

COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

CONTINUING

Stellar Productions and Howard Johnson Aurora present the Norm Foster comedy "Sadie Flynn Comes to Big Oak" in the Queen Elizabeth Dinner Theatre on selected evenings until October 21st. Call 905-727-1312 to reserve.

Every other Friday Night dances at the Aurora Seniors' Centre from 8 to 11 p.m. in the Main Hall. Singles are welcome. Big band and modern music, prizes, snacks and some light food. Call 905-727-2816 for details.

Aurora Farmers' Market continues every Saturday in the Temperance Street parking lot until Thanksgiving. Event opens at 8 a.m.

Aurora Rotary Club meets every Monday evening at 6.30 p.m. at Gabriel's on Yonge Street. New members welcome. For further information, call 905-841-1352.

On the first Wednesday of every month from 9 a.m. to noon, a satellite constituency office for Vaughan/King/Aurora MPP Greg Sorbara will be open in the councillors' lounge at the Town Hall. Call 1-877-880-6770 for information.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge #148 meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. at 15216 Yonge Street (south of Wellington). For more information, call 905-830-9205.

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. Call 905-727-3032 or 905-727-1080.

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

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

Canadian Federation of University Women welcomes new members throughout the year for monthly meetings with a variety of speakers. Contact Beverley at 905-727-2151.

Dancing at the Legion, 8 p.m. every Friday night.

Bid Euchre at the Legion 1 p.m. every third Sunday.

Queen's York Rangers Army Cadet Corps, boys and girls, ages 12 to 18. Camping, canoeing, target shooting. Aurora squadron meets every Friday evening. For more information, call 905-7216-8600.

Towns of York Toastmasters Club meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Park Place Manor, 15055 Yonge St. in Aurora. For more information see the club web site at www.townsof-york.org or phone Elena Silaev at 905-726-9750.

SEPTEMBER 28

The "Smart and Safe Seniors" Program provides specific tips and tools including easy to implement changes to the home or personal behaviour that minimize the likelihood of a criminal targeting an individual. Learn critical safety information by attending this safety program at the Seniors Centre at 10.30 a.m. Call 905-727-2816 for information.

Join a hike on the Oak Ridges Trail starting at 9.30 a.m. The moderate 13 kilometre hike

will last about three and one-half hours over hilly terrain including some of Seneca's other trails. Meet at the end of the 16th Sideroad, west of Bathurst Street opposite Henderson Drive. For more information contact Harold Sellers at 905-853-3518.

SEPTEMBER 29

Blood Donor Clinic, Aurora Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North, 2.30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 30

Aurora theatre audiences who saw Theatre Aurora's "Same Time, Next Year" shouldn't miss the sequel "Same Time, Another Year" which continues the story of the once-a-year lovers George and Doris featuring Dave Sansom and Jacque Presly and directed by Sergio Calderson. It continues October 1, 2, 5 to 9 and 12 to 15. Call the theatre box office at 905-727-3669 for tickets.

The final town property tax payment for 2005 is due and must be paid to avoid incurring interest payments.

OCTOBER 4

Our Lady of Grace Parish presents Alpha 2 - A Life Worth Living from 7.30 to 9.30 on Tuesdays from today until November 29. Call 905-727-4594 to register.

OCTOBER 4, 6, 11 and 13

Women's Centre of York Region, located in Aurora, is starting a new session of Enterprising Women, a five-month course that teaches women the business skills needed to start their own business. Orientation sessions are on the dates noted above from 10 a.m. to noon. Participants need to register for orientation. For more details, contact Kirsten at 905-727-5837.

OCTOBER 4, 11, 18, 25

Aurora Library presents "The Creative Writing Process from Start to Finish", a four-week writing workshop. Limit 15 participants. Marjorie Andrews Room, 2nd floor. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk or call 905-727-9493, Option 4

OCTOBER 5

The Area 31 contest for the Toastmasters Club takes place at 7 p.m. at Park Place Manor, 15055 Yonge St. in Aurora. For more information see the club web site at www.townsof-york.org or call Elena Silaev at 905-726-9750.

OCTOBER 6

Aurora Seniors attend a performance of the musical "Gypsy" at the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Call the Seniors' Centre to register at 905-727-2816.

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with ACI, presents "firewalls", the second of a 10-part series of free computer workshops. 7 to 8.30 p.m., Magna Room. Register on-line, at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

OCTOBER 12

Fall fashion show at Dinardo's The Mansion to support Easter Seals Kids. Master of Ceremonies, Gord James, from CHUM AM. Guest appearance by the York Region Fire Fighters calendar guys. For information and tickets call 905-727-0552.

Aurora Seniors' Fall Colour Tour of the Caledon Hills and the Forks of the Credit includes lunch and time to browse a quaint village. Call 905-727-2816 to register.

OCTOBER 13

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Networking Breakfast at the Aurora Public Library, 15145 Yonge Street. 7.30 a.m.

OCTOBER 15

Men's Breakfast featuring Drew Marshal, radio program host, Baptist minister, and former Canadian Football League player, will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Mosley at Victoria Street, Aurora, from 8.30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Freewill offering accepted. For more information, call 905-727-6542 or 905-727-9848.

Harvest Fair at Wesley United Church from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the corner of Woodbine Avenue and Aurora Sideroad (Wellington St). For further information call Fran Mason at 905-895-3753.

OCTOBER 16/19

Space available for Aurora Seniors' Christmas Tour to Magog, Quebec. Package includes transportation, lodging, meals, local visits, and nightly entertainment. For further information call the centre at 905-727-2816.

OCTOBER 21

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Celebration of Business, DiNardo's The Mansion. Cocktails 6 p.m., Dinner at 7.15. Call the Chamber at 905-727-7262 for further information.

OCTOBER 22

Aurora United Church Fall Event, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. Collectibles, garage sale, silent auction, country kitchen, kids items and more. Church is located at the corner of Yonge and Tyler.

OCTOBER 23

Doane House Hospice presents its 10th Annual Wine and Food Celebration from 4.30 to 8 p.m. Call 905-967-0259 for details. Doane House Hospice serves Aurora residents north of Wellington Street.

OCTOBER 25

To celebrate Ontario Public Library Week, the Aurora Public Library presents crime fiction author Peter Robertson from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Magna Room. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk or call 905-727-9493, Option 4.

OCTOBER 29

Aurora Historical Society annual Murder Mystery Dinner at Hillary House. Tickets are

limited. \$60 each. Call 905-727-4015 to reserve.

OCTOBER 31

Aurora Public Library presents "Finding Your Family History", a four-week course limited to 25 participants. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

NOVEMBER 5

York Regional Police Male Chorus host 13th Annual Concert at the St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, Leslie Street, Newmarket at 7:30 p.m. Music by police choruses from York, Halton, OPP, and Ottawa. Guest community choir this year is the "York Region Children's Chorus". Tickets \$10. Contact any member of the YRPMC for tickets or call (905) 727-9676 to order. Advance sale only.

NOVEMBER 19

The Trinity Anglican Church Women will hold their Christmas Memories Bazaar from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. featuring Christmas Gift Items, Baking, Kitchen Cupboard, Jewellery, Attic Treasures and Granny's Treasures.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of York Region Annual Gala Auction at DiNardo's The Mansion on Industrial Parkway South. Reception starts at 6.30 p.m. with dinner at 7.30 p.m., followed by a live and silent auction and dancing. Reserve tickets by calling 905-727-1251.

NOVEMBER 26

Santa Claus comes to Town as the annual Santa Claus Parade will be held under the stars from 6 to 8 p.m. Deadline for float applications is November 18th. For further information call 905-727-3123 extension 4218.

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Commuter parking concerns residents

From page 1

from Newmarket know it's cheaper to catch the train in Aurora.

Four commuter trains leave Aurora every weekday morning, and parking near the station has been a growing problem as the area population expands.

GO Transit officials are also aware of the situation, but have run out of room to expand their parking lots.

A recently-installed bus loop also removed some parking spots from the lots.

A six-hour parking restriction proposal on Aurora streets was recently sent back to the Traffic Safety Advisory Board (TSAB) when it was learned the board had approved the recommendation without a quorum.

Wallace believes that restriction, while it might solve one problem, would create others in the community.

"If there was a parking limit set for the Town Park and nearby streets that was for six hours, for example, Monday to

Friday, it might solve the problem," he said. "It's unfair to penalize the whole community to solve a local

problem."

The issue is expected to return to council in the near future.

