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# THE AURORAN

Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper

Vol. 9 No. 8      905-727-3300      [auroran.com](http://auroran.com)      FREE      Week of December 9, 2008

## Police facility a step closer

Aurora is one step closer to getting its new police facility. It was in 2007 that it was proposed the new Region of York Police Investigative and Support Services Facility be built in Aurora. The location chosen was a three-hectare parcel of land at the southwest corner of Don Hillock Drive and Goulding Avenue, southeast of Leslie Street and Wellington Street East, near Highway 404. The proposed station will operate 24 hours a day, and consoli-

date homicide, traffic, air support, canine services and other uses, that are currently located at four different leased facilities across the region.

Apart from the four-storey office building, the site will contain a three-storey garage, and surface parking.

Growth space will be factored in to the complex, which will allow up to 550 employees to be accommodated by 2015.

Both structures will incorporate a number of environmental design features, such as the use of green building materials, reduction of water and energy consumption, and the use of natural light. Once completed, the buildings are expected to achieve a silver standard under LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).

Extensive landscaping is proposed throughout the property, with a cedar fence along the southern boundary.

Access to the site would be through two entrances off Don Hillock, and one from Goulding. However, because Goulding does not extend as far as the proposed entrance, it was requested that the town grant an easement or encroachment to allow a short extension to the south end of this street, including a turning circle.

At their last meeting, General Committee was enthusiastic about the new facility, with Mayor Phyllis Morris suggesting the town should be showcasing this prestige facility.

After some clarification about the access from Goulding, the Committee unanimously endorsed the recommendation to approve the site plan application submitted by the Region of York and were expected to ratify the decision at council this week.



Hundreds of lights brightened the Christmas tree in front of the municipal building and hundreds of people watched last week as the Town of Aurora presented its 4th annual tree lighting ceremony. In addition to the tree lighting, there was a puppet show "The Grinch That Stole Christmas" held inside the town hall, and while Santa entertained people outside, Mrs. Claus was at the seniors' centre beside the fireplace reading "Twas the Night Before Christmas".

Auroran photo by David Falconer

## Parents skeptical

The York Region District School Board hosted its first public meeting on the fate of Wells Street Public School last week, and questions were plentiful.

The meeting, held in the cafeteria of Aurora High School, went over its allotted two-hour time limit because there were so many audience questions.

One observer estimated there were "at least 50 people" in the audience.

Many residents denied ever receiving the Board's information package on the topic, which was supposed to have been sent to all in the area.

An Accommodation Review Committee on this issue has met publicly on several occasions, with another meeting scheduled for next week.

Aurora/Newmarket trustee Gord Kerr said the Accommodation Review Committee process was meant to be as open and transparent as possible.

At the heart of the issue is the future of Wells Street School, site of Aurora's first high school, which has been closed to students for about two years.

The ancient building has been deemed unsafe for student use, and students who would normally attend the school, are now bussed to Aurora Grove Public School on Stone Road in Aurora's east end.

There was some confusion over whether the Board had a budget to fund improvements to the building.

In making a final decision, the Board will consider several key factors including value to students, value to the school board, and value to the local economy.

The Board noted the school's declining enrolment before students were transferred to Aurora Grove.

Some parents were skeptical of the declining enrolment figures.

It was suggested some parents

Please see page 16

### Briefly

#### Holiday Concert

Wells Street Public School students, you know, the ones currently attending classes at Aurora Grove Public School on Stone Road, will hold their holiday concert at Aurora United Church starting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, December 17th.

#### Flo is turning 90

Popular woman about town Flo Murray will celebrate her 90th birthday next month.

That's hard to believe.

With that in mind, members of her family are putting together a celebration party at the Aurora Seniors' Centre at 5 Municipal Drive, Saturday, January 3, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Family members are looking for Flo's friends to drop in and offer best wishes only.

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# COMING EVENTS

## Continuing

The Adult Bereavement Support Group offers a chance to learn how to cope with the loss of a loved one. Fred Bullen has given the use of the Aurora Lions Club and Brent Forrester of Thompson Funeral Home will provide administrative cost so that this service is given free to the community. New group begins Thursday, Jan. 8th at 33 Mosley Street. Contact mariesgriefjourney@yahoo.com to reserve a seat or get further information.

Winter parking restrictions are in effect until April 15th from 2 to 6 a.m. and motorists must get their cars off the streets so that the Public Works Department can clear snow and ice from the roadway.

The Aurora Public Library winter programs have registration forms now available for pickup. Drop off date for Aurora residents begins Saturday, January 3rd. Processing begins Friday, January 9th. Programs being offered include: Books for Babies (6-13 months); Preschool Storytime (3-5 years); Time for Toddlers (14-23 months); Tales for Two (24-35 months) and Caregiver and Child Music programs (6 months-5 years). Visit [www.library.aurora.on.ca](http://www.library.aurora.on.ca) or phone 905-727-9493 for further information or pick up a program flyer at the Library.

Grade 8 Only Book Club is here! In this club the Aurora Library will read fast-paced adventures, fantasy, sport and contemporary novels. Pre-register at the Children and Young Adult Information Desk. Club is held Thursdays from 7 to 8 p.m. starting January 8, 2009, and it's free.

VOICE is a creative writing collective for teens between the ages of 13 and 18. At the meetings, held at the Aurora Public Library, teens learn various creative writing techniques, give and receive constructive feedback on their writing and meet other like-minded young writers. Meetings are held the last Thursday of the month, September through May, from 7 to 8 p.m. Registration is not required.

"Louder" is a semi-annual young adult magazine created through the creative effort of teens and produced by the Aurora Public Library's Young Adult Services Department. Submissions of writing, poetry, art, graphic art and photography are accepted. E-mail submissions to [yamagazine@library.aurora.on.ca](mailto:yamagazine@library.aurora.on.ca) or drop it off to the Children and Young Adult Information Desk to the attention of Monika Machacek.

Step into the world of watercolour with artist and teacher Alana Biasi. Both the beginner and advanced painter classes are held throughout the year, from January 22 to February 12, from 6.30 to 8 p.m. Fee is \$30 per registrant for students, Grades 5-11. Visit [www.library.aurora.on.ca](http://www.library.aurora.on.ca), or phone the Library at 905-727-9493 for further information.

On Tuesdays, until June, the Navy League has a Cadet program for children 9 to 12 years from 7 to 9 p.m. Contact Cliff Davies at 905-727-2244 for details.

On Tuesdays, until June, a Sea Cadet program for youths 13 to 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. Leave message at 905-895-3038.

Aurora Opera Company's Children's Chorus is a new treble voice choir dedicated to educating, nurturing and providing opportunities for children to express their musical abilities. The chorus is open to boys and girls in Grades 1 through 12 and consists of two choirs: Angel Choristers, a training choir for 6 and 7 year-olds and the Children Chorus, open to 8 to 17 year-olds. To audition, contact general director Sarah Kyle at [keepsinging@look.ca](mailto:keepsinging@look.ca).

CHAT'S Community Home Assistance to Seniors is looking for volunteers to assist with the activities in its Adult Day Program. The positions call for a commitment of a few hours a week at its Aurora location. Various times are available. Call Christine at 905-713-3494.

Every Tuesday from 9.30 to 11 a.m. it's Story and Playtime at Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South for tots (age 0-4 years) and their caregivers for coffee or tea. Call 905-841-8883 for further details.

Every Wednesday from 6.30 to 8 p.m. the Pioneer Club for boys and girls, age 3 to Grade 4 and the Junior High Club for boys and girls, Grades 5 to 8, will be held at the Aurora Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South. For more information call 905-841-8884.

A drop-in centre will operate every Wednesday at the Community Bible Church on Bathurst Street just south of Henderson from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information e-mail Judy Hoffmann [jhoffmann@sym-patico.ca](mailto:jhoffmann@sym-patico.ca).

Scottish Country Dancing every Friday morning at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church beginning at 10.30 a.m. No partners are needed and beginners are welcome.

Aurora Rotary Club meets every Monday evening at 6.30 p.m. at Gabriel's on Yonge Street. New members are welcome. For further information call 905-841-1352.

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.

Masonic 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. and lunch at noon. Call 905-727-3032 or 905-727-1080 for more information.

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

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

Canadian Federation of University Women holds monthly meetings at the Aurora Legion with a variety of speakers. Contact Beverley at 905-727-2151.

The Aurora Seniors Evergreen Choir practice in the West-McKenzie Hall of the Seniors' Centre, every Wednesday from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. under the direction of Enid Maize.

Tots (age nine months to four years) bring your caregivers for coffee or tea while you enjoy story and playtime every Tuesday from 9.30 to 11 a.m. at Cornerstone Church, 390 Industrial Parkway South. Call 905-841-8883 for further information.

Meet at Martha's Table, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, every Thursday from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Hot soup, sandwiches, and dessert will be provided. Any funds raised go to local charities.

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Aurora Senior Citizens Annual Christmas Luncheon begins at 11 a.m. and runs until 2 p.m. at the centre, 5 Municipal Drive. Members will pay \$22 while guests will be charged \$27 admission. There will be a cash bar and the traditional turkey dinner.

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

Christmas Peace - the gentle sounds of Christmas will echo through Wesley United Church, corner of Woodbine Avenue and the Aurora Sideroad, beginning at 8 p.m. Featured will be Joe Likuski, Sarah Kyle, and members of Aurora Performing Arts Group.

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

The ballroom at Hillary House on Yonge Street will be the location for an evening of Christmas music performed by recording pianist, Carol Gibson. Performance starts at 7.30 p.m. followed by readings of Dickens' A Christmas Carol, holiday sweets, tea, coffee and a traditional wassail bowl. Tickets are \$15 per person. For tickets call 905-727-8991 or email [ahs@aurorahs.com](mailto:ahs@aurorahs.com).

### DECEMBER 13 AND 19

The Queen Elizabeth Dinner Theatre at Howard Johnson Aurora presents the comedy Point of Viewing by Todd McGinnis. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with dinner at 7 and show approximately 8:30 p.m. When a technical mishap destroys their pre-taped prime time 10th anniversary special the three female hosts of TV's most popular daytime talk show are forced to go live to replace it and that lights the fuse for an emotional powder-keg. Call 905-727-1312 to reserve.

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

U Weight Loss Clinic is having an open house from noon until 4 p.m. During that time, the clinic will be accepting donations in the form of canned goods, unwrapped toys and clothing, new and used, as well as cash donations. U Weight will offer free drinks and snacks as well as a raffle for prize give-a-ways during the event. The Aurora location is at 1 Henderson Drive in the town's south end.

