





COMING EVENTS

**Continuing**

The Aurora Public Library winter programs have registration forms now available for pickup. Drop off date for Aurora residents begins Saturday, January 3rd. Processing begins Friday, January 9th. Programs being offered include: Books for Babies (6-13 months); Preschool Storytime (3-5 years); Time for Toddlers (14-23 months); Tales for Two (24-35 months) and Caregiver and Child Music programs (6 months-5 years). Visit [www.library.aurora.on.ca](http://www.library.aurora.on.ca) or phone 905-727-9493 for further information or pick up a program flyer at the Library.

Grade 8 Only Book Club is here! In this club the Aurora Library will read fast-paced adventures, fantasy, sport and contemporary novels. Pre-register at the Children and Young Adult Information Desk. Club is held Thursdays from 7 to 8 p.m. starting January 8, 2009, and it's free.

VOICE is a creative writing collective for teens between the ages of 13 and 18. At the meetings, held at the Aurora Public Library, teens learn various creative writing techniques, give and receive constructive feedback on their writing and meet other like-minded young writers. Meetings are held the last Thursday of the month, September through May, from 7 to 8 p.m. Registration is not required.

"Louder" is a semi-annual young adult magazine created through the creative effort of teens and produced by the Aurora Public Library's Young Adult Services Department. Submissions of writing, poetry, art, graphic art and photography are accepted. E-mail submissions to [yamagazine@library.aurora.on.ca](mailto:yamagazine@library.aurora.on.ca) or drop it off to the Children and Young Adult Information Desk to the attention of Monika Machacek.

Step into the world of watercolour with artist and teacher Alana Biasi. Both the beginner and advanced painter classes are held throughout the year, from January 22 to February 12, from 6.30 to 8 p.m. Fee is \$30 per registrant for students, Grades 5-11. Visit [www.library.aurora.on.ca](http://www.library.aurora.on.ca), or phone the Library at 905-727-9493 for further information.

On Tuesdays, until June, the Navy League has a Cadet program for children 9 to 12 years from 7 to 9 p.m. Contact Cliff Davies at 905-727-2244 for details.

On Tuesdays, until June, a Sea Cadet program for youths 13 to 18 from 7 to 9 p. m. Leave message at 905-895-3038.

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 6 and 7 year-olds and the Children Chorus, open to 8 to 17 year-olds. To audition, contact general director Sarah Kyle at [keepsinging@look.ca](mailto: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 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 905-841-8884.

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](mailto:jhoffmann@sympatico.ca).

Scottish Country Dancing every Friday morning at St. Andrews's 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 **Please see page 19**

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Please call for upcoming seminar information



# GO Transit plans to double parking

It's still a little ways off, but finding a parking spot at the Aurora GO station will eventually be a lot easier.

Back when there was only one GO train, parking was not a problem.

However, as the number of trains increased to the current four each morning, the amount of available parking couldn't keep pace.

Today, there are 769 parking spaces available; 190 in the main lot, 382 in the west lot, and 197 in the east lot.

Even with a series of expan-

sions over the years, these three lots fill quickly.

The result is that commuters who use the later trains sometimes have to park on side streets, or illegally.

But help is on the way.

GO Transit has obtained another piece of land on Wellington Street just east of the station.

This time, to make maximum use of the space, instead of just paving it over, a multi-level parking garage will be built.

The new facility, which will

be accessible from both Wellington Street and Industrial Parkway, will house 850 parking spots, more than doubling the amount of parking available to commuters.

The introduction of multi-level parking garages is a recent innovation for GO Transit.

The first such structure was opened only a few months ago in Burlington.

Construction on the Aurora parking garage will begin in spring of 2009, with the facility opening about a year later.

# Wells school fate meeting changed

The location of the Board of Education's first meeting on the fate of Wells Street Public School has been changed.

The meeting will be held in the cafeteria of Aurora High School at 155 Wellington Street West on December 3 at 7 p.m.

Originally, the meeting was scheduled to be at The Education Centre on 60

Wellington Street West, and the information was reported in a previous edition of The Auroran.

Board of Education contact Ross Virgo said the change of venue was necessary so more people could be accommodated.

Notices reflecting the correct information will be issued to the public.

Information posted on the

sign in front of Wells Street Public School indicates the January 14 public meeting will also be at Aurora High.

The February 19 meeting will move to Aurora Grove Public School.

Aurora Grove is the school displaced Wells Street students currently attend.

The location of the March 9 meeting is still to be determined.

# Film subscription idea

Got a film lover on your Christmas list?

There are still a few subscriptions left for the group's 2009 film season.

The eight-film series begins in January and runs monthly (with a break during the summer) through until November.

Subscriptions cost \$80 each.

The group screens acclaimed Canadian, independent and international films, most of which have premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival.

The first film of the series, screening January 12, is entitled "A No Hit, No Run Summer", a Quebec film that

takes the viewer back to the summer of 1969 and focuses on a baseball-crazy 12-year-old boy following the Montreal Expos.

His dreams and disappointments are played out before a backdrop of hippy music, Woodstock, the moon landing and the love of baseball.

Single tickets for this film go on sale December 12.

Both subscriptions and single tickets are available at the Aurora Public Library and at R&R Revisited on Edward Street in Aurora.

All screenings take place at the Aurora Cineplex Odeon Theatre on Bayview Avenue.



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## Poor Richard

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

# Extra regional seat is needed

*There's a democracy gap in York Region.  
As Rep-by-pop has lost its way;  
Aurora needs a second representative,  
So that on all things the town has a say!*  
- From Poor Richard's Scrapbook

Bouquets to Ajax Mayor Steve Parish for threatening legal action and demanding intervention by the province after Durham Region councillors rejected his plan to rebalance regional council.

He has long argued that on a per capita basis his municipality is under-represented in council seats and he argued that revolutions have been fought over taxation without fair representation.

He pointed out that Ajax has one seat on regional council for every 30,000 voters while Oshawa has one for every 17,000 and he fears the existing discrepancies are likely to get worse in the coming years.

Ajax is just one of municipalities in this Greater Toronto Area whose regional council seats have not kept up with rapid population growth.

It continues to violate the principle of representation by population.

Queen's Park insisted that representation was a municipal issue and was up to each regional government to decide and generally the current members of regional council were satisfied with the status quo.

Aurora is in much the same position and has been trying to obtain a second representative over the years without success as there was little or no support at regional council and the province just washed its hands on the issue.

In October, 2007, Mayor Phyllis Morris gave Notice of Motion that she would bring forth a recommendation to the next general committee meeting regarding the addition of a second Aurora councillor to sit on Regional council, but there is no record of any action being taken.

The struggle for Aurora to gain a second representative on regional council has been ongoing since the early days of the region in 1971, when regional council was established with 16 members plus the chairman, at that time appointed by the province.

The original council was roughly based on one representative for each 10,000 people, with Markham and Richmond Hill getting three representatives each, Vaughan, Newmarket and Georgina two each and Aurora, King, East Gwillimbury and Whitchurch-Stouffville, one each.

The reason given for Georgina receiving two seats was due to its large summer population.

In October, 1973, Aurora made an attempt for a second seat with the support of MPP Bill Hodgson without success as the province claimed that to approve the request would result in a reconsideration of all regional seats.

In 1979, regional council adopted a policy that granted a municipality a second representative when the municipal population reached 15,000 but by 1981 when Aurora reached 15,000, regional council denied Aurora's request.

Aurora continued to struggle for an extra seat and in the fall of 1986 the province passed legislation granting Markham and Vaughan an extra seat, but not Aurora who had requested the review.

In June, 2002, when Aurora heard that Vaughan was seeking an additional seat due to growth, Aurora Council petitioned the province for a review to provide more equal representation on regional council.

Newmarket Mayor Tom Taylor recommended that a consultant be engaged to review the whole issue of regional representation rather than carry on with a band-aid approach.

He pointed out that Georgina and Aurora had roughly the same population but Georgina had two representatives and Aurora one.

Vaughan obtained its extra seat but not Aurora, bringing regional council to 20 members, plus the chairman.

The only concession Aurora received was that regional staff was to prepare a report regarding representation no later than April 30, 2003.

If the report was ever prepared it was never tabled or discussed in open session.

There is no doubt the current system is unfair and Ajax and Aurora are examples and it's up to the province to authorize an independent review and take action in accordance with its fairness resolution.

Aurora Council won't get it, unless they take action to petition the province for the review.



Lily Tomlin would be right at home in the building on the left in the top photo. That was the location of Bell Telephone where operators asked “number please” to anyone wanting to make a phone call back in the late 1930s. It’s unlikely, though, anyone ever heard an operator say “one ringy-dingy”. Next to it was Cousin’s Dairy Bar, a popular pre-dial telephones spot. This is one of the most changed corners in Aurora, Yonge and Mosley, because those two buildings have been replaced by the big one in the bottom photo, once partly occupied by the Trio Restaurant. Across the street, Aurora’s huge town hall was taken down in 1956 and replaced with a bank that has since been replaced with other commercial enterprises. The Town Hall, in its heyday, provided space for a farmers’ market, the fire department, the police department and the library.

### Letter to the Editor

# Don't leave kids alone in a mall, writer advises

To the editor,

Like many Aurora residents, I often shop at the local mall in our neighbouring town, usually mid-day, and have some lunch in the food court.

Last week, I encountered a situation that I have seen many times before and I just have to speak out about it.

Sitting at a table in the centre of the court, a young mother approached with her two children and a stroller.

She couldn't make it by with the stroller so I offered to move to the next table to make it more convenient for her.

She graciously accepted, left one child in the stroller while the older one (about 5 years old) climbed into a chair.

"Okay, you two stay right there," she said. "Mommy will be right back."

