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FREE

Week of November 23, 2010

Devins Dr. school may take overflow

An overflow of Grade 1 French Immersion students from Lester B. Pearson Public School could be absorbed by Devins Drive Public School, concerned parents learned at a Pearson School Council meeting last Tuesday, but the meeting raised more questions for some.

The meeting, which saw an estimated 80 parents and interested parties show up, was "well attended", according to Ross Virgo, a spokesperson for the York Region District School Board who was also in attendance.

"They were certainly quite interested and heard what we had to say," he

said. "I think there was a good exchange of views on some issues and we also received input from them in terms of their preferences on certain subject areas."

As The Auroran reported last week, representatives from the York Region District School Board were slated to meet with parents to outline their plans on how to streamline the Grade 1 French Immersion registration process, which has met with criticisms in years past.

Just this year, parents lined up outside the school for hours on end to secure a place for their kids in the pro-

gram.

At Tuesday's meeting, the school board outlined its plans for a new online registration process where places in the French Immersion program would be allocated in a lottery system rather than on the previous first come, first served basis.

"Our commitment [was] to explain the online registration process and talk about a possible second option around accommodation in the Town of Aurora for French Immersion overflow," Mr. Virgo said. "We've had an opportunity to do that."

"We did hear some points of view and preferences and our commitment to that audience was to take their input back to the board and to ensure that it was heard in consideration of a final decision that will take place within the calendar year."

The candidate school to house overflow French Immersion students could be Devins Drive, he said, and that

Please see page 16



The Empty Bowls event, held Saturday at the Aurora Cultural Centre, sold out weeks ago and the event itself was a resounding success. During two meal sittings, those fortunate enough to get a seat got to take home a bowl to remember the event. They also enjoyed dinner meals cooked by the above people, who are, left to right, Sarah Harisson from Gabriel's Cafe, Petra Wiedemann and Andreas Kirschner from Graystones, Tim Maunder, from Maunder's Food Shop, Dina Lamont from Bijoy's Restaurant, Chris Klugman from the Edward Street Bistro, Michelle McCormick from the Roving Chef, Gabriel Schacher from Gabriel's Cafe, Mary Georgeopolous, from Jonathan's, Mike Liu from Annalisa Asian Fusion Cuisine. Councillor-elect Sandra Humfries is on the right. Lunch was served by Pine Farms Orchard, Art Cures Inc., Aqua Grill, Jan's Country Pantry and Fred's Bread. The day, sponsored by the Pine Tree Potters Guild, raised \$12,000 for the York Region Food Network and Welcoming Arms.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

Torch of Life comes to town

The Torch of Life is coming to Aurora next month.

On December 9, Step by Step's Torch of Life will be carried by students from Aurora schools on a 24.3 kilometre 15-school relay march through the streets of Aurora to promote organ and tissue donation awareness.

The torch relay will start at Cardinal Carter High School on Bloomington Sideroad and will proceed throughout Aurora stopping at 15 schools and finishing at St. Andrew's College on Yonge Street.

Pit bull destroyed

The pit bull involved in the attack on a 12-year-old boy earlier this month was destroyed by OSPCA vets Monday morning following a quarantine period.

This comes after the owner of the dog was served with three notices by the town under Part One of the Provincial Offences Act for three violations of the Town's Dog control bylaw.

The Olympic style torch used symbolically to shine light on the need for organ donation was blessed by the Pope in 2001 at Vatican City.

Step by Step's founder and CEO George Marcello, himself a transplant recipient, was summoned to the Vatican after the Pope had learned of George's never ending and tenacious efforts to promote Donor Awareness.

The Pope blessed the torch and declared organ donation to be a genuine act of love and told George to use children to carry the torch to spread awareness.

Everyone is welcome to join the relay at any point along the route.

The entire day will be webcast on Step by Step's web site www.stepbystep.ca.

A press conference will be held at Aurora High School at 11.45 a.m.

Several politicians will be speaking as will donors, donor recipients and people on the transplant waiting list.

Finds six more votes

Pirri holds final place on council after recount

Aurora's next council line-up is unchanged following a recount last Tuesday, with Councillor-Elect Paul Pirri picking up six votes in the process.

The recount, held in the council chambers, lasted about six hours.

The process began with a rundown of the procedures by Town Clerk John Leach, who addressed concerns some councillors had with not being able to view each ballot before it was fed into the machine.

The Municipal Elections Act, he out-

lined, says in part that each candidate, and lawyers and scrutineers for each candidate are entitled to see the ballots.

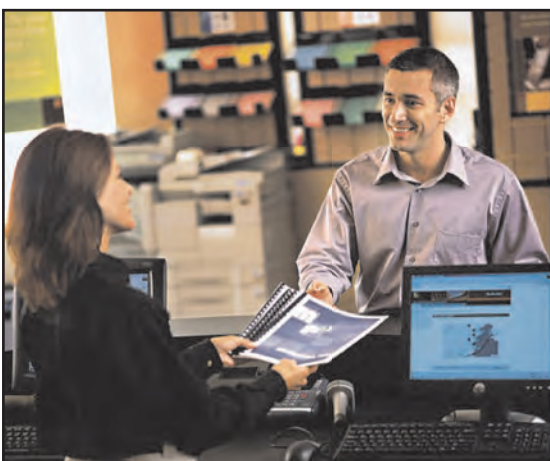
But this, he explained, applied to a manual recount and is superseded by a further clause which restricts candidates, lawyers, and scrutineers to view only those ballots rejected by machines in the event of an electronic recount.

In his remarks, Mr. Leach outlined several instances where a ballot would be rejected by a machine. These included any instances of a blank ballot (the

machines last Tuesday were programmed only to scan votes for council; if one voted for just the office of mayor and/or trustee and left the council space blank, this was read as a blank ballot, an over-voted ballot (voting for nine or more council candidates), and creased or torn ballots that might be rejected by the machine for those reasons.

Rejected ballots were examined by candidates, scrutineers, and lawyers, reconstructed on a new ballot paper by

Please see page 7



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COMING EVENTS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25

A kick-off party for the Aurora Christmas Dream 2010 takes place tonight at Jonathan's Restaurant beginning at 7 p.m. Feature performer is George St. Kitts. \$10 donation at the door and reservations are advised. Sponsorship will aid The Welcoming Arms Ministry, The Salvation Army and The Aurora Food Pantry.

NOVEMBER 25 THROUGH 27

"A Chorus Line" will be performed at St. Andrew's College at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased by emailing Jane Bedard at jane.bedard@sac.on.ca or by calling 905-727-3178 extension 260. For more information, visit <http://www.sac.on.ca>.

NOVEMBER 27-28

The Optimist Club of Aurora holds its annual book sale at the Aurora Public Library, Saturday, November 27, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, November 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27

The Aurora Farmers' Market and Artisan Fair Holiday Edition will be held at the Aurora Cultural Centre, (Church Street School) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today. Your favourite Aurora market vendors will be in attendance throughout the Centre, with produce and artisan goods just in time for the holiday season. Free children's craft activity is planned from 1 to 4 p.m. Admission is free.

Annual Santa Under the Stars parade takes place this evening from 6 to 8 p.m. Parade starts at Yonge and Orchard Heights Drive and heads south to Murray Drive.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

At 2 p.m. today, the Aurora Opera Company children's chorus will perform "Street Stitch", a concert of inspirational and seasonal songs, featuring guest singers Joe Likuski and Christopher Roberts, at the Aurora Cultural Centre (Church Street School), 22 Church Street. Tickets are \$15 and each audience member is asked to bring one item of warm clothing to help those most vulnerable to the cold.

Tickets are available at Jonathan's Restaurant in Aurora.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Southlake Regional Health Centre is offering to the Aurora community a free lecture series on cancer prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. This month's lecture will be held at 6 p.m. in the Hospital's Medical Arts Building (581 Davis Drive - Level 6). Presenter: Dr. Mark Katz, psychiatrist. Topic: Recognizing and Managing Depression in Cancer Patients. To register call 905-895-4521, ext. 6947. For more information, please visit www.southlakeregional.org

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

A Children Wish Foundation Christmas Tree Raffle happens today at the Aurora Seniors' Centre The tree, donated by Home Hardware will be on display from October 18 to December 1 when the draw will take place. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School holds its Winter Concert at the school. The event starts at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

Join the York Highlands Chorus for an A Cappella Holiday Experience 4 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 484 Water St., Newmarket, with shows at 2 and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 each and a portion of proceeds to will be donated to local food banks. For more information contact Karen at 905-726-2113 or by email at cherylaciu@rogers.com

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

York Region Community Choir Presents "Classics of Christmas", a concert celebrating the Holiday Season. at 2 p.m. at the Trinity Anglican Church, 79 Victoria Street. Tickets are \$10 and may be obtained by calling Heather at 905-853-6925.

Amnesty International hosts its annual Writeathon, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Aurora Public Library. Write cards of support to human rights defenders. For more information call 905-713-6713.