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

Aurora Writers Group meets at 7.30 p.m. at the Aurora Town Hall for their monthly meeting. Writing exercises, readings, speakers and fun. New members 18 and over are welcome regardless of level of writing experience or genre of interest. For further information call Malcolm at 905-898-5484.

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

The Aurora Seniors Association's Evergreen Choir presents a concert at the Aurora Seniors Centre, beginning at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, 14 years and under.

Public Planning meeting in the council chambers of the Town Hall at 7 p.m.

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

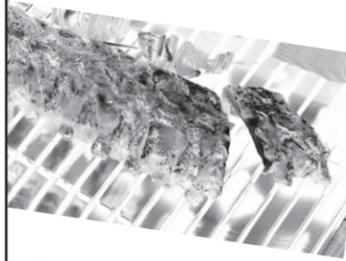
Merry Christmas.

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

Happy New Year.

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The Aurora Film Circuit is a volunteer initiative committed to providing the community with an alternative experience in cinema through the screening of independent, critically-acclaimed Canadian and international films.

Proceeds from ticket sales go toward the funding of out-of-budget programming at the Aurora Public Library.

Please join us for our monthly film nights,  
most often the second Monday of each month.  
Tickets and information are available at the  
Aurora Public Library and R&R Revisited.

<http://afc.library.aurora.on.ca>



## Christmas OPEN HOUSE

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The annual Aurora Chamber of Commerce Christmas party was held Thursday night at the King Valley Golf Club on Dufferin Street for Chamber members. Among those celebrating the season were, left to right, Ingrid Kulbach, the Chamber's Businessman of the Year Brian North, Chamber president Kathy van Nostrand, and acting executive director Karen Addison.

Auroran photo by Ron Wallace

## Snow clearing woes have been around for long time

There's nothing new about snow removal problems in Aurora.

The winter of 2001 was one of the worst winters for snowstorms Aurora and area had experienced in years.

During most winters after a heavy snowfall there is a breathing spell before the next storm hits, but in 2001 it was one storm after another and the snow piled higher and higher.

Complaints about failure to clear roads and sidewalks were numerous with Public Works staff replying they couldn't keep ahead of the snow.

The windrow problem is not a new one.

Aurora councillors thought the problem of blocked driveways was over in 1969 when they heard about a newly invented snowplow in the Kitchener area which its developer claimed could plow streets without filling in the driveways.

The snow plow had a gate attached to its side which the driver dropped as he approached a driveway. It was designed to carry snow past the driveway.

Council was quick to send staff to investigate but their hopes dimmed as it was found the machine required almost constant maintenance and the time for clearing the roads increased significantly.

The inventor and his snowplow disappeared from the scene.

Later that year, council was undecided about sidewalk plowing as staffers had presented two plans, one to contract out the work and the other for the town to purchase equipment estimated at \$7,000 and use town staff.

Council approved the purchase of equipment although there was some opposition on the basis that all taxpayers would have to pay but not all taxpayers had sidewalks.

Although the sidewalks were cleared there were complaints from pedestrians who claimed they had

to climb over snowbanks blocking the sidewalks at intersections.

There were also complaints from areas of town without sidewalks as pedestrians who had to walk on the roadway said they had to jump into a snowbank every time a car came too close.

By 1977 as a result of the number of complaints council considered getting out of the snowplowing of sidewalks and in June 1979 it was decided that the town would be responsible for sidewalks on arterial roadways but residents would be responsible for the sidewalk in front of their home.

Aurora High School's Red and Gold Society members offered to clear sidewalks for seniors and people with handicaps in need of assistance.

The cleaning of sidewalks on residential streets was still an issue in 1980 and council prepared a bylaw imposing a \$25 fine for residents who failed to clean their sidewalk in front of their property.

There was so much negative reaction from citizens that the proposed fine was deleted from the bylaw and when the amended bylaw came before council for adoption, it was defeat-

ed on a 4-3 vote, but the following month was adopted.

However, it didn't solve the problem as the issue of sidewalk plowing was back in January 1984, and in July staffers presented council with several options from the status quo to plowing all 26 miles of town sidewalks at an estimated cost of \$53,000.

The municipality assumed the responsibility for sidewalk snowplowing and while there are few complaints today, council has its hands full with complaints about blocked driveways and following a pilot project will consider what action to take next summer.

## Aurora Seniors Duplicate Bridge

**Monday, December 1** - N/S: Greta Ogden and Ed Smereka; Irene Kubica and Dorothy Young; Ruth Rea and Sue Scott. E/W: Audrey Robertson and Ev Dickie; Rose White and Gloria Smith; Noreen Hashem and Marion Warburton.

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## Poor Richard

By DICK ILLINGWORTH

### Conflict of Interest rules still confusing members of council

*What is a conflict of interest?  
Municipal councillors often plead;  
They need to know the answers  
So they won't commit the deed!*

*-Poor Richard's Scrapbook*

The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act deals with disclosure of pecuniary interest where a member, either on his or her behalf or while acting for, by, with or through another, has any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in any matter and is present at a meeting at which the matter is the subject of consideration, the member is to disclose the member's interest and the general nature thereof and not take part in the discussion of or vote in respect of the matter.

Whew!!

There is still considerable confusion on the part of some members of Aurora Council as to whether they have a conflict or not and the rule of thumb has been if you think you have a conflict, declare it.

There must, of course, be some reason for doing so, otherwise electors may decide you have too many conflicts and shouldn't be on council.

Members of council who are employees of a school board are in a difficult position and may declare a conflict when it isn't warranted.

As pecuniary interest deals with money, councils have nothing to do with setting the salaries or benefits of school employees who may be a member of council, but it's a dicey situation and the rule of thumb generally applies.

The same could apply to employees of a company with business dealings with the municipality and while there may not be any direct or indirect benefit to the member of council, to vote against a school board or company initiative may not be in the best interest of the member.

But sometimes members of council go overboard in declaring a conflict such as at a recent Aurora Council meeting when a member declared a conflict regarding a commercial development on the basis the member "had an association with an individual who knows someone who is related to a possible tenant."

The original Conflict of Interest legislation for municipal councillors was drafted in 1972 by solicitors of the Office of the Attorney General and it was not well received by the municipalities.

The drafters had no municipal experience and they failed to consult with the municipalities.

The draft legislation was re-written by a group of municipal solicitors and politicians and presented to the Attorney General through the former Provincial Municipal Liaison Committee and most of it was accepted and adopted into legislation.

It was a great improvement over the legislation proposed by the province but it still needed some fine tuning and there have been amendments over the years.

But there is still confusion on the part of some members of council as to what constitutes a conflict and when it should be declared.

There's not much point in asking the town solicitor as they would be required to represent the town if a citizen challenged a member of council regarding an alleged conflict.

There must be an easier way than the courts for a citizen to challenge an alleged conflict and for a member to defend him or herself.

When a group of citizens have a concern about actions by a municipal council, the Minister of Municipal Affairs may appoint a Commission of Inquiry and delegate a staff member to act as a fact finder to determine if the complaint is valid and if the Commission should be appointed.

Why couldn't the same take place for an allegation of conflict of interest with the Minister appointing a fact finder and if there is no cause for concern the issue can be forgotten.

If there has been an infraction, however, the Minister can take the necessary action.

Unfortunately in too many cases the Ministry has washed its hands of citizen complaints, throwing the issue back to the local council to take action as was done recently in the current situation in Vaughan.

So in the meantime, members of council who believe they have a conflict should declare it on the rule of thumb philosophy and hope for the best.



The south east corner of Yonge and Wellington once was home to Ardill's Department Store as this 1982 photo reveals. It also shows a much gentler Yonge-Wellington intersection. When Upper Canada Mall opened in Newmarket, Ardill's, led by Peter, moved its operation there where it remained in business for decades. While in Aurora, Ardill's was the best spot for purchasing ski accessories. Today, the Ardill location is occupied by Brian Larter, who owns Larter's Associates Inc., and has been the driving force behind two huge murals on the north wall of the building, over the years.

### Letters to the Editor

## Remember Norm Stewart?? How come no street name?

To the editor,

I hope you might remember me - Norm Stewart's eldest daughter, Lesley Frappier.

I have just read the article by Barb Strange which you ran in "The Auroran" in August of this year. Barb had forwarded it to my sister Cathryn, who sent it to me and the rest of our family.

In it, Barb highlights the very first major Canada Day celebration that was held in Aurora in 1969.

As you know, Dad was the driving force in arranging not only the street party but also the town-wide celebration, including the

appearance of Bobby Gimby at the community centre for the evening celebrations.

It was through his efforts that Aurora was officially named "Canada's Birthday Town", and he ensured that the Canada Day celebration in Aurora continued annually for as long as he was able.

He was also a prime mover in arranging the town's Santa Claus Parade for many years, another much-loved local tradition.

You might also recall that he was instrumental in "twinning" Aurora with Leksand, Sweden, as well organizing many other cul-

tural and sports events that had a very positive impact on the Town of Aurora and its relationships locally and overseas.

You probably remember, as we do, how passionate he was about Aurora and how hard he worked on the town's behalf over his many years as a councillor, as well as in the years between and after his council terms.

The reason that I'm writing is because the only thing that Dad ever really wanted, once he passed on, was to have a street named after him, as has been done for so many other politicians (many of whom were not as long serving nor quite as passionate as Dad), and I wonder if there is anything

that you can do to help make such a thing possible.

It would validate all of his work on behalf of the town that he loved so dearly.

**Lesley Frappier  
Acworth, Georgia**

**ED. NOTE: Norm Stewart was a member of Aurora Council for a number of terms and was the Steward of Food Services at St. Andrew's College for many years. His efforts on behalf of the Town of Aurora are legend. Why there isn't a street named after him escapes us, and we only hope one is named for him in the near future. Certainly, no one deserves it more.**

## Citizenry IS the town, Auroran reader says

To the editor,

In response to a gentleman's alleged comment that the net cost of windrows to the town would be next to nothing, may I point out to the gentleman that "WE", the citizenry, are the town and not the Council nor its employees.

The cost, therefore, is not next to nothing. It is handled by the citizenry.

It follows that citizen expenditures should benefit the greatest number of folks thereby bestowing the greatest good-Jeremy Bentham postulated this 175 years ago.

Now the windrows do benefit all folks young and old.

There are many male gentlemen in town in their younger years - i.e below 60 - who are not fit physically to shovel snow without possible cardiac problems and who cannot afford even the least

expensive and often useless snowblower.

