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Vol. 6 No. 7

Week of December 6, 2005

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Hillary House Players salute the Veterans

This Saturday, December 10th the Hillary House Players will present their annual evening of Christmas stories and songs, but this year's program will be a bit different.

In honour of 2005, the Year of the Veteran, the program will focus on wartime Christmas stories and some of the music of that time.

Songs and carols will be accompanied by piano, violin, and guitar, while the magic of storytelling will take the audience back to the days when the Christmas spirit was kept alive despite the fears and hardships of war.

Audience members will also have a chance to see Hillary House by candle and lamplight,

beautifully decorated for the season.

Festive desserts, included in the price of admission, will be served in the historic ballroom after the performance.

Tickets are \$10 per person and, because seating is limited, should be reserved in advance by calling 905-727-4015.

The event begins at 7.30 p.m.

Hillary House is a National Historic Site located at 15372 Yonge Street in Aurora, just north of Wellington.

It is owned and maintained by the Aurora Historical Society.

Proceeds from Hillary House Players' performances help support the restoration and operation of this unique Aurora landmark.



Book sale

The ever-popular Aurora Optimist annual book sale brought scores of shoppers to the Aurora Public Library last week. More than 15,000 books were on sale and patrons lined up before the event started in order to take advantage of the deals. Experienced shoppers brought boxes with them to carry purchases. Library benefits from the proceeds of the event.

Auroran photo by David Falconer



Hundreds of residents turned out last week as the Town of Aurora held its first tree-lighting ceremony in front of the Municipal Building. Singers from the Aurora School of Music (inset) entertained and Santa Claus showed up for a brief visit.

Auroran photos by David Falconer

Noon crossing guards removed

Last August, Aurora's Traffic Safety Advisory Board (TSAB) received the Annual School Crossing Guard Report and it noted a further report regarding the need of crossing guards during noon hours would be submitted to council.

That happened recently and the report recommended that beginning in September, 2006, school crossing guards be removed at certain intersections.

Crossings affected include Aurora Heights Drive and Haida Drive; Aurora Heights Drive and Crawford Rose Drive; McClellan Way and Tradewind Terrace; Orchard Heights Boulevard and Hill Drive; and Stone Road and Crow's Nest Gate.

Councillor John West explained that schools have different lunch times resulting in the guard being required to remain at a crossing for at least three hours and it was difficult attracting school guards.

At some intersections only two children were involved, he said.

Councillor Phyllis Morris suggested school boards should be responsible for the crossing guards.

Councillor West, a former school trustee, replied that such

requests had been made in the past, but were refused by the boards because they are only responsible for students on school property.

Councillor Ron Wallace suggested reconsidering using Grade 8 students to assist younger children across the road, as it was when the Elmer the Safety Elephant program was in effect.

Councillor Evelyn Buck asked about lunch facilities at the school and if such facilities were available, the parents should be encouraged to provide students with lunches to keep

them in schools.

Councillor Nigel Kean questioned the saving of discontinuing the guards if there was a danger to the children and whether the saving was worth it.

Councillor West said the reason for the report wasn't the money but a town standard on the car/student ratio and gaps in the traffic that weren't being met.

He noted that for two months during the summer, students crossed the streets on their own when guards weren't available.

The TSAB report was endorsed.

The Russians are coming!!!

Armed with some of the best junior talent in the world, the Russian Junior "A" All-Stars Hockey Club have Aurora on their list during a six-game exhibition tour over the Christmas holiday.

They'll meet the Provincial Junior A Tigers at 2.30 p.m. January 1st at the Aurora Community Centre.

"What a way to start the new year by playing a team that is likely better than any we'd see in our league," said Tiger Coach Jerome Dupont. "The teams we faced while we toured Russia in the Fall were so skilled and so well coached that if we're not ready to bring our "A" game it could be embarrassing."

Tickets for the event are currently on sale and can be purchased by contacting the team at 905-841-3627.

They sell at \$15 each.

The Russian team heads home January 4.



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COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

CONTINUING

Winter parking restrictions are now in effect until next April 15th from 2 to 6 a.m. for snowplowing activities.

"Martha's Table" offers comfort food and a sense of community at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, corner of Mosley and Victoria Streets. Available are hot soup, sandwiches, and dessert in the hall. Church-sponsored initiative runs every Thursday.

Aurora Agricultural Society (organizer of the Aurora Fair & Horse Show) meets on the second Tuesday of every second month, at 7 p.m., at the Aurora Community Centre. New members welcome. Next meeting is Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2006. For more information, call 905-713-6773 or info@aurorafair.ca, or see our website at www.aurorafair.ca.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Queen's York Rangers Army Cadet Corps, boys and girls, ages 12 to 18. Camping, canoeing, target shooting. Aurora squadron meets every Friday evening. For more information, call 905-726-8600.

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.townsofyourk.org or phone Elena Silaev at 905-726-9750.

Meditation classes every Wednesday evening, 7 to 9 p.m., at Needles & Knit Wool Shop, 15040 Yonge Street.

Stellar Productions and Howard Johnson presents "The Paisley Sisters", a Christmas Special at the Queen Elizabeth Dinner Theatre December 9, 16 and 17 with buffet dinner starting at 6.30 and showtime 8.15 p.m. Call 905-727-1312 to reserve.

DECEMBER 8

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Business After Five gathering from 5.30 to 7.30 p.m. at the Sunrise Senior Living building, 3 Golf Links Drive. Event is free. Call 905-727-7262 to register.

Amnesty International is holding a Write-

a-Thon at Trinity Anglican Church from 7 to 9 p.m. Drop in and send letters or cards to comfort those who are unjustly imprisoned or face/experience torture.

DECEMBER 10

Join the Hillary House Players at 7.30 p.m. for an evening of readings, music and Christmas treats. As seating is limited, purchase tickets in advance by calling 905-727-4015. Cost is \$10 person.

From 10 a.m. until noon, Hillary House will host the Aurora Museum's Christmas Workshop for children. Advance registration is necessary by calling 905-727-8991.

York Symphony Orchestra presents "Opera Spectacular at Trinity Anglican Church, 8 p.m. Guest artists include Deanna Hendriks, Soprano; Chantelle Grant, Mezzo Soprano; and Jan Vaculik, Baritone.

DECEMBER 14

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with the Ontario Pharmacists' Association, presents a free seminar for seniors "Safe Medication Use for Heart Health". 10 to 11.30 a.m., Lebovic Room. Pre-register at the adult information desk or phone 905-

727-9493, option 4.

DECEMBER 17

York Symphony Orchestra presents a Holiday Concert at Trinity Anglican Church, 3.30 and 8 p.m. This ever popular audience sing-a-long features full symphony orchestra accompaniment.

DECEMBER 19

Aurora Writers Group Monthly meeting, 7.30 p.m., Aurora Town Hall. New members 18 years of age and older are welcome. For further information, call Malcolm at 905-898-5484.

JANUARY 6

Aurora Agricultural Society (Aurora Fair & Horse Show) annual general meeting at The Rising Sun Lodge, 57 Mosley Street, 8 p.m.

JANUARY 19

The Wellington Gallery will hold Class Act II, a juried exhibition of student works until February 28. One hundred pieces will be accepted for consideration and there will be feedback from one of the three jurors. Prizes of \$1,000, \$500 and \$250 will be provided plus a \$500 donation to the art department of the first place winner's school. Entry fee is \$90. For more information call 905-751-0066.

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Aurora Councillor Nigel Kean, centre, was the recipient of an award from the Olde Aurora Ratepayers' Association for his efforts in maintaining downtown Aurora. Making the presentation are association executive members Dan Revington, left, and Ken Pearson. Kean's leadership organizing the popular summer Farmers' Market was acknowledged by the group during a gathering at Hillary House last Thursday evening.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Theatre Aurora seeks volunteers

If you have ever dreamed about becoming involved with a community theatrical group, this is your opportunity.

Theatre Aurora would love to welcome you as a new volunteer and member.

In producing a play, there is an extensive "to do" list so that there is something for everyone even if you have no experience in theatre.

Many volunteers start by serving coffee or handing out programs.

Some remain serving coffee and other front of house activities while others get the bug and become involved in other aspects of producing a drama or a musical.

If you have an eye for colour, shading and atmosphere, you might be a natural lighting designer, or if you enjoy fixing things, working with your hands and vis-

iting flea markets, you would make a perfect props manager.

If you are a good organizer, you may be interested in producing a play with its many details.

If you are a little bit on the bossy side, stage management could be your role.

If you love to sew or paint you would enjoy costumes or set design and if you are an artistic visionary with excellent people skills being a director could be your

future.

But if you're the type of person who loves make believe, practicing accents and have a good memory, you may be Theatre Aurora's next leading actor or actress.

Theatre Aurora has been in existence since 1958 and is proud of its longevity and grateful to the town and its citizens for their loyal support over the years.

Be a part of this award-winning Theatre Aurora family by calling 905-727-3669.



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Liquor applications await resident input

Unless the applications are rejected as a result of submissions by residents, Aurora will have two new liquor outlets in 2006.

The Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario has received applications for a liquor licence under the Liquor Licence Act for the new Cineplex Odeon Aurora Cinemas on Bayview Avenue and the new St. Louis Bar and Grill now under construction on Hollandview Trail.

Any resident of Aurora may make a written submission as to whether the issuance of a licence is in the best interests of the residents.

As the Commission provides copies of any objections to the applicant, anonymous objections are not considered.

Submissions must include name, address and telephone number.

If a petition is submitted, the contact person must be identified.

Last date for submissions for the theatre (which celebrates its official opening this week) is December 23 and for the bar and grill December 24.

Main purpose of the information is to assess eligibility for the issuance of a liquor sales licence.

Submissions should be sent to Licensing and Registration, Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario, 20 Dundas Street West, 7th Floor, Toronto,

Ontario, M5G 2N6.

Meanwhile, a new LCBO outlet, planned for Bayview Avenue, just south of the St. John's Sideroad, is still on

the books, but construction has yet to start, meaning the outlet will definitely not be ready in time for the Christmas season.

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Poor Richard

Developers skip local councils to get to OMB

*Local planning is a farce,
Council control has been lost;
Developers and the OMB,
Ensure they don't bear the cost!*
Poor Richard's Scrapbook

More than a year ago, Aurora Council authorized a community survey of town provided core services to assist in long term planning and budget preparation at a cost of \$14,000.

A telephone survey was carried out last March to which 626 respondents answered 112 questions. The problems of urban growth and property taxes were noted as the most important issues.

