

# AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper



905-727-3300

Week of December 20, 2005

## Former Liberal candidate joins Kean campaign

Martha Hall Findlay, the person who nearly defeated Belinda Stronach in the last federal election, said Friday she would act as campaign advisor for Nigel Kean, the only announced candidate for the Aurora mayor's position in next November's municipal election.

Hall Findlay, who had hoped to repeat as the Newmarket-Aurora Liberal candidate in the upcoming federal election, was asked to push aside when Stronach left the Conservative Party of Canada and crossed the floor to the Liberals earlier this year.

The stunning move saw

Stronach become the liberal incumbent in Newmarket-Aurora, leaving Hall-Findlay without a riding.

In the last federal election, unknown Hall Findlay almost beat Stronach in a see-saw battle that finally saw Stronach take the riding with a slim 700vote margin.

Prior to the shakeup on Parliament Hill, Hall Findlay had purchased a house in Newmarket, and was beginning her own campaign to unseat Stronach when the shift occurred.

Last week, Hall Findlay sold Please see page 17



#### All-candidates' meeting

As he does every time there's a federal election, Aurora Councillor John West has organized an all-candidates' meeting prior to the upcoming January election.

The meeting, featuring all those running in the Newmarket-Aurora federal riding, will be held at Aurora's Town Hall, 1 Municipal Drive, Wednesday, January 11 beginning at 7.30

#### We're outta here

In order to give the staff some well deserved time off, The Auroran will not publish next week. December 27.

Next issue of your favourite local paper will appear January 3. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

#### Before we get back...

Christmas hasn't happened yet, but already staff at Aurora's Leisure Services are planning New Year's Eve.

The annual Family First Night activities take place from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. New Year's Eve at The Family Leisure Complex on Industrial Parkway North.

Activities include wagon rides, a bonfire, swimming, skating, make and take crafts and

The event is provided free of charge.

For more information contact the Special Events office at 905-726-4762, but do it soon, because the Town Offices are closed between Christmas and New Year's.

#### Results trickle

Three weeks ago, The Auroran placed a "ward system" questionnaire on its editorial page and sought input.

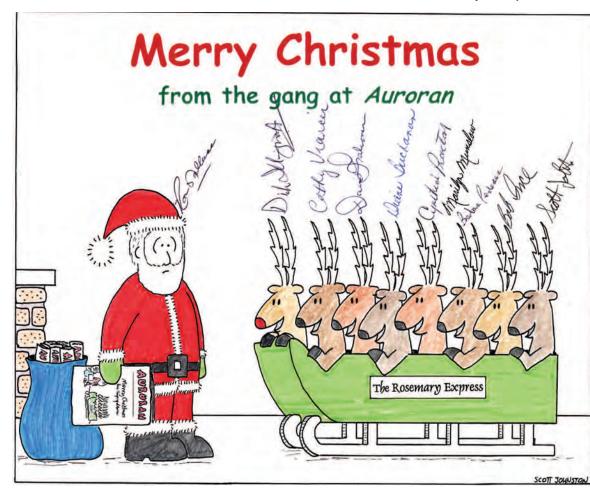
Perhaps because of the season, people have better things to do, but results are still trick ling into the office.

We'll wait until the new year to release the final figures, but, at press time, the decision not to divide Aurora into wards was slightly ahead in the voting - 64 to 58.

Whether the question is added to the ballot in next November's municipal election remains to be seen



Aurora Chamber of Commerce President Stephen Forsey and Immediate Past President Patricia Davidson toast the season at the Chamber's annual Christmas party held last week at Oakview Terrace on Leslie Street. Auroran photo by Ron Wallace







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#### CONTINUING

During the month of December the Skylight Gallery in the Town Hall features the art work of Julie Renwicke. Viewing hours are 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

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.auro-

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-

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-

#### **DECEMBER 23**

The Aurora Town Hall closes for the holidays at noon with reopening January 3 at 8.30 a.m.

#### **DECEMBER 24**

Family Christmas Eve service on the theme "Out of the Darkness" at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Mosley at Victoria

#### **CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**

The Gathering Place of Aurora

Christmas Eve Service - 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Christmas Day Service - 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

New Year's Celebration

Starts: at 9 p.m. Guest: Scott Holtz

**Bowling Fellowship** after midnight

Everyone Welcome

THE GATHERING PLACE 210 Edward Street 905-841-9172

#### **COMING EVENTS IN AURORA**

Street, Aurora. 7.30 p.m.

#### JANUARY 1

Russian Junior "A" All-Stars hockey team meets the Aurora Tigers at the Aurora Community Centre for an exhibition game at 2.30 p.m. For tickets call 905-841-3627.

#### **JANUARY 2**

Blood donor clinic, Our Lady of Grace Church, 16 Catherine Avenue, 2.30 to 7.30 p.m.

#### **JANUARY 3**

Registration opens for candidates for the November municipal election. Candidates must complete the prescribed form and submit cash or a certified cheque payable to the town for \$200 for the office of mayor and \$100 for candidates filing for other offices. Candidates must not spend or raise any funds for their election campaign until registration has been filed. Last day for registration is September 29, 2006.

#### **JANUARY 4**

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with Aurora Cable Internet, presents Child Safety, a free computer workshop in the Magna Room from 7 to 8.30 p.m. Register on-line, at the adult information desk, or phone 905-727-9493, option 4.

Aurora Chamber of Commerce "Business After Five" at Dundee Securities Corp., 53 Wellington Street East. 5.30 to 7.30 p.m. Free.

The slide-illustrated lecture series, Great Galleries of Europe, starts at the Aurora Library and continues every Tuesday in January from 6 to 7:30. For more information contact Lee McTavish at 416-978-7757 or lee.mctavish@utoronto.ca.

#### **JANUARY 11**

All-candidates meeting for the upcoming federal election. Aurora Town Hall council chambers, 1 Municipal Drive, 7.30 p.m.

#### **JANUARY 18**

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Luncheon meeting at the Howard Johnson Hotel with Showcase at 11.45 a.m. and lunch at 12.30 p.m. Guest speaker is Greg Skinner, Manager Corporate Affairs for TPL Group, operators of Tim Horton's. Pre-register by calling the Chamber office at 905-

#### **JANUARY 19**

The Wellington Gallery will hold Class Act II, a juried exhibition of stu-

dent 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.

#### **JANUARY 20**

Blood donor clinic, Town of Aurora Municipal Building lobby, 1 Municipal Drive. 11.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m.

#### **JANUARY 26**

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Networking Breakfast at the Aurora Sports Dome, 115 Industrial Parkway North, behind the Aurora Legion. 7.30 a.m. Free.

Blood donor clinic, Aurora Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North. 2.30

#### **JANUARY 27**

Family Literacy Day at the Aurora Public Library, in partnership with The York-Simcoe Literacy Council. Stories and activities for children three to five years of age with parents or caregivers in the Lebovic Room from 2 to

#### **JANUARY 31**

Aurora Public Library presents Scrapbooking for Beginners with Tracey Borg. Registration limited to 10 adults. 6.30 to 9 p.m. in the Magna Room. Register at the adult information desk or phone 905-727-9493, option 4. **FEBRUARY 1** 

Save money, stay warm and reduce greenhouse gases. Learn how at Down Draft, a seminar on home energy conservation. Presented by the Windfall Ecology Centre and the Town of Aurora's envionmental advisory committee as part of its Get Eco-Fit series. 7 p.m. at the Aurora Public Library. For information, call 905-841-6264.

#### **FEBRUARY 8**

Aurora Public Library presents Backyard Astronomy for Beginners with Bryan Sansom. 7 to 9 p.m. in the Magna Room. Ages 12 and older. Registration limited. Pre-register at the adult information desk or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

#### MARCH 1

Aurora Chamber of Commerce presents its New Member Trade Show from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Tuscany Banquet Centre on Edward Street.

# Merry Christmas!

Aurora at Christmastime is a great place to be. We feel truly blessed to live and work in this outstanding town that we all call home. Aurorans should take pride in the heartwarming community spirit that they have created, especially at this time of year.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our wishes for a joyful holiday season where peace finds you and your family.

Thanks for making us feel welcome.



905-727-4300 53 Wellington St. E. Aurora





Tom Yates presents a panel of photos tracking the construction of Aurora's new senior citizens' centre to Mayor Tim Jones during a council meeting last week. Three panels of photos made up the presentation. Tom has done a lot of photography for the centre and also runs their web site.

## 50-year gap between Aurora movie theatres

Aurorans received an early Christmas gift with the opening of the Cineplex Odeon Aurora Cinemas on Bayview Avenue last week.

No longer will they have to travel to Newmarket or Richmond Hill to see a movie.

(In reality, there is no theatre in Newmarket. Silver City is actually located in East Gwillimbury, north of Newmarket).

Aurora's new theatre has 10 screens, stadium seating, digital sound, a family entertainment centre, a birthday party room, snack bar and an application has been made for a liquor licence.

Quite a difference from the Royal Theatre, located on Centre Street, which closed in the mid-1950s.

The Royal (pronounced as if it were spelled Royale) was once the livery stable for the former Queen's Hotel at the corner of Yonge and Wellington Streets, where the TD Bank is located today.

The old building was demolished to add more spaces to what was then the IGA parking lot.

It was nothing like the luxury theatres of today but it was well attended by the town's 4,000 citizens.

Its closing left a void for the young people so Home and School organizations at both Wells Street and Regency Acres schools arranged for movies to be shown at the schools.

The town made several attempts to attract a movie theatre but without results.

In 1967 Famous Players indicated interest in opening a theatre in the south end plaza but it never materialized.

Then in December, 1973, council received an application for the construction of an enclosed mall to include a theatre on the north Yonge Street property currently occupied by Highland Chev Cadillac.

The application was for 59 townhouses in addition to the mall and it was referred to the planning committee.

Committee members expressed concerns about the impact of the proposed development on Old Yonge Street, but they didn't have to worry as it was never developed.

A year later a new organization named Cine-Scene brought movies to the Factory Theatre on the first Saturday of every month featuring comedy, dramas and musicals.

Heading up the group were Harry Shaw, Pat Pierpoint and Barbara McGowan, active Theatre Aurora members, who decided there was a need for top films to be shown in Aurora.

