





COMING EVENTS

**CONTINUING**

This month at the Town Hall's Skylight Gallery, the works of Bud Switzer are on display. Call 905-727-9491 for further information.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thursdays (September to June): Navy League (Children nine to 12 years) Cadet program 7 to 9 p.m. Contact Cliff Davies at 905-727-2244 for details.

\*\*\*\*\*

Tuesdays (September to June): Sea Cadet (Youths 13 to 18) program 7 to 9 p.m. Leave message at 905-895-3038.

\*\*\*\*\*

Aurora Opera Company Children's Chorus (AOCCC) is a new treble voice choir dedicated to educating, nurturing and providing opportunities for children to express their musical abilities. It offers professional opportunities to sing with beauty, artistry, and joy. The AOCCC is open to boys and girls in Grades 1 through 12, and is made up of two choirs: Angel Choristers (a training choir for 6 and 7 year olds) and Aurora Opera Company Children's Chorus (open to 8-17 year olds). To audition, contact general director Sarah Kyle at keepsinging@look.ca.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*\*\*

Every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. moms/caregivers and tots are invited to Story and Playtime at Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South. Call 905-841-8883 for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

Every Wednesday from 6.30 p.m. to 8 p.m. the Pioneer Club for boys and girls age 3 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 905-841-8883 or E-mail to office@auroracornerstone.ca.

\*\*\*\*\*

A drop-in centre operates every Wednesday at the Community Bible Church on Bathurst Street just south of Henderson from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. It's open to all parents, grandparents and caregivers. For more information e-mail Judy Hoffmann at jhoff-

mann@sympatico.ca.

\*\*\*\*\*

Scottish Country Dancing every Friday morning at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church beginning at 10.30 a.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

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.

\*\*\*\*\*

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. There is also a selection of interest groups. Contact Beverley at 905-727-2151.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Aurora Seniors Evergreen Choir practice in the West-McKenzie Hall of the Seniors' Centre, every Wednesday from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. under the direction of Enid Maize. For more information, call 905-841-9706.

\*\*\*\*\*

Tots (age 0-4 years) bring your caregivers for coffee or tea while you enjoy story and playtime every Tuesday from 9.30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South. Call 905-841-8883 for further information.

\*\*\*\*\*

Meet at Martha's Table, now in its fourth season. Every Thursday from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., you

**Please see page 15**

# HOT SPOT SCHEDULE

**HOT SPOT will be CLOSED  
Oct. 24th and 31st  
BUT OPEN  
Saturday, Nov. 1st  
for our Halloween Party**

**HOT SPOT will be CLOSED Dec.12th  
HOLIDAY PARTY Dec. 26th**

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The developers of the soon-to-be built Aurora Gateway Centre at the corner of Bayview Avenue and Wellington Street East, celebrated successful negotiations with representatives of Longo Brothers Fruit Market, which will anchor the centre, last week. Anthony Longo, President of Longo Brothers Fruit Market, formally announced that the opening of their 17th location is slated for late summer next year at the site. Controversy raged for some time as Longo's insisted on an entrance to the property from Wellington Street, and Aurora has finally found a solution to the problem. Pictured above are, left to right, Michael Rice, Rice Commercial Group; Aurora Mayor Phyllis Morris; Anthony Longo, and Stefan Savelli, Trinity Development Group. Mr. Longo expressed his thanks to the Mayor and Council for their efforts in securing the appropriate access to this site, a process that took many months and several revised submissions before Council was satisfied the planted median on Wellington was not compromised.

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# November meeting has two applications

A Public Planning meeting will be held in the council chambers of the town hall November 25 to consider two applications.

One is from Dr. Dean McClelland and Caroline McClelland for the property at 65 Wellington Street East to permit the inclusion of a business and professional office including a chiropractor's office as an additional permitted use, an exception to the zoning bylaw to reduce the required manoeuvring space standard, to reduce the minimum ingress and egress requirements and reduce the minimum interior side yard buffer strip.

A two-storey detached dwelling currently exists on the lands located towards the front of the property and the dwelling, known as The Graham House, is listed on the town's Register of Properties of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest.

The property is located within the town's designated Heritage Resource Area and to support the viability of the Resource Area, the official plan contains policies that permit limited commercial uses such

as small business or professional offices.

Such uses are subject to a site plan agreement and the availability of sufficient on-site parking which is screened to protect adjacent residential areas.

The other application was submitted by P.A.R.C.E.L. requesting an amendment to the official plan and zoning bylaw from Cluster Residential, and Rural to Cluster Residential, Site Specific policy and Institutional Exception Zone.

The amendments will permit a 45-unit residential building, medical offices, pharmacy, ambulatory care unit, seniors' respite centre, restaurant, travel agency, spa and single detached residential building.

The application is for a nine-acre property at the southwest corner of Yonge Street and Elderberry Trail.

The application is for four

buildings including a three-storey structure for doctor offices, X-ray clinic, spa, restaurant and medical related uses with three levels of underground parking that contain 125 spaces and another three-storey structure with 68 surface parking spaces intended for a 45-unit adult living residence.

The plan also includes a two-storey structure with 25 surface parking spaces intended to house a health promotion/information site, pool, lounge, library and a seniors' respite centre.

A doctor's house is also planned to be a two-storey structure with one parking space.

Water and sanitary servicing capacity is currently not available for the residential use proposed in the application.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in the Aurora municipal building.



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MP1123 (10/2007)

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MP1432 (08/2008)

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jennifer.christensen@investorsgroup.com  
**Phone: 905-726-8236**

Please call for upcoming seminar information







This photo showing Wellington Street East when huge trees formed a canopy over the road, was taken in July, 1972, and was sent to us by a reader last week. The trees were removed, but new ones were planted after efforts to make the entire length of the street four lanes failed. New trees are beginning to form another canopy over the street, but we wonder how long motorists will put up with the street being a two-lane road. Wellington is four lanes from Highway 404 to Industrial Parkway in the east, and becomes four lanes again at Yonge Street to beyond Bathurst Street in the west.



## Poor Richard

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

*The federal election is all over,  
Poor Richard missed it all;  
Now he has to wait and see  
How the leaders make their call.*

- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

The election that nobody really wanted, except Prime Minister Stephen Harper, is finally over and the results are much as expected, with a few surprises.

Harper has been returned to office with more seats than before but he failed to achieve his much-wanted majority government, which may be a blessing for all Canadians.

