

AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

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Vol. 5 No. 48 905-727-3300 Week of October 4, 2005

Murder mystery tickets available

Farmer's Market

gets an extension

It may be too late by the time you read this, but last week there were still a few tickets left for the fourth annual Murder Mystery dinner slated for Hillary House Saturday, October 29th.

The popular dinner has sold out for the last three years practically before the tickets went on the market.

But John MacIntyre, the author behind the dinners, says a few tickets were still available last

To order, call Hillary House at 905-727-4015.

Tickets are \$60 per person which includes a roast beef dinner and a memorable evening of history and fun.

All proceeds help support the operation and restoration of Hillary House by the Aurora Historical Society.

Overwhelming success of this

year's edition of the Aurora

Farmers' Market has caused officials to extend its life beyond

The market, located in the

parking lot on Temperance

Street, just south of Wellington,

will continue to operate Saturday

mornings until October 29th,

three weeks after its original clos-

amazing and every vendor has

asked for the extension," market

founder Nigel Kean said. "Over

the next few weeks I again ask all

residents who attend the market

to open their hearts and help the

needy by bringing non-perishable

foods and toiletries to the

"This year's success has been

Thanksgiving.

This year's story was inspired by an account that appeared in an Aurora newspaper on November 5, 1920, when prohibition reigned across most of Canada:

Speeding along the highway without lights, a big touring car bearing a joy party from Toronto crashed into the buggy of Charles S. Doane of Yonge Street, wrenched the wheel from the vehicle and left Mr. Doane still sitting in his seat, grasping the

With unabated speed, the car tore northwards for another mile. Then suddenly smoke began to pour from beneath the hood. As the passengers climbed out, flames burst from under the hood. Soon it was a mass of flames.

On October 29th, you can find out what happened next...if you

All donations will go to the

"This time of year is bountiful

Aurora Food Pantry and the

Women's Centre of York Region

for many but not all," Kean said.

"Also on Thanksgiving weekend

we will be having a Pumpkin

Colouring Function for children

under 12. For a donation of a dol-

lar, children will get a chance to

show their skills at colouring

Cooper Farms and the markers

are donated by Sean Herbinson

both the Women's Centre and the

Aurora Food Pantry.

The pumpkins are donated by

Money raised will also go to

(Aurora Office).

pumpkins.'



Glen Wood, representing Richmond Hill Branch 375 of the Royal Canadian Legion, was one of the marchers as the Aurora Legion hosted a convention on the weekend with about 250 members of District E attending. The parade went from Edward Street to the Cenotaph. See the Legion column, Page 2. Auroran photo by Naomi Tobin

Library Square space allocation blows up again

In spite of arguments by an angry Councillor Damir Vrancic, council rejected a staff report they had asked for regarding allocation of space in the old library building and the soon to be vacated seniors' centre.

The rejection, following a heated council meeting with constant interruptions, points of order, personal attacks and a complete disregard of parliamentary procedure, ended several years of studies and meetings and moves everything back to square one.

The report from the Leisure Services Advisory Committee recommended space allocations to the Churches of Aurora, Hot Spot Youth Club, Our Lady of Grace Child Care Centre, Canadian Mental Association, Women's Centre of York Region, York-South Simcoe Training Board and the Aurora Bridge Club subject to lease arrangements.

No reason was given for not recommending the application of Providence Learning Centres and 140 Air Cadet Squadron, Big Brothers Big Sisters of York Region, and Hadaway Youth Centre.

A youth centre was also rejected.

Morag Wolfe, executive director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of York Region, a long-time occupant of town facilities in the Church Street School and the old library, appeared before council Please see page 14

Briefly

Under the lights

High school football is heading for the spotlight.

Dr. G. W. Williams Wildcats football program, thanks to recent approval from the Town of Aurora, will experience its first Friday Night community football event under lights at Fleury Park.

The first night game is slated for Friday, October 21st. The competition will be Huron Heights Warriors and both Junior and Senior teams will

Tom Norwell, who is heading up the program, expects hundreds of spectators will attend the event.

"It is definitely going to gain local attention," he said. "This special Town supported event will hopefully be the genesis to building strong community spirit and support for football in our community."

More than 100 students participate in the program.

Three-district Aurora soon?

It has taken some time, but it looks as if Councillor Ron Wallace will get distinctive signs along Yonge Street to help residents find businesses and homes.

In a report to council the Economic Development Advisory Committee recommended

district signage for the Yonge Street corridor and that council consider the allocation of funding estimated to be \$26,500 in the 2006 capital budget.

Back in 2003, Wallace appeared before the Economic Development Advisory Committee to

Please see page 16

Meanwhile, at Wells Street...

Probably the most popular fall fair in Aurora, the Wells Street Public School event is gearing up for its ninth season.

It will be held Saturday, October 22nd, in the school and on Town Park property from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The fall fair, a magical event that celebrates the fall season and

Hallowe'en, is probably one of the school's biggest fundraisers.

Since its inception in 1997, the event has generated more than

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the fair should call Marsha Morassutti, the Fall Fair Co-ordinator, at 905-727-6461.



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 October 29. 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

Gamblers Anonymous, every Tuesday night, Trinity Anglican Church, Victoria

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.townsofyork.org or phone 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.

Come to "Martha's Table" for comfort food and a sense of community. Enjoy hot soup as part of a rounded lunch in the hall of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Mosley and Victoria Streets. As of today, the church initiative will run every Thursday beginning at 11:30 a.m.

OCTOBER 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 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 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-

Aurora Seniors Fall Colour Tour of the Caledon Hills and the Forks of Credit includes lunch and time to browse a quaint village.

By CLIFF DAVIES EGION News

Our Youth & Education Chairman is busy, at this time of year, setting up The Royal Canadian Legion's 'Essay, Poetry, and Poster contests', which in the past have attracted many of our local students.

Open to all school children these are initially divided into Senior, Intermediate, Junior and Primary levels.

The Essay or Poetry contests are arranged through the English teachers at school and Colour or Black & White Posters through the Arts teachers.

The national results of last year's contests have appeared in the Legion Magazine, and anyone interested should ask a Legion member for their copy of the magazine.

For further details contact the Branch at 905-727-9932. Early next year this Chairman will again be involved in our Public Speaking contest, open to all school children.

Included in the Legion's Youth participation are Track & Field events held in May and June each year at the Stouffville Sports Track.

At the end of September we held a District Convention at the Branch with representatives from Gravenhurst to Woodbridge and Sutton to Bolton totalling about 250 leading members of the Royal Canadian Legion's District E attending.

As part of the Convention, a parade was held from Canada Law Book on Edward St. to the Cenotaph, with a short service of remembrance and a return parade back to Canada Law Book

White Heather Band, they practice in the Branch on Thursday evenings at 7.30 p.m.

If you're interested in joining the 'Pipes & Drums', our

A monthly calendar of events is available at the Branch, including shuffleboard which starts Friday nights in October.

COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

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 Marshall, 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-

Trinity Anglican Church Christmas Craft Fair. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tables still available. For more information, call Linda at 905-727-5675.

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.

Musical Review "Voices of Hospice" honours Hospice Awareness Week, at Trinity Anglican Church, 7 p.m. Participating are Trinity Unplugged, Voices for Joy, York Region Community Choir and Blessed Trinty Parish Choir. Presented by Hospice King-Aurora and Doane House Hospice.

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 17, 21, 24, 28

Refresher driver course for seniors at the Aurora Public Library, 9:30 a.m. noon. Register at Aurora Seniors' Centre, by calling Diana Dawson at 905-727-2816. For more information, call Barbara West at 905-713-6833.

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

Friday Night community football event under lights at Fleury Park. First games in both senior and junior levels, will be against the Huron Heights Warriors. **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. Wells Street Public School ninth annual Fall Fair. At the school, 11 a.m.

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.

York Chamber Ensemble, conducted by Aurora's Tony Browning, launches its 2005-2006 concert series at Trinity Anglican Church. Music includes Grieg's Holberg Suite and Mozart's Symphonetta in D major. Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, available at the door, are \$15 regular price; \$10 for students and seniors.

OCTOBER 30

Canadian violinist Scott St. John, accompanied by Jamie Parker, performs in a recital at St. Andrew's College this afternoon. For information and tickets, call 905-727-5727.

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.

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Holland River runs through breathtaking property! Lots of original woodwork! B.C. fir plank floors! Reno'd bathrooms, new driveway & front porch, 3-car garage! Rare opportunity - minutes to Aurora!



JUST LISTED IN SOUTHWEST AURORA!



Lovely home in sought-after neighbourhood! Fabulous white kitchen is open to fam. room with gas fp & hardwood floor! 2 walkouts to large deck! Fin. basement has rec. rm with gas fp, office & 2-pc. bath!

PROUD TO BE LIVING AND WORKING IN AURORA

Groups benefit

Christmas came early for 13 local groups as they shared \$7,000 they received from Santa Claus in the persons of Myra Merkur, daughter of the late David Merkur of the Aurora Shopping Centre, and Joe Lebovic of Lebovic Enterprises.