She hurried to a take out counter and got the meal for them, turning once in a while to ensure they were okay.

The lady at the opposite table and I continuously watched the young girls while mommy was away, although we had not been asked to.

The woman came back with the food and said, "I'm just going to find a highchair for your sister. Stay right there," and left again this time, much further afield as

she couldn't find a chair.

She hurried back and went on with the meal.

Let me say that these girls looked very well taken care of and from overhearing, I could hear that mom was very concerned that the girls were eating as healthy as they could from a take out counter.

The problem is that those girls could have wandered off or have been scooped up a dozen times while mom was gone.

Imagine the panic.

If they had been lost in the mall, countless people would have taken time to look for them, the youngsters would be very scared and mom would have been frantic.

Now imagine if they were not just lost and the unspeakable had happened.

I know only too well how difficult it is to manage children on a outing, especially with only one adult. I understand life is busy and things have to get done somehow but for heaven's sake, don't leave your children unattended in a busy mall!

Seasonal shopping time is here and the crowds are larger.

It's much harder to keep an eye on them. Make a plan when going to the mall. Use the buddy system with another mom. Take a grandparent or a neighbour. Hire a babysit-

ter after school to go with you. Or pack a lunch and go prepared if you really must go alone.

Please, this holiday sea-

son, plan ahead to keep your children safe.

A. McLean  
Aurora

## THE AURORAN

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### Editorial policy

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## Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

A number of months ago, a friend and political colleague-in-arms, Bob Callow, told me about an idea that was being kicked about - the possibility of having a Prayer Breakfast in Aurora in the near future - maybe even in 2009.

I had not heard anything more about this until two weeks ago when Bob called and offered me a seat at his table for the 11th annual Markham Prayer Breakfast. I instantly accepted.

The event was held Friday, November 14, at the Hilton Suites Conference Centre in Markham.

There were more than 650 people in attendance, representing most, if not all, of the major Faiths in the Markham area.

According to the front page of the program that was handed out, the Markham Prayer Breakfast is "Praying for the Leaders and People of Markham".

The event was very well run; beginning with starting right on time.

An official welcome and opening prayer was offered by one of the co-chairs.

Following the singing of O Canada, the head table was introduced.

Greetings were then extended to the assembled on behalf of the Deputy Mayor of Markham.

A number of scripture passages were then read.

The guest speaker was Thomas Caldwell, Chairman of Caldwell Financial Limited.

He has, according to the event program "over the years, served on the Board of Directors of numerous charitable and Christian organizations such as King Bay Chaplaincy."

The program also notes that Mr. Caldwell "was awarded Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002 for his activities on behalf of Canadian Veterans.

In 2003 he was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada for his work in assisting those in need as well as contributing to institutions working to better the lives of others".

He proved to be a tremendous choice for a guest speaker.

Having a non-clergy member share insights about his own spiritual journey was very uplifting.

The breakfast was to run to 9 a.m. and I believe they finished the program one minute early. Impressive planning to say the least!

The price was also right at \$30 per ticket.

The Markham Prayer Breakfast is operated by a volunteer steering committee of church representatives, on a non-profit, cost recovery basis. All costs are borne by ticket sales and sponsorship by churches or local companies.

They had six sponsors for the breakfast.

I know that Father Tim Hanley, Pastor for Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in Aurora, who I sat beside at the breakfast, was suitably impressed and was also hopeful that we will be able to put this type of event on in our town.

## Prayer Breakfast?

I am not privy to any inside information on this, but I do understand that some preliminary discussions have been taking place among parishes about organizing a similar event in Aurora.

It would be great to have a local ecumenical event where we break bread together.

On a different note: a couple of weeks back, I wrote about the need for some local democratic changes, including the introduction of a ward system, obtaining another seat for Aurora at York Region and the need for term limits.

Mr. Gord Barnes wrote in reply the following week: "Two words prove that your support of limiting political terms is misplaced - Hazel McCallion".

Fair enough - although I would still argue the point.

At a local level in situations where the incumbents enjoy such a huge advantage in name recognition, much of the time it is very difficult to have a real debate about the critical choices that a municipality or town needs to make because the challenger often has a hard time getting his or her message to be given serious consideration.

Thanks to Gord for taking the time to reply. All letters of support/criticism are much appreciated.

Mothers-in-law excepted, of course.

Stephen can be contacted at:  
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



## Cathy's Corner

By Cathy Vrancic

If this is midlife, how come it feels like the end? And, where are my car keys?

And why do they call it MENopause when it isn't happening to any of the MEN in my life - it is happening to ME, the only woman in this house! And, where are my car keys?

I'm still hot, but now it comes in flashes. I hog the covers, I throw the covers off. I can't sleep at night and I can't stay awake during the day.

I make myself a cup of black cohosh tea that is supposed to help but is about as pleasant as drinking motor oil.

Maybe it's the tea or maybe it's just me but suddenly I'm hot, then I'm not...then I forgot! Will it ever stop?

My doctor says this is normal. Normal? I don't think so...

It can't be normal to find a pimple on your chin with a hair growing out of it!

It is NOT normal to burst into tears because you run out of cream for your coffee!

It is not normal to find yourself on the highway and not remember how you got there...especially if you still can't find your car keys!

No, this can't be normal. I was never like this before. No wonder the kids moved out...

I used to take a roast out of the freezer the night before. I still do that except now I find it a week later.

I used to have garage sales but I'm not allowed to do that anymore.

Damir is afraid I might sell the garage or the house or his Corvette...or him.

He says I did that once, but I don't remember. He says

it's a good thing he's a lawyer and I say: "Really? That's wonderful! Are you rich? Do you want to marry me?"

He just backs away slowly.

He doesn't understand. Male menopause is different from female menopause.

Damir doesn't get mood swings where he's laughing hysterically one minute and crying wretchedly the next. He is merely the victim of mine.

For him, hot flashes happen when he spots a Ferrari in the parking lot or when he goes to the Boat Show...or when I'm waving a sharp object.

For me, they happen all day and all night and whenever I have a mood swing.

If this is normal why are scientists trying to figure out the cause of global warming? Isn't it obvious? There must be thousands of women in Aurora alone who can defrost the fridge or nuke dinner just by walking into the kitchen! Middle-aged women are hot, hot, hot! I just have to breathe on my driveway and - TADA! No more snow.

Maybe we should tell Al Gore about this, huh?

And then there's the night waking. It used to be that every night before bed, Damir and Jake would diligently walk around the house to make sure the perimeter was secure.

Now, Damir trusts our dog to do this by himself while he goes around removing all sharp objects from the premises. For some reason, he can't sleep until this is done.

Did I mention I suffer from mood swings? No wonder the kids moved out...

## Where are my car keys?

Good thing I had kids early in life. Can you imagine what would happen if I was teaching them to drive now? They wouldn't be in university. They'd be in psychotherapy.

How did I get this way? And why do people accuse me of repeating myself? And, where are my car keys?

And what is wrong with my hair? Apparently hair loss is one of the symptoms of menopause but I suffer from the other one - hair growth.

After decades of tweezing, threading, waxing, shaving, and sugaring I gave up and had my legs laser treated - Omigod, Omigod, Oh...My...God!

This is an insanely torturous procedure that induces the same level of writhing agony as having your kneecaps nailed to the floor, but costs more.

I don't have hair on my legs anymore. Now I have patches of hair on my kneecaps...and apparently, the vanquished leg hair has been miraculously rerouted to grow on my chin.

It isn't fair!

I have never fantasized about owning a firearm before! I used to be happy just pulling weeds but now I'm not happy until they are pulverized.

Once upon a time, I was a calm, patient, sweet person and now I have to take a deep breath and count to 10 before I answer the phone. Sigh...

If this is the middle of my life, why does it feel like the end? And, where are my car keys?

Cathy Vrancic welcomes e-mail at:  
ccauroa@rogers.com





*Bouquets &*

**BRICKBATS**  
By **DICK ILLINGWORTH**

**BOUQUETS** and a warm Aurora welcome to Jennifer Steen on her appointment as curator-manager of Hillary House. She says she looks forward to working with the town and its people to make Hillary House a great community site.

**BRICKBATS** to the Chosen Kallah Fund, a Toronto charity, for only spending \$1 out of every \$100 collected to relieve poverty in foreign lands, instead using funds to operate a tax shelter called the Canadian Humanitarian Trust. An audit by federal regulators resulted in their charitable status being revoked which is being appealed.

**BOUQUETS** to Jenn Hogan, Amy Nieland and Rachel Gordon for having their lovely locks sheared by Erica Fairbairn from Ego Hair Studios to raise nearly \$2,000 to provide hairpieces for children suffering from long term medical hair loss.

**BRICKBATS** to the federal government for all its loud talk, especially by former Environment Minister John Baird, about the government's wonderful plan to clean up the environment and greenhouse gases when a recent report by the Conference Board of Canada points out that Canada's environmental record is among the worst in the industrialized world.

**BOUQUETS** to Peel Region on showing the way in the recent federal election by putting municipal concerns on the election agenda by drafting a list of urban issues demanding action in a document entitled "Strengthening Peel and all Municipalities". The list included transferring one cent of the GST to municipalities, an expanded federal effort against poverty, a national housing strategy, long term transit funding and reform of the immigration system.

**BRICKBATS** to former Quebec Lieutenant Governor Lise Thibault for spending \$700,000 on golf, ski trips, fishing expeditions, travel expenses, parties and gifts. Maybe the need for such a position in today's society should be reviewed in all provinces.

**BOUQUETS** to Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees for convening a roundtable conference for business-people of the riding on the economy to find out their thoughts as to what the Ontario government should and should not be doing to help the economy.