At 2.30 p.m. at the Aurora Cultural Centre (formerly Church Street School) you can travel the world with Pandora. Virtuoso Accordionist Alexander Sevastian will present Russian music, and there will be dance from India and Egypt. Baritone David Roth will perform favourite British songs. The Sonore Percussion Trio play music from Bali, Africa, USA and Serbia. Sitarist Anwar Khurshid's music will thrill you, and local dance sensation Aarzo Hameed will present classical Indian dance in brilliant costume. First Nations' poems will be shared and York Region's Sabrina Nazar will play the wooden flute, to honour the indigenous culture of Canada. Net proceeds to the Yellow Brick House

Second Shelter, Second Chances Capital Campaign. Tickets are \$35 and \$25, and tickets for a family of four will cost \$95. Order by calling 289-221-0229 or for more information, go to <http://www.pandorasboxsalon.com>.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

The Aurora Seniors' Centre invites everyone to a Christmas dinner and theatre event, with doors opening at 5 p.m. Dinner is at 6 p.m. Also on hand will be the Dickens Committee who will perform the CBC1 radio script of Charles Dicken's "A Christmas Carol" at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 for members, and \$30 for non-members. Reservations are available, and tickets are on sale until Monday November 22 at 4.30 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Aurora's famous Hillary House will be the scene of a Family Christmas. Hillary House will be decorated by members of the Aurora Garden and Horticultural Society. The fires will glow in the fireplace, the smell of mulled cider will fill the air and the sound of familiar carols will be heard. There will be crafts for chil-

dren, refreshments and maybe even a visit from Santa Claus. Hillary House is on the west side of Yonge Street, south of Aurora Heights Drive.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

The annual Tree Lighting Ceremony takes place from 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. at the Aurora Town Hall.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

At 7.30 p.m. join the festivities at the Aurora Seniors' Centre, 5 Municipal Drive, as the Evergreen Choir, under the direction of Richard Heinzle, presents "A Joyous Sound". Tickets are adults \$5, children, 14 and under, free. Tickets are available at the Seniors' Centre or at the door. Refreshments will be served at intermission.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

Robbie Burns night at the Aurora Legion, 105 Industrial Parkway North, features a live celtic-rock band, Hadrian's Wall. Cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets, available from all members of the White Heather Pipes and Drums band or from the bar at the Legion starting Dec. 1, are \$40 per person.

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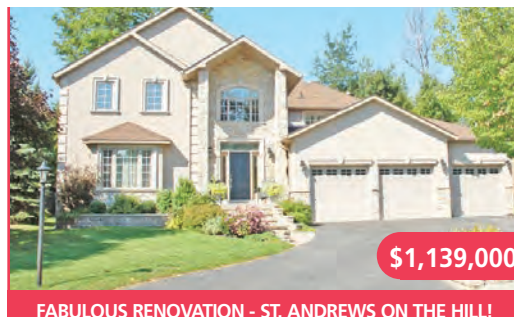


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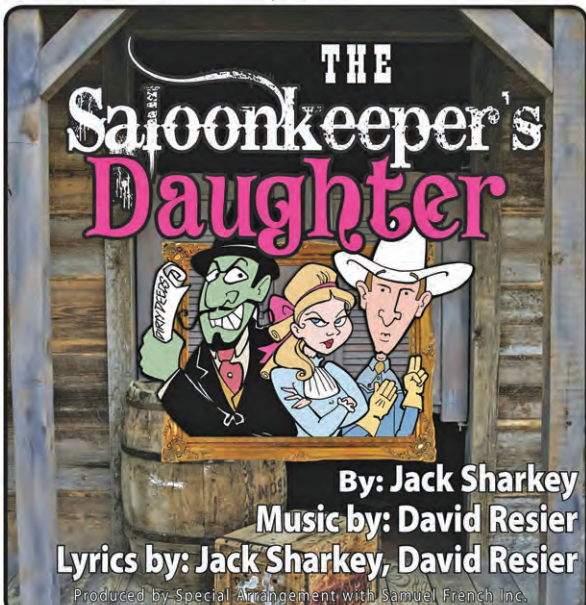
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PROUD TO BE LIVING AND WORKING IN AURORA

Did anyone else see lights in the sky, this resident asks

An Aurora resident who prefers to remain anonymous is looking for others who may have also experienced strange lights in the sky over town on the evening of November 12.

"There were three very distinctive lights in the sky," she said. "There was no sound. I would like to see if anyone else saw these lights. They were in the sky for what I thought were about two minutes."

"I spoke to the Police twice on Friday night and this morning I received a report from the National UFO Reporting Centre," she told The Auroran on Monday, adding they were going to post her report and photo online."

This was the second time she witnessed similar lights in the sky, she said.

"The first time was on May 1, when myself and a friend witnessed one orange lit object in the southern sky and we watched it for approximately one minute while it moved erratically without sound," she said.

"Friday night, myself and three friends were in my backyard on Mosley Street about to barbecue our supper and the bright light in the sky that appeared over my neighbour's house caught my eye. Even with the bright motion detector lights on in my backyard, the streetlights, and town lights, the three ember-like, shimmering lights stood out well in the sky."

She said they were travelling in a south southwest direction and had an "aura" about them but she couldn't make out a definite shape.

"All three were a different orange colour, a different brightness, they seemed to be at different altitudes and at all different distances," she added. "We watched them approach travelling westward, when they got over my neighbour's house they all changed direction and went northeast."

"From my house they seemed to be as far away as Bayview and Mulock, then one by one the lights went out and they were gone."

She said while she understands there are sceptics that would

"choose to believe this is a hoax" she would "choose not to rule anything out

and therefore wish to simply ask the general population if anyone saw the

same bright orange lights in the sky at 7.34 p.m. on Friday, November 12.



York Regional Police staff sergeant Brad Bulmer, right, shares a moment with the newest member of the Police Services Board John Molyneaux, prior to the official opening of the police's Central Services Building in Aurora Friday morning. Building is located on Don Hillock Drive, in Aurora's east end. *Auroran photo by Ron Wallace*



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Poor Ronnie

By RON WALLACE

Police building certainly is big

Through the magic of Christmas, or something, I got to cover the opening of the new York Regional Police building in Aurora Friday morning. Had to leave early though.

Good grief, it's big.

Known as the Central Services Building, the structure is located at 47 Don Hillock Drive, in the east part of Aurora.

My favourite comment: "it'll make a nice police headquarters someday..."

No one seems to agree with me, but all I can say to that is "stay tuned..."

The building itself covers nearly 238,000 square feet, and it's so big, the third floor is going to remain empty for the time being.

There will be no jail - police like to refer to it as a "detention facility" - in the structure.

The building cost the taxpayers \$72.5 million, delivered on time and on budget but, hey, you'll save money because three rental units will be closed and moved to the new structure.

Included will be the Aurora location on the curve of Industrial Parkway South, and boy, did I have an idea of how the landlord could use that space a number of years ago when I learned the police had outgrown the building.

But that's another story.

Police lost the ability to land their helicopter across the street when someone else built a structure there, but I'm thinking with 8.1 acres available at the new site, they'll probably find somewhere to land.

So, who's going in there?

Well, according to a release I received, York Regional Police bureaus and units in the building include: Investigative Services including Homicide, Sexual Assault, Crimes Against Children, Drugs and Vice, Hold Up, Major Fraud, Auto/Cargo Theft, Forensic Identification; Support Services including Emergency Response, Canine, Public Order, Search and Rescue, Traffic; Property and Evidence, Information Technology, Facilities, Customer Service and #1 District Community Response and Community Services officers.

The move has already started and will be accomplished in 10 phases ending in February next year.

Unique features include: ballistic-testing room on site; state-of-the-art forensic identification labs; indoor/outdoor canine kennels, quarantine kennels, outdoor dog runs; and a centralized customer service counter for criminal background checks, vulnerable sector screening and volunteer clearance letters for York Region residents.

There is enough staff parking for 675 cars, including 422 in the parking structure.

The architect was Parkin Architects.

Perhaps my biggest shock of the day happened when retired fire chief John Molyneaux walked in.

You can't keep a good man down, they say, and John is walking proof of that.

He's the newest member of the York Police Services Board, and I know that for a fact because it says so on the list of board members.

The room where the opening ceremonies were held boasted one wall of nothing but windows, and the sun was shining brightly.

"They should cover the floor with sand," commented someone. "Great place for a beach."

Nah, I think one day it will be police headquarters...



Anyone know what this is all about? Apparently, Aurora Mayor Clarence Davis was involved in this Pony Express run back in 1967, but we can't find out any more than what you see here. If you know more, call us at 905-727-3300.

Letter to the Editor

Thalia had her journey: family

To the editor,

Thalia's Journey was just an idea a few months ago...a journey with the hope of turning her disability into possibility.

With the support of family, friends, neighbours, local businesses and residents of Aurora, Thalia was given the opportunity to make the journey to Germany where she underwent a promising stem cell treatment to help improve her quality of life.

