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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper

Vol. 10 No. 9

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FREE

Week of December 15, 2009

Average homeowner will pay \$30 more next year

Aurora residents can expect a 1.8 per cent tax increase in the coming year, according to the new 2010 budget.

That number assumes they live in an average home assessed at \$300,000.

According to town officials, the increase amounts to approximately \$30 per year.

The budget, which Mayor Phyllis Morris and councillors called a "good news budget", was outlined

at last week's council meeting.

It is expected to be adopted by Council January 26.

While providing an overview of the document, Mayor Morris said council and staff set out to create a sustainable budget.

"Most of the money you see is going into infrastructure, maintenance, and refurbishment because it's the old stitch in time," she said.

According to Mayor Morris, these infrastructure measures

include a 5.52 per cent increase in support for the Aurora Public Library, park maintenance, roadwork, enhanced Town customer service, an assessment of Aurora's sidewalks and bikeways, and increased support for the arboretum.

Money has been set aside as well for the completion of the contentious extension to the Nokiidaa Trail system, connecting the trail in north Aurora through the west side of the McKenzie Wetlands to a trail recently extended in the south end of Newmarket.

Mayor Morris pointed out, however, while money has been allocated, the trail extension itself has yet to be approved.

Some town facilities will be retrofitted under the 2010 budget to "improve energy efficiency," she said.

"We've made a commitment to the maintenance and refurbishment of the existing town infrastructure, and been able to leverage federal and provincial monies," she said. "But it is important we put our share in as well and keep the capital

Please see page 5

Klees sticks to his guns as HST becomes reality

It's unlikely Conservative Member of Parliament Lois Brown even knows about a press release which says she is splitting from MPP Frank Klees in his efforts to stop the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) from happening in Aurora, Mr. Klees told The Auroran Sunday.

MP Lois Brown agreed Sunday she wasn't aware of the press release.

"This is further evidence of the complete lack of integrity on the part of the McGuinty Liberals," Mr. Klees said when he was made aware of the press release sent to the media by Ottawa Centre MPP Yasir Naqvi.

"This is the same Liberal Party that put out a misleading press release just last week in which they attempted to twist the truth about my position on the HST. Interesting that this same Mr. Naqvi, is also the President of the Liberal Party of Ontario."

The press release, headed "MP Brown abandons MPP Klees", said, in part, that MP Lois Brown snubbed MPP Frank Klees on the HST when she voted in favour of federal legislation to allow the tax reform in Ontario.

"The snub by the federal Conservative MP is further evidence that Ontario Conservatives are isolat-

Please see page 8

Wells review happens

The provincial Minister of Education has agreed to appoint a facilitator to inquire into the actions of the York Region District School Board and determine whether the board failed to follow its own policy when trustees voted to close Aurora's historic Wells Street Public School, The Auroran has been told.

Trustees voted to close the school at a meeting in September. Only two trustees favoured keeping

the school as an educational facility, Aurora's Gord Kerr and a trustee from Newmarket.

In a letter to Dan Revington of the Olde Aurora Ratepayers Association (OARA), who requested the Administrative Review, the Ministry says, "the facilitator will be focused on reviewing the board's accommodation review process and its consistency with the accommo-

Please see page 13

Report card coming, mayor says

The Town of Aurora is in the final stages of producing a town report card, highlighting the town's achievement over the course of the year.

In an interview with The Auroran, Mayor Phyllis Morris said along with stimulating economic growth and development, she is also proud of the strides made in heritage and environmental programs.

Mayor Morris said when the present council was elected, they were faced with a list of outstand-



Members of Somerset entertained at Hillary House in a sold-out performance last week. Taking part were, left to right, Donna Gingras, Ian Coombes and Brenda Korrel. The ballroom at Hillary House was the perfect setting for the performance of traditional folk music with a few Christmas carols thrown in. About 36 attended. Following the performance there was a tour of two of the main floor rooms that were decorated for Christmas and then desserts, coffee, tea and punch was served in the ballroom. *Auroran photo by David Falconer*

ing issues needing to be dealt with.

The issues appeared to break down into several distinct categories, she said, including the enhancement of the downtown core, town properties, governance and business development strategies, as well as a master recreation plan.

"Overriding all of this was the fact that we needed to bring in budgets this year that reflected our constituents' need for a well managed Town Hall, but at an

affordable cost," she said. "Our taxpayers pay enough taxes."

One of the key goals was the development of Church Street School.

Mayor Morris said she believes the development of the Church Street Cultural Centre is one of the successes of this council.

The town did not set out to simply renovate an old building, but to give it a "purposeful new use for the new century," she said.

A committee looking at possi-

Please see page 17

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COMING EVENTS

CONTINUING

York Highlands Chorus is an award-winning a cappella Sweet Adelines chorus, a group of women who gather Tuesday evenings at the Old Firehall, Newmarket, to sing, share in the harmony of friendship and learn the barber-shop art form. York Highlands is always looking for new women who share the love of a cappella music. Call Karen at 905-726-2113 or Vikki at information@yorkhighlands.com.

The Upper Canada Chordsmen, Aurora-Newmarket's award winning chorus, is looking for male singers. The group sings about love, friendship, family, humour and brotherhood and meets every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Old Firehall, 140 Main Street South, in Newmarket.

The Optimist Club of Aurora meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Aurora Legion. New members are welcome. Call 905-727-5012 for more information.

Every Thursday, Martha's Table serves home-made soup, sandwiches, and dessert in St. Andrew's Hall at the Presbyterian Church, corner of Mosley and Victoria Street. Cost is minimal, and the volunteer-run program enabled the church to give more than \$5,000 to local charities in 2008 alone. You can enjoy lunch, conversation, and a sense of community between 11.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. weekly.

The York Regional Police Male Chorus is looking for new members. You do not have to be a police officer nor are you required to read music to volunteer. The group rehearses Monday evenings between 7.30 and 9.30 p.m. For further information, contact the chorus supervisor at 905-727-9676 or the coordinator of volunteer services for YRP at 905-830-0303, extension 6717.

Aurora's Air Cadets meet every Tuesday night at Cardinal Carter School from 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m., and offer a program for 12 years and older boys and girls.

Aurora Opera Children's Chorus welcomes treble voices. It is a choir dedicated to nurturing and providing opportunities for children to express their musical abilities. The chorus is

open to boys and girls ages 5-17. Contact the general director at keepingsing@rogers.com

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 Wednesday from 6.30 to 8 p.m. the Pioneer Club for boys and girls, age three 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@sympatico.ca.

Scottish Country Dancing on Tuesday evenings at 8.15 p.m. at the Aurora Heights Public School and on Friday mornings 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.

Annual Christmas buffet at the Aurora Legion happens between 11.30 a.m., and 2 p.m. at the hall on Industrial Parkway North. Tickets, at \$15 each, are available at the Legion bar when you make reservations.

The torch, on its way to the 2010 Olympics in British Columbia, arrives in Aurora. It will follow a route west from Bayview and Wellington, to Wells Street, south to Metcalfe, west to Church and Yonge, then north on Yonge to a car dealer. Starting at approximately 9.53 a.m. at Bayview and Wellington East, the torch will end at Highland Chev Olds at about 10.26 a.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19
York Symphony Orchestra's annual holiday concert returns to Trinity Anglican Church in Aurora for two performances Saturday, December 19th. The afternoon performance is at 3.30 p.m. and the evening show begins at 8 p.m. For tickets, call 416-410-0860, or pick them up at the door.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25
Merry Christmas.
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Happy New Year.
MONDAY, JANUARY 11
Aurora Film Circuit presents "An
Please see page 19

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Town staff will compile recorded votes: council

Despite vocal opposition from Councillor Evelyn Buck last week, Town Staff will now have to compile and present a complete record of all resolutions and recorded votes taken during this council.

Notice of the motion was given by Councillor Evelina MacEachern at a recent General Committee meeting, and was moved by the councillor last week.

Councillor Buck, however, said she could not see the purpose of the motion.

"I would like to hear an argument in support of the motion," said Councillor Buck. "The purpose of a recorded vote is for all members, so all members who vote yea are shown by name and all those who vote nay are shown by name. It's a matter of reference. Anyone who wishes (to do so) can find

them, so what is the purpose of having them all collected?"

Councillor Al Wilson, who seconded Councillor MacEachern's motion, responded to Councillor Buck's concerns.

"My reason for seconding this is quite simple," he said. "I'll say it - we've been made out in the press to be a divisive council. My recollection of the recorded votes is the exact opposite. We're not (divided). I believe that the majority of important issues where we've had recorded votes, we've very much been a team."

Mayor Phyllis Morris, who supported the motion, agreed with Councillor Wilson's assessment.

"I think even the unanimous votes would show we've moved tremendous business along because often we've found compro-

mise and debated at length some issues, whether they have been small issues or issues of great significance to the community," said Mayor Morris.

She said it is often the case that council votes 8-1, 7-2, or 6-3, but compiling a list of recorded votes will show "it's not always the same people voting the same way".

After Councillor Wilson explained his reasons for seconding Councillor MacEachern's motion, however, Councillor Buck wondered aloud if the two had agreed on the motion beforehand.

"I have to say that I don't like the insinuation of this conspiracy theory that we plan out discussions," said Councillor MacEachern.

"I barely had time to type (the motion) out to get this on time let alone sit down and say to Councillor Wilson, 'Would you support this resolution?'. I don't think it is rocket science. It's pretty straightforward."

Councillor MacEachern said the reason she did not speak directly to the item was that she thought it was "pretty self explanatory."

The motion passed 5-3, with Councillors Buck, Alison Collins-Mrakas, and Bob McRoberts dissenting.

Aurora wants sprinklers installed in all new homes

The Town of Aurora is poised to petition the provincial government to amend the Ontario Building Code, taking measures to protect lives and property loss in case of fires.

This potential petition comes on the heels of a Joint Council Committee meeting back in October.

That committee, made up of representatives from Aurora and Newmarket Councils, handles requests coming from the Central York Fire Services.

In the minutes presented at Aurora Council last week, it was recommended that council petition Ontario's Minister of Housing to require the installation of fire sprinklers in all new housing construction projects in the Province.

The resolution also calls on the Council to petition Ontario's Solicitor General to include residential sprinkler protection in the Ontario Fire Code and distribute the resolution to other interested parties and stakeholders, including Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees, the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs, and all GTA municipalities.

While the resolution was on the table at last week's meeting, Councillor Evelina MacEachern moved that it be referred to the Town's building staff for further comment.

According to the resolu-

Aurora Seniors Bridge

Monday, December 7: N/S - Mary Oglanby and Bernie O'Brien; Irene Kubica and Dorothy Young; Gordon and Marg Cyr. E/W - Ev Dickie and Audrey Robertson; Rose White and Gloria Smith; Suzanne Nunn and Shirley Laurin.



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Poor Ronnie

By RON WALLACE

We didn't change name of the street

It's time, once again, to set the record straight.

There was never any intention to rename the street known as John West Way.

Not then, not now, not ever!!

I constantly hear from people who ask when the street will change its name, and what will the new name be.

It will be John West Way, just like it is...just like it was when it was originally built.

I was on council when the decision was made to give the municipal building its own address, and perhaps, those who voted against it thought we wanted to change the name of the street as well.

I honestly don't know, but all I voted for was to give the Aurora Town Hall an address that did not reflect a politician, living or dead, and we did that by creating Municipal Drive, a "new" street that ends at John West Way in two spots; in front of the Town Hall and behind it.

And now, with the addition of the Seniors' Centre, there are two businesses on Municipal Drive. The Town is at 1 Municipal, while the seniors get mail at 5 Municipal Drive.

I'm reminded of the story of the people who lived on the same street as Gordon Sinclair, and when he died, there was a motion to change the name of the street to reflect his life.

The people who lived on the street said "no", so forcefully that the name was not changed.

If people who live on John West Way were concerned about the name of their street changing, I didn't hear about it.

Probably because they got the message that the street name wouldn't change.

And, if anyone wants to make an argument out of a driveway holding the name of a street, the precedent has already been set.

Who knew that the Aurora Community Centre does not have an Aurora Heights Drive address?

Its address is on Community Centre Lane.

Businesses who have addresses on Furbacher Lane aren't on a street, but the lane into two buildings exists with a street sign.

And try to drive a car up Veterans Lane, in front of the Aurora Cenotaph and see how far you get.

This issue raised its head again Saturday when a man came into the newspaper office, picked up a copy of The Auroran, the one with former Councillor Nigel Kean's photo on Page 1, and said he would not vote for that man because he wanted to change the name of John West Way.

