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AURORAN

Aurora's Community Newspaper

Merry Christmas

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BLUE-CHIP GROWTH

Vol. 7 No. 8

AURORAN, Week of December 19, 2006

905-727-3300

Briefly

Auroran takes break next week

In order to give staff members time to enjoy the holiday season, The Auroran will not publish a newspaper Tuesday, December 26.

It will also be a day late the following week, due to the New Year's Holiday.

Please have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

See you in 2007.



Avery Lawrance caught the big guy's ear last week as the Aurora Rotary Club held its annual children's Christmas party a week ago. Monday night, the adult members of the club gathered at Hillary House for a wine-tasting Christmas party.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Stronach's office coming to Aurora

Newmarket-Aurora Member of Parliament Belinda Stronach is moving her constituency office to Aurora.

The Auroran learned this week that the office, which has been located on Yonge Street, south of Mulock Drive in Newmarket, will move to a Yonge Street location in Aurora in February.

The site, a house, south of Kennedy on the west side of Yonge, was used in the last federal election as a campaign office for the Stronach team.

Officials cited high rental costs as the reason for not renewing the lease in the Newmarket plaza.

At one time, Stronach had two offices, the existing one in Newmarket, and an Aurora location, on Wellington Street, just east of Yonge.

That office closed some months ago.

The Newmarket office also started out as a campaign headquarters for Stronach, and once she won the election, kept the location for her constituency office, manager Steve Hinder said.

Stronach is serving her second term as a member of parliament and is expected to run again in the next election, which some believe will be held next year.

Meanwhile, back at the wind turbines...

For more than an hour at the general committee meeting Tuesday Aurora councillors went in circles trying to balance the concerns and opposition of at least three residents of Ridge Road and Aurora Cable Internet's attempt to develop wind power as a back-up energy supply.

It was one of the first challenges facing the newly elected council as they attempted to deal with a staff

report on Aurora Cable Internet's wind energy project at the transmitter site located at the west end of Ridge Road in Aurora.

At the last meeting of the outgoing council, James Beesley and Walter Mestrinaro appeared before council during Open Forum to relate the sequence of events relating to the ACI energy project.

They referred to the conditions of

the OMB decision and the lack of observance by ACI, resulting in a motion directing staff to enforce the OMB order including a legal opinion from the town solicitor.

The speakers alleged that the conditions had not been met and ACI was in contravention of the order and requested the removal of a trailer until all conditions had been addressed.

In September, 2005, Aurora Cable Internet submitted an application to the Committee of Adjustment for a minor variance to permit three wind turbines and a storage shed at the company's transmission site.

It was pointed out at the time the wind turbines would save enough electricity to provide power to about 50 homes and the company's signal would not be subjected to brownouts.

Several residents appeared at the Committee of Adjustment hearing to oppose the application on the basis of noise, property devaluation, and concern about the environmental impact on the Oak Ridges Moraine.

The committee approved the minor variance with conditions which did not meet the approval of the residents and an appeal was launched with the Ontario Municipal Board.

The OMB hearing was held last March and the hearing officer ruled that the appeal be dismissed and the variance be authorized subject to conditions.

The conditions included a setback of 50 metres minimum from the

property line for the wind turbines and storage unit and the Ministry of the Environment rule on whether the ministry noise guidelines had been met.

Last month staff pointed out that the storage container was, in fact, a

tractor trailer on wheels regulated by the Highway Traffic Act and was not a building as defined in the Ontario Building Code.

As a result it did not require a building permit and its placement was

Please see page 16

Street Festival will be a fitness test for some

You may feel a lot healthier if you attend this year's edition of the Aurora Street Festival.

The committee organizing the 12th annual World's Longest Street Festival on the World's Longest Street has decided to turn the event into a physical exercise program.

Participants will be able to acquire a passport at either end of the Festival (Wellington Street or Murray Drive), walk to the other end, and have their passport stamped along the way.

Committee members are hoping as many as 10 vendors will pay to become "passport stations".

The annual event is scheduled for Sunday, June 3, and if past years are any indication, some 40,000 people are expected to jam

onto a closed-to-vehicular-traffic Yonge Street to visit more than 500 vendors who will rent space along the curbs of the four-lane road.

The day-long activity gets underway at 11 a.m. and continues until 5 p.m.

Originally started in 1996 to celebrate the 200th birthday of Yonge Street, the event has been an annual success ever since.

Committee members began meeting a month ago to plan this year's event, and will continue regular meetings for the next six months.

It is hoped fitness personalities will be available to lead interested participants in warm up exercises before they begin the mile-long hike down the road.

Merry Christmas
from the gang at *Auroran*

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

COMING EVENTS IN AURORA

During the month of December the Skylight Gallery in the Aurora Town Hall will feature the artwork of Douglas Thiel. 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, popcorn 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.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve candlelight service at First Baptist Church, 33 Wellington Street East beginning at 6.30 p.m.

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.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

Aurora Neighbourhood Watch seminar in the Magna Room at the Aurora Public Library. Captain meeting begins at 6.30 p.m., with the free general public seminar beginning at 7.10 p.m. and continuing until 9 p.m. Topic for the evening: "Is Your Home Safe?" Guest speakers include Mike Fenton and PC Mark Lawrence.

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.

Merry Christmas!

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

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John MacDonald, right, a Lieutenant Governor from Toastmasters International District 60, presents a Distinguished Toastmaster medal to Barry Moore, during Aurora ceremony Wednesday night.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

Toastmaster receives club's highest award

Barry Moore joined a distinct group of people Wednesday night.

He became a DTM.

There aren't many Distinguished Toastmasters in the Towns of York Toastmasters Club, but today, the membership has one more.

He was given the award, the highest level of achievement in the Toastmasters' program, at a regular club meeting held at Park Place Manor in Aurora.

Presenting the medal to him was another DTM, John MacDonald, from Toastmasters International.

He is a District 60 Lieutenant Governor in charge of training and education.

District 60 covers more than 300 clubs with about 6,500 members in Ontario.

Moore, a ten-year Aurora resident, has been a Toastmaster since March, 1999.

In his years with the club he has been the Vice President of Public Relations and was acknowledged by Toastmasters International as the District 60 Publicist of the Year during his second term.

In 2002 with the help of the Towns of York he established a Toastmasters Club in Bradford and became its first President.

He was again recognized by Toastmasters as the District 60 Toastmaster of the Year for his contributions in Bradford.

In 2005 he became the Area Governor responsible for providing guidance to six area clubs and led his Area to President's Distinguished status, with all six clubs achieving President's Distinguished status, the highest honours that can be conferred by Toastmasters International.

"Toastmasters changes lives, and it's a lot of fun," he said. "You get the opportunity to do things and meet

people that you wouldn't otherwise, which is enriching, both personally and professionally."



*Wishing everyone
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and a healthy
and prosperous
New Year!*

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T'was the Night Before Christmas - in Aurora



By Scott Johnston

'Twas the night before Christmas, in our sleepy town
And throughout Aurora, there was not a sound
Residents lay nestled all snug in their beds,
While visions of hangovers danced in their heads.

In our house it was quiet, no deadlines were near,
The Auroran was closed, cartoon-free til next year
As I looked out the window, the moon on the snow
Gave a luster of mid-day to speed humps below

When what to my wandering eyes should appear
But a miniature sleigh, that appeared mighty queer
With a new brunette driver, who caused quite a buzz
I knew in a moment, St. Phyllis, it was.

More rapid than week-ends, her reindeer they came
And she whistled, and shouted, and called them by name:
"Now Alison, now Wendy, now on Evelina and Al,
On Stephen, on Grace, on Bob, and Evelyn as well."

So up to the rooftop, like angels they flew
With a sleigh of reports, and St. Phyllis, too.
And then in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing of each councillor's hoof

As I drew back my head and was turning around
From out of nowhere St. Phyllis came with a bound
Her eyes how they twinkled, framed results of the vote
From the recent election, stuck out of her coat

Ribbon-cutting scissors peeked out of her clothes,
And glasses for reading, sat perched on her nose.
With a wink of her eye, and a glass of wine,
St. Phyllis went straight to work, losing no time

I thought I'd see gifts, but with a shake of her head
She pulled from her sack, the oh-seven budget instead.
"I'm afraid the town's finances, are worse than we thought
Infrastructure will take, well.... more funds than we've got

So to keep in the black," she described with a frown
"Council's come up with some savings - it's all written down."
So I looked at the budget, and went weak in the knees
To see new service cuts, and increases in fees.

"To balance next year's books, we'll all have to pitch in
You'll pay more for kids' soccer, and to replace your blue bin.
And speaking of garbage, we may soon issue tags
We think a fair charge, is a dollar a bag.

As for special events, there is cash to be made,
By charging admission, to the Santa Parade
And the library hours, they'll be cut back I bet
It's good you can find all that stuff on the 'net'.

Then she looked at my face, and said "Don't despair
These taxes, and cuts, won't always be there
We will phase them out," she said with good cheer
"When the town's debts are paid... in about 20 years."

The finances explained, and her work all complete
St. Phyllis picked up her bag, and leapt to her feet
Sprang to her sleigh, to her team gave a blow
And away they all flew, leaving stains on the snow

But she had one last thought, as they flew off for the year
And I listened in hope, it'd be something to cheer
"You're not alone paying this", she exclaimed with a grin
"With 50,000 Aurorans, 'Good Company, You're In'."



If only Wellington Street could look like this again. However, this tranquil scene shows a much gentler Wellington Street of the past. This shot looks east from Yonge Street, and comes from the postcard collection of Aurora Councillor Bob McRoberts.



Poor Richard

Here's a new set of Richard awards

*The year ends with awards,
To the foolish and the wise;
The rules are kept secret,
To come as a big surprise!*
- Poor Richard's Scrapbook

Rather than let 2006 escape with barely a whimper, the IAFFFA Award has been created.

That's the "Illingworth Annual Fickle Finger of Fame Award" to be awarded every year about this time.

But from time to time there may be a special award known as the ISFFFA or the "Illingworth Special Fickle Finger of Fate Award" for groups or individuals who by some act or omission made a name for themselves in the history of mankind.

There will be several degrees of awards depending on the circumstances of the selection for the award.

One award is the "Erect" category for outstanding and meritorious service above and beyond the call.

The "Pinky" award is for an itty-act or omission and then there is the "Thumb" award for, but I'll leave that to your imagination.

The Erect Award goes to Oak Ridges MPP and Aurora resident Frank Klees who was recently nominated as the Progressive Conservative candidate in the riding of Newmarket/Aurora for the October 4, 2007, provincial election.

He is continually front and centre as a member of the opposition.

He is the education critic and has brought the plight of autistic children, bullying in the schools, and other issues dealing with education to the fore as he tries to keep the McGuinty Liberal government on the right track.

He also interceded with the Health Minister to obtain a hospital bed on behalf of a constituent who was unable to obtain a hospital bed for a deathly ill family member.

In another case he was able to get assistance for a bedridden man who had been cut off by a government agency due to a change of residence.

When Klees first broke unto the political scene in the Aurora area he was known as "Frank Who?"

Now he's known as "Frank Can".

Another Erect Award goes to Greg Foster of M & M Meats in Aurora who, since taking over the store in 2001, has been very active in the community by assisting in fundraising and other events for local organizations.

A Pinky Award goes to members of the outgoing Aurora Council for their inability to develop a team spirit, follow normal rules of procedure or agree on a majority decision of council after it had been adopted.

Several issues are still pending such as what to do with the proceeds of the Hydro sale, the future of the former Hydro building and the library square and what to do about parking in the downtown area.

The Thumb Award goes to the Dalton McGuinty

Liberal government for developing Ontario into George Orwell's book "1984" in which the government controls everything with Big Brother watching over us.

By forcing all Ontarians to buy smart meters he's creating a bureaucratic nightmare which will not only make the gun registry boondoggle look like a piece of cake, but will control when we cook our meals, and wash our clothes, etc.

He wants to control what kids eat at school and worst of all he tried to control their education by considering denying the right of any student who drops out of school before age 18 to get a driver's licence. That idea failed.

Another Thumb Award goes to the Conservative Prime Minister Stephen Harper for his arrogant, my way or the highway, method of governing a minority government and trying to bulldoze the opposition to adopt his flawed legislation.

He's also becoming a clone of United States President George Bush.

