



**Sorley & Still**  
 Barristers and Solicitors  
 905-726-9956

**aurorafamilylaw.com**  
 905-726-9956

# AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

**TANNING ZONE**  
 WHERE TANNING IS OUT OF THIS WORLD  
 (905) 751-0666

**FIRST TAN FREE**

GOING SOUTH?  
 GET A HEAD START ON YOUR TAN

REGISTERED MASSAGE THERAPY  
 AESTHETICS

BEACH ZONE  
 2 ALLAURA BLVD.,  
 (BY MCDONALDS)

Vol. 3 No. 17

Week of February 18, 2003

905-727-3300

## Kennedy - Wellington

# Two major issues remain unresolved

Two weeks ago at a meeting of Aurora's general committee there was a long and confusing debate on two planning issues, property at 240

Kennedy Street West and a condominium building on Wellington Street East.

Councillors might just as well have saved their breath, as

last week no action was taken on either issue,

Both were deferred to a future meeting.

At the first meeting, members re-confirmed draft approval of the proposed plan of condominium for the Lenard Lind Kennedy property subject to 72 conditions.

Council also reconfirmed a previous decision for staff to attend the April 9, 2003, Ontario Municipal Board hearing "on consent for the approval of the draft zoning bylaw amendment".

The amendment was necessary to accommodate the proposed four single-family dwellings to be accessed by a private roadway adjacent to the west boundary line.

Last week, Sam Nardi, next door neighbour to the Lind property, appeared before council to seek a two-week deferral.

He said the reason for the deferral request was to give neighbours time to review the 72 conditions already adopted by council and possibly suggest further conditions, which might help to mitigate the proposed development.

He listed the various meetings he had attended on the proposal, but it was necessary to have time to examine the conditions, he said.

As the OMB hearing is not scheduled April, he said a deferral would not delay the proposal.

Nardi also requested the reopening of council's

Please see page 12



Large brick home on the Temperance Street curve, between Tyler and Reuben, was gutted by fire early Monday morning. Fire officials said the blaze originally started Sunday evening, was brought under control, but flared up overnight. Damage is estimated at more than \$150,000 and officials from Central York Fire Services are continuing their investigation to determine the cause.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

## Slow down on Yonge

If you are a regular user of Yonge Street from about the gates of St. Andrew's College north to the St. John's Sideroad, watch for a change in speed limit.

The 70- km/hr section is being reduced to 60 km/hr, which is the speed limit south of St. Andrews.

With St. Andrew's College located on the west side of Yonge Street, the headmaster has expressed concerns over the safety of staff, students and parents entering and exiting the college driveway.

In addition, concerns were raised

over the safety of students crossing Yonge Street from the GO Bus stop, located on the east side of Yonge.

# Topsy-turvy taxi industry in Aurora

Calling a cab in Aurora today is a relatively simple task and council members don't have to spend hour after hour in debate dealing with the taxi business.

But, it wasn't always that way.

In October, 1968, Aurora was to

have a new taxi company.

Council approved an application from William VanBerkel of Newmarket for a operator's and driver's license to provide the 24-hour service.

Members of the town's police

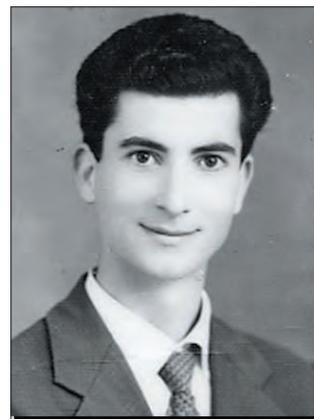
committee said they had discussed the impact of the new firm on the existing taxi company, but decided it was not proper to restrict a an operator seeking to establish a business in town.

In agreeing to the proposal, coun-

cil asked the committee to study the taxi situation for future applications to determine the proper ratio of cabs to population.

In September, 1969, William

Please see page 13



## 40 years of clippings

Thirty-nine years ago, one-year-old Richard Smitten of Aurora, climbed onto the child's bench as rookie barber Frank Scavello waited patiently. Friday, Richard, 40, was in the chair as Frank celebrated his 40th anniversary at A & F Hair Elite in the Aurora Shopping Centre. The shop is the oldest business in the centre and Richard is one of Frank's longest continuous customers. The barber shop opened in 1963 only two years after the plaza was first constructed, a strip of stores anchored by a Loblaws. Inset shows Frank when he came to Canada from Italy more than 40 years ago.

Auroran photo by Naomi Tobin



# LENARD LIND

Broker/Owner

Aurora's #1 Sales Producer 2002!

Call today for a free property evaluation! \*\*

905-841-0000

www.lhlindrealty.com

L.H.LIND REALTY INC.  
 53 Wellington St. E., Aurora

(1 block east of Yonge)



Ontario's ONLY...

ISO 9001:2000 REGISTERED



\*\*Some conditions apply

# Coming Events

## CONTINUING

Every Wednesday afternoon from 3 to 7 p.m., free internet training for seniors over 60, sponsored by Elder Connections. For further information, call Barbara at 905-727-8808.

\* \* \* \*

Dinner theatre continues at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre at the Howard Johnson Hotel with the comedy "Below the Belt". It continues every Friday and Saturday night until February 28. Hot and cold buffet starting at 7 p.m. and show time at 8:30 p.m. Call 905-727-1312 to reserve.

## FEBRUARY 22

It's Bowl for Kids Sake time for Big Brothers of York at the Aurora Bowl with starting times at 1, 3 and 5 p.m. Call 905-727-1251 to register and get a starting time.

\* \* \* \*

York Strings Plus concert, Trinity Anglican Church, 7.30 p.m. Tickets \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors and children.

\* \* \* \*

Baseball registration, ACC2 Lobby - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

\* \* \* \*

Aurora Youth Soccer Registration, Canadian Tire Store, Yonge Street and Murray Drive, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

\* \* \* \*

It's Mardi Gras in Aurora as the parents of the Aerials Competitive Dance Team sponsor the event at DiNardo's Mansion, Industrial Parkway South, at 5:30 p. m. Call John O'Bireck at 905-841-4150 for details.

\* \* \* \*

Aurora Fit For Heart event at the Aurora Leisure Complex. A two-hour aerobathon. 9.30 a.m. For more information, call Diana Dawson at the complex, 905-727-3123, extension 515.

## FEBRUARY 24

First installment of the Town of Aurora's interim tax levy is now due, with the second installment due April 25. The levy will be 50 per cent of the 2002 taxes.

## FEBRUARY 25

Travelling in Eastern Russia with Aurora's Harry Lumsden. Slide presentation of volcanoes, eagles and a wide variety of plants will be shown from 7 to 8 p.m. in Public Meeting Room #1, at the Aurora Library. Admission is free. Register at the Adult Information Desk, or phone 905-727-9493.

## FEBRUARY 26

Aurora Council will hold a working session at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall to review the concept plan for the 89 acres of town-owned land on Leslie Street. Open to the public.

## FEBRUARY 28

The Big Band Sound is coming to the Aurora Legion with the Toronto All Star Big Band, sponsored by Operation Catch-Up, Tutors and Mentors to raise funds for the group's youth programs in the region. There's also a silent auction, light buffet supper and dancing.

\* \* \* \*

Blood donor clinic. Aurora United Church, 3.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

## MARCH 8

Free one-hour adult "fast defense" course at Watson's Karate. 2 to 3 p.m. Call to reserve 905-727-7144.

## MARCH 14

Skate Break, a skateathon for all ages, 2 p.m. Aurora Community Centre, Rink 2. Four members of Canada's World Figure Skating Team will be there. Tickets \$15 unless pledge sheets top that amount. Registration 1 p.m. For more information, or pledge sheets, call 905-841-3977 or 1-866-345-0183, ext. 0.

## MARCH 16

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day at Hillary House with the fiddle-playing Turrets, modern day Celtic musicians. Homemade refreshments and tours of the historic home will be available from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Cost for adults is \$5 and \$2 for children under 12.

## MARCH 24/APRIL 4

Guided tours of Sheppard's Bush Conservation Area. Includes a wagon ride. Call Nadine Partridge at 905-895-1281, Ex. 241 for further information or visit www.lsrca.on.ca.

## MARCH 27

Free 90-minute seminar focusing on food safety. 7 p.m. Aurora Public Library public meeting room 1. Pre-register at the adult information desk or call 905-727-9493.

## APRIL 13

Second Annual Bob Hartwell Runner's Challenge Half Marathon, Half Marathon Relay and 5K Race.



## Serenade for the boss

Auroran owner Rosemary Schumaker was the recipient of an animated Valentine's gift Friday when she was surprised by this quartet from the Upper Canada Chordsmen. The group sang two songs, offered her a box of chocolates and presented her with a rose. Four sets of chordsmen were kept hopping all day as they brought their real-life Valentines to dozens of people throughout York Region. Auroran photo by Ron Wallace (who is now in the boss's good books...)

## York ends sewer study

York Region has now completed a class environmental assessment for the East Holland River trunk sewer project, Aurora Council learned last week.

The purpose of the project is to convey industrial and residential sewage from the properties bounded by Bayview Avenue, the north Aurora boundary, Highway 404 and the south limit of the Magna golf course.

Various design options were considered but the preferred design concept for the new sewer will be along the tablelands in the 2B area, coupled with a deep gravity sewer along the St. John's Sideroad to the Aurora Pumping Station.

The staff report pointed out that the preferred design would have no impact on environmentally sensitive areas and would create minimal disruption to existing landowners and users of the St. John's Sideroad, as the trunk sewer will be installed in 2003 at the time of the proposed road reconstruction.

Councillor Nigel Kean expressed concern about the location of an easterly extension to service the 2C lands, but was assured by staff that the submission was just a concept design and the extension would go under the Holland River

tributary.

Council received the report as information and directed staff to advise the region the town has no concerns with the preferred design concept.

Staff will also report back to council any issues that would adversely impact the town.



**DAMIR VRANCIC  
LAW OFFICE**  
*BUSINESS LAW,  
REAL ESTATE,  
WILLS & ESTATES*

905-841-6411

Providing valued and trusted legal advice since 1983

# FREE COLOUR TESTERS

(with gallon purchase)



PRATT & LAMBERT

## "Why rent a paint colour when you can receive it free?"

(Any industry colour)

# DECORATING WORKS! INC.

Your full service home decorating centre

Aurora Shopping Centre - 14800 Yonge Street, Aurora

Phone (905) 727-7048

E-mail decoratingworks@aci.on.ca



New to the community?

Expecting a baby at your house?

Newly Engaged?

New Business/ Professional?

A Civic minded Business interested in sponsoring Welcome Wagon?

If you fit into one of these categories and have not been contacted by us, Please call 905-853-4645

**FESTA RISTORANTE**  
Italian Restaurant

**FREE  
DINNER ENTREE**

UNDER NEW  
MANAGEMENT

Purchase any dinner entrée at reg. price & receive another dinner entrée of equal or lesser value for FREE

Maximum value \$20.00. Valid towards dinner. Dine in only. Not valid on Friday or Saturday, holidays or special dates. Valid only with this ad.

\* Expires March 2/03

(905) 751-0986

15150 Yonge St., Aurora  
(across from the Aurora Library)



As reptiles go, this one was pretty harmless, a trio of Aurora girls learned Saturday. From left, Jenny Pilkey, Samantha Jenkins, and Emily MacMillan, got a close-up look at this tiny crocodile during an afternoon reptile show at an Aurora learning centre. A boa constrictor was a little more intimidating. Auroran photo by Naomi Tobin

# Town reaffirms hydro operation

In 1998, the provincial government passed Bill 35, the Energy Competition Act, to restructure Ontario's electricity system and to introduce competition.

Municipal Electric Utilities were required to incorporate under the Ontario Business Corporations Act by November 7, 2000, and were required to be licensed as electricity distributors by the Ontario Energy Board.

On October 3, 2000, Aurora Council transferred the assets and liabilities of the Aurora Hydro-Electric Commission to two newly created corporations, Aurora Hydro Connections Limited and Borealis Hydro Holdings Inc.

Conservation and Supply Act was adopted by the Ontario government.

The legislation required municipal councils to either pass a resolution to confirm their original decision to commercialize their local electricity distribution company or to operate on a not-for-profit basis.

After reviewing the pros and cons of both options and a consultant's report, staff recommended the town affirm its commitment for the for-profit operation of both corporations in order to protect the significant community investment in the hydro entity.

Last week, council members endorsed the staff recom-

mendation that both corporations remain incorporated as being in the best interests of the utility and the municipality.

Council asked the board of directors of Borealis Hydro Electric Holdings to prepare a five-year business plan and dividend forecast taking the limitations of the Electricity Act into consideration.

Council also agreed to express its concern to both the Minister and Premier respecting the ongoing significant changes in direction the regulation of electricity in Ontario and the resultant hardship on the corporations responsible for effective and efficient distribution of power to ratepayers.

The town retained ownership of the hydro office building on the Industrial Parkway.

Last November, the Electricity Pricing,

# Aurora bomb shelter for Toronto bigwigs

The late 1950s were the days of the Cold War with threats of a nuclear attack hanging over the heads of people of the world.

All levels of government took action to protect their leaders to ensure the continuity of government after the suspected attack.

The federal government built an underground "Diefenbunker" near Carp, just outside Ottawa, to accommodate then Prime Minister John Diefenbacker and up to 300 federal cabinet ministers and bureaucrats for up to 30 days.

The four reinforced concrete levels were equipped with air conditioning, food storage, bunks, hospital facilities, kitchen and cafeteria and a Bank of Canada cold vault.

The bunker was decommissioned in 1994 and is now open to the public as a museum.

was constructed under the 100-year-old farmhouse, to be used for coordinating Metro emergency services in the event of a nuclear attack on the city.

