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# AURORAN

*Aurora's Community Newspaper*

**Aurora Chamber Awards**  
**See page 2**

Vol. 6 No. 51

AURORAN, Week of October 24, 2006

905-727-3300



Carla Adams, centre, is the new Aurora Chamber of Commerce General Manager. President Stephen Forsey, left, made the announcement Friday night. She will replace Rosalyn Gonsalves, right, who is retiring.

*Auroran photo by Ron Wallace*

## Chamber picks the best and selects new manager

They picked the best of the best Friday night and announced the person selected to become the new Aurora Chamber of Commerce manager.

All part of the annual Business Achievement Awards night, the Chamber held a record-setting evening at DiNardo's - The Mansion, and introduced Aurora's Carla Adams to more than 300 in attendance.

The annual event has never attracted as many people, and according to officials, there was a waiting list for tickets.

Adams, a three-year resident of Aurora, was the successful candidate selected from some 150 applications to fill the shoes soon to be vacated by the only manager the Aurora Chamber has ever known, Rosalyn Gonsalves.

Equipped with a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Western Ontario, Carla also has a Master of Laws degree with a focus on public policy from the University of Toronto.

She has more than five years' work experience with the Ontario

Government in the area of financial policy and has held the position of Director of Banking Operations with the Canadian Bankers Association since 2002.

Carla was born and raised in Meaford, lived in Toronto for more than 10 years and moved to Aurora with her husband, Allan Boyd, in 2003.

They have two young children, Alexandra and Jack.

Meanwhile, Wendy Treacy of Art of the Matter was presented with the Business Person of The

**Please see page 10**

## Children stay...for a while

Parents with children in the Crescentbrook Farm Care Centre in the former Jack Woods farmhouse have no fear of immediate eviction but the long term future of the centre remains in doubt.

That came after a lengthy meeting at council Tuesday night as councillors wrestled with a

debt of some \$40,000 in back rent still owed the town.

In 1973 the town purchased the farm on what is now Edward Street for an industrial park, but kept the farmhouse to permit the owner to live there on a rental basis.

After the family moved, the house was vacant for several

months and in 1988 it was leased to the Aurora Learning Co-op Centre as a child care facility at \$9,210 per year but that operation fell on hard times resulting in its closure.

In 2001, town staff advertised to submit applications to lease the facility and following a site

**Please see page 16**

## No gate, no dogs, at cenotaph park

Aurora Council decided Tuesday night it would not allow construction of a gate in a fence at Aurora's Peace Park, to accommodate animals from a nearby veterinarian's clinic.

Dr. Don McLean, owner of the Aurora Animal Clinic in the Edward Street plaza, had appeared a week earlier saying his firm had been using the gate in the fence to enter the property, which also houses the cenotaph, to exercise ill dogs for the past 10 years.

A new fence was being erected without a gate, since no one could remember how it got there in the first place.

Dr. McLean said he would be willing to pay additional costs, if the gate was included.

At that meeting, council was split on the request with some arguing the cenotaph area was hallowed ground and should be respected, while others argued it was a public park and should be used by the public.

It was also pointed out that no complaints had been received about the gate for at least 10 years.

On a 7-1 vote it was finally agreed to obtain comments from the Aurora Legion and if they had no objection, to install the gate at the clinic's expense.

Councillor Evelyn Buck opposed the recommendation.

Legion executive members, holding a meeting the same time as Tuesday's council, sent a message to councillors saying they were against the gate being re-installed and they were also opposed to dogs using the park.

There was also correspondence from the Minister of Veterans Affairs informing the town that Veteran Affairs Canada had approved a contribution of up to \$25,000 under the Cenotaph Restoration Program for costs associated with the restoration of the Aurora Cenotaph.

Council accepted the Legion report without comment.

## Briefly

### They're baaack...

The 4th Annual Trick or Eat Campaign for the Aurora Food Pantry is again being planned.

Volunteers who attend Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School have been successful in the past three years with great response from the neighbourhood.

So far, the group has gathered several tons of food for the food bank. This year's "Trick Or Eat" team is headed up by Laurisa Wiittala and Katie McNama, with help from many student and parent volunteers.

The team will deliver flyers with bags attached October 26 and they will be collected by Trick or Eaters Halloween night in the southeast part of Aurora.

### Remember this group?

If you have been around this area for a while, you may remember the musical group "Rainstone".

They were a hot group back in the 70s and 80s, and, if memory serves, played many of their "gigs" at the Graystones.

Well, drummer and Elvis impersonator Randy Skelcher says "Rainstone" is about to be reborn.

### Where are they?

Continuing with our plan to tell you what page advertising candidates are located on in The Auroran, here is this week's list, in alphabetical order (candidates represent mayor, council and board of education):

Evelyn Buck, 15; Stephen Grainger, 18, Glyn Jones, 16; Tim Jones, 8, 13; Nigel Kean, 12, insert; Gord Kerr, 13; Evelina MacEachern, 17; Grace Marsh, 10; Eric McCartney, 8; Bob McRoberts, 6; Bryan Moir, 3, insert; Phyllis Morris, 17, insert; Stan Rycombel, 11; Norm Weller, 7.

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Brian



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Finalist in the Aurora Chamber of Commerce "Celebration of Business" Awards 2006 - "Franchisee of the year" category.

## COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

During the month of October the Skylight Gallery in the Town Hall features the artwork of Stanley Sandbacka. Regular viewing times are from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

\*\*\*\*

York Region Food Network is looking for Aurora community groups interested in supplying volunteers for its Christmas Poinsettia Fundraiser at the Upper Canada Mall in Newmarket. Contact Terry O'Brien for details. 905-252-5729 E-mail: terryo@yrfn.ca.

\*\*\*\*

The 3rd Aurora Scouting Group has spaces available in Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers. For registration information or to volunteer call 905-726-2393 or 905-841-0556.

\*\*\*\*

Meet at Martha's Table, now in its second season. Every Thursday from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m., you will find comfort food and a sense of community at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. A lunch of hot soup, sandwiches, and dessert will be provided.

\*\*\*\*

Voice is a group of aspiring writers ages 12 to 19 interested in developing writing skills, working on a magazine and embarking on creative adventures with similarly minded people. The group meets in the Marjorie Andrews Room of the Aurora Library on the last Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. Call the Library at 905-727-9493 for more information.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora Seniors present a movie night every Tuesday from 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Admission is \$1 for members and \$1.50 for guests, which includes the movie, a frozen treat and a drink.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora Zen Meditation Group meets weekly every Wednesday evening at Healing Hands Wellness Centre on Wellington Street East at 7.30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora Agricultural Society (organizer of the Aurora Fair & Horse Show) meets on the second Tuesday of every second month, at 6.30 p.m., at the Aurora Community Centre. New members welcome. For more information, call 905-713-6773, e-mail at info@aurorafair.ca, or visit 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.

\*\*\*\*

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 has monthly meetings at the Aurora Legion with a variety of speakers. There is also a selection of interest groups. Contact Beverley 905-727-2151.

\*\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*\*

York Regional Police Male Chorus is looking for members from Aurora and area who would like to volunteer by joining the choir. Men, 16 years of age and older, are invited to visit any Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. in committee room B, York Region Administrative Centre, 17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket. For more information, call volunteer chorus supervisor Lowell McClenny at 905-727-9676.

\*\*\*\*

Queen's York Rangers free camps for boys and girls, 12 to 18. Aurora Squadron runs Friday evenings at the Aurora Armoury. For further information, call 905-726-8600 any Tuesday evening between 7 and 9 p.m.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora Therapeutic Touch Practice group meets the second Monday of the month, September to June at Aurora United Church, 15186 Yonge Street. Further information: 905-841-6059.

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

Aurora Seniors travel to the Stratford Festival for the Rogers and Hammerstein musical "South Pacific" with lunch included for \$107 for members and \$112 for non-members. Call 905-726-4767 to register.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora Horticultural Society presents lecture on "What Plants Teach Us About Life" at the Royal Canadian Legion, 8 p.m., 105 Industrial Parkway North.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora Seniors Association presents "Picking an Executor", with focus on the roles of the Executor, filing tax returns (multiple), probating wills, and accounting for estate assets. Event is slated for 2 p.m. at the Aurora Seniors' Centre in the Norma Jean Legge Room.

\*\*\*\*

Halloween party and luncheon at the Aurora Seniors' Centre beginning at 11.30 a.m. Tickets \$5 for members, \$6 for non-members. Costumes optional. All proceeds go to the building fund raising

account.

\*\*\*\*

Ratepayers of Aurora Yonge South (RAYS) Annual General Meeting 7 p.m. at the Timberlane Athletic Club, 155 Vandorf Road.

\*\*\*\*

The Aurora Diggers Girls Softball Association will hold a general meeting in the Holland Room of the Aurora Town Hall at 8 p.m.

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

All candidates' meeting prior to the November 13 municipal election, presented by the Aurora Community Sport Council, at the Aurora Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North, beginning at 7.30 p.m. For more information, visit [www.AuroraCommunitySportCouncil.com](http://www.AuroraCommunitySportCouncil.com).

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

"Beyond Google". Instruction in advance internet search strategies using electronic databases and web directories at the Aurora Library. Class limited to four participants per session. 10.30 to 11.30 a.m. Pre-register at the adult information desk.

\*\*\*\*

"The Nightmare Before Christmas Charity" for residents of Aurora and surrounding area at DiNardo's "haunted" Mansion.

\*\*\*\*

Fabulously Freaky Friday Night Halloween Party has been relocated to the Leisure Complex from 6 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$5 at the door.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

The Aurora History Society present its Annual Murder Mystery Dinner at Hillary House. Call 905-727-8991 for ticket information.

\*\*\*\*

York Chamber Ensemble presents "Keys of Autumn," a 7.30 p.m. concert, at Trinity Anglican Church. Chamber orchestra, conducted by Aurora's Tony Browning, will present Antonio Vivaldi's "Autumn," G. F. Handel's "Queen of Sheba," Felix Mendelssohn's "String Symphony," and more. Tickets are \$15 or \$10 for students and seniors.

