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THE AURORAN

Aurora's Independent Community Newspaper

Vol. 10 No. 13

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FREE

Week of January 19, 2010

Aurora Rotary Club sends help to Haiti

The Aurora Rotary Club will help the survivors of an earthquake last week that literally flattened the City of Port-au-Prince in Haiti.

Six Rotarians decided Saturday morning to send five "ShelterBoxes", valued at \$1,000 each, to the ruined city.

But, Rotarians agreed, five was not enough, so they are pleading with residents to kick in enough money to send 15 more boxes.

The Aurora Optimist Club, meanwhile, will decide a course of action after a meeting this week.

The Rotary ShelterBox is a large, green plastic container that holds a 10-person tent, suitable no matter whether it's hot or cold, and a range of other equipment including 10 sleeping bags.

Ten people could survive for six months with one ShelterBox

In general, a typical box may include thermal blankets and insulated ground sheets; waterproof ponchos and bin bags; a multi-fuel stove that can burn anything from diesel to old paint; cooking pans, utensils, bowls and mugs; collapsible water containers and water purification tablets; a basic tool kit – hammer, axe, saw, pliers,

hoe head, trenching shovel and rope; and a small children's pack containing drawing books, crayons, and pens.

Once assembled, boxes will be banded, sealed and are also individually numbered so each box can be tracked and the Rotary Club will know its final destination.

If you wish to contribute to the Haitians who need a place to live, see the details on Page 16 of this week's Auroran.

Meanwhile, donations to the Red Cross Haiti Disaster Relief Fund are now being accepted at the Meridian Credit Union branch at 297 Wellington Street E.

Donations can be made to Account # 3874294.

"We are all shocked and saddened by the loss of life and devastation caused by the earthquake in Haiti. We want to partner with our members and the communities we serve to do whatever we can to help," Ann Boyle, Aurora Branch Manager said.

All individual contributions to the fund will be matched by the federal government, to a maximum of \$50 million across Canada, between January 12 and February 12.

Regency Acres, Holy Spirit selected for school program

Aurora's Regency Acres Public School and Holy Spirit Catholic Elementary School on Stone Road will be two of 39 schools in York Region to introduce full-time schooling for four and five-year-old students in September.

The two will join 24 public schools and 13 separate schools in the Region in the program announced by the provincial government last week.

But Newmarket-Aurora MPP Frank Klees says the arrange-

ment is too expensive and unfair.

Premier Dalton McGuinty needs to explain to Ontarians how he's going to pay for a costly new all-day kindergarten program, he said.

It has been nearly three months since the McGuinty government revealed it faces a \$25-billion deficit, yet not a single meaningful restraint measure has been announced, Klees said.

Please see page 15



Members of the St. Andrew's Pipe and Drum Corps got things going for the 27th Annual MacPherson hockey tournament which began Friday morning and continued over the weekend at the Aurora Community Centre. Appleby College from Oakville won all the marbles. Another photo and story is on Page 14.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Another resident joins race

Aurora resident Roger Clowater threw his hat into the mayoral ring Tuesday becoming the second candidate to declare a run for the Mayor's office.

Mr. Clowater officially filed his nomination papers at Aurora Town Hall, joining former Councillor Nigel Kean in the race.

Mr. Clowater, an eight-year resident of Aurora, said he is running for mayor because he understands "the importance a community plays in raising a family".

Please see page 14

New Integrity Commissioner could be David Tsubouchi

David Tsubouchi, a former politician in the Ontario government, will be recommended Tuesday night for the position of Aurora's new Integrity Commissioner at the town's regular general committee meeting.

Results of the vote were not available at The Auroran's press time, but should be available Wednesday at www.theauroran.com.

"[Tsubouchi] brings a wealth of experience from the public sector and as an elected official municipality and provincially," said Aurora CAO Neil Garbe in a memo released in advance of Tuesday's meeting.

The Town of Aurora has been actively seeking the appointment of a new integrity commissioner since November.

According to the memo, Aurora received six proposals, which were evaluated based on cost, credibility, experience, demonstrated qualifications, and the proposal itself.

Mr. Tsubouchi received the highest marks.



DAVID TSUBOUCHI

While dependant on usage, Mr. Garbe notes "the contract negotiated with David Tsubouchi will have a yearly limit of \$60,000."

He would take over the job vacated by David Nitkin in August last year, when the latter was fired by the coun-

cil following his report on Councillor Evelyn Buck's Code of Conduct, which he claimed was "political".

Mayor Phyllis Morris was not available for comment when called by The Auroran Monday morning.

Councillor Evelyn Buck, whose comments caused the hiring of an integrity commissioner in the first place, said she finds it strange that a recommendation to appoint is being made in a public meeting.

"David Tsubouchi, as a former Minister of Community and Social Services, suggested in a debate on welfare assistance mothers having difficulty putting food on the table for their children should negotiate the price of canned tuna with supermarket managers. The comment brought him to public attention," she said. "I have never heard another word from the individual."

Tsubouchi was a Progressive Conservative member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario from

Please see page 8

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COMING EVENTS

CONTINUING

The Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 8 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway north in Aurora. Visitors are welcome for only \$2. For more information call Ray at 905-727-6168.

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 barbershop 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 volun-

teer-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 Childrens Chorus welcomes treble voices. It is a choir dedicated to nurturing and providing opportunities for children to express their musical abilliteis. The chorus is open to boys and girls ages 5-17. Contact the general director at keepsinging@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. Andrews' 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 or 905-713-9356.

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.

Please see page 18

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 MP1123 (10/2007)

Panel discusses proposed trail system

A panel of experts, along with interested members of the public, were on hand at the Church Street School Cultural Centre Thursday night to review plans for the Aurora to Newmarket link in the Nokiidaa Trail system.

The meeting provided interested parties with a clearer picture of what to expect if plans to build the trail link through the western portion of the McKenzie Wetlands near Hadley Grange come to pass.

The panel, composed of Aurora environmentalist David Tomlinson; Mike Walters, director of watershed management for the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority; Dr. Paul Grey, climate change policy advisor for the Ministry of Natural Resources; and Dr. Isobel Heathcote, environmental engineering consultant, was on hand to analyze the plan presented by town-hired facilitators Ogilvie, Ogilvie and Company.

"We said we wanted you to critique [the plan] and say what you like, what you didn't like, and what you'd improve," said facilitator Robb Ogilvie, addressing the panel.

Plans were presented in a 38-page report to the panel, a follow-up to the first report issued in November.

Significantly, this report differs from the first in that it changes all references to "restoration" - that is, restoration of the wetland - to "enhancement".

This change seeks to "avoid" the interpretation they intend to restore the wetland to its condition "prior to European settlers."

The bulk of the report focuses on these "enhancements", including the preservation of open green space to the north of Hadley Grange for nesting, the removal of invasive species, and gradual removal of non-native vegetation.

The report also proposes the creation of three additional wetlands and a pond on the site, which will be planted with native vegetation.

Additional proposed enhancements include a general garbage cleanup of the site, erosion repair, the installation of nesting sites for turtles, floating logs for basking, bird boxes and the removal of cattails and other plants to create more open water space.

While the plan was generally well received by the panel, it did not come out of the discussion unscathed.

There was particular concern amongst panel members of the lack of clear goals and a clear timeline in the report.

"We have a good background based on [the report] but there will be questions that have been raised here tonight and some questions we would ask," said Mr. Walters. "Things like the phrasing of construction over time, how are you going to do the works? You can't do works over certain seasons that would displace flora and fauna."

Dr. Grey shared this sentiment, saying the "devil was in the details."

"I think there is a need for more specificity in how this property is going to be managed for these particular ecosystems and habitats," said Dr. Grey, noting that the Hadley Grange property contains a number of different ecosystems. "It is important that the town and people who are invested in this project actively participate in the management of it."

Dr. Grey argued that any management system needs to reflect commitment to the project through continual monitoring and management programs, including the management of invasive species.

"Once the commitment has

been made, it is a long-term commitment."

While admitting she was a newcomer to the area and this particular issue, Dr. Heathcote said she was "an old hand at watershed management."

Dr. Heathcote argued that development and management of this area could be in the area's best interest in the long run.

"This is a highly altered landscape and it is gradually transitioning to be a more natural state, but this landscape has not been in pristine, natural condition for about 200 years," she said. "It's moving. It's evolving."

Dr. Heathcote noted she understood the desire to protect and enhance "this little parcel of greenness in the urban area" because they are relatively rare. She also said they were important from aesthetic, recreational and climate change standpoints.

"I am hearing two competing philosophies," she said. "On the one hand, I'm hearing the way to make the wetland better, stronger, and more protected is to leave it alone. On the other

hand, I'm hearing the way to make it better is to intervene and make some management improvements.

"There is no certainty with either approach. We need to work towards sustainable systems that have resilience, that is systems that are physically complex and have good productivity and a diversity of species. I think there is an argument for active management."

She also expressed concern with the details - or lack thereof - in the report, saying it would be "desirable" to see specific targets set and "specific points of time" to track progress.

"That means doing a benchmark study at the beginning so we know what's there now and then coming back and measuring on a repeated basis to see if

plans are working," she said. "If they are not, then you've got to change course."

Members of the public came out of the meeting with more information than they had from the previous meeting and the panel provided significant insight to consider.

"I think there were a lot of interesting arguments presented on both sides," said David Philp, who was one of the protestors preceding the previous meeting in November. "I still want to know though the percentage of destruction the [project will] cause."



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Poor Ronnie

By RON WALLACE

Yes, it's true, I'm a collector

Earlier this week, a staffer brought me an old book called "Beer Can Collecting", written some 39 years ago by Lew Cady.

It reminded me that I, and many of you know it, am a collector of "stuff".

My motto is "if it isn't nailed down, I probably collect it".

Among other things, I collect beer cans, probably have hundreds of them, but nothing like what was in the book.

Forty years ago, there were, Cady's guessing I'm sure, about 30,000 people in the United States who collected beer cans.