The operations room was covered with maps of the Toronto area, plus information pertaining to water, emergency food depots and locations to accommodate instant hospitals.

While it was reassuring that the Prime Minister, the Premier, Metro Chairman and some of their key people had a place to hide in the event of a nuclear attack, little consideration was given to the protection of the average citizen.

It was up to them to look after themselves.

Consolidated Building Corporation, the firm building Regency Acres at the time, took advantage of the situation and offered to build a bomb shelter for new home buyers.

New homes in the subdivision were selling for \$12,999 but if you included the shelter add another grand.

In 1977, Metro politicians started to question why they were still paying about \$25,000 annually to main-

tain the Aurora property and suggested it should be sold.

By 1991 it was still owned by Metro Toronto and used as a secure police readiness centre.

With the threat of war in the Persian Gulf and the potential threat of Iraq-led terrorist activities, police officials said the Aurora facility was still required.

In July, 1992, the property was put up for sale with an asking price of around \$500,000, although it had been purchased in 1962 for \$31,250.

By November there were competing bids for the property. A developer wanted to build 20 non-profit houses on the property for the United Church and a York Regional employee wanted to buy the old farmhouse as a family residence.

The developer's bid of \$540,000, which was conditional on obtaining the required rezoning and obtaining provincial grants, was much higher than the \$251,000 offered by the regional employee.

Even though Metro said bids had to be unconditional, councillors were seriously considering the higher

offer.

In January, 1993, Metro council decided to start all over again and call for new offers, as the credibility and integrity of the corporation's bidding process was considered to be at stake.

Finally the farmhouse and property sold as a single-family residence and is currently occupied.

As the farmhouse is set well back on the property, two new lots were created and today two modern homes flank the old farmhouse sitting in the background.

If another Cold War should occur, Toronto politicians will have to look elsewhere for a secure spot to hide.

**Merlin's Hollow**  
 Gardening Courses  
*Practical, adventurous and environmentally friendly*  
**General and Advanced**  
 6 x 2 hour classes monthly, April - October  
 Held in Merlin's Hollow, an acre garden of perennial beds, rock gardens, shade beds, pond and fragrant garden  
**David Tomlinson,**  
 Renowned horticulturalist and garden designer  
 Call Dierdre Tomlinson **905-727-8979**

**GRAYSTONES**  
 Restaurant  
 Specializing in Schnitzels  
 14889 Yonge Street Aurora L4G 1M9  
 905-727-9561

**MODEL BUILDERS**  
 (AURORA) LIMITED  
 59 INDUSTRIAL PKWY. S. AURORA  
**905-727-5661**  
**RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL BUILDERS AND RENOVATORS**  
 SINCE 1956

**George Street Child Care**  
 An Upper Canada Child Care Centre

Government licensed quality care for Ages 2.5 to 12 yrs.  
 Preschool \* Nursery School \* Before & After School Programs

- \* Brand New Facility
- \* State of the Art Equipment
- \* Qualified Educators
- \* Child Centred Learning
- \* Computers, Science
- \* Math & Language
- \* Music & Drama
- \* Nutritional Snacks & Lunch
- \* Bright, Friendly Environment

Hours:  
 7:00 am to 6:00 pm

George Street Child Care is located in George St. P.S. in the Yonge & Wellington Street area, Aurora

**NORTH YORK**  
 HEATING, PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES  
 - Specialty Sheet Metal -  
 - Showroom -  
 Tel: (905) 727-6401      8 Industrial Pkwy. S.  
 www.nyhp.on.ca      Aurora, Ontario

For more information please call Rosanna  
**(905) 751-1003**

A nuclear bomb shelter



## Poor Richard

# Time for town to consider ward system

*The rumblings have started,  
A ward system is the call;  
Councillors had better listen,  
Or citizens will have a ball.*

*-Poor Richard's Scrapbook*

It won't happen for the 2003 municipal election but it could be an election issue. Sooner or later Aurora Council will have to face the issue of implementing a ward system and 2003 may be a good time to start.

Some residents are upset about recent planning decisions in their neighbourhood, and they feel council members aren't listening to them.

They believe if they had a ward councillor, they may have a better opportunity to be heard.

There is no doubt that demands for a ward system will increase with the growth of the town, especially east of Bayview Avenue out to Highway 404.

In addition, election costs for council candidates to campaign over the whole municipality would be heavy, and could be out of reach for some.

It could encourage them to seek political contributions from whoever is willing to donate, which is quite legal according to provincial legislation.

It would be much easier and less costly to campaign in a ward where you would have an opportunity to get to know the electors and they would get to know the candidates.

A ward system could lead to a greater voter turnout as electors would only have to decide on who to vote for the office of mayor and ward councillor, rather than face a list of 16-18 candidates and try to select eight. A ward system might even encourage more candidates to enter the race.

The debate about a ward system for Aurora has been ongoing since 1965 when Councillor Jim Murray first suggested it so the new areas of Regency Acres and Aurora Heights would have a representative on council.

Murray tried again in 1966 and this time council established a citizen/council committee to study the issue.

After considerable discussion it was agreed that the request was premature and further consideration should be given when the town reached a population of 25,000.

Council had another opportunity to inaugurate a ward system in October, 1970, with the creation of regional government. Not knowing what the future held, council decided to stay with the status quo.

A ward system is normally implemented for geographic or population reasons. In large rural areas like King Township a ward system is essential, as all elected representatives could come from one community.

A ward system for a large urban area like Toronto, or any major city, is also essential to provide adequate representation for all citizens. Aurora fell somewhere in between.

In May, 1972, a delegation from the Aurora Orchards Homeowners Association appeared before council to stress the need for a ward system to provide better representation.

Council discussed the request but took no action.

The issue was quiet for a few years but in July, 1990, it surfaced again with a request from Valhalla Heights Ratepayers Association for a ward system to make Aurora councillors more accountable.

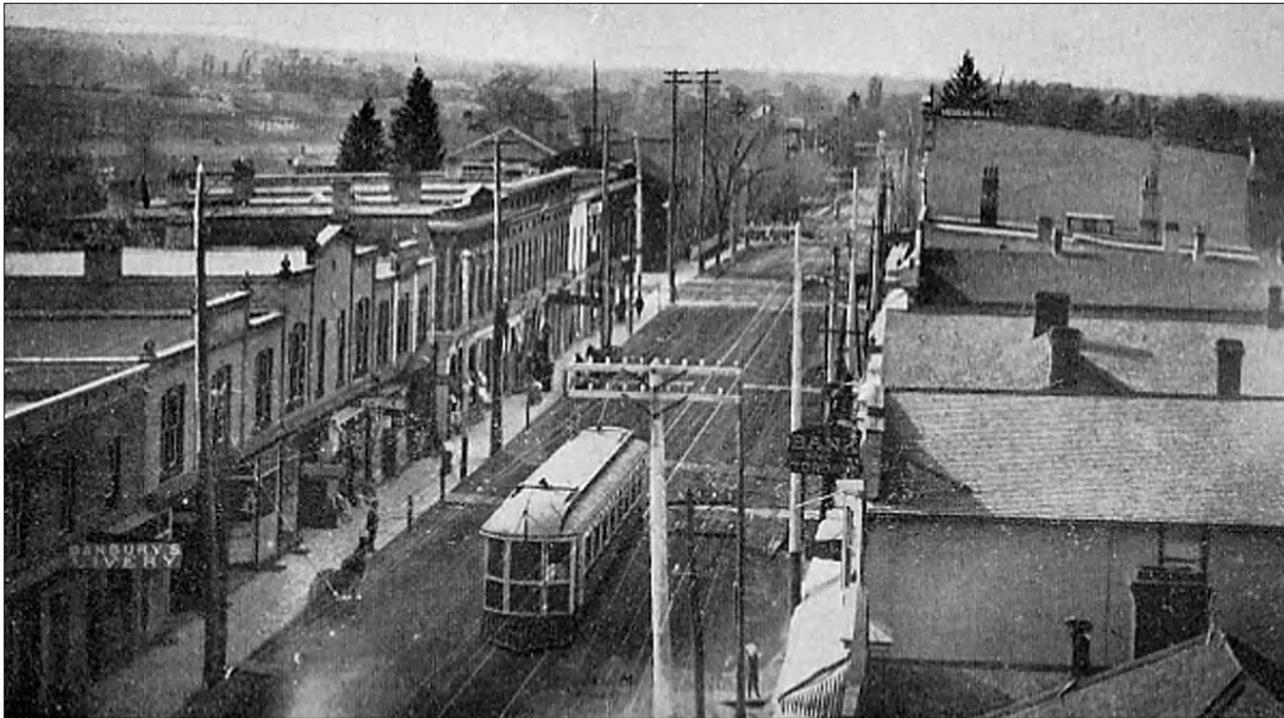
The association's brief referred to council's action regarding the proposed reconstruction of the St. John's Sideroad, which it said would bring more industrial traffic and destroy the sensitive wetlands.

Council rejected the request resulting in an appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board. In an attempt to avert an OMB hearing council established a council/citizen committee. The committee recommended the issue of a ward system be included on the ballot for the next municipal election.

In February, 1991, the OMB rejected the citizens' appeal, on the basis there was no apparent groundswell of interest or demand for change.

That was then, this is now, and a lot of development and changes have occurred during the period.

An OMB decision could be different the next time, and council would be wise to start considering the possibility. A good offence is often the best defense.



The above photograph appeared on a postcard that we believe was mailed in 1907. If that's correct, the picture could not have been taken from the old Aurora Post Office tower, since the building wasn't constructed until 1914. That leaves the tower of the old town hall at the corner of Yonge and Mosley as the only possible location for the photographer. Pictured is a southbound radial car (yes, Aurora had streetcars once) and a horse and buggy on the street, pointed north, although it's in the southbound lane. The intersection to the north is, of course, Wellington Street, but Yonge Street then drops into a small valley, which today no longer exists. Al White, who loaned us the postcard, complete with a one-cent stamp, reflects on his memories of the street in the letter below.

### Letters to the editor

## Yonge Street, a long time ago

To the editor,

When we were kids, around six years old, on a Saturday morning, we would parade up to J.M. Walton's office on Yonge Street. He was a lawyer and he was the mayor.

The five of us, three blowing on toy horns, one carrying and waving a little paper flag, and me, banging a toy drum, would entertain as Mr. Walton and his staff listened.

Then he would take all of us in his car to Lake Wilcox

and treat us to a double-decker ice cream cone.

He was a very nice man.

Banberry's Livery had an entrance on Yonge and in the entrance was a barber shop. Jack Gould was the barber.

Mr. Banberry had stables for horses and kept his buggies in there, and yes, one was a buggy with a fringe on top.

Also in the entrance was a taxi office, run by two brothers. The cab was an Essex.

On the east side of the street, I remember the town

office with its fire hall, library and the jail in the back; Dr. Stevie's office; Patterson's Bakery; a bank; a jewelry store; Scanlon's Bakery; Morning's Garage; Ed Dailey's Barber Shop; Dan's Café; Gilroy's Men's Wear (Norm Cook); Grimshaw's Food Store and Fish Market; Whitelaw's Wallpaper Store; Willis Drug Store; Fred Rowland's Clothing Store; and Whimster's Clothing Store (Arduill's).

Across the street, one could find the Aurora United Church, the radial car sta-

tion (where the car in the photo above is obviously headed), Banberry's Livery, Norm Ead's Hardware Store; Duffell's Shoe Store; the A & P; Caruso's Fruit Store; Evans Jewelry Store; Hancock's Barber Shop; York Drug Store; Aurora Banner, Morning's Drug Store; Winter's Furniture (Thompson's); Ray's Café; Ough's Hardware Store (Jack Bowser); Marchant's Butcher Shop; and Superior Grocery Store.

I believe the names are correct, but the order may be off.

Al White  
Aurora

## Town and business must work together

To the editor,

On behalf of the Yonge Street Downtown Committee, I would like to thank all of the people who attended the "Open Forum Breakfast" at the library in late January.

I have always believed that the best way to solve any outstanding issues is to get the groups together and let the discussions take place.

I also appreciate the fact that the heads of departments, Sue Seibert, Planning; Allan Evelyn, Treasury; Wayne Jackson, Public Works; Leo Grellette, Building; and the mayor were all present to answer questions.

We are in the process now of sending out a list to all businesses in Aurora of town hall staff and their functions, as that seemed to be a concern of the people who attended the breakfast.

We are also looking into the other concerns that were raised and we will get a report to all those who attended.

This meeting is only the first of hopefully many to get business in Aurora the help that it deserves and to allow our staff to get more involved.

If there are any suggestions to help improve business, especially on Yonge

### About cafés and council

To the editor,

In the Jan. 28th issue, there was a picture of an old Aurora Council.

The place was in the Aurora Town Hall of the day, which was the old Bank of Commerce building and the room was on the ground floor at the rear of the building.

Council seated from left to right - Tom Swindle, John E. Sisman, Ace Cook (Reeve), Dr. Crawford Rose, Harry Corner, Charles Davies, Vic Jones.

Council standing on the left, Harold Pringle; extreme right, Cliff Corbett.

William Large and Harold Clark are in the middle. They were the Town Clerk and

Street and surrounding areas, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail myself or any councillor in Aurora.

We can do so much more working together.

Nigel Kean  
Aurora

Secretary.

In the Rumours & Rumblings column the same week, mention is made of Ray's Café.

Ray's Café was on the west side of Yonge Street and was the place where "the fire" started that affected the hardware store on the north and Thompson's to the south.

The Chinese man who owned the café died in the fire.

Moon Gardens was previously Dan's Café and Harry Dan sold it to the King's and eventually it became Moon Gardens.

