# AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

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Vol. 5 No. 4 Week of November 9, 2004 905-727-3300





A single dove is released by Aurora's Diane Buchanan during annual Remembrance Day ceremonies held Sunday morning at the cenotaph. Dozens of birds were then released as part of the program. Politicians, residents and veterans laid wreathes, top photo, following a short parade to the cenotaph.

Auroran photos by David Falconer

# Town investigating new shelter options

Last June, in spite of opposition from representatives of the Aurora Residents Pet Care Association, council approved a one-year contract extension with Kennel Inn for animal control services at a cost of \$105,000.

Council also directed staff to pursue the option of a joint venture with neighbouring municipalities for a municipally operated animal control service and pound and report back before the end of December.

At last week's general committee meeting staff advised that regular meetings had been held by an Ad Hoc Animal Control Committee which had been formed earlier in the year to investigate animal control models and options.

The committee consists of representatives from all the municipalities currently under contract with Kennel Inn, including Aurora, King, Markham, Richmond Hill and Vaughan.

It was pointed out that the capital and operating costs associated with opening a municipally-owned shelter were significant.

As a result, the committee recommends participating councils authorize staff to advertise a joint Expression of Interest for the provision of animal control services.

The Expression Of Interest (EOI) will allow municipalities to solicit new models or options that staff may not be aware of in the industry.

It will also provide an opportunity for new candidates to bid.

Following a review of the EOI, the committee will go forward with a Request for Proposals from qualified respondents.

Without comment or debate the committee authorized staff to proceed as outlined in the report.

# Pre-grading price for centre increases

A mystery surrounds the awarding of a contract for the pre-grading of the new Seniors' Centre site that is going to cost Aurora taxpayers money, with no explanation as to why or how it happened.

Last July council agreed to award a separate contract for the pre-grading and site preparation for the centre, which included bulk excavation, placement and compaction of native soils and imported engineered fill at an estimated cost of \$300,000.

In September, council awarded the tender for pre-grading the site at a cost of \$239,000 to Gentile Contracting Ltd.

For some unexplained reason, at least in public session, the work was never commenced and there were no questions by council members as to the reasons why.

Last month, council went into a private session to address legal and personnel matters.

After the private meeting, council reconvened in public session to adopt the following motion: "that the tender for the Seniors' Centre site pre-grading

be awarded to Moretti Construction in the amount of \$312,302".

The increase amounts to \$73,302.

# **Briefly**

# Light up your life

Here's a chance to light up your life.

Theatre Aurora will hold a twoday professional lighting workshop using "Wait Until Dark" to lead participants through the design process with Theatre Aurora's new state-of-the-art equipment.

with "The Rat Pack" at the Canon Theatre, the workshops are set for Saturday, Dec. 4 and Sunday, Dec. 5 beginning at 10 a.m.

To enroll call Ken Lloyd at 905-727-5475



Museum proponent dies at 81

The man who unsuccessfully attempted to bring Aurora a railway museum has died.

Jack Moore, retired manager of the Convention and Tourist Bureau of Metropolitan Toronto, died at Southlake Regional Health Centre recently following a lengthy illness.

He was 81.

Moore was one of a committee in 1967 who suggested to Aurora Council Aurora could be a tourist spot with the Upper Canada Railway Museum as a main attraction.

Aurora was a perfect spot because in 1853, then known as Machell's Corners, it was head of rail for the Ontario, Simcoe and Huron Railway.

Years ago, town officials learned through Moore that several old steam engines and rolling stock including a Pullman coach and dining car could be acquired cheaply.

The engines, coaches and equipment had been purchased by the Ontario government for the Science Centre. When plans changed the collection became

At that time the town owned a 14-acre plot of land on the east side of the railway tracks north of Wellington Street.

In June, 1967, the Aurora and District Railway Association was established by Aurora Council, including Moore, Bert Graves, George Morgan, Len Rosenberg, Bob Buchanan and Councillors Bill Trent and Dick Illingworth.

A month later council set the wheels in motion to acquire the collection and establish the museum.

The collection consisted of sev-

Please see page 13

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# **COMING EVENTS IN AURORA**

#### CONTINUING

Volunteers are invited to take part in a Knitting Bee Project in the upper room of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, at Mosley and Victoria Streets Mondays from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. until the end of November. Both experienced and wanting-to-learn knitters welcomed. Free instruction. Some of the knitted projects will be given to Evangel Hall, a shelter for the homeless in Toronto. Child care, refreshments provided.

Independent Order of Odd Fellow Lodge #148 meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. at 15216 Yonge Street (south of Wellington). For more information, call 905-830-0205.

Masons' Rising Sun Lodge meets the first Thursday of each month at The Rising Sun Temple, 57 Mosley Street, Aurora at 7.30 p.m.. For further information contact Bob Butler at h.butler@sympatico.ca or 905-713-3314.

Robertson Masonic Lodge meets the third Saturday each month at 57 Mosley Street at 10.30 a.m. Coffee club at 9 a.m., lunch at noon. Conact 905-727-3032 or 905-727-1080.

Helping Hand: Gently used clothing for women and children, at Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street, every Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9.30 -11.30 a.m. Wednesdays 5.30 - 7 p.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. Aurora squadron meets every Friday. For more information call 905-726-8600, Tuesday evenings between 7 and 9 p.m..

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

Probus Club of Aurora meets at 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of every month at the Aurora Legion. Club is for retired or soon to-be-retired business and professional people and quests are

Towns of York Toastmasters meetings are free and open to the general public. Meetings are held every second and fourth Wednesday of the month, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway N., Aurora. For more informasee the club's web www.townsofyork.org or phone Roy Bannon at 905-853-0859.

Meditation classes in Aurora Wednesday evenings, 7 to 9 p.m. to Dec. 15. Above Needles & Knits Wool Shop, 15040 Yonge St., just north of Kennedy St. Further information, 416-762-8033 or info@meditationintoronto.org. No pre-registration required. Donations only.

Progressive Euchre every Thursday night. Aurora Legion. 7.30 p.m. Call 905-727-9932.

Operation Catch-Up presents free "Tutoring and Homework Help" for ages 10 to 18 years every Tuesday and Thursday from 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. during the regular school year at the Victoria Street Library. Call 905-773-7024 for details.

#### **NOVEMBER 12-27** SELECTED DATES

Theatre Aurora Presents "Li'l Abner" at Factory Theatre, Henderson Drive. For tickets, call 905-727-3669

### **NOVEMBER 12**

Town of Aurora Mayor's Blood Donor Clinic, 100 John West Way, 1 - 4 p.m. To book an appointment or for eligibility information, please call 1-888-236-6283 or 1-888-2 DONATE.

Opening night for "Greetings" at the Queen Elizabeth Dinner Theatre of Howard Johnson Aurora, and hot and cold buffet. Call 905-727-1312 to reserve.

# **NOVEMBER 13**

Trinity Anglican Church annual ACW Christmas Bazaar at the church from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the theme "Sugar-n-Spice". Tables will include attic treasures, jewelry and Christmas gift items. For more information call June Harkness at 905-8

Our Lady of Grace Parish Catholic Women's League 9th Annual Christmas Fair & Artisans Sale at the Parish Hall, 15347 Yonge Street, 9 a.m. to 2

A hot "spud" luncheon and baked goods table will highlight the Christmas Bazaar sponsored by St. Andrew's Guild. The bazaar runs from 10 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Victoria and Mosley Streets; luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tickets: \$5 for adults, \$2 for children

Aurora Seniors' Fall Bazaar 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Seniors' Centre with tea room, crafts and baked goods. For more info call 905-727-2816.

#### NOVEMBER 13/14

Heintzman House Volunteer Auxiliary Craft Show and Sale from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days featuring an array of handicrafts and fine art including works by Aurora artists Dorothy Clark McClure and David Rankin. For further information call 905-889-7980

### **NOVEMBER 14**

Bid euchre, Aurora Legion. 1 p.m. Call 905-727-

# **NOVEMBER 15**

It's that time of the year again when winter is coming and that means snow and the start of overnight parking restrictions. Between November 15th and April 15th parking between 2 to 6 a.m. is not permitted on all town streets.

#### **NOVEMBER 15/22/29**

Yard waste will be collected on the dates shown providing the waste is placed at the curb by 7 a.m. Yard waste must be in clear plastic bags, open containers or kraft paper bags for visual inspection. For more information as to what is eligible for pick-up call 905-727-1375 extension 3447.

#### **NOVEMBER 16**

Aurora Council meets in General Committee at 7 p.m. in the council chambers of the Town Hall and the meeting is open to the public.

Travel photography slide show with Ralph Brunner of Aurora Nature Photography at the Aurora Public Library, 7-9 p.m. in the Lebovic Room. Pre-register at the adult information desk.

#### **NOVEMBER 18/19/20**

Pine Tree Potters' Guild Winter Sale at St. Andrew's Valley Golf Club on St. John's Sideroad. 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. For further information call 905-727-1278.

# **NOVEMBER 19-20**

Aurora United Church Annual Fall Rummage Sale, 1 p.m. - 8 p.m., Friday and 9 a.m. - noon Saturday. Church is located at 15186 Yonge Street, south of Wellington. Proceeds allow United Church Women to support the work of local charities.

### **NOVEMBER 20**

Old-fashioned Christmas Crafts. The Aurora Museum presents a stocking-stuffer workshop for adults at Hillary House National Historic Site. 10 a.m. to noon. Fee \$10. Pre-registration necessary: call (905) 727-8991.

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of York Region Gala Auction at Dinardo's Mansion, Industrial Parkway South. Call 905-727-1251 for further infor-

Town of Aurora Staff Together (TOAST) committee will hold its 5th Annual Craft Sale and Silent Auction from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Aurora Public Library. All proceeds to Children's Aid Society's "Give a Kid a Christmas Program".

### **NOVEMBER 23**

Local author Dan Bortolotti discusses his new book "Hope In Hell: Inside the World of Doctors Without Borders" at the Aurora Public Library in the Magna Room. 7 p.m. Pre-register at the adult infor-

Aurora Council meets at 7 p.m. in the council chambers of the Town Hall.

