



## Priestly Demolition carries on following building collapse

By **RON WALLACE**  
Exclusive to the **Auroran**  
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Friday night, Vic Priestly hosted his company Christmas party. Saturday night, he watched Priestly Demolition Inc. demolish a bridge.

"These are difficult and sad times," he said. "but you have to keep moving ahead."

Vic Priestly was sitting in his second-floor Berczy Street, Aurora, office Friday afternoon. The phone rang constantly.

He was taking calls about last Monday morning, when one of the province's largest demolition companies suddenly became the centre of attention.

"I was standing on a building with my son Ryan (president of Priestly Demolition) in the east end of the city, thinking what a beautiful day it was, and how well the morning was going, when my cell phone rang," he recalled.

In a flash, everything had changed.



**Vic Priestly**

It was the foreman overseeing a demolition project in downtown Toronto. He had already called 911. Now he was calling Vic.

Never had Vic Priestly received such a phone call.

"Nothing even close to this has ever happened before," he said.

Vic listened as his foreman recited the events.

The crew was proceeding with the dismantling of the historic Uptown Theatre building in the Yonge-Bloor area.

Without warning, the building collapsed, sending a wall crashing into an adjacent building. The

Please see page 23



### Two-time winner

For the second time in three years, Joanne and Jim Bell, at 40 Albery Court, have won the Aurora Christmas light contest. As is evident in the photo, their house and grounds are alive with light and Christmas decorations. Judging was carried out last Wednesday night. Other winners, in order, were Mary & Bruno Carbone, 184 Treegrove Circle; Ian & Mirja Billsborough, 82 Charing Crescent; 4. Abbegail & Jeremy Milani, 67 Steckley Street (last year's winners); Mark & Darlene Aube, 15 Spruce Street; Tom & Shirley Minhinnick, 38 Monkman Court; Rick & Debbie Sadowski, 62 Owl's Foot Crescent; Bill & Marilyn Queen, 125 Deerglen Terrace; Vicki & Jim Yaeck, 9 Murdock Avenue; and Natalie & Joel Rabouin, 9 Snedden Avenue. Sponsors included Canadian Tire Aurora, Aurora Home Hardware Centre, and Howard Johnson's Hotel. They provided gift certificates to the winners.

*Auroran photo by Ron Wallace*

### Briefly

#### Vacation time

In order to give the staff a well-deserved break, the Auroran will not publish for the next two weeks. Look for us again January 6, 2004.

#### Christmas drink

Well, yes and no.

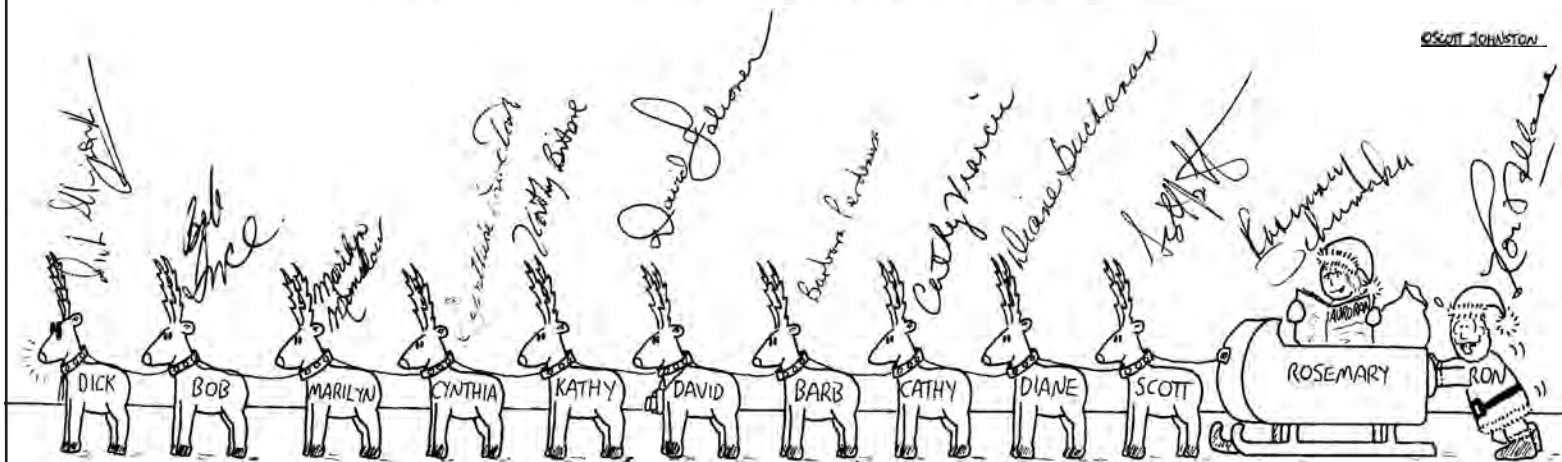
GO Transit train commuters may enjoy a free coffee before they head downtown this Friday, Dec. 19, courtesy of Baldwin's Restaurant.

Staff at the restaurant right across the tracks from the station will be up before 6 a.m. that day to offer the eye-opening beverage to commuters on all southbound trains.

Strictly coffee, though.

## Merry Christmas

### from the gang at *Auroran*



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## COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

### CONTINUING

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

\*\*\*\*\*

Queen's York Rangers Army Cadet Corps camping, canoeing, first aid, orienteering in two to six week camps for males & females 12 to 18. Call 905-726-8600.

\*\*\*\*\*

Co-Dependents Anonymous, every Tuesday, Aurora United Church, 15186 Yonge Street, Aurora. 7.30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

Until April 15th winter on-street parking restrictions in effect to enable snow plowing crews to clear the roadways.

\*\*\*\*\*

During the month of December, the Skylight Gallery features the artwork of Heather Kertzer-Breslin. Regular viewing hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

### DECEMBER 19

Trinity Anglican Church 12th annual Town Carol Sing at the Town Park 7 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

Aurora Legion Christmas Turkey Luncheon. Tickets sold in advance only, at the branch until December 16, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

### DECEMBER 20

York Symphony Orchestra annual holiday concert. Two performances, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Trinity Anglican Church. For tickets, call 416-410-0860.

\*\*\*\*\*

Aurora Legion Adult Christmas Party, 8 p.m.

### DECEMBER 25

Merry Christmas, everyone!

### DECEMBER 28

Aurora Legion Progressive Euchre Tournament. Register at 12:30 p.m., play at 1 p.m.

### DECEMBER 31

Annual Family First Night. Leisure Complex, 6 to 9 p.m. Free skating, swimming. Sleigh rides, bonfire, children's crafts, entertainment. For more information, call 905-727-3123, ext. 530.

### JANUARY 1

Happy New Year.

### JANUARY 2

Splash Bash at the Aurora Leisure Complex from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Admission is \$6 each or \$10 for a family. Continues on the first Friday of each month.

### JANUARY 6

Pine Tree Potters' Guild offers pottery classes in their Aurora studio. Sculpture (adult) begins today. Handbuilding (adult) Jan. 14; Wheel (adult) Jan. 15 or Feb 14; Teen Handbuilding Jan. 16; Teen Wheel, Feb. 13. Call Kathryn for adult classes: (905) 727-1258;

Linda for teen classes: (705) 357-3047.

to register online.

### JANUARY 13

The Aurora library, partnering with York Region Health Services, presents "Asthma And Children", a one-hour workshop. 7 p.m., Lebovic Room. Pre-register at the adult information desk or call 905-727-9493.

### JANUARY 18

The Alzheimer Society of York Region will launch its first Walk for Memories event, as a fundraiser to help support programs and services to people suffering from Alzheimer disease and their families. For more information and a pledge sheet call the Society at 905-895-1337.

### JANUARY 21

The Aurora Public Library and Aurora Cable Internet team up to teach computer viruses and the Norton Anti-Virus software solution with its advantages and disadvantages. Lebovic Room 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. To reserve call 727-9493 or visit [www.aci.on.ca](http://www.aci.on.ca)

### FEBRUARY 18

Fizzical Fizzicks, a show on motion, will be presented by the Parents Without Partners Pine Ridge Chapter at Aurora High School at 7 p.m. For further information and tickets, call 1-800-419-7383. All seats \$9.

- With files from Info Aurora

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Joyce and Sean Herbinson toast the season at the annual Aurora Chamber of Commerce Holiday Open House held last week at Oakview Terrace on Leslie Street. More than 100 members and guests attended the event.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

# Burning Christmas candles worries fire department staff

There seems to be a trend back to using real, live, lit, dangerous candles as part of home Christmas decorations, and it worries officials of the Central York Fire Services.

Fire Prevention Officer John Adema told the Auroran he attended a holiday safety campaign in the city last week designed "to snuff out deadly candle fires".

"Fires caused by candles are definitely on the rise across Ontario," he said. "While we are seeing a gradual decrease in virtually every other type of

fire, candle fires are a growing problem."

Biggest concern, Adema noted, is the fact people leave candles unattended.

"It's the number one cause of candle fires."

Adema advised that candles should be kept out of the reach of children or pets, and away from anything that can burn.

"It's also a good idea to put a glass chimney over the candles," he said.

From 1995 to 2001, candle fires in Ontario increased by 47 per cent.

During that period, there were 2,004 reported can-

dle fires, resulting in 315 injuries and 22 fatalities.

By comparison, during the same period, fires caused by cooking decreased by 41 per cent.

# Workers tied up in KFC robbery

Two employees were tied up with duct tape last week after a man robbed Aurora's Kentucky Fried Chicken store on Yonge Street.

York Regional Police said a 20-year-old male employee was at the rear of the store taking out garbage, about 10.30 p.m. Thursday when he was approached by an unknown male suspect armed with a handgun.

The man, wearing a ski mask, pushed the employee back into the store at gunpoint where the manager, a 36-year-old Bradford woman, was forced to open the safe.

Both were tied up with duct tape and placed in a wash-room.

The suspect removed an unknown quantity of cash from the safe and was last seen fleeing out the rear door of the business.

No one was hurt.

Police are looking for a male, about 6 feet tall.

Anyone with information is asked to call the York Regional Police Hold-Up Squad at 905-773-1221, ext. 7873 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Susan Talbot

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**Friday December 26th..... Birthday Party**  
**Friday January 2nd..... New Year's Party**

**7:30-9:30 p.m. The Aurora Lions Hall**  
**Prizes: Ventura Vending-Sound City-Silver City**

**HOT SPOT is CLOSED December 19th**





## *Aurora Boys' Band*

This photograph, taken in 1937, in front of the Mechanic's Hall stage (today the building is owned by the Aurora Lions Club at Mosley and Victoria) shows the Aurora Boys' Band, before they got their uniforms. The photograph comes from Jim Willis, who currently resides in Wasaga Beach. He has provided the identifications and in some cases has used only nicknames because, as he says, "being one of the squirts, I only know some of the older ones in that fashion". That said, the players are, back row, left to right, "Rooster" Anderson, Bill Thompson, Harold Oliver, Raymond Cook, Anson Gilbert, Harry Spragg, Jim McGhee, Howard Pattendon, "Scotty" McGhee, Fed Pugsley, Bill Williams, Craig McKenzie, Bill Knowles, Ken Jones and Perry King. Front row, left to right, Eric Bilbrough, Harold Foote, Jim Willis, Walter Bunn, Garfield Doolittle, ? Cuthbertson, Mayor Charles Boulding, Bandmaster Robert Moore, Harold Milgate, Gordon Lee, Bill Babcock, Charlie Williams, and Bruce Heise. Two more photographs submitted by Mr. Willis will appear in January.



### **Poor Richard**

*To be home for Christmas,  
Is a dream we all pray;  
To be away and very lonely,  
Is not the Christmas way!*

*-Poor Richard's Scrapbook*

Christmas is very much a family time, as members from far and wide make every effort to be home for Christmas.

There's a magic about Christmas when the family is together, enjoying the warmth of the family and charging your batteries for the year ahead.

A lot of people can't get home for Christmas, especially members of the Canadian Armed Forces on peacekeeping missions in foreign lands.

Even though you may be with buddies, it's very lonely and miserable to be away from home and family at Christmas.

I have sympathy for them as I have some knowledge of their thoughts and feelings and the experience of being alone at Christmas for the first time during the winter of 1943.

On November 13, 1943, on graduation from #1 Air Observer School at Malton as an Air Navigator I was posted to the RAF Ferry Command based at Dorval, Quebec, on the outskirts of Montreal.

After a brief training session about flying across the North Atlantic, including what was called a "dry swim", I was off with Flight Lieutenant Mark Rusiecki, a Polish pilot in Mitchell or B-25 FR 198, for my first flight across the Atlantic Ocean.

We departed Dorval for the 4 hour and 40 minute flight to Goose Bay, Labrador, December 4, 1943.

At that time there wasn't a topographical or map-reading map of Northern Quebec, so it was navigation by guess and by God.

As we came close to my estimated time of arrival (ETA) at Goose Bay I climbed into the co-pilot seat to see the snow covered landscape without any sight of the airport.

I went back to my navigation table to check my mathematics when I got the thumbs up signal from Mark. There was Goose Bay straight ahead and I was a couple of min-

### **Home for the holidays; it's the only place to be**

utes out on my ETA.

The weather turned bad, but one crew decided to proceed on December 5th but went missing shortly after take-off.

It was December 8th before we could take off to search and after 5 hours and 30 minutes in the air flying low level over the Melee Mountains found nothing.

Finally on December 15th, we took off for the 4 hour and 45 minute flight to Bluie West #1 an American base located about 50 miles up a narrow fjord, in south Greenland.