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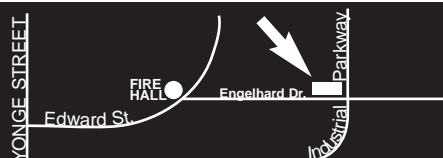
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AURORA

SHOPPING CENTRE



Thanksgiving Draw

Ten lucky winners will

win a \$25 Gift Certificate

for Aurora Shopping Centre

Ballots in participating stores.

**Ballot deadline
Wednesday October 5th**

Aurora Shopping Centre merchants

A & F Hair Elite
*905-727-6212

Aurora Dry Cleaners
*905-713-0095

Aurora Alterations
*905-726-9242

Aurora Dollar Discount
*905-841-2497

Aurora Salon Secrets
*905-727-1044

Barrons
*905-841-5454

Bedrooms To Go
*905-841-0055

Beer Store
*905-727-4741

Boyz Toyz
*905-726-2316

CIBC Bank
*1-800-465-2422

Chris' No Frills

Clothing Outlet
*905-841-7652

Creative Colours
*905-727-0552

Deli Delight Cafe
*905-841-3195

5 Below Jeans & More
*905-841-7762

Fabulous Flicks Video
*905-841-5768

Family Shoe Repair
*905-841-8922

Gift Baskets & More
*905-727-1683

Henry's Fish & Chips
*905-727-8001

Karen & Tina's Flowers
*905-727-9865

Kitchen Accents
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*905-727-1547

Oakridge Outfitters
*905-726-4063

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Regency Variety
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*905-727-2322

Staples/Business Depot
*905-713-0367

The Source by Circuit City
*905-713-2788

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*905-713-0404





Poor Richard

If you don't want it printed, don't say it

*The media can be a friend or foe,
As politicians often find out;
If they try to manage the media,
The results are never in doubt!*

- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

Much has been written recently about Peter Newman's new book about the life and times of former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney during his nine years in office, through a series of personal and telephone conversations over the years, which were taped.

Mulroney has only himself to blame for what's in the book, including the quotations about others that are included in the book, as he told them willingly to an experienced reporter.

Obviously, Mulroney was so vain and full of his self-importance that he believed everyone adored him and Newman would write a book that would embellish Mulroney's place in history.

Like many politicians at all levels, Mulroney failed to learn the basic lesson that when contacted by a reporter, it's not a social call. The reporter wants a story and plans to print it.

The moral is, if you don't want to see it in print, don't say it. The media can be a friend or foe, it depends on the politician.

Jean Chretien found this out very early in his political career.

In his book, "Straight From The Heart", he wrote that if politicians treat journalists professionally, journalists will treat politicians the same way.

He wrote; "If you played straight with them in the past, they will play straight with you, but if you have tried to use them, however, they aren't fools and they'll sock it to you."

Communication is a two-way street.

The public has a right to know of the actions of their elected representatives, how they arrive at their decisions, how they vote, how they spend the taxpayers' money and if they are accountable and responsible.

At the same time, the elected policy makers need to know the reaction of the citizens to their policies and their decisions.

The media acts as the alter ego of the public.

It stands in place of the absent ratepayer, but does not usurp that role when he is present.

The media had a traditional mandate and responsibility to observe, interpret and report openly and without prejudice to the public.

Members of the media are often referred to as the "fourth estate".

In olden days the church, the nobility and the common people were known as the three estates of the realm.

Edmund Burke, a great British parliamentarian, flattered the British press gallery by pointing to its members and naming them the fourth estate "far more important than the other three estates in Parliament".

Thomas Jefferson, third President of the United States, said he would prefer "newspapers without government, to a government without newspapers".

Politicians often complain that they were "misquoted" by the media.

Like the time the Hon. John Crosbie claimed he was misquoted although a Nova Scotia radio station had him on tape.

In July, 1985, a heavy thunderstorm hit the Aurora area causing widespread flooding which caused considerable property damage.

The late Councillor Earl Stewart was quoted as saying the flooding was caused by "inefficient engineering" and made reference to the town's engineers.

His comments were of concern to other council members after the town solicitor advised them the town could be held liable for the damage unless the offending words were retracted.

The councillor said he was misquoted and demanded a retraction.

The editor of the paper checked with the reporter who was adamant that the councillor had made the statement and had his notes to back him up, so no retraction.

To protect the town from a possible claim for damages, council adopted a resolution disavowing the town from the councillor's statement.

The moral is if you don't want to see it in print, don't say it!



Following their victory in a 1956 Stouffville tournament, the Aurora Soccer Club got together for this photo. They are, front row, left to right, Andy Hanse, Martin Dol, Klaas Vanderwal, Jan Bakker, Bert Willemse, Harry Lavender and Simon van Dyke. Back row, left to right, Joe Lundy, Kees van Dyke, Chris Grift, Bob Boneschanser, Dirk Brom, Nick Botman, Bill Terharmse, Martin Nabuurs, Bert Kuin and Ted Dol.

Letters to the Editor

Cancer is ruthless: reader

To the editor,

This past April an 80-year-old man passed away, spending the last couple of months suffering from cancer.

The man raised a family of six children, working hard to make ends meet. This family stood by, watching, being helpless.

No words of comfort could replace the pain.

They only could wish that the end would come soon.

The end to the torture of a man they loved. And the end could only be death. How cruel.

Unfortunately this tragedy is not unique.

In the last couple of weeks I attended the funerals of two people, who meant a lot to many other people, two people who

have given much of themselves to others, two people who didn't deserve to die this awful way, watching their loved ones see them suffer.

It created pain upon pain.

Cancer has no mercy and is ruthless.

It is so strong and mean and it will take on anybody.

I doubt if there is a person around, who has not lost a loved one after having been a witness to seeing this loved one going through a long period of agony of the worst kind.

Cancer is an enemy we have not been able to beat.

But if we don't keep fighting it, it will beat us over and over.

Together we are strong and while we may lose many battles, as long as we don't give up, we are

giving ourselves a good chance to beat it at the end.

Let's give each other a hand to get rid of this awful disease. Every little bit helps.

SOYRA (Society of York Region Artists) is holding another Art Show and Sale at the Aurora Legion building October 14, 15 and 16.

During this show a painting will be raffled off with all the proceeds going to the new Cancer Centre in Newmarket.

Art may not be your thing, but cancer affects you in one form or another. Come and help us, please, by buying some raffle tickets in support of the fight against cancer.

These tickets are only a couple of bucks each or \$5 for three.

Only one person will be

the winner of the painting, but sooner or later we all will be winners.

That will be the time that together we have beaten cancer. Please, help.

Bill van Oorschot
Chairperson
Society of York Region Artists (SOYRA)

AURORAN

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Councillor a hypocrite, this reader maintains

To the editor,

I am astounded at the blatant hypocrisy of certain members of our Town Council.

In the September 20th issue of The Auroran, Councillor Vrancic is quoted as saying, "members of council were elected to serve and citizens should be able to attend council and express their views as communication worked both ways".

This is the same councillor who at the council meeting of December 14, 2004, publicly berated me for wasting council's time by expressing my views and concerns.

This was in response to my efforts over the previous eight months to

elicit a response from the self-described "open, accessible and transparent council" as so why they felt it necessary to change the address of our Town Hall.

To some people it appears democracy and free speech are only acceptable and palatable when it is something they agree with.

At the aforementioned meeting of December 14, 2004, Councillor Vrancic stated and Councillor Gaertner insinuated I had a personal agenda.

My "personal agenda" was and still is that certain members of council abused their democratic mandate by voting without consultation, discussion or explanation to take the unprecedented

action of rescinding an honour bestowed upon a citizen of our Town.