\*\*\*\*

Official opening of Aurora's new recreation complex, 1400 Wellington Street East, west of Leslie, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ribbon cutting at approximately 12.30 p.m.

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

All Candidates Meeting, sponsored by the Aurora Library Board, at the Aurora Town Hall, 1 Municipal Drive, beginning at 2 p.m.

\*\*\*\*

Join Ken Smith of the Aurora Arboretum and David Tomlinson of the Environmental Advisory Committee for a seed planting in the Aurora Community Arboretum. Participants should bring a trowel and wear rubber boots. Meet at 10 a.m. at the carpark entrance to Optimist's Park, leading to the Arboretum. Rain date is Sunday, Nov 5. For more information, email [auroraeac@hotmail.com](mailto:auroraeac@hotmail.com).

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Aurora Chamber of Commerce sponsors an All Candidates Night including a Mayor's Debate at the Howard Johnson Hotel.

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Marquee Theatrical Productions annual fundraiser at the

Please see page 18



Sam Panzures, Director, Private Client Group, Senior Investment Advisor  
Craig Deasley, Senior Investment Advisor  
Kimberley Kerr, Chairperson, Business Achievement Awards

# Congratulations

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Hundreds of State Farm employees crowded into a huge tent on a cold day last week to take part in a homecoming celebration, and help officially open Aurora's new State Farm Canadian headquarters located at Highway 404 and Wellington Street East. *Auroran photo by David Falconer*

# State Farm opens Canadian HQ here

State Farm Insurance officially added a new chapter to its 68-year history when it officially opened its new Canadian Head Office in Aurora last week. The 323,000 square foot office, in two adjoining buildings, is located at the interchange of Highway 404 and Wellington Street East.

The building houses 1,954 employees, who support 488 agents and customers in Alberta, Ontario and New Brunswick.

Joining Bob Cooke, who is State Farm's senior vice president in Canada, and has a history in Aurora, was Ed Rust, chairman and CEO of State Farm; Aurora Mayor Tim Jones; and Belinda Stronach, Newmarket-Aurora Member of Parliament.

In addition to the numerous employees and agents at the event were many long-time State Farm policyholders.

State Farm is the fifth largest auto insurer and the eighth largest property and casualty insurer in Canada.

The Aurora office will also be home to State

Farm Investor Services (Canada) Co., and State Farm Finance Corporation.

"The office is a testimony to the spirit and commitment of those who have come before, and will serve in the future as a tangible and physical commitment to our future," Mr. Cooke told the audience. "I am proud to say that at the

centre of all our decisions have been and always will be, our customers."

State Farm is ranked Number 22 on the Fortune 500 list of largest companies.

Agents and employees in Canada and the United States handle more than 74 million auto, fire, life and health policies.

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# Poor Richard

# Figuring out voter apathy

*Voter turnout is usually low,  
As municipal electors fail to vote;  
It's hard to know the reason why,  
They choose to miss the boat!*  
- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

The municipal election will be held on November 13 with several advance polls before that date and proxy voting if you are going to be away, so it's hard to understand why so many eligible electors fail to vote.

Traditionally the voter turnout across the province is in the 35 per cent range and in 2003 the voter turnout in Aurora was 31 per cent.

Little or no effort was made to find out the reasons why citizens decided not to vote.

Prior to the 1982 election when councils were being elected for the first three-year term, Municipal Affairs Minister Claude Bennett authorized the expenditure of \$800,000 to fight voter apathy, but the campaign had little impact.

This year councils are being elected for their first four-year term so it's important to have a good, representative turnout of voters to select their council members.

Possibly the Municipal Elections Act should be amended to include a clause to the effect that if a person didn't vote, he or she forfeits the right to complain about government.

Municipal issues directly affect the everyday life of every citizen.

In many ways the decisions made by the local council can have a greater impact on everyday life and quality of life of citizens than either the federal or provincial governments.

It is local government that plans your neighbourhood, maintains your roads, collects your garbage, provides park and recreational facilities, enforces local bylaws, distributes your water and provides sewer services and sets and collects your property taxes.

The impact of local government on the everyday life of every citizen is very great and too few citizens realize this fact or a much greater interest would be shown in local government during the year and especially at election time.

One of the reasons given for failing to vote is a lack of knowledge of the candidates and the complexity of the ballots with one for mayor, one for councillor with up to eight choices and one for school trustee.

This year with a record number of 20 candidates seeking one of the eight seats on council, the ballot is more complex than ever and is a strong argument for a ward system.

In the old days when the town was smaller, it was possible for a candidate to cover almost every street in town and meet individual electors at their home, but with the size of the town today, that is virtually impossible, which is another argument for a ward system.

Although local papers cover the candidates as much as possible and Aurora Cable Internet provides information pertaining to debates, speeches and all-candidates' meetings as well as telecasting council meetings during the year, plus Betty Pedersen's Council in Action, there is little excuse for not knowing who is running for office.

The best way to find out more about the candidates is to attend one or more of the all-candidates' meetings scheduled before the election.

For dates, times and locations check the Coming Events listings in The Auroran.

The right to vote in municipal elections has been a long road dating back to the Baldwin Act, which established the basis for local government and the right to vote which was enacted in the mid-1850s following the 1837 uprising.

The Act provided for the election of municipal officials and required that voters be at least 21 years of age, a British subject, male, a resident of the municipality and a freeholder or householder.

Several changes were made in the legislation over the years but it wasn't until 1917 that all women won the same rights as men to vote in municipal elections and in 1958 the right was extended to roomers and boarders subject to a local referendum and in 1972 to citizens 18 years of age.

So take the time remaining to get to know the candidates and their stand on the various issues that are of interest to you.

Then ensure you vote on November 13th.  
Vote as you like but vote!



Another class of children from Aurora's historic Church Street School is shown here. This is a Grade 4 class, from the 1948-49 school year. In the front row are, left to right, Peter Ardill, Bob Copeland, Jim Beattie, Robert Higgins, ?, Walter Southwood, John Offord and Dave Griffith; second row, left to right, Donnie Elmer, Paul Babcock, Jimmy Higgins, Joan Holder, Arlette Buker, Pat Davis, Tommy Hulse and Murray Chapman; third row, left to right, Bonnie McCachen, Anne Perdue, Herb McKenzie, Peter Rowat, Jean Brown, Eileen Cole, Rachel Morris, and the teacher Olive Komar (who was featured on these pages a couple of weeks ago); top row, left to right, Mary Bell, Gloria Sherman, Elizabeth Buchanan, ?, ?, Bill Egan and Patsy Patrick.

## Letters to the Editor

# Aurora Council meeting was long, but interesting, evening

To the editor,

Circumstances led me to the council meeting October 17, so there I was at 7 p.m. when the meeting began.

I left at 11.15 p.m. immediately after the unwanted street lights issue had been dealt with but there were still items on the agenda to be dealt with.

However, most of the items throughout the evening were of interest, but there were a couple of times when I would liked to have had my two cents worth so maybe I can air them now.

The item about York Region Neighbourhood Services took up a great deal of time including a young man who complained that the council had agreed to spend mil-

lions on a new seniors' building but would not spend whatever figure he thought they should on day care.

I would suggest he not mention that again as an argument for, I am sure, if someone had the time and money to figure out how much many of the seniors now enjoying the new centre had paid to the Town of Aurora in taxes over the 30-40-50 years they have lived here - to say nothing of the fact many are of the generation who went to war 65 years ago so that he could have the kind of life he now has, I am sure his grudge in that regard would dissolve.

Secondly, thank heavens for residents like Klaus Wehrenberg (a veteran of local environmental concerns) who noticed and acted on the fact that a par-

cel of town-owned six acres of forest and meadow land on Vandorf Sideroad is about to be sold to Van Rob to accommodate their business requirement for a stormwater retention pond on a small part of the six acres.

From council's discussion after Klaus and others had had their say, I am sure the sale will be for only the small portion needed to accommodate the stormwater pond while the Town will retain the balance.

However, during their discussion, I was surprised to hear Councillor Bill Hogg say he was not necessarily against such land being in private hands if there were restrictions placed on its use, i.e., that the "excess" land be left as forest.

Councillor Hogg must surely know about the OMB.

I can remember when I used to look out my kitchen window and see a woodlot to the right and another woodlot to the left - which is now occupied by houses on Watts Meadow.

As I recall it was not Aurora Council who agreed to that but it was taken to the OMB and the OMB gave consent - and that after a few people on Willis Drive, I am sure, paid higher costs because their property had backed onto the now vanished woodlot.

The Smith property at the corner of Bathurst and Bloomington is another example of what can be changed.

It was a long, but interesting, evening.

Eileen Dinning  
Aurora

## AURORAN

"Aurora's  
Community Newspaper"

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### Editorial policy

Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and letter writers are not necessarily those of The Auroran. Letters must include name and phone 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 copyright.

### 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 edition.

# Senior is victimized by home vandalism

To the editor,

After reading about the graffiti and vandalism in Aurora, I decided I had to write.

We moved to Aurora in 1998.

In 1999, someone broke four of my moonrays off at the bottom.

In March of 2004 someone stole \$60 worth of blue rope lights out of my back yard.

They were along the fence and on our shed.

On the weekend of

October 13, I had a solar light on my back deck that changed colours ripped off at the base with just the wires left sticking out.

It is heartbreaking when you are a senior and living on a pension and continually have your possessions destroyed.

Dorothy Polhamus  
Aurora

**ED. NOTE: It's naive thinking, but why can't people leave other people's possessions alone?**





## Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

# Stories from the campaign trail

There is nothing in a campaign that beats door-to-door canvassing. It's where the action is.

It is that time when the candidates and their emissaries get to meet the jury, one door at a time. Canvassing provides feedback, information on issues, moods and voter priorities.

One can also gain a better understanding of the candidate by watching him/her deal with rejection, tough questions, voter anger or the occasional embarrassing situation.

One personal canvas story comes to mind.

A number of years ago, I was alone on a Saturday morning canvassing on behalf of a candidate in Mississauga.

I had just left one house and came out between two cars onto the next property when I saw the German Shepherd.