A total of 68 per cent of respondents expressed concerns about traffic congestion and suggested that development be slowed down or stopped, but this is easier said than done.

Aurora's strategic plan, among other goals, calls for a well managed and fiscally responsible municipality and continued well planned growth.

Many residents, as they drive along Bayview Avenue or Wellington Street East, and see the rape of the land wonder what happened to the strategic plan.

The old argument that new growth brings assessment and lowers property taxes is a myth, as due to actions taken by the province growth no longer pays for growth and every new residential subdivision is subsidized to some extent by existing taxpayers.

A balanced assessment base is no longer possible as residential development far outpaces industrial/commercial development, so that more and more of the cost of operating the municipality falls on homeowners.

With all these factors affecting new development and the added burden on the residential property owner, you wonder why councils keep on approving subdivision after subdivision, especially since there is a shortage of water and sewer services.

The answer came loud and clear in Toronto recently.

Speaking to a room full of architects, Toronto developer Howard Cohen told his audience what he thought of municipal planning and politicians.

He said the best strategy was to ignore municipal government and this wasn't hard to do.

"Frankly, what happens at city hall doesn't matter," he said. "What matters is what happens at the OMB" (Ontario Municipal Board).

In the old days, the OMB was completely independent of the province as members were appointed for life and most had some municipal experience either as a politician or a staff member.

Normally, if a municipality had a well-prepared official plan and zoning bylaw, the board ruled in favour of the municipality.

Hearings were fair and unbiased, as hearing officers listened to the public and elected officials.

In many cases developers in those days were willing to negotiate with the municipality rather than face the delay and decision of the OMB.

Today the OMB is a much-despised quasi-judicial body of political appointees that has the final say over development in the province.

Created in 1897, there is nothing like it in North America.

In the eyes of many it has become a Star Chamber, a secretive agency whose anti-democratic judgments are made behind closed doors.

It was the David Peterson government that started the change.

After many years of Progressive Conservative governments, he was concerned about the membership of the OMB and amended the legislation to a three-year term, subject to re-appointment.

Then the Bob Rae New Democratic Party government eliminated the right of appeal with their 1994 amendments to the Planning Act, making the OMB the supreme court of land use planning in Ontario.

Then, in 2001, in response to a request from the Urban Development Institute, who claimed that some municipalities were holding up subdivision applications, the Mike Harris government imposed the 90-day rule.

The amendment provided that if a developer did not receive a response to an application within 90 days, an appeal could be launched direct to the OMB.

As a result developers had no incentive to negotiate with local councils.

In 2003, the Dalton McGuinty Liberal government announced plans to make radical changes to the controversial OMB by making it more concerned with protecting the environment and municipalities are still waiting.



The class photograph, taken in 1951, shows Grade 7 and 8 students at the Aurora Public (Church Street) School. Gilbert MacDonald, middle row left, was the teacher and the class held 23 students. They are, front row, left to right, Chelvy Buker, Johanne Smith, Wanda Ellis, Lorraine Zimmerman, Rosalie Hadfield, Joan Holder, Vera Egan; second row, left to right, Moon Ing, Clifford Murrell, Bob Copland, William Jans, Joanne Teasdale, Anne Billing, Peter Ardill, John Bunn; back row, left to right, Donald Fitchett, Ronald Fortier, Bruce Gunton, Robert McGann, David Waite, Herb MacKenzie, Thomas Hulse and Paul Babcock. The photo was supplied by Wanda (Ellis) Eveleigh of Cookstown.

Letters to the Editor

This resident rejects idea for ward system...

To the editor,

I must compliment the recent pro-ward letter writers.

They provided some very good arguments in support of a ward system, but I'm afraid they've not convinced me.

I agree with Mr. Killer's assertion that there is an underlying perception that new residents favour a ward system, whereas the old timers don't, and it's unfortunate because regardless of when you made Aurora your home, you are part of a community, in the best sense of the word.

Isn't that why we all chose to live here?

I'm sure it wasn't the high

taxes that drew you here.

If you agree that we are a community, it shouldn't matter whether your neighbour lives across the street or on the other side of town.

There is also a practical reason why we cannot have a ward system.

Historically, the older established areas have high voter turnout.

It's an unfortunate state of affairs when just 31 per cent of eligible Aurora voters took the time to cast a vote in the last municipal election.

The highest concentration of voter turnout is consistently in the established areas of town.

Those voters are like letter carriers; neither sleet,

snow nor natural disaster will keep them away from a polling station. And who can blame them? They've put up with so much, for so long.

New residents, on the other hand, are not quite as zealous.

Whether it's because they're not as familiar with the issues, or the players, who knows.

The point is, and I say this only half in jest, depending on the ward boundaries, some areas of town might not have a candidate for council, let alone anyone to vote for them.

Talk about under representation!

To the ward system, I say nay.

To the 69 per cent of you

who did not vote, the rest of us consider it our civic duty and if nothing else, we've provided you with some measure of community representation.

Rebecca Beaton
Aurora

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Ron Wallace
ron@auroran.com
Dick Illingworth
dick@auroran.com
Photography
David Falconer
Advertising
Bob Ince
bob@auroran.com
Diane Buchanan
diane@auroran.com
Production
Cynthia Proctor
cynthia@auroran.com
Main Number
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Classifieds
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Editorial Department
rwall9999@aol.com
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To the editor,

Given the current population and geographical layout (rectangular) of our town, I do not support a ward system for Aurora.

I believe that such a system would help to accelerate the loss of our "small, friendly town" atmosphere.

I like that sense and I don't think there is a need to help its demise.

It is a nice feeling to walk in our downtown and see people you know.

In my points below, I am assuming that a councillor representing a ward would actually live in that ward.

(To be represented by only one councillor and to

have that be an "absentee councillor" implies a lack of ownership of neighbourhood issues. As well, what if a neighbourhood had no one interested in running for office? Would that part of town have no representation on council?)

As a citizen, I like:

* to think that all councillors have the best interests of the whole town at heart when making decisions, not just those of the neighbourhood in which they live.

* to know that if there are two excellent councillor candidates living in my neighbourhood, they both could be elected to office, not just one of them.

As a councillor, I

would want:

* to function as one team of eight councillors looking out for the interests of the whole town, not as eight teams of one councillor each with his or her narrow neighbourhood focus.

* to be, and appear to be, approachable by any citizen with a concern, not just by those in my neighbourhood.

I think it is important for all eight of the councillors to care about the town as a whole, working toward the betterment of all who live and work here. Let's remain in "good company".

Bob McRoberts
Aurora



Mayor's Report

By Tim Jones

Character Community update in Aurora

Just a few years ago, the Town of Aurora declared itself a Character Community along with every other municipality in York Region.

York Region became the first Regional Character Community in Canada.

As a refresher, this initiative is one in which elected officials, as well as community leaders from all segments, including education, business, police, and community service, to name a few, come together to create opportunities to reinforce and recognize good character in both work and home environments.

Over the past few years, the genesis of Character programming has been growing in our school system, training and reinforcing good character among students.

The Public Board of Education has a program entitled "Character Matters" and all students have participated in events and activities which support the positive character attributes that are advocated by the Board. A similar program exists in the Catholic schools.

The Character Council has held two-day conferences in April of 2004 and 2005 at the Sheraton Hotel in Markham, each with more than 300 registered in attendance with speakers including Michael Brandwein, Gord Cressy, Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Premier Dalton McGuinty and several others.

These conferences gave people the history and the tools to go out into their communities, organizations, businesses and with their own families to practice good character.

A third Character Conference is planned for April, 2006, at the Sheraton.

The Character Council has also held Character business luncheons in the Region.

In 2004, Jim Hayhurst, Sr., author of the Right Mountain, described how his belief in positive character attributes helped him in his bid to climb Mount Everest.

In 2005, the Character business luncheon was held November 4th featuring Gary Robert, best-selling author, columnist, speaker and consultant at DiNardo's Banquet Hall, here in Aurora.

From these events, we have successfully launched a Character business initiative, a Character Organization initiative and we have also published a book entitled "Building Character" which is available for \$12.95.

The Character business initiative requires that a representative of your business attend an introductory session on Character and that you advocate good character through your business.

The business will receive numerous Character promotional posters and materials as well as the right to use the Character logo on their material and a subscription to our bi-monthly newsletter as well as access to training resources for the business.

There are also discounted fees for Character events such as the conference and business luncheon, and a copy of the Character promotional video.

I am pleased to say there are 53 businesses registered to date with a number from Aurora.

The Character Organizations' initiative is quite similar to the business initiative other than it is geared to volunteer community organizations.

This initiative is fairly new and there are almost 30 organizations already enrolled.

Among the municipalities, there is a networking process called the Character Coalition.

Representatives of each municipality in York Region meet periodically to review what each other is doing to promote Character in the workplace. In Aurora, we celebrated Character Day November 19th with a management/staff hockey game and BBQ for all staff over their lunch hour.

We also formally recognized staff who demonstrated good character.

Finally, the Character Council has just launched a book entitled "Building Character".

Don Cousins, Mayor of Markham, and co-chair of the Region's Character Council along with myself, wrote the introduction.