But a Special Thumb Award was saved for Liberal Leader candidate Michael Ignatieff for his flip-flops over events in Lebanon and then promising that Quebec would become a nation within Canada to gain votes in Quebec even if it meant splitting the Liberal Party and giving the election to Harper.

The plan backfired and he lost.

There were others nominated but the Illingworth Fickle Finger of Fate awards go the above listed recipients with congratulations and condolences.

AURORAN

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Community Newspaper"

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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Inaugural address important for mayor

Our new mayor gave her inaugural address a couple of weeks back.

Although I did not have a chance to attend the inaugural in person due to family issues, I did however watch a 're-run' on television.

Obviously it is tough to get a sense of the chamber atmosphere sitting at home - although the council mood did seem upbeat. This is better than can be said for our poor friends in Vaughan!

The inaugural address was an important one for Phyllis Morris.

It was her un-filtered and un-fettered opportunity to reinforce a message to the folks of Aurora.

I thought that the timing, tone and delivery of Ms. Morris's address were excellent. She certainly looked confident and relaxed and spoke well. If I were grading I would give her an "A" for presentation.

She also touched all the right bases and set just the right tone.

She stated "I will work with council and Town staff to make our municipal government more open, more transparent, more accountable and more inclusive."

Her words regarding the aspect of teamwork and fostering a council atmosphere built on the foundation of respect for fellow councillors and a leadership style focused on getting the job done in a collegial matter was an important message.

Most Aurorans would agree they will no longer stand for a style of personal, invective and venom filled debate.

"So let's not forget one thing. Aurora voters sent a strong message that they expect us at council, staff and mayor to do a better job, a better job of working together to move the business of this town forward in a positive and productive atmosphere."

While this message itself was a sound one, it was a bit disingenuous and somewhat unfair to the out-going mayor.

The new mayor was part of the last council. While Ms Morris may have not been the reason for the disunity and disharmony during the last term, there is guilt by association and certainly more than enough blame to go around!

Her sentiments about engaging Aurorans were aptly put:

"I would challenge you to get involved in your government. Your involvement, your scrutiny, your challenges and your support will ensure your council delivers. Please don't leave it to council alone to build a better Aurora. We'll do a better job with your participation."

The mayor also offered her list of priorities and an overview of the issues and challenges to be dealt with during the term and she then asked the audience, during her closing, to imagine what Aurora could be and could look like.

Compelling stuff.

Having said that, the important and hard work now begins; turning the high-minded rhetoric into action.

As the mayor and council have been meeting over the past few weeks, I believe the adoption of a resolution regarding their collective intentions over the coming year would be a good idea. The resolution could be presented early in the New Year.

I, in the spirit of the holiday season, will even offer an initial draft of such resolution for council's consideration:

"Be it resolved that there is unanimous agreement among the mayor and all eight councillors that the following five items are our foremost priorities over the coming year:

1) Over the past five years Aurora taxes have grown at an annual rate of 7.8 per cent which is clearly unsustainable. A budget will be developed that clearly shows the varying trade-offs of various tax levels versus various service levels. We will work to minimize the tax increase.

2) A plan for the \$35M of funds generated from the sale of Aurora Hydro to PowerStream;

3) An economic development plan containing a measurable strategy to slow down or reverse the residential to commercial tax ratio;

4) Locate and secure a home for the Youth Centre; and

5) As we can't depend upon development charges to provide for the upkeep of present facilities, a capital asset management program will be developed.

"Be it further resolved that council will produce a quarterly or semi-annual scorecard or specific update for the citizens of Aurora that will be published in the local newspaper so the citizens can monitor the progress on these agreed upon priorities."

Cheers.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com

Machell's Corners



Cathy's Corner

The Snow Angel

I never thought she'd really do it.

My friend, Shelley and I had just stepped outside to the parking lot of St. Andrew's Golf Club after the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Christmas Party.

When Damir and Brian first encouraged me to go to the party even though Damir would still be in hospital, I resisted.

"What," I asked Damir, "and spend the whole night talking about you?"

Well, of course, I did talk about Damir all night long, but Brian was right: the company of friends did do me good - a little more than he realized.

When I first stepped out of the meeting room, a look of utter disgust crossed my face as I surveyed the thickening blanket of white stuff.

Yes, I mean snow.

It had been snowing for hours, and being the world's biggest Winter Wonder-Wuss, I was not impressed.

You have to shovel that stuff, and with Damir still in hospital, and Tim still in St. Catharines in the midst of exams, I was fresh out of shovellers...and low on shovels, too.

I had broken one of our two shovels the previous snowfall, as Nadia and I did our best to tag-team the ice. Thankfully, God blessed us with good neighbours.

Eric stopped by and when my shovel broke, he simply went home and brought one over.

Except he didn't lend it to me the way I expected. Apparently, the young man comes with the shovel in this neighbourhood!

When I tried to tell him he didn't have to throw in the manpower, he turned to me and said: "Do you know what I really love to do?"

And what a sweet smile he wore as he asked me this question...

Well, now I know something else about Eric that I didn't know before: he loves to shovel snow!

Not me. I get the shivers just looking at snow!

So, there I was, a few nights later, beholding more than I could bear.

Shelley stood next to me...apparently seeing an entirely different Universe.

Whereas I had turned a ripe shade of Grinchy-Green, Shelley had started to glow.

She threw up her arms and shouted: "Oh, look! Isn't this beautiful?"

Beautiful?

Dreadful, yes. Horrible, terrible - but of course! But beautiful?

"No. No chance! No way - no how!" I thought...until I looked at Shelley's face.

Suddenly, I could see "beautiful".

She was all lit up like a Christmas tree...wearing a smile radiant enough to mistake for the North Star...full of magic and wonder...rapt in the childish delight that I have seen on the faces of my children many a Christmas morning - back when they still believed in Santa Claus!

"I love snow," she sighed. "Come and make a snow angel with me!"

I turned to her in sheer horror at the thought.

"Hello? I don't DO snow angels!" Besides, I was wearing sandals. Clearly, I am NOT into winter!

As she descended the steps to the driveway, I looked Shelley up and down, taking in the high heels, short skirt and leather coat. "Are you crazy?"

"Maybe...probably," she said as if it didn't matter either way. "But I'm going to make a snow angel."

"You are NOT!"

"Oh, yes I am!" She pointed to the centre of the driveway. "Right there! Oh, won't you come and join me?"

I didn't, wouldn't, couldn't...but she would, could...and she did.

In utter and complete shock, I watched my angelic friend elegantly lay down in the snow, spread her wings and leave her mark.

When she got up, I admired her just a little bit more than before. Funny, that seems to happen every time I see Shelley lately.

Miraculously, when I checked her back, there wasn't a snowflake on it. I realized how practical...how cautious...how unadventurous I've become!

And there she was, making a blatant display of the "Fogie-ness" I have acquired and accepted without ever noticing that anything was amiss as I make my approach to 50.

How could she do this to me!

Over the next few days, the episode haunted me. Shelley haunted me. Her sense of adventure that I had lost...her appreciation of the beauty I couldn't see...her invitation to take it all back that I had declined...

It nagged at me, until I couldn't stand it anymore. I broke down and sent her an e-mail.

"One day soon," I wrote, "when fresh snow falls, we're going to make snow angels together. Yes, I did say TOGETHER. But just this once!"

Well, she took me on my word.

"I am making my mark - you winter wonder-wuss ..." she wrote back. "And I have it in writing! You're going to make a snow angel...and you're even going to enjoy doing it! And we'll be wonderland weirdoes together!"

I am starting to think that there are better things to do with snow than shovel it...weird things, maybe.

But what if "weird" is a sign of life...an expression of the love of life that becomes rare in people who get older, but not wiser. And I am wondering if that ripe shade of Grinchy-Green suits me...at all.

I'm thinking it's not really the colour I want to paint my life...

I never thought she'd really do it, but when she did, it changed my life. There will be no going back now...

I guess that's what friends are for, huh?

So, Merry Christmas, Aurora! And may 2007 bring you health, happiness, prosperity...and snow angels.

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

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

 **BOUQUETS** to one of Santa's elves for reminding Poor Richard that this is his last "Dick's Picks" before Christmas and he should be kind and get in the spirit of goodwill on earth, so it's all **BOUQUETS**.

 **BOUQUETS** to the five Aurora teenager dancers, Karyn McGibbon, her twin sister Julie and friends MacKenzie Grayson, Eric Abel and Donato Bisogno on being selected for the Canadian National Junior Tap Team and bringing the Gold Medal back home from Germany.

 **BOUQUETS** to the Town of Newmarket for being the only municipality in the region to participate in the Kids Can Vote program, as not only does it get youths involved in the electoral process, it provides input to the town. It's worth investigating.

 **BOUQUETS** to Councillor Al Wilson for suggesting that council investigate the appointment of a Youth Councillor to sit at the council table as a non-voting member to bring youth issues to council. School boards appoint a Youth Trustee, why not a Youth Councillor?

 **BOUQUETS** to Canada Pool, builders of the swimming pool in the new recreation centre on receiving the Gold Award for the state-of-the-art pool in the 2006 Design and Construction Awards Canada-wide competition.

 **BOUQUETS** to Enbridge for their Gas Incentive Program and the energy efficient gas system in the new recreation centre which provides maximum benefits and savings of more than \$7,000 for the town.

 **BOUQUETS** to Klaus Wehrenberg for his appearance during Open Forum to thank council members for the citizen advisory committees as a good training ground and the need for comments expressed in Open Forum to be included in the minutes as they should be as part of the meeting.

 **BOUQUETS** to Hugh Allen for his letter to The Auroran listing his 10 Commandments for our politicians, which should be mandatory reading for all of them, especially the one to remember that the government has no money, and that all money comes from the taxpayers.

 **BOUQUETS** to members of TOAST (Town of Aurora Staff Together) for raising \$8,241 at their recent Annual Silent Auction and Bake Sale with proceeds going to the York Region Children's Aid Society "Holiday Gift Program".

 **BOUQUETS** to Brian Warburton for his interesting and informative weekly "Senior Scape" column in The Auroran, which keeps readers up to date on what's going on at the Seniors' Centre.

 **BOUQUETS** to Bryan Moir for his letter to The Auroran about missing High Tor facts in recent articles, as he is quite correct in saying that the town made the initial development proposal, but the High Tor lands were deleted from the Secondary Plan and made a Special Study Area and it was later when the Heritage Foundation submitted a development proposal.

 **BOUQUETS** to the Aurora citizens who took the time to decorate the exterior of their homes bringing the Christmas Spirit to their neighbourhood, and to the service club who will put up a trophy for the best decorated home as the Kiwanis Club used to do.

 **BOUQUETS** from the editor of The Auroran to Dick Illingworth, who, poised to enter his 91st year, still writes better than the editor ever will. Merry Christmas, Dick and Dorothy.

Letters to the Editor

Christmas is an awesome gift

To the editor,

I have had the pleasure of writing "Letters to the Editor" about improving the political landscape in Aurora.

Amazingly, the electorate elected a new mayor and six new councillors.

This new beginning we should all wait for and give our new people a chance to work together and give the new mayor our support and time to develop her team and focuses.

A team of three men and six women is somewhat historic for Aurora.

I think Belinda Stronach complained that federally they need more women, well in Aurora, we are far ahead of the average.

I, for one, am looking forward to reading and hearing the progress of this council.

However, now we are entering the Christmas season a time of joy and celebration.

Letters to the Editor is a privilege, especially during Christmas time when the birth of Jesus is the "reason for the season" we celebrate.

When writing one tries to understand human nature and not just for the mind but mostly for the heart.

Most people do not speak about their soul and spirit very much anymore. Certainly not what is really on their hearts.

Many people still celebrate Christmas and turn out to go to churches across Aurora to hear choirs sing "Away in a Manger" or "Silent Night", two favourite songs during this time.

It is one of the times that churches are full with visiting family, children and grandchildren.

Stores everywhere have Christmas music playing.

Then all of a sudden, Boxing Day appears as people jam into the stores again for all the after-Christmas bargains.

I have to admit, I, too, at times have gone out and pushed my way through heavy crowds and stood in long lineups to obtain the one item I wanted at a reasonable price.

Then a few years ago, I said to myself "hey, get a life!"