It wasn't very big - about six feet tall and 700 pounds.

The problem was that I was scared and the dog knew it. I turned away and ran down the driveway. Neither Ben Johnson nor Donovan Bailey would have caught me. Amazingly, the dog was well trained and he stopped at the end of his master's property.

The homeowner was looking at me from his front window having a great laugh. He then gave me a special hand gesture signifying, I guess, good will to all.

I, being the good canvasser that I was, placed the following notation: "person at household really interested in policy, please send the candidate to discuss!"

Since municipal nominations officially closed last month, I e-mailed each council candidate with two questions for them:

1. What are the top three issues that you have identified based upon your discussions with voters, and
2. Provide me with any brief story or anecdote - humorous or otherwise - from the campaign trail.

Finally, I stated, "As per Auroran editorial policy, I will not be identifying any of you by name in the column."

Two weeks ago, I devoted the column to the top issues that the candidates identified. This week some anecdotes from the municipal campaign trail.

From a canvasser on behalf of one of the mayoralty candidates:

"I found myself to be in quite a good rhythm while going down the street, however when I knocked on one door, expecting to wait, the door swung wide open immediately, the resident blurted out "I love candidate 'X'". He grabbed a flyer from my hands, bowed and said thank you. I was standing at the next doorstep in less than 10 seconds, with a smile on my face."

From a first time candidate:

"Everything is pretty much the same on the campaign trail, except of course, for "Sign, Sign, everywhere a Sign", to quote the song. Between wind, vandalism and bylaws it's a nearly a fulltime job to keep up with them."

One candidate has a novel approach to increasing voter turnout:

"I have been doing a silent survey on the number of pet owners, especially dog owners, and I feel that the dog population is well over 32 per cent and quite vocal! This is equal to and if not over the last election's actual voter population turnout. So my theory is that if we offered a real special dog owner treat incentive on election night, so as to try get them out, we'd probably top all expectations as to voter turnout overall in this election."

Obviously from one non-incumbent candidate:

"One guy said 'All politicians are gangsters'. My wife said that her husband (me) wasn't a gangster because he wasn't a politician, yet."

From the same candidate:

"To the question, why should I vote for him, my wife once said, 'If I can give him 30 years of marriage, you should be able to give him four years.'"

It is nice to see that we have our law and order voters:

"The most unusual occurred last week when a woman stopped me and asked what I was going to do about '...those darn teenagers...' Her suggestions ran the gamut from curfews to (and I'm not kidding) electronic bracelets. I respectfully suggested that electronic tracking bracelets would be perhaps a bit extreme, and she was non-plussed with my answer, saying, 'Well if you're

not going to do something about it...' and then walked off. Well, you can't please everyone..."

And my personal favourite:

"... (a voter) asked a canvasser what party the candidate was running for and before the canvasser in question could muster up an answer the person in question stated adamantly that under no circumstances would he vote for the Republicans."

The first of four public forums takes place this week at the Legion, presented by the Aurora Community Sports Council. As our community is fortunate enough to have 23 of our fellow citizens step forward, please make the time to attend one of the forums.

**Stephen can be contacted at [stephengsomerville@yahoo.com](mailto:stephengsomerville@yahoo.com)**



## Cathy's Corner

# Halloweenaphobia

Halloween used to be my favourite time of year.

When Damir and I first got married, his family lived in Sarnia, and mine in Thornhill.

Special occasions like Christmas and Easter were always a challenge to balance between the two cities, but after we had children, "tug-of-war" became a more accurate description...if you know what I mean.

I used to call it "the rack".

Long before Damir's family moved to London and mine to Aurora, I realized that the only occasion that didn't land me on "the rack" was Halloween. Suddenly, I became fearfully fearless...

In my enthusiasm, I created some very special rituals and traditions that will forever be stamped on the childhood memories of Jennifer, Nadia and Tim.

Every October, my sewing machine zipped and zagged into the wee hours.

I rifled through closets and trunks and I turned out everything from Buffy the Vampire Slayer to Sailor Moon; from angels to devils; from ninjas to clowns.

I even sacrificed the hot and sexy black satin disco dress of my 20's to fashion a little witch's cape. Yup, I was totally possessed...

Every year, we'd go pumpkin shopping and everyone would pick out the perfect candidate for the stencil they had chosen.

My passion was carving the Grim Reaper, but the kids seemed to prefer the friendlier goofy faces.

It was so much fun that we started to grow our own pumpkins!

One year, one got so big that we had to roll it out to the front, and carve it on the lawn. I swear that sucker grew out of a poured concrete seed - I broke two drill bits trying to bust through the shell!

We'd decorate the house with skeletons, spiders and snakes, and we'd always slip a few rats in with our assortment of gourds.

We'd even put green floodlights all over the house and crank up the scary music.

Then, I'd line up our Jack O'Lantern masterpieces along the walk to light the way.

And while Damir escorted the kids around the neighbourhood, I'd dress up like a witch and sit outside our front

door waiting for the eerie glow to lure in the goblins and demons.

I'd sit perfectly still, and as they approached, I'd hear them speculating about me.

"Is that a real witch, do you think?"

"Nah..."

Just then, I'd turn sharply and cackle. They'd drop their bags and run screaming down the street!

Needless to say, we never ran out of candy in those days...

Halloween used to be my favourite time of year, all right. Yup...used to be...

But now that there are no more little devils to keep my sewing machine in business, I'm becoming...Oh, God! Don't say it!

I'm becoming an old fuddy-duddy!

I haven't sewn a Halloween costume in a decade. I haven't grown pumpkins in just as long. I haven't been a witch...um, on purpose, for longer than that! And last year, my only surviving tombstone...lay dead in the basement.

I don't stencil the Grim Reaper anymore. I cheat and simply put a tea light under a ceramic pumpkin with boring triangle eyes. And somebody must have mistaken the rubber snakes for real ones and killed them a long time ago because I haven't seen them in years!

But this year, things are looking a little different. Nadia lives at home, remember?

First, she bought gourds - not only for the house, but for Damir's office, too!

And as if that isn't eerie enough, she reminded me to buy Halloween candy - 25 times already!

But what really chilled my bones was catching her rummaging through my boxes in the basement. She dragged out a bunch labeled "Halloween".

I've created a monster!

And developed a bad case of Halloweenaphobia...I know what's coming: the Undead!

I may be an old fuddy-duddy now, but the joy and enthusiasm that I once had didn't really die. The spirit lives on...haunting my children!

**Cathy Vrancic welcomes e-mail at: [laughingmatters@aci.on.ca](mailto:laughingmatters@aci.on.ca)**

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

 **BOUQUETS** and a happy birthday to Ellen Barclay who celebrated her 90th birthday recently at an Open House on Kennedy Street.

 **BRICKBATS** to members of Aurora Council for rehashing the address of the Town Hall controversy at a recent council meeting, as a decision had been made by a majority of the members of council. Councillors must learn that in a democracy a majority rules and just because you don't agree with the decision is no reason to keep debating it. Enough is enough!

 **BOUQUETS** to Aurora's Lunch Lady Michelene Farmer for her program of visiting participating schools to distribute the menu of nutritious lunches available to students without the worry or work for parents.

 **BRICKBATS** to both the federal Harper government and the provincial McGuinty Liberal government for bragging about reducing medical wait times when Harper has done nothing in spite of it being one of his five priorities and McGuinty is running TV election ads of empty waiting rooms when a 60-pound Richmond Hill woman may die because a hospital bed isn't available.

 **BOUQUETS** to Aurora Army Cadets Jimmy Kuchman and Brenda Dickenson on graduation from a six-week Cadet Leader Instructor Marksman course.

 **BRICKBATS** to the McGuinty Liberal government for being very vocal in their criticism of the Harris/Eves Tory government partisan advertising while in opposition, and then using the same tactics to pat the government on the back for their progress in health and education. This is progress?

 **BOUQUETS** to the Town of Aurora for inviting citizens to sign a get well card for Trooper Jeffrey Hunter of Aurora who was badly injured in Afghanistan while serving with the Canadian Armed Forces.

 **BRICKBATS** to the RCMP for having to pay out \$2.2 million to an Alberta man who spent seven years in jail for a sexual assault he didn't commit and was awarded the secret settlement for malicious prosecution. It turned out the woman had sex with the RCMP officer investigating the case and also with the prime witness. The payout was quietly listed in the government's public accounts.

 **BOUQUETS** to the volunteers of the Trinity Church Helping Hand outreach program on raising \$450 at their summer end sale with the proceeds used to fund the church's social assistance program.

 **BRICKBATS** to those who advocate buying Canadian instead of purchasing imported produce and running the risk of contamination and botulism but see nothing wrong with buying up farmland and municipal politicians approving subdivision after subdivision so there is little farmland left.

 **BOUQUETS** to Susan Chart and Brenda Andrachuk, the organizing committee and the 150 women golfers who participated in the fundraiser for the Southlake Regional Cancer Centre and in spite of a day of rain and thunderstorms raised \$127,000.

 **BRICKBATS** to the Stephen Harper government for still not making a commitment to assist in the fight against AIDS more than two months after Canada hosted the International AIDS conference in Toronto. Government officials said the gathering had become too political to make an announcement and a financial commitment would be made in a few weeks.

Still waiting and Harper accused Paul Martin of dithering.

## Letters to the Editor

# Driving is a privilege, not a right, reader says

To the editor,

In regards to the letters written complaining about the police ticketing speeders on St. John's Sideroad, I am a writer applauding the police.

On a daily basis, I drive that route to drop a three-year-old off at daycare, and then come back the same route to drop a five-year-old off at school and go to work.

Driving is a privilege, not a right.

The law is broken when people are doing upwards of 70 km an hour in a 50 km zone.

I see people driving too close and weaving around cars in a hurry to get to one of the stop lights.

I'm one of those people

who makes a LEFT turn onto Old Yonge.

It is very dangerous when people are going over the speed limit because they might hit me from behind.

It's also dangerous for those turning LEFT from Old Yonge onto St. John's.

They think the cars are going 50, but if, in fact, they are actually driving 70, a serious accident might occur.