**BRICKBATS** to a Montreal Judge who acquitted a woman driver of an SUV who killed a woman on the sidewalk, leaving two children motherless. According to the Judge the driver was in a state of shock at the time of the accident and he ruled out her statements that she was drowsy at the time. Thank heavens the Crown is appealing. Drowsy driving is like drunk driving!

**BOUQUETS** to Toronto Police Chief Bill Blair for calling on the courts to protect society by not granting house arrest or soft bail to violent offenders, as the stabbing murder of two innocent women in their Scarborough home was preventable as the murderer was under house arrest.

**BRICKBATS** to whomever was responsible for stranding 300 passengers in an aircraft on a runway of the Ottawa airport for 12 hours without food, water or toilet facilities last winter during a snowstorm revealing a gap in Canada's aviation system as airlines are not required to deplane passengers if delayed. Transport Canada is investigating.

**BOUQUETS** to the federal government for appealing a judgment that required taxpayers to shell out \$6,000 for pain and suffering endured by a multiple murderer. It seems prison authorities failed to promptly provide him with his annual pair of free running shoes.

**BOUQUETS** to Tim Hortons for providing new recycling bins to be installed in its 173 Toronto restaurants with the announcement coming one day before a city plan to crack down on food packaging. If in Toronto, what about York Region?

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Letters to the Editor

# Policy gave CAO rights to order building repairs

To the editor,

The Town's Procurement Policy is entitled Administration Policy No. 50.

It was adopted on June 11, 1997 and revised on March 25, 2003.

There are 30 pages but it ends on page 29. That's just one of those little mysteries that happen occasionally.

The stuff relevant to the question of whether staff improperly authorized spending of \$438,000 is on page 17 - Section 4 - Clause C., under the heading Emergency Procurement.

You'll have to scroll down to it as the Town's website doesn't let me link directly to that section.

C. EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT

Notwithstanding the provisions of this policy, the following shall only apply in case of an emergency, when an event occurs that is determined by a Department Head or the CAO to be:

- \*a threat to public health
- \*the maintenance of essential Town services

\*the welfare of persons or of public property or

\*the security of the Town's interests and the occurrence requires the immediate delivery of goods or services and time does not permit for competitive bids

The above criteria are to be applied on the basis of:

(i) **Procurement Under \$50,000:** Wherever feasible, the Purchasing Coordinator, upon the recommendation of the Department Head, shall secure by the most open market procedure at the lowest obtainable price, any goods and services required. A purchase order shall be issued.

(ii) **Procurement Over \$50,000:** The Department Head shall obtain the prior approval of the CAO.

An information report shall be submitted to Council explaining the actions taken and the reason(s) therefore. A purchase order shall be issued.

As can be seen from the Memorandum of May 14th, 2007 (posted in my Blog), Mayor and Council did receive a report outlining

the circumstances.

Three days later it went to the Leisure Services Committee and was then adopted at the second Council Meeting in May, 2007.

From the various factors noted in the memorandum, the matter was urgent. Immediate attention was required. Tenders were called, bids received and the contract issued by the architects who were the acknowledged responsible party.

There's more. Page 20 of the procurement policy has a section that relates to Reporting:

2. Council approval is required where the: value of the goods and services is over \$50,000, or purchase is for vehicles or heavy equipment, or purchasing policy is being waived, or acquisition exceeds the approved capital budget amount by more than 10 per cent, or lowest responsive vendor submission is not being recommended, or there was no provision in the budget for the item, or

CAO requests that a report be presented for

Council consideration and approval.

Based on the above criteria, a purchase order shall be issued and/or contract executed by the Mayor and Clerk in accordance to the reporting guidelines in this policy.

The expenditure did not exceed funds available in the capital budget. Funds were available. Responsibility had been acknowledged by the architects.

In light of the various factors, clearly the CAO did have authority to make the decision. The merits of the decision are established by the fact it was made by a management team of the CAO, Director of Finance and Director of Leisure Services.

Council was informed. Tenders were called and properly awarded. A purchasing order was issued. Goods and services received by the town were to the value expended. At no time was the town's interest at risk.

I had been back on council four months after a considerable absence when the procurement policy was revised. It was thoroughly discussed. After years of involvement in a particular field, one acquires a sense of the rightness of things.

People sufficiently interested to read and comment need accurate information supported by documentation to make a judgement - particularly when written statements to the contrary to the facts are made and distributed by an official who certainly knows better.

In my judgement, something shameful and grossly unjust has happened at the hands of Aurora Council.

Substantial public resources for legal services were expended to accomplish a cruel objective.

It happened on my watch. I was not able to stop it. What I do here will not reverse it or correct it. Still a person must try.

## Governments need better solutions to help industry

To the editor,

It seems that both the Federal and Provincial governments have hit a road block in finding a solution for the auto business sector to recover.

There is a recession going on in the country and the automobiles, which are made in North America, are not compatible with the times.

The auto industry has given huge incentives for the public to buy gas guzzling SUVs and other makes of models which require con-

stant repairs, compared with the cars produced in foreign markets.

The auto industry executives should reconsider the type of cars which are rolled out from their plants, before their sales hit the skids even more sharply.

A few years ago, the Provincial government, in Ontario, provided some financial aid to General Motors, to help build the Camero in Oshawa.

This 'macho'-like attempt to reboot the car industry had no vision.

Research projects in

## God bless George Bush

To the editor,

As someone who has loved ones in California, it was great to see the great State of California reject perv marriage in Proposition 8!!!

Maybe now, the murderers, rapists and gays will

leave good Californians alone and allow them to raise their kids in a morally good and decent life.

God bless America and Canada, and God bless George Bush!

**R. Gee**  
**Aurora**

**Jim Jackson**  
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**Evelyn Buck**  
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Letters to the Editor

Real name for traffic control is “sleeping policeman”

To the editor,

I have been in several countries in Africa, the UK, and the Caribbean, and the correct description of the traffic control item which you mention in the most

recent issue of The Auroran is "Sleeping Policeman". (Please, forgive me, police department). Without prejudice. By the way, were the two last verses of "In

Flanders Fields" not included due to editorial squeeze (The Auroran, November 4)? They go thusly: "We are the dead. Short

days ago We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved, and now we lie In Flanders Fields Take up our quarrel

with the foe: To you from failing hands we throw The torch: be yours to hold it high. If ye break faith with us who die We shall not sleep, Though poppies grow

In Flanders fields. I have heard the poem set to music and, of course, it was published in "Punch", an English Periodical. Gordon Lee LaSalle, Que.

Charity gets plenty of help; walk raises more than \$23,500

To the editor,

I just wanted to give a huge thank you to the Aurora residents who took the time out of their busy lives to come out and walk at the Aurora/Newmarket SuperWalk for Parkinson's Disease at Fairy Lake. With their help this year's walk raised more than \$23,500 for the Parkinson Society of Canada. That is a 25 per

cent increase over last year's walk! Also, a huge thank you to our local businesses for their generous donations and support - Biggs' Gallery, Body Beautiful Spa, Dominion Plus (now Metro), Home Hardware, Hurst Bakery, Maunders Food Shop, R. Parypa Nesbitt Burns, Starbucks Coffee (Orchard Heights location), and Topper's Pizza.

I was truly amazed by their generosity. Without their contributions our event would not have been nearly as enjoyable for our walkers. Special thanks to Jane and Jennifer of The Royal Pathways for their beautiful Yoga demonstration, Tim Jones for his words of encouragement at the opening ceremony and to Ron Wallace for helping to advertise this event.

It is wonderful to see a community come together with such enthusiasm and compassion. Thank you again, Aurora! If any of you would like to learn more about Parkinson's or find out about local support groups visit www.parkinson.ca. Kim Rouse-Parypa Aurora/Newmarket SuperWalk Committee

Aurora may be about ready for independent audit, he says

To the editor,

When the residents of Aurora get the news that \$400,000 plus funds were spent because pro-

tol was not used, one gets rather concerned. Not only that, but concerned re the formatting of the Council protocol and relationship building

and its future reputation as well as the existing staffing reputation. Here it becomes a real question of good strong governance within the

council as well as staffing. Governance and adherence to policies and procedures are a must to attain good governance. I think to protect council and staff from any further actions and concerns or even adverse opinions, it may be time for an independent audit and governance study with implications to policies and procedures for Aurora.

Marten A Mol Aurora

This resident hates driving in own area

To the editor,

I've lived on Odin Crescent for more than 12 years and recently was given the opportunity to voice my opinion on whether or not it should be made a one-way street. This was a wonderful show of democracy. The idea was voted down by the majority. I've just read that the town plans on adding more "speed cushions" to

Mark Street. I've never been contacted to give my opinion on this subject and was never contacted about the traffic calming measures that were built over a year ago in my neighborhood. I'm beginning to hate driving into my own neighborhood because of these speed humps and chicanes and can't possibly think that the majority of residents here like them. I also think that they

are lowering our property values. Who is going to want to buy in a community gated by these things? Why were we not asked our opinion on this matter and who is behind this ridiculous decision? We have laws to keep people from driving dangerously. Spend our money on the enforcement of them.

Brad Knox Aurora

No need for calming devices on Mark St., this reader maintains

To the editor,

Council, please don't waste more money! What are you people thinking of! The small piece of Mark Street west of Yonge cannot possibly need those enormous speed calming bumps. Has anyone looked at how far it is from Spruce Street to Yonge Street. There is absolutely no reason to waste more

money on this very small stretch of road. There is a stop sign at the corner of Mark and Spruce and there are lights just a few houses down at Yonge and Mark. I am getting tired of my tax dollars being wasted by this hoax. I truly believe it has been an effort on behalf of some of the residents in the old part of this quadrant to protect their streets from those

of us who live in the same area. The roads in this town should be for all to enjoy. Shame on you councilors who voted for this and thank you to Councillors Evelyn Buck and Alison Collins-Mrakas for your responsible votes against further traffic calming on Mark Street. Judy Ford Aurora



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Santa Claus parades are for kids, and Saturday's effort in Aurora was no exception as children lined the route to wait for the big guy. In the top photo, Juliet Soares, Mikayla Stade, Isabella Soares and Tatiane Soares enjoy each other's company as the moment draws near. Floats during the nighttime event were full of colour and lights as seen in the other three pictures.