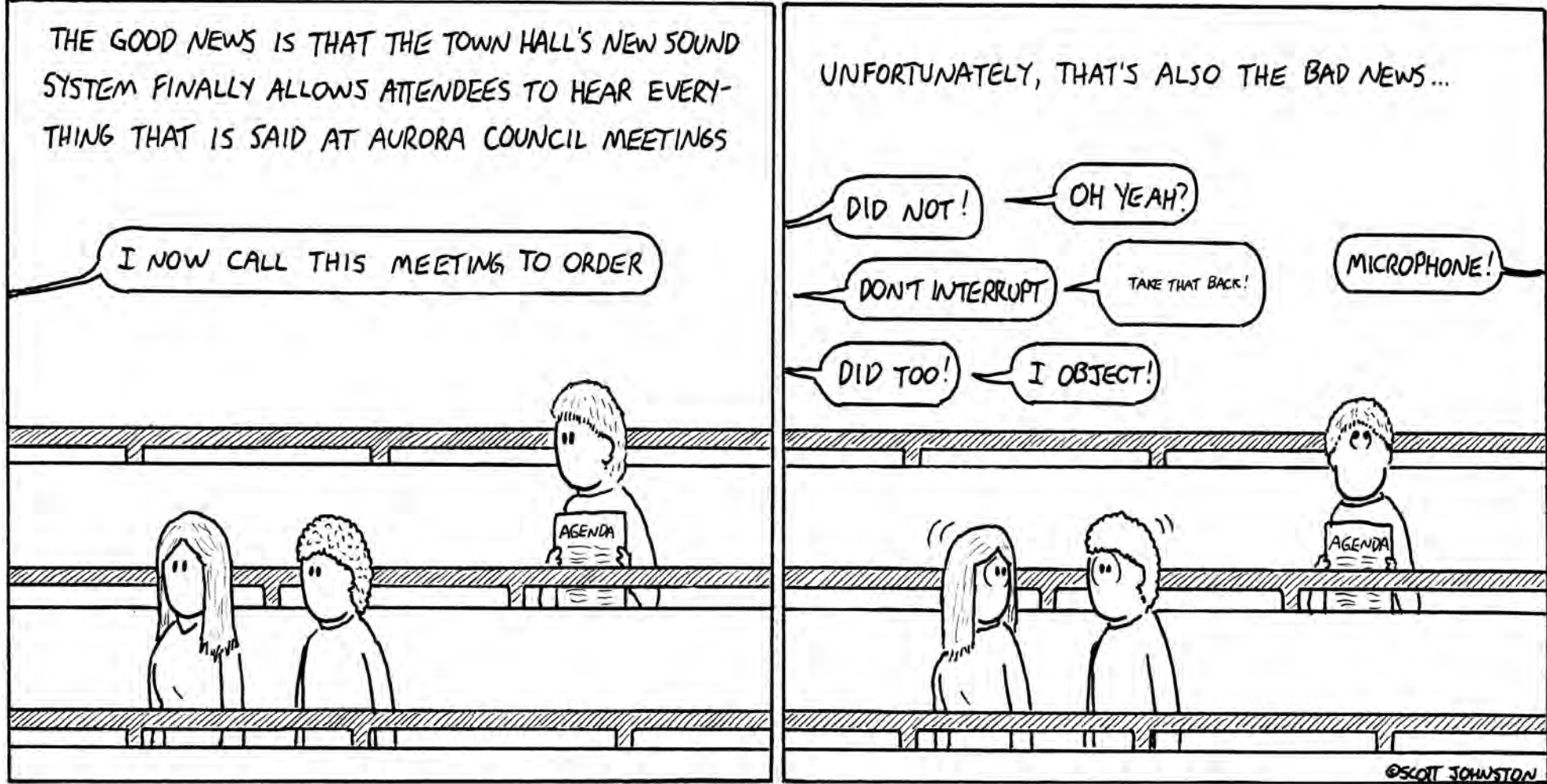
I will continue to pursue this "personal agenda" and will again appear before Council to request that they reverse this misguided and mean-spirited action.

The present council has been described as dysfunctional.

When one of their first orders of business was to publicly insult and dishonor a fellow councillor and with the subsequent examples of hypocrisy, unaccountability and dislike and distrust of one another it appears the dysfunctional label is justly applied.

Graham Wride
Aurora

Macell's Corners



Mayor's Report
By Tim Jones

Upcoming Council items

What a great summer we have had!

It's now time to get back to the routine of government which means for members of Aurora Council General Committee meetings every first and third Tuesday and formal Council meetings every second and fourth Tuesday each month.

It means monthly committee meetings for members depending on which committees they sit on to represent Council as well as numerous civic and social functions that members of Council are asked to and expected to attend to mix with representatives of our community in milieus of special interest.

For me, I also get back to a schedule of regular Regional Council meetings, workshops and committees including the Transportation and Works Committee and the Finance and Administration Committee of which I will be chairing until the end of the term.

Some of the items I would like Council to address as we get back to routine include:

Budget 2006 - We find ourselves well into the implementation of a new financial system and our new Treasurer, John Gutteridge began work with the Town September 6th.

Council will have to deliberate the staffing effects of the new Leisure Complex and Seniors' Centre, both expected to be open soon.

We also must include the effect of implementing a new program to include organic waste disposal.

On the positive side we will have the gas tax revenue to apply.

Strategic Planning - I still haven't given up on trying to begin a review of our Strategic Plan.

Given that our population has grown significantly since the last review of this plan and our business and economic position has become healthier and stands to improve even more with the 404 lands being serviced, I feel we must start redeveloping our approach to how we wish to develop these lands as well as examine how we will deal with the Province's intensification strategies among many other considerations.

Procedural Bylaw - Council must come to grips with this lengthy document and simplify our procedures.

Better still, if Council takes the time to review this document, perhaps we will all take more ownership moving forward with the business of the Town as opposed to some of the bickering and maneuvering by application of this bylaw in televised Council meetings.

Habitat Opportunity - Almost every municipality around us has developed a strategy to implement a Habitat build in their Town.

I would like to see our Council do the same.

Downtown Business Support - I would like to see what we can do in conjunction with our Chamber of Commerce and downtown merchants to help improve their business opportunities.

I am advised that small businesses are not experiencing the success in business that they would expect given the increase in residents.

We need to examine ways to support our businesses.

Fundraising - we also need to get behind our new Leisure Complex and Seniors' Centre fundraising commit-

tees to help them reach their goals in fundraising for these new facilities.

These are a few issues that come immediately to mind.

We also need to move forward with these ongoing areas of concern:

Hydro Transmission - Council has received the recommendations from the Ontario Power Authority working group.

We have been represented by our Chief Administrative Officer John Rogers and resident Ian Munro.

It is hoped we can move forward to make these recommendations realities to ensure power is available to both res-

idences and businesses.

Hydro sale to Powerstream - Council has received final approval on its sale of Aurora Hydro to Powerstream.

This should be completed by the end of October.

Council will be developing policies on how to deal with the income derived from this sale in the near 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



Cathy's
Corner



The trouble with newspapers

Don't tell Ron, but The Auran isn't the only newspaper I read.

Every morning, The Toronto Star arrives on my doorstep.

Well, most of the time...last week I found it in the garden, under one of my rose bushes.

I guess the new paperboy missed, and it brought back memories of the old paperboy, Mac.

I miss Mac. Mac never missed.

One morning last fall, I woke up too early and couldn't get back to sleep. I decided to have a cup of tea out on the front porch in the peacefulness of our slumbering neighbourhood.

Along came Mac.

Like I said, Mac had excellent aim.

In the spring, I had planted a leafy perennial that was cute when it was little, but by autumn, it had mutated into a massive, unsightly thing that bulged out in front of the porch.

I happened to be sitting just behind it.

Between the pot-bellied shrub and the darkness, Mac was doomed to a perfect record.

Trust me, Ron isn't the only one who knows how it feels to get whacked upside the head with a newspaper!

Ah, but I digress...where was I?

Oh yes, I was confessing that I read other newspapers.

Sometimes, I read The Globe and Mail, occasionally The National Post, and every once in a while, I go online and sample the headlines from coast to coast.

What I mean to say is: I read enough to know that there is a serious shortage of good news being reported in this country - in the world, in fact.

The headlines can make you feel like you just got whacked upside the head. Hence, the adage: "No news is good news".

Maybe it's just me, but I like to think it means that if there is no bad news to report, that's good news.

Surely it doesn't mean that the only good news is that there is no bad news?

There's a lot of good news out there!

What's more, there are special people in Aurora who can take bad news and turn it into touching reassurance that we live in a community of caring, thoughtful people.

That would be the good news.

After publishing my column entitled "On Living and Loving", I received many e-mails and calls from Aurorans touched by my message and my loss. It warned me all over.

It gets better. My mother received calls from friends and neighbours who touched her heart by expressing compassion and heartfelt condolences over the passing of her niece, Sana, after reading the bad news in The Auran.

It gets better. Several people stopped to share with me their memories of Rosemary - she was one of the first people we met upon coming to Aurora, and none will forget the extra special warm welcome she gave us.

Good news is like a phoenix rising from the ashes.


In the desperate rush to keep pace with modern life, it is taking time to share the good news that preserves our sanity and our humanity.


It is what keeps Aurora small, and it is what makes Aurora so special.


So let's balance out those letters to the editor that make us feel like we just got whacked upside the head with a newspaper, okay?


