

Hardwood Installation

SALE

On Selected Products

Only **\$6.95** per sq. ft. *

* Includes flooring & installation
Minimum area of 200 sq. ft. Subject to availability.
New orders only. Some extras may apply
Also, selected '8 mm' laminate
NOW **\$1.49/sq.ft.** while supplies last

569 Steven Ct.
Newmarket
905-853-8507
rowanfloor.com

Rowan Hardwood Floors

AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

HS FINANCIAL SERVICES INC.

YOUR LOCAL SOURCE FOR **Personal & Business Insurance**

905-727-4605
www.hsfinancial.ca

Authorized Provider
ING INSURANCE

WE HAVE A HISTORY OF PROTECTING YOUR FUTURE

Vol. 7 No. 7

AURORAN, Week of December 12, 2006

905-727-3300

Aurora Council officially sworn in

The start of a new council term in Aurora is always colourful and exciting, especially for newly-elected members as they participate in the swearing-in ceremony for the first time.

Last Tuesday's inaugural meeting of Aurora's new council was no exception.

There was a standing room only audience in attendance to witness the ceremony as the 119th Aurora council members took their Oath of Office.

Members of the Queens

Please see page 16

Briefly

If you like dance...

Shadowpath Theatre Productions and Theatre Aurora are extending an invitation to Aurorans to attend a culturally diverse evening of dance presented by the Playwrights of Spring.

The event takes place at Theatre Aurora, 150 Henderson Drive, Saturday, Dec. 16.

Tickets are \$16, and the show runs 90 minutes.

"Break from the Norm" is a dance celebration showcase featuring African, Samba-Reggae, Cabaret Style, Hip Hop, Breakdancing, Bellydancing, and Ballroom dancing.

The event is sponsored by BobHawkins.com; The Purple Pig Smokehouse; The Co-operators; and Edible Arrangements.

The evening, which begins at 8 p.m., promises to be a treat for young and old alike.

To reserve advance tickets call 905-727-3669.



Freedom of the Town ceremony takes place at the inaugural meeting of council and this year was no exception. The message on the scroll was read by Mayor Phyllis Morris before it was presented to Captain James Duckworth of the Queen's York Rangers, while the new members of council look on.
Auroran photo by David Falconer

The story behind Freedom of the Town

At all inaugural meetings of Aurora Council since the mid-1960s it has become a tradition to reconfirm the granting of the Freedom of the Town to the Queen's York Rangers.

It all started in February, 1866, when the citizens of the Village of Aurora presented a ceremonial bugle to the York Volunteers, who later became the Queen's York Rangers.

The bugle is a prized possession of the regimental museum located in the Fort York Armouries in Toronto.

In February, 1966, to commemorate 100 years of friendly relations with the Queen's York Rangers and its predecessors, the Town presented the Officer Commanding "A" Squadron in Aurora with a ceremonial sword and granted the regiment the Freedom of the Town.

The Freedom permitted the regiment "to parade through the town with flags unfurled, drums beating and bayonets fixed".

The Freedom was inscribed in a framed scroll which lists the Regiment's Battle Honours and states that the Queen's York Rangers will have the Freedom of the Town of Aurora as long as Aurora means the Dawn".

In the early days, the Freedom was returned to council at the inaugural meeting as an indication that the military is always subservient to a civilian power.

Then on a later occasion when it was a parade night of the Regiment at the Aurora Armouries, the Freedom was returned to the Regiment with fitting ceremony by the mayor and members of council.

Then for various reasons the traditional exchange didn't take place for a few inaugurals but was reactivated in February, 1997, when Captain Kevin Winiarski and Warrant Officer Peter Tong returned the Freedom Scroll to Mayor Tim Jones at a council meeting.

Then in June that year at a council meeting, the mayor returned the Freedom to Col. Stewart Cober, the Regiment's Commanding Officer, who thanked the town for its long support of the Regiment.

Since then the exchange has taken place at the inaugural meeting with the scroll returned prior to the meeting and returned to the Regiment at the inaugural meeting.

During the term of council the scroll hangs in the Aurora Armouries.

Five dancers find gold in Germany

Five Aurora teenagers, students at the Somerville Dance Academy, went to Germany recently looking for gold and they found it.

The students recently

auditioned for the Canadian National Junior Tap Team and were selected from hundreds of dancers from across Canada for the 17-member National Team.

They were Karyn McGibbon, her twin sister, Julie and friends MacKenzie Grayson, Eric Abel and Donato Bisogno. They represented Canada at the World Dance

Championships in Riesa, Germany recently and returned with the World Championship Title.

As they told Aurora's general

Please see page 17

Printing is the beginning!

- Full Service & Self Service Copying
- Digital Printing - Direct From Your Files
- Colour or Black & White
- Collating & Binding Services
- Custom Business Printing Including Business Cards, Letterhead & Cheques
- Fax Service & So Much More!

Our Document Experts are here to help.
Right in your neighbourhood.

Aurora's Business Service Centre
Hunters Gate Plaza - 14845 Yonge St. Unit 6
T: 905.713.1632 F: 905.713.1633
E: store73@theupsstore.ca



Brian



John



The UPS Store®

COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

During the month of December the Skylight Gallery in the Aurora Town Hall will feature the artwork of Douglas Thiell. Viewing hours are from 8.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Until April 15, 2007, winter parking restrictions are in effect and parking is prohibited on all streets from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. daily.

Aurora Opera Company is seeking 30 choral singers for an April 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: terryo@yrfn.ca.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Aurora Rotary Club meets every Monday evening at 6.30 p.m. at Gabriel's on Yonge Street. New members welcome.

For further information, call 905-841-1352.

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

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

Masons' Rising Sun Lodge meets the first Thursday of each month at The Rising Sun Temple, 57 Mosley Street, Aurora at 7.30 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

DECEMBER 15/16

Howard Johnson Aurora features Murder Mystery evenings "Rest You Deadly" in the Queen Elizabeth Ballroom with a buffet. Call 905-727-1312 to reserve.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

Dinner and Movie for 11 to 14-year-olds at the Aurora Public Library featuring "The Polar Express" starring Tom Hanks and Nina Gaye. Price is \$3 per person which includes pizza. Call 905-726-4760 for more information.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

Aurora Seniors' Centre Potluck Luncheon from 11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sign

up in the main lobby at the centre.

A public planning meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the council chambers of the Town Hall concerning a proposed zoning bylaw amendment and amendment to the draft plan of subdivision to rezone lands from Major Open Space to residential to permit five lots fronting on River Ridge Blvd.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

Merry Christmas.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

Aurora Seniors New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance from 6:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Seniors Centre. Cost is \$55 for members and tickets are available at the reception desk.

Celebrate the New Year at the Town's First Night Party at the Leisure Complex from 6 to 9 p.m. It was in 1994 when Aurora joined with other municipalities across North America to welcome the New Year with a family event.

New Year's Eve gala in the Queen Elizabeth Ballroom, Howard Johnson Aurora, featuring cocktails at 6, buffet dinner at 7, dessert table at 8 and dancing to Fifth Avenue Band until 1 a.m. with complimentary champagne and party favours at midnight. Price \$165 per couple. Call 905-727-1312 to reserve.

New Year's Eve party at the Aurora Legion, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Call 905-727-9932 for more details.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

President's levee at the Aurora Legion beginning at 11 a.m. and continuing until 5 p.m. For further information, call 905-727-9932.

Happy New Year.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with ACI, presents Firewalls and Internet

Security at 7 p.m. in the Magna Room.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8

A limited number of tickets are now on sale for the Aurora Film Circuit's next production of "Volver". They are available at the Aurora Public Library and R & R Revisited on Mary Street. Given the response to previous movies, it is unlikely tickets will be available on the night of the screening at the Cineplex Aurora Cinemas. Tickets are \$10 each.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

Tuesday Philosophy Club features Aurora resident and philosophy teacher Ronen Grunberg. 7 p.m. in the Lebovic Room of the Aurora Public Library. Pre-register at the adult information desk or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

Roy Meacock Memorial Dart Tournament at the Aurora Legion. Register at 8.30 a.m. For further information, call Tom at 905-841-9188.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

Aurora Public Library presents "Money, Mission & Marketing" with Maxine Hyndman, author of "The Naked Millionaire" and "The Organic Entrepreneur" at 7 p.m. in the Lebovic Room. A fee of \$2 per person will be charged.

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.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

Deadline for the Aurora Library's Second Annual Poetry Contest for Teenagers to celebrate National Poetry Month based on the theme Murmurs. There are two categories, one for those in Grades 7 to 9 and the other for Grades 10 to 12. For more information call 905-727-9493.

holly day

h . o . u . r . s

mon day 10am-6pm	thurs day 10am-8pm
tues day 10am-6pm	fri day 10am-8pm
wednes day . . . 10am-6pm	satur day/sun day . . 10am-5pm

blueiful

l . i . v . i . n . g

15 mosley street
aurora
905.726.3535

The Royal Wood Shop Ltd.



(905) 727-1387

- Architectural Trim Moulding & Doors
- Decorative Columns & Solid Wood Doors
- Tongue & Groove Paneling & Flooring
- Handrails & Pickets
- Veneered Plywood & Melamine
- Kiln-Dried Pine, Oak, Maple, Cherry, Cedar

Design & Decorate With Wood Mouldings

220 Wellington St. E., Aurora

MON - FRI. 7AM-6PM

SAT

8AM-3PM

www.royalwoodshop.com



Aurora Optimists Nora McDonald and Ken McIsaac are surrounded by books at the annual Optimist Book Sale held last week at the Aurora Library. Annual event drew hundreds of interested citizens.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Operation Red Nose in effect December 16

A team of volunteers has banded together in Aurora and Newmarket to staff Operation Red Nose, a unique program in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) that offers rides home to Aurora and Newmarket drivers who have had too much to drink or are too tired to drive home.

The local volunteer service is one of several campaigns launched across the GTA by both police and private volunteers aimed at preventing tragedies as the holiday season gets underway.

The free designated driver program is sponsored by the Insurance Bureau of Canada and the Ontario Safety League provides three volunteers to respond to calls from would-be drivers at bars and house parties.

One drives the would-be driver home in his or her car, with the other volunteers trailing as an

escort car.

Once the driver is dropped off, the volunteers move on to the next driver-in-need.

This year Aurora and Newmarket are the only GTA communities offering the program, but not for lack of success in other areas.

Operation Red Nose comes into effect December 16 in the Aurora/Newmarket area and continues through until New Year's Eve with the exception of Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

You can access the

service by calling the town.

At the last council meeting of the outgoing council, Mayor-elect Phyllis Morris announced that Aurora had accepted the challenge of Newmarket Mayor-elect Tony van Bynon to participate in Operation Red Nose to reduce casualties in their municipalities.

Operation Red Nose started in Quebec in 1984 and now operates annually in several communities across the province and is credited with helping more than 6,500 Ontarians get home safely.

Energy Savings!

Save up to 40% on your heating costs with the Carrier Infinity 96 furnace. And for a limited time get a free 10 Year Parts & Labour Warranty!

***Save up to \$1100.00 in Rebates!**

T.H. OLIVER SINCE 1924
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING INC.
We Service All Makes...
905.727.4258
www.click4comfort.com

*Call for details.

HURST BAKERY

Who has the time and energy for holiday baking?
WE DO!
Let us help.
Our desserts and breads are made from "scratch recipes" and the finest ingredients.
Place an order, then relax with family and friends.

15543 Yonge St., Aurora
905-841-0278

AURORA

SHOPPING CENTRE

LOOK what's happening at the Plaza

Help create the Biggest **LEGO MENORAH** you've ever seen!
Sunday, December 17th, 2006
3:30 - 5:30 p.m. Unit 130 (next to the CIBC)
www.chabadofaurora.com or call (905) 773-6477

VISIT STROLLING SANTA at our Centre
Sat. Dec. 16th & 23rd. 11 - 4 p.m.

SPARKLE PHARMACY

AURORA SHOPPING CENTRE
(905) 727-2322

905-727-2322
~with this coupon~
OMBRA
BATH PRODUCTS
50% OFF
Plus gift with purchase

✂ 1 Ombra bath mesh sponge ✂
coupon expires Dec. 24/06

AURORA DRY CLEANERS

LAUNDROMAT AND DRY CLEANING
905-713-0095

2 Coats for **\$19.90** Winter Coats, Car Coats, Rain Coats, Ski Jackets

\$ 8.95 2 pc. Ladies & Men's Suit
Extra Charge: white, Linen, and pleated

Small repair at no extra charge with your dry cleaning
Expires Jan. 20 2007

Avoid the mall rush this year and visit us at

Gift Baskets and More

for all of your holiday needs!

Hours:
Monday - Wednesday 9:30 - 6:00
Thursday - Friday 9:30 - 9:00
Saturday - 9:30 - 5:00
Sunday - 11:00 - 4:00

905-727-1683

YONGE ST. & MURRAY DRIVE • AURORA

Aurora Shopping Centre merchants

A & F Hair Elite
*905-727-6212

Aurora Dry Cleaners
*905-713-0095

Aurora Alterations
*905-726-9242

Aurora Dollars Discount
*905-841-2497

Aurora Salon Secrets
*905-727-1044

Barrons
*905-841-5454

Bedrooms To Go
*905-841-0055

Beer Store
*905-727-4741

CIBC Bank
*1-800-465-2422

Chris' No Frills

Clothing Outlet
*905-841-7652

Creative Colours
*905-727-0552

La Vie Café Deli
*905-713-6628

5 Below Jeans & More
*905-841-7762

Fabulous Flicks Video
*905-841-5768

Family Shoe Repair
*905-841-8922

Gift Baskets & More
*905-727-1683

Henry's Fish & Chips
*905-727-8001

Karen & Tina's Flowers
*905-727-9865

Kitchen Accents
*905-841-0885

Knit Or Knot
*905-713-1818

Kodak Image Centre
*905-726-4243

Legacy Jewellery
*905-841-3065

Not Just Cards Hallmark
*905-727-1547

Oakridge Outfitters
*905-726-4063

Omar's Shoes
*905-727-9391

Regency Variety
*905-727-6691

Sparkle Pharmacy
*905-727-2322

Staples/Business Depot
*905-713-0367

The Source by Circuit City
*905-713-2783

Van De Ven Car Wash

York Medical
*905-713-0404



Just about every student who went to high school in Aurora, and every teacher who taught them, are shown in this split photograph taken in 1946. See anyone you know? At that time the high school was located where Wells Street School is today, and some say the picture was taken at the rear of the building. Anyone care to discuss that?