The procedure, which uses her own stem cells eliminating the health risks associated with donated stem cells, went well with no complications.

Within 48 hours, Thalia was up and about resuming all her physical activities!

This would not have been possible without family, friends, neighbours, and community coming out to support our events.

Also attributing to the success were local businesses that sponsored the events with monetary donations and merchandise.

In addition to our events, No Frills Aurora and Jonathan's Restaurant generously offered to continue the fundraising for Thalia which we are very grateful for.

No Frills Aurora and their customers, who through their "Twoonies for Thalia" campaign raised over \$2,200, and Jonathan's Restaurant and their patrons raised over \$6,500!

All proceeds from the Kids Swap and Sale, through the Town of Aurora, were forwarded to the "Welcoming Arms".

These events and additional donations brought our

fundraising total to \$40,000 enabling us to make the trip to Germany at the end of August.

We are now in the next phase of Thalia's Journey which is post treatment therapy.

A busy time for Thalia with the challenge of keeping her motivated, focused on her therapies, and happy during this demanding time.

We would like to thank the Aurora Minor Hockey Association who recently approached us to forward the proceeds from their Home and Home Weekend Fundraising to Thalia which successfully raised \$6,000!

We would also like to acknowledge the generosity and kindness of Frank Stronach who made a very generous donation to Thalia's Journey of \$10,000.

"We get it!" is what we were told when offered the donation by Magna, referring to their understanding of the extensive challenges a family faces caring for a special needs child.

These additional funds raised will be a great help toward alleviating the financial burden of Thalia's costly therapies, anticipated to be around \$22,000 over the course of the year.

A sincere thank you to all who supported Thalia enabling her to pursue this opportunity.

While she could never be cured, our expectation and hope is that her condition be improved to create a huge stepping stone for Thalia...a new baseline from which she would develop and grow.

Although it is still early and will have to wait a year to determine how successful the

treatment will be for her, we have witnessed some results and are very excited and positively looking forward to more success in Thalia's progress over the course of the year!

A lot of success stories have come out of this clinic and we believe Thalia will become one of those statistics that we hopefully share with the world one day.

This has been quite a humbling experience for us...and look forward to helping other people's journeys in the future and giving back to a community who supported and wished Thalia well on this Journey of Hope for a better, more fulfilling future.

**The Avgousti Family
Aurora**

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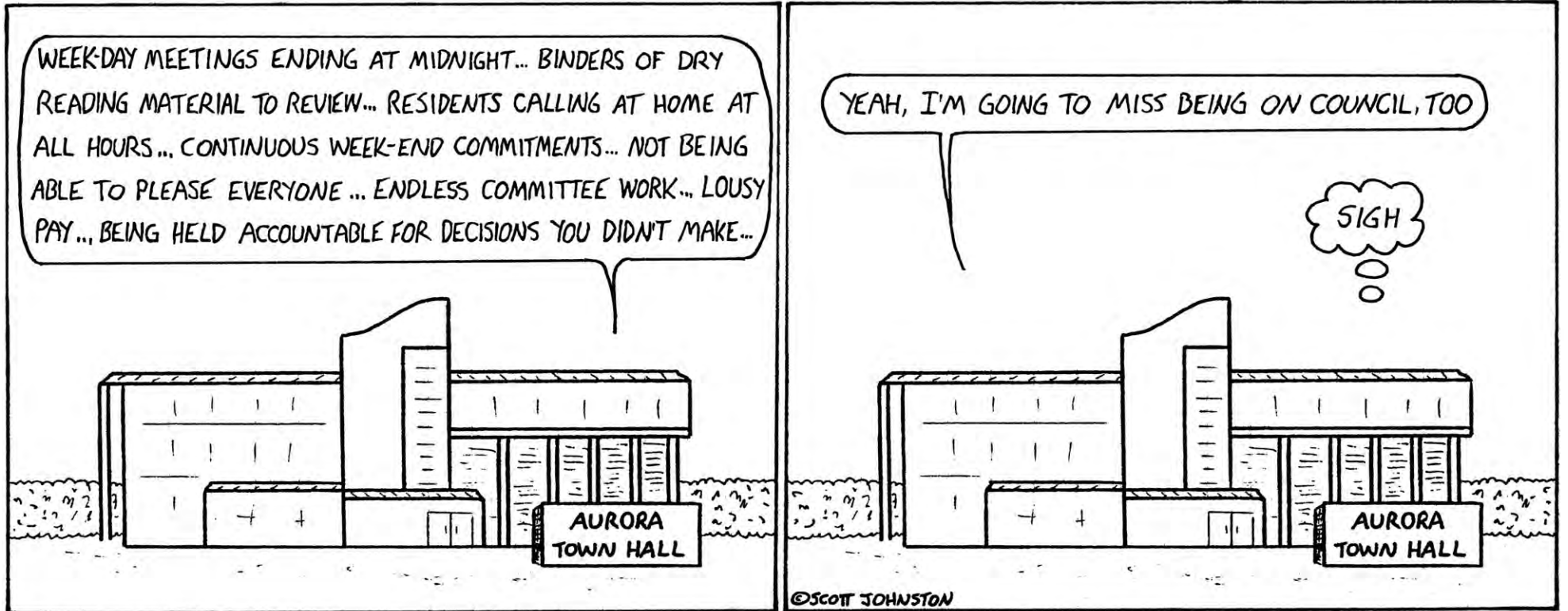
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Front Porch Perspective

By Stephen Somerville

Energy in the spotlight - again

Ontario's energy policy has come into public consciousness once again.

Most people, other than those who work in the industry, don't usually pay attention to the energy file. As long as the lights remain on and any outages are short in duration and don't occur too frequently, people are pretty satisfied and go about their busy daily existence of raising a family, paying the bills and saving for vacations.

But this has all changed over the past few months.

First, people started to open their mailboxes and found electricity bills that were much more expensive than they had been just a few months ago.

There were a number of reasons cited for the large increases, including the implementation of the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) on July 1st this year, the hotter than usual weather meaning more air conditioners were working, and the impacts of the new generation and transmission infrastructure that had been coming on line.

Second, these price increases were not one-time events; they have continued and will continue into the foreseeable future.

As most of you know by now, the provincial government issued its Fall Economic Statement last week.

The forecasted annual deficit is supposed to be about \$1 billion less than previously thought because corporate revenues are higher. The bad news is that personal tax revenues are still down, meaning less people are working or maybe more people are only working part time.

The big news contained in the update, however, was the announcement of a 10 per cent discount off hydro bills, called the Ontario Clean Energy Benefit.

So what of the above? And what are the potential implications for electricity rates in Aurora?

According to the Toronto Star, "In his statement, Finance Minister Dwight Duncan said electricity prices would still rise about 3.6 per cent annually on an average bill and the new measure (the rise would have been 7.9 per cent without the new benefit)."

"It will go to about 4 million households and 400,000 farms and small businesses. Big power users will not receive the benefit."

"The price break would save a homeowner using 800 kilowatt hours a month \$153.60 annually, rising to \$1,716 a year for a small business using 10,000 kWh and \$2,052 annually on a farm consuming 12,000 kWh a month".

The Minister also stated in an interview on TVO that home electricity costs could rise 46 per cent over the next five years to pay for hydro system upgrades.

Duncan also said that the Green energy policies will account for 56 per cent of the price increase and the expansion of nuclear and natural gas power plants the reasons for the remaining 44 per cent.

I believe this is the first time the government has come out and said energy prices will rise substantially over the next five years. My guess is they did not want to say this until they were ready to announce the price break.

During the interview Mr. Duncan also passed the political grenade over to the Progressive Conservatives and NDP by saying that, in effect, any political party who says that energy prices won't be going up is deceitful to the public, and that these parties need to make public their respective energy platforms.

The energy file is important in and of itself, but it is even more

significant because energy is inextricably intertwined with economic policy and the decisions made by our public officials affect our provinces' competitiveness and productivity, and ultimately our standard of living.

We need to vigorously discuss/debate the kind of energy system we want. And that will involve an important debate regarding the choosing of an appropriate energy supply mix (because each type of generation asset has different operational and capital cost characteristics) and also how best to procure both the new generation and transmission that this province needs.

According to various published reports Ontario will need to refurbish, rebuild or replace 25,000 megawatts of generating capacity over the next 20 years. That represents more than 80 per cent of Ontario's current capacity of about 30,500 megawatts.

The estimate is this will require an investment anywhere from 25 to 40 billion dollars, depending on what generation resources we choose to build, and when.

Replacing aging assets that have been fully depreciated over their long term useful life means that we will be paying higher prices for the new facilities.

Think of it this way, replacing that 1996 Ford Minivan with a 2008 Ford Minivan will now cost you quite a bit more.

Given the importance of energy and given the media spotlight on this sector over the past few months, we can all safely assume that the energy file will be a key part of the run up to the provincial election next October.

Stephen can be contacted at:
stephengsomerville@yahoo.com



Inside Aurora

By Scott Johnston

Photo op

The photographer changed the lens on his camera, and slightly adjusted the blinds in his studio. You had to get the light just right, and as a seasoned professional, he knew what was needed.