We took off the next day for Iceland but were recalled after 2 hours and 15 minutes in the air due to deteriorating weather conditions in Iceland.

We were more successful on December 18th when we landed at Meek's Field, an American base in western Iceland after a five-hour flight.

Our last leg was on December 20th, which was a 4 hour and 30 minute flight to Prestwick, Scotland, and handed over the plane after 26 hours and 40 minutes in the air.

It was so good to be back on solid ground and I was looking forward to seeing a little bit of Scotland, but that was not to be as we were bussed to Greenock to board the Aquitania for the voyage to New York.

We set sail on December 22nd and spent a very lonely Christmas on board.

The crew did everything possible to cheer up the returning soldiers, sailors and airmen by serving a turkey dinner, but it was of little help.

Although there were about 800 passengers on board, we were all strangers and sat in our lonely corner thinking of loved ones at home.

We docked in New York on December 30th and planned to celebrate New Year's Eve at Times Square but that was not to be as a special train was waiting at the dock to whisk the returning aircrew back to Montreal for the next delivery.

I had a few days leave and spent New Year's Eve on the overnight train from Montreal to Toronto for a visit home.

There were other Christmases spent in different parts of the world, but I'll always remember that first Christmas away from home. Have a Happy Holiday at Home!

### *Letter*

#### **Students super**

To the editor,

Aurora can be very proud of its young people.

Our group, "HAPPINESS IS---", performs in nursing homes every other month.

In November, we had 14 students from the Aurora High School and one from Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School, join us for the evening. They performed excerpts from Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" which included well choreographed sword fights.

These students had been rehearsing after school on their own. They then gave up their Friday evening to perform.

Students taking part were Lindsay Tanner, who prepared the excerpts, directed the play and also helped with the sword fight action, and actors Kieron Boyko, Nicholas Burke, Matt Cameron, Kiel Carmody, Ryan Cunneyworth, who also played the bag pipes for an Irish reel, Katerina Georgina, Ashlea Jane, Alex Maine, Lauren Nisbet, Sebashan Plaprat, Sydney Purchase, Kristen Skidmore, and Emily Wood.

From Williams, Katy Whitehurst sang two solos and joined in a comedy duet.

It is a special treat for seniors to see and appreciate their young people who come and share their talents with them.

**Hildy Lindsay  
Aurora**

## **AURORAN**

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Mayor's Report  
By Tim Jones

Council seems to be  
off to a good start

Many thanks to all who came out to the Town Hall or watched the 2003-2006 Council Inauguration on Aurora Cable Internet last Tuesday, Dec. 2.

It did not take long for your new council to get together for an orientation and brief review of the status of being a member of council and the responsibilities that go along with that assignment.

Members arrived at the Town Hall Saturday, Dec. 6th to review a well prepared binder that our Chief Administrative Officer had prepared with input from our department heads.

The C.A.O. reviewed several pertinent topics including:

- " the duties and responsibilities of a councillor and ways councillors should communicate with staff
- " council remuneration
- " clerical staff support
- " our code of ethics
- " a draft calendar of council meetings for 2004 (committee meetings have yet to be determined)
- " general legal issues that members should be aware of, i.e. conflict of interest, insurance, closed meeting regulations
- " And a long list of outstanding corporate issues that council will be addressing over the next number of months.

Each department head reviewed the status of issues that were ongoing within their departmental mandate.

Implementing our new economic development strategy; dealing with our housing permit demand; secondary housing units; a new fire hall; emergency planning; our new recreation centre and seniors centre; activity in Library Square; partnerships; the disposition of our Leslie Street property; our Leisure Services pricing policy and fees and services charges; our Urban Wildlife Park; the follow up of the five-year review of our Official Plan; our Oak Ridges Moraine conformity completion; Ontario Municipal Board matters; a large commercial development at the 404 and Wellington; servicing allocation; traffic management; infrastructure maintenance service levels and replacement planning; solid waste management; current value assessment status; development charges; financial systems upgrade; and municipal performance measures and report card.

The Director of Finance led us through a first look at the 2004 budget projections.

Council agreed to get back together Saturday, January 17 for a more in-depth look at the budget in a public meeting at the Town Hall.

Council also reviewed a number of scenarios in regard to committee structure to look at ways to make our meetings more effective and to facilitate public input while at the same time trying to minimize the number of meetings and to try to avoid duplication of discussion.

As you may appreciate, this is a lot of information to try to cover, and then, in some cases, be in a position to identify some direction at a future council meeting.

For that reason, as well as to create an opportunity for all members to get to know each other a little better, to determine ways we can work more efficiently together for the next three years, we agreed to take a Friday evening, all day Saturday and Sunday morning at an 'off-site' location Jan. 9-11 to address these issues as well as our own working relationships.

The agenda for this session would be approved in an open public council meeting prior to this session, and at this session, no corporate decisions would be able to be made without coming back to a public council meeting, which would then include any debate and discussion of opposing viewpoints should there be any.

I believe your council is off to a good start in agreeing to tackle the challenges of our new mandate, and I look forward to getting on with the business of Aurora.

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

Machell's Corners



Letter to the Editor

Christmas Fair resounding success

To the editor,

The Catholic Women's League of Our Lady of Grace Parish would like to extend its appreciation to the Auroran and to the other forms of media communication for their excellent coverage of our 8th Annual Christmas Fair & Artisan Craft Sale on Saturday, November 15.

Our town has grown in size enormously and it is so important that the affairs and activities of Aurora are seen, supported and attended to make the hard-working efforts and abilities of so many visible and noteworthy.

The newspaper integrity of the Auroran emulates this philosophy and gives pride to the citizens of Aurora.

Our Christmas Fair was a resounding success, thanks to all those who helped to bring it to fruition and to those who supported this event by their attendance and sales.

We also thank all the merchants of Aurora who so kindly donated many beautiful prizes to our All-Day Draw and Silent Auction tables.

Many people enjoy the prospect of winning a prize and these are always popular for every age.

They also encourage patronage among our many stores and businesses.

Thank you for your fine commitment of serving and promoting the best interests of the citizens of Aurora.

Sheelagh Reynolds  
President



Cathy's  
Corner

THE WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS

T'was the week before Christmas, when all through the house  
Not a creature was stirring...except for a mouse!

He might have sneaked down the chimney with care  
'Cause we left some cookies for Santa right there.

More likely he squeezed through some cranny or crack  
And turned our stocked little cold room into his shack.

So, while the children were nestled all snug for the night,  
That little thief came out for a ritual bite.

Like a glutton, he nibbled and gnawed,  
Night after night, my Christmas chocolates jawed.

I flew to the store to get me some traps  
And a large tube of caulking to seal all the gaps.

Then, I sat back with my toddy and waited  
For a snap that would say he'd been baited.

But when it came, oh, the shame!  
That mouse was so cute, I felt like a brute.

His eye, how it twinkled,  
His little brow wrinkled.  
His droll little mouth drawn up like a bow,  
The fur on his front, white as the snow.  
He was soft brown on the back, with a fat little belly  
That shook (when you poked it) like a bowl full of jelly.

In came the children and stared at him all,  
Then promptly each one started to bawl.

Then hubby came over - his sniffing and tears didn't help  
And things got worse when the dog started to yelp.

With all the weeping and woes,  
You'd think I slew Rudolph the Red Nose!

That night, the children cried in their beds,  
Visions of "Mommy, the Warrior" stuck in their heads.

But I got over my grief and reset the traps,  
Because you never know...perhaps...

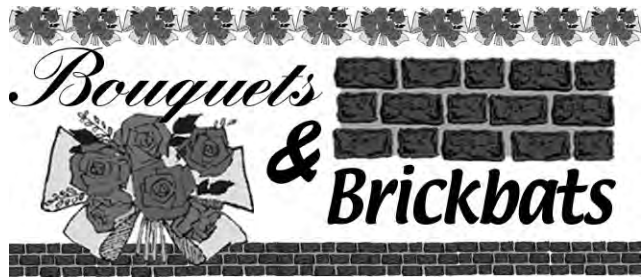
And sooner than you'd think, there arose a snapping clatter  
They all sprang from their beds to see what was the matter.

I pulled up the covers and pretended to sleep,  
I knew that this trouble was going to be deep.

It all happened in Aurora some ten years ago,  
But those mice still have halos that continue to glow.

And every Christmas since, there's something extra  
under the tree -  
A large tube of caulking ... especially for me!

Merry Christmas, Aurora!



By DICK ILLINGWORTH

**BOUQUETS** to the town's Leisure Services Department for organizing the Student Snow Removal Program and to all the students who volunteer to participate. The students assist seniors and people with special needs. Call 905-727-2123 to register.

**BRICKBATS** to the two youths in a blue sedan who completely disregarded the red light at Kennedy and Yonge Street, on a recent snowy morning. A car was exiting Kennedy Street on the green, saw the car coming at a high rate of speed, waited and avoided a serious accident. The occupants will know who they are by a loud blast on the horn by the driver of the other vehicle.

**BOUQUETS** to the staff at the Town Hall for organizing the recent colourful and impressive inaugural council meeting with a Town Crier, Piper, Legion Colour Guard, Vocalist, Army Cadets and the traditional Return of the Colours to the Queen's York Rangers.

**BRICKBATS** to outgoing Prime Minister Jean Chretien for his ongoing milking the public trough. He spent the bulk of a \$32,000 five-hour Arctic trip last summer hiking with his family in a remote park and only about 45 minutes on an official visit to a nearby Inuit community. After being caught by a recent Access to Information request, the money is supposed to be repaid.

**BOUQUETS** to Toronto Hydro for delivering a \$5 million dividend cheque to the city, the first since the utility was incorporated as a for-profit utility. Where is Aurora's dividend and why all the secrecy about the operation of Aurora Hydro?

**BRICKBATS** to all levels of government for using every means at their disposal to reduce the sale of tobacco products, from tax increases to a ban on advertising and other restrictions. If tobacco is so dangerous to people's health have the guts to ban it, but don't be hypocritical by increasing taxes to make more revenue.

**BOUQUETS** to Prime Minister-elect Paul Martin for rejecting the offer of the National Capital Commission to spend up to \$130,000 to refurbish 24 Sussex and the PM's cottage at Harrington Lake. The Martins will look over the furniture selected by Chretien and the NCC, keep what they like and buy new pieces with their own money.

**BRICKBATS** to those at the Toronto morgue for keeping a body 56 days because somebody forgot to notify the family. The information was forwarded to Toronto Police who were supposed to notify the family but failed to do so. Christopher Rombis left home August 27, died of an overdose and his body was taken to the morgue. For two months his family was frantic with worry. They called the hospitals, the police and finally the morgue.

**BOUQUETS** to the Veterinary Emergency Clinic of York Region for raising more than \$18,000 for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation by means of their recent 3 km Pet and People Walk "Companions for a Cure" held in Aurora.

**BRICKBATS** to the manufacturers of Canola cooking spray. A generic brand carried by a major supermarket contains 227 grams and sells for \$3.09, whereas the brand name in exactly the same size container costing \$3.99 contains only 110 grams. Customers would be wise to check the contents listed on the label.

**BOUQUETS** to York Regional Police for kicking off their Toys for Tots at Aurora's Canadian Tire Store recently and continuing the activity on Sunday. Donated Canadian Tire money goes towards toys for children at Christmas.

More **BOUQUETS** to the Aurora Optimist Club for raising funds at their Annual Book Sale at the Aurora Library. The 17th annual sale featured nearly 20,000 books. To date the Optimists have donated \$65,000 to the library's children's book section, as well as other youth activities in Aurora.

## Letters to the Editor

# Kean takes exception to colleague's remarks

To the editor,

Integrity and openness are the two words that I used during the debate on the recount of the Aurora election results.

Integrity was used due to the fact that the new computer system of voting was NOT properly tested.

The computers at no time were tested in the tabulation mode and therefore we did not know if the votes were counted properly. This was a simple test that unfortunately was omitted.

Openness was the fact that all candidates, if they wished, could view the ballots before they were entered into the computer.

This is also part of the recount system whether it be a manual recount or computer recount.

These ballots were gone through quickly, and not as Evelyn Buck states, slowly.

Again, I believe the clerk made sure the count was done properly.

When the statement was made by Mrs Buck that the procedural bylaw was broken she forgot to add that the clerk had also told her that under Section 312 of the same bylaw there is mention that "Due to the urgent nature that the item cannot be presented at a later date" it is okay to have the item added to the "Other Business" category

at the end of a council meeting.

In this case the urgent nature was the fact that this council meeting in question was the last council meeting of the past council after the election.

As for the cost, truly there wasn't any cost. The staff in question who did the recount are employees of the town and we pay them regardless of the job that they perform.

Councillor Buck also says that MacEachern, Vrancic and Kean called for the rules to be changed after the game had been played as they were not happy with the results.

To that I say I was

extremely happy with the results and that had nothing to do with the fact that I voted for a recount.

I am also going to take exception to Councillor Buck's comments aimed at Ben Keststein. Ben has in the past and I am sure will continue to fight for what he and his group believe to be best for Aurora.

I don't think Councillor Buck calling Mr. Keststein a gadfly reflects how a councillor should act towards residents of Aurora for voicing their opinions.

What's next, get out of town?

**Nigel Kean  
Aurora**

# Buck missed point: Vrancic

To the editor,

Re: Evelyn Buck's letter to the editor- December 9/03.

How sad that she missed the point. The election recount was not about her or Mr. Farsad. It was about preserving the integrity of the election process and assuring the citizens of

Aurora that their votes were properly counted.