Ray's Café never reopened.

Good to read about our history.

Doris Pringle  
Aurora

## AURORAN

"Aurora's community newspaper"

Published weekly by The  
Auroran Publications Inc.  
At 75 Mary Street,  
Aurora, L4G 1G3

Owner & Publisher  
Rosemary Schumaker

Editorial

Ron Wallace  
Dick Illingworth  
Photography  
Matt Haggerty  
Naomi Tobin

Display Advertising

Bob Ince  
Kathy Bitove  
Production  
Cynthia Proctor

All Departments

905-727-3300

Facsimile Machine

905-727-2620

E-Mail

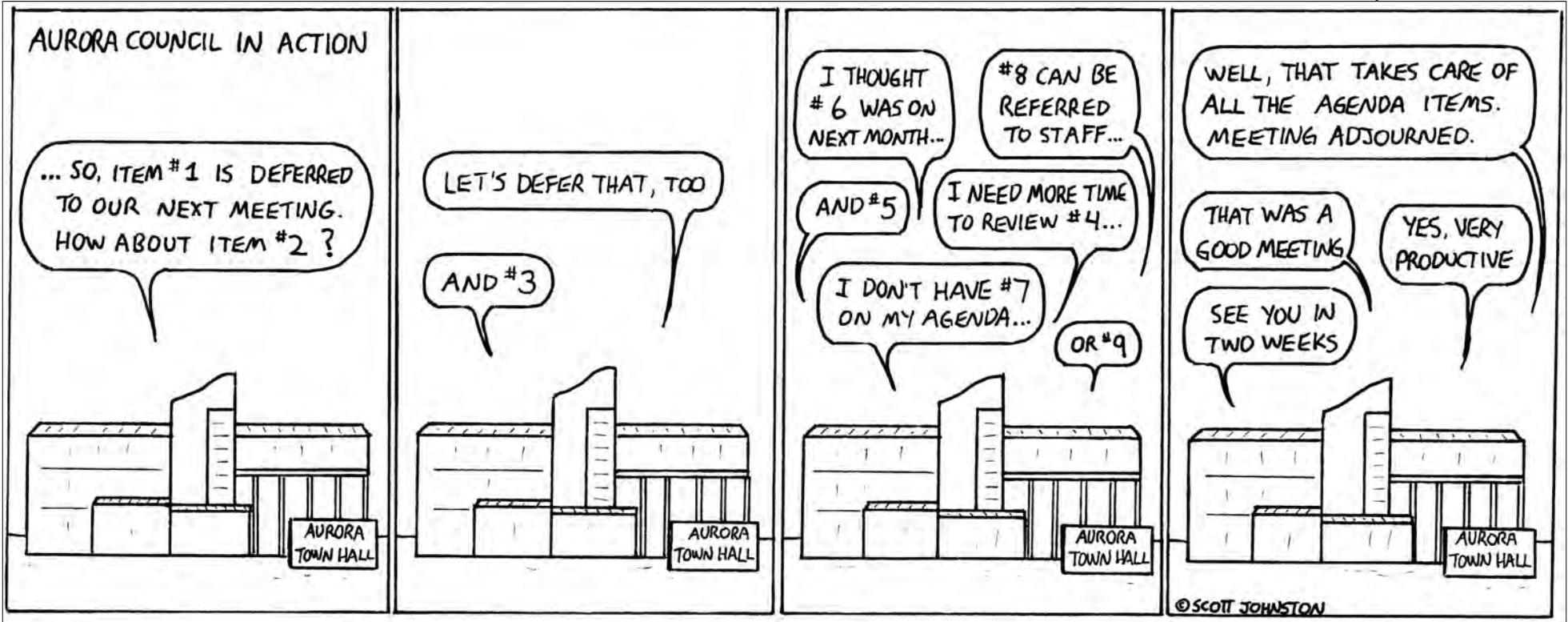
auroran@neptune.on.ca

Editorial policy

Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and letter writers are not necessarily those of the Auroran. Letters must include name and phone number, although number will not be published. Names may be withheld assuming a compelling reason to do so. Letters may be edited or refused. All contents protected by copyright.

Advertising policy

Publisher is not liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. Disputes must be brought to the attention of the publisher prior to the following edition.



*Letters to the editor*

# Fond memories and misty eyes

**To the editor,**

I am delighted to receive the Auroran. Having extricated myself from a 12-inch accumulation of snow, I ventured forth to pick up my mail returning at 1 p.m. and immediately dove into the Auroran.

At 6 p.m., I tore myself away to prepare dinner. You really made my day - fond memories, misty eyes at times, a lot of giggles, a realization that those halcyon days of youth are really long past, but an immense gratitude that those days were spent in what, to my mind, was a truly blessed and nurturing environment. Was immediately gratified to see that Attridge Lumber, Henry's Fish & Chips, and Omar's Shoes are still fixtures on the local scene.

Noted the proposed repairs to Maple and Fleury Streets. I was three when sewers were installed.

So, Sandra Purdy still runs a dance studio!

The photo of Frank Smith's Shoe Repair, next to the Chinese laundry on Wellington Street evoked memories of my grandpa, George Sisman, who always picked up the mail daily from our post box - invariably took about an hour, chatting with cronies in the post office, then stopping for a chat with Frank, in the winter a longer chat around the pot-bellied stove at the front of the shop.

"Mrs. Shoemaker Smith", as my dad always dubbed her, was a powerful and dependable alto voice in mom's United Church choir for many years.

The memories evoked by the 1941 Grade 8 girls' photo - all of those dear faces - are countless.

I did meet up with Jolyne Doolittle, Connie (Lee) Brodie and Isobella Dunning at the Aurora High School reunion, along with my cousin, Doreen Bush/Stephenson and so many others.

Was particularly titillated by a reference to the long-standing Newmarket aversion to Aurora sewage flowing into Fairy Lake.

This would be occasioned when a heavy rain would cause Collis Leather to have to release a holding tank, which additional burden would be beyond the capacity of the Aurora disposal system.

Hence, most male washrooms in Aurora would, at one time or another, bear the graffiti "Hurry up and flush the toilet, Newmarket needs water".

The tribute to Earl Stewart triggered my weird sense of humour once more. My mind flipped back to the summer of 1949.

My best boyhood friend, Dennis Davies and I, in our late teens, had graduated from Hudson's store to the more exhilarating (to us) environs of Earl V. Stewart's Supertest station and lunch bar.

Earl, his wife, Vi, and their young son, Bobby, were always about the premises. Earl and Vi were always jolly and friendly, made superb milkshakes, and seemed to invariably have time for a chat.

Dennis and I loved the association with them and they were quite tolerant of our boyish enthusiasms.

I had an accident with mom's '46 Dodge one evening in Toronto. Ellwood Davis, after giving me my driving test and license some three months before, said, "Jimmy, whatever you do, don't drive in Toronto for at least six months".

But few teenagers listen to or heed good advice, and that evening, I missed a stop sign and was creamed.

The day after the adventure, Dennis and I walked to Earl's service station for a milkshake.

On spying me, Earl said, "hi, crash, what's new?"

Amazing how fast the word travelled overnight in small town Aurora!

I was already indebted to the Auroran - some time ago my cousin Doreen sent me the clipping of the Aurora Boys Band and one of the old Aurora Citizens Band, with my dad and Sid Davies in it.

So, I was thrilled when my old schoolmate Jimmy Ranson, retired from BOAC in England, identified each musician for the paper.

I miss my dear old town and its dear inhabitants.

My pleasure in living up here still carries a real regret at having to leave my home of 60 years.



**Mayor's Report  
By Tim Jones**

## Aurora scoops another award

Last summer, the Town of Aurora was recognized at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario with a Municipal Innovation Award alongside the Town of Newmarket for the process implemented in the merger of our fire services.

The process involved participation by all levels of staff to ensure that as we progressed to the realization of a merger in service, we had incorporated all the components that needed to be considered.

Staff and politicians at all levels stepped up to the plate and in an objective manner, agreed on the common goal, tabled issues and were open minded in finding solutions.

For approximately 10 years, beginning in the late 1950's, a bituminous fiber - 'black pipe'- connection for sewer links from the Town pipe at the road to the home was used.

Unfortunately, these pipes were prone to an earlier failure rate than expected.

Town staff recommended that rather than taking a reactive approach to these failures as they broke, it should be proactive and establish a program to minimize the adverse affects of pipe failures.

The traditional method to correct these failures was to dig up the service and replace it with PVC pipe.

This 'open cut' process would result in temporary road closures, traffic disruptions, noise, dust, and unsightly road scars.

Staff investigated a trenchless technology which could reline failing sewer pipes with a "cured in place" pipe which is launched underground from the main line sewer by a pneumatic inversion process towards the property line.

After curing for two hours, the pipe can be returned to active service.

There was no excavating, traffic disruption or mess afterwards. In analyzing our situation with cameras run through the pipes, 64 per cent of pipes inspected were good candidates for relining, 28 per cent could be relined with some additional preparation, leaving only eight per cent that were identified as collapsed and requiring excavation.

More than four years ago, our Aurora Works Department commenced a proactive rehabilitation program with the company Liquiforce, to inspect our pipes.

At the same time, residents were also offered the chance to repair/replace their portion of the pipe if required.

The normal cost to excavate and replace this connection on average varies between \$4,700 and \$7,000.

The cost through this process to reline the average pipe is in

the area of \$4,500, and this is without the disruptions caused by excavation. Staff reported and recommended a rehabilitation project to Council in an amount of \$4.1 million to be expedited over a four-year timeframe.

It was also determined that residents who wished to consider improving their pipe in this manner at the same time could review the camera image of the pipe portion on their property and have the work done at a fixed cost to them at the same time.

When the program started, staff implemented a comprehensive public information/notification program.

All residents were contacted and responses recorded as to conditions and actions. Cleanout fittings were installed at all locations for future convenience.

This project was reported and tracked on the Town's web site. The contractor was offered the use of an office at the Public Works yard which resulted in excellent communications between Town staff and Liquiforce staff.

Recently, I attended an awards ceremony hosted by the American Public Works Association, Ontario Chapter. The Town of Aurora was recognized in the \$2-10 million dollar project category as Project of the Year for its efforts in the sewer program.

Accomplishments cited included the fact that the project finished on time and within budget; the trenchless technology is considered an excellent application of leading edge technology and resulted in Aurora staff making a presentation at the International NoDig 2002 Conference in Montreal last April where this project was also recognized with an honourable mention by the internationally recognized industry publication, "Trenchless Technology".

Congratulations to Peter Horvath, and all the Public Works staff associated with this project and the staff of Liquiforce for their forward thinking, hard work and for bringing this recognition to our Town.

\*\*\*\*

Congratulations AURORA TIGERS for a phenomenal season - I would encourage everyone to get out to support the TIGERS in the playoffs!

\*\*\*\*

If you see something in this column that you wish to respond to, I welcome your comments, either through the paper, to the Town Hall by mail - Box 1000, Aurora, Ontario, L4G 6J1 or e-mail at tjones@town.aurora.on.ca

**Jim Willis  
Wasaga Beach**

## Bank was once a residence

**To the editor,**

I would guess the old bank building referred to in your photo, dated 1940s or early 1950s would be the Canadian Bank of Commerce which was on the east side of Yonge Street just north of the old post office.

In early days it was used as the municipal office and today is the home of Aurora Cruise and Travel and other businesses.

Charlie Copland and his family once lived above the bank.

**Ken Elmer  
Aurora**

# Bouquets & Brickbats

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

**BOUQUETS** to members of Aurora Council for the full-fledged debate on two planning issues, the condo on Wellington Street East and a development proposal for Kennedy Street. It has been a long time since councillors took such strong stands on an issue. It was reminiscent of the old days!

**More BOUQUETS** to Aurora Council for stepping into the modern age of technology for the 2003 and subsequent municipal elections by endorsing a staff recommendation to issue a Request for Proposal for the acquisition of electronic voting equipment. Look for easier voting and quicker results on election night.

**BRICKBATS** to members of the Aurora Library Board and Aurora Council members for putting money ahead of service. The two meeting rooms in the library have been named the Magna Room and Lebovic Room in recognition of their large monetary donations. What about the service of Del Babcock who served as chairman of the library board for about 40 years and Marj Andrews, Aurora's first librarian, who served the town for 38 years?

**BOUQUETS** to Gerry Conetta, of LimoVan Enterprises for putting up such a strong and convincing argument on behalf of Aurora taxi drivers at a recent general committee meeting. His recommendation that Aurora move to the Ambassador plate system as a fair and equitable for entrepreneurship is well worth considering.

**BOUQUETS** to Aurora residents Steve Hinder and Bob Sherwood on receiving the Queen's Jubilee Medal at a ceremony at Queen's Park arranged by Oak Ridges MPP Frank Klees.

**BRICKBATS** to the inconsiderate diners who fail to give up their table after they have finished eating and have paid their bill but continue to sit there smoking and chatting, when other diners are lined up at the door waiting for a table. If there are empty tables, no problem, but a full restaurant with a lineup deserves some consideration.

**BOUQUETS** to Aurora resident Nicole Forrester, currently ranked Canada's top female high jumper, on her efforts to represent Canada and Aurora at the 2003 World Games and 2004 Olympics. More **BOUQUETS** to Aurora council for providing a \$500 grant to assist her achieve her goals.

**BOUQUETS** to the Upper Canada Chordsmen for their novel Say It With Love and a Singing Valentine. The Sweetheart Gift included a live Barbershop Quartet singing two songs, a long stemmed red rose, chocolate and a personalized Valentine card on February 14th. Proceeds go to speech therapy at Southlake Regional Health Centre. Too late now for this year but remember for next year.

