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Vol. 7 No. 2 AURORAN, Week of November 7, 2006 905-727-3300

Horse Show may end 85-year run

Aurora's historic Horse Show is in trouble.

After 85 years of operation, the annual horse show, now accompanied with a fair, is in danger of shutting down permanently.

And the blame seems to be aimed mostly at the provincial government.

New rulings about how money raised from bingos can be spent will hurt the operation.

As a result, the Aurora Agricultural Society, the non-profit group which organizes and operates the fair and horse show on the second weekend in June each year, is organizing a public meeting to decide the fair's fate.

The meeting will be held Wednesday, Nov. 22, at the Aurora Legion on Industrial Parkway North.

New provincial regulations, plus a smoking ban, are hurting the revenues.

"This past year, due partly to the non-smoking rule, attendance at the bingo has dropped," Sue Young, who serves as secretary, treasurer and manager for the society, said. "Last summer, the attendance really went down. Our proceeds from bingo this year will be about half what they usually are, maybe less."

She also listed a decline in sponsorship money and fewer volunteers available as other reasons why the horse show is in jeopardy.

But the biggest problem, she said, is a change of rules set down by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO).

"They decided last year there were only so many parts of the fair that we could spend our bingo proceeds on. We managed for the 2006 fair to follow their guidelines," she said. "However, after a recent meeting at the Town Hall with Town employees and the AGCO, we were told by the AGCO, that the bingo funds can only be used for youth activities such as a 4H club donation. If we would like to run a 4H club, or donate our bingo funds to a 4H club or another youth group, that is fine, but to spend the money to put on the fair is a no-no."

Mayor Tim Jones, also outraged at the ruling, said it's a shame the event is in trouble "when it's not their fault".

"This is a provincial ruling, and the horse show will suffer from it," he said.

Young agrees.

"The bottom line right now is that if bingo money can't be used for the fair it is a waste of all of our time to run the bingos every other Monday, so we will not be applying for a license in December, and without money and manpower the fair does not go."

The Nov. 22 meeting begins at 7.30 p.m.



For more than three decades, Vic Paraninfo of Vic's Shoe Repair on Yonge Street, has been giving treats to students from Aurora's Wells Street School for Halloween. Last week was no exception as Vic, left, welcomed Sydney Schawalder, and her brother Griffin, to the store. *Auroran photo by David Falconer*

Briefly

Find another route

Yonge Street may not be your best bet Saturday morning if you plan to get somewhere in a hurry.

In order to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Queen's York Rangers and acknowledge Remembrance Day ceremonies, two parades will actually take place on Yonge Street.

The Queen's York Rangers will leave from Metcalfe Street and use Church Street to enter Yonge, then head south toward the cenotaph.

They will be joined at Edward Street by members of the Aurora Legion.

Parade begins at 9.30 a.m.

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, 11; Alison Collins-Mrakas, 2; Alan Dean, 8; Wendy Gaertner, 10, 14, 16; John Gallo, 15; Stephen Grainger, 16; Glyn Jones, 6; Tim Jones, 14, 17, 19; Nigel Kean, 9; Gord Kerr, 15; Evelina MacEachern, 10, insert; Grace Marsh, 12; Eric McCartney, 12; Bob McRoberts, 12; Bryan Moir, 3, insert; Phyllis Morris, 7; Keith Munro, 8, 14; Stan Rycombel, 3, insert; Kam Sadiq, 17, insert; Norm Weller, 20; Al Wilson, 13.

Jones drops the gloves during Chamber meeting

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

Discussion among the three mayoralty candidates has been relatively friendly during the first two all-candidates nights but last Wednesday the knives came out.

An all-candidates meeting with the trio answering press questions was hosted by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and The Auroran at the Howard Johnson Hotel.

More than 200 showed up.

The three mayorlty candidates, 20 candidates for council, and school board hopefuls, were provided with tables to display campaign material and other information.

They were able to meet electors on a one-to-one basis.

Chamber of Commerce President Stephen Forsey, said there would be 11 questions asked of the three candidates for mayor.

Each had one minute to answer the question and at the conclusion two minutes for closing comments.

Questions ranged from population to ward systems, to commuter parking, to regional elections and were handled well by the candidates until the closing remarks occurred.

And that's when Mayor Tim Jones took off the gloves levelling charges against the two competitors, Phyllis Morris and Nigel Kean.

Jones slashed out at his opponents by saying he wanted to lead but right from the start, both Morris and Kean had boycotted an orientation session but had been instrumental in changing the address of the Town Hall.

His leadership, he said, had been challenged throughout the term.

Since the setup did not allow responses, neither Kean nor Morris could respond to the charges and both had already finished their remarks.

In his closing comments, Kean said he had been a resident of Aurora for 19 years and with his 30 years' experience in business and sales he would be a decisive mayor with respect for council members.

That, he said, would enable them to work together and get council approval before he acted.

Morris said the election was an opportunity for citizens to make a difference and that it was time for a change as she didn't like the way the town was going and there was a need to listen and work together.

A leader to set a positive example with fresh energy to make the change together was needed, she said.

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COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

Aurora Opera Company is seeking 30 choral singers for an April, 2007, production of the musical Children of Eden by Stephen Schwartz. Singers will not have to memorize music. Requirements are adults who love to sing. Stage experience not necessary. Performances will take place at Newmarket Theatre. The group is also looking for a baritone for a leading role. Rehearsals begin in January on Sunday afternoons with an occasional Saturday evening. Contact General Director Sarah Kyle at keepsinging@look.ca if you have any questions or would like to take part.

* * * *

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: teryo@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.

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.

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. Learning to rhyme is an essential key to learning to read with storyteller Sally Jaeger. Free tickets available in advance by caling 905-727-9493.

NOVEMBER 16-18

St. Andrew's College all-star student-production of "Cabaret", starring Carly Street, female lead in the Toronto production of Lord of the Rings. Performances run for three nights starting at 8 p.m. Tickets are $20 and may be purchased by calling 905-727-3178, ext. 434.

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 Marilyn Cartmill at 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 Children's Aids 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 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.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

Optimist Club of Aurora 20th annual book sale at the Aurora Public Library, Saturday, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., and Sunday, from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Cash and cheques (with ID) only. No credits cards or Interac.

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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Train continues to blow its whistle

Two years ago, Councillor Nigel Kean said people were complaining about a whistle caused by a small freight train that travelled through Aurora in the middle of the night.

Later that year, council authorized staff to formerly initiate the procedure to ask CNR to eliminate train whistling at the Engelhard Drive and Centre Street crossings and that $15,000 be authorized for the required safety audits.

In addition, the region was asked to eliminate the noise at the Wellington Street and St. John's Sideroad crossings. Funds were authorized for safety audits at the crossings, and staff asked to report when results were available.

It all started in March, 2004, when an anti-whistle group of citizens formed.

But it wasn't the first time citizens had called for the elimination of train whistles at night.

In 1990, citizens complained as they had been doing for several years before about the long, strident blasts of the whistle.

Town staff advised that engineers are required to follow a detailed set of instructions, approved by Transport Canada, as to when a whistle must be sounded and the whistling sequence that must be used.

The Canadian Rail Operating Rules specify that all trains must sound their whistle one quarter of a mile before all public crossings, regardless of the type of crossing warning system in place and the whistle must be sounded until the train has fully occupied the crossing.

After passing a bylaw to eliminate whistling by the municipality, the railway authority requires Transport Canada to approve the request.

In June, 2005, staff reported on the results of the safety audit which identified a number of trespass locations, especially in the location of the Engelhard Drive crossing.

GO Transit expressed concern about trails across the tracks and asked the cooperation of the town in making the public aware of the danger.

York Region officials said they weren't entirely satisfied with the possible elimination of whistling at the Wellington Street crossing and further discussion was required.

The question of legal liability was still under investigation and a report was to be submitted when the investigation was complete.

Since then gates across St. John's Sideroad were installed as part of the construction project and GO Transit installed similar gates at Centre Street and Engelhard Drive.

Although GO Transit paid for the installation of the gates, the agreement between GO and the town calls for the town to assume the ongoing maintenance costs estimated at $7,500 per year.

The report was received and staff was directed to continue to work towards resolution of issues related to the elimination of train whistling.

In September, a report on pending items prepared by staff notes that the liability insurance information is still outstanding.

It is not likely the information will be received in time for the current council to take any action, so that it will be up to the incoming council to decide what action to take.

Magna wins case

The Ontario Superior Court of Justice has rejected all claims of a minority shareholder that Magna's MI Developments illegally ran roughshod over the rights of investors in its pursuit of race track ventures by Magna Entertainment.

Mr. Justice Jack Ground ruled that Greenlight Capital, a New York-based investment firm did not prove the numerous allegations of oppressive conduct by Aurora's Frank Stronach and the MI Development board of directors.

The judge, after 15 days of hearings and submissions last year and this, said evidence did not support Greenlight's charge that MI Developments improperly steered millions of dollars into risky horse racing ventures at the expense of the minority shareholders.

The solicitor representing Magna argued Greenlight knew exactly what it was getting into when it bought almost $100 million in MI Development shares in 2003, while solicitors for Greenlight argued they believed MI Developments was mainly a real estate company.

The Judge also said the evidence did not support a contention that MI Developments had been diverted from its core real estate business and had diverted its financial resources to the horse racing and gambling business of Magna Entertainment.

It was last December when Greenlight took the firm and six company officials to court after the board of directors voted against Greenlight's proposal of its stake in money-losing Magna Entertainment.

It was reported that a majority of board members supported the idea, but were overruled by Mr. Stronach who used his Class B multiple voting shares to defeat the proposal.

The Judge ruled he was not aware of any evidence that Mr. Stronach improperly influenced the board transactions.

A spokesman for MI Developments said he hoped the court decision would put the matter behind them so the firm could focus on its real estate business and investment in Magna Entertainment.



Stan Rycombel

for

Aurora Town Council

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MUNICIPAL ELECTION INFORMATION

Additional election information is available on the Town's web site www.e-aurora.ca
click on Aurora Vote 2006

Your Vote Counts!

Monday November 13, 2006 is Election Day in the Town of Aurora. Voting hours are 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The following is a list of qualified candidates who are running for each office.

Office of Mayor

(1 member to be elected)

Tim Jones
Nigel Kean
Phyllis Morris

Office of Councillor

(8 members to be elected)
Note: electors are entitled to vote for up to 8 members

Evelyn Buck
Alison M. Collins-Mrakas
Alan Dean
Wendy Gaertner
John Gallo
Stephen Granger
Glyn Jones
Evelina MacEachern
Grace L. Marsh
Aimé Martin
Eric McCartney
Bob McRoberts
Bryan Moir
Keith Munro
Miloslav Prikryl
Stan Rycombel
Kam Q. Sadiq
Michael Thompson
Norm Weller
Al Wilson

Trustee York Region District School Board

English Public Representative
(1 member to be elected)

Gord Kerr
Christopher Pape

Le Conseil scolaire de district du Centre-Sud-Ouest French Public Representative

(1 member to be elected)

René Laurin
Paula Varvaro

Trustee York Catholic District School Board English Separate Representative

Elizabeth Crowe – ACCLAIMED

Le Conseil scolaire de district Catholique Centre-Sud

French Separate Representative

Yves Levesque – ACCLAIMED



Poor Richard

Mayor's presence jinx at most openings

The official opening of stores
Is a function a mayor carries out;
Such action can be a bad omen
As future success could be in doubt!
- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

The mayor of a municipality is often asked to cut the ribbon for the official opening of a new store.

Based on my personal experience over the years, I now wonder why store owners extend the invitation as it could be a bad omen.

Looking back at the many stores and businesses I was asked to officially open when I was mayor, it turned out that I jinxed many of the stores as they later went out of business.

In June, 1969, with the assistance of three young ladies, a car and a gas pump, I participated in the official opening of Tom Waugh's Shell station at the corner of Ransom and Yonge Streets.