Poor Richard

It's time for another tea party

*It's time for a Boston tea party,
To make right a fiscal wrong;
A need to march on Queen's Park,
And sing a sad, sad song.*

- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

At the Boston Tea Party on December 16, 1773, insurgent American colonists, disguised as Indians, boarded three British ships laden with tea and hurled several hundred chests of it into the Boston harbour.

The 13 American colonies with more than two million inhabitants who had helped Britain in the French and Indian wars rebelled as the colonies were being taxed by the British government without representation.

It's much the same here in York Region as the inhabitants are required by the provincial government to send money to Toronto for social assistance and social housing without representation.

In 1997, the Ontario Works Act, adopted by the Mike Harris Progressive Conservative government, mandated that the costs of social assistance and social housing were to be shared within the Greater Toronto Area (GTA).

This resulted in the regions surrounding Toronto helping bail out the city's social problems without any say as to how the money was spent.

In September, 1997, the mayors from across the GTA released the results of a poll they had commissioned to assess the views of 905 area residents about the GTA-wide pooling of social costs.

The poll strongly supported the mayors' fight against the pooling of social costs, but pooling went into effect in 1998 with York Region assessed \$93.6 million for the first year.

In December, 2003, the York Regional Human Services Coalition released a 38-page report calling for the province to provide a more equitable funding formula.

It pointed out that York Region was at a critical juncture with the challenge of rapid growth and chronic under funding of many social services.

Children's services received only 49 per cent of the

provincial average and 45 per cent of Toronto's average and child welfare was 28 per cent of the provincial average.

The report also noted that more than 3,000 people were using regional food banks every month, 8,600 people were on social assistance and the need for emergency housing had increased by 54 per cent over the previous six years.

At the same time the average Toronto taxpayer paid only \$244 on social services and social housing, while York taxpayers paid \$370.

Also taxpayers in York Region had paid \$515 million in pooling costs by 2003.

In March 2005 Vaughan/King/Aurora MPP and Finance Minister Greg Sorbara held a Town Hall meeting in Maple. When questioned by a taxpayer, he supported the concept of pooling claiming it brought municipalities together to help people across the region.

He sympathized with citizens about not having a say as to how the money was spent and admitted it was taxation without representation.

He said the Liberal government was working on a model which would provide residents an opportunity to voice their opinions on how the pooling money was spent, but it never happened.

Nothing has changed as a recent report prepared by a consulting firm for the GTA/905 Health Care Alliance pointed out that people living in the GTA were being shortchanged \$1.5 billion a year because health and social service funding from the province wasn't keeping up with population growth.

Figures suggest the service gap has grown from slightly more than \$1 billion three years ago, just before the Liberals took office and is now equal to about \$427 per person.

It all started under the Mike Harris Progressive Conservative government and has been carried on by the Dalton McGuinty Liberals with no hope in sight.

It's highway robbery and time for regional council to march on Queen's Park for another Boston Tea Party!

Remember this at election time.

Letter to the Editor

High school football team ends season

To the editor,

The Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School Junior Wildcats began their season losing two close games to Markham and Brother Andre.

The Junior Wildcats bounced back with a win versus St. Joan of Arc.

After a tough loss to eventual league champions Huron Heights Secondary School, the team finished the season with two straight victories over Maple and Newmarket High. The success of the season left the Junior Wildcats in fifth place and vying for a Tier 2 Championship.

The team faced Maple again in the semi-finals and defeated this gritty opponent 12-0 in very wet and muddy conditions. The Junior Wildcats capped off a revitalizing 4-4-1 season with a York Region tier two victory on Saturday, November 25th at Ester Shriver Stadium in Toronto.

The Junior Wildcats narrowly defeated a tough St Joan of Arc squad 12-10 in a come-from-behind, nail-biting victory. Led by Dmitri Kurlyovich with two touchdowns and Tyler Persaud at the helm, the cats pawed back with the support of an enthusiastic crowd, chewing up much of the clock with long drives and a stellar defense.

Congratulations go to the entire Williams football program with special acknowledgement to my staff.

The Wildcats look forward

to a character-building off-season and continued enthusiastic support from the many community members who have contributed.

Kent Ravelle
Junior Head Coach
Aurora

AURORAN

**"Aurora's
Community Newspaper"**

Published weekly by The Auroran
Publications Inc.
At 75 Mary Street, Unit #3
Aurora, L4G 1G3

Publisher Emeritus
Rosemary Schumaker

Editorial
Ron Wallace
ron@auroran.com

Dick Illingworth
dick@auroran.com

Photography
David Falconer
dfalconer@sympatico.ca

Advertising
Bob Ince
bob@auroran.com

Diane Buchanan
diane@auroran.com

Production
Cynthia Proctor
cynthia@auroran.com

Main Number
905-727-3300

Classifieds
905-727-7128
classifieds@auroran.com

Facsimile Machine
905-727-2620

Editorial Department
rvall999@aol.com

Editorial policy

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

Advertising policy

Publisher is not liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of an advertisement. Disputes must be brought to the attention of the publisher prior to the following edition.



My track record is questionable

Like some of you, I have spent considerable time and modest financial resources supporting a particular political party based upon the belief that individuals in a democracy require and deserve real choice.

Although studies suggest less than two per cent of Canadians actually hold membership in a political party, a great deal more people than this volunteer their services once the election writ is dropped.

I have been a member in good standing of federal and provincial Conservative ridings associations for 23 years and have participated, solely as a volunteer, in 28 federal, provincial, municipal elections and leadership campaigns.

However, based on my record in predicting elections, I won't be headed for Las Vegas, or Casino Rama any time soon.

Last week I boldly predicted Bob Rae would easily win the federal Liberal Leadership on the fourth ballot - another one of my classic 'clangers' I must admit.

But this still pales in comparison to my 2003 forecast of 100 seats for Kim Campbell.

My only consolation is that I did correctly pick six of the eight Aurora councillors.

However, I am still trying to figure out why I was so wrong regarding Evelyn Buck's electoral prospects - a topic for a future column.

Outside politics, the only time that I can recall rendering a correct prediction was with respect to the Men's NCAA basketball tournament pool.

As a fan of the Indiana Hoosiers, I have chosen them to win every year in the office pool for the past 20 some years. And they did win...in 1987.

There is, without a doubt, a betting theorem now being developed by a PhD mathematics student somewhere in the bowels of academia called the Somerville co-efficient.

It is very straightforward - "Bet in opposition to the actions of Stephen Somerville and, 99.6 per cent of the time, you will be successful". The dissertation should be a best seller!

I wish I could state my winning percentage gets better as we move from my prognostic ability to the actual results of election campaigns that I have participated in.

Well, let's just say my record has not been 'stellar'.

I have been on the losing side so often that my wife has properly asked, "Have any of the campaigns that you have led or been a part of, actually won?"

The question is certainly understandable as we have only been married for seven years and my political involvement goes back to 1983.

As I have always thought it important to provide electoral choice to Canadians, this sometimes meant assisting campaigns where we had absolutely no chance of winning, such as the 2000 federal campaign in Vaughan-King-Aurora against Mr. Bevilacqua.

It also meant assisting a friend four times - twice provincially and twice municipally - all losing efforts.

Funny thing is that he moved from Etobicoke to Oakville and was subsequently elected, and re-elected again last month as a councillor.

I don't understand why he won't pick up the phone now when I call to offer my assistance?

Some campaign losses hurt more than others because of the important cause you are fighting for and/or the relationship you have established with the candidate.

This could be said of MPP Frank Klees. He unsuccessfully sought the Provincial Progressive Conservative Leadership a short while ago and is today our nominated provincial candidate for Newmarket - Aurora.

Or it hurts in a different way, when the national or provincial campaign is successful while the local candidate I supported lost.

Going into the final week of the federal campaign last January, many of us on the local team thought we were going to win. I predicted (oh, boy not again!) that we would either win or lose by 1,000 votes - I was sure the result was going to be that tight. I won't bore you with the outcome.

In case you were wondering - yes - I have been on the winning side more than a few times.

I was a volunteer on the winning local federal campaigns in 1984, 1988, 2004 and I was part of the 1995 and 1999 winning local provincial campaigns.

As well, a number of municipal and internal party candidates that I backed, believe it or not, did in fact, win.

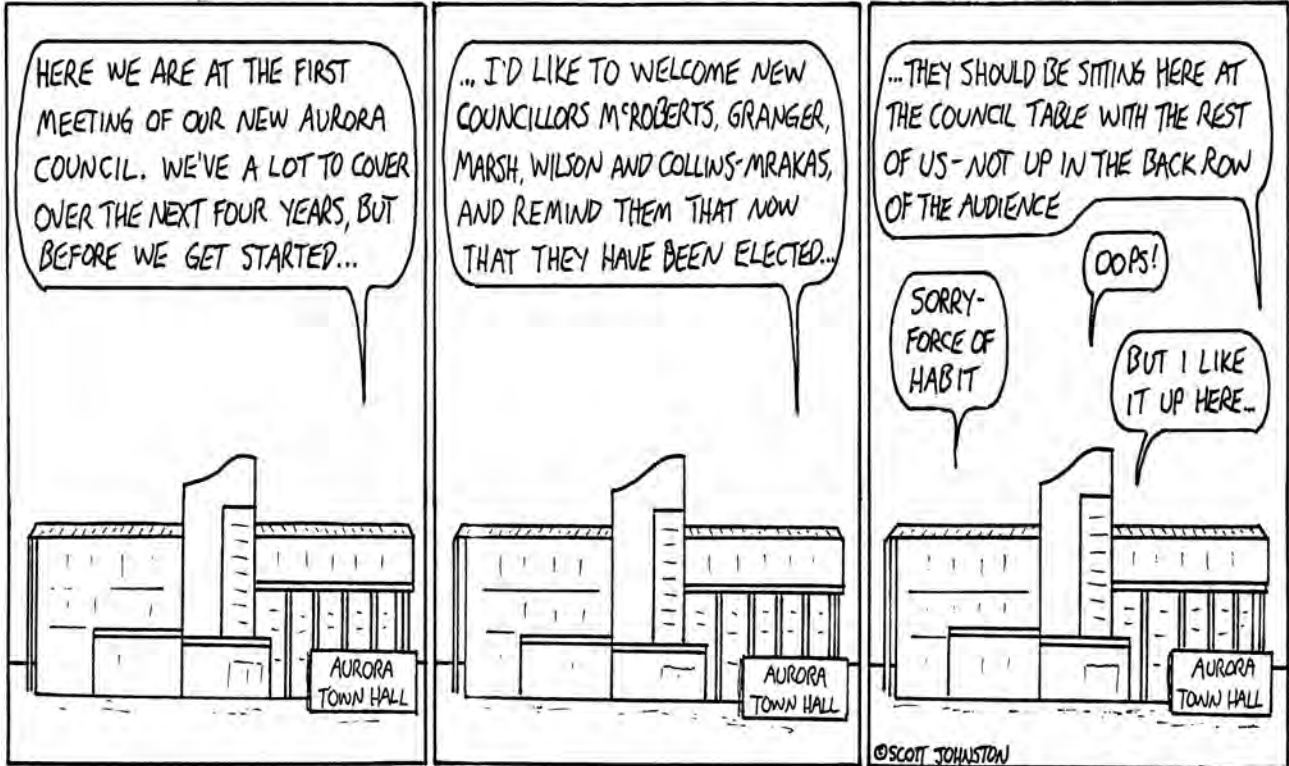
My over-all record is something in the order of 15-13.

But please don't mention this to Frank Klees.

I have agreed to be the Chair of his local campaign. Based on my track record, Mr. Klees may want to consider 'lending' me to the other side.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com

Machell's Corners



Cathy's Corner

He's getting better!

Now that Damir is getting better by leaps and bounds, I can breathe again.

It makes it easier to write - especially funny stuff. It's been slow lately...

See, there's nothing funny about a vacation turned nightmare...starring Mexican doctors sharpening their scalpels.

And there's nothing funny about rushing from the airport to the hospital only to spend four hours at the mercy of a triage nurse who can't tell the difference between internal bleeding and hiccups.

And there's nothing funny about being connected to six different tubes for several weeks.

No...there really isn't.

They say that humour heals, but since scientists are still trying to figure out how to piggyback a dose of humour onto a Primary IV, Nurse Nadia and I had to find another way.

At first it wasn't easy, because on our planet, nothing landed funny side up.

Well, except when my friend, Shelley came to Southlake looking for Damir. She spelled out "VRANCIC" to the woman at the information desk.

"Damir?" asked the attendant, but it came out sounding like "Dah-mayer"?

"No," said Shelley. "He's a councillor."

That little funny recycled well and got us through the first week. Then, on Sunday night, we took Damir to the lounge to watch America's Funniest Videos.

Another patient came in and sat down where he couldn't see the TV. After a few minutes facing us and watching us laugh, he suddenly stood up and announced: "I can't stand it anymore! I have to see what you're laughing at!"

So, we helped him get comfortable facing the right direction...and we had another voice in our choir of laughter.

And we all started to heal a little bit faster.

The next day, Damir was feeling much better. So, I did what any good wife would do: I brought him a magazine with such articles as: "How to know if your doctor is killing you", "How to get out of the hospital alive", and "How to get even with the triage nurse."

Needless to say, Damir started getting better even faster!

So, I went out and bought him a robe. Hey, hospital gowns provide about as much coverage as the medical insurance we took with us. Basically, zip...

It must have been the prayer I put in the fabric softener, because the robe got Damir out of bed and wandering the hallways, hugging his IV tree...

I did a little bit of wandering myself. Last Tuesday, I went to the Council Inauguration Ceremony on Damir's behalf, to congratulate Aurora's new Council and wish them well in their new term.

I had a wonderful night out - a lot more my style!

As our new council filed in, the bagpipes brought a tear to my eye...and I have to say: I never saw a woman look so good in chains, Madame Mayor!

Afterwards, when people asked when Damir is expected home from the hospital, I chirped: "Not until he has a 32 inch waist!"

He's on a hot new diet, I explained...IV nutrition, they call it. Very low-cal...he's lost 10 pounds already! Although lately, he has started to hallucinate about steaks, so I can't say for sure that the 10 pounds will stay off.

Not likely if my mother and our friends, Jennifer and Brenda, keep stocking our freezer.

The only thing that overflows more than my freezer is my heart.

At times like these, the love of family and friends becomes the candle to light the way through the darkness.

Damir's brother, Tim, and my sister-in-law, Susan, were with us in Mexico. I don't know what I would have done without their love and resourcefulness.

From bringing me plates of food to the room, to carrying our bags through the airport, to refusing to lose their smiles even when things looked really bad, they were my rock. Susan even called her pharmacist in London to check the medication prescribed for Damir by foreign doctors.

Once home, my parents and my sister took over the rock formation, doing everything that needed to be done.