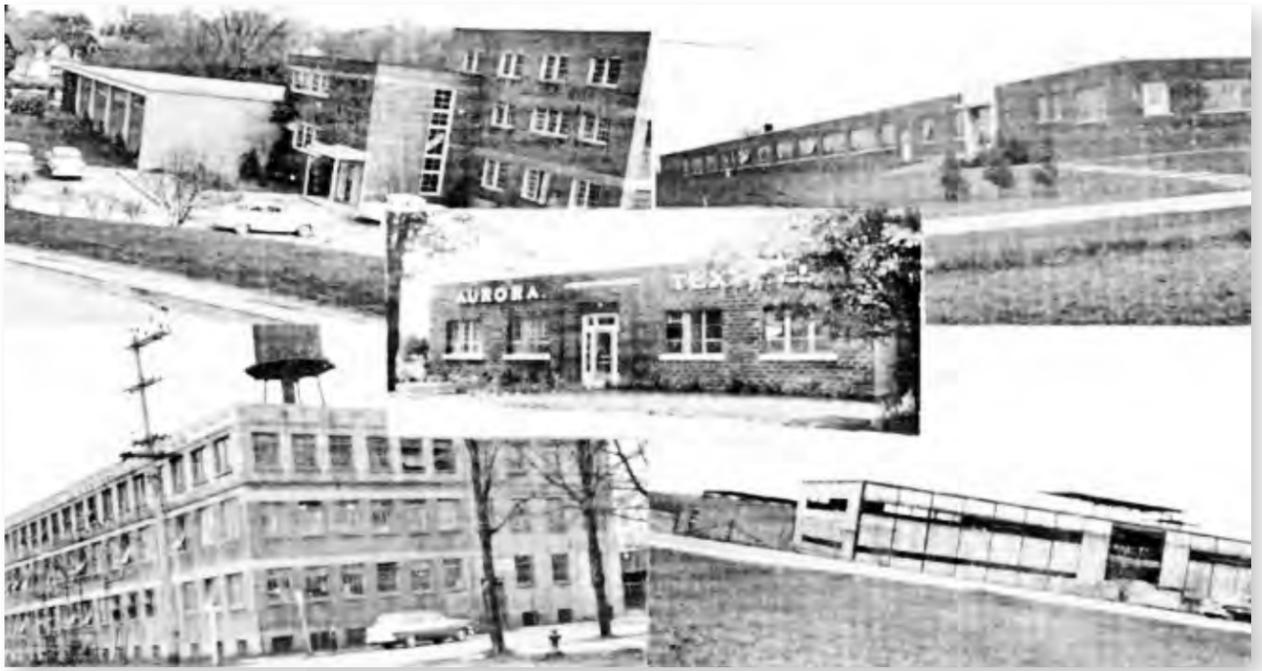
True, it was Councillor Kean's motion that started all this, but, and he pointed it out at the time, he wanted the municipal office only to have a new street name.

Not once did he say he wanted to change the name of the entire street.

So here's the poop: John West Way will remain that way, all the way from Wellington Street in the south, to Hollidge Boulevard in the north.

At least as far as I am concerned.

Because John West, a former mayor, deserves it.



A few decades ago, a now-defunct group known as the Aurora Board of Trade (Chamber of Commerce), produced a booklet, along with the Town of Aurora, telling the world how great things were in Aurora. In the book, a page was devoted to industry in the town. That page appears here and included on the page were such industries as Collis Leather, Sisman Shoes, and an under-construction picture of the future home of Sterling Drug, lower right, where Aspirin was manufactured. That building has now been torn down and replaced by retail on the southwest corner of Yonge and Murray Drive.

Letter to the Editor

Great Aurora "love-in" currently at Town Park

To the editor,

Greetings to my fellow humans in Aurora.

Please know I write as an independent Canadian voice.

Thank you, John Sargent, for taking the time to write a letter of support in last week's edition of The Auroran: "Reader agrees with Heidi's stand on trail".

The fact that someone took the time to publically support what I write means so much to me and the cause.

Additionally, I appreciate your well wishes in getting "an honest politician on 'my' side".

I am fully aware of how this is a great task as politicians tend to side more with the corporation and their allegences than the people, those who they are supposed to represent.

As Auroran readers know I have stated 15 reasons to save the wetlands from any disturbance. Robb Ogilvie of Ogilvie, Ogilvie & Company, stated 'give me' one good reason not to put in the boardwalk.

Today, I have nothing to report on this issue as I have yet to receive any communications from Robb Ogilvie.

I specifically write today about another issue which every single Canadian needs to become quickly educated about.

On December 17th, the Olympic Torch will be entering Toronto.

Ontario will start ringing with chants of "No Olympics on Stolen Native Lands".

On December 18th, it goes through Aurora. Google Olympic Resistance Network for details.

Since writing my first letter to the editor of The Auroran the week of October 28, 2008, "Reader Wants Peace", I have been trying to bring awareness to the Sovereignty Issue of the Indigenous People in Canada.

Since the beginnings of colonization, the State of Canada, the Crown and the corporations have illegally and immorally invaded and occupied the land in Canada and as citizens we have been complicit to this act.

Canada has broken our original agreements made with the original inhabitants of this land.

We signed to the Two Row Wampum Belt and Covenant Chain Agreements in which we were to live side by side, Sovereign to Sovereign and share this great land called Canada.

Unfortunately, the State of Canada in collusion with the Crown and Corporation 'Breached the Peace' by denying the Indigenous People their Sovereignty and expression of their will.

The State of Canada chose policies of assimilation in dealing with the natives rather than honouring treaties and agreements established.

We have royally disrespected the natives.

Most Canadian citizens who I speak to agree but what they don't understand is that we've been duped, brainwashed, misled and completely lied to.

The media continues to provide only one side of the story and blackout any story which would provide truth and insight.

They print pictures of radical natives starting fires or blockading thus allowing racist attitudes to fester, hate crimes to flourish and discrimination to go unchallenged.

It pits white against red rather than educating.

Whistler, British Columbia, exists on unceded (no treaty) St'at'imc native land.

Jacques Rogges and the International Olympic Committee were asked not to host 2010 in B.C. because of Canada's past human rights abuses.

I have a copy of this original letter. I lived in the Whistler area for 12 years so I have come to understand both sides of this issue very clearly.

At this time, I can only say Prime Minister Stephen Harper has no right criticizing other countries like China's human rights abuses when he is denying through avoidance the Indigenous People in Canada's

voice to be expressed and heard by the Canadian public.

Our country is behaving very bad and very sneaky. By silencing the voices of the natives we allow Imperialism to proceed unchallenged.

The experiences of the Palestinians and the Red Man in Canada are parallel.

In both cases, one country is bullying another and suppressing the truth from the public.

Do Canadians realize that part of the conflict in the middle east is because the Arabs and the Palestinians are trying to hold another party accountable for Jesus's execution?

This Christmas, please consider with family and friends, who killed Jesus and why.

This man was peaceful without weapons, only his voice. Why was he such a threat he had to be killed?

I have so much to share.

As a result, we will be hosting

'The Great Auroran Love In' at Aurora's Town Park from Monday, December 14 through Thursday, December 17.

We will be available for discussions and education daily from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.

On December 18th, we will be on Yonge Street at 9:33 a.m. with our signs saying "We Care", "Peace On Earth" and "Where is the Justice?" when the torch goes through Aurora.

Not only do we seek justice for the Canadian government's past wrongdoings towards the Indigenous People but we seek Peace on Earth.

Real Peace that is, meaning children first...no more bombs, no more guns, no more creation of military arsenals.

I heard a Canadian veteran state on CTV on Remembrance Day, "we aren't civilized yet as we still use killing and war as means to solve our

Please see page 8



There was no room elsewhere in the paper this week, so the above photo finds a home here. Peter Miller, left, owner and operator of several McDonald's Restaurants in Aurora and Newmarket, presents Dr. Glenn Rampton, the CEO of Kerry's Place Autism Services with a plaque celebrating the success of the resource centre program made possible in part to the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

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Publisher Emeritus
Rosemary Schumaker

Editorial
Ron Wallace
ron@auroran.com

Production
Cynthia Proctor
cynthia@auroran.com

Photography
David Falconer
dfalconer@sympatico.ca

Main Number
905-727-3300

Advertising
Bob Ince
bob@auroran.com

Classifieds
905-727-7128
classifieds@auroran.com

Diane Buchanan
diane@auroran.com

Facsimile Machine
905-727-2620

Trish Miller-Kostin
trish@auroran.com

Editorial Department
rwall9999@aol.com

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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Time-of-use electricity rates

Have you seen the recent advertisements placed in the local papers by the folks at PowerStream?

One such ad shows three laundry baskets with the following text over each of the baskets; 9.3 cents, 8.0 cents and 4.4 cents.

The headline for the ad: "Manage your hydro costs with new Time-of-Use rates".

The fine print goes on to state, "Ontario is introducing new Time-of-Use (TOU) rates to help you better manage your electricity costs. TOU rates, based on off-peak, mid-peak, and on-peak periods, will help you decide when and how to best use electricity. So, for example, if you run your dishwasher and laundry after 9 p.m., and on weekends (off-peak), you'll pay the lowest rate."

So what of the above? What are the potential implications for your monthly electricity bill in Aurora?

From the PowerStream website: "The provincial government has mandated the installation of Smart Meters for all residential and small business customers in Ontario by December 31, 2010 and the migration of all these customers to TOU by summer 2011. As of the end of April 2009, more than 2.4 million Smart Meters had been installed across the province with approximately 40,000 on TOU rates.

"To help meet the government's targets, PowerStream by the end of April 2009 had installed more than 135,000 Smart Meters. The migration of all PowerStream residential and small business customers to TOU rates is scheduled to be done over a two-year period beginning in the Aurora area in August 2009."

According to the PowerStream pricing schedule for the period of November 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010, weekend and

holidays are considered off-peak and the charge is 4.4 cents/kilowatt hour (kWh).

According to the web, a kilowatt hour is a unit of energy equal to the work done by a power of 1,000 watts operating for one hour. Using a 60-watt light bulb for one thousand hours consumes 60 kilowatt hours of electricity.

From 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. during weekdays, the price is the highest, at 9.3 cents/kWh because this is considered peak hours.

From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. is considered mid-peak and the charge is 8.0 cents/kWh. From 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. is considered non-peak and the charge is 4.4 cents/kWh.

So, as the ads state, by doing your laundry or your dishes in off-peak times, you can substantially reduce the generation portion of your monthly electricity bill.

I do not yet have a smart meter, and therefore we are not billed under the TOU system.

I am currently charged 5.7 cents/kWh for the first 600 kWh's of energy and 6.6 cents/kWh for the balance over 600 kWh's during any month during the summer period.

The threshold becomes 1,000 kWh per month during the winter.

The generation portion comprised about 58 per cent of the total of my last invoice.

On the face of it, it does seem to be cheaper the way it currently is.

It will all depend on your pattern of usage and whether you can alter this pattern.

As the editor of this paper pointed out to me, "Who wants to do dishes or laundry after 9 p.m.? And from 5 to 9 p.m., during the winter, it's dark, all the lights in the house are on, so Hydro is making a fortune. I defy anyone to wander

around the house in the dark."

On top of the generation charges are a host of other costs.

You then have delivery charges, which "are the cost of delivering electricity from generating stations across the Province to PowerStream then to your home or business. This includes the costs to build and maintain the transmission and distribution lines, towers and poles and operate provincial and local electricity systems."

This comprised about 32 per cent of my total monthly bill.

There is also a regulatory charge, which is "the costs of administering the wholesale electricity system and maintaining the reliability of the provincial grid." This comprised about 5 per cent of my total monthly bill.

The last item on the invoice is the Debt Retirement Charge, which is used to pay down the debt of the former Ontario Hydro.

This also accounted for roughly 5 per cent of my total monthly bill.

So, the two real cost drivers on your bill is the actual generation of energy and getting the electrons to your home.

There is nothing you can do about the delivery charges, but you can substantially reduce your generation charges, and ultimately the size of your monthly bill, by conserving energy.

And, by the way, when will the Debt Retirement Charge end, or will it go the same way as income tax?

The editor wanted to know...

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com

Tax hike kept down by Aurora

From page 1

spending up so we get those grants."

Final details and adjustments related to the budget were hammered out at a special general committee meeting the previous evening, with adjustments being made to the funds allocated to the Aurora Farmers Market, town signage and branding, and other projects.

Councillors also discussed benefits to town staff members under the budget.

The document allocates \$25,000 for an Employee Assistance Program, a program which is seen as an

"enhanced benefit" for staff.