The Auran may not be the only newspaper we read, but it is the only newspaper that is ours to write.


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


 **BOUQUETS** to youngsters Nadia Colacitti and Clarissa DiGioacchino for opening a lemonade stand at the corner of Tyler and Temperance Streets, where they raised \$72 to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Sue and Gino, Clarissa's parents, matched the amount and \$144 was sent to the Canadian Red Cross.


 **BOUQUETS** to Mayor Tim Jones for attending the workshop on "Alternative Waste Disposal Systems" at the recent AMO conference and a tour of the Peel Waste Incineration site and writing about it in his column in The Auroran. More **BOUQUETS** if he can convince his regional colleagues that incineration is the way of the future, but to the region, it seems to be a no-no!


 **BRICKBATS** to the private sector Consortium operating Highway 407 on a 99-year lease thanks to the Mike Harris Progressive Conservative government, for their ongoing failure to correct their procedure of processing invoices for motorists who have never used the highway and making dire threats for failure to pay.


 **BOUQUETS** to the City of Toronto works department for unanimously opposing York Region's Big Pipe twinning project along 19th Avenue in Markham on the basis it is causing potentially irrevocable damage to streams and rivers flowing south through Toronto. The opposition may force the Ministry of the Environment to state whether the region is meeting all provincial requirements. It has been silent too long!


 **BRICKBATS** to former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney for squealing about the book written by Peter Newman describing Mulroney's many warts after several interviews. Politicians at all levels should be aware when they are talking to a journalist it isn't a social call. Journalists want information and plan to write about it. Mulroney has only himself to blame!

 **BOUQUETS** to Premier Dalton McGuinty for his quick action in nixing the all-black school idea, saying he was more comfortable with bringing children from a variety of backgrounds together. The idea of a school for black students was raised as a possible solution to poor grades and high drop out rates. There has to be a better way to solve the problem!

 **BRICKBATS** to Prime Minister Paul Martin for his promise to clean up government through his Democratic Deficit initiative and then supporting Foreign Minister Pierre Pettigrew for wasting \$10,000 by taking his chauffeur on trips to Europe and Latin America, where there wasn't a car to drive!

 **BOUQUETS** to the same Prime Minister for his excellent speech at the United Nations, where he told it like it is and demanded less talk and more action. It's too bad he isn't as assertive at home, where he has a tendency to dither.

 **BRICKBATS** to a police system which permits a Toronto police officer to collect full pay, even though he was suspended from duty in 2002. He was one of six officers charged with criminal offences during their work with the drug squad between 1997 and 2002. Thirteen charges from sexual assault to possession of a dangerous weapon were stayed earlier this year in a Brampton court because it took too long for the case to come to trial. He was arrested recently for assault after a road rage incident in London. Fire him!

 **BOUQUETS** to Frank Stronach for offering his corporate jet to fly 17-year-old Tommy Garrett to Calgary for treatment for the open sores and lesions over 80 per cent of his body, a byproduct of his long battle with leukemia and side effects from treatments, and to all the other citizens who have pitched in to help.

Letters to the Editor

Hoedown an impressive event

To the editor,

The Magna Hoedown is an impressive event for Aurora, big in area, almost geographically big, the main tent is enormous and if you need confirmation, work the Hoedown as I did and you will find out.

Later in my shift from 8 a.m. until noon, I used a golf cart to get around the area in my function as a volunteer helper.

Volunteer helper means do whatever needs to be done, and that is inside the tent and out, including the handling of huge cactus, some real and big time prickly and some artificial and formidable when approached and viewed for the first time.

The cactus was my first task and that required me to relocate them from one end of the tent, to other locations and entailed a lot of walking, carrying and placing. I got the golf cart later!

Many other volunteers were in attendance besides the professional help who gave direction and who kept in contact with each other via wireless phones, and I formed the opinion that the setup was well managed, all things considered, a job got done, under difficult circumstances,

with much inexperienced but willing help.

The work included stapling plastic table covers, putting the centrepieces in place, putting up rails, covering dangerous areas with wood chips, putting up displays and decorating generally, the list goes on, nothing difficult to understand, but lots of it and our bodies were tested thoroughly. That was set up; running the show in the evening required a whole variety of other tasks to be performed.

Bear in mind that the previous day produced heavy rains, and while much of the activity was covered, much was outside and the ground was churned up in certain locations. No matter, the show went on and the community lapped it up.

The Stronach family can be proud of this event and the way they have organized it to assist those organizations in and around Aurora, who are prepared to help themselves.

Frank Stronach has created this opportunity and organizations lined up to participate.

Well done, Frank, you have earned respect and will continue to do so with such fine community effort.

The Aurora Senior Association organized itself to provide volunteers to help do the setup and to work the evening shifts.

Not only was physical work required but entrance tickets had to be sold for the event, raffle tickets had to be sold, prizes of all kinds for the auction had to be obtained from members, local merchants and philanthropists and we did well all around.

I thank everybody who contributed. I understand the Hoedown was a sellout, an abundance of prizes were contributed for the auction, the raffle tickets sales were outstanding, and to everybody who helped in any way, please understand, Aurora acknowledges your contribution to your community.

I returned in the evening with my camera to get some digital shots, to find a totally different atmosphere, the

huge tent area was packed with people and the place was rocking.

After my four hours in the morning, I lasted an hour in the evening and I was done.

The food, which I was unable to sample, was reported to be excellent, far better than one might expect at such a huge event.

I hear from reports that Frank does not fool around, I understand his no non-sense approach to matters, and I would have to say this event bears the signature of a man who does it his way.

This was a professionally managed Hoedown, and built on years of experience passed down from year to year.

Well done to everybody connected with this event, and I am proud it is part of Aurora.

**Brian Warburton
Aurora**

Benefit concert raised \$2,000

To the editor,

As the result of the Hurricane Katrina benefit concert performed at the Aurora band shell Saturday, more than \$2,000 was raised for Red Cross relief efforts in New Orleans.

Newmarket-Aurora is endowed with tremendous musical talent and we would like to express our thanks to each of the local performers who donated their time and energy to ensure the success of this event.

We also acknowledge the contributions of Orleans Restaurant in Newmarket and the Old Fashioned Fudge Company in Aurora.

We would also like to thank the residents of our communities who attended the concert and contributed so generously, confirming

that good neighbours help each other in times of need.

**Lois Brown
Newmarket**



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Letter to the Editor

Holding my own in a debate

To the editor,

All women and all men are not the same, and not just in the political game.

A few months ago, I read a feature article about women in academia.

A female professor was commenting how little things had changed in the faculty field. I smiled in recognition.

In a discussion with colleagues she said she would put forward an idea. It would be ignored.

Minutes later a male colleague would repeat the idea.

Then, another male colleague would acknowledge its merit and never at any time would anyone recognize who put it forward in the first place.

It is a game men play and I am not even sure they know they are doing it. It is a bonded male mindset.

In Aurora politics some of the men get quite poetic.

For example, I make an argument.

In response we hear, "the sky IS falling because I agree with Councillor Buck"...or "there will be gold stars in the sky tonight, because I agree with Councillor Buck." or, most frequently, "this will probably come as a surprise to most of you, but I agree with Councillor Buck."

Years ago, the late Jack Rettie, CAO of York Region said it all the time.

I asked him one day, "How long are you going to continue to be surprised that I might have something relevant to contribute to the discussion? How long does it take you to learn?"

Rettie was not hostile.

He never understood that he was withholding credit for a point well-made, but he did it regularly. I came to the conclusion I was not his target.

The message was one of reassurance to his peers that all the males must stay united against the domination of their mothers.

Now, I have raised five sons. They are now mature.

Most mothers of sons realize that small boys are likely to be more tender than their sisters.

They show their affection more, they can be more nurturing and at the same time more needy.

Then comes the day when they have to become men.

At that point, a mother is forced to wonder if she has a right even to exist. The ensuing battle to keep your end up in your own house can be ferocious. And it doesn't end until they are ready to stand on their own feet and leave.

Our comedic culture abounds with unkind jokes about mothers by their children. Not so much by mothers about their children.

On the basis of my laboratory studies, as a mother of many sons, I have concluded the problem men have is the struggle between their hormones and their intellect.

If the intellect is not too sturdy, the hormones dominate.

Of course not all men are similarly afflicted. The young are more prone than the old.

Bonded males are more at risk; military veterans, police officers, judges, men in predominantly male professions like university faculties and last but not vis-

ible, politicians.

When I was first elected, I had everything to learn.

My children were still young.

