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# AURORAN

*Aurora's Community Newspaper*

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Vol. 4 No. 13

Week of February 3, 2004

905-727-3300

## LCBO proposal will "knock your socks off"

It will be a liquor store that "will knock your socks off", lawyer Brian Corbett told a public planning meeting last week.

And providing final approval is given to an application to rezone a block of prestige industrial land to commercial, Aurora would become home to a 15,000 square foot LCBO warehouse/retail store, which would be a flagship

store for the corporation.

The structure would be built on Bayview Avenue, just south of St. John's Sideroad.

Last October, Aurora's Committee of Adjustment approved a minor variance application to permit the store but that was appealed by the town and staff was directed to meet with the applicant to discuss

alternatives.

As a result the applicant decided to file an official plan and zoning bylaw amendment which was heard at last week's public planning meeting.

Land immediately north of the proposal will be the site of a new Loblaws supermarket and the two operations will share one exit onto Bayview Avenue.

A second entrance to the LCBO site would be built from Earl Stewart Drive.

Corbett, representing St. John's Bay Land Company Ltd., owners of the site, said arrangements had been made with Loblaws that if they should decide to expand on their property, the lost parking would be made up by using parking space on the LCBO lot.

Corbett said the new LCBO will be considerably busier than the current outlet at Yonge and Brookland, because of its size and selection.

"It will knock your socks off," he said.

A giant Loblaws store has been approved for the southwest corner of Bayview and St. John's Sideroad.

He said discussions had taken place with Loblaws and a proposal for a future Loblaws' gas bar had been deleted because of a nearby regional well.

Councillor Wendy Gaertner

**Please see page 7**

## Missed mail kills meeting

Oops.

For the sake of half a dozen notices, a roomful of residents grumbled out of the Aurora council chambers Wednesday night.

There to discuss a proposal for a development that might include a drive-thru restaurant, the residents learned the topic would not be heard because six residents had not been notified of the meeting.

The application was before the planning meeting to amend uses on a parcel of land on Hollidge Boulevard and Bayview Avenue.

The change would allow drive-thru restaurants and other exceptions to the zoning bylaw.

Residents filled the council chambers to object to the proposal of drive-thru restaurants. In addition, letters and a petition with 70 signatures had also been received.

However, it was all for naught.

The hearing was postponed until Feb. 26, as some residents had

not received proper notification as required by the Planning Act.

Town staff discovered the oversight the morning of the scheduled meeting, too late to cancel or notify those who planned to attend.

On the advice of the municipal solicitor that the hearing be postponed until all residents were properly notified, the majority of council agreed to the postponement.

Councillor Evelyn Buck argued that as the residents were in attendance they should be heard. She also wanted to know why the proper circulation was not carried out.

Others pointed out that because of the error, the meeting could be considered illegal and open to challenges if it went ahead as scheduled.

Although there was some grumbling by the residents, they left the council chambers with plans to return later this month.



HARRY LUMSDEN

## Aurora's swan king acquires Order of Canada

**By CHRISTINE WOODLEY  
and DICK ILLINGWORTH**

As Harry Lumsden approaches a group of trumpeter swans gathered in a snowy corner of his six-acre Aurora property, the birds start to honk in greeting.

They obviously know the man approaching is a trusted friend and caregiver.

But what they don't know is that the quiet man in charge is one of Canada's newest members of the Order of Canada in the Science category, an honour bestowed on him last week by Governor General Adrienne Clarkson.

Harry knew it was coming.

"I received a letter in the mail. It was a complete surprise. It never occurred to me that I would ever receive it," he said as he conducted an impromptu tour of the habitat.

Mr. Lumsden's efforts to restore a trumpeter swan presence in Ontario began more than 20 years ago when he was with the Ministry of Natural Resources.

His objective was to re-establish a wild, self-sustaining swan population, using practical knowledge gained breeding geese and swans at his Hillview Road home.

He then recruited and trained "co-operators," volunteers around the province who had a suitable fenced pond to care for a pair of swans and provide the program with eggs and cygnets for eventual release.

**Please see page 14**



A combined class of Grade 4 and 5 students await speaker during Aurora Heights Public School's first literacy day held last week. The day-long activity included visits from Aurora Mayor Tim Jones and Auroran editor Ron Wallace. The event was a success and officials hope to hold it annually.

*Auroran photo by Ron Wallace*

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## COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

### CONTINUING

During the month of February the Skylight Gallery in the Aurora Town Hall features the artwork of Sandra Harron. Viewing hours are 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., Monday to Friday.  
\*\*\*\*

Helping Hands: Gently used clothing for women and children, at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street, every Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. For more information, call 905-727-6101.  
\*\*\*\*

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.  
\*\*\*\*

Marquee Theatrical Productions registration for ages 6-11 Snow White and 12 - 16 Acting and Production workshops. Program starts Feb. 21. For more information call 905-713-1040.  
\*\*\*\*

Friday and Saturday nights until February 15, the Queen Elizabeth Dinner Theatre at Howard Johnson Aurora presents the comedy "Suitehearts". Call 905-727-1312 to reserve.  
\*\*\*\*

To February 7 at the Factory Theatre, Theatre Aurora presents the science fiction mystery thriller "Communicating Doors". Call 905-727-3669 for tickets.  
\*\*\*\*

### FEBRUARY 7

Aurora's Arctic Adventure, Aurora Community Centre. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Activities for everyone.  
\*\*\*\*

Valentine's Tea fundraiser presented by the Mobility Foundation of York Region, at Aurora United Church, 2 to 4 p.m. Tickets \$10 and seating is limited. For tickets, call 905-727-7274 or 905-713-0832.  
\*\*\*\*

Dinner and a movie for all 11 to 14-year-olds at Victoria Hall from 7 to 9 p.m. Featured film is "The Medallion" starring Jackie Chan. Cost is \$3 per person. Call 905-726-4760 for more information.  
\*\*\*\*

### FEBRUARY 7-8

All Season Tennis Centre First Annual Polar Bear Tennis outdoor fundraising event for Bounce the Ball, a program to introduce tennis to local primary schools. McMahon Park tennis courts. To register call 905-841-8914 or visit www.astc.ca

Park tennis courts. To register call 905-841-8914 or visit www.astc.ca

### FEBRUARY 14

York Symphony Orchestra features "Orchestral Images" at 8 p.m. at Trinity Anglican Church Aurora. Program includes works by Chabrier, Khachaturian, Elgar, Debussy and Respighi. Call 416-410-0860 for tickets.  
\*\*\*\*

At the Aurora Legion, karaoke, 8 p.m. Tribute artist is Ken Mann. Preceded by a Chinese Valentine's Dinner at 6 p.m. Advance tickets \$10.  
\*\*\*\*

### 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.  
\*\*\*\*

Aurora Public Library in conjunction with Aurora Cable Internet presents a free seminar on Grisoft AVG Anti-Virus Software. 7-8.30 p.m. in the Lebovic room. Call the APL at 905-727-9493 to reserve a seat.  
\*\*\*\*

Aurora Chamber of Commerce luncheon meeting at the Tuscany Banquet Centre on Edward Street with Showcase Tables at 11:45 a.m. and luncheon at 12:30. Guest speaker is David Olive, columnist with the Toronto Star. Call 905-727-7262 to register.  
\*\*\*\*

### FEBRUARY 21-22

All Season Tennis Centre First Annual Polar Bear Tennis outdoor fundraising event for Bounce the Ball, a program to introduce tennis to local primary schools. McMahon Park tennis courts. To register call 905-841-8914 or visit www.astc.ca

### FEBRUARY 23

First payment of the 2004 interim property tax is due. The two interim payments are based on 50 per cent of your 2003 property tax.  
\*\*\*\*

### FEBRUARY 26

Aurora Seniors guided tour of Toronto's newest attraction The Distillery Historic Tour of the former Gooderham and Worts Distillery, now accommodating art galleries and museums. Cost for members \$58 and \$63 for non-members. Call 905-727-2816 to reserve.  
\*\*\*\*

### MARCH 5

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church World Day of Prayer service. 7.30 p.m. For further information, call 905-727-5011.  
\*\*\*\*

### MARCH 13-14

All Season Tennis Centre First Annual Polar Bear Tennis outdoor fundraising event for Bounce the Ball, a program to introduce tennis to local primary schools. McMahon Park tennis courts. To register call 905-841-8914 or visit www.astc.ca

### MARCH 20

The Registered Music Teachers of North York/York Region are presenting their annual "Teachers In Recital" at Trinity Anglican Church in Aurora at 7.30 p.m. Tickets \$10, \$7.50, and a \$25 ticket covers two adults and three children. Call (905) 727-5727.

### MARCH 24

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Networking Dart Tournament at Charley FitzWhiskey's from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Register by calling the Chamber office at 905-727-7262.