This program provides staff members with a means to connect with resources they would not necessarily have easy access to otherwise.

Councillor Al Wilson questioned the timeliness of this inclusion.

"I do not believe this is the year to enhance employee benefits," he said. "I have great difficulty coming out of a recession and enhancing employee benefits at this time."

Councillor Stephen Granger, however, said he had professional experience with this service in his own

business. He said it would benefit not just Aurora staff but the Corporation as a whole.

One significant point of debate was the matter of allocating this year's supplementary taxes.

Supplementary assessment is used as an indication to predict incoming revenue throughout the year.

According to Treasurer Dan Elliott, supplementary revenue made an unexpected "jump" this year.

He told the committee there was a large supplementary tax assessment issued for the western side of the Wellington Street and

Commerce Drive plaza, which houses Best Buy and Rona Home Improvements.

"None of those structures have been added as supps yet, so they will be part of our 2010 supp revenue," he said. "That is one element of significant supps yet to come."

Mr. Elliott was speaking to a proposal by Councillor Evelina MacEachern to increase the supplementary allocation in the budget by \$100,000 from \$350,000.

He said the town's actuals "year to date, are in excess of \$1 million", which led to some concern the Town was budgeting for a

surplus.

"I have long lived the mandate from the province that no municipality is permitted to budget for a deficit or a surplus," said Councillor Evelyn Buck. "You must anticipate the costs to be and what the revenues will be. You must take from the taxpayers only that amount we anticipate needing to provide services."

Councillor Buck, who said she did not support many of the items proposed in the budget, added the town cannot rely on supplementaries every year as it is contingent on development.

"We have already seen several public planning committees cancelled because we have no applications for development."

She says relying on this will eventually see an "artificial return in the tax rates."

"We have had growth with the last 14 years and maybe that gives us a little bit of comfort where we shouldn't be too secure. Sooner or later our growth is going to falter and I think sooner rather than later."

Mr. Elliott said the budget was completed after 30 hours of deliberation, public consultation, and debate at the council table.

Letters to the Editor

Christmas: truly a birthday celebration

To the editor,

Writing 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 the nation 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 line-ups to obtain the one item I wanted at a rea-

sonable 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.

Where is their heart and soul when the focus is on this kind of stuff?

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 heartfelt emotions.

There are those who have suffered losses of some magnitude.

Yet Christmas is not about us.

It is the candle lit in your heart for that magnificent birth of Jesus.

It is a birthday celebration. 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 Christmas card, or e-mail your best wishes for the season 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 Netherlands Bazaar, food bank or church.

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

May the symbol of your hope for the light eternal remain with you during the remainder of your days. Christmas is not some dress rehearsal; it is truly an awe-

some gift.

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

We are blessed in so many ways living in a great free country. We can freely serve others, Christ and family.

Make each moment count and make each experience a positive one.

Live in hope during a very difficult time.

May you feel the peace and comfort this Christmas.

On behalf of my family, we wish you and yours good health, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year as we celebrate "Joy to the World" and the Gift of Christmas.

Marten Mol
Aurora

Politicians don't listen to electorate, he says

To the editor,

Why do we have so many politicians thinking they are able to ignore the electorate?

No, I am not talking about the Aurora Council, others seem to be doing enough of that.

I am talking about McGuinty and the 59 Liberal MPPs who voted in support of this new unfair Harmonized Tax on your cable, gasoline, home heating and hydro bills and just about any contractor work you need done on your property (insulation, new windows, yard work, etc.).

As pensioners, my wife and I are just like all people

on a fixed incomes, we see this as yet another tax grab by the Liberals.

Their tax and spend policies are beyond belief.

Ontario businesses are already suffering, and believe me this won't help one iota.

The Liberal party was once a party that stood up for the underdog, obviously these politicians think they can ignore the wishes of the electorate.

Wrong, Ontarians have no stomach for politicians that ignore them.

Look what happened to Harris, through a series of blunders and before him, Bob Rae, whose record of debt and deficit amidst a

Canada-wide recession, made a similar mistake practically destroying the Ontario NDP in the 1995 election.

They have voted for it, but it is not too late, and unless everyone protests it will happen.

If HST goes ahead, I respectfully suggest you don't forget yet another McGuinty insult and make McGuinty's days as Premier over at the next election, and have them suffer the same fate as the NDP did in 1995. Send McGuinty an e-mail to dmcguin ty.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

Robert M. Grattage
Aurora

Club Aurora staff attended wedding

To the editor,

Thank you Club Aurora.

Although this thank you is long overdue, I wondered how I could thank so many wonderful and caring people all at once.

The instructors and members of Club Aurora at the Aurora Leisure Complex are one of a kind.

On August 15th in the small town of Moonbeam, Ontario, I had the most memorable day of my life. Yes, I said "I do" in front of family and friends from all over Ontario.

In the crowd were many smiling faces from Club Aurora.

Although nothing can top your wedding day, the kindness, overwhelming generosity and thoughtfulness that was given to my husband and me from our wonderful friends from Club Aurora still leaves us speechless.

I was blessed to have been thrown two unbe-

lievable showers.

I cannot find the words to say to everyone how truly honoured, surprised and touched I was by your outpouring of generosity.

I could not have imagined that I would have felt so overwhelmed, and so special.

Kevin and I will never forget the months and

days leading up to our wedding, thanks to the extraordinary instructors and members of Club Aurora.

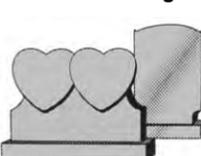
Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for making our fairy tale come true.

Kevin and Susan
Leonard
Aurora

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Letters to the Editor

Council didn't authorize financial officer hiring

To the editor,

It hit the fan...again.

On the morning after the last council meeting of the year, Chief Administrative Officer Neil Garbe circulated an e-mail informing council and all staff of the appointment of a Director of Corporate and Financial Services.

My reaction was immediate and swift.

In April, Mr. Garbe informed council behind closed doors he had made an appointment on an interim contract, without recruitment, to the position of Chief Financial Officer to replace John Gutteridge.

Mr. Gutteridge gave three months' notice. I informed Mr. Garbe he did not have the authority. The decision rests with council.

Mine was the only dissenting voice.

The Treasurer is a statutory officer. The appointment must be legislated. Only council has the power to legislate.

A bylaw was passed after the fact.

On October 6th, behind closed doors, Mr. Garbe had advised of his intention to make the interim appointment permanent. Again I disagreed with the process. When I believed the discussion had ended I left the meeting.

Since then I asked in a public meeting when recruitment was going to start for the post of Treasurer.

The mayor responded Mr. Garbe has authority to appoint. I disagreed. I referred to the recruitment policy mandated by the province.

Two months passed, nothing further was reported.

Until Wednesday morning and Mr. Garbe's announcement by e-mail.

In a nutshell, I responded; when the authority of council is not respected, it is disrespected.

I clicked hard on "reply". Only it wasn't. It

was "reply all".

My response went to every soul employed by the Town of Aurora. For the next two days I received a stream of acknowledgements my message had been read, along with other communications.

I was informed council had approved the appointment.

Since the Province legislated the right of citizens to seek investigation of closed door meetings, the practice has been for decisions made therein to be ratified by resolution.

I asked for the record. I have yet to receive it.

I pointed out decisions made behind closed doors must be, according to legislation, reported out.

When did that happen?

The appointment must be made by bylaw. Council must direct a bylaw be prepared.

My last request was sent after business on Friday. The information has not been provided.

Instead, I am informed the bylaw to appoint will be processed on January 26th

It is council's prerogative to direct a bylaw be prepared. The direction has not been given.

Two months passed after the discussion behind closed doors. No

decision had been reported out.

Mr. Cooper was acting clerk of the municipality, after the precipitate departure of our former Clerk, Lucille King.

The morning after the last meeting of the year, council was informed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the appointment of a statutory officer.

Without due authority. I have not told the full

exchange between myself and Mr. Garbe. It is not necessary for you to know.

It is certainly necessary for you to know when your elected council is being disrespected. When council is disrespected...you are.

I have no doubt with full concurrence of the head of council.

Evelyn Buck
Aurora

Changing number four an insult to Aboriginals

To the editor,

Before I could write this letter in response to articles a few weeks ago, I had to wait until I cooled off enough to be polite and "politically correct".

How far are we willing to go to be politically correct?

The Town of Aurora is talking about taking the number four out of our addresses because it is a bad luck number to some cultures.

ENOUGH of this nonsense, please.

This is Canada and if I'm not mistaken, the Aboriginal culture populated this country long before any of us and any of the recent newcomers.

In Aboriginal culture, the number four happens be one of the most important numbers there is, so what the Town is saying is "let us offend one culture to appease a new culture".

I don't think it should be so.

People who have been here for possibly thousands of years should not be offended in this manner. In Aboriginal culture there are four parts to everything that is natural and the number 4 has more than great meaning to the First Nation People of this country.

To even consider changing numbers on houses for a superstition that has been recently brought to this country, is doing so at the

expense of the traditions and deeply rooted beliefs of our First Nation, and the First Nation's people are entitled to more respect and consideration than the whim of a Town Council trying to boost home sales in the area.

Heather Stewart
Aurora

ED. NOTE: It was never the intention of the Town to remove the number four from addresses. However, if some people wish to have the number removed, they would have to apply to the Town and pay to do so. And, we understand, it would not be cheap.

She loved Dierdre's letter

To the editor,

It was heartwarming to read Mrs. Dierdre Tomlinson's letter to the editor in the November 24 issue of The Auroran ("If you have enough, consider donations").

Like her and her husband, a number of people feel the same way and are now supporting the Aurora foodbank, according to notices in The Auroran.

I think that is a wonderful

idea, especially since it is said that 30 per cent of the people who depend on the foodbank are children.

I am lucky to have a fairly large group of friends who, now retired, get together frequently for birthday celebrations, Christmas and other holidays, or for no reason at all, except to enjoy each other's company.

For quite a while now, we have made it a point to bring items for the foodbank instead of "hostess gifts".

(Honestly, how many hand creams, fancy soaps, candles and paper napkins does a person really need?)

Maybe an idea to consider for people who have upcoming pre-Christmas get togethers with family and friends is to bring items for the foodbank.

And maybe, just maybe, this could become a year-round habit.

Sylvie Hoyer
Aurora

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Letters to the Editor

Love-in currently underway at town park

From page 4
problems."

I am further moved by another vet who said "Peace is best". Our history shows we have yet to 'give peace a chance' as John Lennon suggests. This 'Love In'

is our attempt to give it a try. We seek a forum.

Our goal is to bring home Canadian soldiers from Afghanistan and all Canadian military from all foreign lands by Christmas, 2009.

We pursue to close Guantanamo Bay and return Omar Khadr and prisoners of war back to their families.

We call for President Obama to release political prisoner and American Indian Activist

Leonard Peltier.

We call for Stephen Harper to agree to begin engaging in peace talks with relevant leaders of Indigenous Sovereignty or be immediately arrested for "Conspiracy to Commit Genocide" under the Rome Statute established at the Geneva Conventions and under our own domestic law under the "Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act of Canada".

We call for Stephen Harper to stop Canada's aggression, occupation and invasion in Afghanistan or else also be charged with "Breaching the Peace".

We call for Jacques Rogges to extinguish the torch flame until Stephen Harper agrees to peace talks or be himself arrested for "Complicity in Genocide".

The evidence is conclusive and hard. These men are criminals and they walk free.

The International World knows this, why don't we Canadians?

One big reason is media discrimination and selective reporting. We will see what is reported on December 17th in Toronto.

I am fully aware that this is a lofty quest, however, I cannot be silent and inactive when my country is committing crimes against humanity on so many different counts.

To conclude, we invite all veterans, all politicians, all parents, seniors, youths and all educators to drop by "The Great Auroran Love In" to ask questions, get informed and give us your best argument or your grandest

support.

I can only say we have to try something and this is our best shot.

So in honour of Harriet Nahanee, in memory of Bob Marley, in the spirit of John Lennon, Crazy Horse and in the words of Ghandi, "Satayagraha", we look forward to seeing you all.

We do see a future full of love and free of violence.

It is a simple change in perspective. If we believe we can achieve peace on earth, we can achieve peace on earth.

Heidi G. A. Stoecklin
Dave Philp
Aurora

Ontario Chamber of Commerce supports HST introduction

From page 1

ed in their phoney opposition to tax reforms," the release said.

"There's a big division between Brown and Klees on this. This is about cutting taxes for Newmarket-Aurora families while creating 600,000 Ontario jobs," said Liberal MPP Yasir Naqvi (Ottawa Centre).