### **NOVEMBER 24**

Opening nignt TOP Aurora's Marguee Productions family drama "Christmas Carol" at the Newmarket Theatre at 7:30 p.m. continuing November 25. 26 and 27 with a 2 p.m. matinee on November 27 and 28. Call the theatre box office at 905-953-5122 or Marquee Productions at 905-

Aurora Legion Blood Donor Clinic, 105 Industrial Parkway North, 2.30 - 8. p.m. To book an appointment or for eligibility information, please call 1-888-236-6283 or1-888-2 DONATE

#### **NOVEMBER 27**

Santa Claus comes to town with the annual Santa Claus Parade starting at 6 p.m. from Orchard Heights Boulevard and Yonge Street proceeding south on Yonge Street. Don't miss the opportunity to purchase Christmas bells from Aurora's Girl Guides prior to the parade. Deadline for float entries is November 19. For details contact 905-727-3123 extension 4762.

#### **NOVEMBER 27/28**

Aurora Optimist Club 18th Annual Book Sale at the Aurora Public Library from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday Proceeds for youth activities at the library.

#### **NOVEMBER 30**

Last day for applications from Aurora citizens to select five-members to assist with a Task Force aimed at addressing issues surrounding second-

ary dwelling units (i.e., basement apartments) in the municipality. The task force will consist of two members of council, five citizen members and one staff member with technical input as required. Submit a resume along with a letter explaining your reasons for wanting to serve to the Town Hall. DECEMBER 1

"PC Software Maintenance" - a free seminar co-hosted by Aurora Public Library and Aurora Cable Internet 7 to 8.30 p.m. in the Magna Room, Aurora Public Library. Visit www.aci.on.ca or call the library at 905-727-9493 to register.

#### **DECEMBER 2**

Calling all Britons. If you ever worked in the UK, your pension has been frozen. An information meeting will be held at the Aurora Legion, Industrial Parkway North, from 2 to 4 p.m. Representatives of the Canadian Alliance of British Pensioners will be in attendance.

**DECEMBER 5** 

Celebrate Christmas at Hillary House. Drop in from 2 to 4 p.m. Adults \$5 and children 12 and

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Janet Metcalfe, left, and her husband, David, are right in the "spirit" of things during last week's Third Annual Murder Mystery evening at Aurora's Hillary House. Shocked by the goings-on is Kathi Legge, centre. The mystery evening was again sold out as the Aurora Historical Society repeated its highly successful event at Aurora's favourite historical landmark on Yonge Street.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

# New website highlights old Aurora information

To find out what's old, you need to tune into something new

The Town of Aurora, through the direction and support of the Aurora Heritage Committee, has now launched its Heritage Aurora website.

In 2002, LACAC (Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee), which is now the Aurora Heritage Committee, recommended the development of a website to provide residents and history buffs with an architectural and historical account of Aurora.

"Through months of research, many hours of hard work by staff and the Heritage Committee members, the concept has now become a reality, and we're extremely pleased," said Bob Panizza, the Town's Director of Corporate Services. "We're confident

residents, architectural and history buffs alike will enjoy perusing the site, as it's full of historical facts, photographs and fascinating tidbits that will draw the interest of all ages."

The Heritage website is now accessible through the Town of Aurora website at www.town.aurora.on.ca.

Residents are invited and encouraged to visit the site by clicking on the "What's New" button on the home page of the Town's site and then clicking on the "New Heritage Aurora Web Link."

Upon entering the site, visitors are offered a menu including four sections: Heritage Committee, Heritage Buildings, Historical Society and History of Aurora.

"Architecture and history comprise the physical and social foundation of all communities," said Barry

Bridgeford, the Town's Heritage Assistant and the website developer. "Heritage Aurora is provided in recognition of Aurora's foundations, allowing our residents a deeper appreciation of our community's heritage."

The Aurora Heritage Committee is comprised of six resident members and two members of council. One of the functions of the committee is to promote and raise awareness of heritage conservation within the Town through educational materials.

For further information about the Aurora Heritage Committee and their role in historical and architectural preservation and promotion in Aurora, visit the Town's website and click on the "Town Hall" link on the home page and then "Committees", or call 905-727-3123 ext. 4220.

# Nineteen years later, Loblaws back in town

The grand opening of the Real Canadian Superstore took place last Wednesday at the southwest corner of the St. John's Sideroad and Bayview Avenue in Aurora.

The 125,000-square foot superstore, a subsidiary of Loblaws, is more than a grocery store, as it includes a drug store, medical clinic, cooking school, photo studio and a fitness centre for women.

The Aurora store is one of the first superstores in Ontario and joins 60 other superstores in Canada.

In October, 2003, Aurora Council approved a site plan agreement for Loblaw Properties, subject to resolution of outstanding issues and payment of fees and securities for the construction of a supermarket at the southwest corner of Bayview Avenue and St. John's Sideroad.

The total floor area of the proposed supermarket was to be 125,227 square feet with a total of 73,623 square feet of retail space after deducting the mezzanine area, corridors, passageways, stairwells, etc.

More than 590 parking spaces were proposed.

The floor plan was for standard supermarket items such as groceries, frozen food, deli, fresh produce, floral products and natural foods.

In addition, the plan included a smoke shop, photo studio, clothing

and linens, home products, toys, home entertainment, pharmacy and medical offices.

A holding category had been placed on the site to ensure the lands would only be used for the purposes outlined in the bylaw.

In addition, as council had recently approved a Sobey's supermarket for the same general area, the holding category was to provide time for Sobey's to become established.

By May, 2004, as the applicant had met all the conditions required by the town, a request was received to remove the holding category and the enacting bylaw was adopted.

The first Loblaws store in Aurora was one of the early stores to be located in the Aurora Shopping Centre.

In June, 1966, it was announced that Loblaws, the anchor unit in the plaza, wanted to expand its operations to the south of the existing store, which is now Gerry's No Frills.

The expansion never took place and other than No Frills, the

Loblaws presence in Aurora was absent until the opening of the Superstore.

Next on the construction list is a 15,000-square foot LCBO store planned south of the Loblaws store.

It was in October, 2003, when the Committee of Adjustment approved what was termed to be a minor variation application by St. John's Bay Land Company for the LCBO store on lands zoned as prestige industrial.

Following a private session, council decided the application should have gone through the normal planning process, and it was decided to appeal the committee of adjustment's decision.

Council finally agreed to the amendments as requested, but direct access to the store from Bayview Avenue was prohibited and access was to be provided by a signalized intersection on Bayview Avenue for both the LCBO store and the new superstore to the north.

Gone since 1985, Loblaws has returned to Aurora.



# KEVIN SPRATT Winner of Eddie & The Cruisers Golf Classic

Fort Lauderdale, Fl. 2004

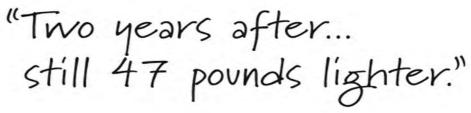


# Congratulations Kevin

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# Poor Richard

# Reasons why we remember

Thursday is a day to remember, Even though years have passed by: It's Remembrance Day across the land, In the world today, we wonder why?

- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

The First World War was a war against the evil forces who wanted to rule the world and brave men fought and died to save the world for freedom and to make it safe for democracy.

In the four years of World War I, Canada with a population of seven million people, fewer than Ontario today, raised an armed force of 600,000 men, most of them volunteers.

Of these, nearly 233,000 were casualties, 59,544 fatal.

Finally, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, the roar of the cannons ceased, weary men laid down their rifles and the larks were heard once more in Flanders Field.

They gave of themselves and created a nation.

That's why we remember.

The poppy, which is worn during Remembrance Week, is a reminder of the blood red flower which grew in Flanders Field where many brave Canadians gave their lives in the cause of freedom.

When the war was over, the surviving soldiers came home but they thought of their comrades buried in Flanders Field and the poppies that grew around

It was decided that each year on the anniversary of the Armistice they would wear a poppy in remem-

Other people, who, though they had not fought in the war, also wore the poppy in tribute to those brave

In the 21 years from November 11, 1918 to September 4, 1939, in spite of the efforts of a few, the world forgot to remember and slid into a war that Hitler planned with scarcely an effort to prevent it.

Once again the men and this time the women of Canada, many who as kids had worn the poppy, answered the call and joined with other free nations of the world to battle the forces of tyranny and evil.

Canada, by now a nation of 12 million people, lost 42,000 of its finest young people, 17,000 in the air.

The First World War was a battle of men, while the Second World War was a battle of machines. That's why we remember.

Since then there was Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War and innumerable peacekeeping missions and even today Canadian troops are in far-off lands fighting a war against terrorism and the forces of evil.

Canadians are not a warlike people.

Our troops did not enlist to capture new territories, but to prevent tyrants from subduing the people of the

Our Canadians believe in peace and freedom and that the cause is worth the sacrifice. That's why we

Remembrance is many things to many people. To the veteran it brings back sad memories. They saw their comrades get killed while many of them were wounded or ended up as prisoners of war.

To others it brings back memories of loved ones lost through battle.

For the many parents who lost a son or a daughter and for children who lost a father or a brother the pain

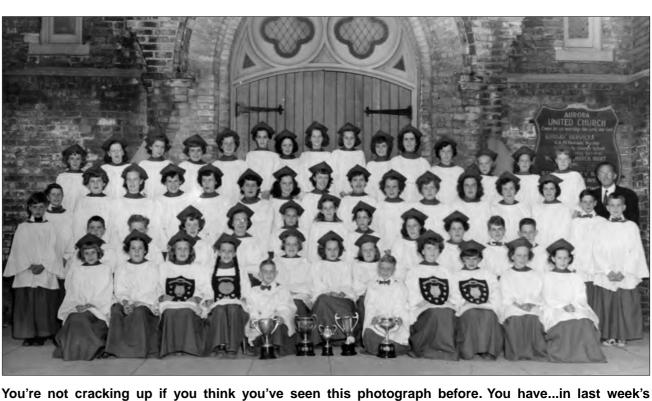
Others to remember are the unsung men and women who did not go to war but stayed home to work in the factories, stay on the farms, and produce the goods and materials needed by the Armed Forces.

They fought and died so those of us who were left could enjoy freedom, govern ourselves and enjoy the good things of life.

We can select the church of our choice, friends of our choosing, have the opportunity for an education and the freedom to vote as we like. That's what we

But once again the leaders of the world forgot to remember and fighting is going on in many parts of the globe and our political leaders are failing to provide the troops with the support they need in their battle to defeat tyranny and terrorism. That we will remember.

On this Remembrance Day, wear a poppy and at 11 o'clock, pause in silence for two minutes. It is a way of saying thank you for those who brought us freedom and our way of life.