Auroran photos by Rob Schuetze, David Falconer and Ted McClenny



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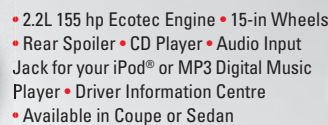
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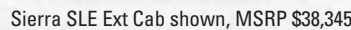
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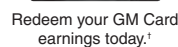
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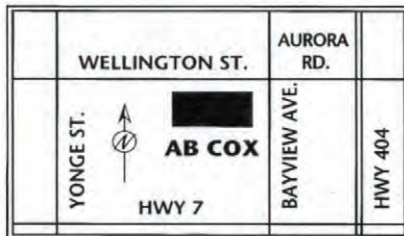
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# Sweaters and scoring punch missing

It was bad enough to get shut out 3-0 Saturday night, but losing your hockey sweaters, too, was just too much for the Provincial Junior AAurora Tigers when they visited Georgetown.

On the way to the game, the sweaters fell out of the back of a pickup truck.

As a result, they wore Georgetown's third set of jerseys which are red.

"It looked like an intrasquad game...Raiders vs. Raiders," one wag said.

Whether it had anything to do with the outcome is hard to say, but Aurora lost its second game in as many nights, as they dropped a 6-5 cliffhanger at home Friday in overtime.

It was Aurora's first overtime loss of the season.

However, players were able to keep their scoring records

intact, thanks to a 10-2 victory they handed to Upper Canada in Toronto last Wednesday night at the Ricoh Coliseum.

Despite a snow-delayed arrival, Aurora was up for the game in the big rink, however, there were only a few more than 100 in attendance.

The game was never in doubt as the Tigers scored early and often in the rout.

Dominic Monardo opened the scoring just over two minutes into the game, went on to score another, and added three assists for a five-point night.

David Morley had two goals as well, with singles going to Michael Sardella, Jake Mooney, Lucas VanNatter, Nick Vangog, Brandon Happeney and Cody Smith.

Even when killing their eight penalties in the game, Aurora maintained control.

VanNatter again showed his value on the penalty kill as he scored his third shorthanded goal of the season.

Goaltender David Blair's challenges were more than pucks in this game. Boredom and chilliness had to be concerns as he faced a total of 20 shots, giving up a powerplay goal in the second and then a breakaway goal in the last minute of the game.

Meanwhile, at the other end of the ice the Tigers launched 48 shots at Upper Canada's two goalies.

It wasn't quite the cakewalk when Aurora returned to the confines of the Aurora Community Centre Friday night.

Wednesday's victory was the good news...Friday's home game against the North York Rangers wasn't.

Tigers blew a 5-2 lead

against the visiting Rangers, who would prevail in overtime 6-5.

Jacob Mooney and David Morley staked Aurora to a 2-0 lead before Anthony Bergin replied for North York to make the score 2-1 after the first period.

Jason Kelly tied the game at 4:22 of the second but Aurora scored three straight goals by Mike Bodley, Brandon Happeney and Nick Vangog.

And that's when the roof came crashing down.

Following Vangog's marker, North York pulled starting goaltender Lane Floro in favour of Ben Calma in a move that paid immediate dividends. Peter Rodrigues and Mike Mazzulla scored 1:14 apart to pull the Rangers within one after 40 minutes of play.

Just 36 seconds into the third period, Andrew Amodeo scored on a powerplay to tie the score and that's how it remained after 60 minutes of regulation time.

Less than two minutes into overtime, Aurora's collapse was complete as Jason Kelley scored his second of the game to give the Rangers the victory. Aurora's Brendan Sullivan took the loss, stopping 30 of 36 shots.

A day later, the Tigers travelled to Georgetown for a game at the Alcott Arena, a building the Tigers had not played in since a heartbreaking Game seven semi-final loss to the Raiders in the spring of 2005.

The evening immediately started off on a bad note as somewhere enroute, an equipment bag carrying half Aurora's

road sweaters fell out of the back of a pickup truck unbeknownst to the driver.

Fortunately for Aurora, the hometown Raiders had a spare set of red practice sweaters that the Tigers donned for the game.

Fans were quick to wonder if they had stumbled upon an intrasquad practice before word of the Tigers predicament passed around the stands.

The first period featured strong goaltending and defensive play - Aurora's David Blair made several point blank saves and the Tigers were fortunate to escape the period scoreless.

Aurora carried the play for most of the second period, but could not connect on three

straight powerplays as Tony Capobianco shone in goal for Georgetown. The Raiders finally solved David Blair with a goal by Jordan Dewey to make the score 1-0 Georgetown after two periods of play. Andrew Marcoux's powerplay goal at 17:31 of the third followed by Brandon Pirri's insurance marker less than a minute later gave the Raiders a 3-0 victory over the slumping Tigers who have lost four of their last seven, dropping to third place in the Phillips Division.

The Tigers next see action Thursday night at 7.30 p.m. in Brampton followed 24 hours later by a home game against the visiting Dixie Beehives.



**Their sweaters were different colours, but the Aurora Tigers, in red, were, by no means, Raiders Saturday night in Georgetown. Tigers lost their sweaters on the way to the game and had to use ones provided by their hosts, who were less than gracious, handing the Tigers a 3-0 defeat.**


*Auroran photo by Steve Mitchell*

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# AURORA MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

## Results to Sunday, November 23

### House League Novice

**Team 204 Caravan Kids Flyers 8** - Kyle Kasak 2G 3A, Dillon Varone 2G 1A, Liam Patterson 1G 1A, Paul Cotturo 1G 1A, Jacob Turriff 1G 1A, Brendan Dodd 1G, Alex Iaboni 2A, Michael 1A. **Team 205 Caravan Kids Leafs 2** - Christian Ridd - 2G.

**Team 206 Caravan Kids Penguins 1** - Thomas Morra 1G, Tasffaele Parente 1A, Dalton Slind 1A. **Team 203 Caravan Kids Senators 1** - Stephen Silverio 1G, Chris Sands 1A, Louis Wood 1A.

**Team 202 Caravan Kids Bruins 4** - Jaedon Jackson 2G, Christopher Walsh 1G, Nicholas Huxley 1G, Zane Zwicker 1A, Jack Campbell 2A, Jacob Yap 1A, Ben Hagais 1A, Wayne Freeman 1A. **Team 201 Caravan Kids Flames 4** - Ben Godber 2G 1A, William Reid 1G 1A, Jack Hosmer 1G, Keegan Fisher 3A, Riley Jackson 1A, Beckham Georgiou 1A, Lucas Alberico 1A.

### Minor Peewee

**402 McAlpine Ford 2** - Jacob Hagias 1G, Rory Hamilton 1G, David Kangas 1A, Zak Keller 1A, Ryan Batten 1A, Michael McKerracher 1A. **406 Splash Car Wash 1** - Justin Laird 1G, Yousif Kakush 1A, Cameron Pyle 1A.

**Team 401 Rogers 3** - Johnny Sherwood 3G, Matthew Hall 1A, Darren Tree 1A, Dennis Semenovych 1A, Alexander MacKinnon 1A. **Team 404 Law Insurance Brokers 2** - Jonathan Jin 1G, Michael Walsh 1G 1A, Randy Sutton 1A.

### Peewee

**501 Perfect Moves 2** - Brian Langdon 1G, Alexander 1G, Jonah Blaser 1A, Mitchell Carter 1A. **508 Tilemaster 1** -Alex Jonasson 1G, Hunter Jones 1A.

**503 Greenpoint Laser 7** - Omar Rahal 1G, Luc Martineau 2G, Corey Young 1G, Brayden Beswick 1G, Mitchell Lamantia 1G, Matthew Walker 1G 1A, Samuel Mason 1A, Liam Henderson 1A, Alec Barnett. **506 Wikoff Color Corp. 2** - Carson Roell 1G, Tyler George 1G, Carson Elliott 1A, Jordan Stephenson 1A, Michael Slack 1A, Zac Kroll 1A.

**505 Laurion Law Office 2** - Russell Johnson 1G, Scott Taylor 1G, Carson Dupuis 1A. **504 Pizza Pizza 1** - Max Brown 1G, Hussain Akbar 1A.

**502 Omar's Shoes 4** - Alec Ground 1G 2A, Jonathan Caporusso 1G, Andrew Foresi 1G, Eric McMurray 1A, Neil Duggan 1A. **507 Sgt. Peppers 3** - Morgan Walker 1G 2A, Jason Glionna 1G, Andrew Kaszuba 1G, Chris Downs 1A, Scott Dunlop 1A.

**507 Sgt. Pepper's Bar & Grill 2** - Morgan Walker 1G, Keith Jarvis 1G 1A, Jason Glionna 1A. **508 Tilemaster 2** - Ryan McGolrick 1G, Alex Jonasson 1G, Adam DeRoos 1A, Matthew Pelkola 1A.

**503 Greenpoint Laser 1** - David Gonder, shutout, Mitchell Palmer 1G, Alec Barnett 1A. **504 Pizza Pizza 0.**

**506 Wikoff Color Corp. 4** - Matthew D'Alessandro 1G, Zac Kroll 1G, Harry Smith 2G 1A, Tyler George 1A, Anthony Miller 1A. **501 Perfect Moves 3** - Andrew Roche 1G, Christopher Sanita 1G 1A, Brian Langdon 1G, Alex McDonald 1A.