The young ladies were Janice White, Janie Case and Sheila Doyle.

The station has long since closed and part of it was converted into an animal hospital.

The same year, I officially opened the A & W Drive-in the intersection of Brookland Avenue and Yonge Street.

Patrons drove in and parked, flicked their lights and a waitress came out to take their order.

When your order was ready, the waitress brought it out on a tray that clipped onto the car door so that you and your family could eat in the comfort of your car, listening to your own radio.

It was a very popular spot but for some reason or other, it closed, the building was demolished and a commercial plaza constructed where the Wimpy's Diner is located today.

In 1971, I had the pleasure of officially opening the Metropolitan Store in the Aurora Shopping Centre and at the time it was the largest Met Store between Toronto and Barrie.

Now it is Business Depot.

In November, 1982, I participated in the grand opening of Isobel Edwards' Collector's Collectables in St. Andrew's Village.

It was one of the first stores to open in the unique shopping centre but after a few years it ceased to exist.

Wool 'N Things Boutique was next on the list.

The official opening took place in September, 1984, and it has long gone.

About the same time I officially opened the new Shoppers Drug Mart on Yonge Street South, along with store officials including Merchandise Manager Gaye Ashton, Vice President Brian Ralph, Executive Vice President Herb Binder, Associate Manager Tom Gagarin and President of Shoppers Drug Mart David Bloom.

The store is one of the few survivors.

This one was not entirely a loss as in March, 1985, I helped Ron Wallace and the late Rosemary Schumaker cut the cake at the pre-opening party of the R & R Book Bar in the Aurora Shopping Centre.

The Book Bar closed but re-opened as R & R Revisited on Mary Street, five years ago.

One of my few success stories was in May, 1985, when along with several store officials including store manager John Dalesandro, I opened the No Frills store in the Aurora Shopping Centre.

The store is still operating and an expansion is under way.

I participated in another store opening in September, 1985, when Camden Carpets opened its doors and along with Paul Baylis, Greg Holy and Sandra Clarkson, I cut the ribbon and placed a jinx on the store as it later closed.

There were other openings with more failures than successes although Not Just Cards retail store is still in operation in the Aurora Shopping Centre.

About the only one I can really brag about is the Newmarket Probus Club of retired and semi-retired professional and business people.

In 1991, I was invited to be the first guest speaker to address the newly established club.

By that time, I no longer held public office.

Ten years later I was invited back for their 10th anniversary and was able to tell the members of my many failures and how delighted I was that they had broken the Illingworth jinx and had grown and survived.

You can find the answer to this puzzle somewhere in this week's edition of The Auroran but you will have to search for it.

Letter to the Editor

Council qualifies for record book: reader

To the editor,

I suggest that the future Aurora Council applies on behalf of the current council for Guinness World Record status for a number of initiatives and council behaviour.

1) The largest property tax increase for a small town (less than 45.000), which amounted to 50 per cent over the last five years.

2) World Record for the widest (12 feet wide plus another four feet of coloured pavement) and shortest bicycle (1 km approximately) path, which was added when Vandorf Sideroad was widened between Industrial Parkway and Bayview and completed this year.

The project cost was more than $2 million and included removal of a long line of mature trees.

It is still not complete since construction waste, fencing and between 25 and 30 car tires, which were dumped last year while construction took place, have still not been removed. Should there not be an inspection by Town staff that the work is properly completed?

Note: There is no pedestrian sidewalk along Industrial Parkway between Yonge and Vandorf, which now has a bicycle path on the south side and a sidewalk on the north side.

Significant number of employees walk in the early morning and evening hours when it is dark from Yonge on the road or on the grassy area (impossible in the winter) to factories located along Industrial and Vandorf. It's an accident waiting to happen.

The width of the bicycle path could have been reduced to six feet and the money saved could have been spent for a sidewalk along Industrial.

3) The spending of $25,000 by a small town for a historical study of our old Town, might be another contender. It could have been done by the Town's Historical Committee most likely for free.

4) "Dysfunctional" as the word most used describing our current council. Another reason for a record application.

Not a week has gone by when the "D" word hasn't appeared in The Auroran describing our council's performance.

5) The potential selling of six acres of Town-owned land (mostly treed) along the Oak Ridge Trail at Vandorf to a factory for the installation of a small holding pond might be another record.

Should it not remain as part of our park system? Why six acres for a small pond?

Another topic, since Remembrance Day is coming up.

It would have been a class act if council had named our new Town Hall address after an Auroran who gave his life serving in the Canadian military during the two World Wars or in Korea.

How much time has our council wasted debating - more like arguing - based on news accounts, if the address should be named after a local politician or "One Municipal Drive"?

Sig Schrattner
Aurora

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AURORAN WORD SEARCH

by Scott Johnston

Find and circle the words from the list in the puzzle below. Words may run horizontally, vertically, diagonally, forwards or backwards. Letters may be used more than once.

Once you have found all of the words, the remaining uncircled letters will answer the question:

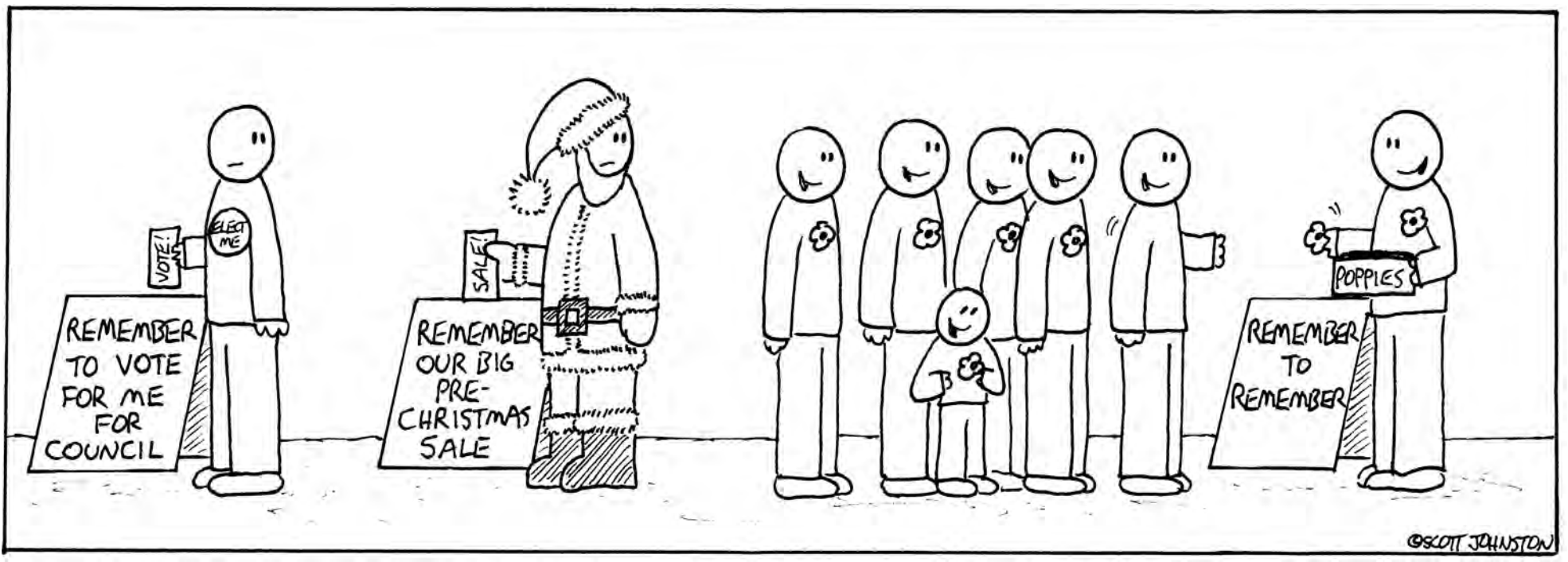
“Who will be the next mayor of Aurora?”

S	M	P	N	I	T	R	A	M	I	N	T	I	T
G	A	E	R	T	N	E	R	S	U	H	G	A	N
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BALLOT
BOOTH
BUCK
CAMPAIGN
CHOICE
COLLINSMRAKAS
COUNCILLORS
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DEBATE
ELECT
GAERTNER
GALLO
GRANGER
IDEA
ISSUE
JONES
MACEACHERN
MARSH
MARTIN
MCCARTNEY
MCROBERTS
MOIR
MUNRO
NOTES
POLITICS
POLL
PRIKRYL
RYCOMBEL
SADIQ
SEAT
SIGNS
TEAM
TERM
THOMPSON
WELLER
WILSON

Machell's Corners

by Scott Johnston





Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Candidates meeting was impressive

The third of four municipal public campaign events was held Wednesday night at the Howard Johnson Hotel.

It was an impressive gathering, with more than 250 people in attendance.

Each candidate had a table where the public could meet them and examine their respective campaign literature.

The three mayoralty candidates then participated in a public forum.

The event was sponsored by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and The Auroran.

I was disappointed there was no direct engagement allowed among the participants, but event organizers told me it was set up this way to ensure civility and a sense of decorum.

Candidates agreed Aurora deserved a second regional councillor and that the regional chairman should be directly elected.

All candidates support the use of a ward system.

Mayor Tim Jones said he was not in favour of this until this term and that he thought there should now be four wards in Aurora, with two councillors elected per ward.

Phyllis Morris said "there are 18,000 doors to knock on in Aurora" and it "is too hard for first time candidates to get elected."

They also agreed municipal boundaries should not be eliminated and that Aurora should not be amalgamated with any other municipality.

Nigel Kean said he "had moved to Aurora because of its small town feel and I want to maintain this."

The 11 questions posed did however expose some differences among the candidates.

Some of the differences were issue related while others were based on a perceptible style of leadership.

To the question "Would you reduce services or use capital reserves to lower the town's taxes", Ms Morris said taxes are the number one issue in this election. She added that economic development has not been done well in Aurora and she would "review everything (in the budget) annually".

The mayor said he was not in favour of using town reserves and he disagreed with Ms. Morris that economic development has not been good in Aurora.

He pointed to Magna and State Farm Insurance as examples of the town's success in this regard.

Mr. Kean said the problem was created when Aurora, albeit a number of years ago "had nine years of zero per cent tax increases".

He said Aurora department heads should give a "real list" of priority expenditures to council. He also wants to ensure that commercial lands cannot be "flipped into residential' lands for redevelopment purposes.

Another of the differences between the candidates came to light when asked what they would do with the funds from the sale of Aurora Hydro to Power Stream - if there were no restrictions on how the money could be spent.

The mayor said the bulk of the funds should go into a capital asset program as "we can't depend upon development charges" to provide for the upkeep of present facilities.

Ms Morris said the $35 million should be spent on something "long-lasting and meaningful."

Mr. Kean said that "we already have a list from the public, containing such things as the Youth Centre, the Heritage Museum and paving roads and we should spend the funds on these things."

The evening started to get interesting when the question was brought up regarding the dysfunctional council.

Mr. Kean said "council is an embarrassment to the Town" and that he would bring his 30 years of business experience to bear on this matter.

Ms Morris said she had introduced a code of conduct some time ago but that fellow council members had voted it down. She said that as mayor, she would ensure that "everyone's voice is listened to" and she wouldn't play "favourites at the table".

The mayor stated "we shouldn't need this (code of conduct) - we should have the maturity to conduct ourselves in a mature fashion."

Closing statements also offered a contrast of messages.

Mr. Kean said he was a decisive leader, one "who didn't wait to see the way the political winds were blowing before announcing his candidacy".

He added he has lived in Aurora for 19 years and that he is the one who founded the Aurora Farmers' Market.

The mayor spoke of his campaign themes of commitment, respect and caring.

He then went on to note his two challengers have continually tried to embarrass him and that "although they would not go to the two-day offsite (an orientation retreat held at the beginning of each council term) they would spend $10,000 on the naming rights fiasco."