I'll never forget the sight of my 5'3" 70-year-old mother lugging a bag of dog food twice her size through the door, but there is an image that will outlast that one.

Every day, my mother would kneel at Damir's bed and pray.

At the office, Tanya and Heather, demonstrated an awesome ability to come through in a crisis, and Damir's colleagues were quick to step in to ensure that the office wouldn't be without lawyers.

Thank you, John and David...and Bob, I hope you will forgive me for sending you my aunt!

I can't begin to express the depth of warm feelings and appreciation our family has for the outpouring of good wishes, kind thoughts and prayers - Aurora really is a special place.

Aurora may soon officially be called a city, but I hope it will always remain the village I have known and loved these 20 years.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention our daughter - Nurse Nadia, as she will henceforth be known.

And in the same breath, the nursing staff at Southlake who not only gave Damir the best TLC (especially Ann, for visiting even when Damir was not her patient, and spending her break encouraging Nadia), but upon discovering that Nadia is a first year nursing student, took her under their wings and taught her so much - Joan even let her "gown up" when Damir had his PICC line put in.

It is truly the proudest and most humbling experience to awaken from a nightmare and see your little girl...not only an angel, but a strong and capable woman now, but so far gone down the road to becoming a professional that she knows more than you do...and has the strength and focus to hold everyone around her together.

And then there's Brian. Brian, you bring the word "friendship" to a whole new level, and after that...words simply fail. Your mere presence was a balm beyond description. Would you settle for "I love you"?

And Ron, thank you for giving me the space to write or not write, for standing by knowing that it could happen or not, and for filling in and saying just the right things at just the right times.

And to our entertaining cartoonist-who-can-write, Scott, thank you for your friendship and support...and having a column on the ready, just in case. What was going to appear here is now on page 7.

On the day this is published, Damir is expected home from hospital, and a full recovery is anticipated.

He survived scalpel-happy Mexican doctors, flying with a blood clot and...the triage nurse. The man is lucky!

It must have been the love and prayers.

Thank you everyone! I know they worked because my heart is so full, I can laugh again!

Thank you...from the depths of my heart and soul.

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

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

BOUQUETS to Aurora's Victoria Harding, aged 14, on appearing as Clara, the young heroine in the Canadian Ballet's production of "The Nutcracker" at the Winter Garden Theatre in Toronto.

BRICKBATS to the contractor building the Bell Canada extension on Yonge Street for working the other Sunday and moving noisy equipment contrary to the noise bylaw. Who do you call on a Sunday?

BOUQUETS to the Town of Newmarket for providing an "Inn from the Cold" during the period December to March as a temporary homeless shelter, manned by volunteers. Other municipalities should copy.

BRICKBATS to the Ontario Heritage Society for allowing the birthplace of Sir Frederick Banting, the man responsible for the discovery of insulin, located on the outskirts of Alliston, to become abandoned and neglected. Shades of what happened to the residence of Anne Bartley Smith of HighTor in Aurora which was allowed to deteriorate until it had to be demolished, thanks to the Ontario Heritage Foundation.

BOUQUETS to the 40,000 landowners across the Oak Ridges Moraine, who have carried out projects to protect the landmark during the past six months, assisted by the Caring for the Moraine project which combines the expertise and resources of 23 conservation and environmental groups.

BRICKBATS to the two women who stole flowers from a fresh grave in the Union Cemetery in Oshawa then, when approached, fled in a green van. These were not teenagers, stealing flowers for their mother on Mother's Day, but middle-aged women. How low can you get?

BOUQUETS to York Region on receiving the CMHC Housing Award for providing affordable housing as demonstrated by the 58-unit Armitage Gardens development in Newmarket. There were 16 winners across Canada.

BRICKBATS to the United Nations for failing to endorse a temporary ban on bottom trawling on the high seas and while conservationists criticized the decision, it was supported by Canada's Minister of Fisheries and Oceans claiming it would be unenforceable which led to a weaker resolution.

BOUQUETS to Eric and Paul Carter, both Aurora High School students, on being selected to play for the 17-piece Toronto All-Star Big Band. Eric started to play the saxophone in Grade 6 and Paul, the youngest member of the band at age 15, plays clarinet

BRICKBATS to the Stephen Harper government for planning a second wave of spending cuts to climate change programs and especially for asking civil servants to help manage the fallout by explaining why the funding should disappear. This is the government that bragged it would be more accountable.

BOUQUETS to Aurora's Council-Elect for a very informative and civilized pre-orientation meeting following the election. There was lots of time for members to express opinions about the work of the coming term which were received with respect and there was even laughter at a meeting for a change.

BRICKBATS to a justice system which convicted a former Upper Canada College teacher of sexually assaulting male students to one-year conditional sentence with the first 30 days of house arrest, but escaping jail time. What about the boys?

Letters to the Editor

Start planning ward system right now, this reader urges

To the editor,

RE: Stephen Somerville column of Dec. 5 and a ward system.

Stephen Somerville opened up a can of worms on the pages of this newspaper last week when he suggested that the issue of a ward system might come up with this new council.

Well, I'm fairly certain that it will.

Stephen Granger had been making a large issue of this for quite a while before joining council, so I can't see him easily letting this go.

Now, town staff might try to put this issue on the back burner by arguing to council that we are just at the beginning of a four-year term with lots of time to address this later.

I caution council against this.

Being familiar with the incredible efficiency of

municipal government, I argue that the four years we have will barely be enough time, so let's get started.

Stephen assumes that because we have eight councillors we necessarily need either four or eight wards.

Why is that so?

There has also been talk in this town about changing the number of councillors we have.

If we change the number of councillors, we can change the number of wards to be any common factor of that new number.

Also who is to say that all the councillors have to represent wards?

Why not have have a few councillors representing wards, and a few other at-large councillors either with a generic constituency or a different kind of constituency.

How about a youth and senior councillor, to repre-

sent the interests of these varied age demographics?

With regard to the division of the wards themselves, people have a tendency to think in very geometric terms.

How do we divide this town into equal populations?

The normal conclusion to this question is to draw a line down the centre of Yonge Street and another along Wellington, quartering the town, or perhaps more aptly "drawing and quartering", as such a strategy will do significant, possibly mortal damage to our town.

There are several distinct communities within our town.

The estate housing at the south end.

The Regency Acres area with its embedded golf course, the industrial areas along the rail corridor, the new and not yet established communities out at

Bayview, and, of course, the old town core right at the intersection of Yonge and Wellington.

It is the town core which I think has the most to lose if a ward system is not created properly.

I would like to see a ward map drawn up which keeps the entire town core within one ward.

Perhaps that means we need 10 councillors and five wards?

I know town folks got very upset a few years ago, as well they should have, when the federal riding boundaries were going to cut this town in half.

We don't want to be dividing our communities.

By the same token we have to ensure that communities within Aurora are not divided.

Let's start planning to do this right!

Darryl Moore
Aurora

Experiences essential to economy, reader says

To the editor,

Re: Murder is prevalent in this play (Auroran, Dec. 5)

Congratulations to Theatre Aurora!

The experiences and products that grow out of our cultural heritage, such as the recent production "Dr. Cook's Garden", are an essential component of a healthy and vibrant Auroran economy.

They produce direct economic benefit—jobs, a stronger tax base, neighbourhood revitalization, and tourism revenue. Equally important is their role in attracting and retaining the people and businesses essential to

Aurora's participation in the emerging "New Economy" with its emphasis on knowledge, creativity and innovation - the recent opening of Aurora Online is an example.

Supporting Aurora's cultural sector will not solve all of our town's economic problems; but failing to support this sector leaves money on the table.

We have an extraordinary array of cultural programs and attractions, unique artistic products and an enthusiastic cultural community; what is missing is a holistic effort to enhance and market them.

Bryan Moir
Aurora

WE KNOW YOU WANT
REAL SERVICE FROM REAL PEOPLE.



That's State Farm® Don't trust just anyone to insure your car, see me.

For all your Auto, Home and Life insurance needs see State Farm Agent.
PETER VIRTANEN, CLU
220 Industrial Pkwy S, Unit 37
(Across from Aurora Hydro)
905-727-8400

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR  STATE FARM IS THERE.®

Providing Insurance and Financial Services

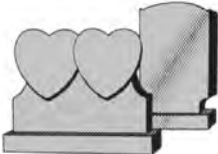
statefarm.ca • State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
Canadian Head Office: Scarborough, Ontario

P02032CN 04/02

MONUMENTS BY THOMPSONS

A New Approach to Memorial Design.

- * Granite markers and monuments
- * Cemetery lettering and restoration
- * Bronze markers and vases
- * Serving all cemeteries and nationalities
- * Portrait Etchings



Quality and Satisfaction Guaranteed
Day, Evening and Weekend Appointments
905-727-5421
530 Industrial Pkwy S., Aurora L4G 6W8

Thompson Funeral Home is proud to be part of
Service Corporation International (Canada) Ltd.



Everyone is welcome.

Absolute faith is not a requirement in our church. An open heart is. Come join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. And you may just find that faith is the greatest Christmas present of all.

TRINITY ANGLICAN WELCOMES YOU!
79 Victoria Street, Aurora (905) 727-6101
www.trinityaurora.ca
Services: 8:00 a.m. *9:15 a.m. *11:00 a.m.
*Church School and Nursery are available

Suddenly, reader's woes are not important

To the editor,

I have so much to be thankful for this Christmas and yet today I feel numb with sadness. I hope writing this letter helps. The straw that broke this camel's back was the string of Christmas lights that ceased functioning just after the tree had been totally decorated, leaving a gaping darkness in the centre of the branches. I wanted to throw the whole thing out onto the

front lawn. I slumped into my chair and started to cry. Today I hate Christmas with its forced good cheer and its rushing about and buying presents for those who really don't need another darn thing! I felt guilty for crying for myself when so many in the world around me are facing unspeakable grief and hardship. I knew then that I was also crying for the young family who had just lost their mother to a drunk driver.

What emptiness will they feel on Christmas morning and so many mornings after without her? I was crying for the young mother who recently flung herself off an overpass after throwing her child first. What despair and hopelessness must have consumed her? I felt overwhelmed with the sadness and struggles of those around me in my own community. Just last night I watched our local cable channel as Dick Illingworth interviewed

the spokesperson of a woman's group. This woman spoke of mothers who were only asking for cleaning supplies for Christmas, a luxury they could not afford. In comparison to the suffering around me I had so much. But what could I do when there were so many in need? How do I choose who to help? Then this thought that came to me: Just take one small step. Do one thing. Of course you can't cure the

ills of the world today, but you can do something, one small gesture. YES! After I finish this letter I am going to sign up to man one of the Salvation Army kettles for a few hours in Aurora. I did it two years ago at the liquor store and one patron put in a \$50 bill! Then I am going to call the Women's Network of York Region and see what small purchase I can make to help a struggling family.

Then I will offer up a prayer for those broken-hearted whom my hands cannot help this Christmas. My letter is finished. I still feel sad but I also feel grateful and useful and hopeful. My Christmas tree may still end up on the front lawn, decorations and all, but suddenly it doesn't seem to matter so much. Marianne Mandryk Aurora

David gets Christmas wish...

To the editor,

It was early November, and although Christmas was still several weeks away, activity at the North Pole was already at a fever pitch. There was just never enough time to get ready for the Big Day. An elf walked into the workshop, staggering under the weight of a large sack. "Some letters for you, Santa." "Good gracious," said the old fellow with a shake of his head. "They do come earlier every year. Where are these from?" "Aurora." Santa smiled. He had always had a soft spot for this Canadian town. They did put on a really good night-time parade, and the boys and girls tended to be on the "nice" list. Well, most of them, anyway. Santa put on his reading glasses, and settled into a comfy chair by the fire. Ensuring that a ready supply of milk and cookies was within reach, he pulled a letter from the bag. "Let's see what we have." "Dear Santa," he read aloud. "I've been particularly good this year." He smiled. All the letters started

that way. "I would therefore really like a new council for Christmas." There was a sudden silence in the workshop as the elves within earshot stopped their hammering, and stitching, and other toy-making tasks. "What was that, Santa?" asked the one who had delivered the mail, standing on tip-toe to read the scribbled message. "He wants a new council!" Santa repeated, wide-eyed. He hurriedly continued reading: "The old one's three years old, and just doesn't work well, and is so frustrating, I just can't watch it on TV anymore." "Yeah, that's Aurora Council, all right," agreed the elf. "... and it's the only thing I want this year," Santa concluded. "Who's it from?" queried a voice from the back. "Dick Illingworth?" "No, Dick wants a better sound system for the Town Hall. And his letter runs 14 pages." "This letter's from 'David'," said an elf, looking at the signature. "Let's see," Santa said, scanning his Aurora

naughty/nice list. "Here he is. Eight years old...goes to Regency Acres Public School, likes computer games...hmm, hasn't been particularly good the past few years." "Ah, one of the ones we give socks and underwear to, eh?" the elf commented. Kids hated receiving that practical stuff. But it was the only way to teach them to behave. "Yes," Santa said, consulting his notes. "But he has been a very good boy this year." He sat back in his chair, and stared into the fireplace, deep in thought. "I've never heard of a child asking for a new council before," wondered the elf. "He must really care about what goes on in Aurora." "Maybe it's a school project?" suggested another elf. "Or it's a bet." "What eight-year-old would make a bet like that?" "A dare, then." Santa looked up, interrupting the elves' argument. "Well, whatever the reason, this young lad's been exceptionally good this year, and demonstrated great selflessness and maturity in his choice of presents." "The municipal election's only a few days away,"

Santa stated, with determination, "and even if it takes all the magic of the season, I won't let David down. If a new council is the only thing he wants in 2006, then that's what Aurora will have." Meanwhile, several thousand kilometres to the south, two children were walking home from school. "Gosh, David. You mean you sent your letter to Santa, already?" "I sure did. I've killed myself being good all year, and wanted to make sure he got the letter in lots of time. I just know he'll give me what I asked for." "What was that?" "Well, when I was five he gave me a video game player for the TV. I've played it so much the control unit's busted. So I told him all I wanted was a new council." "You mean, 'console'...a game console?" "Yeah, I wasn't sure of the spelling," David admitted, then smiled in anticipation. "But Santa will know what it means." Scott Johnston Aurora

NORTH YORK
HEATING, PLUMBING & ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES

**Gas & Oil Heating Equipment
Humidifiers and Air Conditioners**

Tel: (905) 727-6401 8 Industrial Pkwy.S.
www.nyhp.on.ca Aurora, Ontario



**Stocks on all
Leading Exchanges**
**Mutual Funds
Government and
Corporate Bonds**
**Retirement &
Investment Planning**

Stephen Forsey CIM, FCSI, Investment Representative
JONES, GABLE & COMPANY LIMITED (Member CIPF)
905-726-9343

Seasons Greetings from
HAIROMATICS
The Total Hair & Skin Care Centre
PEDICURES ✂ MANICURES ✂ FACIALS
FOIL HI-LITES ✂ WAXING

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE
"A gift that has style"

Over 30 years in business!
14993 Yonge St. **905-841-0818**
Aurora

**"What can we do for
You?"**


Asha Frost H.D.
asha@my-homeopath.com

The answer to that question really depends on ... **you**.
If **you** or **your children** suffer from: ***stress, an autoimmune disease, anxiety, depression, asthma or something else that you feel is holding you back***
then give us a call. There's a good chance we can do something to help

ST. ANDREW'S CHIROPRACTIC & WELLNESS
15570 Yonge St. Unit 5 (Arch Plaza) 905.727.6500
*Chiropractic, Sports Injury Rehab, Custom Orthotics
Registered Massage Therapy, Homeopathy, Reiki
Work/Auto Injuries*
 www.standrewschiro.ca 

ROUND THE BEND FARM

**TURKEYS**
FARM FRESH, NATURALLY GROWN

\$2.89/lb.
10 LB. TO 25+ LB.