How sad that she would choose to report on a private conversation between Councillors Griffith and MacEachern, and take the statement out of context in order to give credibility to her flawed argument.

How sad that she would

misstate or misinterpret the procedural bylaws to strengthen her argument.

How sad that she would inaccurately attribute councillor Nigel Kean's comments to me in an attempt to discredit my position.

How sad that she would choose to debate an issue

in the newspaper as opposed to the council chambers.

While it makes good newspaper, I don't believe this is what Aurora wants from its new council.

**Damir Vrancic  
Councillor  
Aurora**

# Recount a good thing, reader says

To the editor,

Re: Inauspicious Beginning by Councillor Evelyn Buck, Auroran Dec. 9.

In vain I have looked for the logical leap in this letter that leads the councillor to determine that the recount approval by the

old council is a poor omen for the new council.

Congratulations to those who supported the verification of the electronic system. They did the "Right Thing"!

The really disturbing aspect of this election result is reported elsewhere in the Auroran;

that is, the advance polling results apparently cannot be recounted so if any candidate asked officially for a recount those votes are lost.

This recount should be a wake-up warning to council and administration that electronic methods are no more reliable

than old fashioned human counting but only faster.

Any system that cannot provide a permanent record for verification has no place in the electoral process.

**Robert Cook  
Aurora**

## Evelina's letter to Santa Claus

Dear Santa,

I've given my Christmas wish list much thought.

The first item on my list is good tidings for the Town of Aurora. How can you deliver this?

Please have Evelyn Buck's "poison" pen run out of ink, prior to the New Year.

If this is not possible, please send her a "pleasant" ink pen.

Perhaps she will take the

time to write and thank the residents for getting involved and participating in the governing of our Town, instead of publicly criticizing them.

Please send well wishes to Ms. Buck's latest "poison" pen victims: Ben Keststein, the Farsad family, Nigel Kean and Damir Vrancic.

Thank you,

**Evelina MacEachern  
Aurora**

*Letters  
to the Editor  
continue  
on pages 8 & 9*

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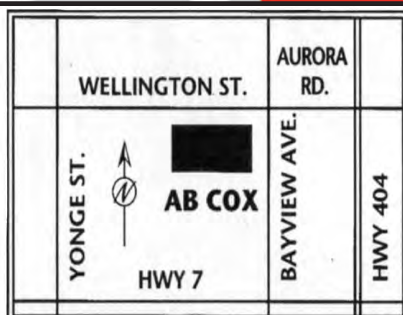
  
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Letters to the Editor



Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School students teamed up with the Aurora Burger King outlet recently to help raise funds for young Christopher Gist who recently underwent a bone marrow transplant. Here, Grade 10 student Alicia MacDonald, accepts her order from Mayor Tim Jones, while Burger King officials Fred Char and Jim Peterson, look on.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Letter results in big response

To the editor,

RE: Christopher Gist, Bone Marrow Transplant

Thank you so much, Aurora...including friends, neighbours, residents, churches, businesses, clubs, Town of Aurora, students and teachers of Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School.

The response to my letter that was published in the

Auroran at the beginning of October was overwhelming.

It was wonderful to see the community pull together for one of its own and so very quickly.

The Gist family has received a lot of much appreciated and needed financial and household help.

To those who contributed to Chris in any way, please accept my and everyone in

his family's most heartfelt thanks.

Chris is doing quite well although is still very weak and vulnerable to germs.

He is luckily home from the hospital now and has to attend Princess Margaret twice a week to check blood counts, etc.

If you would like further information, visit his website [www.caring-bridge.org/ca/christophers-fight/index.htm](http://www.caring-bridge.org/ca/christophers-fight/index.htm) that his

mother, Leslie, updates regularly.

Again, thank you, Aurora.

Here's wishing everyone Happy Holidays.

Julie Cox  
Aurora

Give yourself to your child this Christmas

To the editor,

At this hectic time of year the most important thing you might do is stop and think about the best gift you can give to your children: the gift of your time and undivided attention.

You will have lots of time, as you are waiting in line at the store with 500 other frustrated financially stretched parents to buy the latest hot toy for your child, to ask yourself these questions:

When was the last time I played a game with my child?

When was the last time I read a story with my child?

When was the last time I really listened to my child?

When was the last time I took a walk with my child?

When was the last time I hugged my child, told him I loved him and was proud of him?

When was the last time I gazed at my sleeping child and whispered a silent "thank-you"?

When was the last time I really noticed the colour of my child's eyes?

On Christmas morning after the toys have been unwrapped, played with and discarded, turn off the TV and the computer and give your child the most important gift of all,

the one he or she will never get tired of, the gift of "you."

Merry Christmas.

Marianne Mandryk  
Aurora



Thank you, Aurora residents and business owners, for your support over the last three years. It has been an honour and a privilege to serve you.

All the Best for the New Year.

With Thanks,  
Evelina MacEachern

McFee letter surprised Flo

To the editor,

You can imagine my surprise and delight to read in last week's Auroran the letter regarding Lloyd Chadburn from Harry McFee in Winnipeg.

His uncle, Norm Bretz, was a friend of Lloyd's from the time they were first in the RCAF and who later lived in Aurora at the "Chateau".

Mr. McFee gave a detailed account of both of these fliers and described how Lloyd met his death.

I had always understood that Lloyd's plane was shot down, but it was in circling the airfield after a victory that he and his fellow flier collided and crashed.

There have been many comments about my story of November 11th, among them a letter from Noreen Hashem of Aurora, who

was a friend of the late Ralph Rank, son of Marshall Rank, a long-time Aurora jeweler.

Apparently, Ralph idolized Lloyd and built a model of the plane he flew.

As a school pupil, he asked Lloyd if he could take his medals for "show and tell".

It was only later that he realized how generous that was of Lloyd to entrust his precious medals to a young schoolboy.

Readers might also be interested that I had a long phone call from Vera Clarke in Orillia.

She is an avid reader of the Auroran.

I am curious to know how Mr. McFee in Winnipeg got a copy of the Auroran. If I find out, I'll let you know.

Flo Murray  
Aurora

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Letters to the Editor

Reflections of a municipal recount

To the editor,

The election cost \$93,000 to date. The budget was \$110,000. The machines (capital expenditure) cost \$145,000.

I picked up the figure of \$85,000 during the discussion about the recount. Then I read the machines had cost \$85,000. Then I knew I had to check the facts.

The machines will be used every three years. But even with growth, the cost of our elections should not increase.

This year we had only one person to a poll. Until now there have always been two. An average poll has 350 voters. In future the machines will allow that number to be

increased.

Eventually, the capital cost of the machines will be recovered with the savings but the clerk tells me there is another potential for quicker recovery.

Municipal elections in other provinces are held in different years. There might be interest in leasing our machines. Even if we do not choose to let them leave town, there are the elections to the senior levels of government where they could be used - at an appropriate fee, of course.

There were advantages from the recount. It proved the reliability of the machines, as the clerk had advised.

The small differences that came about were the result

of human error. Two machines recorded more ballots cast than there were ballots in the box. If a ballot falters in its passage, the machine will indicate if it has been read.

If the operator attempts an adjustment, the ballot might be read twice. Apparently that happened at two machines...more than once.

Also, in examining the ballots, the clerk noticed a couple which bore marks other than that required. He ruled those ballots invalid. I did not agree but the decision was his to make. It was not an easy day.

There were 21 machines and about 9,000 ballots cast. The few errors made were within an allowable limit. Nevertheless, in future

training sessions that will be something which receives special emphasis.

I've worked in elections; provincial and municipal and maybe even federal.

It is a long tedious day even after the polls close, full of tension, and the pay is poor.

Everybody understands the significance of the event and the importance of getting it right.

It's the only chance the people have to influence how things will be.

The people's right to choose is an absolute.

A few years ago, a Liberal was elected in a Markham riding.

Subsequently some things were revealed about MP Jag Bhaduria which were not to his credit. He was expelled from the Liberal Party. He could no longer sit on the government bench. People wondered why he was able to retain the seat.

The answer was simple. He had been elected to that seat. He did not retain it because of his right...he kept it because of the voters' right to choose. Unless he resigned...which he didn't...he held the seat until the voters made a different decision in the next election, which they did.

In Aurora, since the elec-

tion there have been several letters and an editorial which admonished "the old guard" to heed the number of votes cast for individual councillors.

It seems to be the fond hope of some that councillors with the highest vote count should carry more weight than others.

I can hear the laughter of the ghosts of councils past. Not even the mayor carries more weight than an individual councillor.

He (in this instance) doesn't even have a vote unless there is a tie vote or a call for a recorded vote.

Furthermore, there is no such office as deputy-mayor. If there was, it would be on the ballot.

During the recount Councillor Phyllis Morris asked me what I thought was the reason for people casting their votes in a particular way.

Of course, I've thought of that before.

I said I thought it was a reflection of how a candidate had worked. How many driveways...how many sets of stairs...I believe there is nothing a voter appreciates more than a candidate who makes a face-to-face appeal.

On the same subject, I make one other point: each person elected is there because the voters made the choice. Each one is entitled to the same level of respect...not for his or her sake...but for the sake of the people who chose them.

Being an effective councillor is about listening as well as talking.

It is about making a decision on the weight of logic and not on the basis of personal animus.

Evelyn Buck  
Aurora

"Perennial gadfly" quote a cheap shot: Kestein

To the editor,

On December 9, Evelyn Buck entered a letter titled "Inauspicious beginning for a new council" which I consider total hokum.

In the first place, most of what she reiterates has been in the local papers, so what's the point?

Secondly, it's easy to be a post-time better. That is,

calling the race after the horses have run.

This is essentially what she has done.

Thirdly, I am not a "perennial gadfly". Let the records show I have not been to 10 meetings in the whole past term 2000-2003.

Reason being, I have diminished hearing, the acoustics are lousy and a lot of it is not worth listening

He believed daughter

To the editor,

I had just come from the car wash and had moved my handicap parking permit to the glove compartment so the inside windows could be cleaned.

I then drove to the Aurora Shopping Centre, parked in a handicap spot, and proceeded to do my shopping.

A minute later, my daughter pulls into the parking lot and sees a parking control officer in the process of writing a ticket right by my car.

mit to the glove compartment so the inside windows could be cleaned.

I then drove to the Aurora Shopping Centre, parked in a handicap spot, and proceeded to do my shopping.

A minute later, my daughter pulls into the parking lot and sees a parking control officer in the process of writing a ticket right by my car.

My daughter asked the officer what he was doing, and he said, "writing out a ticket - \$300 to be exact for parking in a handicap spot without a permit".

My daughter said, "you can't do that; that's my mother's car and she has a handicap permit. Besides, she would never park in the handicap spot without one."

To the editor,

On behalf of the Wells Street school supporters we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support for this year's Wells Street Public School Fall Fair.

The coverage you provided was greatly appreciated and helped ensure another good turnout at our event.

This year's fair raised more than \$9,000 to support programs for the children of Wells Street Public School.

Once again, thank you for your support.

Pardon me, but on this last election she had a colour spread on the front page the week before the vote and that cost a tidy sum, I would say.

Normally, I would react to someone's opinion of me, but I consider this a cheap shot.

Golly, what some people won't do for a Buck.

Ben Kestein  
Aurora

ED. NOTE: True, Ms Buck had the front page base-bar prior to the election, but, unfortunately for us, it didn't cost her \$10,000.

Marilyn Munslow  
Aurora

Julie Wood  
Catherine Cook  
Fall Fair  
Co-conveners

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Aurora's business and political leaders met recently at Newmarket's Southlake Regional Health Centre for a tour of the rapidly expanding hospital. The hospital foundation currently has a \$16.5 million fund-raising campaign underway and is within \$3 million of achieving its goal.

# Centennial inaugural a tough one to beat

The inaugural meeting of the incoming Aurora council occurred last week and will be telecast regularly on Aurora Cable Internet.

After every municipal election in Aurora the newly elected council members take their oath of office at the inaugural ceremony at the first meeting in December following the November election. It is always a very special occasion.

Some years ago when municipal elections were held in December the inaugural was the first meeting in January and they were normally a major event in the life of the municipality.

In January, 1967, as Canada entered its Centennial Year, the Aurora Inaugural took on special significance with more than 1,000 citizens in attendance at Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School, of which about 200 were students.

Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson opened the meeting and handed the proceedings over to former Mayor Doctor Crawford

## 1967

Rose as master of ceremonies for the evening.

Dr. Rose told the audience that Aurora had many treasured memories and the town had celebrated three centennials. The first was in 1853 to celebrate the centennial of the railroad, followed by the observance of Aurora's 100th birthday in 1963 and now the Centennial of Canada.

He introduced former Mayors of Aurora in the audience including Ross Linton (1944-47), Alex Bell (1950-51), Keith Nesbit (1961-63), himself (1948-49 and 1952-54) and Mayor Clarence Davis elected in 1964.

Others introduced were Reeve Gordon Cook, King Township; Don Glass, chairman of the Centennial Committee; Lt. Col. Malcolm Montgomery, Officer Commanding Queen's York Rangers; and Major Bert Graves,

Squadron Commander in Aurora.

A feature of the inaugural was a 15-minute sketch of the 1867 council meeting based on the actual minutes of the meeting, portrayed by members of Theatre Aurora with Les Shiner playing the part of the first reeve of the village, Charles Doan.

Director Rose Dyson set the scene in an Aurora hotel where early council meetings were held.