**BRICKBATS** to the sneak thieves who broke into the Aurora Hydro payment drop box located at Aurora Hydro on Industrial Parkway between 2:30 p.m. February 5th and 8:30 a.m. February 6th. As most payments are made by cheque there would be little cash. But hydro customers who dropped off payments between those hours had better stop payments on their cheques.

**BOUQUETS** to Marj Dawson for her letter to the Auroran about having a reading frenzy when they receive the Aurora community newspaper. Now residents of Barrie, Marj and hubby Al were very active in community activities when residents of Our Town.

## Letter to the editor

# Lots of water needed to make summer ice

To the editor,

I am so amazed by the figure of 100,000 gallons of water a day for refrigeration to create an ice pad. I just keep thinking about it.

I made a few phone calls last week. The mayor had said how many litres of water will be saved by the region's water conservation drive. I didn't catch the figure.

Seems the region spent \$1.1 million distributing water saving gadgets. By June, 16 million litres of water will be saved

See how measurements can be used to make a point. If water is being used, the numbers are in gallons, being saved, the numbers are in litres. There are 4.5 litres in a gallon.

In litres, in July and August, it took just under half a million to feed the maw of the refrigeration at the complex.

Seems it was more before. We have added insulation and equipment to reduce the heat in the building and therefore the water requirement.

Last year, the drought was so bad the earth in my garden was still warm and dry in late October.

It was so dry in the summer, it prompted a fire official to publicly voice concern about the availability of water for fire protection.

Now I know I am often at odds with conventional thinking; what seems to me like common sense frequently causes a stir...like a cat among the pigeons.

But how could the administration believe that an ice surface during a heat wave is an essential service. We have two summer pads in Aurora. The one at the community centre uses very little water, but how much hydro, another resource said to be in short supply?

How many other refrigeration units in the region are greedily

sucking up water and energy in the summer?

I heard about a pond in Markham that evaporates and has to be filled every day.

The idea presented to council to re-use the water from the refrigeration unit is questionable.

A sum of \$175,000 is approved to be spent to provide a splash pad and irrigation in the park adjacent to the leisure complex.

The swimming pool is there. The park is in the flood plain. What does the conservation authority think about spilling out half a million litres a day into the flood plain?

The recreation director made the recommendation, but the treasurer has responsibility for final recommendation to council, and the chief administration officer also has responsibility and on top of that comes the council.

I had a question for the treasurer about new soccer fields included in the budget. My young friend Rebecca had done an analysis. We have x-numbers of bookable hours available on current pitches. Less than half are being used. Why do we need more pitches?

Answer: the fields at St. Andrew's and Magna are not ours. In the future, they may not be available to us. We should prepare for that eventuality.

There used to be a principle applied to taxation. Population is always shifting. People should not be taxed to pay for something they might not be here to use. Any surplus in a given year had to be applied to the next year's expenditures for the same reason.

The same principle applied to the function of debentures. A facility is built to serve the community for a considerable period of time.

Those who benefit should share in the cost. Debentures allow that to happen.

The treasurer told me there is a new blip on

the radar screen (my words). The province, in response to cries of pain from developers, has introduced a new act called the development charges act. Lot levies are now defunct.

Municipalities must justify the charges made. Analyses must be made of projects carried out in the previous ten years. The fewer projects, the less justification for new ones to serve new populations.

As well ten per cent of the cost of new projects must be discounted as the responsibility of not new residents.

It sounds like gobbledegook, because it is. But it came about because municipalities became ever greedier in their demands...it never was the developer who paid...it was always the new homebuyer.

A players' rule book is needed to catch the drift. I don't envy the treasurer's job of explaining and having

received an explanation. I can't just not pass it on.

It's like the cap on tax increases for industry and commerce that should have come about from the new assessment...the province has used a formula that will take between 70 and 80 years for industry and commerce to pay their full share...in the meantime...home owners carry the extra burden.

Time was when municipal clerks and treasurers were considered an invaluable resource to the province when new legislation was contemplated. Not any more. Things just get worse and another principle goes by the board...the principle that taxation must always be sufficiently transparent that every person being taxed can understand the whys and wherefores.

Evelyn Buck  
Aurora

...need answers?

- hundreds of thousands of books
- filed by author within category
- children's books new & used
- bring in your used books and we will give you a discount on your next used book purchase
- some new books still available

WELLINGTON EAST

MARY ST.

IND. PARKWAY S.

75 Mary Unit 3

N

R&R Revisited...the only used book store in Aurora  
905-727-3300

Philip Pettigrew  
CERTIFIED GENERAL ACCOUNTANT

Accounting  
Small Business Startups  
Financial Statements and Forecasts  
Accounting Software Setups and Training  
Corporate and Personal Tax Planning and Preparation  
Financial Planning  
Small Business and Management Advisory  
Accounting System Design and Implementation  
Quickbooks Pro Advisor

Value Beyond Numbers

Serving Small Business Clients  
in York Region Since 1991

(905) 841-5720  
Free Initial Consultation

Small Business Startup Consulting

Like a good neighbour,  
State Farm is there.

PETER VIRTANEN, CLU

220 Industrial Pkwy S. Unit 37  
(Across from Aurora Hydro)  
Aurora, ON

905-727-8400



State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company \* Canadian Head Office: Scarborough, Ontario



The British Painter  
Interior - Exterior

Professionally trained in Britain, The estimator is the painter. Fix all water damage, invisible drywall repair, insurance quotes, colour matching.

15% off January - March

\*FREE ESTIMATES\*

Call Iain 905-939-8889

# Review

## Laplante wows sellout crowd

By MARY JEANNE OLIVER

Piano Six has done it again.

This unique musical partnership provided Aurora with a very special musical experience by the name of Andre Laplante, one of Canada's top piano virtuosos.

Twenty years ago he won the silver medal at the Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition in Moscow, the Olympics of piano competitions with an audience of 70 million or so listening in the hall and on TV.

Since then he has travelled world-wide giving outstanding live performances. His recordings have won high critical praise.

Last week, Andre Laplante

played to a full house at Aurora's St. Andrew's College Memorial Chapel.

He opened his recital with the Adagio from the Busoni transcription of J.S. Bach's Organ Cantata. The arrangement is so organ-like, the bass so resonant and the effect so moving that the audience barely breathed when it was finished. There was no applause.

Laplante has gained a reputation as one of today's great Romantic virtuosos. The recital skirted around that musical period with music of Haydn and Beethoven.

He next performed Franz Joseph Haydn's last Sonata, written for the fortepiano, an early, two-keyboard version of the

pianoforte.

The articulation and clarity of the runs in the first movement, the lovely singing tone and long musical lines of the adagio held the group in breathless suspension, and the sparkling presto which gave a feeling of elation - this was a Haydn sonata which outshone those of the more familiar Mozart.

And then there was the impressionist, Maurice Ravel's three pieces from Miroirs: Noctuelles (Night Moths), fluttering, feathery fingering, tickling the keys, Oiseaux Tristes (Mournful Birds), an incredible pianissimo, an oppressive feeling of heat and melancholy, and Une Barque sur l'Océan, no calm sea, challenging arpeggios and changing

rhythms.

After intermission Laplante played Ludwig van Beethoven's Sonata Op. 81a, Les Adieux, written at the departure of a friend. The music depicts the emotions of farewell, absence and return in the three movements.

Again Laplante interpreted in the language of music the feelings which the composer had in mind.

Two jazz-influenced works by the Canadian composer Francois Morel ended the program with a lively jam session.

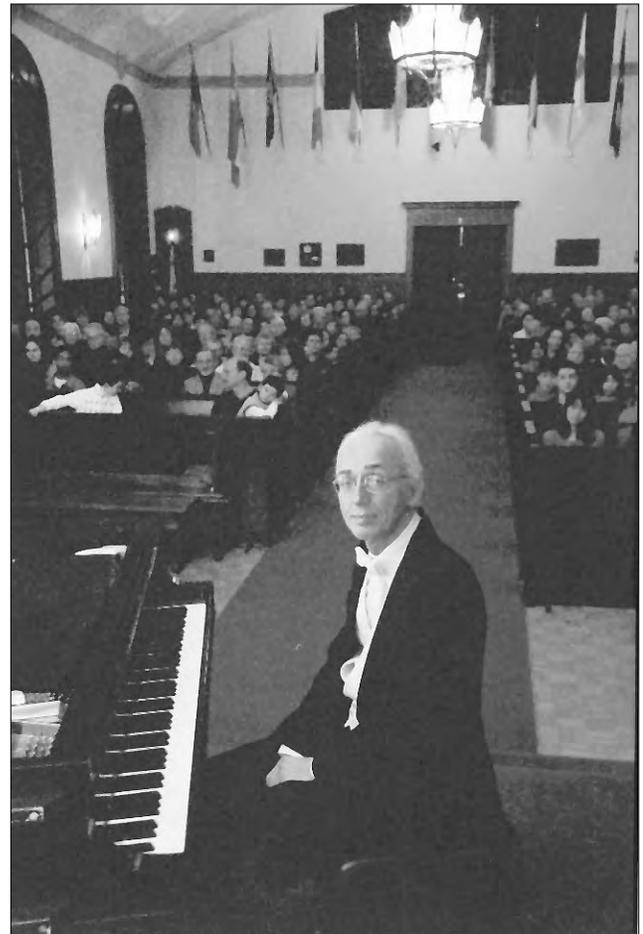
Can piano music get any more difficult than this? It was more than jazz. It was exhilaration and it brought the audience to its feet.

But he wasn't through. "Romantic" music in an encore was offered; Franz Liszt's Petrarch Sonnet no.104. Liszt, the pianist, has been called the archetype of the romantic virtuoso.

Laplante's visit included an informal talk to a large group of St. Andrew's students, illustrated with his playing. What do you ask a performer? Questions included, of course, "How many hours do you practise?" (six to eight a day), "How many pieces do you know by memory?" (Probably enough to fill a week or more.).

He also gave a generous two-hour masterclass Saturday morning to six fortunate students of local teachers. Over and over again he reminded students to "sing" the long line, navigate with the arm and body, not just the fingers, and learn to conduct the music.

To repeat the words, the adjectives, which seem so inadequate when confronted with such remarkable talent - Andre Laplante is the consummate artist, a pianist who can hold you breathless with his music, awed with his artistry and in the end exhausted with emotion.



### Maestro

Andre Laplante, one of Canada's top piano virtuosos, pauses during his highly successful performance given last week at Aurora's St. Andrew's College Memorial Chapel. Laplante played to a capacity crowd, held spellbound by his incredible music.

Auroran photo by Naomi Tobin

## Slowing the traffic major local concern

Trying to calm the traffic flow on residential streets is one of the major complaints received by Aurora Council from concerned, and often irate, citizens.

They demand lower speed limits, more stop signs at intersections, speed humps or anything that will slow down traffic to protect the children in the neighbourhood.

There is a tendency of all local government traffic planners to keep the traffic moving and anything that may interrupt it is frowned on.

Even if citizens are able to convince council members to adopt lower speed limits, more stop signs, etc. there is the problem of law enforcement.

Aurora Council has approved 40 km/hr speed limits on several residential streets, as requested.

Council has approved the installation of four-way stops at some intersections due to resident pressure, even though the intersection did not meet the established warrants.

This is done even though traffic studies reveal that four-way stop signs are not effective in slowing down traffic through residential neighbourhoods, as most motorists speed up between signs to make up for lost time.

Another concern expressed by residents is the number of extra-large transport trucks travelling up and down residential streets seeking short cuts to avoid traffic tie-ups on the major arteries.

Hundreds of taxpayer dollars have been spent erecting 40 km/hr speed limit signs, stop signs, no parking signs and signs restricting truck traffic, but to little or no avail, due to lack of law and bylaw enforcement.

In September, 1999, the

Aurora Traffic Safety Advisory Board recommended to council that \$16,000 to \$20,000 be approved to implement a Road Watch program with the funds to be used for promotion, education, signage and supply of forms for civilian use in reporting speeding or aggressive drivers.

A radar board was also acquired, which displays the speed of approaching vehicles. It is placed on residential streets at the request of residents.

A much better way to spend tax dollars and calm traffic is by changing the layout of residential streets.

Rather than long straight streets, which encourage speeding, consideration could be given to more circular streets, where cars are required to navigate around trees and other landscaping.

In some European cities, residential areas are treat-

ed as a "living yard" where the pedestrian has priority and cars are treated as guests.

It is reported that where traffic calming has been initiated, residents claim improvements in the quality of life with less noise, greater safety and cleaner air.

One of the negative aspects of traffic calming is that while the measures slow down traffic, they also slow down emergency vehicles.

In addition, unless the calming initiatives are implemented on all residential streets in a given area, traffic problems are merely diverted to nearby streets, as was found when speed humps were installed on Kennedy Street West.

As Aurora's traffic increases, unless well-planned traffic calming is put into place, problems and complaints will continue to grow.