### MARCH 27-28

All Season Tennis Centre First Annual Polar Bear Tennis outdoor fundraising

event for Bounce the Ball, a program to introduce tennis to local primary schools. McMahon Park tennis courts. To register call 905-841-8914 or visit www.astc.ca

### MAY 10/13

Aurora Seniors' return trip to the Memphre Inn in Magog, Quebec. Includes three nights accommodation, nine meals, three late night snacks, entertainment, indoor swimming pool and two local visits with all service charges and taxes included. Double \$387. Call 905-727-2816 to reserve.  
\*\*\*\*

### JUNE 6

Ninth Annual World's Longest Street Festival. Call the Aurora Chamber of Commerce office at 905-727-7262 to book a spot.

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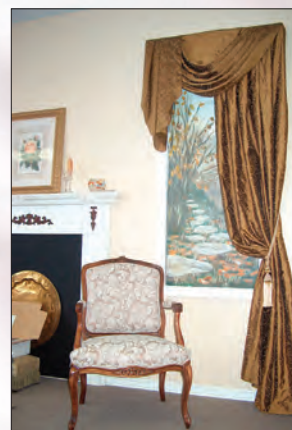
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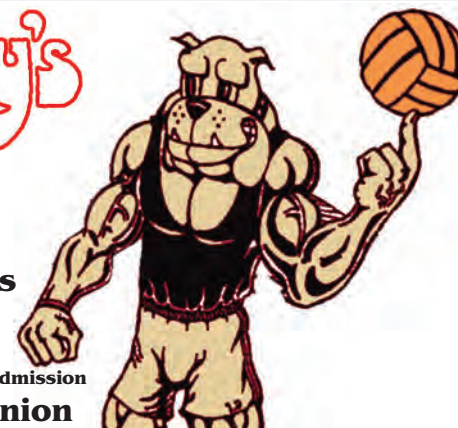


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### Schedule

**Feb 5- 6 - Beach Bash**  
**Feb 7 - Fleetwood Nicks**  
\$5 Admission  
**Feb 14 - Comedy Show**  
**Feb. 21 - Male Revue** \$10 Admission  
**Feb. 28 - W.C. Fields Reunion**







Finally, construction of York Region's Community Safety Village has risen above the ground. The large structure on the left is the outside wall of the 10,000 square foot Education Centre which will include three classrooms, offices, fire smoke house and the Community Room. The plywood structure to the right of second photograph is one of the 26 small buildings that will make up the miniature village, which is located in Bruce's Mill Conservation Area on the Stouffville Sideroad, southeast of Aurora. It is hoped the village will be ready in September.

# Yonge/Wellington right turn lane to be built in the Spring

Traffic conditions at the Yonge/Wellington intersection in downtown Aurora have been a problem for region and local councils and staff over the years.

On the list of the 10 worst intersections in York Region, Yonge and Wellington has become extremely busy but hasn't seen physical improvement in more than 30 years.

Several initiatives, from changing the phasing of the traffic lights to restricting parking and left turns, have been tried, but the problem wouldn't go away.

## Shape up, council!

Bill McWilliams, a long time Aurora resident and former Westview Golf Club professional, appeared before council's Open Forum last week and suggested council straighten itself out.

He said he's noted numerous examples of nit-picking and the splitting of council into sides starting again, much like it did during the past two terms.

He added that while disagreement on town issues was healthy and should be expected in a democratic process, the vote has a similar split on almost every issue.

"It's more than a coincidence," he said.

He asked members of council to put aside their personal agendas and work together for the good of Aurora and to save the electioneering until just before the next election.

He said he hoped citizens will never have to again witness a truck driving around town advertising who not to vote for.

"The person or persons responsible for that should crawl back beneath the rock they came from," he said.

It was never determined who arranged for the truck

Back in May, 1995, a meeting was held between regional officials and Aurora council regarding the proposed reconstruction and widening of Wellington Street East from Ross Street (at the railway tracks) to Leslie Street.

Some change to Yonge and Wellington was included in the plan.

Council members disagreed with the proposed regional plans as council only wanted the widening east from Bayview Avenue rather than Industrial

to drive through the streets only days prior to the November election.

"I believe that the new administration of mayor and council of Aurora can operate this town on the highest standards of integrity and competence, thus allowing you to maximize what our town can accomplish over the next three years through cooperation, not division," he said.

Parkway as proposed by the region.

Finally agreement was reached for the reconstruction with the design to include a right turn lane for westbound traffic on Wellington Street to proceed north on Yonge Street as one means of improving traffic flow at the intersection.

On July 23, 1997, on a 5-4 vote, Aurora Council approved the regional proposal including the right-turn lane.

The tender was awarded to Kapp Construction in January, 2001, for \$11.6 million. Most work was completed, but the right-turn lane wasn't built.

That led to speculation the project was dead.

Last week at an Aurora Council meeting, a report was presented to bring councillors up to date on York Region Transit's Quick Start Program.

Noting a squiggly line on a map of the Yonge/Wellington intersection, Councillor Ron Wallace enquired if the line

had anything to do with the proposed right-hand turn lane, which he thought had somehow been cancelled.

Director of Public Works Wayne Jackson replied that it had not been cancelled but the construction was postponed until the Spring this year and would be included with a water-main reconstruction project on Wellington Street.

Wallace has maintained over the years that a signal system allowing only one traffic direction to move at a time would alleviate the automobile buildup at the intersection, but the suggestion was never tried.

His plan did not include a right-turn lane.



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Poor Richard

## Committee system has council locked

Committees can help or hinder,  
Decisions a council should make,  
Council is the final arbitrator,  
But there should be give and take.  
-Poor Richard's Scrapbook

From time to time every municipal council faces the challenge of determining what committee structure the municipality should adopt that is in the best interests of the municipality.

Even though Aurora is more than 100 years old, the committee structure is still a contentious issue.

At a recent general committee meeting there was a long and at times heated debate over whether the general committee system should be continued or whether the municipality should return to a standing committee system.

The other and more heated debate was whether the advisory committees should consist of both council and citizen members reporting to council or citizens only reporting to the department head, who would report to council.

At the committee meeting, some argued that the standing committee system consisting of three members of council was preferable as they could review the issue in greater depth and make a political recommendation, whereas the general committee system consisting of all members of council didn't get as involved in the issues and rubber-stamped staff recommendations.

Others argued that if it wasn't broke don't fix it and the status quo should be maintained.

The vote was 3-3 and the tie was broken by the chairperson in support of the status quo. Two members were absent for the vote.

When the report came to council a week later the debate broke out all over again and the only decision made was to refer it back to the general committee for further review, although it's doubtful what good that will do as the sides appear deeply entrenched.

Both systems have advantages and disadvantages. The standing committee system allows for more detailed debate at the committee level with more political input into the recommendations to council.

But as there are only three members on the committee, their recommendations are not always acceptable to the other members of council who were not privy to the debate, and it is held all over again.

With what appears to be a lack of trust with the current council, it is doubtful if the standing committee system would work at this time.

Also some committee chairpersons, if they are left in the position too long, become very possessive and act as if they are the department head instead of the committee chairperson.

On occasion the committee chairman has become very upset because council wouldn't adopt the committee report and asked why there were committees if council wasn't going to accept their recommendations.

The general committee system was supposed to get around the problem of duplication as all members of council were members of the committee.

It was hoped that council would only discuss the issue once and then stick with their decision.

Due to the number of issues on the agenda, there isn't normally the same detailed discussion and political input as at the standing committee, leaving the impression that councillors are merely rubber-stamping staff recommendations.

It is very seldom that the general committee report is adopted without further discussion on several items.

If a councillor wants to re-introduce the issue, it is "lifted" from the general committee report for further discussion.

An issue is lifted for a variety of reasons.

Sometimes it is to get another opportunity to advance the same arguments, this time in front of cable television cameras.

Or it may be to introduce new information, resulting in the report being sent back for further consideration.

There have been studies and studies over the years including an extensive one in April, 1996, when council adopted three standing committees; municipal operations, planning and development and finance and administration.

But it wasn't long before council returned to the general committee system.

Regardless of what committee system is used, it must always be remembered that only council can establish policies and set laws.



Shamelessly we have lifted this photograph from the pages of a book prepared by historian John McIntyre to celebrate the centennial of the original Aurora High School, currently known as Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School. The school celebrated its 100th anniversary in 1988. This photo shows the school's girls' basketball team sometime in the 1930s. In the picture are, front row, left to right, Ruth Baldwin, Laura McCluskey, Edna Langman, and Grace Johnson. In the rear are, left to right, Miriam Wilkinson, Reta Davis, Marjorie Wilkinson and Thelma Day. They are sitting on the front steps of what today is Wells Street Public School.

### Letters to the Editor

# Three councillors did the right thing

To the editor,

**RE: Paul Chapley letter.**

It is no mystery why Canadians are becoming disenchanted with our elections and our lying politicians.

Canadians are over-controlled, over-ruled, over-governed, and over taxed.

It is ironic when he is using the strong word "reprehensible" praising our new mayor and chastising the three councillors for using their own sound judgment.

I question Chapley's own judgment when he is seen beside the mayor on his re-election web site. So much for Paul's veracity and biased opinion

I also commend the three councillors who refused to go along with the mayor's idea about this so-called "meeting".