Auroran. We asked for additional information, and we got it...from Aurora's Margaret (nee Barranger) Griffith. She pointed out that while the photo was taken in front of Aurora United Church, this was not exclusively an Aurora United Church choir, rather a gathering of children from most Aurora churches. We asked about the awards and learned the four shields are from the Kiwanis Music Festival held in Toronto, two trophies are from the Peel Music Festival, one from the Canadian National Exhibition music competition, and singles from the Hamilton Eisteddford and Guelph Music Festivals. In the photo - and some of these names will be familiar to you - are, front row, left to right, Patricia Burch, June Rowling, Karen Taylor, Sandra Knowles, Ken Taylor, Nancy Stocks, Lorraine Smith, Lorna Elmer, Brian Knowles, Sandra Heaney, Yvonne Yake, Jean Barnes, Nancy Watson; second row, left to right, Wayne Zimmerman, Wayne Spence, Lorne Foster, Alice Wells, Jane Kincaid, Donna Yake, Toni Brooks, Linda Rowling, Jill Morning, Nancy Dennis, Douglas Rose, Terry Besley, Don Collins; third row, left to right, Ken McGhee, Audrey Cole, Margaret Barranger, Mary Corbett, Muriel Collins, Joan Scott, Shirley Fisher, Nancy Stephenson, Louise Broome, Beverley Billings, Gail Milne, Jill Moffat, Margaret Dennis, Lorraine Zimmerman, Don Zimmerman, Illtyd Harris (choirmaster); back row, left to right, Carol Miller, Elizabeth Buchanan, Cathy Baldwin, Lorraine Fortier, Janice Carter, Joanne Teasdale, Jane Clark, Barbara Snow, Eileen Cole, Georgina Fisher, Jackie Seaton, Rosalie Hadfield, Dawna Case, Eileen Rule and Joan Copland. These singers won their awards during the 1952-53 season. Thank you, Margaret.

# Letter to the Editor

# Buck continually gets the facts wrong: reader

To the editor,

RE: Evelyn Buck's letter to the editor, entitled "Hydro places ball in our court, councillor claims" (Auroran, Nov. 2)

In my efforts to deal with the tower expansion plans drafted by our local power distribution companies and Hydro One, I have learned a great deal about our community, various levels of government, electrical power generation and distribution, the media and EMFs, but most of all I have learned the importance of a sense of ethics and the value of effective political represen-

ouncillor Buck was referring to my correspondence with Mayor Jones in her letter to the editor referred to above, but I suspect she

Getting my name wrong is not in itself a big deal, but getting the facts wrong on this issue and the role of our elected officials in representing our community is not only disconcerting but quite frankly alarming.

In a recent town council meeting, Evelyn claimed with confidence and character that she had read all of the literature on "EM whatevers" and that she had come to the determination that there were no adverse health concerns relating to EMFs.

She also proclaimed with great satisfaction, as she stated, that there were going to be no negative real estate impacts as a result of the towers because the town had just sold four acres of land beside the hydro corridor for the development of 60 new homes, at a great profit to the town.

Evelyn was right to ask if this smacked of being hypocritical when the town has pledged to adamantly oppose Hydro One's preferred solution to meet OUR power supply needs, but I digress.

Back to my point. Councillor Buck repeatedly humoured me and at the same time shocked me with her letters to the editor, her actions in our council chambers and most alarmingly her apparent lack of awareness of her many demonstrations of flawed

Here is my personal favourite Councillor Buck story (if this is not a quotable quote, I don't know what is ... ): our well informed councillor who is now well known for her willingness to hit another councillor over the head with a newspaper during a council meeting and being removed from the chambers as a result of breaking another procedural rule (if in fact there is a

specific rule against battery in the chambers), will be forever remembered by me for stating that what World Health Organization (WHO) means by recommending "prudent avoidance" of EMFs is that children should not climb on hydro

Wow, what insight!

To think that Councillor Buck has a voice in the future of this community should alarm not only those who are sitting beside her in the chambers, but those of us who put her there.

My hope is that every resident of Aurora actually tunes into channel 10 on Aurora Cable in order to watch at least one council meeting before you cast your next vote.

I may not agree with every councillor on every issue but I do respect them when they are doing their

Our council performs many important roles for our community but the critical ones in my book, are to listen and lead our community in a responsible and professional manner.

If we did not elect our council to perform that basic function, I would appreciate an explanation from Councillor Buck as to why we did elect them.

**Richard Johnson** Aurora

Community Newspaper

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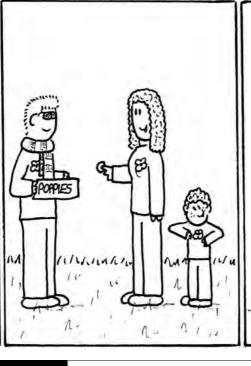
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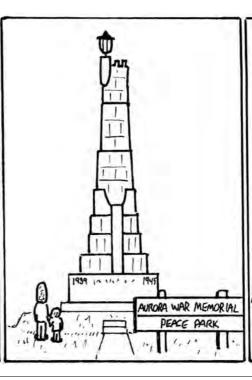
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# Mayor's Report By Tim Jones

# Mayor disappointed with change

On Tuesday, Oct 19th, a resident, Graham Wride, made a formal delegation to Council in General Committee, a copy of which was reprinted in The Auroran a week later.

Mr. Wride is not a regular letter writer nor presenter to council, indeed he is a someone whom I would classify, as a person who simply loves Aurora, participates and volunteers quietly and in his own way to maintain the quality of life we all enjoy so much in our town.

Mr. Wride was requesting council reconsider its decision of six months ago to re-address the Town Hall from John West Way, to a new name created for the parking lot in front of the Town Hall.

This decision was taken at a council meeting at which Councillors John West, Evelyn Buck, Bill Hogg and I spoke passionately about the desire of the council more than 10 years ago, led by Councillor Herb McKenzie who loved this town, to pay tribute to then Mayor John West for leading council through an exhaustive process to identify the location for our new town hall, by naming the street that led to the new town hall after him.

The council of the day voted, on their principles, unanimously to do so and it has been that way since.

I recall the renaming of the Town Hall address was first brought to council's attention by Councillor Nigel Kean last term. This proposal did not move forward.

Councillor Kean introduced a new motion with the current council six months ago, toned down this time to remove the town hall address from John West Way, in favour of renaming the parking lot in front of the town hall, in a forum where not one of the councillors who voted to create a name for the parking lot, spoke to the issue or gave even one reason why they supported this change.

This tact, to not speak to the issue or give any reasons or rationale, has left some members with a perception of predetermination before the meeting and, to me, it adds to the shadow of the dysfunction that council is perceived as working with this term.

As Councillor Buck stated, "if this decision was made outside the council chamber, it has rendered the council irrelevant".

This also potentially brings into question the ethics of how business is getting done.

Is not stating a reason or participating in a debate which is open and transparent for the public to understand, something all members so proudly and openly advocate?

Many residents have asked me, "don't you have more important things to deal with than to have council apply personal preferences to change road names and addresses over the preferences of the members of council 10 years ago?"

Good point in my eyes, but obviously not in the eyes of Councillors Kean, Phyllis Morris, Wendy Gaertner, Damir Vrancic and Ron Wallace who supported this motion to remove the Town Hall address from John West Way six months ago.

I applaud Councillor Buck who presented a motion Oct. 26th, that indicated no candidate for council has ever run on a platform that included changing this address, that no reasons have ever been stated to support this change and that no opportunity related to the above has been thus offered the public to input to this change.

She asked that this decision be rescinded.

Unfortunately, again, no rationale was offered by the same five councillors other than one who stated her decision was based on a personal principle and the vote to rescind was lost.

Are these the same people who campaigned for election to represent the public good, to pursue the will of those that elected us, as opposed to applying their own

personal beliefs and principles without public involvement?

Council has made its decision, the change will be going into effect as of January 1st, 2005, at a cost of between \$5,000 and \$10,000 and an incredible amount of staff time to communicate and follow up on this change.

There has been no rationale publicly offered or debated at council so that the public can be aware of this change and the positions of their elected representative on it and, most importantly, no input to determine if the public agree, disagree or even care!

I am truly saddened by this process and by this decision and I wanted you to know about it.

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

# Letter to the Editor

# Food Pantry offers thanks for donations

To the editor,

On behalf of the Aurora Food Pantry and clients, I would like to say thank you to all who have so generously donated to the Aurora Food Pantry over the last several months.

With a rising need, our supplies were very low

but we are again able to offer a good variety and supply to the people in need.

Thanks to the Town for collecting during the Wednesday concerts in the park and the Kids Fun Day. Thanks to the stores and fire hall for collecting during our Thanksgiving Food Drive

and all year. Thanks to the schools and those who have parties and collect food and donations.

I would especially like to thank the students from Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School, who did a Trick or Eat Collection on Hallowe'en.

They had a truck load

and two vans full.

Thank you people of Aurora who gave both food and money.

Your donations are greatly appreciated and we look forward to your continued support.

Lorna Rummenie Director Aurora Food Pantry



# Cathy's Corner



# Burning out in Aurora

As soon as the rush is over, I am going to have a breakdown.

I worked hard for it, I owe it to myself, and nobody - but

NOBODY - is going to deprive me of it!
I think these words of wisdom date back to the days

when "getting stoned" was a bad thing.

And ever since I heard them - back in the days when

"burning out" was a new thing - they have been my mantra.

Hey, we all need something to look forward to, huh?

For me, the first sign of impending spontaneous combustion was when I tried to shave my legs with foam insulation

It's not good for the razor, you know?

Then, about a week later, I tried to style my hair with shaving gel.

Just so you know, these products do not have anywhere near the versatility that A-types demand of them.

I didn't fully realize that the odds of crash and burn are even greater than the odds of discovering a new grey hair (probably growing out my nose) until I tried to load my toothpaste into a caulking gun.

Hmmm....maybe just a few too many renovations?

I think it all began when the cows came home.

Yes, the real cows really did come home.

Right here in Aurora!

In the demolition stages of the Wellington Street project, the time came to bring down the ceilings on the second floor.

Something very strange and unusual came out of the

attic, causing all the trades people to run from the building...and threaten never to return.

As we discovered, the very strange insulation was neither toxic nor infectious.

It was, in fact, leather shavings...a.k.a. cows.

Since Aurora had a tannery, many older homes in the area were fortunate enough to insulate with scrap from Collis Leather in the 1920's.

I teased the trades people mercilessly about their fear of cows.

In fact, I milked it for all it was worth!

But the joke was on me.

"Cathy, we didn't count on millions of cows," said my contractor. "The cows are extra."