David Merkur founded the Aurora Arts and Cultural Fund in 1973 as a means of giving back something to the community as the community had been good to merchants of his Centre.

For the past 32 years Aurora arts and cultural groups have benefitted from the fund for special projects or programs that need financial assistance.

Representatives from 12 of the 13 organizations were in attendance at last week's council meeting to receive the cheques and provide a brief summary of what they planned to do with the money.

The Aurora Community Heritage Fair was established last year with the Assistance of the York Region District School Board and the financial assistance received from the fund will be used for awards to the winning students and schools.

As part of the Aurora Agricultural Society Fair and Horse Show, a Festival of the Arts is held featuring junior artists and artisans and the grant is used to organize and promote the Festival.

The Aurora Historical Society will use their grant to organize a portable museum display for use until such time as the Aurora Museum reopens in the Church Street School next year.

The Aurora Heights Public School representative said funds would be used for a Leadership Project at the school and to promote a Literacy Day with a guest author to visit the school.

The Aurora Seniors' Art Group will use the funds to provide shelves in the new Seniors' Centre for the group's library of art reference books, a stand for models, a rotating stand for still life paintings and lighting.

The Aurora Nursery School will use their grant for the school music program.

Marquee Productions will purchase a new piano with their grant for their musical productions featuring local children.

The grant will help the Aurora Opera Company in acquiring technical equipment and rental of costumes for their upcoming production of The Mikado.

The Aurora Seniors' Book Club will use their grant to purchase new books.

The York Symphony Orchestra will purchase music and provide free tickets for seniors to attend their concerts.

The Aurora Writers Group will use the funds to bring in guest speakers and to print a journal prepared by Group members.

The Celebration of the Arts will use the funds to provide 20 bursaries to worthy students.



As part of its Fire Prevention Week publicity launch, York Region fire departments honoured their Junior Firefighters last week at the Community Safety Village in Whitchurch-Stouffville. Aurora's Junior Firefighter is eight-year-old Sydni Gulko, an Aurora Heights Public School student. Here she gets a few pointers from Central York Fire Services Fire Prevention Officer John Adema. Sydni won the right to represent Aurora after an essay she wrote on municipal fire safety was selected from numerous entries. Fire Prevention Week begins October 9th.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

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&

THE TOWN OF AURORA Cordially invite you to join us

Friday, October 21st

at DiNardo's - The Mansion, 400 Industrial Parkway South, Aurora

Cocktails 6 pm Dress: Black Tie Optional Dinner 7.15 pm

Dancing to follow to the Music of the George St. Kitts Band

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Everyone is welcome to be a part of this Gala event, and join in the Celebration of Business as the Award Recipients and Finalists in the various categories are announced.

Tickets: \$125.00 (plus GST) per person, TABLE OF 8 \$1,000.00 (plus GST)

For tickets, call the Aurora Chamber at 905-727-7262.

The Nominees are:

Ab Cox Pontiac Buick GMC Ltd., ACI Aurora Cable Internet,
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Hallmark Cards Canada, Herbal Magic of Aurora (2003) Inc.,
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The One & Only Shoes, Clothing and Accessories Company Ltd.,
Topper's Pizza, Wellington Gallery, Woody's Tree Care Co., Yonge Street Winery.





This combined Grade 8 graduating class from Aurora's Wells Street Public School represents the 1955-56 school year. They are, back row, left to right, Janice Haley, Christine Thompson, Hillary Harris, Edward Dakin, Paul Rose, ?, Richard Reimer, Michael Bell, Trevor Harris, David Seston, John Carter, Elgin Evans, Hugh Bolsby, Nancy Davis, Irene Foster, and Grace Kyte; centre row, left to right, Jane Strachan, ?, Heather Wright, Carol Jagger, Marie Smith, Barbara Bolsby, Mary Fraser, Jeanette Stone, Donna Yake, Jo-Ann

Lysecki, Jane Ardill, Sharon Copeland, Dorothy Beseley, Heather Brown, Linda Rowling, Sheena Smart, Pamela Dawson, Rosalie Collins, and Lynne Fisher; front row, left to right, John Scott, Ted Jones, Roy MacIntyre, Gordon Long, Ted Murrell, Bill Duckenfield, Wayne Sparks, Brian Knowles, Bill Miller, Derek Scott, Fred Brome, Harry Hodgkinson, Clare Doolittle, Edward Komar and Peter Rawlings. The photo was supplied by Donna Keffer, nee Yake.



Poor Richard

Some issues disappear into bureaucratic jungle

Answers are hard to come by For questions councillors ask; Reasons are seldom given, And it can't be a difficult task! - Poor Richard's Scrapbook

It's hard to understand why a member of council who asks a question in open council, has it referred to staff for a response, which seldom comes back in a public session, never follows up on it.

It may be that the councillor received the reply internally and it never reaches the council table leaving the public and the media questioning what happened and why it wasn't made public.

Last April Councillor Ron Wallace complained about the bylaw enforcement being overzealous when they ticketed several cars of people attending the Chamber of Commerce Home Show at the Community Centre.

He said that some exhibitors and visitors had been issued \$45 tickets for parking on the grass when there were no signs posted to warn that such parking was illegal.

He questioned how and why the bylaw enforcement officers were so active on a weekend, when they fail to enforce bylaws during the week.

It was finally agreed to refer his questions to staff for a

Instead of a staff report coming to open council as an agenda item, a memo was circulated internally to the mayor and members of council, but it was not made available to the public or the media.

What can they be hiding?

The HighTor property on Bathurst Street has been a long, turbulent and controversial issue since Anne Bartley Smith died in December, 1987, and left her 97-acre property to the Ontario Heritage Foundation to be preserved as environmental lands or to the town as a public park if not accepted by the Foundation.

The OHF accepted the generous offer and after some legal wrangling, the property was transferred to Foundation in June, 1992, with hopes of opening the park in August with a ceremony to pay tribute to Mrs. Smith.

It was an opening that never took place.

al to sell approximately 40 acres of the high land for residential development.

A group of Aurora citizens joined together to fight the proposal as being contrary to the intent of the Smith will and claimed it was just a money grab by the Foundation.

The property remained idle until September, 1998,

when the Foundation approached the town with a propos-

As a result of the public opposition to the proposal the Foundation delayed submitting a development application.

In February, 1999, council appointed a citizen/council ad hoc committee in an attempt to reach a mutually agree-

In February, 2001, the Foundation advised the Town that it had no plans to sell any of the lands at that time.

Council requested staff to investigate the possibility of leasing the flat land from the Foundation for recreational purposes.

The Foundation was contacted again in August, 2001, by town officials, who enclosed a concept plan of playing fields, soccer pitches and a parking lot.

As the estimated cost of developing the recreation facilities was \$708,000, a 25- to 30-year lease was requested, but no reply was ever received.

Since up until that time all negotiations had been carried out at the staff level, in February, 2003, council agreed that the mayor would arrange a meeting with the Foundation's Board of Directors.

Whether the meeting was ever held or not is unknown, but the property remains vacant and no member of council ever asks a question as to what is happening.

Somebody on council should be interested!

Another long outstanding issue is a site for a Habitat for Humanity home in Aurora.

Back in July, 2002, council gave unanimous approval for building on a town-owned property on Murray Drive but had to back down when residents complained.

In January, 2004, staff was directed to identify possible sites in Aurora.

Habitat is still waiting and there have been no questions from any member of council.

Surely somebody is interested and keeps a list of outstanding issues besides the staff, which is seldom, if ever, questioned.

Letter to the Editor

Golf Links bumps "useless", he says

To the editor,

When Kennedy Street was reconstructed, a few years ago, three speed bumps were placed close to each other.

The object was to slow

Two problems - the speed bumps were not extended to Murray Drive, so speeders continue to drive faster after passing over the three bumps and design - you can pass through the bumps at a greater speed because the bumps are not long enough.

Last, the Town of Aurora - what specifications did they follow?

Did they contact other Public Works departments in other cities?

In Toronto, you will lose your bottom if you travel greater than the posted speed - call them!

Now, the Town of Aurora has built speed bumps on Golf Links Drive. There are more bumps than Kennedy - even one close to an intersection where you slow down to stop!

These bumps are even less effective than on Kennedy Street.

The residents want to see traffic going at a slower pace.

What a waste of taxpayer dollars!

These bumps are use-

Bob Sherwood Aurora

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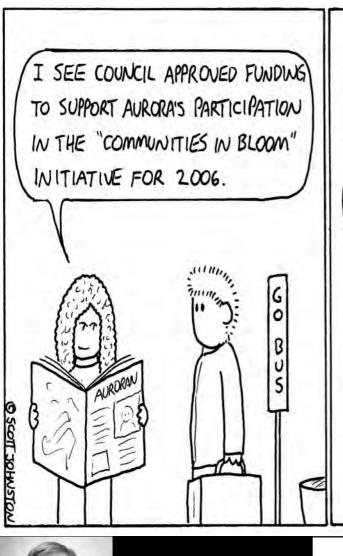
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Mayor's Report **By Tim Jones**

By November it is hoped Aurora Council will have approved an updated Emergency Response Plan. To quote from the Introduction of the current draft plan, Emergencies are defined as situations or impending situations caused by forces of nature, accident or an intentional act that constitutes a danger of major proportions to life and property"

Within the past year we have seen around the world a tsunami, a devastating hurricane and acts of terrorism, all of which fall into this category.