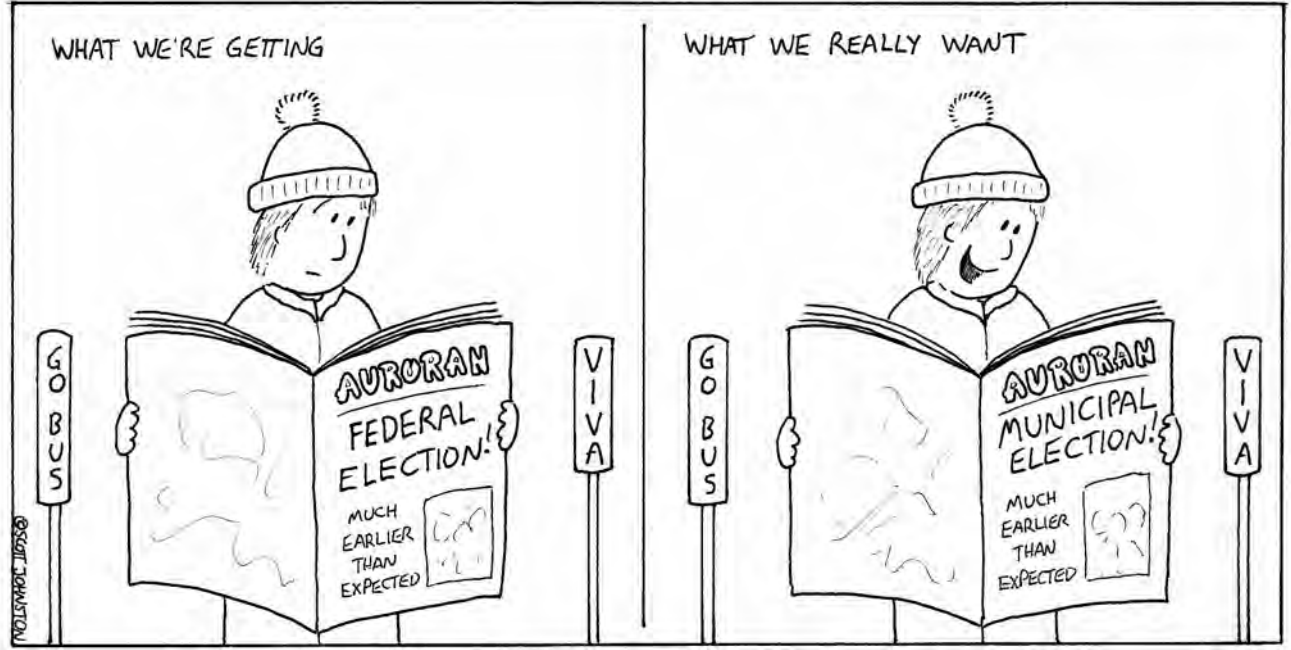
Wendel Clark, former Toronto Maple Leaf captain and Character Champion for the Region, wrote the preface, and I had the privilege of writing the first chapter, with 11 other chapters being authored by members of the Character Council.

This book will be sold across Canada to increase the awareness of Character Communities and raise funds for our Character initiative.

If you wish to know more about the Character initiative, please visit our website at www.charactercommunity.com

If you see something in this column that you wish to respond to, I welcome your comments, either through the paper, to the Town Hall by mail - Box 1000, Aurora, Ontario, L4G 6J1, or e-mail at tjones@e-aurora.ca

Macell's Corners



Letter to the Editor

Chordsmen performance “inspired”: reader

To the editor,

I have written this letter to draw your attention to the inspired performance of the Upper Canada Chordsmen.

“Canteen Capers” presented by the Upper Canada Chordsmen at the Newmarket Theatre recently was an outstanding success.

Carol Appleton, the new director of two years, has raised the bar musically of the Upper Canada Chordsmen.

They sang with feeling, enthusiasm and provided a quality vocal music performance.

Carol's sparkling personality and infectious smile are contagious and inspired these men to achieve the coveted most improved Chorus trophy at the Sporing District Convention 2004.


They accept many invitations to sing in the community.

As a result they were able to present \$10,000 to the Speech Therapy Room at Southlake Regional Health Centre.


Their recent concert on November 22 in Sunnybrook hospital was enthusiastically received by the veterans and their guests.

Visit their website, www.chordsmen.ca, or drop by the Old Firehall on Main Street, Newmarket, at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday nights to find out more.

Margaret Pierson
Aurora



Cathy's Corner



The story of Oh, Roarora!

Somewhere, in a parallel universe, there is a purely fictional small town called "Roarora".

It got its name from the word "roar" as in: "Elect me, and hear me roar!" - an election promise that was actually kept! - and "ora", the Latin word for "more than one mouth".

Every Tuesday, Roarora has a council meeting, colloquially known as "the weekly brouhaha".

Typically, it goes like this:

"Point of order, Mr. Mayor!" roars Councillor Stag, unofficially opening the meeting.

"But we haven't even started yet!" shouts a frustrated Councillor Eager, who is not keen on getting interrupted in the middle of taking his seat.

"Will you shut up over there!" screams Councillor East, who likes it better when the acoustic system doesn't work.

"What? Are you talking to me?"

This from a shocked Councillor Mayoress, who, as a champion of the Code of Ethics, is surprisingly unfamiliar with the term "shut up".

At this point in the preamble to disorder, Mayor Fotowop has had enough.

He pounds his gavel.

"You are out of order!" he shouts at everyone in general and no one in particular.

It is getting harder and harder to calm them down these days, he thinks to himself.

"Mr. Mayor, I appeal that ruling", says Councillor Legal Beagle. "Before you call 'out of order', it is first necessary to call the meeting 'to order'."

"Point of order, Mr. Mayor!" roars Councillor Stag - louder, in case he didn't hear her the first time.

Or the second time. Or the time after that.

Miraculously, a little voice squeezes in between points of order:

"Have we started? Because if we've started, then I want to go back to last week when we decided what we decided, because I don't like what we decided and since I didn't decide to decide what was decided, I'd like to decide this week!"

The voice belongs to Councillor Florist, who apparently has read the agenda too many times.

Councillor East collects his things and heads for the exit, muttering something about how the acoustic system never should have been fixed.

Councillor Legal Beagle's finger begins to twitch on the trigger of the tranquilizer dart gun that his wife gave him for his birthday ...

Under the table, Councillor Eager begins slipping on his brass knuckles...

Councillor Mayoress has just finished rolling up Bill 123 (Transparency in Public Matters Act) into a neat and sturdy little billy club...

Mayor Fotowop resumes pounding his gavel until, inevitably, it breaks.

A concerned staff member hands him a copy of Roberts Rules of Order, with which the mayor continues pounding...

Just then, Councillor Dogg shows up.

This is highly unusual - so unusual that, for a moment, no one knows what to do.

The resultant split second of silence is stunning!

Councillor Wala-Wala is the first to speak.

"Welcome to Roarora" he says, showing Councillor Dogg where he sits.

Councillor Stag doesn't like it.

She gets up. She rolls up a copy of the "Roaroran", walks over behind Councillor Wala-Wala, and gives him a profoundly dysfunctional "Whack" upside the head!

Okay, so maybe that's what everybody else has been dreaming of doing all night, but not to Councillor Wala-Wala!

Why, he's so functional he's hardly gotten a word in edge-wise for nearly two years!

How shocking!

On the upside, the crack is loud enough to irreparably damage the acoustic system in Council Chambers.

That puts the spring back into Councillor East's step. Hey, maybe I'll run again, he thinks to himself on his way out.

On the downside, the crack sends the neighbours complaining about the noise on Tuesday nights.

Councillor Wala-Wala would have supported them, except he has no clue which Tuesday he is in.

In the midst of the commotion, "I declare a conflict!" shouts Councillor Legal Beagle.

"I second that!" agrees Councillor Eager.

"It sure feels that way..." says Councillor Wala-Wala, just before he passes out.


The outcome is an unbridgeable rift between the "ayes" and the "nays" in Roarora. Just like last week. And the week before.


Thank God this kind of stuff doesn't happen in Aurora!


DISCLAIMER: Since I don't have Dick Illingworth's job yet, names have been changed to protect the innocent...just in case there are any...


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


By DICK ILLINGWORTH


 **BOUQUETS** to Special Events Coordinator Shelley Ware and the volunteer members of the Special Events Committee for such a well organized Santa Claus Parade and to the many organizations and individuals who participated. It was a credit to the community spirit of Aurora.


 **BRICKBATS** to the town for failing to take action to fix what was supposed to be a right-in, right-out access to the Canadian Tire plaza on the south side of Murray Drive opposite the entry and exit of the Aurora Shopping Centre. The right-in, right out is disregarded by many motorists and is an accident waiting to happen. Actually, many accidents have already happened. Close it or make it a full access.


 **BOUQUETS** to the organizers of Operation Red Nose, a free designated-driver service which will run Friday and Saturday nights until December 31. A team of three will respond to a motorist's call, a driver, navigator and escort driver who will drive the motorist and his vehicle home. To book the service call 905-898-2703. It's sponsored by the Insurance Bureau of Canada and the Ontario Safety League.


 **BRICKBATS** to Premier Dalton McGuinty for taking such a cavalier attitude to the massive General Motors layoff including 3,900 employees in Ontario by claiming it was a little bit of a contraction and to put into perspective. Not much of a message to the affected workers. Where is the man's intelligence?


 **BOUQUETS** to Les and Jean Shiner on their 60th Wedding Anniversary which they will celebrate with family and friends on December 30th in the new Seniors' Centre.


 **BRICKBATS** to both the federal and provincial governments for more broken promises, as in May, 2003, the federal government promised \$50 million and in August, 2003, the province committed \$50 million along with the region's \$50 million to introduce the region's rapid transit project and although the region has spent \$129 million, neither senior government has lived up to its promise costing taxpayers about \$175,000 per month in interest payments.

 **BOUQUETS** to five-year-old Matthew Parkin and 11-year-old Natalie Petrossi for submitting the best 2005 Emergency Preparedness and Fire Prevention Drawing Contest Winners. Adults could learn from the kids what should be put in their survival kits.

 **BRICKBATS** to Poor Richard who can't forget his days as a bureaucrat at Queen's Park and in a recent Rumours and Ramblings referred to the "Statue of Liberty" as the "Statute of Liberty". At least he was consistent as he made the same error twice. More brickbats to The Auroran proofreaders for not catching the error.

 **BOUQUETS** to the Aurora Tiger Minor Peewee 'A' hockey team for gathering 40 bushels of carrots, potatoes, beets, cauliflower and broccoli at the Round the Bend Farm in King for the Aurora Food Pantry and Yellow Brick House.

 **BRICKBATS** to Conservative Leader Stephen Harper for accusing the federal Liberal Party of using organized crime to defraud taxpayers. The Liberals are guilty of many unsavory things, but using organized crime is not one of them. It was an unworthy remark for a party leader and should be withdrawn or he should suffer the consequences at the polls.

 **BOUQUETS** to the wag who pointed out that in the coming federal election voters will have a choice in the three major federal parties to vote for the untried, the untrusted and the unelectable.

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Letters to the Editor

Many activities for residents

To the editor,

Although I am not a resident of your fair burg, it is indeed heartening to see that we have some things in common.

For instance, in perusing the last couple of issues of The Auroran, I can see that you folks have been quite busy lately.

I, too, have been rather busy with matters that are quite pressing this time of the year.

Aside from my job, which I spend at least a couple of hours on every day (mostly), it is also hunting season here in Ontario.

And when I, like myriad other residents of this province, hear the call of the wild, I answer.

Well as much as I am able to, since call is almost drowned out by the sounds of contemporary life.

Like traffic, construction, hip-hop music, talk radio, and all the other auditory assaults foisted on us every day here in the modern world.