Phyllis Morris gets an "A" from me for refusing to waste our money on this lost weekend junket. She was absolutely right to say in her view, this meeting was illegal. The mayor rode roughshod over their objections, and held the meeting anyway.

In a later issue of Mayor Tim Jones' so-called Mayor's Report, he used his column to attack Phyllis Morris.

This was no more than an attempt to propagate his propaganda in his column.

This column is self-serv-

ing and if I were he I would cease the use of the press to attack his opponents. It is plain bad manners. They don't have a column to fight back.

If it means anything, Phyllis Morris got far more votes than Tim Jones from the public, and if she had run for his job, she would probably be the mayor now, and not wasting our hard earned cash.

We still paid for the lights, and we still paid for the heat in the council's chambers. Who needs to go out to a nice posh resort?

I say to the three councillors, keep your eyes on the money, and keep the taxes down, don't kill the goose that lays

those golden eggs.

Hugh Allen  
Aurora

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

## YBH needs to be open, town councillor says

To the editor,

I was around when Clayton Rose's house on Wellington Street was proposed for a women's shelter. The neighbours were not receptive. They were afraid of the potential for violence and disruption.

If Betty Pedersen and I had not been on council then, that service would never have happened.

Now we read that the employees are locked out

and management says there is no disruption in service because residents can easily be accommodated elsewhere.

How can that be?

If a woman is running with her children from a homicidal partner. where does she go if her only refuge is locked up against its employees?

The death of a woman and/or her children at the hands of a violent spouse is not uncommon.

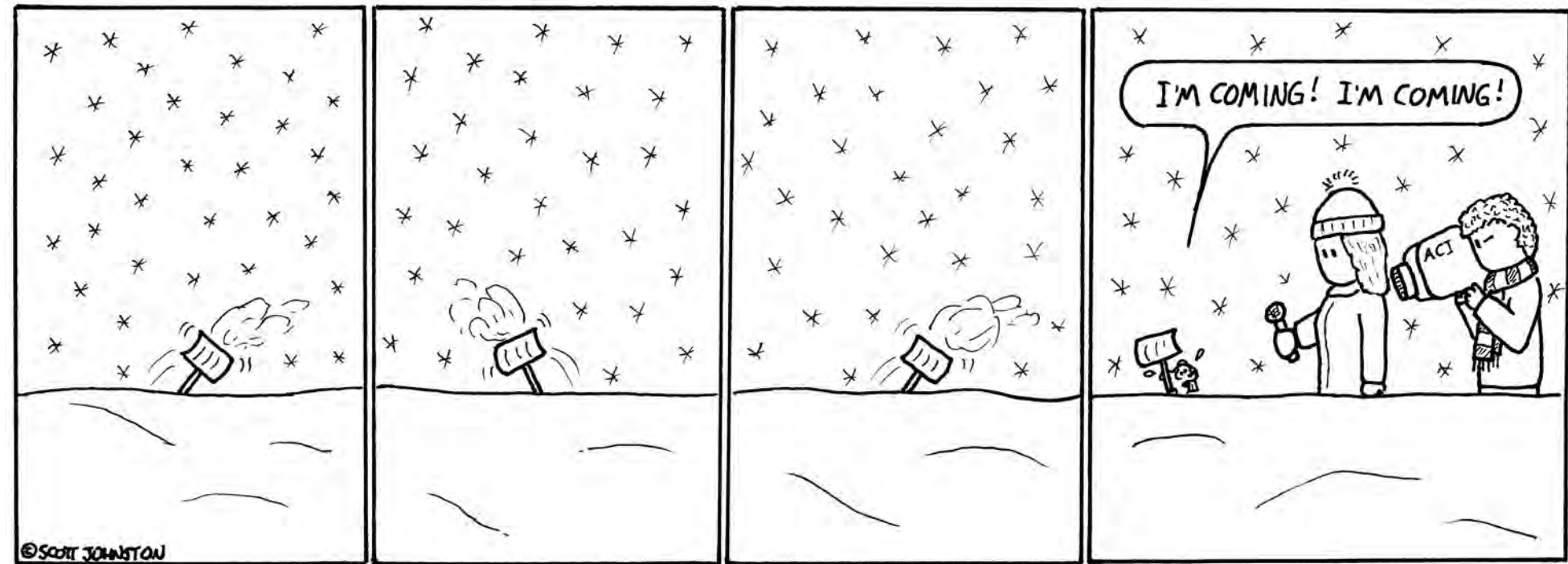
I don't need convincing today any more than I did 25 years ago that the Yellow Brick House needs to be open.

Management and employees both need to be reminded of their reason for being.

Failing that, the Ministry of Social and Family Services, which funds the service ,needs to consider other options.

Evelyn Buck  
Aurora





## Mayor's Report By Tim Jones

In December, Economic Development Officer for the Town, Dino Lombardi, distributed a document entitled "AURO-RAFACTS 2003" to members of your new council.

AURORAFACTS is an information piece about Aurora that is distributed through the Town's Economic Development office to those who are interested in opening a business or developing in Aurora.

It is part of the Economic Development Promotional Brochure Package.

In reviewing this booklet, I find it serves as a quick and easy reference guide as well for those requesting specific statistical information about various topics regarding our Town.

In this column, I will describe what it is you can find in AUROFACTS.

If you wish to peruse the full document, it is available on the Town's web site at [www.town.aurora.on.ca](http://www.town.aurora.on.ca) under the subcategory Economic Development (Economic Profile section).

Information contained in this profile can be found on:

- Population and demographic information
- Housing and construction
- Labour Force/Education/Income
- Municipal Tax rates
- Utility Costs
- Development Charges
- Building Permit Activity
- Industrial Statistics
- Aurora's Top 20 Largest Private Sector Employers

There are also various tables and charts of statistics describing:

- Population characteristics (2001)
- Age characteristics of the population (2001)
- Housing structures by type
- Housing permits by dwelling type
- Aurora housing prices
- Aurora labour force/employment
- Aurora labour force/occupation
- Aurora labour Force/Industry
- Aurora labour Force/Education Level
- Income Statistics (2001)

And, you can also find the following information outlined:

- 2002 Aurora tax rates
- 2002 Aurora Property taxes
- Non-residential Tax Rate Comparison - GTA municipalities
- 2003 Development Charges
- Aurora Building Permit Activity - 1997-2003
- 2003 Lease rates by Yearly Quarter
- Monitoring Aurora's Economy

In a recent planning educational session I participated in, we were advised that Aurora was in an envious position to attract business.

Our land prices were lower than most, we have a great opportunity with our 404 lands about to be serviced, and our community characteristics, housing, trails were all leading the way in quality and accessibility.

Given the pattern of growth in the GTA and the Provincial and Regional expectations for growth, that same presenter also suggested that areas that are planned out are more beneficial than holding off on planning in that it will enable developing towns to stake their claim first to how they desire their town to be developed and not wait for developers to challenge them on non designated lands for what they want to see,

That can be the topic of another column in the future.

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](mailto:tjones@town.aurora.on.ca)

## Letter to the Editor

# Committees need councillors, he says

To the editor,

### Subject: Aurora Committee Structure.

Aurora Council has been debating whether to change the composition of committees which has been in effect during the mandate of the previous council.

There is a move to have certain committees consist only of citizens and Town administration, that is, no elected representatives.

The following is a message I sent to Mayor Tim Jones and copied to all councillors. Mayor Jones spoke strongly in favour of changing the

structure.

"I attended the General Committee meeting on 20 Jan and was pleased to see that the motion to support the present committee structure was passed, however, I suspect your position may carry the day when this issue comes before Council. I suggest you change your position and support the retention of councillors on committees.

"There is something in law called the Doctrine of Legitimate Expectations which basically says that when two parties enter into an agreement, there is a legitimate expectation that

each party moves toward what the agreement is about, not away from it.

"You and fellow councillors were recently elected to provide good government, part of which is to consult with citizens and to act based on the best available wisdom from all sources. That election is the agreement.

"The five minutes which council now affords delegates is no substitute for the ability of citizens to sit on, or appear before, committees chaired by councillors; the less formal committee environment provides for better consultation, deliberation

and discussion of all points of view.

"It is not acceptable for citizens' input to be filtered through the town's staff bureaucracy before it reaches councillors."

"This matter was deferred on 27 January, to a future council meeting. There are councillors who support keeping the present structure.

"I urge concerned citizens to tell the mayor and all councillors that you want your voices unedited by unelected staff.

**Robert Cook  
Aurora**



## Cathy's Corner



## Will the real Mr. Bean please identify himself

Attitude is everything.

It was nearly 4 a.m., and I was rushing to get dressed.

At that hour - particularly on a Saturday morning - getting your clothes on in the right order can make a Rubik's Cube look like a pre-school toy.

And at 30 below zero, you can't afford to be missing any pieces either.

The cab was five minutes early.

Last time we tried to flee the Arctic invasion of Aurora, we had to wake the cabby. He arrived half an hour later - in his jammies - with a bed-head, morning breath and a mini van that was about as cozy as a meat locker. Needless to say, it was not the attitude adjustment I was looking for.