**502 Omar's Shoes 6** - Neil Duggan 2G, Michael Liscio 1G, Andrew Foresi 2G, Jonathan Caporusso 1G, Christopher End 1A, Terrence Simon Lepore 1A, Mitchell Arnew 1A, Alec Ground 2A, Robert Ruscica 1A. **505 Laurion Law Office 4** - Russell Johnson 3G, Scott Taylor 1G, Michael Arcuri 1A, Elias Jeries 1A.

### Minor Bantam

**605 Supreme Collision Centre 4** - Drew Bryan 1G, Sammy Fanone 2G, Quinn McGowan 1G 1A, Dylan Lyons 2A, Drew Davison 1A, Alex Seto 1A. **601 Continental Ingredients 4** - Nicholas Bertrand 1G 1A, Keenan Hull 1G, Thomas Scougall 1G 2A, Eric Bulloch 1G, Scott Wheeler 1A.

**606 Orr & Associates Insurance Brokers Ltd. 2** - Chris Tsianos 2G, Quinn Harris 1A. **604 Manhattan Trophies 2** - Matthew Roach 2G, Andrew Staples 1A.

**603 Gabby's 5** - Michael McCreesh 1G 1A, Eliot Harkin 1G, Brent Bourrie 1G, Matthew Reeves 1G, William Allen 1G, Mark Presacco 1A, Matthew Johnson 1A. **602 Rotary Club of Aurora 2** - Daniel Antoniel 1G, Massimo Longhin 1G, Kieran Cullen 1A.

**Team 606 Orr & Associates Insurance Brokers Ltd. 6** - Jesse Borin 1G1A, Chris Cherubini 2G 1A, Matt Warner 2G, Gavin Matheson 1G 2A, Austin Boudreau 2A, Dylan Sutton 1A, Daniel Fisher 1A. **601 Continental Ingredients 4** - Nicholas Bertrand 1G, Eric Bulloch 1G 1A, Patrick Tardif 1G, Brian Pedron

1G, Keenan Hull 2A, Thomas Scougall 1A, Trevor Stephens 1A, Scott Wheeler 2A

**605 Supreme Collision Centre 6** - Quinn McGowan 3G 1A, Drew Bryan 2G, Sammy Fanone 1G 2A, Mackenzie McIntosh 3A. **602 Rotary Club of Aurora 4** - Matthew Foschia 1G, Cody Mulhern 1G, Ryan Dowling 1G, Massimo Longhin 1G 1A, Matthew Iamonaco 1A, Ethan Cullen 1A.

**604 Manhattan Trophies 4** - George Plukov 1G, Matthew Roach 1G, Trevor Rice 1G, Jamie Pountney 1G, Nicola Venosa 1A. **603 Gabby's 3** - Michael McCreesh 2G, Brent Bourrie 1G, William Allen 1A, Austin Megit 1A, Matthew Reeves 1A, Matthew Johnson 1A.

### Bantam

**704 AJ Printing 5** - Jessie Bentolila 1G 1A, Eamon Reilly 2G, Jake Landford 2G 1A, Josh Hubble 1A, Dan Whitley 1A. **703 Pierce McNally 1** - Kasey Piper 1G.

**702 Delph Jenkins 4** - Cody Rundle-Sanderson 1G, Alex Woodward 2G, Jeremy Warner 1G, Ward Benn 1A. **705 Optimist Club 3** - Cole Roffey 1G, Chris Karagiannis 1G 1A, Jordan Caruso 1G, Sam Straw 1A, Kyle Coughlin 1A, Michael Foresi 1A, J.P. Hudon 1A.

**705 Optimist Club 3** - J.P. Hudon 1G, Ryan Rival 2G, Kyle Coughlin 1A, Michael Foresi 1A, Cole Roffey 1A. **707 Toppers Pizza 1** - Joey Romano 1G, Brendan Kirasack 1A.

### Midget

**Team 909 6** - Brendan Forrest 1G 1A, Jake Boyle 1G 1A, Cory Blom 2G 1A, Madison Weber 1G 1A, Evan Casselden 1G 2A, Jay Finch 1A, Sean Ellison 1A, David Bar 1A. **Team 904 2** - Greg Gianopolous 1G 1A, Nick Orsati 1G, Anthony Mesillo 1A, Bruce Phillips 1A.

**Team 902 4** - Chris MacDonald 1G, Mike Shoesmith 1G, Eric Shoesmith 1G 1A, Josh Bentolila 1G, Ethan Shore 1A, Robert Revington 1A. **Team 908 4** - Tyler Clements 2G, Steve Foss 1G, Derek Sweeting 1G 1A, Aaron Lempinen 2A, Tom Gibson 1A.

**Team 905 3** - Michael Morson 1G 1A, James Sendel 1G, Julie Savardato 1G, Nicholas Di Nallo 1A. **Team 910 1** - Peter Durst 1G.

**Team 907 4** - Robert Fiorini 2G 1A, Michael Coggin 1G 1A, Derek Smith 1G, Michael Gray 2A, Connor Dinwoodie 1A, Nick Gundert 1A. **Team 903 4** - Jake Thompson 2G, James Adams 1G, Louis Lamana 1G, Marcel Lamana 1A, Robert Horton 1A.

**Team 906 7** - Michael French 3G 1A, Ian Weston 1G 1A, Dillon Cappell 1G, Daniel Kronek 1G 2A, Rhys Williams 1G 1A Matthew Smeredy 1A, Chris Dynes 1A. **Team 901 5** - Phil Meunier 3G, Tyler Flanagan 1G, Paul De Roos 2A, Mike Hay 1A, Simon Esposito 1A, Adam Gitto 1A,

**Team 910 4** - Michael DelPlavignano 1G 1A, Mike McGee 1G, Adam Scudds 2G, Peter Durst 1A, Stewart Marsh 1A. **Team 909 4** - Cory Blom 2G, Sean Maule 1G, Jake Boyle 1G, Evan Casselden 1A, Patrick Lee 1A, Stephen Thompson 1A, Travis Hooper 1A

**Team 902 8** - Eric Shoesmith 1G 1A, Brandon Hurst 1G, Josh Bentolila 1G, David Iwai 3G 1A, Robert Revington 1G, Colin Munn 1G, Mike Shoesmith 3A, Chris MacDonald 1A, Curtis Hough 1A, Marlon Young 1A, Brandon Giniotis 1A, Graeme Smart 1A. **Team 901 2** - Jordan Brown 1G, Simon Esposito 1G, Chris Porter 1A.

**Team 903 6** - Brett Dutchyshen 3G 1A, Sean Kenyon 1G, Jake Thompson 1G, James Adams 1G, Louis Lamana 1A. **Team 904 6** - Matthew Joynt 2G, Greg Gianopolous 4G, Michael Moody 1A, Anthony Mesillo 1A, Luke Leddy 1A, Eric Saracini 1A, Bruce Phillips 2A.

**Team 905 1** - James Sendel 1G, Greg Buchner 1A, Michael Morson 1A. **Team 906 1** - Daniel Kotolnek 1G, Daniel Sacchetti 1A, Michael VanBakel 1A.

**Team 908 4** - Derek Sweeting 2G, Braun Hause 1G, Paul Duggan 1G 2A, Keenen VanRooyen 2A, Michael Orschel 1A, Drew Coley 2A. **Team 907 1** - Rob Fiorini 1G, John Siery 1A, Ryan Jones 1A.

**Team 907 2** - Taylor Bryce 1G, Connor Dinwoodie 1G, Ryan Jones 2A. **Team 910 1** - Conner Sands 1G, Caleb Gould 1A.

**Team 901 6** - Neil Gaston 1G, Philip Meunier 1G 2A, William Ginther 1G, Hunter Warden 1G 2A, Andrew Osmond 1G 2A, Simon Esposito 1G 1A, Mike Schade 1A, Mike Hay 1A, Jordan Brown 1A. **Team 904 4** - Peter Axiotis 1G, Patrick McMurray 1G, Greg Gianopolous 2G, Anthony Mesillo 1A, Luke Leddy 1A, Geoff Gianopolous 1A

**Team 902 5** - Eric Shoesmith 1G 1A, Robert Revington 1G, Charlie Teel 1G 1A, Ethan Shore 1G 1A, Mike Shoesmith 1G 2A, Curtis Hough 1A, Colin Munn 1A, Josh Bentolila 1A. **Team 905 2**

- Jamie Russell 1G, James Sendel 1G, Nicholas Di Nallo 1A, Aaron Wockenmarkt 1A, Ryan Bagshaw 1A.

**Team 906 3** - Ben Slimkowich 1G, Dillon Cappell 2G. **Team 903 1** - Matthew Raponi 1G, Jake Thompson 1A.

**Team 909 4** - Sean Ellison 1G, Travis Hooper 1G, Chris Burns 1G, Adrian Clark 1G, Evan Casselden 1A, Jake Boyle 1A, Cory Blom 1A. **Team 908 4** - Corey Jeffery 1G 1A, Tyler Clements 1G, Luca Ghegin 1G, Braun Hause 1G, Keenan Van Rooyen 1A, Aaron Lempinen 1A, Derek Sweeting 1A.

**Team 906 7** - Matthew Pellegrini 1G 1A, Michael French 1G, Chris Dynes 1G, Jesse Cappell 2G 2A, Dillon Cappell 1G, Cody Benson 1G, Matthew Smerdy 1A, Michael Van Bakel 4A, Daniel Sacchetti 1A. **Team 904 2** - Eric Saracini 1G 1A, Patrick McMurry 1G, Peter Axotis 1A, Bryan Kearns 1A, J. J. Lam 1A.

