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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper

Vol. 10 No. 3 905-727-3300 auroran.com FREE Week of November 3, 2009

Residents fight board's decision on Wells closing

Members of the Aurora community have filed an application for an administrative review of the York Region District School Board's decision to close Wells Street Public School.

The application, signed by 14 parents and community members, is reinforced by 176 petitions signed by Wells Street students and community supporters.

Located in the heart of Aurora, Wells Street Public School has served children in the community for more than 100 years.

Despite overwhelming community support for rebuilding the school, including a 1,000-person

parade, articulate arguments by students and parents, and the support of Aurora's mayor and council, board trustees voted September 24 to close the historic school.

The application has been filed with Minister of Education Kathleen Wynne.

An administrative review allows the Minister to appoint a facilitator to determine whether the Board's accommodation review (ARC) process was undertaken in a manner consistent with the Board's own ARC policy.

Ministry guidelines require
Please see page 9



Hailey Kassella, left, and Ella Romasanta, were two of the students from the former Wells Street School who took part in the annual march past Vic's Shoe Repair last week. Vic, who has retired and sold his business to Reza Haghairi, was on hand for the event which he has organized for the past three decades. This year, employees from nearby Casa Luna furniture store and Hestia Global store joined in to present the students with treats. Students who once attended the historic school on Wells Street, now come from Aurora Grove Public School on Stone Road.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Briefly

Another award for David

Aurora's Citizen of the Year has added another award to a list of many. David Tomlinson was the successful recipient of a 2009 Ontario Senior Achievement Award. The Honourable David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, presented the award recently.

Mr. Tomlinson was nominated for his committed and dedicated volunteerism in Aurora and the surrounding communities in the field of Environmental Science.

Mr. Tomlinson and his wife Dierdre are both members of Aurora Seniors' Centre.

Guest speaker

Dr. Nancy Merrow, chief of staff at Southlake Regional Health Centre, will be the guest speaker at a regular Aurora Probus Club meeting this month.

She will address the group Wednesday, Nov. 18 at 11 a.m.

Among other things, Dr. Merrow will discuss cardiac and cancer care at the Newmarket hospital and will provide an overview of the operation including the teaching agenda.

The Probus Club, a group of retired professional and business people, meet at the Aurora Legion building on Industrial Parkway North.

This meeting is open to the general public. For further information, call Bob Staley at 905-727-5017.



Dr. Nancy Merrow

Aurora defers partnering Neighbourhood Network

When it comes to volunteers, the Town of Aurora may be suffering from too much of a good thing.

A motion tabled by Councillor Evelyn Buck at last week's council meeting recommended the town partner with Neighbourhood Network.

According to their website, this group is a "non-profit community-based organization that brings together volunteers with local charities that assist Newmarket and Aurora residents in need".

However, Rosemary Park, representing Info Aurora, recommended to council that they not approve the motion.

Info Aurora is a non-profit group that currently has an agreement with the town.

Its members provide a number

of services, including greeting and directing over 9,000 visitors a year at Town Hall, maintaining volunteer sign-up lists, and helping with

town events, she said.

According to Ms Park, there was duplication in some of the

Please see page 9

Legal fees info on website

As was first raised at the October 13 council meeting, and reconfirmed a couple of weeks later, the town will be posting details on its legal expenses for the past several years on the town's website.

This was in response to an advertisement from the Aurora Coalition that appeared in The Auroran recently that identified a series of town legal costs obtained through a Freedom of Information request.

Council felt that the pub-

lished figures were misleading, in part because they did not differentiate between advocacy fees and administrative contracted fees.

Also decided at the meeting was that the town's figures, which have been provided in the past, would remain on the town's website until December 31, 2010, which is after the term of the current Council.

As of press time, this information had yet to appear on the website.

* Based on IMS Statistics
** Some conditions may apply

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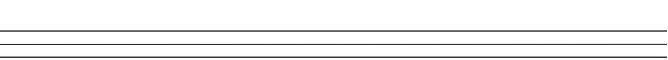
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CONTINUING

Photos, by Aurora's Rob Schuetze, will be on display for the month of November at the Skylight Gallery on the third floor of the Aurora Town Hall, during regular business hours. Prints range in size from 12" x 16" to 40" x 60".

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 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 Company's Children's Chorus is a new treble voice choir dedicated to educating, nurturing and providing opportunities for children to express their musical abilities. The chorus is open to boys and girls in Grades 1 through 12 and consists of two choirs: Angel Choristers, a training choir for six and seven-year-olds and the Children Chorus, open to eight to 17-year-olds. To audition, contact general director Sarah Kyle at keepsinging@look.ca.

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 Tuesday from 9.30 to 11 a.m. it's Story and Playtime at Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South for tots (age 0-4 years) and their caregivers for coffee or tea. Call 905-841-8883 for further details.

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 information call 905-841-1352.

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.



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COMING EVENTS

under the direction of Enid Maize.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Aurora Chamber of Commerce hosts a New Member Orientation Breakfast at the Chamber office, 14483 Yonge Street, Aurora, from 7.30 to 8.45 a.m. This session is for members who have joined the Chamber since May, 2009, and will feature presentations by Board members and Chamber staff highlighting the benefits of membership.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

The York Regional Police Male Chorus will host their 17th Annual "In Harmony With the Community" fundraising concert at the St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 17955 Leslie Street, Newmarket. Start time is 7.30 p.m. Performing this year will be the York Region Children's Chorus, the Ottawa Police Chorus, the Toronto Police Association Male Chorus and the York Regional Police Male Chorus. Tickets are \$10. For tickets or info call 905-727-9676.

Hadley Grange Crafters 4th annual craft and gift show. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 16105 Yonge Street, the first driveway north of the St. John's Sideroad on the east side of Yonge.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

The Aurora Film Circuit presents Summer Hours, starring Juliet Binoche (as a blonde!), a near-perfect blend of humor and heartbreak. The death of family matriarch Hélene Berthier forces her children to confront their past. They experience the erosion of their childhood memories when, in accordance with their mother's legacy, they must relinquish treasured heirlooms. The film is about generations, about a changing Europe, and about the loss of beautiful things. Tickets, at \$10 each are available at R&R used bookstore and the Aurora Public Library.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce will hold an Educational Seminar with Kendra Reddy at the Aurora Public Library, Magna Room from 8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. The topic, Navigating Your Way to Profit on Web 2.0, will give participants an in-depth look at the benefits of using social media, social networking, and online marketing to compete and grow their businesses. Cost is \$60 for members or \$75 for potential members. Price includes a continental breakfast.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Lloyd Chadburn, Aurora's WWII flying ace will be the subject of discussion at an Aurora Historical Society meeting beginning at 8 p.m. His story will be told by a boyhood friend and admirer. The evening is presented by the Aurora Historical Society and the event will be held at the Church Street School Cultural Centre (22 Church Street, Aurora). Everyone is welcome to attend. A donation is requested from non-members. For more information, call the Society at 905-727-8991.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

From 4.30 to 6.30 p.m., Hospice King-Aurora will be hosting an open house at 155 King Road in Oak Ridges. For further information contact info@hospicekingaurora.ca or phone 905-773-0155.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

14th annual Christmas Fair and Artisans Craft Sale at Lynett Hall, 16 Catherine Avenue, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., brought to you by Our Lady of Grace Catholic Women's League.

Christmas Bazaar at St. Andrew's Church, Aurora, includes a traditional "spud" lunch prepared by St. Andrew's Guild. The annual event, held in the hall at the corner of Mosley and Victoria Streets, begins at 10 a.m. and continues to 1.30 p.m., with the lunch starting at 11 a.m. Tickets

are \$8; \$4 for children aged 4 to 9.

The Ninth Annual Silent Auction and Bake, presented by TOAST (Town of Aurora Staff Together) will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Centre, 1400 Wellington Street East. All proceeds will be donated to the Children's Aid Society "Holiday Hero Program" to help families in Aurora. Leaf Tickets, gift baskets, household items, baked items, will be available. If you would like to donate call 905-726-4370.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Trinity Anglican Church on Victoria Street will hold their Merry "Twinkling" Christmas bazaar, from 9.30 a.m. to 3 p.m. with luncheon served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. All proceeds go to ACW Outreach and Parish Needs. Call 905-727-6101 for further information.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Annual Santa Claus parade begins at Orchard Heights Blvd. at 6 p.m.

NOVEMBER 28 AND 29

23rd Annual Optimists' Book Sale at the Aurora Library.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

From 1 to 4 p.m., Hillary House will be decorated by members of the Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society. Fires will glow in the fireplace, the smell of mulled cider will fill the air and the sound of familiar carols will be heard. There will be games and crafts for children, home-made refreshments and maybe even a visit from Old St. Nick. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for accompanied children. Hillary House is located at 15372 Yonge Street, Aurora. All proceeds go to the care and restoration of Hillary House National Historic Site. For more information, call the Aurora Historical Society at 905-727-8991.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

At 7.30 p.m. the ballroom of Hillary House will come alive with a performance by local Auroran music group Sommerset. Refreshments will be served. Tickets to this event must be purchased in advance amd are \$20 each, with Aurora Historical Society members receiving a discounted ticket price. For tickets and more information call the Aurora Historical Society at 905-727-8991. Space is limited.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

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



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Aurora historian David Heard, right, dressed for the occasion and had nearly 200 people in his three spirit walks held last week in the old part of town. What started out to be a single walk, grew to three as people wanting to take the tour kept applying. In his first group Friday night, more than 70 people heard stories about haunted houses in the Yonge-Wellington area.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Aurora Drive Test Centre employees still on strike

Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees, the Progressive Conservative Transportation Critic, is not about to let up on his call for an end to the strike that's keeping thousands of Ontarians from getting access to services at licensing offices across the province.

Klees raised the issue in the Legislature again last week and pointed out that certain services that are being offered at a downtown Toronto Service Ontario office should be made available right across the province.

Earlier, he called on transportation minister Jim Bradley to resolve the issues surrounding the now 10-week old strike at DriveTest Centres across the province.

One of the Centres is located in a plaza at the corner of Yonge Street and

Henderson Drive in Aurora.

"Either stop the discrimination against people who live outside of Toronto or stop the strike," said Klees. "More and more people are being affected by this strike as time goes on, and this government seems indifferent to the hardships it's causing."

"Jobs are being lost because truck drivers can't upgrade their licences, new drivers can't get licences with the result that they can't get jobs, and they can't enrol in new job training or college programs," Klees told Bradley on the floor of the Legislature.

According to the MPP, who lives in Aurora, the Ontario government's contract with Serco, the private sector company that delivers the services at the DriveTest Centres, obligates it to ensure that wait

times for road tests are no more than six weeks, that there are acceptable service levels and that under the terms of the contract, the Ontario Transportation Ministry would "safeguard the public interest".

"Serco is not meeting its obligations under the contract they have with the province of Ontario," Mr. Klees said. "Why has the Minister not stepped in to ensure that they meet those obligations and that Ontarians aren't held hostage?"

Ontarians are hurting, he said.

"It's not enough to extend deadlines (for licence expiry dates). There are people who need to take those tests to upgrade their licences, to get their first licence. Not only are people losing jobs because they can't get their licences, jobs are being lost at businesses, such as Young Drivers of Canada who do driver training, because their clients can't be scheduled for road tests," he said.

Mr. Klees refused to accept the minister's assertion that the government does not want to interfere in the labour negotiations.

"It has come to my attention that in fact an offer has been made, but the union is refusing to put that offer to a vote by its members," Klees said. "I am asking the Minister of Transportation and the Minister of Labour to intervene to ensure at the very least, that an offer that has been put forward is put to a vote by the employees."



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Sheppard's Bush plan is approved

After two years of work, the Sheppard's Bush Conservation Area Management Plan has been completed, and last week, was endorsed by Council.

Sheppard's Bush, which covers more than 26 hectares in the heart of Aurora, is owned by the Ontario Heritage Trust, and managed by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA). The town of Aurora is also a partner in that it provides much of the maintenance to the property, including both the forested areas, and the soccer field.

The new Management Plan, developed by a Steering Committee with input from various parties, including the public, provides a roadmap for the future management of the park, and is the first such Plan created since 1979.

Councillor Evelina MacEachern, who chaired the Steering Committee, noted that "the Management Plan will assist with balancing resident usage and protection and enhancement of the wildlife and environment".

Brian Kemp and Bill Thompson from the LSRCA appeared at Council to provide an overview.