The division is further evidence that the Ontario Conservatives are becoming increasingly isolated in their posturing against tax reform - posturing that has included childish stunts and name-calling, the release said.

In fact, the release said, the McGuinty government plan will see 93 per cent of Ontario families receiving a tax cut, and small business tax cuts along with the HST will lead to new business investments and 600,000 more jobs according to economists.

"It's easy to see why Brown abandoned Klees on this one," continued Naqvi. "Our plan is the right move for Ontario's economy and for Newmarket-Aurora families."

"This just shows how desperate the McGuinty Liberals are to justify their complete disrespect for the taxpayers of Ontario," Klees told The Auroran. "In this one release, they not only attempt to divert attention from the fact that they will be slapping Ontarians with a \$3 billion tax grab, but they've resorted to having an Ottawa MPP insert himself into the politics of Aurora and Newmarket. My advice to Mr. Naqvi is that he concentrate on his own constituents and try to convince them why he voted to increase taxes on everything from gasoline to haircuts and make life even more difficult for seniors and hard working families at a time they're already struggling to make ends meet."

"The fact is," he continued, "that regardless of how Lois Brown voted on the HST legislation, it's Dalton McGuinty and his band of tax-hungry Liberal backbenchers like Mr. Naqvi who voted to impose the HST, and all their sleazy tactics to divert attention won't help them avoid the backlash at the next election. Instead of sending out misleading press releases to places he's never even visited, Mr. Naqvi should be sending out his resume for a job that he'll be needing after October 10, 2011."

Ms Brown also commented on the subject at her open house in Newmarket Sunday.

"The decision to move towards a Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) in Ontario was made by Ontario Premier

McGuinty and his Finance Minister Dwight Duncan," she said. "As a Conservative I believe in lower taxes - and I am proud that our Conservative government has lowered the federal GST twice in the last 4 years - from 7 to 6 to 5%."

"I would like to see our provincial government do the same. As an Ontario taxpayer myself, I am not happy the McGuinty Liberals have decided to keep the provincial portion of the HST at 8%. I would like to see it lower, she added. "Mr. Naqvi's news release was sent to every riding in the province represented by a conservative MP and MPP and is a thinly veiled attempt to deflect attention away from the McGuinty government's problems."

However, while Klees continues his fight to stop the HST, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce thinks it's a good idea.

Last week, after the HST was passed by the province, the Ontario Chamber said it was pleased to see the passage of The Ontario Tax Plan for More Jobs and Growth Act, 2009 (Bill 218).

"Businesses in Ontario have consistently called for smarter taxation - that is taxation that is clear and consistent, that makes it easy and inexpensive to comply, and one that does not impede or penalize investment - today's reforms move Ontario forward in that direction," said Len Crispino, President and CEO of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC). "These tax reforms will make Ontario a less expensive place in which to do business and in a global marketplace where business and investment are extremely mobile, this competitive edge will lead to greater investment and more job creation."

The OCC and the network of chambers throughout the province have been advocating since 2004 for a tax reform package that includes sales tax harmonization, the elimination of capital taxes, the consolidation of corporate tax collection, and more competitive personal and corporate income taxes.

"Every Ontarian wins with today's tax reforms because Ontario's economy wins. It takes strong businesses to create jobs and wealth for everyone," Mr. Crispino said. "The recovery cannot occur on the backs of governments alone. With these tax reforms in place, Ontario companies will have the confidence and ability to get down to business and invest in our communities once again."

The tax reforms were also

endorsed by the Smart Taxation Alliance, a growing group of non-partisan leaders representing millions of workers and hundreds of thousands of employers in Ontario.

Last week Mr. Klees made the following opening statement at the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs:

"For the record, I just want to say how disappointed I am that there has not been more opportunity for public consultation. I would like to speak to the fact that, repeatedly, over the last number of weeks we have heard from the Premier and from the Minister of Finance, and others who are defending the government's position, stating that meetings have been held around the province on the HST. I have attended some of those meetings and it was clear that they were not public consultations. They were lectures, many by the Minister of Revenue, and were essentially a promotion of the government's position with little, if any, opportunity for public response from stakeholders to challenge the government and for ordinary Ontarians to put forward recommendations and questions. Those are not consultations. What we are about to engage in here are public consultations which allow stakeholders to bring forward their concerns and the potential impact of this tax."

Mr. Klees participated in the hearings which were limited to 11 hours, and was on hand to hear retired York Region Police officer Paul Bailey, challenge the McGuinty government's claims that the HST will not hurt seniors.

"Committee members, with respect, we don't believe a word of it," said Mr. Bailey. "This new tax will take more money out of our pockets than we can afford. You know that, and so do the seniors of this province."

The spokesman appeared as a witness before the committee in his capacity as President of the Police Pensioners Association of Ontario.

"What was confirmed by Mr. Bailey and many witnesses, is that the government has failed to take into consideration the real cost of the HST to the average family and especially seniors and people on fixed incomes," said Mr. Klees. "The HST is a massive tax grab that couldn't come at a worse time. When families and businesses are already struggling to cope in these tough economic times, the last thing they need is to be hit with more taxes."

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Entrees

- Chicken Marsala Served with Wild Rice and Seasonal Vegetables*
- 12oz Grilled Rib Eye with a Mediterranean herb Reduction served with Garlic Mashed Potatoes and seasonal vegetables*
- Fresh Whole East Coast Lobster served with Wild Rice and Seasonal Vegetables*
- 12oz Veal Chop Bone in with a Wild Mushroom Jus served with Roasted Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables*

Desserts

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Two victories last week

Aurora Tigers comfortably settle into seventh place

The Aurora Tigers Junior A hockey team moved into seventh place in the Ontario Junior A standings, thanks to a pair of wins last week.

And, they could strengthen that lead depending on the outcome of Monday night's game against the Buffalo Junior Sabres in Buffalo.

That team trails Aurora by a single point and Buffalo currently holds down the final playoff position.

Results of the game were not available at The Auroran's press time.

Saturday night, Aurora let the Vaughan Vipers go up three goals in the first period, but fought back to win the game 7-5, thanks to a shorthanded goal and a pair from Lucas VanNatter.

Friday night in Aurora, before a meagre 88 fans, Aurora edged the lowly Collingwood Blues 3-2.

Tigers now have 15 wins and 11 losses for 38 points, and are even-stein with Buffalo in games played.

Both clubs have toiled through 32 games.

Meanwhile, VanNatter and team captain David

Morley continue to battle each other for the scoring leadership on the squad.

Currently, both are tied at the top of the heap with 58 points, although VanNatter has one more goal than Morley.

In second place is George Lovatsis with 17 goals and 18 assists for 35 points, followed closely by Michael Sardella with 34 points.

Friday night, at home, Aurora again let the visitors have the lead ending the first period on the wrong side of a 1-0 score.

However, the Tigers scored the only goal of the second frame to knot the score at one.

Aurora fell behind in the third, but scored twice in less than a minute to secure the victory.

Markh Ramkena, who scored the winner at 14.32 of the third was named the game's first star. Captain Morley, who racked up two assists in the contest, was the second star.

Twenty-four hours later, Aurora travelled to Vaughan and, after giving up three goals in a row,

went to the dressing room trailing the hosts 3-1.

Aurora scored twice in the second but allowed one and Vaughan led 4-3 after 40 minutes of play.

In the third period, the Tigers scored four times to Vaughan's single marker to win the match.

Fans won't see the Tigers play at home again until next year.

This Friday, they travel to Couchiching to meet the Terriers. Saturday they're in Bramalea for a game against the Blues, then they travel to Trenton to meet the Golden Hawks in an afternoon encounter.

Following those three games, the team will shut down for the Christmas

holiday, then travel to Georgetown to meet the Raiders Saturday, January 2.

The following day, Aurora returns to the Community Centre where they will tangle with the Couchiching Terriers.

That game gets underway at 2.30 p.m.

Victories all the way would put Aurora in a fine position to finish the season in a playoff position.

A - Michael Sardella (Morley) 15.30

Third period

C - Jeff Livingston (Ouellette, Van Ness) 7.24

A - Jordan Giadaro (Morton, Lovatsis) 13.13

A - Mark Ramkema (VanNatter, Morley) 14.32

AURORA 7 VAUGHAN 5

First period

V - Andrew McLennan (Dunant, Pintaric) 3.15

V - Marc Franchini (Stroz, Sollows) PP 4.50

V - Sasha Molotkow (Sollows) 15.47

A - Jeff Vanderlugt (Prinsen) 16.30

Second period

A - Andrew Secco (VanNatter, Morley) 7.11

A - Nick Vangog (Secco) 9.53

V - Colin Campbell (Sbrocchi, Sollows) 17.03

Third period

A - Alexi Pianosi (Vangog, Lovatsis) PP 2.12

A - Lucas VanNatter (Vangog, Taylor) 4.58

A - Lucas VanNatter (Morley, Pianosi) SH 14.02

V - Colin Campbell (Sbrocchi, Sollows) 17.03

A - George Lovatsis (Morley, Cerilli) 17.22



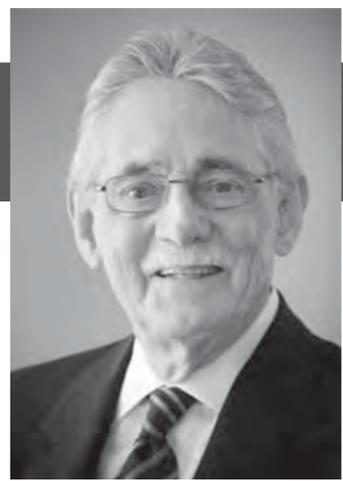
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House League

105 St. Louis Blue Timbits 5. 106 Pittsburgh Black Timbits 3 - Matthew Cowl 1G 1A, Brett Pearce 1G, Liam Mahoney 1G, Logan Kidder 1A,

102 Boston Gold Timbits 13 - Carson Maybury 5G 1A, Ethan Edwards 5G 1A, Caden McHenry 2G 2A, Matthew Pelan 1G, Victor Stanica 2A, Ian Hilgendorff 1A, Liam Vivian 1A. **107 Pittsburgh Powder Blue Timbits 2** - Justin Hicks 1G, Jace Jackson 1G, Ethan Joiner 1A, Joe Badali 1A.

103 Toronto White Timbits 4 - Gianluca Santocono 1A, Jake Piper 1G, Riley Klugerman 2G, Anton Sopov 1G 1A. **106 Pittsburgh Black Timbits 1** - Harrison Bennett 1G.

201 Los Angeles Purple Caravan Kids 2 - Dylan Prescott 1G 1A, Cameron Lang 1G 1A, Cody Fisher 1A. **204 Toronto White Caravan Kids 0.**

203 Boston Gold Caravan Kids 9 - Christopher Siarkas 3G 1A, Christian Fermo 2G, Jacob Lopez 2G 2A, Francesco DeBartolo 1G 2A, John Dol 1G 2A, Michela Venosa 3A, Cristian Franze 1A, Joseph Franze 1A. **205 Florida Red Caravan Kids 4** - Nicholas Makhlouta 1G 1A, Garrett Kohler 3G, Joseph Kuchcicki 1G, Liam Collins 1A, Patrick Buffa 1A.

204 Toronto White Caravan Kids 2 - Giuliano Iervasi 1G, Ryan Funston Clarke 1G, Carson Williams 1 A, Tommy Collins 1A. **205 Florida Red Caravan Kids 1** - Jason Iaboni 1G.

203 Boston Gold Caravan Kids 4 - Jacob Lopez 4G, Christian Fermo 2A. **202 St. Louis Blue Caravan Kids 2** - Aaron Preiano 1G, Jack Viney 1G.

201 Los Angeles Purple Caravan Kids 4 - Coulton Ives 1G 1A, Alexander Iaboni 3G, Chris Barnett 1A. **202 St. Louis Blue Caravan Kids 4** - Andrew Schaus 2G, Brandon Urman 1G, Austin Martin 1G, Sean Kiah 1A, Sebastian Negalescu 1A, Jonathan Gianforcaro 1A.

204 Toronto White Caravan Kids 6 - Mason Barone 2G, Giuliano Iervasi 2G, Ryan Funston Clarke 2G, Carson Purcell 2A, Daniel Babcock 1A, Tommy Collins 1A. **203 Boston Gold Caravan Kids 3** - John Dol 2G, Michela Venosa 1G, Jacob Lopez A, Christopher Siarkas 2A.