As he finished setting up his equipment, he thought back to a similar portrait he had taken of this group a number of years ago.

It had been late in November, and with the municipal election recently over, Aurora's mayor and councillors were gathering for their official group portrait.

Even as they started to assemble themselves, the photographer knew there'd be trouble.

"I want to sit in the front," said one councillor to another, who has just grabbed the last chair.

"You can't sit there. We do it by order of votes received."

"But you're taller than me, and besides, we're doing a re-count, so the vote total may change."

"But you made it on council by a ton of votes. Why is that important now?"

"The public has a right to know."

"Like the public has a right to care" mumbled the other councillor.

"Why do we need to have two rows, anyway?" queried one of their colleagues. "Why can't we form a line?"

"Well, how would the line work?"

"How about tallest to shortest?"

"Or oldest to youngest," suggested another.

"Please. Please," interjected the mayor. "Let's just get this

done."

This brought forth a pile of new comments from the councillors. "Maybe we should vote on it."

"This isn't a council meeting."

"It'll be good practice."

"You must be new. Who needs to practice voting?"

The mayor - barely - refrained from comment. But as things finally seemed to be settling down, a new problem arose.

"Wait," noted the photographer. "There are only eight of you. Who's missing?"

Just as he said that, the last straggler came in.

"Sorry, I'm late. That'll never happen again."

Many of them had heard this one before. Eyes rolled as the councillor stood in the appointed spot.

"Okay, big smiles everyone," the photographer requested, and demonstrated with a strained, but well-practiced grin.

Just as he was about to snap the photo, there was some jostling.

"Don't crowd me."

"I'm not crowding you. You're crowding me."

"Take that back!"

"Let's all be professional," the photographer pleaded, glancing at his watch. "And besides, I have another appointment soon."

"Yeah, and we only have a few years left in our term," quipped a councillor.

The photographer waited as the mumbling and fidgeting and

general chaos subsided. It didn't stop completely, but by this stage he was desperate.

He crossed his fingers and pushed the button. Seconds later, he was looking at a downloaded version on his laptop.

"Perfect," he said, noting a few closed eyes, and the reflection off of some glasses.

"Let me see," several councillors noted simultaneously, eagerly coming forward.

"No, no," smiled the photographer, hitting a button on the keyboard, and clearing the photo from the screen before they could get a look at it. "It'll spoil the surprise if you see it too soon. I'll have copies for you all next week."

He sighed, as the politicians grabbed their coats and headed off. "Give me screaming babies as subjects any day," he thought.

He looked at the photo again. He could Photoshop these few required fixes. In fact, he'd rather Photoshop the whole thing than go through that again.

The photographer's daydream was interrupted by the arrival of the 2010 council members.

Would they be courteous to each other, he wondered, or would there be signs of dis-harmony?

Soon both the photographer, and the residents of Aurora, would find out.

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

Letters to the Editor

Theatre Aurora as good as theatres in city

To the editor,

Although I have always been aware of Aurora as a town worthy of more than just a passing glance, it is only within the last year that I have had the pleasure of experiencing some of its offerings.

I owe this in large part to my employer, National Bank Financial Group for bringing me on as an advisor at their Aurora location.

However, this letter isn't really about National Bank, or me for that matter.

It's really about Aurora,

and specifically Theatre Aurora.

It was just last year that I had my first opportunity to see a show.

Now, having been dragged to a few of these things in Toronto by my wonderful wife, I was under the impression that if your theatre did not begin with "King", "Queen" or "Royal", that the production would be cringe worthy.

That's why we paid the big bucks for the seats, you see.

Well, let me tell you that the performance put on

was nothing short of hilarious.

The name of the play was Sam Bobrick's "Remember Me", and it actually made me laugh out loud; no small feat.

In addition to putting on such a great show, this hidden gem of Aurora is also a big contributor to National Bank's annual drive to raise money for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

They have been a big part of our efforts to support this noble cause for half a decade.

We simply cannot thank them enough for their ongoing contributions.

This year, the show will be Jack Sharkey's "The Saloonkeeper's Daughter", which I've been told will raise the level of hilarity from last year's play.

I would highly recommend that anyone looking to discover a hidden piece of this great Town, and have a good time while doing so, come out to this year's production.

It runs from Nov. 26th to Dec. 11th, with the December 8th showing

serving as a fundraiser for Juvenile Diabetes.

Anyone looking for ticket information on this show, or others, may visit www.theatreaurora.com or call the box office at (905) 727-3669.

Tickets may also be

purchased at the National Bank which is located at 133 Pedersen Drive in Aurora (one block south of St. John's Sideroad on Bayview).

Robert Zanfir
Aurora



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I didn't have coffee letter writer says I did: Gaertner

To the editor,

I have always believed that a councillor's sole responsibility is to work for what is in the best interest of their community, not for special interests, including those of developers.

My intention in the past and going forward is to conduct myself honestly and honourably.

I do not take lightly actual

or innuendo attacks on my character; or outright lies of wrongdoing.

Re Mr. Sargent's comment, to prove "orchestration" of our last council meeting, this letter states, "The same week of the special meeting, (to discuss a recount vote), one day there's Councillor Gaertner and outgoing Councillor Granger having coffee and a chit chat; the very next day

there is Councillor Gaertner and Councillor John Gallo doing the same thing."

The implication is one of wrong doing.

Not only do I find that an attempt to impune our character; it is also completely false.

I have never had a coffee anywhere with either politician to discuss tactics for a council meeting.

The letter also stated that

"the new hot spot in Aurora seems to be On The Bean in St. Andrew's Plaza".

I do not appreciate the negative implication put on a youth project to which I lovingly gave 18 years of my Friday evenings.

As a last comment, I have great respect for Rebecca Beaton's integrity and dedication to our town. Apart from the time she has given to sit on many advisory committees, she is one of the few attending budget meetings over the years to ensure that tax dollars are wisely spent.

In closing I suggest that people check facts before submitting to news media or blogs.

Creating negativity is not in the best interest of our Town.

Wendy Gaertner
Aurora

More letters
see page 8

I didn't have coffee with Gaertner, councillor says

To the editor,

Letter to the editor re: "Buck closer than she thought to her "orchestration" charges".

Mr. Sargent, I'm sure you tried your very best to get your information accurate in your letter to the editor of last week indicating that various councillors were meeting and having a chit chat over coffee.

I cannot speak for other

councillors, but I can assure you I did not have any conversations with any councillors to orchestrate anything.

Nor was I having coffee with Councillor Gaertner the same week as the meeting, although I have no issue with meeting for a coffee with any council member.

Perhaps you are mistaking me for someone else, and that's fine...to be clear, I'm the guy with the gray hair that mysteriously came in the day after I was married

and drastically changed shortly after I had (my wife that is) kids.

Let's get the facts straight before you put it in print folks!

By the way...thanks to everyone for your support. I hope I can make you proud.

John Gallo
Aurora

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Pirri holds on to final council spot

From page 1
officials.

The rejected ballot and the reconstructed ballots were then clearly labelled as such, re-examined by candidates, scrutineers, and lawyers, before being fed back into the tabulation machine.

Following a few minutes for questions and answers from those assembled - a session which was dominated by Mr. Granger questioning the machines' calibration and diagnostics of the machines' override features - the process got underway with the machines from the advance polls re-printing their results.

The process was observed in part by outgoing and returning Councillors Evelyn Buck, Alison Collins-Mrakas (who was acting as scrutineer for Paul Pirri) Wendy Gaertner, John Gallo, Stephen Granger, and Al Wilson.

New Councillors-Elect John Abel, Chris Ballard, and Paul Pirri, and candidate Brian Duff were also in attendance.

Outgoing Mayor Phyllis Morris also made an appearance in the council chamber, signed up as a scrutineer for Councillor Gaertner.

Most council candidates gained additional votes in the recount process, including the likely next Deputy Mayor John Abel, who gained seven votes.

Next was Michael Thompson who gained six, followed by incumbent Evelyn Buck who went up by five.

Incumbent Councillor Wendy Gaertner's numbers increased by a single vote in the recount, while newcomer Chris Ballard gained three.

Newcomer Sandra Humfries lost four votes, outgoing Councillor Stephen Granger lost one, and incumbent Councillor John Gallo's numbers remained unchanged at 4601.

When all votes were tabulated and blank and spoiled ballots reviewed by candidates, and their respective scrutineers and lawyers, the gap between outgoing Councillors Stephen Granger and Al Wilson narrowed, with ninth and tenth place separated by just one vote in Mr. Granger's favour.

Tuesday's recount was requested by Mr. Granger and authorized by the outgoing council earlier this month.

At the time of the election, 21 votes separated eighth place finisher Pirri and ninth place

Granger. This number increased to 28.

Over 350 "blank" council ballots were identified by tabulating machines in the process.

Following the recount, Mr. Granger was asked if he would take this further and he replied with a simple "no".