Not to mention the fact that between Industrial Parkway and Yonge it is a short distance between busy intersections. The lights aren't seen at Yonge and St. John's until you're almost at Old Yonge. This gives a driver a very short distance to stop on a red.

If you're going 70 km an

## She urges voters to attend meeting

To the editor,

Community sports, where do the candidates stand?

With the upcoming election and a proliferation of candidates, it is crucial to find out exactly where they stand on the issues.

Sports programs are vital to our community and the candidates should be knowledgeable about them.

Currently there are many critical sport-related issues that need to be resolved by those who are elected.

During their term these individuals will be making decisions that reflect our interests.

As residents we can influence their platform by asking questions and expressing our concerns during the campaign.

Aurora's new homeowners should pay particular attention. You may be new to the area, you may not have children old enough to participate in organized sports, and this may have you saying, "It doesn't

affect me".

Be advised, the wheels of bureaucracy move slowly.

The Town of Aurora's facilities will not meet the demand at its current growth rate.

If you act now and get behind the sports issues, you may help to ensure that your children's needs will be met when they are of age.

As a volunteer and a parent I applaud the efforts made by the Aurora Community Sports Council.

Their concern for the future and the current state of our sports programs should be shared by all of the families in the town.

I urge residents to show your support and learn about the issues by attending the All-Candidates meeting on October 26, 7.30 p.m., at the Legion Hall, 105 Industrial Parkway North.

**Carol Walthers  
Aurora Minor  
Ball Association  
Executive**

hour, the roads are slick with rain or snow and cars are already stopped, there's a very good chance you'll be involved in an accident.

I don't understand how come everyone complains about getting a ticket for doing something illegal.

If the writers were to use the same analogy on everything else, then maybe we should stop charging someone for shoplifting?

If it's a minor item, maybe the cops should be out responding to more serious 911 calls like your last writer thought (in regards to charging for illegally going over the speed limit)?

In the end, traffic accidents cause everyone a lot of money in the health care system, insurance and even car prices (to build safer ones).

Speed limits, traffic signs and intersections are being abused every day.

People now go through RED lights on a regular basis. We've started a slippery slope that needs to be reversed.

If you don't like the rules of the road...DON'T DRIVE.

**J. Preston  
Aurora**

## Here's why...

To the editor,

Re: M. Chisholm's Radar Question.

I think I figured out why police were ticketing motorists on St. John's Sideroad.

THEY'RE SPEED-ING!!!!!!

**P. Riley  
Aurora**



Bob  
**McRoberts**  
for  
**Council**

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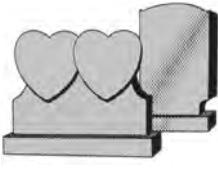
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# Candidate debates attendance figures

To the editor,

In response to Mr. MacWilliam's biased letter last week where he gives a version of attendance records for myself and Ms Morris, anyone can make numbers lie to make their choice look better.

The facts are:

1. The mayor's job is full-time and therefore that person's attendance should be better than part time councillors who, like myself, have to work at a full time job to be able to live in Aurora. I do travel across Canada for my full-time job and have tried to be in Aurora on Tuesdays for meetings but at times it is impossible.

2. Mr. MacWilliam states numbers that are false and incomplete. The real attendance numbers of ALL meetings are Nigel Kean-79

per cent; Ms Morris 76 per cent. As Aurora Council no longer wants the reason for missing meetings on record it is hard for residents to realize that during the past three years there were deaths in councillors' families, illness including family members and personally, and as I mentioned in the first point, travel dealing with my full-time job.

3. It is not just the time spent at meetings but rather the total time spent by councillors working for the residents of Aurora. I have spent every Saturday morning, from May through October, at the Farmers' Market from 6.30 a.m. until 1 p.m. I also, as does Ms Morris, spend a number of hours each week on committees or working directly with residents trying to help out with area concerns.

4. Councillor Evelyn Buck did have good attendance but the fact that she is retired makes that pretty easy to accomplish as she has no other job.

Actions do speak louder than words and I know that both Ms Morris and myself have worked very hard for the residents of Aurora and trying to smear us now only shows an act of desperation.

Lastly, as I said, numbers can be deceiving and at times do need clarification.

Each candidate for mayor has stated that the mayor's job is full time and each of us has stated the we would be full-time mayors.

Sometimes it is not quantity rather it is the quality of time you put into any job.

**Nigel Kean  
Aurora**

# Farm has been a "lost cause", reader claims

To the editor,

If a town council does not know about a contract that is 18 months in arrears (Jack Woods farm), who is minding the store?

How does Al Downey, head of Leisure Services, get involved in a contract dispute?

I would think, or hope, that once a contract with the town was signed, the financial department would be responsible to ensure the contract was followed.

But 18 months, and no communication with coun-

cil, is strange.

The rent of \$2250 a month is not high.

To be behind \$38,000 shows lack of control by the town and poor communication by department heads.

Maybe Al Downey is running the Town of Aurora.

With a mess like this, they still managed an increase in salary.

A contract is a contract and if the day care operation is a business, it should know before it signs a contract whether or not there is going to be a profit.

I do not see why Aurora

taxpayers should be subsidizing 45 families for day care costs.

The Woods farm has been a lost cause.

Aurora purchased the house and sold it back to Mr. Woods.

Then the town repurchased the house for a new town hall.

It tied up \$300,000 with little or no profit since the new town hall was built.

The property should have been sold and the money used for a better purpose.

**R.W. Hanes  
Aurora**

# Lost, strayed or stolen?

To the editor,

I seek your help in locating Shirley (Hayes) Warren '57; and Edna (Bryan) McKnight '57, former classmates and graduates of Aurora high schools and graduates of St. Joseph's School of Nursing in Toronto.

An alumni group is planning the 50th anniversary celebration for the nursing class of '57 and is

trying to contact all members of this class.

If anyone knows the whereabouts or has any info regarding the above two classmates, please contact Jolyne (Doolittle) Bernardo '52, at 519-323-0159 or write to 310 Homewood Avenue, Mount Forest, Ontario, N0G 2K3.

By the way, thank you for publishing my letter in your Sept. 5 issue.

I have received many nice calls and notes regarding the letter.

One note was from a former teacher - Miss Grace Griffen - who taught me in Grade 9, in 1943.

She was so pleased with the letter.

You would be amazed at how far the news of The Auroran travels.

**Jolyne Bernardo  
Mount Forest**



**Norm Weller**

# Issues facing Aurora as I see them...

1. Downtown parking study.
2. Demolish the old fire hall and library?
3. Tree planting, new parks.
4. Recycling.
5. Soccer fields.
6. Seniors' Centre.
7. Former hydro building.
8. Library building and parking.
9. Aurora Town Hall.
10. How do we pay for all this?

**Keep watching The Auroran for my answers!**

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The Differences Inside.™

Letters to the Editor

Town Hall address handled properly, reader says

To the editor,

Once again I have been called to task over my audacity in appearing before council to request that our Town Hall be returned to its original and rightful address of 100 John West Way.

At the October 10 meeting Councillor Phyllis Morris stated how disappointed and upset she was that I would approach council at this late date in their mandate just before an election to request that they rescind the Town Hall address fiasco when I knew such a request was doomed to failure (strange how she seemed sure it was doomed to failure before any vote was even taken).

Due to rules of procedure I could not respond to Councillor Morris at the meeting; therefore, I would like to do so now. First, let me admit that I am rather naive and old-fashioned in that I take people, even municipal politicians at their word.

I believe a person's word is their bond.

Based on the foregoing I went before council fully expecting the vote to be 6-2 in favour of re-instating the address and therefore the honour to John West that was bestowed on him 16 years ago and then taken away by this council.

I knew that Mayor Tim Jones and councillors Evelyn Buck and Bill Hogg would support my request as they had spoken quite eloquently on several occasions as to why they would.

That would be three votes.

Councillor Ron Wallace assured me both verbally and in writing that if this matter came before council again he would support my request. That would be vote number four.

Councillor Nigel Kean has previously stated quite

clearly that a street or an address should not be named after a sitting councillor, that it is inappropriate and gives unfair advantage at election time to that individual.

John West, for the first time in nearly 30 years, will not be elected to public office.

He is now a private citizen and therefore Mr. Kean's objections are no longer relevant. This would be vote number five, a majority.

Councillor Morris has stated several times that her only reason for voting for the address change was that the new seniors' building should not bear the name of John West a sitting politician.

First, it was never suggested the building would be named after John West. It would, of course, have had the address John West Way because that's indeed where it is located. In any event the seniors' building now has a Municipal Drive address, John West is not a sitting politician and therefore her reasoning is now not relevant.

That would be vote number six, a clear majority.

As I mentioned, my failing was that I took people at their word. My purpose for bringing this matter before this council was to give them an opportunity to do the right thing and restore an honour to an individual who has given so much to our town over a 50-year time span.

I am quite frankly insulted that Ms Morris would insinuate that my request has some ulterior political motive by bringing up this subject at this time.

If she is proud of her stand regarding this matter and feels she did the right thing for Aurora by voting as she did, how then can anybody take political advantage of that?

It appears that having

failed to defend their indefensible position regarding the Town Hall address certain councillors have now decided to cast aspersions on the council that originally made the decision.

They insinuated that the 1990 council did not follow procedure, that they skirted the rules by meeting in camera in some devious and underhanded manner and conspired to come up with the eight road names including John West Way, that were required for the then new Aurora East industrial estate development.

The truth, and this is public record, is that on January 18, 1990, the Town of Aurora planning advisory committee met at Victoria Hall to discuss, among other things, road names for the above mentioned development.

As is the case when dealing with person's names the committee went "in camera" and then returned to the committee meeting and published the names they would recommend to the full council.

On January 24, at a fully open and public council meeting, the committee's suggested road names and therefore the address of the Town Hall was approved and, as far as we know was unanimous.

The 1990 council, elected democratically by myself and thousands of other Aurora residents at the time, was made up of Mayor John West and councillors Tim Jones, George Timpson, Gail McIntrye, Herb McKenzie, Judith Ochalski, Betty Pedersen, Norm Stewart and Norm Weller.