There is also the predicted risk of a flu pandemic. Other possible causes for emergency situations include: explosion, spill, construction failure, utility outage, transportation accident, industrial accident, mud or snow slide, nuclear accident, flood, tornado, blizzard, earthquake, or ice storm.

It is incumbent on all of us to be prepared for these situations, no matter what the calculated risk of them occurring.

An Emergency Response is prepared to provide key officials, agencies and departments of the Town of Aurora important emergency response information related to arrangements, services and equipment that may need to be activated in an emergency, as well as descriptions of what the roles are for individuals in these positions during an emergency.

It is also important that residents, businesses and others involved be aware of the provisions of this plan and for that purpose, our plan, once finalized, will be available at the Town Hall and Library for viewing, as well as on our web www.town.aurora.on.ca.

To plan in this way prepares us for an emergency. Obviously, we should all do our best to do all things possible to avoid emergencies in the first place. But if they occur, we need to prepare, we need to respond and we need to recover.

make provision for the extraordinary arrangements and measures that may have to be taken to protect the health, safety, welfare, environment and economic health of the residents, businesses and visitors of the Town in an emergency.

It enables a centralized, controlled and co-ordinated response to emergencies in Aurora and meets legislated requirements of the Emergency Management

the event of a declared emergency, a Community Control Group (CCG) is assembled to commence the management of the emergency.

This group includes the mayor, the chief administrative officer, the fire chief, the solicitor, the director of corporate services and the clerk, along with other officials deemed appropriate and pertinent to the emergency at hand.

Emergency planning and management programs such as this will reduce, minimize or eliminate hazards and risks where practical through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery and due diligence.

It is hoped we will never have to declare a state of

emergency, but we must be ready.

Emergency Planning

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 tjones@town.aurora.on.ca



Cathy's Corne



Photographs and memories

Recently, I discovered a relatively small, comparatively inexpensive, surprisingly simple machine that enables the user to travel back in time. Cool, huh?

It's called a scanner.

I plugged it in, turned it on, and began feeding it the contents of my photo albums.

As the machine feasted on the relics of my past, my life flashed before my eyes and onto the computer screen.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, but I'll try to say it in fewer ...

My journey began at the beginning of time - the yellowed black and whites with the curly edges that speak of a time when cameras were rare, and people who owned them even rarer.

As the eerie lights of the scanner rekindled the passions of bygone days, I watched myself progress from a baby sitting on her grandfather's knee, holding a recycled beer bottle with a rubber nipple stretched over the top (what was my mother thinking?)...to crooked bangs, toothless grins and evidence that I was raised by a woman who owned a sewing machine.

However, since Santa Claus didn't get around to tossing a camera down our chimney until about 1974, my hair and teeth grew back in about 12 snapshots.

My fashion sense, however, didn't seem to recover until the new millennium.

When I brought out the next album, I nearly packed up the scanner and took it back.

There she is...the once upon a time me, 21 years old and decked out in something that can't be blamed on her mother: a dreadful white Oscar De La Renta suit that looks like a cross between a chef's apron and a toga with sleeves - bigger than life sleeves.

Oh, if "The Man from Glad" had seen me, he would have gotten down on both knees and whipped out a ring for sure! Oh, the commercials we would have made together!

This is painful, I thought. But it gets worse.

In the next album, Cinderella marries, not "The Man from Glad" as expected, but Prince Damir, and at the tender age of 24, turns into a pumpkin.

Although triplets appear imminent, there is only one baby girl on the way - hardly enough to justify the tarp that Cinderella happened to roll into at some maternity clearance rack.

forced a sewing machine on me for Christmas. For a moment, I considered cutting the shredder a

What was I thinking? That was the year my mother

piece of the action, but the next album changed my mind. In 1987, life in Aurora began, and flipping through the record of the best years of my life, I began to see why

haute couture never made it to the top of the priority list. Right there in front of me were images of the "new house" in various stages of construction, warmed by the appearance of happy little children with shovels and buckets, playing in the heaps of topsoil...ah...so, I did know what is important.

There are kittens and puppies, birthday cakes and Christmas loot.

There are pumpkins, princesses, ninjas, angels, gypsies and "I worked hard to look like this" witches - evidence that I got good use out of that sewing machine my mother insisted I needed.

There are pool parties with a splash and barbeques with panache. There are friends and family and occasions to gather them. There are thirty-something soccer uniforms worn by three children over 14 years - see albums 11 through 36..

But best of all, there is real life happening to real people - tears and jeers, wonder and awe, and lots of hugs and cuddles and smiles and laughter...

...and crooked bangs and toothless grins.

I got so misty-eved it didn't seem to matter that I spent the best years of my life in elastic waistband pants that should have come with an expiry date, a pony tail that always looked like somebody just pulled it out of an electrical outlet, and a pair of glasses slightly larger than the headlights on my mini-van.

I must have gone through thousands of photographs, and all I could think was: I wish I had more.

Indeed, pictures speak a thousand words, but the memories they trigger are like whispers that leave us speechless.

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



By DICK ILLINGWORTH

BOUQUETS to Aurora's Dana Mears for her entrepreneur skills in obtaining a franchise for "Wee Piggies & Paws" which enables her to stay at home to look Matter her two children and make detailed, professionally-framed impressions of children's hands and feet.

BRICKBATS to the youthful cyclists, possibly students from Aurora Senior Public School, for leaving their bicycles strewn all over the sidewalk in front of the Oriental Diner in the Gateway Plaza on Wellington Street West. It was a real hazard for pedestrians, when the bicycles could have been parked safely under the stairway leading to the second level.

BOUQUETS to the five members of the Aurora Master Max Ducks Tri-Team for racing through a 3.8 kilometre swim, a 180-kilometre bike ride followed by a marathon run in the 2005 Ironman UK. Meanwhile in Penticton, B.C. four members of the Master Ducks competed in Ironman Canada..

BRICKBATS to York Regional and GO Transit for wasting gasoline and increasing operational costs by chasing each other up and down Yonge Street with almost empty buses during the day, with Viva still to come. Some form of integration is required!

BOUQUETS to Brian Warburton on his excellent letter to The Auroran extolling the many benefits Aurora seniors will enjoy in their new fabulous location backing on to the Holland River Valley Park, which he describes so vividly.

BRICKBATS to members of Aurora Council who have difficulty in debating an issue in accordance with mormal parliamentary procedure and civility, as was so evident at the recent general committee meeting when the important issue of hydro was being discussed. It got so bad that Councillor John West walked out in disgust!

BOUQUETS to York Regional Council and staff on receiving an Essential Level Achievement letter from the Province of Ontario presented by Commissioner of Emergency Management Julian Fantino. He congratulated regional council for completing the requirements of the Emergency Measures Act and being prepared for the unforeseen.

BRICKBATS to outgoing Governor-General Adrienne Clarkson for attending the swearing-in ceremomny of her successor Michaelle Jean so she could steal the limelight for the last time.

BOUQUETS to veteran York Regional Police Staff Sgt. Max Heidi Schellhorn on receiving the 2005 International Association of Women Police Community Service Award, for consistent focus on service and her initiatives designed to meet community

BRICKBATS to a justice system that provides a sentence of only 60 days to a woman driver who crossed the centre line onto the shoulder and killed a Keswick woman on her way to church. The woman driver, who failed to stop, was later arrested and charged with criminal negligence causing death and driving without a licence and was sentenced to 60 days. A life means nothing in the

BOUQUETS to Viva Transit for distributing a compact Rider's Manual, a comprehensive guide to routes and buying tickets, etc. but it looks very expensive. How much did it cost and who paid? Has anyone figured out yet what the private partner has done?

BRICKBATS to a secondary school system which graduates high school students with English grades in the 90s, who cannot pass the University of Waterloo's simple English test. Possibly students should be taught the basic skills before being encouraged to use computers and calculators.

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Getting child to school frustrates this parent

To the editor,

"We unite in our purpose to inspire and prepare learners for life in our changing world continually."

I am opening with this statement, so that the hypocrisy of the York Region District School Board is truly understood, the recent announcement relative to changes in the bus service to high schools.

Two weeks ago you printed letters written by Nanette Moyan, Ena Shaw, Lesley Cooley, and Sandra Spear, all of whom were concerned with the realities that their family members were now forced to walk to school, or indeed, pay for a bus service which to this point had been provided.

My family was also affected by this decision, and in the pursuit of trying to determine how the distance assessment was established some interesting discoveries were made.

My attended son Aurora Grove Public School, where he had the good fortune to be under the guidance of an excellent teacher, who was able to determine the strong points for many of her students, and nurture them. At the end of the school term, she sent a letter home stressing the importance of having my son attend the Dr. G. W. Secondary Williams School math program.