In January, 1991, the town's planning committee supported the concept of a regional shopping mall on Wellington Street East and recommended to council that the applicant include a movie theatre.

Bayview Wellington
Developments, a consortium of Cadillac Fairview,
Eaton's and Cooperative
Insurance had submitted an

application for a three-stage shopping centre on 222 acres on Bayview Avenue, north of Wellington Street to include community facilities such as a library and theatre.

Shortly after planning approval, Cadillac Fairview declared bankruptcy and the development was taken over by the Pen Equity Group.

Under the agreement, council would fast-track the housing development around the shopping centre in return for a library, a multiplex theatre and other facilities, which would be leased to the town for a nominal fee.

Then around 1996 when plans were changed from an enclosed mall to a series of separate commercial blocks, council agreed to waive the agreement in return for a cash fee, reported to be in the \$250,000 range.

There were other proposals for movie theatres but they failed to materialize.

Then in January, 2005, it was announced that a new 10-sceen Cineplex Odeon 2,200-seat movie theatre was coming to Aurora.

The proposed theatre would include an Alan Smithee's Café, Outtakes featuring fresh cut fries and pizza and a Yogen Fruz dessert bar.

It would also include Cinescape, a family entertainment.

This time the vision became a reality and the Aurora Cinemas is now open to show Aurorans and others the latest in movies.

The 50-year wait is over.

## Wells St. crossing guard issue to be reconsidered

A large group of parents, some of them with their children, students who attend Wells Street Public School, left the Aurora Council chambers happy last week as council agreed to reconsider its decision to remove the school crossing guard from the Wellington Street East and Wells Street intersection.

Last October the town's Traffic Safety Advisory Board recommended the school crossing guard at the intersection be removed.

Prior to removal, the guard was to remain in place for a four-month period to educate pedestrians how to use the Integrated Pedestrian Signals, which had been installed at the intersection.

It was pointed out the crossing guard was no longer required as only 60 to 80 students crossed Wellington Street daily

Council approved the recommendation and directed staff to advise the school principal accordingly.

Back in July, 2003, staff had recommended the crossing guard at the intersection be removed with the installation of the Intersection Pedestrian Signal, but at the time the Safety Board opposed the recommendation and council agreed.

Jody Matthew, representing the parents of the students, appeared Tuesday to make a presentation.

It was noted that the Wells Street School Council, school staff and parents were concerned about the proposed removal of the guard in February as one third of the student body lived north of Wellington Street.

At the same meeting, a memo was received from Director of Public Works Director Wayne Jackson which stated the notification portion of the Crossing Guard policy had not been followed as the school had been advised after council approval rather than before and there was some disagreement in the information given to council over the past three years.

It was recommended that council reconsider the issue and refer the disposition of the school crossing guard back to staff for a further report which will be prepared with representatives of the School Board, Wells Street School and the Region.

That report will be submitted next May.

In view of the staff memo and pending council approval, Matthew said he would withhold his comments until after the report was submitted and on condition the parents were notified before action was taken.

Council agreed.

## AURORA TOWN HALL HOLIDAY HOURS

The Town of Aurora Municipal Office will be closed for the Holiday Season from Friday, December 23 starting at 12 noon to Monday, January 2/06 inclusive.

We will be open for business on January 3, 2006

at 8:30 a.m. - regular business hours





Damir, Tanya, Linda & Cathy Wish You a Safe and Happy Holiday Season



DAMIR VRANCIC LAW OFFICE 21 WELLINGTON STREET EAST, AURORA, ONTARIO (905) 841-6411

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### **Poor Richard**

## Try to get home for Christmas

I'll be home for Christmas, The words ring a happy note; Of families and friends together, Not sitting alone in a boat.

- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

Christmas is a time for families. As children grow up and move away from home to start families of their own, every effort is usually made to get home for Christmas.

I remember my early childhood days on Pritchard Avenue in York Township.

We were a small but very happy family and I recall scrimping and saving every penny so I could buy a little gift for Mom and Dad and my brother and my sister.

Later, when I grew up the focus of Christmas changed and I became the Dad.

I still remember the pleasure and excitement of Christmas morning and the sparkle in daughter Suzanne's eyes as she opened each new gift.

Christmas is very much a family time.

I feel sorry for those not fortunate enough to be able to get home for Christmas and are forced to celebrate alone, if they celebrate at all.

Many young Canadians don't have the opportunity to get home for Christmas as they are members of Canada's Armed Forces and are serving far away from home on some foreign soil in the service of their coun-

The worst Christmas that I can recall was in 1943.

The dark clouds of war hung over England and the

The Battle of the Atlantic was still at its peak and there was an urgent need for aircraft and supplies of all

After completing my navigation training at Malton, I was assigned to 45 Group of the RAF Ferry Command, based at Dorval, Quebec, the jumping-off base for most trans-Atlantic flights.

I didn't have long to wait for my first assignment, as due to the illness of another navigator, I was crewed up with Captain Mark Rusiecki of the Polish Air Force to fly Mitchell FR198 to Scotland.

We took off from Dorval in the early hours of December 4th for Goose Bay, Labrador.

While I had carried out a "dry run" of a simulated trip

across the Atlantic no one told me where Goose Bay More by good luck than good navigation we found it,

but it wasn't until December 15th that we took off for Greenland, due to poor weather and an unsuccessful search for a missing aircraft.

After a couple attempts with recalls due to bad weather in Iceland, we finally made it on December 18th and reached our destination in Prestwick, Scotland on December 20th.

Before I had a chance to see any of my Dad's home land, on December 21st, I was loaded on a train with about 200 other returning aircrew for Greenock to board the "Acquitania" for the voyage home.

I didn't know any of the other passengers as Mark and the radio op were staying in Scotland for Christmas. Sometime during the night the big liner set sail and

when we woke up in the morning we were at sea for the unescorted voyage to New York City.

There were very few other passengers on board except for the returning aircrew.

Christmas Eve found us somewhere in mid-Atlantic. The ship was dry and spirits were low.

Some of us tried to start a sing-song around the piano but the singing of Christmas carols seemed to deepen the depression and they gradually drifted away to think and dream of home and family.

There was a padre on board and I don't recall his faith and he invited everyone to join with him in a Christmas service on Christmas morning which most attended.

The ship's crew did everything possible to make Christmas dinner something special, but it was a somber meal with everyone lost in their own thoughts.

We reached New York on December 30th and we looked forward to spending New Year's Eve in Times Square.

But that was not to be as buses were waiting at the dock to carry us to a special train to take us back to Montreal where we arrived in the late afternoon of

If you can get home for Christmas, make it a merry



This photo, found on the internet, shows Wellington Street looking east from Yonge Street in 1910. At the left is the old Queen's Hotel which operated at the corner until the early 1970s when it was demolished to make way for a bank. Buildings on the right side of Wellington are still there. Bob Cooke of Orillia found this photo on the internet and forwarded it to The Auroran.

Letters to the Editor

## Final solution lies with the electorate

To the editor,

Canada is possessed of four important political parties, one of which is in the throes of malfeasance and defeat, another in process of recovering from years of internal feuding; one is parochial and one is unlikely to form a government.

Since I wrote those opening lines, the Liberal government has been defeated and the opening articulated salvoes have been fired.

The political landscape has changed.

The NDP appears diminished by union support drifting to the Liberals, while the Tories are hogging the television screens and the Liberals appear to be rudderless, or licking wounds from defeat on the

The Tories desperately need a strong performance from Steven Harper while the Liberals desperately need Steven Harper to selfdestruct.

The NDP desperately needs a minority government so they can exert political blackmail, or languish as inconsequential, able to make outlandish claims but no real power.

The Bloc is beyond definition, neither one thing nor the other, in Canada in fact, but not in mind.

To my mind the Tories have need to stand up resolutely, look good, perform well, appear young, bright, articulate and capable, and the political landscape should change to their ben-

The criticism of the Tories is bland leadership, while the Liberals are assailed from malfeasance to poor administration to buying votes, too long in power is almost a throw in.

Specific deficiencies are the armed forces and health care.

So much could have been achieved, and so little has been achieved or has even regressed.

Dο we blame the Liberals for their inadequacies or the Tories for failing to provide adequate opposition, apparently a necessity in Canadian politics? Democracy is a powerful form of government but it needs the right conditions, not only to survive but to thrive.

If an opposition is ineffective, the ruling party fails to contain itself and

So now we sit back, wait, watch, and see how events unfold.

We keep score; if we are smart we keep open minds, do not allow ourselves to be captives to previous loyalties.

As a group we must perform adequately or see Canada stumble.

We literally choose the next government of Canada even though each vote is miniscule in itself, each vote is important.

It is too early yet to be sure of where to cast a vote or to be sure of how the issues will predominate.

I have my preference inasmuch as I believe a new party would benefit Canada the most.

But, a new government must be viable; in fighting is part of the competition for supremacy, you fight the other parties for votes and contend with same party candidates for party leader-

What is important is the capacity to govern.

Integrity is vital to maintain confidence.

A viable opposition is crucial to scrutinize the governing body, and the administration Liberal lacked this vital component and proved unable to contain elements delighted to feast on low hanging fruit.

Honesty is a full time quality which cannot be turned on and off like a tog-

The Liberals are left tarnished and smelling like a cargo of rotten fish beyond recovery.

Therefore, the final solution is the electorate; we must judge and vote according to our judgment; the country depends on it.

**Brian Warburton** Aurora

## AURORAN

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**Editorial policy** 

Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and letter writers are not necessarily those of The Auroran. Letters number, although number will not be published. Names may be withheld assuming a compelling reason to do so. Letters may be edited or refused. All contents protected by copy-

#### Advertising policy Publisher is not liable for slight

changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. Disputes must be brought to the attention of the publisher prior to the following edi-

## Lost wallet at theatre

To the editor,

On Dec. 11 at 6.30 p.m. my son lost his wallet at the Cineplex Odeon Theatre in Aurora.