There are medical emergencies that arise which require immediate transport to hospital and which could be life-jeopardizing if the person driving the victim must spend precious time shoveling the end of a driveway (already shovelled) that has been filled in with road snow.

I have been trying to follow the convoluted council discussions re this issue.

My understanding is that the cost of windrows would be borne by every household and every household would benefit.

If I am correct in this assumption, then I would heartily endorse the plan and urge immediate implementation before another foul winter is upon us.

**Frank Hawkins  
Aurora**

### THE AURORAN

#### "Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper"

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#### Editorial policy

Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and letter writers are not necessarily those of The Auroran. Letters must include name and phone number, although number will not be published, and be limited to 600 words. Names may be withheld assuming a compelling reason to do so. Letters may be edited or refused. All contents protected by copyright.

#### Advertising policy

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## Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Let's take a break this week and temporarily put aside the goings on at Town Council, all the talk of ward systems, term limits, and extra seats on York Region Council, and any discussion of "coalitions" or "prorogation", and instead, let's consider something else - the wonderful Christmas lights on Aurora homes.

This is my second year undertaking this grand adventure on your behalf.

I was going to rather modestly call this sightseeing expedition the "Stephen Somerville Fantastically Grand Tour of Aurora Home Christmas Lights II" or "SSFGTAHCLII" for short.

Unlike the other tours, this one would not cost you anything.

Mind you, donations would be (and always are) welcome to the "Please Give Somerville a new 2009 350 HP Corvette Fund".

The focus of this intended column has changed a few times over the past week.

My 11-year-old nephew Brock, and I were going to offer the readers a guided tour of Christmas lights throughout Aurora.

Then we decided to pick out just a few streets from each quadrant of the Town, but now this column has evolved to just picking out, not the best light displays, as there are too many to choose from, but what we found interesting, or out of the ordinary.

It didn't have to be the best, the most expensive or the most ostentatious display of electrical creativity known to man; it is simply had to catch our eye.

## Aurora Christmas lights

My trusty scribe and I went out last Thursday night, prior to the Leaf game, so that we wouldn't become depressed listening to the play-by-play as we completed our work.

We drove around for just under an hour. The route we took was bounded by Wellington to the south, Bathurst to the west, Yonge to the east and on the north side of St. John's Sideroad in the Brentwood subdivision.

I kindly suggest doing this tour just after 8 p.m. - when it is dark but not too late that people will have turned off their lights, or worse, the police may think you are casing people's homes.

Here are some things that caught our eye on the tour, but it is not a Top 10 list by any means.

In the small Brentwood subdivision just north of St. John's Sideroad and near Bathurst Street, a number of houses on Joseph Tuck Court, just off of Woodlands Hills Blvd. are very well done, with the lights on one home in particular standing out.

Just south of St. John's Sideroad, near Bathurst, on Lenarthur Court, is one house in particular, with a snowman and Santa and his sled.

On Willow Farm Lane you will find a large Christmas tree decked out very nicely, and my favourite lighted tree - done in blue and white lights - is just down the street, near Hodgkinson Cres.

In fact, that whole street has a number of fantastic Christmas lights that you should see.

Off Orchard Heights, on Meadowwood Drive near Chadburn, is a home with a number of candy cane lights near the driveway, supported by a generous amount of

Christmas lights on the windows augmented by a ground based spotlight; a real masterpiece.

My nephew wanted to go past the home of his friend Ethan, which is situated on Bigwin Drive, near Devins Drive.

Ethan's home had a large number of various coloured lights as well as a number of large nicely wrapped gift boxes in the front of the house. Well done!

Both Brock and I agreed that our favourite site was also on Bigwin Drive.

The house had everything;

They had an inflated Santa coming out of a roof; A large snow globe with a life size Santa inside.

There were a number of large lighted candy canes on the lawn, while the house was adorned with blue and gold lights.

And I must not forget the plastic snowman and polar bear that stood guard at either end of the property.

Please stop by and have a look for yourself if you get a chance.

I apologize for not visiting all parts of Aurora, but I wasn't about to keep my nephew out too late - it was after all, a school night!

My sympathies to those of you who have laboured over your lights and spent countless dollars and hours chasing perfection, but didn't get mentioned.

Cheers.

Stephen can be contacted at:  
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



## Cathy's Corner

By Cathy Vrancic

It isn't easy being a woman.

First of all, none of us is born that way.

It is a transformation that happens to us in the adolescent years.

Our first box of maxi pads comes with our mothers telling us: "You are becoming a woman now!"

None of us really knows what this means.

Eventually, we catch on that it has something to do with performing 90 per cent of domestic chores and delivering 100 per cent of the world's babies.

While our kids are sitting on Santa's knee reciting page long wish lists that include (but are not limited to) toys that require batteries to be entertaining but don't come with batteries...and graduate to i-pods and i-phones and i-don't-know-whats that require eight hours of charging before delivering the entertainment they promise (and shatter instantly when dropped), we are dreaming of the day when technology will finally add a third machine to the laundry duo: an automatic folding machine.

Sometimes I think to myself: "Oh, no! What am I becoming!"

Being a woman appears to include the joy of shopping, but I have now been a woman long enough to know that this is just an illusion. As soon as you put the word "grocery" in

front of the word "shopping", it ruins everything.

Shopping might appear to be a distinctively joyful female behaviour, but there is only elation when it is the right kind of shopping.

I have gone from torturing myself with sexy stilettos to dreaming of finding containers for my feet that don't bruise my bunions.

Once, I had just spotted a pair of "sensible" black loafers on the clearance rack and just as my happiness quotient was peaking, disaster struck.

As I slipped my aching arches into padded paradise, I heard a voice shout: "Stop right there! Put those down! You are NOT buying those ugly things!"

This is what you get for shopping in Aurora.

A friend caught me in the desperate act of trying on "old lady shoes" and rushed to my rescue.

I guess that's what girlfriends are for, huh? To protect us from becoming women "ahead of our time"!

I walked out of the store with a pair of bright orange sandals and a matching purse. Actually, I waddled out of the store.

Later, when the waddling turned into whining and wincing I seriously considered going back to the store to buy the ugly loafers...wearing a big hat and dark glasses, of course.

## Being a woman

Tragically, those shoes are on my wish list this Christmas. "Oh, no! What am I becoming!"

Being a woman would be so much simpler and easier if didn't entail things like "becoming" a wife and a mother.

Somewhere in the midst of doing 90 per cent of the housework and having 100 per cent of the babies, women's feet started longing for ugly shoes and our dreams begin to revolve around such fantasies as self-cleaning bathrooms. This is a progressive disorder. It leads to menopause.

Then, just when we have our husbands trained to put the toilet seat down, take the garbage out and say "yes, dear" in a pleasant and peaceful tone...just as we get the children out of the house and doing (and strewing) their toys and laundry elsewhere...something happens to us.

We start having lunch with girlfriends and confide in each other that we believe in miracles again - things like cellulite creams that really work.

And when this stage comes along, there is a new transformation in the works but nobody tells you what you are becoming.

They wouldn't dare...

Cathy Vrancic welcomes e-mail at:  
ccauration@rogers.com



*Bouquets*

**BRICKBATS**  
By DICK ILLINGWORTH

**BOUQUETS** to Southlake Regional Health Centre on being recognized as one of the GTA's top 75 employers. The hospital was selected as a GTA Top Employer for the great emphasis the organization places on supporting its employees through various programs, including retirement planning and preparation and ongoing education opportunities.

**BRICKBATS** to the retailers and their customers who are screaming about the proposal to charge five cents for a plastic bag at the store, as Aurora shoppers have been paying the five-cent fee for a plastic bag at No Frills and while they may not like it, they're not making a fuss.

**BOUQUETS** to all the volunteers who are going to contact Info Aurora at the Town Hall and offer an hour or two of their time to man a Salvation Army Christmas Kettle at one of several outlets in Aurora.

**BRICKBATS** to the bureaucrats at the Department of National Defence for sloppy handling of secret military documents and Internet videos of alleged Canadian Forces snipers taking on Taliban targets and the mishandling of the medical records of a soldier injured in Afghanistan. Isn't anybody in charge?

**BOUQUETS** to Tory MPP John O'Toole for perseverance as he introduced a private member's bill banning drivers from using hand-held cellphones on six different occasions all without success. Eight years after he introduced his first bill the government finally introduced similar legislation.

**BRICKBATS** to the manufacturers of liquid supplementary food products for seniors who then put the cap on the bottle so tight that it's virtually impossible for a senior to open the bottle. Loosen up a bit!

**BRICKBATS** to manufacturers of medical and other products who print the instructions on the box so small, that it is almost impossible to read, especially for seniors. Print so people can read!

**BOUQUETS** to Toronto City Police for their innovative and successful gun amnesty program in which they trade a digital camera for a gun. Since the program started in late October more than 1,000 guns and 20,000 rounds of ammunition have been turned in and the program has been extended into December.

**BRICKBATS** to whomever authorized and paid Biker Steven Gault, a member of the Oshawa Hells Angels, more than \$1 million to inform police on his former biker pals. His information was so regular that he had his own confidential informant number with the police.

**BOUQUETS** to the 300 volunteers who participated in the Steps for Southlake and the My Steps Count Committee on raising more than \$73,000 for the Southlake Regional Cancer Centre building fund. Over the three-month campaign almost 30,000 kilometres were walked while collecting pledges and donations along the way.

**BOUQUETS** to the Aurora residents who took the time to participate in the Aurora/Newmarket SuperWalk for Parkinson's Disease at Fairy Lake and raised more than \$23,500, a 25 per cent increase over the previous year.

**BRICKBATS** to the stupid people who painted over a Stop sign with red paint at a busy intersection in Toronto which is the height of exceptional dumbness.

**BRICKBATS** to more stupid people who use laser pointers to beam a blinding light at aircraft and stun pilots during the critical periods of landings and take-offs. The increase in the number of incidents is alarming and a threat to safety.

Letters to the Editor

# Printing letter was "hate mongering", reader states

To the editor,

Re: "God Bless George Bush", R. Gee's letter to the editor, November 25th, 2008

I've read a lot of tripe in this "newspaper" over the last few months, but I can no longer suffer the ignorance that is your editorial policy.

I've put up with the incessant whining from various local politicians, their friends and their foes.

I've read with disbelief the soap-boxing from a few left

and right-wing radicals who, other than having an ability to string words together in a coherent manner, take a long time to say absolutely nothing.

To a degree, I have suffered these "insults to my intelligence" in silence, out of respect for the editorial staff's "freedom of speech" policy.

Well, enough is enough! For you to allow R. Gee's letter to go to print is tantamount to hate mongering.

The letter is offensive.