For Councillor-Elect Pirri, Tuesday's recount was a testament to the process.

"I had full faith in the system, so this wasn't a shock to me," he told The Auroran following the recount. "I am pleased I picked up six votes. I am very pleased with the job Mr. Leach has done. I'm looking forward to working with a great bunch of people and a great team."

Outgoing Councillor Collins-Mrakas said she was pleased with the results as well.

"I would like to say that I commend staff for implementing an excellent process," she said. "The day went very well. People behaved for the most part quite respectfully and I'm glad that the process is over and the results are unchanged."

Following the recount, returning Councillor Gaertner said she still had reservations regarding the process and paid tribute to Mr. Granger and his work on

council.

"I think that had I been in Councillor Granger's position I probably would have asked for a recount," she said. "Frankly, Councillor Granger worked so very hard with the Farmer's Market.

"As far as the process goes, I would like to have had more statistics. I would have liked to have had the number of spoiled votes, just a whole complete range of stats as to how that election turned out, but it doesn't seem like we're getting that at all, just pretty much each councillor's votes again. There were some small changes but nothing really interesting."

Tuesday's results will not be declared official until a mandated 15-day window has passed in which disputed ballots can be brought before a judicial review. No ballots, however, were disputed in Tuesday's process.

"The minor changes [in vote numbers] were the result of "marginal marks" -- this happens when the ballot machines pick up a vote one time and not another because the mark was extremely close to not being marked fully in the appropriate spot," said Jason Ballantyne, Aurora's Manager of Corporate

Communications Tuesday afternoon.

"To put the minor changes in number of votes in context, the same machines were used in a

recount in 2003 and, at the time, resulted in a comparable number of changes, well within what the clerk feels is an acceptable range."

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DRIVE SAFE THIS WINTER

Costs & Consequences of impaired driving - from the perspective of the driver

By NATALIE MUEGLER

We are all aware of the obvious possible consequences of impaired driving; death, severe injuries, the loss of family and loved ones, and so forth. However, from the driver's angle, there are many 'on the side costs' that may not be as apparent and can cause a great inconvenience to one's everyday life. I had the privilege of going on a ride along with an OPP officer on October the 13th, 2010, to experience a 'night' in the life of an officer, particularly on the lookout for driving infractions, such as speeding and impaired driving. The officer and I were planning on attending a R.I.D.E program at midnight, and earlier during the night we were looking for speeding vehicles. At 11:16pm, we tagged a vehicle at 142km/hr which the officer pulled over. As the officer was speaking to the driver, he detected an odour of alcohol and noticed some empty beer bottles in the car. The officer questioned the driver about drinking, which 'they' admitted to having 'a couple' and was asked to perform a 'roadside test'. The driver agreed and failed the test. The officer informed me that a roadside test does not provide an exact numerical value unless the driver blows under 50 mgs in 100 mL of blood, otherwise, it simply indicates either 'pass', 'alert' or 'fail'. If a driver blows over 80 mgs in 100mL of blood, this will come up as a 'fail' on the 'approved screening device'. After failing the 'approved screening device', the driver must be taken back to the Aurora O.P.P. Detachment to be given a test using the 'Intoxylizer', an approved instrument for measuring the concentration of alcohol in the bloodstream. Two readings must be done, and if both come back as .08 and over, it is considered a criminal offence. The driver's first reading came back at .079 and the second at .066. Close call! I can only hope that this driver took this night as an extreme warning and will learn a crucial lesson.

Some Costs and Consequences

Monetary:

Despite the fact that the driver did not receive a criminal charge/record, they were still saddled with many grave costs and consequences. The driver was initially stopped due to speeding, which they were given a ticket of \$317. Ouch! When the driver failed the roadside test and was taken back to the

Aurora O.P.P. Detachment, their vehicle had to be towed away. Picking up the car from the towing company at a later date is just another monetary cost of impaired driving. Since the driver blew under .08 on both tests back at the Aurora O.P.P. Detachment, they were given a 3 day license suspension and this transgression will be left on their driving record. Another financial strain is the \$150 re-instatement fee they will have to pay to get their license back. Not to mention the stress, and/or possible added cost of finding an alternative way to get to and from work, or even just getting around overall for those next 3 days. For blowing under .08 but over .05, the first offence is a 3 day license suspension, second offence is 7 days, and third offence is 30 days. To top this all off, after being released from the Aurora O.P.P. Detachment, the driver must somehow find a way home. After being released at just after 1 a.m., finding a bus is not a very probable option; neither would be calling family or friends. As we all know, taxis are quite costly! \$\$\$ Ka-Ching! As the driver experienced, "You don't have to be over the criminal code blood alcohol limit of .08 to face serious consequences" <http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/safety/impaired/>

Social and emotional costs:

Impaired driving not only burdens the driver with substantial monetary costs, yet there are also social and emotional costs that tag along. I can only imagine how frightening it must be to be asked by a police officer to leave your vehicle and get in the back of the police car to perform a roadside test...failing the test and then watching your vehicle being towed away...I felt scared for the driver. After being taken back to the Aurora O.P.P. Detachment, the driver was lodged into the holding cell #1 as they awaited the next tests. A cell is surely not a pleasant place to be, as I was able to observe the tiny, grim, depressing environment of this caged in chamber. Certainly not somewhere anyone would like to be held! I believe that impaired driving also incurs a certain degree of social costs to the driver, for example, having this type of offence on your driving records allots a certain label as an irresponsible individual. I think it is safe to say that the majority of society would judge someone with an impaired driving offence on their driving record as somewhat reckless, careless, and negligent. Thus,

there is a certain level of stigma and embarrassment that accompanies this type of offence. I can only imagine the shame and humiliation the young driver must have felt when they called their parents from the Detachment to inform them of what had happened. Naturally, the labelling process and stigmas intensify if the offence is criminal (i.e. above .08). For example, this entails of: a criminal charge, a 90 day license suspension, legal costs to go through with a trial, and also the installation of an ignition interlock, which is a system that requires you to provide a breath sample every single time you start your car, and even often while you are driving, which can be quite intrusive and quite an annoyance. This ignition interlock system acts as a catalyst to the labelling and the embarrassment as it makes the offence more visible. For example, every time a friend gets in the car, they may know, or ask and find out what the device is.

I have illustrated some of the less obvious costs and consequences of impaired driving, both monetary and social/emotional. To summarize and re-capture, they include:

- speeding tickets or other associated charges (not in all cases, however, many impaired drivers have a tendency to speed or commit other driving infractions i.e. improper lane change, no signal, swerving between lanes, etc.)
- towing costs to pick up vehicle from towing company
- suspension of license and/or a criminal charge/record
- re-instatement fee of \$150 to get license back
- possible costs of alternative ways to get to and from work and other activities during the time of license suspension, or even costs of loss of work time
- costs of getting home after being released from Detachment
- legal fees (if criminal charge; not always necessary as some people do choose to represent themselves in court)
- having to stay in a holding cell at the Detachment while awaiting release and the overall fear and discomfort
- embarrassment/label and stigma of being labelled as an 'impaired driver' by society, friends and family, disappointment
- ignition interlock system (annoyance, cost of installation, humiliation)

It is also important to note that when the term 'impaired driving' is used, this should encompass other types of impairment other than alcohol. For



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example, narcotics, driving while over tired, driving while emotionally upset, driving while distracted i.e. cell phones, iPods, GPS and other electronic devices, etc...driving while under the influence of prescription medication that may impair one's ability to operate a vehicle, and so forth. It is also worth mentioning that if you are prescribed medication or buy over the counter medication, you should always ask your pharmacist and read labels/packages about possible side effects that may impair your ability to drive.

What can be done to prevent these dire consequences?

Solutions/services are available for the driver who has been drinking

- Operation Red Nose' www.operationrednose.com
- 'Keys to us'-professional designated drivers-we get you and your car vehicle home safely www.keystous.com
- 'Reliable DD'-professional designated driver service www.reliabledd.com
- 'Watchmen'-If you drink, let us drive www.watchmenletusdrive.com

Many of these alternative services are more economical than taxis. They can also help save you the worry and hassle of having to go back and pick up your vehicle the next day and provide the peace of mind that your vehicle will not be ticketed or towed away. By using a service such as the aforementioned, you only need to take it one way as opposed to both.

"On average, four people are killed and 207 people are injured in impaired driving crashes every day in Canada. Impaired driving remains the single largest criminal cause of death in Canada, with impairment related crashes claiming more than twice as many lives in 2006 as all types of homicide combined." www.watchmenletusdrive.com source MADD Canada

I have mostly pointed out many of the 'underground' consequences of impaired driving. In addition, there of course can be a more long term impact of a poor choice of driving impaired. The costs of impaired driving live on with the driver long after the fines are paid and the license is back in hand if a victim has been injured or killed in the process. It just simply isn't worth it!