Now before any of you accuse me and other hunters of being cold hearted killers of defenseless little deer, allow me to set the record straight. We hunters are not after poor little Bambi.

It is, in fact, Bambi's dad who we are gunning for. And if that doesn't work out,

his mom will do.

The little ones don't have enough meat, you know.

And, alternatively, moose are also in season in the fall. But going after moose is not really hunting at all. They are too easy of a target.

Slowly lumbering through the woods, oblivious of their surroundings, slow, stupid and dim-witted, foolishly thinking they are at the top of the food chain and have no natural enemies, taking a shot at them is not really sporting at all.

Kind of like taking a shot at the Federal Liberals.

Speaking of Liberals, I read that Paul Martin paid you folks a visit. That must have been a busy time for you people. Or at least your kids at the high school.

All the staff at the school also must have been real busy feeding them the harmless questions to ask.

Funny that Mr. Martin figures it's safest talking to the people who are too young to have voted in the last election.

I suppose that was to prevent anyone from demanding the return of their vote that was stolen by a power hungry political opportunist.

Speaking of Belinda, she must have been real busy, too. What with the PM coming to "her" riding, she

Benches face wrong way

To the editor,

I noticed in my latest drive by that the McKenzie Marsh walkway and observation areas on St. John's Sideroad are well under-way.

I also noticed another couple of items: benches have been positioned, I assume to sit and view the marsh area, however lack of space between the rail-

ings makes it difficult to observe anything, and the benches have been positioned facing the road not the marsh.

We see enough of endless streams of cars in our daily routines.

Do we also have to look at them in our moments of leisure?

Neil Allison
Aurora

Letters continue on pages 8, 9 & 10

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in all certainty had her work cut out for her. Mr. Martin was here for an entire afternoon, that had to mean shopping for at least half a dozen new frocks.

To say nothing of the shoes and hand bags.

The poor dear, she must have been positively run off her feet.

And as good ol' Paul told the students at Aurora High, she's probably the hardest working minister in the Cabinet.

Judging by what's been accomplished by the Liberals since Mr. Martin took office, I'm inclined to agree, actually.

And I see that your Town Council has been kept busy with making decisions about who or what some of your new town facilities should be named after.

I just hope you don't go down the same road we have over here in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

In the pursuit of revenue generation, naming rights of virtually every facility, publicly or privately owned, are up for sale to the highest bidder.

This, so far, has been fraught with dangers, and to be honest on many cases have produced less than desirable results.

Name recognition can have both positive and negative connotations, depending on what kind of association that name evokes in those people who recognize it.

The least audacious

example to date has been the naming of the Recreation Centre after some deep-pocketed developer.

To be honest, having a pool and library situated in the middle of a couple of hundred homes built by the very builder it is named after is a very crafty way to help prospective buyers identify with the name.

Certainly brand recognition at its best, and is in many ways not as terribly unsavory as some would suggest.

On the other hand, some of the other examples here about are the kind that may give people pause.

For instance the "Morgentaler Daycare Centre" has a few people raising their eyebrows. And also the "Kevorkian Home for the Aged" has everyone wondering. To say nothing of the "Smirnov Home For Recovering Alcoholics", and the "MTV Centre for Music Appreciation".

You see, if fund generation is the only criteria for naming a facility of any sort, it is all too simple for an otherwise worthy establishment to get saddled with a name that might stretch the limits of credibility for any private or public enterprise, regardless of the good work it is capable of doing.

It's kind of like naming a kitchen after someone who can't cook.

Hugo T. Kroon
Bethesda

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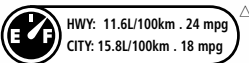
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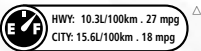


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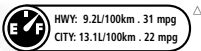
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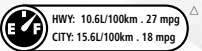
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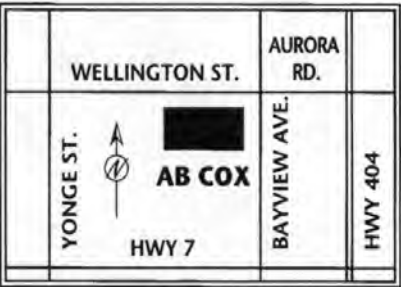
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Letters to the Editor

Some of the people behind new building

To the editor,

The new Aurora Seniors' Centre is now a reality and it is truly a magnificent building in a gorgeous setting which will be enjoyed and appreciated by generations to come.

I attended an information session with the group of seniors in the summer of 2003 when Councillor John West suggested the alternative of building the new centre on land already owned by the town as opposed to renovating the old library.

Parade amazes this participant

To the editor,

It never ceases to amaze me each year as I ride in the Farmers' Market Float at the Aurora Santa Claus Parade how many people watch the parade.

All the way down Yonge Street from St. Andrew's Plaza to Henderson Drive, there were at times a crowd that had to be eight to 10 people deep.

On Saturday night, despite the damp and cold weather, Aurorans seemed to love the parade.

From the kids to seniors everyone looked as if they were enjoying the night.

I would like to congratulate the Special Events Committee headed by Wendy Gaertner, Shelley Ware from the Town, the Optimist Club who had so many volunteers helping to ensure that the parade was orderly and the Town Staff who always get the streets closed for the start of the parade and open so quickly at the end.

I am sure there are many other volunteers who go

Ducks bleed

To the editor,

Mother Nature tried to make it difficult to get to the Legion Thursday, November 24th, for the Blood Services clinic, but 25 Master Ducks took part along with numerous Aurorans, eager to give the 'Gift of Life'.

The nurses and staff on hand were so nice, efficient and fun - they even helped us time each of our Ducks donating blood to see who was the fastest - yes, we are a competitive bunch!

We will be doing this again.

The next clinic in Aurora is January 2nd at Our Lady of Grace Church.

Call 1-888-236-6283.

Nancy Black
Aurora

There are so many people to thank that I apologize in advance to any I may have overlooked.

Just attribute it to a senior's moment.

I will begin with Councillor John West who was truly the "architect" of the dream, Mayor Tim Jones and the councillors who supported the motion.

In particular I would like to acknowledge Councillor Evelyn Buck who, in a small town hall information session, swayed a few dissenting opinions with her eloquent comments on seniors

as deserving of such a building.

She spoke of the sacrifices they made in raising families and contributing to the community in times that did not include the perks and benefits of today's affluent society.

The Volunteers' Steering Committee consisting of Grace and Glyn Jones, the late Lorne Rooke, Lydia Schuster and Charles Sequeira spent countless hours conferring with Al Downey, councillors, architects and seniors.

I cannot forget the wonderful support of Kim Hinder who was there for all the lead up and fielded countless opinions and who acted as a most diplomatic referee.

Then came the fund-raising committee and what miracles they wrought.

The mayor was most generous with his donations from the golf tournaments - a good start.

Flo Murray, Barb Stoecklin, Virginia Bodner, Brian Warburton, Ruth Church, Bob Collard, Terry Paul and George Wooley

unnoticed but who all make this the greatest Santa Claus Parade in Canada.

Thank you all for the great effort and to all Aurora residents for the support in helping Aurora be the great town that it is.

Nigel Kean
Aurora

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Letters to the Editor

Centre a treat to behold

To the editor,

As I write these words, the new Aurora Seniors' Centre, opposite to the Aurora Town hall is nearing completion; occupation is in process, and we seniors are ecstatic, triumphant in our senior delight.

As I write these words in mid-November, we verge on completion of the movement of furniture and equipment, and this is cause for jubilation.

No doubt some inconvenience is unavoidable, but we can live with that, and in the meantime, we shall be patiently exuberant, even gloriously exuberant.

Our emotions are aroused, yes and deeply too, and so they should be!

Now we must complete the task of moving into the new centre, and despite all of the careful planning, until we are in and ensure the furniture and equipment are equal to the new surroundings, until then we will not know what our further requirements will be.

This is a great exhilarating time, a great period of

transformation to a state of the art facility, and one that many thought they would never see, and some regretfully, were right.

We are children of past years, 'Destiny's Children, Aged', and here we are today, artists, dancers, computer operators, teachers, calendar girls, fashions models, 'Our Town', television stars.

What next, you might well ask, well a male calendar project twinkles in the background, perhaps.

Only time will tell, and time is not telling yet.

I can say what we have been, which is ordinary hard working members of society, the nurses, doctors, engineers, farmers, business people, our warrior heroes of yesterday, and heroes today and forever, and our mothers and housewives and so much more.

Collectively, we helped make this Canada what it is today, which for all its wants, is better by far than when we were born.

The new centre shares the parking lot with Aurora Town hall, which means that

parking is good.

The seniors are moving from 4,000 square feet of shabby old fire hall where we have had a ton of jolly times, to more than 14,000 square feet of specially designed hall, rooms and commercial kitchen.

This is all for the seniors, but we have to grow into it.

The activities we pursue are those that have given pleasure for years and continue to give pleasure, such as various card games, bingo, dancing such as Hawaiian dancing and line dancing, and with ballroom dancing lessons to be introduced shortly.

The pool room is very popular and will be extended to four tables from the present three. Women play pool also.

Among our most popular activities is what comes under the heading of crafts and painting.

I always admire the participants, because they always appear so serene, friendly and it is a delight to be near them.

The term "crafts" covers a lot of ground and anything

goes.

Also waiting to be equipped is an excellent woodworking shop.

And the computer room always deserving of mention, which is filled with amazing seniors, mostly women who learn to compute.

If your hands don't shake and you can focus your mind, you can learn to compute, I say that as a former student who is now a teacher.

We bring ourselves up to speed with today's technology.

At this time of great senior momentum, I would like to extend a hearty welcome to all who are 55 years old or more, to join with us and enjoy the benefits of immersion in a jolly group of friendly folk.

We do things together, we participate, and we do not sit around idle except to have a good talk.

We are activity oriented and we keep ourselves busy, to the point of wondering how we had time to work in our previous lives.

And we constantly search for seniors or anybody with innovative ideas and expertise in anything that will provide novelty and enjoyment to others.

We have arranged for bus service very close to our entrance, and handicapped seniors may apply to York Region Transit for home pick up. Please visit the new centre and we will be delighted to see you.

Purchase a membership as a gift to yourself or a loved one and your companionship will be a joy to us all.

Brian Warburton
Aurora

Reader is offended by writer's remarks

To the editor,

It is most unfortunate that Scott Zoltok brought his Conservative Party baggage and not an open mind to Aurora High School to participate in the visit of our Prime Minister (letter, The Auroran, Nov. 22).