Given his abilities, it was in her estimation one of the better programs in

We, of course, assured her the request would be fulfilled.

At this point my wife contacted Susan Gibson at the school board regarding bus service for my son, and was promptly told we would not receive it, premised on the new distance parameters implemented.

Indeed, we were told that although we had with the complied requests of a teacher, this not the school

board's problem, and it was up to us to get our son to the school; in other words we (the board) have no intentions of assuring this young man get the quality of education, which, had been recommended.

Approximately a week later I tried to follow up on this issue, only to find out the board personnel were not even answering their phones, but rather, you should leave a message.

I suspect dealing with all the irate parents may have become somewhat problematic.

The Town of Aurora was able to provide me with a list of bus stops, one of which was a fiveminute walk from my home.

I responded by taking my son to this particular location, waited with him to establish if he could get on the bus, only to find out that the driver, upon making a phone call to his (I suspect) supervisor, indicated to my son he could not remain on the

At this point the fiasco becomes really interesting, given the scene I witnessed.

The bus in question not only picked up another individual, but actually pulled in the driveway to

Being somewhat perturbed, I moved on to drop my son off at the high school, and upon arriving, witnessed the same bus pulling in behind me stopping right in front of the doors and dropping the same individual off at the front doors of the school.

Clarification requires me to mention that I witnessed the bus take a Bathurst street route, whereas I took back streets.

However, what is important to note here is that this young individual was the only one on the

Door-to-door service for one individual; one could only imagine the parents were paying for this student, however, the transcripts indicated this was not the case.

It was at this point, I took this whole scenario one step further, which was to verify distances.

I took the time to drive my route as well as the bus route.

Door to door from my home is 4.7 km using the route I drive, whereas the same route from the bus pickup is 4.9 km, keeping in mind the bus pick up is only five minutes from my home.

I then drove the same route the bus uses, and found it interesting to discover that from my home door to door to the school was now 6.1 km, whereas the other individual's distance door-to-door is only 5.2 km. Am I missing something?

First let me point out, that I find it a phenomenon that individuals living in King City, Thornhill, and other non-related areas could arbitrarily determine the distance suitable for having no bus service. Furthermore, it would

be interesting to determine whether the 4.8 km distance affects their children-not the little ones, but the high school attendees, or indeed, if the little ones will be affected when they reach high school age.

But, most importantly, who in this group took the time to do a cost study? It would seem that a bus delivering one student and refusing others who may be within the vicinity is rather counter-produc-

And let's not forget, that all this is being done learners".

Maybe one of the trustees could take the time to explain to my son the inspiration of walking an average of 90 minutes a day with his books on his back, carrying a saxophone, while his neighbour gets door-to-door service, never mind the diminishing returns on his study time!

Board meetings are on Monday and Tuesday every second week at 7 p.m. at 60 Wellington St, W., and I am sure I speak on behalf of all those affected by this bussing decision, that it would be worthwhile to pursue this further.

If, indeed, the parents can manoeuvre around their time constraints, in addition to those who may not have the means to get to the meetings even if they find the time.

Bruce Engels Aurora

To the editor,

Why on earth would the province allow the people living on Kennedy Street East, next to the medical centre, to drive a vehicle when they can't even pull in and out of their driveways without the Town Of Aurora finding it necessary to provide them with an extra maneuvering zone of 120 cm. that no other drivers in town require?

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Seniors prepare to move to new premises

To the editor,

The projected date of occupancy of the new seniors' centre, is November 7th and likely we will be able to start moving furniture and equipment in days

I am slated to give a lesson in basic computer operation the next day, the 8th, which will be interest-

We have a fashion show slated Sunday. for November 27th, and we are proceeding under the assumption that we will not suffer a calamity of some description, and everything points to a smooth completion of construction.

I believe confidently that everything will go well and I

am clearly looking forward to this event.

I understand that most of the calendar girls will be in attendance, as will Tim Jones, Mayor of Aurora, who will be a model.

Tickets will be limited to 200 and I am informed that many have been ordered in advance.

Tickets will be printed now that we have committed ourselves to proceed and they will be available shortly at the present centre on Victoria Street, or call 905-727-2816.

From time to time and for diverse reasons, men and women reach toward others in gestures of selfless goodwill and empathy.

The Aurora seniors, on two occasions recently,

were the beneficiaries of outstanding commitment by members of the community, by member volunteers, and by the business community.

The Wild Wild West Hoedown, courtesy of Frank Stronach and Magna International, brought together many organizations that co-operated in one gigantic Hoedown extravaganza that truly organizes the community to work and play together.

I know. I did both and am greatly enriched by the experience with fond memories that will last forever.

Thank you, Frank, and thank you, Magna, and a resounding thank you to all the volunteers who worked and played to fulfill the obligations of the Aurora sen-

iors to this year's fine edition of Hoedown.

Recently, Jonathan's Fine Foods, management and staff, excelled themselves by hosting an evening of excellent food

new balance

and great company, and by donating the proceeds to the cause of the new

Aurora Seniors' Centre. Jonathan's is an extraordinary, fine establishment

and they exceeded expec-

ate an enduring esteem and affection for their wonderful hospitality.

Brian Warburton

Anyone remember

Open letter to the editor,

Hi, Ron, I don't know you personally, but I feel I know you a little.

I had news of your loss through friends and I hope you are coping and managing to put your life together to go on doing the things you like to do. I'm sure these words sound hollow.

I am continuing to write about Aurora.

The Aurora Banners are coming to me on microfilm three years at a time and I am discovering dates and information I have missed as well as finding other things I want to include.

I discovered a very amusing article in the March 2nd Banner of 1950. Corky, the human

bear, was coming to town on Saturday, February 25th. A number of merchants and businessmen were sponsoring the event including Aurora Motors, Seven-up, Dal-Har Grill, Aurora Cleaners, Barrie Tent and Awning Co., Attridge & Son Lumber Co., Wilson Hardware, Aurora Frosted Food, Aurora Dairy, North End Taxi, Aurora Banner, Inner Spring Mattress and Cushion Co., Aurora Tourist Home and Spence Bakery.

Each supporter had something to say about "Corky".

For example, Dal-Har Grill said Corky loved their food, Seven-up said he always drank their beverage and loved it and the local tourist home said that when Corky was in Aurora he always stayed with them.

The big event was held on the vacant lot on the corner of Machell and Wellington.

Everyone in town was invited and there was no admission charge.

I don't remember this event. I'm sure if I had been present I would recall it.

I wonder if any of your readers remember this happening at a time when roadside garages and tourist cabins sometimes had a poor, sad bear to attract vacationers.

I would love to hear the big event of February, 1950, described.

Elizabeth Milner Hampton, CT.



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New Balance Canada is a proud supporter of the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

This builder's property leaves bad impression

To the editor,

"Keep Aurora beautiful". If you subscribe to this sentiment, you would want to influence the builder to clean up the eyesore for which he is responsible.

Our efforts to do so have failed.

First we approached the sales office. The office faces the offending strip of

The strip is covered with knee-high weeds hiding all kinds of garbage.

It is topped by flag poles adorned with ripped and dirty remains of flags blowing in the wind.

We pointed out to the sales personnel that it was to their own advantage to present their property in a more attractive and appealing way.

Weeks passed and nothing was done.

So, not seeing any results, we next went to

Town Hall where we were told that this was not their responsibility but that of the

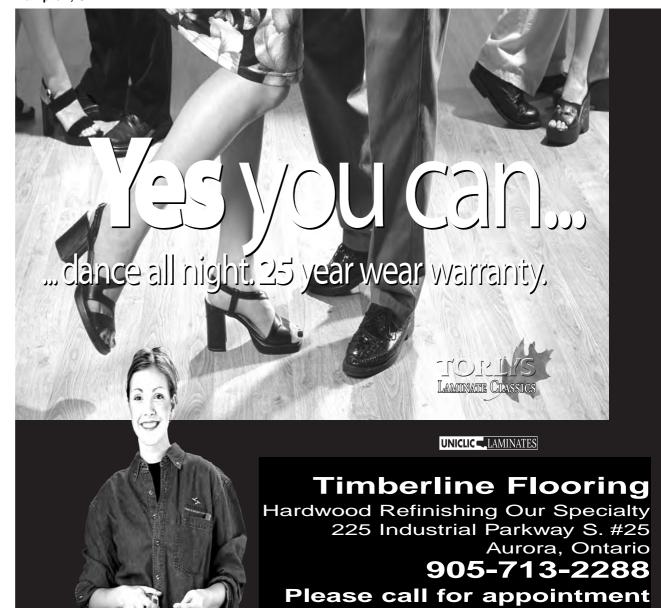
We lost all hope of seeing an improvement in the appearance of our street when, to our joy, we met the mayor of Aurora right at the offensive flagpoles.

He agreed that, in his words, it was "tacky", and said that he would see what he could do about it.

Apparently nothing, since up to this day there is no change in the ugliness of the site.