Ms Morris said it "is time for change." She said that her leadership style would be inclusive and that she would operate in an "open and accountable style". She would also reintroduce a code of ethics for council.

Voting day is next Monday, Nov. 13.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Cathy's Corner

The gloves are off...

I'm starting to think they're dropping the gloves.

First, MP Peter MacKay is rumoured to have exposed his knuckles last month, when an "incident" took place during a parliamentary debate about the Conservative clean air plan.

According to the grapevine, a Liberal member jokingly asked MacKay if he was concerned about the impact of pollution on animals: "What about your dog?"

MacKay allegedly motioned towards MP Belinda Stronach's empty seat as he replied: "You already have her."

Of course, Belinda is offended by the "attitude of this government towards women", and is demanding an apology because, of course, male dogs aren't subject to the same subtle inferences that send females howling.

Less than two weeks later, Mayor Tim Jones dropped a glove in Upper Canada Mall's pumpkin patch, following the Election Pumpkin Poll.

Caricatures of mayoral candidates were drawn on pumpkins and mall visitors got to vote for their favorite um, well…pumpkin head.

After Phyllis Morris became the pick of the pumpkin patch, Mayor Tim Jones sent an e-mail to the organizers. Something to the effect of: "Nigel and I were both at the mall to thank the organizers who arranged the fundraiser. We acknowledge that she was voted to be a pumpkin and we weren't."

And, of course, that means heads are going to roll!

Perhaps MP Peter MacKay and Aurora Mayor Tim Jones both need a lesson in political correctness.

Or could it be they have been taking lessons from a master of verbal sparring?

You must admit, these sarcastically witty little comments do evoke the kind of chuckle reminiscent of Sir Winston Churchill's famous rhetorical arsenal.

Clement Atlee, a political rival and frequent target of Churchill's verbal ambush, wasn't known to jump up and down demanding an apology, however.

Churchill called Atlee "a sheep in sheep's clothing," and "a modest man with much to be modest about", but the better punch he landed was in the House of Commons…in the men's room.

Attlee arrived first. When Churchill came in, he made an obvious production of standing as far away from his rival as possible.

Noticing, Attlee commented: "Feeling standoffish today, are we, Winston?"

Churchill, a Conservative who despised the Labour Party's scheme of taking over major sections of British industry, replied: "That's right. Every time you see something big, you want to nationalize it!"

Oh, the man had a gift! But I don't expect that either Ms Morris or Ms Stronach appreciate the famous one's "attitude towards women".

Churchill apparently believed in equality - he didn't spare women any punches.

Lady Astor, the first female Member of Parliament, got so exasperated with him at a dinner party one night that she burst out: "Winston, if I were your wife I'd poison your soup!"

"Nancy," he replied, "If I were your husband, I'd drink it!"

Clearly, Mr. Churchill could take one on the chin - and return in kind!

My favourite story highlights Churchill's creative approach to getting in the last word. So important for a politician, you know…

It happened while he was visiting in Richmond, Virginia. One evening, he attended a dinner party, and the chicken looked appetizing, so he asked for a breast.

The hostess raised her eyebrows in obvious disapproval and curtly corrected him.

"Mr. Churchill, in this country we do not refer to parts of the body. We ask for white meat or dark meat!"

Churchill apologized. Then, the very next day, he sent a lovely corsage to his hostess, along with a little note of thanks that read: "Madam, I would be much obliged if you would pin this lovely flower…on your white meat."

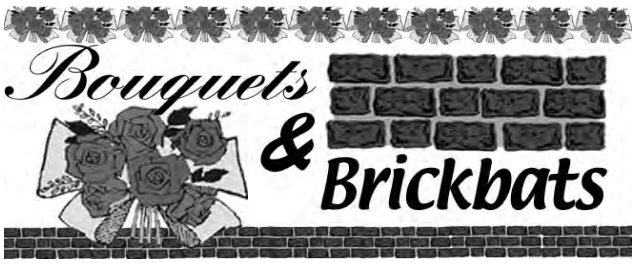
Isn't it amazing that this story is still chuckle-worthy enough to be told and retold for over half a century?

Who knows why Churchill could pack a little truth in one glove and a little jest in the other and round after round, his opponents didn't feel the urge to publicly display their black eyes and point at him.

Maybe they had thicker skins, could roll with the punches, suck it up and move on.

And maybe they understood that these are the prerequisites to the political arena. They always have been.

Cathy Vrancic welcomes e-mail at:
laughingmatters@aci.on.ca
or cathyvrancic@hotmail.com



By DICK ILLINGWORTH

BOUQUETS to Frank and Betty Smith, long time Aurora residents, on their 60th Wedding Anniversary Nov. 30.

BRICKBATS to motorists who don't seem to know what the lines are for on a parking lot as some straddle the line taking up two spaces. When parking is at a premium, especially during Christmas shopping, think of others.

BOUQUETS to the Aurora Community Sport Council for a well-planned and well-conducted all-candidates night and the 250 plus residents who attended and to the 22 candidates who participated.

BOUQUETS to the Aurora Library and Aurora Cable Internet for another successful, well-attended and informative all-candidates night at the Town Hall, and to ACI for repeating the telecast during the week.

BRICKBATS to the Ontario justice system for not filling the shortage of 13 Justices of the Peace positions at the Newmarket Courthouse. This has resulted in a huge backlog of traffic tickets, which, according to Police Chief Armand LaBarge, has caused York Region to have the highest number of traffic charges withdrawn in Ontario.

BOUQUETS to Joe Lebovic of Lebovic Enterprises, a contributor to the Aurora Arts and Culture Fund, and his brother, Wolf, for donating $50 million to the Mount Sinai Hospital. This is the second time the brothers have donated to the hospital as they gave $10 million in 2002.

BRICKBATS to Premier Dalton McGuinty for failing to take action on the $1.5 billion a year gap in health and social services in the GTA regions yet still requiring the regions to send millions of dollars to Toronto without any say as to how they're spent.

BOUQUETS to Christina and Greg Foster of M&M Meats in Aurora on their 5th anniversary of serving the citizens of Aurora and the number of community groups they have assisted during the five years.

BRICKBATS to Prime Minister Stephen Harper for calling two by-elections a week before the Liberal Leadership convention knowing that all the Leader candidates and party faithful will not be available to participate in the by-election campaign. It may be good politics, but it is mean-spirited.

BRICKBATS to the federal government for spending nearly $4 million to establish a Tim Horton franchise in Afghanistan and to maintain it for a year, plus another $2 million or more to keep it open each year. Canadian soldiers deserve the best, but there must have been a better way and how much is the company paying, if any?

BOUQUETS to Alain Goulet, Mike Ward and newcomer Paul Zanette of the Aurora Tigers on being selected to represent Canada in the World Junior Challenge, a first of its kind international tournament sponsored by Hockey Canada and currently underway in Saskatchewan.

BOUQUETS to the organizers and the participants of the Aurora/Newmarket SuperWalk for Parkinson's Disease at Fairy Lake and raising more than $15,000 for the Parkinson Society of Canada.

BRICKBATS to the new members of the Aurora Legion who agreed upon joining to help in the Poppy campaign. Most haven't lifted a finger.

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Letters to the Editor

If I'm driving safely, why worry about traps?

To the editor,

Re: Letter, Auroran, October 31.

First off, Mr. Chisholm, everyone reading your letter understood clearly your attitude in the letter.

I am aware when I am on the road that a site might have radar. I'm doing nothing wrong so why would I care?

Just like when I'm at a bank, or store and they have a surveillance camera. I'm doing nothing wrong so why would I care?

Police officers always set up areas to "SAFELY" pull vehicles over.

Where would you like them to be, perhaps in the air? Would you like them to block off a lane on St.John's Sideroad?

Actually, if you are paying attention, when you are at a distance, you can see the police cars and the radar set-up and have plenty of time to SLOW DOWN to the POSTED speed limit.

A reader wrote that she talked to a police officer when she was out for a walk on St. John's Sideroad.

The police officer said people are clocked doing 25 km over the speed limit all the time.

No, I definitely don't have a problem turning left onto Old Yonge, it seems other people going 25 km over the speed limit do.

I am going the speed limit, but worry that I'm going to get rear ended by someone speeding.

After I wrote the last letter, I had my kids in the car and was going the speed limit in the left lane.

Another car was going the speed limit in the right lane.

The driver behind the car in the right lane turned into my lane, just as I was stopping (with my signal on) and had to weave back into his lane otherwise he would have hit me. He was in a hurry. My words to him "leave earlier".

There are a lot of school buses who use the route, and they often turn left onto St. John's Sideroad from Old Yonge.

So, if they think someone is going 50 km and pull out, but the vehicle is going 75 km then there is a good possibility a major collision could occur.

I've had two speeding tickets in my life, the last one was more than 10 years ago.

Guess what, I didn't complain or try to get the police officer to do me a favour. I took the ticket and paid it.

I also realized that they are out there to protect me, and the lives of other people. I deserved the tickets. One was for going 60 km in a 40 km zone.

This was a wake up call to me, that I didn't want to injure or kill someone (or myself) to get to my destination a whole minute earlier.

As I stated earlier, we are on a slippery slope as the rules of the road are being abused daily.

I don't know what the breakdown is now, but a few years back the library was getting more of our property tax dollars than police services.

If it hasn't changed yet, perhaps it should change, so there will be more police officers out to ensure our roads are safer.

Then maybe our insurance would go down, along with the cost of health care/rehabilitation due to accidents and cost for emergency services (fire/police).

J. Preston
Auror

Promotion good, but...

To the editor,

Regarding M. Chisholm's rebuttal to my letter: thanks for the promotion to "Detective", but I prefer "Junior G-Man".

P. Riley
Aurora

More letters pages 8, 10 & 18

You don't have to vote for eight

To the editor,

The new computerized voting process is excellent and it should result in a very fast count at 8 p.m. on November 13th.

One concern that has been expressed by more than a few people is that voters are automatically told if they have not voted for a full slate of eight councillors.

I personally understand why this notification is in place, however, residents should also be told that they do not have to vote for a full slate if they do not wish to do so. From my perspective, guessing or making poorly researched decisions will not ensure the best possible outcome.

Obviously a vote for fewer councillors on one ballot will strengthen the impact of those votes accordingly.

Richard Johnson
Aurora

ED. NOTE: The writer is correct. It is not necessary to vote for eight people when making council decisions. The computer will put a note on the screen with the word "undervoted" on each line if the voter chooses fewer than eight candidates.



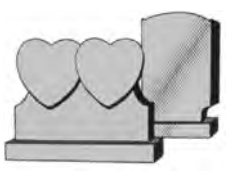
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ELECT Phyllis MORRIS

MAYOR OF AURORA



LEADERSHIP

Dear Residents & Business Owners,

This election is an opportunity for residents to get involved and to make a difference in shaping the future of the Aurora you want.

Like many of you I'm concerned about Aurora's future. The message I'm hearing from you: It's time for change.

You want a more functional Town Council, a stronger voice in York Region, and you want it to be easier to participate in the choices your government makes for you with your money.

You want a more vibrant and expanded business community, support for the arts and recreation, and you want a safer, healthier environment. But to do this it is necessary to restore decorum and to instill a real sense of team spirit at council.

I believe the mark of a good leader is someone who, first and foremost, knows how to listen.

A good leader is someone who builds a strong team, and can recognize and develop people's ability. Someone who isn't challenged by dissent. A good leader is someone who thinks people with new ideas ought to be heard rather than directed, supported rather than controlled, and inspired by example. A good leader celebrates the achievements of others.

I have a proven record of seeking open and accountable government. As councillor I introduced a Code of Ethics, and as your Deputy Mayor I supported the Transparency in Public Matters Act.

Many of you have told me you don't like the way our town seems headed and if you wanted to live in a big city like Toronto you wouldn't have moved here. To keep our taxes manageable we need to balance residential growth with business development.

This election is a wonderful chance to embrace change, and my record shows I offer an entirely experienced choice.