**Team 902 3** - Robert Revington 1G, David Iwai 1G, Chris MacDonald 1G, Brandon Giniotis 1A, Mike Roberts 2A, Marlon Young 1A, Micheal Shoesmith 1A. **Team 903 1** - Robert Horton 1G, James Adams 1A.

**Team 907 4** - Michael Coggin 2G, Chris Tillsley 1G, Rob Fiorini 1G 1A, Ryan Jones 3A. **Team 909 3** - Travis Hooper 2G 1A, Cory Blom 1G 1A, Michael Davis 1A.

**Team 905 6** - Dane Gregoris 2G, Jamie Russell 2G 1A, Tyler Friars 1G 1A, James Sendel 1G, Greg Buchner 1A, V. Karagiannis 1A, Michael Morson 2A. **Team 901 4** - Phil Meunier 1G 1A, Zack Roitner 1G, Mike Hay 1G, Jordan Brown 1G, Hunter Warden 1A.

## Rep Games

**Richmond Hill Stars Novice A 9. Aurora Tigers Novice A 2** - Andrew Jorgensen 1G 1A, Carson Venneri 1G, Anthony Magnante 1A.

**Aurora Tigers Atom AE 2** - Keegan Matthew 2G, Cameron Anderson 2A, Christian Acuri 1A, Jacob Hatton 1A. **TNT Tornadoes Atom AE 1.**

**Minor Peewee AE Aurora 3** - Andrew Klinowski 1G, Kory Wansbrough 1A, Riley Weller 1G, Eddie Duffy 1A, Joseph Battiston 1A, Chris Klinowski 1G, Sandy Hudson 1A, Michael Fisher 1A. **Pickering 0.**

**Minor Peewee AE Aurora 11** - Eddie Duffy 6G 1A, John Partland 1G, Andrew Klinowski 1G 1A, Sandy Hudson 1G 2A, Joseph Battiston 1G 2A, Chris Klinowski 1G 2A, Riley Weller 1A, Erick Bortolotti 1A, Michael Fisher 2A, Alex Negri 1A. **Markham 0.**

**Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AE 4** - Trevor George 2G, Daniel Fiori 1G, Zach Ferry 1G, William Brogan 3A, Jeffrey Lam 2A, Bailey Miller 1A, Sam Steenhorst 1A, Andrew Stobbe 1A, Shutout Andrew Stobbe. **Stouffville Clippers Minor Bantam AE 0.**

**Georgina Minor Bantam AE 5. Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AE 3** - Trevor George 2G, Zach Ferry 1G, Daniel Fiori 2A, Connor Moody 1A, Jono McConnell 1A, Paul Louis Steiner 1A.

**Stouffville Minor Bantam AE 4. Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AE 3** - Kyle Zacharuk 1G 1A, Jimmy Brookes 1G, Zach Ferry 1G, Connor Moody 1A, Bailey Miller 1A, Paul Louis Steiner 1A.

**Belleville Minor Bantam AE 2. Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AE 1** - Connor Moody 1G, Bailey Miller 1A.

**Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AE 3** - Kyle Zacharuk 2G, Paul Louis Steiner 1G, Connor Moody 2A, Bailey Miller 1A, Jono McConnell 1A, Connor McQuillan 1A, Trevor George 1A, Shutout Diego Nafarrate. **Richmond Hill Minor Bantam AE 0.**

**Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AE 2** - Kyle Zacharuk 1G, Paul Louis Steiner 1G, Jono McConnell 2A, Jimmy Brookes 1A, Shutout Andrew Stobbe. **Peterborough Minor Bantam AE 0.**

**Aurora Tigers Bantam AA 5** - A.J. Killens 2G 1A, Dan Whitley (AP) 1G, Kyle Spicer 1G, Christopher Bull 1G, Andrew Papousek 2A, Sean Nishimura 1A, Mark Robertson 2A, Lukas Leslie 1A. **TNT Tornados Bantam AA 3.**

**Aurora Tigers Bantam AA 6** - Dan Whitley (AP) 2G, Andrew Papousek 1G 2A, Dylan Hussey 1G 1A, Kyle Spicer 1G, Dylan Rochon 1G 1A, A.J. Killens 1A, Lukas Leslie 2A, Cooper Riswick 1A. **Georgina Blaze Bantam AA 3.**

**Aurora Tigers Bantam AA 3** - Andrew Papousek 2G 1A, Dylan Hussey 1G, Sean Nishimura 1A, Dan Whitley (AP) 1A. **Markham Waxers Bantam AA 3.**

**Barrie Colts Bantam AA 3. Aurora Tigers Bantam AA 0.**

**Aurora Tigers Bantam AA 6** - Dylan Hussey 2G, Dylan Rochon 2G, A.J. Killens 1G, Lukas Leslie 1G, Andrew Papousek 3A, Kyle Spicer 1A, Sean Nishimura 1A, Mark Robertson 1A, Reid Sisson 1A. **TNT Tornados Bantam AA 4.**





They said goodbye to town clerk Bob Panizza with a big party recently. Bob, centre, was joined by department heads, members of Aurora council, and former colleagues including Scott Somerville and former town planner Sue Siebert. Mr. Panizza was nine years with the Town of Aurora and served as Acting Chief Administrative Officer for the past four months. "The most rewarding part of my job has been serving the residents of Aurora," he said during the event. He will be replaced by Lucille King who joined the staff as the Director of Corporate Services/Town Clerk earlier in the month. She worked for the past six years as the Director of Corporate Services for the Town of East Gwillimbury and was previously employed for several years with the City of Vaughan.

## Ecological Action Conference proposed for Aurora in April

To create a stronger awareness of sustainability, with a focus on action towards environmental issues, is the goal of the Ecological Action Conference (EAC) being proposed for Aurora.

Vino Jeyapalan, CEO and Founder of the Youth Environmental Network of York Region (YENYR), recently pitched the idea of this conference to General Committee.

The proposed session would take place in April with events being centred around the Town Hall.

It is expected that 200 students from Aurora would attend in person, with many more participating via virtual displays.

Mr. Jeyapalan, who is 17 years old, told the committee that a similar conference was held last year in Markham, and 300 students participated.

The event would be open to students from public, Catholic, and private schools. Although the event is aimed at high school students, public school students could attend, as well.

For the proposed Aurora conference, it is expected that a greater percentage of the attendees would be from the younger grades, as there is a

smaller pool of high schools to draw from in Aurora, as compared with Markham.

It was hoped that to demonstrate environmental leadership, it would be a zero waste conference.

A number of workshops and information sessions would be held.

Keynote speaker for the day would be Severn Cullis-Suzuki, the daughter of renowned environmentalist, David Suzuki.

Apart from asking Aurora to provide the Town Hall facilities at no charge, the YENYR was also looking to the town to provide a contribution of \$3,723.50 towards the anticipated overall conference costs of \$10,591.50.

Mayor Phyllis Morris asked if he had confirmed with Town staff whether the Town Hall was available on that day. He replied that he had asked, but hadn't heard back.

Councillor Evelyn Buck asked the related question of whether there was enough space available in the building for the activities planned.

Director of Leisure Services Allan Downey confirmed that by using the council chambers, as well as the

meeting rooms in both the Town Hall and Senior's Centre, there would be enough space.

However, the \$2,700 in fees that would normally be charged for these rooms would need to be waived by council.

Councillor Wendy Gaertner asked how the students were chosen to attend.

The YENYR CAO said there was an application process, and while priority usually went to students associated with environmental clubs and initiatives, others would have the opportunity to participate.

When asked whether the event had any other sponsors, Mr. Jeyapalan said PowerStream, who had covered the cost of the keynote speaker last year, would be doing so again this year. That was estimated at \$6,000.

The Mayor asked whether the funding request had been vetted through the town's Environmental Advisory Committee and was told the Committee had recommended the town cover \$7,500 of the costs.

Since that time, partially through the PowerStream

donation, the YENYR had been able to reduce the amount being requested of the town to \$3,723.50.

Concerns were expressed that with a smaller school base, the event may not receive as many attendees as were anticipated.

While the Committee supported the concept of the conference, they were uncomfortable making a decision without the benefit of a full staff report, especially with the discrepancy between the \$7,500 figure recommended by Environmental Advisory Committee, and the \$3,723.50 figure provided by the YENYR.

There was also discussion around whether town grants, or funding from the Environmental Advisory Committee could be used.

With a number of questions outstanding, and in order to make an informed decision based on all the facts, the Committee recommended staff members work with the delegate, and return to council with a full report on the costs and other considerations of the town supporting and hosting the conference.

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RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

Wheels of government move slowly

In May, 1985, the wheels of government were spinning in the mud due to council's procrastination in deciding the fate of the former Aurora Radio Hospital, Leslie Appliances and Tallyman Book stores that were burned out on Yonge Street the previous November.

The gutted stores sat as a scar on the face of the downtown area and little headway was being made towards a solution, as there were problems trying to decide if the buildings should be rebuilt or demolished.

In February, council made its first attempt to deal with the situation and at that time suggested the buildings be demolished but the owner said there was a possibility of reconstruction on the original foundation and the owner was given to April to decide.

When no action had been taken by the owner, council engaged an inspector to decide whether or not the buildings should be demolished.

Eventually the gutted buildings were demolished and new commercial facilities and retail stores constructed on the west side of Yonge Street opposite where the Aurora Library is now located.

The downtown November blaze also destroyed eight apartments.

EDUCATION FUNDED THROUGH INCOME TAX?

In March, 1995, York Region politicians agreed that education should be funded through provincial income tax instead of property taxes and planned on taking their message to provincial politicians during the scheduled provincial election.

More than 6,000 signatures had been collected on a petition calling for a change in the tax system. At that time education made up 70 per cent of property tax bills creating what York politicians referred to as an unfair burden for homeowners.