According to the Plan, "Sheppard's Bush Conservation area will be managed to provide a functional example of Aurora's natural and cultural heritage, including opportunities for education and outdoor recreation".

Some of the specific projects envisioned over the next five years are to improve the energy efficiency of the Sheppard House, investigate relocating the Petch House to the site, reduce the number of non-sanctioned trails to minimize the impact on wildlife and wildlife habitat, improve the remaining trails, upgrade the evaporator hut and log cabin, and expand existing programming.

One activity that is unlikely to continue, according to Mr. Kemp, is Maple Fest.

Although this annual maple syrup demonstration was both popular and provided some revenues, far too much staff time is required to run this program.

On the plus side, the use of the former evaporator hut for summer camps over an eight-week period has proven very successful, and these activities will be expanded.

Apart from its use for soccer, hiking and summer camps, Sheppard's Bush is also used in the spring for the Lion's Pancake Breakfast, in the summer for Doors Open, and in Autumn for The Haunted Forest.

Although 90 per cent of the users are from Aurora, the town

covers only a small portion of the park's costs.

The Master Plan notes that the cost to implement all of the proposed initiatives and maintain the area will be \$250,000 over five years.

Aurora would be asked to contribute approximately \$56,000 over this time.

However, since \$35,000 of that would be provided "in-kind", for such things as maintenance, the cost would only average just over \$4,000 a year.

This funding would be spent on such things as trail repair, benches, and marketing.

Despite concerns from Councillor Evelyn Buck that staff should provide written feedback on the plan's budget to ensure the town's interests were covered, Director of Finance Dan Elliott suggested the proposed annual amounts would not have a significant impact.

Leisure Services Director Al Downey, who was on the team that developed the Plan, noted that it would not be difficult to absorb this amount within his

department's budget.

The park's remaining finance needs of just under \$200,000 over the next five years would be covered mainly through facility rentals, event revenues, and the Windfall Ecology Centre.

Council endorsed the Management Plan, and also approved the placing of a notice on the town's Notice Board thanking those who had participated in the development of the plan.

Mayor Phyllis Morris also thanked the two members who had appeared from the LSRCA, saying that "we look forward to continuing our relationship with you".

Perhaps the most important person acknowledged through all this was the late Reginald Sheppard. As noted in Councillor MacEachern's memo, Aurorans have him to thank for his "tremendous generosity...for gifting this treasure that keeps on giving, providing endless hours of pleasure and benefits to our community, wildlife and natural environment".

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Aurora Knights win two awards

Aurora's Knights of Columbus Council #6519 is a winner.

The group recently learned it was the winner of the Columbian and Father McGivney awards for the 2008-2009 fraternal year.

The Father McGivney award, named for the founder of the organization, is given in recognition of outstanding membership recruitment and retention efforts.

The Columbian Award is presented for excellence in sponsoring programs that serve the church, community, families and youth, as well as council members.

Announcement of the prizes was made by the Knight of Columbus international headquarters located in New Haven, Connecticut.

Mario Martignany, District Deputy, presented

the engraved plaque to the council at a special ceremony last month.

In recognizing the Aurora winners, president of the international organization, Carl A. Anderson said, "the dedication to the Order shown by your council is seen in the high standard of excellence you have achieved. I encourage you to carry forward this enthusiasm to meeting the challenges that will face the Knights of Columbus in the years ahead."

"Receiving this award is quite an honour," said Aurora council head James Clark. "We are pleased with this accomplishment and very thankful for the recognition."

The K of C is the world's largest Catholic lay organization, with more than 1.7 million members in more than 13,000 councils.



Poor Ronnie

By RON WALLACE

A Step In Time pretty spooky

Joined one of David Heard’s “Spirit Walks” last Friday night, and I’m glad I did.

What started out to be a single walk a month or so ago, grew into three walks Thursday and Friday because so many people wanted to see what it was all about.

In total, nearly 200 people attended the three walks and to say Heard is happy about that is an understatement.

“This could become an annual event,” he said Saturday, “This could be the tourist draw Aurora is looking for.”

David’s main selling point on the walk is the fact he lets you make up your own mind about things that happened years ago.

He would tell stories about occurrences in certain houses then let you decide if they were true or not.

The Walk I was on, part of David’s “Step In Time” tours, left the Wells Street School building, headed north on Wells Street, eventually west on Wellington, south on Yonge and east on Mosley, back to Wells Street.

Note to self: David, find another route that doesn’t use Wellington or Yonge Streets, because the traffic is so heavy, it’s hard to hear what you’re saying.

And, to whoever was driving that truck that idled in the middle of Mosley Street when David was trying to address his audience: that was simply rude.

Heard really gets into his subject, pointing out that he can trace his roots back to Aurorans who helped grow the town.

He’s related, he says, to Aurora’s 13th mayor. Doesn’t that scare you, just a bit?

He can tell stories about houses along the way, the United Church, the old post office and several other buildings.

But he doesn’t know what happened to the north tower of the Aurora United Church. Neither do I, although I wish someone would tell me.

I have seen old pictures of the church with both towers on it.

The south one came off during a tornado that ripped through the area back in the 1800s. Did the same fate befall the north tower, too?

Does anyone know?
At the end of the tour, David handed out postcards to all participants. The front shows an old picture of the United Church with the south tower still intact.

The picture is covered with a poem that David wrote. All in all, the three walks raised more than \$700, which the organizer immediately gave to his favourite charity, Kerry’s Place, that operates out of Aurora.

Said one participant on the walk:
“There were gasps, there were questions, there were laughs, there was community, there was spirit.

Way to go Dave! We’ll be back next year for sure.”
And I think that’s the answer. One a year...preferably around Hallowe’en.

Advertise the hell out of it. Make it an annual event.
David can still, as he did last summer, hold walks through the old part of Aurora, but the “Spirit Walk” should be an annual event only.

If he needs three or more walks to accommodate everyone, so be it.
But to hold a similar walk several times a year may be premature.

NEW BOOK

This week, I’ll attend the launch of a book on Robert Black...you know, Black’s Photography.

Robert was living in Aurora when he died earlier this year, and his oldest son, Bryan, still lives here.
As does the author of the book, Marnie Maguire.

Which makes me wonder why Aurora was never mentioned in the book.
Even North Bay, my hometown, was referred to once. I’ll ask about Aurora and let you know next week.

ANOTHER DEATH

I learned from Aurora mayor Phyllis Morris Monday afternoon that Bob Montgomery had died.

Last time I saw Bob, he was a resident at Aurora Resthaven on Mill Street.
My condolences to his family.

Apparently, the family was making funeral arrangements and they were not available at our press time.



The photo shows what the top of Tyler Street looked like many years ago, and comes from the front of a postcard collection, owned by David Heard. Across the street, and down the hill, is the famous Collis Leather plant. The building still exists.

Letter to the Editor

Plenty of groups in Aurora provide community service

To the editor,

Every week The Auroran uses most of Page Two in the paper to tell readers about upcoming community events organized by local non-profit groups.

And many residents writing to The Auroran, the Poor Ronnie columns, Scott Johnston in his editorial cartoons, and Stephen Somerville in his columns, point out the importance, good work performed, and enormous satisfaction and pride felt by people who volunteer in Aurora.

But just how big and pivotal is the voluntary AKA non-profit sector in Aurora?

Here are a few facts and figures from the Information Aurora Community Information and Volunteer Centre database, and York Region Community Foundation.

Not including Aurora schools or community groups’ staging special events, there are more than 190 charitable and non-profit community organizations located and/or providing community services specifically in the Town of Aurora.

Residents do not have to travel outside town boundaries to find programs ranging from air and army cadets, addiction services, artist groups, bereavement assistance, child care, community gardens, cultural associations, environmental protection, food bank, clothing drop-offs, faith congregations, hobby clubs, library, performing arts, ratepayers associations, residential care or abuse shelter, service clubs, support to business owners, support to seniors, theatre, and so on.

In 2008, Information Aurora registered more than 327,925

visits to its database of people looking for information about community or government offices and services in Aurora.

Driver testing, Blue Hills Family Services, Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Bayview North Medical Services were the top four records receiving the most visits.

York Region Community Foundation (of which I am the past Chair) tracks the financial reporting of registered charities in York Region.

There are 54 registered charities, and 14 public or private foundations with home addresses in Aurora.

They are primarily educational, faith and special needs, child care, environmental, and performing arts charities.

Again not including schools, they annually report more than \$90 million in revenues with two thirds of this revenue coming from government funding.

It leaves more than \$30 million to be raised each year by these Aurora charities via fundraising, special events, donations, membership fees, investment income, etc.

It is important to note that the above figures are for Aurora charitable organizations, and do not therefore include financials or activity of the additional 120-plus non-profit agencies, community and neighbourhood groups in Aurora without charitable status.

When it comes to volunteering in 2008, Information Aurora registered 28,905 visits to its database of people looking to volunteer at one of 272 Aurora community agencies, with the Town of Aurora, and/or the Lake St George Conservation site in

Oak Ridges.

Volunteer positions listed by Yellow Brick House, Oak Ridges Trail Association, CHATS, and Aurora Retirement Centre were the top four records visited.

Information Aurora also endeavours to refer callers or e-mails of residents wanting to volunteer for such.

Just to give a sense of the larger need for volunteers in York Region, on any given day, take Monday, Oct 26, for example, these Aurora and other community agencies and

municipal governments across York Region will collectively list in the larger York Region Community Information and Voluntere Centre database, more than 730 different volunteer opportunities, and post more than 7,000 volunteers needed.

And so, when someone asks just how big is Aurora’s giving and helping, I hope we can all proudly say - HUGE.

Rosemary Park
Info Aurora

THE AURORAN

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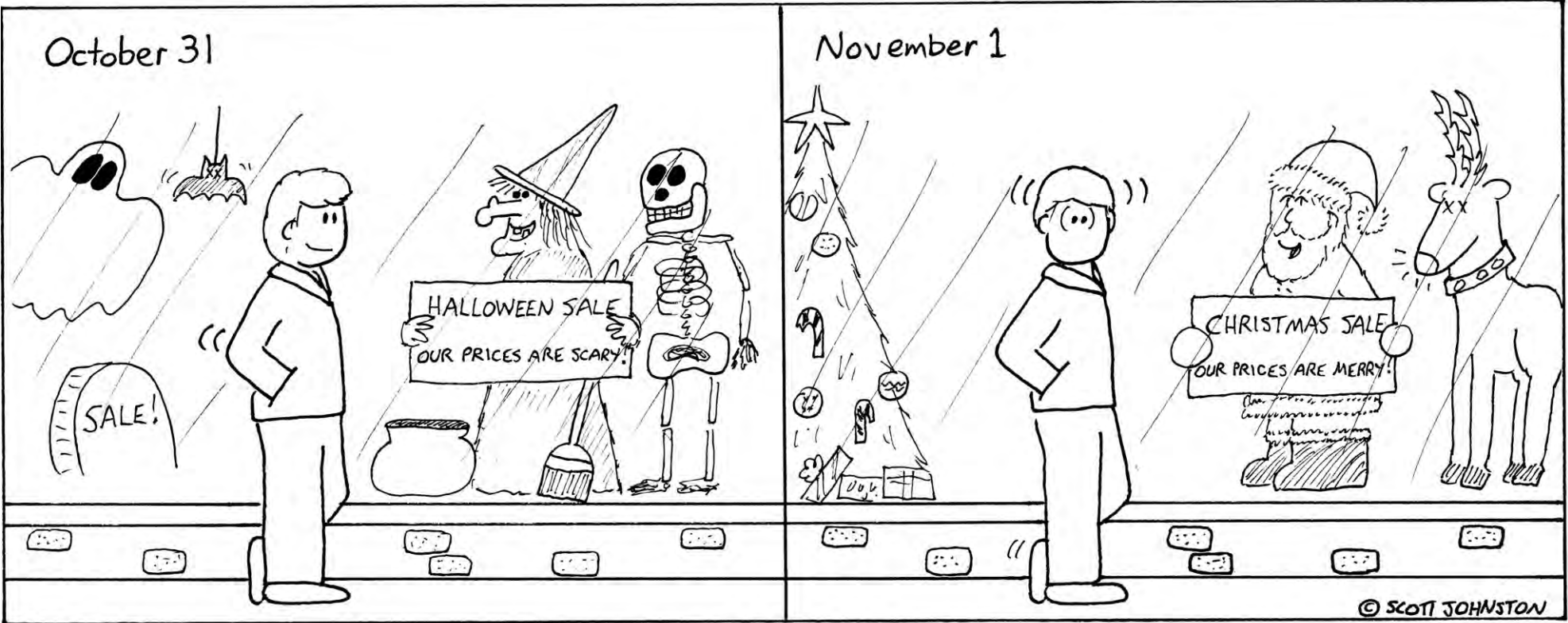
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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Evelyn and me

A few weeks back I attended an event in downtown Toronto for the Provincial Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, the Honourable George Smitherman.