I'd like to continue being there when it matters most, when decisions are being made that will affect Aurora families and businesses.

To be your Mayor and your voice for Aurora,
I ask for your vote on November 13th.

VISION

Strong Proponent Of Open Government

Phyllis Morris helps Aurora residents access their local government. She listens to people and doesn't play favourites. She demands accountability. Phyllis initiated the Code of Ethics for council members and has supported provincial legislation to create penalties for anyone violating Open Meetings provisions of the Municipal Act.

Fighting Transportation Chaos

More than a decade of political near-sightedness has led to traffic gridlock and public transportation that falls short of the needs of residents. Necessary parking expansion at the GO Station is unfinished and already inadequate for the future. Phyllis Morris will work on a creative, sustainable parking solution.



Phyllis Morris at the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust dedication ceremony on October 18 for the donation to the trust of the McLeod Wood Nature Reserve, a provincially significant wetland located at Leslie and St. John's sideroad.

Champions Important Environmental Needs

Aurora sits on one of the world's most important ecosystems – the Oak Ridges Moraine. Our special place in the world requires careful stewardship. Phyllis Morris takes action to manage resources, remove obstacles to energy conservation and get environmental hotspots investigated, managed and cleaned up.

Growth, a Taxing Problem

Phyllis warns that residential property taxes, service charges and fees may continue to rise quickly unless: 1. Appropriate development charges are levied that accurately reflect real future infrastructure needs. 2. Services are based on real growth and realistic deliverables. 3. Efforts to stimulate business development are significantly improved. 4. Aurora collects its fair share of monies from regional, provincial and federal sources. As mayor, Phyllis will give direction and profile to Aurora's economic development efforts. She closely scrutinizes town expenditures and knows how to push to get back tax dollars from surpluses of higher level government.

It's Time to Fix the Recreational Plan

A strong leisure services plan is important to residents of all ages in our community, yet the master strategic plan and the pricing policy for leisure services in Aurora was not reviewed during the last three-year term of council. As mayor, Phyllis Morris will ensure such important policies are regularly reviewed and welcome direct user and community input.

ABILITY

PHYLLIS IS OUR CHAMPION AND ADVOCATE

"Of all the politicians that I have worked with over the years on environmental and ratepayer community issues, **Phyllis stands out from the rest**. She exemplifies the **character attributes that ideally the public wants in a politician** but seldom gets – **leadership, vision and the ability to get the job done** in a professional, fiscally responsible yet passionate manner. She is my choice for Mayor. Let her be your choice too."

Susan Walmer, 2005 "In Celebration of Women" Community Services Achievement Award winner



David Tomlinson and Susan Walmer with Phyllis

SUPPORTS NATURAL PRESERVATION

"I have known Phyllis Morris for over 15 years. Phyllis was practically **engaged in environmental issues** long before it became politically desirable to advocate the protection of our natural environment

I have **no hesitation in supporting Phyllis Morris** in her bid to become mayor. **We need a change of leadership**, not only on environmental concerns but on many other issues, including team leadership that affects the long term future of Aurora."

David Tomlinson of Merlin's Hollow, noted horticulturalist, landscape architect and advocate of environmental protection.

"***WE ENTHUSIASTICALLY LAUD PHYLLIS' COMMITMENT*** to promote Arts & Culture initiatives in Aurora. Having our own cultural facilities and programs, whether they be performing arts centres, galleries, museums, theatres, or heritage sites, both at the local and professional level, is vital to the social well-being of any community. One might say these are the 'heart and soul' of the town. **With her vision for the Arts in Aurora, Phyllis is committed** to bringing us together as a vibrant and connected community."

Bonnie and Norbert Kraft, Bonnie is a music producer and Norbert, her husband, is an internationally acclaimed classical guitarist, and they are both Aurora residents.



Bonnie and Norbert Kraft

" I WORKED WITH PHYLLIS when we were doing a committee for the new rinks. We've been committee members together, promoting hockey, soccer and other sports. At one point, I worked with her on a weekly basis. She's a good person and very capable. She's been supportive of my business, and she's a person who has an open ear."

Doug Adair, Owner Rec. Cycle and Sports

PHYLLIS PROVIDED COUNSEL

"I first met Phyllis Morris when **she started NAFAR** (New Arena for Aurora's Recreation) which culminated in the second ice pad being built at the Community Centre.



Phyllis has now championed three new ice surfaces for Aurora

When I became President of Aurora Minor Hockey (AMHA) in 1999 we had a number of discussions on the ice needs in Aurora. In 2002 I was one of the founding members of All Our Kids Skate (AOKS) which was created as a vehicle for all ice users in town to get the need for a new arena facility in town before Town Council. We spoke to Phyllis numerous times based on her experience with NAFAR and **appreciated her counsel throughout the process**.

Through these years Phyllis always gave freely of her time and worked in partnership with stakeholders such as AMHA and AOKS. **Phyllis has been a valuable member of Town Council and would make an excellent mayor**."

David Saunders, Past President Aurora Minor Hockey Association, Founding Member All Our Kids Skate

On November 13, ELECT
Phyllis Morris Mayor of Aurora

For information, to help in the Campaign, or for assistance on election day:
www.phyllismorris.net *Or please call:* **(905) 841-3743**

Authorized by the CFO together with Phyllis Morris

Letters to the Editor

Auroran advertisement encourages residents

To the editor,

My wife and I were greatly encouraged by the advertisement sponsored by David Tomlinson and Harry Lumsden in the Auroran, October 31, "Vote to Protect the Natural Environment", page 14.

It is a marker of an increasingly discerning public, recognizing and speaking out at election time about the big issues to be addressed by those among us who would seek public office and the power, prestige and influence that goes with it.

Some of us, like David and Harry, understand that we are in fundamentally different times, requiring us to reassess our priorities as individuals and as communities together. Insights into the nature of our vastly changing times, along with the strategic foresight needed to anticipate and capitalize on the forces of profound change are now prerequisites for public office.

The promise of balanced assessment, lower taxes, new recreational facilities, along with the commitment to attract new development to town will no longer be the key markers of the thoughtful, responsible, wise and widely respected politician.

For while these may well continue to be issues in our future, they must now be seen in a new framework of environmental sustainability.

The first challenge, for would-be politicians and their electorate, is to get that framework straight.

Thinking globally, while acting locally must be the hallmark of the wise and judicious, 21st Century politician.

Today there are no more important public issues requiring leadership from those who we would ask to govern on our behalf, than those of global warming and related environmental degradation.

The facts scream out at us daily, requiring of us a new sense of our future, our priorities in creating it, and the conditions by which we will survive and thrive as community.

The complex of interacting social, cultural, environmental and economic development issues to be thoughtfully managed requires the best political minds available to us in Aurora.

Messrs. Tomlinson and Lumsden have suggested some names for our consideration.

We, too, will be giving thoughtful consideration to those discerning individuals offering to lead us over the next four years.

It will be a pivotal period in public policy development, helping to prepare for the new world of the 21st Century, a century quite different from the last.

Leslie Oliver
Aurora

Reader cautions voter to be careful when casting ballot

To the editor,

As a long-time citizen of Aurora I am really concerned regarding the upcoming municipal election.

We must choose particularly carefully this time as this will be the first four-year term.

This will be the first time in my memory, perhaps ever, that it is possible we will have an all new council.

New blood is good but it is important that we have some continuity, that we have at least a couple of councillors whohave lived in Aurora for 30 or 40 years and know some of our history and how we arrived where we are today.

We want to assure that we do not have another dysfunctional council.

That means candidates who do not have single issues or who might be influenced by special interest groups.

We need people who do not make decisions based solely on their own personal beliefs or prejudices but make decisions that will positively benefit our Town as a whole.

As regular readers of The Auroran will know, my two major concerns of the last term have been the discussion of a ward system which I think would result in less representation and damage the uniqueness of our Town and the second item was the inexcusable re-addressing of the Town Hall.

Not only that it was done, but how it was.

As far as leadership, the mayor's position must lead, control, and try and bring harmony to council; however this can only be accomplished with the willingness of councillors to co-operate, something I think was lacking in the last term.

Voting in a local municipal election does matter; our councillors cannot stop development but they can certainly direct and influence the way Aurora grows.

Please consult with the candidates and vote.

Let's have the highest percentage turnout in the GTA showing once again that Aurora is unique and a special place to live.

Graham Wride
Aurora

Seniors great

To the editor,

Park Place Manor hosted the Senior Idol contest, Thursday, Nov. 2, competently, and very successfully.

The Manor Hall was packed, the judging was excellent, and the 'Senior Idol' contestants entertained, magnificently.

The quality was above what I expected, well above.

Voices betrayed age as can only be expected; however, in choice of music, each contestant excelled what I expected. In presentation, each contestant offered entertainment bordering on professional quality, and it appeared to me to be a presentation of a singing art form, performed for the sheer pleasure of triumphant accomplishment.

Jim Edwards earned top Idol, with singing and yodeling, Bud Switzer was second and Neil Pemberton was a very credible third place.

Philippa Wild, Lorraine Worrall and Cliff Davies did not place, but they each have the ability to entertain any time they sing.

Good stuff everybody!

Brian Warburton
Aurora



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Trees in Sheppard's Bush and other Parks be professionally evaluated. If necessary, add quality native & wildlife friendly trees.

Limestone screening based trails be groomed during winter months.

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Specials cannot be combined with any other offers. Taxes not included.

For Aurora Mayor Vote Nigel Kean



As mayor I will bring strong leadership

- Continue to protect the environment including the Oak Ridges Moraine. Aurora needs to protect the remaining green space where possible.
- Continue to work towards protecting Aurora's heritage while planning for the future.
- Bring a cohesive and hard working council to Aurora. A council that will work for the betterment of Aurora.
- Work directly towards bringing a stronger tax base. Aurora needs a tax base that is more balanced, i.e., Residential vs. Commercial/Industrial.
- Bring to council a plan to turn the old hydro building into a youth centre.
- Lease the old library and old seniors' centre to non-profit groups. This space is valuable and should never be turned into a parking lot.
- Have a committee set up with the police, residents and councillors to be proactive on vandalism and crime in Aurora.



Big bike ride



With Martha Hall Findlay during her campaign

Martha Hall Findlay - Liberal Leadership candidate:

"I fully support Nigel's bid for mayor of Aurora. His dedication, decisiveness and honesty plus his grass roots attitude will make the residents of Aurora proud when he becomes mayor. He is hard working and committed to Aurora".

Walter Mestrinaro - Former High Tor Ad hoc Committee member:

"High Tor and the Oak Ridges Moraine are still under threat. Nigel's dedication and passion about green space in Aurora are a comforting thought and desperately needed".

Dick Illingworth - Former Mayor of Aurora and Journalist:

"I would say that Nigel has added a positive dimension to council for the past six years and will continue to do so as mayor. He would be a good choice for mayor."

Dr Bette M. Stephenson - Past Minister of Education and former Church Street School attendee:

"Nigel's service on Aurora Council has proved his ability for committed representation for his constituents, imagination and innovation for the town, and for the wholehearted dedication for his intelligence and energy to the service and progress in Aurora. As mayor he will prove his ability and enthusiastic leadership for the Town of Aurora."

Ward Seymour - Past owner of the Aurora Tigers and owner of the Barrie Colts, Aurora Businessman and Resident:

"Nigel has always shown great enthusiasm and support for so many Aurora based sports and leagues. He will bring this dedication to the Town when elected mayor."



Receiving Olde Aurora community service award



At Home Show - Habitat for Humanity House



Laying wreath at Cenotaph

My wife Cathy and I moved here 19 years ago for a better life in a town that I cherish. I will, as I have in the past, continue to be involved to help all residents in Aurora. When I started the Aurora farmers' market four years ago, I wanted to help bring back that small town feeling while at the same time help the downtown retailers. It has become a meeting place each Saturday morning.