The only thing my supporters and I had going for us was my eagerness to learn and my reluctance to accept things that didn't make sense.

I used to tag along with Dick Illingworth and the late Bob Buchanan. Being a newspaper man of another age, Buchanan had ultimate knowledge of his own job and an equal facility in the political arena.

He had a great sense of humour and fairness and was always willing to share his knowledge and experience.

Once I pondered aloud why people who had been honoured by election to public office should expect to be subjected to horrendous abuse. "Well," they chuckled with typical male superiority, "If you can't stand the heat stay out of the kitchen."

Now isn't that an interesting metaphor to use in a male-dominated field?

But they had missed my point.

The question was not whether I could handle the heat, but whether or not I had a right to fight back.

I am not Anglo-Saxon. Obviously I am not a bonded male. I am 100 per cent Celtic stock.

Our history has decreed that men and women must carry an equal share of the burden in order to survive.

Once, when I had come back to council after an absence, George Timpson decided he had better show me who was boss right away.

He banged the gavel to

silence me.

I promptly picked up the little marble pen holder in front of me and banged right back at him.

The crowd gasped.

Ron Wallace and Dick Illingworth were on Cable TV known as the Ronnie and Dickie show. They invited me on to talk about the incident.

I chose a hockey metaphor.

"If somebody smashes you against the boards, you don't wait for the referee to come and help you out...you smash right back. If you don't, they will do it again...and again...and again."

George never did it again.

Viewers called Aurora Cable and asked for that show to be repeated once more.

So, here is my philosophy about survival in politics: If I am beaten about the head and shoulders with a two-by-four, my instinctive reaction is to beat right back with a two-by-six.

If I am kicked on the shins...my instinct is to break both his legs.

I am speaking figuratively, of course.

I do not go about looking for fights (although I do admit to occasionally deliberately provoking

Nigel Kean...well...he makes it so easy).

I would really rather use my time constructively. But I never back away from a worthwhile battle.

It has been said "in a fight she is better with you than against you".

I wear that as a badge

of honour and I don't have to believe I can win for the principle to be worth defending.

And by the way, Dick Illingworth is a fully bonded male...to the core, too.

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Attending the neighbourhood gathering on Hillview Road are, left to right, Constable Jennifer Seed, (York Regional Police); Cyndy Skillins (Aurora Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator) and Lowell McClenny, Hillview Road Neighbourhood Watch Captain.

Neighbourhood Watch makes a comeback

The Neighbourhood Watch program is beginning to re-establish itself on the streets of Aurora.

One of those streets, Hillview Road, located in the area south of Wellington Street West, north of Kennedy Street West and west of George Street, formed a Neighbourhood Watch program about a year ago.

One of the most important factors in having a successful and active Neighbourhood Watch program on any street in any community is to have "trust" in the neighbours.

In an attempt to establish that trust on Hillview, Lowell McClenny, the street's Neighbourhood Watch Captain, invited residents to a "Getting to Know Your Neighbour" gathering recently.

There were 44 in attendance and in a few cases some neighbours who had lived on the street for nearly 40 years met neighbours for the first time.

Throughout the afternoon those in attendance heard presentations from Cyndy Skillins, a member of the PACT (Police and Community Together) committee and also Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for Aurora, and Constable Jennifer Seed, a member of York Regional Police.

During her presentation, Constable Seed

reminded those in attendance that they are the "eyes and ears" of their street and community, and that they are a necessary part of keeping their street and community safe. She further stated that "the police cannot be everywhere" and their assistance is a necessary part of crime prevention in the community.

After the formal part of

the event, residents had an opportunity to greet one another and to also speak with Constable Seed and other officers from the York Regional Police CORE unit who attended to show their support of the program.

As with many Aurora ideas, residents in attendance requested the event be held on a regular basis.

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Aurora thanked for help

United Way needs \$7.2 million this year

The United Way of York Region provides funding for 37 member agencies plus four Community Funding Initiatives, including Big Brothers Big Sisters of York, CHATS, Girls Incorporated, Women's Centre of York Region and the Yellow Brick House located in Aurora.

Rahul Bhardwaj, United Way's Chief Executive Officer, appeared before Aurora's general committee to thank council and the citizens of Aurora for the 2004 fundraising campaign when a total of \$6.7 million was raised.

He asked for continued support in the 2005 fundraising drive.

He pointed out the need was still there and the target for 2005 was \$7.2 million to help people in crisis throughout the region.

More than 72,000 people in the region were low income, he said.

It was estimated the number of seniors in the region would increase by 40 per cent over the next 20 years and by age

65, one in nine will experience loss of vision.

At risk teens after turning to drugs and lives of crime find help from the United Way.

The United Way monitors the agencies it supports and provides training to help them run more efficiently. Fundraising costs are well below the national average due to the dedicated volunteers and strong support from corporations and individuals.

He asked that council continue to support the United Way in 2005 and that October be proclaimed as United Way of York Month, which the committee agreed to do.

He will appear on Dick Illingworth's Our Town program on Aurora Cable Internet during the week of October 24th to describe the work of the United Way in York Region.

In many ways it was former Aurora Councillor Jack Williamson who was responsible for bringing the United Way to York Region.

He was an employee of an engineering firm in Toronto and was familiar with the work of the United Way in the city.

With the advent of regional council and the rapid growth of the area, he suggested it was time for the region to have a United Way.



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RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED

Dinner theatre's new show is full of laughs

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

If you are fed up with gouging at the gas pumps and increasing prices for hydro and natural gas, forget your problems for a night and have an evening of laughs with the cast of "Sadie Flynn Comes to Big Oak" at the Queen Elizabeth Dinner Theatre of Howard Johnson Aurora.

The play is produced by Stellar Productions.

It was written by Canadian playwright Norm Foster, who spent his early days in the Newmarket area before moving to the East Coast and writing plays like "Salt Water Moon" and "Foursome".

Big Oak is a small village of about 9,000 people typical of a small-town where everybody knows everything about everyone and the local café is the meeting place to exchange gossip and the latest news.

Millie's Cabin is a small diner owned and operated by big, handsome Tom Shaw who has a reputation of being a ladies' man and is played by Don Colucci.

Pete Hickey plays Orson Hubble, the waiter at the café, who is small in stature

and wears glasses. He has a crush on girls but lacks the nerve to tell them, so devotes his time to collecting coins and reading the paper.

Bev Dupuis is a youthful, sparkling hair-dresser who operates a salon next door and is a regular visitor to the café for her morning coffee and is played by Laurie Campbell, well-known to Theatre Aurora audiences.

She was married to Gil, but he suddenly left her, leaving her alone and vulnerable.

Diana Wilton, another Theatre Aurora regular, plays Rachel Blessington, the village gossip who visits the café regularly to spill all the latest news.

Orson tells Tom that he has had a crush on Bev for the past 16 years but has never had the nerve to tell her, so Tom decides to help.

He tells her that Orson likes her and would like to become her friend but if she is interested he wants her to do it for the right reasons, not because Orson is loaded with money and is well blessed physically, but is sensitive about it and refers to it as his coin collection.

Bev is interested as she has heard about Orson's coin collection and agrees to go on a date with him.

Sadie Flynn, played by Tammie Van Dyk, arrives in Big Oak by bus and ends up at Millie's Cabin, with her suitcase and everything changes.

Although wearing sunglasses as a disguise, she is recognized by Orson from a picture in the paper as the Sadie Flynn who shot her husband and had just been released from serving six years in prison.

Orson feels sorry for her and talks Tom into allowing her to stay temporarily in the storeroom where there is a cot until she can find a job, which makes Sadie happy.

Orson read in a restaurant magazine about fine restaurants having a maitre d' to greet customers and escort them to their

table and decides he should be the maitre d' at Millie's.

He talks Tom to hiring Sadie as a waitress and promotes himself to maitre d' with a frock-tailed coat.

The action takes place in two acts and two scenes per act over the period of a week in the life of Big Oak.

Norm Foster has written a play full of funny situations and lines, innuendos and surprises leaving the audience waiting to see what will happen next.

The cast has been well selected and plays the parts to perfection, using Foster's lines to the best advantage.

"Sadie Flynn Comes to Big Oak" continues on selected dates until October 21st. To reserve for an evening of laughter and good food call 905-727-1312.



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Governor-General's award for teaching goes to Chong

By CHRISTINE WOODLEY

When we hear the words "high school history," most of us remember lectures, dates and textbooks. Well, Adrienne Chong, daughter of Aurora residents Ken and Christine Chong, is changing all that. Her interactive program has now been recognized by Canada's National History Society and, as a result, she is one of six recipients of the 2004 Governor-General's Award for Excellence in Teaching Canadian History.