I also attended this event as a member of the Aurora High School Parent Council and am offended by his comments.

The event was extremely well organized considering that the administration and the teachers had less than one week to prepare the students and the community for the visit.

The students were extremely well behaved and the questions, albeit pre-screened by the PMO, were questions that did concern the youth of this community.

What is wrong with our

young people asking questions on "the economy, conflict in the Middle East, unemployment and other current issues"? The questions showed a high level of maturity and the concern of the young people of this community regarding the pressing issues of today. What would Mr. Zoltok have them ask?

The event was certainly not "a minor event to the school" as stated in his letter.


The senior administration of the board, the administration of the

school, the students and staff of Aurora High and the Parent Council considered this event a major event of the school year.

The students who attended, including my son, were most impressed with the entire event, a moment in their high school years that they will certainly remember for a long long time.

Please, Mr. Zoltok, do not make this experience in their high school career appear trivial.

David Beard
Aurora



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Letters to the Editor

We're not "connecting the dots": reader

To the editor,

With so many government departments with separate responsibilities, it follows that the right hand may not know what the left is doing.

We recently read that a parent waits for the doors of the child care centre to open at 7 a.m. so she can get a parking spot at the train station.

I have heard it before.

At a school meeting, a father asked if the child care centre could open before seven because it made him too late to find a parking spot.

That means small children are spending between 10 and 11 hours a day in an institution.

There's a bright intelligent little boy of five who passes my house regularly. We chat. The first time I was planting.

Subsequent visits indicated this small person is constantly trying to change his environment.

I asked mother how he is doing in school. Problems, she said.

Does his dad help him, I asked. No dad on the scene. No family support either.

Is there a support program, I asked. None, she said.

Furthermore there are more children like that in the classroom every year.

They do not have "special needs" so there are no teaching assistants. Teachers are not trained to deal with it and every child in the classroom suffers from the distraction.

I recently called Children's Services in York Region for some information. It seems there are more than 22,000 children younger than five in Child Care Centres in York Region, she said.

We are "better off" than almost any other region, she told me proudly.

A couple of weeks ago, we read of a 15-year-old being suspended from Dr.

John Denison School in Newmarket because he had slapped up some White Supremacist posters.

He had printed them from the computer.

The principal went on television and said he might be expelled. Another teacher said that "racism" starts with the family.

Still another said she had notified the police though she knew it was not a matter for them to deal with. She thought they should know about it. Just in case.

The same week a doctor, interviewed on T.V., said studies have shown that at least 10 per cent of students, mostly male, suffer from severe depression.

You have to wonder...is there no one out there connecting the dots. Are children of so little value that all we have to spare for them is money.

Another irony: John Denison was a public school trustee who came to

prominence from his outspoken concern for young people in the sixties. Not every trustee has a school named after him.

Both our school boards have adopted a zero tolerance policy.

They are members of the Character Community program. Of all the virtues listed in that doctrine...tolerance is not one.

Is that not what is repugnant about the White Supremacists? I'm just askin'.

Evelyn Buck
Aurora



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Humps unfair to responsible drivers

To the editor,

Yet another set of speed humps has been approved for Heathwood Heights Drive.

I believe Aurora Council is creating a very dangerous precedent with approval of speed humps in town.

Driver took time to help

To the editor,

I had the misfortune of having my vehicle struck while parked and unoccupied resulting in some property damage.

I would have had no way of knowing what had occurred or who had caused this damage had it not been for a witness.

This gentleman not only made note of the description and license number of the vehicle that had struck mine, but also took the time to call the police and make himself available.

Had he not done this, of course, I'm left holding the repair bill.

I'm sure many have been in my situation and not experienced the good fortune of having someone who took the time or effort to help out.

At this time of year, when life gets so busy, it's a good time to reflect on the good deeds of others.

I encourage you to be that good Samaritan, to assist someone else when needed.

It has helped put me in the Christmas spirit!

Steve Hinder
Aurora

There probably isn't a neighborhood in town that doesn't have concerns with speeding.

There are many more dangerous roads here in town; i.e., Timpson or Orchard Heights.

Heathwood Heights is not really a direct route through town, and you can bet that most of the speeding that occurs is from the residents themselves.

Perhaps we should have governors installed in cars of repeat speeders so that their cars can't go faster than 40 km/hr.

Or even better, let's just let the roads in town

crumble like Aurora Heights east to Yonge, or Mark Street so you would not dare drive faster than 40 for fear of whiplash.

Who pays to have these speed humps installed in these semi-gated neighbourhoods?

Who pays the extra repair bills for brakes, suspensions systems and increased fuel consumption for drivers who are responsible and pay heed to posted speed limits?

Enough is enough... check your speedometer and slow down...

Patty McLaughlin
Aurora



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More than 300 visit new CHATS centre

More than 300 people dropped in to CHATS (Community Home Assistance to Seniors) recently to tour their newly-renovated Aurora facilities, learn about eldercare, get tips on caregiving, and celebrate the grand opening of their Wellness Centre for seniors and caregivers.

The recent three-day event included an open house, a networking session for representatives from local social services agencies, educational seminars about eldercare and caregiving, a celebration ribbon-cutting and a wine and cheese reception.

Aurora Mayor Tim Jones, who served as Master of Ceremonies at the official celebration, performed the ribbon-cutting, with help from two CHATS clients, Gerald Weinstein and Grace Wilkinson.

"Visitors got a first-hand opportunity to see how CHATS is nurturing the health and wellness of seniors and caregivers," said Sheri Fiegehen, CHATS's marketing and communications co-ordinator. Visitors



Mary Begley, Adult Day Program Worker at CHATS, gives a paraffin wax hand treatment to Mohammad Moghaddam in the CHATS Wellness Centre Spa Room, during a three-day open house event held at the Aurora location recently.

were also invited to view and participate in activities with clients, including yoga, singing and dancing, humour therapy and spa therapy sessions.

"Since CHATS was launched 25 years ago, we've continuously evolved to accommodate the ever-changing needs of seniors," Ms Fiegehen said. "As we

move into our next 25 years, we're emphasizing our focus on holistic wellness and our commitment to meeting the unique needs of York Region's diverse cultural groups. And as always, we remain dedicated to improving the quality of life of all our area's seniors and caregivers."

CHATS is a not-for-profit organization serving the needs of York Region seniors living in their own homes.

Services and programs include Meals on Wheels; personal support, home-making and housekeeping; Lunch Out program; Adult Day Program; seniors outreach; Shopping Club; transportation; safety (Lifeline Emergency Response System and telephone reassurance); supportive housing; and caregiver relief, education and support.

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Working with a charitable organization, Devonleigh Homes of Orangeville became the first homebuilder in Canada to install illuminated home address signs and an Aurora firm is responsible for it.

Sue Snider of Safe Communities of the Hill Country, approached owners Andrew and Lisa Kidd recently and told them of a new Canadian-made product, the WayFinder Illuminated Address Sign from PermaGLO Lighting, a division of Alutron Modules, located on Industrial Parkway South in Aurora.

"The WayFinder has all the features that would enable the builder to comply with a new bylaw for mandatory illuminated addresses," Ms Snider said. "We feel that these products enhance the safety of our homes and neighbourhoods."

Rick Milne, a Dufferin Region paramedic noted, "There is no doubt in my mind that having address numbers that illuminate would be very helpful to emergency services when responding to a distress call."

Other Ontario municipalities like New Tecumseth are considering a bylaw for illuminated address numbers.

Barrie and Orillia recent-

ly passed bylaws for address signage to be more visible for house addresses.

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Merry Christmas



RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

A look at the past

Aurora gets some heavy snowstorms but none quite like the one that hit the area in February, 1868, blocking all roads for days and no trains were able to get through from Toronto from Monday until the following Friday.

If you could get to the store, eggs were selling for 20 cents a dozen, butter 25 cents a pound and chickens for 25 cents apiece.

In February, a Newmarket winter carnival sleigh ride headed for Aurora with 35 decorated rigs packed with merrymakers led by the 12th Battalion band.

There were three six-horse sleighs and four four-horse sleighs in the procession.

Then the following January, another heavy snow storm hit the area and it was reported that one Aurora shopkeeper was burning his stock of wallpaper to keep warm.

Most schools in Aurora and area were closed due to lack of fuel.

INCOMES HIGHER, SALES LOWER

In 1968, Aurora citizens earned almost one-third more than the average Canadian, but spent substantially less in their own town.

The facts were released in a Survey of Markets conducted by the Financial Post.

The survey gives Aurora's total personal disposal income at \$32.6 million or an average of \$2,940 for each of the town's estimated 11,400 citizens but its retail sales of \$12 million amounted to an average of \$1,080 a head, 12 per cent below the national average.

The number pales in comparison to total construction figures for Aurora today, but back in 1969 Aurora had the second biggest building year in its history with a total of \$4.1 million, more than double the previous year.

The highest year in Aurora's history was in 1959 when Consolidated Building built the 700 homes in Regency Acres, mostly for employees of Sterling Drug, which had moved its plant to Yonge and Murray Drive from Windsor.

REMEMBERING THE GEM STORE

In October, 1961, a new kind of store arrived in the area.

It was the GEM store located on the east side of Yonge Street just north of Steeles Avenue in a building as large as three football fields.

The store carried just about everything but it was not open to the general public.

Only those who belonged to, or had retired from, municipal, provincial and federal governments, members of the Armed Forces and militia, employees of public and private schools, colleges and universities and employees of non-profit religious, charitable and scientific institutions, could use the facilities.

GEM stood for Government Employees Mart and it cost \$2 to become a member and be eligible to shop at the store.

It was the era before big box stores and government employees from all over southern Ontario shopped there to take advantage of the bargains.

Aurora's Dick Illingworth recalls the GEM store because as a senior officer with the RCAF Auxiliary at the time, he was invited to sit on the first Board of Directors.

The Board consisted of active and retired government employees who served without remuneration and had little power.

With the arrival of other box stores such as Towers and Sayvette, the GEM Board and store soon disappeared from the shopping scene, as eventually did Towers and Sayvette.

REMEMBERING ROWLAND MODDLE

Old time Aurorans and graduates of Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School may remember Rowland Moddle, a school teacher, artist, wood carver and jewellery-maker who died in York County Hospital in October, 1993, of a heart attack following a serious car accident.

A native of Northern Ontario, he moved around a lot as his father was a minister.