On April 15, 1970, the Beer Can Collectors of America was formed and by the end of 1971, the BCCA had 304 members from 17 states and Canada.

Today, the group is now known as the Brewery Collectibles Club of America, and the club publishes a full-colour 48-page bi-monthly magazine, holds an annual "can"vention that attracts an average of 1,000 members, is involved in a national brewery museum effort, hosts a comprehensive Website, and has published the hobby's premier beer can reference guide.

It has come a long way since 1970.

The spectacular growth in the 1990s of microbrewing has helped to foster a renewed interest in breweriana collecting.

Micro items are in high demand, and BCCA membership is on the rise.

New members are signing up and many collectors who were active in the '70s and '80s are rejoicing.

The club now boasts more than 4,000 active members from all 50 states and 27 foreign countries, including Canada and has more than 100 chapters, including five in Canada.

If you want to know more about this group, go to www.bcca.com for more information.

Beer can, and bottle, collecting are only part of my collection.

Other collectables include matches (hard to find these days because they were once used for advertising, and anyhow, who smokes anymore?)

I have 11,000 different packages of matches (yes, they're on a computer; that's how I know how many I have), but I also collect swizzle sticks, bottle openers, model cars, miniature liquor bottles and bottle tops, among other things.

I thought I was quite the collector until I ran into Vic Priestly's collection, and now I figure I'm a poor second.

Victor collects everything, including real cars. I have plenty of space for my collections, but I certainly could never begin to collect real cars!!

And, I think I'd hear about it from the better half of my life if I did.

Bad enough we had to find a house big enough to hold my collections, but I'm sure my wife, Patricia, would draw the line before I brought home another car.

JERSEY BOYS

A most appreciated Christmas present was used during the holiday period when Patricia bought us tickets to see the Jersey Boys, currently playing at the Toronto Centre for the Arts in North York.

This is the story of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons and, in musical form, is the story of how four blue-collar kids on the streets of Newark, New Jersey, became one of the greatest groups in history.

But the real story happened outside the theatre prior to the show's matinee.

Patricia had driven me to the theatre, but parking was a bit of a problem.

We found a spot on a street behind the theatre, and decided it was worth the cost of a parking meter to stay there.

That's when we were approached by a nice man who asked us if we were going to the theatre.

Replying in the affirmative, we soon learned from this gentleman that our car would be gone when the show was over, since it would be towed away.

Simply, the show would not end until after rush hour began.

There were signs on posts advising us of this, but, hey, we didn't see them.

The nice man then advised us he was part of the band in the show, and sure enough, he was.

Whoever you are, thank you. If was a gesture that was deeply appreciated.

And the show was worth it, too, if you like music such as "Sherry", "Big Girls Don't Cry", "Can't Take My Eyes Off Of You" and "Oh, What A Night".

Oh yeah, I collect records, too.



Two houses featured in an old book calling Aurora "A Town of Beauty and the Home of Healthy-Happy Families" are shown here. Are they still in existence? Do you recognize your own home? Are you living in it? If so, call us at 727-3300 and tell us where these homes are. We'll spring for lunch for two at the Aurora Legion if you happen to recognize either one of these two buildings. Thanks to Aurora solicitor Tom McPherson for donating this book to The Auroran, Now, if we could just figure out when it was published. We know it was before 1941, because that year is mentioned and the town's population was 2,762. The town's phone number was 65.

Letter to the Editor

Councillor responds to critic

To the editor,

In response to Mr. Street, (Letter to the Editor, The Auroran, Jan 12).

Politics is the Art of Compromise. Engineering is not. It's a science.

Roads are designed for "safe" movement of traffic.

Road allowances provide space for boulevards and separate pedestrians from vehicular traffic.

They store snow in winter.

They accommodate utilities and trees which absorb exhaust fumes.

Pedestrians are the elderly, children, mothers with strollers, the disabled on mobility devices and pet owners.

Reason for the compromise is opposition from a single resident who does not want "his driveway and parking spaces reduced by the public road allowance being used for public purposes".

First, he didn't want a sidewalk. Then he acknowledged the need.

Then he agreed to the sidewalk, as long as it was

as far away as possible from his property line.

In response to that completely self-serving argument, the compromise recommended to council by the engineer is just shift the road a metre west, swoop a loop in the sidewalk to abut the road and pour twice the width of concrete to serve a combination of snow storage and pedestrians.

Who are the elderly, mothers with strollers, children, people using mobility devices and pet owners?

The compromise is neither safe nor economic. The stated need to relocate utilities is not factual.

Mr. Street is within his rights to trumpet a defense of the indefensible.

As I am to oppose it with all my resources.

But please, Mr. Street, spare me the righteous exhortation about why I was elected.

I know what I offered. I don't compromise on commitment.

**Evelyn Buck
Aurora**

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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Due to a recent Toronto Star article I am returning to a topic that I first wrote about more than two years ago.

Roy Romanow, former premier of Saskatchewan and former commissioner on the future of Health in Canada, is the founding chair of the Institute of Wellbeing.

A couple of years ago he began an ambitious project, called the Canadian Index of Wellbeing, or CIW.

The headline of the Star column at the time was "Measuring what counts to society" and the article was about "the need for a more holistic way to measure societal progress - one that accounts for more than just economic indicators such as the Gross Domestic Product and takes into account the full range of societal, environmental and economic concerns of citizens."

While we have a long established set of narrow economic indicators, the article pointed out, "We haven't had a clear, coherent and compelling alternative to balance the dominance of economic measures".

I further wrote at the time that it is an interesting concept and one that I believe should be investigated further.

Well, two years have passed and Mr. Romanov has come out with his first report.

Some interesting findings as reported in the Star article: "For example, from 1981 to 2008, after-tax per capita income rose 28.8 per cent, but it rose much faster for the top income earners than the rest of us.

"Over the same period, unemployment decreased slightly, but changes in Employment Insurance reduced the number of unemployed who qualified for benefits.

"Canadians are also getting fatter; in 1994, 12.7 per cent were obese, compared to 16 per cent in 2007.

"But there is also good news. The incidence of depres-

sion is down, somewhat. So is the national crime rate, which dropped by 30 per cent between 1991 and 2006."

There is another interesting study that just came out.

The Conference Board of Canada released a report the other day that ranks Canada's 50 largest cities in terms of attracting new residents.

According to a January 14th Toronto Star story, the Conference Board report, titled "City Magnets", ranks each city according to forty-one indicators in society, including health, economy, environment, education, innovation and housing.

Richmond Hill, Ottawa and Waterloo are the only cities in Ontario that made the "A" list.

The rankings are based on 2006 data, which predates the recession.

Something similar to the CIW or the City Magnets report may be needed in Aurora.

What type of information or metrics should be included in such a document?

While I have not reviewed the Conference Board indicators, I suggest having individual performance metrics under the above six categories could include things like: number of people using the food pantry, number of affordable rental housing units, percentage of children participating in community sports, percentage of voter turnout, percentage of high school kids not completing high school, number of people using the public leisure complex and public skating / public swimming, percentage of people who possess a library card and capacity utilization of the Viva buses in Aurora.

The key is that the numbers and trends should provide us with a well-balanced view of how our community is doing.

City magnets

The statistics alone certainly don't tell the whole story, but they are the basis upon which to begin any meaningful dialogue and real debate about whether we are meeting the priorities of this community or even if we have the right priorities in the first place.

If, for example, all the scorecard targets are met, then our community should be in good shape. However, in the event that all targets were met and the community did not seem any better off, this would signal that it's time to rethink the metrics being utilized.

The scorecard should be easy to read and to understand.

It should have a number of charts and graphs, and not a lot of text.

The trends would also show how we compare against other similarly sized communities.

It should also include comparisons against Newmarket. Although Newmarket has a much larger population than Aurora, there is a commonality, based on proximity, community make-up and shared interests.

It would be nice if the good folks at the Aurora Town Hall produced such a document.

But it would be even better if the Aurora Chamber of Commerce published this information.

The Aurora Community Wellness Index (ACWI) could then be published quarterly in The Auroran.

Any measure that can be utilized to both further educate and interest our fellow citizens in improving our community should be explored.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephensomerville@yahoo.com



Inside Aurora

By Scott Johnston

There's nothing like election fever in Aurora.

What will be the issues?

How many candidates will run?

Who will they be? Who will win?

The excitement! The suspense! The surprises!

I'll bet it's all you're thinking about these days, right?

No?

I agree - I'm not seeing it in town, either.

There's probably more talk in the local coffee shops this week about Fabulous Flicks closing its doors, than the election.

In fact, apart from the hardy few political junkies in Aurora who cross the days off in their calendars for four years as they count down, I bet the 2010 municipal election is only vaguely registering on most folks' radars.

There are a number of reasons for this.

First of all, we're barely over Christmas, and mired in the depths of winter.

People are dreaming of vacations, or trying to figure out how they can spend less energy cajoling their kids into shovelling the driveway, than it takes to actually do it themselves.

And look at the timing; the election's four seasons away.

Amongst other things, that period covers everything from an Olympics, to the Auroran's 10th anniversary, and in

between that, probably the terms of office of three more Integrity Commissioners.

Then there's the fact that apart from Nigel Kean, who once again, is the first with his hat in the ring, we have no official candidates.

Since they have until September 10 to submit their nomination papers, and most of them will do so around that time, we really won't know the full slate of who's running until the Fall.

This also means that apart from the odd letter to the editor, residents are not going to get all the visual clues they need to prod them into thinking about an election.

For example, it'll be months before the ground is soft enough to pound in an election sign.

It's way too cold to stand around outside handing out fliers, or going door to door.

And with only one declared candidate, public or televised debates could be a little one-sided.

But perhaps the biggest reason that no one's talking much about the election yet, is apathy.

And this problem's been with us forever.

Every municipal election we hear how poor voter turnout is.

In 2006, I think the people who voted in town barely out-

numbered the candidates.

That's not to say there aren't compelling issues in Aurora to be discussed, and decisions to be made that will affect us for years to come.

Development, accountability, taxes, infrastructure, green space, Aurora's voice on the regional stage, even a ward system, all should be front and centre.