**ORDER YOUR
Christmas Turkey
for pick-up on:**



Fri. Dec. 22, 9am-6pm & Sat. Dec.23, 8am-6pm

Brian & Sue Feddema (905) 727-0023
16225 Jane St., Kettleby ON



Aurora youngster is Nutcracker dancer

Aurora's Victoria Harding, 14, can hardly wait until her triumphant return to the Winter Garden Theatre this month as Clara in this year's Canadian Ballet Theatre's production of The Nutcracker.

Victoria, according to a press release, is one of the talented, hard working students from the Academy of

Ballet and Jazz.

"Like most aspiring ballerinas, Victoria grew up hearing the story of The Nutcracker," the release said. "This year, she is ecstatic to be going on a magical journey with her Nutcracker Prince to battle with the Mouse King and travel to the Land of Sweets to dance with the Sugar Plum Fairy."

The Nutcracker will play three shows at the Winter Garden Theatre, 189 Yonge Street, north of Queen Street, in Toronto, Saturday, Dec. 16 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 17, at 3 p.m.

A holiday favourite, the story of The Nutcracker begins on Christmas Eve.

Clara, the young heroine,

is presented with a one-of-a-kind nutcracker by her godfather Drosselmeyer.

As the clock strikes midnight, Clara falls asleep under the Christmas tree and dreams of being in a winter wonderland. Clara dances with snowflakes, defeats the Mouse King, and takes a magical ride with the Nutcracker Prince.

Members and staff of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce gathered last week for the annual Christmas party, held for the first time at St. Andrew's Golf Club on St. John's Sideroad.

Auroran photo by Bob Ince



RE/MAX
York Group Realty Inc., Realtor®
Independently Owned and Operated



"Picture your house sold"

Bus: 905-727-1941
Direct: 905-726-8091

BRYAN BLACK

Sales Representative

15004 Yonge St.
Aurora, ON L4G 1M6

Aurora United Church

Celebrate the Joy of Christmas with Us

**Dec. 17 The third Sunday in Advent
Worship at 9 and 10:30 a.m.**

7:30 p.m. Carols by Candlelight

**Dec. 24 Family Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Christmas Eve Services at
7 p.m. and at 10 p.m.**

For information please contact:
**Aurora United Church,
15186 Yonge Street
Telephone: 905-727-1935
www.auroraunitedchurch.ca**



**Come see the
best selection
of nature gifts
from Wild Birds
Unlimited!**

Squirrels may try, but they can't feed from the WBU Fundamental Squirrel-proof Feeder! Weight-activated perches prevent squirrels or nuisance birds from feeding.

Fundamental Squirrel-proof Feeder \$49.99



**We have gifts
ready to go!**

Choose from many pre-wrapped gift packages, from feeder packages to personal care items for teachers, friends and family.

**Pre-wrapped Gifts from
\$16.99**



Wild Birds Unlimited®
Nature Shop

**Put
nature
under
the
tree...**

**Attract nature's jewels with
the perfect feeder**

Our new decorative hummingbird feeder is attractive & affordable, making it a perfect holiday gift.

**WBU Decorative Hummingbird
Feeder \$32.99**



**Say "YES" to Recycled
Feeders!**

Made from milk jugs, these durable feeders won't fade, rot, crack or split from the natural elements!

**WBU EcoTough® Feeders
from \$54.99**



Get back to the basics!

The Advanced Pole System Basic Setup has everything one needs to set up a birdfeeding station, all in one package. A great gift!

**Advanced Pole System
Basic Setup \$90.00**

**Go nuts with a
peanutty feeder!**

Give a "nutty" gift this holiday with our red mesh peanut feeder. Easy to fill, has a lifetime guarantee!

**WBU Red Mesh Peanut
Feeder \$34.99**



Wild Birds Unlimited®
Your Backyard Birdfeeding Specialist®

**Located
in the
Weston Produce Plaza
Yonge St., Newmarket
Just South of
Mulock Drive**

905-868-9696

**...with
unique
gift ideas
from
Wild Birds
Unlimited!**



Business was brisk as the Aurora's senior citizens held their craft show at the Aurora Seniors' Centre recently.
Auroran photo by David Falconer

MPP Klees goes to bat for women's issues

York Region has been underfunded by the province for health and social services over the years compared with the provincial average.

In 2001, some 45 agencies including welfare, social housing, health, police and education created the Human Services Planning Coalition with a mandate to increase public awareness and lobby Queen's Park for a new funding model.

But by 2004 little had changed.

In spite of explosive residential growth putting more strain on already overburdened social services, provincial funding was still well below the Ontario average.

In December, 2004, the Coalition released a report indicating the province was shortchanging the region by more than \$600 million a year in health and social services.

The report pointed out that the region received on a per capita basis far less funding than the provincial average and less than granted to Toronto.

The situation was made worse by the provincially mandated GTA pooling in which regional tax dollars must go to Toronto to help offset the city's social costs.

Since 1998 the region has sent more than \$700 million to Toronto under the provincially mandated program with no say as to how the money should be spent.

Nothing has changed. Late last month Oak Ridges MPP and Aurora resident Frank Klees accused the McGuinty government of being out of touch with the needs of York Region, especially as they relate to women's issues.

The charge came follow-

ing an announcement of a new \$4 million program to help vulnerable women develop new skills, find employment and achieve economic independence, but none of the funding was marked for York Region.

Klees pointed to organizations such as the York Region Women's Centre that continues to struggle with growing demands for its services to women and children who are victims of domestic violence, as being

well positioned to participate in the type of program announced and deserving of additional support.

In a letter to the minister responsible for Women's Issues, Sandra Pupatello, Klees requested that she give serious and prompt consideration to providing York Region with its fair share of the funding allocation under the program.

The fund was originally established as Aim for Change in 1977 when the

Ministry of Community and Social Services allocated money to operate sole support mother's projects.

The primary purpose of the agency was to ease women back into employment by means of upgrading, retraining and eventually employment.

In 1999, the Women's Centre of York Region introduced the Enterprising Women program to assist women with a viable business plan, but who lacked the knowledge, resources and experience to start their own business.

AURORA BRIDGE CLUB Results for week of Nov. 26

Tuesday, Nov. 28: N-S 1. Deanne Dennison, Marg Farmer. 2. Eileen Watson, Marian Galligan. 3. Margaret MacFarlane, Paul MacFarlane. E-W 1. Vivienne Whitworth, Linda Lord. 2. C. Balant, Ross Jenkinson. 3. Gerald Heath, Rani Mahmood.

Wednesday, Nov. 29: N-S 1. Linda Lord, Hans Jacobs. 2. Libby McWilliams, Susan Scot. 3. Lena Jackson, Don

Jackson. E-W 1. Jane Demers, Ross Jenkinson. 2. Rose Morrell, Doug Farmer. 3. George Jordan, Paul Standbury.

Friday, Dec 1: N-S 1. Libby McWilliams, Rani Mahmood. 2. Priscilla Hull, Wallace Browne. 3. Virginia Smereka, Gail Model. E-W 1. Margaret MacFarlane, Paul MacFarlane. 2. George Jordan, Irma Field. 3. Doug Farmer, Lena Jackson.

Yen Nails
Professional Nail Care

Hollidge Blvd
Bavview
Wellington Street

- Manicure
- Spa Pedicure
- Bio Gel
- Solar Nails
- UV Gel Nails
- Acrylic
- Air Brush Design

Walk-ins welcome

130 Hollidge Blvd. • 905-727-6030

Kelly Malehmir
Mortgage Specialist

416-417-8838
Rates are on the rise...call now!

Northwood Mortgage 9050 Yonge St., Ste. 501, Richmond Hill

CRIMINAL DEFENCE

BAIL

WILLS, ESTATES

FAMILY LAW

YOUNG OFFENDERS

REAL ESTATE

Susan E. Tucker
Lawyer & Notary Public
905 727-7775

THOMPSON
Funeral Home

530 Industrial Pkwy. S., Aurora L4G 6W8
Phone 905-727-5421 * Fax 905-727-0037

Directors:
Brent Forrester - Laura Windover - Rich Kroeger - Gena Maher - Taylor Brown

Dignity
Memorial

www.dignitymemorial.com
~ Cremation, Burial & Memorial Services
~ Pre-Arranged Funeral Plans ~ Monuments, Markers & Inscriptions
~ Affordable Cost Options
Proud to be part of Service Corporation International (Canada) Limited

Your
SAFE PASSAGE
is our holiday wish.

State Farm® is proud to sponsor *Passport to RIDE* as we wish you all a safe and happy holiday season.

Allan Cruickshank, Agent, CFP FLMI
300 Wellington St E
Aurora, ON L4G 1J5
Bus: 905-727-2749
allan.cruickshank.qjbb@statefarm.com

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR STATE FARM IS THERE.™

Providing Insurance and Financial Services

P026147CN State Farm Insurance Companies • Aurora, Ontario • statefarm.ca™ 05/05

DOES YOUR CHILD KNOW THE A, B, C's?

ATTITUDE
Help your child develop an outgoing attitude and the confidence to be his or her best.

BEHAVIOUR
Give your child a chance to develop self-control and the ability to manage his or her emotions.

CHARACTER
Build the foundation of your child's character by letting us reinforce values like honesty and integrity that you've been teaching at home.

Quick Start Program
\$ 139.00 + GST
Includes 1 month of classes and 1 FREE Uniform

ROBINSON'S KARATE SCHOOLS			LEWIS' KARATE SCHOOL
17310 Yonge St., Unit 3, Newmarket, ON L3Y 7R8 Tel: (905) 830-1245 Fax: (905) 830-1246	15483 Yonge St., Unit 3, Aurora, ON L4G 1P3 Tel: (905) 713-1774 Fax: (905) 713-0287	12612 Hwy 50, Unit 11B, Bolton, ON L7E 1T6 Tel: (905) 857-7009 Fax: (905) 857-0686	417 Huronia Rd., Barrie, ON L4N 8Z1 Tel: (705) 733-8994 Fax: (705) 733-9485



UNWIND NOW!

\$97.00

Only **...for 3 months***

*** No obligation after 90 days!**

- Friendly, Warm Atmosphere
- New Management...Positive, Helpful Attitude
- Family Gym for Family Fitness
- Where friends meet

MORE QUIANT than your average fitness centre

Give us a call: 905-727-3578 OR, WE'D LOVE TO MEET YOU!
16 MARY ST., AURORA
Within walking distance of the Aurora GO Station!
larry_scott@sympatico.ca



FEEL EVERY LITTLE STING IN YOUR SHOT.
The NIKE BAUER ONE90 GLOVE. Fitted for extreme feel and supreme stick handling.

©2006, NIKE, Inc. and its affiliates. All rights reserved.

GREAT CHRISTMAS SHOPPING IDEAS

at **Rec Cycle N' Sports!**

HOCKEY! LACROSSE! AND, EXTRA SPECIAL PRICING ON BIKES FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

WE ARE OPEN ON SUNDAY DEC. 24TH
THE ONLY SUNDAY OF THE YEAR WE ARE OPEN

REC CYCLE N' SPORTS
15483 YONGE ST. AURORA 905-841-5757

EXPERT SKATE SHARPENING WHILE YOU WAIT!

This month's business attraction...

STRAIGHT LINES

Featuring Spyder Ski Wear

- Quest
- Code
- Victory

We specialize in:

- Snowboard & Ski Wear
- Racquet Sports
- Swim Wear
- Fitness Wear
- In-Line Skates
- Casual Wear
- Nordic Walking Poles
- Snow Shoes for the family

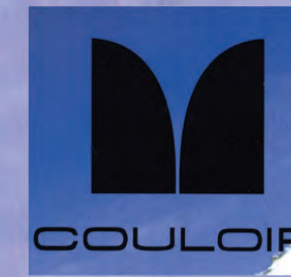
15483 Yonge St.
(across from Howard Johnson)

905-841-0949










Happy Holidays...

Hoping 2007 is as smooth a ride as a Chev Avalanche & Cadillac Escalade

HIGHLAND
Chevrolet • Cadillac

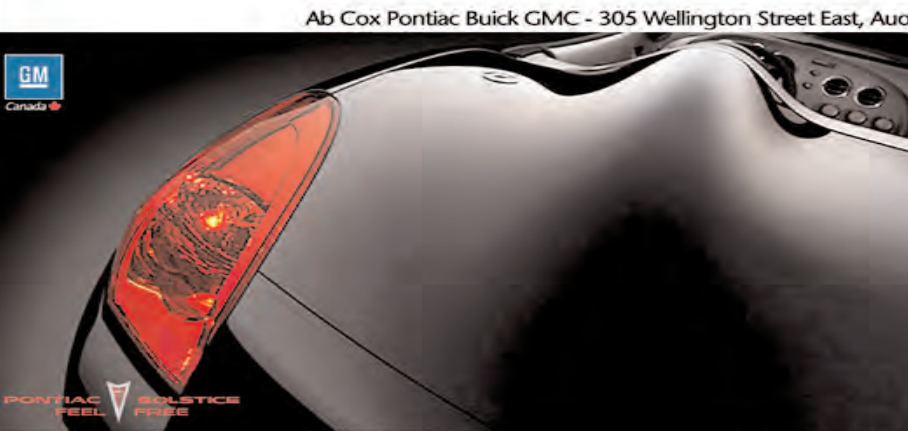
15783 Yonge Street • Aurora
905-727-9444 or 416-789-7699
E-mail: sales@highlandgm.com
Website: www.highlandgm.com

Parts Warehouse
• Optimum USED VEHICLES

Goodwrench Service
• All Makes Collision Centre

- Highland National Leasing (all makes & models)
- Highland Financial Services
- Chevrolet and Cadillac Sales
- Chevy Trucks Sales
- Equipment Leasing

Ab Cox Pontiac Buick GMC - 305 Wellington Street East, Aurora



FOR A GOOD TIME ...