The terminology used is

discriminatory, and the assertions are utterly ridiculous - and hateful.

If you don't think this was an assault on human rights, give your collective heads a shake (if Jim Keegstra wrote you a letter, would you publish it too?).

I will not give you the luxury of hiding behind your editorial disclaimer.

In order for you to allow this letter to be printed means that you support the author's viewpoint, and approve of the manner in which that viewpoint was

delivered.

I cannot and will not support you or your advertisers.

I can only hope that your advertisers give serious thought as to whether their budgets are being allocated prudently.

I can guarantee you that I will not be patronizing any local business that continues to advertise in this rag - and I would urge any self-respecting Aurora resident to follow suit.

I have asked the Canadian Human Rights Commission how best to follow this matter up - I can't sit idly by and "just write a letter".

But, at the end of the day, I can only do my small part - removing hate from this community requires the support of many.

That only leaves one question - who else is part of the "many"?

## Letter no way to discuss issue

To the editor,

I have just been directed to a letter to the editor, posted in your November 25th edition, on California's Proposition 8.

I realize that gay marriage is a highly emotional and contentious issue.

However, to post a letter that refers to homosexuals as perverts, and aligns them with rapists and murders is reprehensible.

Although the article is not written by a member of your staff, you chose to publish the letter.

So, while you did not directly promote hate propaganda, you certainly gave voice to it.

I grew up in Richmond Hill, and I remember it to be a very accepting community.

I left many years ago, but if this is an example of the narrow minded prejudice that has developed in the

GTA, and is being distributed in the media, then I am glad I left.

There are many ways to intelligently and compassionately discuss the gay marriage debate.

This was not one of them!

Elizabeth Fayle  
Gatineau, Quebec

D. Baran  
Aurora

## Letter belonged in humour section

To the editor,

Re: God bless George Bush! (Letter, The Auroran, Nov. 25)

I was, I must admit, initially shocked by your publication of a homophobic rant regarding the rejection of "perv" marriage in Proposition 8 in California.

The next sentence grouped gays with murderers and rapists!

However, when the author closed by exhorting God to bless America, Canada and George Bush the satirical intent became obvious.

Rather than hiding contributions like this on the editorial page may I suggest the creation of a spe-

cial Humour section?

B. Brockington  
Aurora

## Writer sorry for his letter

To the editor,

Please convey my retraction and apology to anyone offended from a letter recently sent to The Auroran.

Thank you.

R. Gee  
Aurora

**EDITOR'S NOTE:**  
Without making excuses, the editor also apologizes for printing the letter. It was an error in judgement.

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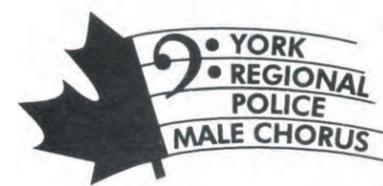
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Letters to the Editor

# Police issue never "reported out": Buck

To the editor,

I am never surprised but always intrigued to read the mayor's responses in the media on any town issue.

Last week's quotes on Code of Conduct were no exception.

There was reference to lawyer George Rust-D'Eye having been retained to "investigate" after "privileged information was made public".

The night he was retained, Mayor Phyllis Morris refused to disclose precisely why. "Ah no, Councillor Buck. You will not drag me into that" she said in answer to my inquiry.

The "leak" referred to above appeared three months after a decision was made behind closed doors.

Mr. Rust-D'Eye never did ask if I was the source. Neither, I believe, was The Auroran queried.

Residents may recall the news story that council refused to sell land we had for sale to York Regional Police as a site for new York Regional Police Headquarters. Even now I shudder to contemplate what we lost.

The decision was made

in September, following a meeting with the Chief of Police and the Regional Chairman.

In November, there had still been no disclosure.

Why would a leak take three months to filter out?

Why, in that time frame, had the matter not been "reported out" as required by legislation governing public decisions made behind closed doors?

Fast forward 12 months; there is still no public record of the fact Council refused to sell land at the appraised value to the Region for a Central Police headquarters.

The Region and York Regional Police knew the facts.

Why should it surprise anyone a story like that might be the talk of the town and eventually drift back to The Auroran?

From thence came an allegation of "a leak of privileged information".

The mayor retained legal counsel to "investigate".

By-the-by we have no reason to believe the action was in accordance with Administrative Policy No. 50, the Town's Procurement Policy which governs how public funds shall be

expended.

The night the decision was made not to sell the land the vote was four to three to direct the CAO to continue discussions leading to a sale. One councillor was absent.

The mayor voted against and created a tie thereby defeating the resolution.

Invariably, when an issue emerges which may reflect unfavourably on the mayor and her loyal band, shouts of Mayor-Bashing are heard throughout the land.

Lawyers are retained and the hunt is on to catch the dastardly villain who has failed to act with proper decorum and discretion. The focus of attention is redirected.

As a consequence, we now have a Code of Conduct.

Staff members spent time to research and write it.

According to the mayor, we spent an additional \$4,000 for a legal review of staff's work by Mr. Rust-D'Eye. I did not know that.

We have retained an Integrity Commissioner to deal with complaints against councillors.

We do not know specifics of the terms of his contract.

But the mayor already has a work schedule prepared outside of the complaint process.

In summation, a leak of privileged information was presumed.

We retained legal counsel to "investigate". Results of "the investigation" were never released.

We paid a legal bill of

\$16,200. We did release Mr. Rust D'Eye's recommendations.

There were two; we could appoint an executive committee composed of all councillors except one or we could adopt a Code of Conduct with penalties for non-compliance.

Council directed staff to prepare a Code of Conduct. According to the mayor we then paid George Rust-D'Eye \$4,000 to review the document.

Presumably, with wisdom and decorum, it was read, understood and passed into legislation as a Town Bylaw even though, as it eventually transpired, it contained unenforceable requirements.

So much for the \$4,000 worth of legal review.

Now the Mayor informs us in the media more tax dollars will be expended for the Integrity Commissioner to review the document again and "make amendments if necessary".

If the mayor's quotes are accurate, directions have already been given to the new Integrity Commissioner without the authority of council and if the Commissioner is not sufficiently aware of how a municipality functions to understand that a mayor has no authority except through a resolution of council, can we realistically expect improvement over our current situation?

The saga continues to unfold.

Evelyn Buck  
Aurora

## Your input needed

To the editor,

On December 11th at 7 p.m. at Town Hall there will be a public meeting regarding the Master Plan and Pricing Policy.

The Master Plan will shape how parks and facilities are allocated and developed.

Every person in the town, youth, adults and seniors will be affected by the outcome.

Many groups have not given their input and they need to do so in order to obtain an accurate representation of what our town

needs.

The chance to make changes to the plans still exists.

But if you do not speak up our councillors will not know what is important to you.

This will likely be the last opportunity for public input before the items are put to a vote in council.

I urge the residents of Aurora to show the government how much we care by attending this important meeting.

Carol Walthers  
Aurora



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Letter to the Editor

# A positive look at Mark Street traffic calming

To the editor,

I am a resident of Mark Street.

I've resolved not to respond to criticism regarding the traffic calming in the north-east quadrant since 1 and 1/2 years ago.

However, I cannot resist in responding to the latest negative letters from Margaret Hawkins and T. Woodger to The Auroran, December 3.

1) I've not yet read ANY letters from residents of Mark, Walton, and Centre/Spruce commenting negatively on the above subject.

2) The negative comments appear to come from only NON-residents of these streets who happen to drive through our streets on a regular basis, and therefore cannot adjust or adhere to the conditions of the road.

I would like to suggest to you the following points:

a) It is not rocket sci-

ence to SLOW down and keep to YOUR side of the centre line on the chicanes (there is ample space for two cars to pass each other) when another car approaches. If the approaching vehicle is a bus, cement or garbage truck, then I suggest you yield to them.

b) T. Woodger maintains that cars drive straight through the chicanes when no approaching traffic occurs. That is true. How do you slow these drivers down? Simply install speed bumps/cushions as originally designed in the plan and if I have an input, additional ones on Mark Street.

3) As for Margaret Hawkins comments:

a) If you are not a resident of Spruce/Centre streets area, you should not drive through there. Any visitors to homes of this area should know the only exits are Yonge, Mark, Walton, Centre Streets with their chicanes and speed bumps to be negotiated.

b) I drive through Orchard Heights to Bathurst perhaps once or three times each year.

I respect the speed limit and stop signs each time.

However, if non-residents are abusing these limits, perhaps installing speed bumps would be a good deterrent to speeding. I agree with Margaret on this respect.

4) As for T. Woodger's suggestions of demolishing the chicanes because he does not like them, I think it is wishful thinking and not economically practical or sensible.

Would it not be easier and practical for T. Woodger to adjust his/her driving habits whenever he/she travels through our neighbourhood of Mark/Walton streets?

To me the solutions of a simple problem are: 1) common sense 2) compromise 3) adaptability.

K. Chong  
Aurora

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**Buffet Dinner 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**  
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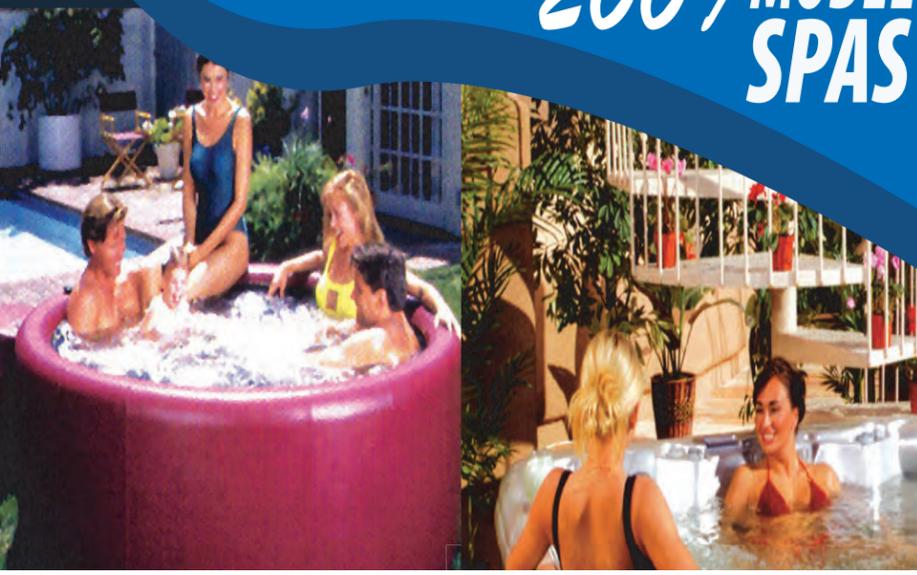
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*Season's Greetings Aurora*

The holiday season has traditionally been a time to strengthen and renew the ties that bind us all. It is a time for family, friends, and loved ones to gather. But the spirit of the season really does not have to end there. Please remember the less fortunate within our Town. Incredible things happen when we reach out to help someone. No matter how small. Of all the gifts you can give this season, nothing is more meaningful - or more deeply satisfying - than giving generously of yourself. There are countless opportunities within Aurora to demonstrate your support through charity and volunteer work.