I am absolutely disgusted that current councillors would try and deflect criticism of their decision by questioning the integrity and morality of the above named elected and respected individuals.

To me the issue of the

Town Hall address change has been one of, if not, the lowest moments in our Town's history, certainly the lowest in the almost 50 years I have lived in Aurora.

That five councillors could, without notice, input, or consultation with the public and for personal reasons rescind an address and an honour bestowed 16 years ago upon a respected citizen of our Town and in the process insult not only this individual but also cast doubt on the integrity of the council of that time; and that in order to carry out this mean-spirited piece of legislation they

had to name a parking lot as a street, to me speaks volumes as to why this council has been named "dysfunctional".

In a few short weeks we have the opportunity to hold those seeking re-election accountable for their position on this and other

issues.

If you are as disgusted and disturbed as I am ask each of the five incumbents where they stand on this issue and vote accordingly.

Graham Wride  
Aurora

voteEric.ca

McCartney

for Town Councillor



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REMEMBER TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 13

Information is not true: reader

To the editor,

Please get all your information in order before assuming that what the Toronto Star has reported is the God's Honest Truth.

The info you have stated in Bouquets and Brickbats regarding Jeffrey Hunter is not all together true.

And furthermore, let's not blame Stephen Harper.

He's trying to fix the problem that was caused by Side Talking Jean Cretien and his successor PM Paul Martin.

On another note, I have heard from Jeff's dad that Jeff is improving (slowly but surely) and is overwhelmed by the cards, etc., he has been receiving.

Keep it up, folks.

He really needs the

support.

After all it's the least we can do after what he has done for us.

Paul Cooke  
Aurora



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# Council keeps multi-way stop at intersection

Normally members of council support staff recommendations but in the case of the multi-way stop at Birch Court/Cedar Crescent and Walton Drive, council supported the citizens rather than staff.

The pending municipal election may have had some influence on the decision.

A recommendation to remove the multi-way stop at the intersection was included in the "all-or-nothing" consultant's report on traffic calming in the north-east quadrant of old Aurora.

In September, Dillon Consulting presented a proposed traffic calming study for the northeast quadrant and recommended a combination of speed humps, speed cushions, diagonal diverters, curb expansions, chicanes, restricted turns during peak periods and removal of some all-way stops.

After a lengthy debate at a recent general committee meeting, members

approved the general intent of the proposed plan but due to the number of residents expressing concern about the removal of the multi-way stop, the committee directed staff to prepare the enacting bylaw subject to reconsideration of the controversial intersection.

When the report came to council the issue was reopened as Councillor Evelyn Buck continued her opposition to the plan especially the proposed speed humps as a means of slowing traffic.

She pointed out the results in other municipali-

ties in which it had been proven that speed humps resulted in slower response time for emergency crews.

In some cases firefighters and ambulance crews had been injured due to the speed humps, she said.

In spite of her opposition, councillors approved the committee report that the enacting bylaw be prepared, subject to reconsideration of the Birch Court/Walton Drive intersection.

At the council meeting town staff recommended the traffic calming plan not be revised to retain the multi-way stop at the intersection on the basis that the change could alter the Class Environment Assessment process which would then require new rounds of public consultation.

It was pointed out that the plan incorporated a number of different physical changes to the roadways in the study area while minimizing local street traffic and the speed of traffic on Mark Street and Walton Drive in particular.

James Tomlin, a resident of Walton Drive, appeared before council to oppose the removal of the multi-way stop.

He said he had battled to have the multi-way stop approved and requested that it remain as is.

Councillor Phyllis Morris recommended the town staff report be amended so the multi-way stop would remain.

She noted town staff had previously advised that a review was to be carried out on all multi-way stops and the intersection could be reviewed at that time.

The majority of councillors agreed, with Councillor Buck in opposition.



Diana Ciccone is ready to welcome you to the "Nightmare Before Christmas Charity" event set for DiNardo's - The "haunted" Mansion this Friday evening, Oct. 27. Event is being sponsored by Aurora Cable Internet which hopes to raise enough money to help at least 10 Aurora families through the Christmas season. For further information on the event, call Tracey Mead at 905-727-1981, extension 240 or send her an e-mail to tmead@aci.on.ca.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

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A few of the winners et al at Friday's annual Aurora Chamber of Commerce Business Achievement Awards banquet, included, top row left, Kathie and Nick Caple, receiving an award for their business, Renaissance - The Office Experts, from the Chamber's chairperson of the

event, Kimberley Kerr; business person of the year Wendy Treacy of Art of the Matter receiving her award from Chamber President Stephen Forsey, top right; Greg Foster, owner of M&M Meats, bottom left, winning a new category this year, Franchisee of the Year; emcee of the event,

Aurora's Gord James, and the biggest winner of them all, Carla Adams, who was selected from 150 applicants to become the Chamber of Commerce general manager, when Rosalyn Gonsalves retires later this year.

*Auroran photos by Rob Schuetze*

# Chamber event draws record crowd

## From page 1

Year Award, an individual award given to someone who has provided a high standard of excellence in the Aurora business community,

Other awards went to JackKryn France, Inc. (New Venture Award); M&M Meat Shops (Franchisee of the Year Award); Rebecca's Specialty Sweets (Young Entrepreneur Recognition Award); Renaissance - The Office Experts (Business of the Year Award under 25 employees); and Supreme Collision Centre (Business of the Year Award more than 25 employees).

Serving this year as judges were Stewart MacLaren of Almac Conveyor; Garry Turgeon of Featherlite Industries and Mary Georgopoulos of Jonathan's Fine Food.

When the finalists are selected Aurora Cable Internet visits the place of business and tapes a presentation by a company representative describing the product or service provided by the selected firm.

Aurora resident and radio personality, Gord James, was Master of Ceremonies who started the evening saying he was about the only resident in town not running

for council.

Chamber President Stephen Forsey welcomed the audience, introduced past presidents, the board of directors and chamber staff and paid tribute to Gonsalves who is retiring after 21 years' service.

Two Posthumous Awards were made to family members of the late Len Leitch of Law Insurance Brokers and the late Rosemary Schumaker of Welcome Wagon, who was also the owner of The Auroran.

Award finalists included Revolutions (Young Entrepreneur); Fitness

Clubs of Canada, Ovation Meeting Solutions (New Venture); East Side Mario's, the UPS Store (Franchisee of the Year); Butler and Baird Lumber, Dundee Securities (Business under 25

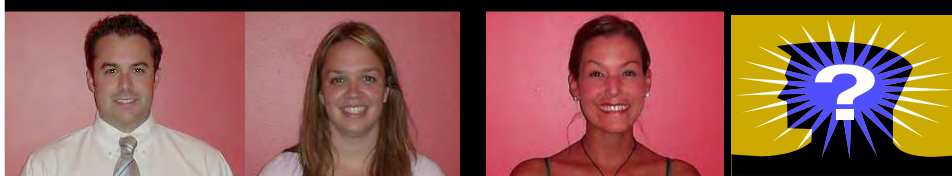
employees); and Avant Imaging and Information Management (Business more than 25 employees). Following award presentations, the audience was entertained by the George St. Kitts Band.

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Anne and James McLeod and daughter, Heather Emery, attended the ceremony last week when the family donated 40 acres of their Leslie Street woodlot to a land trust.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

## Aurora family donates 40 acres to Land Trust

At a ceremony held last week in Aurora, representatives from the Regional Municipality of York, the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust (ORMLT) and Aurora recognized and thanked the McLeod family for their donation of a 16-hectare (40-acre) plot of woodland for permanent protection and management. "The donation of this environmentally sensitive property on the Oak Ridges Moraine will have a lasting impact for generations to come," said Mayor Tim Jones. "Protecting and managing this property will help to secure a lasting greening legacy for both Aurora and York Region."

The property contains the single largest block of mature forested land in northern Aurora, and comprises the upper headwaters of the East Holland River watershed which flows north from the Oak Ridges Moraine.

The heavily wooded area contains Sugar Maple, American Beech, White Elm, Basswood and White Pine trees, and supports a variety of wildlife.

"This very generous table land donation repre-

sents the highest value donation received by the Land Trust to date," said ORMLT President André Flys.

The mission of the ORMLT is to ensure that significant moraine area properties, including lands for the Oak Ridges Trail, are protected in perpetuity through strategic land securement and related long-term stewardship.

To date, more than 930 hectares (2,300 acres) have been conserved through property easements and donations.

York Region, through its Greening Strategy, has been an active partner with the ORMLT in its property securement process.

The Region provides financial assistance to the Land Trust to negotiate

property and conservation easement donations.

The Oak Ridges Moraine is one of the last remaining continuous green corridors in southern Ontario, extending 160 kilometres across the Greater Toronto Area.

The moraine contains the headwaters of 65 river systems, including the Don and Humber Rivers, and has a wide diversity of streams, woodlands, wetlands, kettle lakes, kettle bogs and plant and animal species.

In addition to the land securement program, York Region's Greening Strategy includes a number of naturalization and education programs geared to protecting and enhancing the Oak Ridges Moraine and other significant natural resources.

## Council approves "Relay For Life" event in Aurora

Spending a night walking and running around a track at Pickering College in Newmarket has been so successful for the Holland River Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society they want to expand it to Aurora next year.

Aurora Council agrees.

The unit has been holding a "Relay For Life" on the grounds of Pickering College for the past couple of years and earlier this year raised \$261,000 with 80 teams of 10 people each participating.

The Relay is a 12-hour event starting at 7 p.m. on a Friday night continuing until 7 a.m. Saturday morning.

Team members take turns running, jogging or walking around the course lit with candles while other team members relax in tents erected adjacent to the course.

Last month Diana Dawson, president of the Holland River Unit, appeared before Aurora's general committee and noted that many of the walkers came from Aurora.

That merited investigating holding a relay in Aurora in 2007.

The committee was unanimous in its support and referred the request to staff to work with Society officials as to location and other details.

In a report to council last week, town staff rec-

ommended that council approve the Relay for Life in Lambert Willson Park and the Leisure Complex area June 8 and 9 and all municipal permit fees be waived to support the event.