At the dinner I was speaking to a friend I had not seen for quite some time, and after finishing the conversation, turned from the table when I (almost literally) ran into Aurora Councillor Evelyn Buck.

As we have never met I introduced myself and we had a nice conversation for a few minutes.

As I prepared to go back to my seat, I said that I would like to interview her for my column.

She said, "sure".

As we have both been quite busy this week, the interview was conducted via e-mail.

Here's how it went:

Please provide me with a general outline of your elected political experience as well as your community activities.

"If I were to provide a list of the various committees, boards and authorities I have served during my 42 years of direct and indirect involvement in the Town's affairs it would read like a laundry list and be equally tedious and all encompassing. I have served as councillor, reeve, mayor, county councillor and regional councillor and back again to councillor."

How long have you lived in Aurora?

"I've lived in Aurora almost half a century."

Outside of work/council - what kinds of things do you like to do?

"I like to do normal things. Gardening, sewing, knitting, cooking and baking and holding my grandchildren on my knee. And writing."

You did not vote in favour of firing the integrity

commissioner - Why?

"I did not vote for the Code of Conduct. Its sole purpose was to stifle dissent. The possibility of imposing penalties was what made it attractive to the block (of councillors). If they could suspend a councillor's remuneration for three months that would effectively compel a councillor to resign."

Either from your time as mayor or as a councillor, what is the singular achievement that makes you proudest?

"I am most proud of the things past councils and administrations accomplished together with community support. The orderly and controlled development of the town has helped maintain the character that everyone seems to enjoy. There are features I see every day that give me satisfaction that I had a part to play in making this or that happen. But we did it together. The credit must be shared."

From my very limited viewing of council meetings, it seems to me that you don't like or respect the mayor. Is this true or am I way off base?

"It is true. The mayor enjoys neither my trust nor my respect and that is entirely due to her conduct. I do not indulge personal enmity in the political exchange. It distracts from the objective and that is to provide a rationale for my own political perspective. I reserve my passion for those things I hold dear. I believe Aurora deserves the best I have to offer."

Are you in any way affiliated with the group "Coalition for a Better Aurora", the entity that is behind the series of Open Advertisements in The Auroran?

"I am not affiliated with the Coalition for a Better

Aurora. But I certainly empathize with their cause. It remains to be seen how effective their efforts will be. They certainly seem determined and they are putting resources into the battle. Anyone who doesn't acknowledge there is outrage within the community is simply denying the obvious. Nothing like this has ever happened before. Of course we previously were not lumbered with a four-year term of office."

Do you have any early thoughts on the 2010 budget - such as the amount of potential increase we are going to see?

"I don't believe in setting an arbitrary increase before we have even looked at the needs and realities that will affect the budget. A budget is essentially about essential expenses. I haven't voted for the last two budgets because I considered them to be contrived and dishonest. Again it was all about creating a false illusion of control."

Will you seek municipal office again next year? If so, for which position - councillor or mayor?

"If the election were to be held this year, certainly I would be a candidate. A year from now, I expect to offer my services to help undo the damage wrought by this council. In the end, the community will decide whether I have that opportunity."

Does that mean you will seek the position of mayor?

"I hope a candidate will come forward for the office of mayor who can restore the town's dignity and integrity and I can support."

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com

Remember when Aurora had rusty water?

Before the Walkerton tragedy, people took water for granted.

When they opened the tap they expected to see clear, sparkling water flow from it.

That was long before the government introduced the Safe Water Act and Aurora residents started to receive a blend of Lake Ontario water with their well water.

But it wasn't always that way in Aurora.

Back in the 1960s citizens complained about rusty water.

On one occasion an irate citizen threw his family's laundry on the council table. Many items were covered in brown stains.

Another citizen complained to council that he had phoned the works department about the rusty water and had been told to let the tap run for a couple of hours.

It was so bad in May, 1966, that Choice Cut-Up Chicken, a chicken processing plant located at the north end of Aurora, had to shut down operations for the day due to the rusty water.

Management threatened to sue the town.

As a result of the number of citizen complaints about the rusty water, council of the day decided to embark on a program of improving the water quality and supply.

At the time Aurora obtained its water from shallow wells with a high iron concentrate.

In some lines not heavily used, the water became brown from the iron and with a change of pressure such as the opening of a tap at the wrong time, the muddy brown water oozed out.

In 1967 council approved a pilot project at a cost of \$3,200 in an attempt to find an answer to the rusty water problem.

At the time the revenue from the sale of water, even at the low flat rate, before metering, produced a surplus every year.

The surplus was used to purchase items or carry out projects that hadn't been included in the budget, such as a tractor for the parks department.

The pilot study revealed what members of council knew but didn't want to believe and that was the water system had reached a critical stage and a filtration unit was needed.

Instead of an expensive filtration system, in 1969 council installed equipment to feed sodium silicate into the water.

The use of sodium silicate was designed to hold the iron in the water in solution and delay it from entering the system and with increased swabbing of the mains with a flushing program, it was hoped to eliminate the problem.

In addition, the town switched to a much deeper well by

the Community Centre and discontinued the older shallow Billings Well (adjacent to the Aurora Shopping Centre) and the well by the Waterworks building with a high iron content.

It was hoped this would solve the problem.

It was not to be as in October, 1970, members of the Orchard Heights Homeowners Association complained to council about rusty water coming from their taps.

A watermain cleaning system, developed in England, was demonstrated to a group of municipal officials at a display in Aurora conducted by the Ontario Water Resources Commission.

A swab, called a "pig", was inserted into the watermain through a hydrant and, driven by water pressure, cleaned the main and popped out at an open hydrant down the street bringing with it the rust and iron particles within the pipe.

Residents of Regency Acres complained about the rusty water on a regular basis resulting in a tender being awarded for a new watermain to come south on Bathurst Street from the new reservoir on Orchard Heights Boulevard, designed to improve the pressure distribution system in Regency Acres.

Today the problem may not be rusty water but a potential shortage of it due to rapid growth, and the need for conservation measures during the summer months.

Letters to the Editor

Reader takes exception to Tomlinson letter

To the editor,

While I have the utmost respect for Mr. Tomlinson's history in Aurora and his environmental efforts, I take exception to his letter in last week's Auroran. As a former councillor I have written numerous letters to the editor discussing what I believe to

be the most dysfunctional council that Aurora has ever had. Facts do not lie. **Fact:** All but one of the senior staff members in the Town Hall have resigned, been fired or left their position for other reasons. **Fact:** For only the second time a councillor has quit a council. **Fact:** When there

should have been an election to replace that councillor the council voted to replace that person with someone who lost the election rather than have a democratic election. The cost of outside legal consulting during that time was more than the election would have cost. **Fact:** Never before has

national coverage of Aurora been so negative. **Fact:** There still is no financial statement for the Dream Team. This was asked for by Councillor Evelyn Buck. In a statement from Mr. Tomlinson's letter he states" Aurora council is no more dysfunctional than other Ontario town councils where negative politics dominate the council chamber".

To me that says exactly what a lot of Aurora residents feel, that this is a dysfunctional council.

Also, because other towns are dysfunctional does not mean that Aurora should be the same.

He also states that "Their goal is to continue this tirade in the hope that they will get their preferred candidates elected next election".

Well, Mr. Tomlinson, did you yourself not run an ad in the local paper before the last election with a list of candidates that you wanted elected. It included this mayor and five of the current councillors.

I am not dissatisfied with the results of the last election but I am for sure dissatisfied with the results of this council and the high legal bills and negative coverage that Aurora is getting in the national press.

As for suggestions of ideas where this council could do better, start with the number of empty town owned buildings...do something with the Petch House rather than letting it rot on Leslie Street...get the Town sign erected on Wellington by the

404...get started on building a youth centre that many councils have promised...stop using the reserves unless there is an emergency...help the food bank get a better location...give the residents a financial statement on the monies collected and spent by the Dream Team...work towards improving the downtown core and all of the empty lots...work towards the betterment of the town rather than any individual goals...try to work as a non-dysfunctional council with shorter meetings and less "in

camera" meetings. These are just a few suggestions and perhaps other residents should write in with other suggestions to help this council along during the last year. There have been some positives in the town but at present they are overshadowed by the negatives related to the dysfunctional council. Also, to Mr. Tomlinson, congratulations on your Citizen of the Year Award. You deserved it.

Nigel Kean
Aurora

"Butchered graphic" offends this reader

To the editor,

Emblazoned on the front page of the town's website is a butchered graphic of the "Prince of Wales" plumes.

As a Canadian citizen of Welsh descent I am incredibly offended by its gross misuse.

There is no reference to why it is there, most likely due to the award of the "The Prince of Wales Prize for Municipal Heritage Leadership" the town received back in 2008, but as it has been stripped from any of the accompanying text it is most confusing.

There seems to already be a place on the website for the insignia which is displayed in its entirety, with context at www.town.aurora.on.ca/aurora/index.aspx?Article1

D=2951&lang=en-CA. One wonders why it needs to be on the main page at all?

In fact it has been given equal weight to the Town of Aurora logo which only compounds the confusion.

If the intent is for it to be displayed on any part of the town's website I suggest the following:

a) That the insignia be not used by itself, but be accompanied with the proper text that accompanies the award: "The Price of Wales Prize".

There are strict usage rights with royal insignias and I'm sure that several of them are being broken by our town.

b) That the proper respect be given to the insignia.

The version on the town's website has been

crudely treated with a transparency in the plumes, perhaps someone getting too creative for their own good.

The Prince's plumes are white. There is significance to their color.

Just as we would be insulted if someone was to drain the red out of our Maple leaf, we should be conscious of how we use others most precious symbols.

I proudly adorn the ensign, especially when following a game of rugby or when paying respect to the Welsh whether on their soil or ours.

I always chose to do so with the utmost respect and expect no less from our town staff and elected officials.

Considering the prize was awarded for recognizing heritage, the least we could do as a town would be to respect the heritage of those giving us the award and get it right.

Christopher Watts
Aurora

Our MP simply toeing party line, he says

To the editor,

I was really disappointed to see our federal representative, Lois Brown, vote in favour of extending the debate on Bill C-311, the move to make Canada a world leader in dedicated action on climate change.

We need to be making bold statements about the environment ahead of a global summit in Copenhagen, Denmark, not toeing the Tory party line.

I'm not suggesting we all go out and adopt dogs named Kyoto, but it's time

for us to be doing what Canada does best: making the ethical and responsible case to the zero-sum world of international politics.

Perhaps Brown just doesn't realize that it's my generation, not hers, that is going to have to deal with the fallout of inaction on climate change in 30 years' time.

I hope she makes the right choice in Parliament when the time comes to vote on the issue.

Mike Fancie, age 21
Aurora

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Letters to the Editor

Time to fight the harmonized tax

To the editor,

Next summer (2010) the Ontario Government is set to put into force its new harmonized GST/PST sales tax which will apply a 13 per cent sales tax to everything we purchase.

As a result, things that were not previously taxed under the current Ontario Provincial Sales Tax (PST) will be taxed at eight per cent.

The new 13 per cent tax will therefore apply to things like your electric bill, your gas bill, your water bill, condominium fees, insurance premiums, and every other good and service you purchase.

There are almost no

exemptions.

The current Ontario PST tax does not apply to services, nor does it apply to the purchase of certain goods.

The new 13 per cent tax will therefore extend the old eight per cent PST tax rate to the purchase of all goods and all services.

The new harmonized GST/PST will also apply to all purchases of all new homes.

If a person were to purchase a new \$1 million home in Toronto, they would have to pay roughly \$200,000 in taxes as a result of the Ontario land transfer tax, the new city of Toronto land transfer tax, and the new harmonized 13 per cent GST/PST.

Think about that and what that would do to real estate values in Toronto.

It will cause property values to fall and kill the new home construction industry and the jobs it creates.

And it won't be long before you'll hear our elected representatives telling us that, because of the harm that has been inflicted to the new home construction industry by the new 13 per cent tax, it would be "fair" to extend the new 13 per cent tax to sales of existing homes.