The region was supported by the 1993 report of Ontario's Fair Tax Commission which had recommended education be funded through provincial general revenues, as education property taxes placed an unfair burden on senior citizens, farmers and cottagers.

LAND DIVISION COMMITTEES

Today the term Land Division Committee is relatively unknown as the local Committee of Adjustment grants land severances, but with the formation of regional government, a regional Land Division Committee was created.

In May, 1979, York Regional Council agreed to ask the provincial government to dissolve the Land Division Committee and allow local committees of adjustment to

grant severances, which was later granted.

The recommendation before council was based on comments from seven of the nine local municipalities which favoured elimination of the LDC.

The committee came under criticism earlier in the year by Aurora Mayor George Timpson who claimed that it was the most expensive LDC in Ontario with the highest cost per application.

WHERE IS THE GOOD NEIGHBOUR AWARD?

It was in March, 2005, when Rebecca Beaton addressed the Leisure Services Advisory Committee to suggest an addition to the Civic Awards with a category entitled the Good Neighbour Award.

She noted that it should be an annual award presented to an individual who on an ongoing basis assisted a neighbour(s) by showing kindness, generosity and warmth in various ways.

The committee adopted her suggestion in principle and approved an ad hoc committee to develop criteria for the Good Neighbour Award with Dawn Irwin and Stephen Dupuis to represent Leisure Services on the committee and Ms Beaton be appointed as a civilian member with the new category to be considered for 2006.

At the April, 2008, meeting of the Leisure Services Committee, Ms Beaton returned as a follow up on the Good Neighbour Award and was advised that it would be discussed at the committee's October meeting.

Aurora is made up of good neighbours, so why the lack of action in approving the category?

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

In September, 1978, Canadians had \$19.5 million in unclaimed money sitting in Canadian banks and all unclaimed balances are held by the Bank of Canada with certain reservations.

If the balance is less than \$10 the federal government takes it as its own.

Otherwise the bank holds the accounts and pays interest on them for 20 years and after 20 years amounts of \$25 or less go to the federal government.

All others are held in perpetuity with some unclaimed accounts dating back to the 1870s.

How do you forget a bank account?

LARRY KEFFER

It was in July, 1972, when Aurora barber Larry Keffer was hired from among 30 applicants to manage the King City

Community Centre.

In making the announcement, Centre Board Chairman Bill Curran said the appointment would show the people in Aurora what they missed in not hiring him to do a job there a few months ago.

He was referring to Aurora's selection of a recreation coordinator, a position Keffer applied for but didn't get.

Keffer said he would try to rent his Wellington Street barber shop to another barber but eventually, the store was replaced by a larger building.

MUTUAL AID HELPS FIREFIGHTERS

In January, 1982, it was announced that Aurora's cooperative firefighting arrangement with surrounding communities was a real benefit to local residents.

During the two major fires that hit York Sanitation and an old house in Vandorf, fire departments from King City, Newmarket and Richmond Hill responded through the Mutual Aid program.

Under the assistance program, area stations are called in when needed to battle major blazes in each other's coverage districts.



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**FRANK KLEES, MPP**  
Newmarket-Aurora

Planning underway for Doors Open

At a recent meeting of the Heritage Advisory Committee an updated report was received regarding Doors Open Aurora 2008 and the committee approved an expenditure of \$1,500 for the 2009 Doors Open Aurora registration fee.

Door Open Aurora 2009 will be held August 15 and planning is well underway for the 4th annual community event, which regularly draws thousands of people.

At the meeting, it was proposed that as the town had received the Heritage Canada Foundation Prince of Wales Prize for 2008 that Doors Open provide an opportunity for visitors to experience Aurora's heritage sites.

Primary new site for 2009 would be the newly restored Church Street School, now

the Cultural Centre which is probably the town's most significant conservation achievement on heritage conservation.

Correspondence has been received from the coordinator of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum inquiring as to whether Aurora would be interested in partnering with the neighbouring municipality for 2009.

To assist with planning for Doors Open 2009 the Ontario Heritage Trust and the Binational Tourism Alliance have invited Doors Open coordinators to attend the first Canadian/American Doors Open Symposium in Niagara-On-The-Lake.

Doors Open Aurora is an effective but inexpensive festival for promoting local heritage resources and engaging the community in learn-

ing about local heritage.

The first Doors Open Day took place in France more than 20 years ago and the concept soon spread to neighbouring European countries.

In 2000 the first North

American Doors Open was held in Toronto and in 2002 the Ontario Heritage Trust launched Doors Open Ontario with more than 40 communities participating in Doors Open 2008, including Aurora.

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## Senior Scape



The Aurora Seniors Association (ASA) Christmas Bazaar is scheduled for this Saturday, from 9.30 a.m. until 3 p.m.

For more information, call 905-726-4767.

The bazaar will include a bake table, gifts, crafts, a silent auction, a white elephant table, and a tea room.

This bazaar has always proved to be a powerful magnet for those who seek novelties and who enjoy a stroll among many fascinating items of interest, so visit and find something to captivate your imagination.

A coach trip to Niagara Fallsview Casino and Festival of Lights is planned for December 16.

The trip is only \$14 and includes a \$10 coin voucher.

This is one of those trips that provide a complete change of scenery and the excitement of trying to win some money.

The Craft Group meets every Wednesday afternoon from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m.

They can make use of old or broken pieces of jewelry, such as ornaments, rings and bracelets for upcoming projects, and if you can help, please drop these off after the holidays.

If you would like to join this group and learn how to make different crafts, you need only make yourself available and you will be greeted with open arms.

For those passionate about opera, and who would like to learn more, a new opportunity is presented by the ASA to accommodate

your pleasure.

Jytte Gillies has formed an opera lovers group in the seniors' centre which has had its first meeting and will meet again Thursday, December 4th at 10 a.m.

Jytte has started with the most popular opera, La Traviata by Giuseppe Verdi, which should prove a huge attraction.

Please note, this is not a singing group and all are welcome!

Aurora Town Council met Tuesday evening and the big item that concerns seniors directly, is the Windrow Program, which concerns driveway obstruction, caused by Town plows leaving snow in unavoidable but inappropriate locations.

If the Town must leave the snow on driveways for

the sake of expediency, at the very least it should make every effort to remove it promptly and at no cost to seniors or to physically handicapped residents.

A formidable consensus appears to be developing, strongly opposed to the Town's intention to charge seniors and the disabled to clear driveways of plowed snow obstruction.

A charge to access a proposed removal service for seniors and the physically handicapped is attached to a program awaiting ratification.

This is an unconscionable proposal and a potential burden for the many vulnerable seniors whose purse strings are stretched already.

The full program is to be

offered at a cost of \$70 to seniors and as noted, the decision requires ratification.

The charge to the Town, I understand, is \$7 per event and the seniors, I understand, will be charged for 10 events, which is how the \$70 was calculated.

I believe the \$70 will be charged regardless of how many events there are and no matter the quality of snow clearing or timely service.

The seniors dispute this added financial burden on the grounds that the municipality bears responsibility for snow removal and should not or does not have the right to dump snow from a roadway onto the nearest open space, regardless of whether or not the driveways of vulnerable residents are blocked.

The town is performing a vital service plowing snow off roads, but creates driveway problems, which already require clearing of snow.

Snow plowing does not provide the Town the right to dump the snow on the driveways of vulnerable residents and then expect them to pay for its removal.

If the Town's snow plowing equipment does block a driveway, it seems reasonable that they should remove the blockage. Alleviating one problem by creating another would or should lose any debate on the matter.

Snow plowing is a vital municipal function and where the snow is dumped should be a matter for which the municipality is accountable and should be accountable.

Any attempt to defray costs is commendable but when the Town is dealing with its own defenseless residents, a high standard of

ethics and principles should be adhered to.

It is true that the present method of plowing and leaving the snow wherever it lands, opens roadways for general use, which is clearly a necessity and a benefit to all who must travel on snow covered highways.

Conversely, closing off the driveways of the fragile and aged is disturbing and in my view, reckless behaviour.

When fragile seniors or any handicapped person or persons are marooned behind a barrier of cold, dirty snow; the result is deplorable, irresponsible, indefensible and in the event of a medical emergency, potentially disastrous.

The municipal strategy of marooning legions of residents to shovel through heavy snow to freedom is fraught with dangers including that of heart attacks, falls and consequent broken hips and other bones and so elders and physically handicapped residents should have their driveways cleared of windrows without any charge.

This flawed municipal procedure demands to be returned to council for a practical solution which will stand scrutiny.

In fact it should continue to be challenged by the community until a workable and acceptable solution is established.

Council needs to review its present snow plowing practice and meet this difficult challenge with an equitable answer that will provide a long term solution.

If council proves its merit on this difficult instance, it will earn the praise and approval of the electorate and probably set a new standard for excellence everywhere there is snow to be plowed.

# We're going to grow

The province has prepared a growth plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe under the 2005 Places to Grow Act and it shows Aurora not standing still.

Revised population figures for Aurora indicate a population of 70,400 by 2031 up 20,800 from the 49,600 two years ago, giving Aurora a two per cent share of the regional population.

The Region of York is expected to grow to 1.5 million people.

The plan guides decisions on a wide range of issues including transportation planning, land use planning, urban form, housing, natural heritage and resource protection.

It also contains population and employment forecasts to 2031 for the area and sets out policy directions that focus growth on intensification in built up areas, urban growth centres, intensification corridors and major transit stations.

The updated 2031 forecasts in the growth plan for York Region includes a population of 1.5 million and employment of 780,000 whereas the current forecast was for a population of 1.28 million and 696,000 jobs by 2026.

Regional staff mem-

bers have prepared a series of scenarios examining various levels of intensification and they form the basis for extensive public consultation including two rounds of public meetings, local municipal discussions, media interaction and a series of workshops and stakeholder focus groups.