That amounted to \$5,447.

A Media Event Launch and a Captain's Rally will be scheduled in February and May respectively with location and dates to be advised.

Council approved the staff report without comment or debate.



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# Tigers roar to two more victories

By ANDY BROOKS

Everyone, seemingly, wants to knock the Aurora Tigers Junior A hockey team off their mountain.

So far, no one has been able to do it.

Sunday, Aurora stretched its unbeaten streak to 15 games with a 9-6 victory over the Huntsville-Muskoka Otters.

But it didn't come easily. Aurora opened up with three unanswered goals in the first period, but after 40 minutes of play, led by only a single marker, going to the dressing room nursing a 5-4 lead.

Huntsville-Muskoka, coached by former NHLer Tom McCarthy, were on the comeback trail.

It didn't work, however, and the victory, added to a 6-1 win the Tigers posted before their hometown loyalists Friday night over the pestky Seguin Bruins, kept their unbeaten streak alive.

Sunday's game, against the Otters, was a fine example of the escalating efforts by the teams meeting the Tigers.

In short order it becomes apparent to the opposition that it's the heart of this Aurora team that can't be beaten.

The Tigers winning streak means it has not lost a game since the season started, the best beginning for this hockey team in recent history.

To their credit, the Otters fought fiercely during this very physical game.

There were a total of nine roughing penalties and two fights during the game.

As a result of the altercations Derrek Jubb and Matt McGill were served game misconducts for their involvement as did their Huntsville counterparts.

Mike Dahlinger opened the scoring for the Tigers at 1.26 of the first period.

That was followed by two more Tiger goals in the first, both by Mike Ward, one of which was unassisted.

By the end of the game Ward had added four assists for a six-point game, enough to win him the contest's second star.

In the second period Paul Zanette scored a short-handed goal which was followed by Fraser Smith's in the middle of the period.

The period clearly

belonged to the Otters who turned up the heat with a rampage of hard hits at both ends of the ice. The Otters also managed to score four times.

Whatever happens in the Tigers dressing room is anyone's guess, but the team consistently comes out fresh and with a renewed

sense of what they are there to do.

In the third, what the Tigers did was essentially reverse the second period.

Andrew Favot came up with two goals.

Paul Zanette, with his second of the night, and Mike Dahlinger rounded out the Tiger scoring.



**Matt Beirnes, Tigers' rookie goalie, guards the gate during game Sunday. The Barrie native is 17.**

*Auroran photo by Andy Brooks*

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- Continue to protect environment including the Oak Ridges Moraine
- Lead a Council that will work for the betterment of Aurora
- Treat Aurora more like a business where we are more responsible
- Work towards getting a Youth Centre

The Otters replied with two of their own, but it wasn't enough to overcome the mighty Tigers.

Friday, Aurora cruised to a 6-1 victory over the Sequin Bruins.

Mark Thorburn scored the only goal of the first period assisted by Mike Ward and Andrew Eastman.

Daniel Michalsky scored two of his three goals in the second period.

Michalsky's goal at the very beginning of the third period completed his hat trick and made him the obvious choice for the first star of the game.

Paul Zanette finished the period with a pair of goals to complete the 6-1 win.

Tigers next home game is this Friday, Oct. 27 when they meet their up-the-street rivals, the Newmarket Hurricanes, at the Aurora Community Centre.

The much improved Hurricanes will bring four new faces to their lineup.

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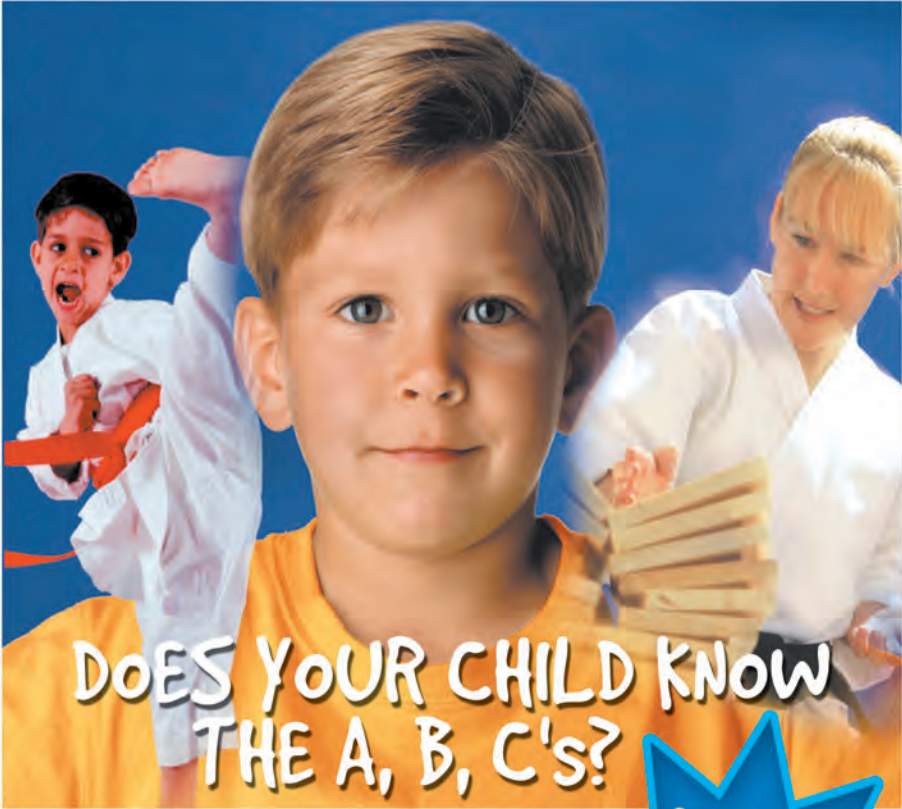


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Eric Wakeman, right, accepts plaque from Progressive Conservative MPP and Aurora resident Frank Klees, acknowledging Wakeman's accomplishments. Wakeman is currently on a southern US tour playing baseball. Klees is a former Minister of Tourism.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

# Wakeman strikes gold at national tournament

Eric Wakeman, an Aurora resident, finished the 2006 baseball season with a team gold medal at the Canadian Nationals (midget AAA) in Summerside, Prince Edward Island.

Eric, who attends Cardinal Carter Catholic High School, has played for the Newmarket Hawks baseball organization for more than five years.

In early August, his team participated in the national qualifier for Ontario.

They faced some of the best teams in the province, including several "elite"

clubs.

The Hawks saved their best baseball for this tournament. It took solid defence, timely hitting and stellar pitching from the entire team to capture a silver medal, losing only to the Mississauga Twins in the final 6-5.

Shortly after the tournament ended, Eric received a phone call from the head coach of the Mississauga team inviting him to join his players and represent Ontario in the quest for gold at the nationals.

His coach, in recognition

of Eric's outstanding pitching performance over the course of the tournament (26 strikeouts in 15 innings), asked if he would consider joining the team as the "closer".

Eric accepted the offer not only personally, but on behalf of his fellow Newmarket mates and the York Region Baseball Association.

He had the honour of being the only player in Ontario asked to join the Mississauga squad.

At the Nationals, the Twins went undefeated, to capture the gold and the National Title.

For Eric, this ended an action packed spring and summer schedule.

While capturing several gold and silver medals, one of his highlights was meeting his mentor and trailblazer Peter Orr of the Atlanta Braves.

"I do not know what the future will bring, but one thing is for sure, this summer was very special," Eric said, while recalling the advice Mr. Orr gave to him in Georgia: "Work hard, have fun and you never know where you might end up".

## Skating results

Following are the results of the Aurora Skating Club members who attended Octoberfest 2006 held recently at the Allendale Recreational Centre in Barrie.

**Pre-Juvenile Women's Freeskate:** Sierra Chovanec (Group 3), 9th.

**Juvenile Men's Freeskate:** Alex Woodward, 5th.

**Pre-Novice Women's Freeskate:** Maya Goldman (Group 2), 12th; Emma Hayzelden (Group 1), 15th.

**Novice Women's Freeskate:** Carolyn Armstrong (Group 2), 12th; Sarah Gray (Group 2), 16th; Lauren Cooper (Group 4), 7th.

Meanwhile, here is a list of members of the Aurora Skating Club who successfully completed tests October 11.

**Dance: Preliminary: Dutch Waltz** – Eliana Neophytou; **Canasta Tango** – Jasmine Biasi, Emma Smith; **Baby Blues** – Nicole McCausland.

**Senior Bronze: Ten Fox** – Shauna O'Connor.

**Junior Silver: Harris Tango** – Jihyun Cha, Raquel Burgess; **Rocker Foxtrot** – Zahra Rajan, Julia Chiovitti.

**Gold: Quick Step** – Emma Slimkowich.

**Skating Skills: Gold** – Emma Slimkowich.

**Free Skate Elements: Preliminary** – Shauna O'Connor.

**Free Skate Program: Senior Bronze** – Alysa Nichols.

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### Standings, as at Oct. 16

| TEAM                    | W | L | T | F  | A  | Pts. |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|----|----|------|
| Tom & Jerry's           | 3 | 0 | 1 | 15 | 7  | 7    |
| Law Insurance           | 2 | 0 | 2 | 24 | 12 | 6    |
| Masterclean Contracting | 2 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 9  | 5    |
| FPL Aggregates          | 2 | 2 | 0 | 13 | 16 | 4    |
| Highland Chev-Cadillac  | 1 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 16 | 3    |
| Rec Cycle 'N Sport      | 1 | 2 | 1 | 15 | 20 | 3    |
| Priestly Demolition     | 1 | 3 | 0 | 14 | 16 | 2    |
| Baldwin's               | 0 | 2 | 0 | 13 | 15 | 2    |

#### Results, Oct. 16

|                     |    |               |   |
|---------------------|----|---------------|---|
| Law Insurance       | 11 | Masterclean   | 6 |
| Baldwins            | 0  | Highlands     | 4 |
| Priestly Demolition | 7  | Tom & Jerry's | 7 |
| FPL Aggregates      | 3  | Rec Sports    | 2 |



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# Wells Street School fair celebrates 10th year



It was pretty spooky inside the halls and rooms of the historic Wells Street School Saturday, as officials held the 10th annual Wells Street Fall Fair. In the top photo, left, Laura Stubbs, Sonya Kelly and Andrea Kearns were kept busy making cotton candy, while right, Rachel Martin has a tattoo imprinted on her face. No one seems to know who the creature above is, and no one had nerve to ask. In addition to the fair, Wells Street School was celebrating 115 years in existence. Originally, the location was the site of Aurora's first high school.