It was a strange election and one that no doubt will be studied time after time by analysts and political scientists as how not to run an election, especially from a Liberal Party point of view.

It was 37 days of adult kindergarten politics.

Harper claimed Parliament was dysfunctional and he was unable to work with the other parties to achieve his objectives and an election was necessary, although history will record that it was quite a successful minority government due to the support of the Liberal party, the Official Opposition.

The Governor General didn't have to dissolve Parliament as requested by Harper, but could have, and should have chosen another course of action.

She should have told Harper to proceed with the planned session of the House of Commons to implement his agenda.

If defeated in Parliament by a vote of No Confidence, then come back and request an election, which would be granted.

But that didn't happen and the election got officially underway.

It was a dirty, negative campaign, primarily between the leaders as cabinet ministers and opposition critics were kept in the background except for the Liberals who brought them out during the latter part of the campaign.

Canadians have now gone to the polls three times in four years at a cost of almost \$1 billion and voted in favour of three successive minority governments.

Twice, Canadians have decided they want Harper

as Prime Minister but not with a majority, so it's back to the future with Canada's Parliament.

It was quite obvious that Canadians, at least those who voted, decided that Harper and the Conservatives were the most solid choice to govern in a time of economic turbulence.

For Harper, the coming session of Parliament will be a challenge. He has not had to govern in tough times.

He arrived in office to find federal coffers overflowing, debt declining and unemployment low, thanks to the Liberals.

Now with economic turbulence he will have to face an increase in government spending with declining government revenues with the possibility of a \$10 billion deficit, which Harper had previously said was a ridiculous hypothetical scenario.

No deficit, no spending decreases and no tax increases.

Minority governments work best when times are good and decisions are easy.

Now times are worsening as the decisions get harder and Harper will have to prove that he is up to the challenge.

Another major concern of the election was the voter turnout with only a reported 59.1 per cent of eligible voters casting a ballot.

That means four out of 10 voters didn't make time to exercise their franchise which is a national disgrace.

The right to vote is a great gift that is denied to citizens in many countries but was given to Canadians by thousands of other Canadians who fought for freedom and to not vote is a disservice to them.

In this election, it was just not apathy that caused people not to vote, as some used the election as a protest against the way elections are waged in Canada today.

Backbenchers must be reminded that they are elected to represent the interests of their constituents to the government and not be a voting machine as they have allowed themselves to become.

## Minority government could be blessing for Canadians

### THE AURORAN

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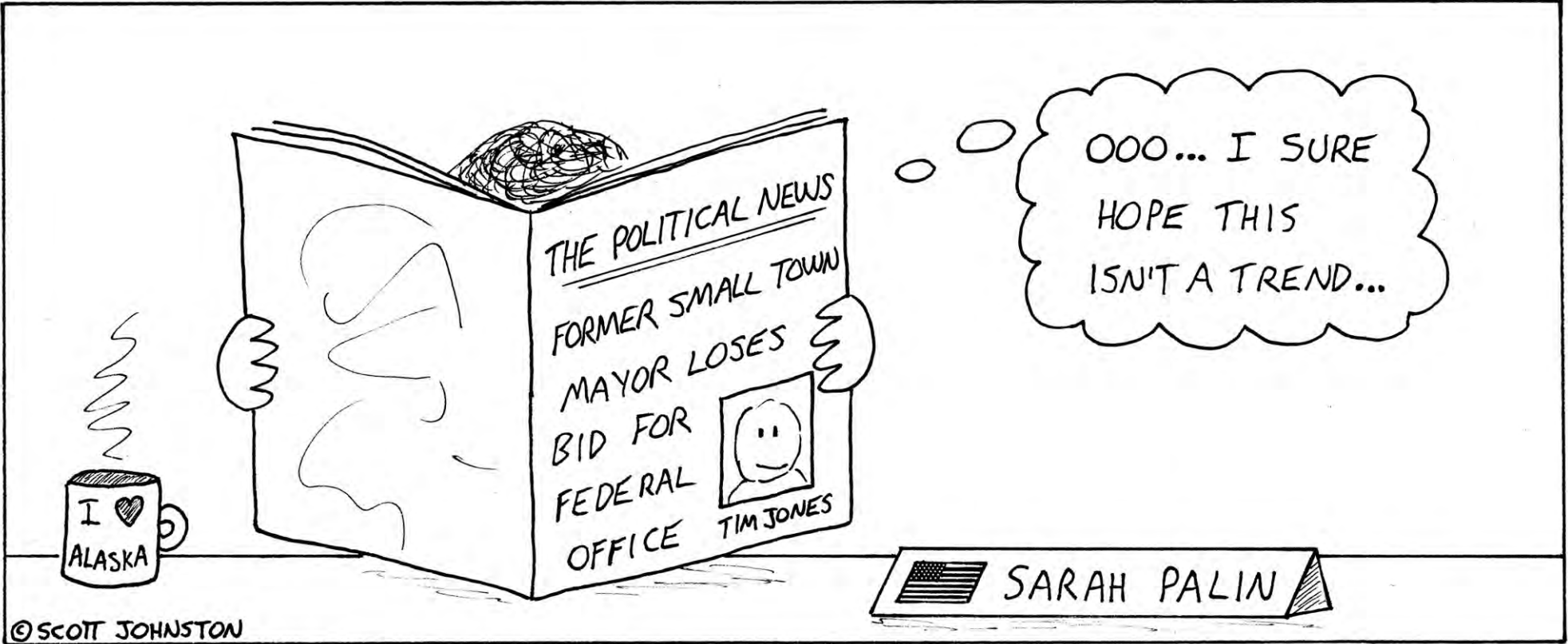
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## Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

## By the numbers

Last week, my election prediction column again provided some humorous material for readers' office cooler talk.

For those of you lucky enough not to have caught my column, I predicted that Conservative candidate, Lois Brown, would win by 250 votes.

And, as per usual, I was way off the mark.

Well, at least I chose the winning candidate - for a change!

I based my 250-vote prediction on the following scenario unfolding.

National polls were showing the Liberals slowly gaining on the Tories over the last week and half of the campaign.

I believed that Ms. Brown possibly could be behind based on the ballots actually cast on October 14, but be saved by the advance poll results of those who voted a week prior when things were better for the Tories.

If this scenario played out, the Conservatives would win Newmarket by 1,000 votes, lose Aurora by say 1,750 votes, but ultimately be saved if they won the advance polls by 1,000 votes.