A real honest life and

not a manic pursuit of the next new hot item on sale. People, camping out overnight, to be first in line to get the latest toy or electronic game, do not register anymore.

Do we honestly think that those with sincere deep health problems would care or concern themselves very much about these things?

It's also a time for some that loneliness sets in as their loved ones are gone or are far away.

There are many who do not find the spirit of Christmas in their hearts at this time; Christmas is a time of very mixed heart-felt emotions.

There are those who have suffered losses of some magnitude.

It can be a tough time of year as well as celebrations.

Yet Christmas is not about us. It is the candle lit in your heart for that magnificent birth of Jesus.

Go and reach out and seek family, friends, clubs, church, neighbours, or anyone so that you're not alone.

Find people you love, and who love you.

Share your heart with

others, send a card, e-mails or pick up the telephone. Write some letters and get a life that shares your generosity or the goodness that is surely within you.

Take some money that you would spend on Christmas gifts and other things and give it to charity, the church bazaar, food bank or the "Out of the Cold" program.

Work in a soup kitchen and journey life with those in need.

May the symbol of hope for the light eternal remain with you during the Christmas season.

Christmas is not some dress rehearsal; it is truly an awesome gift.

No gift could match it as opportunities abound to share with family, friends and neighbours the goodwill of the season.

May you feel the peace and comfort this Christmas, as I wish the new council team with you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year as we celebrate "Joy to the World".

Martin Mol
Aurora

Mayoralty candidate thanks his supporters

To the editor,

I would like to thank the many, many great people in Aurora who I have met over my past six years on council.

It was an honour to serve and do my part in helping those who needed help. From the residents to the business owners I know that I learned a lot about this great town.

Since the election I have grown to enjoy my free time more than ever.

It is very satisfying to know that I was part of two good councils.

Through those two councils I know that I have made some friends who I will continue to enjoy their company.

People like Damir Vrancic, Ron Wallace,

Wendy Gaertner, Evelina MacEachern, and, yes, even Tim Jones.

Although Tim and I clashed at meetings at times I will always respect the leadership that he gave this town.

I would also like to thank all of the folks who helped me during the election. There are too many to mention but I thank you all.

Also, to the residents who voted for me, thank you for having the faith in me.

I will never forget the six fantastic years on council.

But, I know I will enjoy getting back to the private life that I enjoy so much, too.

Thank you again.
Merry Christmas.

Nigel Kean
Aurora

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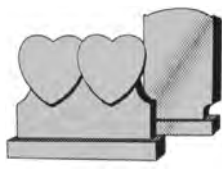
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If we wouldn't take it home why would we sell it to you?

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.

Wednesday, December 20th
10:30 a.m. **Holy Eucharist** in Trinity Chapel

Sunday, December 24th Advent & Christmas Eve
8 a.m. **Holy Eucharist** in Trinity Chapel
10 a.m. **Holy Eucharist** in Trinity Church ~ a Said Eucharist
3 & 5 p.m. **Pageant & Family Communion**
An ideal service for families with young children. Christmas Carols & Holy Communion Music - Youth Choir
7 p.m. **Contemporary Communion**
Ideal service for families with children older than 7 yrs. Christmas Carols & Holy Communion Music - Trinity Unplugged
9 p.m. **Candlelight Mass**
Beautiful candlelight service. Music - Adult Choir
11 p.m. **Midnight Mass**
Sing the traditional carols, hear the ancient scriptures. Music - Adult Choir

Monday, December 25th Christmas Day
10:30 a.m. **Christmas Communion**
Take a moment out of this day to celebrate the "reason for the season"

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This envelope activity caused face to swell

To the editor,

Before I tell you about my perils of the past week, I must tell you that Christmas has always been the most special of holidays for my family mostly because I tend to go just a touch overboard on decorating, buying presents, entertaining the masses and doing my best to instill the Christmas Spirit in everyone I meet. This Christmas started out the same as usual (don't hate me but I had most all of my shopping done in August) but with one major difference - I became semi-retired.

Okay, so I am temporarily unemployed.

I decided, with all this time on my hands, to do extra Christmas type activities like driving seniors to bazaars, Christmas shopping, extra baking, crocheting extra presents, etc.

The best part of having this extra time was that I didn't have to rush, go to overcrowded malls, drive defensively, become involved in parking rage or have to walk two miles from a tight parking spot to go to a store to spend excessive amounts of money that I don't have.

It was just about two weeks before Christmas and I had to take one of my dogs to the vet's for her last Cardovan shot.

I was doing pretty good but as I struggled to take her very large crate out of the house and put it into the van, without letting my two Old English sheepdogs escape.

I slammed the sliding glass door on my right hand severely injuring two of my fingers.

The second incident occurred last Saturday when my best friend suggested I accompany her shopping, with all the inherant hazards.

Well, of course I went - her being my best friend and all.

As expected, every store was packed including the

dollar store (and I love these) in Aurora.

She mentioned she needed a very small tree to take to Florida for Christmas and as I reached up to get one the entire metal shelf with all the little trees fell on me.

Shocked, I just stood there covered in teeny tiny trees. My friend asked me if I was all right and I replied that I thought so.

No one from the store acknowledged the incident had happened. I found out later they could not say anything as that might have indicated some responsibility on the stores part for this accident.

My right shoulder was a little sore but we continued shopping.

On Monday I decided to do my Christmas cards. I had ordered more than 100 special cards from California, purchased enough self-sticking stamps, prepared the updated address and return sticky labels, cleared off a spot on my kitchen table, made a pot of coffee, did my usual dog related chores and settled in. Signing the first card I was aware of a certain amount of pain, what with my black and blue two right hand fingers and my sore right shoulder, but I soldiered on with only a few facial grimaces.

After two hours I decided to make lunch.

After eating about half an egg salad sandwich I felt an odd sensation on the left side of my face and throat. I stopped eating. I had to as I couldn't seem to swallow anymore.

Looking in the mirror I discovered I had a tennis ball sized lump near my cheekbone and another just under my ear along the chin line.

Panic set in! I did that "what do I do, what do I do, what do I do" dance around the house with two large dogs following me probably

thinking that I had finally gone off my rocker.

While in that limbo stage of how do I get to the hospital (I had loaned my car to one of my sons) and checking on my lumps every minute to see what was happening, the lumps seemed to shrink.

After a while I decided to finish the cards just in case I ended up in the hospital. Having related the story to my family and trying to eat dinner which made the lumps come back it was decided that I just have liquids and if the lumps came back in the morning I would go to the doctor's office.

The next morning I tried a bit of toast; my face blew up; so I went to the doctor. After two hours of waiting with small sneezing children and their parents staring at me, I saw a doctor.

I'm sure he was older than 15 but he didn't project that warm, fuzzy, professional, "I will make it all better" feeling.

After we talked and he examined my lumps his diagnosis was that I had a blocked saliva gland and he prescribed heavy-duty antibiotics that should clear up the lumps in a few days.

Just guess what this was caused from?

The only non-self-sticking thing that I had to lick - the Christmas card envelopes. Who knew? Not me, obviously. I will never lick another envelope again!

At this writing it is one week before Christmas.

For those of you who receive a card be aware of the pain it caused me to send it!

For those of you who ever think of licking an envelope, DON'T.

I am hoping for a fun-filled Christmas, (sans strange occurrences) and wishing you the same.

**Bonnie Tiffin
Oak Ridges**

She found Christmas spirit at the Salvation Army kettle

To the editor,

This is about my two hours on "kettle" patrol.

If you were in the "old" LCBO store in Aurora Saturday, Dec. 16 at about 3 p.m. and heard a big crash, that was me.

I had arrived to man the Salvation Army Kettle and was trying to wrestle it into the perfect position when it toppled over crashing to the ground, taking with it half a dozen empty liquor bottle boxes.

I guess you can say I made an entrance!

When I arrived the kettle

was pretty empty.

What a thrill when that first donation went in!

Smile, smile, smile. "Merry Christmas". "This is all I have". "Every penny counts". "Thank you so much!"

Not one child passed who did not tug on their parent's sleeve for a coin to give to the "Salvation Army" lady.

When there was a brief pause in the action inside I watched the action in the parking lot.

Before I knew it, my two hours were up.

A nice woman who

worked at the library (I did not get her name) came to take my place.

The kettle was full, and so was I.

I hurried to my car with this weird lump in my throat and water in my eyes.

Christmas is not perfect. But it is what we make it. With the help of a Salvation Army kettle and some kind hearted citizens of Aurora I was allowed, for a little while, to dwell amidst the true Christmas spirit.

Thank you, Aurora.

**Marianne Mandryk
Aurora**

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To oversee the planning and policy decisions related to the Aurora Public Library services.

Committee of Adjustment /Property Standards Committee

The Committee considers the merits of applications for land severances and minor variances to land, buildings or structures, in accordance with the Planning Act.

Accessibility Advisory Committee

The purpose of the Accessibility Advisory Committee is to encourage and facilitate accessibility on behalf of all challenged persons by promoting public awareness and sensitivity; encouraging co-operation among all service and interest groups to ensure a better community for all persons; identifying and documenting relevant issues and concerns; improving access to housing, transportation, education, recreation, and employment, which are the qualities of a five star community; improving communication among all levels of government and service agencies to make recommendations re: policy and legislation; and recognizing that the needs of all persons are constantly changing.

To find out more about these opportunities, for a summary of terms of reference, meeting times, duties and functions for the committees or to pick up an application form, please visit the Aurora Public Library, the Corporate Services Department on the 2nd floor of Aurora Town Hall 1 Municipal Drive or the Town website at www.e-aurora.ca

Applications in writing, whether by mail, fax or hand delivered, should be addressed to the Town Clerk, 1 Municipal Drive, Aurora, ON L4G 6J1 and received prior to

Friday, January 24, 2007

Any members of the general public residing in Aurora may apply.

For more information, please call 905-727-3123 ext. 4220.

Letters to the Editor

Link between blood sport and politics: reader

To the editor,

It seems like a good time to talk about concepts we heard repeated during the election.

They are fresh in our minds and there never was enough time in any of the venues to debate ideas.

Even the mayoralty candidates, who had more time than all others put together,

didn't deal much with ideas.

Tim Jones did but he had no takers.

The value of team spirit and co-operation was floated as a virtuous aspiration. I don't buy that.

Well, think about it.

Consider the structure of an NHL team: captain, coach, owners, game officials and fans.

The goal - pardon the

pun - is to win and create wealth for everyone connected with the team.

One cannot live in Canada without having an awareness for what it takes to win in hockey.

Discipline is huge.

Every player knowing and doing what he does best. Knowing what his opposite number does best. Doing his best to foil the

other fellow's best.

Everyone doing their best to get the puck into the other team's net - pow pow pow.

The optimum best in this context does not equate with nice, polite, kind, fair or scrupulous adherence to the rules.

What? Are you kidding me?

Every player knows he is

only as good as his last game.

Any time fan/coach/owner satisfaction falls, there is the chance of a trade....and off he flies into netherland.

Now we have established similarities between a blood sport and politics.

It is clear, they have little to do with any concept of virtue as espoused by candidates touting the value of "team spirit" without having a full understanding of how it plays in the political arena.

Unlike hockey, politics is a game without any written rules.

There are no manuals for newly-elected councillors.

Skill is acquired through practice on the ice. Principles are not necessarily shared. Even procedural rules are not always observed.

When the campaign ends, the work of council is supposed to begin. It doesn't always. Sometimes the campaign never ends and the town's business is completely subjugated.

The common principle

the community is entitled to expect is that every member intends to do what each believes to be in the community's best interest. That does not imply a shared vision.

Therein lies the kernel of democracy. The point of an election. The difference between a team and a council.

When every councillors' views have been expressed and hopefully heard respectfully when each debate ends when the vote is taken, the only remaining criterion is that the majority rules.

There is no team, no captain, no coach, no owners, no referees, no penalties, no game forfeits.

There are no winners when the game is played in bad faith.

Politics are frequently cloaked in layers of unctuous righteousness.

But "all the perfumes of Arabia" are not enough to make it smell like team spirit.

Evelyn Buck
Aurora

It would hurt town's core if old liquor store closes

To the editor,

The LCBO has recently opened their much anticipated new liquor store.

Many people have been wanting a new store in Aurora for many years now.

With excessive traffic and lack of parking often sighted as frustrations, I am very glad to see this one finally arrive.