Seasons Greetings and Happy Holidays!
From **AB COX ABSOLUTELY!**

CALL 905.841.2121
www.abcoxontiac.gmcanada.com

AURORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Presents

NETWORKING BREAKFAST

Wednesday, January 10, 2007
Time: 7:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.
Program Cost: FREE
Place: Fitness Clubs of Canada
14751 Yonge Street, Unit C5
Aurora

LUNCHEON MEETING

Wednesday, February 14th, 2007
Showcase: 11:45 a.m.
Luncheon: 12:30 p.m.
Program Cost: \$45.00 Member
\$50.00 Potential Member
\$40.00 Students
Speaker: **JUSTIN TRUDEAU**
Place: DiNardo's - The Mansion
400 Industrial Parkway South
Aurora

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and Happy Holiday

To register please contact the Chamber at
905-727-7262 or on-line at www.aurorachamber.on.ca
We look forward to seeing you!

ALL 2006 SPAS PRICED TO GO!



SPAS TO SUIT EVERY LIFESTYLE

Softub "simple is better" **Coleman** **Spas** **Pacific Spas**

THE BACKYARD POOL & SPA COMPANY LTD.
Don Smith Stefan Young
75 Mary Street, Aurora 905-713-2317

Locator Map

St. John's Sideroad

Wellington Street West

Wellington Street East

Murray Drive

Edward Street

Industrial Pkwy South

AB COX ABSOLUTELY!

THANK YOU for supporting AURORAN advertisers



BRUCE CHAPPELL FRANK METE
Wish and Win Event NOW ON!
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
HIGHLAND
 Chevrolet Cadillac
 905-727-9444

AURORAN SPORTS



AURORA Home Hardware
 GREAT SELECTION OF BATHROOM VANITIES
 The "Ruby" Gloss White
 36"W x 21"D x 32"H
 We appreciate your business!
 Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre
 289 Wellington St. E.
 Aurora • 905-727-4751

Tigers avenge loss to Stouffville

It's not nice to beat a hockey team that is almost unbeatable.

Stouffville Spirit did it to the Aurora Tigers a couple of weeks ago, handing Aurora its second loss of the season.

Friday, Stouffville came to Aurora.

Mistake.

They say good teams bounce back after losing and that's just what the Tigers did putting right a 3-2 loss to the Spirit by soundly blanking the visitors 4-0 at the Community Centre.

Tigers, now on a four-game winning streak, have 29 victories so far this season, suffering only two losses and a tie.

They have lost only once on home ice.

"What was most gratifying tonight was that the team put together 60 minutes of

sound hockey and that they showed they cared about each other when the going got tough," said Tiger Coach Jerome Dupont.

He was referring to a melee that saw Mark Thorburn protect his goaltender Tyler Gordon, after he was thrown into his net.

Later, Gordon and the Spirit goalie went toe to toe in one of the better bouts of the season.

Two point nights were had by Alain Goulet, Andrew Favot with a goal and assist each, while captains Doug Henderson and Quinn Waller each recorded two assists each.

Tyler Gordon was awarded the win plus the shutout despite not finishing the game and other goal scorers were Joey Martin and power forward Brett Connolly.

Twenty-four hours later,

led by solid goaltending, Aurora was back on the winning horse again.

Perhaps it was because of the closeness to his home town of North Bay, but newly-acquired veteran goaltender Michael Lalande was brilliant stopping 26 of 27 shots sent his way as the Tigers scored an easy 5-1 victory over division rival Seguin Bruins.

Tigers scored once in the first period, then added two each in the second and third frames.

Seguin spoiled Lalande's shutout bid with a single marker in the final 20 minutes of play.

Also solid as a rock was defenseman Andrew Eastman who was a plus three on the night and added an assist.

Two goals were scored by team leader Andrew Favot, while singles went to Alain Goulet, Matt McGill and Joey Martin.

Favot leads the team's scoring race with 23 goals and 28 assists for 51 points, followed closely by Martin who has 48 points with 22 goals and 26 assists.

Aurora stays at home for their next two contests.

First up is Friday evening, Dec. 1 when they take on a very competitive

Durham Fury team.

The game, dubbed family night, begins at 7.30 p.m.

Sunday afternoon, also at the Community Centre, Aurora hosts the Huntsville-Muskoka Otters in a game that gets underway at 2.30 p.m.



Flowers by Terry
 14799 Yonge St.
 Aurora
 Telephone: 905-726-1549
 email: flowersbyterry@hotmail.com
 www.flowersbyterry.com

If we wouldn't take it home why would we sell it to you?

Aurora wins five games to capture tournament

The Aurora Panthers Bantam AA girls hockey team did themselves proud recently winning all the marbles in a tournament in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

After five gruelling games, Aurora went undefeated to win the title and not allow the opposition to score a single goal.

When the dust had settled, Aurora had scored 22 goals, while giving up none.

Through the round-robin series, Aurora defeated a team from Cleveland, Ohio, 8-0.

In that match, the opponents did not get a shot on the Aurora net.

It wasn't quite as easy against a squad from Oakville, but Aurora managed to eke out a 1-0 win, before defeating a club from Washington, D.C., 5-0.

The Panthers met the Stratford Aces in the semi-final game and put together a 7-0 victory.

That game saw Aurora with a 2-0 lead after two periods, but the winners poured in five more in the final frame.

That advanced the Panthers to the final where they met up with Oakville once again.

Despite persistent pressure from Aurora, Oakville managed to fight back and pushed the Panthers to the brink of overtime.

However, with under five minutes remaining in the third period, Aurora found the mark and won the tournament with another 1-0 victory.

Playing on the Aurora squad were Shannon Doyle, Janine Semkowich, Megan

Keane, Brinna Jones, Stephanie Juffs, Meagan Dineen, Eleeza Cox, Jennifer Kates, Chanelle Hassard, Melissa Bromley, Nicole Kesteries, Karlyle Robinson, Caylee Silver, Kathryn Schilter and Rachel Perry.

GRAND OPENING



- Cappuccino/Latte
- Variety of Desserts
- Hot Table Lunches
- Free Reg. Coffee with mention of this ad.

Wellington at Yonge (Behind T. D. Bank)
 Aurora • **905-751-1118**

BIRTHDAY PARTY SPECIALISTS



CALL TO BOOK YOURS TODAY

Gateway Café & Lanes Aurora
 210 Edward St. 905-727-2900
 www.gatewaylanes.ca

PEIRCE ♦ McNEELY ASSOCIATES

BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

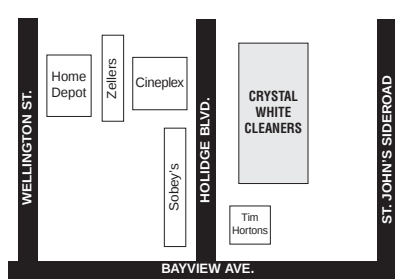
REAL ESTATE
 CIVIL & FAMILY LITIGATION
 BUSINESS & COMMERCIAL LAW
 Wills & Estates
 905-727-8900

Offices in Toronto and York Region (Aurora)

CRYSTAL WHITE CLEANERS

905-841-6969
 150 Hollidge Blvd. Aurora, ON

HOURS
 Monday - Friday
 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
 Saturday
 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.



EVERYDAY IS SENIORS DAY!

WINTER SAVINGS
30% OFF

All Household items:
 Duvets, Blankets, Draperies,
 Bedspreads, Pillows,
 Area Rugs etc.

We Honour ALL Local Competitors
 Coupons and Discounts
 24/7 Drop Box
FREE DROP "N" GO
 Bag value \$10

Where Fitness Meets FUN!

Exercise doesn't have to be boring!

Be part of the most exciting Youth & Adult programs in town! Check out our authentic

SHAOLIN KEMPO KARATE
 classes TODAY!

1 FREE Month
 with this Ad
 a Real Value of \$100

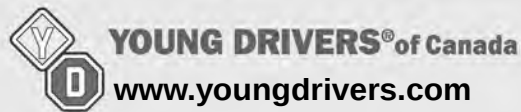


VILLARI'S
 MARTIAL ARTS CENTRES

(905) 841-2485
 www.villaristudios.com
 255 Industrial Parkway S. AURORA



It was a crowd of people who attended the recent food bank awareness pool party Aurora's Madison Gilliland held at the new Aurora Recreation Complex. Madison, nine, invited Grade 4 students from Lester B. Pearson Public School to swim for hunger. The invitation included a food bag, food bank information, a colouring page and a food bank quiz for the guests to do. Madison is standing in the back row, fifth from the left. Each guest was asked to bring their bag filled with much needed food items to attend the event and to display ways they could help the food bank. Madison and her friends collected 300 pounds of food, all of which was brought to the York Central Fire Services outlet on Edward Street to be delivered to the Aurora Food Pantry. Aurora's Pizza Nova provided pizza.



**DECEMBER 27
4 DAYS**

905-726-4132



Homeyra (May) Khorshid
Sales Representative



HomeLife/Bayview
Realty Inc. Brokerage

#1 Office in Canada

Bus: 905-889-2200

Cell: 416-669-4243

hkhorsid@trebnet.com

MAY I HELP "YOU"?

THOMPSON

Funeral Home

Annual Memorial *Christmas Calm* Service

In the chapel of the funeral home

**7.30 p.m.
December 18**



Light Refreshments

R.S.V.P.



530 Industrial Pkwy. S., Aurora L4G 6W8
Phone 905-727-5421 • Fax 905-727-0037



Focus on: **Holiday and Winter Safety**

Holiday Home Safety

The holidays are quickly approaching and with everyone's busy schedules, safety and security can be overlooked. Here are some safety tips to keep you and your family safe this holiday season.

- If you plan to leave your home for an extended period of time, have a trusted friend or neighbour keep an eye on your house and collect newspapers and flyers.
- If possible, arrange for snow removal while you are away.
- Do not discuss your holiday travel plans with strangers.
- Remember that homes you visit may not be childproofed. Keep an eye out for dangerous spots.
- Reduce visibility of gifts through windows and doors.

Travelling Tips – Driving Safely

As you complete your holiday shopping and prepare for visiting friends and relatives, don't forget to follow these basic safety rules.

- Always keep your car doors locked and windows rolled up.
- Maintain at least a half a tank of fuel at all times.
- Top up windshield-washer, antifreeze, transmission and brake fluids.
- Install winter tires
- On longer trips, pack water, food and blankets.
- Always park in a well lit area, locking the doors, and conceal valuables in the trunk.
- Check local and destination weather and road conditions before leaving.
- Bring a map.
- Minimize stressful situations. Give yourself enough time to get to your destination without rushing.

Travelling Tips – Cell phone usage

Cell phones are a great tool to have when travelling. However, if used improperly, they can be a substantial threat to your driving safety.

- If you have a cell phone, take it. If possible, keep phone powered off while driving.
- If travelling with another passenger, ask them to make necessary calls.
- If you must use the cell phone while driving, use either a speakerphone or hands-free phone.
- Leave the phone in an easily accessible place. Searching for a phone while driving can be dangerous.
- Pull over and stop if you need to take notes.

P.A.C.T. wishes you a safe and joyous holiday season!

P.A.C.T. (Police and Community Together) are looking for new volunteers.

If you are looking to serve your community contact us at:

1 Municipal Way
Box 1000

Aurora, Ontario L4G 6J1

Or e-mail at: aurorapact@aci.on.ca



**PREMISES
PROTECTED**



**NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH**

This page is proudly sponsored by:



Hartwell Thayer
Financial Services Group

Providing professional and personalized services to York Region for over 50 years.

2 Orchard Heights Blvd., Unit 23

Aurora, Ontario L4G 3W3

Aurora: 905-713-9870 Toll Free: 1-800-668-8976

Fax: 905-727-5749

www.hartwellthayer.com

MONDAY NIGHT HOCKEY

Standings as at Dec. 4

TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	PT
TOM & JERRY'S	9	1	1	38	22	19
LAW INSURANCE	6	3	2	45	26	14
PRIESTLY DEMOLTION	6	4	1	44	35	13
HIGHLAND CHEV-CAD	5	4	2	49	38	12
FPL AGGREGATES	5	6	0	31	41	10
MASTERCLEAN	3	7	1	32	40	7
REC CYCLE N' SPORTS	3	7	1	34	53	7
BALDWIN'S	2	7	2	39	47	6

Results, Dec. 4

Baldwins Steakhouse	4	FPL Aggregates	3
Law Insurance	3	Priestly Demolition	1
Highlands Chev	7	Tom & Jerry's	4
Masterclean	6	Rec Sports	2

PLAYER STANDINGS

NAME	TEAM	G	A	PT
John Archibald	Highland	10	6	16
John Anderson	Rec Sports	9	7	16
Steve Kavanah	Baldwins	7	8	15
Bruce Chappell	Highland	4	11	15
Ed Kilroy	Rec Sports	6	8	14
Mark Sedore	Priestly	12	2	14
John Yaremko	Law Insurance	9	4	13
Scott Crabb	Highland	5	7	12
Gerald Briand	Baldwins	5	5	10
Pat O'Mahony	FPL	3	6	9
Steve McDonald	Law Insurance	5	4	9
Brad McMillan	Tom & Jerry's	5	4	9
Darryl Thompson	Tom & Jerry's	8	1	9
Pat Davies	Priestly	4	5	9
Colin Leech	Priestly	3	6	9
Mike Nisbet	Priestly	4	5	9
Bob Ince	FPL	4	4	8
Ed Jackson	Baldwins	2	6	8
Brian Horton	Baldwins	2	6	8
Darren Yaremko	Law Insurance	3	5	8
Chris Neal	Highland	5	3	8
Charlie Steenhorse	Rec Sports	1	7	8
Jerome Flanigan	Priestly	2	6	8
John Leader	FPL	5	2	7
Dave Caverley	FPL	3	4	7
Kevin O'Keefe	Baldwins	3	4	7
Dave Holden	Tom & Jerry's	4	3	7
Vince Greco	Tom & Jerry's	1	6	7
Jerry Mackrell	Tom & Jerry's	2	5	7
Kevin Brown	Rec Sports	3	4	7
Hugh Alcorn	Masterclean	0	7	7
Mike Slimkowich	Masterclean	2	5	7
Dave McQueston	FPL	2	4	6
Peter Briand	Baldwins	2	4	6
Doug McGrath	Baldwins	3	3	6
Paul Gibson	Law Insurance	1	5	6
Frank Balkovec	Law Insurance	2	4	6
Dean Iwai	Tom & Jerry's	2	4	6
Scott Thomas	Tom & Jerry's	0	6	6
Doug Adair	Rec Sports	3	3	6
Alain Boudreau	Masterclean	4	2	6
Tom Hussey	Masterclean	3	3	6
Mike Kensit	Masterclean	4	2	6
Mike Dinner	Priestly	1	5	6
Mark Lemmon	Law Insurance	2	3	5
Les Nip	Highland	0	5	5
Jody Matthews	Highland	3	2	5
Joel Reeves	Tom & Jerry's	2	3	5
RonThieson	Tom & Jerry's	0	5	5
Scott Sheppard	Rec Sports	0	5	5
Mike Caicco	Priestly	0	5	5
Mike O'Connor	Priestly	3	2	5



Peter E. Reiss
Barrister & Solicitor

Business Law

905-709-7413
law@p-reiss.com
Free half hour consultation



Light up your life!