Ms. Brown actually won by more than 6,500 votes.

So much for my grand theories and scenarios.

I also wrote that voter turnout would be between 55 and 57 per cent; the actual number was just a shade over 62 per cent.

You didn't expect me to guess that one right either, did you?

On a different note, on election night, defeated Liberal candidate Tim Jones came over to the Conservative victory party to congratulate Ms. Brown.

A class gesture by a class guy.

Over the next number of months, the individual campaign teams will sift through the ballot entrails, searching for some significant trend in the polling data that will help them to either re-build for the next campaign or in the case of the Conservatives, to reinforce and build upon their victory.

As someone who has volunteered on many different political campaigns over the years, there are a number of voter intention questions that I would like to see either a polling firm or some university or college class undertake in the Newmarket-Aurora riding.

All the respective campaigns do their best to showcase their candidate and to get him or her known in the community.

This is done through the use of lawn signs, brochures, newspaper ads and the like.

And with the base of election volunteers slowly declining - meaning a heavier burden is placed on the existing volunteers - those who manage campaigns would love to know when most of you actually make up your mind and decide to vote for a particular candidate.

I saw a study recently that suggested 18 per cent of

voters make up their mind in the last two or three days of an election, 20 per cent on the last day and 16 per cent when an individual is actually in the voting booth.

If these numbers are in any way true, they are truly scary. This would mean that just over 50 per cent of voters make up their mind in the last 72 hours of the campaign.

So, maybe Elections Canada should replace a 36-day writ period with one that lasts a week.

Based upon the above, one might be asking if the campaign teams are wasting a lot of their time and resources trying to get through to voters before the electors are really ready to listen.

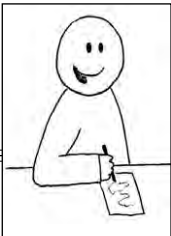
But then again, although 16 per cent of individuals may be making their decision while in the voting booth, what are the key things that influenced that decision?

Did the quality and number of brochures sway their decision in any way? Did the number of lawn signs have anything to do with it?

And the key question: how much of their decision was based on the local candidate versus the Party versus the Party Leader?

A comprehensive study investigating both voting intentions and the reasons behind these intentions would be most welcome.

Stephen can be contacted at:  
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



## Inside Aurora

By Scott Johnston

## Getting an early start

The pumpkins are carved, the costumes have been carefully chosen, and the trick or treat bags have been measured and checked for maximum candy capacity.

You know what that means...

Yes, Christmas is on its way.

In fact, if you look closely, you'll see it's already here.

Maybe you noticed an unseasonably early decorated tree. Or perhaps it was a restaurant ad reminding you to book your December party.

And I'm not talking about signs of the season that have appeared over the past week or so.

I think I saw my first print ad for some sort of Christmas promotion not long after the kids went back to school in September.

And it was around the same time that I heard my first carol.

And yes, that was a real Deck the Halls-type carol, not a more generic favourite like Walking in a Winter Wonderland.

Now, don't get me wrong. I love the holiday season as much as the next person. But the temperature outside's still in the teens, and there's not a hint of snow.

In fact, there are still leaves on the trees.

When I was younger, evidence of Christmas wasn't really prevalent until December, or if a store was espe-

cially daring, they might have something up in late November.

Then the season started to creep up a little sooner each year, until it seemed to leap out at you as soon as you turned off your porch light on Halloween.

Now, it seems we can't even get through Thanksgiving before we start seeing magazines offering holiday decorating ideas, or Christmas cards taking up greater portions of prime space in the card shops.

But even with the increasingly less subtle hints that 'the most wonderful time of year' is already upon us, one of the frustrating things is that by the time this finally registers in your mind, and you have a chance to do something about it, it's sometimes too late.

Take last year, for instance. I thought I was pushing the seasonal envelope by putting up our outdoor lights in mid-November, before it got too cold.

I wasn't going to turn them on, yet. Not before December, or until they built that new supplementary power generating plant up this way that they've been talking about for so long.

In any case, we needed an extra string of lights, so I went to our local hardware store.

After some fruitless searching through the picked-over display, I asked the first employee I found (eventually found, but that's a future column) if they had any.

"No," he replied, before making a dash for it.

I managed to catch him before he could disappear into Housewares, and asked when they'd be getting in some new stock.

"We're sold out."

"What?"

"We won't be getting any more", he emphasized, before this time successfully making his escape into the depths of the store.

And this isn't an isolated, mid-November incident. My brother ran into a similar situation last year looking for a special ornament. The one he wanted was sold just days after Halloween.


I guess the moral of the story is that if you don't get all your Christmas preparations done by Remembrance Day, it may be too late.

And don't think I haven't learned my lesson.

So this year, if you come around to our house on Halloween, and we're not home, it's not because we don't want to greet all the trick or treaters.


It may just be that we're taking advantage of the last chance to get our Christmas supplies before the stores run out of stock.


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





# Bouquets & BRICKBATS


By DICK ILLINGWORTH


 **BOUQUETS** to the Southlake Regional Health Centre medical and nursing staff for their medical care and many kindnesses to Dorothy Clark McClure and Poor Richard during their recent medical problems at the health centre. They even arranged to have us meet in a corridor between medical departments to exchange 17th wedding anniversary celebrations while sitting in wheelchairs.


 **BRICKBATS** to anyone who refers to the above two as the "Twirling Illingworths" as Dick and Dorothy wend their way along Yonge Street on wheels with their new medical walkers.


 **BOUQUETS** to the Blue Birds of Happiness for bringing together Auroran Editor and Publisher Ron Wallace and lifetime Auroran Patricia Stade in a marriage planned for next month. Congratulations and best wishes.


 **BRICKBATS** to the four of 10 Canadian voters who failed to make the effort to vote in the recent federal election. It may have been apathy for some but more likely frustration and anger at the antics of the politicians, but if you didn't vote, don't complain about the government!.


 **BOUQUETS** to Helen Clark on being recognized by the Leisure Services Advisory Committee and by Council for her initiatives regarding clean-up activities undertaken in the Leash Free Park.


 **BRICKBATS** to the Ontario mother who was charged with a traffic violation after having her nine-year-old daughter drive her home after a night of drinking. The child was driving the car near Perth when police officers noticed how tiny she was and pulled her over.