Five minutes early is a much better start. It just means I go into multi-tasking mode. I drink my coffee while I brush my teeth. I become ambidextrous...and dangerous.

I drop the luggage off the landing and hope that my husband is awake enough to remember all the teamwork seminars I've dragged him to...oops...maybe not.

"Cathy, stop! I don't want to go to St. Martin in a body cast!"

I could see his point. The tan lines would be ridiculous.

Two hours later, we were ready to go, but the plane was not going. The flight attendant advised us that two passengers had checked luggage, but had yet to board. Post 9/11, this is bad news.

As Security searched for their luggage, they arrived. The collective sigh of relief gave way to smiles of amusement. The gentleman looked exactly like Mr. Bean.

Thanks to a tail wind, we arrived in St. Martin ahead of schedule. We boarded a bus and...waited until we were behind schedule.

Two passengers were missing...yup, they did it again!

Over the course of the vacation, they became affectionately known to their fellow travellers as "the late Mr. & Mrs.

Bean".

We never found out why the Beans were always late. Some said they were newlyweds. Others speculated we were all going to be in Mr. Bean's "latest" movie. The mystery made for entertaining dinner conversation.

When it was time to go home, the hotel lobby became a congregation of bookies and bettors. It was more exciting than the last lap of a horse race.

We got on the bus 10 minutes early. After a few minutes, Mrs. Bean came around the bend...alone. She made her way to the back of the bus amidst whispers about as discreet as a department store announcement. Beet red, she put her carry-on down, and proceeded to climb into it.

Suddenly, silence. All eyes focused beyond the windshield of the bus, and all necks craned forward in eager anticipation of Mr. Bean's arrival.

In the distance, the star of the show came into view. You could hear a pin drop as he stepped onto the bus.

Suddenly, there was a burst of cheering and applause that would make Super Bowl fans appear apathetic by comparison.

Mr. Bean stopped, looked around in surprise, then realizing that the spotlight was on him, took a bow.

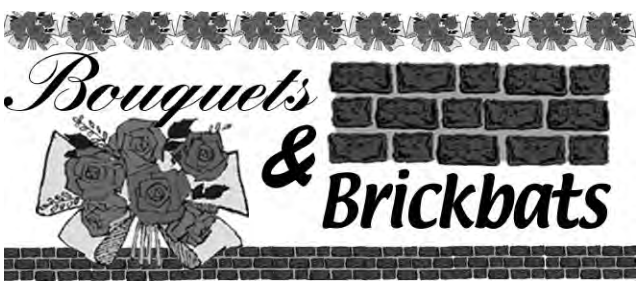
When the cheering subsided, he said: "Everywhere I go, I am five minutes late. Now, I see that I am five minutes early. Excuse me."

He bowed again...and got off the bus. He walked around the bus, then checked his watch, then walked around it again. It had to be the real Mr. Bean!

Our Mr. Bean took us on a trip from frigid to warm and fuzzy - not by plane, not by bus, but by way of a sunny disposition.

Attitude is everything.

**Cathy WARMLY welcomes e-mails at [laughingmatters@aci.on.ca](mailto:laughingmatters@aci.on.ca)**



By DICK ILLINGWORTH

**BOUQUETS** to Harry Lumsden of Aurora on being named a Member of the Order of Canada in the Science category for his work in restoring the Trumpeter Swan in Ontario.

**BOUQUETS** to the town's park staff for taking the blame for removing the wooden sign from Cousin's Park. It wasn't an act of vandalism as was previously suggested. The sign had been removed for maintenance and will be replaced looking better than ever.

**BRICKBATS** to the person or persons responsible for the installation of a gas hot water heater in a relatively new Aurora home. It has leaked carbon monoxide twice but everybody denies responsibility. Somebody on council should bring the builder, the sub-contractor, the building department and everyone involved together and get to the root of the problem before a serious accident occurs.

**BOUQUETS** to the staff, students and school council of Highview Public School for their Fire Safety program and the \$200 donation to the Community Safety Village of York Region from the sale of smoke alarms.

**BRICKBATS** to York Regional Council and staff for failing to fully investigate the impact of the environmental problems that could be created by the construction of the Big Pipe sewer connection on the sensitive Oak Ridges Moraine. Speed was necessary to meet commitments to developers, so damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!

**BOUQUETS** to the Aurora Tigers hockey club for clinching the provincial Junior A title with a win in Collingwood, sweeping the series with the Blues, outshooting them 39-20. A wonderful hockey season, but few fans bothered to support the home team

**BRICKBATS** to those in the gasoline fuel business for the rapid change in prices within what appears to be mere seconds and all the prices go up at the same time. Politician after politician has endeavoured to get answers but obviously the fuel industry has an influential lobby as nothing ever happens, except an increase in prices.

**BOUQUETS** to Betty Kelly, a veteran member of Theatre Aurora, on being one of only 10 Canadians to win a \$1,000 shopping spree at Home Hardware. She filled out the application at the Aurora Home Hardware store.

**BRICKBATS** to the former Ernie Eves Tory government for paying Michael Gourley, a close friend and key advisor to Eves, a total of \$917,000 after 15 months on the job including a severance package of \$628,415. Remember this was the government that was going to fix government. They did!

**BOUQUETS** to Josef Scholz of Scholz Adventure Travel on winning a copy of John McIntyre's book "Aurora: A History in Pictures" donated by R & R Revisited at the recent Aurora Chamber of Commerce "Trivia Breakfast" at the Chinook Restaurant.

**BRICKBATS** to high-ranking officials at Hydro One and Ontario Power Generation for milking the public trough for all it was worth by wining and dining Tory politicians and senior aides, including spending almost \$5,800 on hunting trips. Where was the Energy Minister all this time?

**BOUQUETS** to Councillor Damir Vrancic for once again complaining about the poor quality of the sound system in the Aurora council chamber. It is an embarrassment.

## Letter to the Editor

# Chapley should check his facts, councillor says

To the editor,

I would like to respond to the letter that Paul Chapley wrote to the Auroran last week. His letter is loaded with information that, at the least, is not factual.

1. Aurora residents do care. I believe that Mr. Chapley's statement that residents couldn't care less about municipal politics is far from the truth. I constantly get phone calls, letters and e-mails from caring residents who are trying to help make Aurora a better place.

2. Team building can also be accomplished at our multi million dollar town hall. Why do politicians believe that they can spend taxpayers money to have a get away to discuss items that could easily be discussed at our town hall, where residents could attend. I also would not classify this gathering as well within the law. If that was the case why

was the published agenda changed after the lawyer at the meeting suggested to do so?

3. I personally do not consider the actions taken by the three councillors who decided not to attend the meeting "reprehensible". I do, however, find it reprehensible that governments continue to spend money on get aways. With an 8.7 per cent proposed increase in taxes in 2004 I was hoping that we would lead the way to cut out the unnecessary fat in the town's spending.

4. I am not ashamed of my decision in any way possible. I was the first to vote against the get away and the first to let our CAO know that I would not attend, so, as Mr. Chapley suggests. I did not have Councillor Morris pull my string. He gives her too much credit. Councillor Gaertner's decision was based on the legality of the meeting and from our perception this was an

illegal meeting. I congratulate her on the tough decision that she made with all the lobbying that was done by councillors who did attend.

5. As for Mr Chapley's attack on Councillor Morris, I am appalled that he would even suggest anything about power she craves. Councillor Morris has worked hard for the residents of Aurora (according to the vote count) and because Mr. Chapley might be in someone else's camp and election brochure does

not make him an expert on the inside workings of council. Perhaps he should have spoken to one of the councillors who did not attend to get the other side of the story. To me this has nothing to do with egos but rather ethics.

I hope that Mr. Chapley will check out all the facts and please do not say that Aurora residents don't care. They certainly do.

**Nigel Kean**  
Aurora councillor



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# Three more town streets to be fixed

The reconstruction of Banff Drive, Bigwin Drive and St. Andrew's Court are in line for fixing this year.

The three streets have been designed and it was recommended by staff that they be tendered as a single project to save money and that tendering be carried out as soon as possible.

The project includes the reconstruction/replacement of the watermain, roads, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, catch basins and the replacement of streetlights on St. Andrew's Court at an estimated cost of \$916,000.

Plans were shown to the public last October and comments received from 23 residents who attended were generally positive, with only minor changes requested.

Council approved the reconstruction of the project in advance of the approval of the remainder of the 2004 capital budget to take advantage of an early tender call.



Artist's concept of the proposed Pedersen Village, to be located on Bayview between Wellington and St. John's Sideroad, shows the clock tower that would attach to one of the three planned buildings.

# New liquor store among Bayview recommendations

**From page 1**

questioned the possible loss of assessment by converting prestige industrial land to commercial and was assured by staff the assessment was quite similar

Comments were also made about motorists using Earl Stewart Drive and some residential streets such as McMaster Avenue as a bypass around busy Bayview Avenue. Staff replied that Public Works would review the situation.