Miss Chong, who won with fellow teacher Mark Melnyk, teaches at Markville Secondary School in Markham.

"We were ecstatic when we heard the news," she said. "The award usually goes to long-time teachers and we had been in the running for the past three years."

Miss Chong, 27, has been teaching for five years.

So what sets her program apart from other history classes?

The team uses debates, mock trials (arguing issues like tax rates), dramatic re-creations and even learning dances (like the Charleston for the 1920's unit).

The result is students who are engaged creatively and interactively.

"One of the main reasons why our program is so successful is that we have amazing students who bring energy and enthusiasm to the classroom," Miss Chong said.

Adrienne Chong will be in Ottawa for the awards ceremony on October 14.

In addition to receiving her award, she will be treated to a tour of Rideau Hall and lunch with another Adrienne, current Governor-General Adrienne Clarkson.

Relationship strained

Normally the relationship of town council and the Aurora Chamber of Commerce is positive as they work together on joint projects to promote the Town of Aurora as a good place to live, work and play.

But tension has developed between at least two members of council and the Chamber over sponsorship of the annual Business Achievements Awards Celebration.

In 2000 Chamber officials approached the town to ask assistance organizing a joint Business Achievement Awards event to recognize town businesses.

Prior to the request the town had recognized long time members of the business community with awards for various years of service and those awards would be included with Chamber awards.

As part of the packages available for the Chamber event were several levels of sponsorship ranging from a Platinum Sponsor for \$5,000 to a Bronze Sponsor at \$800.

Last June, based on an Economic Development Committee resolution, council approved a Gold Level Sponsorship package for the Business Achievements event at a cost of \$3,500.

Councillor Damir Vrancic, chairman of the committee, told councillors that while it was a Chamber event, it involved town businesses and the town benefited.

Councillor Evelyn Buck said the town supported the Chamber by providing them with an interest free loan for their new building and only charged them minimal rent.

She also pointed out that a previous gala the town purchased 40 tickets at \$125 each. She said it was difficult to explain the town's extravagance to taxpayers and asked for the rationale for the

gift of tickets.

In spite of opposition from Councillors Buck and John West, council approved the the Gold Level Sponsorship, but asked for a report on the number of tickets purchased and who received them.

Last week staff reported 22 tickets had been purchased and they had been given to the citizen members of the Economic Development Advisory Committee, the Aurora Business Ambassadors and the Town's Business Longevity Award recipients at a total cost of \$2,750.

For 2005 it was proposed 32 tickets be purchased at a cost of \$4,000 plus the \$3,500 for the purchase of the sponsorship package.

Buck said she was opposed to the purchase and said everyone attending should pay their own way.

Other committee members argued that the Chamber was very helpful in promoting the town in many ways including the annual Home Show and Street Sale and should be supported.

Councillor John West said he objected to the committee members receiving tickets as citizen members of other town committees didn't enjoy the same benefits, although they work just as hard.

Finally the recommendations were adopted by the committee with Councillors Buck and West opposed.

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Thank You!

A total of \$410,000 was raised from Hoedown 2005 for 10 community organizations.

Thank you to all of the many volunteers, sponsors and community organizations for your support in making this year's Hoedown one of the most successful ever!

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King’s railway station almost came to Aurora

Back in the 1960s when Aurora had visions of establishing a Railway Museum as a tourist attraction, one of the features in addition to several old type steam engines and rolling stock that was available was the old King City railway station.

The station had been opened in 1853 and remodeled in 1900 and was closed in May, 1963, due to declining business.

Believed to be the oldest surviving railway station in Ontario, the build-

ing was scheduled to be demolished

At one time, King high school students caught the train at the station to attend the Aurora and District High School, now Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School.

On hearing the demolition news, Aurora railway museum planners were quick to get in touch with Canadian National Railway officials and received a commitment that the station would not be demolished until plans for its removal had been discussed.

In April, 1967, the late Vera Clark of Aurora recalled as a child she spent many happy hours in the King station where her father was the agent before being transferred to Aurora where he held a similar post.

She was thrilled that the station might be saved and moved to Aurora.

When plans for the Aurora railway museum were derailed, the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority had the King station moved to the

Kortright Centre at a cost of \$2,000 until its future could be decided.

There were stories it could wind up at Black Creek Village.

After King City turned down an offer in May, 1988, the Conservation Authority offered King Township the first chance to acquire the old station, which King council rejected.

However, the King Township Historical Society expressed an interest in acquiring the station and having it moved to the site of the

King Township Museum on the King Road.

It wasn't long before a fundraising campaign was launched to help defray the cost of moving the station to King City.

By January, 1989, some members of King Council said it wasn't economically feasible to move the 137-year-old station from the Kortright Centre as it was in great disrepair and upkeep costs would be expensive.

But the residents rallied and hoped to raise \$50,000 to restore and

return the station to King.

By March, 1989, King Council threw its support behind the Historical Society in acquiring the station and moving it back.

In June, 1989, council approved the Society's request to locate the station on the grounds of the Museum and use it as a railway museum.

After more trials and tribulations the station was finally moved and completely rehabilitated by dedicated volunteers and currently sits proudly on the museum grounds.



King’s old railway station sits proudly on museum land on the King Sideroad in King City. It almost became a fixture in Aurora but wound up being refurbished and permanently located in King.

Auroran photo by Naomi Tobin



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Tigers take three points

The Aurora Tigers Provincial Junior A hockey team took three of a possible four points in league action last week.

Using the talents of Brandon Roshko, the Tigers eked out a 6-5 overtime win Friday night against divisional rival Stouffville Spirit.

Captain Jeric Agosta, added two goals, while singles came from Joshn

McNair and Michael Tuomi.

Then, fewer than 15 hours later, playing in the Ontario Provincial Junior Hockey League College Weekend Showcase in Mississauga, Tigers shared a point with the Bowmanville Eagles.

Aurora fought back from a one-goal deficit against the Eagles to tie the game on a wrap-around goal by

Jeric Agosta.

That marker, only six minutes from the end of regulation time, sent the contest into overtime.

In the five-minute overtime period neither team was able to score and the game ended in a 3-3 draw.

Also scoring for the Tigers were Frank Soscia with a slapshot from the slot

Please see page 17

Shootout wins title

The Aurora Stingers 1992 Boys YRSL soccer team brought home the Gold from Montreal recently when they won the Notre-Dame de Grace International Soccer Tournament.

After the first half of their opening game with Ottawa International, the Stingers overcame a 0-2 deficit to tie 2-2.

In their second game, the Stingers used their ability to play consistent regardless of heavy rain to overcome the Tigers Dorval, who had difficulty adjusting to uncomfortable weather conditions.

By a score of 0-1, the Stingers lost their match against the Ajax Rampage, who put in place a defensive system that closed down the Stingers' offense, and whose tough play forced one Stinger player onto the injury list.

Still the Stingers managed to gain a position into the semi-finals.

They entered their semi-final game against the Lions St-Leonard with full determination, all of which was required, as the Lions continued in the physically tough and challenging contact game style which was the tone of the tournament's competition.

Lions scored first, and soon after, as the Stingers fought to hold back another Lions' onslaught, the Stingers lost a player to a broken ankle, the result of a vicious kick.

The Stingers resulting free-kick advantage had less impact on the remainder of the game as they redoubled determination and explosive drive, slowly forcing the Lions back on their heels, overtaking the attack, and finishing with a 2-1 victory.

Unfortunately, the team also finished with further injuries, though less severe.

In the final game, playing again against the Ajax Rampage, the Stingers limped onto the field, with all players off the injury list that the team trainers and the field paramedic could clear to play. Aurora's Stingers squad of 12 was facing Ajax's squad of 18.

The game started off as it was played, full, hard, fast and furious.

Constant attacks were mounted from each side, and countered time and again.

Half into the first half, the Stingers were facing exhaustion, but suddenly the squad's parents mounted a campaign of their own, tossing cheer after cheer onto the field to shore up the fatigued players. Several of the players said that they were completely exhausted, playing empty, but that the parents' cheers and boisterous encouragement filled them up time and again with enough to go on and finish each play with

Please see page 13



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Stingers win championship with shootout

From page 12

all they could muster.

By the end of the game, the field players and the brilliant goalie had managed to hold back the Ajax tide to finish in a scoreless deadlock.

Then the teams began the first five-minute overtime.

Everyone representing

both teams held their breath as the two teams faced it out on the field, each holding the other back, both managing to deny the other a goal.