What very much concerns me, however, is the thought that they may be closing the current one after the Christmas holiday.

I do not know this, but I worry.

Our poor downtown suffers enormously when businesses set up on the periphery of our town. Even more so when they leave the town core in

order to do so.

Despite the fact that the population of our town is increasing our town core continues to suffer.

All the new developments are built for automobiles. All the new businesses on the edge of town are built the same. Therefore the new residents never come downtown.

Additionally the new

retail stores give the downtown residents more options so they, too, frequent the downtown less regularly.

This is an argument for large scale intensification of our core with far less emphasis on automobiles.

With intensification there, and intensification which does not overly pander to automobiles, a population with less penchant for driving will develop.

They will be, as some of us already are, more inclined to shop locally. That will create a market force which will keep these businesses in the core without any intervention.

In the meantime, until our new town council can demonstrate that these are the policies they will pursue, it is very important that we do what we can as a municipality to convince these businesses to stay.

The LCBO is a very important business in the core and its loss would be immensely felt.

The town needs to do what it can now, if it is not already too late, to convince the LCBO that it is in their own best long term interest to maintain their current location as well as the new one.

Even go so far as to offer incentives, if necessary.

Noisy neighbour causes grief

To the editor,

What does it take for a person to have peace and quiet in their own home?

I moved to an apartment behind a store on Yonge Street across from the library eight months ago.

For eight months, the upstairs tenant has been playing music so loud, I can't hear myself think.

He has his friends over and they drink and party til early morning.

I called the owners who assure me they would talk to him to make things right.

A few weeks go by and he starts up again, only for me to call the owner again.

Now the owner said for

him to do anything about the noise, he would need proof.

I then called the police who told me to call the bylaw office to file a complaint, which I did.

The bylaw officer mailed him a letter about the noise complaint and that he had better stop.

Then, this tenant came to my door wanting to talk to me.

I said no.

He then told me I had to let him in, and by this time, the police had arrived once again.

Now I am told I need to get a restraining order out on him so he will leave me alone.

Yes, I said to the officer, like the one I got on my ex 10 years ago, for all the good that did.

I am living in a nightmare but I have nowhere to go.

Once the police leave, the noise starts up again.

There is no winning this...I'll be calling the town again.

I am told that this time he will get a fine.

That's not going to stop the noise or the fear of him approaching me in the parking lot.

That's okay...I'll have the restraining order on him. Do you think that's going to save me?

Maybe I can hit him with it? No, if I did, I would be charged with assault!

This is my problem....does anyone have a solution?

I just want to live in peace.

Debra Ruest
Aurora

Darryl Moore
Aurora

Gift will cost you about five bucks

To the editor,

Despite our current break from the deep freeze, winter is upon us.

With this in mind, here's a very inexpensive winter gift idea that can immensely improve the safety of our children walking to school or our seniors picking up their mail.

It will help our town's numerous dog walkers, paper delivery people or in fact anyone traveling on two feet.

Here are three clues:

- a large bag of this marvellous gift costs under \$5.
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WAVE
2007



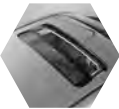
Wave Sedan SE model shown with available equipment. MSRP \$16,335

FEEL PLAYFUL IN THE 2007 WAVE AIR & AUTOMATIC
AVAILABLE IN 5 DOOR OR THE **ALL NEW SEDAN**

SEDAN AIR & AUTO SMARTLEASE \$198^{AT} 3.9% PER MONTH/48 MONTHS \$1,250 DOWN PAYMENT \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>DOWN</th> <th>LEASE</th> </tr> <tr> <td>\$0</td> <td>\$226</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$1,600</td> <td>\$190</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$3,000</td> <td>\$159</td> </tr> </table>	DOWN	LEASE	\$0	\$226	\$1,600	\$190	\$3,000	\$159	OR BASE MODEL STARTING FROM \$12,995*	FINANCING 5.4% UP TO 60 MONTHS*	 HWY: 5.9L/100km • 48mpg CITY: 8.9L/100km • 32mpg
	DOWN	LEASE										
\$0	\$226											
\$1,600	\$190											
\$3,000	\$159											
STANDARD FEATURES ON AIR & AUTO MODEL: • 1.6L 103 hp 4-cyl. Engine • Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning • AM/FM/CD with MP3 Playback • Auxiliary Audio Input Jack • 60/40 Split-Folding Rear Seat • 14" Wheels • Seating for 5 • 5-year/160,000 km GM Powertrain Warranty with \$0 Deductible*												

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STEP-UP TO THE SE MODEL WITH A NO-CHARGE SUNROOF!
SE MODEL ADDS: Power Windows, Locks & Mirrors • Cruise Control • Remote Keyless Entry • Fog Lights



G5
2007



FEEL ENERGIZED IN THE 2007 G5 SE
AVAILABLE IN COUPE OR SEDAN

G5 SE SMARTLEASE \$218^{AT} 2.4% PER MONTH/48 MONTHS \$1,050 DOWN PAYMENT \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>DOWN</th> <th>LEASE</th> </tr> <tr> <td>\$0</td> <td>\$241</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$1,550</td> <td>\$207</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$3,250</td> <td>\$170</td> </tr> </table>	DOWN	LEASE	\$0	\$241	\$1,550	\$207	\$3,250	\$170	OR BASE MODEL STARTING FROM \$15,198*	FINANCING 2.4% UP TO 60 MONTHS*	 HWY: 5.9L/100km • 48mpg CITY: 9.2L/100km • 31mpg
	DOWN	LEASE										
\$0	\$241											
\$1,550	\$207											
\$3,250	\$170											
G5 STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE: • 2.2L 148 hp ECOTEC Engine • Auxiliary Audio Input Jack • 15" Wheels • Spoiler • 60/40 Split-Folding Rear Seat • 5-year/160,000 km GM Powertrain Warranty with \$0 Deductible*												

SE MODEL ADDS:
 • Automatic Transmission • Power Windows, Locks & Mirrors • Cruise Control
 • Air Conditioning • AM/FM/CD Player with MP3 Playback

G6
2007



FEEL ALIVE IN THE 2007 G6 SE

SMARTLEASE \$248^{AT} 1.0% PER MONTH/48 MONTHS \$3,350 DOWN PAYMENT \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>DOWN</th> <th>LEASE</th> </tr> <tr> <td>\$0</td> <td>\$319</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$1,500</td> <td>\$287</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$4,000</td> <td>\$234</td> </tr> </table>	DOWN	LEASE	\$0	\$319	\$1,500	\$287	\$4,000	\$234	PURCHASE PRICE \$23,930*	FINANCING 1.5% UP TO 60 MONTHS*	 HWY: 6.6L/100km • 43mpg CITY: 10.2L/100km • 28mpg
	DOWN	LEASE										
\$0	\$319											
\$1,500	\$287											
\$4,000	\$234											
STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE: • 2.4L 167 hp VVT 4-cyl. ECOTEC Engine • Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning • Remote Keyless Entry • Power Windows & Locks • 4-Wheel Disc Brakes • 17" Wheels • Electric Power Steering • Cruise Control • 5-year/160,000 km GM Powertrain Warranty with \$0 Deductible*												

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MORE PER MONTH

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DRIVER'S PACKAGE ADDS: Power Sunroof • Remote Vehicle Start • Spoiler • Leather-Wrapped 3-Spoke Steering Wheel with Stereo Controls • Leather-Wrapped Shifter and Parking Brake Handle • Power Adjustable Pedals

VIBE
2007



FEEL SPONTANEOUS IN THE 2007 VIBE

SMARTLEASE \$228^{AT} 5.9% PER MONTH/48 MONTHS \$2,050 DOWN PAYMENT \$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>DOWN</th> <th>LEASE</th> </tr> <tr> <td>\$0</td> <td>\$276</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$1,500</td> <td>\$241</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$3,000</td> <td>\$206</td> </tr> </table>	DOWN	LEASE	\$0	\$276	\$1,500	\$241	\$3,000	\$206	PURCHASE PRICE \$18,998*	FINANCING 3.9% UP TO 60 MONTHS*	 HWY: 5.9L/100km • 48mpg CITY: 7.9L/100km • 36mpg
	DOWN	LEASE										
\$0	\$276											
\$1,500	\$241											
\$3,000	\$206											
STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE: • 1.8L 126 hp DOHC VVT-i Engine • Air Conditioning • CD Stereo • Fog Lights • 60/40 Split-Folding Rear Seat • 16" Wheels • 5-year/160,000 km GM Powertrain Warranty with \$0 Deductible*												

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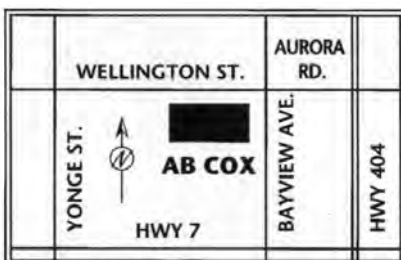
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For the latest information, visit us at gmcanada.com, drop by your local Pontiac • Buick • GMC Dealer or call us at 1-800-GM-DRIVE. *No purchase necessary. Contest open to Canadian residents who have reached the age of majority in their province of residence. Contest closes January 10, 2007. Awards can only be applied to the purchase or lease of new 2006 and 2007 GM vehicles from dealer stock on or after November 15th and on or before January 10, 2007. Excludes GM Medium Duty Trucks. The following vehicles are ineligible for the application of Vehicle Awards: GM Medium Duty Trucks, Chevrolet Corvette, Pontiac Solstice, Saturn SKY, all Cadillac and Hummer models. Not all awards have the same odds of winning. Potential award recipients must correctly answer a skill-testing question. Some examples of odds are: to receive a \$500 base award, 1 in 1; to receive a total award of \$700, 1 in 40; to receive a total award of \$10,000, 1 in 15,000; to receive a vehicle award, 1 in 20,000 (total awards and vehicle awards include the \$500 base award). All awards are tax inclusive. †Based on a 48 month lease of 2007 Pontiac Wave Sedan (R7B,R7D)/G5 Coupe or Sedan (R7C)/Vibe R7A/G6 Sedan SE (R7A,R7B). Annual kilometre limit of 20,000 km, \$0.15 per excess kilometre. Lease APR may vary depending on amount of down payment/trade. A down payment or trade of \$1,250/\$1,050/\$2,050/\$3,350 and \$0 security deposit is required. Option to purchase at lease end is \$5,846/\$7,059/\$8,104/\$9,153/\$9,354/\$10,269 plus applicable taxes. Other lease options are available. *Offer applies to the purchase of 2007 Pontiac (Wave R7A/G5 Coupe or Sedan R7A/Vibe R7A/G6 Sedan SE R7A) new or demonstrator models. †Financing approved on GMAC credit only 2007 Pontiac Wave/G5/Vibe/G6. Based on a 60 month term Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example: \$10,000 at 5.4%/2.4%/3.9%/1.5% APR, the monthly payment is \$190.55/\$177.03/\$183.71/\$173.10 for 60 months. Cost of borrowing is \$1,433.00/\$621.80/\$1,022.6/\$386.00. Total obligation is \$11,433.00/\$10,621.80/\$11,022.60/\$10,386.00. Example is based on cash price of \$12,995.00/\$15,198.00/\$18,998.00/\$23,930.00. ‡Offers apply as indicated to the purchase or lease of 2007 new or demonstrator models of the vehicles equipped as described. Freight (\$1,045/\$1,095/\$1,160/\$1,250), license, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees and taxes are not included. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Pontiac • Buick • GMC Dealer Marketing Association area only (including Outaouais and excluding Northwestern Ontario). Dealer order or trade may be required. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Limited time offer which may not be combined with other offers. See your dealer for conditions and details. ΔFuel consumption determined using Transport Canada approved methodology for 2007 Wave with 1.6L engine and manual transmission/G5 Coupe or Sedan with 2.2L engine and manual transmission/Vibe with 1.8L engine and manual transmission/G6 Sedan SE with 2.4L engine and automatic transmission. ▲Warranty based on 5-years or 160,000km, whichever comes first. See your dealer for conditions and details. Excludes Medium Duty Trucks. ®Registered trademark of General Motors Corporation. TD Canada Trust licensed user of mark. Visa International Service Association/TD Canada Trust and GM licensed user of marks. ®Trademark of The Canada Trust Company. ©Service contract required. OnStar uses existing emergency service providers as well as cellular and satellite technologies. Vehicle electrical systems need to be operating for features to function properly. See dealer for conditions and details. †General Motors will provide the dealer with a credit equivalent to the value of a sunroof (\$985), plus applicable taxes. Such credit has already been applied to the SMARTLEASE monthly payment shown in this advertisement. **For more information, visit gm.xmradio.ca. The XM name and related logos are registered trademarks of XM Satellite Radio Inc. ∇GMCL will pay the first two months' GMAC lease payments for 24 to 48 month leases only, paid up to a maximum monthly lease payment of \$600 (tax included). Alternatively, GMCL will pay the first two months' GMAC finance payments for finance terms up to 72 months only, paid up to a maximum monthly finance payment of \$600 (tax included). Offer applicable to equal monthly payment SMARTLEASE leases or finance agreements with GMAC and subject to GMAC credit approval. License, insurance, registration and administration fees not included and may be payable upon signing. Program not available to recipients of any previous GM student/graduate offer. Visit gmstudentbonus.ca for more details.