As we get further into the year, questions on these issues will start to be voiced by more people, and as greater numbers register as candidates, voters' interest will grow.

But for now, it's just too early for most folks to get excited about the election.

We'll do our best here at The Auroran over the coming months to keep you all informed of the issues, and we look forward to your feedback.

In fact, in his column last week, our editor offered to devote a full page in future editions solely to election letters and ads.

So, I hope we hear from you, because if we don't, not only will this be a boring election, but we may have to resort to some pretty oversized fonts to fill that page.

Feel free to e-mail Scott at:
machellscorners@gmail.com

Election fever

Letters to the Editor

Where are town's priorities, he asks

To the editor,

What does it say about our collective priorities when Aurora council donates not a single penny or a single square foot of vacant space to the Aurora Food Pantry?

The Town of Aurora spent tens of thousands of dollars on renovations at the town hall for offices that are not even used; they have increased funding for the arboretum despite the fact that less than half of last year's budget was used; the town has incurred

hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal charges that include some costs that the recently fired integrity commissioner suggested could be "politically motivated" and groundless; the town has tens of thousands of dollars for a new cultural centre; it has millions upon millions of dollars for new sports and recreation facilities and even money for a dog walking park.

With the incredible resources at our disposal the best our town council can do to assist the most needy people in our com-

munity is to have the mayor and a few of her friends dress up in Halloween costumes and ask the good people of Aurora to donate generously to the Food Pantry.

When Richmond Hill sold its power company they bought a 15-year lease for their food bank in a Salvation Army building.

Newmarket donated space in the old Town Hall to their food bank and when the food bank relocated recently the Council offered a contribution towards the next two

year's rent.

When Aurora sold its power company at a profit of over \$34 million we set nothing aside for the food pantry and when the pantry explored the potential use of town space sitting vacant they were told that the town can offer nothing more than a one-year guarantee given that the town does not seem to have any clear plan for the large inventory of vacant municipal space.

Of course, that logic did not stop the Cultural Centre from getting its new facility at great expense or the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) from getting its new offices.

One has to wonder where our priorities are.

The baseball field is being built, the soccer dome is being supported to the tune of \$100,000 per annum, our trails are getting an overhaul and yet at the same time the town does not have a single dime for the food pantry that feeds 60 families all year long.

One can only hope that in the upcoming municipal election at least some peo-

ple will see fit to ask those seeking office where they stand with regards to the town making more than just a token gesture of support through a photo op and news story asking the good people of Aurora to step to the plate.

If we are lucky, maybe

the next council will lead by example. I have to believe that if there is a will there is a way for the town to do more, but at the same time that is precisely what worries me.

Richard Johnson
Aurora

AHS is seeking board members

To the editor,

The Aurora Historical Society (AHS) was founded in 1963 and since that time has worked tirelessly to support and preserve local history and to provide opportunities for the public to learn and engage in the history of Aurora.

We are a committed volunteer organization directed by a volunteer board with one full-time and one part-time staff.

The Aurora Historical Society owns and operates Hillary House (15372

Yonge Street) Aurora's only National Historic Site where its offices are located.

AHS also owns and maintains an extensive collection of artifacts and archival documents which are stored and displayed at the Aurora Cultural Centre (Church Street School).

We are currently in the first year of a three-year Strategic Plan designed to make AHS more financially stable and enable the organization to continue to collect and care for Aurora's tangible history.

We are the only organization in Aurora dedicated to this task.

AHS board members are required to attend monthly meetings and to support the organization through a variety of events.

Strategic planning will create several new committees on which board members will be asked to serve also.

As in all organizations with limited staff, board members will have the opportunity to give support through spreading awareness of AHS and its place in the community.

Board members communicate through e-mail between meetings.

Individuals with experience in board development, fundraising, building community partnerships or public relations would be welcomed as would those with related professional skills and experience. Community-minded individuals who are looking for an opportunity to serve the interests of their town are encouraged to apply also.

If this is the opportunity you have been waiting for please e-mail me at helen@aurorahs.com and we'll send you an orientation package with more information.

Wally Muloin
Aurora

Helen Roberts
Aurora

Move the trail, reader advises

To the editor,

In defense of the McKenzie Wetlands, I would like to point out the last time the Wetlands was under attack from the reconstruction of St. John's Sideroad, the citizens of Aurora came together to insure the Wetlands along with the birds and animals were protected.

Two tunnels were installed under the road, one wet tunnel and one dry tunnel to ensure birds and animals could travel from one side of the Wetlands to the

other side and not be hit by cars and other hazards.

I feel the Wetlands should be protected to prevent people from leaving garbage, cigarette butts and animal waste on the trail through the Wetlands.

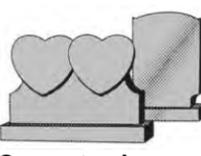
The animals and birds don't need to have their mating and the raising of young disturbed by barking dogs, bicycle riders, and people passing through their home.

The trail should be moved east or west of the Wetlands.

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Letters to the Editor

Not discouraged, says trail opposer

To the editor,

We are writing to continue reporting on "The People's Case" in protecting the McKenzie Wetlands. Thursday, January 14th was the second charette for public input into the proposed boardwalk through the McKenzie Wetlands and the new proposal of Robb Ogilvie's Hadley Grange Nature Reserve.

These meetings are frustrating as we battle for consideration of our concerns which we have been expressing since the start of this conflict.

One could get discouraged thinking it impossible to detour a corporate agenda which is so clearly well underway.

We are not discouraged, we are hopeful.

We continued to assert our position to preserve this habitat in its natural state and work towards reviving and beautifying it.

We are curious, where was the mayor

and council?

We saw one councillor briefly but that was it.

This was an ideal opportunity to hear two conflicting perspectives of your constituents.

Please report to your citizens that council will listen to the public record of this meeting so relevant to our children's green future.

In any case, we are forever grateful for these workshops and being given the opportunity to begin to express our concerns.

During the charette, someone pointed out that there are numerous important questions unanswered and outstanding on this issue which MUST be addressed before this process continues any further. We concur as many of our and others relevant concerns are being overlooked, undocumented and potentially lost in the process.

It has become very clear that understanding

and restoring the wetlands is an immense project. Ogilvie, Ogilvie & Company (OOC) has done a mediocre job in collecting necessary information and to date still does not yet have a full grasp on all the facts/background pertaining to this issue.

Their mediating style is biased to promoting their project and we feel they do a poor job at clarifying citizens' underlying concerns and truly understanding citizen questions.

OOC doesn't seem to comprehend that not only is this a fight to protect the wildlife habitat but is also a fight to right a democratic process gone wrong.

Thursday's charette is where we should have been on April 28, 2009.

If given our democratic right to be considered in the beginning, Aurora's C.A.O., Neil Garbe, would have saved our town a lot of tax dollars.

A significant turning point in this conflict has arisen.

Klaus Wehrenberg, a respected trail committee person of Aurora, stated he felt this area needs protecting and that an alternative route should be considered.

Klaus made this remark in the first charette as well yet it went unrecorded.

We search for a community approach to this project and it is noted by Fred Johnson in OOC's documents, Nov. 26th facilitator's summary that "because this land is owned by the Town, the community presumably, has a great deal of control over how that particular site is going to be ultimately used and managed" (page 14).

We agree and as a result, feel the services of OOC will no longer be needed by our community to help determine how to manage this land.

On January 13th, we wrote to the Aurora mayor and council and

called upon them to consider turning this project over to Aurora's youth and enable them to understand and manage the responsibility of restoration of this area.

We declare, let us give this project to our youth and save the citizens some taxes in 2010.

Since the wetlands belong to the children and youth of this town anyway, we believe that students who are interested in environmentalism can take this on as a local high school initiative.

Let them decide and implement how to manage/use this area.

Let us not rush this project and let the youth take their time to reveal and unfold the mysteries of Aurora's wetland treasure (thanks to the McKenzies).

They can take the information collected to date and learn more about what lives within McKenzie Wetlands and present/report this to our town.

They could show us how this eco-systems sustains itself and journey to where no recent Auroran has gone before.

They could work to

create a unique environmental program for York Region's children.

By offering this space to our young people, they would ensure the preservation of this beautiful government regulated green space and natural buffer zone between Aurora-Newmarket for all future generations to enjoy just as we have, rather than leaving it open to the whims of development.

What a beautiful thing that would be for Aurora as a town, to show she cares about her young people's learning and is willing to support a youth initiative in protecting their green-spaces and managing the McKenzie Wetlands.

It would be the first of its kind. Full youth ownership of a green project..

We have asked for a

meeting with the mayor and council to be given the chance to express our concerns and suggestions. We will keep Aurorans posted.

To end, we ask all Nokiidaa Trail enthusiasts who want this trail so badly to really, really consider if it is so important to you to have this trail through the wetlands.

We ask all those who want this trail so bad to think of nature before yourselves for a change.

We don't need to go through this specific point. We have alternatives here. There are many other nature trails already established for our nature experience and enjoyment.

Love heals all.

Heidi G. A. Stoecklin
David Philp
Aurora

Is Aurora ready for an anti-idling bylaw?

To the editor,

Should Aurora have an Anti-Idling bylaw?

This issue has been considered by the Aurora Environmental Advisory Committee for several years. I am a member of this committee, but this is a personal comment from a concerned taxpayer.

"Why idling is for idiots" was the headline in the January 9, Saturday Star, over a story by Wheels columnist Lorraine Sommerfeld.

The accompanying picture shows a sign on the chain link playground fence, "YOUNG LUNGS AT WORK PLEASE DO NOT IDLE YOUR VEHICLE."

Sommerfeld states, "Idling more than 10 seconds uses more gas - and produces more CO2 -

than restarting."

She reports that after two years of educational attempts, the city of Burlington is now ticketing \$150 for idling more than 60 seconds.

Toronto also has a fine.

Too often we have a knee-jerk "there ought to be a law!" reaction to situations that need fixing.

Surely, we Aurorans are smart enough to know that contemporary cars don't need to "warm-up", that idling creates green house gases and that it wastes fuel that we paid for.