In our professional lives, there are also relationships worth celebrating. There are colleagues whom we count on every day for their talent, good judgment, and moral support. There are our mentors, the people who have extended their hands to us at important times within our careers. They too, all deserve our thoughts and our thanks.

Lest we forget our armed forces wherever they may be throughout the world; the sacrifices they make daily on our behalf, and their commitment to peace, goodwill and freedom for all Canadians.

Please accept my best wishes to you and those you love for a happy holiday season, and for a peaceful, healthy, and prosperous new year.

*Happy Holidays, Eric*

**Aurora Chamber of Commerce**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7TH, 2009 NETWORKING BREAKFAST**  
 Time: 7:30 A.M. – 8:45 A.M.  
 Program Cost: **COMPLIMENTARY**  
 Place: Staples – Business Depot  
 14800 Yonge St., Unit 180  
 Aurora

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 20th, 2008 BUSINESS AFTER FIVE**  
 Time: 5:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.  
 Program Cost: **COMPLIMENTARY**  
 Place: Aurora Orthodontics  
 372 Hollandview Trail, Suite 100  
 Aurora

*May this joyous season bring you success, good times, happiness ...and more opportunities to work together!*

To register please contact the Chamber at  
**905-727-7262** or on-line at [www.aurorachamber.on.ca](http://www.aurorachamber.on.ca)  
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# Tigers drop two to division rivals

An opportunity to gain some ground in the Ontario Junior Hockey League's Phillips Division ended in disappointment last weekend for the Aurora Tigers as they dropped two of three key divisional matchups.

Sunday afternoon, they lost 4-1 to Couchiching, a team they need to beat.

However, to be fair, it was the third game in as many days for Aurora, two of them out of town.

With Newmarket and Stouffville now playing in the Central Division, the Huntsville Otters now serve as one of the Tigers fiercest rivals to date.

And they needed only one period to defeat Aurora 3-1.

The two teams have split the season series so far, each defeating the other on home ice.

Friday night's Otters-Tigers matchup in Aurora featured the usual fast skating, hard hitting style that the teams are known for.

After a scoreless opening period, Huntsville's Greg Cerilli slipped a rebound past goaltender David Blair to put the Otters on the board.

Aurora sniper Michael Sardella tied the score later in the frame.

The game did not stay tied for long, however, as less than a minute later Huntsville's Greg Cirilli scored his second of the evening.

With the clock ticking down late in the period, Aurora's defence failed to corral a clearing shot from the Otters and Greg Park walked in all alone to make the score 3-1 for Huntsville.

The 3rd period played out exactly like the first one, scoreless, despite several powerplay opportunities for both teams.

Following the loss, Tigers head coach Craig Evans said, "You can't expect to win when you give up too many goals like that."

Evans said the Tigers faced "a strong team".

It marked the first game of the season for new Tiger defenceman Garrett Trainor.



**Michael Sardella, above, an Aurora Tiger threat all night long, scored one of Aurora's goals as the Tigers won 5-4 over the Orangeville Crushers Saturday night in Orangeville. Aurora came back from one goal deficits three times to gain the victory.**

*Auroran photo by Steve Mitchell*

"We need some strength on the back end," said Evans. "He will be a great addition."

Evans said Trainor was with the Tigers for a time two seasons before, but was sent to North Bay.

This new addition came on the heels on the recent deletions of players such as Tim Revell, Cody Smith and Adam Davies.

"We want to make sure we're developing players," said Evans, in response to those cuts.

He explained Revell and

Smith were both 1988-born players-and thus in their final year of eligibility to play in the league.

"We want players who are striving for scholarships," said Evans.

He added a lot of players in their last year of eligibility "don't have a clear idea" of what they want to do.

On Saturday night, the Tigers travelled to a snowy Orangeville to meet the hometown Crushers.

In what proved to be their grittiest effort of the season, Aurora came back from one-

goal deficits three times to squeak out a 5-4 victory.

Orangeville's Devin Mantha, son of former NHL'er Moe Mantha, opened the scoring at 3:17 of the first period on the powerplay.

Just 55 seconds later, Aurora captain Dominic Monardo tied the game on a breakaway goal.

Mantha netted his second but Aurora defenceman Matt Pasztor answered with a blast from the point to tie the game 2-2.

The two teams traded single goals in the second period, Dylan Hutton for Orangeville, followed by Lucas VanNatter for Aurora to make it a 3-3 hockey game.

In the third, Aurora newcomer Garrett Trainor scored an unassisted goal at 1:52 to give the Tigers their first lead of the evening.

Michael Sardella, put Aurora up by two before Orangeville's Dan Minor cut that lead to one with four minutes left to play.

Aurora goaltender Brendan Sullivan was brilliant and held the fort for his 12th win of the season.

On Sunday afternoon, the weary Aurora squad travelled to Rama to face the front running Couchiching Terriers.

In giving up three first period goals and being badly out-shot for the second game in a row, the Tigers were no match for the Terriers, dropping a 4-1 decision before an announced crowd of 418 frigid fans at the Mask Arena.

Tigers managed only three shots on goal in the final 20 minutes of play.

With the loss, the Tigers remain tied for second place with Huntsville, nine points back of first place Couchiching. However,

Huntsville holds three games in hand on Aurora.

This Friday night Aurora hosts Upper Canada at the Aurora Community Centre beginning at 7.30 p.m. The next night they head to Seguin.

## Howard Johnson Hotel Aurora invites you to an evening with **The Good Brothers**



**Featuring a Christmas Buffet Dinner in the Queen Elizabeth Ballroom**

**This Friday,**

**December 12, 2008**

**Doors open @ 6:30 p.m.**

**Dinner @ 7:30 p.m.**

**Show @ 9:15 p.m.**

**\$55 per person inclusive**

**Show only, \$35 per person inclusive.**

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# Monday Night Hockey results



## AURORA MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Results to Sunday, December 7



### House League

#### Tyke

#### TEAM STANDINGS

TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS.
Tom & Jerry's	7	3	1	50	35	15
Highland Chev-Cad	7	3	1	45	29	15
FPL Aggregates	7	4	0	46	41	14
Baldwin's	6	4	1	47	39	13
Masterclean Contracting5	5	0	3	39	42	10
Priestly Demolition	4	6	1	41	41	9
Law Insurance Brokers	3	8	0	28	50	6
Rec Cycle N' Sports	3	8	0	27	44	6

#### WEEKLY SCORES

Masterclean	7	Baldwin's	5
Highland's Chev	2	Law Insurance	1
Tom & Jerry's	4	Priestly Demo	6
Rec Sports	1	FPL Aggregates	1

#### PLAYER STANDINGS

NAME	TEAM	G	A	PTS.
Todd Richardson	FPL	14	7	21
Jody Matthews	Highland's	9	11	20
Tom Hussey	Masterclean	9	9	18
Mark Swirla	Priestly	8	10	18
Jason Muise	Priestly	10	5	15
Brad McMillan	Baldwin's	8	7	15
John Archibauld	Highland's	11	3	14
Steve Kavanah	Baldwin's	4	10	14
Darren Yaremko	Tom & Jerry's	4	10	14
Dean Iwai	Tom & Jerry's	7	6	13
Pat O'Mahony	Priestly	5	8	13
Ed Kilroy	Rec Sports	5	7	12
Rob Blakely	Masterclean	8	4	12
Mike O'Conner	Baldwin's	8	4	12
Bruce Chappell	Highland's	1	11	12
Vince Greco	Tom & Jerry's	7	4	11
Craig McConnell	Masterclean	7	4	11
Dave Caverley	FPL	6	5	11
Ken Rumble	Highland's	3	8	11
Charlie Steenhorst	FPL	2	9	11
Hugh Alcorn	Masterclean	1	10	11
Scott Crabbe	Highland's	3	7	10
Mark Inglis	Law Insurance	2	8	10
Joel Reeves	Tom & Jerry's	2	8	10
Chris Neale	Highland's	7	2	9
Doug Adair	Rec Sports	3	6	9
Scott Thomas	Tom & Jerry's	2	7	9
John Yaremko	Tom & Jerry's	5	3	8
Ed Jackson	Baldwin's	4	4	8
Steve Robertson	Baldwin's	4	4	8
Ron Van Noort	FPL	4	4	8
Steven MacDonald	Highland's	2	6	8
Mark Sedore	Priestly	2	6	8
Mike Caicco	Baldwin's	1	7	8
Pat Davies	Priestly	6	1	7
Dwayne Smith	Law Insurance	5	2	7
Derek Preston	FPL	4	3	7
Scott Pogue	Law Insurance	3	4	7
Jerome Flanigan	Baldwin's	2	5	7
Peter Briand	Baldwin's	5	1	6
Alain Boudreau	Highland's	3	3	6
Paul Gibson	Baldwin's	3	3	6
Kevin O'Keefe	Priestly	3	3	6
John Sibener	Masterclean	3	3	6
Ron Thiessen	Tom & Jerry's	3	3	6
Darryl Thompson	Tom & Jerry's	3	3	6
John Anderson	Rec Sports	1	5	6
Gerald Briand	Baldwin's	2	4	6
Jason Holbert	Tom & Jerry's	2	4	6

**Team 102 Tim Hortons Bruins 18** - Justin Harbaruk 6G 5A, Blair Crabbe 2G 1A, Hunter Wong 3G 7A, Matthew McConnell 3G 2A, Chris Siarkas 2G 3A, Alex Weber 2G 3A, GianLuca Santacono 4A, John Dol 3A, Rony Wahab 1A. **Team 103 Tim Hortons Senators 1** - Dylan DaCosta 1G, Bryan Posa 1A, Justin Foster 1A.

**Team 105 Tim Hortons Leafs 3** - Malcolm Johnston 2G 1A, Jack Patterson 1G, Matthew Gram 1A, Luke Catania 1A, Colby Harrison 1A, Nathan Smith 1A. **Team 106 Tim Hortons Penguins 2** - Jack Viney 1G, Cody Fisher 1G, Ryan McCartney 2A, Joseph Furfara 1A, Joseph DiMichele 1A.