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SUN. DEC. 31

"Pontune 5"

2 SEATINGS

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* Includes entertainment, champagne and party favours

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905-727-5100 15474 Yonge St. Aurora
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Sunday December 31, 2006 New Year's Eve Menu

Starter

Hearts of Romaine Salad with grainy dressing, smoked bacon, poached egg, parmesan crisp, complimented with a splash of balsamic vinaigrette

~or~

Mixed Greens with strawberries, cranberries with a lemon poppy seed dressing

~or~

New England Style Clam Chowder

~or~

Creamy Seafood Bisque, scallops shrimp and crab meat

Appetizer Plate

* Select three of the following*

Asparagus and Goat Cheese baked in phyllo

Smoked Salmon on a blini with dill

Duck Spring Roll with asian dipping sauce

Mini Crab Cake with remoulade

Coconut Shrimp with chipotle mayo

Entrees

Beef Wellington with parisienne potatoes, market vegetables and beef au jus

~or~

Oven Roasted Cornish Hen, au gratin potatoes, market vegetables finished with a vanilla-orange glaze

~or~

Seafood Trio, lobster tail, shrimp, crab claws, saffron risotto, market vegetables, garlic-dill butter sauce

~or~

Organic Salmon crusted with pommery mustard and bread crumbs, market vegetables, sautéed spinach, citrus risotto, tangy beurre blanc

~or~

Hand Made Ravioli stuffed with ricotta cheese, spinach and mushrooms, served with market vegetables in a rose sauce

~or~

10 oz. Grilled N.Y. Striploin, maitre d' butter, roasted garlic mashed potatoes, market vegetables, veal reduction

Desserts

Apple Crisp,

with a walnut-cinnamon-clove ice cream

~or~

Chocolate Mousse Parfait

~or~

Chef's Cheesecake

MENU
A taste cup of Vegetable Puree

Baby Green, Tomato Filet, Roasted Quail Breast

Angus Beef Tenderloin
Port Glaze
or
Herb Crusted Fresh Rack of Lamb • Rosemary & Goat Cheese Cream
Grilled Jumbo Tiger Shrimp & Wild Scallop, Kingcrab Meat, Pappardelle Pasta
or
Oven Roasted Cornish Hen En Provence, Cranberry Relish
or
Filet of Black Cod, Saki & Maple Syrup Marinated, Ponzo & Ginger Sauce

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Two more weekend victories

Tigers extend win streak to six

The Aurora Tigers Provincial Junior A hockey team extended its latest winning streak to six games, with a pair of victories over the weekend.

Both games were played at the Aurora Community Centre.

Friday night, despite being in eighth place in the South Division the Durham Fury came into Aurora and battled hard until the final minute.

However, before a Family Day crowd of better than 500, Aurora managed to post a 5-2 win.

Leading the way for the Tigers was Mark Mayea who was a constant threat every time he hit the ice.

He set up two goals while doing an impeccable job defensively, in particular, on the penalty kill.

Scoring for the winners were Joey Pell, Daniel Michalsky, Andrew Favot, Brett Connolly on the power play and Doug Henderson add a short-handed marker.

Sunday afternoon the Tigers faced the surging Huntsville-Muskoka Otters who currently sit in fourth place in the North Division and when the game was over, that's where they remained.

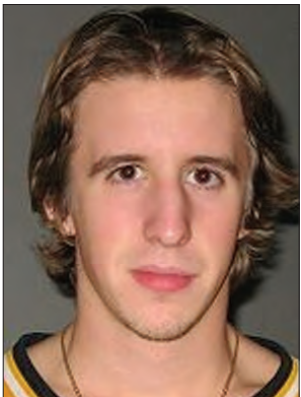
When your power play goes four for nine and you kill off 13 of 14 penalties including four five on threes, your chances of winning most games are good and that's just what happened when the Tigers rolled to a 6-1 victory over the pesky Otters.

Huntsville was never really in it, trailing 3-1 after 20 minutes, and 5-1 after two periods of play.

The scoring was led by the defense with captain Quinn Waller amassing three points including a goal and two assists, while Alain Goulet contributed one of each with Mike Ward and Andrew Eastman each a pair of assists for two-point afternoons.

Other goal scorers included Michalsky, Andrew Martin, Nathaniel Brooks and newcomer Joey Piccone who scored his first goal in a Tigers uniform.

Andrew Favot, who leads the Tiger scoring with 24 goals and 28 assists, was kept off the scoreboard Sunday,



ANDREW FAVOT
Scoring Leader

although he scored once Friday night.

Joey Martin is putting the pressure on Favot, only one behind with 23

goals and 28 assists.

Interestingly, although he has only three goals, captain Quinn Waller is tied for third place in the scoring race with 42 points.

He has a whopping 39 assists.

Tigers overall record is 31 wins in 34 games, have won their last nine of 10 encounters and have lost only one game on home ice.

The team's last game before the Christmas break this Friday night at the Aurora Community Centre when they host the very strong Vaughan Vipers led by coach Frank Carnavale.

Game time is 7.30 p.m.

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Wendell Clark may have played a great game of hockey for the Toronto Maple Leafs in his day, but he was relegated to parking cars at his own home last week, while the women took over the house. Only man allowed in was Santa Claus. The Second Annual Country Toy Tea took place at the Clark's Bathurst Street residence and more than 300 ladies raised more than \$12,000 and collected 1,000 toys during the afternoon event. Benefactors of the afternoon were Aurora's Women's Centre of York Region, the Children's Aid Society, and the Sandgate Women's Shelter of Georgina. Among those responsible for the successful event were, back row, left to right, Maureen Ofield, Stacie Stanton, Kim Nichols, Linda Brown, and Leslie Ewing. In front are Beth Burrows, Denise Clark, Rita Thiel and Amanda Langston.

Auroran photo by Diane Buchanan

MONDAY NIGHT HOCKEY As of December 11

TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	PT
Tom & Jerry's	10	1	1	45	22	21
Law Insurance Brokers	7	3	2	47	26	16
Priestly Demolition	6	5	1	45	39	13
Highland Chev-Olds-Geo-Cad	5	5	2	49	40	12
FPL Aggregates	5	7	0	31	48	10
Rec Cycle N' Sports	4	7	1	38	54	9
Baldwin's	3	7	2	43	47	8
Masterclean Contracting	3	8	1	32	44	7

Results, Dec. 11

Baldwins Steakhouse	4	Rec Sports	4
Masterclean	0	Priestly Demolition	1

Law Insurance	2	Tom & Jerry's	7
Highland Chev	0	FPL Aggregates	0

Player standings

NAME	TEAM	G	A	PTS
John Anderson	Rec Sports	10	8	18
Steve Kavanah	Baldwins	8	8	16
John Archibauld	Highland's	10	6	16
Bruce Chappell	Highland's	4	11	15
Ed Kilroy	Rec Sports	7	8	15
Mark Sedore	Priestly	12	2	14
John Yaremko	Law Insurance	9	4	13
Gerald Briand	Baldwins	6	6	12
Scott Crabb	Highland's	5	7	12
Darryl Thompson	Tom & Jerry's	9	3	12
Steve Robertson	Highland's	4	7	11
Brad McMillan	Tom & Jerry's	6	5	11
Vince Greco	Tom & Jerry's	2	8	10
Charlie Steenhorse	Rec Sports	1	9	10
Pat O'Mahony	FPL	3	6	9
Ed Jackson	Baldwin's	2	7	9
Brian Horton	Baldwin's	2	7	9
Steve McDonald	Law Insurance	5	4	9
Kevin Brown	Rec Sports	4	5	9
Pat Davies	Priestly	4	5	9
Colin Leech	Priestly	3	6	9
Jerome Flanigan	Priestly	3	6	9
Mike Nisbet	Priestly	4	5	9
Bob Ince	FPL	4	4	8
Kevin O'Keefe	Baldwins	4	4	8
Darren Yaremko	Law Insurance	3	5	8
Chris Neal	Highland's	5	3	8
Jerry Mackrell	Tom & Jerry's	3	5	8
Dean Iwai	Tom & Jerry's	3	5	8
Scott Thomas	Tom & Jerry's	0	8	8
John Leeder	FPL	5	2	7
Dave Caverley	FPL	3	4	7
Peter Briand	Baldwins	3	4	7
Paul Gibson	Law Insurance	1	6	7
Dave Holden	Tom & Jerry's	4	3	7
Joel Reeves	Tom & Jerry's	2	5	7
Doug Adair	Rec Sports	3	4	7
Hugh Alcorn	Masterclean	0	7	7
Mike Slimkowich	Masterclean	2	5	7
Dave McQeston	FPL	2	4	6
Doug McGrath	Baldwins	3	3	6
Frank Balkovec	Law Insurance	2	4	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's	0	5	5
Jody Matthews	Highland's	3	2	5
RonThieson	Tom & Jerry's	0	5	5
Scott Sheppard	Rec Sports	0	5	5
Dan Smith	Rec Sports	3	2	5
Mike Caicco	Priestly	0	5	5
Mike O'Connor	Priestly	3	2	5

Klees awaits bill's passage

Following the deaths of Rob and Lisa Manchester, who were the innocent victims of a street race south of Aurora, Oak Ridges MPP Frank Klees introduced a private members bill last June.

Bill 122, "An Act to Enhance Safety on Ontario's Roads and Empower Police Officers to Shut Down Street Racing" was designed to send a strong message that street racing would not be tolerated.

His Bill would have empowered front line police officers to issue on the spot licence suspensions and vehicle impoundments in cases where street racing was suspected.

The Bill also banned driving with a connected nitrous oxide fuel system on all streets and highways and increased fines and imposed licence suspensions and jail terms for anyone convicted of street racing.

Although the Bill received the unanimous approval of the Legislature, the government refused to grant the unanimous consent required to put the Bill into law.

Late last month, Klees participated in a round table discussion on the issue of street racing, which he termed a positive step by the government.

Participants included representatives from the RCMP, the OPP, and Toronto and York Region police services.

Klees was instrumental

in having John Hickey participate in the round table discussion as Hickey's daughter Allison was severely injured as the result of a street racing incident earlier in the year.

Klees, a former transportation minister, took the opportunity to call on the government to do more than just talk about the issue but to immediately implement his private member's bill.

AURORA BRIDGE CLUB RESULTS week of December 3

Tuesday, Dec. 5: N-S - 1. Wayne Merkel, Hans Jacobs, 2. C. Balant, Ross Jenkinson, 3. S. Sanderson, V.Whitworth. E-W - 1. S. Hulbig, Margaret Farmer, 2. Don Jackson, Linda Lord, 3. Peter Brugger, Peter Ho.

Wednesday, Dec. 6: N-S - 1. Nan McLean, Richard Beetham, 2. Hans Jacobs, Linda Lord, 3. Deanne Dennison, Olly Smolak. E-W - 1. Rose Morrell, Doug Farmer, 2. Shirley Hulbig, Paul Graves, 3. Gordon Saul. George Payment.

Friday, Dec. 8: N-S - 1. Gordon Saul, Jane Demers, 2. Margaret MacFarlane, Paul MacFarlane, 3. Nan McLean, Richard Beetham. E-W - 1. Mary Oglanby, Paul Stanbury, 2. Libby McWilliams, Rani Mahmood, 3. Ross Jenkinson, George Payment.