Canadians have had two things that they have always been able to count on as being tax free - things that they could use to save money and accumulate

wealth.

They are your primary home; and RRSP. That's it.

The extension of the new 13 per cent GST/PST to homes is simply a tax assault by the government on your primary home.

They want to tax your primary home and you will suffer because of it.

Why? Because if a purchaser has to pay almost \$200,000 in taxes to buy your \$1 million home, the purchaser is going to pay less to you for your home.

The purchaser will reduce the amount he or she is willing to pay to you in order to pay all the taxes.

Currently, the combined Federal/Ontario income tax rates are roughly 25 percent on the first \$20,000 of taxable income, 42 per cent on the next \$40,000 of taxable income, and 46.5 per cent on each dollar of taxable income over \$60,000.

On top of that you have to add the "Fair Share Health Tax" of up to \$1,000 each of us has to pay.

If the Ontario Government gets away with implementing their new harmonized GST/PST sales tax of 13 per cent, the top effective income tax rates in Ontario will be as follows (since you can't spend any of your tax paid dollars without paying the new harmonized 13 per cent GST/PST tax): 38 per cent on the first \$20,000; 53 per cent on the next \$40,000; and 59.5 per cent on every dollar over \$60,000.

On top of that, you have to pay your Ontario Fair Share Health Tax, your city realty taxes, your city garbage fees, your city water fees, your city street parking permit fees, your annual Ontario and new City of Toronto vehicle license plate fees, your Ontario land transfer tax, your new City of Toronto land transfer tax, your gasoline taxes, your liquor taxes, your

air departure taxes, your entertainment taxes, and so on.

Of all the money you worked hard to earn, what percentage are you really keeping for your own use?

25 per cent? 20 per cent? 10 per cent?

Enough is enough - fight back.

This has got to stop here or we will all soon be working full time for the various levels of government in Ontario.

You can already see how our lifestyles are declining because of the enormous tax load we bear.

As a result, I urge you to take this issue seriously and to fill and sign the petition at www.unfairtaxgrab.com against the new harmonized GST/PST tax.

If we don't work together on this issue, the new harmonized 13 per cent sales tax will become a reality next

summer.

Premier Dalton McGuinty claims "no one is complaining" about his unfair tax grab.

You proved him wrong this week. On Wednesday we sent out a request asking you to send a message to the McGuinty Government about the HST. Almost instantly our email box began to fill.

By the end of the day we'd received nearly 2,000 messages..

New Democrat Members of Provincial Parliament did their best to read them into the record in the Legislature, but they simply ran out of time.

Together we can stop the HST.

Urge your friends, family and other concerned citizens to sign the petition at www.unfairtaxgrab.com.

Paul Jacobs, Q.C. .
Toronto

Reader doesn't want harmonized tax added

An open letter to MPP Frank Klees:

As a contract engineer and business owner in Ontario I am not looking forward to the harmonized sales tax.

Right now I only charge my customers GST for engineering services.

When the HST is implemented I will have to charge

an additional 8 per cent.

It will be additional incentive for my customers (industrial facilities and other engineering companies) to do their own projects, or to put off projects altogether.

It also means that my business costs will be higher, but unlike large corporations my customers will not accept price hikes.

This has been a tough year.

I have customers who have laid off employees, customers who are seeing their existing business eroded and struggling to find new business, and one customer who has yet to pay their bills this year and I suspect is on the verge of bankruptcy.

Neither I nor my customers can truly afford this additional 8 per cent.

To further rub salt, there is the litany of government waste reported in the news that is as disgusting as pigs feeding at the trough.

I do not trust that the additional revenue this HST will generate will be spent wisely and I fail to see how it will benefit me or my customers.

What are you doing to stop this tax-grab from being implemented?

Anthony Kerstens P. Eng.
Aurora

He reacts to David's letter to the editor

To the editor,

This is an open response to David Tomlinson's letter to editor in the October 27 edition of The Auroran.

You, sir, are a fine gentlemen, but to assume why others write, can not only be wrong but disrespectful to some.

I, for one, have only responded to letters written by a certain politician and his friend praising others and themselves as saviours of Aurora.

Aurora is a well-managed town with a very competent, professional maintenance staff, well before the last three years - so it is a non-issue as to who is on council.

Most of my votes did count.

By the way I did not vote for a certain long time council member who has been

subject to negative politics in the council chamber.

So, no, I am not saddened by my preferred candidates, not getting voted in, only by certain actions to date.

I just hope Aurora never gets to the point where our elected officials get to feel like they are our life styles, police, or our saviours as some Toronto councillors are trying to become.

You, like others, are free to write positive or negative, whether it is your preferred candidate or citizen, as long as it is true.

I also wish to thank The Auroran, for now not allowing anonymous letters to the editor on any issues.

That subject was an issue.

John Sargent
Aurora




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Trying to save Aurora's downtown

Over the years Aurora Council, some interested downtown businessmen and citizens have made several attempts to revitalize Aurora's downtown core to make it the vibrant pedestrian-oriented street it once was, but with only limited results.

The economic health of the historic core has been eroded by competition from large regional malls to the north and the south and by scattered strip development within the town itself.

In February, 1983, at the request of the Downtown Aurora Business Association, a Business Improvement Area (BIA) was established.

With an active BIA at that time, the town applied to the Federal Heritage Canada Foundation for funding under Canada's Main Street Program.

Main Street was considered the glory of Canada, the heart and soul of the community.

The philosophy of Heritage Canada was to preserve the living past through the revitalization of the main streets of the nation and do it slowly through local initiatives.

The key was community involvement and self-help with the aid of a project coordinator.

In June, 1986, following an ad in the Toronto papers, 45 applications were received for the position of project coordinator. It was to be a three-year contract with the town with a salary in the \$23,000 to \$25,000 range.

The coordinator attended a week-long course in Ottawa arranged by Heritage Canada Foundation. The foundation provided one month of training in the first year and another six weeks during the following two years.

The town hired Ann Balaban, a Toronto urban and regional planner, for the job.

Aurora allocated \$65,000 per year to the

project including the coordinator's salary. This brought objections from some of Aurora's plazas claiming their tax dollars were supporting the competition.

There was also some criticism from members of council who argued that BIA members be required to assume part of the cost to show they were committed to it.

Ms Balaban said her first step would be to increase merchant awareness of the program. She planned an open house to promote it.

She also planned to help merchants promote their products, especially during the Christmas season, and to arrange a workshop on store window displays and another to prevent shoplifting.

She set herself seven objectives during the coming months including project awareness, downtown image, retail recruitment, research, marketing strategy, physical improvements and workshops.

She expressed disappointment that only seven business operators showed up for the workshop on effective window displays sponsored by the Heritage Canada Foundation.

Balaban also carried out a survey of BIA members in an attempt to find out why there was so much disenchantment with the association. The town had received a petition from 47 merchants who wanted out of the BIA.

By December, 1986, a study revealed that a survey of BIA members indicated a significant split of opinion as to the worth of the BIA with 50 per cent of those surveyed in favour and 50 per cent opposed.

It was suggested the BIA continue for a two-year trial period with a stronger role with greater leadership and that Balaban assume the role of BIA manager as part of her ongoing Main Street responsibilities.

But by February, 1987, council received Balaban's resignation as Main Street Coordinator. She said her resignation had nothing to do with the disbandment of the BIA effective December 31, 1986, but she had received an offer from another municipality to set up their new planning department.

As a result, the town and the Heritage Canada Foundation decided to reassess whether or not to continue the program. Two key issues had to be determined; a strong commitment from business, the community and municipality to continue and how to restructure the program without an organized business group.

In reviewing the issue following interviews with business people, town representatives and officials of Main Street Canada compiled a list of strengths and weaknesses.

Weaknesses included continued bitterness about the BIA situation with no strong commitment for change, perceived lack of support from council, few progressive merchants, limited retail mix, not perceived as attractive for pedestrians and the building stock needed work.

Strengths included an active Chamber of Commerce interested in marketing and business development and support for a Main Street project.

It was recommended that council establish a working committee with direct responsibility to manage the program.

The committee would be responsible for ongoing activities of the Main Street program with Heritage Canada, with strong representation from the business community.

It was also recommended that a project coordinator be in place by June, 1987.

Council was divided as to whether to engage another coordinator for the Main Street project. The majority of council agreed

with Mayor John West, with the exception of Councillors Tim Jones and Martin Paivio, that a coordinator not be hired.

Instead it was agreed that a new committee of council members and businessmen be established to stimulate interest in revitalizing the downtown core.

It was also agreed that the town would assume the responsibility of the maintenance of the planters and street benches initiated by the BIA.

Councillor Herb McKenzie volunteered to head up the proposed committee, which was endorsed by council.

Shortly afterwards he reported that the Business Improvement Committee included Ian Condie representing the Chamber of Commerce, Gerry Copely representing the Heritage Committee, Ron Wallace representing the south-end merchants and Cliff Sifton from the north end.

Other members were Rick Stoeklin, Sue Meacock and Jamie Thompson representing downtown interests. The professional sector was represented by Tom MacPherson and Eric Shipley, the industrial sector.

One of the first actions

of the new committee was to submit an application to the provincial PRIDE program for \$121,500 to assist in the reconstruction of the east side off-street parking and streetscape improvements at the Church Street School.

It was also agreed to conduct a survey of all merchants in the central district, including the impact of other shopping areas

But it was too late and

the end of a dream to revitalize the downtown core of Aurora. The downtown area had changed from a retail centre to a service and financial centre with 74 per cent of the retail trade outside the core area.

Over the years several attempts have been made by committees of council and business people to pump life into the downtown area with limited results.

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The Tuscany Event Centre, once known as the Atrium, came alive again last week, when the The Roving Chef officially opened in the Centre. The Roving Chef is a full-service catering and event planning company operating from the Centre, located on Edward Street next to the Edward Street fire station in Aurora. Guests were greeted by, top photo, professional astrologer and celestial harp musician Robin Armstrong, second from right, who entertained on his one-of-a-kind harp. Also in attendance were three Roving Chefs, left to right, Christine Bristow, Tanis Hargrave and Grant McLeod. Meanwhile, Ontario MPP Frank Klees, representing the Newmarket-Aurora riding, photo at left, presented Tanis with a provincial declaration. The Roving Chef will plan and cater all occasions at any location throughout York Region and the Greater Toronto Area. Functions and events can also be reserved at the Centre.

Auroran photos by David Falconer

Residents oppose school's closing

From page 1
signed petitions to equal 30 per cent of the total affected students in a school.

Wells Street supporters submitted more than 110 per cent of the required signed petitions.

The community application, consisting of 49 pages of written argument and more than 200 pages of attachments, documents the Board's errors, including serious breaches of procedural fairness.

According to residents, the board trustees broke their public promise to ensure a fair and transparent process and to keep an open mind right up until they voted on September 24.

The community was not given the same opportunity to make arguments as board staff, parents said in the report. "The trustees' decision was confusing and contradictory and ignored the ARC recommendation to rebuild the school."

Other board errors noted in the report included, the board's ARC policy

was missing important parts of the Ministry's ARC Guidelines; the board failed to offer alternative accommodation plans, contrary to its policy and the board failed to provide necessary information so a proper decision could be made.

The application emphasizes that the community does not want the ARC process to start all over again.

The community is asking the Minister exercise her powers under the Education Act to rebuild Wells Street as soon as possible.

Aurora residents are also upset that the board let Wells Street and other Aurora schools run down, and now does not want to pay to rebuild them.

Meanwhile, taxes from Aurora residents are used to subsidize new schools in other parts of York Region, like the new \$30 million Bill Crothers Secondary School in Unionville, parents said.

The Minister has until November 23 to decide to appoint a facilitator.

Aurora council defers Neighbourhood Network

From page 1
services provided by both groups.

But it wasn't necessarily duplication that caused discussion around the council table, but what exactly they would be agreeing to.

While supporting the motives and good work of Neighbourhood Network, partnering with them would necessitate signing an agreement.

But that agreement was

not available to council, so some members were leery of committing to a document they hadn't seen.

Based on the potential conflict identified by Ms Park, and the fact that the agreement to be signed was not before them, Council approved that staff review the agreements of both Info Aurora and Neighbourhood Network, to ensure collaboration between the two documents.

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Winning team, the Aurora Barbarians, take time out for a photograph after their exciting win Saturday to make them, once again, the rugby champs in Ontario senior men's play. They won the McCormack Cup, edging the Oakville Crusaders 12-11.