The play continued in the second five-minute overtime, and the play and the suspense held the same, again finishing 0-0.

Each squad picked five

players for the shoot-out.

Aurora felt certain of victory as they scored their first two shots against Ajax's two misses, but the shoot out finished tied, 3-3.

Then the penalty shots one player at a time began.

Aurora's sixth player shot first, and scored. Ajax shot and scored as well.

Aurora's seventh player shot and scored. Ajax missed, and the Stingers clinched the victory.

The boys were complimented on the street and in the hotel for their behaviour, and their play, style, winning attitude and sportsmanship were complimented by all parents, both teams, at all games. The

boys behaved mannerly and sportingly, and played remarkably under the Aurora banner, and proudly put Aurora's name on the perpetual trophy displayed in the NDGSA case.

The team's players are Dennis Cook, Peter Durst (gk), Tyler Friars, Juan Gonzalez, Juan Carlos Guzman, Giacomo Iaboni, Naim Jutha,

Anthony Marsillo, Michael McGolrick, Austin Muongchanh, Daniel Nishiguchi, Keegan Powell, John-Caleb Ross, Daniel Sampieri, Zachary Vanstone and Brett Wilson.

Joyce Painter is the team's manager, and Will Ross and Kelly Verbakel are the teams' co-coaches and trainers.



Atom A Tigers win early tournament

The Aurora Atom A Tigers were crowned champions at the recent Richmond Hill Early-Bird hockey tournament.

The Tigers completed the round-robin portion of the tournament with two wins against the Oshawa Generals and the Humber Valley Sharks, and only one loss, against the Bradford Bulldogs.

The team's strong plus/minus in these games resulted in a first place finish in their division.

Buoyed by their strong performances, the Tigers put in a dominating effort in the semi-finals against the Vaughan Panthers, winning 4-0 and earning a spot in the tournament final against the undefeated Whitby Wildcats.

The final game was a thoroughly entertaining affair, with the Tigers coming back from a 2-0 deficit in the second period to lead 4-2, and ultimately prevail 4-3 against six Whitby skaters and an empty net.

Exceptional goal-tending was provided throughout the tournament by Taylor Coveart and Scott Schmidt, as they posted a stellar 1.2 GAA. Strong on defense in each game were Graeme Allison, Daniel Fiori, Daniel Jones, Eric Kimmerer, Liam

MacKichan and Evan Romano. Forwards Hayden Trask, Kiefer McIntosh, Peter Sandwell, Quincy Ing, Bailey Miller, Stefan Lazzer, Daniel Antoniel, Ben Hankins and Eric Damecour all played each game with tremendous effort and determination.

"This team has a lot of heart," said head coach Randy Jones.

"The boys never stopped skating throughout the entire tournament, even when we were down 2-0 in the finals. There are a lot of new players on this team, and having success early in the season will do wonders for the boys' confidence and enjoyment of hockey. We are really looking forward to a tremendously fun year."

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\$ Half-a-million so far

York Region continues to pursue Games

Recently York Region decided to get into the international sports arena by launching a campaign to host the 2014 Commonwealth Games by submitting a letter of intent to Ottawa officials, regardless of the cost.

The actual bid to be the Canadian entry was still being prepared by officials stressing the region was in the centre of the GTA and had a diverse multicultural population.

It was also learned that Hamilton, Halifax and Calgary were interested, with a final decision as to Canada's bid to host the Games to be made in December.

No budget had been set at the time of the bid but it is expected the games will cost billions of dollars.

According to officials, a lot of the expenses will be covered through fundraising efforts throughout the communities of the region.

A special regional council meeting was held in late August to approve in principle a \$500,000 grant to help prepare its bid for the Games. Council voted 17-0 to approve the seed money. About \$150,000 will be

spent immediately to hire consultants to work on the bid book, which must be submitted by November 1st.

The rest of the money will be set aside until council decides whether to proceed with the bid.

Officials hope to approach regional businesses to recoup the \$500,000.

It is estimated the Games will cost about \$1 billion to stage, including the cost of building venues, roads and other infrastructure.

Former International Olympic Committee member Paul Henderson, who led Toronto's 1996 Summer Olympic Games bid, will head up the York bid.

At a recent regional council meeting, Chairman Bill Fisch received unanimous support from councillors endorsing continuous preparation of a formal bid to host the Games.

Members also approved a recommendation that the Chairman's report be circulated to area municipalities for their information and endorsement.

The Chairman pointed out that the Games would bring a range of immedi-

ate and long range economic, and community benefits that would be felt throughout the region, the GTA and the nation as a whole for years to come.

He pointed out that hosting the games will attract substantial federal and provincial funding as well as corporate support.

The bid would be a catalyst for new athletic facility construction in area municipalities and the development of a National Sports Institute facility.

In addition hosting the Games would accelerate transit plans and also road construction and streetscaping capital programs.

The legacy of substantial road and transportation infrastructure would have immediate and long range benefits at the local

and regional level.

A non-refundable bid deposit of \$55,000 is required to be submitted by all bid municipalities, \$5,000 with the Intent to Bid and \$50,000 when the formal Bid Book is submitted by November 1.

The preparation of the Bid Book requires the retention of external assistance to provide project management, securing of corporate sponsorships and partners, detailed engineering and architectural consulting assistance and printing expenses at a total estimated cost of \$800,000.

A fundraising event to raise awareness and support within the corporate community for the Games is currently being organized to be held next month.

The Chairman says he is convinced there will be sufficient corporate sponsorship secured to help fund the Bid Book and reduce the region's financial share.

Area municipalities have been asked to identify sports facilities that

could be used to host practice and competitive venues during the Games.

Other than questions about corporate funding and support, regional councillors endorsed the bid as outlined in the report.

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Work on the NEW indoor bubble on the Legion Field has started. All indoor programs start the first week of November.

PLAYERS NEEDED: This season the club will be running 6 age divisions in the new indoor facility. We are still in need of players in all the divisions. Please register early so we can determine which age groups we can run and which will have to be cancelled. Games start the first week of November.

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Electrical future hits big debate

From page 1

recommended to be operational by 2011 and the preferred site is northern Aurora somewhere close to the existing hydro right-of-way.

The OPA has clearly stated that generation in northern York Region is preferred over transmission and generation elsewhere.

The type of generation recommended is only operational when there is a high demand on the overall hydro system and is not operational at all times.

Several residents attended the general committee meeting and were allowed to speak by committee chairperson Councillor Phyllis Morris at various times during the meeting.

While there was general support for the OPA report over the Hydro One proposal to increase the loading on the existing transmission line, there was still a concern about the health effects of EMF.

Councillor Evelyn Buck expressed concern about the shortage of time to debate such an important topic as there were too many unanswered questions, especially regarding cost and who pays. She suggested council take its time as she could not support the report.

Richard Johnson, a strong opponent of the Hydro One transmission line proposal, pointed out that members of council had 18 months to become informed and he found it offensive to ask for more time.

Councillor John West expressed concerns about

the lack of a financial statement and he wanted to know where the money was going to come from and that it should be a provincial responsibility.

He also wanted to know if Aurora Hydro or PowerStream officials had been involved in the workshop discussions and was advised that they had been members of the technical committee. He said he couldn't support the report due to the lack of financial information.

One of the staff recommendations was that the lands needed for a transformer station in Aurora be acquired by Hydro One as soon as possible so that all necessary approval processes could be carried out. It was explained this was necessary so people could be forewarned.

Councillor Nigel Kean moved that the recommendation be deleted so that all sites could be evaluated and the public consulted, but could not get a second to his motion.

Ian Munro, an Aurora citizen on the OPA working group, said the recommendation had been made to protect the town and said another recommendation limited the transformer station to 150 megawatts.

He said considerable thought had gone in to the report and recommendations and requested council support. He added that the working group had concerns about EMF, but there was no definite answer.

Noting that one recommendation stated that the location of any transformer or generation station be in accordance with town regu-

lations, Councillor West asked why generation was being suggested as Aurora had always bought its power from Ontario Hydro.

Johnson was permitted to speak again and said it was urgent that council find a solution as much of the demand was generated by new growth and council continued to approve new subdivisions and hydro supply should be considered when subdivisions are approved.

Councillor Buck interjected that development applications were dealt with in accordance with the Planning Act and the process has to be followed.

She said water, sewer and roads were a municipal responsibility and hydro was provincial.

In response as to why generation had been included in the recommendations, CAO John Rogers replied it was to avoid the enhanced transmission lines.