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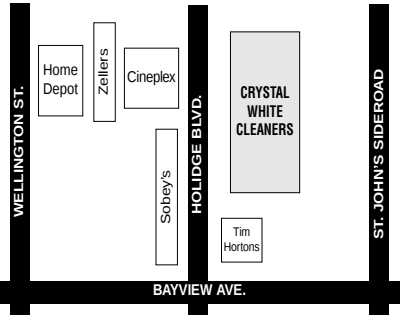
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House League Tyke

101 Tim Hortons Red Wings 4 - Aydin Metel 1G, Nathan Sherrard 1G 1A, Jack Dion 1G, Dimitri Mikrogiannakis 1A, Charles Peters 1G.

103 Tim Hortons Senators Tyke House League 4 - Ian Reynolds 1G 1A, Thomas Kostoff 1G, Jack Liotta 2G, Alexander Wyndham-West 1A.

105 Tim Hortons Leafs Tyke House League 3 - Ty Boisseau 2G 1A, Hayden Edwards 1G, David McGee 1A.

102 Tim Hortons Bruins 2.

106 Tim Hortons Penguins 4 - Andrew Sergejewich 3G, Dan Atasiei 1G, Liam Vanderploeg 1A.

104 Tim Hortons Flyers Tyke House League 4 - Jack O'Keefe 2A, Christian Ramirez 2G, Tanner Arnold 2A, Shamus Quinn 2A, Carmelo Sorino 2G, Connor MacGrath 2A.

107 Tim Hortons Lightning 4.
109 Tim Hortons Wild Tyke House League 4 - Tyler Thomas 1A, Owen Bourrie 1G, Thomas Young 1A, James Samson 1A, Ben Langlois 1G, Josh Hookey 1A, Cameron Dyer 2G.

108 Tim Hortons Sharks 9 - Chris Pettit 1A, Matthew Carney 2G, Ryan Lewis 2A, Matthew Minchella 4G 2A, Austin Hendy 1A, Kyle Wulle 1A, Jordan Torres 2A, Clayton Allen 2A, Alexander Simardone 3G 2A, Sam Speranini 1A, Adam Medeiros 1A.

110 Tim Hortons Thrashers Tyke House League 3 - Ariz Bhimani 1A, David Tonelli 1G, Jeremy Rusnell 1A, Ethan Brooks 2A, Brennan Young 2G.

Novice

202 North York Heating & Plumbing Novice House League 7 -Harrison Jarvis 2A, James Eydt 2G 2A, Alex Sesto 2G 2A, Tyler Mckay 1A, Mitchell Haak 2G 1A, Tarek Koudmani 1G.

201 Diamond Groundskeeping Services 3 - Michael Montesante 1G, Vincent Nguyen 1A, Adam Caicco 1G 1A, Blake Holtby 1A, Ryan Simmons 1A, Justin Nisbet 1A, Riley Callaghan 1A, Ryan D'Antimo 1G 1A.

202 North York Heating & Plumbing Novice House League 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 2 - Connor Gonsalves 1G, Michael Jollimore 1G.

205 Mastermind Toys Novice House League 4 - Max Bruckner 1G, Alex Carter 1A, Tyler Williams 1G 2A, Matthew Colucci 1G, Lucas Ackerman 1A, Connor Reilly 1G.

204 Hitz 1 - Graham Dynes 1A, Alex Hoffmann 1A, Michael Jollimore 1G.

Minor Atom

303 Tilemaster 5.
301 Optimist Club of Aurora Inc. Minor Atom House League 3 - Cameron Screech 1A, Dennis Semenovych 1G 1A, Matthew Hall 1G, Anthony Georgieff 1G.

Atom

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

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

402 Orr & Forster Insurance Brokers 5 - Joey Stel 1A, Morgan Walker 2G 1A, Ben Tomlin 2A, Russell Johnson 1G 1A, Jonathan Caporusso 1G, Alexander McDonald 1A, Mitchell Carter 1G 1A, Sajjad Akbar 1G 1A.

406 Ab Cox Pontiac Buick GMC Atom House League 1 - Terrence Lepore 1A, Callum Forrest 1G.

Aurora Minor Hockey Association

Results to 9 AM Sunday, December 17

Website: www.aci.on.ca/amha



Bantam

802 Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre 3 - Garrett Lewis 1G 1A, Adam Colacitti 1A, Anthony Marsillio 2G, Evan Casselden 1A.

806 Wood Brothers Drywall Bantam House League 3 - Chris Tillsley 1G, Adam Gitto 1G 1A, Grant Wood 1G.

802 Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre 3.

801 Supreme Collision Centre Bantam House League 3 - Scott Parry 1A, Andrew Osmond 1A, Scott Cunningham 1A, Marco Santella 1G, Neil Gaston 2G.

801 Supreme Collision Centre Bantam House League 3 - Scott Cunningham 1G, Alex Heintzman 1G, Jordan Adams 1A, Johnathan Siery 1A, Chris McGill 1A, Neil Gaston 1G.

803 I.O.O.F. Aurora Lodge #148 2 - Michael Orschel 1A, Trevor Smith 2G.

803 I.O.O.F. Aurora Lodge #148 2 - Spencer Dexter 1G, Trevor Smith 1A, James Chappell 1G.

805 Barb Blaser - Re/Max Bantam House League 2 - Brandon Rival 2G, Marlin Young 1A.

802 Aurora Home Hardware Building Centre Bantam House League 3 - Michael Coggin 1G, Anthony Marsillio 2G, Miami Episcopo 1A.

804 Manhattan Trophies 2 - Dylan Teacher 1A, Marcel Lamanna 2G, Liam Braithwaite 1A.

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

806 Wood Brothers Drywall 2 - Chris Tillsley 1G, Adam Gitto 1G.

Minor Midget

902 Minor Midget House League 11 - Kelsey Darcy 1A, Daniel Korolnek 2G 3A, David Yates 1G 1A, Evan Campbell 1G, Steven Foss 1G 1A, Taylor Buxton 2G 1A, John Magill 1A, Andrew Wilkins 4G 2A.

901 Emilios Pizza 0.

902 4 - Daniel Korolnek 1G, Steven Foss 1G, Jay Lamont 1A, Scott Quagliarini 1G, Taylor Buxton 1G 1A, Andrew Wilkins 2A.

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.

903 3.

902 Minor Midget House League 2 - Evan Campbell 1A, Jay Lamont 1G, Scott Quagliarini 2A, Andrew Wilkins 1G 1A.

905 Skaters First 8.

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

902 Minor Midget House League 5 - Daniel Korolnek 1A, David Yates 1A, Bruce Phillips 1A, Jay Lamont 1A, Scott Quagliarini 1G 2A, John Cardella 1G 1A, Andrew Wilkins 3G 1A.

905 Skaters First 4.

905 Skaters First 3.

902 Minor Midget House League 2 - Kelsey Darcy 1A, David Yates 1G, Scott Quagliarini 1G.

901 Emilio's Pizza Minor Midget House League 4 - Jamie Russell 1A, Trevor McCartney 1G 1A, Geoff Knaack 1G 2A, A.J. Ciccarelli 1G, Jordan Brown 1A, Mike Hay 1G, Frank Walker 1A, Kyle Ryan 1A.

905 Skaters First 2.

906 Omar's Shoes 6.

901 Emilio's Pizza Minor Midget House League 2 - Trevor McCartney 1G, Derek Isidoro 1G.

House League 3 - Joshua Lawlor 1G, Kyle DeSouza 1A, Jamie Pountney 1G 1A, Matthew Reeves 1G, Andrew Staples 1A.

Peewee

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

602 Chevalier Chrysler 0.

605 Recreation Leisure Services Peewee 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

701 Pharmasave 3 - Tanner Brewer 1G 1A, George Chalmers 1A, Matthew Bishop 1G, Christian Davies 1A, Nick DiVincenzo 1A, Jake Hindley 1G 1A.

705 CAA South Central Ontario Minor Bantam House League 0.

701 Pharmasave 7 - Tanner Brewer 1G, James Forrester 1A, Dylan Jolivet 3A, George Chalmers 1A, Matthew Bishop 3G 2A, Christian Davies 3G.

710 Central York Professional Fire Fighters Minor Bantam House League 2 - Cooper Catt 1G, James Phillips 1G.

704 Mary's Flower Shop 5 - Liam McGoldrick 1A, Gianluca Sampieri 1G, Tyler Jensen 2G 2A, James Wotherspoon 1A, Danny Malinas 1A, Adrian Tobin 1A, Curtis Stobo 2G 1A, Roman Attwell 2A, David Melanson 1A.

702 ACI Minor Bantam House League 3 - Branden Bortolin 1G 1A, Jarrett Lennie 1A, Curtis Rose 1A, Eamon Reilly 1A, Michael Wood 1A, Michael Reilly 2G 1A, Ricky Evans 1G.

709 ACI Minor Bantam House League 6 - Razvan Vela 1G, Clayton Arnold 2A, Benjamin Pringle 1A, Danny McConnell 5G 1A.

704 Mary's Flower Shop 3 - Ethan Morice 1A, Tyler Jensen 2G, Danny Malinas 1A, Adam Tomlin 1G.

707 Optimist Club of Aurora Inc. 7 - Etienne Bicego 1G 2A, Philipp Mueller 2A, Taran McGowan 3G, Kasey Piper 1A, Dakota Molloy 1A, Alex Dunn 2G, Matthew Burns 1G 1A.

710 Central York Professional Fire Fighters Minor Bantam House League 1 - Christopher Morin 1A, Stefan Richardson 1G, James Phillips 1A.

707 Optimist Club of Aurora Inc. 4 - Matthew Clarke 1A, Etienne Bicego 1G, Philipp Mueller 1A, Taran McGowan 3G, Christopher Follett 2A, Austin Archer 1A.

704 Mary's Flower Shop Minor Bantam House League 4 - Eric Butler 1A, Ethan Morice 1G, Gianluca Sampieri 1G 1A, Tyler Jensen 1G 1A, Adrian Tobin 1G, Curtis Stobo 1A, Roman Attwell 1A.

702 ACI Minor Bantam House League 6 - Branden Bortolin 1A, Jarrett Lennie 2G 2A, Daniel Fusco 1G, Curtis Rose 1G, Eamon Reilly 1G 1A, Michael Wood 1G, Michael Reilly 3A, Rosario Arcuri 1A.

708 Perfect Moves 1 - Troy Gouveia 1G.

703 A.D.C. Aluminum Minor Bantam House League 7 - Adam Clark 1G, Michael Vance 3G, Ryan Taylor 1G 2A, Mark Tanel 1G, Kevin Tree 2A, Andrew Hunder 1G, Wesley Seminara 1G.

709 ACI 0.

710 Central York Professional Fire Fighters 7.

702 ACI Minor Bantam House League 3 - Jarrett Lennie 1A, Eamon Reilly 1G, Michael Reilly 2G.

405 Laurion Law Office Atom House League 6 - Scotty Barker 1A, Tyler Futterer 2G 1A, Michael Slack 1G 1A, Alexander Harrison 1G, Andrew Roche 2A, Carson Roell 1A, Jason Glionna 1G 1A, Michael Liscio 1G.

403 Delph & Jenkins Surveyors 2 - Brayden Beswick 1G, Joseph Veneziano 1G, Luke Gregoris 1A, Jake Anderson 1A.

404 All Pro Source For Sports 6 - Chris Sanita 2G, Victor Chadarov 1G, Lucas Marek 1A, Nicolas Marrelli 1A, Cory McGoldrick 1A, Grant Mulholland 1A, Samantha Sanita 1G, Adam deRoos 1G 1A, Kevin Siery 1G, Michael Acuri 1A, Adam deRoos 1G.

401 Shoppers Drug Mart Aurora Atom House League 3 - Oliver Jones 1G 1A, Rio Speller-Drews 1G, Michael Tanel 1G 1A.

401 Shoppers Drug Mart Aurora Atom House League 5 - Zachary Cowl 5G, Nelson Hossack 2A, Robert Ruscica 2A.

406 Ab Cox Pontiac Buick GMC 1 - Andrew Kaszuba 1G.

408 Greenpoint Laser Products 4.

401 Shoppers Drug Mart Aurora Atom House League 4 - Austin Tanaka 1A, Zachary Cowl 3G, Rio Speller-Drews 1G, Nelson Hossack 1A, Tyler Abushinov 1A, Matthew D'Alessandro 1A, Adam Petit 1A.