Lighting • Fixtures • Fans

Great Prices

220 Industrial Pkwy. S. 905-841-2832

Call for hours



Aurora Minor Hockey Association

Results to 9 AM Sunday, December 10

Website: www.aci.on.ca/amha



House League

Tyke

108 Tim Horton's Sharks Tyke House League 6 - Chris Pettit 1A, Matthew Carney 2G 1A, Matthew Minchella 2G, Jayson Perkins 1A, Austin Hendy 1G 3A, Kyle Wulle 1G 1A, Jordan Torres 1A, Clayton Allen 1A, Sam Speranini 1A, Adam Medeiros 1A.

101 Tim Horton's Red Wings 2 - Megan DiLosa 1A, Dimitri Mikrogiannakis 1G, Jacob Cann 1G.

109 Tim Horton's Wild Tyke House League 6 - Thomas Young 1A, Ben Langlois 1G 2A, Joel Woodcock 1A, Stewart Gable 2G, Cameron Railton 2G, Cameron Dyer 1G.

102 Tim Horton's Bruins 3 - Matthew Glionna 1G, Eric McGhie 2A, Curtis Romanchych 1G.

103 Tim Horton's Senators 5 - Troy Campbell 1A, Thomas Kostoff 1A, Jack Liotta 1G 1A, Casey Corner 1G 1A, Alexander Wyndham-West 2G, Colin Boorn 1G.

105 Tim Horton's Leafs Tyke House League 5.

107 Tim Horton's Lightning Tyke House League 5 - William Morin 1A, Kurt Bortolin 1A, Jeffrey Crowe 1G 1A, Casandra Strouji 1A, Andrew Lamanna 1A, Mark Kalmisto 1G, Kyle Dungey 1A, Reid Ludgate 1G, Brady Sarazin 2G, Evan Knowles 2A, Mark Rossi 1A, Tyler Mckechnie 1A.

104 Tim Horton's Flyers 4 - Chris Roche 1A, Eric Pears 1A, Mathew MacDougall 1G, Jack O'Keefe 1A, Christian Ramirez 1A, Thomas Wilson 2G, Sean Anderton 1A, Patrick Cruickshank 2A, Carmelo Sorino 1A, Anthony Issaris 1G.

106 Tim Horton's Penguins 4 - Jack Camplin 2G, Aidan Burbank 1A, Ryan Thornhill 1G, Andrew Sergejewich 1G 1A, Dan Atasiei 1A.

110 Tim Horton's Thrashers Tyke House League 1 - David Tonelli 1A. Johnnathan Martin 1G.

Novice

206 Chouinard Bros. Home Improvements 4 - Christian Pearce 2A, Nicolas Pearce 1G, Maxwell Jones 1G, Michael Dowling 1G, Bram Wood 1G.

205 Mastermind Toys Novice House League 1 - Matthew Barnett 1A. Tyler Williams 1A. Anthony Loduca 1G.

203 McAlpine Ford Novice House League 9 - Tristian Kouchar 2G 1A, Tristan Kuchar 2G 1A, Alistar Johnston 1G, Allistair Johnston 1G, Spencer White 3G 1A, Daniel Cariou 1G, Christian Arcuri 1G 2A, Keegan Matthew 1G 1A.

201 Diamond Groundskeeping Services 1 - Michael Montesante 1A, Vincent Nguyen 1G, Adam Caicco 1A.

202 North York Heating & Plumbing 7 - Harrison Jarvis 1G 1A, James Eydt 3G 1A, Ben Kissack 2G, Tyler McKay 1A, Petros Anagnostakos 1A, Mitchell Haak 1G, Charles Bennett 2A.

204 Hitz Novice House League 2 - Connor Gonsalves 1G, Michael Jollimore 1G.

Minor Atom

302 Rec Cycle N' Sports 7 - Joel Robinson 1A, Nolan Smith 3G 1A, Michael Fisher 2A, Bryn Burbank 2G, Joshua Capodagli 2A, Liam Joyner 1G, Ryan Batten 2A, Hunter Jones 1G, Matthew MacGrath 1G.

304 HS Financial Services Inc. Minor Atom House League 1.

Atom

402 Orr & Forster Insurance Brokers Atom House League 4 - Graham Killby 1A, Morgan Walker 3G, Jonathan Caporusso 1G.

401 Shoppers Drug Mart Aurora 3 - Zachary Cowl 2G 1A, Nelson Hossack 1A, Tyler Abushinov 1G.

403 Delph & Jenkins Surveyors 5 - Brayden Beswick 1A, Austin Coulter 1A, Joseph Veneziano 1A, Nathan Sinclair 3G, Matthew Walker 1G, Max Brown 1G, Michael Taieb 1A, Jake Anderson 1A, Jonah Blaser 1A.

407 Dr. Steiner's Drillers Atom House League 2.

404 All Pro Source For Sports 1 - Victor Chadarov 1G, Charlie Stark 1A.

406 AB Cox Pontiac Buick GMC Atom House League 1 - Scott Taylor 1G.

408 Greenpoint Laser Products Atom House League 8.

405 Laurion Law Office 6 - Scotty Barker 1A, Michael Slack 1G, Andrew Roche 1A, Jason Glionna 1G, Michael Liscio 1G, David Gonder 2G 1A, Brendan Elliott 1G.

Minor Pee wee

502 ACI Minor Pee wee House League 7 - George Plukov 1G, Matthew Roach 2G, Zachary Ferry 1G 2A, Liam Batulis 1G, Andreas Mikkelsen 2G, MacKenzie McIntosh 1A, Peter MacWilliam 1A, Tyler Grossi 2A, Dylan Lyons 1A.

501 Millennium Devils 2 - Stephen Wilkins 1G, Joshua Lawlor 1G, Daniel Bunder 1A, Jesse Borin 1A.

506 Dr. Steiner's Drillers Minor Pee wee House League 3 - Dustin Partanen 1A, Paul Louis Steiner 1G, Ryan Dowling 2G, Luke Pizzurro 1A.

503 Continental Ingredients Canada 2 - Andrew Boehmer 1G, Nicholas Bertrand 1G, Chris Cherubini 1A.

Pee wee

601 Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre 3 - Arun Partridge 2G, Nicholas Theodoropolous 1G, Gregory Olejnik 1A.

602 Chevalier Chrysler Pee wee House League 0.

605 Recreation Leisure Services Pee wee House League 8 - Jean Paul Hudon 1G 2A, Zachary Toulouse-Sauve 1A, Joseph Ariganello 1G, Jonathan White 1A, Braedon Mackenzie 2G 1A, Brendan Kirasack 1G, Graham Joiner 1G 1A, Coulton Speight 1G, Ryan Dal Cin 1G 1A, Matthew Noseworthy 1A.

604 Fresh Water Industries 5 - Kelley Hudson 3G, Marshall McGaffey 1A, Michael Mildon 1A, Gabriel C. Bauset 1G, Gregory Morihovitis 1A, Stephen Canatrutti 1G, Justin Mason 1A.

Minor Bantam

706 Cosentino Produce Minor Bantam House League 11 - Cameron Annear 4G 1A, Trystan Nelson 1A, Patrick Dowling 1G, Joey Lombardi 1G, Lucas Cristillo 2G, Colin Sandquist 2G 1A, Andrew Cosentino 1A, Alexander Payne 1G 1A, Logan Weber 2A.

701 Pharmasave 9 - Braden Pettigrew 1A, Tivon Cook 1A, Tanner Brewer 4G 2A, Dylan Jolivet 1G 1A, George Chalmers 1A, Matthew Bishop 2G, Christian Davies 2G, Nick DiVincenzo 1A.

707 Optimist Club of Aurora Inc. Minor Bantam House League 5 - Taran McGowan 3G, Christopher Follett 1A, Alex Dunn 1G, Matthew Burns 1G.

703 A.D.C. Aluminum 3 - Michael Vance 1G, Ryan Taylor 1G 1A, Christian Avolio 1G 1A, Anthony DeCesare 1A.

706 Cosentino Produce 6 - Cameron Annear 2G, Jonathon Boehmer 1G, Joey Lombardi 2A, Colin Sandquist 1G, Alexander Payne 2G, Logan Weber 1A, Ryan Cumiskey 1A.

708 Perfect Moves Minor Bantam House League 3 - Brandon Connolly 1G, Brody Hunter 1G 1A, Sean Takahashi 1A, John Zorzit 1A, Troy Gouveia 1G.

Bantam

801 Supreme Collision Centre 4 - Tyler Friars 1A, Adam Stubbs 1G, Alex Heintzman 1G, Marco Santella 2G 1A, Jordan Adams 1A.

804 Manhattan Trophies Bantam House League 0.

801 Supreme Collision Centre 3.

803 I.O.O.F. Aurora Lodge #148 Bantam House League 2.

802 Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre 3 - Michael Coggin 1G, Anthony Marsillio 2G, Giami Episcopo 1A.

804 Manhattan Trophies Bantam House League 2.

803 I.O.O.F. Aurora Lodge #148 2.

805 Barb Blaser - Re/Max Bantam House League 2 - Brandon Rival 2G.

805 Barb Blaser - Re/Max 4 - Matthew Desousa 1G 1A, Chris Blumreisinger 2A, Michael Delplavignano 1G, Nick Orsatti 1G, Robert Fiorini 1G.

806 Wood Brothers Drywall Bantam House League 2.

Minor Midget

903 Minor Midget House League 8.

901 Emilios Pizza 6 - Trevor McCartney 1A, Geoff Knaack 2G 2A, Jordan Brown 3A, Derek Isidoro 2G, Mike Hay 1G 1A, Kyle Ryan 1G.

902 4.

904 Pizza Pizza Minor Midget House League 4 - Spenser Freeland 1G, Jason Nadeau 1G, Kevin Nandlall 1G, Michael Shoesmith 1G 1A, Eric Shoesmith 2A, Graeme Smart 1A.

905 Skaters First Minor Midget House League 8.

904 Pizza Pizza 3 - Cody Benson 1A, Charlie Gibson 1A, Jason Nadeau 1G, Jacob Peart 1G, Michael Shoesmith 1G 1A, Eric Shoesmith 2A.

Rep Games

Novice

Newmarket Redmen Novice AA 6.

Aurora Tigers Novice AA 2 - Cameron Morrison 1G, Shaun Broad 1G, Evan Cherubini 1A, Brendin Ramsay 1A.

Minor Atom

Aurora Tigers Minor Atom AA 2.

Newmarket Redmen Minor Atom AA 4.

Atom

Aurora Tigers Atom AE 4 - Ryan McGolrick 2G 1A, Liam Beresford 1G 1A, Ben Goldman 1A, Graham Robinson 1G 1A.

Newmarket Redmen Atom AE 2.

Pee wee

Aurora Tigers Pee wee AE 3

TNT PW AE Pee wee AE 2

Bantam

Aurora Tigers Bantam A 7 - Sean Ellison 1A, Tyler Tisdale 3A, Derrick Hamner 3G, Corey Jeffery 1A, Ryan Jones 1A, Aaron Beally 1G, Darcy Eveleigh 2A, Matthew Semeredy 1A, Max Lerner 1G 1A, Dillon Cappell 2G, Jesse Cappell 1A, Michael McGolrick 1A.

Newmarket Redmen Bantam A 3.



Introducing Our 2006-07 Season!

Outstanding Theatre Right In Your Community!



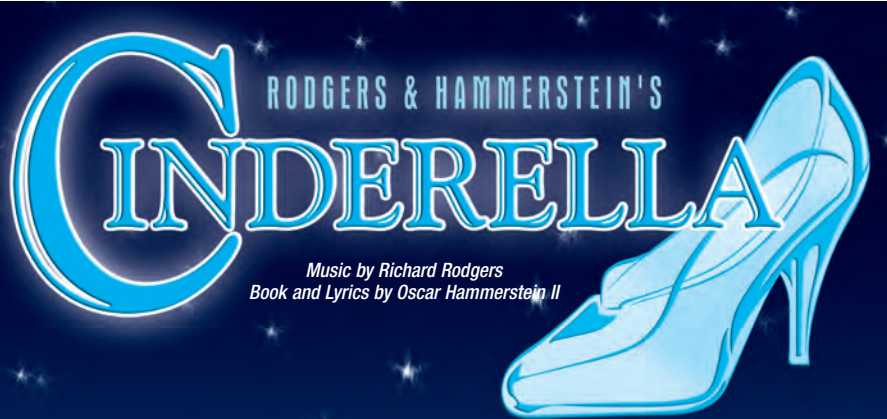
The Music Man

Music, Lyrics and book by Meredith Willson
Based on a story by Meredith Willson & Franklin Lacey

Newmarket Theatre
Dec 13, 14, 15, 16 @ 7:30 pm
Dec 16, 17 @ 2:00 pm

Follow the fast-talking traveling salesman Harold Hill as he cons the people of River City, Iowa into buying instruments and uniforms for their children to form a marching band – this despite the fact he doesn't know a trombone from a treble clef. Everything is going according to plan until...

www.marqueetheatricalproductions.com



City Playhouse-Vaughan
Feb 8, 9, 10 @ 7:30pm
Feb 10 & 11 @ 2:00pm

Newmarket Theatre
Feb 14, 15, 16, 17 @ 7:30pm
Feb 17 & 18 @ 2:00pm

The timeless enchantment of a magical fairy tale is reborn with the Rodgers & Hammerstein hallmarks of originality, charm and elegance. As adapted for the stage, with great warmth and more than a touch of hilarity, the hearts of children and adults alike still soar when the slipper fits.

www.marqueetheatricalproductions.com



Book and Lyrics by Marsha Norman
Music by Lucy Simon
Based on the novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett

City Playhouse-Vaughan
May 3, 4, 5 @ 7:30pm
May 5 & 6 @ 2:00pm

Newmarket Theatre
May 9, 10, 11, 12 @ 7:30pm
May 12 & 13 @ 2:00pm

In a lonely manor house on the Yorkshire Moors, Archibald Craven yearns for his beautiful, late wife, and becomes ever more isolated and remote from his crippled son. But their quiet routine is turned upside down when young Mary Lennox is sent to live with them following the death of her parents in India. She finds a secret walled garden hidden in the grounds and releases the magic and adventure locked inside it, changing their lives forever.

www.marqueetheatricalproductions.com



Family Subscription Series!