The alternative is to use our taxes to hire more bylaw officers who will write tickets and cause cries of "Cash Grab."

Educate or Legislate?

Gordon Barnes
Aurora



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Letters to the Editor

Aurora musician returns to Hugh's

Your kids might listen to French-language singer Gregg LeRock in their elementary school French class.

If you are of a certain age, you may have grown up listening to him yourself.

LeRock gained fame as a musician creating accessible French-language tunes that have been a mainstay in concerts, but also in classrooms for many years.

But LeRock is the alter-ego of Aurora-born musician Gregg Lawless.

As an independent artist - no agent, no manager, no publicist - Mr. Lawless has a loyal following, playing to packed houses around the world.

On January 30, Mr. Lawless is making a return engagement at Hugh's Room in Toronto.

He said this will be his eighth show at the venue after his previous seven turns in the Room sold out.

Mr. Lawless got his start as a musician in Aurora as a student at Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School, he said.

Teacher Penny Sedore, he said, was a major influence in his musical career.

"[She] was very helpful because she let me play different instruments when I was in high school," he said. "I played trumpet, bass, and drums. Having that freedom, rather than being stuck to just one instrument, was something that made music a lot of fun for me, but she also encouraged me and the band that I had in high school. She encouraged us to play at any of the concerts we gave for theatre schools, at music nights, or at assemblies".

Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary has been an important part of Mr. Lawless' life.

His father, Joe, began teaching at the school in 1958.

His family, including mother Marcella, have lived in the same Aurora house since 1963.

As an artist, Mr. Lawless said he prides himself as being independent in a heavily managed industry.

He said he decided to remain independent in the early 1990s after he and his band "were on the verge of a record deal with Sony."

But, he said, he wanted control of his career.

After tiring of club gigs where only a fraction of the audience listened to their performances, he said he realized he wanted to play in theatres and auditoriums where people go expressly to listen.

"My goals became based more on the kind of places that I'd be playing and the amount of touring I'd be doing," he said. "Frankly, I don't like doing tons of touring. It's not that I don't like doing lots of shows, but I don't like being away from home."

Mr. Lawless said if when starting out in the industry



GREGG LEROCK AKA GREGG LAWLESS

your goal is "global domination" as a musician, independence isn't a practical move.

"If your goals are playing the types of gigs you want to play when you want to play them and writing and recording exactly the kind of music that you believe in, then being an independent is a great thing," he said. "There is a lot of work that goes into organizing your own shows if you're an independent and I guess that's the price you have to pay if you want to do things on your own terms."

Taking hold of the reins of his career has afforded the opportunity to keep his social conscience in his work and in his career as a whole.

He works regularly with York Region students - including students at Hartman, Aurora Grove, Lester B. Pearson Public Schools - through his Literacy Through Music program.

gram.

"That lets me share my love of playing with words and writing songs with kids," he said. "We co-write songs and put on a live concert where we record a live CD every year with 10 different schools from York Region."

He also still performs as Gregg LeRock, which he will be doing for area elementary school students at St. Andrew's College February 11.

As an artist that infuses his work with his social conscience, one of the most rewarding experiences he has had in his career is travelling to Afghanistan to entertain Canadian soldiers, he said.

Mr. Lawless calls his week-long stay at the Kandahar base a "surreal experience."

"Landing in a country when it is 35 degrees Celsius, dust blowing in your face, surrounded by armed

soldiers, is a bit of a shock," he said. "What else is shocking is how quickly you become accustomed to it."

"[But] seeing 19-year-old men and women walking around in their shorts and t-shirts with a machine gun strapped to their back takes a little bit of time to get used to."

He also cites his work with Ontario's Camp Trillium, where he worked in the 1990s, as a personal highlight. Camp Trillium is a camp for children and families dealing with childhood cancer.

Mr. Lawless created the official camp song, "The Goodnight Song" in 1995,

which is sung by campers every evening.

"It's a nice honour to know that every night in the summer there are a couple of places where kids are singing your song around the campfire," he said. "It's nice to know that one of your songs is making a difference to kids."

Tsubouchi may get job

From page 1

1995 to 2003, and was a cabinet minister in the governments of Mike Harris and Ernie Eves.

He is currently Associate Counsel at the national Canadian law firm Miller Thomson LLP.

He has a Bachelor of Arts degree from York University and a law degree from Osgoode Hall and served as a senior partner in the firm of Tsubouchi & Nichols following his graduation.

Tsubouchi was also an Associate Director of the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, and was a frequently contributor to the Law Gazette.

Tsubouchi served as a ward councillor in Markham from 1988 to 1994.

In the provincial election of 1995, he won a landslide majority in the provincial riding of Markham, defeating his nearest opponent by more than 26,000 votes.

He was named Minister of Community and Social Services in the Mike Harris government June 26, 1995.

Tsubouchi was responsible for presiding over drastic cuts in the province's welfare system.

He also made a number of gaffes in his early tenure as a minister.

He claimed that single mothers on welfare had ample time to find jobs, after having given a three-month warning for a 22 per cent cut in benefits.

Later, he prepared a sample menu which listed affordable food purchases for those whose welfare rates had been reduced.

Tsubouchi's tenure as Consumer and Commercial Relations Minister was comparatively uneventful. He was

easily re-elected in the provincial election of 1999, defeating Liberal Steven Kirsch by more than 13,000 votes.

On June 17, 1999, he was appointed as the province's Solicitor-General, which he held until a cabinet shuffle on February 8, 2001, when he was named Chair of the Management Board of Cabinet.

He supported Ernie Eves's successful bid to replace Mike Harris as party leader in 2002.

Mr. Eves retained him as chair of the Management Board, and also named him as Ontario's Minister of Culture on April 15, 2002.

In the provincial election of 2003, he was upset by Liberal candidate Tony Wong, losing by about 6,000 votes.



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408 Philly Orange Paragon Asset Management 5 - Keaton Thompson 2G, Thomas Morra 2G, Colin Windle 1A, Nicholas Vamvakaris 1G. **405 St. Louis Blue Laurion Law Office 4** - Bryce Davison 1G, Jayson Perkins 2G, Matthew Carney 1G, William Morin 1A, Liam Patterson 1A/

604 Los Angeles Purple 5 - Nick Baczynski 1G, Bradley Snoutlen 1G 1A, Eric Cumiskey 1G, William Stroud 1G 1A, James Eydt 1G,1A, Robert Cabral 1A, Tarek Koudmani 1A, Emerson Cepelak 1A, Eric Trudell 1A. **601 Florida Red Rogers 4** - Patrick Bourrie 2G, Bryn Burbank 1G 1A, Alexander MacKinnon 1A, Jack Bishenden 1A, Jesse Joynt 1A.

603 Toronto White Aurora Orthodontics 6 - Connor Tripp 1G 1A, Tyler Wilson 1G 1A, Nick Armour 2G, Troy Foster 1G 1A, Christopher Ottman 1G, Jason Omand 4A, Nicholas Scougall 1A, Theo Meadows 1A. **605 St. Louis Blue Rotary Club Of Aurora 4** - Jonathan Jin 2G, Ryan Ouvroules 1G, Aaron Rival 1A, Ryan Simmons 1A, Ben Kissack 2A, Adam Hofmann 1A.

609 San Jose Teal Backyard Pool & Spa 2 - J. Screech 2G, C. Screech 2A. **608 Philly Orange Pizza Pizza 2** - Grant Kavanaugh 1G, Colin Dyer 1G, Jakob Schuster 1A, Denzel Speller Drews 1A.

610 Los Angeles Grey AHPA 5. 607 Pittsburgh Powder Blue Diamond Groundskeeping 2.

602 Boston Gold Tilemaster 9 - Ryan Batten 2G, James Power 1G, Chris Broughton 1G, Andre Cristillo 3G, Rory Hamilton 2G, Zachary Keller 1A, Randy Sutton 1A, Paul Mason 1A, Austin Skelhorn 1A, Stewart Reid 1A. **606 Pittsburgh Black Rival Concepts 3** - Justin Laird 1G, Parker Jackson 1G, Parker Jackson 1G, Lucas Ackerman 2A.

609 San Jose Teal Backyard Pool & Spa: 5 - Joey Hodgson 2G, Jake Schacter 1G, C. Screech 1G, Mitchell Law-Heese 1G 2A, D. Hope 1A, Matthew Hall 1A, Lucas Bulmer 1A, Brent Legrow, shutout. **606 Pittsburgh Black AHPA 0.**

607 Pittsburgh Powder Blue Diamond Groundskeeping 3 - Hunter Jones 2G 1A, Brett Diamond 1G 1A, Joshua Lye 1A. **608 Philly Orange Pizza Pizza 2** - Matthew Neice 1G, Jacob Hagias 1G.

602 Boston Gold Tilemaster 6 - Randy Sutton 1G, Stewart Reid 1G, Andre Cristillo 3G, James Power 1G 1A, Rory Hamilton 1A, Ryan Batten 2A, Marc McCombe 1A, Brent Legrow, shutout. **604 Los Angeles Purple Swiss Chalet 0.**

601 Florida Red Rogers 4 - Michael Dowling 2G 1A, Austin Waite 1G, Spencer Bain 1G 1A, Bryn Burbank 1A, Carmelo Santino, shutout. **603 Toronto White Aurora Orthodontics 0.**

610 St. Louis Blue Rotary Club of Aurora 4 - Johnny Sherwood 3G, Michael Montesanti 1G 1A. **605 Los Angeles Grey Rival Concepts 3** - Jonathan Jin 1G, Ben Kissack 1G, Adam Hofmann 1G, Lucas Rusica 2A, Cameron Pyle 1A.

1005 St. Louis Blue Sentia 4 - Caleb Gould 1G 2A, Robert Denault 1G, Geoffrey Gianopoulos 2G 1A, Marcel Lamanna 1A. **1011 Colorado Burgandy Graystones Restaurant 3** - Greg Lacroix 1G, Brandon Giniotis 1G, Josh Bentolila 1G 1A, Chris Blumreisinger 1A, Scott Tonello 1A.