Rev. Roland Hill, who spent his boyhood days in Aurora, returned as guest speaker. He spoke of the Wonder of Canada's Centennial and said it was a time of joy tinged with a profound sense of gratitude.

In his inaugural address, Mayor Clarence Davis spoke about pride in the town and its plans and hopes for future development.

He referred briefly to the capital costs facing the town in its expansion program, noting the new addition to the high school, a new senior public school,

addition to sewage facilities and a new community centre.

He assured the audience that each member of council would be a watchdog over their committee's expenditures.

A mixed choir of 60 boys and girls from Wells Street Public School, under the direction of Illyd Harris entertained.

Col. O. S. Hollinrake, magistrate of York County, administered the oath of office for Mayor Clarence Davis, Reeve Jim Murray, Deputy Reeve Jack Williamson and Councillors Dick Illingworth, Walt Davis, Bill Trent, Evelyn Buck, Cliff Corbett and Pete Miller.

Closing remarks were made by Donald Glass who spoke briefly about the part the people of Aurora could play in the observance of Canada's Centennial.

While all inaugurals are important as the start of a new three-year term of office for council members, none have surpassed the 1967 inaugural and its many memories.

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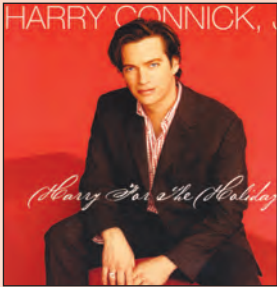
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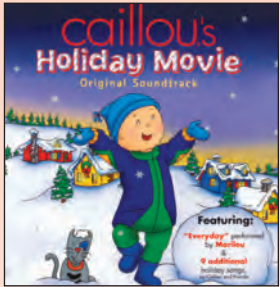
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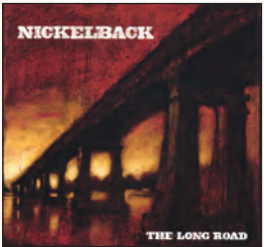
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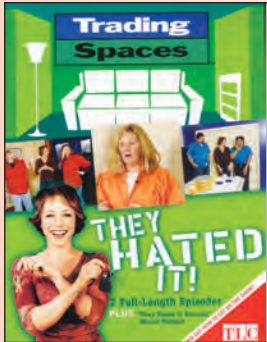


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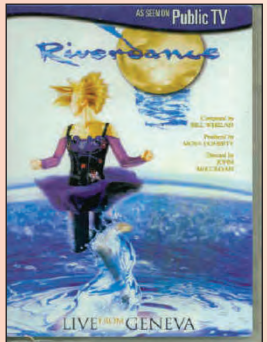
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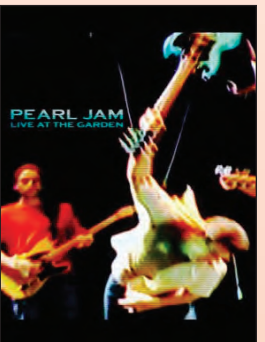
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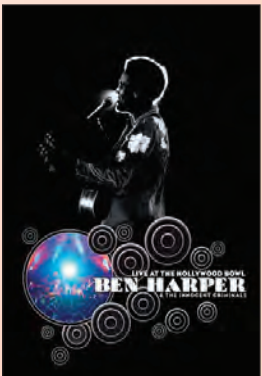
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**LUNCHEON MEETING**  
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Luncheon: 12:30 p.m.  
Program Cost: \$32.00 Member \$35.00 Potential Member  
Speaker: Deirdre McMurphy  
Place: Tuscany Banquet Centre, 222 Edward Street, Aurora

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Week of December 16, 2003

Page 14

## Revenge is sweet

# Aurora Tigers end Newmarket winning streak at 13 games

By TYLER NORWOOD

The Aurora Tigers got their vengeance.

In their only loss of the season, the Junior A hockey team was defeated 3-2 by the Newmarket Hurricanes in early November.

On Friday night, the Tigers put the issue to rest defeating the Hurricanes 3-1, in spite of a phenomenal performance by Newmarket goalie Daren Machesney.

Sunday, Aurora beat the Collingwood Blues 2-1.

Luke Oshell's goaltending performance highlighted the game, just his second start

as a Tiger.

"It felt pretty good," Oshell said. "It felt a little better than last game," referring to the 7-2 win over Ajax a week before. A miscue by Oshell in that game cost him a goal.

Despite besieging Blues' goalie Jesse Boyd with 31 shots in the first two frames, Collingwood would score first, on a three on one that left Oshell defenseless.

By the third period, though, Aurora was inching its way toward victory.

Matt Bahen tied the game with his 13th marker of the season just four minutes

into the period.

Jamie Minchella scored Aurora's second goal and the eventual game winner with little over five minutes left to play. A last-ditch effort by the Blues, with an extra skater, was not enough.

Meanwhile, on Friday, the Tigers had their proving ground standing before them - a blank sheet of ice on which Aurora needed to prove their detractors wrong.

Despite sporting a number one ranking in Canada, some hockey fans - many of them Newmarket residents - are unconvinced.

That night, Aurora took another step toward changing the skeptics' minds.

Newmarket came out strong, in search of their second win against Aurora.

They were rewarded with a Peter Vaisanen power play goal, midway through the first.

"I thought we started a little slow," Coach and General Manager Marty Williamson said. "Then we relaxed and I thought we were a pretty good hockey team for the second and third."

Alex LaLonde tied the game in the second, taking some of the wind out of the 'Canes' sails.

A Sam Skwarchuk pass

set up Gabe Perreault to take a 2-1 lead.

"I just put it on his tape and he made no mistake," Skwarchuk said.

"I really wanted to win the game and I was glad to put the puck in the net," Perreault humbly added.

Scully added a third period goal, 18 seconds into the third frame, to close out the scoring for the night.

"The score could have easily been 6 or 7-1," goaltender Chris Whitley said.

The Aurora victory ends Newmarket's winning streak of 13 games. Seems fitting.

Commenting on a possible playoff meeting with Newmarket, "I think it'll be a good series, no doubt about it, but we're just going to come out and play our game, like we do every night, and come out on top," Perreault added.

Last Thursday night, the Tigers travelled to Stouffville to take on the surging Spirit.

Alex LaLonde returned for his first game since being suspended four games for an incident that occurred in their last visit to Newmarket's Ray Twinney Arena.

It was not the game that Stouffville was hoping for.

Top-scoring Francis Walker scored just three minutes into the game, a rare first

period goal for the Tigers. Captain Jordan Brenner added another at the midway point.

In the second, it would be Scully, a former OHLer and Ottawa 67, who would score. Joel Kitchen and Minchella added more goals for the Tigers.

In the third, Aurora relaxed, content with a four-goal lead that Stouffville simply couldn't overcome.

This week, Aurora heads back up Yonge Street for a

Thursday night rematch with the Newmarket Hurricanes at 7:30 p.m. at the Ray Twinney Center.

On Friday, the Tigers play a home game against the Stouffville Spirit at Elgin Barrow Arena in Richmond Hill at 8 p.m.

On Sunday, the Tigers will play an exhibition match with Canadian National Sledge Hockey team at 2:30 p.m. with some proceeds going to the Aurora Minor Hockey Association.

## Tigers plan fund-raiser

The Aurora Tigers Junior A hockey club will stray from its normal schedule this week, and the Aurora Minor Hockey Association will be the winner.

Sunday afternoon, the club will play an exhibition game against the Canadian National Sledge hockey team at the Aurora Community Centre.

This has to be seen to be believed.

The Sledge team members, a group of disabled athletes, use two small hockey sticks and ride on a single blade sledge to

play hockey.

Tiger Assistant GM Kevin Collins says fans are in for a real treat.

"In the second period, Tigers will play on the sleds," he said. "They will kick our butts."

From that game, \$1 of each ticket will be shared by the AMHA and the Sledge hockey team.

Game time is 2.30 p.m.

Friday night, Tigers will "host" the Stouffville Spirit in a game at the Elgin Barrow Arena in Richmond Hill.

That game gets underway at 8 p.m.

## Moose squad lends support to benefit

Some Aurora hockey players will be in the lineup as the Canadian Moose hockey team springs into action this weekend to help a cause.

The Moose - probably the team that travels more than any other - will head off to Wiarton Saturday to participate in a benefit game for two Wiarton residents.

Brent Hepburn, and his 19-year-old daughter, Mitzi, were involved in a car-motorcycle collision last summer and both lost legs. They were on the motorcycle.

Both were heavily involved in sports, and Mitzi was

carving out a career in figure skating when the collision occurred.

As a result, the Wiarton Minor Hockey Association arranged an exhibition game between the Moose and the Wiarton firefighters.

It is hoped former Toronto Maple Leaf star Ron Ellis will join the game, but that had not been confirmed at press time.

The Canadian Moose, noted for their annual hockey excursions to Australia and New Zealand, are comprised of men and women, all ages, mainly from the Aurora-Newmarket area.

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# Aurora's trail system started by Wehrenberg

For walkers, hikers or joggers, Aurora is home to a range of trail systems within the town and they are easily accessible.

It was back in June, 1985, when Aurora resident Klaus Wehrenberg submitted a proposal for a network of trails for foot and bicycle traffic, as well as recreational uses.

The concept of a trail network for Aurora came from his European background. He told Aurora councillors that countries like Sweden have trails that cut across private lands known as every man's right of way.

He pointed out there was a public demand for trail facilities, there was a need to preserve the town's country atmosphere and its natural heritage and environment, and safety concerns for cyclists and walkers on traffic right-of-ways.

Wehrenberg envisioned a two-level network system with a longer, recreation oriented trail and shorter feeder and access trails to span the developed and undeveloped sections of Aurora.

He suggested that arrangements be made for private involvement by requesting landowners grant a right-of-way or access over their lands, to be maintained by volunteer members of a non-profit trails club.

He also presented the results of a survey he had conducted with residents in various parts of the town and reported that 94.5 per cent of those contacted supported the proposed trail system.

Council approved the proposal in principle and forwarded it to the planning, leisure services, public safety and heritage committees for comment.

In general, the committees supported the concept, although there was some concern about the town's liability as to public participation in the proposal.

Council referred the question of liability to the town's insurers for comment and directed staff to meet with Wehrenberg and members of the Aurora Nature Trails organization as to the types of services for the walkways in the town's green belt areas.

By April, 1986, council requested staff to prepare terms of reference for a Trails Committee involving citizens, staff and members of council reporting to the Leisure Services Committee on established routes as well as recommending types of trails, and the maintenance required.

In addition council incorporated the trails concept into the linear open space system of the official plan, in the draft stage at that time.

By August, 1993, it was reported there were approximately 21,000 linear feet of walking trails in Aurora, with plans to develop more.

The trails generally followed watercourses and it was hoped that they

would eventually link up with a regional trail system.

A public meeting was held in September, 1993, and several suggestions were received from citizens with regard to the trail system, including acquiring easements across private property with the consent of the owner.

One of the more active trail organizations in the area was the Oak Ridges Trail Association, which had opened a 12 km trail in King Township in October, 1996.

By May, 1997, there was an Aurora chapter of the association.

As a result of several groups working together, a network of trails was established in several areas of Aurora.

One is in Sheppard's Bush Conservation Area, a unique urban park in central Aurora.

The Sheppard Family owned the property from 1919 to 1971 when Reg Sheppard donated the property to the Ontario Heritage Foundation, who turned over the management to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority in 1971.

About one kilometre of trails were developed through the 58-acre green oasis, linking up with the north/south Nokiidaa Trail System along the Holland River Valley and the east/west Oak Ridges Trail System.

Access points are on Industry Street, south from Wellington Street East and east from the Industrial Parkway South north of Cousins Drive East.

Parking is available at both points. Surface of the trail is gravel and natural.

The Holland River Valley Trail corridor runs north-south through Aurora between Yonge Street and Bayview Avenue. As farmlands were converted into development areas, the valley system was conveyed to the town as open space.

This corridor now provides a natural valley land setting of mixed lowland forests, expansive meadows and wetland habitats.

The trail passes through the Aurora Community Arboretum and Lambert Willson Park. It links with the Oak Ridges Trail system and the trail in Sheppard's Bush.

In 2000, the Holland River Valley Trail of approximately four kilometres was officially designated as Aurora's section of the Nokiidaa Trail.

Access points are from the lower parking lot of the Leisure Complex, lower parking lot of the Town Hall or the Sheppard's Bush Conservation Area.

The surface of the trail is gravel.

The Willow Farm, Lakeview and Wimpey Trail system is an urban trail linking neighbourhoods, parks and linear open space corridors within the forested hills of St. Andrews in north-west Aurora.

Vegetation consists of remnant conifer forest patches within predominantly deciduous forest areas.

There are a few valleys of more open meadow with the topography undulating as the trail rises up to one of the highest points of elevation in Aurora. The 3.5 kilometre trail is predominantly gravel, with some paved sections.

Access points are from many street crossings, Tom's Park, Copland Park or the Trailhead, which is located at the north-east end of the trail at the pond and stone bridge on Willow Park Lane and St. John's Sideroad, just west of Yonge Street.

While many people have participated in the development of the trail systems in Aurora, Klaus Whrenberg was the initial instigator and main push for the development of the trail system.

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## House League League Games

**103 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Red) 5:** Ryan Manson 3G, Erik Balkovec 1G, Rio Speller-Drews 1G, Zack Landry 1A. **101 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Green) 3:** Harrison Smith 1G 1A, Brayden Beswick 1G, Charles Sandler 1G, Ben Goldman 1A.