Buy a Subscription, and Save 20%!

The Music Man • Dec 2006
Cinderella • Feb 2007
The Secret Garden • May 2007

\$60.00 for Adults
\$54.00 for Seniors or Children

Non-Subscription Prices: \$25.00 Adults
\$22.00 Senior (ages 60+) • \$22.00 Child (ages 12 and under)

www.marqueetheatricalproductions.com

TICKETS: 905-713-1040
\$25.00 Adults • \$22.00 for Seniors 60+ or Children under 12
Group Rates are Available



Christmas luncheon draws more than 200

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Last Wednesday and Thursday, we celebrated the Christmas luncheon at the Aurora Seniors' Centre and it went very well.

More than 200 members enjoyed an excellent luncheon prepared by volunteers in our own kitchen, headed by Bill and Mary Higgins.

Because we were unable to accommodate everybody on one day we arranged the festivities over two days and this proved to be practical and effective.

The luncheon was turkey, potatoes, vegetables and all the trimmings, dessert, tea and coffee. Beer and wine were also available.

The entertainment was provided by our own senior choir, who normally performs under the musical direction of Tom Rainsford.

However on this occasion, Tom played the piano and Enid Maize conducted the choir.

In addition to our choir we had the excellent and entertaining Lester B. Pearson school choir, directed by Tom Rainsford, and these young children were a delight.

Tom has done a great job developing this youthful musical talent, and I sincerely hope he continues to guide and direct these very young, fine musical talents.

To cap it all Cara Chisholm, Aurora's own beautiful and absolute mistress of music, stage, song and dance, showed us again what a delightful entertainer she is.

Tim Jones, only just not the mayor of Aurora any more, a civilian so to speak after 28 years in politics, graced us with his presence Wednesday, and Phyllis

Morris, our newly elected mayor, visited for a half hour Wednesday and Thursday, before leaving to attend other functions.

We are into the busy season leading up to the even busier season of Christmas, and even with the Christmas Luncheon occupying so much attention, I noted that the pool room had no shortage of players with pool and snooker occupying four tables.

Table tennis was active, and a group of ladies were line dancing, but the most active of all was the number of members in the lounge, corridors and other rooms in conversation, enjoying each other's company.

Our indoor lady carpet bowlers, all five of them who I met earlier last week, and who are the jolliest group you would want to meet, were active at this new sport.

I have to admit this was my first exposure to this pastime, since the carpet bowling equipment arrived very recently after a long delay, which resulted in our team of equipment procurers finding another supplier.

Anyway, the carpet is about 25 feet long, laid on our new wood flooring and it looks pretty good.

The jack, which is the target, and the first ball bowled are quite small.

The other balls have a bias, which means that one side is heavier than the other and the ball curves to the heavier side when bowled underhand.

The game is a gentle game of finesse, where a feel for the weight and distance to the jack is crucial.

If the bowler is erratic and knocks the jack off the carpet, that bowler or team loses the game.

Aurora Council is sworn in at gala inaugural ceremony

From page 1

York Rangers Cadet Corps assisted in distributing programs and acted as ushers to help seat the audience.

The Call to Order was proclaimed by Town Crier Art Meeke, resplendent in his red robe and tricorn hat in the traditional bell-ringing tradition.

Members of council were led into the chambers by Piper Mark Jenkins of St. Andrew's College and the Colour Guard of the Aurora Legion.

"O Canada" was sung by Sara Kyle and singers from the Aurora Opera Company and the Prayer of Dedication was given by the Rev. Canon Dawn Davis of Trinity Anglican Church.

The Oath of Office was administered to Mayor Phyllis Morris by Director of Corporate Services and Town Clerk Bob Panizza, followed by the presentation of the Chain of Office.

The Town Clerk also administered the Oath of Office collectively to the members of council but they were called up individually to sign their Oath in the order in which they had finished in the polls.

The mayor took over the meeting and extended thanks to all those who had assisted in the ceremony and introduced the members of

council, the staff management team and dignitaries and former mayors in the audience.

These included former Mayors Dick Illingworth, Evelyn Buck, George Timpson and best wishes were sent to John West, who was unable to attend due to illness.

She also recognized several election candidates who were in attendance.

The mayor said her promise to work with council and town staff to make local government more open, more transparent, more accountable and more inclusive was no fairy tale.

"We will not forget you, the people of Aurora, are the reason our town is vibrant and a wonderful place to live," she said.

She noted that Aurora voters had sent a strong message they expect the mayor, council and staff to do a better job of working together to move the business of the

town forward in a positive and more productive atmosphere and she stressed the need for teamwork.

She told the audience that Aurora was their town and she and other members of council wanted to hear their comments as they were there to listen and she challenged them to get involved in local government and to participate.

She listed some of the historical events that made Aurora a town of history and why people choose to live here and the need to preserve and enhance the community.

Her slogan for the next four years is "Together We Can" and she listed several items to improve Aurora by working together.

She also listed some of the challenges facing council and a way to measure council's success at the end of the term.

She said she believed in Aurora and believed council could make their

vision a reality.

Her remarks were received with loud applause and a standing ovation.

Members of council spoke individually and most thanked their family members, friends and campaign team and noted how excited they were sitting on council and working together to serve the citizens of Aurora.

Councillor Evelyn Buck pointed out there were six women candidates and all six were elected and for the citizens "to watch us and see how we do together!"

Wellington Medical Walk-in Clinic

Dr. John Fitzsimons
Dr. Anthony Nguyen
Now accepting new patients

- **No Appointment Required**
- **Travel, Wart and Acne Clinic**
- **Online appointment**

Book at www.medhelp.ca

126 Wellington St. W. • 905-841-1633
New extended hours
(Corner of Haida Dr.) Enter via PHARMASAVE PHARMACY

VIRTUAL OPTION
Office Help without Office Walls
905-841-9364

Why pay for office overhead when all you need is office help from Virtual Option? Save up to 50% on administration and sales support, versus the cost of hiring full or part-time help.

Email: info@virtual-option.com
www.virtual-option.com

GRADE
MATH PROGRAMS

We Teach Math

- **For Grades 1 through 10**
- **Program Based on The Ontario Curriculum**
- **Free Assessment**

For Information 905-841-3699

NEED HELP?

CALL AURORA'S AUDIO/VIDEO INSTALLATION EXPERTS
LIGHTHOUSE
AUDIO VIDEO GROUP

905-505-1246
lighthouseavgroup.com
FREE Consultations

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Mosley St. at Victoria St., Aurora
(905) 727-5011

Cantata: "A Story Before We Sing"
A special performance by the Choir
Sunday, Dec. 17, 10:20 a.m.

Advent IV
Sunday, Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve
"I bring you good tidings of great joy:"
Sunday, Dec. 24, 7:00 p.m.

Our Minister: Rev. Matthew McKay

Jenny Nails Spa Inc.

Professional Nails & Waxing for Men & Women
GRAND OPENING SPECIALS

Free waxing* with any \$35 Services	Free Personal Kit*	\$22 Tuesday Spa Pedicure	Men's Spa Pedicure \$22 Everyday
Manicure & Spa Pedicure \$35	Bio-Gel Full Set \$40	1/2 Leg & Bikini \$25	Brazilian \$25

18 Wellington St. East (WALK-IN WELCOME)
Aurora (Next to Mac's) (905) 727-9900

Mon.-Fri. 10-8
Sat 10-6

Independent Living You Don't Have to Do It Alone!

At Graceful Living Inc., we help guide you through the many options for senior homecare and make the decisions that are right for you and your family. We provide a variety of services that help seniors maintain their independence right at home.

Personal Care:

- Exercise
- Bathing & grooming assistance
- Medication reminders
- Toileting assistance
- Dressing assistance
- Oral hygiene assistance

Companionship:

- Conversation/socializing
- Pet care assistance
- Walks and strolls
- Playing games/cards
- Reading

Homemaking

- Meal planning & preparation
- Laundry & linen washing
- Vacuuming
- Light cleaning/housekeeping
- Grocery shopping
- Running errands

Accompaniment/Transportation

- Professional visits (doctor/dentist)
- Social events
- Church
- Shopping/Banking

Whether you need just a few hours a week or full-time 24 hour care, call us today...**WE CAN HELP**

We also offer services to new mom's and respite care!

905-727-6200
15213 Yonge St., Suite 15,
Aurora, ON L4G 1L8
www.gracefullivinginc.com

Graceful Living Inc.
Your Trusted In-Home Senior Care Agency

RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

A brief look at Aurora in 1966

• Aurora Council decided that further study was required on a ward system for the municipality with seven of the councillors opposed to a ward system at that time. Council thought the study might happen when the population reached 15,000.

• The large park south of the Community Centre was officially named Centennial Park and later officially renamed Fleury Park to honour the founder of the Plow Company that was Aurora's first major industry.

• With the opening of the Community Centre, council made another attempt to get traffic lights at Aurora Heights Drive and Yonge Street.

• Prime Minister Lester Pearson was invited to re-visit Aurora during Centennial Year as he went to school here when his father was the Minister of the Aurora Methodist Church.

• Aurora Clerk-Treasurer Bill Johnson posted the voter's list for the December municipal elections listing 5,250 eligible voters, up 300 over 1964.

• Deputy Reeve Ron Simmons accused Mayor Clarence Davis of lack of leadership but lost in his challenge to unseat him.

• Aurora Council authorized an expenditure of \$68 per tree to have 87 trees with Dutch Elm disease removed.

REMEMBERING THE HULA HOOP

It was in March, 1958, when a hula hoop was whirled on the Dinah Shore TV show and the world went crazy and Chubby Checker gave credit to the Hula Hoop for his dance the Twist.

At the time it was the most popular toy available.

The kids loved it and were uninhibited in its use causing some people to claim the toy could lead to juvenile delinquency and loose morals.

After about six months the craze quickly died but in the 1980s the hoop was once again spinning its way around the hips of children and adults around the world and then faded away.

Anyone still have one?

WHAT HAPPENED TO GAS TAX FOR MUNICIPALITIES?

Back in 2003 there was strong pressure on the federal government by municipalities for a share of the gas tax for municipal transit and transportation.

In June, 2005, an agreement for the transfer of federal gas tax revenues under the New Deal for Cities and Communities Act was signed by Canada, Ontario, the City of Toronto and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for the federal funds.

Aurora was eligible for \$391,615.50 in 2005 and the same amount in 2006 with funding to 2009 with payment for 2005 to be made as soon as the municipality submitted a signed agreement and bylaw.

That was done in December, 2005.

With the change of government in January, 2006, municipal leaders expressed concern about the promised Ottawa funding and hoped Prime Minister Stephen Harper would honour the previous Liberal commitment.

With the cancellation of many of the Liberal programs and commitments when the Harper Tories assumed office, did Aurora ever receive the promised funding?

TOLL-FREE CALLING IN AURORA

Today phone customers call Toronto toll-free and think nothing of it, but at one time it was long distance.

It all started in March, 1972, when the Gateway Heights Ratepayers Association requested a meeting with Bell officials to request toll-free calling to Toronto.

They were told in no uncertain terms by Hugh Allen, Bell's regional manager, there was no way Aurora residents would receive toll-free calling to Toronto, at least in the immediate future.

The battle for toll-free calling continued and by June, 1982, the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, several local industries and more than 1,500 residents signed a petition that was sent to Bell Canada and the CRTC.

By April, 1993, York Peel MP Sinclair Stevens presented a petition with 4,338 names and 49 local companies to Parliament and told the MPs that it cost more to call Toronto for nine minutes than it cost to take a bus to the city.

The petition had little or no effect, but in February, 1985, Stevens announced a breakthrough in his ongoing negotiations with Bell Canada and the CRTC, as Bell agreed to carry out a survey of Bell customers with an additional cost of \$7.50 per month.

Almost 60 per cent of Aurora residents voted for the extended area service and in spite of numerous stall tactics by Bell and the CRTC, in June, 1988, two-way local Bell service was established between Aurora and Toronto.

It was still long distance, however to call Richmond Hill.

That local calling came later, but it was a battle.

WHERE ARE THEY TODAY?

In October, 1970, Drew Ritchie, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Ritchie of Aurora, received his Bachelor of Environmental Studies degree from the University of Waterloo after graduating from Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School.

In June, 1972, Elizabeth Reid, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W.J.S. Reid of Aurora, received her Bachelor of Arts degree with honours in English from Queen's University.

At the same time, Wendy Gilbert, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Anson Gilbert of Aurora graduated from the University of Guelph with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Where are they today?

Dancers capture gold metals

From page 1
committee last June they were going for the Gold Medal and they returned with it.

Both the Canadian Junior and Senior Dance teams won gold medals as did one of the solo dancers.

Karyn McGibbon said they spent several hours each week dancing to prepare for the competition as well as being involved in local events where they earned various trophies and awards in competitive solos, duets, trios and group dance numbers.

They met their choreographer and other members of the team from Central Ontario during the summer and spent six weekends learning new choreography for the competition. They met team members from Western Canada later.

Each dancer was required to obtain a sponsor as the Canadian

National Dance Team had been unsuccessful in obtaining a major sponsor or any government support.

She told committee members that it would cost each dancer \$2,850 for the trip and they planned to raise funds during the summer as well as look for sponsors from the community.

A request was made to the general committee for support.

She said the dancers

would represent Canada and Aurora with pride at the world level and would do their best to make the people of Aurora proud of them.

The five Aurora dancers received a grant from the Aurora Arts and Culture Fund last October to assist with their expenses.

The Germans were so pleased with the Canadian dancers, arrangements were made to take them to the fair in

Hamburg, Germany, where they performed to an enthusiastic German audience.

Canada also won the competition in 2005 and is considered the team to beat.



Comfortmaker®
Air Conditioning & Heating

*Hi-efficiency Furnaces,
Furnace Maintenance Specials*

"COMFORT WITH CONFIDENCE"

FLAN-AIR
HOME COMFORT SYSTEMS

150 Hollidge Blvd., Unit C7... across from Sobeys Bayview
Aurora 905-713-6326 1-877-939-4600

**Find Out What your
Home is Worth On-Line
visit:**

www.QuickOnlineEvaluation.com

ReMax Omega Realty (1988) Ltd.