**FREE ESTIMATES**

**Quality Painting Services**

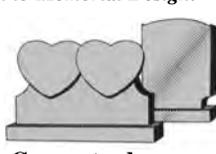
**905-853-7493**

**INTERIOR-EXTERIOR**

## MONUMENTS BY THOMPSONS

*A New Approach to Memorial Design.*

- \* Granite markers and monuments
- \* Cemetery lettering and restoration
- \* Bronze markers and vases
- \* Serving all cemeteries and nationalities
- \* Portrait Etchings



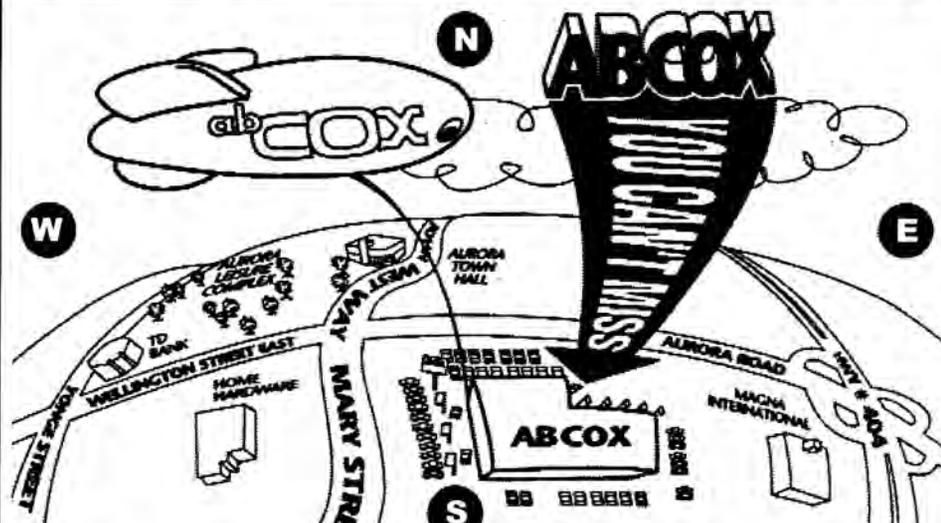
**Quality and Satisfaction Guaranteed**  
Day, Evening and Weekend Appointments

**905-727-5421**  
29 Victoria Street, Aurora L4G 1R1

Thompson Funeral Home is proud to be part of  
Service Corporation International (Canada) Ltd.

**SHIFT INTO HIGH!**

# AB COX ABSOLUTELY!



**Ab Cox Pontiac Buick GMC Ltd.**  
305 Wellington St. East, Aurora, Ontario L4G 6C3

**Tel: 905-841-2121 or 1-800-813-3539**

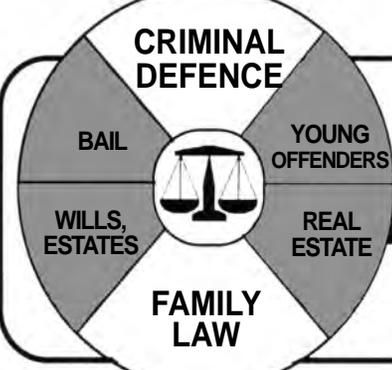
[www.abcoxpontiac.gmcanada.com](http://www.abcoxpontiac.gmcanada.com)

 **BUY NORTH AMERICAN**

Find Out What your Home is Worth On-Line visit:

[www.QuickOnlineEvaluation.com](http://www.QuickOnlineEvaluation.com)

ReMax Omega Realty (1988) Ltd.





**Susan E. Tucker**  
Lawyer & Notary Public  
905 727-7775

**Herbal Magic**  
 Systems International  
 Weight Management and Nutrition Centre  
 www.herbalmagic.ca  
 14799 Yonge Street, Unit #7 Aurora (Royal LePage Plaza) (905) 751-1676

**NEW OWNERSHIP SPECIAL**  
 50% OFF all weight Loss Programs

**Guaranteed Results**  
 Lose 2 to 7 lbs/week • Boost metabolism  
 • Increase energy • Decrease hunger  
 • Maintain your weight forever

Andrea lost 62 pounds and 82 inches  
 Sarah B., Radio Personality lost 25 pounds and 36 inches

# More Exciting Products & Services



**BOX OFFICE MOVIES**  
 is Aurora's Alternative

**\$2.50** Tuesdays & Wednesdays  
 on all new releases!

**2 NEW RELEASES ANYTIME**  
 \$5.00 + tax with this coupon...  
 Expires Mar. 31/03

**302 Wellington St. E** (in Tim Horton's Plaza)

**R&R Revisited**...the only used book store in Aurora  
 905-727-3300

**...need answers?**

- hundreds of thousands of books filed by author within category
- children's books new & used
- bring in your used books and we will give you a discount on your next used book purchase
- some new books still available

**75 Mary Unit 3**

**SHOP IN TOWN AT REC SPORTS**  
 We will match any competitor's sale price on identical product until Feb 28, 2003

**PRICELESS**

**I Love Sticks** We have some Hockey sticks on sale 2 for 1

**STORE HOURS:**  
 Mon to Fri 9:00 am - 8:00 pm  
 Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Ph: 905-841-5757 Pro Shop in ACC1 905-841-9060  
 Rec Cycle 'n' Sports • 15483 Yonge Street, Aurora (just north of Wellington - east side of Yonge)

**Top 10% Royal LePage Canada**

**Pazzi POPAT**  
 Sales Representative

**ROYAL LEPAGE**  
 YORK NORTH REALTY, BROKER

Tor: (905) 773-9595 Fax: (905) 836-6780  
 Email ipopat@trebnet.com

Save \$10.00 with this advertisement.

**Comspec SOLUTIONS**

**\$49.99**

**Winter Special 6 Point Tune-up!**

- Complete Virus Scan - Detection & Removal
- Registry and File Integrity Diagnostics
- Update to all Current Patches
- Fixes/Updates for O/S
- System Cleaning - Inside and Out
- Analysis and Recommendation of Upgrades
- Complete scan of Hard Drive for Any Bad Sectors

• New & Used Systems • Monitors & Notebook\* P2 Systems from \$200 • Monitors - from \$75 • Notebooks - from \$375

905 727-0224  
 Comspec Solutions  
 75 Mary Street Unit #9, Aurora

**THE BACKYARD POOL & SPA COMPANY LTD.**  
 \* POOLS \* SPAS \* CHEMICALS \* SERVICE

**Great Deals on in-stock HOT TUBS**

**Stephen Young & Don Smith**  
 75 Mary Street, Aurora (905) 713-2317

**Coleman Spas** **Infinite** **Softub**  
 "simple is better"

**BIGGS' GALLERY & FRAMING SHOP Ltd.**

**Specializing in:**

- Expert custom framing
- Fine Limited Edition Prints
- Unique wood turning

15165 Yonge St., Aurora 727-6308  
 1 1/2 blocks south of Wellington on east side  
 woodturn@biggsgallery.com  
 NEW TERRITORY-BLACK WOLF® by ROBERT BATEMAN

**IMPERIAL LIGHTING**

**100'S OF FIXTURES to choose from**

**New Arrivals Daily**

**Lowest Price Guaranteed**

We do repairs and carry a large selection of shades

15150 Yonge St. (across from the Aurora Library)  
**905-751-0636**

**Jungle Fever** amazing pets

**Bring in this ad and we'll pay the GST!**

**Come and visit AURORA'S GREATEST LITTLE PET STORE**

We carry a complete line of pet foods, including live & frozen feeders, customized habitats and other supplies.

Specializing in:

- exotic small mammals
- lizards
- spiders
- snakes
- hand-raised birds
- toy breed puppies

**905-727-3335**  
 14834 Yonge St. at Brookland Ave, (just north of the LCBO)



**Don FARNUM**  
ASSOCIATE BROKER

...17 years of  
award-winning  
results!

call today:  
(905) 727-3154

ROYAL LEPAGE  
Your Community Realty  
Independently Owned and Operated

"homesurfing" @ www.donfarnum.com

# Auroran Sports



**BRUCE CHAPPELL** **FRANK METE**  
For all of your vehicle needs, new and used

**HIGHLAND**

Chev Olds Cadillac

905-727-9444

## Tigers sweep Bramalea...ho hum

Perhaps the Bramalea Blues should have just mailed in their points.

The powerful Aurora Tigers Junior A hockey team made short work of the ninth-place division finishers, sending them to the golf course after the minimum four games.

Following two convincing wins in Aurora last week, the Tigers sallied over to Bramalea last week and put the final touches on the no-contest contenders.

Last Tuesday, Aurora won 6-2, then capped the series in four straight with an 8-2 win Friday night.

Tigers were looking to get an early jump on game four and did just that when Jordan Brenner started the ball rolling for Aurora on a goal set up by Matt Bahen and Corey Gault.

Both teams battled back and forth with the Tigers outshooting the Blues 15-8 during the first 20 minutes of play.

Aurora's Lance King got the start in goal and he picked up where Chris Whitley left off, making some key saves when called upon.

A beautiful shot from the point with only three seconds left in the period by Justin Olden gave Aurora a 2-0 lead.

Aurora maintained the pressure they had been applying to Bramalea throughout the second period, outshooting the Blues 18-10.

Bramalea closed the gap to 2-1 on a power play goal early in the period, but it was all Aurora after that.

Matt Christie scored a

power play goal to give the Tigers a 3-1 lead; Jordan Brenner added his second of the night, then Corey Gault, playing his first play-off game as a Tiger, boosted the score to 5-1.

With a fairly convincing lead going into the third period, the Tigers were looking to come away unscathed.

Will Wellman added two goals; Bramalea popped one on a power play goal, before Jordan Brenner finished off his great game scoring his third goal of the night.

Last Tuesday, the Tigers made their first trip to Bramalea to play game three of the best of seven against the Blues. In the four games, Aurora outscored their opponents 32-10.

With Chris Whitley getting the nod again between the pipes, Aurora came out flying, playing probably one of their best periods of hockey so far in the series.

Steve Mignardi got the Tigers on the board first and Sam Skwarchuk followed that up with a power play goal.

An unassisted marker from Derek Doucette, a nice shot from just inside the blue line, gave Aurora a convincing 3-0 lead after the first 20 minutes of play.

The second period seemed to be more evenly played between the two teams, with each adding a goal to the scoreboard.

Adrian Bennett's unassisted goal put Aurora four up before the Blues finally managed to get one past Whitley.

The third period was not one to write home about...it seemed Bramalea had made up its mind to take out their frustrations by fighting.

Three different bouts broke out throughout the period involving Travis Clock, Kyle Aitken and Will Wellman.

The first two fights included instigator penalties being assessed to Bramalea.

Jordan Brenner added to the Tiger lead and Jesse Olden had the prettiest goal of the night on a short-handed, unassisted effort.

Bramalea managed to get one more past Whitley on a puck that slipped between his pads and across the line.

Aurora now waits for the winner of the Collingwood/North York series, currently tied at 2-2.

Game one of the second round is tentatively scheduled to start this Friday, February 21 at the Aurora

Community Centre at 8 p.m.

BLU: Pileggi (Sweazey) 15.37  
AUR: Brenner (Whitehouse) 17.11

### GAME SUMMARIES

#### TIGERS 8 BLUES 2

#### 1st Period

AUR: Brenner (Bahen, Gault) 1.24  
AUR: Olden (Christie, Bahen) 19.57

#### 2nd Period

BLU: Wickett (Sweazey) 3.53  
AUR: Christie (Godfrey, Goheen) 6.02  
AUR: Brenner (Christie) 8.47  
AUR: Gault (Bahen) 18.12

#### 3rd Period

AUR: Wellman 1.58  
AUR: Wellman (Poole) 6.33

#### TIGERS 6 BLUES 2

#### 1st Period

AUR: Mignardi (Goheen, Skwarchuk) 7.23  
AUR: Skwarchuk (Goheen, Aitken) 11.59  
AUR: Doucette, 18.39

#### 2nd Period

AUR: Bennett 9.37  
BLU: Wickett (Harris) 17.47

#### 3rd Period

AUR: Brenner (Godfrey, Wellman) 5.36  
AUR: Olden 8.42  
BLU: Pileggi (Smith, Fiore) 14.28

## Winter carnivals then featured tree burning

With the second annual Arctic Adventure just ended, it's time to look at the history of winter carnivals in Aurora.

It all started Saturday, January 6, 1968, as a conclusion to Canada's Centennial Year in 1967.

It was Aurora's first Winter Carnival and featured a massive bonfire of discarded Christmas trees in the evening at the Town Park.

You'd never get away with such a thing today.

Other events included a beauty contest to select a Snow Queen, an ice sculpture contest and a torchlight parade from Church Street School.

The town's Centennial Committee, in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Committee, organized the event. It was the committee's hope the carnival would become an annual event.

In addition to the special events, the open-air ice rink in the Town Park was ablaze with coloured lights, and the Aurora Armoury was open for refreshments.

The Christmas trees had been picked up and piled high in the park for the giant bonfire, attended by the Aurora Fire Department to ensure safety.

Mayor Clarence Davis lit the fire as citizens watched the finale to a year of celebration.

The recreation committee also sponsored a series of horse-drawn sleigh rides in Fleury Park every Sunday in 1968.

The rides followed a course of about one and a

half miles around the park. They were so popular a second team had to be added.

The Christmas tree burning and open-air skating was repeated in 1969 in the Town Park with music, hot dogs and drinks and special events.

But the tree burning was still the highlight.

In 1970, the carnival expanded to two days in Fleury Park. In addition to the tree burning, there were several events, including snowmobile racing, and a tug-of-war between Newmarket and Aurora Councils. There was also a spaghetti-eating contest.

More than 1,000 citizens participated in skating, skiing, snowmobiling, log sawing, and sleigh-rides. Following the burning of the trees and the fireworks, there was a family dance in the Community Centre.

The expansion of the event was not popular with everyone. They said it had become too commercial and had lost the nostalgia of the Town Park. The big issue was the selling of \$2 toques by the recreation committee.

In 1971, the carnival expanded again to include a contest for the best decorated home in Aurora. There was a torchlight snowmobile parade and a public school essay contest.

More than 7,000 people participated in the three-day event.

But three days of activities was obviously too much as in 1972, the attendance dropped by 50 per cent,

causing some committee members to consider if the carnival should go back to a single day.

In 1973 and 1974 the winter event returned to the Town Park featuring a skating party, Christmas tree burning and fireworks. There were also skating races for the youngsters, and a donut-eating contest.