1012 Dallas Kelly Green Envirocar 4 - Jamie Cherutti 1G 1A, Curtis Stobo 1G 1A, Adam Stubbs 1G 1A, Jake Hindley 1G, Tyler Cassack 1A, Adrian Tobin 2A, Scott Cunningham 1A. **1004 Los Angeles Purple 2** - Brendan Strachan 1G, Sean Ellison 1G.

1008 Philly Orange Aurora Home Hardware 4 - Taran McGowan 3G, Brett Richardson 1G 1A, Kyle Ozols 1A, Branden Bortolin 1A, Braydon Dunn 1A. **1001 Florida Red 3** - James Harkin 1G, Scott Quagliarini 1G, Michael Takahashi 1G, Sean Takahashi 1A, Tyler Lamantia 1A, TJ Ground 1A,

1013 St. Louis White 3 - Anthony Marsillo 1G, Jay Finch 1G, Nick Di Nallo 1G, Kamran Karamchi 1A, Chris O'Hara 1A. **1003 Toronto White CAA 3** - Matthew Miller 1G 1A, Spencer Palmer 1G 1A, Stephen Newby 1G.

1006 Pittsburgh Black 4 - Dillon Cappell 3G 1A, Adam Gitto 1G 1A, Benjamin Pringle 1A, Hayden Sands 1A, Matthew Pellegrini 1A, Robert Horton 1A. **1010 Los Angeles Grey 1** - Matthew Bishop 1G,

1009 San Jose Teal 4 - Rosario Arcuri 1G, Daniel Fusco 1G, Chris Tillsley 1G, Dylan Skelton 1G 1A, Liam McGoldrick 1A, Cory Blom 1A, Ryan Taylor 1A. **1007 Pittsburgh Powder Blue 4** - Andrew Wilkins 1G, Blair Cuthbert 1G, Cameron Annear 1G 1A, Thomas Gans 1G, Logan Weber 2A, Adrian Clark 2A.

1008 Philly Orange Aurora Home Hardware 3 - Christian Davies 1G, Taran McGowan 2G, Tanner Brewer 1A, Alexander Dunn 1A, Philipp Mueller 1A. **1006 Pittsburgh Black 3** - Benjamin Pringle 1G, Dillon Cappell 2G, Jesse Cappell 1A, Matthew Pellegrini 1A.

1004 Los Angeles Purple 3 - Jacob Giacomazzo 1G, Kyle Rojas 2G, Brett Matthews 1A, Brendan Strachan 1A, Paul Andrews 1A, Etienne Bicego 1A, Carter Schaefer 1A. **1010 Los Angeles Grey 1** - Jake Boyle 1G, Scott Tremblay 1A,

Rep League games

Tyke Select B 1 - Liam Mahoney 1G, Justin Lacroix, shutout. **Pickering 0.**

Tyke Select B 10 - Carson Maybury 2G, Caden McHenry 2A, Liam Mahoney 1A, Jace Jackson 4G 2A, Christopher Marton 2G 3A, Justin Hicks 1G,1A, Brett Pearce 2A, Daniel Gaeta 1G, Riley Klugerman 1A, Kaszuki Negishi 1A, Harrison Bennett 2A, Justin Lacroix and Dereck Avery, shutouts, **Ajax Black 0.**

Markham 2. Novice AA Tigers 0.

Novice A Tigers 5 - Sam Ashton 2G, Matthew McConnell 1A, Andrew Park 1G 2A, Myles Vasilevski 1A, Stefanie Baxter 1A, Brendan Sanford 1G, Jeremy Gonsalves 1G, Craig Therkildsen 1A. **Richmond Hill Stars 3.**

Novice A Tigers 3 - Sam Ashton 1G, Blair Crabbe 1A, Matthew McConnell 1G, Jack Campbell 1A, Jeremy Gonsalves 1G. **Richmond Hill Stars 3.**

Newmarket 4. Novice AE Tigers 1 - Jack Patterson 1G, Anthony Iacovetta 1A, Thomas Childerhose 1A.

Georgina 2. Minor Atom AA Tigers 1 - Ben Spittle 1G, Ty Boisseau 1A, Anthony Magnante 1A.

TNT 1. Minor Atom AE Tigers 1 - Peter Chimienti 1G.

Minor Atom AE Tigers 4 - Scott Rumble 2G, Carter Wilmsmeyer 1G, Carson Yeomans 1G, Adam DePiero 1A, Andrew Buffa 1A. **Richmond Hill 2.**

Atom AA Tigers 2 - Morgan Frost 2G. **Georgina 1.**

Georgina 2. Atom AA Tigers 1 - Morgan Frost 1G, Devlin Kauffeldt 1A, Jack Liotta 1A.

Minor Peewee AA Tigers 3 - Austin Pringle, shutout, Patrick Servideo 2G, Cameron Morrison 1G, 1A, Keegan Matthew 2A, Jack Pecora 1A, Jared Reeves 1A. **Georgina 0.**

Markham 5. Minor Peewee AA Tigers 1 - Shaun Broad 1G.

Minor Peewee AA Tigers 6 - Alec Magnante 2G 1A, Patrick Servideo 3G, James Wyndham West 1G, Jared Reeves 1A, Shaun Broad 1A, Cameron Morrison 2A. **Richmond Hill Stars: 5**

TNT 4. Minor Peewee AA Tigers 2 - Jack Pecora 2G, Evan Woodhead 1A, Daniel McConnell.

Richmond Hill Stars 1. Minor Peewee A Tigers 1 - Colin Kostin 1G, Eric Shennan 1A.

Barrie Colts 3. Minor Peewee A Tigers 1 - Colin Kostin 1G, Spencer White 1A.

Minor Peewee A Tigers 5 - Spencer White 1G, Colin Kostin 1A, Mathew Tyndall 3G, Evan Cherubini 1G, Cameron Zinner 2A, Matthew Liscio 1A. **Markham Waxers 4.**

Minor Peewee AE Tigers 6 - Nicholas Sansalone 1G 1A, Michael DaCosta 2G, Jordi Severini 2G, Matthew MacDonald 1G, Adam Caicco 1A, Cameron Andreson 1A, Tyler Williams 2A, Christian Arcuri 1A, Charles Bennett 1A, Cole Chapman, shutout. **Richmond Hill Stars: 0**

Barrie Colts 3. Minor Peewee AE Tigers 0.

Georgina 1. Peewee AA Tigers 1 - Jake Appleby 1G, Peter Andreacos 1A.

Peewee AA Tigers 5 - Austin Riswick 1G 1A, Matthew Leroy 1A, Nicholas Papousek 1A, Andrew Klinowski 1G, Adam Newell 2A, Braeden Kublick 1G, Nathan Romanchych 1G, Chris Klinowski 1G 1A, Ross Benn 2A. **TNT 1.**

Peewee AA Tigers 5 - Nathan Romanchych 1G 1A, Hudson Yeomans 1G, Matthew Leroy 1G, Nicholas Papousek 2A, Jake Appleby 1G, Adam Newell 1G, Chris Klinowski 1A. **Barrie Colts 3,**

Peewee AA Tigers 3 - Chris Klinowski 2G, Nathan Romanchych 1G 1A, Jake Appleby 1A, Peter Andreacos 1A, Nicholas Papousek 1A. **Markham 0.**

Peewee AA Tigers 3 - Jake Appleby 1G 2A, Adam Newell 1G 1A, Braeden Kublick 2A, Austin Riswick 1G, Nicholas Papousek 1A. **Barrie 1.**

Georgina Blaze 3. Minor Bantam AA Tigers 2 - Lucas Pozzebon 1G, Conner Cowl 1G, Brett Thiessen 1A, Erik Balkovec 1A, John MacDonald 1A, Spencer Green 1A.

Richmond Hill Stars 2. Minor Bantam AA Tigers 0.

Minor Bantam AA Tigers 4 - John MacDonald 2G 1A, Lucas Pozzebon 1G 1A, Konner McMillan 1A, Shadoe Storm 1G. **Caledon Hawks 1.**

Sudbury Bulldogs 1. Minor Bantam AA Tigers 0.

Wheatfield Blades 4. Minor Bantam AA Tigers 2 - Shadoe Storm 1G, Spencer Green 1G, John MacDonald 1A, Konner McMillan 1A.

Minor Bantam AA Tigers 5 - Conner Cowl 1G 1A, Lucas Pozzebon 1G 1A, John MacDonald 1G, Konner McMillan 1G, Quentin Campbell 1G 1A, Spencer Green 2A, Shadoe Storm 1A, Brett Thiessen 2A. **Georgina 1.**

Minor Bantam A Tigers 6 - Paul Neophytou 3G 1A, Austin Persaud 1G 1A, Graham Robinson 1G, James Johnston 2A, Connor Cowl 1A, Zac Cowl 1A, Nathan Nealon 1G. **Quinte 3.**

Minor Bantam A Tigers 4 - Nathan Nealon 1G 1A, Paul Neophytou 1G, Connor Cowl 1G, Graham Robinson 1G, Jack Caldwell 1A, Zac Cowl 1A, Tait Snedden 1A, Liam Beresford 1A, James Johnston 1A, Jake McKee 1A. **Oakridge Aeros: 1**

Pickering 2. Minor Bantam A Tigers 1 - Connor Cowl 1G, James Johnston 1A, Evan Jackson 1A.

Pickering 3. Minor Bantam A Tigers 1 - Liam Beresford 1G, Graham Robinson 1A, Jerryd Jensen 1A.

Brampton 5. Minor Bantam AE Tigers 0.

Oakridge Aeros 1. Minor Bantam AE Tigers 0.

Minor Bantam AE Tigers 10 - Nathan Sinclair 2G 1A, Mitch Arnew 2G, Brayden Beswick 1G 1A, Nicholas Steiner 1G 1A, Scott Kostin 1G, Nelson Hossack 1G, Kyle Strachan 1G, Ryan McGolrick 1G, Ben Ashton 3A, Ben Goldman 1A, Joel Gouveia 1A. **Tournament 3.**

Brampton 2. Minor Bantam AE Tigers 1 - Gabe Oulahan 1G, Kyle Nice 1A.