**Team 107 Tim Hortons Lightning 5** - Ryan Cunniam 1G, Christopher Marton 2G, Sam Ashton 2G, Jean Francois Merrimen 1A, Giuliano Iervasi 1A, Evan Robertson 2A, Garrett Kohler 1A, Craig Therikildsen 2A, Christian Fermo 1G, Andrew Campbell 1A. **Team 108 Tim Hortons Wild 2** - Connor Thomas 1G, Sam Lombard 1A, Michela Venosa 1A, Trey Angco 1G, Natalia Forrester 1A, Anthony Iacovetta 1A.

**Team 104 Tim Hortons Flyers 1** - Thomas Childerhouse 1G, Cory Read 1A, Peter Simsirir 1A. **Team 102 Tim Hortons Flames 0.**

**Team 101 Tim Hortons Flames 3** - Luca Racanelli 1G, Robert Kniss 1G 1A, Daniel Rheedder 1G, Christian Romas 2A, Jakob Smith 1A. **Team 102 Tim Hortons Bruins 2** - Justin Harbaruk 1G, Blair Crabbe 1A, Jack Campbell 1G 1A.

**Team 107 Tim Hortons Lightning 5** - Christian Fermo 1G, Garret Kohler 1A, Spencer Morrison 3G, Sam Ashton 1G 1A, Evan Robertson 1A, Craig Therikildsen 1A. **Team 104 Tim Hortons Flyers 1** - Cory Read 1G.

**Team 105 Tim Hortons Leafs 5** - Malcolm Johnston 2G 3A, Nathan Smith 3G 1A, Colby Harrison 2A. **Team 108 Tim Hortons Wild 2** - Michela Venosa 1G, Natalia Forrester 1G, Connor Thomas 1A.

**Team 103 Tim Hortons Senators 4** - Aiden Graham 1G, Andrew Park 3G, David DaCosta 1A, Ethan Moulds 1A, Bryson Posa 2A, Justin Foster 2A. **Team 106 Tim Hortons Penguins 4** - Carson Williams 1G, Maeve O'Connor 2G 1A, Cody Fisher 1G, Stefanie Baxter 1A, Joseph Furfara 1A.

### Minor Pee wee

**Rogers Team 401 4** - Joseph Hodgson 1G, Matthew Hall 1A, Cameron Screech 1G 1A, Johnny Sherwood 1G 2A, Joshua DiVincenzo 1A, Darren Tree 1A. **McAlpine Ford Team 402 4** - Rory Hamilton 1G, James Power 2G 1A, Ryan Batten 1G, Andre Cristillo 3A, Matthew Neice 1A, Mitchell Albert 1A, David Kangas 1A, Denzel Speller-Drews 1A.

### Pee wee

**506 Wikoff Color Corp. 2** - Carson Roell 1G, Justin Chalmers 1G, Andrew Walter 1A. **508 Tilemaster 2** - Alex Gouthro 1G, Tyler Hindley 1G.

**502 Omar Shoes 3** - Eric McMurray 2G, Alec Ground 1G 2A, Alex Stewart 1A. **503 Greenpoint Laser 3** - Brayden Beswick 1G, Tyler Abushinov 1G, Liam Henderson 1G.

**501 Perfect Moves 2** - Matthew Sanita 1G 1A, Joel Gouveia 1G. **504 Pizza Pizza 1** - Michael Tanel 1G, Brendan Elliott 1A.

**505 Laurion Law Office 3** - Russell Johnson 3G, Brendan McDonald 1A, Graham Killby 1A. **507 Sgt. Pepper's Bar & Grill 2** - Tyler Futterer 1G, Morgan Walker 1G, Jason Glionna 1A, Adam Petit 1A, Mackenzie Smith 1A.

**501 Perfect Moves 4** - Mitchell Carter 2G, Jake Detoro 1G 1A, Joel Gouveia 1G 2A, Chris Sanita 1A, Jake Detoro 1A, Mitchell Arnold 1A. **502 Omar Shoes 4** - Alec Ground 2G, Michael Liscio 2G, Neil Duggan 1A, Kevin Spiering 1A.

**507 Sgt. Peppers Bar & Grill 4** - Jason Glionna 2G 1A, Morgan Walker 1G, Keith Jarvis 1G, Mac Cawfield 2A, Alexander Harrison 2A, Andrew Kaszuba 1A, Mackenzie Smith 1A, Tyler Futterer 1A. **503 Greenpoint Laser 2** - Corey Young 1G, Luc Martineau 1G 1A, Liam Henderson 1A.

**505 Laurion Law Office 2** - Russell Johnson 1G 1A, Michael Arcuri 1A, Scott Taylor 1A. **508 Tilemaster 1** - Hunter Jones 1G, Ryan McGolrick 1A, Matthew Pelkola 1A.

**504 Pizza Pizza 4** - Declan Johnston 1G, Brendan Elliott 1G, Max Brown 1A, Michael Tanel 1A. **506 Wikoff Color Corp. 2** - Matthew D'Alessandro 1G 1A, Harry Smith 1G 1A, Zac Kroll 1A.

### Minor Bantam

**Team 603 Gabby's 6** - William Allen 2G, Mark Presacco 2G, Stephen Faiello 1G, Matthew Reeves 1G 1A, Eliot Harkin 3A, Kentner Arkell 1A, Evan Sheridan 1A. **Team 605 Supreme Collision Centre 0.**

**Team 601 Continental Ingredients 3** - Eric Bulloch 1G, Nicholas Bertrand 1G, Keenan Hull 1G 1A, Liam Devlin 1A, Scott Wheeler 1A, Justin Stevens 1A. **Team 604 Manhattan Trophies 3** - Trevor Rice 2G, Graeme Allison 1G, William He 1A, Jamie Pountney 1A.

**Team 606 Orr & Associates Insurance Brokers Ltd 4** - Chris Tsianos 2G, Jesse Borin 1G, Matt Warner 1G, Chris Cherubini 1A, Andrew Hall 1A, Quinn Harris 1A. **Team 602 Rotary Club of Aurora 1** - Massimo Longhin 1G, Kieran Cullen 1A.

**Team 606 Orr & Associates Insurance Brokers Ltd 8** - Andrew Hall 1G, Chris Tsianos 1G, Jesse Borin 3G, Daniel Fisher 1G, Matt Warner 1G 2A, Quinn Harris 1G. **Team 605 Supreme Collision Centre 4** - Paul Semkowich 1G, Quinn McGowan 1G, Matt Hudon 1G, Drew Bryan 1G 1A, Drew Davison 1A.

**Team 601 Continental Ingredients 4** - Brian Pedron 1G, Eric

Bulloch 1G, Thomas Scougall 1G, Nicholas Bertrand 1G, Jason Mizuguchi 1A, Liam Devlin 1A, Kevan Cress 1A, Keenan Hull 1A. **Team 603 Gabby's 0.**

**Team 604 Manhattan Trophies 7** - Dylan Indos 2G, Matthew Roach 1G 1A, Kyle Davy-Vass 1G, Trevor Rice 2G, George Plukov 1G, Tyler Indos 2A, William He 1A. **Team 602 Rotary Club of Aurora 2** - Daniel Antoniel 2G.

### Bantam

**Optimist Club 705 5** - Jack Straw 2G, JP Hudon 1G 1A, Sam Straw 1G, Ryan Rival 1G 1A, Chris Karagiannis 1A, Peter Teti 1A, Josh Hazlett 1A. **Pizzaville Team 701 1** - Anton Kurylovich 1G.

**Caruso and Company 706 5** - Graeme Ralph 1G, Taylor Brewda 2G, Connor Lynas-Flynn 2G 1A, Mike Mildon 1A, Justin Manweiller 2A, Kevin Grasse, shutout. **Optimist Club 705 0.**

**Delph Jenkins 702 6** - Cody Rundle-Sanderson 1G, Cameron Albert 3G, Alex Woodward 1G, Jeremy Warner 2G, 2A, Liam Judges 1A, Russel Lucachko 1A, Erik Lemaire 1A. **AJ Printing 704 4** - Daniel Whitley 3G, Wes Howe 1G, Eamon Reilly 1A.

### Midget

**Team 907 Rival Concepts 5** - Ryan Jones 3G 1A, Deryk Smith 1G, Chris Tillsley 1G 3A, Keegan O'leary 1A, Evan Campbell 1A, Connor Sheridan 1A, Brandon Rival 1A. **Team 901 Sentia Solutions 1** - Zach Roitner 1G, Paul De Roos 1A.

**Team 902 KTI Limited 8** - Ethan Shore 1G 3A, Brandon Giniotis 2G, Jacob Peart 1G, David Iwai 3G, 2A, Mike Shoemsmith 1G, Marlon Young 1A, Curtis Hough 2A, David Stauble 1A, Charlie Teel 1A, Eric Shoemsmith 1A, Graeme Smart 1A. **Team 906 Packaging World 6** - Michael French 1G 1A, Ian Weston 3G 1A, Jesse Cappell 1G, Dillon Cappell 1G 1A, Ben Slimkowich 1A, Matthew Pellegrini 1A, Michael Van Bakel 1A, Matthew Semeredy 1A.

**Team 908 AHPA 9** - Derek Sweeting 2G 2A, Braun Hause 2G 2A, Evan Vizzachero 1G 2A, Steve Foss 1G 1A, James Chappel 1G 1A, Keenan VanRooyen 1G 1A, Tom Gibson 1G, Paul Duggan 1A. **Team 905 Barb Blaser Remax 2** - Chris Tambos 1G, Mike Morson 1G.

**Team 903 4** - Louis LaManna 2G, Marcel LaManna 1G 1A, Dexter Speller-Drew 1G, Matthew Raponi 1A, Dylan Sutherland 1A, Jordan Adams 1A, James Adams 1A. **Team 909 Graystones 2** - Cory Blom 1G, Madison Weber 1G, Chris Burns 1A, Adrian Clark 1A.

**Team 910 Backyard Pool & Spa 9** - Jason Durst 1G, Cameron Day 3G 1A, Mike McGee 1G 3A, Alec MacKrell 1G 2A, Peter Durst 3G, Adam Stubbs 1A, Caleb Gould 1A, Dylan Calvert 1A. **Team 904 4** - Peter Axiotis 1G 1A, Patrick McMurray 2G 1A, Greg Gianopoulos 1G, Eric Saracini 3A, Devin Scudds 1A, Michael Moody 1A, Nick Orsati 1A.