We still have to pass it every day to reach our home, but what is more, any person who enters Aurora from Bloomington along Bayview Avenue receives this picture as their first impression of our town which we want to be known as Beautiful Aurora.

Alexandra Dunin



Ontario Energy

RP-2005-0020 EB-2005-0337

Street Festival Ioses visitors, thanks to ticket

To the editor,

I am writing to complain about Aurora's Bylaw Enforcement Officers' selective ticketing.

We have a daughter and son-in-law living in Aurora, who were vendors at the Aurora Street Festival on Yonge Street in June.

We came to Aurora to babysit for them on June

husband helped My them set up their booth and returned to their house to pick me up in the late afternoon to take me to the Aurora Street Festival.

He parked the wrong way on Moffat Street in front of their house for 15 minutes and received a Parking Infraction Notice.

When we arrived at the Aurora Street Festival you can imagine our surprise in witnessing vehicles not only parked the wrong way on the streets surrounding Yonge Street but also in noparking zones.

Upon checking noticed not one of these vehicles was ticketed.

I can only assume it would make for bad public relations to ticket tourists while attending the Aurora

I assume quotas must be met so the officers attended residential areas instead of the areas sur-

We were in Aurora again August 20th and witnessed another vehicle on the same street as we were ticketed parked the wrong way for several hours with-

When we paid the parking infraction I addressed our concerns to no avail.

were at the wrong place at the wrong time.

Gail Kaufman

ED. NOTE: This letter was sent to The Auroran in late August and got editor apologizes for his



New to the community? Expecting a baby at your house? Newly Engaged? New Business/ Professional? A Civic minded Business interested

contacted by us Please call 905-853-4645

A few students raise big bucks

To the editor,

On Friday, September 16th, the students of Wells Street Public School completed their run for the Terry Fox Marathon of Hope.

Before participating in the run, students at all grade levels learned many things about Terry Fox and his cause, including what makes a person a hero.

The day of the run was rainy and wet but the spirit of excitement and determination on the part of the children was high.

Many children commented that Terry ran in the rain and they could,

In addition to the run, a bake sale was organized

Kudelka family clarified

To the editor,

RE: Bouquets and Brickbats, The Auroran, Sept. 13 edition.

Firstly, my husband and I love Dick Illingworth's col-

However, I was a friend of John and Kay Kudelka after spending 28 years as head secretary at Dr. G.W. William's Secondary School where Kay was a well-loved teacher (Dick's daughter, Suzanne, was a student at that time).

Kay Kudelka had three sons and two daughters.

One daughter, Fran, became a nurse and the other, "Jan" was a singer who we saw in a theatre production of Cabaret.

The only sibling who never went to Williams was "Jamie" (James) who was involved with the National Ballet (not "Jan").

Jane Bolton (Fyfe) Aurora

and run by two Grade 4 girls which raised \$64.25.

Although the number of students at Wells Street Public School is small only 236 - the children, their families and the community worked together to raise a total of \$5,425 for the Terry Fox Marathon of Hope.

Congratulations to all on a job well done!

Bonnie Hylton Aurora

ED. NOTE: An amazing feat considering none of the students was even born when Terry carried out his incredible run...25 years ago.

rounding Yonge Street.

out being ticketed.

We can only assume we

We will not be attending Aurora's Street Festival in the years to come.

New Hamburg

lost in the shuffle. The lack of organization.



Welcome Wagon?

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR AN **ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION RATE CHANGE** AURORA HYDRO CONNECTIONS LTD.

Aurora Hydro Connections Ltd. has applied to the Ontario Energy Board to change its distribution rates. The application is in line with the guidelines laid out in the Board's Electricity Distribution Handbook, which included extensive stakeholder consultations including a public hearing held by the Board.

The standard electricity bill for residential and small general service customers has

four line items: Electricity; Delivery, Regulatory and Debt Retirement Charge. This application affects the Delivery and Regulatory lines of that bill. Aurora Hydro Connections Ltd. is seeking approval of \$8,128,588 as the revenue it requires for electricity distribution. If approved, a residential customer consuming 1,000 kWh per month would experience a 4.9% increase in the electricity bill. A small General Service customer consuming 2,000 kWh per month and having a monthly demand of 50 kW or lower would see a 3.2% increase.

The major items addressed by this application include: distribution costs; distribution revenues; and final recovery of costs associated with market opening and certain other deferred costs.

Copies of the application are available for inspection at the Board's offices in Toronto, and at the Aurora Hydro Connections Ltd. offices (see below).

Participation

You may participate in this proceeding in one of three ways:

- 1. You may send the Board a letter of comment. Your letter should include any request to make an oral presentation to the Board, and must be received by the Board no later than 30 days from the publication date of this notice.
- 2. You may request observer status in order to receive documents issued by the Board in the proceeding. Your request must be made by letter received by the Board no later than 10 days from the publication date of this notice.
- 3. You may request intervenor status if you wish to actively participate in the proceeding. Your request must be made by letter of intervention received by the Board no later than 10 days from the publication date of this notice. Your letter of intervention must include a description of how you are, or may be, affected by the proceeding; and if you represent a group, a description of the group and its membership. The Board may choose to hold either a written or an oral hearing. The Board will not hold a written hearing if a party satisfies the Board that there is good reason for holding an oral hearing. Your letter of intervention should indicate your preference for a written or oral hearing, and the reasons for that preference. The Board may order costs in this proceeding. You must indicate in your letter of intervention whether you expect to seek costs from the applicant and the grounds for your eligibility for costs. You must provide a copy of your letter of intervention to the applicant.

Other rate changes

The Electricity line of the standard bill is an estimate of the actual costs paid by Aurora Hydro Connections Ltd. for the electricity consumed by a customer. The distributor has deferral or variance accounts related to the commodity of electricity. At least every three months, the Board will review the status of the accounts and make an order determining whether and how the amounts in the accounts will be reflected in distribution rates. The distributor also has deferral or variance accounts not related to the commodity of electricity. At least once a year, the Board will review the status of the accounts and make an order determining whether and how the amounts in the accounts will be reflected in distribution rates. Only those who intervene in this rate application will receive prior notice of these reviews. If you wish to be notified of a proposed disposition of any variance, you should indicate this in your letter to the Board.

Need more information?

Further information on how to participate may be obtained by visiting the Board's Web site at www.oeb.gov.on.ca or by calling the Consumer Relations Centre at 1-877-632-2727.

How to contact us

In responding to this notice, please make reference to Board file number RP-2005-0020 /EB-2005-0337. It is also important that you provide your name, telephone number and postal address and, if available, an e-mail address and fax number. All communications should be directed to the attention of the Board Secretary at the address below, and be received by 4:45 pm on the required date.

For your convenience, the Board accepts letters of comment by either regular mail or email. The Board's e-mail address is Boardsec@oeb.gov.on.ca. Please include the application file reference number in the subject line of your e-mail.

Letters of intervention must be sent by regular mail to the address below. Please remember that you must send a copy of your request for intervention to the applicant at the address listed below.

ADDRESSES

Mr. John Zych **Board Secretary** Ontario Energy Board P.O. Box 2319 2300 Yonge Street Toronto, ON M4P 1E4 Mr. John Sanderson President and Chief Executive Officer Aurora Hydro Connections Ltd. P.O. Box 157 215 Industrial Parkway South Aurora, ON L4G 3H3

IF YOU DO NOT FILE A LETTER STATING YOUR WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING, THE BOARD MAY PROCEED WITHOUT YOUR PARTICIPATION AND YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO FURTHER NOTICE OF THE PROCEEDING.

Dated at Toronto September 21, 2005 ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Peter H. O'Dell Assistant Board Secretary

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Aurora resident Bob Callow, left, receives memento from Police Services Chairman David Barrow. Callow served on the board for nine years.

Aurora's Callow retires after nine years' service

His nine-year term on the York Regional Police Services Board was a "labour of love" according to Aurora's Bob Callow, one of the longest serving members of a Police Services Board

Referred to as a "passionate advocate" for a safer York Region by Police Services Chairman Dave Barrows, Callow was honoured at a Board meeting Wednesday prior to his retirement.

"I am very proud that in my nine-year tenure, York Region has become one of the safest communities in Canada," he said. "However there are still many issues requiring the immediate attention of all government levels. We have an exploding number of marijuana grow houses operating in our community, record incidences of gun violence close by in Toronto, a flawed parole system that lets dangerous offenders back on the streets to reoffend and a weak justice system that too often favours criminals over victims".

He commended the officers who everyday put themselves "in harm's way" to make York Region safer, as well as the police leadership and civilian staff for their work and dedication.

In his tribute remarks, Chairman Barrow said that, "you always asked the tough questions. You were always asking the Board and our Chief, what more could we do to make our communities safer?"

Armand La Chief commended Barge Callow for his work in helping to improve the diversity of the Police

"Much of what he has done has contributed greatly to our business plan, strategic plan, our incredible increases in staffing and an incredible change in diversity and how we now reflect to a larger extent than we ever did before, the community we serve," said Chief La

Callow vowed to continue his fight for safer communities and a balanced justice system in Ottawa.