Council agreed the application had merit and directed staff to work with the applicant towards finalizing of the implementing bylaw.

Meanwhile, two other applications for changes along the business side of Bayview Avenue were also heard at the planning meeting Wednesday.

A block of land 3.1 acres in size between Earl Stewart Drive and Bayview Avenue immediately north of the Reebok plant was rezoned from prestige industrial to commercial to allow for a proposed shopping centre of three separate buildings

The applicant, EV-TAZ Development Limited, requested several exemptions to the commercial zoning including a reduction in the exterior side-yard, a reduction in the amount of loading spaces and an amendment in the height restrictions to permit a clock tower.

The project would be known as Pedersen Village and would have a total gross floor area of 30,100 square feet with extensive landscaping.

A staff report indicated the application was compatible with the surrounding area as the lands on the west side of Bayview Avenue, except for Reebok, were primarily commercial.

As the draft site plan was only conceptual staff recommended that they have the opportunity to discuss details with the applicant.

Appearing for the devel-

oper, Michael Larkin said he had been working with town staff.

The only comment during the public session came from a resident who asked if the clock in the tower would chime and was assured it would not.

Councillor Damir Vrancic suggested the application be approved in principle on the basis that the three buildings not be converted into one structure in the final design.

His motion that staff continue to work with the applicant and bring back a further report to council in committee was adopted.

And finally, the long standing issue about an enclosed mall on the site of the Sobey's/Zellers plaza was put to rest Wednesday night.

At the meeting, council drove the last nail in what had been originally planned as a regional enclosed mall.

The regional shopping centre was never built and in early 2000 council engaged a consultant to undertake a review of the options for development of the site.

The consultant's report was to the effect the site would never be developed for an enclosed mall for a variety of reasons, especially changes in the retail market. It was suggested

the requirement for an enclosed mall be removed.

The property of approximately 30 acres currently contains Sobey's Supermarket, Zellers and several other uses in a total of four free-standing buildings.

The proposal before the planning meeting Wednesday would add two more large buildings, a small structure and an addition to Sobey's.

The block of land on which Sobey's is located has one commercial zoning with the rest of the property with another commercial zoning which required an enclosed mall.

The applicant is applying to include all the property under one commercial zoning and remove the enclosed shopping mall requirement.

Speaking for the developer, Brett Clarkson supported the staff report and said there was no requirement for additional floor space or uses than had been set out for the enclosed mall.

He assured councillors the design would include a pedestrian entrance from Civic Square Gate and extensive landscaping.

A resident expressed concern about the entrance to the rear of the Zellers store, where the proposed small building would be located, claiming delivery

trucks had problems turning.

The resident was also critical of the lack of maintenance of the landscaping and suggested that if the town was going to insist on landscaping, they should ensure someone was responsible for looking after it.

Staff agreed to consider the comments during the preparation of the site plan and a letter of credit would be required to ensure proper maintenance.

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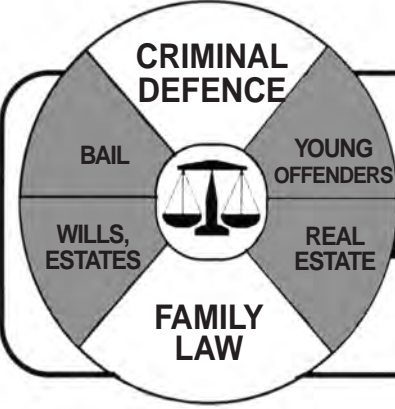
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# the hallway

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**The Menu**

**First Course**  
Choice of  
Prochutto di Parma Candeloni with Vanilla Scented Sweet Potato and Sage Cream  
Or  
Wild Mushroom Puree Soup  
Or  
Joy Hot Calamari with shaved Mango Red Onion Salad finished with Thai Chili Citrus Vinaigrette

**Second Course**  
Choice of  
Heart Shaped Ravioli with Creamy Goat Cheese and Spinach topped with a Mushroom Broth  
Or  
Lemon Risotto with Saffron, Sweet Peas and Italian Pancetta

**Third Course**  
Choice of  
Ginger Soya Marinated Atlantic Salmon with Julienne Vegetable Stir Fry in a Coconut Carrot Emulsion  
Or  
Breast of Capon stuffed with Cassis marinated Dried Fruit and served with Garlic Mashed Potatoes and French Green Beans  
Or  
Grilled Beef Tenderloin topped with Jumbo Tiger Shrimp finished in a Brandy Peppercorn sauce served with Scalloped Potatoes and Market Vegetables

**Fourth Course**  
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## 47 wins, two losses: not a bad season

The Aurora Tigers Junior A hockey squad put the cap on another successful season Sunday afternoon, but now the fun begins.

Adding two wins to their already incredible season, Aurora finished with 47 victories and two losses over the regular stint, and defeated Newmarket 3-1 Friday.

Newmarket is the only team in the league to have defeated Aurora this year, and they did it twice. Not Friday, though.

As far as the box office is concerned, the Hurricanes should be very happy to get a play-off series with the Aurora Tigers.

Hundreds of Junior A hockey fans from both sides turned out at the Aurora Community Centre Friday night, despite less than adequate weather.

Aurora defeated the Hurricanes adding their fourth victory out of six attempts against Newmarket this season.

On Sunday afternoon, the Tigers finished the regular season with a narrow 6-4 victory over the Markham Waxers.

"I thought it was a good hockey game," GM and Coach of Aurora, Marty Williamson said of Friday's game. "I thought we stretched our muscles in the second period and we had a real controlled third period where we didn't give up many chances to allow them back into the game."

Francis Walker led the team in scoring with two goals, including the game-winner.

Alex LaLonde, a Newmarket native, buried them with the team's third goal of the night.

Newmarket got on the scoreboard first, however, as Brendan Mulholland slipped in through a scrum, found the loose puck, and flipped it into the empty net at the midway point of the first frame.

Dozens of scoring chances went by the boards before Walker slipped a shot through Darren Machesney of Newmarket.

Aurora gradually took control in the second period. Walker lucked out again as he caught the Hurricanes on a change and received a break-away pass from Andrew Hotham at the 'Canes blueline.

"I was pretty happy it went in," Walker said after the game.

In one glorious hockey game, Aurora's Raz Khamissa found himself on the list of Monday Night Hockey League top scorers.

Switching between defense and a forward line for his team - J.J. Barron Realty - Khamissa was playing up last week when he scored a whopping six goals as Barron's dumped Priestly Demolition 11-3.

"I just couldn't do anything wrong," he said. "Every time the puck was on my stick it seemed to go in the net."

Khamissa now boasts a record of seven goals and eight assists for 15 points. Prior to the game, the sudden scoring machine had been held to a single goal.

Steve MacDonald, who plays for Highland Chev Olds, leads the scoring race with 34 points including 20 goals.

During the third period, a stout defence left the 'Canes with just nine shots and their fourth loss to the Tigers this season.

Sunday, Aurora put the cap on things to run their season record to 47-2 with a 6-4 victory over the Markham Waxers.

Going into the game, neither team could move up or down in their respective divisions, but were still uncertain as to who they would open the first round of the playoffs against later this week.

Luke Oshell got the call between the pipes and came up with some big saves to keep the Tigers in the lead.

Aurora opened the scoring on what was a disputed call on whether the puck entered the net or not. Jamie Minchella got the credit.

Matt Bahen gave the Tigers a 2-0 lead before the end of the first period as the Tigers narrowly

closed that gap before Michael Tonelli scored to put Aurora up by two. On Friday, the Tigers will play their first playoff game at 8 p.m. against an unknown opponent.

"We really won't know until Tuesday," Williamson said. "We could be looking at Lindsay or Syracuse with a high probability of those two teams."

Buffalo, Port Hope and Brampton are also possibilities.

Whoever it is, Tigers must head into the playoffs confident they can get by teams they have not seen or played all year.

And chances are good they'll wind up against the Wellington Dukes again, the team that ousted them last year.

Things are only starting to warm up. Stay tuned.

Monday Night Hockey Standings, Jan. 26						
TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Highland Chev Olds Geo Cad	14	2	1	81	43	29
Law Insurance Brokers	10	6	1	67	61	21
Rec Cycle N' Sports	9	6	2	67	54	20
Tom & Jerry's	9	6	2	63	55	20
Priestly Demolition	8	8	1	61	82	17
J.J. Barron Realty	6	9	2	64	65	14
FPL Aggregates	4	12	1	25	48	9
Masterclean Contracting	3	14	0	44	74	6

Results, Jan. 26			
Barron Realty	11	Tom & Jerry's	2
Priestly Demolition	3	Law Insurance	2
Masterclean	6	Highland Chev Olds	6
FPL Aggregates	0	Rec Sports	1

outshot the Waxers 13-11 during the first 20 minutes of play.

The Waxers kept the pressure on the Tigers throughout the second period and managed to close the gap to 2-1 on a power play goal early in the period.

Aurora responded with two goals of their own, the first by Kyle Aitken and 55 seconds later, Francis Walker extended the lead to 4-1.