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Letters to the Editor

Lawless impressed first timer to new Cultural Centre

To the editor,
Last Saturday evening I decided to treat myself to my first concert at our Church Street

School Cultural Centre.
At the sight of the building, lit up so beautifully in the night sky, I felt very proud of our community. Thank you to the many dedi-

cated people who have worked for years to preserve this historical jewel.
The talented concert headliner, Gregg Lawless, is a 'home-

town boy'.
John Sheard, of CBC Radio's Vival Cafe fame, played our Yamaha C7 magnificantly. Fergus Marsh was a treat,

using the most interesting bass I've ever seen.
As a surprise bonus, Kevin Zarnett, added harmony and guitar to Gregg's uplifting per-

formance.
Oh, what a night; and it cost, are you ready, \$15.
Thank you to Laura Schembri, Executive Director, and Jane Taylor for attracting such a variety of talented artists during the first year at our Cultural Centre.

Don't miss the excellent Aurora Historical Society's archive display right off the front lobby.

For upcoming events visit <http://www.auroraculturalcentre.ca>.

For information on the historic Church Street School: google 'Church Street School Aurora'.

Donations to the Yamaha C7 Acquisition Fund are gratefully accepted. More information at info@auroraculturalcentre.ca

Parks trucks should be green: Weller

To the editor,
I took a walk from our condo to Machell Park as I wanted to inspect the new tile drainage system.
I was really impressed with a new system I had never seen before. Thumbs up!

As I was leaving a white truck drove into the parking lot and our Parks Manager, Jim Tree, jumped out.
What?? A white truck for the Parks Department? Say it isn't so!
Going back to the early 60s I wrote my first tender for a half

ton truck.
The colour on the tender, in capital letters, was GREEN.
I filed it with the Works Department.
The colour was changed to RED by someone.
After a number of colourful words were exchanged, the

truck colour was returned to (parks) green. Council put their stamp of approval on it, stating that it was best that parks have their trademark green trucks and it has been that way until now.
Even though retired, I still continue my close relationship with Jim and treasure the years

that we spent together creating the best parks system in the Region.

It really hurt me to see that now, 50 years later, the colour has been changed to white and the Parks Department has lost their identity that I fought hard for.

There is a fix...next truck ordered should be green and, upon arrival, switched with Jim.

Parks=Trees=Grass=Green. Give Jim his green truck back!

Norm Weller
Aurora

Wendy Gaertner
Aurora

Morris lawsuit "unnecessary", reader claims

To the editor,
I am writing this letter

to thank the wise people of Aurora for doing the right thing and voting out

Mayor Phyllis Morris, as well as three of her council pals.

Her vindictive and unnecessary lawsuit against Bill Hogg, Richard Johnson and Elizabeth Bishenden using taxpayers money is yet another example of why her ousting was paramount.

Although my personal choice for Phyllis' successor would have been Nigel Kean, I welcome Mr. Dawe as our new mayor and I look forward to following his progress serving Aurora and its constituents.

I wish all the best to Mr. Dawe as well as town council and staff.

Mark Chisholm
Aurora

Letter writer statements "incorrect"

To the editor,
The statements that Mr. Sargent attributed to me in last week's paper are in fact statements he made to me at the council meeting meant to discuss a possible recount of the election results.

allow Open Forum for any residents who may have questions.
I would have assumed that a council meeting debating the merits of a recount would have ensured that Open Forum was part of the agenda.
The day before the meeting I had asked the Clerk several questions regarding a possible recount. When my questions had not been answered an hour before the meeting I simply took my e-mail intending to ask the questions again at the presumed public portion of the meeting.

would have been addressed in the staff report to council, were the following: how much would a recount cost? would one tabulating machine or all tabulating machine be used in the recount? and, did any tabulating machines go down during the election?

Obviously the recount is now over and a new term of council will begin in December.

Hopefully we will not have to tolerate this type of disparaging innuendo and can get on with the town's business.

Rebecca Beaton
Aurora

The questions that I asked, and which I would have thought

As I told the gentleman repeatedly that night, his statements and assertions were not correct.

In hindsight, perhaps I should have added that I didn't appreciate his accusations impugning my character or motivations.

I appreciate that council did

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November 22nd - 26th

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Monday - Thursday 9:00am-6:00pm Friday 9:00am-4:00pm

ROADSHOW

This week in Newmarket

We are pleased to give you an opportunity to showcase your wonderful items, at no cost! We continuously travel across Canada purchasing a wide variety of antiques, collectibles and precious metals

ITEMS WE MAKE AN OFFER ON MAY INCLUDE...

Coins



Pre 1967 Silver Dollars, Half Dollars, Quarters, Dimes, Nickels, Large Cents, and all others.

War Items



WWI, WWII, War Medals, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, Civil War Memorabilia, etc.

Collectibles



Toys, Train Sets, Dolls, Advertising, Cast Iron Banks, ect.

Silver



Silver such as flatware, tea sets, charm bracelets, jewelry, anything marked Sterling or 925.

Gold Coins



All denominations from all parts of the world, including Gold Olympic Coins.

Scrap Gold



Broken Gold, Used Jewelry, Dental Gold, Rings, Necklaces, Chains & Charm Bracelets



We represent thousands of collectors worldwide who are all looking for a variety of collectibles!



A variety of collectibles bought in previous shows.



One of our Roadshow gold experts examining a customers gold, antiques and collectibles.

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470 Crossland Gate
Newmarket, Ontario L3X 1B8
Phone : (905) 853-5590

November 22nd-26th
Monday-Thursday:
9:00 AM-6:00 PM
Friday: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

BREAKING NEWS: Gold is at a record high!

THE ROADSHOW IS COMING TO NEWMARKET!

By: Michael Ross
Great Canadian Roadshow



After two successful weeks in Cambridge, the roadshow is heading to Newmarket! So you better search through your attics and basements, go through your lock boxes and jewelry, because you may be sitting on a small fortune and not even know it! Roadshow experts are here to examine all your antiques, collectibles, gold, and silver.

During our show in Cambridge, a woman came in with a jewelry box that she had just inherited from her late aunt. "I don't wear jewelry," explained Cheryl Barnes, "so it was an easy decision to come down to the Roadshow to sell it". She was very excited when she was able to walk away with a cheque for over \$2,100 for jewelry she was never going to wear anyways.

"I'm so happy, "Linda explains, "I never would have thought that my old tin of coins was worth so much! I can finally afford to renovate my kitchen."

Expert Cliff Edwards explains, "We have noticed a substantial increase in the amount of precious metals such as gold and silver coming to the Roadshow, which makes sense considering how high it's currently trading at. He added, "The Roadshow is great because it puts money in people's pockets, especially during such hard times. Lots of items that are just sitting around collecting dust in basements and jewelry boxes can be exchanged for money, on the spot! ".

At another Roadshow event, a woman walked in with a tin full of hundreds of old coins that were given to her as a young child by her grandfather. She finally decided to come in to the Roadshow and see what he had given her. She was ecstatic to learn she had coins dating back to the late 1800's, some of which were extremely rare. Roadshow consultant Raymond Flack explains "We had uncovered an 1871 Queen Victoria 50 Cent piece, valued at over \$2,000!! She also had a nice assortment of coins that were not rare dates, but she was able to sell them for their silver content". All in all, Roadshow customer Linda Donaldson was able to cash in with \$4,500! "I'm so happy, "Linda explains, "I never would have thought that my old tin of coins was worth so much! I can finally afford to renovate my kitchen."

Raymond Flack continued, "Canadian coins prior to 1967, and American coins prior to 1964 are all made with silver, and we have noticed a large increase of customers coming to the Roadshow with



coins and cashing them in for their silver value."

Experts at the Roadshow will evaluate and examine your items, FREE OF CHARGE, as well as educate you on them. The Roadshow sees hundreds of people during a one week event, and they have been travelling across Canada to different cities and towns, searching for your forgotten treasures.

Trains, dolls, toys, old advertising signs, pocket watches, porcelain and bisque dolls, pretty much everything can be sold at the Roadshow. Any early edition Barbie's are sought after by Roadshow collectors, as well as a variety of Dinky Toys and Matchbox Cars. Lionel Trains and a variety of tin toys can also fetch a price, especially if they are in their original box or in mint condition. If a collector is looking for one of your collectables, we can always make an offer to buy it.

"We have noticed a substantial increase in the amount of precious metals such as gold and silver coming to the Roadshow, which makes sense considering how high it's currently trading at."

A man brought in a 1950's Marx Tin Toy Robot, in fairly good condition, still in its original box. We were able to locate a collector for that specific toy within minutes, and that gentleman went home with over \$700 for his Toy Robot and a few other small toys.

So whether you have an old toy car, a broken gold chain, or a Barbie sitting in the closet, bring it down to the Roadshow, we will take a look at it for FREE and it could put money in your pocket!

See you at the Roadshow!