Twice in three years

Barbarians win title...again

The Aurora Barbarians Rugby Club scored a late try to win the McCormack Cup 12-11 over the Oakville Crusaders Saturday at Fletcher's Fields in Markham taking the honour for the second time in three years.

The cup is symbolic of rugby supremacy for Ontario senior men's play.

Aurora started the game against a fierce wind and played in a sputtering fashion misjudging kicks and failing to retain the ball when in possession.

A high tackle early in the match by the Barb's Zach Pancer resulted in a penalty kick by the Crusaders Kristian Evans that put the home club behind 3-0 after just 10 minutes.

The Crusaders had a second shot at goal five minutes later but failed to convert.

Aurora played excellent defense throughout the half and as had been the case the week before, a couple of big hits put the team on track.

The Crusaders had a player sent off for 10 minutes to the "sin bin" near the end of the first half and the Barbs were fortunate to be a man up and only three points down at the break.

The change of ends and the extra man seemed to motivate the local side to start the second half and four minutes in, Aurora resident and former Canadian International player Marco Di Girolamo send a hard kick skidding across the wet field that was misplayed by a Crusader wing.

That miscue and good pressure by the Barbs resulted in an unconverted try by Di Girolamo that put the Barbs ahead 5-3.

But the Crusaders responded quickly with a drop goal by flyhalf Spencer Fullerton to regain a 6-5 lead.

Despite the wind advantage and better handling the Barbs remained hemmed in their own half with untimely penalties.

The Crusaders missed three attempts at goal from the Barbs' miscues.

But the positional kicking from Fullerton was superb and at the 60-minute mark he drilled a ball along the ground into the Aurora end-zone.

And while the fullback Di Girolamo was waiting for the ball to roll through the end line, Crusader winger Mike

Sutherland dove in to touch the ball down.

The try was unconverted but the jubilant Crusaders were up 11-5 with only 10 minutes to go.

The Barbs did not give up, rather kicked off to the opponents determined to win the ball back and they did, mounting good pressure.

In a goal line stand the Crusaders put all but three players against the Barbs' eight man pack and when the ball was cleared with four minutes to play Aurora centre Steve Shortly found himself standing alone just five metres from the try line.

He bounded across to make the score 11-10 Crusaders leaving the Barbs' kicker Pancer to slot a 30-metre conversion in a swirling wind for the win.

Pancer pushed the ball out to the middle of the posts and the wind carried it through.

The Crusaders could not muster a reply giving the game to Aurora.

The Barbs accepted the trophy and Shortly was named "Man-of-the-Match" for his play.

While historically the season ending game, Aurora

has been invited to play the California club champion in a game sponsored by Rugby USA to build interest in major world rugby tournament to be played in Las Vegas in February.

The Barbs will travel to Las Vegas November 21 to play the Santa Monica Dolphins in an exhibition match.

Tigers pick up a pair of wins

Curtis Black got his first shutout of the season as he kicked out all 32 shots he faced from the Mississauga Chargers to post a 5-0 win on Friday night at the Aurora Community Centre in Provincial Junior A hockey.

They followed up their win with a 5-1 decision Sunday afternoon on the same ice surface. This time the Milton IceHawks were the victims.

The Tigers and the Chargers are both clawing their way back up in the league standings after slow starts this season.

Both teams came into the game on losing streaks, so somebody was going to change their fortune.

It wasn't clear from the play in the first period whether either team wanted to win. There were some chances for both, but neither seemed to want to be the aggressor.

The second started well for the Tigers when Kyle McLaughlin passed the puck to Derek Gregorak just before getting hit inside the Chargers blueline.

Gregorak took the puck to the net and scored to get things going.

Shortly thereafter the game got some character when a Chargers player peeled Lucas VanNatter's helmet off. The ensuing scrum brought some energy to a somewhat listless group.

Tigers killed a long 5-on-3 penalty thanks to some eye-popping saves from Black as the big man stopped a couple Chargers opportunities to preserve the lead.

Late in the period on a Tigers powerplay, David Morley finished a Matt Prinsen pass to give the Tigers a two-goal cushion going into the intermission.

Please see page 16



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House League

103 Toronto White Timbits 5 - Gianluca Santocono 1G 1A, Jake Piper 1A, Joshua Turriff 2A, James Sproul 1G 1A, Brennan Powell 2A, Gage Gonsalves 1A, Thomas Raeburn 1G, Anton Sopov 2G 1A. **104 Los Angeles Purple Timbits 3** - Daniel Walker 1G 1A, Christopher Marton 2G 1A, Ben Fulford 1A, Avery Lee 1A,

107 Pittsburgh Powder Blue Timbits 6 - Jace Jackson 3G, Griffin Charnley 2G, Andrew Scott 1G, Evan Lajoie 2A, Joe Badali 2A, Mitchell Weatherall 1A, Brennan Johnson 1A, Hunter Edwards 1A, Wade Myers 1A. **108 Philly Orange Timbits 1** - Kazuki Negishi 1G, Sonny Yu 1A.

101 Florida Red Timbits 8 - Jonathan Gagnon 2G, Gavin Hunter 3G, Dante D'Antonio 2G, Liam Graham 1G, Jack Nicholson 1G, G. Haywood 1A, Joshua Anselmo 1A, E. Winter 1A, T. Kuchan 2A. **108 Philly Orange Timbits 3** - Cole Nip 1G, Nolan Michelberger 1A, Johnathan Avgousti 1G, Clayton Hodgson 1A, Andrew Laguardia 1G, Liam Wilholm 1A, Sammy Alicandri 1A, Sean Haw 1A, Nicholas Leontis 1A, Sonny Yu 1A, Alex Jones 1A, Kazuki Negishi 1A, Maxx Raliton 1A.

103 Toronto White Timbits 6 - Gianluca Santocono 2G, Riley Klugerman 1G, Jake Piper 1G, Graham Woodcock 1G 1A, Joshua Turriff 2A, Aiden Nitsopoulos 1A, James Sproul 1A, Gage Gonsalves 2A, Evan Ramasra 1A, Christian Romas 1G 2A. **108 Philly Orange Timbits 5** - Nolan Michelberger 1G 1A, Clayton Hodgson 2G 1A, Cole Nip 1A, Kazuki Negishi 1A, Johnathan Avgousti 2G 2A,

106 Pittsburgh Black Timbits 9 - Harrison Bennett 2G, Liam Mahoney 2G 2A, Dante Fanuzzi 1G, Brett Pearce 3G, Adriano Albanese 1G, Brandin Harris 1A, Matthew Cowl 1A, Dereck Avery 1A, Eric Wright 2A, Logan Kidder 1A, Kate Collins 1A. **107 Pittsburgh Powder Blue Timbits 6** - Mitchell Weatherall 1G 1A, Justin Hicks 1G 1A, Jace Jackson 3G, Ethan Joiner 1G 1A, Griffin Charnley 1A, Brennan Johnson 1A, Joe Badali 1A/

107 Pittsburgh Powder Blue Timbits 8 - Jace Jackson 4G, Ethan Joiner 3G, Justin Hicks 1G, Joe Badali 2A, Hunter Edwards 1A, Mitchell Weatherall 1A. **104 Los Angeles Purple Timbits 3.**

107 Pittsburgh Powder Blue Timbits 8 - Jace Jackson 4G, Andrew Scott 1G, Joseph Livia 1G, Hunter Edwards 1G, Justin Hicks 1G 1A, Ethan Joiner 3A, Mitchell Weatherall 1A, Evan Lajoie 1A. **102 Boston Gold 3.**

107 Pittsburgh Powder Blue Timbits 6 - Jace Jackson 3G, Griffin Charnley 2G, Andrew Scott 1G, Evan Lajoie 2A, Joe Badali 2A, Mitchell Weatherall 1A, Brennan Johnson 1A, Hunter Edwards 1A, Wade Myers 1A. **108 Philly Orange Timbits 1** - Kazuki Negishi 1G, Sonny Yu 1A.

205 Florida Red Caravan Kids 3 - Nicholas Makhlouta 1G, Garrett Kohler 1G 1A, Stuart Bishenden 1A, Brian Turner 1A, Andrew Campbell 2A, Jason laboni 1G, Patrick Butta 1A. **203 Boston Gold Caravan Kids 2** - John Dol 1G, Daniel Rheeder 1A, Francesco DeBartolo 1G, Justin Foster 2A, Christopher Siarkas 1A.

204 Toronto White Caravan Kids 5 - Eric Flicker 3G, Mason Barone 2A, Giuliano Iervasi 1G 2A, Stetson Colicchio 3A, Ryan Fnston Clarke 1G, Robert Kniss 1A, Carson Williams 1A, Andrew Breau 1A. **201 Los Angeles Purple Caravan Kids 1** - Ethan Moulds 1G, Colby Harrison 1A.

202 St. Louis Blue Caravan Kids 2 - Austin Martin 1G 1A, Nathan Smith 1G. **203 Boston Gold Caravan Kids 2** - Christian Fermo 1G, Jacob Lopez 1A, Christopher Siarkas 1G, Francesco DeBartolo 1A.

205 Florida Red Caravan Kids 5 - Anthony Miranda 2G, Garrett Kohler 1A, Mavrick Bondi 1A, Andrew Campbell 1G, Nicholas Makhlouta 2G, Jason laboni 1A, Riley Harris 1A. **204 Toronto White Caravan Kids 1** - Daniel Babcock 1G, Gregory Gatzopoulos 1A, Carson Williams 1A.

407 Pittsburgh Powder Blue HS Financial 6 - Cameron Dyer 4G, James Samson 1G, James Kypreos 2A, Keegan Fisher 2A, Tyler McKechnie 1A, Barrett Scott 1A, Matt LeClair 1A, Pranav Rendalkar 1G. **409 San Jose Teal North York Plumbing & Heating 3** - Niklas Seidel 1G, Colin Boorn 1A, Francesco Scuglia 1G, Jack Hosmer 1G, Beckham Georgiou 1A, Jack Chivers 1A.

405 St. Louis Blue Laurion Law Office 8 - Liam Patterson 2G 2A, Lucas Alberico 2A, William Morin 1G, Jayson Perkins 2G, Austin Hendy 1G 2A, Elias Panesi 1A, Adam Medeiros 1A, Christopher Walker 2A, Louis Wood 1A, Matthew Carney 2G 1A. **411 Colorado Burgandy Danny's Boys 4** - Tyler Frise 2G 1A, Troy Lane 1G, Andrew Negri 1G 1A, Nicholas Robinson 1A, Patrick Facca 1A,

409 San Jose Teal North York Plumbing & Heating 3 - Niklas Seidel 1G 1A, Sean Mackrell 2G, Ben Godber 1A, Aidan Burbank 1A, Jack Chivers 1A, Cameron Bourne 1A, Brendan Ross 1A. **401 Florida Red Chouinard Bros 1** - Colin Read 1G, Sean Anderton 1A, Leo Branigan 1A.

404 Los Angeles Purple Mastermind Toys 7 - Matthew Bolger 1G, Andrew End 1G 1A, Owen Bourrie 2G 1A, Cameron End 1G, Vincenzo Rotondi 1A, Matthew Glionna 1G 1A, Matthew Vassos 1G, Jackson Clements 1A, Connor MacGrath 1A, Justin Macciocchi 1A. **412 Dallas Kelly Green Aurora Lodge 148 6** - Troy Campbell 2G, Quinn Bruckner 2G, Nicholas Huxley 1A, Johnathon Martin 1G, 1A, Remington

Colicchio 1A, Matthew Winters 1G, Wayne Freeman 1A.

410 Los Angeles Grey McAlpine Ford 5 - Nolan Roy 1G, Evan Lambert 1G 2A, Dillon Varone 1G 1A, Mackenzie Snelgrove 2G 1A, Alexander Mueller 1A, Tyler Justice 1A. **404 Los Angeles Purple Mastermind Toys 5** - Matthew Glionna 2G, Owen Bourrie 3G, Jessey Van Soest 1A, Andrew End 2A, Matthew Bolger 1A, Jacob Cowl 1A.

606 Pittsburgh Black Rival Concepts 4 - William Ashton 1G 1A, Christopher Baggio 3G, Justin Laird 1A, James Kellett 1A, Connor Reilly 1A, Lucas Ackerman 1A. **604 Los Angeles Purple 1** - Max Bruckner 1G, Tarek Koudmani 1A.