But the Waxers were not about to fold their tent and go home...they added a second power play goal of the afternoon and quickly scored a third closing the gap to 4-3 before the end of the period.Both teams battled hard throughout the third period, getting an equal number of great shots and keeping both goaltenders on their toes.

Francis Walker added his second of the game extending the Tiger lead to 5-3, but the Waxers




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## Khamissa hits scoring paydirt

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# When polo was played in downtown Aurora

Every year Aurora residents have the opportunity of seeing a polo match, often referred to as "Hockey on Horseback" at the Gormley Polo Grounds of the Sifton Farm on Leslie Street, just south of Bloomington Road, in Aurora's southeast corner. It's an annual charity event known as "Polo for Heart" to assist the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

But back in June, 1972, polo came to downtown Aurora.

The first public polo match was held at Machell Park between Foxden Farms and Chukker Hill Farms ending in a 6-6 tie.

All players, including Bud McLean (remember McLean's Motors?) of Aurora, were members of the Toronto Polo Club.

For the uninitiated the

teams play four aside and there's a referee also on horseback to keep law and order.

From the sidelines, it looks like a body-contact sport with horses and riders clashing at every turn as they go for the ball with their mallets.

A full game consists of six chukkers, each seven-and-a-half minutes long and like hockey the object

of the game is to knock the ball into the opponent's goal.

Each goal is eight yards wide with posts 10-feet high. The posts are light enough to break in the event a pony hits one.

Horses of any height may be used and it's the combination of speed, skill and teamwork between horse and rider that makes polo an exciting spectator

sport.

The equipment for players is relatively simple.

It consists of a protective helmet with attached face guard and chin strap, polo breeches, western riding boots, knee guards and a mallet.

The game was sponsored by the Aurora Civitan Club and the proceeds went to the mentally handicapped. Another

game was held the following week as part of the Aurora Horse Show.

Some players commented that the turf at Machell Park was the best they had ever played on, so if the Sifton property ever becomes unavailable, look out for horses downtown.

To watch polo now, plan to visit the Gormley Polo Grounds next June for Polo for Heart.

## Rec complex architect put on hold by council

Recently, at a general committee meeting, Aurora Councillor John West tried to adopt a staff report to approve a short list of architects for the new recreation complex and the interview process begin with a report to council of the successful architect next week.

His efforts failed.

Councillors, however, supported a motion that the short list of architects be deferred until after the presentation of the revised schematic design and costs expected to happen this week.

When the committee report came to council last week, West made the same motion. He claimed that

selecting the architect did not commit the town to build the complex.

He said it was a step forward if council decided to proceed as the previous council had indicated some urgency since the proposed complex was planned to open in September, 2005.

Councillor Phyllis Morris pointed out that at the committee meeting the project manager had said a slight delay wasn't a problem.

Councillor Evelyn Buck said council should not be restricted in their discussions by a time deadline, but should plan the complex properly.

She said there were questions about the youth centre

and a possible private/public partnership to be considered.

She said council was nowhere near making a decision as there had been little input into preparing the schematic design and it wasn't being fair to select an architect when there were still outstanding decisions.

Councillor Damir Vrancic said that was the point he had been trying to make for the past several months. He said that even though the previous council had approved the draft schematic design, there had been no council input.

He said that council was rushing headlong into the project without considering

where they were going.

He added that council was supposed to have had a full discussion but it had not taken place.

He suggested council slow down to discuss the proposed complex, and that he was strongly opposed to the West motion. He gained the support of members of council as the West motion was defeated.

Councillor Bill Hogg said there was need for an open discussion and a special meeting was required.

The committee report to defer any action with regard to the appointment of an architect until after this week's committee meeting was adopted.

## No decision on committees

The committee debate continues.

Last week at the general committee meeting there

### Water rates are going up

In spite of strong arguments from Councillor Wendy Gaertner that taxpayers couldn't afford a 6.3 per cent water and sewer rate increase as well as an increase in property taxes, council approved the hike.

Director of Public Works Wayne Jackson explained that provincial legislation mandated life-cycle costing for water and sewage infrastructure.

Aurora Council was quick to respond and 2002 and 2003 rates were increased to achieve the required life-cycle contribution level.

In doing so operating costs were neglected and the increase became necessary to meet the rising costs of hydro or other energy plus an increase by the region in supplying the water.

After listening to the explanation, Gaertner withdrew her motion and the staff report was approved as presented.

With the average residential household using about 400 cubic metres per year the impact of the combined retail water and sanitary sewer rate is an increase of 6.3 per cent or \$31.56 per year.

was a long discussion about whether council should continue with a general committee or return to a standing committee system.

There was also a debate as to whether advisory committees should be a combination of council and citizen members reporting to council as it is currently or citizens only reporting to the department head who would report to council.

A motion was made to retain the status quo on the basis if it wasn't broken, don't fix it, which ended in a 3-3 vote. The tie was broken when Councillor Phyllis Morris, committee chairperson, voted in support of the motion. Councillors Bill Hogg and Damir Vrancic were absent.

When the committee report came to council, Hogg favoured all citizen

advisory committees. He said that on occasion citizen members did not believe they could speak freely with councillors present.

Councillor John West said he agreed with Hogg as public input was needed. He suggested it be tried for 18 months as a trial and re-evaluated at that time.

Councillor Evelyn Buck said the discussion should take place at a committee meeting rather than council and suggested it be referred back to general committee for further discussion.

She recalled that when regional governments were created, municipalities were encouraged to get rid of special purposes bodies as the decision-making responsibility rested with council.

She said she couldn't see an all citizen advisory

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**302 WWW.MASTERMINDTOYS.COM 6:** Evan Collict 2G 1A, John Dinicolantonio 2G 2A, Joe Romano 1G 1A, Zach Cook 1G 1A, Ryan Peace 1A. **305 JUNIOR TIGERS 3:** Nick Sbrolla 1G 1A, Marty Wood 1G 1A, Cameron Bamford 1G, Wade MacFarlane 1A.

**303 SUPREME COLLISION CENTRE 8:** Ryan Dal Cin 3G, Vince Duggan 3G, Jack Angela 1G, Brendan Kirasack 1G 2A, Evan Jones 2A. **306 PHARMASAVE 1:** Nick Reinholdt 1G, Matt MacEachern 1A, Andrew Martin 1A.

**406 LANGDON'S COACH LINES 9:** Christian Avolio 1G, Connor Elliot 1G 1A, Connor Dunwoodie 2G, Alex Payne 1G 3A, Kyle Rojas 2G 1A, Mike Reilly 2G, Chris Waller 2A, Ryan Berube 1A. **407 REC CYCLE N' SPORTS 1:** Charlie Still 1G, Cameron Annear 1A, James Weatherspoon 1A.

**402 JUNIOR TIGERS 3:** Paul Tuck 1G, Aaron Nussbaum 1G, Troy Gouveia 1G, Andrew Bolton 1A. **403 SHOPPERS DRUG MART - AURORA 3:** Brett Richardson 1G, Jay McConnell 1G, Rhys Gander 1G 1A, Tyler Stephenson 1A.

**401 MARY'S FLOWER SHOP 3:** Brandon Thompson 1G, Lucas Cristillo 1G, Matthew Brutto 1G, Andrew Cosentino 1A, Logan Weber 1A, Jordan Gerace, shutout. **405 McALPINE FORD LINCOLN 0.**

**408 AB COX PONTIAC BUICK GMC 4:** Daniel Howie 2G, Curtis Stobo 2G, Andrew Hunter 1A, Liam McGoldrick 1A, Kevin Tree 1A, Matthew Abels 1A. **410 THE BACKYARD POOL & SPA CO. 3:** Ethan Morice 1G, 1A, Dylan Jolivet 1G, Ryan Laird 1G 1A, Clayton Arnold 1A, Rosario Arcuri 1A, Spencer Palmer 1A.

**404 A.D.C. ALUMINUM 5:** Anthony DeCesare 2G 1A, Curtis Rose 1G 1A, Geoffrey Ash 1G, J. Galluzo 1G 2A. **409 OPTIMIST CLUB OF AURORA 2:** Christian Davies 1G, Sean Takahshi 1G, Gregory Lacroix 2A.

**906 OPTIMIST CLUB OF AURORA 3:** Corey McPherson 2G, Sean Devlin 1G, Ian McCrone 2A, kyle Kaminski 1A, Julian Jasniewski 1A. **905 AURORA OPTICAL INC. 2:** Michael Panetta 1G, Matt Read 1G 1A, Dennis Jarrett 1A.

House League  
Playoff Games

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**407 REC CYCLE N' SPORTS 4:** James Philips 2G, Brent Lockhart 2G. **402 JUNIOR TIGERS 3:** Aaron Nussbaum 3G, Troy Gouveia 2A, Brandon Connolly 1A.

**409 OPTIMIST CLUB OF AURORA 6:** Christian Davies 2G 1A, Sean Takahashi 2G, Michael Takahashi 1G, Colin Sandquist 1G, Gregory Lacoix 1A. **402 JUNIOR TIGERS 5:** Paul Tuck 3G, Gianluca Sampieri 1G 2A, Troy Gouveia 1G, Ryan Daniel 1A, Ricky Evans 1A, Brody Hunter 1A, Brandon Connolly 1A.