 **BOUQUETS** to the Lincoln, Colorado District Court Judge Marion Falk for throwing out Senator Ernie Chambers' lawsuit against God saying the Almighty wasn't properly served due to his unlisted home address. The Senator was upset about the terrorist threats God had made against the Senator and his constituents inspiring fear. Only in America!


 **BRICKBATS** to the Ontario Liberal government for snubbing the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters when the federation established an advisory council to work with the province on planning initiatives for the far north's boreal forest of 86,850 square miles. Wonder why?


 **BOUQUETS** to the Ministry of Natural Resources for once again joining forces with Ducks Unlimited Canada to help preserve wetlands by providing a grant of \$500,000 to be matched by Ducks Unlimited for an Ontario Wetland Care program to help rural landowners maintain and enhance wetlands.

 **BOUQUETS** to Councillor Evelina MacEachern for her motions to seek council action on at least two outstanding items. One is a location for the heritage Petch log cabin and the other dedicating the former York Region water tower property in south Aurora as parkland.

 **BOUQUETS** to Councillor Alison Collins-Mrakas for her Notice of Motion that an education session be held in regards to the Code of Conduct and its uses, meaning, implication, applications and operationalization.

 **BRICKBATS** to members of Aurora council for adopting a sign bylaw and then at almost every council meeting approving variances to the bylaw at the request of a business. Either enforce the bylaw or scrap it!

 **BOUQUETS** to the Town of Aurora on receiving the Prince of Wales Prize for Municipal Heritage Leadership by the Heritage Canada Foundation.

 **BOUQUETS** to Gerald Oxman who took it upon himself to call Aurora Leisure Services and ask permission to paint all the benches in Taylor Park. Not only did he do this but he returned the next day to repaint one of them that had been vandalized after he freshly painted it. He then went with his wife to pick up garbage from the park and trail system. Then he called back to see if there were any more benches he could paint.

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**Peter Virtanen**  
CLU. Agent, Aurora



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Letters to the Editor

# Scrutineer disappointed with returning officers

To the editor,

On Election Day, I scrutineered for one of the candidates at a couple of locations.

At first, I was denied entry, despite showing my credentials.

It was not until I forced myself in and insisted that the returning officer call her supervisor, that I was allowed in, by which time, a couple of the ballot boxes had already been sealed.

The Returning Officer also did not allow me to stand near the polls, which impeded my carrying out my function.

It was not until my candidate's manager showed up and let her know my rights that she allowed me to investigate "interesting"

events at any specific poll.

By the time I left the room at 2.30 p.m., we had developed a good relationship and it was evident that she did not know the function of a scrutineer, a failing of her training.

I might add, that my experience made it easier for the scrutineer of another party, when she made her appearance.

At about 3.30 p.m., I went to another location and was sworn in at all four polls.

It was evident that the RO was not in favour of my party.

I had to keep asking when the "bingo sheets" were ready and she would then point them out to me. When, however the scrutineer of another party appeared, he was wel-

comed, and she would get the sheets for him herself, and they would go into a tête-à-tête, indicating a great deal of familiarity. Then, there was much confusion at one poll.

At several times, three different voters were holding ballots in their hands, one waiting to vote, one voting and one placing the ballot in the box.

In addition, some family members of one of the poll personnel were milling around the table.

I complained to the RO that she should correct that situation, and she told me that she was watching

it.

Half an hour later, the situation persisted, and I protested to the RO.

She told me that she, not I, was in charge and that I should not interfere.

I reminded her that I was within my rights to protest, and she eventually went over to the poll and things improved.

Interestingly, after the count at that poll, one ballot was missing.

There needs to be a tighter control on who gets chosen as an RO.

**George Gonsalves**  
**Aurora**

# Senior has woes at polling station

To the editor,

How difficult can they make it for a person to cast a vote?

Knowing that identification would be required, I took my health card and my cheque book (because my cheque book has my name and address printed on it).

There was quite a hassle but ultimately they consented to look up my name on the voters' list - only to find out that my name had been crossed off!

I am 92 years old and live at Park Place Manor.

My son looks after all my bills so I have no utility bill to present as identification.

Another resident had her whole walker seat cov-

ered with items, none of which were considered suitable.

Mrs. Brenda MacNamara from our administration was trying to help and was asked to sign an oath to identify herself.


I finally gave up but really wanted to vote so I went down again and went through the whole process of registering at which point I was given my ballot and allowed to vote.

If this is an example of polling clerks who must exercise their authority and worry about the letter of the law, no wonder the turnout to vote is so abysmal!

**Margaret Stevens**  
**Aurora**

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## Letters to the Editor

# Former Wells student has many memories

To the editor,

**Re:Wells Street School's fate as written by Mr.Revington (Page One, Auroran, October 14)**

It is with considerable sadness that I only recently learned that my old public school may no longer continue to be a school and that it is not

serving in that capacity at this time.

I think I was blessed to have been one of the many fortunate students to have graduated after eight years at Wells Street Public School.

I have a lot of pleasant memories from both the school and the park across the street.

If I were to mention some of my teachers'

names such as Babcock, Legge, Komar and Harris, I'm sure several of your readers might also relate to the time frame.

Yes, it was in the late 50s and although I have not lived in Aurora for a long time now, I still have a nostalgic interest in its history as it was my hometown.

Wells Street Public School was a very impor-

tant part of my growing up as it probably has been for thousands of others.

I hope the School Board and the trustees vote to keep it alive and consider the third option of rebuilding it with the heritage facade.

We can again look forward to seeing the gates across Wells Street protecting the students crossing to the park as

they have for at least 60 years.

I also would like to mention that Dr.G.W. Williams Secondary School was renamed that from the former Aurora District High School in 1961 while I was a student there and not built as such in 1952.Dr. Williams served on the

York County School Board for many years throughout the 40s and 50s resulting in the dedication in his name.

This was nine years after the high school moved there from the Wells Street location.

**John N.Anderson  
Thornton, Ontario**

## Graffiti clean-up day a success

To the editor,

**Re:Town of Aurora Graffiti clean-up day**

On behalf of the citizens of Aurora and the members of council, we would like to express our sincere thanks to those of you who participated in the Town of Aurora's graffiti clean-up day held September 25.

The day was an overwhelming success with participants from all over Aurora, including students from Dr.G.W. Williams Secondary School and Aurora High

School, as well as volunteers from the Neighbourhood Network, York Regional Police and the York Regional Police Auxiliary.

In total we had almost 80 participants cleaning up more than 25 sites.