**Team 910 Backyard Pool & Spa 5** - Dylan Calvert 1G, Jason Durst 1G, Alec MacKrell 1G, Peter Durst 2G. **Team 901 Sentia Solutions 3** - Andrew Osmond 2G, Phil Meunier 1G, Jordan Brown 1A, Adam Gitto 1A.

**Team 909 Graystones 5** - Evan Casselden 1G, Jake Boyle 1G 2A, Sean Maule 1G, Adrian Clark 1G 1A, Travis Hooper 1G, Sean Ellison 1A, Stephen Thompson 1A. **Team 906 Packaging World 3** - Matthew Pellegrini 1G, Michael French 1G, Ian Weston 1G, Cameron Mickle 1A, Jesse Cappell 1A, Daniel Sachetti 1A, Daniel Korolnek 1A.

**Team 902 KTI Limited 7** - Charlie Teel 2G 1A, Eric Shoemsmith 1G 2A, Curtis Hough 1G 1A, Josh Bentolilla 1G 2A, Graeme Smart 1G, Mike Shoemsmith 1G 3A, Chris MacDonald 1A. **Team 904 3** - Patrick McMurray 1G 1A, Nick Orsati 1G, Greg Gianopoulos 1G 2A.

**Team 908 AHPA 11** - Michael Orschel 1G, Aaron Lempinen 2G 2A, Tyler Clements 4G, Braun Hause 2G, Derek Sweeting 1G, Paul Duggan 1G, Luca Ghegin 4A. **Team 903 0.**

**Team 907 Rival Concepts 2** - Ryan Jones 1G, Deryk Smith 1G, Michael Gray 1A, Michael Coggin 1A. **Team 905 Barb Blaser Remax 2** - Mike Morson 2G 1A, Nicholas Di Nallo 1A, Tyler Friars 1A.

**Team 910 3** - Cameron Day 1G, Jason Durst 1G 1A, Alex Mackrell 1G, Mike McGee 1A, Peter Durst 1A, Ryan Cathers 1A. **Team 906 2** - Ian Weston 1G, Daniel Sachetti 1G, Michael French 1A, Ben Slimkowich 1A.

**Team 908 6** - Aaron Lempinen 2G 1A, Tom Gibson 1G 2A, Steve Foss 1G, Braun Hause 1G, Luca Ghegin 1G, Paul Duggan 1A, James Chappell 2A. **Team 901 1** - Phil Meunier 1G, Neil Gaston 1A, Simon Espisito 1A.

**Team 909 4** - Madison Weber 1G 1A, Chris Burns 1G, Evan Casselden 1G, Travis Hooper 1G, David Bar 1A, Stephen Thompson 1A. **Team 902 3** - Brandon Giniotis 1G, Chris MacDonald 1G 1A, Josh Bentolilla 1G, David Stauble 1A, Eric Shoemsmith 1A, Colin Munn 1A.

### Rep League

**Orillia Novice A Terriers 8. Aurora Novice A Tigers 1** - Andrew Jorgensen 1G, Carson Venneri 1A.

**Aurora Tigers Novice AE 3** - Taylor Tuck 1G 2A, Anthony Capraro 1G 1A, Max Lombard 1G, Luke O'Keefe 2A, Julien Aben 1A. **Georgina Novice AE 1.**

**Aurora Tigers Atom AE 5** - Keegan Matthew 2G, Tristan Kuchar 2G, Spencer White 1G 2A, Zachary Fletcher 1A, Keegan Matthew 1A, Alistair Johnston 1A, Jeffrey McKay 1A, Cooper Hewgill 1A. **Richmond Hill Atom AE 1.**

**Aurora Tigers Bantam AA 6** - Mark Robertson 1G, Andrew Papousek 2G, AJ Killens 1G 1A, Matthew Roy 1G 1A, Lukas Leslie 1G, Sean Nishimura 3A, Dylan Rochon 2A, Rory MacNeil 1A, Dylan Hussey 1A. **Newmarket Redmen Bantam AA 3.**

**Aurora Tigers Bantam AA 2** - Dylan Hussey 1G, Lukas Leslie 1G, AJ Killens 1A. **Newmarket Redmen Bantam AA 2.**

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The Aurora Tigers Minor Midget AA team went a perfect 5-0 at the Chicago Thanksgiving Classic tournament and brought home the championship medal recently. The team spent 11 hours on a coach bus to get there, played their hearts out for three days, and won the tournament during the American Thanksgiving weekend. They won the title by winning their final game 6-5. In the photo, left to right, are trainer, Sonia Pedersen; manager, Mary Bar; assistant coach, Braden Goodfellow; Ryan Ceresino, Jamie Cherutti, Josh Beaton, Mike Bar, Matthew Miller, Jonathan Poulakos, Dylan Skelton, Chris Venditelli, Chris Smith, Brandon Pedersen, Blair Cuthbert, Ryan Antoniel, Graeme Goodfellow, Scott Bromley, Steadman Dinning, James Harkin, and head coach, Tom Jackson. Absent when the photo was taken was Patrick Jones.

# Aurora golfer shines on links

Aurora resident Claudine Foong has set her sights on the LPGA tour.

The 23-year-old Foong signed up for two top developmental tours for Canadian women's golfers this year, including the Duramed Futures Tour and CN Canadian Women's Tour.

In June of this year, Foong shot a 74 and finished in a tie for 10th place in her first

Canadian Women's Tour.

She started golfing at the age of 15, and received a scholarship to Troy University in Alabama upon finishing high school.

For the second year of her undergrad, she moved to Gardner-Webb University in North Carolina.

While at Gardner-Webb, Foong placed in the top 10 on six occasions in collegiate play.

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# Aurora Atom AE Tigers win international tourney

When the ice chips had settled at the Can/Am Challenge Cup Tournament played at Lake Placid, New York, recently, the Aurora Atom AE Tigers, were standing on top of the heap.

After five brilliant games of hockey, Aurora emerged undefeated.

On the Friday of that weekend, Aurora met a team from York Mills.

A goal early in the first period was all the Tigers needed as they dominated the game and skated to a 1-0 victory over the Rangers.

Their next three slated games were against American teams, including one that same day.

There was no contest as they defeated the SYHA Sharks 15-1, then handed the same club a 10-1 whipping the next day.

Playing their second game on the second day, Aurora blanked the Greenwich Wings 10-0.

Because they had won all four games, Aurora made it to the final Challenge Cup Tournament game held early the next morning.

Facing the same team they had defeated 1-0 two days earlier, Aurora knew it had to come out strong and keep the pressure on.

Before the game was 10 minutes old, Aurora led by three goals to take a lead they refused to relinquish.

Tigers dominated throughout the remainder of the game and did not give Rangers many chances to shoot on their net.

They sealed the game and the championship via a 5-0 victory.

Each of the players received a gold medal, and team captain, Jeffrey McKay, and assistant captains, Cameron Anderson and Cooper Hewgill, stood on the Olympic podium to hold the Olympic Flame as part of the ceremony.

The Gold Medal Championship Plaque and banner were awarded to the Aurora Tigers Head Coach Ken

McKay.

During the tournament, the Tigers participated in the Four-Man Relay Race and won it for the entire AE division.

They then raced A division for the championship and the team of Alistair Johnston, Jacob Hatton, Connor Downs, and Tristan Kuchar, came out on top.

Part of the tournament included an option for the players to write a Challenge Cup Essay Contest to win a week at Can/Am hockey camp in Lake Placid or Guelph. Louie Kirkos, Aurora Tigers Atom AE Goalie, was the winner.

Making up the team are Head Coach Ken McKay; Assistant Coaches Peter Fletcher and Fred Sauer; Goalie Coach and Trainer; Phil Anderson; Manager; Kim

Downs; Goalies Graham Dynes and Louie Kirkos; and players Cameron Anderson, Christian Arcuri, Charles Bennett, Adam Caicco, Connor Downs, Zachary Fletcher, Connor Gonsalves, Jacob Hatton, Cooper Hewgill, Alistair Johnston, Tristan Kuchar, Keegan Matthew, Jeffrey McKay, Thomas Sauer and Spencer White.

This is a rare team who makes a point of getting involved in the community every year.

Last year they ran a food drive and collected more than 900 items for the Aurora Food Pantry.

They made posters, collected items, went shopping with money collected, and delivered all items personally to the Food Pantry.

This year they have volunteered at the Aurora Farmers' Market and are now running a Super Second draw at all of their home games with proceeds raised going to Southlake Regional Cancer Centre.

The Aurora Dream Team wishes to

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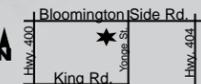


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# Theatre Aurora actors excel again in comedy

By **BARBARA ANDERSON**  
Special to The Auroran

An old manual typewriter constantly clicking away, scads of discarded sheets of paper, an empty pizza box, and a half empty bottle of Johnny Walker Scotch, these items are the hallmark of fading playwright Mark W. Transom.

Theatre Aurora once again nails it in their latest comedic production, "That Darn Plot", currently playing at the Factory Theatre on Henderson Drive.

They have always excelled in their portrayal of humour and their latest production continues that legacy.

Briefly, "That Darn Plot" tells the story of a playwright who was once in great demand for his writing skills.

Over the years however, these same skills have diminished to some extent, in fact with each slug from the bottle!

Transom is under contractual obligation from a director who also happens to be old friend Jo Harber, to write a play in one night despite his lack of recent success - so, no pressure there, and this is where the fun begins.

The constant tapping at the old manual typewriter provides the backdrop for the story, and the way that

pages are indiscriminately ripped out of that machine and hurled down to the floor tells it all. In fact, in some parts two typewriters are going at it!

Cast members were well chosen for their parts and complimented each other.

I loved the way Jo Harber, played by Anna Pelc-Draper, was more or less in a perpetual state of anxiety, throwing her hands up in desperation at every obstacle she had to overcome.

I also loved Tammie Van Dyk's portrayal of the straight laced, 'play it by the rules' Ivy Schreiber. With her hair tightly braided, she was every inch a no-nonsense "this is the way Equity wants it" type of gal.

Only thing I would have liked to have seen differently is when she let down her guard in a scene that builds to a climatic liaison with a fellow cast member - be nice to have seen her afterwards with those long locks let loose to show some kind of conversion.

Bruce Williamson plays the part of Mark W. Transom and has a wonderful habit of constantly running his hands through his hair in sheer exasperation.

He looked every inch of what I imagine a writer would look like, bit careless of his clothes and topped off the ensemble with a drab old cardigan (doesn't

every writer own one?).

The few times he stopped typing, stood up and came to the front of the stage to address the audience, he was convincing.