Aurora Farmers' Market & Artisan Fair Holiday Edition

Saturday November 27
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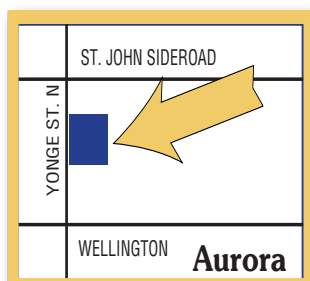
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Aurora Chamber of Commerce Coming Events



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27 SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Watch for the Chamber float!
 For more parade information contact
 Shelley Ware at the Town of Aurora
 905-726-4762



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7 HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Enjoy Good Cheer and
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 Edward Street Bistro
 Time: 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
 Cost: Complimentary
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16 BUSINESS AFTER FIVE

RONA Home and Garden Aurora
 140 First Commerce Drive, Aurora
 Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
 Cost: Complimentary

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We look forward to seeing you!

To register please contact the Chamber at 905-727-7262 or on-line at www.aurorachamber.on.ca

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AURORA MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION



Results to Sunday, November 21



SUBARU
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Richmond Hill
(905) 883-3555

HOUSE LEAGUE

101 Timbits Red 5 - Adam Flicker 3G, David Iacovetta 2G, M Lamanna 2A, Matthew Ryan 2A, Ethan Solilo 2A, Bryan Cook 1A. **105 Timbits Black 2** - Aidan Kirchmair 1G, Thomas Bradley 1G, Tyler Cox 1A, Jake Pridham 1A, Jacob Smith 1A.

106 Timbits Powder Blue 3 - Justine Chu 1A, Calum Ormond 1G, Lea Rucker 1G, Christian Troubitsin 1G. **104 Timbits Blue 3** - Jake Worthman 1G 1A, Gavin Loria 1A, Macisaac Eveleigh 1G, Christopher Gonclaves 1A, Glenn Stewart 1G.

103 Timbits White 7 - Ryan Cariou 1G, Cayden Visser 1G, Luka Torbica-Smyth 2G, Remy Pietrangelo 1G, Matteo Rossi 1G, Matthew Gianforcaro 1G 1A, Matthew Song 1A, Alex Morra 1A, Liam Hadcock 2A. **107 Timbits Kelly Green 1** - Hunor Kristoff 1G.

103 Timbits White 5 - Matthew Gianforcaro 1G, Marchel Woods 2G, Max Reeves 1G, Remy Pietrangelo 1G, Luka Torbica-Smyth 1A, Jack MacFarland 1A. **108 Timbits Grey 3** - Thomas Guilbert 2G, Riley Pearl 1G, Shayne Smith 1A, Christian Fava 1A.

104 Timbits Blue 6 - Gavin Loria 2G 1A, Jake Worthman 1G 1A, Christopher Kouloras 2G, Reid McMann 1A, Noah Bobrow 1A, Macisaac Eveleigh 1G. **107 Timbits Kelly Green 2** - Hunor Kristoff 1G, Daniel Iwai 1G.

102 Timbits Gold 6 - J Dimatulac 3G, Melanie Nicholson 1A, Jake McMillan 1G1A, Liam Morassutti 1G, Turner Dudzinski 1A, Braeden Marchant 1G, Andrew Van Dalen 1A, Yi Yang 1A. **101 Timbits Red 2** - David Iacovetta 1G, Adam Flicker 1G, Ayden Whilby 1A.

202 Caravan Kids Gold 5 - Jonathan Avgousti 2G, Liam Vivian 1G 1A, T Raeburn 1G 1A, Quinn Spicer 1G 1A, Daniel McKay 1A, Ryan Fowler 2A, Eric Wright 1A, Giancarlo DeAppollonia 1A. **203 Caravan Kids White 4** - Christian Romas 2G, Nathan Mohabeer 1G, Joey Livia 1G, Joshua Turriff 1A, Ethan Mohamed 3A, Francesco Dinardo 2A, Zoe Rodger 1A.

204 Caravan Kids Blue 7. 201 Caravan Kids Red 4.

206 Caravan Kids Powder Blue 8 - Jack Nicholson 2G 2A, Matthew Muxlow 1G, Griffin Charnley 2G, Keevin O'Brien 1A, Ian Hilgendorff 2A, Joshua Anselmo 1G, Benjamin Fulford 1G, Alexander Ko 1G 1A, Justin Just 1A. **202 Caravan Kids Gold 5** - Jonathan Avgousti 2G 1A, Liam Vivian 1G, Brennan Powell 2G, Thomas Raeburn 1A, Ryan Fowler 1A, Tommy Green 2A, Sebastian Bristilo 1A, Eric Wright 1A.

203 Caravan Kids White 7 - Chris Childerhose 2G 1A, Max Railton 1G 2A, Evan Ramasra 1G 2A, Graham Woodcock 2G, Jack Sutherland 1G, Ethan Mohamed 1A. **205 Caravan Kids Black 4** - Ethan Joiner 1G, Harrison Gruenig 1A, Andrew Laguardia 1A, Aiden O'Toole 1G, Gianluca Rotondi 1G 2A, Cole Spragg 1A, Jackson Galbraith 1G 1A, Michael Parkin 1A.

401 Chouinard Bros. Red 8 - Colin Windle 3G 1A, Raffaele Parente 1G 3A, Garrett Kohler 1G 1A, Stephen Perry 1A, Austin Martin 1A, Ben Pitre 2G 2A, Nicholas Vamvakaris 1G 1A, Dylan McFee. **409 Pfaff VW Teal 7** - Christian Ridd 4G, Leo Douvinos 1G, John Dol 1G, Jonathan Gianforcaro 1G, Evan Bryan 2A, Cristian Franze 1A, Christian Fermo 1A, Joseph Franze 1A.

407 H.J. Pfaff Audi Kelly Green 6 - Nicholas Badali 1G, JP Schnabel 2G 2A, Dane Kerckamp 1A, Shayne Colin 1A, Matthew Hastings 2G 1A, Christopher Siarkas 1G. **404**

Tilemaster Blue 4 - Benjamin Godber 1G, Giuliano Iervasi 1G 1A, Dillon Varone 1A, William Reid 1G, Ethan Cohen 1G, Claudio Basso 1A.

602 Wedi Corp.Com Waterproof Tile Solutions Gold 3. 611 Purple 0.

604 Orr & Associates Insurance Brks Ltd. Blue 4 - Tyler Wilson 3G, Matthew Rotman 2A, Ben Kissack 1G, Santino Denuzzo 1A. **611 Purple 3** - Alex Louie 1G, Sam Speranini 1A, Jayson Perkins 1G, Matthew Carney 1A, Stephan Modreanu 1G, Jayson Perkins 1A.

607 Envirocar Kelly Green 3 - Ian Rucker 2G, Matthew Vassos 2A, Jake Polenz 1G, Alex Sesto 1A. **611 Purple 1** - Matthew Carney 1G.

603 Diamond Groundskeeping Services White 4 - A. Skelhorn 3G, C. Dyer 3A, J. Camplin 2A, H. Lambrinos 1A, J. Leblanc 1G.

604 Orr & Associates Insurance Brks Ltd. Blue 2 - Ben Kissack 1G, M Rotman 1G.

601 Municipal Engineering Solutions Red 5 - Troy Lane 3G, Nicolas Pearce 2G, Matthew (Matt) Gionna 2A. **606 Aurora Chrysler Powder Blue 5** - Girogio Venosa 2G, James Kellett 1G, Lucas Ackerman 1G, Will Ashton 1G, 2A, Jordan Elliott 2A.

610 Swiss Chalet & Harveys Orange 2. 608 Crabby Joe's Grey 2.

804 Frontline Fire & Safety Blue 5 - Adam Ashraf 1G, Jerryd Jensen 2G, Matt Pelkola 2G 1A, Kevin Siery 2A, Zack Keller 1A. **808 Crabby Joe's Grey 4** - Andrew Kaszuba 1G 2A, Morgan Walker 2G1A, T Futterer 1G, Elias Jeris 1A.

803 Rotary Club Of Aurora White 4 - Chris Sanita 2G 2A, Matt Sanita 1G, Alexander MacKinnon 1G, Cameron Pyle 1A. **809 AHPA Teal 1** - Russell Johnson 1G, Jake Arcangeli 1A, Graham killby 1A.

810 Pizza Pizza Orange 2 - Jonathan Jin 1G, Ryan Owroules 1A, Jesse Joynt 1A. **802 Manhattan Trophies Gold 2** - Ian Dunlop 2G, Adam Petit 2A, Bowen Reid 1A, Connor Cann 1A.

812 Municipal Engineering Solutions Burgandy 7 - Joshua Bell 4G 1A, Nick Armour 1G, Derek Capone 1G, Andrew Roche 2A, Chris Downs 2A, Patrick Bourrie 1A, John Sherwood 1A. **811 Caruso & Company Purple 2** - Andrew Foresi 2G, Joel Robinson 1A, Ryan Batten 1A.

801 Rogers Red 1 - Edi Nisenbaum, shutout, Brett Bond 1G. **806 Laurion Law Office Power Blue 0.**

807 Danny & Scotties Boys Kelly Green 1 - Declan Johnston 1G, Ben Black 1A, Scott Dunlop 1A. **805 Aurora Home Hardware Black 1** - Ben Ashton 1G, Jason Omand 1A, Harris Riopelle 1A.