Space limitations in the Town Park for toboggan races, cross-country skiing, and snowmobile rides caused a move back to Fleury Park in 1975. It was also possible to hold a family dance in the Community Centre following the tree burning.

Attendance dropped in 1976 due to conflict with a Bantam hockey tournament. For those who did attend, it was still good fun as it was in 1977 and 1978.

Vandals spoiled the 1979 carnival as they lit the bonfire of Christmas trees prior to the scheduled date causing the cancellation of the traditional burning event for safety reasons.

Weather was the enemy in 1980 as the carnival was cancelled for the first time.

The annual bonfire was re-established in 1982, but the crowds were disappointing due to a winter blizzard. The carnival was cancelled once again in 1984, and that was the beginning of the end.

With new environmental restrictions, the burning of trees was banned and that finished Aurora's annual winter party.

It later returned as Winter FunFest, but it was never quite the same.



**TRY OUR CLASSES!**

In our martial art classes, we teach **LIFE SKILLS** - skills and **TRAITS CHILDREN NEED** to excel in school and in today's competitive world. **HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED:**

- + GOAL SETTING SKILLS
- + SELF DISCIPLINE
- + RESPECT FOR ADULTS
- + CONFIDENCE

In our martial art classes we can help develop these **SUCCESS** traits. **CALL us TODAY** to try our **FREE TRIAL PROGRAM** and see why so many professional educators recommend martial arts training.

**Watson's Family Karate School**  
40 Engelhard Dr., Unit #9  
Aurora 905-727-7144

**MMA**

**PARTNERED WITH H.E.R.S. FITNESS (905)726-9467**

## AURORA YOUTH SOCCER CLUB Wants YOU to come & play with us!



### SOCCER REGISTRATION



### SUMMER 2003 OUTDOOR SEASON

LOCATION: AURORA CANADIAN TIRE

DATE: Sat. February 22

TIME: 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

or

Register On-Line: [www.aysc.ca](http://www.aysc.ca)

**Register before March 1st  
to avoid late fee**

# Skating results

Following are the results of the Midway East Interclub competitions:

Pre-preliminary Ladies Freeskate: Fl 1; Amy Thompson 1st, and 2nd in final; Fl. 2; Maya Goldman 1st, and 1st in final.  
 Pre-preliminary Mens Freeskate: Caden Armstrong 2nd.  
 Preliminary Ladies Freeskate: Fl. 1 Jamie Stephenson 8th; Fl. 2; Meaghan Jones 3rd, and 2nd in final.  
 Jr. Bronze Ladies Freeskate: Fl. 1; Fayme Cockshutt 5th; Fl. 2; Michelle Wong 3rd, and 2nd in final.  
 Sr. Bronze Ladies Freeskate; Fl. 1; Lauren Cooper 1st and 1st in final; Fl. 2; Carolyn Armstrong 1st and 2nd in final.  
 Gold Ladies Freeskate: Brinlee Brown 3rd in final.  
 Introductory Interpretive Ladies: Tori Ellis 5th.  
 Pre-Juvenile Compulsory Dance: Emma Hayzelden and Tavish Armstrong 1st.  
 Preliminary Ladies Solo Dance: Fl.1; Jordana Goldman 3rd, and 5th in final; Fl. 2; Emma Slimkowich 1st, and 3rd in final.  
 Jr. Bronze Ladies Solo Dance: Fl.1; Maya Goldman 1st and 1st in final; Fl. 2; Jennine Brunton 2nd and 6th in final.  
 Senior Bronze Ladies Solo Dance: Fl. 1; Meaghan Jones 5th; Fl. 2; Amanda Jamieson 6th.  
 Jr. Silver Ladies Solo Dance: Fl. 1; Michelle Wong 2nd and 6th in final; Fl. 2; Sarah Gray 4th.  
 Senior Silver Ladies Solo Dance: Carolyn Armstrong 5th.

## FEBRUARY TEST DAY RESULTS

Preliminary Skills: Megan Gunning, Christina Relke, Emma Laverty, Emma Dillon.  
 Jr. Bronze Skills: Cierra Snell, Sara Deviney, Amy Bellefeuille.  
 Jr. Silver Skills: Emma Hayzelden, Fayme Cockshutt.  
 Preliminary Freeskate Part A: Lauren Bellefeuille.  
 Sr. Bronze Freeskate Part B: Michelle Wong, Sarah Gray.  
 Dutch Waltz: Nicole Calvert, Ashley Gibson, Kaitlin VanWinkle, Kayla Mete, Brianna Giovanni, Fera Kazemi, Alyssa Simon, Hailey McGrath.  
 Canasta: Madeline Damp.  
 Baby Blues: Melanie Althouse, Christina Kubiw-Kalashnik.  
 Swing: Amanda MacAskill, Nicole Relke, Nina Malek.  
 Fiesta: Avery Gagnon, Katie Sutton, Emily Jerome, Alanna Fabbicino.  
 Ten Fox: Jennine Brunton, Stephanie Fonceca, Emma Warburton, Lauren Bellefeuille, Adam Bushell.  
 14 Step: Mackensie Jordan, Adam Bushell, Stacey Haskell.  
 Keats Foxtrot: Amy Thompson, Jamie Stephenson.  
 Harris Tango: Jacqueline Miklovich, Tiffany Jordan, Fayme Cockshutt, Chelsea Kerr.  
 American Waltz: Chelsea Kerr.  
 Blues: Lauren Cooper, Terra Cioffe.  
 Paso: Michelle Wong, Tori Ellis.  
 Kilian: Christine MacCallum, Andrew Bushell.

## Jaguar Gymnastics



**REGISTER NOW FOR OUR WINTER SESSION**    **PLAN AHEAD! MARCH BREAK CAMPS AVAILABLE**

- Parent & Tot
- Recreational & Competitive
- Birthday Parties

*Parent and tot classes, recreational, special needs program, pre-competitive, competitive, adult programs, and birthday parties.*

905 841 7598    6 Vata Court, Unit 6 & 7 (off Edward) 2 blocks east of Yonge, AURORA

**BRING THE BUNCH!**



**FOR THE BEST SUNDAY BRUNCH IN YORK REGION**

**10 am 'til 2 pm**



**THE PURPLE PIG SMOKEHOUSE**

**155 Wellington St. E. Aurora (905) 713-OINK (6465)**

*Award Winning Baby Back Ribs*

**OVER 20 MAJOR RIBFEST AWARDS**

## Playoff action

These scenes during the brief four-game playoff series between the Aurora Tigers and the Bramalea Bulls are captured by team photographer Barry Bridgeford, and appear on the club's official website. Tigers handily eliminated the Blues from further Provincial Junior A hockey action, handing them four straight losses and outscoring them 32-10. Aurora is now awaiting the outcome of the series between North York and Collingwood, currently dead-locked at two games apiece. At this moment, it appears the first game of the second round will go this Friday night at the Aurora Community Centre at 8 p.m. Powerful Aurora team, which led the north division, and was second overall, is expected to push through to the finals and beyond in playoff action this season.

### Monday Night Hockey Feb. 10, 2003

TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
FPL Aggregates	12	5	2	66	55	26
Rec Cycle N' Sports	11	7	1	76	64	23
Home Hardware	10	8	1	96	80	21
Law Insurance Brokers	7	6	6	76	59	20
Tom & Jerry's	9	9	1	74	68	19
J.J. Barron Realty	7	11	1	59	71	15
Highland Chev-Olds-Geo-Cad	6	10	3	82	89	15
Masterclean Contracting	3	9	7	55	89	13

#### Results, February 10

Rec Sports 3	Tom & Jerry's 6
Barron Realty 1	Home Hardware 2
FPL Aggregates 3	Law Insurance 6
Masterclean 3	Highlands 2

## THOMPSON Funeral Home

29 Victoria St., Aurora  
 Phone 905-727-5421 \* Fax 905-727-0037

Directors:  
 Brent Forrester - Jacqueline Baak - Don Boswell - Gena Maher - Taylor Brown



www.dignitymemorial.com  
 ~ Cremation, Burial & Memorial Services  
 ~ Pre-Arranged Funeral Plans ~ Monuments, Markers & Inscriptions  
 ~ Affordable Cost Options  
 Proud to be part of Service Corporation International (Canada) Limited

## RUMOURS & RUMBLINGS

# He brought pasteurized milk to Aurora

Back in the late 1920s Lorne Cousins moved to Aurora from Vaughan.

He and his bother Archie purchased a dairy on Wellington Street East, which they later moved to Yonge Street, where the Trio Restaurant is now located.

Despite opposition from some local residents, Cousins Dairy introduced pasteurized milk to Aurora. In 1934, Lorne left the dairy business and purchased a 50-acre farm in what is now south Aurora. Archie carried on with the dairy and ice cream business.

Lorne, along with his son, Hugh, still living in the family home, built a fully automated chicken house, a building that drew many interested observers to Aurora.

He also loved horses and ponies and won many awards. At one point he operated a racetrack on his farm, located in the Cousins Drive/Cameron Avenue area. He died November 11, 1981 at age 90.

### AURORA'S LAST ROUNDUP

In May, 1976, after receiving citizen complaints about horseback riders, decked out in full riding habit, riding in Fleury Park, Councillor George Timpson decided to do something about it.

He told council members that the horses were tearing up the grass and the hoof-marks presented a danger to persons walking in the park. He requested a bylaw to ban horseback riding in the parks.

It was pointed out that such a bylaw would be difficult to enforce unless someone on horseback pursued the offender.

This caused Mayor Evelyn Buck to suggest the York Regional Police would ask for a mounted division to be

known as "Crawford's Cavalry" (after former Police Chief Bruce Crawford).

### AURORA MAKES THE NATIONAL ART SCENE

It was in November, 1968, when the Town of Aurora made the national art scene. Paintings from an Ontario Gallery of Art travelling exhibit were on display at Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School.

One of the paintings entitled "The Lovers" depicted the "entwined appendages of a naked male and female" by Joe Rosenthal.

After some parents complained that the painting was obscene, it was removed from the wall, creating comments across the nation.

The controversy was made worse by the late Bob Buchanan, editor of the local paper, who printed the picture and wrote that he saw nothing obscene about it, as he had seen worse on corn flake boxes.

### REGION REFUSES TO LOWER SPEED LIMIT

During the original planning for the reconstruction of Wellington Street East, an upgraded centre median had been included between Bayview Avenue and Leslie Street as a Gateway to Aurora at the request of Magna International.

But as no agreement had been reached by the time of construction, the median was grassed over.

Don't blame Magna. In 2001, company officials signed and delivered to York Region a commitment to contribute more than \$350,000 for improvements to the Wellington Street

median, on condition the posted speed for that section of Wellington Street be reduced from 70 to 60 km/hr in the interests of safety.

Regional officials refused to reduce the speed as requested claiming that people will travel at their natural speed regardless of the posted limit. Now you know why there is only a grassed median.

### WHEN LOCAL RADIO CAME TO THE AREA

In November, 1977, the CRTC held a hearing for a proposed AM radio station in the area, CKAN 1480. Aurora Mayor George Timpson supported the application.

The station hoped to be on the air by November, 1978, but the decision was delayed to give another applicant the opportunity to reapply.

DML Broadcasting Limited had applied previously for a license and had been refused on the basis the area did not need a radio station.

Another hearing was held June 12, 1978, and CKAN was awarded the license. Transmission towers were built in Oak Ridges just south of Bloomington Road and east of Yonge Street.

CKAN has long gone but the old station brings back many memories for Roy Green and Dick Illingworth.

They went on the air every Sunday at noon-hour for a half-hour live dialogue show called York-Simcoe Review. It never won any awards but it was a challenge and lots of fun.

For your information, the call letters of the station stood for Keswick-Aurora-Newmarket.

And if you followed the history of the station, as it bounced around from AM to FM, today you would be listening to Foxy 88.5.

# Condo building, plan still unresolved

### From page 1

December 17 decision when council reversed its previous decision and agreed to go to the OMB on consent.

He said the reason he was requesting that the decision be reopened was because some council members were confused about the implications of the December decision.

Chris Barnett, representing Lind, asked council members to make a decision at the meeting.

He referred to a discussion at the committee meeting about illegal

landfill by the previous owner and said that the conservation authority had confirmed there were no objections.

Councillor Evelina MacEachern moved the two-week deferral claiming there was no rush.

In response to a question Director of Planning Sue Seibert said a two-week delay would not present any planning problems.

MacEachern also asked that the December decision of council be reconsidered due to possible confusion, as pointed out by Nardi.

On a unanimous recorded vote it was

agreed to reconsider the December resolution this week.

Meanwhile, the general committee recommendation that the builder of the condominium building on Wellington Street East and the Industrial Parkway meet with staff to resolve the two outstanding issues in order that the condominium could be registered was also deferred.

At the committee meeting the applicant expressed urgency in proceeding with registration because of his financial circumstances.

He indicated that the building envelop audit

required by the building department was being prepared.

In a report to council, staff recommended the mayor and clerk be authorized to execute a site plan amendment agreement and subject to a satisfactory review of the building envelop audit and payment of required fees, the condominium agreement be signed.

Staff also noted that council could wait until the outstanding issues had been resolved to a greater degree rather than proceed at this time, which could affect the applicant's ability to complete the project.

In addition to the building envelope audit, the two outstanding issues were the rooftop garden and a screen around the parking lot.

Councillor MacEachern expressed concern about the lack of detail on the outstanding issues and suggested council adopt the staff option of waiting until more information was available.

In response to a question from Councillor Ron Wallace as to whether any drawings had been received, Planning Director Seibert replied they had arrived but staff had not reviewed them.