**106 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Gold) 11:** Sean Foxwell 3G, Graham Robinson 2G, David Gonder 2G, Brett Thiessen 1G, Cameron Staples 1G, Tait Sneddon 1G, Adam de Roos 1G, Grant Mulholland 1A, Nicholas Scott 1A, Alex Remedios, shutout. **110 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Teal) 0.**

**108 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Maroon) 8:** Joshua Wilson 2G, Stephen Mariani 2G, Connor Cowl 1G, Kyle Strachan 1G, Joshua Bell 1G, Alexander Jonasson 1G 1A, Matthew Mariani, shutout. **109 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Orange) 0.**

**107 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Grey) 7:** Evan Jackson 3G 1A, Nicholas Steiner 2G, Kevin Wood 1G 1A, Matthew Pelkola 1G. **105 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (White) 1:** Ian Dunlop 1G.

**102 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Black) 5:** Parker Baile 2G, Nicholas Baxter 1G 1A, Oliver Jones 1G, Dakota Stone 1G. **104 TIM HORTON'S - TIMBITS (Royal) 4:** Nathan Nealon 3G, Lucas Pozzebon 1G, Paul Neophytou 1A.

**401 MARY'S FLOWER SHOP 6:** Jordan Gerace 3G 1A, Tyler La Mantia 1G, Andrew Cosentino 1G 1A, Brandon Thompson 1G 1A, Hayden Sands 1A. **402 JUNIOR TIGERS 4:** Thomas Gans 2G, Gianluca Sampieri 1G 1A, Paul Tuck 1G, Brandon Connolly 1A, Patrick Dowling 2A, Sean Maule 1A, Ryan Daniel 1A.

**406 LANGDON'S COACH LINES 5:** Ryan Berube 1G, Paul Andrews 3G, Christian Avolio 1G, Kyle Rojas 2A, Alex Payne 1A, Mike Ridley 1A. **405 McALPINE FORD LINCOLN 2:** Ryan Kennedy 1G, Chase Riddell 1G, Adrian Tobin 1A, Stefan Hosko 1A, David Scott 1A.

**409 OPTIMIST CLUB OF AURORA 6:** Sean Takahashi 3G, Michael Takahashi 2G, Kirk Stevens 1G, Gregory Lacroix 2A, Slava Lobko 1A, Spencer Brock 1A, Christian Davies 1A. **410 THE BACKYARD POOL & SPA CO. 4:** Ryan Laird 2G, Wesley Seminara 1G 1A, Dylan Jolivet 1G, Spencer Palmer 1A.

**506 THE SHREDDING COMPANY 8:** Justin Killens 1G 1A, Andrew Miller 1G, Mike Moody 1G 1A, Neil Gaston 2G 3A, Matthew Powell 1G 1A, Gianna Episcopo 1G, Alex Heintzman 1G 1A, Scott Ashbourne 1A, Connor Fordyce 2A, Colin Bennett 1A, Cameron Meikle 1A. **505 ORR & FORSTER INSURANCE BROKERS 4:** Patrick Che 1A, Daniel Crowther 2G, Caleb Gould 1G 1A, George Marshall 1G, Scott Parry 1A, Dylan Teacher 1A, Keenan Van Rooyen 1A.

**501 AURORA CABLE INTERNET 6:** Carter Schaefer 1G 1A, Grant Wood 1G, Sheldon Rivard 2G, Mike Machin 2G, Brendan Beatty 1A, Rhys Williams 2A, Dillon Kinnarinen 1A, John Haralampopoulos 1A, James Chappell 1A. **503 AURORA HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE 5:** Eric Cigana 2G, Graham Cormack 2A, Robert Horton 1A, Julian Biasoni 1G, Adam Gitto 1G, Dylan Lastuk 1G, Marco Santella 1A.

**504 BARB BLASER - RE/MAX YORK GROUP 3:** Michael Gray 1G 1A, Kyle Blaser 1G, Dexter Speller-Drews 1G, Ryan Bagshaw 1A, Philippe Meunier 1A. **502 DIAL TONE COMMUNICATIONS 2:** Michael Raponi 1G 1A, Michael Orsatti 1G 1A, Ben Crouse 1A.

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**501 AURORA CABLE INTERNET 2:** Sheldon Rivard 1G, Mike Machin 1G, Carter Schaefer 1A, James Chappell 1A. **504 BARB BLASER - RE/MAX YORK GROUP 2:** Dexter Speller-Drews 1G, Johnathan Siery 1G, Philippe Meunier 1A, Paul Duggan 1A.

**606 SKATERS FIRST 1:** Ian Hayzeldon 1G, Andrew Wilkins 1A. **603 CHOUINARD BROS. ROOFING 1:** Blake Rodger 1G, Graeme Smart 1A.

**601 D-MAC FURNITURE 3:** Jay Lamont 1G, Adrian Clark 1G, Connar Dellar 1G. **607 PERMANENT PRESS PRINTING 0.**

**605 FRESH WATER INDUSTRIES BOTTLED WATER 8:** Derek Isadoro 2G, Jay Finch 3G 1A, Andrew Storm 1G, Eric Beveridge 1G, Ryan Logue 1G, Mike McGee 1A, Jonathan Comeau 2A. **601 D-MAC FURNITURE 3:** Steven Foss 1G 1A, Adrian Clark 1G, David Yates 1G, Kyle Ryan 1A.

**601 D-MAC FURNITURE 5:** Jordan Brown 1G, Connor Dellar 1G, Daniel Williams 1G 1A, Zach Roitner 1G, David Yates 1G. **603 CHOUINARD BROS. ROOFING 3:** Derek Lockhart 1G, Graeme Smart 1G, Taylor Buxton 1G, Christopher O'Hara 2A, Braun Huse 1A.

**605 FRESH WATER INDUSTRIES BOTTLED WATER 4:** Jay Finch 2G 2A, Eric Beveridge 2G, Brendan Harrington 1A, Christian Hastings 1A, Geoffrey Knaack 1A. **604 COLL AUDIO & ACCURATE ELECTRICAL 0.**

**602 OMAR'S SHOES 5:** Tom Gibson 2G 1A, Madison Weber 1G, Dylan Calvert 1G, James Suddes 1G, William Burke 2A. **608,SPITFIRES 3:** Eric Bailey 2G, Connor Sands 1G, Kevin Nandlall 1A, Jamie Russell 1A, CJ Melichercik 1A.

**601 D-MAC FURNITURE 2:** Conor Dellar 1G 1A, David Yates 1G, Jay Lamont 1A, Mark Jenkins 1A, Jach Roitner 1A.

# Aurora Minor Hockey Association

## Results to 9 AM Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>

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

**604 COLL AUDIO & ACCURATE ELECTRICAL 0.**

**702 EDWARDS-MURPHY PAINTING & DECORATING 5:** Adam McNellis 1G, Tyler Flannigan 2G 1A, Alex Munn 1G 2A, Greg Haralampopoulos 1G 1A, Daniel Puopolo 1A. **704 SMIT-TY'S PAINTING & DECORATING 1:** Chris Ramsay 1G, Cameron Buchanan 1A.

**702 EDWARDS-MURPHY PAINTING & DECORATING 6:** Garrett Kerkkamp 1G, Tyler Flannigan 1G 1A, Alex Hosko 1G, Greg Haralampopoulos 3G 1A, Drwe Born 1A, Gabe Venneri 1A, Chad Pilkey 1A. **705 L.O.O.F. AURORA LODGE 148 - FLT 4:** Mike Roberts 1G 1A, Connor Ryeland 1G 1A, Nick Epworth 1G 1A, Alex Strapp 1G, Sean Kipfer 1A, Stephen Logue 1A.

**706 AURORA HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE 2:** M. Spick 1G, M. Holland 1G, R. Van Winkle 1A. **705 L.O.O.F. AURORA LODGE 148 - FLT 1:** Connor Ryeland 1G.

**704 SMITTY'S PAINTING & DECORATING 2:** Jared Pelleties 1G, Cameron Buchanan 1G, Derek Smith 1A, Taylor Jordan 1A, Brendan Burns 1A. **701 MANHATTAN TROPHIES 2:** Chris Wong 1G, Sam Caldwell 1G, Mathew Fong 1A.

**706 AURORA HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE 2:** J. Finlayson 1G, J. Smith 1G, C. Robinson 1A. **703 CHOUINARD BROS. ROOFING 1:** Ryan Cain 1G.

**703 CHOUINARD BROS. ROOFING 7:** Ryan Cain 3G, Cody Bastarache 2G 1A, Charlie Teel 1G 1A, Joe Doucher 1G 2A, Devin Maule 1A, Ryan Rojas 1A, Taylor Tripp 1A. **705 L.O.O.F. AURORA LODGE 148 - FLT 1:** Connor Ryeland 1G, Chris Porter 1A, Mike Roberts 1A.

**706 AURORA HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE 4:** J. Smith 1G, R. Van Winkle 1G, J. Finlayson 1G, C. Robinson 1G, T. Muskolczy McDonald 1A, M. Spick 1A. **704 SMITTY'S PAINTING & DECORATING 1:** Geoffrey Harrison 1G, Cameron Buchanan 1A.

**702 EDWARDS-MURPHY PAINTING & DECORATING 3:** Chris MacDonald 1G, Greg Haralampopoulos 1G 1A, Alex Hosko 1G 1A, Tyler Flannigan 1A, Garrett Kerkkamp 1A, Drew Boorn 1A. **701 MANHATTAN TROPHIES 1:** Sam Caldwell 1G.

**804 HS FINANCIAL SERVICES 3:** Jon Williams, shutout, Kurtis Wilton 1G 1A, Kevin Mayne 1G, Bryon Dunjko 1G, Harrison Edwards 1A, Landon Smith 1A. **806 ROYAL CANADI-AN LEGION 0.**

## Select Tournament Games

**Stayner 3 Novice 2**

Eric Bulloch 1G, Zachary Ferry 1G, Heather Tillsley 1A.

**Novice 6 Cayuga 0**

Zachary Ferry 1G 1A, Heather Tillsley 1G 1A, Eric Bulloch 1G 1A, Hayden Trask 1G, Ryan Baskin 1G, Stuart Maltla 1G 2A, Zachary Kercz 1A, Lucas Hussey & Andrew Stobbe, shutout.

**Novice 5 Arthur 3**

Colton Lee 1G 1A, Hayden Trask 2G, Eric Bulloch 1G, Zachary Kercz 1G, Zachary Ferry 1A, Evan Romano 1A.

## Select League Games

**Novice 2 Vaughan 2**

Zachary Kercz 1G, Colton Lee 1G, Heather Tillsley 1A, Zachary Ferry 1A, Ryan Baskin 1A, Hayden Trask 1A.

## Rep Tournament Games

**Minor Peeewe AA 4 Toronto Royals 1**

Dillon Cappell 1G, Loius Lamanna 1G, Andrew Whitley 1G, Kevin Zacharuk 1G, Max Lerner 3A, Nathan Brown 1A, Kyle Murphy 1A.

**Minor Peeewe AA 8 Scarborough Stallions 1**

Spencer Arkell 3G 1A, James Mildon 2G, Justin Brown 1G, Jesse Cappell 1G 2A, Kevin Zacharuk 1G, Dillon Cappell 3A, Kyle Murphy 2A, Max Lerner 1A, Jordan Tripp 1A, Andrew Whitley 1A.

**Minor Peeewe AA 3 West Mall Lightning 3**

Dillon Cappell 1G 1A, Jesse Cappell 1G, Louis Lamanna 1G, Spencer Arkell 1A, Andrew Whitley 1A.

**Toronto Royals 3 Minor Peeewe AA 2**

Kevin Zacharuk 2G, Dillon Cappell 1A, Kyle Murphy 1A.

**Midget Rep Sponsors**  
**A:** Greyfield Construction

**Midget A 5 Arthur Armadillos 0**

Bryan Hillar, shutout, Michael Jack 1G 3A, Mark Smith 1G 2A, Matt Cleverdon 1G 1A, Mark Johnson 1G, Mark Jarman 1G, Steven Black 1A, Craig Waites 1A, Chris Statchuk 1A, Ryan Kines 1A.

**Midget A 6 Arthur Armadillos 0**

Bryan Hillar, shutout, PJ Speciale-Plouffe 2G, Peter Nykyforchyn 1G 1A, Matt Cleverdon 2G, Michael Jack 2A, Mark Jarman 2A, Mark Smith 2A, Steven Black 1A, Ryan Kines 1A.

**Bracebridge Bruins 2 Midget A 1**

Matt Cleverdon 1G, Mark Smith 1A.

**Saugeen Shores Sailors 3 Midget A 1**

Matt Cleverdon 1G, Michael Jack 1A, Mark Smith 1A.

## Rep League Games

**Minor Atom Rep Sponsors**  
**A:** Joriki Inc.

**TNT 2 Minor Atom A 0**

**Stouffville 3 Minor Atom A 2**

Jesse Bentolila 1G, Andrew Papousek 1G, Taylor Butler 1A, Trevor Best 1A, Cooper Riswick 1A, Davin Watson 1A.

**Atom Rep Sponsors**  
**AA:** Mike & Ike

**Richmond Hill 4 Atom AA 3**

Steadman Dinning 1G, Eleeza Cox 1G, Taran McGowan 1G, Dylan Kovacs 1A, Ben Hanlon 1A.

**Atom AA 3 Georgina 2**

Eleeza Cox 2G, Dylan Kovacs 1G, Kyle McCreedy 3A, Taran McGowan 1A.