He is running as the Conservative representative for the electoral district of Oak Ridges-Markham in the next federal election.

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AURORAN Restaurant Guide





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AURORAN SPORTS

Page 12 Week of October 4, 2005



Tigers vault into first place with five points in three games

It didn't take them long. The Aurora Tigers used a gruelling three-game weekend to jump into first place in the North Division of the Provincial Junior A Hockey League, a place coach Jerome Dupont hopes they'll maintain for the rest of the season.

Playing three contests in a mere 72 hours, Aurora settled for five of a possible six points to achieve the lofty firstplace spot.

The issue was settled Sunday, when dumped the second place Couchiching Terriers 8-4, after tying the expansion Seguin Bruins a day earliand defeating Huntsville 4-0 Friday night in Aurora.

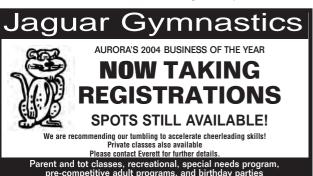
Aurora scored unanswered goals in the second period of the Couchiching game secure the victory.

The Terriers won the Please see page 13

They're first

The first minor hockey team to practise on Aurora's newest ice surface was the McAlpine Ford Aurora Tigers Novice AE squad. They hit the ice Friday as the first of two ice pads at Aurora's newest recreation complex on Wellington Street East, near Leslie, began operation. Still to come is an eight-lane swimming pool, expected to open early next year.

Auroran photo by Naomi Tobin





Position: Administrative Assistant Application Deadline: October 12, 2005

The Aurora Youth Soccer Club is currently seeking a highly motivated, professional, individual to fill the full-time, seasonal (8 month), position of Administrative Assistant. The Aurora Youth Soccer Club (AYSC) is a non-profit, community based, soccer club located in Aurora. The AYSC is the third largest soccer club in York Region with an active membership base of 4200. The AYSC offers indoor and outdoor soccer programs for boys and girls aged 4 - 64 years of age. Programs include: Recreational House Leagues, March Break and Summer Camps, Adult Leagues, Special Needs programs, Competitive Teams, Coach Clinics, Referee Clinics and a host of specialized

A detailed job description is available on the Club's website at: www.aysc.ca www.aysc.ca/>

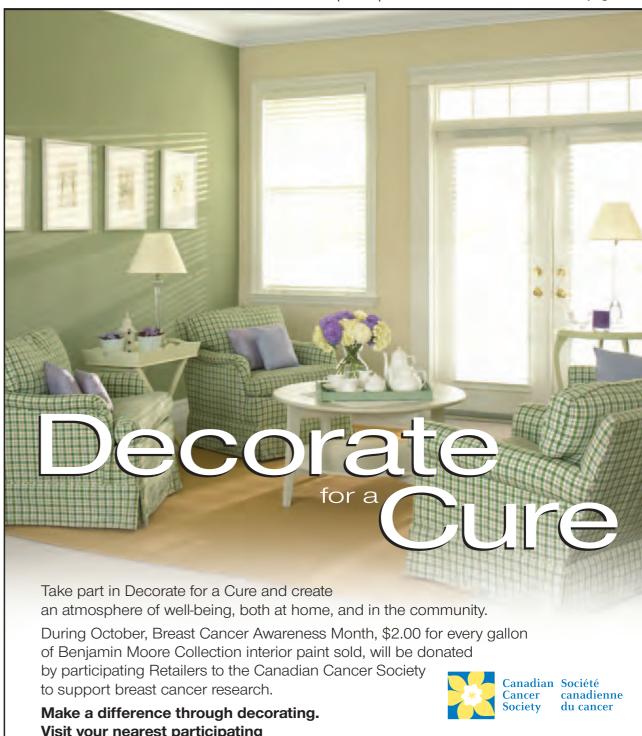
All interested individuals are asked to submit their letter of intent and resume to:

Management Committee Aurora Youth Soccer Club 220 Industrial Parkway South, Unit 14 Aurora, Ontario L4G 3V6

or email to: $\frac{\text{http://us.f542.mail.yahoo.com/ym/Compose?To=ljanit@aysc.ca}}{\text{to: }}$

ljanit@aysc.ca with the Subject Line: Administrative Assistant

We would like to thank all those that apply. Only those individuals who are chosen to interview will be contacted. Interviews will take place starting



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Janice Jeffs, left, joined with Victoria Irving and Mayor Tim Jones recently to officially reopen Aurora's only bowling alley. Now called Gateway Lanes and Cafe, the business is located at the corner of Edward Street and Dunning Avenue.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Mayor accepts award for town

Last week, in a Burlington ceremony, a group of organizations concerned about the future of youth acknowledged the Town of Aurora and eight other communities as the first recipients of the Play Works Youth Friendly Community Recognition program.

On behalf of Aurora, Mayor Tim Jones was presented with a Play Works Youth Friendly Community Recognition plaque recognizing the Town, local not-for-profits, private enterprises, and informal groups, as actively supporting and providing opportunities for the growth and development of youth through

The group rates youth as those between the ages of 13 and 19.

The program celebrates communities across Ontario that are taking steps to open doors to youth by reinvesting in youth play.

"Aurora strives to recognize youth as a vital part of our community and we are pleased to be able to provide so many wonderful programs and outlets for our young population," Mayor Jones said. "I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize the efforts of Chris Catania, the Town's Youth and Community Development Coordinator, because without his dedication, this award and many of these initiatives wouldn't be possible. I'd also like to thank Trevor Smith and Michael Taylor for their enthusiasm and for taking the time to attend the presentation on behalf of the Aurora Youth Action Committee."

Aurora was chosen from a number of applicants and had to meet several criteria in order to qualify for the program.

"The Town of Aurora recognizes and is supportive of the needs of youth and it is my job to make sure the programs and initiatives are put into action," Catania said. "I am pleased to work in a community that values the contributions of our youth and I will continue to work with the many volunteers and members of our Aurora Youth Action Committee so that Aurora continues to capitalize on the vibrancy and leadership of our young residents."

The Play Works Partnership is a group of organizations that are concerned about the future of youth and have joined forces to bring back the power of play to Ontario's young people.

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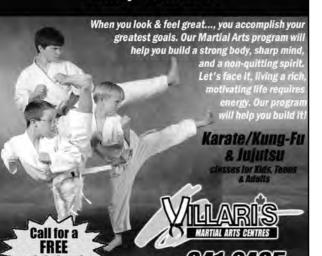
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Tigers win two games

From page 12

first and third periods scoring twice in each to Aurora's single markers.

"The two games on the road didn't seem to phase the Tigers," Dupont said. "We battled hard in every game and came away with five of six points,"

In the individual scoring race, Cale Tanaka has a slim lead over Captain Jeric Agosta.

Tanaka has three goals and 11 assists for 14 points, while Agosta holds down second spot with eight goals and four assists for 12 points.

Meanwhile, Josh Diamond has 10 points, followed by JoshMcNair with nine and Brandon Roshko with eight.

Goaltender Jeremie Dupont holds a slim goals against lead over Ryan Dickie. Dupont's GA is 3.12 while Dickie's is

Dickie has played 55 minutes more than Dupont.

Tigers' home next game is this Friday night when their up the road neighbours, the Newmarket Hurricanes, come to town.

Game time at the Aurora Community Centre is 7:30 p.m.

If you're interested in purchasing season tickets, contact Vivienne Bridgeford at (905)727-

Prices are \$190 for adults; \$120 for seniors and students; and a family of four package sells for \$495.

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14 - AURORAN, Week of October 4, 2005

Library square back to the drawing board

From page 1

to stress that the agency helped children at risk and asked that the agency's relationship with the town continue.

When questioned by Councillor Ron Wallace about rental fees, she replied that the new fee was three times the rate they were paying.

Kingsley Hadaway of the York Region Boxing Club also appeared before council to request 3,000 to 4,000 square feet to provide young people a place to go and learn to box as a means of developing self-confidence.

Reverend Matthew McKay of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church appeared before council to thank members of council for the allocation of space and explain that the request for space was not just from St. Andrew's.

In addition to his own church, he was speaking for the United, Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches to create an Ecumenical Outreach Centre in the library square, so the churches could coordinate their efforts in helping the people of Aurora.

Also appearing was Louise Jablonski of the Canadian Mental Health Association who said the New Directions facility on Yonge Street was overcrowded and more space was needed.

Milos Prykryl, a longtime supporter for a youth centre in Aurora, noted that the proposed Youth Centre had not been rated and should have had a high priority.

When the report and recommendations came before council, Councillor Evelyn Buck opposed the recommendations saying the report should be tabled for a full review as to the best use of the property and the community should be invited to discuss it with council.

When asked if she meant tearing down the buildings, she replied that would be part of the review, as money from the sale of Aurora Hydro would be available and whatever was done with the property, it should be done right.

Councillor Bill Hogg questioned how the Request of Interest was publicized and if the criteria had been included.

Staff replied that it had been a long process dating back to November, 2004, when council agreed the leases for the 20,000 square feet of space had to cover the \$377,420 cost to bring the buildings up to building code standards and council had agreed to the \$9 per square foot rental charge plus \$2 per square foot for utilities.