I will bring, as mayor, more than 30 years of senior business management that will help council work as a team. Aurora deserves better than the past three years. I will have a two day training meeting for the new council at the town hall. The first day will include council and staff and the second day will be open to all residents. I want the next council to hear your concerns and then take a more proactive approach. I invite as many residents who can, to come and meet your new council and new mayor, Nigel Kean.

Why spend money at an out of town resort when we can accomplish more at the town hall. Let's support Aurora and its many businesses.

Leadership is key to a successful company and to a successful council. I will be the mayor who will bring respect back to Aurora.

Remember on November 13th, vote for Nigel Kean for a new vision and a new meaning to respect.

"A STRONG VOICE FOR A STRONGER AURORA"

Call 905-751-0790 or check out my web site www.nigelkean.com

Letter to the Editor

Choose wisely when voting: reader

To the editor,

There are many signs that an election is approaching but who are these people?

Historically in Aurora, we do not exercise our democratic responsibility, as the voter turnout is a miserable 30 per cent.

Hopefully the mayor's race this year will inspire more eligible voters to exercise their right.

But how do you make a selection from all the candidates?

Do you select the candidate with the most or the biggest signs? I hope not!

Our system allows each of us to vote for a mayor and up to eight councillors and with 23 candidates on the ballot, that becomes a real challenge.

Unless you have done some investigation, met some of them individually, heard them on Cable 10 TV or at the very least read their literature or visited their website, you're just ticking some boxes.

Yes, we need the voter turnout to increase, however, you must do your homework and make an educated decision. After all, you'll live by that decision for the next four years and as the saying goes, you get the government you deserve.

It's more than just 'what a nice person' or 'we need more women on council' or 'let's give that person a try'.

To direct our $30 million corporation, I'm looking for candidates who have solid qualifications.

What is their record of involvement and contribution to the community? And not just in the past six months.

Do they have an understanding of the issues facing our Town?

Do they have any business background in order to read and comprehend a financial statement?

Do they have a community spirit that promotes community engagement and not political control?

Do they have the desire to be part of a team and respect their position?

I encourage every voter to take some time, do a little homework and carefully consider your selection.

You don't have to vote for eight, you can choose only the one or two who you think have the qualifications to do the job.

Choose wisely.

Paul Smith
Aurora

Reader believes assemblies good

To the editor,

Some critics have written about Aurora Town Council having a "retreat" away from town to discuss their work.

I have been on several such assemblies and found them to be invaluable.

Being in a new environment seems to provide a fresh new outlook to the job and a time to reflect and absorb new ideas.

Most important of all, it is getting to know one's colleagues and how best to work with them.

It promotes team spirit and a willingness to work together harmoniously.

It may cost money initially, but it pays off in the long run.

For council, it means better management without balking at another's ideas or throwing impediments in the way as has been seen at the outgoing council meetings.

The two candidates seeking the mayor's position refused to take part in such a learning session, and deprived themselves of valuable participation.

Unfortunately, from the beginning of their time as councillors, they have drawn attention to their individual endeavours, and have never been team players.

We don't want another dysfunctional council.

Florence Murray
Aurora


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Offers valid until November 30, 2006. Offers may be withdrawn, amended or extended without notice. These offers cannot be combined with other offers. Offers only available at the Aurora Branch, located at 150 Hollidge Boulevard. Additional terms and conditions may apply. See in branch for details.

Why vote for Evelyn Buck?

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investment in our community...

CREATE
the best with the least...

BUILD
when we have the means...

"I know it can be done because I've done it!"

On Monday November 13th vote for experience...and continuity.

RE-ELECT EVELYN BUCK FOR AURORA COUNCIL

It's **ALL** about **Accountability** and **Common Sense**!

Don't settle for less!

EXPERIENCE

- 19 years on Aurora Town Council
- 4 years as Mayor of Aurora
- 2 years as Reeve
- 2 years on County Council
- 4 years on Regional Council
- 3 years on York Region Police Services Board
- Served 9 years on the Social Assistance Review Board that took me all over the province giving me familiarity with villages, towns and cities throughout the province.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Helped to persuade council to build the new Seniors' Centre... This is a great asset to Aurora as programs continue to multiply that help to improve the lives of seniors. Other groups or organizations also have use of this fine facility when not in use by the seniors.

- Initiated "Celebrate Aurora" Day in 2005. This included a creative writing contest for children. "Aurora Day" was held at Ontario Place and what a day it was. It provided an opportunity for many arts and culture groups to showcase their talents.

- Lobbied for available funds for repairs to Rink One at Aurora Community Centre. This rink, which is used by thousands of children and adults and is the home of our Aurora Tigers, was in a state of serious and disgraceful neglect. This project was completed successfully and ON BUDGET with the help of our parks manager, Jim Tree.

On November 13th VOTE for EXPERIENCE



Evelyn at Aurora Day

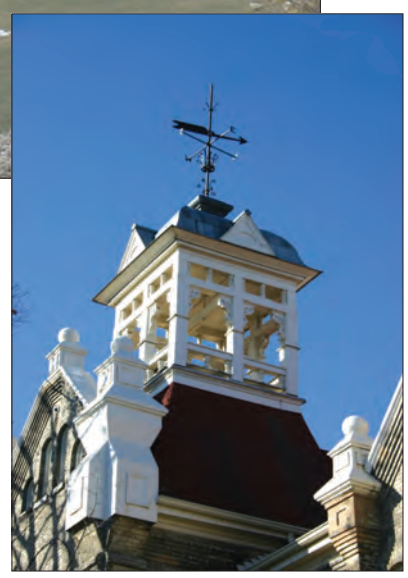


York Region District School Board Administration

November 13th VOTE for VISION



Aurora Seniors' Centre



Church Street School

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

- Manageable taxes.
- Growing our economy.
- Increase occupancy rates of vacant buildings and lots. Some have been the same for more than 30 years. They are a blight on the downtown streetscape and contribute nothing to the cost of services. Essentially, they are a NET LOSS!
- We are losing $9,000 in rent and $5,000 a month in tax revenues, as well as 24 jobs in the Aurora Hydro building which has been vacant since May. This building is worth at least $3 million.
- Church street school has been vacant and idle for 3 years! We need to commit to complete the renewal of this beautiful building. It is a valuable asset serving no useful purpose.

On November 13th VOTE for ACTION

Re-elect Evelyn Buck for Aurora Council

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AURORAN SPORTS

VOTE NOV. 13

Three games; three nights; three wins

The Aurora Tigers continued their winning ways last week, adding three more victories to their record, and doing it in three nights in a row.

All this while coach Jerome Dunlop and three Tigers, are out west involved in the World Junior A Challenge.

Thursday night in Stouffville, however, the Tigers played a bit with fire as they trailed 4-2 half way through the third period.

But Joey Martin was the hero as he scored the overtime winner at 32 seconds on a great shorthanded rush and a labeled slapshot that beat Stouffville goaltender Mark Kubicz and gave the Tigers a 5-4 victory over the Spirit.

The Tigers trailed through most of the game and the situation looked bleak in the third before Aurora snapped to life with two goals and sent the match into overtime.

Power play goals by Joey Pell and Andrew Favot knotted things up and forced the extra five-minute frame.

Also scoring for the Tigers were Daniel Michalsky and Joey Martin, who opened the scoring.

Mike Dahlinger added three assists and Captain Quinn Waller chipped in with two.

Tigers played without the services of Alain Goulet, Mike Ward, and Paul Zanette who are representing Team Canada East, in the tournament underway in Saskatchewan.

Friday night, Aurora returned to the confines of the Community Centre and handed the Orangeville Crushers a 3-1 loss. One night later they were on the road again, this time to visit the Seguin Bruins.

Even though they were one tired hockey team, Aurora still fashioned a 5-1 victory.

Although the Bruins had been resting for a week and the Tigers were coming off back to back wins over Stouffville and Orangeville, Aurora was the team with the higher energy level and controlled the game throughout.

Leading the way for the

Please see page 14



Fresh from his heroics a night earlier, Tiger centreman Joey Martin shakes off an Orangeville Crusher during game in Aurora Friday. Tigers won 3-1, and Martin assisted on two of the goals. Another win Saturday night brought Aurora's record to 19 wins and a tie.

Auroran photo by Andy Brooks

voteEric.ca

McCartney
for Town Councillor

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AMBA program in jeopardy, volunteers urgently needed

Due to a shortage in volunteers Aurora's minor ball association (AMBA) is looking for people to fill positions on its Board of Executives.

Vacancies include softball vice-president, softball directors (all divisions), softball umpire in chief, treasurer, registrar, baseball vice president, and Secretary.

According to one spokesperson, the lack of volunteers jeopardizes AMBA programs.

It's the first time in history some softball programs may be in jeopardy due to a lack of volunteers," said Sponsorship Director Carol Walthers. "The players are willing, the infrastructure is there to support them, but parents and the community are not."

She said for the last three years, the AMBA has been working on an initiative to encourage participation in its softball program.

Reduced fees and implementing Softball Ontario's "Learn to Play" program have been successful in increasing membership, she said, and the efforts of previous executive members are now coming to fruition.

"The ironic situation is that those players may not have softball divisions to play in next season."

The spokesperson said that no volunteers have come forward in any capacity for the 2007 softball program.

"Unfortunately, the AMBA, for the first time, has to face cutting softball from its roster," she said.

Other key positions that are vacant are behind-the-scenes administrative duties, which are crucial to the continuation of the program.

"Our current executive is stretched to the limit with huge demands on their time," Walthers said. "The AMBA needs relief for those individuals who have steadfastly stood by summer after summer bringing fun, challenges, and skills to the youth of Aurora.

"We believe Aurora residents want softball to continue as a viable sport alternative in our town. Our goal is to deliver quality programs that our children will benefit from. We believe that like-minded individuals can rise to the challenge of balancing a busy life with community service."

To resolve the crisis the AMBA is beginning a recruitment campaign.

Potential volunteers are asked to contact Dave Giroux, AMBA President at 841-5331, or by e-mail at davegiroux1@aol.com.

The AMBA provides a program of softball and baseball for the youth of Aurora, aged five to19.

Divisions include house league, select and rep (baseball). The volunteer non-profit association, incorporated in 1979, currently has 500 players.

For more information contact Carol Walthers at walthers@aci.on.ca or visit the AMBA website at www.auroraminorball.ca.

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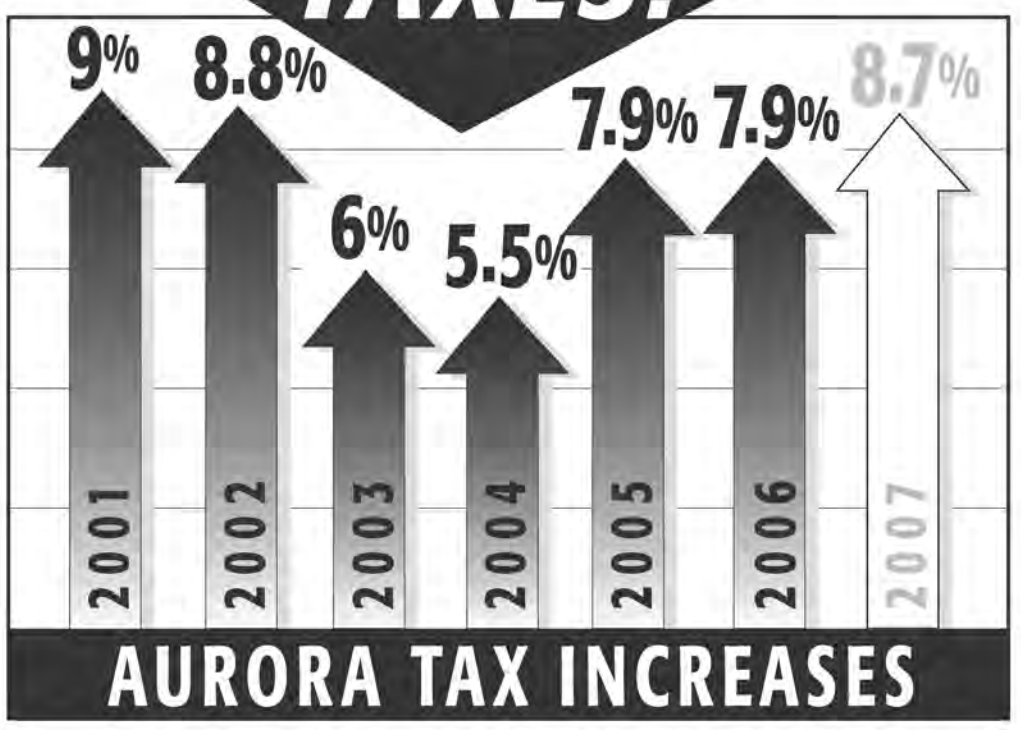
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VOTE Al Wilson FOR AURORA COUNCIL

Aurora Minor Hockey Association

Results to 9 AM Sunday, November 5

Website: www.aci.on.ca/amha

Tyke House League

109 Tim Hortons Wild 5 - Owen Bourrie 1A, Thomas Young 1A, Ben Langlois 2G, Joel Woodcock 2A, Jeffrey Crowe 1G, Stewart Gable 1A, Joshua Hookey 1G, Cameron Railton 1A, Lucas Dane 1G, Jackson Clements 2A, Josh Hookey 1G. **101 Tim Hortons Red Wings 1** - Aydin Metel 1G. Graydon Belgue 1A. Jacob Cann 1A.