**Barrie 2 Atom AA 1**

Dyaln Kovacs 1G, Matthew Mears 1A.

**Atom AA 3 Ajax 1**

Taran McGowan 2G, Jamie Hawkins 1G, Dylan Kovacs 2A, Steadman Dinning 2A, Stephen DeMarco 1A, Cody Weese 1A.

**Atom A 9 Oak Ridges 2**

Tyler Jensen 1G 1A, Tristan Miller 1G 2A, Spencer George 3G 1A, Danny McConnell 2G, Matthew Miller 1G, Kamran Karamchi 1G, Michael Bar 2A, Brandon Pedersen 4A, Denis Casey 1A, Jonathan Poulakos 1A, Josh Beaton 1A.

**Atom AE 6 TNT 2**

Scott Kimmerer 1G, Sean Halley 1G 1A, Dylan Skelton 1G 2A, Quinn Tessarolo 1G, Mitchell Sziraky 1G, Nicholas Silverio 1G, Michael Vance 3A, Brendan Strachan 1A, Michael DiVincenzo 1A.

**Atom AE 1 Clarington 0**

Zackary Henderson, shutout, Brendan Strachan 1G, Adam Reid 1A, Scott Kimmerer 1A.

**Atom AE 2 Ajax 2**

Michael Nonnewitz 1G, Dylan Skelton 1G, Michael Vance 1A, Nicholas Silverio 1A, Sean Halley 1A.

**Atom AE 2 Newmarket 0**

Zackary Henderson, shutout, Michael Vance 1G, Dylan Skelton 1G, Brendan Strachan 1A, Scott Kimmerer 1A, Mitchell Sziraky 1A, Luca Battiston 1A.

Atom AE 5 East Gwillimbury 3

Michael DiVincenzo 2G 1A, Nicholas Silverio 1G, Dylan Skelton 1G, Scott Kimmerer 1G, Michael Nonnewitz 2A, Chris Venditelli 1A, Sean Halley 1A, Brendan Strachan 1A.

**Minor Peeewe Rep Sponsors**  
**AE:** Pembridge Insurance

**Markham 5 Minor Peeewe AA 2**

Justin Brown 1G, Dillon Cappell 1G, Max Lerner 1A, Adnrew Whitley 1A.

**Minor Peeewe AA 4 Newmarket 3**

Spencer Arkell 2G, Max Lerner 1G 1A, Jesse Cappell 1G, Justin Brown 1A.

**Minor Peeewe AA 7 Ajax 1**

Spencer Arkell 2G 1A, Jordan Tripp 1G 2A, Justin Brown 1G, Jesse Cappell 1G, Jordon Tripp 1G, Dillon Cappell 1G 1A, Kevin Zacharuk 3A, Max Lerner 2A, Nathan Brown 1A, Joshua Herrington 1A, Andrew Whitley 1A.

**Minor Peeewe AA 2 Georgina 2**

Dillon Cappell 1G, Jordan Tripp 1G.

**Minor Peeewe A 4 Barrie 3**

Paul Keilty 2G, Michael McGolrick 1G, Dylan Cross 1G, Derrick Hamner 1A, Evan Casselden 1A.

**Bradford 4 Minor Peeewe A 2**

Derrick Hamner 2G, Taylor Nuttall 2A, Geoff Gianopoulos 1A.

**Minor Peeewe AE 8 Vaughan Rangers 1**

Michael Delplavignano 1G 2A, Sean MacEachern 1G, Oliver Boettcher 3G 1A, Andrew Mckay 2G 2A, Tyler Tisdale 1G 2A, Patrick Lee 1A, Shawn Clark 2A, Chris Tillsley 1A, Miles Curtis 2A, Conor Sheridan 1A, Matthew Semeredy 1A.

Peeewe Rep Sponsors

AA: Craig Proctor Realtor

A: Agnico-Eagle Mines Ltd.

AE: Crown Food Service Equipment Ltd.

**Peeewe AA 8 Georgina 0**

Tyler Hanlon 2G 1A, Marcus Tocchet 2G, Johnny Borsellino 2G,



Sean Fennell 1G 1A, Zachary Gusti 1G 2A, Alex Denault 3A, Connor McQuestion 3A.

**Orillia 6 Peeewe A 3**

Ryan Finlay 2G, Michael Morson 1G, Carter Hassard 2A, David Bar 1A, Andrew Mcdonald 1A, Quenton Hunt 1A, Luca Ghegin 1A.

**Peeewe A 8 Bradford 1**

Luca Ghegin 1G, Matthew Joynt 1G 1A, Andrew McDonald 1G 3A, Quenton Hunt 4G, Brett Dutchyshen 1G, Carter Hassard 1A, Ryan Finlay 1A, David Bar 1A, Emilio Nafarrate 1A.

**Peeewe AE 3 Ajax 1**

Adam Bloom 2G, Matthew Scrimes 1G, Greg Buchner 2A, Curtis Hough 1A, David Iwai 1A, Trevor McCartney 1A, Cory Blom 1A.

**Peeewe AE 6 East Gwillimbury 3**

Adam Bloom 3G 1A, Greg Buchner 1G, Curtis Hough 2G, Cory Blom 2A, Nick Di Nallo 2A, Andrew Mangialardi 1A, Ethan Shore 1A.

**Peeewe AE 5 Bradford 2**

Ethan Shore 2G 1A, Adam Bloom 1G 1A, David Iwai 1G, Matthew Scrimes 1G, Curtis Hough 1A, Andrew Mangialardi 2A, Greg Buchner 1A, Trevor McCartney 1A, Chris Burns 1A.

**Minor Bantam AA 4 Pickering 2**

Karl Pelan 2G 1A, Eric Sarracini 1G 2A, Jeremy Ellison 1G, Kevin Kryshka 2A, Daniel Curci 1A.

**Minor Bantam AA 12 Barrie 1**

Eric Sarracini 2G 5A, Karl Pelan 2G 1A, Ross Pizzurro 2G, Jeremy Ellison 1G 3A, Daniel Curci 1G 2A, Cody Offen 1G 1A, Jeremy Koen 1G 1A, Chris Hankey 1G 1A, Jordan Koen 1G, Kevin Kryshka 3A, Carter Durant 2A, Travis Hooper 1A.

**Minor Bantam AA 6 Georgina 3**

Karl Pelan 2G 1A, Daniel Curci 1G 1A, Jeremy Ellison 1G 1A, Ian Middleton 1G, Eric Sarracini 2A, Jeremy Cohen 1A, Jordan Koen 1A, Ross Pizzurro 1A.

**Minor Midget Rep Sponsors**  
**AA:** Tricell Communications

**Minor Midget AA 5 Newmarket Redmen 3**

Mike White 2G, Taylor Campbell 1G 2A, Cal Simmonds 2G, Taylor Dinner 1A, Kelly McGowan 1A, Timi Sotoadeh 2A, Vincent Davenport 2A, Sandy Craig 2A.

**Minor Midget AA 4 Pickering Panthers 4**

Kelly McGowan 1G, Mike White 1G 1A, Sandy Craig 1G 1A, Adam Hankins 1G, Taylor Campbell 2A, Tom Keane 1A, Vincent Davenport 1A, Cal Simmonds 2A.

**Barrie 5 Minor Midget A 3**

Sean Fodey 1G, Patrick Bowie 1G, Corey Berube 1G, Peter McNeill 1A, Zach Andrews 1A.

**Orillia 7 Minor Midget A 2**

Patrick Bowie 1G, Brent Gallagher 1G, Peter McNeill 2A, Mark Whiting 1A, Jordan Williams 1A.

**Minor Midget A 4 Bradford 3**

Peter McNeill 1G, Brent Gallagher 1G 1A, Corey Berube 1G, Brandon Polsinello 1G, Sean Fodey 1A, Scott Daly 1A.

**Oshawa II 6 Minor Midget AE 1**

Dan Abram 1G, Keon Karamchi 1A.

**Minor Midget AE 7 Orillia 2**

Bradley Finch 2G 1A, Graeme Fleming 2G, Derek Roldan 1G 2A, Michael Couperthwaite 1G, Mike Smyth 1G, Carson Nimmo 3A, Stephen Facca 2A, John Epworth 1A, Tim Gerrits 1A, Mark Whiting 1A.

**Newmarket 7 Minor Midget AE 3**

Tim Gerrits 2G, Dan Abram 1G, Keon Karamchi 1A, Carson Nimmo 1A, Stephen Facca 1A, John Epworth 1A.

**Midget Rep Sponsors**  
**A:** Greyfield Construction

Richmond Hill Stars 4 Midget A 3  
PJ Speciale-Plouffe 1G, Marc Oppedisano 1G, Mark Smith 1G, Chris Statchuk 2A, Craig Waites 1A, Andrew Jamieson 1A, Matt Cundari 1A, Michael Jack 1A.

**Midget A 6 Innisfil Winterhawks 3**

Chris Statchuk 2G, PJ Speciale-Plouffe 1G 1A, Matt Cleverdon 1G 1A, Ryan Kines 1G 1A, Michael Jack 1G 1A, Marc Oppedisano 2A, Steven Black 2A, Matt Cundari 1A, Mark Jarman 1A, Mark Smith 1A.

**Midget A 6 Barrie Flyers 4**

Tim Tutton 2A, Mark Jarman 1G 2A, Marc Oppedisano 1G 2A, Mark Smith 1G 1A, Matt Cleverdon 1G 1A, Michael Jack 1G 1A, Mark Johnson 1G, PJ Speciale-Plouffe 1A, Chris Statchuk 1A.

<div><div><div><div><div><div><span></span></div></div></div><div><div><div><span></span></div></div><div><div><span></span></div></div></div><div><div><div><span></span></div></div><div><div><span></span></div></div></div><div><div><div><span></span></div></div><div><div><span></span></div></div></div></div></div><div><b>House League Showcase Tournament</b> <b>Dec. 27th - Dec. 31st, 2003</b> <b>Celebrity Game: Tuesday, Dec. 30th, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.</b></div></div>
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# Liquor store plans need meeting first

Aurora may have another liquor store, but not before a public meeting is held in January to kick around the idea.

Last October the Committee of Adjustment approved a minor variance application by St. John's Bay Company Limited to permit a 15,000-square foot liquor store on a property designated as prestige industrial, which surprised several town officials.

The property is in the Bayview-St. John's Sideroad area.

Later that month the town appealed the variance with council support. Council directed staff to meet with the applicant to discuss alternatives.

The meeting was held in early November and the applicant informed staff that it was his intention to

file an official plan and zoning bylaw amendment with the town, which was achieved about a week later.

A public planning meeting is scheduled for January 28.

Councillor Nigel Kean requested clarification regarding the original application for a minor variance, an appeal and a change of heart.

Planning Commissioner Susan Seibert replied that on a rezoning the applicant has the option of proceeding by way of the normal planning process or submitting to the application to the Committee of Adjustment for a minor variance from the zoning bylaw, but not the official plan.

Council was also advised that the appeal was being held in abeyance subject to the public meeting.

## Jaguar Gymnastics



Registrations are welcome for our

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RUNNING

**January 5<sup>th</sup> to April 24<sup>th</sup>**

Don't forget our  
**Christmas Camp**

Dec 22nd, 23rd & 24th

1/2 and full day spots available

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

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## Juniors visit seniors

How could Santa Claus not fulfill the Christmas wishes of these two cherubs? Meghan and Alexander Harrison, top photo, whispered their wishes to the jolly old gent as the Aurora Senior Citizens held their Christmas party Sunday afternoon at the centre.. Below, a few of the children who attended the event, invited because

they were grandchildren, or even great grandchildren of Aurora Seniors' members. It was just one of numerous activities

the Seniors have organized during the month to celebrate Christmas.