- **Aurora's First Choice For Driver Training**
- **In Driver Education since 1979**
- **MTO Approved Course Provider**

ON-GOING MONTHLY CLASSES

www.ontarionewdrivers.ca

**With Great
HEALTH...**

Natural Healing Techniques

• *Iridology:
Digital eye scan to reveal
your overall health.*

• *Kinesiology:
Energy muscle testing of
all organs/glands*

Health Coach™ Services

• *Shape Shift Express™
Weight Management,
Whole Body
Detoxification Programs,
Nutri-Scan™
Nutritional Assessments*

Herbal Therapies

• *Organic Herbs & Tea's,
Nutraceutical formula's,
Supplements.*

Environmental Health

• *Air & Water purification,
Electro-magnetic Fields,
Mud & Salt Therapies.*

**Comes Great
WEALTH!**

(More Energy, Vitality & Improved Mood =
Better relationships & ↑ Body functions)

New Millennium Living Ltd.
Your Complete Natural Health Centre

**Hours: Wed.- Friday 11 am-8pm
Sat. 2-5pm • ☎ 647 286 1439**

(outside business hours please call 905 888 9757)

Great Gifts

**For Teachers • For Stocking Stuffers
For Everyone...**

- **Hand Bags • Picture Frames •**
- **Fashion Jewellery •**
- **Wall Hangings and Paintings •**
- **PASHMINA SCARVES •**

Plus Much More

Bayview Dollar Mart

Conveniently located in The Aurora Centre, 15420 Bayview Ave.
(North of Wellington in the Sobeys/Zellers Plaza...beside Scotiabank)
905-727-1114

*Season's
GREETINGS*



ORCA
Approved Member

CHARTWELL
SENIORS HOUSING REIT

www.chartwellreit.ca

**FREE TRIAL STAY*
CALL TO RESERVE
TODAY!**

Take advantage of our special "3 day trial stay" to experience our wonderful hospitality! Call Kim at (905) 727-2952 to book your accommodations

* Limited offer, some conditions may apply.



**PARK PLACE MANOR
RETIREMENT RESIDENCE**

15055 Yonge St., Aurora, ON

Call 905-727-2952



**Since there is no new book store
in Aurora, R & R Revisited,
Aurora's only used book store,
has made arrangements
with a supplier to offer
brand new best sellers within
a couple of days of ordering.
Simply drop in or phone and let us know
what you'd like to order,
and we'll be happy to get it for you.**

(For example, we already have copies of "Bloodletting & Miraculous Cures"
by Vincent Lam, this year's Giller Prize winner. A trade paperback, it retails for \$17.95.)

***Call or visit us now
and place your order!!***

**R & R Revisited
75 Mary Street, Unit 3,
Aurora, Ontario - L4G 1G3**

905-727-3300

"It's okay to give used books as gifts"

CLASSIFIEDS

Special rates: non-commercial word ads: \$20.00 (+g.s.t.) four weeks or, \$15.95 (+g.s.t.) two weeks minimum 15 words (Applies to word ads only).
Got something to sell or advertise? Give us a call - 905-727-7128, fax - 905-727-2620 or email your ad to classifieds@auroran.com • More than 76,000 copies delivered to Aurorans each month!

THE UPS STORE

You might not be able to do everything at once, but you can do everything in one place

- Fax Services
- Digital Printing & Copying
- Document Finishing
- Mailbox Rentals
- Courier Services
- Packaging Supplies & Services

The UPS STORE® in Aurora
14845 Yonge St. Unit 6, Aurora
905-713-1632 Fax: 905-713-1633
Email: store73@theupsstore.ca

AESTHETICS

TINA'S AESTHETICS

Specials

RELAXATION PACKAGE:

Body Massage
European Facial
Deluxe Pedicure
Manicure
\$122

WELLNESS PACKAGE:

European Facial
Deluxe Pedicure
Manicure
\$92

HOLIDAY PACKAGE:

Leg Wax
Deluxe Pedicure
Manicure
\$83

We use disposable plastic foot bath inserts.
By appt. 416-918-2028
*Tell a friend and receive \$10 OFF your next visit.

THERAPY

PSYCHOTHERAPY

Are you feeling sad, lonely, anxious, empty...

A compassionate, understanding therapist can help ease your distress.

Don't struggle alone.

Luanne Jakobi
Psychotherapist
905/726-4341
Aurora

VOLUNTEER

The Town of Aurora will be co-ordinating the

Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Drive

in the Town of Aurora again this year. We are **LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

16 years of age or older
unless accompanied by an adult.

Please contact Info Aurora at
905-727-8214
for available dates and locations.

THE AURORAN DELIVERS 915,000 COPIES PER YEAR

Advertise in Auroran Classifieds all year as low as \$10/wk. (This section only)

Consistency is the key to successful advertising.

We are here to assist you **7 DAYS A WEEK**

905-727-7128

CLASSES • SEMINARS • WORKSHOPS • COURSES - DIRECTORY -



Advertise all year for as little as \$7 per week. (*This section only) Call 905-727-7128, Fax 905-727-2620 or email to: classifieds@auroran.com

LEARN TO DRAW

雲虹畫室

DRAWING CLASS
All level small group English and Chinese. Call Yunhong at 905-713-3650 http://www.yhartstudio.com

SWIMMING LESSONS

SWIMMING INSTRUCTION By Yvonne Catrall, - Masters World Record holder, 40 years' experience, certified Red Cross Instructor. Year round, all levels, 3-4 maximum in class. 905-841-3450

RIDING LESSONS

HORSES • HORSES • HORSES

Learn How to Ride
• INDOOR & OUTDOOR ARENAS
• HEATED VIEWING LOUNGE
• CAMPS MARCH & SUMMER
FALL LESSON REGISTRATION

WES
905 713-9991
Woodbine Avenue & Aurora Road at 404
www.wesequestrian.ca

DANCE LESSONS

LATIN/BALLROOM DANCE CLASSES

Mondays 8 p.m. at the Aurora Legion on Ind. Pkwy. N. **PRACTICE THUR.** nights at 7-10 p.m. the Lions Hall, Mosley and Victoria Sts. Next monthly **DANCE PARTY** - Jan. 16, 2007 7 p.m. at the Aurora Legion. More info call Steve Miller at 416-439-6557 or visit his web site: www.SteveMillerDance.ca Email: Steve@SteveMillerDance.ca

MATH TUTORING

MATH TUTORING
Grades 9 - 12. Visit my website www.mathematics-magazine.com. 20 years experience. Call Liliana 905-727-7454

CLASSES SEMINARS WORKSHOPS COURSES

Advertise in this section for as low as \$7/hwk
Call: 905-727-7128

SEMINAR

Free 1 Hour Seminar Vitamins & Minerals

500 Products Compared
DEMYSTIFIED
Commissioned by: Minister of Health
How did yours rate?
www3.sympatico.ca/TonyBBB
905-841-9969

YOGA CLASSES

Yoga
Aurora Public Library
Mornings Evenings
Adults Teens
905 505 1324
Andrea Roth certified yoga teacher since 1978.
www.yogaforlife.ca

INDOOR & OUTDOOR SERVICES

BOOKS

Want to Relieve Anxiety Fast?

Read about guaranteed natural treatments at

book-titles.ca

FLOWERS

COLD PORCELAIN/SILK

Flower
arrangements for sale or rent.

FOR ANY OCCASION

905-727-9773
Please leave a message

FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT
Newmarket 4 bedrooms. 2 story. Brand new wood floors, bath. Fresh paint. Deck. \$1,390 plus utilities per month. Dec. 1st. 416-305-5142.

OFFICE FOR RENT,
Yonge and Mosley area. For more information, call Telly at 905-717-4073.

ACCOM. REQUIRED

HOUSE FOR RENT.
Short Term. Professional couple with 2 kids. Looking for accommodation. Aurora, Newmarket, Richmond Hill area. Feb. 07 - July 07. Mark 647-201-3276.

THANK YOU
for supporting **AURORAN CLASSIFIED ADVERTISERS**

CLEANING

Maid to Shine

PROFESSIONAL CLEANING
with a personal touch
• Serving Aurora for 8 yrs.
• Customized Services
• Same Professional and Reliable Staff
• Insured & Bonded

Call for an in-home consultation
905-713-5636
Member of Aurora Chamber of Commerce

CRYSTAL CLEANING

Cleaning Service
Commercial/residential
any day any time
FREE ESTIMATE

905-392-1589

CLEAN WITH CARE experienced efficient, thorough home cleaning with an added personal touch 905-727-2353

NEW CAMERA CLUB

AURORA DIGITAL CAMERA CLUB

If interested, email rob@auroraonline.com

Indicate skill level, camera and main topics of interest.

CONSTRUCTION

A&H CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE

- Renovations
- Additions
- Finished Basements
- Decks • Painting
- Seniors 10% OFF

905-726-2894

HANDYMAN

BOWTIE HANDYWORK & RENOVATIONS

QUALITY WORK
REASONABLE RATES
ALL JOBS ANY SIZE
SHORT NOTICE
SENIORS DISCOUNT
STEVE
416.723.8690

RONALD LICENSED PLUMBER

- Bath renovations
 - plumbing and drain repairs
 - new installations
- Most available after hours & weekends
Call 416.824.8823

GALLAUGHER CLEANERS

GALLAUGHER CLEANING SERVICES
Residential Commercial
For free estimates call 905-717-2740 ask for Sue.

FREE ESTIMATES

HOME

HARRIS HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Professional home repairs & renovations. Carpentry, painting, plastering, ceramics, floors, windows & doors etc.

-WE DO DRYWALL AND TAPING BATHROOMS AND BASEMENTS -
Jeff 905-713-0325 or, 905-716-2214
FREE ESTIMATES

PAINTING/DRYWALL.
Do you need some last minute painting or repairs? Free quotes. Call Roy 289-231-3157

EXPERT RENOVATIONS

- Start to Finish we do it all
- Guaranteed Quality
- On Time and to your satisfaction
- Bathroom Specialists
- Energy Saving Improvements.

Marty 416-606-5492

R.L.Y.C. General Contractors



Kitchens
Bathrooms
Tile
Flooring
Cabinetry
Drywall & Painting
Doors & Windows
Phone: 416-725-5427
Free Estimates

RENOVATIONS DONE RIGHT

Serving York Region for over 10 years

Home or office we specialize in all interior & exterior renovations

- Additions/Expansions
- Basements
- Landscaping
- Flooring
- Painting
- Decks & Patios

Seniors receive a 10% Discount

Call TODAY for a **FREE QUOTE**

Two Brothers General Contractors

416-562-7153

SCRAP WANTED

I'LL PICK UP YOUR SCRAP
cars and trucks at no charge, and in some cases, pay you for them. *All deals negotiable*

Call 905-751-3019

GARBAGE REMOVAL SERVICE

We pick up all your household rubbish. Need your garage, basement, yard or attic cleaned up?



No Job too small.
905-773-8033

Year-Round Maintenance Company

Steve Miller
dance

Ballroom & Latin American Instruction

Come out and **DANCE**

SATURDAY **DECEMBER 16** 7 p.m. to 12

DANCE

Latin/Ballroom

on our

4500 sq. ft. Dance Floor



- Music - strict tempo
- Refreshments
- Cash Bar
- Purchase a dance CD
- Door prizes

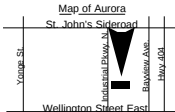
Only \$15

Reserved seating available

FREE LESSON WITH STEVE MILLER

The dance will be held at The Royal Canadian Legion #385,
105 Industrial Parkway North, Aurora.
North of Wellington between Yonge and Bayview.
Park around back and enter through the east door.
LOTS OF FREE PARKING

To register or for more information: Web: www.SteveMillerDance.ca
Phone: Steve @ 416-439-6557 • E-mail: Steve@SteveMillerDance.ca





Discerning motorists, looking to keep their vehicle in top-notch shape are very familiar with Go Auto Services, 29 Industry St in Aurora. It's an independently owned and operated auto service business with over 20 years of experience in serving Aurora's motoring needs.

Recently Go Auto Services joined the Tirecraft team as its newest Associate Dealer. While popular in the west of Canada, Tirecraft is gaining popularity in Ontario. In a recent survey done by Tire Business Magazine, Tirecraft ranked as the 3rd largest retail tire organization in North America and the 2nd largest in Canada.

Co-owner Adam Carrothers says there is a network of over 215 Tirecraft stores across the country "and if you do business with us in Aurora, then that work or product is backed up in the 215 stores from Newfoundland to British Columbia to the Yukon."

Adrian Fernandez, business manager of Tirecraft in Aurora says "We are a 'full service' operation, meaning we not only sell the best in tire products such as Michelin, B. F. Goodrich, Uniroyal, Continental and Sumitomo, but we provide professional vehicle maintenance from oil changes to brakes and suspension work and our work is backed up by 215 similar full service Tirecraft operations across the country."

Adam points out that Tirecraft is not a franchise as such but is simply a "buying group" of business people who have the same goals and missions in mind—to provide their customers with the best possible products and services at an economical price that such a buying group would command.

Tirecraft is a company that is "committed to its employees, its customers and the communities in which we do business. Tirecraft provides automotive solutions for vehicles and equipment. From tires to automotive maintenance, we provide a level of service geared to exceed the expectations of our customers."

So, the next time you pull into Tirecraft in Aurora, remember that you are pulling into over 215 Tirecraft stores across Canada that are ready, willing and able to assist you with your automotive needs. If you're a traveler, it's



Co-owners Adam Carrothers, Adrian Fernandez and Frank Ali

reassuring to know that Tirecraft will look after you, no matter where you go. Tirecraft will get you home, but if you're not going home, don't worry, Tirecraft will be there anyway.

The Tirecraft concept has been around since 1968, beginning in Vernon, B. C. with one store. Two hundred and fifteen stores later, Tirecraft continues to be the trusted name in tires and automotive service. The new local outlet on Industry St. is celebrating its 20th

anniversary in business this year which attests to the confidence and support that Go Auto Services has received for their business.

The Aurora Tirecraft store is located at 29 Industry Street and is open 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. You can call Adam, Adrian or the rest of the team at 905-841-0319 or e-mail them at aurora@tirecraft.com. Visit their website at www.tirecraft.com

MICHELIN®

X-ICE™

Extreme grip on ice and snow • Excellent braking, traction and handling in winter conditions
• Extended and even wear • Extra confidence in wet and dry handling • Also available for SUV applications


MICHELIN

† For terms and conditions, see your Michelin® tires owner's manual.