In fact, when Williamson told us "That's it. End of show. You can all go home now" I was almost afraid to stay!

This is a play that you will want to pay close attention to as there is lots of layering in it. It is a great script and all the actors have done it great justice.

The show concludes this week with showings each evening at 8 p.m. including Saturday, December 13.

Call the box office at 905-727-3669 for further information

## Letter to the Editor

### Your input needed

To the editor,

On December 11th at 7 p.m. at Town Hall there will be a public meeting regarding the Master Plan and Pricing Policy.

The Master Plan will shape how parks and facilities are allocated and developed.

Every person in the town, youth, adults and seniors will be affected by the outcome.

Many groups have not given their input and they need to do so in order to obtain an accurate representation of what our town

needs.

The chance to make changes to the plans still exists.

But if you do not speak up our councillors will not know what is important to you.

This will likely be the last opportunity for public input before the items are put to a vote in council.

I urge the residents of Aurora to show the government how much we care by attending this important meeting.

**Carol Walthers**  
Aurora

## Plans confuse parents

From page 1

did not want to send children to Aurora Grove and had opted for the Lester B. Pearson French Immersion School program instead.

A number of residents expressed concern that not having a school on the historic site would have an adverse effect on families in the region.

Residents were displeased by the information the Board had purchased another elementary school site in the Bayview area.

Parents thought Wells Street students were the victims of poor planning of new school locations on the Board of Education's part.

Aurora's deputy mayor Bob McRoberts said proposed public meetings conflicted with Aurora Council engagements.

He also suggested the declining enrolment was temporary, and wondered if Wells Street could start going to grade 8 rather than Grade 6.

The board has three options available to keep the school active.

-A \$5.21 million minimal retrofit.

Among other things, this option would involve partial asbestos abatement and a

reconstruction of the deficient floor structure in the northeast corner of the building.

This section is a holdover from the 1892 building that was included in the current structure when it was built in 1923.

-A complete retrofit of the existing building, which would cost \$10.76 million.

Under this option, new

floor, wall, and ceiling finishes would be installed to meet York Region District School Board Prototype Elementary School 2009 standards.

-A new building with a heritage façade would cost \$8.59 million.

The next full public meeting is currently scheduled for January 14 also at Aurora High.



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## DEATH NOTICE



**PARKER, Herbert (John) Wright**, of Aurora, was born into the Christian home of Herbert & Florence Parker in Portadown, Northern Ireland, July 16, 1922, died Monday December 1st, 2008 at Southlake Regional Health Centre, Newmarket. Mr. Parker is survived by his wife Madge, son Philip, sister-in-law Etta, niece Wendy Facchini (Larry), nephews Wayne (Lorelei) and Sean Parker and great nephew and great niece Gregory and Julia Facchini and great great niece Kiana Lewis. Also, Helen, Brian, Bea & Nicole Callahan and Debbie, Bruce & Sean Chambers as well as many cousins in Northern Ireland. He is predeceased by his brother Brian and sister Mavis. In the late 1930's, Mr. Parker studied Engineering at Portadown Technical College. In 1941, he joined the R.A.F in Belfast as a wireless operator. He served in the training of air and ground gunners in England. He later served in The Burma Campaign with special duties squadron 357 R.A.F., supply dropping for the 14th Army, and Merrill's Marauders and Wingate's Chindits famous Commando Groups operating behind enemy lines in Dakota and Liberator aircraft. He liked to say "We kept them alive from the air". Returning to Ireland in 1946, he joined the Portadown Repertory Theatre as an actor, touring parts of Northern Ireland before coming to Canada in the early 1950's. He became a Manufacturer's Agent representing The Miner Co., The Maple Leaf Co. and Calego International, all out of Montreal with a territory covering all of Ontario. Mr. Parker was a holder of The Burma Star and Air Crew Europe Star. He was a life member of the First Canadian Branch of The Burma Star Association. In Toronto and a Life Member of the Commercial Traveller's Association of Canada and a member of Royal Canadian Legion of Aurora. Following retirement, he became an avid Barbershopper with The Upper Canada Chordsmen of Newmarket and the Suburbanaires of Markham. A memorial service was held at the Roadhouse & Rose Funeral Home, 157 Main St. S., Newmarket on Sunday, December 7th, 2008 at 2 p.m. If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation or the charity of your choice.  
His last message to his wife, "I love you until we meet again".  
"The day thou givest Lord is ended".

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# BIG SALE

# Senior Scape



The Aurora Seniors' Centre Evergreens Choir will "Ring out the Bells" with a Concert Wednesday, December 17th, at 7.30 p.m. at the seniors' centre, 5 Municipal Drive.

The choral selection will be comprised of Christmas music including selections of secular, religious and popular compositions.

Director will be Enid Maize, the accompanist, Doreen Riley. A duet will be performed by Bud and Stella Switzer, solos by Sylvia Neal, Doug Riley, the accompanist's husband, and Frank Hawkins who will be accompanied by his wife Margie, an assistant with the choir.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and are available now at the seniors' reception desk.

The Christmas Bazaar Saturday, November 29th, went as planned with lots of curious and fascinated shoppers searching for that

something special at a great price and, congratulations to our indefatigable Louise Williams who worked so hard and patiently to make it happen.

This bazaar always provides a captivating medley of new hand made crafts, some fashioned in our woodshop by men, and some I believe by lady carvers.

In addition, another assortment of arts and crafts was available created mostly by our ladies and other wild knick knacks people have accumulated, cherished for years and then donated to the seniors for a variety of reasons.

It makes a walk around the vendors' tables a delight, arousing wonder at what next will astonish, astound and amuse everybody.

The movies are still playing at the centre on Tuesday evenings starting at 6.30 p.m., and December 16th will be a comedy "Fred

Claus" and December 23rd is a comedy /drama "The Family Man".

This is a good point to remind members that the senior centre closes for the Christmas Holiday at noon, December 24th and reopens Monday, January 5th at 9 p.m.

Also, the ASA has formed a much needed committee which is the "Operations and Activities" committee.

This committee has been formed from members of operating committees to share, collaborate and to allow a free flow and sharing of ideas, issues and general matters of interest.

The resulting flow of information, originating from an informed committee of members and Town staff, has the potential to access everybody in the ASA in a timely and informed manner.

Everybody is granted the opportunity to listen to their neighbours, ask questions and in turn to give voice to

their own topics of interest or what concerns them.

Approaching on Thursday, December 18th, is the Christmas Potluck Luncheon at noon. Sign up for this by December 15th.

Determine your food dish from the pre-set categories and, remember that the food dishes must be prepared and delivered ready to serve and for a minimum of five people.

This has always been a really fun kind of luncheon and always very well attended.

A very interesting initiative springing from the wood shop craftsmen, is the offer of instruction in the safe operation of several of the woodworking tools in the wood shop.

Ron Coe and Mike Varcoe, two fine and experienced operators of wood working machinery and excellent wood workers, will serve as the instructors.

The very popular Budget

Bistro which is normally offered on Wednesday lunchtime, except when other functions are scheduled, has run into the month of December full of other functions. Consequently, Budget Bistro is suspended through December and will resume Wednesday, January 14th, and will be available every Wednesday, with the exception of those dates that have special events scheduled.

And an important point for the Bridge players to be aware of is a change to the starting time each Wednesday afternoon, which is now 1.30 p.m.

This is a permanent change and should relieve the problems with parking spaces.

And ASA membership renewal time is almost upon us as of January 1st. For the sake of convenience, early renewals can be made through December at the

front desk which will hopefully relieve the pressure of registration through January.

The computer club will commence 2009 with programs and instruction available from the first week of the New Year.

January 6th, at 10 a.m. will be the first general computer club meeting and visits to favourite websites will be the big attraction.

Wednesday, January 7th, the seniors centre computer club offers instruction in Microsoft Word Processing, at a cost of \$20 for four lessons, between 9.30 a.m. and 11.30 a.m.

Instruction in basic computing will resume the same day between 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m., for three lessons at a cost of \$15.

These instructional classes are limited to six per class, and sign up is on Tuesday, January 6th, in the computer room between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.



## Frankly Speaking

By **FRANK KLEES**  
MPP - Newmarket-Aurora

At a time when plants are closing and job losses are mounting, the last thing we need is more uncertainty.

The recent actions of Messers Dion, Layton and Duceppe are wrong-headed and self-serving and threaten to plunge our already fragile economy into crisis.

That's why I called on the three federal opposition leaders to reconsider their plans to bring down the recently elected federal government, and urged the Premier and all members of the provincial legislature to join me in my call for stability.

In a letter to the Prime Minister and the three opposition party leaders, I stressed the need for immediate action by the federal government to prevent the loss of thousands of manufacturing jobs.

I pointed to the 850 jobs that will be lost as a result of the recently announced Magna plant closings in York Region and the threat of thousands of additional job losses if a meaningful action plan for the industry is delayed.

I made it clear that my intention is not to defend the actions of the federal government that gave rise to the strong opposition mounted by the three opposition parties.

In fact, I stated that in retrospect, neither the timing nor some of the content of the government's policy announcements that triggered the opposition parties' reaction was well advised.

In response, the opposition parties made their point forcefully and effectively. That's the role of opposition parties in our parliamentary system of government.

But that's where it should have ended.

After securing the government's retreat on the controversial proposals such as taking away the right to strike by the

public sector, eliminating funding to political parties and agreeing to move the date of the federal budget to accelerate the timing of an economic action plan, the opposition parties should have claimed victory and moved on to work with the government to ensure the implementation of an economic recovery strategy rather than resort to what is playing out to be an historical coup d'etat.

Rather than being satisfied that they had effectively performed their opposition role, the triumvirate of Dion, Layton and Duceppe formed an unholy alliance to overthrow the government.

In so doing, they are willing to destabilize our government, risk a loss of international confidence in our economy and sacrifice thousands of jobs by even further delaying the implementa-

## Coalition Coup threat to our local economy

tion of a meaningful federal economic action plan that would bring stability to our economy and assist our auto sector.

This is a time when every member of every parliament in the country should be working together to build confidence in our governments, our economy and our manufacturing industries.

The last thing we need is to be thrown into another election or to be led by a coalition of three political parties, one of which has no loyalty to Canada, have no mandate to govern, have contradictory policies, and have self-appointed the man who would be the Prime Minister should this so-called Coalition have its way.

This is not the Canada I know, and we all have a responsibility to stop this abuse of power and protect the integrity of

our parliamentary system of government.

And as always, I invite your comments and questions on this or any other issue of interest to you. Please feel free to call me on my direct line at 416-509-8999 or visit my website at frankklees.com.



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