The building depart-

ment said it had not yet received the audit.

Councillor John West said that while he was concerned about the occupants who were paying rent rather than paying down their mortgage, once the condo was registered the owner could walk away.

He requested that action be deferred until all the information was received, to which council agreed.

# Trail Association gets Trillium grant

The Oak Ridges Trail Association (ORTA) has received a Trillium grant of \$33,500 to purchase trail maintenance equipment and provide safety training for volunteers who maintain the 200 kilometers of walking trail across the Oak Ridges Moraine.

Aurora plays a major role in the route of the trail.

Volunteers clear trails of underbrush and weeds, build walkway accesses through marshy areas, and erect stairs and handrails where needed.

The new equipment -

mowers, weed whackers, saws, and small hand tools will enable them to do the job more effectively and provide an enjoyable experience for all who visit the Oak Ridges Trail.

More than 2000 hikers and walkers use the trails year-round and it is groups of ORTA volunteers who maintain them through the local 'chapters' located in Aurora, Caledon, King, Whitchurch-Stouffville, Uxbridge, Scugog, Clarington, Hope-Hamilton, and

Northumberland.

"These funds will be put to good use for years to come and come at a crucial time when hiking is growing in popularity with people of all ages," said ORTA president, Harold Sellers.

ORTA is an incorporated, 800 member, not-for-profit organization that has been in existence since May, 1992.

The main objective of the Association is to develop and secure the Oak Ridges Trail as a recreational footpath across the moraine.



### AURORA'S BUSINESS SERVICE CENTRE

- Digital Colour
- Courier Service
- Laminating & Binding
- Fax Service
- We print brochures, flyers etc.

14845 Yonge St. Unit 6  
Aurora  
**905-713-1632**  
Fax: 905-713-1633  
mbe73@mbe.ca

**MAIL BOXES ETC.**



## Just for Her.



Discover



(Ultimate Bodysaping Course)

cardioKARATE

KICKBOXING FOR FUN AND FITNESS

Cardio Kickboxing, resistance training, heavy bag, Yoga, Nia and Tai Chi classes are available. There are no yearly fees and monthly memberships are available. Free introductory classes are offered. Join as low as \$55.00 a month. Seminars & workshops offered to inspire personal growth. Personal consultations available with trained counsellor, Angela Dacey with the Aurastar 2000 Biofeedback Imaging System. There are loads of classes and we're open 7 days a week. So come and see what we're all about!

A Wealth of good health is H.E.R.S.

HEALTH, ENERGY & RENEWAL SOLUTIONS

2 ORCHARD HEIGHTS BLVD. (ST. ANDREWS VILLAGE) UNIT 26

AURORA • 905-726-9467

PARTNERED WITH WATSON'S FAMILY KARATE SCHOOL - 905-727-7144

# Bullen, Chevelle were favourites at speedways

In a one-car garage on Victoria Street in Aurora cluttered with tires and spare parts back in 1970 was a stock car that was well known to stock car racing fans at Pinecrest Speedway and Sunset Speedway in Stroud.

It was a 1969 blue Chevelle with a black vinyl top.

Driver-owner was Fred Bullen, a five-year veteran of stock car racing, but his interest in cars and racing goes back long before that.

At the time he was service manager of a car dealership in Richmond Hill.

In 1958, he worked on Jim Hallahan's pit crew for super modified. At that time Hallahan was a well-known veteran Ontario driver.

Bullen's first stock car in 1963 was a Father's Day gift from his wife.

By 1970 he had gone through seven cars, building a new one each winter for the summer racing season.

Each of the cars had basically the same chassis, but the body was updated to maintain a

modern appearance and was equipped with a 350 cubic inch General Motors block.

With modifications, the engine produced more than 425 horsepower.

Bullen says it takes more than a good car and a good driver to win races as a good pit crew is essential.

In 1970 Bullen and his car No. 67 were in top spot in the O'Keefe Championship at Pinecrest Speedway.

He also ranked high among the drivers at Sunset Speedway.

By July, 1972, Bullen was driving a 1972 Chevelle.

At the Stroud Sunset Speedway he streaked past other cars to take first place in the super late model Labatt's 50 Spring Championship, a 50-lap grind.

For race lovers at Pinecrest or Sunset Speedways, Fred Bullen and Car No.67 were the team to watch.

Still involved with the Aurora Lions Club, Bullen now lives in King Township.



Deborah Egan, Executive Director of CHATS, left, receives a cheque from Karen Zorn, Sales Co-ordinator, and Mary Marchment, Treasurer of the Pine Tree Potters' Guild, as the guild's donation from their annual winter sale held in Aurora. The guild's next sale, slated for May 1 to 3, will offer proceeds to Hospice King-Aurora.

# Taxi history in Aurora

From page 1

Barber of the Aurora Taxi Company submitted an application to council for an increase in fares in Aurora.

He proposed that the rates be increased from 50 cents for a mile and 10 cents for each one-third of a mile, to 60 cents for a mile and 10 cents for each additional quarter-mile, the same rate as Newmarket.

Council referred the request to the finance committee and the town treasurer for a report.

By August, 1970, Aurora was without taxi service.

The owner of the cab company had disappeared without a trace and there were no offers to take over the service.

After being without the service for three weeks, Aurora residents would soon be able to select from one of three cab licence applications from firms in Newmarket, Thornhill and Lake Wilcox.

Aurora council voted to grant taxi operators' licences on condition they operate a dispatching office in Aurora, provide 24-hour service seven days a week, and maintain the same rate structure charged by the defunct Aurora Taxi Service.

The three firms were Harold Hutchinson who operated Andy's Taxi and Carson's Taxi in Newmarket; Gordon Beauchamp, owner of Village Taxi in Thornhill; and Merelyn Hebb of Lake Wilcox.

The licences were subject to the firms moving to an Aurora office within 30 days.

By June, 1975, Aurora was down to two companies and if anyone wanted a cab after midnight they were out of luck.

Business was so poor, council agreed to the midnight deadline for a three-

month trial period.

As there were no complaints from the public, the midnight deadline was approved in August, 1975, except on weekends when the deadline was extended to 2 a.m.

By April, 1978, Russ Hughes of York Taxi was the only firm providing service in Aurora.

With an application by Dave Smalley of Reliable Taxi of Newmarket to operate a service in Aurora, Hughes requested that council consider limiting the number of licences based on population.

In May, 1978, council rejected the application from Reliable Taxi claiming York Taxi was providing a service for the town's 14,000 citizens and further consideration should be given when the population increased to 18,000 or 19,000.

A year later, Hughes made an application to operate a limousine service in Aurora in conjunction with York Taxi.

But after learning of council's intention of encouraging competition in the taxi business, he expressed reservations about the limousine.

He told council that by limiting the number of companies, the town would ensure a cab company remains a profitable operation and provides good service.

In June, 1979, council received applications from four cab companies to operate in Aurora but reject-

ed them on the basis the eight cabs operated by York Taxi was sufficient for the town's population.

Due to pressure from cab operators and some members of council about Aurora allowing a taxi monopoly, council agreed to review its taxi policy.

The taxi debate continued into September, 1979, when council announced the monopoly would end in 1980.

A staff report recommended a policy of one cab per 1,500 population, and no one company could obtain more than two-thirds of the available licences.

In October, 1979, council accepted the application of Carl Bunn and Harvey Burling, both of Newmarket, to operate a second cab company to be called Aurora Taxi with two cars and three drivers.

They were selected over three other applications.

By 1981 Aurora Taxi, with three cabs, was back before council seeking two additional licences. While some members of council were in favour of granting the licences, the majority favoured maintaining the town's policy of restricting cabs to population.

In 1982 council approved a request from Hughes to relocate his office to Newmarket with dispatching to be shared with a Newmarket firm in order to keep the company viable.

During the summer of 1983, discussion centred around an application from

Clare Bolton to operate a limousine service in the municipality, which council rejected on a tie vote.

For a few years it was relatively quiet on the taxi scene in Aurora.

Then in March, 1988, after receiving complaints from citizens and both York and Aurora cab companies about the need to increase the number of licences to provide adequate services, council reduced the ratio to one cab per 1,000 population.

At that time there were a total of 18 cabs serving 24,500.

As a result, York Taxi sought three licences to add to the nine it already held.

Under the new ratio the maximum number of taxi licences available was increased to 26 in 1988, 28 in 1989 and 30 in 1990.

Since then even with the growth in population and improved public transit, the taxi scene is quiet. People and company names have changed, but cabs are readily available.

**UPHOLSTERY CLEANING**

**WINTER SPECIAL**  
Expires MARCH 31/03

**\$89**  
SOFA • CHAIR

- CARPET
- UPHOLSTERY
- LEATHER
- BLINDS

**905-726-8129**  
Quality work, prompt response.  
PJ'S CARPET CLEANING & RESTORATION

*Your upholstery needs a specialist's care!*

**SCHONBEK**

**Lighting Gallery**

**WINTER SALE**

13130 Yonge Street, Oak Ridges  
(across from McDonalds)  
905 773-9989

**GO AUTO SERVICES**

- BRAKES
- EXHAUST
- SUSPENSION
- TIRES
- TUNE UPS

**LUBE, OIL + FILTER**  
**\$26.95** (taxes & disposal fee extra)

- ✓ Install up to 5 litres of Pennzoil oil
- ✓ Install a new Purolator oil filter
- ✓ Lubricate grease fittings as required
- ✓ Lubricate door hinges and hood latch
- ✓ Perform a 21 point inspection

**EMMISSION TESTING**

**ONTARIO'S DRIVE CLEAN**

Accredited Test & Repair Facility  
Same day appointments

**905-841-0319**

**26 Allaura Blvd**  
(at back of building)  
Aurora

**HOME BUYERS:**  
**VIEW *HOT***  
**NEW LISTINGS**

visit:  
**www.ViewHotNewListings.com**

ReMax Omega Realty (1988) Ltd.



# Aurora Minor Hockey Association

## Results to 9 AM Sunday February 16, 2003

Website: [www.aci.on.ca/amha](http://www.aci.on.ca/amha)



### House League

#### League Games

##### Minor Pee wee

SKATERS FIRST 1 (Ian Hayzelden 1G Matthew Perdeaux 1A) COLL AUDIO & ACCURATE ELECTRICAL 1 (Steven Foss 1G Marshall McQuillan)

EUROPEAN STEEL 4 (David Staeuble 1G C.J. Melichercik 1G Brendan Forrest 1G Jamie Russell 1G Daniel Mulroy 1A Aaron Wochenmarkt 1A Johnathan Comeau 1A A. J. Ciccarelli 1A Braun Hause 1A) SHOPPERS DRUG MART -AURORA 1 (Jay Lamont 1G Conor Dellar 1A)

PERMANENT PRESS PRINTING 4 (Ryan Logue 1G 1A Ian Veloso 1G Taylor Buxton 1G Christopher Burns 1G Andrew Mueller 1A Matthew Symington 1A Daniel Filippi 1A) AURORA CANADIAN TIRE 1 (Michael Hay 1G)

EUROPEAN STEEL 5 (Johnathan Comeau 3G Jamie Russell 1G David Staeuble 1G John Merritt 1A Braun Hause 1A Nathan Miller 1A Jordan Brown 1A) AURORA CANADIAN TIRE 2 (Michael Hay 1G Tom Gibson 1G Benjamin Slimkovich 1A)

FRESH WATER INDUSTRIES BOTTLED WATER 4 (Jason Durst 1G Aaron Macdonald 1G 1A Ryan Hart 1G 1A Jordan Nolan 1G Michael Seymour 1A Adrian Clark 1A) COLL AUDIO & ACCURATE ELECTRICAL 1 (Marshall McQuillan 1G Brendon Harrington 1A)

PERMANENT PRESS PRINTING 7 (Michael Seymour 1G 1A Adrian Clark 2G 3A Ryan Hart 2G 1A Scott Denotter 1G Nizaam Rehman 1G 3A Kyle Ford 1A Ryan Laird 1A) SHOPPERS DRUG MART -AURORA 3 (Michael Renfer 2G Blair Nimmo 1G Michael Grande 1G Conor Dellar 2A Simon Esposito 1A Daniel Korolnek 1A)

FRESH WATER INDUSTRIES BOTTLED WATER 7 (Michael Seymour 1G,1A Adrian Clark 2G,3A Ryan Hart 2G,1A Scott Denotter 1G Nizaam Rehman 1G,3A Kyle Ford 1A Ryan Laird 1A) SHOPPERS DRUG MART - AURORA 4 (Michael Renfer 2G Blair Nimmo 1G Michael Grande 1G Conor Dellar 2A Simon Esposito 1A Daniel Korolnek 1A)

SKATERS FIRST 2 (Zacharie Roitner 1G Taylor Bryce 1G Jacob Peart 1A) AURORA CANADIAN TIRE 1 (Michael Hay 1G David Yates 1A)

PERMANENT PRESS PRINTING 7 (Scott Loney 1G,1A Ryan Logue 1G,1A Ian Veloso 2G,1A Casey Van Ry 1G Christopher Burns 1G,1A Andrew Wilkin 1G Jayson Rutledge 2A Matthew Symington 1A Taylor Buxton 1A) SHOPPERS DRUG MART - AURORA 3 (Michael Grande 25 Simon Esposito 1G)

##### Bantam

AURORA OPTICAL 5 (Chris Wheeler 1G,3A Mike Smyth 2G Rob Juffs 1G,1A Jesse Eikelund 1G Brock Sweeting 1A Spencer Perry 1A Andrew Rizzi 1A Jimmy Szydlowski SO) ASTECH 0