Minor Bantam AE Tigers 4 - Brayden Beswick 1G 1A, Scott Kostin 1G, Kyle Strachan 1G, Kyle Nice 1G, Alec Ground 2A, Ben Goldman 1A, Harrison Smith 1A. **TNT 1.**

Bantam AA Tigers 6. Barrie 0.

Bantam A Tigers 5 - Eric Archibald 1G, Matthew Pryse 1G, Quincy Ing 2G 1A, Ryan Baskin 1G 2A, Andrew McDonald 1A, Evan Romano 1A, Braden Casselden 1A, Kyle Fedec 1A, Colton Lee 1A. **Belleville 2.**

Bantam A Tigers 1. Grimsby 1.

Bantam A Tigers 2 - Matthew Pryse 1G, Quincy Ing 1G, Andrew McDonald 1A, Evan Romano 1A, Braden Casselden 1A. **Kitchener 1.**

TBD 4, Bantam A Tigers 3.

Bantam A Tigers 0. TBD 0.

Midget AE Tigers 4. Georgina 0.

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Tigers split two away games

The Junior A Aurora Tigers split a pair of away games last week, including a 9-5 loss to the Huntsville Otters Sunday afternoon.

Aurora actually opened the scoring Sunday, but couldn't hold onto the lead as the pesky Otters kept fighting back.

Actually, as late as the five-minute mark of the third period, Aurora and Huntsville were deadlocked at five, but four unanswered goals by the hometowners put the game away, and assured Aurora would not advance in the standings.

The loss left Aurora mired in seventh place, a point ahead of Vaughan for the final playoff berth, but 12 ahead of the Otters.

Vaughan met Bramalea Monday night, but results were not available at press time.

On Friday night, Aurora returned to Collingwood for their third game in a week at Bush Arena, but this time to actually face the host Blues.

It was a typical game between these two clubs with scrappy, penalty-filled hockey as the general dislike between the teams surfaced regularly.

In the end the Tigers won the game 5-3.

With the return of Jeff Vanderlugt and Sloan Stewart to the fold, coach Paul Hampton juggled his lines, moving Lucas VanNatter to work with Vanderlugt and Jeff Cerilli, and slotting Stewart in with David Morley and Michael Sardella.

The Blues couldn't handle the Tigers' offensive one-two punch, which apparently was missing Sunday afternoon.

Vanderlugt opened the scoring when his wrist beat the Blues goalie.

On the same shift, Cerilli intercepted a Blues pass in their end and fed VanNatter for an easy tip-in to give the Tigers a two-goal lead with 13 minutes gone in the game.

Collingwood responded less than a minute later, but that was as close as they would get as Matt Chiarantano's powerplay goal in the last minute of the period restored the Tigers two-goal advantage.

The second period offence was all due to penalties as three goals were scored during man advantages.

While shorthanded, Sardella got a nice goal when he deflected Chiarantano's shot from the top of the crease.

The Blues converted their powerplay chance to stay close.

Then, with just over 12 minutes gone in the peri-

od and the Tigers back on a powerplay, Steven Taylor was allowed to walk in from the slot and wrist a blast past a frustrated Blues goalie and give the Tigers a 5-2 lead after two periods.

The third was more eventful with the scrappiness of play, but in the end the only change in the game scoring was one more goal for Collingwood midway through the period to bring the Blues within two. An empty net at the end of the game made no difference as the Tigers hung on to win 5-3.

Meanwhile, Lucas VanNatter, thanks to two goals and two assists Sunday afternoon took over the Tiger scoring lead from David Morley. VanNatter has 30 goals and 44 assists for 74 points, while Morley, who added three points Sunday, trails by a single point. Mike Sardella is in third place with 44 points.

Tigers have one more road game Wednesday, January 20th, against the Bramalea Blues before

they finally have their first home game of 2010 at the community centre when they again meet the Georgetown Raiders.

Game time is 7.30 p.m.

AURORA 5 COLLINGWOOD 3

First period

A - Jeff Vanderlugt (Chiarantano, VanNatter) 12.16

A - Lucas VanNatter (Cerilli) 13.09

C - Josh Graves (Livingston, Crawford) 13.35

A - Matt Chiarantano (Vanderlugt, Cerilli) PP 19.19

Second period

A - Michael Sardella (Chiarantano, Taylor) SH 7.47

C - Ryan Patsch (Humberstone) PP 9.33

A - Steven Taylor (Secco, VanNatter) PP 12.02

Third period

C - Mike Mullay

(Hennessy) 10.03
**HUNTSVILLE 9
AURORA 5**

First period

A - Lucas VanNatter (Secco, Morley) PP 5.23

H - Tyler McGee (Langford, Burnett) 8.12

H - Tyler McGee (Moreau, Burnett) PP 18.28

Second period

A - Greg Cerilli (VanNatter, Vangog) 0.36

H - Zach Robinson (Moreau) 3.01

H - Adam Ritchie (Barnett) SH 9.38

A - David Morley (VanNatter, Morton) 10.55

A - Lucas VanNatter (Morley) 12.59

Third period

H - Cameron Brace (unassisted) 4.08

A - Greg Cerilli (Stewart, Vanderlugt)

H - James Olivier (Poitras) 6.00

H - Cameron Brace (Poitras, Orser) 8.32

H - Jordan Forfar (unassisted) 18.16

H - Phil Moreau (unassisted) EN19.11



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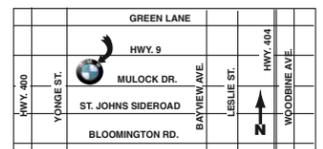
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Monday night hockey results

TEAM	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Rec Cycle N' Sports	12	2	2	78	48	26
Highland Chev-Olds-Geo-Cad	9	2	5	63	44	23
Baldwin's	8	7	1	59	63	17
Law Insurance Brokers	8	7	1	52	67	17
Tom & Jerry's	6	7	3	60	54	13
Priestly Demolition	3	8	5	56	65	11
Masterclean Contracting	4	10	2	47	64	10
FPL Aggregates	3	10	3	45	51	9

WEEKLY RESULTS

Law Insurance	7	Tom & Jerry's	4
Rec Sports	4	FPL Aggregates	1
Baldwin's	5	Highland Chev	4
Masterclean	0	Priestly Demolition	1

Rob Blakley, Tom & Jerrys	24	11	35
Mark Swirla, Priestly	17	15	32
John Andersen, Rec Sports	14	15	29
Ed Kilroy, Rec Sports	17	5	22
John Archibald, Hiighland	12	10	22
Craig McConnell, Masterclean	13	7	20
Brad McMillan, Baldwins	12	8	20
Steve Kavanagh, Baldwins	9	11	20
Tom Hussey, Masterclean	6	14	20
Ed Jackson, Baldwins	6	14	20
Doug Adair, Rec Sports	5	15	20
Ken Fisher, Highland	12	7	19
Sam Speranini, Tom & Jerrys	10	9	19
Paul Gibson, Highland	9	10	19
Gerry Mackrell, Rec Sports	6	13	19
Scott Thomas, Tom & Jerrys	3	16	19
Mark Lemmon, Rec Sports	9	9	18
Peter Briand, Baldwins	6	11	17
Mike O'Connor, Priestly	6	11	17
Julian Dalcin, Rec Sports	5	12	17
Alain Boudreau, Highland	4	13	17
Stephen McDonald, Law Insurance	6	10	16
Dwayne Smith, Law Insurance	5	11	16
Paul Wolanski, Law Insurance	4	12	16
John Leader, Law Insurance	10	5	15
Don Nichols, Law Insurance	10	5	15
Tom Webster, Tom & Jerrys	6	8	14
Gerald Briand, Baldwins	9	4	13
Al Perkins, Priestly	6	7	13
Ken Heinrich, Rec Sports	1	12	13
Mark Sedore, Priestly	7	5	12
Steve Robertson, Masterclean	6	6	12
Brad Wilson, Tom & Jerrys	5	7	12
Bill Collings, Tom & Jerrys	1	11	12
Ron Thiessen, Tom & Jerrys	1	11	12
Rob Stroud, Masterclean	6	5	11
Todd Richardson, FPL	5	6	11
Dave Calverley, Law Insurance	4	7	11
Ken Rumble, Highland	3	8	11
Brett Vickers, FPL	2	9	11
Scott Shepperd, Rec Sports	1	10	11
Ken VanNoort, FPL	6	4	10
Scott Crabbe, Highland	4	6	10
Steve McBurnie, Priestly	4	6	10
Phil Podstatzky, Priestly	3	7	10
Brandon Chappel, FPL	7	0	7
Kevin O'Keefe, Rec Sports	5	4	9
Glen Bince, Masterclean	4	5	9
Jason Hurlbut, Rec Sports	4	5	9
Jerome Flanagan, Highland	3	6	9
Bob Ince, Rec Sports	3	6	9
Dan Smith, Baldwins	3	6	9
Hugh Alcorn, Masterclean	2	7	9
Patrick Davies, Priestly	2	7	9
Bruce Ing, Law Insurance	2	7	9
Steve Riswick, Tom & Jerrys	2	7	9
Craig Gellatly, FPL	7	1	8
Frank Balkovec, Baldwins	5	3	8
Jason Muise, Rec Sports	3	5	8
Ron Van Noort, FPL	3	5	8
Les Nip, Highland	2	6	8
Deryk Preston, FPL	2	6	8
Brian MacKenzie, Priestly	1	7	8
Chris Neale, Law Insurance	1	7	8
Brandon Chappel, FPL	7	0	7
Hank Van Bakel, Highland	3	4	7
Marty McDermott, Masterclean	2	5	7
Dennis Tonello, Baldwins	2	5	7
John Nicholson, Highland	2	5	7
Michael Caicco, Baldwins	1	6	7
Jody Mathews, Highland	1	6	7



Upper Canada College Blues players celebrate after they score against St. Andrew's Saints in the 27th St. Andrew's MacPherson hockey tournament in Aurora during the weekend. St. Andrew's, however, who won the bronze medal in the tourney, won this game 5-3. *Auroran photo by David Falconer*

St. Andrew's Saints win tourney bronze

The 27th annual MacPherson Hockey Tournament kicked off Friday morning at the Aurora Community Centre and the host won a medal after edging the St. Francis Red Raiders 2-1 in a shootout.