**407 REC CYCLE N' SPORTS 3:** Brent Lockhart 1G, Stefan Pagura 1G, Alex Dunn 1G, Jonathan Alcock 1A, Brandon Bartolio 1A, Matthew Clark, shutout. **401 MARY'S FLOWER SHOP 0.**

**403 SHOPPERS DRUG MART - AURO-RA 4:** Rhys Gander 2G 1A, Marco Campoli 1G 1A, Liam Martin 1G, Jay McConnell 1A, Brett Richardson 1A. **410 THE BACK-YARD POOL & SPA CO. 3:** Kevin McCrudden 2G, Ryan Laird 1G 1A, Rosario Arcuri 2A, Clayton Arnold 1A.

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**805 RAEDAN FREIGHT SERVICES INC. 3:** Phil Saunders, shutout, Jamie Fenyes 2G, Phil Saunders 1G, Braden Bonner 2A, Peter Walker 1A, Micheal Mariani 1A. **802 IZZI POPAT - ROYAL LePAGE 0.**

**806 ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION 3:** Jordan Beally, shutout, Cameron Harris 2G, Jamie Rundle-Sanderson 1G. **803 CHOUINARD BROS. ROOFING 0.**

**801 ALL PRO SPORTS - NEWMAR-KET 3:** Tyler McGhee 1G 1A, Greg Youtoff 1G, Joel Stock 1G, Tom Horner 2A, Ryan Smyth 1A, Chris Torresano 1A. **804 HS FINANCIAL SERVICES 2:** Landon Smith 1G, Stephen Horan 1G, James Weber 1A.

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**806 ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION 2:** Morgan Mittelstaedt 1G, Keith Bradford 1G, Harrison Brook 1A, Patrick Madden 1A. **802 IZZI POPAT - ROYAL LePAGE 1:** Jake Teel 1G, Paul Magliocchi 1A.

**805 RAEDAN FREIGHT SERVICES INC. 5:** Chris O'Conner 1G 1A, Daniel Kupraty 1G 2A, Keifer McBride 1G, Jamie Fenyes 1G, Bill Spasopolos 1G 1A. **801 ALL PRO SPORTS - NEWMARKET 1:** Eddie McLaughlin 1G, Tom Horner 1A.

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**Atom A 5 Clarkson Hurricanes 2**  
Brandon Pedersen 1G 1A, Spencer George 1G 3A, Tristan Miller 1G, Blair Cuthbert 1G, Dennis Casey 1G, Matthew Miller 1A, Josh Beaton 1A, Kamran Karamchi 1A.

**Cambridge 6 Atom A 1**  
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**Atom AA 6 Richmond Hill 1**  
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**Newmarket 3 Atom AA 2**  
Taran McGowan 1G, Kyle McCreedy 1G, Dylan Kovacs 1A, Matthew Mears 1A, Chris Piron 1A.

**East Gwillimbury 4 Atom A 1**  
Matthew Miller 1G, Spencer George 1A, Brandon Pedersen 1A.

**Atom A 3 East Gwillimbury 1**  
Josh Beaton 1G, Matthew Miller 1G 1A, Jonathan Poulakos 1G, Kamran Karamchi 1A, Tristan Miller 1A.

**Atom A 2 East Gwillimbury 1**  
Kamran Karamchi 1G, Jonathan Poulakos 1G, Matthew Miller 2A, Spencer George 1A.

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**Pee wee A 2 Newmarket 1**  
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**Minor Midget AA 4 Georgina 3**  
Tom Keane 1G 1A, Marc Quagliarini 1G 1A, Matt Rae 2G, Andrew Welch 1A, Adam Hankins 1A.

**Minor Midget A 3 Innisfil 1**  
Brandon Polsinello 1G, Peter McNeill 2G, Zach Andrews 1A, Sean Fodey 1A, Mike Bentley 2A, Patrick Bowie 1A.

**Minor Midget A 3 Innisfil 2**  
Scott Daly 1G, Brandon Polsinello 2G, Zach Timbers 1A, Sean Fodey 2A, Kyle Fitkin 1A.

**Newmarket 6 Minor Midget AE 4**  
Graeme Fleming 1G 1A, Tim Gerrits 1G, Justin Fabro 1G, Carson Nimmo 1G, Stephen Facca 2A, Dan Abram 1A, Michael Couperthwaite 1A.

**Minor Midget AE 1 Newmarket 1**  
Carson Nimmo 1G, Brad Finch 1A.





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# February Clear Out Sale!

*These items are priced to clear. Quantities as shown.*

QTY.	ITEM	REG. PRICE	NOW ONLY
2	04913 AUTOBODY TOOL KIT	\$24.99	\$14.99
1	8658-856 12V CAR VACUUM	\$29.99	\$10.00
1	4811-573 CHEVAL MIRROR WITH DRAWER	\$124.99	\$65.00
6	3518-571 G.E. 2-WAY RADIO	\$34.99	\$10.00
2	3214-275 TUB WALL-SEAMLESS	\$69.99	\$30.00
5	5571-188 2500 WATT BASEBOARD HEATER	\$59.99	\$20.00
1	COMPUTER DESK	\$199.99	\$50.00
1	5449-080 RUBBERMAID DOG HOUSE	\$139.00	\$50.00
2	3223-880 BATH WALLETT 24 X 48	\$79.99	\$30.00
	ASSORTED PANELLING	FROM	\$4.00 EACH
1	DEWALT 9.6 W/CHARGER	\$99.99	\$65.00
1	3868-844 INT./EXT. GRILL	\$89.99	\$30.00
1	3868-318 INDOOR GRIDDLE	\$64.99	\$30.00
2	4844-994 CRYSTAL/BRASS TABLE LAMP	\$104.99	\$30.00
1	4843-361 GREEN TABLE LAMP	\$49.99	\$25.00
1	4030-792 7PC. STAINLESS STEEL COOKWARE SET	\$149.99	\$75.00
1	4030-391 7PC. COOKWARE SET	\$149.99	\$75.00
2	3848-572 SALTON HAND MIXER	\$69.99	\$40.00
1	4110-875 1/2 LITRE CREAM WHIPPER	\$54.99	\$25.00
1	3832-570 FOOD PROCESSOR	\$99.99	\$60.00
1	3832-302 MINI CHOPPER	\$39.99	\$20.00
30	POWER BAR WITH SURGE PROTECTOR	\$6.49	\$3.75
10	5029-220 GARDEN BULBS 150/BX	\$24.99	\$5.00
2	9415-929 INT./EXT. SPEAKERS	\$139.99	\$35.00
1	3552-195 WIRELESS SPEAKERS	\$199.99	\$60.00
2	3556-486 CD TONER	\$59.98	\$15.00
2	3556-486 STEREO	\$249.99	\$150.00
1	3570-406 13" COLOUR TV/VCR - 20"	\$329.99	\$200.00
1	3570-530 COLOUR TV	\$239.99	\$160.00
1	3810-479 BREAD MAKER	\$219.99	\$70.00
1	3817-132 COMPACT BREADMAKER	\$79.99	\$40.00
2	3865-776 COMPACT CONVECTION OVEN	\$149.99	\$60.00
1	3870-608 BISSELL UPRIGHT VACUUM	\$199.99	\$100.00
1	3870-298 DIRT DEVIL CANISTER VACUUM	\$219.99	\$100.00
5	1010-943 PRECISION TOOL KIT	\$24.99	\$8.00
4	3214-364 TUB WALL	\$69.99	\$40.00
LOTS	PAINT - MISTINTS	\$5.00/qt	\$2.00/qt
50	3636-596 VANITY STRIPS - WHITE	\$31.99	\$10.00
30	3636-809 BRASS/CHROME VANITY STRIPS	\$39.99	\$15.00
4	3639-138 WHITE CEILING COACH LIGHTS	\$21.99	\$10.00
10	3698-626 WHITE COACH LIGHTS	\$34.99	\$12.00
2	3042-142 WHITE COACH LIGHTS	\$29.99	\$8.00
1	3640-144 LUCITE CHANDELIER	\$89.99	\$20.00
2	3637-764 CEILING DOME	\$31.99	\$12.00
1	1239-163 3/8 CORDLESS 9.6 V BLACK & DECKER	\$99.99	\$30.00
4	1010-649 MAGNETIC BENCH LAMP	\$29.99	\$10.00
1	1358-907 DELTA MOBILE BASE	\$79.99	\$35.00
1	95 LB. 5 GALLON PARTS WASHER	\$89.99	\$50.00
4	14405 DRILL BIT SHARPENER	\$19.99	\$10.00
2	1239-831 MAKITA 3/8 CORDLESS 9.6 V WITH FLASHLIGHT & 2 BATTERIES	\$179.99	\$75.00
1	1258-150 ROUTER PANTOGRAPH	\$46.99	\$20.00
42	14601 PORTABLE WORK BENCH	\$24.99	\$15.00
	ASSORTED SINK BASINS	<del>\$49.99</del> -\$79.99	FROM \$25.00
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# RUMOURS AND RUMBLINGS

## AURORA BUS SYSTEM

Back in June, 1969, the privately-operated Aurora Bus Lines made an application to the Ontario Highway Transport Board to operate a passenger route from Aurora to Vandorf and return.