It contained his spending money for Christmas presents and several gift cards which he had just received for his birthday one week ago and is devastated about hav-

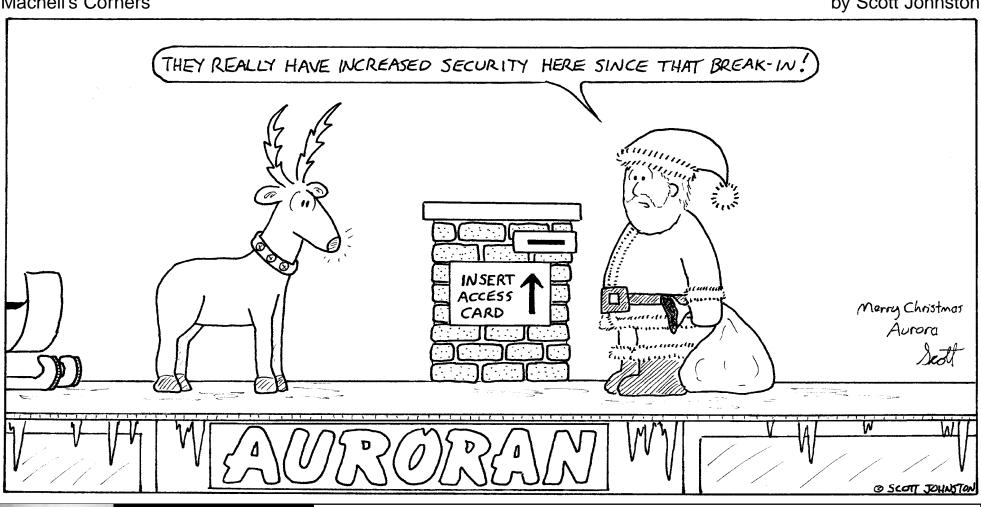
I am a single mother with three kids and can't afford to replace these items for my son so I am hoping that if someone did find his wallet, they will return it in the spirit of Christmas.

The wallet is black nylon velcro with "Whiplash" logo written across it.

He had no identification in it so please return it to the Cineplex Odeon in Aurora and they will contact us.

K. White **Aurora** 

Machell's Corners by Scott Johnston





#### Mayor's Report By Tim Jones

The York Region Food Network

I recently received a newsletter from the York Region Food Network and it opened my eyes further to the needs of the hungry in our own back yards.

In the letter that prefaced the newsletter the following highlights were emphasized and asked to be brought to Aurora Council's attention.

During the past year the eight central food banks in the Region have fed more than 44,000 people, which includes 19.000 children.

This is a population that is almost the size of Aurora!

Further, of those who have used this program, 60 per cent of the adult clients are employed and have a high

Food Bank usage has increased 25 per cent between 2001 and 2004 and the visits have increased by 31 per

This service is volunteer driven and it goes further than simply food by also providing toiletries, winter wear and back to school supplies.

The demographics of those who use the Food Banks show that the majority of users are between the ages of 19 and 65, more than 20,000; while the next largest age group is three to 12 years (more than 10,000). Approximately nine out of every 10 adult food bank clients were born in Canada or have been here for 10 years or more.

One out of every four clients has a university degree or college diploma.

As indicated, 60 per cent of adult food bank clients are employed or live with an employed household member (39 per cent full time).

The average monthly income ranges from \$725 per month for a single person to \$2,100 per month for an extended family with children.

This represents an annual income of \$8,700 to \$25,200 which is far below the average annual York Region household income (2001) of \$91,878.

Most income goes towards shelter, which is primarily rental accommodation or shared housing.

Many adults reported being hungry at least one day a week because they did not have enough food, and most (83 per cent) reported there were foods that they should eat, but didn't, because of cost, such as fruits and vegetables, meat, fish, poultry and milk and milk products.

Not eating healthy foods can lead to health issues.

Only about one quarter of the adult food bank clients reported their health to be excellent or very good compared with the Regional average of 60 per cent.

The concept of hungry and homeless in our Town is one that some may find difficult to comprehend, but it exists.

In conversation a few weeks ago with The Most Reverend Terence Finlay, retired Archbishop of Toronto and Rev Sheilagh Ashworth, both from Trinity Anglican Church in Aurora, I was further educated about needs of this type in our Town on a daily basis.

I would commend the work of the volunteers from Aurora Food Pantry as well as all the Regional Food Banks.

Many activities that are held in Aurora from the Farmer's Market to the Aurora Chamber of Commerce activities as well as depots at the Aurora Fire Hall and the Town Hall for Christmas have a food bank component to them.

Let us always remember those in need, and especially at this time of year.

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



## **Cathy's**



## Do you believe in Santa Claus?

When I was a little girl, I heard all about Santa from the kids at school.

Oh, sure, back in Macedonia, my mother told me all about "Dedo Mrass", which literally translates into "Grandfather Ice", but he wasn't nearly as exciting as "Santa Claus".

For one thing, nobody with a name like that would be coming down any chimney, and for another, the Macedonian guy wasn't into Christmas shopping.

Apparently, the only item on his list was to bring winter. So, of course, I started believing in Santa!

We didn't have a fireplace back in the 60's, so I left cookies and milk by the front door.

My cat ate the cookies and drank the milk, and then my dad stepped on the plate and it broke.

It was not a good Christmas.

I got in trouble, but worse than that, Santa didn't come. We didn't have a tree back then either, so the following year, I put the cookies and milk in the china cabinet, along with a note explaining that my parents are Macedonian.

My mom found the note and...well, that was not a good Christmas either.

But the worst was yet to come.

In 1969, some Santa savvy people came to visit my parents on Christmas Eve.

They even brought me presents - chocolate!

Three hunks of the stuff, all wrapped in shiny paper - a snowman, Rudolf, and a Santa.

I was so excited - it was the first time I got Christmas

So there I was with presents, and no tree to put them under. It was the biggest challenge of my little one digit life.

Being the creative type, I looked around the house for something I could convert into a Christmas tree. There wasn't much.

Finally, I settled for the only conical item in the whole house - the lamp on top of the television set.

But the lamp needed decorating, so I put a pretty doily

I went to bed like a good little girl - visions of sugar plums dancing in my head. Well, sort of...I didn't really know what a sugar plum was in those days. They don't have those in Macedonia.

Turns out they don't wrap those chocolates to be oozeproof...but worse than that, the doily was made of plastic that wasn't ooze-proof either. And cool white light bulbs hadn't been invented yet.

Yup, everything melted. That was not a good Christmas

Every Christmas since then, my dad laughs at me: "Do you remember when you put that chocolate Santa under

Oh, sure - now it's funny!

By 1970, I stopped believing in Santa Claus. But I had a three-year-old sister to impress, and being an honest person, I had to lie: Yes, Dianna! There is a Santa Claus!

Then I had to prove it.

I put cookies out, I put a glass of milk out, but first, I put the cat outside.

I ate the cookies, I drank the milk. And I picked the price tags off all the dime store stuff I saved up to buy.

Little did I know, I had become Santa Claus!

As the years went by, my parents adopted the Christmas traditions that were so strange to them when they first came to Canada.

Today, you'd never know they're Macedonian!

I've had many wonderful Christmases over the years, but the most delightful memory of days gone by is the awe and wonder on my little sister's face the first time Santa Claus came - the same expression I looked for on my children's faces on Christmas morning.

And strangely, I only ever saw that magical look on their faces when they believed in Santa Claus.

How ironic that the most memorable, rewarding, and fulfilling moments of life happen as we are too rapt in bringing joy to another to be concerned about who gets credit for the magic.

Isn't life wonderful?

Merry Christmas, Aurora!

And may the New Year bring you the pleasure of sharing the joys of your loved ones!

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

#### By DICK ILLINGWORTH

**BOUQUETS** to Santa's little Elves for reminding Poor Richard that Christmas is coming and he should be nice to everyone, so it's all BOUQUETS this

BOUQUETS to Councillor Nigel Kean on being recogix nized by members of the Olde Aurora Ratepayers' Association for his efforts in maintaining downtown Aurora. He received an award from the association for his leadership in organizing the popular summer Farmers' Market.

BOUQUETS to all the letter writers to The Auroran, both for and against a ward system for the municipality. Council members need to know the thoughts of the people and the letters may help them to make up their minds as to whether to ask the question on a ballot next November during the municipal election.

BOUQUETS to the Upper Canada Chordsmen for Managed States and American States are departed as the Speech Therapy Room at Southlake Regional Health Centre. They sing so that others may speak.

**BOUQUETS** to Cathy Vrancic for her hilarious column on the story of "Oh, Roarora" in the December 6th issue of The Auroran. She described a typical Aurora council meeting and captured the feeling of the meeting and its participants. It should be mandatory reading for all members of council.

BOUQUETS to the Aurora Minor Atom AA Tigers on winning their third tournament this season, as thev pulled the hat trick by winning the prestigious International Silver Stick Regional Tournament in Whitby.

BOUQUETS to Robin Winter, the new owner of the Aurora Greenhouse located on Yonge Street, just north of Cousins Drive. This historic business was operated for many years by Doug Nisbet on the former Aurora Highland Golf Club property before moving to its present location.

**BOUQUETS** to the Federation of Municipalities of Canada for preparing a wish list for municipalities in the coming federal election. Political leaders are promising money for just about every cause except municipalities. Unless governments increase infrastructure spending, property taxes will go through the roof. A good question to ask candidates when they call.

BOUQUETS to the McGuinty Liberal government for adopting legislation banning mandatory retirement at age 65. It should be a mutual agreement between employer and employee. Seniors making the choice to continue working should check with a financial advisor regarding RRSPs, pensions and insurance

**BOUQUETS** to Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion on being selected as the runner-up for Best Mayor in the World in a international contest sponsored by the City Mayors, based in Britain. She finished second to Mayor Dora Bakoyannis of Athens.

BOUQUETS to Mary's Friends for their fundraising "Rock 'N Roll Party" for colon cancer research in memory of Mary Courtemanche. This year they raised \$14,425, bringing the four year total to \$50,290.

**BOUQUETS** to the Japanese Agricultural Ministry for giving Canadian beef farmers a Christmas present by lifting the two-year ban on Canadian imports. The easing of the ban allows meat from cows

under the age of 21 months back into the Japanese market, worth about \$150 million a year.



#### Letters to the Editor

## "Peace on earth" misleading: reader

To the editor,

It is a bit misleading to place the Conservatives, i.e. Mr. Harper, in the corner of Peace on Earth at this time of electioneering.

Having a serious background, one can easily place the leader of the Conservatives in that corner. Yet the facts are differ-

It was the leader of the Conservatives who decided to give me, and most Canadians no peace of mind, nor did Mr. Harper show any goodwill toward Canadians at large, by aligning himself with the Separatist party leader

with enough seats, which is out to destroy my country as it is, to bring down our elected government.