404 All Pro Source For Sports Atom House League 4 - Chris Sanita 1G, Victor Chadarov 1G 1A, Lucas Marek 1A, Jake Detero 1A, Samantha Sanita 1G 1A, Kevin Siery 1G, Mathew Sanita 1A.

408 Greenpoint Laser Products 3.

Minor Peewee

503 Continental Ingredients Canada Minor Peewee House League 3 - Andrew Boehmer 1G, Sammy Fanone 1A, Cody Mulhern 1G, Chris Cherubini 1G, Justin Stevens 1A.

501 Millennium Devils 2 - David Roberts 1G,Stephen Wilkins 1A, Jamie Pountney 1G, Daniel Bunder 1A, Ryan Byerlay 1G.

502 ACI 2 - Zachary Ferry 1G, Liam Batulis 1A, Andreas Mikkelsen 1G, Peter MacWilliam 1A.

503 Continental Ingredients Canada Minor Peewee House League 1 - Cody Mulhern 1G.

503 Continental Ingredients Canada Minor Peewee House League 6 - Jason Mizuguchi 1A, Andrew Boehmer 1G, Paul Ashbourne 1A, Andrew Hall 1A, Sammy Fanone 1A, Cody Mulhern 3G, Trevor Stephens 2G 1A.

504 Rotary Club of Aurora 5.

503 Continental Ingredients Canada Minor Peewee House League 5 - Matthew Werner 1A, Sammy Fanone 1G, Cody Mulhern 2G, Chris Cherubini 1A, Trevor Stephens 2G.

505 Nacora Insurance Brokers Ltd. 3.

502 ACI Minor Peewee House League 5 - Matthew Roach 1G 1A, Zachary Ferry 1A, Liam Batulis 1A, Andreas Mikkelsen 2G 1A, Christopher Kinsman 1A, Tyler Grossi 2G, Dylan Lyons 1A.

505 Nacora Insurance Brokers Ltd. 3.

503 Continental Ingredients Canada Minor Peewee House League 3.

506 Dr. Steiner's Drillers 2 - Kieran Cullen 1A, Michael Perryman 1G, Paul Louis Steiner 1G, Ethan Cullen 1A.

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

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

506 Dr. Steiner's Drillers 3.

501 Millenium Devils Minor Peewee



MP REPORT

By Belinda Stronach
(Newmarket-Aurora)

A number of residents watched the recent Liberal leadership convention that resulted in the election of Stéphane Dion as leader.

I not only participated as a delegate at the leadership convention, but also provided live, on-air coverage alongside CBC national news anchor Peter Mansbridge.

It was an enjoyable experience, and I hope viewers in our community who tuned in also found the analysis and coverage engaging and insightful.

Please allow me to congratulate newly-elected Mayor Phyllis Morris and members of Aurora Council.

Best wishes, as well, to outgoing mayor Tim Jones, who served the residents of Aurora with integrity and grace.

I look forward to working with council on doing our part to improve the services and quality of life that we all enjoy in our community.

Last weekend, I hosted a "Women's Round Table" at the Aurora Public Library as part of my commitment to an ongoing dialogue with women in our community.

We held a roundtable discussion on the policies put forward in The Pink Book: A Policy Framework for Canada's Future, Volume 1, published by the National Liberal Women's Caucus, which I chair.

The Pink Book recommends a series of policies to deal with the most pressing social and economic issues facing

women in Canada, particularly working women, their families, caregivers and seniors.

We had very frank and constructive dialogue and discussed some of the needs specific to our own community.

At this time of year, we give thanks for the many blessings that we enjoy as Canadians.

If you would like to help some of the less fortunate children in Africa who die needlessly each day from malaria, I would encourage you to learn more about a national campaign that I co-founded together with Canadian comedian Rick Mercer last month.

It's called "Spread the Net", and it's carried out in partnership with UNICEF Canada.

Our goal is to distribute 500,000 insecticide-treated bednets to children living in the African countries of Liberia and Rwanda.

The bednets are hung over beds and act as screens to keep out disease-carrying mosquitoes.

They are highly effective and inexpensive tools for preventing the spread of malaria, which is the leading cause of death among African children under the age of five.

"Spread the Net" is a simple way residents of Aurora and across Canada can make a real difference in the lives of African children.

One bednet, which costs \$10, can protect a child sleeping under it for up

Pink Book subject of Aurora meeting

to five years from the transmission of malaria by mosquitoes.

For information on how you can help, please visit www.spreadthenet.org

I would like to wish you and your family all the very best during the upcoming holiday season.

I am proud and honoured to have been given the opportunity to represent our community in Ottawa this past year and I look forward to continuing to serve you in the year ahead. Please have a safe holiday and best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year!



*Thank You and
Merry Christmas*

from Councillor

Evelyn Buck

This a very special time of year, a time to reflect and be thankful for where we live and for the people of the Town of Aurora that make it one of the most desirable places in which to work and reside.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for re-electing me to Town Council, which affords me the opportunity to help Aurora maintain its status as one of the best towns in Canada.

Congratulations to the new members of Town Council. I am looking forward to our term together and learning new things from everyone. A strong COUNCIL it shall be!

*A Special thanks to Tim Jones, who as mayor of Aurora wore the chain of office with grace and dignity.
All the best, Tim!*

*Happy Holiday wishes Aurora...
And the very best to you in 2007!*
Evelyn

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Every day
is a holiday

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Amongst the seniors, the ability to identify a new initiative, accept it as a worthwhile goal, and pursue it to completion, is a capability that abounds and the constraints imposed by age are brushed aside.

It is true that after any particular special event, the committee members responsible, and particularly the committee chair, will adopt a more relaxed regimen for a while, but will soon recover the excitement of new challenges.

The joy of accomplishment is not bounded by age, and success is much sweeter when surprisingly good.

Ingenuity and resourcefulness go hand in glove with capability, which describes our self starting achievers who proliferate and hence the creative heft and will to get things done is revealed in our high flier members clearly.

What was a fairly quiet seniors scene five years ago when I first joined, has now evolved to a generation of sturdy members, carving out and defining a new role for seniority in the modern world of Aurora.

The Aurora Seniors Association (ASA) today is characterized as a haven for interesting people who enjoy comfort with a generous prosperity of preferred activities and other things to do, and a competent group of self-starting go-getters.

My words are underlined by what the ASA is achieving in the new centre, which sees new members join daily, with the result that the membership has more than doubled in the past year.

Within the parochial boundaries of the ASA, the agenda is concerned only with senior affairs relevant to current activities, plus matters of business planned and pending, which includes fun and games.

When every day is a holiday, lots of activities of interest must be available, and for us every day is a holiday.

Nor do we rest on our laurels for long after a success,

as we constantly ignite the concept of renewal and growth, whipping the flames of achievement ever higher.

New ways of doing things proliferate wherever they are worth while, and we do not neglect the old and trusted ways, which are personal treasures to many of us.

The year rolls onward inexorably to Christmas and the New Year, and provides good reasons for house parties, gatherings and social occasions in general.

We would be disappointed if nothing eventful happened, while it is true, sometimes we are run off our feet.

I have had my enjoyable share of dinner parties and recently enjoyed a wonderful evening at the home of Larry and Virginia Bodnar, together with some of my fellow directors and other members and friends.

Among the many Christmas gifts this year will be computers and digital cameras.

Please be informed, the ASA will be resuming computer instruction in January.

Focus on digital cameras will receive attention either by members' request, or in presentations or workshops.

This is a popular topic so I recommend participation in the Tuesday general meetings, 10 a.m. in the computer room, to participate and gain full advantage of information and help available.

If you need help with these technological toys, if you want to enjoy the magic that is incorporated into them, you have to take action; you have to learn how they operate, and how you can command the technology to do your bidding.

Teach yourself from the literature available if you can, or join the seniors and we will help you to help yourself as we have done with many others in the past.

You must learn the language of the technological toys, and if you do that, the toys might mesmerize and enchant you with their powers of fascination.



Anniversary

Frank and Betty Young celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary recently with an Open House at the Aurora Legion building on Industrial Parkway North.

Auroran photo by David Falconer



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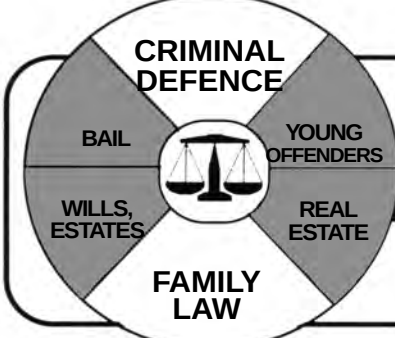
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Turbine issue unresolved

From page 1

not in contravention of the zoning bylaw.

Both Beesley and Mestrinaro appeared before council at a subsequent meeting to complain about the storage unit which they claimed should not have been placed on the property until all the OMB questions had been met.

That resulted in the Vrancic motion.

At the last meeting of the outgoing council Mayor-Elect Phyllis Morris and Councillor Wendy Gaertner gained council support for staff to submit a report to the new council, which would have the challenging task of deciding if a trailer is a building and if the OMB conditions had been met.

At Tuesday's meeting CAO John Rogers said town staff had met with ACI and determined that ACI was proceeding with fulfilling the conditions of the order, especially the condition that requires MOE approval of the noise study being carried out at that time.

Once MOE approval is obtained, the other conditions will be finalized and staff noted that neither the Committee of Adjustment nor the OMB has set a time limit on when the conditions had to be met.

Staff also discussed the location of the trailer and ACI confirmed that the trailer still had wheels and therefore was in compliance with the zoning bylaw and Building Code as previously confirmed.

It was also noted that the operation of ACI is federally

regulated and as such Industry Canada is the approval authority.

The CAO reported that staff is of the view that ACI is in the process of complying with the OMB order and the trailer currently on the site is in compliance with the zoning bylaw and the Ontario Building Code.

The CAO stated that ACI was not contravening the OMB order and therefore there was no enforcement issue.

In spite of this, Beesley and Mestrinaro appeared before the committee and read a letter from Kelly Breedon listing many of the same objections previously raised and still insisting that ACI had not carried out the conditions as imposed.

They claimed ACI had not even been in contact with the Ministry of the Environment regarding the noise study and the trailer had been raised and placed on a permanent base making it a building and subject to the zoning bylaw.

Peter Scott, Technical Manager of Aurora Cable

Internet, also appeared before the committee.

He advised that ACI had been in contact with MOE and displayed a letter from the Ministry granting an extension for the noise study.

He confirmed that he was working with staff to comply with the OMB conditions and he agreed with the comments expressed by the CAO.

He explained that the trailer had been raised off its wheels due to the heavy weight of the batteries required for the services supplied by ACI and the need for a backup power supply.

It was a difficult task for members of the new council with little background information on the complex issue and many questions were asked for clarification.

In addition to the CAO's comments, the town solicitor advised that as ACI was federally regulated, they were not subject to municipal bylaws.

In response to a question as to why ACI applied for a variance if they were not subject to the zoning bylaws, the CAO said ACI was trying to be

a good corporate citizen.

Finally, Councillor Evelina MacEachern moved that staff take steps to bring ACI into conformity with the bylaw, which was opposed by Councillor Evelyn Buck.

Buck argued the citizens had a hearing at the Committee of Adjustment and lost and appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board and lost subject to conditions which according to staff were in the process of being fulfilled.

While no members were in full support of the motion, there were no amendments and when the vote was taken it was adopted on a 5-4 vote, but the issue is not yet settled.

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RUMOURS AND RAMBLINGS

A look at Aurora in 1967

Citizens complain about rusty water from their taps with one citizen throwing her laundry on the council table stained from a pale yellow to a dark brown. Council promised to investigate.

- Lyle Glover, cartoonist with the local paper, depicts many uses for Aurora water including black top for roadways and fuel for home heating.

- Residents of Mary Street object to the Ontario Humane Society shelter at the corner of their street and Industry Street but after meeting with Humane Society officials withdrew their complaints. The town sold the property to the Society for \$5,000.

- On St. Francis of Assisi Day, the Rev. John Speers of Aurora's Trinity Anglican Church blesses dogs, goldfish, turtles and hamsters at the Blessing of Pets Service.