606 Pittsburgh Black Rival Concepts 7 - Mitchell Law Heese 3G, Jordan Elliott 3A, Christian Baggio 1G, Christopher Baggio 2G, Anthony Loduca 1G, Aaron Rival 1A, Lukas Ackerman 1A, Parker Jackson 1A, Will Ashton 2A. **605 St. Louis Blue Rotary Club Of Aurora 4** - Lucas Rusica 1G, Jonathan Jin 1G, David Leeper 2G, Sandy Rundle-Sanderson 1A, Evan Nicols 1A, Ben Kissack 2A, Ryan Simmons 1A.

606 Pittsburgh Black Rival Concepts 4 - Christian Baggio 2G 1A, Giorgio Venosa 1G, Matthew Barnett 1A, Justin Laird 1G, Alexandre Bicego, shutout. **602 Boston Gold Tilemaster 0.**

609 San Jose Teal Backyard Pool & Spa 5 - Aiden Woolsey 1G, Joey Hodgson 1G 1A, J. Screech 1G 1A, N. Hatzitolios 1G, L. Bulmer 1G 1A, Matthew Hall 2A, Jake Schacter 1A, Joel Robinson 1A. **610 Los Angeles Grey AHPA 3.**

608 Philly Orange Pizza Pizza 4. **609 San Jose Teal Backyard Pool & Spa 0.**

809 San Jose Teal 3 - Cody Child 3G, Harris Riopelle 3A. **805 St. Louis Blue Orr & Associates 3** - Andrew Begg 1G, Thomas Scougall 2G, Nick Moffatt 1A.

802 Boston Gold Manhattan Trophies 5 - Quinn McGowan 1G 1A, Mitchell Arnold 1G 1A, Kyle Nice 1G, Ryan Dowling 1G 1A, Alex Seto 1G, Mac Cawfield 1A, Nic Venosa 3A. **812 Dallas Kelly Green 1** - Matthew Roach 1G, Oliver Jones 1A.

811 Colorado Burgandy 3 - Tyler Indos 1G, Quinn Harris 1G, Dylan Indos 1G, Josh Lawlor 1A, Adam De roos 1A. **803 Toronto White AHPA 1** - Bailey Miller 1A, Hussain Akbar 1A, Liam Devlin 1G.

807 Pittsburgh Powder Blue 1 - Dakota Stone, shutout, Matthew Reeves 1G, Matthew Sanita 1A. **801 Florida Red A.D.C Aluminum 0.**

808 Philly Orange Pizza Pizza 8 - Scott Wheeler 3G 1A, Russell Johnson 2G 1A, Michael McCreesh 1G 1A, David Roberts 1G, Drew Bryan 1G 1A, Michael Arcuri 2A. **806 Pittsburgh Black Continental Ingredients 3** - Eric Bulloch 1G, Justin Stevens 1G, Nicholas Bertrand 1G, Brian Pedron 1A, Robert Ruscica 1A, Scott Taylor 1A.

810 Los Angeles Grey 3 - Declan Johnson 2G, Collin Laird 1G. **804 Los Angeles Purple Caruso & Company 2** - Duncan Eveleigh 1G, Matthew Hudon 1G.

905 St. Louis Blue 3. **901 Florida Red Aurora Chyrsler 0.**

904 Los Angeles Purple 1. **906 Pittsburgh Black Ruff N Redi 0.**

906 Pittsburgh Black Ruff N Redi 2. **902 Boston Gold CW Coops 2.**

902 Boston Gold CW Coops 5. **903 Toronto White Optimist Club of Aurora 1.**

905 St. Louis Blue 5. **903 Toronto White Optimist Club of Aurora 2.**

901 Florida Red Aurora Chyrsler 3. **904 Los Angeles Purple 0.**

905 St. Louis Blue 8. **902 Boston Gold CW Coops 1.**

1004 Los Angeles Purple 3 - Marco Santella 3G, Ryan Kennedy 1A, Etienne Bicego 1A, Zachary Andrews 1A, Brendan Strachan 2A. **1011 Colorado Burgandy Graystones Restaurant 3** - Dylan Cross 1G, Scott Tonello 1G, Josh Bentolilla 1G 1A, Matthew Mears 2A.

1010 Los Angeles Grey 5 - Ben Mulholland 2G, Tyler Friars 1G, Ben Slimkowich 1G 1A, Mikhail Khamissa 1G 4A, Matthew Schmitt 1A, Nick Zebrowski 1A, Jake Boyle 1A, Tristan Miller 1A. **1005 St. Louis Blue Sentia 1** - Caleb Gould 1G, Craig Bennett 1A.

1013 St. Louis White 8 - Spencer George 2G 1A, Nick Di Nallo 1G, Jamie Hawkins 1G, Stephen Di Nallo 1G 2A, Kamran Karamchi 2G, Jay Finch 1G 1A, Adam Clark 1A, Anthony Marsillo 2A. **1002 Boston Gold 3** - Jonathan Boehmer 2G, Kevin Wheeler 1G, Neil Gaston 1A.

1006 Pittsburgh Black 6 - Dillon Cappell 2G 1A, Matthew Pellegrini 1G 1A, Matthew Semeredy 1G, Jesse Cappell 2G, Kyle Rojas 2A, Kenton Gamble 1A. **1009 San Jose Teal 4** - Stephen Thompson 1G 1A, Cory Blom 2G, Razvan Vela 1G, Chris Tillsley 1A, Dylan Skelton 2A.

1004 Los Angeles Purple 3 - Daniel Howie 1G 1A, Sean Ellison 1G, Jacob Giacomazzo 1A, Brendan Strachan 1G 1A. **1009 San Jose Teal 2** - Dylan Skelton 1G, Michael Bar 1G, Razvan Vela 1A, Ryan Jones 1A,

Stephen Thompson 1A.

1013 St. Louis White 5 - Kamran Karamchi 1G, Adam Clark 1G, Jay Finch 1G 1A, Nick Di Nallo 1G 3A, Tyler Jensen 1G, Spencer George 1A. **1001 Florida Red 5** - James Harkin 2G, David Scott 2G, Scott Quagliarini 1G 2A, Michael Takahashi 1A, Aaron Nusbaum 1A.

1003 Toronto White CAA 2 - Matthew Miller 2G, Ian Weston 2A, Chris Green 1A, Eric Roell 1A. **1010 Los Angeles Grey 2** - Nick Zebrowski 2G, Matthew Schmitt 1A, Ben Mulholland 1A.

1008 Philly Orange Aurora Home Hardware 5 - Taran McGowan 4G 1A, Brett Richardson 1G 2A, Nick Gundert 1A, Marlon Young 1A. **1005 St. Louis Blue Sentia 4** - Caleb Gould 1G 1A, Louis Lamanna 2G, Craig Bennett 1G 1A, Marcel Lamanna 1A, Keenan Vanrooyen 1A, David Naccarato 1A, Garrett Lewis 1A.

1006 Pittsburgh Black 4 - Matthew Pellegrini 1G 3A, Jesse Cappell 2G, Hayden Sands 1G, Adam Gitto 1A, Kyle Rojas 1A. **1007 Pittsburgh Powder Blue 1** - Cameron Annear 1G, Steven Foss 1A, Viktor Grabovskyy 1A.

1002 Boston Gold 4 - Cameron Kearley 1G, Wesley Seminara 1G, Jonathan Boehmer 1G 1A, Nicholas Orsatti 1G 1A, Devin Scudds 1A, Michael Mourtanos 1A, Anthony Decesare 2A. **1011 Colorado Burgandy Graystones Restaurant 3** - Andrew Cosentino 2G, Matthew Mears 1G 2A, Lucas Cristillo 1A, Brandon Giniotis 1A, Joe Lombardi 1A.

Rep Games

Newmarket 6. Aurora Tyke Select A 2 - Jake Adams 2G, Dylan DaCosta 1A, Evan Ellig 1A, Andrew Langlois 1A, Bryson Posa 1A.

Newmarket 5. Aurora Tyke Select A1 - Samuel Morin 1G, Josh Torres 1A.

Newmarket 3. Aurora Novice AA Tigers 3 - Cory Read 1G, Malcolm Johnston 1G, Ben Liotta 1G, Michael Orlandi 1A, Matteo Orlandi 1A, Andrew Wolanski 1A.

Aurora Novice AA Tigers 7 - Evan Pringle 4G 1A, Ben Liotta 1G 1A, Anthony DiPietro 1G 1A, Russell Tanaka 1G, Luke Jarvis 2A, Noah Dempsey 1A, Malcolm Johnston 1A. **Newmarket 1.**

Aurora Novice AA Tigers 8 - Malcolm Johnston 3G 1A, Tyler Sawyer 1G 1A, Ben Liotta 1G, 1A, Cory Read 1G, Evan Pringle 1G, Russell Tanaka 1G, Anthony DiPietro 1A. **Markham 1.**

Innisfil Winterhawks 11. Aurora Novice A Tigers 2 - Matthew McConnell 1G, Andrew Park 1G, Jack Campbell 1A, Adam Wloka 1A, Stefanie Baxter 1A, Jeremy Gonsalves 1A.

Aurora Novice A Tigers 1 - Sam Ashton 1G, Blair Crabbe 1A, Mattew Gram 1A. **Newmarket 0.**

Newmarket 4. Aurora Novice A Tigers 4 - Adam Wloka 1G, Mattew Gram 1A, Andrew Park 2G, Jeremy Gonsalves 1A, Stefanie Baxter 1G 1A.

Aurora Novice A Tigers 3 - Adam Wloka 1G, Blair Crabbe 1A, Matthew Gram 1A, Sam Ashton 1G, Matthew McConnell 1G, 1A, Jack Campbell 1A. **Bradford 2.**

Aurora Novice AE Tigers 2 - Luke Catania 1G, Justin Harbaruk 1G, Alex Sandras 1A, Connor Thomas 1A. **Newmarket 1.**

Newmarket 1. Aurora Novice AE Tigers 1 - Justin Harbaruk 1G, Colby Prymych 1A.

Schomberg 2. Novice AE Tigers 0.

Newmarket 2. Aurora Minor Atom A Tigers 2 - Anthony Capraro 1A, Sebastian Giorgio 1A, Braeden Joynt 1G, Ryan Jamieson 1A, Julien Aben 1G, Parker Lantz 1A.

Aurora Minor Atom A Tigers 5 - Julien Aben 2G 1A, Anthony Capraro 1G 2A, Sebastian Giorgio 1G, Carson Venieri 1G 1A, Bradley Shennan 1A. **Newmarket 2.**

Newmarket 2. Aurora Minor Atom AE Tigers 1 - Carson Yeomans 1G, Jaedon Jackson 1A, Luke O'Keefe 1A.

Aurora Minor Atom AE Tigers 2 - Jason Langdon 1G, Luke O'Keefe 1A, Andrew Buffa 1G. **Stouffville Clippers 1.**

Aurora Atom A Tigers 2 - Kyle Rice 1G 1A, Reid Carpenter 1G, Alexander Simardone 1A, Clayton Allen 1A, Jennifer Steenhorst 1A. **Newmarket 2.**

Stouffville Clippers 3. Aurora Atom A Tigers 1 - Kyle Rice 1G, Colin McGoldrick 1A.

Newmarket 6. Aurora Minor Peeewe AA Tigers 4 - Patrick Servideo 1G 2A, Cameron Morrison 1G 2A, Austin Kiraly 1G 1A, Alec Magnante 1G, James Wyndham West 1A, Jack Pecora 1A, Evan Woodhead 1A.

Aurora Minor Peeewe AA Tigers 4 - Alec Magnante 1G, Patrick Servideo 1G 1A, Jack Pecora 1G, Cameron Morrison 6A, Keegan Matthew 1G, James Wyndham West 3A, Jared Brown 1A. **Richmond Hill Stars 2.**

Aurora Minor Peeewe A Tigers 4 - Mathew Tyndall 1G 1A, Tristan Kuchar 1G, Jacob Hatton 2A, Brendin Ramsay 1G, Cameron Zinner 1A, Jack Bryant 1G, Colin Kostin 1A, Matthew Liscio 1A. **Newmarket 3.**

Aurora Minor Peeewe AE Tigers 2 - Michael



DaCosta 1G, Mitchell Law-Hesse 1G, Jordi Severini 1A, Jeffrey McKay 1A, Charles Bennett 1A. **Newmarket 1.**

Aurora Minor Peeewe AE Tigers 3 - Matthew MacDonald 1G, Nicholas Sansalone 1G, Cameron Anderson 1G, Christian Arcuri 1A, Cooper Hewgill 1A, Cole Chapman, shutout. **Georgina 0.**

Humberview Huskies 2. Aurora Peeewe AA Tigers 1 - Jake Appleby 1G, David O'Connor 1A, Chris Klinowski 1A.