110 Tim Hortons Thrashers 7 - Ariz Bhimani 1G 3A, David Tonelli 2A, Tyler Frise 2G 1A, Johnathan Martin 1G 1A, Matthew Minchella 1G 1A, Gordon Scott 1G, Brennan Young 1G, Andrew Warner 1A, Jacob LeBlanc 1A. **102 Tim Hortons Bruins 2.**

104 Tim Hortons Flyers 5 - Chris Roche 1A, Eric Pears 1A, Mathew MacDougall 1G, Jack O'Keefe 1A, Adam Vanderkolff 1A, Thomas Wilson 3G, Shamus Quinn 1A, Sean Anderton 1G, Patrick Cruickshank 1A, Carmelo Sorino 1A, Connor MacGrath 1A, Anthony Issaris 2A. **103 Tim Hortons Senators 0.**

105 Tim Hortons Leafs 9 - Kyle Rice 3G, Joshua Schmitt 1G, Ty Boisseau 2G, Matthew Nitsopolos 2G, Colin McGoldrick 1G. **108 Tim Hortons Sharks 1** - Jordan Torres 1A, Clayton Allen 1A, Alexander Simardone 1G.

106 Tim Hortons Penguins 4 - Filip Ekstrom 1A, Quest Rodin 2A, Aidan Glassey 1A, Steele Rodin 2G, Andrew Sergejewich 1G, Dylan Cowell 1G, Mark Carpenter 1A. **107 Tim Hortons Lightning 2** - Kurt Bortolin 1A, Casandra Srouji 1A, Matthew Vassos 1G, Reid Ludgate 1A, Tyler Mckechnie 1A, Darcy Sarazin 1G.

Novice House League

205 Mastermind Toys 7 - Max Bruckner 1A, Matthew Barnett 1A, Connor Tripp 2G, Tyler Williams 3G 1A, Anthony Loduca 1G, Matthew Colucci 2A, Devon Hope 1A, Lucas Ackerman 1G, Connor Reilly 3A, Will Ashton 1A. **204 Hitz 2**.

Minor Atom House League

302 Rec Cycle N' Sports 10 - Michael Imseis 1G 1A, Joel Robinson 1G, Nolan Smith 1G 1A, Michael Fisher 2A, Bryn Burbank 1G, Matthew Neice 1A, Joshua Capodagli 2G 2A, David Kangas 1A, Liam Joyner 2G 2A, Ryan Batten 1G, Hunter Jones 1G 1A, Matthew MacGrath 1A. **301 Optimist Club of Aurora Inc. 2**

Atom House League

401 Shoppers Drug Mart Aurora 6 - Michael De Cesare 1G 3A, Austin Tanaka 1A, Zachary Cowl 3G, Rio Speller-Drews 1G, Issac Hambrock 1A, Nelson Hossack 1A, Billy Haddock 4A, Derek Capone 1G. **405 Laurion Law Office Atom House League 5.**

402 Orr & Forster Insurance Brokers 10 - Hussain Akbar 2A, Keith Jarvis 2G, Graham Killby 1G 2A, Jonathan Caporusso 1A, Ben Black 1A, Joey Stel 1G 1A, Morgan Walker 3G 1A, Ben Tomlin 1A, Russell Johnson 1G 1A, Mitchell Carter 2G 2A. **404 All Pro Source For Sports 3.**

403 Delph & Jenkins Surveyors 4. 408 Greenpoint Laser Products Atom House League 2.

406 AB Cox Pontiac Buick GMC 4 - Nicolas Chethuan 1A, Tim Pare 1A, Andrew Kaszuba 2G 1A, Lucas Brutto 1G 1A,

Zachary Kroll 1A, Callum Forrest 1G. **407 Dr. Steiner's Drillers 1.**

Minor Peewee House League

502 ACI 12 - Jaime Poutney 2G, Matthew Hudon 1G 1A, Zachary Ferry 3G 2A, Andreas Mikkelsen 4G, Christopher Kinsman 1G, Tyler Grossi 1G 1A. **501 Millenium Devils 5.**

Minor Midget House League

901 Emilios Pizza 1. 902 0.

902 6 - Bruce Phillips 1A, Evan Campbell 1A, Steven Foss 1A, Aaron Wochenmarkt 1A, Scott Quagliarini 2G 1A, John Cardella 1G 1A, Andrew Wilkins 3G 1A. **905 Skaters First 2.**

903 4 - Daniel Bianchi 1A, Alec Mackrell 1A, Madison Weber 2G, Nolan Jordan 1G 1A, Jake Thompson 1A, Simon Esposito 1A, Michael McGee 1G 1A. **906 Omars Shoes 3**.

904 8 - Cody Benson 1G, Ethan Shore 2G 1A, Jason Nadeau 2G 1A, Taylor Bryce 1G, Michael Shoesmith 1G, Daniel Filippi 2A, Eric Shoesmith 1G. **903 2.**

905 Skaters First 2. 904 1 - Ethan Shore 1G, Kevin Nandlall 1A, Michael Shoesmith 1A.

Midget House League

1002 4. 1003 4.
1004 C.W. Coops Aurora 3. 1008 2.
1010 Midget House League 8. 1009 1.

Tyke Select

Newmarket Redmen Tyke Select 3. Aurora Tigers 1 - William Morin 1A, Mark Kalmisto 1A, Matthew Minchella 1G.

Rep Games - Novice

Newmarket Redmen Novice A 4. Aurora Tigers 3 - Eric Shennan 1A, Cameron Zinner 2G, Austin Kiraly 1A, James Wyndham-West 1G.

Newmarket Redmen Novice A 2. Aurora Tigers 1 - Eric Shennan 1G, Cooper Hewgill 1A, James Wyndham-West 1A.

Newmarket Redmen AA 5. Aurora Tigers AA 1.

Newmarket Redmen AA 4. Aurora Tigers AA 1 - Patrick Servideo 1A, Matthew Liscio 1G.

Aurora Tigers AE 1 - Morgan Frost 1G, Joshua Brecht 1A. **Newmarket Redmen Novice AE 1.**

Minor Atom

Aurora Tigers A 2. Newmarket Redmen A 0.
Newmarket Redmen AA 3. Aurora Tigers AA 2.
Aurora Tigers AA 2. Newmarket Redmen AA 0.
Aurora Tigers AE 0. Newmarket Redmen AE 0.



Atom

Newmarket Redmen A 4. Aurora Tigers A 1 - Lucas Pozzebon 1A, Connor Cowl 1G.

Newmarket Redmen A 1. Aurora Tigers A 0.

Newmarket Redmen AA 2. Aurora Tigers AA 1 - Sean Foxwell 1G, Brett Thiessen 1A, Austin Lane 1A.

Aurora Tigers AE 3 - Ryan McGolrick 1A, Shannon Murray 1A, Gabriel Oulahen 1A, Nathan Nealon 1G, Alex Perez 1G, Graham Robinson 1G. **Newmarket Redmen AE 1.**

Aurora Tigers AE 0. Newmarket Redmen AE 0.

Minor Peewee

Newmarket Redmen A 4. Aurora Tigers A 2.

TNT Minor PW A 3. Aurora Tigers A 2 - Kyle Zacharuk 1A, Quincy Ing 1G, Daniel Antoniel 1G, Ryan Baskin 1A.

Aurora Tigers A 4 - Kyle Zacharuk 1A, Hayden Trask 1G 1A, Ben Hankins 2G, Peter Sandwell 1G, Kevin Casey 1A, Daniel Antoniel 1A. **Newmarket Redmen A 0**.

Aurora Tigers AA 3. Newmarket Redmen AA 2.

Aurora Tigers AE 4 - Connor Moody 1A, William Allen 1G, Eric Archibald 1G 1A, Jonathan McConnell 2G, Eric Bulloch 1A, Bailey Miller 1A. **Newmarket Redmen AE 4.**

Aurora Tigers AE 2 - Connor Moody 1G 1A, Matthew Pryse 1G 1A. **Newmarket Redmen AE 0.**

Peewee

Aurora Tigers A 1. Newmarket Redmen A 1.

Newmarket Redmen AE 3. Aurora Tigers AE 1.

Newmarket Redmen AE 6. Aurora Tigers AE 0.Minor Bantam

Newmarket Redmen A 5. Aurora Tigers A 1 - Brendan Strachan 1G, Chris Venditellii 1A.

Aurora Tigers A 3 - James Harkin 1G, Daniel Howie 1A, Brendan Strachan 2G. **Newmarket Redmen A 1.**

Aurora Tigers AA 4 - Steadman Dinning 1G 1A, Scott Bromley 1A, Chris Smith 1A, Cody Forgione 1G, Brandon Pedersen 1G 1A, Tristan Miller 1G 1A. **Newmarket Redmen AA 4.**

Aurora Tigers AE 2 - Michael Takashi 1A, Brett Richardson 1G, Gavin Forrest 1G, Adam Reid 1A, Robbie Denault 1A, Michael Nonnewitz 1A. **Newmarket Redmen AE 0.**

Aurora Tigers AE 4 - Michael Takashi 1G 1A, Tyler LaMantia 1A, Nicholas Silverio 1A, Gavin Forrest 1G, Scott Kimmerer 1A, Michael Nonnewitz 1A, Kyle Rojas 2G 1A. **Newmarket Redmen AE 0.**

Bantam

Aurora Tigers A 3 - Sean Ellison 1A, Shawn MacEachern 1G, Derrick Hamner 1A, Max Lerner 1A, Dillon Cappell 1G, Michael McGolrick 1G. **Newmarket Redmen A 1.**

Newmarket Redmen AE 2. Aurora Tigers AE 0.

Minor Midget

Newmarket Redmen A 8. Aurora Tigers A 3 - Luca Ghegin 1A, Matthew Joynt 1G, David Iwai 1G, Michael Grande 1A, Michael Morson 1A, Conor McQueston 1A, Adam Bloom 1G 1A.

TNT A 5. Aurora Tigers A 3 - Zach Roitner 1A, David Barr 1A, Matthew Joynt 1G 1A, David Iwai 2A, Michael Morson 1G, Adam Bloom 1G 1A.

Newmarket Redmen AA 6. Aurora Tigers AA 2.

Aurora Tigers AE 2. Newmarket Redmen AE 2.

Aurora Tigers AE 6. Newmarket Redmen AE 2.