411 Colorado Burgandy Danny's Boys 4 - Dylan Clark 1G, Mitchell Levy 2A, Tyler Frise 2G 1A, Troy Lane 1G. **404 Los Angeles Purple Mastermind Toys 4.**

402 Boston Gold Omar Shoes 4 - Andrew Lamana 1G, Ryan Cameron 1G 2A, Brandon Hui 1G, Connor DeVogel 1G, Christian Ridd 1A. **401 Florida Red Chouinard Bros 2** - Leo Branigan 1G, Christian Loria 1A, Dylan McFee 1G, Reese Crevelle 1A.

405 St. Louis Blue Laurion Law Office 7 - Jayson Perkins 4G, Matthew Carney 1G, William Morin 2G 3A, Sam Speranini 2A. **410 Los Angeles Grey McAlpine Ford 4** - Dillon Varone 3G, Mackenzie Snelgrove 1G 2A, Justin Carcone 1A, Nicholas Badali 1A.

412 Dallas Kelly Green Aurora Lodge 148 9 - Troy Campbell 2G 2A, Johnathon Martin 1G, David Tonelli 3G, Jack Campbell 1G, Evan Knowles 1G, Remington Colicchio 1G, Brock Stewart 1A, Matthew Winters 1A, Jeremy Rusnell 1A, Jordon Kagan 1A. **403 Toronto White Optimist Club of Aurora 6** - Callum Gorrell 2G 1A, Hayden Edwards 2G 1A, Gordon Scott 1G, Jack Dion 1G, Zane Zwicker 1A.

409 San Jose Teal North York Plumbing & Heating 5 - Sean Mackrell 1G, Cameron Bourne 1G, Cameron Palmer 1A, Jake Polenz 1G 1A, Niklas Seidel 1G, Aidan Burbank 1G, Brittney Fraser 1A. **406 Pittsburgh Black Compass Ins. Brokers 2** - Justin Miller 2G, Charles Peters 2A.

408 Philly Orange Paragon Asset Management 6 - Colin Windle 1G, Jack Camplin 3G 1A, Nicholas Vamvakaris 1A, Keaton Thompson 1G, Thomas Morra 1G, Brendan Ross 1A. **407 Pittsburgh Powder Blue HS Financial 5** - Cameron Dyer 2G, 1A, James Samson 1G, Matt LeClair 1A, Jacob Leblanc 2G.

609 San Jose Teal Backyard Pool & Spa 3 - Yosef Kakush 1G, Matthew 2G 1A, N. Hatzitolios 1A, Joey Hodgson 1A. **603 Toronto White Aurora Orthodontics 1** - Nick Armour 1G, Jason Omand 1A.

607 Pittsburgh Powder Blue Diamond Groundskeeping 4 - Joshua Lye 1G, Kyle Bryden 1G, Hunter Jones 1G 1A, Geoffrey Siow 1G, 1A, Sandy Sanderson 1A, Nathan Plourde 1A. **605 St. Louis Blue Rotary Club Of Aurora 2** - Adam Hofmann 2G, Evan Nichols 1A, Jonathan Jin 1A, Darren Tree 1A, Aaron Rival 1A.

602 Boston Gold Tilemaster 8 - Riley Callaghan 1G 1A, Andre Cristillo 1G 1A, Ryan Batten 1G, Rory Hamilton 1G, Stewart Reid 1G, James Power 3G 2A, Mitchell Albert 1A, Chris Broughton 1A, Austin Skelhorn 2A, Brent Legrow,

shutout. **610 Los Angeles Grey AHPA 0.**
608 Philly Orange Pizza Pizza 3 - Nicholas Pearce 2G, Colin Dye 1G Matthew Neice 2A, Michael McKerracher 1A. **604 Los Angeles Purple 2** - Bradley Snoutlen 1G, Ryan Donovan 1G, William Stroud 2A.

606 Pittsburgh Black Rival Concepts 7 - Christopher Baggio 3G, Parker Jackson 2G 1A, Justin Laird 1G 1A, Christian Baggio 1G, Connor Reilly 2A, William Ashton, 1A. **601 Florida Red Rogers 0.**

905 St. Louis Blue 3. 901 Florida Red Aurora Chrysler 1.

903 Toronto White Optimist Club of Aurora:3. 902 Boston Gold CW Coops 0.

904 Los Angeles Purple 5. 906 Pittsburgh Black Ruff N Redi 1.

906 Pittsburgh Black Ruff N Redi 1, 902 Boston Gold CW Coops: 1.

901 Florida Red Aurora Chrysler 8. 904 Los Angeles Purple 2.

905 St. Louis Blue 3. 903 Toronto White Optimist Club of Aurora 0.

1004 Los Angeles Purple 5 - Jacob Giacomazzo 1G 1A, Lucas Hargrave 1G, Daniel Howie 2G, 1A, Brett Matthews 1A, Carter Schaefer 2A, Sean Ellison 1G 1A, Etienne Bicego 1A. **1001 Florida Red 3** - Michael Takahashi 1G 1A, James Harkin 2G, Tyler Lamantia 1A, TJ Ground 1A.

1012 Dallas Kelly Green Envirocar 6 - Michael Morson 2G 1A, Daniel Cervone 2G 1A, Adam Stubbs 2G, Jake Hindley 2A. **1009 San Jose Teal 3** - Chris Tillsley 1G, Michael Bar 2G, Sean Maule 1A.

1011 Colorado Burgandy Graystones Restaurant 3 - Greg Lacroix 1G, Andrew Cosentino 1G, Justin Killens 1G 1A, Josh Bentolia 1A, Brandon Giniotis 2A, Nick DiVincenzo 1A. **1008 Philly Orange Aurora Home Hardware 0.**

1003 Toronto White CAA 4 - Stephen Newby 1G, Ian Weston 1G, Kevin McCrudden 1G, Jordan Fantin 1G, Chris Green 1A, Jaret Meron 1A, Ryan Laird 1A, Eric Roell 1A, Chris Dynes 1A, Evan Campbell 1A. **1001 Florida Red 2** - Kyle McCreedy 1G, Adam Clark 1G, David Scott 1A, Tyler Lamantia 1A.

1012 Dallas Kelly Green Envirocar 10 - Jamie Cherutti 3G 1A, Michael Morson 2G 1A, Daniel Cervone 2G 1A, Dylan Sutherland 1G 2A, Chris Tambos 1G, Adam Stubbs 1G, Jonathan Alcock 1A, Tyler Cassack 1A, Jake Hindley 1A. **1007 Pittsburgh Powder Blue 3** - Andrew Wilkins 2G, Thomas Gans 1G, Blair Cuthbert 2A.

1009 San Jose Teal 6 - Paul Keilty 4G 2A, Ryan Jones 1G 2A, Dylan Skelton 1G, Andrew Mangialardi 1A, Razvan Vela 3A, Sean Maule 1A, Cory Blom 2A. **1007 Pittsburgh Powder Blue 3** - Andrew Wilkins 2G, Thomas Gans 1G, Blair Cuthbert 2A.

1013 St. Louis White 4 - Nick Di Nallo 1G 1A, Anthony Marsilio 1G, Jamie Hawkins 2G 1A, Kamran Karamchi 1A, Spencer George 2A, Jay Finch 1A, Johnathan Siery 1A. **1010 Los Angeles Grey 3** - Tistan Miller 2G, Ben Slimkowich 1G 1A.

1004 Los Angeles Purple 4 - Jacob Giacomazzo 1G, Sean Ellison 2G, Zachary Andrews 1G, Cameron Meikle 1A, Daniel Howie 3A, Lucas Hargrave 1A. **1002 Boston Gold 4** - Mark Tanel 1G, Paul Tuck 1G, Kevin Wheeler 1G 1A, Michael Mourtzanos 1G, Jonathan Boehmer 2A, Wesley Seminara 2A.

1005 St. Louis Blue Sentia 5 - Andrew Osmond 1G, Michael Orschel 1G, Colin Munn 1G, Louis Lamanna 1G, Caleb Gould 1G 3A, Evan Casselden 1A, Craig Bennett 1A. **1012 Dallas Kelly Green Envirocar 3** - Daniel Cervone 1G 1A, Cody Benson 1G, Brett Allen 1G 1A, Jake Hindley 1A, Chris Tambos 1A, Jonathan Alcock 2A.

1006 Pittsburgh Black 3 - Dillon Cappell 2G, Adam Gitto 1G 1A, Jesse Cappell 1A, Benjamin Pringle 1A. **1011 Colorado Burgandy Graystones Restaurant 3** - Brandon Giniotis 1G, Dylan Cross 1G, Alex Payne 1G, Ryan Antoniel 1A, Lucas Cristillo 1A, Chris Blumreisinger 1A, Justin Killens 1A.

1009 San Jose Teal 5 - Ryan Jones 1G 1A, Liam McGoldrick 1G, Paul Keilty 1G 2A, Chris Tillsley 1G, Dylan Skelton 1G 1A, Razvan Vela 1A, Robert Anderson 1A. **1008 Philly Orange Aurora Home Hardware 2** - Egan Fennell 1G, Sheldon Rivard 1G, Branden Bortolin 1A, Robert Revington 1A.

1010 Los Angeles Grey 8 - Griffin Slimkowich 1G 1A, Tristan Miller 1G 2A, Jake Boyle 1G 1A, Tyler Friars 2G, Dylan Jolivet 1G 2A, Nick Zebrowski 1G, Matthew Schmitt 1G, Matthew Bishop 3A, Ben Slimkowich 1A, Eric Abel 1A, Scott

Parry 2A. **1007 Pittsburgh Powder Blue 0.**

1001 Florida Red 2 - Scott Quagliarini 1G, Brandon Connolly 1G, Michael Wood 1A, Sean Takahashi 1A, James Harkin 1A. **1002 Boston Gold 0.**

1012 Dallas Kelly Green Envirocar 2 - Cody Benson 1G, Brett Allen 1G, Chris Tambos 1A, Michael Morson 1A, Jamie Cherutti 1A, Curtis Stobo 1A. **1003 Toronto White CAA 0.**

1004 Los Angeles Purple 4 - Daniel Howie 3G, Kyle Rojas 1G, Brendan Strachan 2A, Carter Schaefer 1A, Sean Ellison 1A. **1011 Colorado Burgandy Graystones Restaurant 1** - Brandon Giniotis 1G.

Rep Games

Tyke Select B 8 - Christopher Marton 1G 3A, Carson Maybury 1G, Liam Mahoney 1G 1A, Jace Jackson 2G 1A, Kaszuki Negishi 2G, Justin Hicks 1G, Nolan Michelberger 2A, Caden McHenry 1A, Jonathan Gagnon 2A, James Sproul 2A, Harrison Bennett 1A. **Oshawa 2.**

Richmond Hill 0. Tyke Select B 0. Justin Lacroix and Dereck Avery, shutouts.

Novice AA Tigers 4 - Evan Pringle 2G, Wesley Reid 2G, Anthony DiPietro 1A, Michael Orlandi 1A, Ben Liotta 1A, Malcolm Johnston 1A, Cory Read 1A, Trevor Dungey 1A, Matteo Orlandi, shutout. **Georgina 0.**

Georgina 3. Novice AE Tigers 2 - Justin Harbaruk 1G, Anthony Iacovetta 1G, Jessica Jollimore 1A.

Minor Atom AA Tigers 3 - Matthew Ferry 1G, Andrew Jorgensen 1G, Jamie Stewart 1G, Cameron Tyndall 1A, Nate Legros 1A, Brandon Vaughan 1A, Ben Fleischaker 1A. **Richmond Hill Stars 1.**

Richmond Hill Stars 2. Minor Atom AA Tigers 0.

TBD 6. Minor Atom AA Tigers 2 - Anthony Magnante 1G, Andrew Jorgensen 1G, Nate Legros 1A, Jamie Stewart 1A.

Minor Atom AE Tigers 8 - Scott Rumble 3G, Jaedon Jackson 2G, Peter Chimienti 2A, Luke O'Keefe 1G 1A, Carson Yeomans 1G 1A, Fin Reeves 1G 1A, Andrew Buffa 1A, Fraser Ciocca 1A, Stephen Silverio 1A. **Markham Waxers 3.**

Atom AA Tigers 3 - Philip Wolanski 1G, Graydon Belgue 1A, Devlin Kauffeldt 1G, Thomas Wilson 1G. **Richmond Hill Stars: 3**

Newmarket 3. Atom A Tigers 1.

Atom A Tigers 1 - Kyle Rice 1G, Alexander Simardone 1A. **Orillia Terriers 1.**

Stouffville 4. Atom A Tigers 1 - Alex Wyndham-West 1G, Jennifer Steenhorst 1A.