The purpose of the proposed service was to encourage Vandorf shoppers to visit the recently enlarged Aurora Shopping Centre and to transport Aurora swimmers who wanted to take advantage of the excellent swimming pool facilities at Slater's Lumber Yard in Vandorf.

As Vandorf did not have hydrants for fire protection, having the pool available at the lumber yard in case of a fire, insurance rates were lowered, and Aurora swimmers had an indoor pool close by.

In spite of strong support from Aurora Council, other bus line operators opposed the Aurora Bus Line application for service to Vandorf and the application was denied.

## A MEMORIAL AWARD FOR AN AURORA TEEN

The memory of Natalie Davies, an Aurora teenager killed in an automobile accident in 1983 lived on in June, 1985, through a memorial fund established by the Aurora Public Library.

The library board created the award as a means of remembering Natalie and at the same time recognizing all that's good in teenagers in spirit and in deed.

The 1983 recipient of the award was 18-year-old Maureen Cattlet, who had been active in many facets of community work including help for the integration program for the developmentally handicapped at Aurora High School.

She had also done volunteer work at Resthaven Nursing Home, a local nursery school, helped local Boy Scouts with their French at summer camp, all while maintaining excellent marks in high school.

She received a plaque to be displayed in a prominent section of the library and a book of her choice. The presentations were made during the July First ceremonies.

## ONE CHANGE DESERVES ANOTHER

In July 19, 1989, council approved parking restrictions on both sides of Cousins Drive from Yonge Street east of Cameron Avenue. A National Sports Store had opened at the corner of Yonge Street and Cousins Drive and customers parked on both sides of Cousins during sales.

Instead of imposing parking restrictions on one side of the street, which was normal for residential streets, the bylaw was adopted for both sides.

In spite of citizens' requests to amend the bylaw to only one side, no action was taken.

As a New Year's resolution maybe some member of council will ask for a review as the National Sports store

disappeared a long time ago and the property is currently empty, although there are plans for a residential/commercial complex. One change deserves another!

## A DATE TO REMEMBER

It was on October 4, 1993, that Bell Canada split off the area surrounding Toronto to the 905 area code with Toronto retaining the familiar 416 code.

According to Bell officials the change was necessary to meet the demand for telephone numbers.

At that time if you lived in the 905 area and wished to place a call to another number in 905, it was not necessary to dial the three-digit area code number, but a call to Toronto required the caller to dial 416 plus the phone number.

It was in 1947 when area codes were first introduced in Ontario and there were two of them, 416 and 613.

By 1962 there were five area codes with 519 added in 1953, 705 in 1957, and 807 in 1962.

The changeover for this area was announced in April, 1992, so that customers would have lots of time to take action to advise all concerned and modify equipment if required.

Since then, the 905 code has added another code - 289 - into itself, thereby forcing a caller to enter a minimum of 10 digits no matter where the call is going.

# Lumsden awarded Order of Canada

From page 1

The co-operators had no experience managing and breeding captive birds. Harry patiently taught them how to look after the swans throughout the year, often driving hundreds of kilometres at short notice to help solve a problem, build a nesting raft, or maintain aerolaters, which provide open water during the depths of winter.

His extraordinary efforts have paid off.

There are now 400 trumpeter swans in the wild and last year 33 pairs of wild swans nested in Ontario.

It is a tribute to Harry's skills, both with swans and people, that 25 of the original co-operators are still contributing to the program and the ones who have left have done so reluctantly due to changing circumstances.

And, as a fitting microcosm of the program that extends from Sudbury to Lake Ontario, the group of birds that greet Harry on this cold winter day include his original breeding pairs as well as several wild trumpeter swans that have joined the group from afar.

Rounding out the pack is a disabled Canada Goose and a tundra swan, proving that a good meal and open water in the winter are hard to resist.

In addition to his groundbreaking work with the trumpeter swan, Harry has more than 100 published scientific papers to his credit, ranging from bird nestbox design, waterfowl resource management and one which introduced a new species of plant native to the Russian Far East.

He believes the Order of Canada was given for the culmination of all of this scientific work.

"Apparently candidates are brought forward for consideration. Seventeen letters were sent on my behalf, from my native Scotland, Russia, the U.S. and Canada," he said. "It never occurred to me, but appar-

ently there were friends who thought it should happen."

The investiture ceremony has not been announced as yet, but is sure to be a proud day for Harry Lumsden and all of Aurora.

Back in 1982 there were no wild Trumpeter Swans in Ontario and hadn't been for more than 100 years. The last record was of a bird shot at Long Point on Lake Erie in 1886.

The restoration program consists of releasing swans raised in captivity and capturing sick and injured wild birds for treatment.

It was in 1982 when Harry helped set up the restoration program, which he carried on after his retirement in 1988.

In the spring of 2003 there were only 14 captive pairs of Trumpeters to produce stock for release, as five pairs of breeders had been lost since September 2002.

Eight pairs laid 53 eggs of which 34 or 64 per cent hatched, producing 26 cygnets. Another 14 were donated bringing the total to 48 to be released in 2005.

It was estimated there were 406 wild Trumpeters in southern Ontario in September 2002 and by September 2003, 36 or nine per cent of these birds were dead, and 17 were missing.

Of the 106 cygnets raised to flight stage in 2002, eight were subsequently banded, leaving 98 unbanded. It is estimated the mortality of wild cygnets during their first year of liberty is about 17 per cent.


Harry reports that the volunteers are close to their goal of developing a self-sustaining population of Trumpeter Swans. According to geneticists a minimum population size of 500 Trumpeters with at

least 100 breeding pairs is required.

As of September 2003, it was estimated there were 482 swans in southern Ontario, with a total of 76 breeding pairs.

The Trillium Foundation has agreed to fund the program with a grant of \$60,000 to cover four years of operation. The \$15,000 per year will pay for swan food at Wye Marsh, Fair Lake, Seneca College and Aurora.

Contributions have been received from several individuals and groups including the Aurora Public Library, the Galen Weston Foundation and the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.



*To all of my clients*  
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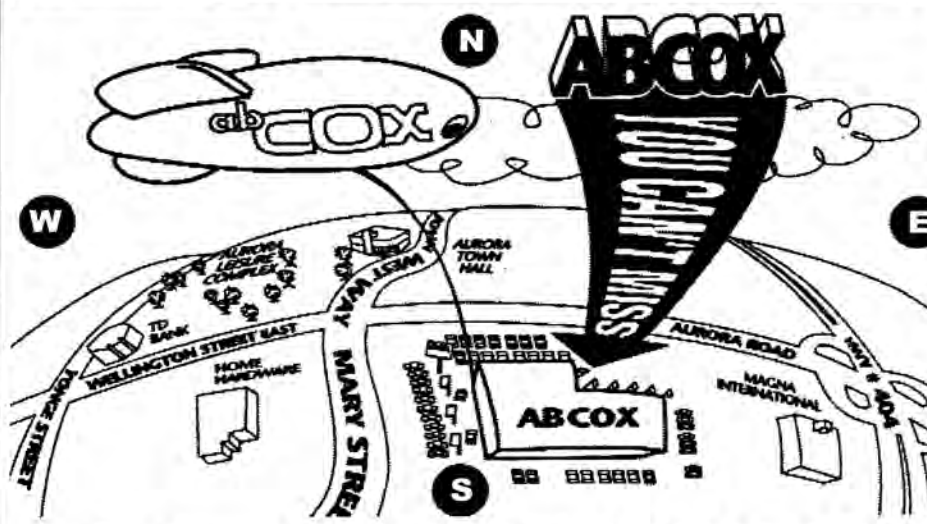


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# ADVENTURE

**Saturday, February 7, 2004**

**AUROLA COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

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## TOBOGGANING

(*Fleury Park*) Free for all ages  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## FACE PAINTING

(*Main Lobby-ACC #2*)  
12 noon - 4:00 p.m. \$2.00 per face

## CREATIVE CONNECTIONS WINTER CRAFT SALE

(*New Arena Lobby*)  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Children's Make & Take Crafts for ages 4 and up

## "THE AVALANCHE" INFLATABLE

(*Upstairs Auditorium*)  
For Children Ages 2-10 (must take socks & shoes off)  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## SNOWBALL TARGET SHOOTING

(*Indoor*)  
Using snowball bean-bags try to hit the target!  
\$2.00 - LOTS OF PRIZES

## BELGIAN HORSE DRAWN SLEIGH RIDES

12 noon - 4:00 p.m. \$2.00 Per Person

## SNOW SCULPTURES

(*Fleury Park*)  
Free for all ages weather permitting  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## PUBLIC SKATING

(*Machell Park*)  
Free for all ages FREE OUTDOOR RINK  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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