No peace in Canada, eh, Stephen and Gilles.

I saw a very questionable "Governance" on the part of Stephen Harper's leadership with his monstrous decision to take away our peace of mind, as well as a total lack of goodwill on his part to accept a promised election within 60 days for selfish purposes.

Harper's total ignorance of good governance in this instance showed a lack of respect for the majority of Canadians and

their Christmas holidays. If the Conservatives'

excuse is, that it was done before, he should be advised that two wrongs never make a right.

Or is it the established conservative way to apologize and expect forgiving for lack of governance?

As for spending the Canadian tax funds, it appears Mr. Harper has already spent his billions, and it isn't two weeks since he started.

Peace in Canada, i.e. earth, or Canada's Conservative Separatist politicians?

Humbug!

Greed for power, lack of peace, and no goodwill to Canadians during the holiday season to be enjoyed, unless possibly a conservative or a separatist.

Jake Mol Aurora



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## University lectures need participants

To the editor,

One of Aurora's best kept secrets is the wonderful series of 10 lunch-hour lectures organized by the University of Toronto School of Continuing Studies and held at the Aurora library on Mondays from noon to 1 p.m. Over the past few years, U. of T. has offered a series in the fall and also in the winter.

This year, unfortunately, no Monday noontime lecture series will be offered in the winter.

However, they will be offering a series of four lectures on Tuesday evenings in January from 6 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. at the Aurora Library.

The series is called Galleries Europe" and will be offered on January 10, 17, 24, and

It will consist of an arm-

chair slide-illustrated tour of the fabled art galleries of Florence, Rome, Paris and London.

What a great way to spend a Tuesday evening.

I have an ulterior motive in writing this letter to The Auroran, as I have signed up for the course and am looking forward to it with great delight.

I just hope it is not cancelled due to lack of partic-

So, art lovers of Aurora, why not join me on a wonderful tour of Europe conducted by Cynthia Venables, a great teacher, art historian, and painter.

For more information, contact Lee McTavish at U. of T. Lee's phone number is 416-978-7757 and her e-mail is lee.mctavish @utoronto.ca.

Sylvia Gilchrist

## Disagrees with Dick

To the editor,

I normally agree with Dick Illinaworth's Bouquets and Brickbats but in the case of Karla Homolka, I think he got it wrong.

He should have given the brickbat to the Crown Attorney and defence lawyers who agreed on the despicably inadequate sentence of 12 years for the Aurora

murder of Kristen French and Lesley Mahaffey.

He should have given a bouquet to the Quebec judge who upheld the law as it stands, otherwise, we could end up like Nazi Germany that disregarded and manipulated the law for political purposes.

**David Tomlinson** 

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## Director outlines centre's purpose

To the editor,

As one of the directors of the Women's Centre of York Region I would like to take this opportunity to let

you know what kind of work the Women's Centre of York Region does.

The Centre is located at 15208 Yonge Street, Suite in Aurora and has

You are CHATS's

greatest cheerleaders!

Deborah Egan

**CHATS** 

**Executive Director** 

**Community Home** 

**Assistance to Seniors** 

served the area for more than 30 years.

The W.C.Y.R. is a community-based non-profit organization whose sole purpose is to provide women in need with the opportunities and tools to improve their lives.

Their new slogan is "Unlock your Life".

We offer keys for women in need to work through living with abuse: physical, emotional, mental and sex-

We offer many support services such as transitional housing, individual counselling, life skills, counselling groups, poverty relief and entrepreneurial development.

All at no cost to the women.

The W.C.Y.R. plays a vital role in increasing economic and social opportunities for women in York Region.

In turn women and children are able to live safe and healthy lives.

Some women, after taking the entrepreneurial development course, go on to opening their own business to gain the financial independence and security of a better life.

On Monday, December 12th, an open house was held to introduce the many supporters to the staff who make this happen.

It was a great success

and we received many toys worked so hard to make the and gifts for those who depend on the centre.

I would like to thank all the generous folks who attended the open house and ask for their continued support to help.

I would also like to thank the dedicated staff who

evening so enjoyable.

If you would like to find out more about the centre or make a donation please call 905-727-5837.

Nigel Kean W.C.Y.R. Director

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## CHATS liked our coverage

To the editor,

On behalf of the clients, volunteers and of Community Home Assistance to Seniors (CHATS), I'd like to thank the community for their support of our recent Wellness Week events - and thank you, The Auroran, for your wonderful coverage.

More than 300 visitors came to CHATS during the three-day event in mid-November to tour our newly-renovated facilities, participate in educational seminars and Day Program activities, and celebrate the grand opening of the Wellness Centre for Seniors and Caregivers.

It's because of the support of community members that CHATS is able to help York Region seniors live independ-

Each year, we provide programs and services to more than 3,500 seniors and caregivers.

Thank you all for your compassion and encouragement.

### Did Belinda write letter?

To the editor,

Re the letter to the editor, Page 6, The Auroran, for Week of December 13, 2005: "Belinda deserves to be our member".

The person who wrote this letter has every right to express his or her opinion of Belinda Stronach.

However, I feel strongly that anyone who writes to a newspaper should have the gumption to sign the letter. (Unless, of course, they are trying to hide from the mafia or something similar).

Otherwise, for all we know, it could be from Belinda herself.

I am surprised that The Auroran printed this letter without a signature.

Alma Durkin Aurora

ED. NOTE: Auroran knows who wrote the letter, and it was not Belinda.

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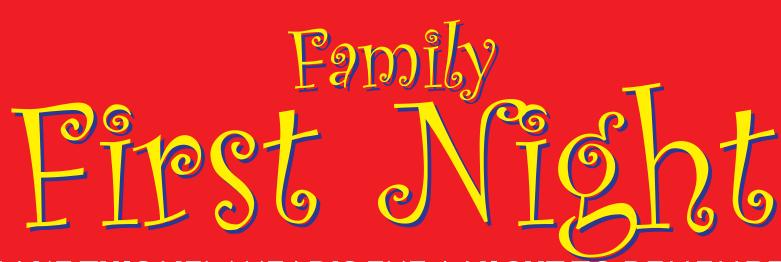
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## Election is time to send a clear message

Fewer than 18 months ago, Belinda Stronach was denigrating the Liberal Party and listing all the valid reasons why the Liberals were unfit to govern Canada.

The majority of people

Aurora Senior Public School.

ED. NOTE: The following free verse poem was

written by Megan Fisher, a Grade 8 student at

**Christmas Night** 

Christmas time

Is finally here,

A time of happiness,

A time of cheer.

This time of year,

We need to share,

And show each other

How much we care.

This time of year,

We love the songs,

The carols and hymns.

We waited so long.

The gifts are sitting

Under the tree.

We want these gifts,

But do we need?

Because, to have these joys

Is quite amazing,

For in the stomachs of others,

Hunger is blazing.

People are dying

Of coldness and hunger,

But as long as we're here,

They should suffer no longer.

We desperately all

Need to give,

To help the poor,

Just so they can live.

There are the homeless and less fortunate,

Both adults and kids alike,

We need to feed them; we have to warm them,

So that they can sleep soundly on Christmas night.

Megan Fisher

**Aurora Senior Public School** 

Grade 8

Aurora/Newmarket agreed with her and elected her as our Conservative Member of Parliament.

Shortly following her election, she sought or was offered a cabinet post in the Martin Government and she promptly betrayed her constituents, totally

process that elected her Conservative our Member of Parliament, and joined the very party she campaigned against.

No matter how she tries to rationalize her actions, what Stronach did was ethically, morally and democratically wrong.

Whatever our political

## This decision a black eye for the Town

To the editor,

Oh, woe.

Aurora has a black eye, one it has given itself.

Every time I look on that sea of houses building 'tween St. John's and Wellington I am reminded that where other municipalites go to the Ontario Municipal Board to

Auroran size suits reader

To the editor,

I would like to applaud The Auroran on the compact format of its paper each week.

Today, as I disentangled all the ad pages of the Era Banner to dump them straight in the recycling bin - unread - I decided to weigh them.

Three pounds was the score on my bathroom scales, three times a week!

That I am the only one who recycles them immediately is doubtful.

What a disgraceful waste of trees and energy to manufacture them, to be delivered to every household, for the relatively small percentage of people who respond and buy as a result.

**Dierdre Tomlinson** Aurora

ED. NOTE: In fairness, the "three-pound" paper is delivered once a week. fight development on environmentally sensitive land, Aurora hired a lawyer to back up and defend the developer position already defended by a phalanx of development lawyers.

The case in point was the last area of Aurora wilderness supporting 69 species of birds, rare reptiles, a pristine area including a bird land sanctuary and enhanced Ducks Unlimited.

Provincial guidelines stated a 120-metre buffer should protect the area.

The town supported a 35metre buffer eradicating the rarity and uniqueness of the

Where those whose heart soars at natural beauty are now faced with some man made controlled space.

The naturalness vaged.

Woe.

Remember the names of your local councillors who supported developers destroying a natural wetland that the province advised 120-metre boundary our council reduced to 35 metres.

The Aurora Council decision is one as black as the Region recently cutting down 10,000 trees to save 10 minutes driving time.

And we get, in return, empty statements of restora-

Impossible.

**Gail McIntyre** Aurora

affiliation, we should all be outraged at Belinda's disregard for the electoral process.

If I were a supporter of Stronach and she was elected. I would be very concerned that if the Conservatives form the next Government she will she realize was Conservative all along and will once again be on that short walk across the aisle to sit with the winning party.

opportunity Aurora/Newmarket to send a clear message to all politicians that we are tired of the lies, the deceit and self-serving personal agendas that seem to be such an integral part of politics today and that there is a penalty for abusing our trust and that is to be voted out of office.

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Santa Claus assisted Alan Steed and his Grade 3 students from Regency Acres Public School Friday night as they entertained residents with Christmas carols. Auroran photo by David Falconer

DON'T STAY AT HOME ALONE. Happy Holidays, Aurora!

Christmas Joy to All and special good wishes to Aurora Seniors.

There's a cozy fire, a comfy couch and a very warm welcome to new members at the new Aurora Seniors' Centre so, please...