Barrie Colts 4. Atom A Tigers 2 - Kyle Rice 1G, Stewart Gable 1G, Colin McGoldrick 1A, Eric McGhie 1A.

Atom A Tigers 8 - Alex Wyndham-West 2G 1A, Lucas Dane 1G, Eric McGhie 1G 1A, Alexander Simardone 1G, Thomas Kostoff 1G, Kyle Rice 1A, Jordan Torres 1A, Reid Carpenter 1G 1A, Josh Schmitt 1G 1A, Colin McGoldrick 1A, Mark Carpenter, shutout. **Lindsay 0.**

Atom A Tigers 7 - Reid Carpenter 2G 1A, Colin McGoldrick 2G 2A, Alex Wyndham-West 1G 1A, Thomas Kostoff 1G 1A, Kyle Rice 1G 1A, Eric McGhie 2A, Alexander Simardone 1A, Jennifer Steenhorst 1A, Rhys Perry 1A. **New Hamburg 2.**

Centre Wellington 5. Atom A Tigers 1 - Reid Carpenter 1G, Clayton Allen 1A.

TBD 3. Atom A Tigers 1 - Jordan Torres 1G.

Minor Peewee AA Tigers 5 - Keegan Matthew 1G 1A, Daniel McConnell 1G, Patrick Servideo 1G 2A, Cameron Morrison 1G 2A, Evan Woodhead 1G. **Georgina 1.**

Minor Peewee AA Tigers 4 - Cameron Morrison 2G, Alec Magnante 1G, Patrick Servideo 1G, Anthony Orlandi 1A. **Barrie Colts 2.**

Markham Waxers 3. Minor Peewee A Tigers 1 - Cameron Zinner 1G, Bryan Manweiler 1A, Spencer White 1A.

Minor Peewee A Tigers 3 - Spencer White 1G, Colin Kostin 1A, Jacob Hatton 1A, Cameron Zinner 1G, Brendin Ramsay 1G, Alistair Johnston 1A. **Newmarket 2**

Stouffville Clippers 2. Minor Peewee A Tigers 1 - Matthew Liscio 1G, Mathew Tyndall 1A, Alistair Johnston 1A.

Minor Peewee A Tigers 5 - Alistair Johnston 1G 1A, Tristan Kuchar 1A, Jack Bryant 1A, Brendin Ramsay 1G 2A, Cameron Zinner 1G, Mathew Tyndall 1A, Matthew Liscio 1A,

Colin Kostin 1G, Spencer White 1G 1A. **Orillia Terriers 2.**

TBD 5. Minor Peewee AE Tigers 3 - Nicholas Sansalone 2G, Cameron Anderson 1G, Jeffrey McKay 2A, Michael DaCosta 1A.

Minor Peewee AE Tigers 4 - Connor Downs 2G 1A, Tyler Williams 2G, Jordi Severini 1A, Jeffrey McKay 1A, Adam Caicco 1A, Cameron Anderson 1A, Graham Dynes, shutout. **Rocky River Pirates 0.**

Leaside Flames 2. Minor Peewee AE Tigers 2 - Christian Arcuri 1G, Jeffrey McKay 1G, Michael DaCosta 2A, Cameron Anderson 1A, Michael Jollimore 1A.

Minor Peewee AE Tigers 6 - Connor Downs 1G 2A, Michael DaCosta 1G, Cameron Anderson 1G, Nicholas Sansalone 1G 1A, Christian Arcuri 1G 1A, Tyler Williams 1G 1A, Jeffrey McKay 2A, Jordi Severini 1A. **Wheatfield Blades 1.**

Richmond Hill Stars 4. Minor Peewee AE Tigers 2 - Nicholas Sansalone 1G, Michael DaCosta 1G, Zach Fletcher 1A.

Nobleking 8 - Minor Midget A Tigers 0.

Barrie Colts 4. Minor Midget A Tigers 0.

Innisfil Winterhawks 6. Minor Midget A Tigers 1 - Dylan Woyslaw 1G, Tyler White 1A, Matt Hart 1A.

(From last week)

Newmarket 2. Peewee AA Tigers 1 - Andrew Klinowski 1A, Jake Appleby 1G.

Peewee AA Tigers 7 - Peter Andreakas 1G 1A, Will Thompson 2A, Andrew Klinowski 1G, Nathan Romanchych 1G 1A, Austin Riswick 1G, Matthew Leroy 2G, Chris Klinowski 1A, Ross Benn 1G, Eddie Duffy 1A, Adam Newell 1A, Jake Appleby 2A, Nicholas Papousek 1A. **Markham 3.**

TNT 2. Peewee AA Tigers 2 - Eddie Duffy 1G, Andrew Klinowski 1G, Jake Appleby 1A, Chris Klinowski 1A, Adam Newell 1A.

Peewee AA Tigers 3 - Nathan Romanchych 2G, Jake Appleby 2A, Hudson Yeomans 1G, Matthew Leroy 1A. **Gloucester Rangers 1.**

Peewee AA Tigers 3 - Eddie Duffy 2G, Will Thompson 1A, Chris Klinowski 1G 1A, Hudson Yeomans 1A, Nicholas Papousek 1A. **Vaughan Panthers 1.**

Peewee AA Tigers 3 - Hudson Yeomans 1G, Andrew Klinowski 2G, Jake Appleby 2A, Nathan Romanchych 1A. **Leaside 1.**

Richmond Hill Stars 4. Peewee AA Tigers 2 - Jake Appleby 1G, Andrew Klinowski 1G, Hudson Yeomans 1A.

Minor Midget AA Tigers 3 - Matt Roy 1G, AJ Killens 1G, Andrew Papousek 1G, Mark Robertson 1A, Andrew Buchanan 1A. **Barrie Colts 2.**

Richmond Hill Stars 4. Minor Midget AA Tigers 3 - Thomas Hagias 1G, Lukas Leslie 1G, AJ Killens 1G, Matt Roy 1A, Christopher Bull 1A, Chris Youtoff 1A, Andrew Papousek 1A.

Minor Midget AA Tigers 9 - Ty Brochu 1G 1A, Dylan Hussey 1G 1A, Evan Collict 1G, Andrew Papousek 2G 2A, Chris Youtoff 1G 1A, AJ Killens 1G, Christopher Bull 1G, Matt Roy 1A, Thomas Hagias 1A, Adam Balaban 2A, Sean Nishimura 1G 1A, Andrew Buchanan 1A. **Barrie Colts 4.**

Georgina 4. Minor Midget AA Tigers 3 - Evan Collict 2G, AJ Killens 1G, Christopher Bull 1A, Adam Balaban 1A, Matt Roy 1A, Dylan Hussey 1A.

Richmond Hill Stars 5. Minor Midget AA Tigers 4 - AJ Killens 1G, Ty Brochu 1G, Andrew Papousek 1G, Christopher Bull 1G, Thomas Hagias 1A, Chris Youtoff 1A, Rory MacNeil 1A, Andrew Buchanan 1A, Lukas Leslie 1A.

Minor Midget AA Tigers 6 - Evan Collict 3G 1A, Andrew Papousek 2G, Matt Roy 1G, Thomas Hagias 2A, Dylan Hussey 1A, Sean Nishimura 1A, Christopher Bull 1A, Mark Robertson 1A. **Newmarket 5.**

Bradford 2. Minor Midget A Tigers 2 - Dylan Woyslaw 1G, Cooper Riswick 1A, Graham Loney 1G, Ryan Hughes 1A, Brett Wilson 1A.

Minor Midget A Tigers 6 - Dylan Woyslaw 1G 2A, Graham Loney 1G, Brendan Beresford 3G 1A, Cooper Riswick 1G, Matt Skoulikas 1A, Tyler White 1A, Marco Ghegin 1A. **Markham Waxers 3.**

Nobleking 4. Minor Midget A Tigers 1 - Reid Sisson 1G, Matt Skoulikas 1A.

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Monday night hockey standings

TEAM	W	L	T	Pts
Rec Cycle N' Sports	9	1	2	20
Highland Chev-Cad	7	2	3	17
Law Instance Brokers	6	5	1	13
Baldwin's	6	6	0	12
Tom & Jerry's	3	6	3	9
Priestly Demolition	3	6	3	9
Masterclean Contracting	3	7	2	8
FPL Aggregates	3	7	2	8

WEEKLY RESULTS

Law Insurance	7	Rec Sports	4
Masterclean	3	FPL Aggregates	3

Priestly Demolition	5	Highland	3
Tom & Jerry's	5	Baldwins	1

PLAYER STANDINGS

Name	Team	G	A	Pts.
Mark Swirla	Priestly	14	10	24
John Anderson	Rec Sports	11	10	21
Rob Blakley	Tom & Jerrys	12	7	19
John Archibald	Highland	8	9	17
Craig McConnell	Masterclean	11	6	17
Steve Kavanagh	Baldwins	8	8	16
Doug Adair	Rec Sports	4	12	16
Ed Kilroy	Rec Sports	13	2	15
Ed Jackson	Baldwins	5	9	14
Tom Hussey	Masterclean	5	9	14
Sam Speranini	Tom & Jerrys	8	6	14
Paul Gibson	Highland	5	8	13
Stephen McDonald	Law Insurance	4	9	13
Dwayne Smith	Law Insurance	4	9	13
Scott Thomas	Tom & Jerrys	3	10	13
Brad McMillan	Baldwins	7	5	12
Mark Lemmon	Rec Sports	5	7	12
Ken Fisher	Highland	7	4	11
Don Nichols	Law Insurance	7	4	11
Paul Wolanski	Law Insurance	4	7	11
John Leader	Law Insurance	7	3	10
Al Perkins	Priestly	4	6	10
Julian Dalcin	Rec Sports	3	7	10
Brett Vickers	FPL	2	7	9
Todd Richardson	FPL	3	6	9
Alain Boudreau	Highland	4	5	9
Mark Sedore	Priestly	5	4	9
Gerry Mackrell	Rec Sports	2	7	9
Frank Balkovec	Baldwins	5	3	8
Craig Gellatly	FPL	7	1	8
Dave Calverley	Law Insurance	3	5	8
Steve Robertson	Masterclean	4	4	8
Brian MacKenzie	Priestly	1	7	8
Ken Heinrich	Rec Sports	1	7	8
Ron Thiessen	Tom & Jerrys	1	7	8
Tom Webster	Tom & Jerrys	4	4	8
Peter Briand	Baldwins	5	2	7
Dan Smith	Baldwins	2	5	7
Brandon Chappel	FPL	7	0	7
Deryk Preston	FPL	2	5	7
Hank Van Bakel	Highland	3	4	7
Ken Rumble	Highland	1	6	7
Les Nip	Highland	2	5	7
Scott Crabbe	Highland	4	3	7
Hugh Alcorn	Masterclean	2	5	7
Mike O'Connor	Priestly	4	3	7
Ken VanNoort	FPL	2	4	6
Dan Cote	Highland	1	5	6
John Nicholson	Highland	2	4	6
Bruce Ing	Law Insurance	0	6	6
Mark Inglis	Law Insurance	2	4	6
Patrick Davies	Priestly	2	4	6
Phil Podstatzky	Priestly	1	5	6
Kevin O'Keefe	Rec Sports	3	3	6
Bob Ince	Rec Sports	2	4	6

Aurora youngsters shine at swim meet

The Aurora Selkies Swim Club sent 16 young swimmers to their first Development Swim Meet, held at York University recently.

The 2009 Santa Meet, hosted by the York Swim Club, provided the opportunity for young Aurora Selkies to experience their first competitive swim meet at the novice level.

Results were rewarding.

A surprise visitor attended the meet, too: Santa Claus, who carried gifts for every one of the competitors and coaches.

Evan Holtby and Erin Lansing stole the show winning two gold medals each.

Other first place winners were Kathryn Toffolo and Cassidy Whitmore.

Those swimmers who placed in the top three are as follows:

Kyle Baird, 50 fly, 2nd; Meaghan Dickson, 50 free, 3rd; Sydney Dysart, 50 free and 50 back, 2nd, 50 breast, 3rd; Evan

Holtby, 25 free, 1st, 25 back, 1st, 100 Individual Medley, 3rd; Erin Lansing, 25 breast, 1st, 25 back, 1st; 50 free, 2nd; Haley Simpson, 50 free, 2nd, 50 back, 3rd; Tucker Simpson, 25 free, 2nd; Kathryn Toffolo, 50 fly, 1st; Cassidy Whitmore, 25 free, 1st, 25 back, 3rd; Curtis Wilson, 50 free, 3rd.