For those of you who supplied paint and other materials, your contribution is also greatly appreciated.

The remaining paint is being used to continue the work we started to help keep Aurora free of graffiti.

The graffiti clean-up day is an excellent exam-

ple of what can be accomplished when everyone works together here in Aurora.

Thank you again for your participation in the graffiti clean-up day and

for making Aurora a better place for us to call home.

**Phyllis Morris  
Mayor  
Alison Collins-Mrakas  
Councillor**



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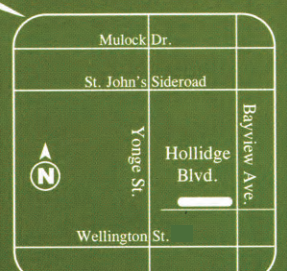
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**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28th, 2008**

**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

**Place:** Aurora Chamber of  
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14483 Yonge St., Aurora

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18th, 2008**

**LUNCH & LEARN SEMINAR**

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**Presenter:** Candace Carter, Back2Front

**Time:** 12:00 (Noon)

**Program Cost:** \$20.00 Members

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**Place:** Aurora Chamber Boardroom

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**LUNCHEON MEETING**

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**Showcase:** 11:30 a.m.

**Luncheon:** 12:15 p.m.

**Program Cost:** \$35.00 Members

\$40.00 Potential Members

**Speaker:** Denise Marek, Author & TV Host

**Topic:** Three Essential Risks for

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**Place:** King' Riding Golf Club

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**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20th, 2008**

**NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION BREAKFAST**

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**Program Cost:** COMPLIMENTARY

**Place:** Aurora Chamber of Commerce

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## Part Two

# Prosperous times for Aurora in the 40s

By **ELIZABETH MILNER**  
Special to The Auroran

Highway 11, or Yonge Street, began a widening project in the 40s and in August, 1952, the work reached Aurora.

Most people in town had mixed feelings about losing the grand old trees and people living on Yonge Street hated to see some of their lawns taken.

Aurora's first dog show was held in May, 1952, in the armoury in the Town Park. The event began immediately to draw competitors from a wide area and even from across the border. The show got so popular that it had to be moved to the arena on Yonge Street.

A new Bell Telephone building, providing automated phone service to Aurora and the area, was also under construction that year at 145- 147 Yonge Street South.

In 1953, the town hired its first engineer, W.B. Redfern.

After quite a struggle, the Town Park got the first electric lights in 1953. This meant night baseball games could take place and that was exciting.

The Horse Show had grown bigger and better after it began again in 1946.

In 1953, Federation Equestrian International Rules (F.E.I. Rules) were introduced in the competitions in the Town Park for

the first time that year. Most people didn't know what that meant, but it sounded important and very official so it had to be good.

Automated telephone dial service came to Aurora in 1953 also.

The Bell Telephone building constructed in 1928 at the south corner of Yonge and Mosley Streets was replaced with a new building. The switchboard, the telephone operators and supervisors were replaced by wires and cables. Not everyone in town liked that, but it was a sign of coming times - automation.

In 1956, Aurora Fire Department moved into a new location on Victoria Street. The old Town Hall and fire hall at the corner of Mosley and Yonge Street came down and that didn't sit well with everyone, but they had to admit the new premises were more suitable for a growing town.

There was always a lot of singing in town thanks to Illyd Harris and the church choir leaders and so in 1956 a group of men still anxious to sing began the town's first barbershop quartet group.

Natural gas came to town as a heating option for homes in 1957. We were linked to the Canadian West by a pipeline and it seemed a marvellous thing.

The population in and around Aurora was beginning to change that year.

This was evident when the first English as a Second Language course was taught by Mr. Bastedo at the high school.

Aurora's Drama Workshop also started in 1957. Some of the enthusiasts were part of the Hobbycraft Guild that had earlier participated in plays. The Drama Workshop members put on plays in the high school auditorium and often in the auditorium at St. Andrew's College and no one in town wanted to miss those plays. A town needs artistic people to give the place a little life and class. Before the theatre crowd all we had was Lady Eaton, Count Blochin and Lady Amelius Jarvis.

A boat club started in Aurora the next year. No one ever imagined Aurora having one of those because all we had in town was Tannery Creek, but we got one anyway and the members made it work and eventually the club purchased land on Cook's Bay on Lake Simcoe.

In 1959, Aurora had its first full time Fire Chief, Harry Jones. Aurora got its first shopping centre on Yonge Street at the south end of town. The merchants in the centre of town weren't happy about that, but every town was getting one with parking for customers and so we drove our cars to shop! A soccer club also started in town in 1959.

Many changes came in the 1960s also.

In 1961, the Lions Club gave the bandstand in the Town Park a roof and Aurora had its first bandshell. An Aurora and Newmarket Kiwanis Club began the same year and two years later the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority began the Delta Psi Chapter in Aurora.

Rugby started in town in 1961. They called it "rugger" and some people in town weren't sure what sport they were reading about.

In 1962, the Aurora Historical Society began

thanks to Leslie Oliver who organized the first meeting in his home.

Aurora's Junior Chamber of Commerce gave the town its first crosswalks in October, 1963. The first three crosswalks were on Yonge Street at the corners of Aurora Heights Drive, Mosley Street and Dunning Avenue.

Aurora also got a new library on Victoria Street that year. Even better than that, the old Caplan House on Old Yonge Street and St. John's Sideroad was purchased by the Metro Emergency Measures Organization to be made into a nuclear shelter.

There was a feeling that the Oak Ridges Moraine would somehow deflect the full impact of a nuclear explosion and the resulting fallout.

In 1964, Sea Cadets started in Aurora and the Aurora Humane Society opened on Yonge Street. Aurora got a new Post Office on Wellington Street East two years later and the structure was called the Federal Building, which sounded a lot more important than the Post Office.

There was great excitement the following year because the people in Aurora were looking ahead to having the town's first Community Centre and a new arena.

It just seemed that the government of Canada was taking care of its people and that Aurora's government was taking care of our town.

Aurora was getting bigger and better and people in town were making good things happen.

Yes, we had a house in a subdivision on south Yonge Street with a nuclear bomb shelter, but the mayor had said it would make a good "jam and preserve cupboard".

Yes, we had another nuclear shelter at the north end of town, but no one really believed Aurora would be harmed. Yes, the Vietnam War was on the horizon, but we were told

the Americans were there just to advise the South Vietnamese government and we believed that. We were living "peace and prosperity" and we had no idea what the future had in store for us.