The population and employment forecasts have been refined as a result of consultation with local municipalities and all local municipalities are forecasted to play a role in accommodating the population growth and intensification.

The preferred scenario population figures have been distributed to local municipalities, based on consultation with municipal staff.

The preferred scenario is based on the assumption that 40 per cent of all new residential growth across the region from 2015 and beyond will be accommodated through intensification.

The level and location of intensification by local municipality will be further refined in local municipal intensification strategies.

Over the next 25 years the housing mix in the region is anticipated to shift towards a more

compact form.

The proportion of single and semi-detached dwellings is anticipated to decline from 79 per cent of the total housing stock to 60 per cent and the number of persons per household to decrease from 3.22 in 2006 to 2.82 in 2031.

Based on the region's employment survey there were approximately 462,000 jobs in York in 2006 and by 2031 there will be about 799,000 people employed in the region or an increase of 13,500 jobs per year over 25 years.

Attracting and accommodating this level of employment presents a major challenge and requires the preservation of large geographic areas of strategically located lands for employment uses.

For Aurora total employment was 20,300 in 2006 and the projection for 2031 is 34,700, an increase of 14,400 or four per cent of the region's total requirements.

The forecasted demand for additional population and employ-

ment growth will have significant land requirements beyond the existing designated land supply.

The 2006 York Region Vacant Employment Inventory reported a supply of 2,894 net hectares of vacant employment land of which 137 hectares or 337 acres were in Aurora.

A series of public meetings was held during September and the feedback will be reported to the region's Planning Committee and presentations will be made to municipal councils as requested.

## Aurora Seniors Duplicate Bridge

**November 17:** N/S - Sheldon Fast and Eva Guttman; Carole Bell and Isobel Garrett; Irene Kubica and Dorothy Young. E/W - Gloria Smith and Rose White; Elaine Hunter and Carol Davidson; Don Newman and Murray Sinclair.

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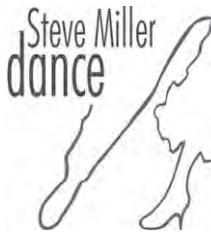
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COMING EVENTS

From page 2

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.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*\*\*

Meet at Martha's Table, now in its 4th season, every Thursday from 11.30 a.m.to 1.30 p.m.A lunch of hot soup, sandwiches and dessert will be provided.Any funds raised are directed to local charities.

NOVEMBER 28-29

"That Darn Plot"at Theatre Aurora, 150 Henderson Drive. Curtain at 8 p.m.Also showing on various dates in December.For further information or tickets, call 905-727-3669.

SATURDAY,NOVEMBER 29

Aurora Senior Citizens'Christmas Bazaar at the centre from 9.30 a.m.to 3 p.m.Included will be a silent auction, collectible table, crafts, sewing, and woodworking, and 28 outside vendors. There will also be a 50/50 raffle, which will take place at 2 p.m.

NOVEMBER 29-30

Aurora Optimist Club annual book sale at the Aurora Public Library, Yonge and Church Streets, Saturday, November 29 from 8 a.m.to 4 p.m., and Sunday, November 30 from 10 a.m.to 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY,DECEMBER 3

Tree Lighting ceremony takes places at the town hall and features an open house at the seniors'centre, as well as a puppet show in the council chambers featuring The Grinch That Stole Christmas.Event begins at 6.30 p.m.for two hours.

THURSDAY,DECEMBER 4

The Music Department at Dr.G.W.Williams Secondary School presents a night of music, with guests from Hartman Public School, beginning at 7 p.m.Included will be three concert bands, two jazz bands and a vocal ensemble.Tickets are \$5 for adults;\$3 for students and seniors and will be available at the door.

FRIDAY,DECEMBER 5

The Aurora Legion presents Aurora Borealis featuring The Newcomers with their Legends Show.Call 905-727-9932 for tickets at \$35 for general admission and \$25 for Legion members.

SUNDAY,DECEMBER 7

Amnesty International hosts its annual Write-a-thon at Aurora Public Library, 15145 Yonge St., Aurora, from 2 to 4 p.m.Write cards of support to human rights prisoners around the world.For information, call 905-713-6713.

\*\*\*\*\*

The First Baptist Church, 33 Wellington Street East, hosts Bernard Pears Chorale's Christmas Presentation at 7 p.m.For further information, call 905-727-4531.

\*\*\*\*\*

Family Christmas at Hillary House, will see the house transformed into a winter wonderland, adorned with traditional Christmas decorations, glowing fires in the fireplaces, mulled cider smell throughout and the sound of familiar carols.There will be crafts for the children, refreshments and home-baked sweets, carols, storytelling and a special visit from a Victorian Santa.The event runs from 1 to 4 p.m.Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. For more information, call 905-727-8991.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Town of Aurora's Aquatics Division is hosting a charity event at the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex, 1400 Wellington St. East, to increase public awareness about being safe on the ice this winter.The group is inviting the public to attend and learn about ice safety by participating in educational and fun water-related safety activities.The event will provide children and their families with the opportunity to participate in an afternoon of games and water themed fun.All proceeds raised will be donated to the Lifesaving Society's Water Smart Drowning Prevention campaign.The event gets underway at 2 p.m.and continues for two hours.

SATURDAY,DECEMBER 13

The ballroom at Hillary House on Yonge Street will be the location for an evening of Christmas music performed by recording pianist, Carol Gibson.Performance starts at 7.30 p.m.followed by readings of a Dickens's A Christmas Carol, holiday sweets, tea, coffee and a traditional wassail bowl.Tickets are \$15 per person.For tickets call 905-727-8991 or email ahs@aurorahs.com.

WEDNESDAY,DECEMBER 17

The Aurora Seniors Association's Evergreen Choir presents a concert at the Aurora Seniors'Centre, beginning at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, 14 years and under.

One item on agenda

At a public planning meeting scheduled to be held in the council chambers in December, council will hear an application from Vinder Holdings for development of a property on Leslie Street south of the Shell service station.

Date of the meeting is December 17.

The application has been submitted for an amendment to the zoning bylaw to permit a variety of business, hospitality and institutional commercial uses.

A preliminary review of the proposed application and conceptual site plan and staff has identified two issues to

be addressed in greater detail, including conformity with applicable provincial, regional and town policies and consideration of the application relative to existing and future surrounding land uses.

From page 1

to no program at all.

Charles Sequeira, representing the membership of the Aurora Seniors' Centre, advised the Committee that most of their members had endorsed option nine, which proposed that the town deliver this service to eligible residents at no cost.

He suggested that it be offered as a pilot project.

He observed that many seniors hire contractors to clear their snow.By the time the town's plows block in the ends of the driveways, the private contractors have already cleared the driveways and gone.

It is difficult to get them back to clear the newly created windrows, he said.

It was his opinion that since the town's vehicles were depositing this snow at the end of the driveways, it was up to the town to clean it up.

Town staff advised that a number of neighbouring communities provided this service for free, including Markham, Richmond Hill, East Gwillimbury, King and Whitchurch-Stouffville.

In kicking off the Committee's discussions of the issue, Councillor John Gallo put forward the motion that the program be delivered by existing town staff at a partial cost recovery, which was option four.

However, he felt the recovery fee should be \$70 per household, which was based on \$7 per snowfall, with 10 snowfalls a season.This was higher than the \$50 recommended in the option.

That would mean the town would cover up to \$4,000 of the program's costs, assuming 200 people participated.

Councillor Evelina MacEachern agreed with the motion, but asked that it be amended to add that staff report back on the program in the spring of 2009.

In response to a question about how such a program would work, the Director of Public Works said that any windrow clearing done by town staff would be carried out following regular snow plowing activities, so that street clearing would not be impacted by this program.

The staff would follow a set route, which would be established following the

proposed close of registration on December 1. The route would be identified based on the locations of the participants' homes.

There would be no upper limit set to the number of households that could participate.

This statement raised some concerns from Committee members, who felt that the number of people participating could overtax the town's resources.They wanted an upper limit to be set.

The director reported that based on similar programs in other communities, the maximum number would be around 250 homes, which he felt would not be a problem.

Two other options that were discussed were to refer residents to Neighbourhood Network for Volunteer Services, and to encourage local high schools to deliver the service through students fulfilling their volunteer requirements.

Both options were popular, in part because the town would not be required to provide any financial or staff resources.

However, staffers advised that the Neighbourhood Network was geared to the disabled, and not seniors, and that while the Network was actively looking for assistance, to date they were not "overflowing with volunteers".

Councillor Bob McRoberts liked the student option, noting that there would soon be close to 1,000 Grade 9s in town, and almost as many Grade 10s.

By the time discussions wound down, the motion had been expanded to contain elements of five of the nine recommendations.

The core was the modified option four, with a cost recovery of \$70 per

household, and a requirement that staff report back on this in the spring of 2009.

Neighbourhood Network and student volunteer options were also to be included.

As well, two options which called for outsourcing the program to an external contractor, were to be investigated in the spring.

Staff was also to look at 40 "hot spots" in town, where it was identified that residents were getting an unusual accumulation of snow.

The motion was called in two parts, both of which passed, and which are expected to be presented at this week's council meeting for approval.



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PowerStream  
Seasonal LED Lights  
Exchange Events

Exchange your old strings of incandescent holiday lights for strings of energy-efficient seasonal LED lights for FREE\*

Aurora

Aurora Tree Lighting Ceremony  
Wed., Dec. 3, 2008  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Aurora Town Hall  
1Municipal Drive, Aurora

Offer available to PowerStream customers only. Please bring an original copy of your PowerStream bill to confirmyour eligibility.

\*While quantities last. Maximum two strings per household.



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with PowerStream

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*Adults leagues available week nights*





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