*Auroran photos by David Falconer*

A black and white advertisement for R&R Book Store. The top half of the ad shows a photograph of the store's interior, with bookshelves and various books on display. The bottom half of the ad is a black box with white text. The text reads: "R&R" in a large, stylized font, followed by "REVISITED OPEN" in bold, "MON. TO SAT. 10 A.M. - 4 P.M." and "SUN. NOON - 4 P.M." in bold, "75 Mary Street, Unit 3" and "905 727-3300" in bold, and "THE ONLY BOOK STORE IN AURORA" in bold at the bottom.

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# Square dancing very popular

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Square dancing is attracting plenty of interest and enthusiastic participants, and the next dance is scheduled for Nov. 4 at the Aurora Seniors Centre.

Interest fluctuates over time and square dancing appears to be on the rise since it was introduced into the centre several months ago.

I understand Bill Hands will be the caller once again, and having seen and heard him in action, I agree, he is good at what he does.

This is the week of Halloween and the seniors will be celebrating with a Wednesday dress up luncheon.

Prizes will be awarded to the best dressed participants.

Also, this is the time of year for 'Daylight Saving Time' to end, which means the clock falls back one hour Saturday, Oct. 29.

And then we have the municipal election which will provide us with a huge change of councillors, and which will see the Aurora Seniors Centre utilized for the election Nov. 13, and for advance polling.

Because the centre is a polling station, restrictions are placed on it for such activities like all candidates' meetings. This is a time full of activity for the seniors' centre, since all the regular activities continue in an orderly fashion.

As I have indicated many times in different ways, seniors find plenty to do at the Centre, to the extent that we wonder how we managed when we worked for a living.

I can report now that the carpet bowling equipment

has arrived, and it is available each Monday from noon until 2.30 p.m., for members.

If carpet bowling is a huge success, more time will be allotted to it.

I believe lots of bowlers are active in Aurora, as residents made enquiries last year, for indoor bowling at the centre, or anywhere in Aurora. It will be interesting to see how this activity catches on.

Table Tennis is available Mondays and Thursdays, from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m., and Badminton can be played Monday starting at 10 a.m.

Pickle Ball continues to draw new players and is available on Tuesdays at 1 p.m.

These are great indoor activities that provide physical exercise. For the more hardy types, the walking club is scheduled to depart the centre, Wednesdays at 9.30 a.m.

The delightful entertainment of the 'Cabaret' show that we presented in June earlier this year, and which was such a heart warming success, has caused us to want to do it again.

The music and singing performed by the accomplished professional entertainers, Cara Chisholm and Brian Roman, left all who saw the show spellbound.

As a result, and after a great deal of discussion, it became clear that a repeat of 'Cabaret' would be well received, and a tentative date - Feb. 10, 2007, has been set.



A minor car accident last week saw the Ontario Heritage Trust Plaque for Aurora at the train station suffer the most damage. Community Planner Michael Seaman surveys the damage to the plaque which announces Aurora as the head of rail in 1853. Seaman has initiated the process to have the plaque replaced.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

## Servicing okayed

Two years ago, an application for 59 homes and a French Separate Secondary School at the northeast corner of Bathurst Street and Bloomington Road was presented to an Aurora public planning meeting.

The school was approved in principle but the plan was returned to resolve outstanding issues including servicing.

The site can be serviced through the town system via the construction of a sanitary pumping station and a force-main that would extend east along Bloomington to the current end of the town system at Academy Drive.

The developer's consultant and the school board have completed extensive negotiations with the Town of Richmond Hill and that council has agreed to provide sewage capacity for the school.

The cross border servicing arrangement as proposed requires that an agreement be reached between the two municipalities and approved by

the region, which happened in June.

Although the agreement was not finalized it was presented for approval since Tuesday was the last meeting of council for the existing group.

With assurances that the servicing was for the school only, Aurora councillors authorized the signing of the agreement when complete.

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## THE AURORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE "CELEBRATION OF BUSINESS" Year 2006 Business Achievement Awards October 20th, 2006

An event such as this would never happen without the support of major sponsors and a multitude of businesses and individuals in the community who contribute their funds, time, expertise or product to make this evening a success. We salute our corporate sponsors and event contributors. Thanks also to Gord James, Broadcaster, 1050 CHUM for being the Master of Ceremony, the Judges and the Business Achievement Awards Committee for their talent and time. Congratulations, too, to those who received plaques of Distinction.

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The York Regional Police Chorus, complete with many Aurora residents, was the highlight of the recent 14th annual "In Harmony With The Community" concert held at the St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church. Several other groups from the province also entertained during the sold-out evening.

# Crescentbrook pays the rent

**From page 1**  
inspection a lease was negotiated with York Region Neighbourhood Services at \$26,400 a year for rent and utility costs. Three years later, agency officials sought options to reduce their costs as they were experiencing financial difficulties. After several meetings with agency officials and a review of financial statements, town staff reported to the Leisure Services Advisory Committee in January, 2005, that the rent be reduced from \$26,400 to \$5,480 per year resulting in the committee requesting more information. By September this year it was learned the agency had not paid any rent since the beginning of 2005 and after considerable discussion the general committee agreed to terminate the lease and declare the property surplus.

It was also agreed to consider legal action to recover the back rent. When the committee report came to council recently, Patricia Robertson, representing the agency, dropped a bombshell when she said she had been told by Leisure Services Director Allan Downey not to pay the rent until council made a decision and the rent money had been put in trust. With that information, council hurried into a private session and later sought a further report. The staff report was tabled at Tuesday's council meeting and recommended the agency be asked to pay all outstanding money owed within 10 days. It also recommended that upon receipt of the rent, council direct staff to discuss amendments to the terms and conditions of the existing agreement to the satisfaction of both parties and report at the November 28 meeting. It was also recommended that if the outstanding rent was not received within 10 days, town staff be

directed to terminate the agreement. There were six delegations to speak to the report including Aurora's Elizabeth Brims of the York Region Food Network operator of the Community Gardens in the back yard of the Woods Property. She repeated a request she had made earlier that the community garden site be severed from the property to provide a permanent garden for the town. Ms Robertson said a cheque in the amount of \$43,000 had been deposited with the town to clear up the back rent and asked that the agreement be revised. Councillors asked several questions including why the agency's financial problems had not been brought to council's attention. Ms Robertson reminded them that she had had several meetings with staff. There was a heated

exchange between Councillor Evelyn Buck and Ms Robertson as to why she was coming to the town for assistance when she should be going to the region as they were responsible for day care. Ms Robertson reminded her that the town had requested Expressions of Interest and their agency was selected to which Buck responded that she wasn't getting straight answers, causing Mayor Tim Jones to terminate the exchange. Several parents and their children were in the audience to hear John Orr, Joseph Malek and John Giannitsopoulos extol the service and care of the child care centre and the difficulty in finding good child care centres. A letter was also received from a legal firm representing the agency enclosing the \$43,000 cheque and stating that the agency was making the payment with the full

knowledge that this level of rental payment cannot be maintained as an accumulated deficit of \$121,000 had been experienced. There was a long and involved debate among council members regarding day care rates, subsidies from the region for some children, whether the town should subsidize one day care centre and not others, the need for revenue to prevent an increase in taxes and the role of municipal government for funding day care. It was finally agreed to direct town staff to discuss amendments to the terms and conditions of the existing agreement to the satisfaction of both parties and report back at the November 28 council meeting. Councillor Bill Hogg opposed the recommendation.



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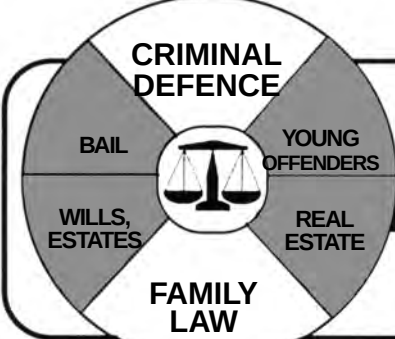




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# RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

## Whatever happened to this bench?

Back in March, 1987, trustees of the York Region District School Board authorized a grant of \$10,000 towards the cost of keeping a unique sculpture, "Lost Paradise - The Secret Bench" by Kleinburg artist Lea Vivot, within the region.

The sculpture depicted two life sized school children sitting on a bench arm in arm with the little boy telling a secret to a little girl.

The artist had worked with a Board visual arts consultant and invited several students from Aurora's George Street and Regency Acres schools to write short poems, phrases or drawings representing their secrets.

She then selected the best entries which were transcribed by the pupils in the wax sculpture before it was bronzed and the inscriptions covered the whole bench.

The official ceremony to place the finished sculpture near the Board's administrative centre on Wellington Street in Aurora was scheduled for the fall of 1987 and then the spring of 1988, but it never happened.

In spite of questions from trustees as to what happened to the sculpture and the Board's \$10,000, no answers were ever given.

So what did happen and where is the Secret Bench?

### WHEN HOMES SOLD FOR \$50,000

In December, 1969, Aurora Council gave draft approval to a 23-lot subdivision featuring homes in the \$48,000 to \$52,000 range in the area west of George Street bordered by Hillview Road to the north and Kennedy Street to the south.

Eight Kennedy Street residents signed an agreement whereby the rear portion of their lots were included in the subdivision, which faced on Hawthorne Lane.

Realtor Jack Blyth, representing the developer, told council members the homes would have a minimum area of 1,500 square feet, located on a 9,000-square foot lot with a 75-foot frontage and would be one of the finer subdivisions in Aurora.

Try and find a property with that frontage for that money today.

### RIP-OFFS FROM THE PUBLIC PURSE

The federal government public accounts documents reveal some interesting rip-offs from the public purse, such as the \$49,855 in fraudulent overtime claims at Agriculture Canada.