Evelyn Buck

Town Councillor





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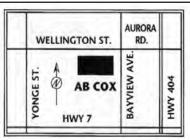
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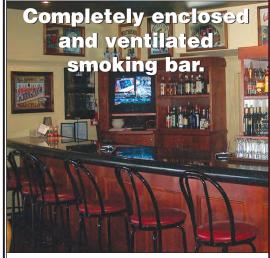






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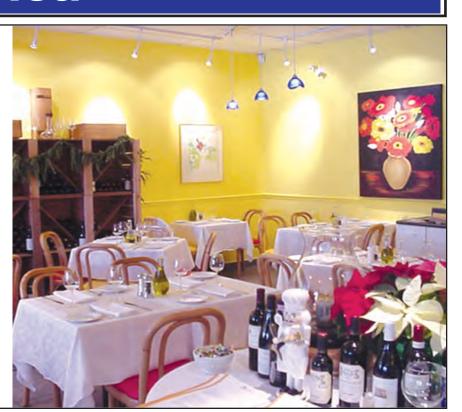
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Week of December 20, 2005

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## After 5-4 overtime loss, Aurora shuts the door

around with the Aurora Tigers junior A hockey

After Aurora gave up three goals in the third period and wound up losing 5-4 in overtime to the Stouffville Spirit last week, they have slammed the door in the oppositions' face.

"We don't like to lose, "coach Jerome Dupont told the Auroran Monday

In two following home games, Aurora blanked the Seguin Bruins 6-0 Friday night, then followed up with an 8-0 shellacking of Panthers Pickering Sunday afternoon.

Jeremie Dupont, in goal for all three games, saw his average drop to 2.23, after he recorded his 14th victory Sunday afternoon.

Thursday's In last game in Stouffville, Aurora led 3-1 after 40 minutes of play, but were outscored 3-1 in the final frame to set up the overtime scenario.

Jeric Agosta led the way for Aurora with two goals, while Matt Caranci and Michael Lombardo added singles.

With the expansion Seguin Bruins coming to town the next night, the Tigers hoped to redeem themselves.

It was no contest as Aurora fired two in the first, added one in the second, then nailed things shut with three goals in the final frame to win 6-0.

This time, Fraser Smith contributed a pair of goals, while singles came from Frank Soscia, Andrew Knobel, Chad Kennedy and Doug Henderson.

Sunday afternoon, with an 8-0 win over Pickering, the scoring parade consisted of a pair of goals from Josh McNair, and singles from Diamond, Henderson, Kennedy, Matt McGill, Daniel Michalsky and Jeremy Whelan.

Tigers now boast a 25-7-4 record so far this season, and have lost only one game at the Aurora Community Centre. They are 14-1-1 at home.

Agosta has opened up a seven-point lead in the

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scoring race, and, thanks to three assists Sunday, hit the 50-point mark with 26 goals and 24 assists.

McNair - 21 and 20 - is in second place, while Cale Tanaka is third with 19 goals and 22 assists.

Aurora will host the North York Rangers this Friday at the Community Centre, in a game that begins at 7.30 p.m.

They'll then break for

Christmas and prepare to meet a junior hockey team from Russia on New Year's Day.

That game will be played at the Aurora Communtity Centre beginning at 2:30 p.m.

On Wednesday, Jan. 4, Aurora hosts the Wexford Rangers, then the following Friday and Saturday, travel to Huntsville and

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The Aurora Skating Club held its Spirit Day Saturday and many of the 500-member club participated. In the top photo, left to right, Tori Ellis, Jenna Porteous and Lauren Cooper offer assistance to, left to right, Julia Ciciretto, Sarah McGee and Christina Ciciretto. At left, Mathew Mandell accepts help from Jennie Brunton.

Auroran photos by David Falconer

Senior Bronze - Samantha Galati, Jacqueline Relke, Tayler Sim, Katie

Free Skate Elements

Preliminary - Nicole Calvert.

Free Skate Program

Preliminary - Christina Relke.

## Skating results

Sutton.

Following is a list of results from Aurora Skating Club members who completed successfully November 29

#### **Preliminary Dance**

Dutch Waltz - Erin Foster, Sidney Lambert, Kaliee O'Connor, Mathew Warner, Arso Wanad.

Calvert, Dylann Miller.

Baby Blues - Stephanie Ng.

#### **Junior Bronze Dance**

Swing - Carley Steiner, Molly Oulahen, Shannon Lacombe.

Fiesta Tango – Shauna O'Connor. Willow Waltz - Sabrina Brochu, Samantha Duncan, Emily O'Connor, Shelby Olesovsky, Katrina Thunem.

#### **Senior Bronze Dance**

Ten Fox - Hailey McGrath, Zahra Rajan, Courtney Tidona.

Fourteen Step - Austin Bushell. European - Samantha Galati, Christina Relke.

#### Skating Skills

Preliminary - Alyssa Simon, Mackenzie Maunder, Jackianne

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#### **House League**

#### **Tyke**

107 Tim Horton's Bruins 11 - Christian Arcuri 3A, Charles Bennett 1A, Evan Cherubini 3G 1A, Andrew Daniell 1A, Alistair Johnston 3A, Tristan Kuchar 1G 2A, Nicholas Sansalone 1G 1A, Cole Thiessen 6G. 106 Tim Horton's Red Wings Tyke HL 5

103 Tim Horton's Blackhawks 12 - Giles Miller 1A, Andrew Badali 7G, Micheal Dowling 2A, Jacob Fenchak 1G 2A, Taylor Kauffeldt 2G 1A, Colin McGoldrick 2A, Jeffrey McKay 2A, Matthew Barnett 2A, Eric Shennan 2G, Devlin Kauffeldt 2A, Brett Diamond 3A, Jacob Hatton 2A. 102 Tim Horton's Rangers Tyke HL 3.

108 Tim Horton's Blues Tyke HL 5 - Thomas Sauer 1A, Matthew Tyndall 1A, Colin Kostin 2G 1A, Nat Leontis 2A, Jordan Reeves 1A, David Townshend 1A, Cameron Zinner 3G. 105 Tim Horton's Flyers

104 Tim Horton's Sharks Tyke HL 6 - Bryan Manweiler 1A, Jared Brown 2A, Adam Caicco 1A, Michael Montesanti 2G, Anthony Orlandi 2G, Tyler Wilson 1G, Jared Reeves 1G 1A. 101 Tim Horton's Leafs 3 - Ryan Coveart 1G Cameron Morrison 2G.

#### **Novice**

202 Mastermind Toys.Com 6 - Colin Dunlop 2A, David Kangas 1A. Hunter Jones 1A. Joshua Lve 1G. Liam Joiner 1A, Rory Hamilton 2A, Ryan Batten 1A, Ryan Ouwroules 4G, Chris Broughton 1G. 206 Emilio's Pizza Novice HL 2 - Chris Klinowski 1A, Mark Bonofiglio 1G, Andre Cristillo 1A, Connor Kemp 1A, Nolan Smith 1G.

205 HS Financial Serivces Novice HL 4 - Eddie Duffie 1G 3A, Patrick Bourrie 3G 1A, Samantha Hussey 1A. 201 McAlpine Ford Lincoln 3 -Matthew Hall 1G 1A, Jeffrey Wanless 1A, Cole Johnson 2A, Christian Baggio 2G 1A.

204 North York Heating & Plumbing Novice HL 8 Evan Nichols 2G, Nick Armour 1G 2A, Peter McKerracher 1G, Dylan Pyziak 3G, Justin Laird 1A, James Power 1G, Nicholas Scougall 2A. 203 Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre 1.

#### Minor Atom

301 ADC Aluminum 9. 305 All Pro Source For Sports Minor Atom HL 4 - Morgan Walker 2G, Mitchell Palmer 1G, Michael Slack 2A, Jordan Stephenson 1A, Brendan Harris 1G.

304 Chouinard Bros. Roofing & Windows 4. 306 Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre Minor Atom HL 1 - Thomas Finlay 1G, Joe Ekstrom 1A, Michael Liscio 1A.

308 Delph & Jenkins Surveyors Minor Atom HL 5. 303 Dr. Steiner's Drillers 4 - Maxwell Brown 1A, Riley O'Brien 2G, Nicholas Steiner 2G, Alexander

307 Optimist Club of Aurora Minor Atom HL 4 -Tyler Hindley 1A, Landon Kirby 1A, Matthew Walker 1G, Nicholas Scott 1G, Alex Cicchino 1A, Robin Creighton 2G. 302 Laurion Law Office 1 -Matt Sanita 1G.

#### **Atom**

403 Dr. Steiner's Drillers Atom HL 3 - Stephen Wilkins 1G. Liam Devlin 1G. Rvan Dowling 1G 1A 404 Optimist Club of Aurora 2 - Steven Grandin 1G, Sammy Fanone 1A, Daniel Bunder 1A, Massimo Longhin 1G.

401 Nacora Insurance Brokers Atom HL 5 -Andrew Boehmer 2G, Jake Martin 1A, Diego Nafarrate 1G, Jamie Pountney 1G, Chance Rodin 1G, Matthew Warner 1A. 405 Rotary Club of Aurora 5 - Ryan Byerlay 2G, Kyle Davy-Vass 1A, Scott Wheeler 1A, Michael McCreesh 1G 1A, Quinn McGowan 1G 2A, Matthew Roach 1G.

406 Continental Custom Ingredients Atom HL 2 -Curtis Fordyce 1G, Justin Stevens 1A, Nicolas Bertrand 1G, Trevor Stephens 1A. 402 McAlpine Ford Lincoln 2 - Andreas Mikkelsen 1G, Zachary Ferry 1G.

#### **Minor Peewee**

502 Supreme Collision Centre Minor Peewee HL 3 - Arun Partridge 1G, Ward Benn 1G, Joey Romano 1A, Geoffrey Ash 1G. 506 Diamond Groundskeeping Services 3 - Royce Kirby 1G, Zach Pyle 1G 1A, David Marsillo 1A,

### Aurora Minor Hockey Association Results to 9 AM Sunday, December 18

### Website: www.aci.on.ca/amha

505 Pizza Pizza 4 - Micheal David 1G, Andrew Gibbs 1A. Daniel Laflamme 2G. Jake Langford 1A. Andrew Luck 1A, Gregory Olejnik 2A, Cody Rundle-Sanderson 1A, Nicholas Theodoropolous 1G, Taylor Cooke 1A. 501 Chevalier Chrysler Minor Peewee

501 Chevalier Chrysler Minor Peewee HL 5 -Heather Tuck 1G, Joseph Ariganello 1A, Marshall McGaffey 1G 1A, Eamon Reilly 3G 1A, Peter Hillar 1A. 506 Diamond Groundskeeping Services 2.