As soon as the rush is over, I am going to have a breakdown.

And when I do, I am going to brush my teeth with caulking, shave my legs with an OLFA blade, and pluck myself bald with needle-nose pliers. And I am going to enjoy it.

Don't try to stop me, because I have worked long and

From plaster walls reinforced with horse hair, I am going to go to padded walls reinforced with a cozy white jacket that insists I give myself a hug.

I deserve it. And nobody - but NOBODY - is going to deprive me of it!

Cathy Vrancic welcomes e-mail at: laughingmatters@aci.on.ca

#### By DICK ILLINGWORTH

BOUQUETS to Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School Trick or Eat Coordinator Amy Tipton and her dedicated team of student volunteers. The students collected truckloads of non-perishable food items on Hallowe'en, which they delivered to the Aurora Food

BRICKBATS to those who plastered the utility poles throughout sections of the town with signs advertising "garbage" with a phone number. **Solution** If there isn't a bylaw to prevent this type of garbage pollution, there should be and it should be

BOUQUETS to members of Aurora Council for participating in one of the most congenial and civilized sessions of the current term when they met in a special general committee meeting recently to discuss changes to the procedural bylaw. But it didn't last. At a meeting the following night, it was back to normal.

BRICKBATS to the very sick people who would stick razor blades into blocks of wood and hide them in the sand of a beach volleyball court. glue shards of glass to equipment in a child's playground or attach razor blades to the stems of flowers in a bouquet for a child to pick up. Sick! Sick! Sick!

BOUQUETS to Gerry Conetta on building his Limo/Van service in Aurora to three vehicles. It was almost three years ago when he launched his Limo/Van service after convincing council to amend its taxi bylaw to become the first minivan service in the

BRICKBATS to the major gas companies like Imperial Oil and Shell for high prices at the pumps, while raking in millions of dollars in profits. Both companies reported record highs for the third quarter. Shell's profits nearly doubled to \$451 million and Imperial Oil jumped 26 per cent to \$539 million for

**BOUQUETS** to Frank Stronach and Magna International for donating \$8 million to the Southlake Regional Health Centre towards the planned \$65 million regional cancer clinic for the hospital. Stronach said it was his way of paying back some of the good things that life had brought him.

BRICKBATS to the federal government's Seized Property Management Act, which permits equipment seized by police to be auctioned off by the government. York Regional Police seized equipment in a marijuana-growing operation in 1998

and seized the same equipment last August in another growing operation. BOUQUETS to all the members of the Aurora Master

Max Ducks Swim Team on winning the Fall Sprint Splash in Brantford recently. The meet attracted swimmers from across Ontario. This team consists of mature male and female swimmers - people

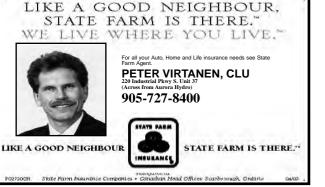
over 40 - and if you would like to participate call Nancy at 905-713-2031.

BRICKBATS to members of council in Toronto, London and other municipalities for even suggesting that the time has come for a four-year term for all municipal councils. Even a three-year term is too long for some councils, like the current Aurora Council, without some form of recall. The only

ones who benefit are the politicians.

BOUQUETS to all the winners in the annual Aurora Chamber of Commerce "Celebration of Business" held recently. The posh annual event was held at Kingbridge Centre in King City and was attended

by hundreds of people.



# Address recognizes person, not politician

To the editor,

On Tuesday, October 26, I attended the council meeting to listen to the debate regarding the removal of the name of John West from the municipal address.

The cost to do this is estisomewhere \$5,000 between and \$10,000 plus the staff time to make all of the necessary

As I listened, I thought back to this past spring when I took the opportunity to attend the discussion surrounding the second budget reading for 2004.

At that time each department head was asked to make significant reductions to their budget and then to advise the council of the consequent negative impact these cuts would have on the town.

I was surprised at some of the cuts this council instructed the staff to

On Tuesday, five councillors agreed to spend up to \$10,000 to remove a man's name from a municipal address.

I feel sorry for the staff.

What an insult to their integrity and their honesty!

There isn't enough money to meet their departmental needs but you are willing to spend money on this decision.

When this motion was first presented, Councillor Damir Vrancic stated that, in his opinion, a sitting councillor should not have a street named after himself.

I agree with him, however, because we share the same opinion, it does not give us the right to go into Aurora's past and make changes to support our opin-

To do so is to suggest that you and I are somehow wiser or more intelligent than those who made the deci-

It suggests that we think our opinions are more valid. I do not believe we have that

If the other councillors agree with you, and you do not mind giving a parking lot a street address then I believe it is the right of this council in co-operation with the seniors, to select a new address for the seniors' centre being built on John West Way, just as I believe it was



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the right of the council 12 years ago to select the address for the new town hall.

To try and understand the reasoning of the council of that day, I think you have to look beyond the council minutes of that time.

The history of a town is not found in council minutes but it is inscribed on the hearts of its residents.

It finds expression in the words and stories that we share with friends, neighbours and families. It is passed from genera-

the events that we chose to celebrate together. The street address for the new town hall, 100 John West Way, was not intended

tion to generation through

The community gives recognition to politicians each time they are re-elect-

to recognize John West - the

It was given as a tribute to John West - the person.

It was a community's way of looking back over the past 40 years and saying thank you to this man for his contributions through his involvement with charities, fundraisers and local organizations.

Sometimes he has been recognized publicly, most of the time he has done this quietly behind the scenes.

His motivation is to give back to the town that means so much to him.

A place that he is proud to call home.

The purpose of this letter is to suggest that you move the focus from yourselves and place it on the residents you are elected to serve.

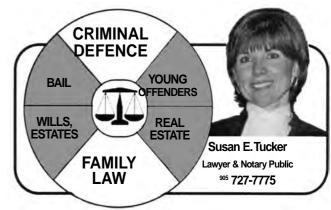
Ask them if they were able

to make the decision, would they want to spend this money removing a man's name from a street address or would they rather it be spent on something we all can celebrate together.

Choose something that unites us rather than divides us. I think their voices would be united. Choose the posi-

Make a decision that causes each of us to say, "we are proud to be citizens of Aurora".

**Ruth Howard** Aurora





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# Behind the scenes at Aurora Writers' Group

To the editor,

It seems to be a wellkept secret that Aurora has a thriving Writers' Group.

We meet on the second Monday of the month in the Town Hall at 7.30 p.m. and the group (ages from 20 to 60) was established several years ago.

We have speakers at different times or members will speak on a particular topic, humour in literature, memoir, poetry, self-publishing, the use and misuse of the English language in advertising, writing for industry, etc.

Several of the members write occasionally for local or national papers or mag-

During the evening we share ideas (and laughter) and then have a 10-minute writing exercise from a one word or sentence prompt which we read to the others if we choose.

It is interesting to see how differently each member writes from the same prompt.

To give you an idea,

here are two of mine - one fact and one fiction. I leave it to the reader to determine which is which.

The prompt was "I wish it hadn't been this way

I wrote: "I wish it hadn't been this way but ... " my father lay back heavily against the pillows, his breath coming in laboured gasps, "...then I didn't want you to find out later from someone else."

As I tried to grasp what he was leading to, he went on, "you see, I've always had a weakness for the ladies, and irresponsible as I was, the excitement of it all, well, I wasn't careful wild women, lusty women, unsuitable women, available women - some of them kept in touch, some of them befriended your mother. What a man I've been, I should never have married. Your mother bore me one child - my glorious Natalie - but at last count I realized you had 39 half brothers. Yes, it's funny,

they were all boys, here are their names and numbers. You would like them. Goodbye, my darling, Natalie."

With that his eyes closed and his hand fell from my grasp.

The second prompt was: Describe someone you remember well from childhood, not family.

Nat Cohen - Salesmen or "travellers" as we called them would visit my grandma's shop to take orders for sweets and toys.

The chocolate salesmen from companies such as Terry, Cadbury or Fry would bring samples of new products for us to try.

They were all university educated, courteous and well-heeled - not so, Nat, his stocky little body wrapped in whatever was on the end of his bed.

He'd coming rushing into the shop from his small van at a half run, a smile on his face as he clenched a lit cigarette to one side whether talking or

laughing, dropping stuff all the way in.

Bending down to pick a box up one time, he slyly kicked it farther into the shop, his eyes inviting me to an impromptu game of football that became quite lively, while my mother raised her eyebrows at his inappropriateness.

He wholesaled cigarettes and toys, endorsing the first with a chain-smoking, joke-telling routine accompanied by a gritty chuckle, sometimes punctuated by a 50-year smoking cough.

A member of the Magic Circle (amateur magicians) he demonstrated tricks, once showing me how he could turn a lit cigarette stub round in his mouth without burning himself.

This time it backfired and he gasped and ran to the corner where out spewed stud, teeth and a bit more - evidently he hadn't practiced long enough with the trick and the stub had started to burn into his plastic palate.

"Do you want to come swimming?" Nat asked me.

He'd pick me up at 8 a.m. to go and freeze at the unheated outdoor pool in a nearby park.

Nat would emerge from the changing room, a lively ape of a man, hairy and laughing, leaping into the "Jump, Dierdre, I'll

catch you." I warmed up over a hearty fried breakfast and a mug of steaming tea in some greasy spoon before he drove me back to the

In retrospect he probably was a sad and lonely

man who could find comfort in the helpless laughter of a young teenager at his antics.

AURORAN, Week of November 9, 2004 - 7

If writing is an interest of yours, why not come to the next meeting?

**Dierdre Tomlinson Aurora** 



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#### Herb would be insulted: reader

To the editor,

RE: "Buck tossed from meeting" (Auroran, Nov. 2)

Once again, Aurora Council lives up to the name "dysfunctional". Councillor Evelyn Buck

was ejected for having the audacity to suggest that as there was no reason given for wishing to change the address of the Town Hall and as there were no arguments put forward by the proponents to do so, she felt there had been an agreement on this issue before it ever came to coun-

Thank you, Mrs. Buck, for so succinctly and eloquently stating what I and many people I have spoken to feel about this issue.

The article also insinuates that the council, 14 years ago, decided unanimously to address the Town Hall as 100 John West Way as an honour to Mr. West for his many years of service to our town, was agreed to in a

private session in some nefarious and underhanded

If Herb McKenzie, the councillor who spearheaded the motion to have the address thus named were alive today, I think he would not only be outraged but also hurt and insulted at this suggestion.