Councillor John West also opposed the report and recommendations primarily on the issue of parking.

Councillor Nigel Kean, a member of the Leisure Services Advisory Committee, defended the report by claiming the committee had a vision and the study had been going on for some time.

He said a good rating system had been prepared and the community had been involved.

He pointed out that the committee had tried to help people and it looked as if the whole project was going back to square one.

Councillor Ron Wallace pointed out that with the renovations to the Church Street School by the Aurora Historical Society and the development of the Cultural Centre and Museum it will be a show-piece attracting the public from far and wide but there's no place to park and council should take another look at the whole area

Mayor Tim Jones pointed out that the committee had tried to do what council directed them to do, but it was a short-term view and there was need for a long-term vision especially with regards to parking and he would support a defer-

When the vote was

called, only Councillor Kean supported the report with Mayor Jones and Councillors Buck, Hogg, Wallace and West in opposition.

Councillor Phyllis Morris was absent and Councillors Vrancic and Gaertner had declared a conflict of interest.

Councillor Buck recommended the report be received as information which was adopted.

Mayor Jones suggested that staff be asked to develop a long range vision, but CAO John Rogers expressed concern noting that staff would require some clear direction from council.

Councillor Vrancic broke his silence and said he was disappointed and disgusted with council's actions.

He said council had given clear directions to the Leisure Services Advisory Committee and staff as to what was wanted, and that council had approved various steps taken by the committee along the way.

Councillor Buck rose on a point of order claiming the vote had been taken and as there was no motion on the floor the debate was over.

When Mayor Jones agreed and tried to move on to the next agenda item, he was challenged by Councillor Vrancic who

pointed out the mayor had allowed Councillors Hogg and Kean to speak after the vote had been taken and he wanted the same consideration.

When Vrancic attempted to proceed he was interrupted by Councillor Buck on another point of order and from then on the meet-

ing degenerated into complete disorder with personal attacks, interruptions and more points of order.

Finally after order had been restored, it was agreed to refer the report to a future general committee meeting and to staff, with Councillor Vrancic opposed.

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oris and George return to the stage

Last August Theatre Aurora presented the Bernard Slade comedy "Same Time Next Year".

It was the story of Doris and George who met by chance over dinner at a resort lodge, a meeting which developed into a romantic rendezvous.

Although both are married to others, they agree to meet at the same place on the same weekend each year over a 24-year period.

The room remains the same but Doris and George are seen changing as the years pass.

They always appear on schedule but as time goes on, each has some personal crisis in their lives that the other helps him through.

Doris and George returned to Aurora last week.

Theatre Aurora is currently presenting "Same Time, Another Year', a sequel by Bernard Slade which continues the story of Doris and George as they celebrate their 25th anniversary as once-ayear lovers.

The story takes them through the next 17 years of their lives as they face crisis after crisis in their

personal lives, including the death of George's wife and his re-marriage to a younger woman, and his attempts to regain his youth.

His wife has a child before leaving him and he brings the little baby with him for his annual weekend getaway with Doris, much to her surprise.

Doris has her problems at home with her husband, Gil, and that relationship eventually ends in divorce.

As they face middle and old age over the years there are many hilarious and touching moments.

At times, you feel they are drifting apart, but at other times they are very close to each other.

The character George is well played by Dave Sansom in his second appearance with Theatre Aurora as he previously appeared as Manly Carstairs in "The Housekeeper" but has a long career in theatre, film and TV.

The role of Doris stars Jacquie Presly returns to the stage after a 15-year break.

She previously worked professionally in film and

television and appeared on stage across Canada.

She is an EMS Paramedic and was lured out of theatre retirement by Sergio Calderon, also a Paramedic, who directed both Bernard Slade plays at the Factory Theatre.

Calderon is a recent from graduate Bachelor of Fine Arts at Ryerson University and brings his years of education experience and performer to his role as

As a clever means of indicating the passage of time between the romantic getaways, a video is shown of the personalities and events that made the news during those

He also uses special effects created by Steven Wolfer such as pouring rain on stage seen through the windows and French doors of the suite.

Wolfer is also producer of the play.

Brad Poirier is makeup designer and hair stylist and, with the aid of make-up assistants Linda Carnegie and Sheila Cording, ages Doris and George with the passage of years.

"Same Time, Another

Year" is a comedy with wonderful lines by the playwright and well delivered by both performers, many touching

moments as they face old 5 to 8 and 12 to 15 with age.

It continues at the Factory Theatre Henderson Drive October curtain at 8 p.m.

Call the theatre box office at 905-727-3669 for tickets.



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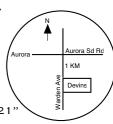
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AURORA RESIDENTS



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IS COMING SOON! PREPARE FOR A CRISIS NOW! LEARN HOW!

To help kick off Fire Prevention Week, October 9 - 15, The Town of Aurora is running a drawing contest open to all Aurora residents ages 4 - 12.

To enhance the education process that our firefighters focus on through their Fire Prevention efforts, the Town feels it is important to also reinforce the idea that residents need to be properly prepared for any type of disaster, be it a fire or other danger that may be threatening their health and safety.

As part of the Town's ongoing Emergency Preparedness Public Education Campaign, the Town is running a children's drawing contest that will kick off during Fire Prevention Week.

For full contest details, please check The Auroran the week of October 10 and check the Tuesday, October 11 issue of the Town's Notice Board page in the Era Banner.

To learn more about Emergency Preparedness and Fire Prevention, please visit www.e-aurora.ca and click on "Live" and then "Central York Fire Services".



A group of car buffs who display their vehicles every Sunday night in Aurora's Canadian Tire parking lot raised funds to assist Aurora's seniors with their new centre. Paul and Lorie Tiff, left and Paul and Darlene Lamb, right, made the presentation to Flo Murray, centre.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Bloom discussion has a rosy finish

If all goes well Aurora will participate in the "Community in Bloom" program next year but approval was given by Aurora Councillors last week only after a lengthy debate.

Rebecca Beaton appeared before council in support of a Leisure Services Advisory Committee recommendation that the town enter the flower program at the provincial level.

The Canadian-based non-profit program looks at floral displays, landscapes, urban forests, community involvement and just plain tidiness.

Ms Beaton suggested the program be community driven, incorporating residential, industrial and commercial participants with a maximum contribution from the Town of \$750.

Participation in the program was originally suggested by the Yonge Street Sub-Committee of the Economic Development Advisory Committee as a means of making the municipality more attractive and to help generate civic pride.

She pointed out that most of the municipalities in the region participated in the program at both the provincial and national levels.

She requested that a

program committee be established as soon as possible and council approve the \$750 for registration and other program requirements.

Originally the request was for \$1,000 to include accommodation and expenses for the judges, but Howard Johnson Aurora agreed to be a sponsor and provide the accommodation reducing the request to \$750.

Councillor John West said that more information was required about the program and he wanted to know what other costs might be involved.

He was supported by Councillor Evelyn Buck who claimed other municipalities had spent thousands of dollars on the program and the \$750 would be wasted unless Aurora was prepared to do the same.

Most members of council, however, supported the recommendation to participate and to approve the expenditure of \$750 to register.

When questions were asked where the money was coming from, Councillor Damir Vrancic said that as he had not used any of his convention allowance, it could be used to cover the \$750 and council adopted the recommendation

Council okays excess hours, overtime policy

A policy addressing the issue of additional hours worked by staff over and above their regular 35 hour work week was originally implemented in 1986.

The policy has been amended over the years to respond to collective bargaining and legislative issues as required.

According to the Employment Standards Act any staff member must be paid at time-and-one-half for working beyond 44 hours per week.

This compensation is

periodically provided where due to circumstances the workload exceeds the normal work

On a more frequent basis, staff work beyond the normal 35-hour week but less than 44 hours. Under these circumstances staff is permitted to accumulate the extra hours as lieu time.

The town's existing policy provides for full-time non-union employees to accumulate up to a maximum of 50 hours lieu time

n a vear

This banked time can be taken as time off at a later date as straight time.

A number of staff in supervisory and clerical positions work beyond the 50 hour lieu time maximum per year, accumulating 100 to 200 hours per year but are not compensated for hours beyond the 50-hour maximum.

According to the town's external labour relations legal counsel a number of recent court decisions indicate the town is legally

obligated under the Employment Standards Act to compensate its employees for all hours worked.

Staff recommended that the town's policy be amended to increase the accumulated limit for lieu time from 50 hours to a maximum of 70 hours per year, and that any time worked beyond 70 hours be paid at straight time.

The estimated compensation liability costs for staff having worked beyond the 50 hours lieu time based on 2004 numbers was estimated to be

70 200

With the implementation of the 70-hour cap it is estimated that the liability for the town would be approximately \$45,000

using the 2004 salary grades.

Council approved the amended excess hours and overtime policy as submitted.



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Aurora may be divided

From page 1

point out that five-digit addresses on Yonge Street meant little to people trying to find specific businesses.