505 Pizza Pizza Minor Peewee HL 6 - Micheal David 1G 2A, Andrew Gibbs 1A, Daniel Laflamme 2G, Jake Langford 1G, Andrew Luck 1G 2A, Gregory Olejnik 2A, Cody Rundle-Sanderson 1A, Nicholas Theodoropolous 1A, Brian Tree 1G. 504 The Backyard Pool & Spa Company 5 - Cody Cassell 1G, Cole Roffey 1G, JP Hudon 2G 2A, Matt Noseworthy 1G.

503 Winchurch Environmental Inc. 4. 504 The Backyard Pool & Spa Company Minor Peewee

#### **Peewee**

609 Manhattan Trophies Peewee HL 8 - Brett Richardson 1G. Justin Dickerman 1G. Jarett Meron 2G, Michael Baek 1A, Ryan Laird 1A, Kevin McCrudden 3G, Stephen Newby 1G 3A, Rosario Arcuri 1A. 606 National Sports 3 - Dakota Hendy 1A, Christian Davies 1G 1A, Rocco DeBartolo 1A, Greg Lacroix 1G, Ricky Evans 1G, Sean Takahashi

609 Manhattan Trophies Peewee HL 6 - Kevin McCrudden 1G, Stephen Newby 5G 1A. 610 ACI 6 Matthew Clarke 2A, Michael Vance 3G 1A, Quinn Tessarolo 1G 1A, Tyler Stephenson 1A, David Marini 1G, Scott Tonello 1A, Egan Fennell 1G 1A.

608 Pharmasave Peewee HL 3 - Jay McConnell 1G, Christian Avolio 1A, Jordan Gerace 1G 1A. Kevin Tree 1A, Adrian Tobin 1G. 607 Cosentino Produce 3 - Andrew Cosentino 1G, Joey Lombardi 1G, Cameron Annear 1A, Alexander Payne 1G.

603 Aurora Dental Centre Peewee HL 5 - Jacob Giacomazzo 1A, Tanner Brewer 2G 1A. Chase Riddell 1G 1A, Adam Balaban 2G. 607 Cosentino Produce 3 - Patrick Dowling 1A, Jonathan Boehmer 2G, Alexander Payne 1A, Sean Fabro 1G.

604 CAA South Central Ontario 4 - Christopher Follett 1A, Paul Tuck 1G, Sean Maule 1A, Troy Gouveia 3G, Charlie Still 1A. 603 Aurora Dental Centre Peewee HL 0.

#### **Minor Bantam**

704 Aurora Montessori School Minor Bantam HL 4 - Scott Cunningham 1A, Mattheus Vloet 1G, George Marshall 1A, Marco Santella 3G. 702 Highland Chevrolet Cadillac 4 - Alex Heintzman 1G 1A, Michael Faulds 1G, Iain Briscoe 1A, Evan Casselden 1G 1A, Neil Gaston 1G 1A.

#### Midget

1006 AB Cox Pontiac Buick GMC Midget HL 5. 1004 Aurora Legion 3 - Zack Andrews 2G 1A, Alex Cancelli 1A, Brenden McNeely 1A, Liam McNeely 1G, Sean Fodey 2A.

#### Select

Lawton Leasing Redmen 10 Aurora Tigers Tyke Select 2

Aurora Tigers Tyke Select 7 - Andrew Badali 1G 1A, Ryan Coveart 1A, Michael Da Costa 1G 1A, Anthony Orlandi 1A, Jack Pecora 1A, Patrick Servideo 2G, Cole Chapman 1G, Cole Thiessen 2A, Robert Thomas 2G. Stouffville 0.

### Rep Games

Aurora Tigers Novice AA 3 - Jake Appleby 1A, Hayden Hassard 1G, Graeme McDonald 1G 1A, Nicholas Papousek 1A, Jesse Wiemer 1G 1A.

Aurora Tigers Novice AA 3 - Jake Appleby 1A, Hayden Hassard 1A, Braeden Kublick 1G, Graeme McDonald 1A, Nicholas Papousek 1A, Jesse Wiemer 2G. Markham 3.

Aurora Tigers Novice AA 3 - Jake Appleby 1A, Nicholas Baxter 1G, Peter Andreakos 1G,

Braeden Kublick 1A, Graeme McDonald 1G. Richmond Hill 2.

**Aurora Tigers Novice A 6 Richmond Hill 2** 

Aurora Tigers Novice AE 2 - Kyle Bryden 1A, Jeff Stobo 1A, Joesph Battiston 1G, Alex Popa 1A, Brendan Ruuskanen 1G.

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AA 3 - Branden Fennell 2G, Jack Caldwell 1G. Richmond Hill 2.

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AA 2 - Liam Coll 1G, Konner McMillan 1A, Branden Fennell 1G, Austin Lane 1A.

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom A 3 - Erik Balkovec 1G 1A, Paul Neophytou 1A, Parker Baile 1G, Austin Persaud 1A, Evan Jackson 1G 1A, Scott Kostin 2A.

**TNT Tornados 1** 

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AE 3 -Liam Beresford 2G, Jordyn Thomson 1G, Blake Wallace 1A, Nathan Nealon 1A. Stouffville 0

Evergreen Lawn Sprinklers Redmen 6 Aurora Tigers Atom AA 1

Aurora Tigers Atom A 0 - Shutout: Taylor East Gwillimbury 0

Aurora Tigers Atom A 1 - Quincy Ing 1A, Stefan Lazzer 1G, Kevin Casey 1A. Stewart Food Services Redmen 1

Aurora Tigers Atom A 6 - Hayden Trask 1G, Ben Hankins 1G 1A, Daniel Fiori 1A, Peter Sandwell 1A, Stefan Lazzer 2G, Kiefer McIntosh 1A, Daniel Jones 1A, Daniel Antoniel 1G 2A, Bailey Miller 1A, Eric Damecour 1G, Kevin Casey 1A.

NobleKing 1

Aurora Tigers Atom AE 2 - William Brogan 1G, Connor Moody 1G 1A, Conner McQuillan 1A. Reline Auto Redmen 1

Aurora Tigers Atom AE 8 - Connor Moody 3G 1A, Sammy Steenhorst 1G, Conner McQuillan 1A, Eric Archibald 3A, Matthew Pryse 1A, Colton Lee 1A, Jack Straw 1A, Vincent Ruscica 3G, Eric Bulloch 1G 1A, Ryan Baskin 2A.

Woolwich Wildcats 0

Aurora Tigers Atom AE 3 - William Allen 1G. Sammy Steenhorst 1A, Braden Casselden 1A, Eric Archibald 1G, Jimmy Brookes 1A, Vincent Ruscica 2A, Ryan Baskin 1G 1A. Orillia 1

Georgina 2

Aurora Tigers Atom AE 1 - Eric Archibald 1A, Vincent Ruscica 1G.

**Richmond Hill 6** Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee AA 0

Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee A 1 Markham 1

**TNT Tornados 7** urora Tigers Minor Peewee A 1

Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee AE 4 - Mackenzie Wooder 1A, Dylan Hussey 1G, Anthony Selski 2A, Evan Collict 2G, Dylan Woyslaw 1G.

Georgetown 7

Aurora Tigers Minor Peewee AE 3 - Cooper Catt 1A, Jesse Bentolila 2A, Anthony Selski 2G, Evan Collict 1G, Dylan Woyslaw 1A, Kevin

Barrie 8 Aurora Tigers Peewee AA 0

Aurora Tigers Peewee AA 5 - Eleeza Cox 1A, Blair Cuthbert 1G, Tristan Miller 3G, Matthew Miller 1A, Matthew Mears 1G 2A, Jack Steffan 1A. James Harkin 2A, Evan Carlisle 1A.

**TNT Tornados 2** 

Aurora Tigers Peewee A 1 - Kyle McCreedy 1A, Chris Smith 1G.

Aurora Tigers Peewee A 1 - Kyle McCreedy 1A, Luca Battiston 1G, Denis Casey 1A.

Stouffville 6

Aurora Tigers Peewee AE 3 - Spencer George 1A, Daniel Howie 1G, Brendan Strachan 1G, Alex Thompson 1G 1A, Michael Di Vincenzo 1A.

Aurora Tigers Peewee AE 5 - Brett Allen 3A, Spencer George 2G 1A, Daniel Howie 1G 1A, Aaron Nusbaum 1A, Nicholas Silverio 1A, Brendan Strachan 1A, Mark Tanel 1G 1A, Alex Thompson 1G 1A. Shutout: Zackary Henderson.

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AA 2 - Anthony Marsillo 1G, Oliver Boettcher 1A, Shawn Clark 1A, Louis Lamanna 1G, Taylor Nuttall 1A. Redmen 2.

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AA 1 - Justin Brown 1A, Dylan Cross 1G.

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam A 3 - Shawn MacEachern 1A, Aaron Beally 1G, Jakub Sykora 1A, Spencer Arkell 1A, Michael McGolrick 1G, Dillon Cappell 1G.

Twin Contracting Redmen 1 - Colin Haveman 1G, Paul Jelley 1A, Sean Malone 1A.

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam A 4 - Tyler Tisdale 1G, Aaron Beally 1G 2A, Jakub Sykora 2A, Max Lerner 2A, Dillon Cappell 1G, Jesse Cappell 1G. **Bradford 3** 

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam A 6 - Peter Abels 1A, Sean Agostino 1G, Tyler Tisdale 1G 2A, Shawn MacEachern 1A, Corey Jeffery 2A, Aaron Beally 1G, Michael McGolrick 2G 1A, Dillon Cappell 1G

Barrie 1

**Bradford 3** 

Port Hope 3

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AE 6 Markham 2

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AE 3 Richmond Hill 2

Aurora Tigers Minor Bantam AE 2

Aurora Tigers Bantam A 4

Woolwich Wildcats 6 Aurora Tigers Bantam A 2

Aurora Tigers Bantam A 9 Richmond Hill 7

Oshawa 4 Aurora Tigers Bantam A 1

Aurora Tigers Bantam AE 4 - Adam Bloom 2G, Darrel Evans 1A, Michael Grande 1G 1A, Curtis Hough 1A, Andrew Mangialardi 1G, Brandon Giniotis 1A. Georgina 4

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AA 4 Georgina 3

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget A 2 - Robert Lee 1A, Ian Weston 1G, Jesse Coote 1A, Jake Hurlbut 1G, Cody Bastarache 1A, Brendan Hamner 1A.