The Aurora squad got on the board first when Will Laking scored.

The game looked like it would end 1-0 in favour of St. Andrew's but the determined Red Raiders finally tied the match to send it into overtime, which settled nothing.

In the shootout five shooters from each team tried to settle the game but a second round was necessary before St. Andrew's was able to capture the Bronze Medal in exciting fashion.

Appleby College from Oakville won the gold when they edged Gilmour Academy from Gates Mills, Ohio, 3-2, in a match that needed three overtime periods to decide the winner.

Gilmour settled for the silver medal.

It was the second time the two teams met, and finished with the same score.

In the opening tournament match, Appleby edged Gilmour 3-2, scoring the win-

He's in mayor's race

From page 1

"I want the best for the families in Aurora," he said.

Aurora, he added, needs a "fresh start...and a refreshing change in Council."

Transportation and employment are key issues facing Aurora today, said Mr. Clowater.

"Why do so many people have to leave Aurora, go on a highway and travel to other cities to work?" he said. "Local jobs are important [and] development in the future and where things are going to be placed or located in Aurora. I do have some ideas I will articulate over the course of the campaign."

Having spent 25 years as a police officer in Saint John, New Brunswick, Mr. Clowater said he is no stranger to politics, having sought the provincial Liberal nomination for the former Saint John South riding in 1986.

He also worked on Newmarket-Aurora MP Lois Brown's campaigns following his move to Aurora.

"I've been involved in provincial and federal politics in two different provinces, I was a police officer for 25 years, I understand order, the concept of law," he said. "I understand the needs of our community."

Mr. Clowater said he has resisted the urge to become involved in previous municipal elections in Aurora, but said he "just could not let this time and opportunity pass."

"Maybe opportunity isn't the right word, but I feel that when I decide to do something it is the passion with which I want to do it," he said. "I wanted to do something the first time. The second time I just resisted it and no longer can I just stand by. I need to help and do something."

Mr. Clowater said he hopes during the course of the campaign Aurora residents will see he has the passion, drive, and dedication for the town's top job.

"I think I have the type of leadership that Aurora can benefit from," he said

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Bake sale will help earthquake victims in Haiti

An Aurora soccer team, the Aurora Stingers 1998G Team 1 will hold a bake sale this Saturday, January 23rd at the Aurora Sports Dome during the soccer games.

The sale has been initiated by the players on the team and all funds raised will be donated to the relief effort in Haiti.

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Hair Diary's in Aurora held a food drive recently and the promotion brought in more than 800 pounds of food for the Aurora Food Pantry. Winner of a Chi Ceramic Flat Iron is Nuala Beatty, second from right. Also shown are, left to right, Hair Diary's staff Samara Freels, Tammy McNeil and owner Christine Doe.

Auroran photo by Bob Ince

Two Aurora Schools picked for Kindergarten program

From page 1

"And now we have this announcement, which confirms that the McGuinty government's only plan for the deficit is to increase it," said Klees. "At some point, the premier and his ministers have to understand that their warm-and-fuzzy photo ops come with dire consequences for the taxpayers of Ontario."

Klees said that based on the government's track record, the actual cost will likely be higher.

"And there are only two ways to pay for it: hike taxes or force school boards to cut somewhere else, short-changing other students. This would not be the first time school boards have been forced to rob Peter to pay Paul."

Some school boards say the program is poorly thought out, details are vague, and there's little indication that it will be fully funded, especially to create the space that will be needed, Klees said.

The MPP said he supports the principle of early childhood education, but questions why the haste to implement all-day kindergarten now in light of the province's dire fiscal circumstances.

"As with the HST, the

principle is right, but the timing could not be worse. In fact, it's downright irresponsible," said Klees.

He also pointed out that by making the program available only to some schools initially, many families will be left questioning the fairness of how the plan is being implemented.

"York Region has 247 elementary schools, and only 39 of those schools have been chosen to deliver the program, two in Aurora," said Klees. "What about the families in the remaining areas? How does Mr. McGuinty explain to them that they don't qualify?"

Mr. Klees insists the program is a cynical attempt by the McGuinty government to redirect attention from its record of fiscal mismanagement, a year-long record of scandals and a string of cabinet minister resignations.

"Hopefully, Ontarians will see this for what it is," he said.

Kindergarten students have historically attended school half days or alternate days only.

The students are part of a provincial initiative called the Early Learning Program.

Province-wide imple-

mentation of the full-day Early Learning will expand in phases between now and the 2015-16 school year.

York Region District School Board Chair Diane Giangrande said full-time kindergarten will help achieve a common level of learning readiness among first graders.

"Early learning supports children in developing social, emotional, academic and physical skills," she said.

Under the new program, teachers and early childhood educators will support students' learning during the regular school day.

Schools selected for the program will also offer child care, provided by early childhood educators, before and after regular school hours, on a cost-recovery basis.

Parents living within the boundaries of the chosen schools will be able to register their children in the full-day learning program through their school's registration process.

Kindergarten registration in York Region District School Board will take place after February 1 for all children enrolling in Kindergarten programs for September, 2010.

Dorian celebrates Elvis' 75th birthday

By BROCK WEIR
Auroran Staff Writer

Celebrations at Newmarket's Christ the King Graceland Independent Church were two-fold Sunday as the congregation celebrated its seventh anniversary, as well as Elvis Presley's 75th birthday.

The congregation, which Archbishop Dorian Baxter estimates is made up of almost 50 per cent Aurora residents, has grown significantly since it first came onto the scene in a storm of media attention and controversy in 2003.

It now has a congregation in Hamilton - with a potential congregation on the horizon in Oakville - and has ordained five people clergy members, including two at Sunday's service.

Mr. Baxter said the church has gained legitimacy over the years very quickly, citing decreased animosity between his congregation and the Anglican Church of Canada, as well as the fact it is officially the newest Anglican denomination officially recognized by the Provincial Government.

"We got provincial and federal recognition four years ago," he said. "One of the reasons the province expedited our application to become a separate denomination is the fact we are identical in our criteria [to ordain clergy] to the Anglican Church of Canada. We expedited it by 22 years."

He said the church has come a long way from its initial notoriety. "I think there was a huge overemphasis on the Elvis motif in the beginning," he said. "Elvis only became a big sort of item in that there was an attempt to denigrate Elvis and suggest that there was something bad or evil about the fact I used his gospel music in my services. "Whilst there was a big fuss made - even calling it the 'Church of Elvis' - we never made a huge fuss."

Mr. Baxter said he believes to this day that no singer has yet to sing gospel with the "heart" Elvis infused into it. "I went so far as to share with the Bishops over the radio and television that if they wanted to become better

Bishops, all they needed to do was buy an Elvis gospel CD, listen to it daily, and they would really feel the power of the gospel," said Mr. Baxter recalling the earlier media storm.

Over the years, Mr. Baxter said there have been many cases of people walking into his church sceptical of what they might find only to become won over in the end.

"Probably half the congregation came out of curiosity," he said. "They came because they thought it would be a farce and they stayed. I was kind of shocked the first day because we had registered 272 visitors on that day and there were 17 major TV networks present including CNN, CBC, and NBC."

But today, Mr. Baxter said the attraction to his church can be boiled down to two words: caring and sharing.

"The church has become a family and it's fascinating. We don't have a large core but we probably have 60-80 parishioners on any given Sunday which is not bad for a youngish church."

Although a "youngish

church", Christ the King Graceland is looking to expand beyond North American borders.

"We are currently supporting an orphanage with about 90 beautiful little AIDS orphans in Kenya and we have been sustaining them for four years," he said.

"We're actually looking at opening churches in Kenya. We don't have any as of yet, but we have a number of ministers looking to be recognized by us and come under the umbrella of the Federation of Independent Anglican Churches of North America."

Mr. Baxter has also tried his hand in the world of politics, running three times in the Newmarket-Aurora riding, under the federal Progressive Canadian Party banner.

In the 2004 election, he received 1,079 votes, placing last out of five candidates.

In the 2006 election he received 729 votes, and in the 2008 election he received 1,004 votes.

He finished fifth out of six candidates in both 2006 and 2008.



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Senior Scape

The Operations and Activities Committee (OAC) met for the first time since November with about 12 people in attendance.

Even though the Christmas holidays affected the everyday operation of the Seniors' Centre, issues developed that were best considered at committee level, and the committee conducted its business accordingly.

The focus of the OAC is to bring representatives of all activities into a forum where they can share and compare common experiences, issues and ways and means of dealing with difficult issues or projects that require some effort.

The OAC provides a forum for sharing knowledge of what is happening, good or not so good anywhere else in the Aurora Seniors Association (ASA).

The original stage that was supplied with the ASA building when new was enlarged recently with additional panels.

Another show readies for the Cultural Centre

"The Noble Experiment: Temperance and Prohibition" will be an exhibit at Church Street School Cultural Centre presented by the Aurora Historical Society.

The show runs from January 30th to March 20th.

To drink or not to drink? It was a debate that affected Canadians on every level – from within their own homes to the national and international stages.

It polarized Canadians: drinkers vs. abstainers; wets vs. dry; tipplers vs. teetotalers.

"The Noble Experiment: Temperance and Prohibition" tells the story of a fascinating and often under-appreciated piece of Canadian history.

It's a story of crime and smuggling, of action and danger, of humour and morality.

For more information visit www.aurorahistoricalsociety.ca/ or call 905-727-8991.

Now, the Drama Club, chaired by Judy Buchanan, seeks new higher legs to raise the stage, new steps, skirting and rails for future events, and after an exchange of opinions, a motion carried sending the issue to the Board of Directors for administrative action.