The audit report also revealed that the Public Works department spends \$11 million annually on overtime pay

with 39 employees claiming more than \$15,000 in overtime.

One employee was paid for 61.5 hours for overtime without any questions asked in spite of department regulations that limit the number of hours an employee can work to 48, including overtime except in unusual circumstances.

Also reported was a theft of \$119,399 of personal income tax refunds at the Canada Revenue Agency and a loss of \$122,640 in public money at the Canadian International Development Agency for misappropriation of program funds managed overseas.

A brazen theft of \$258,161 in cash due to pilfering from right under the nose of the RCMP was also listed as being stolen from the Mounties' training academy canteen in Regina.

The RCMP were quick to point out that the canteen was owned by a privately operated independent from the RCMP and the thief was an employee of the store, not the RCMP.

An Alberta man who spent seven years in prison for a sexual assault he didn't commit was the recipient of a \$2.2 million secret settlement by the RCMP for malicious prosecution.

The man was convicted in 1992 for raping a co-worker but it was later revealed that the female complainant had sex several times with the RCMP investigating officer and the prime witness.

The whopping \$2.2 million payout was quietly listed in the government's public accounts documents.

Obviously nobody in charge is watching taxpayer dollars being wasted for government inefficiencies.

### AN INTIMATE CHAT WITH BRIAN MULRONEY

In April, 1992, hoping to counteract a barrage of negative national media coverage, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney met with nine representatives of Toronto-area community newspapers at the Toronto Convention Centre, arranged by his chief aide Hugh Segal, now a Senator.

Freelance writer Dick Illingworth led off with a three-part question about the Constitution and why the Tory government always seemed to favour Quebec.

There were other questions during the 45-minute session which Mulroney answered with ease claiming the unity crisis would be solved, Canada's economy would recover and free trade would one day be recognized as the catalyst to future prosperity.

He denied that special preference was given to Quebec.

The attendees agreed it was a pleasant encounter and interchange and Mulroney proved to be a master in turning the question around so that he could give the answer he wanted to give.

But the question why he took the time to meet with representatives of a few community newspapers was never answered.



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AS A SEASONED MEMBER OF AURORA COUNCIL, PHYLLIS understands the intricacies of all levels of government and puts that expertise to work for us all.

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**Phyllis has the ability to get things done.**

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## Complex snack bar is closing

You'll have to find somewhere else to buy goodies if you're hungry at the Leisure Complex.

The concession snack bar has become a significant loss to the operator so it's going to become an office for the Aurora Skating Club.

Revenue from the snack bar has declined steadily from approximately \$4,500 in 2002 to \$1,075 in 2005.

Equipment located with the snack bar will be moved to the new Recreation Complex.

The skating club was relocated to the Leisure Complex in 2001 in an effort to address ice use and scheduling conflicts with minor hockey, but its office stayed at the Community Centre.

Club officials said it would be advantageous to have their office in the same facility,

The club now has more than 600 members and use the ice six days a week nine months of the year.

Councillors approved the staff report.

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## COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

### From page 2

Howard Johnson Hotel.

\*\*\*\*

Square dancing at the Aurora Seniors' Centre in the West-McKenzie room beginning at 7.30 p.m. Members admission is \$6, non-members \$7. Tickets available at the front desk.

\*\*\*\*

Hadley Grange Crafters present a Craft & Gift Sale at Hadley Grange, 16105 Yonge Street, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Third annual dart tournament for breast cancer at the Aurora Legion. Registration at 10 a.m., play begins at 11 a.m. All proceeds to Southlake Regional Cancer Clinic.

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Coalition of Aurora Ratepayers' Associations is holding an all-candidates' meeting at the Aurora Town Hall, beginning at 7.30 p.m. Dick Illingworth is the moderator.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora Public Library presents The Tuesday Philosophy Club with Aurora resident and philosophy teacher Ronen Grunberg. Lebovic Room, 7 to 9 p.m. for ages eight and up. Pre-register for this free event at the Adult Information Desk or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Business After Five at Chinook Restaurant, 302 Wellington Street East. 5.30 to 7.30 p.m.

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Remembrance Day dinner at the Legion, 7 p.m. Cocktails at 6 p.m. Guest speaker is Ed Pigeau, vice-president of Ontario Command. Tickets are \$14. For further information, call 905-727-9932.

# Frightening film is next in series

The Aurora Film Circuit presents "An Inconvenient Truth" Monday, November 13.

So, you vote first, then go to the movies.

As always, the screening will take place at the Cineplex Odeon Aurora Cinemas on Bayview Avenue in the Zellers Plaza).

Individual Tickets for the movie are available, at \$10 each, from the Aurora Public Library, R & R Revisited and at the door (as available).

Doors open at 6.30 p.m., with welcome and door prize presentation at 6.45 and screening at 7 p.m.

This film will complete the Film Circuit's Fall Release.

"An Inconvenient Truth" stuns audiences with a shocking message: unless we act now, the Earth could face a major environmental catastrophe that would instigate a tail-spin of epic destruction as early as 2015.

Director and Producer Davis Guggenheim examines this situation while following former United States Vice President Al Gore's fervent crusade to stop the progress of global warming.

Exposing the myths and misconceptions that surround this hot-button topic, Gore is seen as never before - engaging, funny and aggressively direct - as he appeals to the world's citizens to make the necessary changes before it's too late. According to Gore, the tools and methods to reverse these environmental effects are at hand - no new inventions required - and the economic consequences of tackling environmental problems would be positive.

Subscription kits are now available for the Aurora Film Circuit's 2007 Eight-Film Series at both The Aurora Public Library and R & R Revisited on Mary Street in Aurora. Subscriptions can be mailed or dropped off at the Aurora Public Library.

Early bird subscription price (in effect until November 30, is \$75 for all eight films.

After December 1, the

price goes up.

The Aurora Film Circuit is asking subscribers to order by cheque only. Subscriptions will be mailed out later this fall. For those who are away in the winter, subscription tickets can always be passed along to family and friends.

And, as always, a limited number of individual tickets for each film are available for purchase at both APL and R & R Revisited one month prior to each film.

Subscriptions are more than half sold.

Series Dates for 2007 are Jan. 8, Feb. 12, March 5, Apr. 9, May 14, September 10, Oct. 1, Nov. 12.

September, October and November dates are still to be confirmed.

Films for next year's subscription are currently being chosen.

Films previously screened by the AFC will be available at the Aurora Public Library once they are released on DVD.

Film Circuit audience has doubled since its first screening in April.

All proceeds from the Circuit will benefit out-of-budget programming at the Aurora Public Library.

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Find treasures, baked goods, and crafts at the St. Andrew's Christmas Bazaar and Hot Lunch. Event will be held from 10 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church, corner of Mosley and Victoria. Lunch, served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., costs \$6 for adults; \$3 for children 4 to 9.

\*\*\*\*

Remembrance Day Parade and Service at the Cenotaph at 11 a.m. For further information, call 905-727-9932.

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Municipal Election Day.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora Film Circuit presents its final fall offering, the documentary "An Inconvenient Truth". at 6.45 p.m. at the Cineplex Aurora Cinemas. Tickets available at R&R Revisited and the Aurora Public Library. Subscription kits are now available at both ticket locations for the upcoming 2007 series.

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Enjoy "High Society"" at the Shaw Festival with lunch at Betty's Restaurant with the Aurora Seniors. Cost is \$96 for members and \$101 for non-members. Call 905-726-4767 to register.

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Luncheon Meeting, featuring author Michelle Landsberg. King's Riding Golf Club, Bathurst Street. Showcase at 11.30 a.m., lunch at 12.30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*

From 10.15 to 11 a.m. the Aurora Public Library will present "1, 2, 3 Mother Goose and Me" for 3 to 6 year-olds at the Library with storyteller Sally Jaeger. Learning to rhyme is an essential key to learning to read. Free tickets available in advance by calling 905-727-9493.

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

The Anglican Church Women will hold their Christmas Bazaar at Aurora's Trinity Anglican Church from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a knitting table, sewing table, kitchen cupboard, attic treasures and granny's treasures. For more information call 905-737-3337.

\*\*\*\*

Big Brothers Big Sisters 12th Annual Gala Auction at DiNardo's Mansion in Aurora with dinner at 7.30 p.m., a live and silent auction and a dance. Reserve tickets at \$150 each by calling 905-895-0289, extension 304.

\*\*\*\*

Our Lady of Grace Parish, Catholic Women's League, 11th annual Christmas Fair & Artisans Craft Sale, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Lynett Hall, 16 Catherine Avenue.

\*\*\*\*

Town of Aurora Staff Together (TOAST) will hold a Silent Auction and Bake Sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the new Recreation Centre on Wellington Street East with all proceeds for the Childrens' Aid Society "Give a Kid a Christmas Program". To make a donation or obtain details call 905-726-4740.

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Learn about backyard birding at the final Get Eco-Fit seminar of the year. Each participant receives a birdfeeder and seed. Organized by the Town of Aurora's Environmental Advisory Committee and will be held in the West-McKenzie room of the Seniors Centre, 5 Municipal Drive. To register, call Info Aurora at 905-727-8214.

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Santa Claus Parade Under the Stars from 6 to 8 p.m. Deadline for float application is November 12 and volunteers are needed. Call 905-726-4762.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora Public Library presents "Reader's Theatre" for 7 to 10 year-olds from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Library. Participants will learn the dramatic elements of Reader's Theatre in a dramatic presentation of the written word. Call 905-727-9493 for details.

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Business After Five at HSBC Bank, 150 Hollidge Blvd. 5.30 to 7.30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*

Aurora Public Library, partnering with the York Region District School Board and the Community Action Program for Children, presents The Power of Positive Parenting. Magna Room, 7 to 9 p.m. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Justin Trudeau will be guest speaker at an Aurora Chamber of Commerce luncheon. He has a message for students and the Chamber is seeking corporations to sponsor a student for the luncheon at a cost of \$40. To sponsor a student call the Chamber office at 905-727-7262.



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