Chatham Maroons 2. Aurora Peeewe AA Tigers 2 - Austin Riswick 1G 1A, David O'Connor 1A, Will Thompson 1A, Adam Newell 1G, Ross Benn 1A.

Aurora Peeewe AA Tigers 4 - Andrew Klinowski 2G, Adam Newell 1G, Hudson Yeomans 1G, David O'Connor 1A, Hudson Yeomans 1A, Chris Klinowski 1A, Matthew Leroy 1A, Austin Riswick 1A. **Milton Winterhawks 1.**

Aurora Peeewe AA Tigers 8 - Austin Riswick 2G 3A, Adam Newell 1G 1A, Nicholas Papousek 1A, Andrew Klinowski 1G, David O'Connor 1A, Hudson Yeomans 2G, Will Thompson 1A, Matthew Leroy 2G, Eddie Duffy 1A, Peter Andreakas 1A, Nathan Romanchych 1A, Jake Appleby 1G, Chris Klinowski 1A. **Hollydell Hurricanes 0.**

Aurora Peeewe AA Tigers 0. TBD 0.

Newmarket 3. Aurora Peeewe AA Tigers 0.

Aurora Peeewe AA Tigers 4 - Andrew Klinowski 2G, Jake Appleby 1A, Will Thompson 1G, Hudson Yeomans 1G. **Newmarket 1.**

Aurora Peeewe AA Tigers 6 - Taylor Lemmon, shutout, Andrew Klinowski 1G 1A, Jake Appleby 2G 3A, Chris Klinowski 2G, Nathan Romanchych 1G, Nicholas Papousek 2A, Matthew Leroy 2A, Hudson Yeomans 1A, Peter Andreakas 1A, Eddie Duffy 1A, Braeden Kublick 1A. **Georgina 0.**

Aurora Peeewe AA Tigers 4 - Matthew Leroy 1G 1A, Andrew Klinowski 1G, Hudson Yeomans 1G 1A, Nathan Romanchych 1G, Chris Klinowski 1A, Jake Appleby 1A. **Richmond Hill Stars 1.**

Aurora Peeewe AA Tigers 0. Richmond Hill Stars 0.

Newmarket 5. Aurora Minor Bantam AA Tigers 2 - Liam Beresford 1G, Brett Thiessen 1G, Jack Caldwell 1A, Shadoe Storm 1A, Erik Balkovec 1A.

Aurora Minor Bantam AA Tigers 6 - John MacDonald 2G, Shadoe Storm 2G, Spencer Green 1G 1A, Konner McMillan 1G 2A, Lucas Pozzebon 1A, Nick Scott 1A, Erik Balkovec 1A, Matt Iwai 3A. **Newmarket 5.**

Barrie Colts 5. Aurora Minor Bantam AA Tigers 3 - Erik Balkovec 1G, Brett Thiessen 1G, Spencer Green 1G, Lucas Pozzebon 1A.

Newmarket 5. Aurora Minor Bantam AA Tigers 2 - Liam Beresford 1G, Brett Thiessen 1G, Jack Caldwell 1A, Shadoe Storm 1A, Erik Balkovec 1A.

Barrie Colts 3. Aurora Minor Bantam AA Tigers 3 - Erik Balkovec 1G, Quentin Campbell 1G 1A, Spencer Green 1G, Matt Iwai 1A, Lucas Pozzebon 1A.

Aurora Minor Bantam A Tigers 4 - Austin Persaud 2G, Zac Cowl 1G 1A, Jack Caldwell 1G, Tait Snedden 2A, Liam Beresford 1A, Justin Pirie 1A, Nathan Nealon 1A, Evan Jackson 1A. **Newmarket 3.**

Aurora Minor Bantam A Tigers 3 - Connor Cowl 1G, Nathan Nealon 1G, Jack Caldwell 1G, Evan Jackson 1A, Justin Pirie 1A, Zac Cowl 2A. **Nobleking 0.**

Aurora Minor Bantam AE Tigers 3 - Nicholas Steiner 1G, Ryan McGolrick 1G, Ian Dunlop 2A, Victor Chadarov 1A, Kyle Nice 1G. **Newmarket 2.**

Aurora Bantam A Tigers 2 - Matthew Pryse 1G, Quincy Ing 1G, Kyle Fedec 1A, Hayden Trask 1A, Ryan Baskin 1A, Daniel Jones 1A. **Newmarket 1.**

Aurora Bantam A Tigers 5 - Quincy Ing 1G 3A, Jonathan McConnell 1G, Matthew Pryse 1G, Kyle Fedec 1G 1A, Evan Romano 1G, Eric Archibald 1A, Vincent Ruscica 1A. **Beeton 2.**

Aurora Bantam A Tigers 4 - Eric Archibald 1G, Quincy Ing 1G, Matthew Pryse 1G 1A, Vincent Ruscica 1G 1A, Evan Romano 2A, Hayden Trask 1A, Jonathan McConnell 1A, Colton Lee 1A, Ethan Slimkowich 1A. **Nobleking 1.**

Aurora Bantam AE Tigers 3 - Zach Ferry 2G, Sam Steenhorst 1G, Christopher Cherubini 2A, William Brogan 1A. **Newmarket 1.**

Newmarket 3. Aurora Bantam AE Tigers 1 - Paul Steiner 1G, Zach Ferry 1A.

Markham Waxers 3. Aurora Bantam AE Tigers 2 - William Brogan 1G, Sam Steenhorst 1G, Zach Ferry 1A, Massimo Longhin 1A.

Newmarket 3. Aurora Minor Midget A Tigers 1 - Brendan Beresford 1G, Tyler White 1A, Alex Woodward 1A.

Aurora Minor Midget A Tigers 4 - Matt Skoulikas 1G, Cooper Riswick 1A, Reid Sisson 1A, Brendan Beresford 1G 1A, Ryan Hughes 1A, Tyler White 2G 1A, Alex Woodward 1A, Justin Mason, shutout. **Newmarket 0.**



CARTER DERBYSHIRE

Seven-year-old steals the show

The Aurora Selkies Swim Club sent their largest contingent ever (29 swimmers) to the Pickering Sprint Splash Meet, the first swim meet of the season, recently. Several swimmers came home with first, second and third place finishes returning impressively fast times which placed them high in Canadian rankings. After only six weeks of training with the Aurora Selkies team, Carter Derbyshire, aged 7, stole the show, winning all seven races that he entered. His 50-metre freestyle time of 40.21 seconds made him a "Selkie Hero" giving him a number one standing in all of Canada for the weekend. Carter's two older brothers, Wilson, 9, and Brock, 10, also returned fast winning times placing all three brothers in second, third and 8th place Canadian rankings. Yvonne Catrall, Head Coach of the Aurora Selkies team, praised Assistant Head Coach, Kelly Hughes and Assistant Coach, Gabriella Johnson, for their contribution towards the early successes of the team.

Results are as follows:

CARTER DERBYSHIRE: first in the 50 free, 50 back, 50 breast, 25 breast, 25 free, 25 fly, 100 IM.

WILSON DERBYSHIRE, second in the 50 and 100 back; third in the 50 breast.

BROCK DERBYSHIRE, first in the 50 back, 100 back, 200 free; third in the 100 IM, 50 free, 50 fly.

ANDREA BOBADILLA, third in the 50 breast, 100 IM, 50 fly.

NICOLAS BOBADILLA, first in the 50 fly and 25 fly; second in the 100 IM and 25 free; third in the 50 free and 25 breast.

JIM HEPBURN, second in the 50 fly.

EVAN HOLTBY, second in the 25 and 50 back.

ERIN LANSING, first in the 25 breast; second in the 25 free and 25 back.

KYRA LANSING, second in the 50 and 200 breast; third in the 100 free.

CONNOR MALBEUF, first in the 50 breast, second in the 50 back and the 200 breast.

DESPINA MICHAELIDIS, second in the 200 breast; third in the 50 breast.

MADELINE MOFFATT, second in the 100 free.

MEGAN ROSS, third in the 200 breast and 200 free.

CONSTANTIN SASERMAN, first in the 100 fly, 200 IM and 200 free; second in the 50 free and 50 fly; third in the 100 free and 50 breast.

CHRISTINA SMID, second in the 50 back.

MYKO SMID, third in the 50 back.

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Former Aurora woman to greet Prince Charles

Sarah Cowie, a native of Aurora who is a member of the King Pony Club, has been chosen to help Their Royal Highnesses, Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall, open this year's Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. Along with other Pony Club members from the Central Ontario, Western Ontario and Saint Lawrence-Ottawa Valley Regions, Ms Cowie will provide a mounted escort for the royal couple's landau as it enters the Ricoh Coliseum for the opening ceremonies Friday morning, November 6. Ms Cowie, 21, rides a quarterhorse named Majestic General (known around his barn as "Dexter"). Ms Cowie has been a member of the King Pony Club since it was founded in 2004. She and Majestic General have competed in Pony Club show jumping, dressage and rallies since that time, plus horse trials and numerous schooling shows outside of Pony Club. They have also performed a ride demonstration at the Royal Canadian Mounted Police musical ride. Majestic General is also used by the Governor General's Horse Guards and in lessons at Briarwood Farms. Pony Club members are escorting their Royal

Highnesses as part of the celebration of Pony Club's 75th Anniversary in Canada. Pony Club is an international organization to promote riding and horsemanship skills among young people. It is believed to be the largest equestrian organization world-wide, with more than 100,000 members. Show jumping is the most familiar of Pony Club's activities to most spectators, but there is also competition in dressage, mounted games, rallies (which include dressage, cross-country and stadium jumping, plus stable management competition), tetrathlon (which includes swimming, shooting, cross-country riding, stadium jumping and cross-country running by the riders) as well as academic competition in quiz format. For more information about Pony Club in Canada, visit www.CanadianPonyClub.org.

Monday Night hockey results

TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Rec Cycle N' Sports	6	0	0	28	12	12
Highland Chev-Cadillac	4	1	1	20	13	9
Baldwin's	3	3	0	22	22	6
FPL Aggregates	2	3	1	18	18	5
Masterclean Contracting	2	3	1	16	18	5
Law Insurance Brokers	2	3	1	15	26	5
Tom & Jerry's	1	4	1	17	22	3
Priestly Demolition	1	4	1	14	19	3

WEEKLY RESULTS

Highlands Chev	3	Rec Sports	5
FPL Aggregates	3	Baldwin's	2
Law Insurance	5	Masterclean	2
Tom & Jerry's	1	Priestly Demolition	2

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Aurora Seniors Bridge results

Monday, October 26: N/S - Carole Bell and Nan McLean, Dave Legallais and Bernie O'Brien, Joan Rotenberg and Mary Oglanby. E/W - Elaine Hunter and Carol Davidson; Marcella Lawless and Bonnie Scheel; Rose White and Gloria Smith.

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Skylight Gallery Art Exhibit

at the Aurora Town Hall
7:00pm to 9:00 pm
Thursday November 5th

The Rob Schuetze exhibit will last for the month of November. The prints range in size from 12" x 16" to 40" x 60" All prints will be available for sale

OPEN HOUSE

DryICE can improve the way you skate

Imagine improving your skating on ice that doesn't melt.

Such will be the case when Aurora opens a dry ice training centre.

DryICE Training Centre is an almost 12,000 square foot training centre that incorporates a number of innovative training stations that will focus on shooting, skating, stickhandling and conditioning, said operator Mike Arnew.

The centre is located at

226 Industrial Parkway N. in unit #6 and Mike may be contacted at 905-726-3833.

"We have teamed up with the Ultimate Training Centre who will be providing the core conditioning, speed and agility training," he said. "We will have a skating ramp, a resistance trainer, precision shooting area (programmed puck passers coupled with a radar monitored and lighted net) as well as a number of stations designed to develop stick-

handling and passing skills."

DryICE was conceived to fill a gap in total athlete training, especially for hockey but with applicability to soccer players, figure skaters, power skaters and others.

"By combining the benefits of synthetic ice products (about eight per cent harder to skate on with the added benefit of encouraging good knee bend) with various exercises and drills designed to focus on specif-

ic fundamental aspects of the game of hockey, we guarantee to elevate the skill level of all participants," Mike said. "With expert training, measureable feedback and innovative stations, skill levels from beginner to pro can be challenged and improved."