Anybody who knew Herb would, I'm sure, agree.

Members of Aurora Council, please rescind this insulting, money and time wasting motion, and start restoring some dignity to our town.

**Jacqueline Campbell** 

# Flyer boosted web site hits

To the editor,

Well, Mr. Editor, you can advise all your advertisers that advertising in The Auroran sure pays.

On our law firm web site we had one hit on the Saturday before we put a flyer in your paper. We had four on the Sunday.

Your paper came out on the Tuesday and between then and the following Saturday we had 705 visits to our site.

Thanks for the great coverage.

SorleyandStill.com **Aurora** 

Couple harassed

To the editor,

We moved to Aurora one-and-a-half years ago and since then we have been harassed by cowardly hoodlums who have pelted us with eggs, apples, tomatoes, rotten bananas and paint balls.

Twenty-four times.

All this for no reason other than we are vulnerable because we cannot

# Trick or Eat

To the editor,

RE: Trick or Eat Campaign

Thank you so much to all the Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School neighbours for making this year's food drive a huge success.

Your donations to the Aurora Food Pantry yielded a whopping ton of food (about 25 full shopping carts).

The Trick or Eat team made up of Williams students did an amazing job collecting all the food.

Thank you so much. Hope to see you next

Hallowe'en.

Patty McLaughlin

**Aurora** 

chase after them.

It's too bad that our system has allowed young hoodlums to hold everyone hostage to their whims, and to think that they can say or do anything without being accountable to anyone.

They may be only throwing eggs now, but if they get away with that, then they may think they can get away with breaking the law in other ways.

We know that we are not the only ones who this is happening to, so if you know any of these young hoodlums who give a bad name to all the decent kids in the Aurora golf course (former Highlands) area, we hope you will call the police.

If may be us today, but it could be you tomorrow.

Mr. & Mrs. H. Williams Aurora

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Sharon Virtue, left, and Dorothy enjoy a few minutes together in a British pub. The pair had corresponded 50 years before they finally met.

# Fifty years as pen pals, two women finally meet

By CHRISTINE WOODLEY

Long before instant messaging, e-mail and chat rooms, people still managed to meet and sustain friendships with people around the world.

They had pen pals.

Fifty years ago, Sharon Virtue. who is now Administrative Assistant at Wells Street Public School, was one of those people.

She was a seven-yearold girl at Lambton Park Public School in Toronto.

As part of a writing Sharon's assignment, teacher asked each child to write a letter to an unknown new friend.

The letters were then sent in a bundle to the teacher's brother, also a teacher, in Manchester, England.

A little girl named Dorothy got Sharon's letter, and the rest is history.

Through the years, the friends shared all the stages of their lives - the teenage years, work, marriage, kids and now, grandchildren.

Their lives seemed to have run in parallel: both opted for work instead of college, both married and had two children almost the same ages.

They shared it all and became very close, but they never visited.

In fact, the two never spoke on the phone until 2003.

Once they did though, they knew they had to figure out a way to meet.

Sharon doesn't like to fly, and neither does Dorothy's husband.

But when Sharon's husband, who is a member of the York Region Police Chorus, was planning a tour with the group in England and Wales recently, she knew it was her big mail just two years ago.

So, what was it like meeting a friend after 50 vears?

"It was just like meeting a sister. We were old friends who didn't have to go through that 'get to know you' stage. It was wonderful," Sharon said.

They spent a week touring around old castles and shopping for gardening supplies. But mostly they just sat and talked.

And, in case you're wondering, the friends switched from paper and pen to e-

As for the future of this friendship that has stood the test of time and distance, there may be another reunion in the works, this time on this side of the Atlantic.

"I've been married 36 years and Dorothy for 38. She's already told her husband that a tour of Canada would make a lovely 40th anniversary gift," Sharon

Sounds like these pen pals will have another page in their scrapbook very



# Office space project OK'd by committee

A block of industrial land located at the southcorner Stewart become the new home for business and professional offices, including medical and dental offices, clinics and laboratories.

The application and official plan amendments were before council at a public planning meeting held last May.

Council directed staff to draft the official plan amendment and that the approval of the implementing bylaw would be subject to the review of the site plan application.

At last week's general committee meeting, staff assured committee members that all concerns raised respecting the application had been addressed and recommended councillors adopt the implementing bylaw at this week's council meeting.

Committee members agreed



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Pay TV

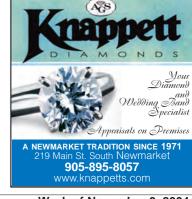
Pay Per View

WiFi

WØØT

Treasure Hunt

Community TV



back in fashion to beat the

Jerome Dupont who added

the victory was a "character

said

Singles went to Sam

Josh

Waxers,"

Week of November 9, 2004

Provincial Junior A hockey

team picked up four of a

possible six points last

week, but the two they

missed were given to the





More than 600 people took part in the annual Thrill On The Hill runathon last week starting at Aurora's St. Andrew's College. According to officials, good weather contributed to the high turnout and so far, more than \$35,000 has been raised. The activity is sponsored by Girls Incorporated. Auroran photos by David Falconer



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**PVR Service:** 

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Tigers came from behind

to dump the Markham

from three deficits and used

Thompson who scored both

the winning goal and an

The Tigers clawed back

Waxers 9-6.

A PVR is part of a digital terminal (including our high definition digital terminals.) A digital terminal delivers all your existing channels in brilliant colour and definition. It also delivers a rich selection of new channels and interactive services.

**PVR Features:** 

-Record your favourite programs (up to 60 hours) without videotape.

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-Enjoy the best of television according to your personal schedule.

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In Aurora and north Richmond Hill for Cable TV, Internet, Data and more

Town staff has been working with a volunteer resident committee for a number of years to establish a fenced leashfree park in the municipality for dog owners to safely run their pets "at large" in a secured envi-

finally The became a reality and opened two weeks ago on Industrial Parkway North, south of St. John's Sideroad.

With the opening of the park it became necessary to amend the town's dog control and licensing bylaw to allow dogs to run "at large".

The bylaw currently prohibits dogs to be "at large" when they are off their owner's property.

This includes both private property and town properties such as parks and other open spaces.

When the draft bylaw came before last week's general committee meeting, Councillor Evelyn Buck expressed concern about potential liability

Town's seal and motto -

"Aurora, my kind of town."

A funeral mass was held

Monday morning from

Our Lady Of Grace

Roman Catholic

Church.Thompson Funeral

Home.

claims against the town with animals not under control.

Staff replied that a check had been made with the town's insurance company and as the park was fenced and the dogs under the control of their owners and with appropriate signs posted, company officials had not expressed any concerns.

Buck said she was

It was pointed out that the residents' committee was a sub-committee of the Leisure Services Advisory Committee and was covered by the town's insurance policy.

As all precautions had been taken the committee agreed to recommend to council that the bylaw be

under the impression the citizens' group was to be responsible for their own liability insurance.

amending

# Tom Vandenelshout

# Long time Auroran dies at Southlake

most ardent readers and letter writers, Tom Vandenelshout died at Southlake Regional Health Centre last week.

He was 73.

A resident of Aurora for more than 45 years, Tom settled in Canada after emigrating from Rotterdam, Holland, in 1956.

Tom and his wife, Thea, moved to Aurora in 1960 when they purchased a home in Regency Acres and raised four children, Bastiaan, Trudy, Sue and

In 1992, after 38 years as a chemist with Connaught Medical, Tom

He pursued long time

One of The Auroran's hobbies with ham radios and electronics and in 1998 he added another hobby which he loved, being a grandfather.

> There were three topics Tom could always talk about: family, community and politics.

> While he never ran for public office he was always involved in Aurora happenings, whether it was the 1967 widening of Yonge Street, the problems with the Leisure Complex pool in 2002 or taxes, a subject that usually provoked a few

> It was he who first suggested in 1996 that the newly painted railway bridge over Yonge Street be repainted to include the

# Hypnosis?...yes, it works!

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ple have found permanent relief from years of weight gain, smoking, phobias, fear of public speaking, etc., etc. CALL US TODAY and book your consultation...It will be the best decision you have ever made!



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# Tigers win two

From page 10

Craig Carlyle added three assists.

The victory moved Aurora back into a first place tie in the North Division with Newmarket losing their matinee encounter 8-4 to the North York Rangers.

Friday night, Aurora hosted Huntsville, and had little trouble racking up a 6-0

Skwarchuk led the way

with two goals, while Cale Tanaka. Branden Vanderloo, Kennedy and Agosta added singles.

Aurora heads to Stouffville Thursday then returns home for a game the Oshawa against Legionnaires Friday night at

Sunday, they travel to the city to meet the St. Mike's Game time Buzzers. is 2 p.m.

good ideas?

Do you have an investment portfolio or a collection of what used to be

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# ONE NIGHT WITH "DOC"



Aurora Public Library 15145 Yonge Street

DR. JOEL WALLACH B.Sc., DVM, ND Nobel Prize Nominee

THURS. NOV. 25th 7:15 p.m. - 10 p.m.

# HEALTH SECRETS WE NEED TO KNOW

FREE: Call "Coach" to reserve 905-727-2199

# **January Sales/Prices**

# \*\*\*Pre-Christmas Sale\*\*\*

**High-End Boxed Christmas Cards** 

Ready Boxed - 20 Cards - \$15.00 Many Aurora Vistas Aurora Artists/Printed in Canada Personalized Corporate/Office Cards Available 50 Cards to Select from \* portion of all sales will be donated to the

> Southlake Health Centre foundation\* Also Boxed Cards for your Organization Fundraising.

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"We colour your Seasons"



Joyce Jones, the pirate lady, and Count Dracula, Ernie Watson, won top prizes for costumes when the Aurora Seniors held a Broomstick Ball at the

# Jaguar Gymnastics

**AURORA'S 2004 BUSINESS OF THE YEAR** 



**WINTER BREAK CAMP** Dec 20, 21, 22, 23, & 24

1/2 DAYS & FULL DAYS **EXTENDED CARE AVAILABLE** 

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# House League Exhibition Games

205 DR. STEINER'S DRILLERS 8: Victor Chadarov 2G, Morgan Walker 3G, Tait Snedden 1G 1A, Harris Riopelle 1G 1A, Matthew Heintzman 1G 1A, Mitchell Palmer 1A, Dakota Stone 3A, Thomas Finlay 2A, Melissa Verge 2A, Adrian Ramirez 2A, Andre Walter 1A, Thomas McDonald 1A. 207 PHARMASAVE 2: Adam deRoos 2G, Kevin Siery 1A, Bryan Hyung 1A, Charles Sandler 1A, Erica Barnes 1A.