Midget

Newmarket Redmen A 7. Aurora Tigers A 4 - Spencer McCartney 1G, Jamie Tuck 1A, Darcy Polosse 1A, Robert Lee 1G, Derek Brown 1A, Ian Weston 1G 1A, Christian D'Vincenzo 1A, Travis Hooper 1G.

Aurora Tigers A 4 - Gregory Gianopoulos 1G 1A, Jamie Tuck 1A, Conner O'Grady 1G, Jake Hurlbut 1A, David Cigana 1A, Derek Brown 1G, Ian Weston 1G 1A, Christian D'Vincenzo 1A, Travis Hooper 2A. **Newmarket Redmen A 3**.

Aurora Tigers AA 5. Newmarket Redmen AA 2.



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Tigers win three more

From page 12

Tigers was goaltender Tyler Gordon who stopped 39 of 40 shots to earn the victory.

Scoring for Aurora were Mark Mayea, Daniel Michalsky, and Joey Martin.

Contributing a goal and assist were Andrew Favot and Doug Henderson.

From the defence corps Joey Pell and Jordan Smith each had a pair of assists.

Interim head coach Craig Evans was pleased with the team's effort and was able to play all 18 skaters with balanced ice time, a key ingedient to Aurora's success.

Tigers are off until this Friday night, Nov. 10 when they host the Collingwood Blues in a home and home series with the concluding game in Collingwood Saturday night at 8 p.m.

Friday's match starts at 7.30 p.m.

ON NOVEMBER 13TH

ELECT



Keith Munro

TO AURORA TOWN COUNCIL

- *Resident of Aurora since 1972*
- *Lived in area since 1947*
- *District Chief Toronto Fire Services*
- *Chaired Constitution Budget, Law Committee, Grievance Committee & Benevolent Fund*
- *Stingray Masters Swim Club member for 23 years*
- *Ran for Ontario MPP 3 Times York North*
- *Ran for Aurora Town Council 4 times*

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Tim's hands-on approach to encouraging new business, large and small, to Aurora is a positive influence.

Doug McGrath
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It was a superb performance by York Chamber Ensemble

By TOM DAVEY

Attending York Chamber Ensemble's "Key's of Autumn" concert I expected a soporific selection of classical pieces in the gentile atmosphere of Aurora's Trinity Anglican. Wrong, dead wrong.

I was immediately captivated by the vibrancy and vigorous interpretation of Handel's Arrival of the Queen of Sheba. The essential liquidity of the chamber's strings cascaded from the rafters and flowed through the aisles.

After some two and a half centuries this piece from Handel's oratorio, Solomon, still inspires audiences. Conductor Tony Browning drew emotion and precision from the ensemble and provided helpful interpretive explanations to the audience regarding the composers and their pieces.

A highlight moment occurred when a small girl took her place in the centre aisle, completely expressionless as she clutched her violin while the ensemble began the Violin Concerto No. 5 by Friedrich Seitz.

Then 10-year-old Bethany Yam launched into the demanding piece with great control and vigour.

Only after she completed the concerto did she break into a broad smile in response to enthusiastic applause.

Vivaldi's L'Estro Armonico is a demanding piece but the ensemble transformed the intricacies of this legendary composer, with emotional performances by violinists Ian Clark, Philippa Lazare, Anita Hancock and Timothy Pressey with Barbara Dickson on the violincello.

Their virtuosity made both Vivaldi's music - and the audience's spirits - soar and reverberate.

Vivaldi's Four Seasons: Autumn, provided violin soloist Joyce Lai with an opportunity to combine instrumental speed, dexterity and harmony before the mood changed to the moving, almost mournful adagio, followed by the lilting allegro.

The Serenade for String Orchestra, by Hans Gal (1890-1987) was preceded by an introduction by one of the ensemble violinists, Malcolm Dickson, who had actually known the composer when he lived and taught at Edinburgh University following exile from Nazi Germany.

Gal, lived, composed and taught music there until his death at the age of 97.



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- Open minded and respectful
- Lead by example
- Understands that town councillors must act as public servants
- Mindful of due process and the need for public forum
- Appreciates the role and impact of ratepayers groups

John Gallo, where and how he will make a difference
- Supports "Green Energy" initiatives
- Supports Citizen participation on town committees
- Create and support cultural opportunities
- Reliable "safe" electricity
- Promote public debate and transparency by minimizing "in camera" sessions.
- Support and help promote the "Arts" in Aurora

John Gallo, what are his accomplishments
- President of the Bayview Wellington Ratepayers Association for 4 years
- Successfully negotiated with "big box" stores to design neighbourhood friendly stores
- Effectively lobbied the town to build Civic Square Park.
- Active Member of the Leisure Services Advisory Committee in Aurora for 3 years

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Candidates impress seniors at meeting

By BRIAN WARBURTON

The number of excellent candidates contending for a seat on Aurora Town Council is impressive; great change is assured with only two former councillors standing for election as councilor.

The mayor wants his job back as mayor, and two councillors also want to be mayor of Aurora.

The inevitable result is that one candidate will be elected mayor, while two competent candidates will not be elected to the new council.

At the very interesting all-candidates meeting recently, many of us got a first look at the new candidates.

As a member of the Aurora Seniors Association (ASA), it has been my pleasure to meet some of the candidates and judge their merit.

Others are new to me, I listened to what they had to say, and observed the manner in which they presented themselves.

Balanced development was mentioned often, but time did not allow specifics to be articulated.

And Library Square was mentioned several times; the future of the square is a topic which gets serious attention.

I came out of the meeting with a clearer idea of what interests me in a candidate, and I am the better for attending.

Each year we have a memorial service for those who died.

This year it will be Friday, Nov. 10. The service will last about one hour, as we remember quietly and with deep respect, former friends.

I feel better afterwards; it is a formal way of paying respect.

The Town of Aurora has a new and improved website from where the ASA website can be accessed.

Many of our computer literate members use the Town and ASA websites, because they are useful, and clearly another milestone in the technological progress of the senior.

The reading room is finally furnished and equipped with sufficient shelving, and the room is appealing and comfortable. This is where Flo Murray and her reading group will spend many pleasurable hours discussing the books they have been reading.

We plan to install at least one computer in the reading room, for games and for writing.

And in concert with the reading room, the lounge received its final complement of furniture and is an excellent place to sit and chat.

Nov. 22 is the first anniversary of the new centre, which is a cause to celebrate.

Brian Roman will entertain at this all ticket affair, and tickets are available at the front counter.

I observe that the first year at the ASA has been eventful and very successful.

The elder population appears to me to be more vibrant and visible, and the perception or feeling that elders fade quietly from view, has evaporated in robust fashion.



Aurora's St. Andrew's College debating team is show here, with winner Ryan Cole of Aurora circled. Ryan, a Grade 10 day student at the school, will be one of six Canadian students who will advance to debating finals in South Africa next spring. Also participating in the debate, which was held at St. Andrew's and attracted students from 44 schools representing seven countries, was Radissen Ramoutar, a Grade 11 boarding student from Trinidad, front row, left. Next to him is a competition volunteer, Daniel Couturier, a Grade 7 boarding student from Mexico. In the back row, left to right, are Hamad Mirza, a Grade 11 day student from Richmond Hill; Ryan; Abhinav Raina, a Grade 11 boarding student from Aurora; and Stewart Powell, a Grade 12 day student from Aurora.



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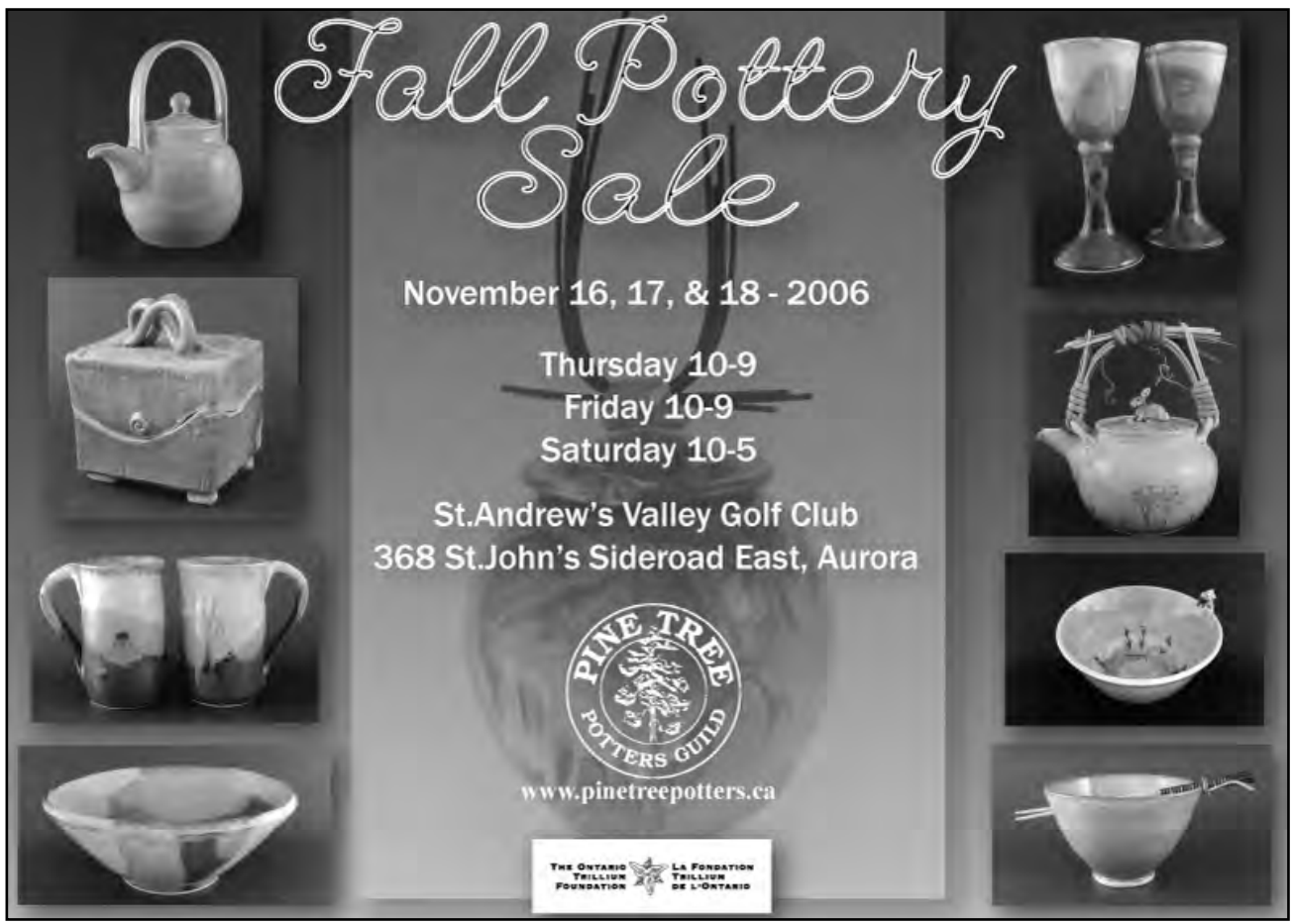
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RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

No decision yet on water tower property

For more than 40 years an elevated water tower was located on a one-acre site in the south part of Aurora near Davis Road.

It was demolished in 2003.

As the town had owned the property prior to regional government, it wanted it back as potential parkland.

In March, 2003, the region agreed to trade the property for town-owned land south of Aurora Heights Drive where the town's sewage plant had been located for a new water treatment facility.

As the town planned to use the site for parkland or as a possible site for a Habitat for Humanity home, the region added a clause to the agreement that the transfer was conditional in the event the property was not used for municipal or non-profit purposes.

The town did not agree to this condition and the exchange was completed in December, 2004.

Council directed staff to investigate potential uses for the property and provide options to council.

What happened, as a report never came back to council in open session?

WHERE IS THE KEY?

It was in June, 1981, when Aurora Mayor George Timpson officially opened Hotel Aurora, now Howard Johnson Aurora.

