haiti and will add to help donated from the world over.

Wednesday, a visit to the ASA computer room revealed the attraction the new hours for the Drop In program are having.

It was a pleasant surprise to find the computer room busy with members clustered in small groups and active with the computers.

All of this time the computer room was active with people coming or going and with others operating computers.

Later in the day a presen-ASUS computers. The ASUS computer which caught my attention consisted of a wireless mouse and keyboard. With the benefit of natural and a flat monitor containing of the computer, taking up little space.

> The ASA through the Computer Club operates a dependable flash e-mail service, which dispenses information quickly and efficiently to those who have their e-mail addresses registered with the program.

Current information indiaddresses are registered and of these, 24 have new email addresses but have not informed the e-mail service of the change.

If you are a member of the receive this service, leave a printed address, including your

name and membership number at the ASA front counter.

Good and interesting communications make the flash e-mail a welcome addition to incoming e-mail, and if required, a simple request for removal will be respected.

The ASA and each of the programs or activities find a use for this method for communicating with members.

The ASA continues as a community service to seniors and must be the envy of other communities.

No social gap exists among members; all stand on an equal footing and all are accepted equally.

No matter what happens elsewhere, whether tragedy or any description of momentous events, life in the ASA continues, longer and better.

Day after day new members join the ASA and are drawn into the senior fold and share the pleasure of good company.

Business Initiative strategy pays off

Aurora's 2009's Year of Business Initiatives was a success for the town, said Anthony Ierullo, Manager of Strategic

In a memo received Tuesday night, Mr. Ierullo said six key areas were successfully tackled during the themed year, including the development of an economic development website, business retention and expansion strategies, a study of the Aurora Promenade, small business workshops, and construction investment.

"These activities are a testament to council's commitment to supporting the local business community in Aurora," he said.

Mr. lerullo's report said the growth value in commercial and industrial sectors was up 190 per cent from 2008 numbers.

The town also strove to make economic information more successful through the new economic development website, which Mr. Ierullo called "a virtual economic development office" to provide advice to residents and business.

He also cited small business workshops as being particularly well received, with each of the three workshops reaching "near sell-out crowds.'

In the coming months, a secondary plan for the Yonge Street and Wellington Street Corridors will be presented by the town.

The plan will stem from studies conducted over the course of the Year of Business Initiative to look at ways of promoting opportunities and economic development in Aurora's downtown core.

Mayor Phyllis Morris declared 2009 the Year of Business initiative in February of

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