204 NORTH YORK HEATING & PLUMBING 8: Christopher Sanita 1G, Matthew Sanita 3G, Kevin Willert 1G, Adam Petit 1G 1A, Joseph Veneziano 1G 2A, Michael Tanel 1G. Mitchell Srouji 3A, Gabriel Oulahen 1A, Alexander Gouthro 2A, Michael DeCesare 1A, Cameron Richard 2A. 208 ORR & FORSTER INSURANCE 2: Jamie Wilson 1G, Jake Detoro 1G, Max Brown 1A, Alec Barnett 1A.

206 AURORA HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE 5: Matthew Walker 2G, Alexander Jonassen 1G, Riley O'Brien 1G, Ryan McGoldrick 1G, Graham Killby 1A, Luc Martineau 1A, Johnathan Read 1A, Derek Capone 1A, David Gonder 1A. 203 WWW.MASTERMINDTOYS.COM 4: Parker Baile 3G, Jason Glionna 1G, Chris Downs 1A.

202 ALL PRO SPORTS 4: Brayden Beswick 1G, Joel Gouveia 1G 1A, Zachary Cowl 1G, Liam Batulis 1G, Eric McMurray 1A, Luke Gregoris 1A, Tyler George 1A, Jonah Blaser 1A, Mitchell Lamantia 2A, Luke Batulis 1A, Matthew D'alessandro, shutout. 205 DR. STEINER'S DRILLERS 0.

201 DELPH & JENKINS SURVEYORS 8: Victor Chadarov 2G, Morgan Walker 3G, Tait Snedden 1G 1A, Harris Riopelle 1G 1A, Matthew Heintzman 1G 1A, Mitchell Palmer 1A, Dakota Stone 3A, Thomas Finlay 2A, Melissa Verge 2A, Adrian Ramirez 2A, Andre Walter 1A, Thomas McDonald 1A. 207 PHARMASAVE 2: Adam deRoos 2G, Kevin Siery 1A, Bryan Hyung 1A, Charles Sandler 1A, Erica Barnes 1A.

**301 TILEMASTER 2**: Steven Grandin 1G, Matthew Roach 1G, Evan Sheridan 1A. 304 **DR. STEINER'S DRILLERS 0**.

**305 ROTARY CLUB OF AURORA 6**: Ryan Dowling 2G, William Brogan 2G, Mackenzie McIntosh 1G, Jordan Doke 1G, Braden Gerace 1A, Joshua Lawlor 1A, Michael McCreesh 1A. **302 NACORA INSURANCE BROKERS 3**: Jamie Poutney 2G, Conno McQuillan 1G 1A, Chance Rodin 2A.

303 DIAMOND GROUNDSKEEPING SER-VICES LTD. 8: Sammy Fanone 2G, Jason Samide 4G, Scott Wheeler 1G, Dustin Partanen 1G, Ryan Mcmillan 1A, Luke Pizzuro 1A, Hailey Black 1A. 306 CONTINENTAL CUSTOM INGREDIENTS 4: C. Tsianos 1G, N. Bertrand 1G, Luc Wise 1G, Ryan Peace 1G, Matthew Warner 1A.

**506 McALPINE FORD LINCOLN 4**: Christian Davies 2G, Danny Malinas 1G, Colin Sandquist 1G, Sean Takahashi 1A, Stephen Gennero 1A, Michael Takahashi 1A. **510 THE BACKYARD POOL & SPA COMPANY** 3: Dylan Joviet 2G, Rhys Gander 1G, Liam Martin 2A.

**502 A.D.C. ALUMINUM 6**: Mark Tanel 1G 2A, Curtis Stobo 1G 1A, Anthony DeCesare 1G, Ryan Hastie 1G, Adam Clark 1G, Andrew Smitten 1G. 510 **THE BACKYARD POOL & SPA COMPANY 4**: Dylan Joviet 2G, Sean Halley 1G 1A, Ryhs Gander 1G 1A, Liam Martin 2A, Michael Bernier 1A.

**509 DOMINION 4**: Brett Richardson 2G, Ryan Laird 1G, Stephen Newby 1G, Jaret Meron 1A, Kevin McCrudden 1A. **507 COSENTINO PRODUCE 3**: Anthony Selski 2G, Lucas Cristillo 1G, Cameron Annear 1A, Alex Hayes 1A.

508 MANHATTAN TROPHIES 5: Adrian Tobin 2G, Nicholas Sbrolla 1G, Egan Fennell 1G, Jordan Gerace 1G 1A, Hayden Sands 1A, Matthew Mahon 1A, Razvan Vela 1A. 510 THE BACKYARD POOL & SPA COMPANY 3: Jay McConnell 1G, David Marini 1G, Rhys Gander 1G, Sean Halley 1A.

505 INFINITY TECHNOLOGIES 4: Taran
McGowan 4G, James Wotherspoon 1A. 501
MARY'S FLOWER SHOP 4: Alex Thompson 2G,
Curtis Rose 1G 1A, Andrew Luck 1G.
509 DOMINION 4: Ryan Laird 1G, Brett

Aurora Minor Hockey Association

Results to 9 AM Sunday, November 7th, 2004 Website: www.aci.on.ca/amha

Richardson 1G 1A, Rosario Arcuri 1G, Stephen Newby 1G, Kevin McCrudden 1A, Lucas Hargrave 1A, Ben Center 1A, Spencer Palmer 1A. **504 CAA CENTRAL ONTARIO 2**: Brandon Lalonde 1G, Daniel Whitly 1G, Tanner Brewer 2A.

**507 COSENTINO PRODUCE 5**: Alexander Payne 1G 1A, Logan Weber 1G, Anthony Selski 1G, Cameron Annear 1G, Matthew Clarke 1G, Jonathon Boehmer 1A, Jonathon Alcock, shutout. **506 McALPINE FORD LINCOLN 0**:

**502 A.D.C. ALUMINUM 3**: Anthony Decesare 1G, Andrew Smitten 1G 1A, Mark Tanel 1G, Curtis Stobo 1A. **503 AB COX PONTIAC BUICK GMC 3**: Paul Tuck 2G, Troy Gouveia 1G, Christopher Follett 2A, TJ Ground 1A.

803 SMITTY'S PAINTING & DECORATING 4: Jared Pelletier 1G, Mohammed Akbar 1G, Michael Nealon 1G 1A, Jake Deacon 1G, Chris Ramsy 2A. 801 Green/Gold PIZZA PIZZA 4: Darren Giroux 1G, Dan Creighton 2G1A, Dylan Brennan 1G 1A, Jordan Streigler 1A, Patrick O'Connor 1A.

805 Gold/Black PIZZA PIZZA 7: Mark McCrudden 2G 2A, Mike Roberts 1G 1A, Nick Epworth 2G 1A, Andrew Wilkens 1G 1A, Brian Burns 1G, Michael Sanita 2A, Alex Strapp 1A. 806 I.O.O.F. AURORA LODGE 148 F.L.T. 5: J. Smith 1G, M. Spick 1G, R. Casselden 1G, R. Van Winckle 1G 1A, E. Davenport 1G 1A, M. Holland 1A.

1009 Orange/Black PIZZA PIZZA 2: Derek Lynham 1G, Alex Cancelli 1G. 1010 CHEVALIER CHRYSLER 1: Graime Fleming 1G.

**1008 ASTECH SOLUTIONS 3**: John Stinson 1G, Alex Broughton 1G, Matt Bloom 1G. **1003 Red/White PIZZA PIZZA 1**: Kyle Fleming 1G.

1009 Orange/Black PIZZA PIZZA 4: Matt Bloom 2G, Drew Beal 1G, Graham Gabel 1G. 1001 Green/Gold PIZZA PIZZA 1: Mark Short 1G.

1009 Orange/Black PIZZA PIZZA 6: John Stinson 1G, Alex Broughton 1G, Jake Warden 1G, Alex Cancelli 1G, Alec Follett 1G, Drew Beal 1G. 1006 White/Royal PIZZA PIZZA 3: Alex Gilliver 2G, Erik Burrow 1G.

# House League League Games

106 White/Royal TIM HORTON'S LEAFS 5: Jacob Hagias 1G, Sandy Hudson 1G, Taylor Lemmon 1G, Jesse Weimer 2G, Adam Hofmann 1A, Andrew Klinowski 1A. 104 Royal/White TIM HORTON'S BLUES 4: Austin Waite 2G, Joseph Battiston 2G, Kyle Bryden 1A, Ermerson Cepelak 1A, Tyler Coleta 1A

**101 Green/Gold TIM HORTON'S STARS 8:** Darren Iwai 3G, Nolan Smith 2G1A, Liam Joiner 1G, Matthew Neice 1G, Alexander McGovern 1G, Ryan Donovan 1A. **107 Maroon/White TIM HORTON'S AVALANCHE 7:** Tyler Boston 3G 1A, Daniel Middleton 2G 1A, Steven Tsianos 2G.

105 Gold/Black TIM HORTON'S BRUINS 3: Austin Riswick 1G, Noah Spicer 1G, Quinten Bell 1G. 108 Grey/Black TIM HORTON'S KINGS 3: Austin Insley 1G, Alex Negri 1G

102 Black/Gold TIM HORTON'S PENGUINS 6: Graydon Gardner 1G, Nicholas Baxter 2G 1A, Joey Hodgson 1G, Nathan Romanchych 1G, Connor Cann 1G. John Partland 1A. 109 Orange/Black TIM HORTON'S FLYERS 2: David O'Connor 2G, Savannah Moody 1A, Brenden Ruuskanen 1A.

103 Red/White TIM HORTON'S RED WINGS 6: Christopher Baggio 1G, Will Thompson 3G, Matthew Leroy 1G, Garrett Wood 1G. 110 Teal/White TIM HORTON'S SHARKS 6: Jake Appleby 3G, Jessica Ash 1G, Hayden Hassard 1G, Micheal Ruggerio 1G 1A.

405 PERMANENT PRESS PRINTING 7: Zachary Cook 3G, Francesco Vallecorsa 2G, Ryan DalCin 1G 1A, Madison Schaeffer 1G 1A, Ryan Lowden 2A, Josh Lopez 1A. 406 AURORA HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE 6: JP Hudon 2G 1A, Josh Ashfield 1G 1A, Andrew Curci 2G, Jack Straw 1G, Mike Mildon 1A, Cody Rundle Sanderson 1A.