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The 23rd annual Aurora Optimist Book Sale resulted in the sales of more than 20,000 books this year. Nora MacDonald, above, who was co-chair of this year's sale, displays some of the stock that was on sale at the Aurora Public Library. *Auroran photo by David Falconer*

Region to assess all Aurora's wells

Aurora's municipal wells are being assessed for possible future threats for contamination by York Region, according to Wendy Kemp, manager of water resources for the Region.

An assessment report is due to the province in six months, Ms. Kemp said.

Public consultation will be part of the process.

The Region is looking at specific threats that have the potential to become a problem in the future. Such threats include sewage pumping stations, fuel stations, the use of fertilizers and solvents, and the effects of snow dumping.

Ms Kemp said, however, water quality is not the sole concern of the assessment.

"Not only are we worried about water quality, we're also worried about water quantity," she said. "Studies are underway to assess

threats to the overall supply of the municipal system."

In early 2010, landowners who have specific threats on their property will receive a letter from the Source Protection Committee.

These letters will inform them that conditions on their property have "a significant threat to drinking water."

"Those letters are intended to raise their awareness and hopefully engage them in the process as we move ahead to the source protection policies (and) have something that is locally driven," Ms Kemp said.

York Region anticipates these letters being issued in February or March.

Recipients of the letters will be invited to an open house for further information.

Landowners will be divided into specific groups according to a colour-coded map defined by risk. Those designated in a red - or high risk - area will receive a letter detailing their specific threat.

"If you're in the orange zone you're going to get a letter that says you may or may not have potential for significant threat and it will put some context around it for the resident," Ms Kemp said. "The whole point is to engage (residents)."

While landowners with potential threats will be identified to the municipality, Ms Kemp said privacy will be maintained.

"People will not be identified in the public sessions," she said. "Even though a resident had been identified, their neighbour wouldn't know they had been identified."

Poice seek man who tried to rob Topper's

York Regional Police are still searching for a male suspect connected with an attempted robbery in Aurora recently.

The attempted robbery took place at Topper's Pizza on Yonge Street around 11 p.m. earlier this month.

"The suspect drew a sawed-off shotgun from his sleeve and demanded

cash from the victim who was an employee," said Constable Rebecca Boyd in a release to media.

The suspect fled from the scene before receiving any money.

He was described as a white male, six feet tall and weighing about 180 pounds.

He is of medium build and was "wearing a black

hooded sweatshirt with the hood covering his hair and forehead, dark coloured pants and jacket, and white running shoes".

The police are seeking public assistance in apprehending the suspect.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the York Regional Police Hold-Up Unit at 1-866-876-5423, ext. 6630.

Ministry agrees with OARA

From page 1
dation review policy."

The letter goes on to say a facilitator will be selected as soon as possible.

"We are very pleased with the Ministry's decision and look forward to working with the facilitator", Mr. Revington said.

The group also asked the ministry to grant the facilitator powers to overturn the board's decision to close the school, should they conclude that the ARC (Accommodation Review Committee) policy was not followed.

That request was denied by the Ministry.

"We asked for increased powers because we don't want to go through another year-long ARC process," Mr. Revington said. "Although the Ministry did not grant our request, we are motivated they did agree, based on our outline of the ARC process, that the situation needs further review."

"We want our beautiful school in the heart of our community to reopen," he said. "We want our children to attend school in their own community, just as they have for more than 100 years. We don't want to bus the young children in our neighbourhood to the suburbs, or make them cross one of the busiest streets in Canada twice a day during rush hour."

A total of 13 groups were involved in the application for an administrative review.

Among them were 176 community members; CAWS (Community Action for Wells Street); OARA (Olde Aurora Ratepayers Association); St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church; MPP Frank Klees; MP Lois Brown; the Aurora Historical Society; Dr G.W. Williams Secondary School Council; Wells Street Public School Council and MPP Greg Sorbara.

The Community Action for Wells Street group includes Aurora citizens, residents in the Wells Street area of Aurora, and members of the Wells Street School Supporters parent council.

The group was formed to increase awareness of issues impacting the Wells Street area and address threats to the preservation of the downtown community.

The Olde Aurora Ratepayers Association (OARA) is a non-profit volunteer organization of residents in the historic northeast quadrant of Aurora.

OARA's objective is to

enhance the quality of the neighbourhood and the sense of community in the area.

The OARA has been active for many years on a variety of issues affecting the well-being of the community.



Jonathan's Restaurant was packed recently as the Aurora Chamber of Commerce held its annual Christmas party for members there. Mary Georgopolous, the owner of Jonathan's, spent time with Chamber president Geoffrey Dawe during the event. Mary was chosen as business person of the year at the Chamber's Business Achievement Awards dinner held recently.

Auroran photo by David Falconer



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Mrs. Santa Claus was busy recently as she read to a group of youngsters, as part of Aurora's tree lighting ceremony held in front of the Town Hall. Inside the Senior Citizens' building, Mrs. Claus spent most of her time reading Christmas stories to hundreds of youngsters who were on hand for the occasion.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Legionnaire Ken White recognized by Aurora

Long-time Royal Canadian Legion member Kenneth White was presented with a certificate of recognition by the Town of Aurora after receiving the Legion's Meritorious Service Medal.

Mr. White's certificate of recognition was presented to him by Mayor Phyllis Morris at last

week's council meeting. In her remarks, Mayor Morris noted Mr. White joined the Col. Fred Tilston VC Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion on November 15, 1977 and "has been an integral part of the branch since that time".

Mayor Morris also presented to council a list of Mr. White's positions with

the Legion as well as honours received, including life membership in the branch in 2003 and the Legion's 60th and 75th anniversary medals.

"But out of the long list of things they said about Mr. White, (the Legion) said, 'with his gregarious manner and can-do attitude, combined with his considerable energy and

talent, Comrade Ken is constantly placing the needs of the Legion before his own,'" said Mayor Morris reading the Legion's citation.

"Giving what little free time he has to give guidance and support to all members of the branch, regardless of the issue or task at hand, with his wealth of experience and leadership and selfless dedication to the members and ideals of the Legion, Comrade Ken is an example for all to emulate."

"And it is for that reason we wanted to recognize you as well this evening on behalf of the members of the Town Council," she said.

The Meritorious Service Medal is the Royal Canadian Legion's highest honour.

According to the Legion, "only the most deserving are recommended (for the medal)", and are usually awarded "after the member has received all of the lesser awards."

Mr. White said his father's service in the Second World War inspired him to become involved with the Legion; something he said has been "a particular passion".

"I truly do appreciate the honour bestowed to me tonight," he said following the certificate presentation. "It was a lovely surprise to have and I will treasure it always."



The annual Pine Tree Potters' sale found a new home this year. They held their annual event at the Aurora Cultural Centre, located in the historic Church Street School building. Admiring the work on display are Laura Schembri, executive director of the Centre, left, and Aurora resident and pottery member Ann Kelly. During the three-day event, more than 2,000 pieces were on sale.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Aurora man pleads guilty to fraud charges

A 60-year-old Aurora man pled guilty Wednesday to three counts of Fraud Over \$5,000 in connection with a series of mortgage frauds in York Region.

Aurora resident Paul Caroline entered his plea at Newmarket's Superior Court of Justice and will be sentenced June 10.

York Regional Police say

Mr. Caroline defrauded clients of more than \$500,000 between October, 2005, and October, 2007, on properties throughout York Region and Ontario.

Mr. Caroline was arrested at his workplace in Newmarket on December 4, 2008, where he was charged with four fraud counts.

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Town short on male volunteers

Aurora has a shortage of young, male volunteer mentors for at-risk and newcomer children, according to Toronto-based Youth Assisting Youth.

Youth Assisting Youth (YAY) is a non-profit organization founded in 1976 that matches children aged six to 15 across the GTA with supportive youth mentors between the ages of 16 and 29.

According to Zack Sandor, YAY's volunteer recruitment coordinator, Aurora and Newmarket are two "especially high need areas."

Despite partnering with Aurora-based

Neighbourhood Network, the group's volunteer shortage in town - and region as a whole - continues.

Sandor said while a majority of youth seeks mentoring opportunities in Toronto where many study at the city's universities, lack of local activities might be a factor in the regional shortage.

"A part of the shortage is that there are more opportunities for activities and things like that in the downtown area," he said. "Some of the kids in York Region seem to have a harder time thinking of stuff to do with their youth, and I think it is a bit of a deterrent."

Sandor said Youth Assisting Youth has tried to combat this problem by providing activities and programs throughout the region.

These activities have included boxing and martial arts programs, and a photography workshop taught by a forensic photographer from the York Regional Police.

"Things like that give the kids an opportunity for engagement and some things to do that they might not otherwise get the chance to do without a mentor, without our program."

He said there are currently about 30 York Region children on the YAY waiting list,

12 of whom are residents of Aurora and Newmarket. But this number, Sandor said, is constantly in flux.

As of last week though, Sandor said not one match has been made for any of the children on the Aurora waiting list.

While he said the relative dearth in volunteers in the area is problematic, he added the problem is compounded by a gender gap.

"We've had more female volunteers applying for the program than male volunteers," he said. "That is the reality of our program."

This has been great for female children in the program because they are

quickly matched with volunteers, but it is leaving male children behind, he said.

Sandor said he was reluctant to speculate on gender differences, but feels while some potential male mentors are unsure of their own abilities, the required one-year commitment might make male mentors reluctant to sign on.

"As I always tell the guys who are interested but not so sure, it is only three hours a week, so it is not a huge amount of time," he said. "It's about as much time as they would spend on Facebook or watching movies in a week. If they cut that out, then it is easy."

Neighbourhood Network's John Crowell said Neighbourhood Network implemented a new tracking system for volunteers last week and have yet to find interest in YAY.

The group is currently conducting phone surveys with its partners to determine past successes.

Crowell added that Neighbourhood Network's volunteer numbers are evenly distributed along gender lines.

Most kids are referred to YAY by professionals, such as teachers, school guid-

ance counsellors, and social workers, who see the program as a good opportunity to give kids focus, Mr. Sandor said.

Youth mentors are then introduced to kids based on mutual interests and other qualities.

Volunteers are required to commit three hours of their time per week per year after being matched.

Potential mentors are subject to a multi-step application process.

Following an information session, emphasizing the importance of commitment, those who think they can handle it continue to a full-day training session which gives them a taste of the mentoring experience.

After that, volunteers have to provide two references and undergo police checks.

If everything checks out, a case coordinator interviews the volunteer to get to know them and be able to provide an ideal match.

If a match can be found, YAY lets the potential mentor and "mentee" get together and see if they want to be matched up, he says.

"It's a good way to make a tangible difference in the life of a youth."



Member of the Provincial Parliament for the riding of Newmarket-Aurora Frank Klees welcomed constituents to his Christmas open house at his Aurora offices recently. Also on hand for the occasion were staffers Suzanne Bolton, left and Neave Greig. Mr. Klees is an Aurora resident.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

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Senior Scape



By BRIAN WARBURTON

Christmas abounds at Seniors' Centre

Soon it will be Christmas day; a day in the year which has a firm hold on the minds of Christians and non-Christians alike, and that is true for most people throughout the world.

The only event that even approaches Christmas in appealing to our interest is Easter, and that is my opinion at least.

The Christmas season breaks up the descent to the dark and brutal winter; it keeps our thoughts on the festivities and gift giving, and renews or generates good feelings among family and friends.

The members of the Aurora Seniors Association (ASA) are captivated by the thrill of the Christmas season completely.

Preparations for Christmas demand great effort to make ready for it properly, including the huge arrangements for travelling and visiting, and sleeping over in many cases.

If Christmas did not embrace our lives as it does, some other festivity would surely take its place to drive away the winter blahs and the cold and moody weather, so let us be thankful

for what it is.

Among the events leading to Christmas in Aurora is the passing of the Winter Olympic Torch – 2010, which will be carried through Aurora December 18th.

Recently, the ASA participated in the Remembrance Day Service, with Cliff Davies officiating as Master of Ceremonies for the 2009 Remembrance Day Service at the Aurora Cenotaph Tower, for the Laying of the Wreath Ceremony.

In addition to all the activities organized by the ASA are Town programs, which are numerous and are available at the ASA.

The list is long and attractive and the programs can be accessed at the ASA.

Probably the best way to determine what would suit your personal need is to drop into the centre and have look, read the literature and view what programs are in progress.

Although our thoughts are absorbed profoundly with the great Christmas festivities, the New Year is also on the horizon and this is a great festive occasion in its own right.

This is also an excellent

time to stop and consider how to improve the way time is spent and what activities may be found in the ASA to be enticing.

There is no denying that once the New Year has arrived, getting back to the reality of everyday living is what must be done for most of us.