*Auroran photos by David Falconer*

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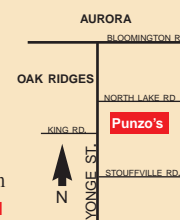
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## New Year's 2004 At Punzo's

Begin your evening with some Warm Chestnut's and Clementine's By The Fire

Appetizer Choice Of:

Armangac Lobster Bisque with White Truffle Crème Fraiche

Or

B.B.Q. Chicken Spring Roll with Sweet & Sour Dipping Sauce and Crispy Fried Leeks

Or

In-House Smoked Salmon Potato Rosti finished with a Chive Crème Fraiche

Pasta Choice Of:

Arborio Risotto with Pulled Pork Confit, Apple and Sage Topped with Canadian Pure Maple Syrup Glaze

Or

Homemade Jumbo Ravioli Stuffed with Mixed Mushroom Sweet Sherry & Leek in a Porcini Consommé

Entrée Choice Of:

Filet of Beef Tenderloin & Broiled Lobster with Garlic Mashed and Sautéed Vegetables

Or

Breast of Capon Stuffed with Asparagus, Goat Cheese and Leeks served with Potato Pave and Sautéed Vegetables

Or

Slow Roasted Atlantic Salmon with Chianti Red Wine Risotto, Lemon Thyme and Enoki Mushrooms

Dessert Choice Of:

Cinnamon Clove & Rum Spiced Poached Pear with a Marscapone Chocolate Mousse

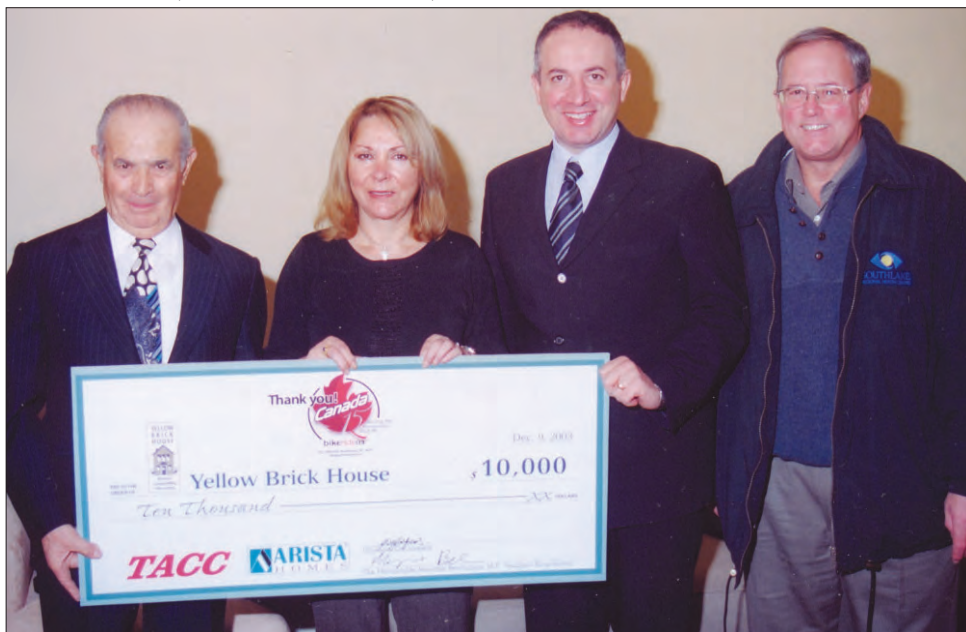
Or

Caramel and Chopped Nut Lindt Chocolate Ganache Tart

Champagne Toast Included

**Reserve Now For Your New Year's Party**





You may recall during Aurora's July First parade, Vaughan-King-Aurora Member of Parliament Maurizio Bevilacqua and a host of others riding bicycles down Yonge Street. He was raising funds for various York Region charities, and last week, he dropped into Aurora's Yellow Brick House with a \$10,000 cheque. Receiving the cheque is Filomena Williams, YBH executive director, while John DeGasperis, left, and Mayor Tim Jones, right, look on.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

# Housing has been a concern in Aurora since the eighties

In February, 1984, Aurora Council agreed to prepare a Municipal Housing Statement in an effort to assess current and future housing needs and to determine approaches to meet those needs.

At the time Aurora was facing some important decisions with respect to its future growth and development as a result of changing demographic and economic and social patterns.

A review of census data indicated the town's population had grown from 13,610 in 1971 to 16,267 in 1981, or 16.3 per cent.

During the same period the number of new households increased from 3,629 to 5,140 or 29.4 per cent.

During the period the average household size decreased from 3.7 persons per unit in 1971 to 3.1 in 1981 indicating a trend towards smaller family units and an increase in non-family households.

In addition, the number of citizens aged 60 years and over increased as a proportion of the total population, contributing to a need for a greater diversity of both affordability and dwelling types.

The Starr Group, a consulting firm specializing in municipal housing statements, was retained at a bid of \$10,000 to assist in the preparation of the housing statement, with a report to be submitted in 14 weeks.

The housing study was designed to review the population and household characteristics and projections of growth over the next three to five years, an assessment of the potential supply of land and potential timing of development, and determination of demand for both market rent and rent-geared-to-income family and senior citizen housing.

Council received the final draft of the housing statement in November

that year.

It pointed out that the average household size would continue to decline and by 1986, it was expected to be 2.9 persons, while the percentage of non-family households was expected to increase to approximately 20 per cent of all households in the municipality.

It was pointed out that these projections would be realized only if the required level of appropriate accommodation was available to meet the changing needs.

It was also noted there had been an increase in the number of multiple family households, as a result of families doubling up due to the shortage of affordable accommodation for both young families and seniors.

By 1981 it was found that 29.6 per cent of the total family households were childless, 24.8 per cent had one child and 30.9 per cent had two children.

The report recommended that suppliers of housing should be designing housing units for smaller families.

A profile of family income at the time compared to the Region of York indicated the average household income was 9.6 per cent lower than the regional average.

Of this number 20.4 per cent were senior citizens with incomes less than \$15,000, and while housing affordability may not pose a problem for some who owned their homes, others suffered severe affordability problems. One-parent families had similar problems.

Households earning under \$15,000 could generally afford to pay only \$300 to \$400 per month in rent, using the 25 per cent of income guideline, but given the limited availability of rental units there was insufficient housing in this price range to meet the needs of these groups.

The level of natural population growth in Aurora was relatively consistent over time, but problems were experienced trying to estimate net-immigration growth, the net change in population resulting from the flow of people in and out of the community.

Of the 3,300 growth in the town's population from 1972 to 1983, a total of 1,744 or 52.8 per cent was the result of immigration, although in 1979 more people moved out of Aurora than moved in.

It was also pointed out that while Aurora had a relatively steady rate of employment growth, other parts of the region were adding jobs at a much higher rate.

Aurora's share of the total employment in the region had declined from 7.7 per cent to 5.8 per cent over the past decade.

At that time only 28.2 per cent of the labour force was employed within the town, with 33.4 per cent commuting to Toronto, while 29.7 per cent worked somewhere within the region.

From 1971 to 1981, Aurora experienced a 41.6 per cent increase in the number of total occupied households, but during the same period, the town's population grew

# Council signs pre-servicing agreement with State Farm

Aurora Council has agreed to authorize a pre-servicing agreement with Whitwell Developments Limited and State Farm Mutual Automotive Insurance Company to permit the servicing of lands at Highway 404 and Wellington Street East.

Conditions include necessary approvals from the Ministry of the Environment, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority and York Region, and receipt of proof of

insurance indemnifying the town in an amount of \$10 million.

It is anticipated the developer will enter into a subdivision agreement in early 2004 to allow for the issuance of a building permit for the State Farm headquarters building, with construction starting in the middle of the year.

State Farm's Canadian

head office is expected to house more than 321,000 square feet, and employ upwards of 1,000 people.

The complex would be located on the north-west corner of Highway 404 and Wellington Street, and signs have already been erected announcing the new home of the headquarters.

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(And by the way, used books make good gifts, too.

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## R & R Revisited

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He showed up last week as the Aurora Chamber of Commerce held its Christmas Open House. He looked, for all the world, like one of the staff at Oakwood Terrace. Everyone believed it until he approached the microphone and started into a spiel which suggested he simply wasn't part of the staff. His name tag said "Todd" but his real name is Terry V. Hart, from Comedyworks, and he may have just written Aurora's theme song. Well, perhaps not for the town, but certainly for the Chamber. Comedyworks, an organization from Newmarket, recently joined the Aurora Chamber, and Terry, or Todd, quickly became a favourite last week. His song, reprinted below, is sung to the tune of Volare, and guests asked him to sing it twice...which, not surprisingly, he did rather quickly.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

### AURORA (VOLARE)

Sometimes the world is a valley of heartaches and tears  
And in the hustle and bustle no sunshine appears.  
But you and I have a secret that's there to remind us  
There is a way we can leave all the shadows behind us.

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Where success, home and family are words that you hear all the time.

Aurora oh-oh. We adore-ya, oh-oh-oh-oh  
No wonder the membership's grown  
So many have called this town home.

Aurora oh-oh. We adore ya, oh-oh-oh-oh  
I wonder, I'm sure you have too  
Just what the chamber does do.  
They have guest speaker luncheons and networking sessions  
Event just like this that are free.  
And the business achievement awards recognize you and me  
Just like birds of a feather we'll grow fast together, you'll see.

Aurora oh-oh. We adore-ya, oh-oh-oh-oh  
No wonder the membership's grown  
So many have called this town home  
So many have called this town home  
So many have called this town home

# Aurora Skating Club recent test results

Aurora Skating Club members passed the following at a recent test day:

Dutch Waltz: Shannon Lacombe, Samantha Galati, Jihyun Cha.

Canasta Tango: Alicia Saunders, Samantha Galati, Melany Noseworthy.

Baby Blues: Kortney Weichel, Kayla Mete, Courtney Tidona, Nicole Calvert, Jackianne Abbey, Robyn Kosmidis, Kaitlin VanWinckle.

Swing Dance: Taylor MacDowall.

Fiesta Tango: Caden Armstrong, Kendall Manella, Tayler Sim, Melanie Althouse, Kortney Weichel.

Ten-Fox: Megan Gunning, Cierra Snell, Avery Gagnon, Christina Relke, Jordanna Goldman, Emma Lavery.

European Waltz: Emma Warburton, Emma Slimkowich, Stephanie Fonceca.

Preliminary Skills: Sophia Perugini.

Junior Bronze Skills: Emma Dillon.

Senior Bronze Skills: Amy Thompson, Alanna Kelly, Allie Sutton, Emma Slimkowich.

Junior Bronze Freeskate, Part 2: Stephanie Fonceca, Amy Bellefeuille, Julia Ranson.

Senior Bronze Freeskate, Part 1 & 2: Amy Thompson.

Meanwhile, the following Aurora Skating Club members recently competed at the Amherst Invitational Competition, in Amherst N.Y.

Pre-Preliminary Freeskate: Nicole Relke - Flight B - 4th; Megan Gunning - Flight C - 3rd; Alanna Fabriccino - Flight D - 1st.

Pre-Preliminary Interpretive: Megan Gunning - Flight B - 1st; Alanna Fabriccino - Flight C - 1st.

Badge Elements: Ice Angels - Jacqueline Dixon, Victoria Dixon, Courtney Tidona - 3rd.

In another recent test day activity, the following was accomplished:

Keats Foxtrot: Paige Flanagan, Meagan Hay, Mackensie Jordan, Allie Sutton.

Harris Tango: Amber Bowman, Maya Goldman, Emma Hayzelden, Amy Thompson.

American Waltz: Amy Bellefeuille, Ariel Kwan.

Rocker Foxtrot: Emma Hayzelden, Jamie Stephenson.

Paso Doble: Terra Cioffe, Heather Cole.

Blues: Meaghan Jones.

Quickstep: Brinlee Brown, Michelle Wong.

Argentine Tango: Michelle Wong.

Junior Silver Skills: Amber Bowman.

Senior Silver Skills: Terra Cioffe.

Junior Silver Freeskate, Part 1: Michelle Wong.

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**Community Skating Party**  
Aurora Leisure Centre  
**Sunday, January 11, 2004**  
**2:00 - 4:00 pm**

**Greg Sorbara, MPP**  
Vaughan-King-Aurora  
Tel: 1-877-880-6770  
Fax: 905-851-0210  
E-mail:  
gsorbara.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org  
**Vaughan Office:** 8551 Weston Rd., Unit 201,  
Vaughan, ON L4L 9N6  
from 9:00am to noon  
**Aurora Satellite Office:** Council Lounge, Aurora  
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First Wed. of the month

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# Aurora boasts a long list of community volunteers

The backbone of any community is its volunteer force, the men and women who give so freely of their time and talents to help others without thinking of receiving anything in return.

Over the years Aurora has been most fortunate in having a strong volunteer force in sports, community events, social services and agencies and every endeavour that helps to make Aurora, the place people are proud to call home.

Bob Harman, a lifelong Aurora resident who died in April, 1977, at age 42, was honoured by the town with a memorial trophy.

He had given unselfishly of his time to minor sports for more than 20 years. He was called "the volunteer's volunteer".

The trophy was established by the town to be awarded yearly to a resident for outstanding volunteer contribution to minor sports. The first recipient was Earl Cairns.

The award was made as part of the Recreation Department's Appreciation Night Dinner.

Cairns received the trophy from Mrs. Bob Harmon for his involvement with minor hockey and minor ball over the previous six years and his work with youth groups as a member of the Knights of Columbus.

The Civic Awards ceremony was organized by Aurora Council to recognize the efforts of Aurora groups and individuals. It was to replace the awards program sponsored by the Recreation Department, so that achievements other than sports could be recognized.

Volunteer Eric Hill was taken by surprise in October, 1978, when he was selected to receive the Bob Harman Memorial Award for his work in minor softball and hockey over the previous 11 years.

Hill spent five years as president of Aurora Minor Ball and 11 years as a coach and convener.

He was also active with the Juvenile and Junior hockey house league. He was a firm believer in a strong minor sports program in the municipality.

Hill became involved in minor sports shortly after moving to Aurora with his wife and seven children in 1966. His interest was natural since his children were avid participants in the town's recreational programs.

Other awards went to the Aurora Minor Pee wee "A" Team on winning the Ontario Championship and the Aurora Major Atom Hockey Team for winning the Zone Championship.

Wendy Birch and Danny

Sorley won the Ontario Figure Skating Championship for Dance Pairs.

Alan Dean, Tim Haslam and Raymond Jackson together won nine medals at the Canadian Games for the Disabled, including six golds.

Peter Smereka won first place at the Canasda-Wide Science Fair. The York County Rugger Association won the 1977 Ontario Rugger Championship.

The Aurora Woodgate Irish Dancers came second in the World Championships of Irish Dancing and the Ambassador Drum and Bugle Corps won the Ontario and the Canadian Championships.

In June, 1980, gold antiqued medallions bearing Aurora's coat of arms and attached to bright red, white and blue ribbons were awarded to 110 young residents at the town's Civic Awards night at the Community Centre.

Individual honours were bestowed on Marianne Corbet who was a member of the Ontario team to win the national team championship in the Master Bowlers' Association, and Steve Davey, a gold medal winner in the provincial swim competitions.