Times were good and many promising and positive things were happening.

It's so hard to believe that life and politics have both changed so much.

Presently, two wars are in progress, which may continue for a long time, and the entire globe is faced with a monetary upheaval that will likely reach Canada and even

Aurora.

Governments just don't seem the same any more.

Citizens have lost trust in their representatives and we no longer feel those we elect will be honest, follow through with promises, or be concerned about the daily struggles of Mr. Everyman.

Perhaps those in government should all sign a document, an oath just like doctor, promising to do no harm.

Yes, Virginia, looking back the old days were pretty darned good in Canada and in our town named Aurora.



## A real roof raiser

In what is believed to be a "first" in the region, a huge crane, operated by Chepurny Brothers Construction, lowers a roof weighing an estimated 10 tons onto the home of Westview Golf Course co-owner Craig Nisbet. The roof was first constructed on the ground and then raised to the top of the house in about ten minutes. The recently remodeled house overlooks the second hole of the course, which celebrated its 50th anniversary with an open house Saturday.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

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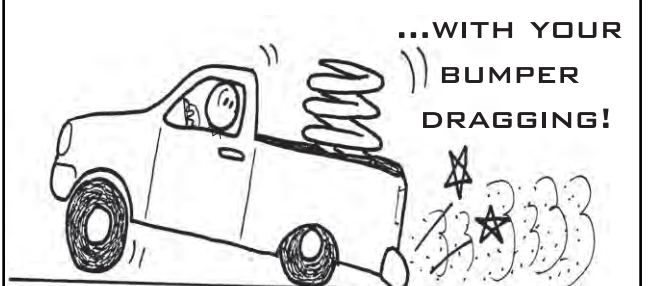
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October 23rd marks the start of the 3rd annual Home and Home weekend against Newmarket. The Aurora Tigers rep teams will face off against the Newmarket Redmen rep teams who have won the challenge for the past two years. In total, 56 games will be played; all games will count towards the individual team's league standings. Aurora has taken this challenge one step further. The two centres will also compete in a fundraising challenge in which monies raised will benefit The Southlake Regional Cancer Program. We encourage both communities to come out and watch some exciting hockey, and support our efforts of fundraising for Southlake. The lobby of the Aurora Community Centre is Home and Home central for all the off-ice excitement. With many volunteers spearheaded by Alexis Loney, President of the Aurora Hockey Parents Auxiliary, there will be a BBQ, pony rides, guitar hero challenge, face painters and pumpkin sales and much more. The losing centre has to display the winner's jersey in its respective hockey office for the entire season. This has been a painful experience for the past few years for President of AMHA Joe Bentolila as pictured above in a Tiger jersey, as he faces off against his rival Stephen Paine of NMHA. Also pictured in ref attire is Mike Smith (Hospital Board Member), left, and Darryl Iwai (Southlake Foundation Committee Member).



# AURORA MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION



Sunday October 19

## House League

### Peewee

**504 Pizza Pizza 4** - Declan Johnston 2G; Corrie McGoldrick 1G, 1A; Brendan Elliott 1G; Max Brown 2A; Joseph Veneziano 1A. **508 Tilemaster 2** - Thomas McDonald 1G, Adrian Ramirez 1G; Alexander Jonasson 1A, Hunter Jones 1A.

**505 Laurion Law Office 5** - Russell Johnson 4G; Graham Killby 1G, 1A; Nicholas Chethuan 1A; Lucas Marek 1A. **503 Greenpoint Laser 3.**

**501 Perfect Moves 4** - Justin Chalmers 1G; Jake Arcangeli 1G; Brian Langdon 1G, 1A; Nicolas Marelli 1G; Joel Gouveia 2A; Mitchell Carter 1A. **507 Sgt. Pepper's Bar & Grill 1** - Morgan Walker 1G; Chris Downs 1A.

**502 Omar's Shoes 8** - Michael Liscio 1G, 1A; Neil Duggan 1G, 1A; Robert Ruscica 1G; Andrew Foresi 1G; Alec Ground 1G, 2A; Eric McMurray 1G; Terrence Lepore 1G, 2A; Matthew Reynolds 2A; Christopher End 1A. **506 Wikoff Color Corp. 2** - Carson Elliott 1G; Michael Slack 1G; Tyler George 1A; Harrison Smith 1A.

## Bantam

**Aurora Tigers AA 4** - Andrew Papousek 1G; A.J. Killens 1G, 1A; Josh Klinowski 1G; Dylan Woyslaw 1G; Sean Nishimura 1A; Christopher Bull 1A. **Markham Waxers AA 3.**

**Aurora Tigers AA 3** - Andrew Papousek 2G; Josh Klinowski 1G, 1A; A.J. Killens 1A; Mark Robertson 1A. **Richmond Hill Stars AA 1.**

**Aurora Tigers AA 5** - Reid Sisson 1G; Dylan Woyslaw 1G; Cooper Riswick 1G, 1A; Rory MacNeil 1G; A.J. Killens 1G, 1A; Sean Nishimura 1A; Dylan Hussey 1A; Andrew Papousek 1A; Matthew Roy 1A. **Georgina Blaze AA 2.**

**Aurora Tigers AA 4** - A.J. Killens 2G; Lukas Leslie 1G; Kyle Spicer 1G; Josh Klinowski 1A; Matthew Roy 1A; Dylan Hussey 1A; Rory MacNeil 1A; Sean Nishimura 1A; Andrew Papousek 2A. **Newmarket Redmen AA 1.**

**Markham Waxers AA 6.** **Aurora Tigers AA 1** - Dylan Hussey 1G; Lukas Leslie 1A; Dylan Rochon 1A.

**Aurora Tigers AA 3** - Andrew Papousek 1G, 1A; Josh Klinowski 1G; A.J. Killens 1G, 1A; Sean Nishimura 1A; Kyle Spicer 1A. **Richmond Hill Stars AA 1.**

**Aurora Tigers AA 1** - A.J. Killens 1G; Andrew Papousek 1A; Matthew Roy 1A. **Georgina Blaze AA 1.**

**Georgina Blaze AA 4.** **Aurora Tigers AA 2** - A.J. Killens 1G; Andrew Papousek 1G, 1A; Josh Klinowski 1A.

**Aurora Tigers AA 5** - Matthew Roy 1G, 1A; Dylan Rochon 2G; Kyle Spicer 1G; Christopher Bull 1G; Andrew Papousek 2A; Cooper Riswick 1A; Dylan Woyslaw 1A; Reid Sisson 1A. **TNT Tornados AA 2.**


## Rep teams

### Atom

**Aurora Tigers AE 2** - Spencer White 1G; Jeffrey McKay 1G. **TNT Tornados AE 0.**

### Peewee

**TNT AE 6.** **Aurora Tigers AE 5** - Kevin Siery 1A; Austin Persaud 3G; Tait Snedden 1G; Blake Wallace 1A; Ian Dunlop 1A; Kyle Strachan 1A; Michael Moffatt 1A.