ASTECH 3 (Michael Paravano 2G, Dan Abram 1G, 1A, Richard Comeau 1A, Ryan Rozalowsky 1A) TWIST MARKETING 2 (Brad Finch 1G, Augustino Bova 1A, Troy Johnston 1A, Justin Darth 1A)

#### Playoff Games

##### Minor Midget

I.O.O.F. AURORA LODGE 148 - F.L.T. 3 (Adam Wood 2G,1A Mike Froio 1G,1A Robert Sotille 1A Danny Phair 1A Chris Moore 1A) ASA ALLOYS 2 (Ryan Comerford 1G Andrew MacDonald 1G Jamie Roberts 1A)

TILEMASTER 3 (Adam White 1G,1A Bob Haralampopoulos 1G Chad Coley 1G Patrick Collings 1A Jordan Moffitt 1A) DIA-

MOND GROUNDSKEEPING SERVICES LTD. 3 (Graham Gabel 1G,1A Paul Pirri 1G Joe Verdugo 1G Derek Smith 2A Carter Jensen 1A)

BETZ CUT STONE LTD. 4 (Andrew McGovern 2G,1A Will Johnston 1G,1A Mickey Sotoadeh 1G Cody Riddell 1A) CAA CENTRAL ONTARIO 2 (Drew Beal 1G Darren James 1G Ryan Gennaro 1A Daryl Clark 1A)

##### Midget

FIDELITY STAINLESS 4 (Ryan Myers 1G,1A Jesse Teel 1G Cam Fleming 1G David McKay 1G Ben Devlin 1A Dan Henderson 1A Mathew Swift 1A Fraser Bye 1A)

DGN MARKETING SERVICES LTD. 2 (Oscar Szydlowski 1G David Hamilton 1G Fraser Masters 1A Martin Wales 1A Kevin Lower 1A)

FIDELITY STAINLESS 2 (David McKay 2G Tony Gattalaro 1A Jesse Teel 1A Michael Granato 1A Steven McDonald 1A) ASA ALLOYS 2 (Steve Gould 1G Drew MacMartin 1G Victor Abrich 1A Mike Reynolds 1A Andrew 1A Andrew Searle 1A)

PHILADELPHIA STAINLESS 4 (Colin Gerrits 1G,1A Andrew Gillison 1G,2A Mike Sgro 1G Andrew Gerrits 2A Michele Dakin 1A Rory Mayne 1A Brandon Fyfe 1A) LOCKLEY STAINLESS 2 (Joe Gatt 2G Michael Bishop 1A Kevin Parry 1A Paul Aihoshi 1A Jesse Kervin 1A)

DGN MARKETING SERVICES LTD. 5 (Braden Simmonds 3G Kevin Lower 1G,1A Drew Hurlbut 1G,1A Oscar Szydlowski 1A Brian Wong 1A) AMERICAN STAINLESS 3 (Brad McCann 1G,1A Adam Saunders 1G Darren Hutz 1G Dan McCann 1A)

FIDELITY STAINLESS 3 (Ben Devlin 1G David McKay 1G Dan Henderson 1G Brandon Parsons 2A Tony Gattalaro 1A Michael Granato 1A TJ Keslick 1A Cam Fleming 1A) LAURION & ASSOCIATES 3 (Mathieu Fowles 2G Julien Laurion 1G Jeff Calder 2A Colin Hullah 2A Mackenzie Kemp 1A Jon Mondino 1A)

DGN MARKETING SERVICES LTD. 1 (Brian Wong 1G Ken Hurley 1A) LOCKLEY STAINLESS 0

PHILADELPHIA STAINLESS 2 (Sean Graham 1G,1A Britton Stanbury 1G Andrew Gillison 1A Andrew Gerrits 1A) ASA ALLOYS 2 (Adam Contis 1G Kevin Meek 1G Steve Gould 1A Julian Verity 1A)

MAGNA STAINLESS 4 (Steve Pendergast 3G Ian Harvie 1G Mike Gordon 1A Sean Roszell 1A Jon Peterkin 1A) LOCKLEY STAINLESS 1 (Ken McArdle 1G Candace Webb 1A Chris Hartley 1A)

DGN MARKETING SERVICES LTD. 5 (Drew Hurlbut 2G Braden Simmonds 1G,2A Adam Krichbaum 1G,2A Kevin Lower 1G Ken Hurley 1A Colin Dickie 2A Brian Wong 1A) LAURION & ASSOCIATES 2 (Colin Hullah 1G Jon Mondino 1G Mackenzie 1A Julien Laurion 1A)

FIDELITY STAINLESS 5 (Tony Gattalaro 1G Michael Granato 1G,1A TJ Keslick 1G Jesse Teel 1G Dan Henderson 1G Michael King 1A David McKay 2A Scott Bennett 1A) AMERICAN STAINLESS 3 (Kyle Steeves 1G Andrew Carlson 1G Adam Saunders 1G Bryan Rowe 1A Ryan McBride 1A Mike McKenzie 1A)

MAGNA STAINLESS 7 (Darryl Gallagher 2G Scott Thompson 1G,1A Matt Tobin 1G,2A Trevor McNeely 1G,1A Steve Pendergast 1G Ian Harvie 1G,1A Dan Courneya 1A Mike Falcioni 3A John Parkhill 1A) ASA ALLOYS 2 (Tyler Forget 1G,1A Adam Contis 1G)

### Select Teams

Sponsors	
<b>Tyke</b>	Telus Sewin Love
<b>Minor Novice</b>	O'Hara Technologies Joriki Juice
<b>Minor Atom</b>	Arthur Andersen Aecon Buildings
<b>Minor Pee wee</b>	Bates Healthworld Duckworth Insurance & Financial Services
<b>Minor Bantam</b>	Four Star Metal Finishing Centrinity

#### League Games

##### Tyke (5) vs Barrie (5)

Quinn McGowan 1G,1A Trevor George 1G Kiefer  
McIntosh 2G Burke White 1G Liam Killops 3A Jerryd Jensen 1A Eric Archibald 1A Kevin Casey 1A

##### Minor Atom (3) vs Vaughan (0)

Evan Carlisle SO Tyler Jensen 1G,1A Matthew Miller 1G,1A Kamran Karamchi 1G,1A

##### Minor Atom (3) vs Unionville (0)

Tyler Jensen 1G,1A Kamran Karamchi 1G,1A Matthew Miller 1G Nicholas Silverio 1A

##### Minor Pee wee (1) vs East Gwillimbury (0)

Matthew Scrimmes 1G Curtis Hough 1A Josh Bentolila SO

### Rep Teams

Sponsors	
<b>Minor Novice A</b>	Hot Tamales Charley FitzWhiskey's Tap Eatery
<b>Minor Novice AA</b>	London Guarantee Insurance Co Aurora Custom Moulding
<b>Novice A</b>	Midas - Concord F&M Windows & Doors
<b>Novice AA</b>	Gringler, Iskov, Lerner, CAs H.A. McLean Travel Inc
<b>Minor Atom A</b>	ASTECH SOLUTIONS
<b>Minor Atom AA</b>	Harvey's Oakridges Jade Acoustics
<b>Atom A</b>	United Windows & Doors TD Securities
<b>Atom AE</b>	Law Insurance Marshall, Macklin & Monaghan
<b>Minor Pee wee AA</b>	Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd Fitness Edge
<b>Pee wee AE</b>	Gallaugher Contracting Viking Fire Protection
<b>Pee wee A</b>	Aecon Andersen
<b>Pee wee AA</b>	
<b>Minor Bantam A</b>	Tesma International Motorola Canada Ty Canada
<b>Minor Bantam AA</b>	Greyfield Construction Nutech Security Systems
<b>Bantam AA</b>	groupmarketing systems.com
<b>Midget AA</b>	B&M Produce Summers & Smith Heating & Cooling

#### Playoff Games

##### Minor Atom A (1) vs East Gwillimbury (4)

Steadman Dinning 1G Matthew Mears 1A Patrick Jones 1A

##### Minor Atom A (2) vs East Gwillimbury (3)

Steadman Dinning 1G Stephen DeMarco 1G Matthew Mears 1A Eleeza Cox 1A Jamie Hawkins 1A

##### Minor Atom A (4) vs East Gwillimbury (0)

Steadman Dinning 1G Jamie Hawkins 1G,1A Stephen DeMarco 1G Eleeza Cox 1G,1A Spencer George 1A Daniel Howie SO

##### Atom A (4) vs Innisfil (2)

Dylan Cross 1G,1A Geoff Gianopoulos 1G Paul Keilty 1G Justin Brown 1G,1A Evan

Casselden 1A Michael Delplavignano 1A Ryan Jones 1A Louis Lamanna 1A

##### Atom AA (4) vs Georgina (3)

Kevin Zacharuk 2G,1A Dillon Cappell 1G Andrew Whitley 1G Luke MacLeod 2A Kyle Murphy 1A Stephen Dinallo 1A

##### Atom AA (2) vs Georgina (0)

Kevin Zacharuk 1G Jordan Tripp 1G Dillon Cappell 1A Stephen Dinallo 1A Sean Ellison 1A Luke Macleod 1A Scott Smyth SO

##### Atom AA (3) vs Belleville (2)

Michael McGolrick 1G,1A Matthew Pellegrini 2A Matthew Semeredy 1G Andrew McKay 1G Darcy Eveleigh 1A Conor Sheridan 1A

##### Atom AA (1) vs Markham (2)

Dillon Cappell 1G Jordan Tripp 1A Luke MacLeod 1A

##### Minor Pee wee A (2) vs TNT (3)

Loss in overtime Anthony Ranieri 1G,1A Carter Hassard 1G Andrew McDonald 1A Brett Dutchyshen 1A Trevor McCartney 1A

##### Pee wee AE (1) vs TNT (6)

Darrell Evans 1G

##### Bantam AE (3) vs Newmarket (1)

Mike Bentley 1G Sean Fodey 1G,1A Brandon Polsinello 1G Mike Parkhill 1A

##### Bantam AE (4) vs Newmarket (1)

Matt Kerr 1G Scott Daly 1G Brent Gallaugher 1G Mike Bentley 1G,1A Mark Short 1A Derek Lynham 1A. Aurora wins series 3 games to 0.

##### Minor Midget A (6) vs Markham (2)

Ryan Kines 2G,1A Jason Zemanovich 1G,2A Chris Statchuk 3A Matt Bloom 1G,1A Adam White 1G,1A Reed Neagle 1G Ryan Murphy 1A Matt Cundari 1A

##### Minor Midget AA (4) vs Newmarket (1)

Shawn Beer 2G Kyle Robinson 1G Matt Cleverdon 1G Ryan Bryce 1A David Martyn 1A David DelZotto 1A Daryl Osborne 1A Clinton McCullough 1A Tommy Hurley 1A Shawn Gwilliam 1A

##### Midget A (8) vs Orillia (2)

Ryan Angotti 1G,3A Steve Black 2G Adam Chale 1G,1A Mark Johnson 1G Chris Amato 2G,2A Gary Domanico 1G,1A Jason Lupo 2A Alex Lekkas 1A Mark Jarman 2A Sam Battaglia 1A James Morgan 1A Sean McCartney 1A

##### Midget AA (6) vs Pickering (5)

Mike Keon 4G Scott Hurst 3A Joey Leo 1G,1A Mark Scriver 1G Mark Smith 2A Will Porteous 1A

#### Tournaments

##### Bantam AA (5) vs Burlington (0)

Nolan Rundle 1G Taylor Campbell 1G,1A Peter McNeil 1G, Cal Simmonds 1G,1A Adam Hankins 1G,1A Brandon Steffan 1A Vincent Davenport 1A Michael White 1A

##### Bantam AA (6) vs Capitol Crusaders (4)

Sean Mulroy 2G Adam Hankins 2G Peter McNeil 1G Cal Simmonds 1G Taylor Campbell 2A Taylor Dinner 1A Patrick Bowie 1A Brandon Steffan 1A Derek Meyers 1A

##### Bantam AA (2) vs New Hartford (2)

Nolan Rundle 1G Cal Simmonds 1G Vincent Davenport 1A Peter McNeil 1A Michael White 1A

### AMHA Information

#### AMHA 12th Annual TV Auction

The 12th annual AMHA TV Auction will be held from Noon to 8 PM on Aurora Cable 10 on Saturday February 22nd. For a complete list of the auction items please see the AMHA web site.



# Precious Jewellery Appraisal

## Knappett's Gem Laboratory

**There are two major reasons for acquiring an appraisal: insurance purposes and estate settlement.**  
These are two very different procedures, so the value placed on each item will vary.

An appraisal for insurance purposes takes into consideration the current market prices, costs of labour, material & creative design. The price arrived at is a replacement value for like kind and quality. Estate appraisals reflect the current market value of the items in their present condition and do not represent the replacement value of similar merchandise.

### **What is worth appraising?**

Generally items that are gold and have genuine stones are worth appraising. Our staff at Knappett Jewellers will assist you with determining which items are of value to appraise.

An appraisal is also required in a number of other situations such as divorce settlement, customs declaration, and museum donation.

### **Time required for an appraisal?**

You should allow a few days for an appraisal, the more items you have the longer it would take. We will always try to accommodate your needs.

If you foresee a need for any of these uses, please feel free to call or drop by our store.

Knappett's is one of the select jewellery firms that has been granted the status of an **Accredited Gem Laboratory** of the American Gem Society. It is your assurance of the reliability and capability of this firm.

### Store Hours:

9:30 - 5:30 M - F  
9:30 - 5:00 Sat.

**Appraisals & Repairs are done on the premises**

**Knappett Jewellery**  
Established 1971

**Dedicated to Proven Ethics, Knowledge and Consumer Protection Since 1971**

219 Main Street, Newmarket, Ontario

Telephone (905) 895-8057