- Aurora residents thought they were getting a movie theatre when Famous Players selected a site in the proposed expansion to the Aurora Shopping Centre, but it never happened.

- Mayor Clarence Davis cut the ribbon to officially open the new year-round facilities of the Aurora Highlands Golf Club.

AURORA BOUND

It was in June, 1989, when Maclean Hunter was Aurora bound.

The company had purchased the huge warehouse of bankrupt hardware company Cochrane Dunlop, the previous December for about \$15 million.

Prior to moving from its Willowdale facilities into its new home on Wellington Street East, Maclean Hunter opened the doors to give more than 1,000 employees, retired employees and families a first hand look at the warehouse before extensive renovations took place.

Town of Aurora representatives and members of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce welcomed the employees to the town and Remax, a real estate company, passed out information to the employees who were thinking of moving here.

Three years earlier, Dolliver Frederick, owner of Cochrane Dunlop and an 11-year Aurora resident, purchased the 16-acre property and started the construction of a \$12 million, 300,000 square foot distribution centre that became operational in 1987.

Before the official opening of the building, Cochrane Dunlop declared bankruptcy and the building went on the market for \$16 million.

By September, 1987, both York Region and the York

Region Separate School Board looked as the property as a possible site for the regional headquarters or as an education centre.

It was also learned that Maclean Hunter was seeking a new location and in November, 1987, company officials inspected the empty Cochrane Dunlop warehouse and it was later purchased.

Then in January, 1995, the plant was sold to Quebecor Printing who still operate from the Wellington Street East facility.

LOGGING AT SHEPPARD'S BUSH A CONCERN

In March, 1996, a resident complained to council about logging being carried out at Sheppard's Bush.

The concern was raised when the resident came upon a pile of 93 logs.

On checking, officials of the Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority, custodians of the property, said the logging was part of it annual tree maintenance program.

It was pointed out that the logging was necessary to encourage new growth and ensure the safety of walkers in the area.

It was also noted that some of the logged trees would be used in the authority's maple sugar operation and the rest sold as lumber.

The town's arborist assessed the logging activities and reported the logging fell within the bounds of tree management.

WINDOW DECORATING CONTEST IN AURORA

During the heyday of the Business Improvement Area in downtown Aurora, a Christmas Window Decorating Contest was held with voting done by the public.

In December, 1983, Scissor Shack was voted the winner and picked up a \$400 gift voucher. Aurora Vacations won second place and a \$200 gift voucher.

Ruth Warden, R R #1 Gormley, picked the winner and had her name drawn by then Mayor Dick Illingworth. She won a \$400 gift certificate.

The Christmas Window Decorating Contest added considerably to the beauty of the downtown area and encouraged residents to visit the area.

It's too bad it disappeared with the BIA.

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

If you want to give your love all the gifts listed in the

Christmas Carol "The Twelve Days of Christmas", be prepared to hand over a fair bit of cash.

The cost will be higher today, but in 1994 it was estimated at \$21,845, which was the price of wooing one's true love from 12 drummers drumming to a partridge in a pear tree.

The century old Christmas custom of hanging mistletoe originated with the ancient Druids, who considered the white-berried plant a symbol of peace and good fortune.

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Air raid alarm never signalled an air raid

It has been more than 22 years since Aurorans heard that huge air raid siren behind the old fire hall on Victoria Street wail relentlessly.

It's doubtful many will remember. The siren, of course, is no longer there.

There was little reaction on May 9, 1984, when the siren, located on a tall pole behind the fire hall went off for the second time in three weeks.

Bell Canada officials could not provide any reasons for the false alarm that lasted three to four minutes.

The Aurora Fire Department received a few calls from curious residents regarding the loud wailing of the sirens, but town hall officials reported they hadn't received a single call.

The previous alarm on April 26, 1984, was more explainable.

Construction workers set off the alarm, which

lasted about 10 minutes, when underground cables were severed in Richmond Hill.

The large siren was part of a nation-wide warning system installed in 1964 to alert Canadians to a possible nuclear attack during the days of the Cold War.

Aurora residents were awakened in December, 1974, when the sirens in Southern Ontario started to wail in the middle of the night.

Broadcast stations, supposedly tied into the emergency system to disseminate the news, were completely uninformed.

The Ottawa headquarters of the Emergency Measures Organization (EMO) didn't answer calls as no one was on duty. No one knew what triggered the alarm system.

Again on January 20, 1986, sleepy-eyed Southern Ontario residents were jolted from their beds at 2.45 a.m. for about 45 minutes when

high winds and freezing rain triggered about 200 National Defence air raid sirens.

By 1990 even officials in federal departments such as Defence, Emergency Measures and Communications admitted the alarm system was not effective and that they had known the situation for the past five years.

At the time, 50 per cent of Canadians were not covered by the warning system and experience had shown that the majority of Canadians did not recognize the wail of the siren even if the system did work.

It had been found that the sirens were being used to store honey; squirrels prized them as a storehouse for nuts; and birds were nesting in them.

Other alarm systems were considered but no action taken as they were low on the government's priority list.

McIntyre returns to Sharon Temple

History repeated itself recently when Aurora's Dr. John McIntyre was appointed executive director and curator of the Sharon Temple Museum Society.

Back in 1969, he worked at the Sharon Temple as his first summer job while a student.

He helped curator Harvey Glover give tours of the building and when Mr. Glover retired a year later young McIntyre was asked to take his place.

For the next four years he worked under the direction of the Sharon Temple Committee of the York Pioneer and Historical Society.

It was during that period the volunteers and board members inspired McIntyre to pursue a career in the realm of museums and the teaching of history.

He went on to complete his Master's and Ph.D degrees in the fields of museum culture and museum studies, but he never lost touch with the Temple and its story.

When the new Sharon Temple Museum Society was created, he was a member of the board.

He later published his doctoral dissertation on the material culture of the Children of Peace.

He was invited back to Sharon from time to time to arrange musical programs for the Illumination, play the organ and speak at the unveiling of the National Historic Sites plaque. In

June, 1973, he was the organist and choirmaster of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Aurora where his grandfather was a minister at one time.

He was the first Canadian student to be awarded a two-year graduate fellowship in history at the Henry Francis duPont Museum and the University of Delaware.

He has served as president and director of the Aurora Historical Society

and was co-director of Service Program. Seneca College's Historical Natural Studies Interpretive Now he has returned to the Sharon Temple.



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Huge menorah built here

It was a first for Aurora Sunday when Rabbi Y Hecht and his followers celebrated Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, in the Aurora Shopping Centre.

In a two-hour ceremony the children of the community built an eight-foot tall giant menorah, using more than 7,000 Lego blocks.

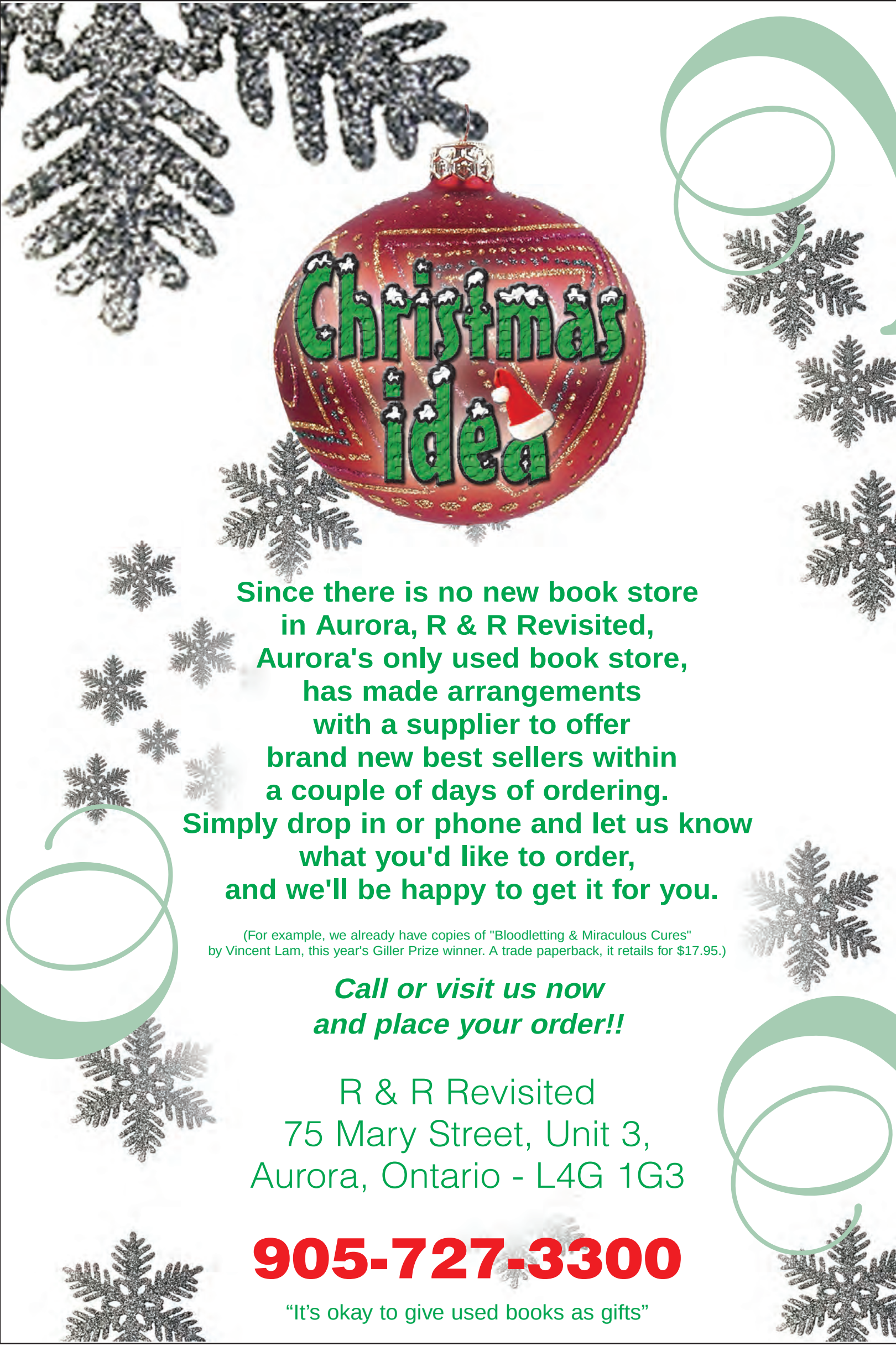
The Rabbi appeared before Tuesday's general committee meeting to congratulate members on their election to council and to wish them well during their term of office,

He invited them to the Sunday event.

Hanukkah began Friday with the lighting of the first candle and an additional candle is lit every night for eight nights. The holiday celebrates two miracles in 165 BC.

First was a miracle with the victory of a small band of Jewish fighters over Greek Syrian rulers who had forbidden the practice of the Jewish religion and destroyed a Jewish temple.

The second was when a small vessel of consecrated oil, enough to burn only for one night in the Temple's Menorah, burned for eight days.



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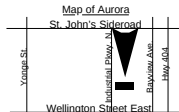
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Officially called 5 Below Jeans and More, the store, located in the popular Aurora Shopping Centre at Yonge and Murray Drive, is the best place north of the city for purchasing jeans.

The store, part of the Omar's Shoes empire, is run by Mae Khamissa, whose husband, Raz, owns Omar's.

Raz is the son of Omar Khamissa, who owned and operated the shoe business for 36 years, right up until his recent death following a brief illness.

Mae recognized the need for a clothing store in Aurora that specialized in jeans, and while paying close attention to the latest clothing trends, she soon developed a committed clientele of men and women wanting a variety of fashions for different occasions.

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Plus, the clothes cover sizes from 24 to 40, as well as with inseams for 30 to 36 inches.

Included in the inventory are such labels as I Jeans, Manager, Delicious, David Bitton, Buffalo, Miss Me, Mavi Jeans, Nicky Hilton and UGGs.

Skinny jeans seem to be popular at the moment and are available at 5 Below in most colours.

A new label - Foxy Jeans - also has casual and dressy tops and dresses in its repertoire.

And, that more formal look is also available with a variety of cocktail dresses in the inventory.

With the snow about to arrive, 5 Below offers warm coats and jackets in a variety of lengths.

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