Bradford 6

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget A 3 - Robert Lee 1A, Ian Weston 1G, Jeremy Cohen 1A, Spencer McCartney 1A, Greg Gianopoulos 1G, Brendan

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget A 2 - Ian Weston 1A, Patrick McMurray 1G, Jeremy Cohen 1G, Cody Bastarache 1A.

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AE 2 Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AE 5

**Barrie Tournament 3** 

Georgina 1

Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AE 5 Markham 0

## Masterly blend at Trinity Anglican concert

By THOMAS DAVEY

Symphony's December concert Aurora's Trinity Anglican Church blended an ambitious orchestral program with exceptional vocal performances from two sopranos and a bass-baritone which often amused, then moved the audience.

paign.

composers

Humperdinck,

After working through a

Verdi

and

without

selection which included

vocals, Chantelle Grant,

exuding confidence, walked

The evening was a musical feast but space precludes individual listings, there being too many 'courses' to mention.

Leading with Mozart's overture to the Magic Flute, the orchestra then accompanied a superb duet, featuring soprano Deanna Hendriks and bass-baritone Jan Vaculik in a classic from the Marriage of Figaro.

Mezzo-soprano Chantelle Grant followed with Mozart's 'Ah! Scostati'. from Cosi Fan Tutte.

Her distinctive power, range and tone resonated throughout the building, literally making the rafters ring.

### Candidate selects Hall Findlay as advisor

From page 1

her Newmarket home and moved to Toronto.

However, wanting to keep involved in the political scene, she become agreed Kean's campaign advisor.

Currently, Kean is a member of Aurora Council, finishing in second spot in the last municipal election two years ago.

He announced in The Auroran a few weeks ago that he would seek the top job in the community, a position he has sought before.

Meanwhile, Councillor Phyllis Morris rumoured to officially announce her intentions to seek the mayor's job Jan. 3.

"There is a strong possibility I will make an announcement Councillor January," Morris told The Auroran Saturday, but would not elaborate on what the announcement would say.

Incumbent Mayor Tim Jones has yet to make a statement on his intentions to retain the mayor's chair, a job he has held for four terms.

Hall Findlay expecting to be "parachuted" into another ridfollowing ing Stronach move, but Prime Minister Paul Martin told The Auroran recently, the Liberals had no plans for the future of the young lawyer.

The next municipal election is scheduled for Monday, November 13, 2006.

After three more excerpts along the aisle while giving a powerful interpretation of the from operas, the symphony 'Habanera' from Carmen, played Berlioz's 'Hungarian March' with the force and the most famous of Bizet's power of the full orchestra capturing marches with pre-This was followed by the cision percussion which, contrasting baritone of Jan

Vaculik in Haydn's 'The blending with the brass section, gave the beat and Creation.' power of a military cam-Then followed a most

remarkable soprano solo performance when Deanna Hendriks sang and acted with the coquettish body language of a life-sized mechanical doll while her voice, effortlessly, gave a precocious coloratura.

Then, from the ridiculous to the sublime, in a stunning contrast. Deanna and Chantelle sang the haunting 'Flower Duet', from Delibes' Lakme.

This music became very well known after it was used in several commercials by British Airways.

The orchestra concluded the program with Mascagni's 'Intermezzo' from Cavalleria Rusticana.

Music Director, Gregory Burton, who is always a

delight to watch with his energetic conducting, then brought out the three soloists.

They were greeted by a standing ovation from the audience, as was the orchestra.



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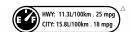
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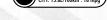


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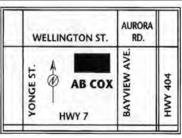
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<u>GM</u>



The Spectrum Baton Club held its annual Christmas Show and Party recently at Lester B. Pearson Public School in Aurora. Guests got a sneak preview of the club's competitive routines, and the show was followed by a party. In the spirit of the season, the club donated the admission proceeds to the Yellow Brick House.

## Volunteers help shut-in seniors with shopping

wait to see her grandchildren's faces light up when they open their Christmas gifts this year.

The lilt in her voice shows the delight she takes in shopping for those special gifts for her loved

But for Mrs. Adamson, like many local seniors, shopping does not come easily. Just getting to a mall can be a huge challenge.

That's why Mrs. Adamson is thankful for Bev Hollingsworth, a volunteer driver with the CHATS (Community Assistance to Seniors) Shopping Club.

In her volunteer role, Mrs. Hollingsworth, an Aurora resident, picks seniors up at their homes, drives them to local malls so they can shop for two to three hours, picks them up and drives them back home. Sometimes she shops with them, and occasionally follows up with

"Bev has been just wonderful. She's a great friend and we have a lot of fun with her," says Mrs. Adamson, who is also an Aurora resident.

As for Hollingsworth, she enjoys it just as much as the mallloving seniors.

"They're so excited to get out of the house and out to a mall. It's a little thing, but it makes a big difference. It feels good knowing I'm helping do that," she says. "We always have great chats, too. Just seeing the happy look on their faces makes it worthwhile for me."

The Shopping Club is a program that seniors like Mrs. Adamson appreciate year-round.

On a regular basis, groups of seniors are taken to malls throughout York

In fact, The Shopping Club is so popular that more volunteer drivers are needed to meet the demand in all the communities of York Region.

"This program is one that seniors really enjoy. Not only do they have fun, but they also get the chance to run errands at the malls," says Sally DaSilva, Human Resources Assistant at CHATS. "It's actually a very important, much-needed service for seniors. But in order to provide this service, we desperately need more volunteer drivers."

And as Mrs. Hollingsworth explains, it's easy to volunteer.

"It's convenient because you drive your own vehicle, you get your mileage reimbursed, and it's easy to fit in to your schedule. We usually go on Friday mornings for a couple of hours,

so I can easily gear my week around it," she says.

er. call CHATS at 905-713-To find out more about 3373, ext. 6051.

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#### Aurora Santa Claus Parade

Wednesday, December 21st - 10:30 pm Saturday, December 24th - 3:00 pm

#### Williams Holiday Concert

Wednesday, December 21st - 6:30 pm Friday, December 23rd - 8:00 pm Saturday, December 24th - 12:30 pm

#### **Marquee Productions:**

"A Christmas Carol" Wednesday, December 21st - 8:30 pm

#### Oak Ridges **Holiday Special**

(Featuring the schools of Oak Ridges Public School & St.Joseph's School) Thursday, December 22nd - 8:30 pm Saturday, December 24th - 9:00 am

#### **Aurora Heights Public School Concert**

Tuesday, December 20th - 6:30 pm Sunday, December 25th - 11:30 am

#### York Regional **Police Male Chorus**

Friday, December 23rd - 10:30 pm Saturday, December 24th - 2:30 pm Sunday, December 25th - 11:00 am

#### **Upper Canada** Chordsmen

Friday, December 23rd - 7:30 pm Saturday, December 24th at 12:00 pm

#### Richmond Hill **United Church Choir**

Friday December 23rd -11 pm Saturday, December 24th at 11:30 am

#### Live Christmas Hotline

Call-in with your Christmas greetings! Thursday, December 22nd - 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

#### International **Jr.A Hockey Exhibition**







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A cheque for \$1,000 came from members of the York Regional Police Male Chorus for the York Region Children's Chorus recently. YRPMC music director David Curran, presents the cheque to children's chorus music director Teri Fowler at an Aurora High School ceremony. Money came from the YRPMC's annual fundraising concert and will be used by the children to help cover costs for a planned trip to Newfoundland in 2007.

## Aurora's history rich with flavour

At one time, walking into the Aurora Museum, which was located in the historic Church Street School, was like taking a step into the 19th century. Where else could you find an old-fashioned general store, a Victorian dining room, a oneroom schoolhouse and a coal-burning stove?

It portrayed the history of the community.

Members of the Aurora Hisorical Society are hoping their new heritage centre, to be located in the same historic building, will be an even more memorable trip into Aurora's past.

Currently, the school has been gutted to return to its original look, with large windows and tin ceilings, and the museum pieces have been stored until they can return to their brand-new "old" home.

And once again, the museum won't just be a place to browse and rediscover the past, it will be a warehouse of Aurora's records, and histories of Aurora families and businesses.

It's hoped that project will be up and running in about a year, but a major fundraising drive is necessary, since costs are expected to zoom to about \$1 million.

The town's first name was Machell's Corners, named after Robert Machell who operated a general store at Yonge and Wellington Streets. In 1846, the little hamlet got its first post office, called Whitchurch, and Aurora was sometimes referred to as Whitchurch Village.

The postmaster, Charles Doan, a student of Roman mythology, renamed Machell's Corners as Aurora after the Goddess of the Dawn.

The name was also symbolic for the dawn of a new era for the growing community with the coming of the Huron, Ontario and Simcoe Railway in 1853.

The first steam locomotive built in Canada, called the Toronto, chugged its way from Toronto to Machell's Corners, the "head of rail" at that time. The trip took two hours and cost passengers one dollar each.

The school house area of the museum, now safely in storage, came complete with slates for children to write on, old wooden desks and a big blackboard at the front.

The museum has a buggy from the 19th century, which was used by the Petch family, who farmed east of Aurora from 1817 to the early 1890s.

In the family kitchen area was a 1904 McClary Stove which, according to museum literature, sold at Ough's Hardware on Yonge Street for about \$35.

The general store display had actual shelving and a cash register from the Willis Drug Store, which opened in Aurora in 1885.

The Aurora and District Historical Society officially opened the museum in Old Water Works

The museum got its start in a small back room of the Old Yonge Street Municipal Building during the 1960s as a storeroom to house the many artifacts that had been donated to the society over the years.

The old water works building on Yonge Street, once home to Charles Petch and now the location of Park Place Manor, was used by Aurora Police Department.

With the advent of regional government, the building was transferred to the region, as policing became a regional responsibility.