Mayor Tim Jones said it was necessary for council to move forward and suggested the question be called on the report. When Chairperson Morris continued to allow debate, Councillor West said debate was going in circles and left the meeting in disgust.

Councillor Buck recommended the question be called which was supported by the committee stopping debate over the objections of Councillor Morris.

The report recommended support of the OPA proposal subject to eight conditions plus a recommendation that Aurora strive to become a leader by example of energy conservation

and to share energy conservation projects with residents, businesses and agencies.

The first recommendation regarding the location of transformer or generating stations was defeated. The second recommendation dealing with Hydro One acquiring lands for a transfer station was adopted with an amendment on condition there were no EMF emissions.

The other six conditions limiting the transformer station to 150 megawatts, that a transformer station not be constructed unless a local generation plant was constructed in advance and that any new 230 KV feeders be underground through residential areas were adopted.

When the vote was called on the balance of the report including support of the OPA integrated solution subject to the eight conditions and striving to be a leader in energy conservation, it was defeated.

After four hours of debate the general committee meeting was adjourned and members re-convened as a special council meeting with Mayor Jones in the chair, and Councillors Morris, Kean, Gaertner and Buck in attendance.

As there was no general committee recommendation, it was decided to vote on the report, recommendation and conditions individually.

The condition regarding the location of transformer and generating station which was defeated in committee was adopted with the deletion of generating station by a 3-2 vote with Buck

and Jones opposed.

The condition about acquiring land for a transformer station by Hydro One as soon as possible with the amendment that health concerns regarding EMF be included, which was adopted in committee, was defeated with Buck, Gaertner, Morris and Jones opposed.

The remainder of the

conditions which were adopted in committee was also adopted in council with opposition from Buck.

She also opposed the remainder of the report which had been defeated in committee but approved by council.

With the adoption of the confirming bylaw the special council meeting was adjourned at 11.10 p.m.

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Sale proceeds

From page 1

after March 24. "As our industry's regulator, the OEB has a mandate to protect the interests of electricity consumers and we fully understand the need to conduct a complete and thorough assessment of any merger or acquisition transaction."

In its decision, the Board noted it was satisfied the proposed transactions meet the "no harm" test that has been established as the standard for share acquisitions and amalgamations.

In other words, the proposed transactions will not have an adverse effect in terms of the fol-

lowing factors:

- * the interests of consumers with respect to prices and the adequacy, reliability and quality of electricity service; and

- * economic efficiency and cost effectiveness in the generation, transmission, distribution, sale and demand management of electricity or the maintenance of a financially viable electricity industry.

The Ontario Energy Board regulates the province's electricity and natural gas sectors in the public interest.

PowerStream is an incorporated entity, jointly owned by the City of Vaughan and the Town of Markham.

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RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

A cabinet maker moves to Aurora

After commuting to his business in Mississauga from Aurora for nearly eight years, Raimund Knopp moved his operation, R & K Woodworking, to a new location on Allaura Drive in 1976.

After apprenticing as a cabinet maker in his native Germany from 1950 to 1953, he came to Canada and settled in Toronto.

After visiting friends in Aurora, he decided he liked the community and in 1968 bought a home here, but his work was still in Toronto.

He was responsible for the transformation of the Graystone Tavern main room from a dingy hall into a classy dining and dancing area.

He was doing work for the York North Public Library, York University and Seneca College with most of his work institutional furniture.

Also qualified as an architectural draftsman he could produce sketches on the spot.

Are there still cabinet makers in Aurora today?

BACK IN 1958

Believe it or not, but back in August, 1958, the price of a gallon, that's a gallon-not a litre, had skidded down to 29.9 cents. Even then, major gas companies claimed there was no collusion in setting prices, but only cut prices in relation to the price cuts of other companies.

A WORLD OF CHANGE

If you were born before 1945, it was before television, penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, fax machines, internet, contact lenses and the pill.

It was before credit cards, laser beams, ball point pens, pantyhose, electric blankets and air conditioners.

In those days, closets were for clothes, not coming out off; you got married first and then lived together; and you hadn't heard of gay rights, computer dating or house-husbands.

Time-sharing meant togetherness, not computers or condominiums, a chair was a piece of furniture, not someone who chaired a meeting and telephones were answered by people, not machines and customer service was the rule of the day.

AN UNNEEDED CHANGE

Remember back in 1995 when former Education Minister John Snobelen mused that he would have to invent a crisis in order to change Ontario's education system.

It has been a crisis ever since, but it looks as if might finally be settling down insofar as teacher strikes and work to rule are concerned, but there are still the issues of funding, number of portables, class size and other problems.

Since 1950 there have been at least 24 major studies of the education system, so maybe one day they may get it right.

IN CASE YOU WONDERED

As you drive east on Wellington Street East between Industrial Parkway and Bayview Avenue there is median strip of decorative bricks, trees and banners flying in the breeze.

Then when you reach the section of the roadway between Bayview Avenue and Leslie Street, much closer to being the gateway to Aurora, there is just a nondescript grass median, and you wonder what happened.

During the original planning for the reconstruction of Wellington Street East between Bayview and Leslie, an upgraded median was planned as the Gateway to Aurora at the request of Magna International and supported by Aurora Council.

Magna even offered to contribute \$350,000 for improvements to the median on condition the posted speed limit for that section of Wellington Street be reduced from 70 to 60 km/hr in the interests of safety as the Magna fields were used by the Aurora Youth Soccer Club.

Regional officials refused to reduce the speed claiming that people will travel at their natural speed regardless of the posted limit.

The speed limit is still 70km/hr east of Bayview increasing to 80km/hr as you approach Leslie and there is still a grassed median.

Now you know!

ASHTON DENE RESIDENTS

Today many residents of Aurora may not be aware of where the Ashton Dene subdivision is located as the name is not commonly used.

It can be found north of Wellington Street East at Walton Drive.

In January, 1973, the residents, headed by Tom Davey of Cedar Crescent, formed a homeowners' committee as the first step leading to a ratepayers' association.

Other members of the committee were John Luckett, Bob Copeland, Reg Pemberton, Jane Bucking, Joanna Nobel and Gerry Maguiness.

While the lack of mail service was an immediate concern in the new subdivision, Davey said the prime reason for forming an association was to provide residents with a single voice with which to approach municipal bodies and regional authorities.

Reaction in the subdivision to the concept of a ratepayers' group was astounding, according to Davey.

He said he had yet to hear from anyone not in favour of the proposal.

Where is the Ashton Dene group today?

Issues still outstanding: resident

The controversial reconstruction of Collins Crescent was back in the news as resident Wayne Bando appeared before Aurora's general committee last week to complain that issues resulting from the reconstruction of the roadway two years ago were still outstanding.

He was very critical of the Public Works Department for the lack of communication and he questioned the competency of the staff.

He claimed that phone calls and letters had gone unanswered.

He was asked by Mayor Tim Jones to stop the mud-slinging and list his points of contention.

Bando, with more than 37 years engineering experience with other municipalities including York Region, stated there were design flaws in the original plans, which had been brought to the attention of the department but no action was taken.

Back in 2003 as a result of pressure from citizens, council decided to use the funds from another road project to reconstruct Collins Crescent.

Bando appeared before council at that time to complain about the road design.

He pointed out the proposed design put residents at risk due to the poor sight lines when exiting their driveways.

Staff advised council members that it was a standard design, which council approved for reconstruction.

Last May, Bando appeared before the general committee to complain about the reconstruction.

He claimed residents had asked several questions about the reconstruction and they went unanswered.

Residents had also requested a meeting with town officials, but it was

refused.

Following his appearance at last week's general committee meeting, members agreed to obtain a staff report for the next council meeting.

Public Works Director Wayne Jackson, however, has since advised councillors his report would not be ready until early in October.

Councillor Evelyn Buck asked why the Director of Public Works couldn't respond to the charges.

He said the department had responded at least 12 times to Bando's letters and there were three letters which answers were outstanding, but that a full report would be submitted to council.

Tigers win and tie

From page 12
on a draw won by Matt McGill, and Cale Tanaka driving the net and tapping in a Jeric Agosta feed.

Brandon Roshko added two assists for Aurora.

Aurora played in

Collingwood Tuesday night, but results were not available at press time.

Then starts a busy weekend for the locals.

On Friday they host the Huntsville-Muskoka Otters at the Aurora Community

Centre at 7.30 p.m.

Saturday the club travels to Seguin Township to play the Bruins at 7 p.m., then meet the Couchiching Terriers in the Orillia area Sunday afternoon at 2 p.m.



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