Three hockey clubs were honoured. They were the all-Ontario champion

Aurora Minor Pee wees and the Aurora Minor Bantams and the zone champion Aurora Minor Atom Tigers.

The Aurora branch of the Woodgate School of Traditional Irish Dancing won the North American crown for choreography and the Aurora/Newmarket Ambassadors Drum and Bugle Corps were Canadian Champs in the "C" competition.

Pete Hannan was the 1980 winner of the Bob Harman Memorial Award for his many hours of volunteer work in sporting activities and being convener of the Aurora Minor Hockey Association from 1977 to 1979.

In 1981 the awards went to the Leeds and Northrup Major Bantams, all Ontario Champions, the Aurora Tigers Major Atoms, Zone Champions, and the Aurora Minor Midgets, all Ontario Champions.

Several Girl Guides received their Canada Cord.

Also receiving awards was the Aurora High Lacrosse Team who won the Ontario Championship in Junior B and John Grimmatt for winning the Ontario Handicap Championship in Trap Shooting.

A special award was

made to Tim Haslam, a 22-year-old wheelchair athlete for winning five gold medals in provincial championships by placing first in the 100-metre, 200-metre, 400-metre, 800-metre and 1,500-metre events.

In 1982, Civic Awards went to 140 Aurora residents and it was the first year that the town provided a special souvenir program booklet.

Awards went to the Woodgate Irish Dancers for winning the Best Overseas Team Award in Ireland, the Tynedale Pony Club for their win at the Prince Philip Games in Vancouver and members of the Canadiana Roller Skating Club for taking first place ribbons at the World Team Trials.

St. Andrew's College Saints Hockey Club took the Provincial Hockey Championship for Ontario Secondary Schools. The Aurora Minor Hockey Association Pee Wee

Team, the AMHA Midgets and the Juvenile AMHA Team won Ontario Championships.

Individual awards went to Corie Anquetil for her win at the Canadian Junior Nationals Tennis Championships and Steve Crombie, who helped win the National Soccer Championship for the under 18 Select Team.

Also receiving awards were Tim Haslam for winning the 400-metre Wheelchair event at the Canada Games for the Disabled, Ron Keizerwaard and Keith Cameron, members of the All-Star Basketball Team which won a Gold and a Bronze and Dennis Langley for winning the North American Sailing Championship in the CL-16 Class.

These are just a few of the residents of Aurora, who were recognized for bringing fame and honour to their hometown.

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## York Police video wins major award

York Regional Police Chief Armand La Barge, joined by former Toronto Maple Leaf captain Wendel Clark and Canada AM co-host Beverly Thomson, congratulated the York Regional Police Video Services Department on winning the Gold Shield Award from LEVA (Law Enforcement & Emergency Services Video Association) recently.

Subject of the video is the currently under construction Community Safety Village, a project that got its start in Aurora, and will operate on Bruce's Mill Conservation Authority property in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The York group captured first place in the Community Relations - Short Video category at the LEVA International Training Conference, held

recently in St. Charles, Illinois.

The winning entry featured Mr. Clark, the Honourary Chair of the Community Safety Village, and Ms Thomson as co-hosts.

The video was written and produced by Cathy Joyce, a member of the Community Safety Village Board of Directors.

It was directed and edited by video services analyst Marcus Gumpenberger and Staff-Sgt. Rodney Sine acted as executive producer.

Chief La Barge also

reminded York Region businesses and residents that the Safety Village board of directors is still striving to meet its fundraising goal of \$3 million.

So far, more than \$2 million has been raised. The village will open this spring.

LEVA is a 650-member non-profit organization promoting the use of state-of-the-art equipment in law enforcement, including in the areas of crime prevention, public information and crime scene investigation.



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**Sunday, December 21**

**Advent 4**

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4 & 7 p.m. Christmas Carols and Lessons  
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**Wednesday, December 24**

**Christmas Eve**

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion  
3 & 5 p.m. Pageant and Family Communion  
7 p.m. Holy Eucharist on a  
contemporary note  
9 p.m. Candlelight Mass  
11 p.m. Midnight Mass

**Thursday, December 25**

**Christmas Day**

10:30 a.m. Christmas Communion.

**Sunday, December 30**

**Christmas 1**

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
9:15 & 11 a.m. Family Eucharist at these two  
services all children will worship with us.

*Nursery is provided.*

For more information call:

**Trinity Anglican Church**

Father Philip Poole at 905 727 6101  
79 Victoria Street, Aurora, ON



# When Wood Gundy helped make Christmas miracles

It was back in December, 1988, when the Aurora branch of brokerage firm Wood Gundy helped to make miracles for needy Aurora families at Christmas.

For the second year the branch participated in Wood Gundy's Children's Miracle fundraising drive for children's charities.

The company's brokers donated all their commissions earned in the Aurora office for trading on one day on the stock exchange

The selected charities were York County and York Central Hospital Foundations and Big Brothers of York.

The annual drive was a Bay Street tradition and over the past four years raised more than \$2 million for a number of local and national charities.

The Aurora office, which had been located in the St. Andrew's Shopping Centre, was closed shortly afterwards.

## AURORA STUDENT WINS SCIENCE FAIR

In May, 1984, Charles Casselman, 16, of Aurora, won two awards for the project he entered into the 1984 Canada-Wide Science Fair held in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The Aurora High School student was a winner from among 400,000 competitors in 67 regions all across Canada in the 23rd annual fair sponsored by the Youth Science Foundation.

After being selected to represent York Region, he competed against Canada's top 314 young scientists. He received honourable mention in senior life sciences and a \$200 award for best in consumer research product testing and retail business.

# This breakthrough will extend car's engine life

As a science student you may remember the demonstration of chemistry teachers to show how water could be separated by electricity into its two components of hydrogen and oxygen.

The process was called electrolysis.

Hydrogen, as a source of energy, has been around for a long time.

It's colourless, odourless, extremely flammable and is ideal for producing cleaner burning fuels and providing greater mileage for urban transportation.

Units in Aurora's industrial parks accommodate many small businesses and many surprises. One such small firm is Global Tech.

The Aurora-based firm was founded in 1996 to develop and market a breakthrough in hydrogen technologies.

Its energy-sector technologies save fuel, reduce emissions, increase power and extend engine life.

With its new, compelling product, Hydrogen Fuel Injection

System (HFIS) the company is poised for a commercial launch into the substantial transportation and distributed electric power stationary generator systems.

Global Tech has Canadian and U.S. patent rights on the HFIS system.

It is a compact and module engine attachment powered by the alternator and operates only when the engine is running.

The device produces hydrogen and oxygen gases on demand from the controlled electrolysis of distilled water.

These gases are delivered to the engine's air intake where they improve overall engine efficiency by aiding in a more complete and faster burn of the air-fuel mixture, providing greater mileage and less air pollution.

According to Jim Atwell, Global Tech operations manager, there are 6.6 million heavy goods vehicles or tractor trailers in North America and that num-

## PETE MILLER WINS SERVICE AWARD

Back in September, 1975, Aurora Councillor Pete Miller was one of four Canadians to receive a Century Award for his community service from his employer Prudential Insurance Company.

Miller, in his fifth term as a town councillor, was recognized for his contribution to the development of amateur sport and facilities in Aurora.

The award included a \$500 contribution to go to the community organization of his choice, which he donated to the Canadian Cancer Society.

Besides his work as an elected representative on the parks and recreation committee, he was one of the founders of the local minor football association and had been active in minor hockey as a coach.

## WHERE IS THE ENERGY GLUT NOW?

It was just a little over 10 years ago when Maurice Strong was brought in as chairman of Ontario Hydro in order to bring the corporation some fiscal responsibility and energy stability. At the time the utility had a debt of more than \$30 billion.

Critics claimed mismanagement of Ontario Hydro had created an overestimate of demand resulting in a glut of electricity. Hydro officials said they didn't need 15 new reactors or new northern dams.

They cancelled \$1 billion worth of conservation projects and rejected municipal co-generation proposals, projects that would be more environmentally friendly, create more jobs and save money.

ber is growing every year.

They represent but a portion of the estimated 25 million diesel-powered vehicles in North America.

Although Global Tech is currently targeting diesel-powered vehicles, the HFIS system will enhance any internal combustion engine using any hydrocarbon fuel and will eventually be available for motor cars.

The benefits of the HFIS system are both environmental and financial as the technology reduces emissions of several gases includ-

ing visible exhaust particulates or black smoke and improves horsepower and fuel efficiency.

In Ontario, the government's "Drive Clean" program has placed additional demands on the operators of heavy goods vehicles and buses through annual checks and random roadside inspections and the HFIS system provides an easy and profitable solution.

Global Tech is located at 5 Furbacher Lane in Aurora. Call 905-726-2700 or toll-free 1-800-550-4066, for more information.

It was claimed new plants would not be needed until 2009 at the earliest.

What happened?

## BILL AND THE ELUSIVE PRIZE

In January, 1988, Bill Spasopoulos, co-owner of the former Trio Restaurant, had his name drawn in a raffle sponsored by the Aurora Lions Club.

The prize was a \$1,000 shopping voucher from Upper Canada Mall in Newmarket.

But because Bill was in Australia and not present for the draw, Lions Club officials said he was not eligible for the prize.

But the tickets didn't say the winner had to be present to collect the voucher.

The voucher was provided by Upper Canada Mall as an additional promotional prize for the club's monthly draw.

After club officials met with mall officials it was decided that Bill could claim his prize

## WHERE IS AURORA'S ACCORDION BAND?

Back in the early 1990s a familiar sight and sound in local parades and events was the John Kernohan Memorial Accordion Band with 20 accordion players and 40 marchers, drummers and flag bearers.

Marching accordion bands are a tradition in Northern Ireland and John, Senior brought the idea to Canada in 1964 and involved the whole family with 15 Kernohans or relations in the band.

They played the same music as other marching bands, but it was more subdued and pleasant to listen to.

In addition to playing in the Aurora Santa Claus and July First parades, they played in Toronto Christmas parades and in 1992 were invited to play in the Orange Bowl parade in Miami and at Disney World in Florida.

Where are they now?

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# Demolition company carries on after theatre building collapse

**From page 1**  
result was devastating. One person dead, another 14 hurt.

Chaos reigned. For the next 36 hours, Vic Priestly would stay at the site of the accident.

The Auroran found him there Thursday afternoon. Friday he returned to his Aurora office, to issue a press release to various local media from his son, Ryan.

"Priestly Demolition Inc. wishes to thank the Toronto Fire Department, Toronto Police Services, the City of Toronto and the provincial Ministry of Labour for their hard work and dedication in responding to Monday's tragic accident at the site of the former Uptown Theatre," the release said.

The company had secured the site and "ensured the safety of the people and buildings in the neighbouring area", it said.

"We are especially saddened by the death of Mr. Augusto Cesar Mejia-Solis. We also wish a speedy

recovery to those injured in the accident, whom we shall try to assist with all means at our disposal."

Currently, all that is known is that the building collapsed without warning.

It will likely be months of hearings, inquests, lawsuits, and meetings before anyone really knows what went wrong that sunny Monday morning.

"Investigators are still determining the precise cause of the building collapse," Ryan continued in his press release. "The probe is being led by the provincial Ministry of Labour and the City of Toronto.

"We are co-operating fully in the investigation and look forward to the answers to a number of crucial questions raised by this tragic event."

But for the high-profile former Aurora Citizen of the Year, Vic Priestly can only carry on.

It's not, however, all peaches and cream.

While no one has publicly laid any blame on the high-

ly-respected demolition company, some pretty evil hate mail is circulating through the internet.

One letter, purportedly written by one of Priestly Demolition's own staff, suggests the company cuts corners, disobeys safety regulations, and indulges in other dishonest or illegal business practices.

The man named in the letter does, indeed, work for Priestly, but was stunned beyond belief when shown the letter.

"He didn't write this," Vic said. "I know he didn't."

Vic reads the e-mail again and shakes his head.

"Disasters can bring out the best in some people, like the emergency workers and crews at the site," he said. "They can also bring out the worst, like the author of this slanderous letter."

Long time Aurora resident, Vic Priestly is the son of a Toronto police officer, and has lived here for more than 30 years.

Several believe that if it

were not for the loan of Priestly vehicles, there would be a much diminished Santa Claus parade in town, since most floats are constructed on his trucks.

In October, the Aurora Chamber of Commerce selected Vic as its Business Person of the Year.

The Priestly crew continued work after the building collapsed, and worked round the clock to secure the site and finish the demolition.

It was the typical Priestly Demolition force in action. Quick and efficient.

It was the same company that brought down Aurora's 40-year-old water tower almost one year ago; and, with regret, dismantled the 100-year-old chimney on the Bacon Basketware site.

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<p><b>Best Wishes for the Holiday Season</b></p>	<p><b>DAYCARE</b></p> <p><b>LOVING HOME DAYCARE</b> for your 2 + year old child/children in the Bathurst/McClellan area. Call Michelle at 905-727-6370</p>	<p><b>NETWORKING GROUP</b></p> <p><b>OWN YOUR OWN BUSINESS?</b> Join ENG Entrepreneurs Networking Group. We meet once a month at the old Town Hall in Newmarket. We have a great line up of speakers and the cost is reasonable. More Info: 905-841-3925</p>	<p><b>PART-TIME HELP WANTED</b></p> <p><b>DESKTOP PUBLISHER</b> Mac operator. Must know programs: Quark Express, Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop. Typing speed important. Approximately 5-10 hrs. per week. Contact Auroran 905-727-3300</p>
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