Late in 1970, it was learned that the region may not require the building and that it could revert to town ownership.

The Historical Society was quick to approach council for the use of the building as a museum.

By 1973 the museum had become a reality.

The main floor of the 100year-old building was used for museum displays and the small rooms upstairs were used as workshops.

With the assistance of many dedicated volunteers the museum was opened to the public with Don Webster

Please see page 23



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Over the years Christmas has had its ups and downs. It was not until nearly 400 years after the birth of Christ that it occurred to anyone to celebrate it at all, and it took a long time before it was adopted in the Christian world.

Christmas flourished through the Middle Ages, with celebrations and feasting for 12 days from December 25 to January 6.

Then it fell into disrepute in some Protestant lands but Catholic Europe saw new triumphs.

But the joy and magic of Christmas cannot be quenched and as the season comes round each year there are few people who do not get caught up in its magic.

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So for a few moments forget the problems of the world, the federal election, and lack of faith in our political leaders and listen to the voices of the children and put the magic of Santa Claus back into Christmas.

#### YES, VIRGINIA, THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS

In 1897, a little eight-year-old New York City girl, Virginia Hanlon, wrote to the editor of the New York Sun to say that some of her friends had said there was no Santa Claus.

Her father had told her that if she read it in the Sun it was so, so she wrote; "Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?"

"Virginia, your little friends are wrong," the good editor wrote. "They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they can see

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist and you know they abound and give our life its brightest beauty and joy. No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood".

#### HOW SANTA CLAUS GOT HIS RED SUIT

Down through the years, Santa Claus has had a variety of legends from country to country.

He has been depicted in many ways, sometimes tall and thin, sometimes decked out in the robes of a bishop and sometimes wearing an animal skin tunic of a Norse Hunter

Then in 1931 a major change took place in Santa's dress, especially for North America.

The traditional North American image of Santa Claus as a jolly, red-suited, rosy-cheeked old gentleman was created for Coca Cola.

The image was painted by artist Haddon Sunblom as a holiday advertisement for the soft drink company.

His Santa image came from two sources, the 1822 Clement Moore famous poem "The Night Before Christmas" and a retired friend, Lou Prentice, his model for Santa Claus.

According to some historians, the Santa myth dates back to the 4th century, when Nicholas, the first Bishop of Myra in Asia Minor (now Turkey) became known for his kindness to children and his help to the needy. Tales of his benevolence spread through Europe, where the custom of



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gift giving on his December birthday developed

#### WHEN SANTA CAME WITH REAL LIVE REINDEER

In 1913 the Eaton Santa Claus Parade started just north of Newmarket and travelled down Yonge Street, through Aurora, on its way to Toronto. Santa was perched in his sleigh, located on a long, open truck, with four tiny, live reindeer brought in from Labrador for the parade.

Led by a brass band and brightly dressed helpers, the parade rolled into Aurora about 3 p.m. on November 14th.

Stops were frequent as Santa greeted the children lining the route to receive their letters.

There is a picture of Santa in John McIntyre's book "Aurora a History in Pictures".

It wasn't the first time that the parade started in the Newmarket area as in 1910 a log cabin was built at Cane's Pencil factory in Newmarket for Santa's float with Santa sitting in the chimney.

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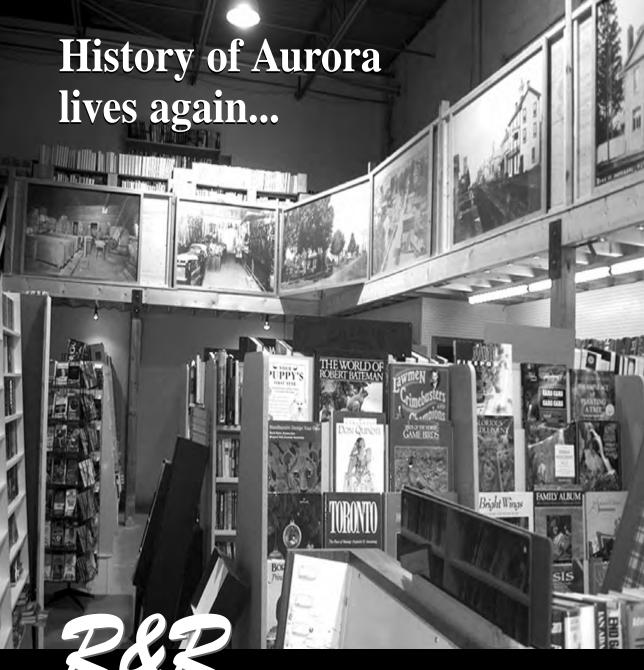
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For years and years, photographs of old Aurora hung on the walls of the IGA store on Yonge Street, north of Wellington.

When the store changed hands, most of the photographs were placed in storage.

Recently, Price Chopper has revived some of the pictures and the rest have been moved to R & R Revisited where they now appear for all to see.

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## Aurora has a rich, flavourable history

#### From page 20

as a volunteer curator.

One of the artifacts on display was a certificate from the Sons of Temperance presented March 8, 1874, to John Veazey.

In 19th century Ontario the Sons of Temperance was a strong organization. Like all communities of any size, Aurora had its Temperance Hall. Temperance Street is a reminder of the forces, which struggled against "the devil's brew."

In 1886, attendance at Sunday School was a part of almost every Aurora child's weekly routine. The attendance book maintained by teacher John Scott at the Aurora Presbyterian Church was displayed.

The grandfather clock has an interesting history. It

is believed it was made in Kettleby in 1830 and shipped by wagon and canoe to the northern outpost of Manitouwaning where it served as the only timepiece for miles around.

In the 1880s, H. W. Fleury, maker of the famous Fleury Plough, saw the clock while on a hunting trip and arranged to have it shipped to Aurora, and it eventually ended up in the museum.

In August, 1976, the Historical Society put in a bid for the whole second floor of the Old Church Street School as a site for the museum, but council was unable to give a firm commitment, due to other requests from community groups.

Museum officials pointed out that the society wanted the space for public use, while other groups wanted accommodation for their members.

A request was submitted to council for a loan of \$5,000 to establish the displays.

Once the museum was open, a provincial establishment grant would enable the society to repay the grant.

They also sought an annual grant of \$6,000, which the museum would return to the town as rent. This would make the society eligible for a matching grant from the province.

Members of council replied that a study was then underway to ascertain if Church Street School was structurally sound. Concern was also expressed that the second floor might not be able to support the weight of the displays.

With the move to the his-

toric Church Street School in 1981, the society received a \$4,000 grant from the town, which entitled it to receive matching funds from the province. The grant enabled the society to pay the salary of a curator/administrator for the museum.

Enter Jacqueline Stewart, a graduate of Seneca College King Campus, who had been working for the society on a summer contract basis.

One of the most important tasks of the new curator was to catalogue the extensive collection of former Aurora Mayor J. M. Walton (1939-40) who had acquired papers and documents from 1800 to 1945.

The documents were almost lost as after Walton's death, his Wellington Street East home was being

cleared out and the documents thrown in the garbage.

Banner editor at the time Bob Buchanan was alerted and between the town and the society the collection was saved.

The Walton collection also included Indian artifacts, which form the nucleus of a fairly extensive exhibit of a Huron village, which stood prior to the settlement of the area by the French traders.

With the opening of Yonge Street in 1795, Aurora became mainly white man territory.

History will continue to unfold in the old-new Aurora Heritage Centre, as visitors will soon be able to once again enjoy Aurora's past inside one of its most spectacular historic buildings - the Church Street School.

Stay tuned.

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#### **MONDAY NIGHT HOCKEY**

Standings as at Monday, Dec. 12

TEAM	W	L	Т	F	Α	Pts
Masterclean Contracting Highland Chev Cadillac	11 9	2	0	67 71	37 46	22 19
Priestly Demolition	8	4	1	60	28	17
Tom & Jerry's	7	5	1	48	45	15
J.J. Barron Realty	6	5	2	47	40	14
Law Insurance Brokers	3	7	3	42	61	9
FPL Aggregates	2	10	1	36	72	5
Rec Cycle N' Sports	1	11	1	29	65	3

#### Results, Nov. 28

Highland Chev	7	Masterclean	5
Tom & Jerry's	3	Rec Sports	2
Barron Realty	7	Law Insurance	5
Priestly Demolition	3	FPL Aggregates	4

#### **PLAYER STANDINGS**

As at Dec. 12

NAME	TEAM	G	Α	TOTAL
John Archibald	Highland	21	20	41
Steve Robertson	Highland	14	17	31
Mark Sedore	Priestly	10	19	29
Ken Rumble	Highland	11	15	26
Jason Muise	Priestly	9	16	25
Tom Hussey	Masterclean	13	11	24
Steve McDonald	Tom & Jerry's	8	13	21
Steve Kavanah	Barron's	8	13	21
John Yaremko	Law Insurance	6	15	21
Dean Iwai	Tom & Jerry's	7	12	19
Pat O'Mahony	Barron's	7	11	18
Gerry Briand	Masterclean	8	9	17
Bruce Ing	Priestly	8	8	16
Scott Thomas	Tom & Gerry's	11	5	16
Ralph Berry	Masterclean	7	9	16
Phil Podstatski	Priestly Demolition	12	3	15
Jerome Flanigan	Masterclean	6	8	14
Mike Nisbet	Priestly	5	9	14
Kevin Brown	Highland	4	10	14
Frank Balkovec	Law Insurance	3	11	14
Cam Mitchell	FPL	8	5	13
Ed Kilroy	Rec Cycle	7	6	13
Angelo Nasto	Masterclean	6	7	13
Ed Jackson	Barron's	5	8	13
Bob Ince	Rec Cycle	5	8	13
Bruce Cheppell	Highlands	4	9	13
Pat Davies	Priestly	2	11	13
Chris Neal	Priestly	6	6	12
Glen Bince	Law Insurance	4	8	12
Darren Yaremko	Law Insurance	4	8	12
Dave Caverley	Law Insurance	6	5	11
Les Nip	Barron's	5	6	11
Ron Theisson	Barron's	5	6	11
Doug Adair	Rec Cycle	6	4	10
Dave Libari	Barron's	4	5	9
Phil Goodenough	Barron's	3	6	9







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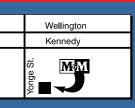


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