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## Times are tough for our seniors

By BRIAN WARBURTON

A federal election, volatile falling stock markets world wide, and Thanksgiving all in play in the same time frame, are enough to make most of us in the Aurora Seniors' Centre sit up and take notice.

We are all fascinated in part and scared in part and while we can handle an election and Thanksgiving, what should we do about a volatile stock market consuming our wealth?

Preserve wealth, seek competent advice and keep a cool head, is the advice I am relying on.

And the Canadian people voted and have spoken emphatically with a clear electoral voice; the Canadian electorate calls for more minority style federal government.

First, congratulations to Lois Brown on her electrifying win of the Newmarket/Aurora riding and good luck to her in her federal career, upon which she will embark as soon as she is sworn in.

Once sworn in she will progress from talking about what to do concerning the nation's business, to being a part of the group mechanism that implements measures to improve matters or to contain problems as they are identified.

And words of understanding for Tim Jones in his disappointment; Tim is an excellent man who has been deprived of what once appeared to be a realistic opportunity to win the riding he contested.

A cruel and fickle general rejection of the leader of his party deterred some supporters from casting supportive votes in a contest that took no prisoners, and ultimately skewed the election result away from him.

Even though Tim is a tough, respected and thoroughly experienced political veteran, who will persevere and continue, this defeat must be the most difficult disappointment to accept in his political life and unlikely to be forgotten, ever.

And deserving of recognition also in standing for election are Dorian Baxter, Mike Seaward, Ray Luff and Glenn Hubbers, all of whom must be congratulated for putting their names forward.

For the election, the West/McKenzie Hall in the centre was designated a polling station and voter traffic appeared to be heavy with voters thronging to cast ballots.

Many of them took the opportunity of their visit to tour the centre, some looking in on the computer room, where computer club committee member Dee Smith and this writer, were conducting a drop-in session for anybody with computer problems, and also signing up seniors for computer courses.

The Farmers' Market "Apple Crumble Pie Contest", was won by the Aurora Seniors' own Edna Crosby.

Anne McKenny, also an ASA member took part and helped with phoning and organizing others to enter the contest.

In addition, proceeds from the pies which were sold after the event, went to the Aurora Food Pantry.

A significant number of other members of the ASA were prominent in supporting this event which provided an excellent opportunity to promote the Farmers' Market.

A Halloween Luncheon is planned at the centre Wednesday, October 29th, at noon. The menu will be Pork Loin and Apple Sauce, Rice, Vegetables & Dessert Coffee or Tea, and the cost is \$6 for members and \$7 for non-members.

This luncheon includes entertainment by the ASA "Silver Stars" and will include jokes, stories, a drama group, dancing and lots of prizes.

On Tuesday evening, October 28th, the ASA presents the movie "In Her Shoes" which is a drama comedy, starring Cameron Diaz, Toni Collette, and Shirley MacLaine.

Tuesday evenings at the ASA are attracting more patrons and with the weather steadily getting cooler and the nights longer, perhaps this is a place for you to relax and find something to do that is different and entertaining.

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MORGAN FREY

## Aurora amputee learns "Super Champs Can!"

Morgan Frey, 16, of Aurora, is back from a War Amps Seminar in Toronto where she learned that being a multiple amputee is not a barrier to reaching her dreams.

The Multiple Amputation Seminar was held recently for "Super Champs" -- members of The War Amps Child Amputee (CHAMP) Program missing three or more limbs.

Using the theme "Super Champs Can!," sessions focused on how these young people can enjoy sports and activities with their peers with the help of specially designed recreational limbs.

They also covered achieving future independence, with topics like education, learning to drive, cooking, handling household chores and travelling.

In the artificial limb ses-

sion, Morgan showed her standard artificial arm.

War Amps CEO Cliff Chadderton realized many years ago that computers were the great equalizer for Super Champs, and so launched "jumpstart" and "Webmasters" to help them with schoolwork now and to have successful careers in the workforce.

Sessions focused on the importance of computer technology as another step on the road to independence.

Morgan also attended The War Amps "Webmasters" seminar this summer where she learned Web development skills that will open future career choices for her.

The War Amps is funded solely through public support of the Key Tag and Address Label Service and receives no government grants.

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## This Food Pantry operator says thanks for donations

Lorna Rummenie of the Aurora Food Pantry would like to give a big "Thank you" to residents who have donated to the organization.

The Food Pantry is located in the basement of the old post office building on the east side of Yonge Street, between Mosley and Wellington.

"We appreciate all the donations," she said. "We're getting a lot of donations from our Thanksgiving drive."

Soup is one of the most frequently donated items, while the pantry is looking for more pasta, sauces, canned fruit and vegetables, tea, coffee, crackers, and snacks and

drink boxes for children.

"And we need things like sugar and salt, which we don't get that much of," she said.

However, Ms Rummenie added that donations are strong enough on a weekly basis that they are "busy all year".

The pantry thanks local gardeners for produce, including food that came from last summer's community garden plots.

Ms Rummenie said she is especially grateful "for those who donate all year round".

The Aurora Food Pantry is open from 9 a.m to 3 p.m. every Saturday.

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COMING EVENTS

From page 2

will find comfort food and a sense of community in the hall at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Aurora.A lunch of hot soup, sandwiches, and dessert will be provided.Any funds raised are directed to local community charities.

WEDNESDAY,OCTOBER 22

Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society presents Allen Foster talking about "Myths and Magic of Plants"at 8 p.m.at the Aurora Legion, Industrial Parkway North.

\*\*\*\*

Members sign-up for the Aurora Chamber of Commerce 2009 Aurora Home Show and Outdoor living Expo at the Chamber office at 8.30 a.m.First Come, First Served.The event takes place April 17 to 19.