**404 SUPREME COLLISION CENTRE 3**: Arun Patridge 2G, James Procher 1G, Josephe Detoro 1A, JJ White 1A, Michael David 1A. **402 D-MAC FURNITURE 3**: Cam Whitelaw 2G, Kurtis Lunder 1G, William Tang 1A.

**403 EMILIO'S PIZZA 6**: Andrew Gibbs 2G, Ty Bochu 3G 2A, Evan Collict 1G, Matthew Malito 2A, Zachary Pile 1A. **401 AURORA CABLE INTERNET 5**: Gregory McFarlane 2G 1A, Braden Mackenzie 1G 1A, Eamon Reilly 1G 2A, Michael Rodrigues 1G, Nick Theodoropoulous 1A.

901 AURORA CANADIAN TIRE 6: Daniel Kupraty 4G, Dan Coates 1G, Derek Sweeting 1G, Eric James 1A, Mike Perretta 1A. 903 IZZI POPAT - ROYAL LePAGE 2: James Seymore 1G, Peter Walker 1G, Doug Bainbridge 1A.

905 Gold/Black PIZZA PIZZA 5: Joel Stock 1G, Stephen Horan 2G 1A, Jamie Fenyes 1G, Ryan Smyth 1G, Jacob Evelyn 1A, Greg Youtoff 2A, Tom Horner 1A, Nick Verdugo 1A. 906 White/Red PIZZA PIZZA 2: Derek Hurst 1G, Alex Ginther 1G, Rob Ruuskanen 1A.

**904 HS FINANCIAL SERVICES 1**: Kyle Apps 1G. **902 OPTIMIST CLUB OF AURORA 1**: Ryan Joynt 1G, James Taylor 1A.

904 HS FINANCIAL SERVICES 5: Jesse Gattellero 4G 1A, Stephen Pitts 1G, Alexander Smith 1A, Ryan Jones 1A, Jon Aleksich 2A, Andrew Walsh 1A. 901 AURORA CANADIAN TIRE 4: Mike Perretta 2G, Dan Kupraty 2G 1A, Dan Coates 1A, Evan Magill 2A, Derek Sweeting 2A

**905 Gold/Black PIZZA PIZZA 9:** Steven Horan 3G, Jamie Fenyes 3G 2A, Ryan Cain 2G, James Weber 1G, Joel Stock 3A, Andrew Kines 2A, James Connolly 2A, Greg Youtoff 1A, Cameron Spence 1A. **902 OPTIMIST CLUB OF AURORA** 2: Jake Teel 1G, Andrew Rowan 1G, Morgan Mittlestaedt 1A.

**903 IZZI POPAT - ROYAL LePAGE 3**: Doug Bainbridge 1G, Jeff Seymore 1G 1A, Nathan Taylor 2A, Tyler Cappell 2A, Erin Devlin 1A, Mike Rowe 1A. **906 White/Red PIZZA PIZZA 1**: Alex Ginther 1G, Brad Wilkens 1A.

#### Rep Results

### Novice AA 9 Newmarket 1

Austin Lane 1A, Spencer Green 2G 2A, Branden Fennell 1A, John MacDonald 1G 1A, Quentin Campbell 3G 1A, Konner McMillan 1G 1A, Matthew Iwai 1G, Jack Caldwell 1G 2A, Sean Foxwell 1A, Jordan Nanos 1A, Connor Graham 1A.

Bradford 3 Novice A 2

Erik Balkovec 1G, Connor Cowl 1A, Evan Jackson 1G, Lucas Pozzebon 1A.

## Bradford 4 Novice A 3

Scott Kostin 1G, Evan Jackson 1A, Paul Neophytou 2G, Brett Thiessen 2A, Sean O'Donnell 1A.

# Markham 2 Novice AE 1

Nicholas Papousek 1G Eric Middleton 1A.

## Whitby 3 Minor Atom AA 2

Collin Laird 1G, Jody Nonnewitz 1A, Kiefer McIntosh 1A.

# Georgina 3 Minor Atom AA 2 Stefan Lazzer 1G Fric Ludw

Stefan Lazzer 1G, Eric Ludwig 1G, Kyle Zacharuk 1A, Trevor George 1A.

Newmarket 4 Minor Atom AA 0

### Minor Atom A 3 Newmarket 2

Hayden Trask 2G, Andrew McDonald 2A, Daniel Fiori 1A, Eric Bulloch 1G, Conor Fennell 1A, Eric Damecour 1A.

## Minor Atom A 3 Markham 1

Conor Fennell 2G, Eric Archibald 1A, Hayden Trask 1A, Daniel Jones 1A, Braden Casselden 1A, Andrew McDonald 1A, Eric Damecour 1A, Peter Sandwell 1G.

# Minor Atom AE 5 Barrie Colts 2

Daniel Antoneil 1G, Ryan Baskin 1A, Jimmy Brookes 1A, Ben Hankins 3G, Jake Martin 1A, Conner Moody 2A, Matthew Pryse 3A, Vincent Ruscica 1G 1A.

# Minor Atom AE 5 Georgina 4

Ryan Baskin 1G 1A, Liam Devlin 2G, Zach Ferry 1A, Ben Hankins 1G 1A, Erik Kimmerer 1A, Jake Martin 1A, Bailey Miller 1A, Matthew Pryse 2A, Sam Steenhorst 1G.

### Newmarket 4 Atom AA 2

Dennis Kim 1G, Brian Puskar 1G, Johnny Knowles 1A, Devin Watson 1A, Reid Sisson 1A.

Uxbridge 2 Atom AE 0



Barrie Colts 4 Atom AE 1

Brett Wilson 1G.

Eleeza Cox 1A.

# Atom AE 3 TNT 3

Lukas Leslie 1G, Sean Glynn 1A, Daniel Laflamme 1G, Jake Langford 1A, Brett Wilson 1G, Kevin Lukezic 1A.

#### Minor Peewee AA 4 Pickering 1

Eleeza Cox 2G 1A, Brandon Pedersen 1G 1A, Matthew Miller 1G 1A, Chanelle Hassard 1A, Matthew Mears 1A.

# Barrie Colts 5 Minor Peewee AA 1 Brandon Pedersen 1G, Chris Piron 1A,

Cobourg 3 Minor Peewee A 2
Tyler Jensen 1G, Michael Vance 1G,
Michael Nonnewitz 1A, James Harkin 1A,

# Ryan Bailey 1A, Jordan Figueiredo 1A.

Minor Peewee AE 4 Newmarket 2
Dylan Skelton 1G, Jamie Hawkins 2G, Josh
Beaton 1G, Brendan Strachan 1A, Daniel
Howie 2A, Scott Kimmerer 1A, Adam Reid
1A, Brandon Thompson 1A, Matthew
Schmitt 1A, Michael DiVincenzo 1A.

## Minor Peewee AE 5 Georgina 0

Brendan Strachan 1G 1A, Dylan Skelton 1G 1A, Scott Kimmerer 1G 1A, Jamie Hawkins 2G 1A, Chris Venditelli 1A, Josh Beaton 2A.

TNT 6 Peewee A 0

#### Peewee A 4 Orillia 3

Evan Casselden 1G, Derrick Hamner 2G, Shawn Clark 1G, Oliver Boettcher 1A, Jeffrey Sanderson 2A, Justin Brown 1A.

Peewee AE 0 Georgina 0

#### Peewee AE 3 Barrie Colts 1

Conor Sheridan 1G 1A, Michael McGorlick 1G, Sean Agostino 1G, Geoff Gianopoulos 2A, Andrew McKay 1A.

Georgina 3 Peewee AE 2 Sean Agostino 2A, Patrick Lee 2G.

# Minor Bantam AA 4 Pickering 2

David Roper 1G, Tyler Persaud 1A, Christian Stankiewicz 1A, Matthew Mikhaili 2G, Brandon Galante 1A, Ryan Besse 1G, Alex Denault 1A, Tyler Sikura 1A.

# Minor Bantam AA 2 Georgetown Raiders 0

Adrian DiRosa 1G, Tyler Persaud 1A, Alex Denault 1G, Christian Stankiewicz 1A.

Michigan Jaguars 3 Minor Bantam AA 2 Adrian DiRosa 1G, Lucas Boyd 1A, Matthew Mikhaili 1A, David Roper 1G.

NobleKing 8 Minor Bantam A 2
Quenton Hunt 2G, Andrew McDonald 2A.

### Minor Bantam A 4 Innisfil 4

David Iwai 1G 1A, Andrew McDonald 1G, Darrel Evans 1G 1A, Matthew Joynt 1G, Gregory Buchner 1A, David Bar 1A, Quenton Hunt 1A.

Barrie Colts 3 Minor Bantam A 1
Quenton Hunt 1G, Andrew McDonald 1A.

## Barrie Colts 4 Minor Bantam AE 1

Minor Bantam AE 2 Newmarket 1

### Bantam AA 2 Richmond Hill 1

Eric Sarracini 1G, Karl Pelan 2A, Taylor Postill 1G.

# Bantam AE 8 Bradford 1

Cody Offen 2G 1A, Brandon Wellsbury 3A, Mark McCrudden 2G 1A, Robert Lee 1G 2A, Cody Bastarache 1G 1A, Chris Hankey 2A, Derek Sweeting 1G, Shawn Gurney 1G, Scott Gray 3A, Patrick McMurray 1A, Brandan Hamner 1A, Keegan Oleary 1A.

### Barrie Colts 3 Midget AA 2

Michael Jack 1G, Taylor Campbell 1G, Tom Keane 1A, Adam Hankins 1A.

## Midget A 3 NobleKing 2

Craig Waites 1G, Dylan MacKinnon 1A, Matt Cleverdon 1G, Marc Quagliarini 1A, Keith Mitchell 1A, Andrew Jamieson 1G 1A.

Midget A 5 Beeton 1



Theatre Aurora's presentation of "Li'l Abner" the hilarious, hillbilly musical, opens on selected dates beginning Friday at Factory Theatre. Pictured in the centre is Marryin' Sam (Shane Hollon) surrounded by Mayor Dawgmeat (Mike Bridgeman), Dogpatcher (Randy Kirsh), Lillian (Jean Mitchell), Romeo Scragg (Pat O'Grady), General Bullmoose (Gerry Dimmelow), Mammy Yokum (Maureen Lukie), Clem Scragg (Carly Block) and Carmen (Heather Nassler). Tickets are now on sale. Call the Box Office at 905-727-3669.