He began his teaching career in the public school system before joining the RCAF during the Second World War, when he started to draw seriously.

Following the war he came to Aurora in 1945 and began teaching at Wells Street School.

Following courses at the Ontario College of Art and obtaining a university degree, he transferred to the Aurora and District High School, now Dr. G. W. Williams, where he was head of the art department.

Following his retirement he continued with his watercolour paintings, took up sculpting and wood carving, made jewellery and designed sets for Theatre Aurora.

He loved to travel and wherever he went he carried his sketchpad to record memories of where he had been and what he had seen.

He called them souvenirs of his pleasures, and they hang in many Aurora homes.

Hydro company offers incentives

PowerStream Inc., the group that recently purchased Aurora Hydro, has launched an initiative which will provide big business customers the opportunity to get up to \$50,000 for implementing conservation projects.

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MONDAY NIGHT HOCKEY

Standings as at Monday, Nov. 28

TEAM	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
Masterclean Contracting	9	2	0	58	33	18
Highland Chev Cadillac	7	3	1	59	40	15
Priestly Demolition	7	3	1	51	21	15
Tom & Jerry's	6	4	1	41	37	13
J.J. Barron Realty	5	4	2	40	37	12
Law Insurance Brokers	2	6	3	34	52	7
FPL Aggregates	2	8	1	31	63	5
Rec Cycle N' Sports	1	9	1	27	54	3

Results, Nov. 28

Tom & Jerry's	2	Masterclean	4
Rec Sports	1	Highland Chev	2
Priestly Demolition	8	Law Insurance	5
FPL Aggregates	0	Barron Realty	2

PLAYER STANDINGS

As at Nov. 28

NAME	TEAM	G	A	TOTAL
John Archibald	Highland	16	20	36
Steve Robertson	Highland	11	13	24
Mark Sedore	Priestly	8	16	24
Ken Rumble	Highland	11	12	23
Tom Hussey	Masterclean	13	10	23
Jason Muise	Priestly	9	14	23
Steve McDonald	Tom & Jerry's	8	12	20
Pat O'Mahony	Barron's	5	11	16
Dean Iwai	Tom & Jerry's	7	9	16
John Yaremko	Law Insurance	5	11	16
Steve Kavanah	Barron's	5	10	15
Gerry Briand	Masterclean	7	8	15
Bruce Ing	Priestly	7	7	14
Scott Thomas	Tom & Gerry's	10	3	13
Ed Jackson	Barron's	5	8	13
Ralph Berry	Masterclean	5	8	13
Bob Ince	Rec Cycle	5	8	13
Phil Podstatski	Priestly Demolition	9	3	12
Ed Kilroy	Rec Cycle	7	5	12
Cam Mitchell	FPL	7	5	12
Kevin Brown	Highland	4	8	12
Mike Nisbet	Priestly	4	8	12
Chris Neal	Priestly	5	6	11
Ron Theisson	Barron's	5	6	11
Darren Yaremko	Law Insurance	4	7	11
Frank Balkovec	Law Insurance	2	9	11
Doug Adair	Rec Cycle	6	4	10
Angelo Nasto	Masterclean	5	5	10
Jerome Flanigan	Masterclean	5	5	10

Tigers manage

a single point

The Aurora Tigers Provincial Junior A hockey team managed only a single point in two games played at the Aurora Community Centre on the weekend.

In a rare Sunday afternoon contest, Aurora was edged 3-2 by the powerful Markham Waxers, after hanging on for a 2-2 tie against the Couchiching Terriers at the ACC Friday night.

In that contest, Aurora led 2-1 after 20 minutes of play, battled through a scoreless second period, but allowed Couchiching to tie the match in the third.

Daniel Michalsky and Cale Tanaka scored for Aurora.

Tanaka also scored a single Sunday afternoon as Aurora lost by a goal to the Waxers.

Chad Kennedy fired the other Tiger marker.

Aurora trailed 3-1 going into the final period, and managed to make it close with a single goal, but couldn't find the equalizer.

Ryan Dickie, in goal for Aurora, turned aside 17 of 20 shots.

His counterpart, Jeremie Dupont, was in goal Friday for the 2-2 tie, and stopped 29 of 31 shots.

As a result of the week-end activity, captain Jeric Agosta continues to lead the scoring race with 23 goals and 20 assists for 43 points.

Tanaka holds down second spot with 16 goals and 18 assists, nine points behind the leader.

Josh McNair, with 32 points, Josh Diamond with 22, and Nathan Oke with 21, make up the top five

scorers on the club.

Aurora now enters a week in which the team will play four games, three of them out of town.

Wednesday, they're up north to meet the Huntsville-Muskoka Otters, then return to friendly ground Friday night to host the Ajax Axemen.

That game gets underway at the Aurora Community Centre at 7.30 p.m.

The next day, the squad travels to Collingwood to meet the Blues, then on Sunday, heads to Pickering to meet the Panthers.

All that plus preparing to meet a dynamic hockey team from Russia in an exhibition tilt scheduled for the Community Centre at 2.30 p.m. on New Year's Day.

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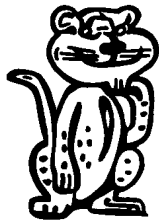
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The Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AA hockey team are the International Silver Stick Regional Champions this year, following a recent tournament in Whitby. Shown here are, front row, on ice, Cody Child, Ryan Manson; kneeling, Justin Pirie, Liam Coll, Konner McMillan, Quentin Campbell, Matthew Iwai, Sean Foxwell, Kyle Locke; standing, Jack Caldwell, Spencer Green, Branden Fennell, Austin Lane, Jerryd Jensen, John K. MacDonald; back row: John A. MacDonald, Glenn Manson, Jim Fennell, Dick Jensen, Kim Fennell.

Photo by Vanessa MacDonald

Tigers three for three

For the third time this season, the Aurora Minor Atom AA Tigers are tournament champions.

The Tigers celebrated their impressive accomplishment on the ice in Whitby last weekend bringing home the banner from the illustrious International Silver Stick Regional Tournament.

After fending off the GTHL Mississauga Braves 3-2 in the semi-final match, the Tigers won the final contest 3-1 over their OMHA division rivals, the Richmond Hill Stars.

Following the championship game, Tigers' Head Coach Jim Fennell was delighted with his squad's efforts.

"The Town of Aurora was well represented again this weekend," he said. "In the face of some stiff competition, our boys certainly supported each other. worked as a team and we can be proud of these talented young hockey players and the fast-paced brand of

'Hometown Hockey' they play."

The Tigers have now qualified to play in the International Silver Stick North American Finals to be held in Newmarket next month.

More than 65,000 participants play in Silver Stick Regional Qualifying Tournaments which are hosted across North America, as far west as Portland, Oregon, south to Dallas, Texas, east to Stanford, Connecticut, and north to Sudbury.

Champions from these tournaments are invited to advance to play other champions in North American Finals Tournaments held each January.

Since capturing the OMHA Championship last season, this Tigers team has already won two other tournaments this year - The Flamborough Early Bird and the Georgetown "Best of the Best" Thanksgiving Challenge.

The Aurora squad is

comprised of 16 players picked from a pool of Aurora Minor Hockey Association (AMHA) players born in 1996.

The Tigers compete during the regular season in the York Simcoe Minor Atom AA West Division of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA).

Staff includes Head Coach, Jim Fennell; Assistant Coaches, Dick Jensen and John A. MacDonald, and trainer, Barry Locke.

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Library Square is still circling

In government circles, what goes around comes around and Aurora's Library Square Redevelopment Project is a good example.

A year ago September, council asked for a report on the disposition of the Library Square for the October general committee meeting but due to the volume of work required it was necessary to wait a month.

The detailed report included reports from the Library Square Ad Hoc Committee and the Library Square Summary Report.

In November, 2004, it was decided to lease the space in the buildings after about \$377,000 worth of renovations had taken place.

Prospective tenants were invited to submit an Expression of Interest based on a willingness to pay \$9 a square foot per year, plus utilities.

The Leisure Services Advisory Committee evaluated submissions based on a council-approved criteria and submitted a recommendation which was rejected by council last October following a heated meeting.

After order had been restored it was agreed to refer the issue back to staff to prepare a summary for a general committee meeting.

The report provided council with some options for discussion and as it was anticipated the discussion would take a significant amount of time, staff recommended a special general committee meeting be held.

Some of the options put forward were that the general committee accept the previous recommendations of the Advisory Committee with amendments or initiate a new review of the submissions.

Other options were to declare the land surplus and sell the buildings on the open market, demolish some or all buildings to increase parking for the library and the Church Street School, use some of the facilities for town purposes or find a primary tenant and lease the buildings for \$1 per year with the tenant being responsible for the \$377,000 worth of renovations.

Last week, with discussions to take place on the 2006 business plan and budget, Councillor John West suggested the special general committee meeting to discuss Library Square be postponed to January or February.

Councillor Evelyn Buck said she was not happy with the proposed resolution as staff needed some direction and a public meeting should be held to receive public

input of the proposed options.

Staff pointed out that while the library was almost fully occupied by various community groups, the seniors' building would be vacant during the days, but used in the evenings.

After further discussion and points of order, it was decided to hold a public meeting on a date to be decided in January with a special council meeting to follow.

The controversy over the use of the buildings dates back to 1979 when council postponed a special meeting of council to discuss the future of the

various town-owned properties in the Library Square.

In June, 1985, council authorized staff to prepare terms of reference and an estimate of the cost of obtaining professional services to determine the maximum use of buildings in the square.

Other studies were carried out but none resulted in a decision or action.

During the 2001 budget discussions it was suggested a consultant be engaged to review redevelopment of the town-owned buildings in the square but council rejected the suggestion result-

ing in the appointment of a joint committee with a mandate to make recommendations.

After meeting all summer without recommendations the general committee decided to disband the Library Square Ad Hoc Committee.

In October, 2004, questions were asked about the status of the Library Square as the old library was virtually empty and community groups were searching for space.

In March council authorized staff to advertise the request for Expressions of Interest and the project continued to go round in circles.

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House League Tyke

106 Tim Horton's Red Wings Tyke HL 6 - Jack Bishenden 1A, James Wyndham-West 1G, Matthew Liscio 2G, Patrick Servideo, 3G 1A. **105 Tim Horton's Flyers 6.**

107 Tim Horton's Bruins 9 - Christian Arcuri 1G, Evan Cherubini 1G 1A, Alistair Johnston 1G, Tristan Kuchar 1A, Nicholas Sansalone 2G, Cole Thiessen 4G. **108 Tim Horton's Blues Tyke HL 2** - Colin Kostin 1G, Cameron Zinner 1G.