THURSDAY,OCTOBER 23

Women's Centre of York Region, Annual General Meeting, 6 to 8 p.m.in Binion's Hall at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street, Aurora.RSVP by October 20 to Kirsten Eastwood, 905-853-9270, extension 101.

OCTOBER 24-25

Aurora United Church Fall Rummage Sale on Yonge Street will operate Friday, Oct.24 from 1 to 9 p.m.and Saturday, Oct.25, from 9 a.m.to noon.Included in the sale will be gently used clothing, toys, books, linens, garage sale items.For further information, call 905-727-1935.

SATURDAY,OCTOBER 25

The Farmers'Market features Customer Appreciation Day.

\*\*\*\*

Haunted Forest, Sheppard's Bush, 6 to 8 p.m.Enter off Mary Street and bring a flashlight.Charitable BBQ will be on site.Advance tickets only, will be available starting October 14.For tickets and further information call 905-726-4762.

\*\*\*\*

A Sketching Workshop with artist Bill Lewochko happens at the Aurora Public Library from 10 a.m. until noon for ages 4 to 9. Pre-registration is required.Fee is \$10 per registrant.

\*\*\*\*

York Chamber Ensemble at Trinity Anglican Church at 7:30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*

Halloween carnival party from 3 p.m.to 7.30 p.m.at Christ Lutheran Church (downstairs), 7 Lacey Court.It's free.For further information, call 905-727-3311.

\*\*\*\*

14th annual seniors'autumn art show and sale at the Aurora Seniors Centre, 5 Municipal Drive, from 10 a.m.to 4 p.m.Artists in attendance and refreshments will be served.Free Admission.For further information.call 905-726-4767.

TUESDAY,OCTOBER 28

Canadian Federation of University Women open meeting at the Aurora Legion, Industrial Parkway North.Guest speaker is David MacKinnon.Event begins at 8 p.m.

\*\*\*\*

Explore the World of Art at the Aurora Library, for children ages 6 to 9, from 7 p.m.to 8 p.m.Fee is \$6 per child.For further information, call 905-727-9493.

\*\*\*\*

Deadline for citizen members for the Accessibility Advisory Committee.The purpose of the committee is to encourage and facilitate accessibility on behalf of challenged persons.More information is available at the Aurora Public Library and the Town Clerk's office.

SATURDAY,NOVEMBER 1

Murder mystery evening at Hillary House.6 p.m.Wine, hors d'oeuvres, and a three-course meal will be served.This event, because of limited seating, sells out early.For tickets - at \$80 each - call the Aurora Historical Society at 905-727-8991.

\*\*\*\*

York Regional Police Male Chorus, 16th annual "In Harmony with the Community"fund raising concert.Tickets \$10.For advance sales in Aurora, call 905-727-9676.

MONDAY,NOVEMBER 3

Aurora Film Circuit presents "When Did You Last See Your Father?" starring Jim Broadbent and Colin Firth.Tickets, \$10, available at Aurora Public Library and R&R Revisited.All screenings take place at the Cineplex Aurora, with door prize at 6.45 p.m.and film at 7 p.m.All proceeds benefit out-of-budget programming at the library.

SATURDAY,NOVEMBER 8

Annual Christmas Bazaar sponsored by St.Andrew's Guild, beginning at 9.30 a.m.Stay for the "Spud Lunch," which begins at 11 a.m. Lunch tickets are \$8 for adults;\$4 for children.Everything happens in St.Andrew's Hall, corner of Mosley and Victoria Streets.

THURSDAY,NOVEMBER 13

Aurora Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting at the King's Riding Golf Club, 14700 Bathurst Street, sponsored by PowerStream

and featuring Denise Marek, author and TV host as guest speaker. Showcase at 11.30 a.m.with lunch at 12.15 p.m.

NOVEMBER 13 TO 15

The Pine Tree Potters' Winter Pottery Sale at the St.Andrew's Valley Golf Club, 368 St.John's Sideroad East in Aurora.Free parking, free admission and a door prize.All proceeds from the Charity table will go to CHATS (Community Home Assistance to Seniors).Call 905-727-1278 for further information or visit www.pinetreepotters.ca.

SATURDAY,NOVEMBER 15

Trinity Anglican Church Women's Christmas Starlight Bazaar from 9.30 a.m.to 2.30 p.m.Luncheon is 11 a.m.to 1 p.m.Coffee House at 7:30 p.m.Experience the many talents of Trinity Anglican Church and support the Diocesan choir camp.

\*\*\*\*

Annual TOAST (Town Of Aurora Staff Together) silent auction and bake sale in the main lobby at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Centre, 1400 Wellington Street East, from 10 a.m.to 3.30 p.m.All proceeds go to the York Region Children's Aid Society "Holiday Gift Program" to benefit local families in need.

\*\*\*\*

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Women's League's 13th annual Christmas Fair and Artisan's Sale in Lynett Hall, 16 Catherine Avenue, from 9 a.m.to 2 p.m.Included will be a fish pond, face painting, silent auction, bake table, visit from Santa Claus and a raffle every half hour.

\*\*\*\*

Trinity Anglican Church Women's Christmas Starlight Bazaar from 9.30 a.m.to 2.30 p.m.with luncheon between 11 a.m.and 1 p.m.

TUESDAY,NOVEMBER 18

Canadian storyteller Jennifer Cayley will be at the Aurora Public Library from 7 to 8 p.m.to introduce heroes and heroines in the Optimist Room, for children ages six to nine.There is no charge if you book in advance.Call 905-727-9493 for further information.

SATURDAY,NOVEMBER 22

Local artist and author Nancy Hallas will tell a tale about a clever mouse then offer children between the ages of six and nine the opportunity to model their own mouse character at the Aurora Public Library. Event begins at 2 p.m.and the fee is \$6 per child.

\*\*\*\*

Annual Aurora Santa Claus parade.

TUESDAY,NOVEMBER 25

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Business After Five from 5.30 to 7.30 p.m.at M & L Fotografics, 15032 Yonge Street.

New French high school opens here

The Conseil scolaire de districte catholique Centre Sud observed its 10th annual community celebrations recently at the new Ecole secondaire catholique Renaissance at 700 Bloomington Road at the corner of Bathurst Street.

The September 28 official opening and blessing of the school were part of the festivities.

Ecole secondaire catholique Renaissance is for students in Grades 7 to 12.

The new French Catholic high school will

receive students from Aurora's Saint-Jean Elementary School and from elementary schools in Markham and Maple.



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