A perennial favourite is inexpensive computer instruction using first rate equipment, which is in a constant state of keeping abreast of technological changes and improvements, and I believe, doing a good job.

Other activities that have an outstanding fascination on our lives are the variety of card games, which have an ongoing attraction among members of the ASA.

Cards games while challenging, are within the reach of everybody to score some success, which is enough to draw adherents back week after week.

Cliff Davies is our caller at bingo, which also boasts a long and successful calling for many of the ASA seniors.

Among the activities that boast excellent equipment and the room to use it is the pool room, which attracts its

share of members both men and women who never tire of stroking the great shot.

Room for more players is available and this pool room is probably the most attractive and cost effective in all of Aurora.

Joining the ASA to use the pool room confers the benefits of all other activities on members.

An activity that garners its share of media attention is the well organised Woodshop.

These members are called upon constantly to turn the Woodshop equipment to a variety of public and private projects, and the skill these members demonstrate working with wood, often attracts the attention of the media.

Their latest project was to build a replica of Santa's Workshop, which rode on the ASA Santa Claus float, and now resides proudly in the ASA lounge where it is an attraction for almost everybody.

I dare not omit mention of the ASA Evergreen Choir which includes some very special expertise.

The choir anticipates acquiring a new piano in the New Year and would very much like to find another first-rate pianist to round out the musicians section.

If this item catches your attention, please contact Enid Maize at the ASA who will be delighted to hear from you.



Newmarket-Aurora Member of the Provincial Parliament Frank Klees presents Maddy Nichol with a plaque marking her recent retirement from the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization. A reception was held in her honour last week at Aurora's new cultural centre located inside the historic Church Street School.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

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Snowfall urges network into shovelling program

As Aurora's first major snowfall of the year loomed last week, Neighbourhood Network was gearing up to launch its second annual Volunteer Snow Removal Service for seniors and persons with disabilities.

"We know that the winter months can be especially difficult for some of our residents when the snow accumulates around their homes," said Neighbourhood Network's John Crowell.

Neighbourhood

Network launched the snow shovelling initiative last year as a pilot program and matched 30 residents in Aurora and Newmarket with willing volunteers.

"The success of this program will be entirely dependent on the enthusiasm and willingness of volunteers in our community," said Mr. Crowell. "We are looking to recruit anyone and everyone who is looking to have a direct impact on their neighbour and their com-

munity."

Neighbourhood Network's Snow Removal Service is available to any resident of Aurora and Newmarket over the age of 65, and all residents with disabilities regardless of age.

If you would like to volunteer for or receive this service, you are invited to call Neighbourhood Network at 905-726-3737 or visit their website at www.neighbourhoodnetwork.org.

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Mayor listens to Aurora merchants

From page 1

said. A committee looking at possibilities for the school was assembled, comprising of people of various backgrounds, representing the Heritage Committee, the Royal Canadian Legion, to the Arts and Culture Committee.

This committee, she said, helped steer the direction of the school.

"It wasn't a case of throwing money at an old building, it was a case of what will that building look like, what will it do for the town, what benefit will the taxpayers get from it?," she said.

Other considerations included developing a "vision" for the school, determining who was to renovate it, and finding a budget for it.

"At that time the vision for some people was that that the historical society would fund the renovations," Mayor Morris said. "The reality is that you can't ask volunteers to fund such a significant building refurbishment."

Council then decided to fund the development through the advice of the Arts & Culture committee. It was recommended to the town they would be best

served by appointing a board of directors for the centre.

"They would have the expertise because the board was made up of people who know their stuff," she said.

Mayor Morris calls the Church Street School building a "crown jewel" that was given new life.

This new life, she said, is contingent on programming.

Rooms at the Centre are rented out for various events, and the process is overseen by its board of directors. The town is not involved in the day-to-day running of the Centre, she said.

While the building has yet to be officially opened, the Church Street Cultural Centre is in its first full year of operation.

The Mayor said she hopes to soon have an official opening with Town Council and that opportunity might come up during next year's Doors Open event.

"We want the board to showcase it in a position where they will be ready," she said. "It's like how we don't invite the in-laws to the house you've just moved into until you've got the bathrooms, kitchen,

and bedrooms ready."

Apart from the Church Street School, other developments in the downtown area have been critical to the Town's success, she said.

2009 was Aurora's Year of Business Initiative, and Mayor Morris said the town focused on – among other things – small business workshops, developing an economic development website, and keeping a competitive tax rate.

She said the tax rate has helped the town achieve economic goals.

"In 2009, a year of a downturn, our third quarter results show that \$100 million was invested in commercial and industrial dollars into this town," she said. "It doesn't take long to walk around town and see the cranes in the air."

The Town, she said, has garnered additional revenue from the sale of some town lands, which have been developed for commercial use - Wellington Street's new GO Transit parking lot being one example - allowing companies to invest money into the town.

"We see this economic development as critical to the community as well because you don't want your taxpayers being out of

ratio," she said "You want to have a healthy economic tax base compared to residential. It was out of whack and we're trying to move that percentage up. Focus is very strongly on employment retention strategy."

Aurora has earmarked lands near Highway 404 for "employment" development.

This land, which Morris calls the "filet mignon of employment land", has been on the real estate market, but offers have been less than hoped for.

"If they were, we would break out a bottle of beer – not champagne! – to celebrate," she said.

Mayor Morris said she has heard from several business owners in the downtown area, concerned about the rapid development on the eastern side of town. These owners, she said, did not want to be ignored.

"To listen to merchants in the downtown, we had to be very cautious that we did not start an official plan review ahead of paying strong attention to the downtown," she said. "To do that, in the year of Business Initiative, we launched the Downtown Business Initiative Plan."

The Town launched the Yonge-Wellington Street Corridor study, but she stressed that no decisions have been made as the study will be ready only at the end of the year.

Mayor Morris said this has been one of the longest consultation processes in town history, but also the most interactive.

"We did website surveys, had meetings in Church Street School, met one-on-one with businesses and interviewed people," she said. "The town has steered this with a consultant."

When the study's recommendations are presented to Council, focus will then turn to a secondary plan for the downtown area.

The secondary plan, Morris said, is likely to focus on revitalizing the urban area, allowing for more green space and pedestrian traffic.

"Store owners want people to shop and stay in the core", she said. "When you go into the park towards Yonge Street you see the back ends of buildings. You

see garbage dumpsters. There is a vision for the future that when you turn and face green space that you have lovely patios, and people interacting with the green space."

Mayor Morris said the town has made some significant environmental strides over the last year including implementing a pesticide bylaw, working with the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust on the McLeod Woodlot, and working with the trails advisory committee to link trails from west to east.

"A lot of the trail runs on the main road," she said. "Ideally you want to get the optimum trail system in place. Some of it happens to be on private land and it takes time to negotiate with

land owners."

The town also wants to make a key trail linkage to Newmarket as part of the Nokiidaa Trail System.

"The majority of people are trying to find the optimum route through here," she said.

While this proposed extension has garnered some vocal opposition, the Mayor said she hopes the town makes the right decision for the environment.

"Everyone's voice is important and we hope through this consultation that we get something that everyone can be proud of at the end," she said. "It's unfortunate that it seems that some residents are led to believe that we have made the decision already. That is not the case."

Council approves controversial clause

Aurora council last week approved a clause that proved to be a point of contention at a recent General Committee Meeting.

As The Auroran reported last week, Enbridge Gas and builder Daniels

Corporation squared off at the General Committee meeting over a clause in the Town's agreement regarding noise from an adjacent gas pressure station owned by Enbridge.

The clause requires

Daniels to conduct a further study to determine how potential noise from the gas pressure station would affect homes following completion of the development, and take steps to make sure that it does not do so.

Daniels Corporation argued that they should not be required to conduct further studies because increases in noise from the station might not be attributable to its development.

The proposed condominium subdivision is slated to be built on the southeast corner of Bayview Avenue and St. John's Sideroad.

The clause passed - along with other recommendations from the General Council Meeting - unanimously.

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COMING EVENTS

From page 2

MONDAY, JANUARY 11

Aurora Film Circuit presents "An Education". In 1960s London, a beautiful and accomplished schoolgirl becomes involved in a relationship with a charming older man. He's worldly, drives a sports car, makes her laugh – even her parents are won over. But is he all he seems to be? What will happen to her long-sought plan to attend Oxford? This is the story of one young woman's coming of age, but it is also the story of the age that produced the young woman. Carey Mulligan is in the lead role of Jenny. Tickets at \$10 are available at R&R Used Books and the library.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13

Aurora Public Library invites you to an informal discussion forum, re. today's economy, with Roger Strong. Why the old rules may not apply; How to treat your RRSP and your debt. Mr. Strong has been in risk analysis, finance, investment and macro economics for more than 30 years. 7 p.m. in the Magna Room. Free. Admission restricted to those 18 and over. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk or call 905-727-9493 option 4.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with Service Canada, presents a free seminar on Retirement Pension, Old Age Security Pension and Guaranteed Income Supplement.

7 to 8 p.m. in the Magna Room. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493, option 4.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with community agencies, presents five monthly parenting workshops between January and May, 2010. Each month will focus on a different topic geared to different ages. Register for one or all. Free. 7 to 8.30 p.m. in the Magna Room. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or phone 905-727-9493 option 4.

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

Aurora Public Library, in partnership with Ontario Early Years, presents 'Beyond Bedtime Stories'. Learn how everyday interactions at meals, in the bath, and playing on the floor can be springboards to literacy success. For parents and/or caregivers of children up to six years old. 7 p.m. in the Magna Room. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493 option 4.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

Picture Perfect: The Story of Black's Photography. Aurora Public Library hosts this book event. Meet Aurora author Marnie Maguire, and learn about one of Canada's most successful home-grown businesses. 7 p.m. in the Magna Room. Free. Pre-register at the Adult Information Desk, or call 905-727-9493 option 4.

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The Route:

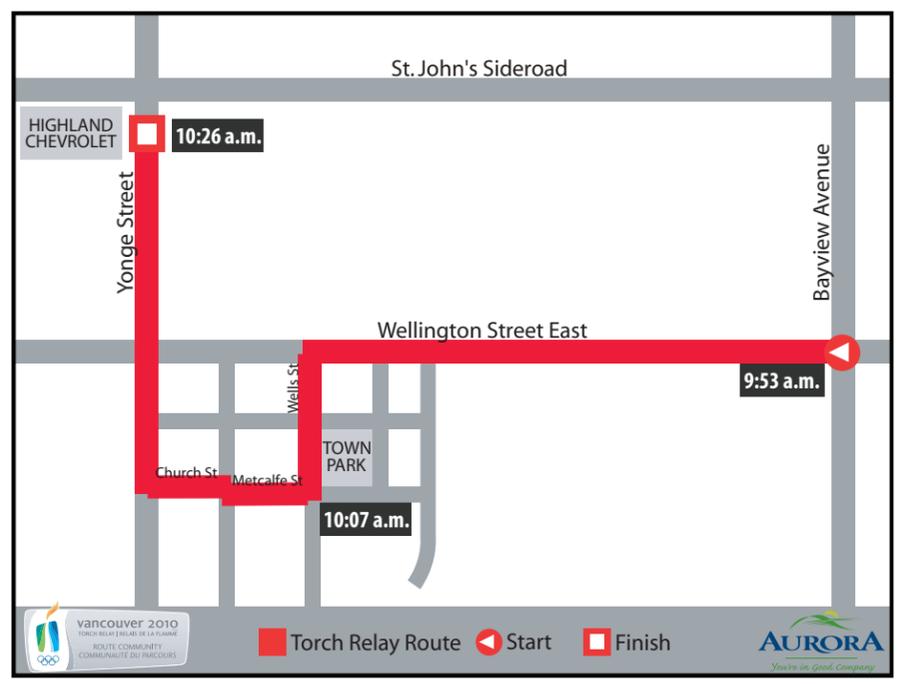
The relay begins at 9:53 a.m. SHARP on Bayview Avenue and Wellington Street East. The torch will travel west on Wellington Street, turn south onto Wells Street, west on Metcalfe Street and Church Street, then proceed north on Yonge Street, ending at Highland Chev Olds at 10:26 a.m.

Local Events:

- Community Celebration at Town Park from 10:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. featuring a free pancake breakfast, face painting, a fire juggler, Aurora's Teen Idols, instrumental vocalists and more!
- Free Skating at the Aurora Community Centre from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Hot chocolate, popcorn, cotton candy, beavertails will be available to purchase for a special, discounted price.

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For more information on our local Olympic Torch Run events, please contact the Special Events Office at 905-726-4762





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