The stage is used frequently and on occasion intensely, and since it provides the foundation of a powerful focal point during all entertainment events and for many distinct events.

Therefore it seems that the stage and environs including steps and rails where prudent should be rendered safe according to official guidelines.

Any shortcomings concerning the stage may become apparent when little can be done to correct the situation.

The knitting initiative noted in the last column received attention at the OAC meeting with a plea for more teachers to offer to assist with the teaching of knitting to children.

About 30 children are expected to take instruction and four or five instructors are available.

The program began January 18th, so if you can help contact Rozlin Laber at 905-726-2332, and you will soon find yourself sharing your knitting skills with young people.

Since the Knotty Knitters first approached me requesting publicity for their initiative to help orphan Africans, an earthquake has devastated Haiti, and even as I type these words into my computer, Haitian people are still calling for help while lying trapped beneath the rubble of collapsed buildings.

If you require an organization through which to volunteer, Neighbourhood Network at 14996 Yonge Street would be a good place to contact. Call them at 905-726-3737.

Four new garden beds have been proposed under the stewardship of the Gardening Club which will become Judy Buchanan's responsibility.

Charles Sequeira indicated that Town Administrator staff has already indicated the Town will bear the financial cost.

Other activities receiving attention included Carpet Bowling, Pickle Ball, the Billiards Hall, and the Wood

This committee shares knowledge

By BRIAN WARBURTON

Shop which always has something on the go and already has built a long list of proud accomplishments.

The OAC is a forum where any activity can make known a wish to improve or obtain equipment.

Nothing can be obtained until wishes and needs are made known and you will never know what or how you can obtain required equipment until you make your wishes known.

Members of the ASA, who attend the Seniors' Centre for part of every week, are usually strong supporters of the volunteer ethic, which allows the ASA to function so well.

As soon as a member enters the ASA, the reception desk is the place to sign in and pay a one dollar activity fee, which is good for all activities all day long.

Volunteers on the reception desk greet everybody with a smile and offer assistance as required to new people who attend for the first time.

Usually enough volunteers are available to assist everybody who requires help, but not always; efficiency can be strained on occasion, so a little understanding is always in order.

Among the volunteers whose names have been provided to me, and there are more, are: Mamie Yane, Louise Williams, Anne Collard, Bernie McCabe, Evelyn Meleta, Barbara Pavlou-Whitnall, Carol Hedenburg, Olga Kisch, Winnie Gritten and Kaye Morrison.

These are fine ladies who supply the introduction to the ASA for visitors among other duties and who handle many enquiries.

They are a priceless group of valued members who strive to provide the friendly intimacy of the initial meeting of visitor with the representative of the ASA.

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DEATH NOTICE

MASTERS, John Thomas

– Passed away peacefully at Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket on Saturday, Jan. 16th, 2010, in his 68th year. Loving husband of 35 years to Heather Masters. Beloved father of Susan (Kevin), Tom (Vanessa) and Fraser.

Remembered by his sisters Catherine (Dave) Whetter, Thora (Barrie) Moir and Margaret (Larry) Pagliaro as well as his many nieces and nephews.

Tom was an enthusiastic traveler, an avid reader, a lifelong fan of the Toronto Maple Leafs and had a passion for cinema.

Special thanks to Dr. Charles Cho (radiation oncologist) as well as the Palliative Care Team at Southlake Regional Health Centre.

A celebration of life will take place Sunday, Jan. 24th at 3 pm at the Aurora Seniors' Centre, 5 Municipal Drive, Aurora.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Regional Cancer Program at Southlake Hospital in memory of John Thomas Masters.

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COMING EVENTS

From page 2

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.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

The Women's Centre of York Region holds its annual general meeting and volunteer recognition event this evening at the Church Street School Cultural Centre, 22 Church Street, beginning at 5.30 p.m. Nominations for board positions close January 14. For more information or to confirm attendance (RSVP required by January 15) contact Kirsten Eastwood, Executive Director at 905-853-9270, extension 101 or execdir@wcyr.ca.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

White Heather Pipes And Drums and the Aurora Legion present their annual Robbie Burns' Supper at the Aurora Legion beginning with cocktails at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. Price is \$30. Tickets are available at the legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North, 905-727-9932. Reservations will be taken for tables of eight or more.

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.

The Aurora Writers Group presents Tom Davey, longtime journalist and founder of Environmental Science and Engineering magazine as guest speaker. He will speak about freelance writing and submission of non-fiction articles to mainstream media. Meeting is at 8 p.m. at the town hall and admission is free. For further information, call Malcolm at 905-898-5484.

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.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1

A PA day workshop, known as "how things were done", will be held at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum on Woodbine Avenue from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The workshop, designed for children aged eight to 12, will have attendees participating in an assortment of hands-on activities, crafts, heritage cooking and traditional games. Pre-registration is required and participants must bring their own nut-free lunch. Cost is \$32 if you're a museum member, \$40 if you're not. Call 905-727-8954 or 1-888-290-0337 for further information.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Aurora Chamber of Commerce will hold a regular Networking Breakfast, sponsored by Neighbourhood Network at 7.30 a.m. at St. Andrew's Valley Golf Club. The 90-minute event will cost chamber members \$20 and those who aren't \$25.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Aurora Film Circuit presents "The Young Victoria", which chronicles the early and often turbulent years of a young girl who became queen of England. Barely 18 when she is crowned, she is vivacious, fond of parties, and prone to flirting with the gentlemen of the court. Sara Ferguson, Duchess of York, came up with the idea for the film and fought for more than a decade to have it made. Her co-producers are Academy Award winners Martine Scorsese and Graham King. Movie is shown at the Aurora Cineplex at 7 p.m. Tickets, at \$10, are available at Aurora Public Library or R & R Books on Edward Street.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Book launch for "Vision Speak", written by Aurora author Eden Remme Watt, will be held between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Aurora Cultural Centre (Church Street School, at the corner of Church and Victoria). The event will be held in the Research Room which houses the Aurora Historical Society's book collection. The Cultural Centre is just opening and this will be the first book launch held there. Local Bookseller R & R Revisited will be onsite to sell copies of "Vision Speak".

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

It's Family Day at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum on Woodbine Avenue from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$2. Call 905-727-8954 or 1-888-290-0337 for further information.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

The annual general meeting of the Aurora Historical Society will be held at the Church Street School Cultural Centre beginning at 8 p.m. The meeting will be held in Brevik Hall and will include a review of the society's work in 2009.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Today is Ski Day for the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. The annual event will again be held at Osler Bluffs Ski Club in Collingwood. The cost, \$115, includes return bus trip from and to Upper Canada Mall in Newmarket, a lift ticket, lunch and apres-ski events. The day begins at 7 a.m., ends at 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

10th annual Mardi Gras at DiNardo's Mansion on Industrial Parkway South in Aurora to support the Regional Cancer Program at Southlake, and this year has a fundraising goal of \$75,000. For more information call Sandra Humfries at 905-727-1433, e-mail her at shumfries@sympatico.ca or check the web site at www.mardigrasforsouthlake.com

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

The Aurora Garden & Horticultural Society presents its Dessert Competition and Social Meeting at the Aurora Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North, beginning at 8 p.m. All visitors welcome for \$2.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

The annual Sponsor-A-Student luncheon will be held today at the Tuscany Event Centre from 11.30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Guest speaker is Bob Abrames and his topic is "Is Your Team in One Canoe?" Cost is \$40 for chamber members; \$50 for guests; and \$30 for students.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28

Trinity Anglican Church on Victoria Street in Aurora presents the 90-male voice Tri-City Gospel Chorus at 7 p.m. There is no admission charge.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

The Dr. G W Williams Students' Council will host the second annual Spring Rummage Sale.

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TheAuroran.com Marketplace member, Mike Nesbit of Westview Golf Club in Aurora, left, presents his free draw giveaway, of 2 greens fees to winner Jim Abram. Westview Golf Club is located at 1563 Vandorf Sideroad in Aurora, on the south east corner of Leslie and Vandorf Sideroad. Visit Westview Golf Club in theauroran.com Marketplace under the "Golf" Category.

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There is no better time than **NOW** to start improving the quality of your life and well-being. **U Weight Loss[®]** offers just the right personalized and doctor-formulated program for **U** to reach and maintain your weight loss goals and to improve your health. Start today and learn how our **3 Simple Secrets** to rapid and lasting results can **CHANGE YOUR LIFE!**

- Eat real food from delicious recipes
- Receive one-on-one personal coaching
- Achieve fast and healthy weight loss
- Maximize your energy levels
- Free your body of toxins and cravings
- Learn about nutrition and exercise
- Improve your libido



CALL **905.713.5673** OR VISIT US AT:
U WEIGHT LOSS[®] CLINIC OF AURORA
1 HENDERSON DRIVE, AURORA
Email us at uaurora@uweightloss.com

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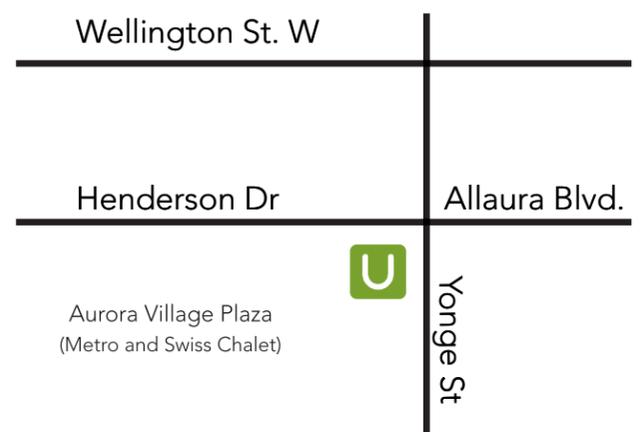
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HEALTHY WEIGHT ANALYSIS DETOX & CLEANSE KIT¹

to cleanse your digestive system of toxins, conquer cravings, accelerate weight loss and begin your path to healthy living.

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8 weeks free



lose the weight • **live** your life • **love** yourself