Some years ago, a synthetic ice surface was set up as part of Aurora's annual Street Festival in June, and the novelty attracted a number of skaters.



Aurora's Vanessa Carriere displays her first place ribbon she won last week at the York Region Cross Country Championships at Bruce's Mill Conservation Area. Vanessa placed first in her area run and first in the region for Grade 4 girls. Six of her teammates from St Joseph Catholic School also qualified for regionals. Adam DePiero placed first in the area and third at regionals for Grade 4 boys. In the Grade 5 boys division, Brady Futterer placed first in his area run and top 40 at the regionals and Leo McClean placed third in the area run. He was unable to run at regionals. Arianna DePiero finished first in her area run and sixth at regionals for Grade 7 girls. Ross Benn finished third in the area run for Grade 7 boys. Josh Bell placed fifth in the area run for Grade 8 boys. Michael Scarsellone finished fifth in the Special Olympics event.



**By Lois Brown,
MP Newmarket-Aurora**

Veteran's week honours Canada's fallen soldiers

From November 5 to 11, Canadians will join together to celebrate Veterans' Week to honour our veterans and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

The week also reminds us of the great debt we owe the courageous men and women who have always been there to serve and defend our great country.

One way our Government encourages Canadians to remember is through the Veterans' Week vignette which is a tribute to the men and women who served and continue to serve Canada in times of war and peace.

It also serves to educate all Canadians about our Veterans and the importance of remem-

brance.

It is our duty never to forget them.

In the end, that is all our Veterans really ask of us.

Our Veterans do not seek glory or honour, because that is already theirs.

They seek only remembrance - for the comrades who never returned home with

them.

For the men and women they vowed never to forget.

You can view the Veterans' Week vignette online at <http://www.vacc.gc.ca/general>.

Lest we forget.

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WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW

We would like to know the total number of hours spent in open General Committee and Council meetings as opposed to those held "in camera", for whatever specified reason, with and without external lawyers present. It is our understanding that some of these external lawyers bill at rates in excess of \$500.00 per hour. They make for extremely expensive security blankets; are they simply a baby-sitting service for the mayor?

What sorts of advice and/or information is offered by these people that cannot be provided by the Town's own Legal Services Department or members of staff who are already well paid? Is the Town obtaining value commensurate with the added costs?

It is possible that Aurora may some day soon require a Department of Freedom of Information to handle requests from a curious public. How many additional lawyers will this require?

In The Globe & Mail article of October 17 the mayor comes across as clearly delusional with her gratuitous statement about "trying to raise the bar of decorum and accountability, public service." In what reality is she living?

Her Siamese sibling refers to her as a "wonderful role model for young Canadian women to seek office & help guide our young nation. Women like her show how we can provide effective leadership, get things done and still care for the needs of all."

This person is clearly lacking reason and is in dire need of a psychiatric evaluation; two might get a better rate from OHIP.

Our group contains no politicians or aspirants. We are not soliciting your votes or your money. We would be pleased to see a number of individuals seeking public office next year, those wishing to serve the people of this community.

It is time to start the process to heal the festering wounds the present council has inflicted upon our town.

In a little over a week we will stop to stand silent for a minute, to remember those who have surrendered their lives in the service of our country, in foreign fields whose names we no longer recollect.

Yet all of us, no matter how humble or how grand, who occupy this land and this singular community, should, and must, be prepared to step forward from time to time to accept a share of the responsibility that accompanies our place and way of life, if only to vote.

In the near future we would like to have the opportunity of introducing you to each other, to people wanting to help, both as office-seekers and as campaign workers. In concert you will all become the Aurora Coalition and the opprobrium visited on our Town will begin to dissipate.

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How do we thank so many generations of Canadians who have been willing to risk everything for us?



A hockey team from Holland was at the Aurora Community Centre last week where they played an exhibition game against an Aurora Bantam select team, but the visitors were by far the better squad. They dumped Aurora 12 - 2. *Auroran photo by David Falconer*

Tigers win two in a row

From page 12
The Tigers started to move the game out of reach early in the third when Morley hit Lucas VanNatter with a pass that VanNatter finished off.
Less than three minutes later, Morley passed to Michael Sardella who ripped a high shot from the faceoff dot.
Tigers capitalized once during the man advantage when Matt Chiarantano's pass from the corner caromed through the crease to Adam Moody who scored.

That ended the Tigers scoring for the night, who decided to protect the shutout. Black had his challenges throughout the period as he covered a couple as they were on the goal line.
Black prevailed for the whole game, turning aside all 32 Chargers shots for the shutout.
Sunday afternoon, the Tigers welcomed the Milton IceHawks and while it took time for the Hallowe'en candy rush to settle down, the Tigers eventually prevailed to defeat the Hawks 5-1.

The first period was uneventful on the scoreboard in spite of both teams giving their opponent ample opportunity.
Despite outshooting the 'Hawks 15-4 in the period, the teams went to their dressing rooms locked at zeroes.
The second period saw much fewer penalties but not much more offense as both teams tried to bulge the twine.
It took a Tigers penalty before Andrew Secco stole the puck and went in to give Aurora the lead on a shorthander.
At the end of the frame, Aurora led by two.
In the third George Lovatsis converted a David Morley feed within the first minute for the insurance marker.
Stefan Dumaresque kept Milton off the board until the tenth minute of the third when he was finally beaten to spoil his shutout attempt.
Lovatsis' shorthanded goal soon after Milton's goal restored the three-goal cushion. Morley's empty net mark in the last minute closed the game out for good.
Tigers travel to Kingston Thursday, November 5th then host the Brampton Capitals

Friday November 6th at the Community Centre. That game starts at 730 p.m.	A - David Morley (VanNatter, Prinsen) PP 17.56
AURORA 5 MISSISSAUGA 0	
First Period	Third Period
No scoring	A - Lucas VanNatter (Morley, Sardella) 3.42 A - Michael Sardella (Morley) 5.55 A - Chiarantano (Stewart, Moody) 11.58
Second Period	AURORA 5 MILTON 1
A - Derek Gregorack (McLaughlin) 2.03	First Period

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Senior Scape

The Aurora Seniors Association (ASA) Christmas Bazaar will be held November 28th, from 9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Every year this bazaar attracts large crowds of thrifty shoppers searching for great buying opportunities.

Residents participate in this bazaar, some as vendors and hundreds more as shoppers.

Some of the stalls will be staffed by members offering ASA produced crafts such as wood carvings, wood workings, baked goods, sewing and knitted goods.

Other vendors will offer a unique variety of merchandise.

The seniors' centre was full of members, last Tuesday, pursuing diversions undemanding and pleasant, while others were deeply into the pastimes of crafts and games or enjoying a general meeting in the computer room or later, meeting with the mayor.

The meeting with the mayor lasted for about 90 minutes and covered many current topics, with the question period alive with valid questions that were answered immediately or with a promise to find and deliver the relevant information later.

A suspended program disposing of old electronic equipment was the point of a question and will be looked into with the apparent intention of determining why the program was suspended and with the possibility of reviving the program if feasible.

The suspended Windrow program was the question of another senior, and the reply was that insufficient demand reduced the program to the level of uneconomic.

When I arrived, the parking lot was almost full, and that includes the often unnoticed parking around the side of the Town Hall.

Visitors and employees at the Town Hall accounted for many of the parked cars, but the ASA was a hive of activity.

I mention the parking lot because it also became a subject of discussion.

The parking lot is important and the mayor is aware of the growing

demand for parking space, and indicated that the situation would be surveyed and evaluated.

The following Friday the parking lot was full once more, this time with extra attendance attracted by the seasonal flu shot clinic offered that day.

The clinic was for seniors 65 years and older, so imagine if it were opened to everybody.

I received my seasonal flu shot at this clinic arriving late Friday afternoon and I affirm from my experience, busy is the word for the number of cars parked and for the traffic of people in the ASA. Everybody appeared busy doing something, with intervals for coffee or tea, spiced at frequent intervals with a little conversation and the atmosphere produced was jolly and friendly.

I have noted a few features of the meeting with the mayor, to illustrate the importance of information, which when delivered, impacts on the audience with authority.

I use the word effective because the mayor was effective in her presentation and the seniors were equally effective in posing their questions, which were searching and uncompromising.

The audience learned what concerns municipal government and the mayor found that the sen-

Association prepares for Christmas Bazaar

By BRIAN WARBURTON

iors have strongly beating hearts with sharp minds to match.

After first arriving at the centre I signed in, and then headed to the computer room, where Dave Greenaway was conducting a question and answer session.

Some of the early computer topics I noted included homes which combined a desktop computer and a portable laptop, which normally operate as a network governed by a router.

The router apparently adds a level of protection to a system which is already well protected.

Let me advise that experienced ASA computer operators attend to computer safeguards carefully, and having attended to basic necessities, continue computer operation with little fear that computer systems will be hacked.

The woodworking shop is encouraging volunteers to assist in building the ASA Christmas float. Volunteers would form or join a committee to plan, assemble and build the float and would be encouraged to ride in the float also.

The Aurora Christmas Parade is Saturday, November 28th, beginning at 6 p.m., and is viewed by large crowds including hundreds of our younger generation who when viewing such a parade for the first time,

gaze in wonder and awe without any doubt that the Santa they see is real, and that this parade is part of his work.

David Tomlinson has received the Ontario Senior Achievements Award for 2009, presented by the Honourable David C. Onley.

David was nominated by Charles Sequeira for his committed and dedicated volunteerism in Aurora and the surrounding communities, in the field of Environmental Science.

David also received the Aurora Citizen of the year award for 2009.

This has been an eventful year of recognition for David and on behalf of the members of the ASA and of the readers of this column, congratulations are offered with pleasure and sincerity for his achievements.

The Seniors' Art Show presented over two days in late October, illustrates the beauty seen and appreciated by our senior artists who are compelled to record what they experience to the best of their ability.

Irma Gutsch showed a work she titled, Our Town, and this work was chosen for the mayor's award and was later purchased by the Town.

The painting will be displayed initially at the centre, with other destinations to be determined later.




Dunia Sabbagh, left, and Nada Hanoudi of Gourmet Bakery and Deli in the Aurora Shopping Centre are waiting to serve the public following their recent grand opening.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

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Claims against the estate of Sheldon Andrew Sugden, late of Aurora, Ontario, who died on or about June 6th, 2009, must be in our hands by December 3, 2009. Thereafter the undersigned will distribute the assets of the estate having regard only to the claims then filed.

Dated: November 3, 2009

GARRY SUGDEN and JOHN W. S. PRESTON, Estate Trustees, by their Solicitors, SHUGART & ASSOCIATES, P.O. BOX 486, Aurora, Ontrio, Canada, L4G 3L6

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Scouts Anorj Sivaharan and Quad Bujold assemble nest boxes under the watchful eyes of Scouters Kay Soloman and James Ireland during their regular Tuesday meeting at the Aurora United Church. The 3rd Aurora Scouts are participating in the Ontario bird monitoring program, directed locally through the Environmental Advisory Committee. Before the snow sets in, the boxes will be attached to posts, ready for the spring nesting cycle.

MPP goes to bat for Children's Aid

Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees last week brought the funding concerns of the York Region Children's Aid Society to the floor of the Ontario Legislature.

Klees, an Aurora resident, reminded Children's Services Minister Laurel Broten, that 36 out of the 51 Children's Aid Societies in the province are facing a funding crisis, and that the York Region CAS is in even more critical circumstances, because it is already receiving the lowest level of funding per unit of service in the GTA.

To make matters worse, York Region CAS has been told that its budget will be cut by an additional \$5.5 million, he said.

Klees pointed out that the Minister has received a letter from the President of the York Region CAS warning that vulnerable children will be put at risk if the cuts are implemented.


"More than a billion dollars have been wasted by the McGuinty government on scandalous consulting contracts," said Klees. "One would think the Minister would have the resolve to challenge her Cabinet colleagues to prioritize funding for vulnerable children."

Klees expressed the frustration of the President and Board members of the York Region Children's Aid Society, who he said, "are struggling to understand what the government is doing".

"On the one hand, the Ministry legislates what services must be provided to protect children, but on the other hand it is refusing to fund the delivery of those services," he said. "Either the Minister should ensure that the funding matches the mandate, or tell the York Region CAS which of the Child Protection laws it should break and which of the hundreds of children should be left at risk."

Mr. Klees called on the Minister to personally review her ministry's "flawed funding formula" and specifically its effect on the York Region Children's Aid Society and its ability to protect vulnerable children.


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