104 Tim Horton's Sharks Tyke HL 5 - Adam Caicco 1A, Mitchell Haak 1A, Anthony Orlandi 2A, Riley Walsh 1G 1A, Tyler Wilson 1G, Jared Reeves 3G. **103 Tim Horton's Blackhawks 5** - Andrew Badali 2G, Taylor Kauffeldt 1A, Colin McGoldrick 1G 1A, Jeffrey McKay 1G 2A, Matthew Barnett 2A, Eric Shennan 1A, Devlin Kauffeldt 1G Daniel Mettel 2A.

Novice

205 HS Financial Services 6 - Eddie Duffie 2G, Patrick Bourrie 1A, Jessica Ash 1G, Michael Walsh 3G. **206 Emilio's Pizza Novice HL 2** - Ryan Donovan 1A, Bowen Reid 1G, Krisztian Fockter 1G.

204 North York Heating & Plumbing Novice HL 6 - John Partland 2G 2A, Justin Laird 1G, James Power 3G. **202 Mastermind Toys.Com 3** - Eric Cumiskey 1A, Liam Joiner 2G, Ryan Ouvroules 1G.

201 McAlpine Ford Lincoln 4 - Christian Baggio 1G 1A, Matthew Hall 1G 1A, Johnny Sherwood 1G 1A, Christian Baggio 1G 1A. **203 Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre Novice HL 1.**

Minor Atom

305 All Pro Source For Sports Minor Atom HL 7 - Jonah Blaser 1A, Morgan Walker 1G, Alec Barnett 2A, Mitchell Palmer 1A, Michael Slack 1G, Tait Snedden 1G 1A, Kristen Grasse 1G, Brady Harris 2G, Brendan Harris 1G. **307 Optimist Club of Aurora 4.**

306 Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre Minor Atom HL 5 - Thomas Finlay 1A, Wilson Black 1G 1A, Scott Dunlop 1A, Joe Ekstrom 1A, Alexander Jonasson 2A, Michael Liscio 1G, Nathan Sinclair 1G 1A, Scott Taylor 1G 1A, Brady Wilson 1G. **308 Delph & Jenkins Surveyors 1.**

301 ADC Aluminum 7 - Zachary Cowl 2G, Rio Speller-Drews 3G, Oliver Jones 1G, Michael Tanel 1G, Ryan McGolrick 1A. **303 Dr. Steiner's Drillers Minor Atom HL 1** - Andrew Foresi 1A, Matthew Reynolds 1G.

302 Laurion Law Office Minor Atom HL 6 - Alexander Harrison 2G 1A, Matt Sanita 3A, Tyler Futterer 2G, Chris Sanita 2G 1A. **304 Chouinard Bros. Roofing & Windows 2.**

Minor Peewee

502 Supreme Collision Centre Minor Peewee HL 5 - Marty Wood 1G, Arun Partridge 1G, Evan Foxell 1A, Liam Judges 1A, Kyle Duvall 1A, John Lee 1A, Kurtis Lindner 1A, Kasey Piper 1G 1A, Ward Benn 1G, Wade McFarlane 1A, Joey Romano 1G 1A, Geoffrey Ash 2A, Marty Wood 1G. **504 The Backyard Pool & Spa Company 2.**

502 Supreme Collision Centre Minor Peewee HL 6 - Arun Partridge 4G 1A, MacKenzie LaFleur 1G, Zach Zeto 1A, Kasey Piper 1G, Ward Benn 1A. **505 Pizza Pizza 2** - Christopher Beach 1A, Daniel Laflamme 1G, Jake Langford 1G, Andrew Luck 1A.

502 Supreme Collision Centre Minor Peewee HL 6 - Arun Partridge 4G 1A, Mackenzie Lafleur 1G, Zach Zeto 1A, Kasey Piper 1G, Ward Benn 1A. **502 Supreme Collision Centre Minor Peewee HL 6.**

501 Chevalier Chrysler Minor Peewee HL 3 - Sam Straw 1G, Eamon Reilly 1G, John Dinicolantonio 1A, Nick Reinholdt 2A, Ryan Rival 1G. **503 Winchurch Environmental Inc. 1.**

505 Pizza Pizza 7 - Kyle Coughlin 1A, Joey

Aurora Minor Hockey Association

Results to 9 AM Sunday, December 4

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Detoro 1A, Andrew Gibbs 1G, Daniel Laflamme 1G 1A, Jake Langford 2G 2A, Andrew Luck 1G 3A, Gregory Olejnik 1A, Nicholas Theodoropolous 1G, Brian Tree 1G 3A, Taylor Cooke 1A. **506 Diamond Groundskeeping Services Minor Peewee HL 3.**

Minor Bantam

704 Aurora Montessori School Minor Bantam HL 4 - Scott Cunningham 2A, Nick Orsatti 2G, Michael VanBakel 1A, Marco Santella 2G, Robert Horton 1A. **703 Dial Tone Communications 1.**

701 I.O.O.F. Aurora Lodge 148 F.L.T. 9 - Michael Gray 1G, Daniel Crowther 1A, Scott Parry 1A, Dylan Teacher 4G 1A, Daniel Sampieri 1G 1A, David Naccarato 1A, Julian Biasoni 3A, Marcel Lamanna 3A, Ryan Bagshaw 2A, Chris Blumreisinger 3A, Devin Scudds 1A, Colin Bennett 3G 1A. **705 Aurora Canadian Tire Minor Bantam HL 4.**

706 Formtech Minor Bantam HL 8 - Robert Fiorini 1A, Chris McGill 1G, Brandon Hurst 1G, Mike Delplavgnano 1G, Chris Tillsley 1G 2A, Grant Wood 2A, Brendan Beatty 1A, Paul Duggan 3G, Mike Machin 1G. **702 Highland Chevrolet Cadillac 4** - Kyle MacCallum 1A, Connor Fordyce 1A, Eric Seguin 1G, Jordan Adams 2G, Evan Casselden 1G 1A, Neil Gaston 1A.

Midget

1008 ASA Alloys Midget HL 6 - Daniel Abram 1A, Jon Alessich 2G 1A, Iznaur Atiev 2A, Sean Brennan 2G 1A, Kevin Michie 1A, Luke Stinson 2G. **1004 Aurora Legion 3** - Drew Jenkins 1G, Daniel Kupraty 1G, Courtney Lockhart 1A, Kiefer McBride 1A, Liam McNeely 1G, Ryan Jones 1A.

1008 ASA Alloys Midget HL 2 - Daniel Abram 1G, Iznaur Atiev 1A, Sean Brennan 1G, Tyler Fife 1A, James Seymore 1A. **1001 Astech Solutions 2.**

1004 Aurora Legion Midget HL 7 - Zack Andrews 4A, Alex Cancelli 2G, Daniel Kupraty 2G 1A, Brenden McNeely 1G 1A, Liam McNeely 2G, Chad Roberts 1A, Mike White 1A. **1005 Barb Blaser Re/Max 4.**

Select

Aurora Tigers Tyke Select 5 - Ryan Coveart 1A, Michael Da Costa 1A, Cole Chapman 1A, Cole Thiessen 3G, Robert Thomas 2G. **Lawton Leasing Redmen 2.**

Rep Games

Aurora Tigers Novice AA 3 - Nicholas Baxter 1A, Theodora Issaris 1G 1A, Graeme McDonald 1G, Austin Riswick 1G 1A, Jesse Wiemer 1A. **Richmond Hill 3.**

Aurora Tigers Novice AA 3 - Jake Appleby 1A, Peter Andreakos 1A, Graeme McDonald 1A, Jesse Wiemer 3G. **Newmarket Redman 2.**

Aurora Tigers Novice AA 8 - Jake Appleby 1G, Graydon Gardner 2A, Nicholas Baxter 2G 1A, Alex Bernier 1A, Matthew Caicco 1G 2A, Hayden Hassard 3A, Theodora Issaris 1G 2A, Nicholas Papousek 1G 1A, Austin Riswick 2G 1A, Jesse Wiemer 1A. **Georgetown Raiders 6.**

Aurora Tigers Novice AA 9 - Jake Appleby 1G 1A, Nicholas Baxter 1G, Alex Bernier 1A, Peter Andreakos 1G 1A, Matthew Caicco 1G, Theodora Issaris 1G 1A, Graeme McDonald 1A, Nicholas Papousek 1G 2A, Ian Reid 4A, Austin Riswick 2A, Jesse Wiemer 3G. **Whitby Wildcats 3.**

Aurora Tigers Novice A 5 Beeton 3

Aurora Tigers Novice A 3 Schomberg 2

Aurora Tigers Novice A 4 East Gwillimbury 2

Markham2 7 Aurora Tigers Novice AE 2 - Zac Phillips 1A, Jeff Stobo 1A, Joesph Battiston 1G, Alex Popa 1G, Denis Semenovych 1A, Brendan Ruuskanen 1A.

Aurora Tigers Novice AE 10 - Noah Spicer 1G, Zac Phillips 2G, Jeff Stobo 1A, Joesph Battiston 1G 2A, Alex Popa 1A, Conor MacPherson 2A, Garret Wood 1G 2A, Austin Waite 2G 1A, Adam Newell 1G 1A, Brendan Ruuskanen 2G 1A. **East Gwillimbury 0.**

Aurora Tigers Novice AE 2 - Zac Phillips 1G, Denis Semenovych 1A, Conor MacPherson 1G, Austin Waite 1A. **Innisfil 2.**

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AA 3 - Liam Coll 1A, Austin Lane 1A, Matthew Iwai 1G, Spencer Green 1G 1A, Jack Caldwell 1G. Shutout: Cody Child Ryan Manson. **Georgina 0.**

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom A 4 - Erik Balkovec 2A, Paul Neophytou 2A, Evan Jackson 1G, Scott Kostin 1G 1A, Lucas Pozzebon 1G, Nick Del Zotto 1G. **Barrie 1.**

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom A 2 - Paul Neophytou 1G, Connor Cowl 1G, Lucas Pozzebon 2A, Nick Del Zotto 1A. **Stouffville 1.**

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AE 8 - Ben Ashton 1A, Josh Bell 1G 1A, Liam Beresford 1G 3A, Tyler George 1A, Ben Goldman 1A, Alex Perez 1G 1A, Graham Robinson 2G 1A, Kyle Strachan 1A, Jordyn Thomson 2G, Blake Wallace 1A, Nathan Nealon 1G, Luc Martineau 1A. **East Gwillimbury 1.**

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AE 10 - Ben Ashton 2G, Josh Bell 1G, Liam Beresford 3A, Tyler George 1A, Eric Middleton 1G 1A, Alex Perez 3G 1A, Graham Robinson 1G 2A, Jordyn Thomson 2G 1A. **TNT Tornados 1.**

Aurora Tigers Atom AA 5 Markham 3

Aurora Tigers Atom AA 2 Richmond Hill 1

Uxbridge Stars 1 Aurora Tigers Atom AA 0

Kanata Blazers 6 Aurora Tigers Atom AA 0

Aurora Tigers Atom AA 2 Flamborough 1

Innisfil 2 Aurora Tigers Atom A 0

Aurora Tigers Atom AE 5 - Connor Moody 1G, Sammy Steenhorst 1A, Jeffery Lam 2A, Eric Archibald 1A, Jimmy Brookes 2G, Vincent Ruscica 1A, Eric Bulloch 1G, Ryan Baskin 1G, Liam Devlin 2A. Shutout: Andrew Stobbe. **TNT Tornados 0.**

Aurora Tigers Atom AE 1 - Jimmy Brookes 1A, Vincent Ruscica 1G, Ryan Baskin 1A. **Reline Auto Redmen 1** - Ryan Terry 1A, Michael Masson 1G.

Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee AA 4 - Tanner Thiessen 2G 1A, Trevor Best 1G, Andrew Papousek 1G 2A, Mitchell Harris 1A, Ryan Hughes 1A. **Markham 1.**

Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee AA 2 - Matthew Roy 1A, Tanner Thiessen 1A, Andrew Papousek 1G 1A, Mitchell Harris 1G. **Whitby Silver Stick 2.**

Whitby Silver Stick 4 Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee AA 3 - Matthew Roy 1G, Andrew Papousek 1A, Mitchell Harris 1G, Brian Puskar 1G, Nick Heintzman 1A.

TBD 7 Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee A 1 - Ryan St. Germain 1A, Kyle Spicer 1G.

NobleKing 2 Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee A 1 - Ryan St. Germain 1A, Kyle Spicer 1A, Rory MacNeil 1G.

Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee AE 3 - Mackenzie Wooder 1A, Jesse Bentolila 1A, Anthony Selski 2G 1A, Dylan Woyslaw 1A, Brett Wilson 1G. **Whitby Solar Bears 2.**

Finals 7 Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee AE 0

Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee AE 5 - Cooper Catt 1A, Graham Loney 1A, Jason Lockhart 1G, Jesse Bentolila 1A, Dylan Hussey 1A, Anthony Selski 1G 2A, Evan Collict 1G 1A,



Dylan Woyslaw 1G 1A, Brett Wilson 1A, Andrew Buchanon 1G. **Stouffville 0.**

Aurora Tigers Peewee AA 2 - Josh Beaton 1G 1A, Cody Weese 1G 1A. **Richmond Hill 1.**

Aurora Tigers Peewee A 3 - Patrick Jones 1A, Luca Battiston 1A, Jordan Figueiredo 1G, Chris Smith 2G 1A. **Barrie 2.**

Aurora Tigers Peewee AE 9 - Brett Allen 3A, Spencer George 4G, Sean Halley 2G, Daniel Howie 1G 1A, Tyler Jensen 1A, Nicholas Silverio 1A, Brendan Strachan 1G, Mark Tanel 2A, Alex Thompson 1A, Michael Di Vincenzo 1G 1A. **Bradford 4.**

Aurora Tigers Peewee AE 4 - Spencer George 1A, Sean Halley 1A, Daniel Howie 1G, Aaron Nusbaum 1G, Brendan Strachan 1A, Mark Tanel 1G, Alex Thompson 1A, Michael Di Vincenzo 1G, Tyler Lamantia 1A. **Innisfil 2.**

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AA 4 - Jeffrey Sanderson 2A, Anthony Marsillo 1A, Oliver Boettcher 1G, Justin Brown 1G 1A, Dylan Cross 1G, Shawn Clark 1G 1A, John-Caleb Ross 1A. **Markham 4.**

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam A 4 - Evan Jones 1A, Sean Agostino 1A, Tyler Tisdale 1G, Aaron Beally 2A, Jakub Sykora 1A, Spencer Arkell 1G, Max Lerner 2A, Michael McGolrick 1G, Dillon Cappell 1A, Jesse Cappell 1G. **Cobourg 2.**

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam A 4 - Sean Agostino 1A, Tyler Tisdale 1A, Corey Jeffery 1A, Ryan Jones 1A, Darcy Eveleigh 3A, Max Lerner 2G, Michael McGolrick 2G, Dillon Cappell 1A. **Belleville 3.**

Twin Contracting Redmen 1 Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam A 0

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam A 6 - Tyler Tisdale 1G 2A, Aaron Beally 1G 1A, Jakub Sykora 1A, Max Lerner 1G 3A, Michael McGolrick 1G 1A, Dillon Cappell 2G 1A. **NobleKing 1.**

Barrie 5 Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AE 4 - Patrick Che 1G, Johnny Haralampopoulos 2G, Justin Killens 2A, Patrick Lee 1A, Elio Panaccione 1A, Sheldon Rivard 1G, Geoffrey Gianopoulos 1A.

Aurora Tigers Bantam A 4 - David Bar 3A, Di Nallo Nicholas 1G, Matthew Joynt 1A, Andrew McDonald 2G 1A, Michael Morson 1A, Ben Mulholland 1A, Conor McQueston 1G. **Barrie 4.**

Aurora Tigers Bantam A 5 Markham 3

Orillia 7 Aurora Tigers Bantam A 1

NobleKing 4 Aurora Tigers Bantam A 1

Aurora Tigers Bantam AE 7 - Adam Bloom 2G 1A, Greg Buchner 1G, Brett Dutchyshen 1G 1A, Darrel Evans 1G, Michael Grande 2A, Kyle Henwood 1G 1A, Matthew Hillar 1A, Andrew Mangialardi 1A, Brendon Stenzel 1G 1A. **Innisfil 2.**

Aurora Tigers Bantam AE 5 - Adam Bloom 2G, Brett Dutchyshen 1G, Darrel Evans 1A, Andrew Mangialardi 1G, Trevor McCartney 1G, Brendon Stenzel 2A. **TNT Tornados 5**

Aurora Tigers Bantam AE 1 Barrie 1

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Barrie 3 Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AA 1 - Steven Keane 1G, Kevin Kryshka 1A.

TNT Tornados 5 Aurora Tigers Minor Midget A 2 - Ian Weston 1A, Jeremy Cohen 1G, Greg Gianopoulos 1A, Cody Bastarache 1A, Brendan Hamner 1G.

Aurora Tigers Juvenile AA 4 Richmond Hill 3

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Mattamy plan approved

Mattamy Homes was successful in gaining council approval for an application to construct 73 units on a 10-acre property on the south side of the St. John's Sideroad east of Bayview Avenue.

The approval came at a public planning meeting recently.

In June, 2000, Mattamy submitted an application for a zoning bylaw amendment for their property.

A public meeting was held in 2001 and council directed staff to resolve several technical issues and servicing constraints and report to another public meeting.

A revised plan of subdivision was submitted last May.

The proposed land uses of medium high density residential and low medium density residential are split between the east and west halves of the property.

Medium high density provides for 40 units per acre and the low medium density provides for 10 units per acre and staff advise the plan conforms with the density and general provisions of the Bayview North East secondary plan.

The Public Works Department notes there are a number of servicing constraints to the development due to the construction of the East Holland Trunk Sewer and extension of the trunk watermain along the St. John's Sideroad.

A lot and on-street parking plan was submitted which ensures adequate parking will exist within the plan in accordance with town policy with 349 spaces on lots and 45 street parking spaces.

The Leisure Services Department recommended that a dedication of parkland was not required and that a cash-in-lieu payment be received. It was also pointed out that a trail system was identified in the official plan and location and design details are to be examined.

Enbridge Gas Distribution owns a parcel of land abutting the northwest corner of the property which is used for the operation of an existing natural gas pressure reduction station.

Solicitors for Enbridge had previously expressed concern regarding the impact of the existing station on the proposed residential development.

The applicant has been advised that an Environmental Site Assessment will be required to address the impacts of the Enbridge gas operation. The study will also examine groundwater contamination and safety issues which may outline the need for buffers or building setbacks.

Richard Harrison, a planner for Mattamy, supported the staff report and said his client would continue to work with staff to resolve technical issues.

A solicitor for Enbridge said he was sure the mitigation measures proposed by Mattamy and the owner to the west would resolve the issue and the company had

no objection to the development.

As the proposed extension of Mavrinac Blvd. will cross onto the adjacent property to the east owned by Glyn Jones, Harrison said negotiations were underway with Jones.

Jones advised council members that meetings are underway and he is optimistic that they will be able to resolve the issue of the roadway.

The trunk sewer that will service the developments to the south is planned to extend along Mavrinac which is the main north/south collector road.

Councillor Damir Vrancic questioned the parking arrangements for the subdivision noting the problems that have been experienced in recently approved subdivisions with inadequate parking facilities.

Staff advised that a parking study was required as part of draft approval and that the width of the road was in accordance with town policy. Vrancic suggested a clause be included in the purchase of sale agreement.

He also questioned the servicing arrangements and their impact on neighbouring lands.

Staff replied that in order for the lands to the south to be serviced it was necessary to come through the Mattamy lands and the Landowners Group was willing to share with Mattamy.

It was finally agreed to approve the proposal in principle subject to all outstanding issues being resolved and for staff to prepare conditions of draft approval and the implementing zoning bylaw for consideration of council.



Robin Winter, new proprietor of the Aurora Greenhouse, teams up with Aurora Mayor Tim Jones to officially re-open the shop at 14981 Yonge Street last week. Historic business has operated from that location for decades.

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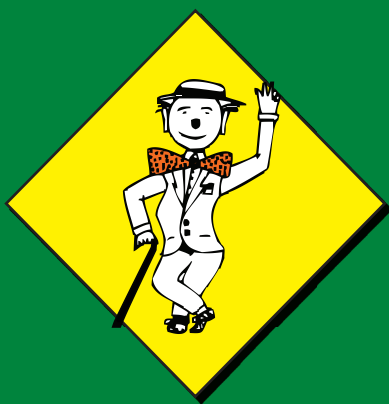
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