From Lake Ontario to Holland Landing the numbering system made it difficult for people to know the exact location of a business.

He proposed that Yonge Street in Aurora be divided into three districts, so that retailers and other businesses would have an easier time explaining the location of their shops or places of business.

Because of the town's history, he proposed the districts be called Fleury,

Museum and Hillary.

He suggested Fleury be the section from the Chamber of Commerce office at Industrial Parkway to Kennedy; from Kennedy to Wellington be named Museum and Hillary would cover Yonge north to the St. John's Sideroad.

"Some day those names could become subway stations," he said, referring to Aurora's rapid growth.

Economic Development Officer Dino Lombardi will present signage samples at an upcoming meeting.





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Fashion Show

Aurora's Kaitlyn Lenchak, centre, ambassador and poster child for Easter Seal Kids, joins with Susan Boyne, from Easter Seals, left, and Pam Martin, owner of Creative Colours in the Aurora Shopping Centre, as they work out plans for next week's fall fashion show being held October 12 at DiNardo's The Mansion. Tickets are available by calling 905-727-0552.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Environment Committee has new logo approved

Aurora Council last approved revised logo and website concept presented Public Awareness/Education Sub-Committee of the **Environmental Advisory** Committee.

Representatives of sub-committee the appeared before council to present a video overview of the logo and the concept of the website and provided examples explaining why a committee website was necessary.

Committee information will be provided by the print media, information sessions sponsored by the committee and the website.

A section would be included under the "What is EAC" section of involved the website on how resi- Environmental Advisory become Committee initiatives.



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Council puts deadline on Petro Canada plan

At last week's Aurora Council meeting approval was given to a recommendation of the Environment al Advisory Committee that if an acceptable remediation plan as previously agreed to by Petro Canada was not received in the next two weeks, the town take whatever enforcement action necessary.

In January, 2004, town officials discovered a fuel leak near the Petro Canada station Industrial Parkway South and asked Petro Canada and the Ministry of the Environment to investigate.

An on-site investigation by Petro Canada found a mixture of gasoline and diesel fuel oil in the area of their underground storage tanks and along their east property line.

Further investigation by the town found diesel oil in a nearby hydrant valve, resulting in the hydrant being sealed off by the town's works department.

This resulted in Petro Canada extending the investigation outside their property line into the street allowance.

By May, 2004, Petro Canada had installed monitoring wells, staff were collecting and evaluating information and council was advised a report would be submitted when all the information had been collected.

In August that year staff expressed concern about the extent of the contamination and asked Petro Canada to carry out more work in trying to find the cause of the contamination.

Two months later Director of Public Works Wayne Jackson updated members of Environmental Advisory Committee with results of the investigation.

He told committee members that he had received an e-mail from Petro Canada advising that they would be forwarding a report in the near future

regarding the monitoring of the area.

The committee recommended council send a letter to the Minister of the Environment informing her of the town's concerns regarding the contamination, endorsed.

The Ministry was also asked to support town efforts in obtaining copies of the laboratory reports pertaining to the area.

It was also suggested the Petro Canada station be closed until experts could determine if fuel was leaking into the area groundwater.

At the December, 2004, council meeting, Councillor Phyllis Morris asked if a response had been received from the Ministry of the Environment and staff replied that nothing had been sent.

It was also noted that the Director of Public Works was disappointed that no additional boreholes were being monitored which limited the town's ability to track the migration of the contamination.

It was also explained the town was not privy to information Petro Canada obtained from their review of the incident.

In January, adopted a recommendation from Environmental Advisory Committee that representatives from Petro Canada and the Ministry of the Environment be invited to appear at a council meeting and staff continue to resolve the issue.

A month later it was agreed a letter be requested from the Ministry of the Environment on their involvement to date, results and future involvement and that Petro Canada be asked to provide conclusive independent engineering findings that the current tank installations were not leaking.

Council also wanted the

Environment, the Ministry Commercial and Consumer Affairs and any other regulatory agency that retains audit records that indicate the amount, if any, of petroleum loss, to review the audit records of the Industrial Parkway South property from 2001 and to make the information available.

A letter was received from the Ministry of the Environment advising that the Ministry files do not contain audit files that relate to petroleum loss at the property and suggesting that the town continue to work with the Ministry's York/Durham District

In April, Ed Harvey and Graham Freed of Petro Canada attended a meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee and fielded questions on type and age of equipment used, specifically the tank line system and the leak detector system, how were the functionality of the sensors verified, the qualifications of the contractor and what were the normal regulatory/industry standards.

Following the meeting it was noted that Petro Canada offered to take steps for remediation, but there was still concern on the part of committee members as to the extent of the contamination.

Petro Canada officials admitted there was contamination on the site, although the extent of which and from where it was coming from had not been determined.

No timetable was given as to when the cleanup would begin.

In May the committee requested a status report detailing cleanup plans and timetable cleanup plans be submitted by July

As it was not received council has asked the remediation plan be received by October 15.



RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

When education board met in a rec room

Today education is big business as the York Region District School Board, with a large education centre in Aurora employs hundreds of employees.

It was much different from Aurora just over 40 years

In 1963, Bud Gilbert was chairman of the Aurora Public School Board, consisting of a total of six members, serving a two-year term with three elected each year.

Administration was provided by a part-time secretary-treasurer and board meetings were held in his recreation room.

Trustees served without remuneration, as it was considered an honour to serve.

Without full-time staff, trustees had to interview and hire teachers in conjunction with the school principal and the inspector from the Department of Education.

In addition trustees had to look after personnel problems, do the purchasing, review plans of subdivisions and a myriad of other functions.

By 1964 the board had hired its first full-time administor

Modern educators and trustees might learn a lesson from the past by getting rid of a lot of the supervisors and letting the principals run their schools!

YORK REGION AHEAD OF ITS TIME

In March, 2003, Liberal Leader Dalton McGuinty made an election promise to ban junk food in elementary schools as a means of helping to instill good choices and good values for kids when it came to eating.

Vending machines that dispensed soda pop, chocolate bars and potato chips would be removed from the schools and daily activity would be mandatory, as 25 per cent of children were overweight and childhood obesity had doubled over the last 20 years.

But, believe it or not, by 1980 Aurora's high school students were making the transition from French fries with gravy to healthy low-calorie salads for lunch.

It was the result of the school board's two-year nutrition program and a change in emphasis in the foods served in high schools.

A comparative study of student food purchasing habits during 1978 and 1979 in regional schools revealed French fry consumption was down 64 per cent, while

special sandwiches and salads were up 65 and 36 per cent respectively.

The sale of hamburgers was down 20 per cent.

Trustees of the York Region Board of Education voted to spend \$2,800 in 1980 to continue to promote nutritional meals.

RESIDENTS PROTEST BACKYARD BARRIER

In November, 1986, residents of Moorcrest Drive came to council to request that the 16-foot berm at the rear of their property be removed.

They claimed it took up most of their backyard and created the feeling of being boxed in.

Council explained that in order to get the subdivision approved CN Rail insisted on the berm and a six-foot cement wall on top of it to block train noise and protect residents from a potential derailment. The berm ran along the CN right-of-way abutting the subdivision.

Homeowners claimed they were not warned of the railway barrier by the home builder when they purchased their homes earlier in the year.

This was denied by the home builder who said home purchasers were warned through a clause in their purchase agreement and through a subdivision model in the sales office.

Mayor John West said that he had received a phone call from an angry Moorcrest Drive homeowner who complained about being wakened up in the middle of the night and he wanted the town to do something about it.

The mayor explained that the tracks had been there for more than 100 years and the homeowner should have been aware of them before purchasing his home.

WHEN THE REGION CONSULTED

Back in May, 1992, when there was a question as to whether the region should contribute \$200,000 to enter a private/public partnership to keep Buttonville Airport open, regional officials consulted with local councils.

But in January, 2005, when the region's finance committee approved a donation for \$500,000 for the Tsunami disaster, not only did they neglect to consult with local councils about the expenditure they didn't even bother with regional council, except through a telephone poll.

On a 5-2 vote, Aurora Council supported a motion by Councillor Evelyn Buck to seek legal advice and request the Minister of Municipal Affairs to investigate the region's gift and the process in which it was made.

Whether the request was ever made or not is unknown but to date there has been no response from the Minister in public session or no follow up action by any member of council.

More recently the region submitted a bid for the 2014 Commonwealth Games, which are expected to cost in the billions of dollars.

Once again, no consultation with local councils, at least in public session, and as regional council was off for the summer, it is not known if formal approval was given.

So much for consultation with local councils and taxpayers, who are required to meet the levy regional council imposes, without question.



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A detailed job description is available on the Club's website at: www.aysc.ca < http://www.aysc.ca/>

All interested individuals are asked to submit their letter of intent and resume to:

Management Committee Aurora Youth Soccer Club 220 Industrial Parkway South, Unit 14 Aurora, Ontario L4G 3V6

or email to: http://us.f542.mail.yahoo.com/ym/Compose?To=ljanit@aysc.ca ljanit@aysc.ca with the Subject Line: Administrative Assistant

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