# Major was our town's only Honourary Mayor

Aurora has a mayor and a deputy mayor but bet you didn't know that back in the late 1960s the town also had an honourary mayor.

For a short period in September, 1967, the town had a new head of council and Mayor Clarence Davis was happy to hand over the gavel and chain of office.

To honour his contribution and to mark the esteem felt by the citizens of Aurora, York North MPP Major A.A. "Lex" Mackenzie (Major Mackenzie Drive, Richmond Hill was named after this man) was sworn into office as Honourary Mayor of Aurora at a special meeting of council.

Many invited guests were in attendance for the ceremony and to hear the resolution adopted to honour the revered campaigner of York County municipal and political life.

A special framed scroll and insignia were presented to Major Mackenzie bestowing the title of Honourary Mayor for dedicated service and for all

He was sworn into office by Justice of the Peace N.P. Kelley prior to being seated in the mayor's chair and taking over the balance of the

Mayor Mackenzie said it was an honour to be selected to take over a grand fighting council.

He expressed his deep appreciation to be asked to preside over the meeting, and said he would not only wear the chain of office, but would wear something deeper in his heart as he cherished the memory of everyone.

Major Mackenzie represented York North, which included Aurora, for 20 of the 23 years he served as an MPP. First elected in 1945, he was re-elected in five subsequent elections until his retirement in 1967.

He had previously served as a councillor and reeve of Woodbridge and was a member of York County Council.

He seldom spoke in the Legislature but was recognized as one of the best backbenchers in the house. He was a prodigious worker for his riding and his people.

He took his constituency problems as personal problems and was dedicated in his responsibility as the intermediary between the government and the people.

Mackenzie was born in 1885 in what was originally a one-storey log cabin on a Woodbridge farm. After his death in 1970 at age 85, the 137-year-old family homestead was moved to Black Creek Village, where it was restored to reflect the period prior to 1867.

In 1912 he joined the army and trained as a cavalryman. He went overseas with the 4th Canadian Mounted Rifles and served at the Battle of the Somme as a Captain and earned the Military Cross for Bravery. He was later pro-

The hamlet of Aurora was in the heart of Rebel Country and Mackenzie recalled memories of the 1837 Rebellion. His greatgrandfather was a strong Family Compact supporter, but was inadvertently instrumental in helping William Lyon Mackenzie, the rebel leader, escape after the disaster at Montgomery Tavern.

The family at that time owned a sawmill on the Humber River Woodbridge, and his greatgrandfather stood guard to ensure the fleeing rebel leader did not escape across the dam.

During the long, cold night he left his post momentarily and returned to see Mackenzie running along the opposite bank to freedom.

Today, it is doubtful if many Aurorans will remember the name of Major Lex Mackenzie, Aurora's one and only Honourary Mayor.

# Rail museum advocate dies

## From page 1

eral veteran steam engines including the giant CPR #2839 at 468,000 pounds built in 1937 to the little 13foot, 15,000 pound British

The business plan provided a detailed estimate of capital and operating costs necessary to establish the museum. Council applied to the Ontario Municipal Board to borrow the \$224,000 to acquire the collection and other capital costs to get the museum underway.

With Reeve Jim Murray and Councillor Cliff Corbett in opposition, council voted 5-2 to proceed with the acquisition. Murray suggested a plebiscite be held to determine if the majority of taxpayers approved spending money on the museum.

Acting as a private citizen rather than reeve, Murray filed a formal appeal to the OMB in opposition to the

The hearing was held in October 1967 and the twomember board heard very contrasting opinions of the proposed tourist attraction.

The board ruled the issue should go to the people.

There was a bitter division on council as to whether to proceed with the referendum or not due to the difficulty of trying to word an appropriate explanatory question that could be answered with a "yes" or "no" answer.

In late November, 1967, the railway museum was derailed. Facing internal and external pressures against the museum, council voted 7-2 to abandon the proposal with Councillors Trent and Walt Davis still supporting the museum.

A contributing factor to council's decision was infor-

mation that a potential buyer was interested in acquiring the 14-acre parcel for industrial uses. This resulted in the railway museum being abandoned in the interests of industrial development which never occurred. It later became the site of the town's works and parks depart-

Moore and several others were devastated by the outcome, and for years, a cartoonist for the Aurora Banner always included a broken locomotive in his cartoons.

lived on Wenderly Drive for decades A veteran of World War II, Moore is also survived by

Moore, and his wife, Jean.

London. Private services were held from a funeral home in Beaverton.

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# RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

# The way it was in Aurora way back when...

Currently new development in Aurora is held up due to York Region being delayed obtaining environmental approvals from the federal and provincial governments and the possibility of a court case. Back in 1966 a lack of sewage capacity stalled growth in Aurora.

Plans of subdivision from Henderson to the town's north end along the east side of Bathurst Street were on the books, but couldn't be built.

The Big Pipe solved the sewage capacity problem, and the town has been growing like a weed ever since.

In the same year, the former Aurora Highlands Golf Club won a court case against the town over the payment of business tax.

At the time the club facilities were rented out to various groups as a commercial venture and the town imposed a business tax.

The club appealed on the basis it was a private club and won.

Meanwhile, Councillor Jim Murray accused the 1966 council as being the most quibbling and idiotic council to represent Aurora in many years.

If Jim was alive today, it would be interesting to hear what he'd have to say about the current council.

#### TOWN TOLD TO CLEAN UP ITS ACT

The 1966-67 Town of Aurora Information booklet stated that the parking of vehicles other than on a driveway was prohibited in any front yard in all residential zones and parking or storage of a commercial vehicle was also prohibited in a residential zone.

A resident wrote to council in December, 1967, to complain that some properties were starting to look like an inner-city ghetto because of the number of derelict vehicles and other eyesores parked on driveways. The resident requested action.

As always when council has difficulty making a decision, the issue is referred to a committee and that's what happened with this complaint.

#### WHAT HAPPENED TO THE \$250,000?

Prior to building the controversial new library, it was common knowledge that a larger library was needed and even if it was feasible to enlarge the Victoria Street library, parking would still be a problem.

Back in the early 1990s council thought they had found a solution by negotiating with the developer of the proposed shopping mall at Bayview Wellington for 30,000 square feet of community space to be used as a library.

Then, in 1995, the Library Facility Review Committee and the Aurora Library Board both recommended that the use of the community space for a library be refused.

As a commitment had been made to provide the community space and as council had not developed an alternative plan, the developer offered the town \$250,000 to release the developer from the commitment, so development could proceed.

In fewer than 10 minutes council accepted the offer and agreed that the funds be held in a community space reserve account.

Was it ever spent and if so, what for?

#### **SNOWMOBILE PROBLEMS**

Today's councils have their problems, mainly associated with growth, gridlock on the roadways and the environ-

Earlier councils had their problems as well, but of a different nature.

Back in the early 1970s, it was snowmobiles.

It seemed half the residents owned snowmobiles and they were driven in the parks, on sidewalks, roadways and wherever they could find a vacant plot of land.

The machines were very noisy and complaints were

Council rushed through first and second reading of a bylaw to ban the infernal machines within the town.

introduction of a bylaw and the third and final reading to provide time for input and sober second thought.

During the interval members of the Aurora Snowmobile Club approached council with a compromise and the bylaw was amended to designate certain major roads so the snowmobilers could get out of town.

At that time the club had more than 300 members and they agreed to patrol the town's trouble spots and explain the problems inconsiderate snowmobilers were causing.

Council stopped getting complaints and the Club got new members. That was back in 1972.

#### **LET THE BUYER BEWARE**

During the summer of 1985, a new purchaser on Chadburn Crescent selected his home because it backed on a greenbelt, but he didn't expect people to use it.

The homeowner circulated a petition opposing the walkway through the greenbelt behind the homes and took it to council. He told council members he would not have selected

the site and paid a premium price if he had known that people would use it and destroy his privacy. Council members explained that the walkway was part

of the approved plan of subdivision and the information had been available. About the same time on the other side of town an irate

plain that a train running on the tracks behind his house had awakened him and he wanted something done about The mayor explained that the railway track had been

homebuver on Moorcrest Drive called the mayor to com-

there for more than 100 years and should have been known to the homeowner before his purchase.

New homebuyers seldom ask questions from town or school board officials about land around them before making their purchase, and seem quite content to believe the smooth sales-pitch of the developer's agent.

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# At that time there was a two-week delay between the November 11th was a holiday

Today most people work on Remembrance Day, except for bankers, government employees, emergency workers and a few others, but prior to 1982, November 11 was a statutory holiday in Ontario.

Back in November, 1975, it is interesting to note that the York County Catholic School Board closed its schools Monday, November 10th, instead of the 11th, in order to create a long weekend.

Evidently the Ministry of Education had given school boards the option of taking the holiday on the Monday or the Tuesday.

public The board observed the holiday November 11th.

Then in 1981 the Ministry of Education regulations were changed to provide school boards the option of granting students а holiday November 11th or keeping them in school and granting them another holiday in lieu Remembrance Day.

In February, 1981, trustees of the York County Board Education decided students would no longer have a holiday November 11th, but would be granted a holiday February 15th instead.

The York Board was one of the few school boards in the province to take such action. Trustees expressed concerns that

young students were not aware of the significance of Remembrance Day as it was being treated as just another holiday.

Trustees instructed staff to ensure that school principals and teachers were provided with curriculum aids that could be used to help students appreciate the significance of Remembrance

Officials of the Aurora Legion and other Legion branches expressed pleasure with the board's action and agreed to provide Legionnaires to visit schools on Remembrance Day to assist in the school

ceremonies and to speak to the students as to why Canadians remember the day and wear poppies.

Many schools arranged special ceremonies at 11 a.m. on Remembrance Day with students playing an active role. In addition, the Aurora Legion sponsored poster and essay contests for students to depict what the day meant

Legionnaires from the Aurora Legion also participate in the Memory Project, which is a year round program sponsored The Dominion Command.

Things changed again

in November, 1989, when the Ontario government allowed beer and liquor stores to open on Remembrance Day provided the stores did not open until after noon hour.

Late Aurora Councillor Norm Stewart, a veteran with the British Army and later with the Queen's York Rangers, praised the move, claiming that as a veteran, he never considered Remembrance Day to be a holiday.

He added that holidays are something to be enjoyed and Remembrance Day is an occasion to remember, not rejoice.



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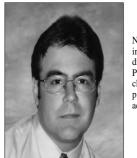
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