As a front door of a hotel should never be locked, it is traditional at an opening to throw the door key away.

Timpson gently flicked the key into the hotel driveway.

That wasn't good enough for hotel manager Jack Schneider who picked it up and fired it across the street into an empty field.

Several members of Aurora Council joined hotel owners Mr. and Mrs. Frank Orsi at the opening as the Canadian flag was raised in front of the new 98-room, four-storey building.

Guests were treated to lunch in the bright new addition to the front of what was the former Upstairs Lounge.

Next to open was a champagne brunch featuring jazz musicians resulting in the formation of the Aurora Brunch Jazz Club with Ron Wallace and Dick Illingworth as charter members.

The hotel lobby became an art gallery featuring local artists with Aurora artist Dorothy Clark McClure being first.

But where is the key?

THE FENCE ON TEMPERANCE STREET

Back in 1969 Aurora Council had to seek a court injunction to force a Temperance Street resident to remove a sidewalk and street barrier erected as the result of a land ownership dispute with the town.

Stephen Kozik owned the property at the crest of the hill where the street curves downhill in a slight eastward path. He claimed he owned a triangular piece of land that covered part of the sidewalk and the street that was taken over by the town when the road was reconstructed.

He said the town should either buy the land or stop trespassing and when no action was taken, he built the fence on what he claimed was his property.

A check of the records revealed he had purchased the property from the Nisbet family in 1968 and in 1964 the Nisbet family had deeded the section of the property in dispute to the town.

But unknown to council members the town solicitor gave the property back to the Nisbet family prior to the sale so that legally Mr. Kozik owned the property and the road and sidewalk had been built on his property.

A quick legal settlement was arranged and the fence came tumbling down ending the Battle of Temperance Street.

CLEANING AURORA WATERMAINS

Back in October, 1983, a little plastic pig was running around watermains in the southeast quadrant of Aurora.

It was forced down a hydrant at one end of the street to escape at the other end removing the accumulated iron and mineral deposits in the mains to reduce problems with water discoloration in that section of the town.

All residents in the area were notified of the flushing with service disruption lasting about half a day. They were also notified when the mains were in operation.

Residents were unable to use any water during the flushing operation and once it was complete, they were advised to run a cold water tap in the basement until the water ran clear.

WHERE ARE THE REPORTS?

With just one more council meeting Nov. 28 for the current council, there are a number of small issues that should be cleared up at that meeting.

Last June Richard Roylance of Rush Road appeared before the general committee to express concern about light trespassing into his rear yard. The committee recommended that the appropriate staff personnel report to council.

In July council agreed that the town undertake negotiations with the region on the outstanding invoice of $258,676 regarding the construction of the sidewalk, water and sewer projects on the St. John's Sideroad.

In September the general committee requested details of the draft agreement with Frank Stronach regarding naming rights to the recreation centre be presented to council in private.

Answers are needed in public session.

Boxes still proliferate town streets

After citizen complaints dating back to about 1969, the proliferation of newspaper vending boxes on Aurora streets is still a problem.

Last April Councillor Nigel Kean gained support for staff to investigate and advise what bylaws were in place to prevent the placing of newspaper and magazine vending boxes on Aurora street corners.

In a report to council town staff said a check had been made of other municipalities with some reporting some form of control.

In that report, there were about 80 to 100 vending boxes on Aurora streets.

It was noted the Municipal Act provided authority for municipalities to control the placement and location of newspaper vending boxes within the municipality and to charge fees.

It was finally agreed staff would report back with a draft bylaw to include site locations and restrictions.

It's too late for the current council to take any action and the problem remains.

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Aurora Council



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3. Clean environment and safer communities
4. Diversity

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2. Raised $1 million for Tsunami and Kashmir earthquake victims
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Letter to the Editor

Four years of silence if you don't vote

To the editor,

On Sunday, October 29, I attended an all-candidates' meeting at the town hall and I was struck by two things.

One, the unparalleled quality of the candidates who are running.

Almost to a person, they are highly qualified professionals whose education, job-related and volunteer experiences apply directly to the concerns and needs of the community - taxation, development, sports and recreation, municipal affairs and the environment.

The second thing that I noticed was that the audience was almost, if not entirely, comprised of seniors.

They should be applauded for their interest and intelligence for wanting to find out more about the slate of candidates, many who are unknown to the larger community.

I hope subsequent meetings brought out a wider cross-section of Aurora's population.

The voter turnout in the last election was 33 per cent.

I find this appalling as municipal government most directly affects your day-to-day quality of life - snow removal, street cleaning, garbage collection, recreational services, the maintenance of parks and walking trails.

With the excellent slate of candidates who have chosen to put their names forth, we have an unprecedented opportunity to safeguard and even improve the wonderful quality of life we enjoy in Aurora.

Voting is a simple task involving about five minutes of your time.

Remember if you don't vote, you can't complain, and this time that means a four-year sentence of silence!

Judy Salmon
Aurora

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in the Town of Aurora again this year. We are

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Please note:
No classes Monday Dec.18, 25, 2006, & Monday Jan. 1, 2007.

re-elect TIM JONES MAYOR



Proven leadership that has always stressed teamwork and put the best interests of Aurora before all else

Under my leadership as Mayor of Aurora many things have been accomplished through the efforts of dedicated, team-spirited people which I look upon with pride.

New Seniors Centre

New Leisure Services facility

New Fire Hall

Emergency Plan and Emergency Operations Centre

Church Street School Heritage Centre

Designated heritage area

Provincially recognized youth program support

Improvements to parks and trail systems

Creation of our first and only leash free dog park

Annual Mayor's Anti Litter Day

Full traffic study completed

Welcomed VIVA Rapid Transit through Aurora

Regional road systems upgraded

Safety gates on all of Aurora's rail crossings

Revitalized town's website for better communication and easier access to local information

Character Community Initiative

Vastly improved water system

Award winning storm water management initiatives

Profitable sale of Aurora Hydro company

Updated town corporate image for economic development application to promote business growth

Expanded our business base — attracting a movie theatre, State Farm , several other new businesses and facilitated business expansions and prepared our 404 sector to make way for future business growth

Over $600,000 for community charities raised through Mayor's Annual Golf and Tennis Tournaments

$2,000,000 sponsorship for new Recreation Complex from Magna International and Mr. Frank Stronach

Experienced leadership and a cohesive team is what will make a better Aurora.

It's time to put personal agendas behind us and get serious about working together to build a safe, prosperous and even more vibrant Aurora for the future. I look forward to doing so with a new council and respectfully request your vote on November 13th.

1-877-865-6637 (TM JONES)
tim@timjonesformayor.com www.timjonesformayor.com

committed to making Aurora the best

RETURN NORM WELLER TO AURORA COUNCIL

To respond to the photos and issues in last week's Auroran, here's my view:

Downtown Parking

My survey of downtown, from Aurora Heights to Murray Drive, would result in one major change: the purchase of the old arena site (just north of Park Place Manor). The purchase would create additional parking. I would also suggest we place a half-hour time limit on cars using the lower parking area at the library and a one-hour time limit in a section of the upper lot.

Old Fire Hall and Old Library

The old fire hall and library must be saved from demolition. Space is needed for clubs, daycare, youth drop-in centre, Hot Spot Youth Club and other users. Let's set up a committee to review all proposals and negotiate a long term possible lease and cost to renovate. In order to keep our two community buildings, Victoria Street parking must be revamped to create 50 new parking spaces. I know how to do that, too. See map below.

Trees

Tree planting has been a top priority in Aurora since I set up the program 30 years ago. We now face two problems: some trees planted 30 years ago are showing signs of decline and die back. These trees will need replacing over the next few years. If elected, I will set up a meeting with Jim Tree to review our curent program and make recommendations to council for their approval to expand the tree planting program.

New Parks

What is the hold up with Stewart Burnett Park? Is it the same red tape and line fence that prevented building the third and free ice surface at the new complex? The free ice surface would have made way for the Leisure Complex to become one of the largest fitness centres north of Toronto and possibly the only centre to boast two running tracks. I will work to get soccer and ball plans off the drawing board to constructing stage.

Soccer Fields

Land from developers and the cost to purchase park areas will not keep pace with future needs in Aurora. Introduction of a program of installing artificial turf will double and triple the use of playing areas. Artificial turf is far cheaper than buying and constructing play areas. Now is the perfect time to approach Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School and work and fundraise with them, with the building of their new school, to develop a field with artificial turf and lighting to be available to all residents of Aurora beyond the Town's recently-enforced no field use date of September 30. This field could be managed by Williams staff and permitted out.

Seniors' Centre

I learned from the chairperson of New Membership, that in the not too distant future seniors' membership will reach 2,000. At that time an addition must be planned. Expansion should include a larger ball room, a needed stage and dressing rooms. The balance of the new addition will be part of future needs and planned at that time. Money should be set aside now for future expansion.

Your Hydro Building

When spring comes, an meeting should be held for those interested to inspect and submit proposals for part or all of the building. If there is not a viable proposal to keep and operate this building as a town-owned structure, a For Sale sign should be placed on the property.

The New Library Building

Your library building lot is sitting on a swamp, the true depths not known. This, along with vibrations from heavy trucks and buses and fluctuations in the water table, could again cause settling. This must be monitored continuously and if any movement is detected in the future, engineers must be brought in to assess and make recommendations for correction the problem.

Aurora Town Hall

An engineering study must take place to assess why this structure is settling and moving down the hill, causing cracks and splitting. Action must take place and damaged areas repaired.

How Do We Finance?

The projects listed, other than the two capital projects: Administrative and Library Building will enhance the whole downtown. The saving of the two community buildings and addition of 50 parking spaces will improve our downtown core and create a major improvement for recreation, the museum, the new library and Sunday parking. I believe this project is so important, it should be placed on the agenda of our new council for immediate action. Your council sold your Aurora Hydro for $35,000,000 plus the $2,000,000 working reserve and holds $37,000,000 of your money. The entire project could be paid for using part of your $37,000,000 and in no way impact your ever-increasing tax bill.

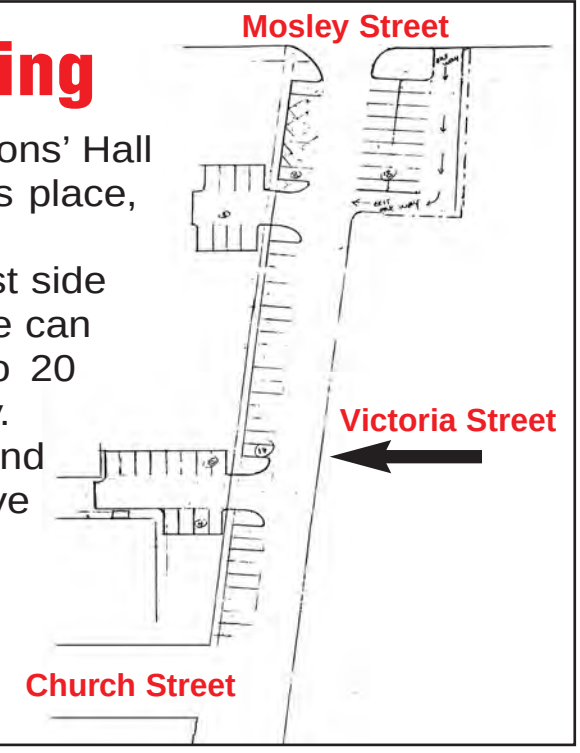
Library Square parking

Yes, you're seeing correctly. The Lions' Hall at Mosley and Victoria, is gone. In its place, a minimum of 18 parking spaces.

By moving the sidewalk on the west side of Victoria two metres to the west, we can create 34 parking spaces, added to 20 spots on the Library Square property.

We now have 72 added spaces, and the threatened buildings survive demolition.

Meanwhile, there is still room for parallel parking on the east side of Victoria.





Recycling: let's go BIG



Nov. 13: vote for experience, new ideas, more trees and smarter planning

VOTE NORM WELLER