804 Frontline Fire & Safety Blue 2 - Kevin Siery 1G, Alex Goncalves 1G, Jerryd Jensen 2A. **807 Danny & Scotties Boys Kelly Green 2** - Matthew Hall 1G, Ben Goldman 1G, Declan Johnston 2A, Scott Dunlop 1A.

805 Aurora Home Hardware Black 1 - Ben Ashton 1G. **806 Laurion Law Office Power Blue 1** - S Foxwell 1G.

801 Rogers Red 3 - James Johnston 1G, Brett Bond 2G, Jason Gionna 1A, Bryn Burbank 1G, Jamie Wilson 1A, Scotty Barker 1A. **811 Caruso & Company Purple 3** - Matt Walker 2G 1A, Riley O'Brien 1G 1A.

809 AHPA Teal 7 - Russell Johnson 5G, Michael Arcuri 2G, Tyler Bundy 1A, Matthew McGann 1A, Michael McKerracher 2A, Bradley Snoulten 1A. **802 Manhattan Trophies Gold 1** - Michael Imesis 1G, Cody Child 1A.

810 Pizza Pizza Orange 4 - Michael Boorn 2G 1A, Jonathan Jin 1G 1A, Scott Taylor 1G, Nicholai Pileggi 1A, Ryan Owroules 1A, Jesse Joynt 1A, Max Brown 1A. **812 Municipal**

Engineering Solutions Burgandy 1 - Joshua Bell 1G, Ryan MacMillan 1A.

808 Crabby Joe's Grey 4 - Andrew Kaszuba 2G 1A, Tyler Futterer 2G 1A, Elias Jeris 2A, Nathan Dinatale 1A. **803 Rotary Club Of Aurora White 2** - Chris Sanita 2G, Alexander MacKinnon 1A, Matt Sanita 1A, Justin Laird 1A.

907 Wooder Food Safety Consulting Kelly Green 3 - Bailey Miller 2G, Joshua Hubble 1G1A, Stephen Cantarutti 1A. **909 North York Plumbing & Heating Teal 3** - Matthew Roach 2G, Scott Wheeler 1G, Austin Boudreau 1A, Robert Bulgaretti 1A, E. Foxwell 2A.

901 Graystones Restaurant Red 3 - Cameron Staples 1G, Mark Presacco 1G, David Schueller 1G, Mathew Hart 1A, Andrew Martin 1A, Ethan Benson 1A. **904 St. Louis Blue 1** - Andrew Hall 1G, Jim Tatum 1A, A Gibbs 1A.

903 Optimist Club of Aurora White 4 - Kelly Hudson 2G, 1A, Michael Perryman 1G, Evan Jones 1G, Mitchell Waite 1A, Quinn McGowan 1A, Ryan Dowling 1A, Nic Venosa 1A. **905 ATS Healthcare Black 2** - Duncan Eveleigh 1G, Peter Teti 1G, Zachary Cook 1A, Michael McCreesh 1A, Will Brogan 1A.

910 Philly Orange 2 - Ryan Rival 2G, Ryan St. Germain 1A, Stefan Richardson 1A, Daniel LaFlamme 1A. **907 Wooder Food Safety Consulting Kelly Green 1** - Cody Sandersun 1G, M Longhin 1A, C. Karagiannis 1A.

908 Crabby Joe's Grey 4 - Tyler White 2G, Ryan Dalcin 1G, Madison Shaeffer 1G, Eamon Reilly 1A, Patrick Tardif 1A. **909 North York Plumbing & Heating Teal 1** - Austin Boudreau 1G, Drew Davison 1A, T. Thiessen 1A.

906 Ruff-N-Redi Powder Blue 4 - Mackenzie Macintosh 1G, Will Miller 1G, Josh Lawlor 1G, John Dinocolantino 1G, Chris Falfalios 1A, David Marsillo 1A. **902 Boston Gold 3** - Taylor Brewda 1G, Trevor Rice 1G, Tyler Indos 1G, Graham Joiner 2A, Jonathon Hurtubise 1A, Jesse Borin 1A.

904 St. Louis Blue 3 - Matt Clarke 1G, Eric Bulloch 1G, Alex Woodward 1G. **905 ATS Healthcare Black 2** - Michael McCreesh 1G, Martin Wood 1G 1A, Christopher Cariou 1A, Duncan Eveleigh 1A.

909 North York Plumbing & Heating Teal 0 - **901 Graystones Restaurant Red 2** - Kevin Langdon, shutout, Andrew Martin 1G 1A, David Schueller 1G, Kieran Cullen 2A, Mathew Hart 1A.

910 Philly Orange 9 - Sam Steenhorst 1G 2A, Daniel LaFlamme 2G 3A, Stefan Richardson 1G, 2A, Thomas Scougall 2G, Brian Pedron 1G, Ali Akbar 1G 1A, Ryan St. Germain 3A. **908 Crabby Joe's Grey 5** - Ryan Eberlin 1G, Jamie Poutney 1G, Kevin Cress 1G, Ryan Dalcin 1G 1A, Trevor George 1G 2A, Gregory Milligan 1A.

902 Boston Gold 3 - Trevor Rice 2G, Jesse Borin 1G, Tyler Indos 2A, Connor Flynn 1A, Kieran Osborne 1A. **907 Wooder Food Safety Consulting Kelly Green 1** - C. Karagiannis 1G, Matthew MacEachern 1A, B Miller 1A.

Klugerman 1G 2A, Justin Hicks 1G 1A, Kazuki Negishi 1G, James Sproul 1A.

Novice AE - Orillia 4. Aurora 1.

Minor Atom AA - Aurora 3 - Harris Goan 1G, Myles Vasilevski 1A, Luke O'Keefe 1G, Andrew Park 1A, Ben Liotta 1G, Wesley Reid 1A. **Barrie 1.**

Minor Atom AA - Barrie 4. Aurora 0.

Minor Atom AE - Newmarket 4. Aurora 1. Thomas Childerhose 1G,

Minor Atom AE - Aurora 4 - Ryan McCartney 1G, Luc Catania 2A, Daniel Babcock 1G, Evan Robertson 2A, Spencer Morrison 1G, Jessica Jollimore 1A, Carson Williams 1A, Alex Sandras 1G. **TNT 2.**

Minor Atom AE - Barrie 5. Aurora 1 - Luc Catania 1G, Evan Robertson 1A.

Atom AA - Markham 4. Aurora 2

Atom AA - Newmarket 8. Aurora 2.

Atom AA - Markham 3. Aurora 0.

Atom A - East Gwillimbury 4. Aurora 0.

Minor Peewee A - Aurora 8 - Mark Kalmisto 3G, Stewart Gable 3G, Reid Carpenter 1G 2A, Thomas Kostoff 1G, Jordan Torres 1A, Eric McGhie 1A, Matthew Nitsopoulos 1A. **Innisfil 3.**

Peewee AA - Aurora 4 - Keegan Matthew 2G, James Wyndham West 1G, Patrick Servideo 1G 1A, Cameron Morrison 1A, Graham Sanford 1A. **Newmarket 3.**

Peewee AA - Aurora 2 - Patrick Servideo 1G, Brian Suominen 1G, Cameron Morrison 1A, Michael Shum 1A, Keegan Matthew 1A. **Richmond Hill 2.**

Peewee AA - Barrie 6. Aurora 2 - Patrick Servideo 2G, K Matthew 1A, Cameron Morrison 1A.

Peewee A - Bradford 2. Aurora 1 - Matthew Liscio 1G, D McConnell 1A.

Peewee A - Aurora 2 - Daniel McConnell 1G, Cameron Zinner 1G, Evan Cherubini 1A, Ryan Coveart 1A, Eric Shennan 1A. **E Gwillimbury 2.**

Peewee A - Aurora 4 - Evan Cherubini 2G, Colin Kostin 1G 1A, Mathew Tyndall 1G 1A, Matthew Liscio 1A, Shaun Broad 1A, DI McConnell 1A, Bryan Manweiler 1A. **Schomberg 2.**

Bantam AA - Aurora 4 - Spencer Green 2G 1A, Lucas Pozzebon 1G 1A, Jordan Nanos 1G, Connor Cowl 1A, John MacDonald 1A, Brett Thiessen 1A, Q Campbell 1A. **Richmond Hill 3.**

Bantam AA - Tigers 11 - Braddock Baalerud, shutout, Konner McMillan 4G, Spencer Green 2G 1A, Lucas Pozzebon 2G 1A, Connor Cowl 1G 1A, Brett Thiessen 1G, Nick Scott 1G, Quentin Campbell 4A, Jordan Nanos 2A, Blake Wallace 1A, Tait Snedden 1A, Austin Lane 1A, John MacDonald 1A, Jake McKee 1A, N Delzotto 1A. **TNT 0.**

Bantam A - Stouffville 4. Aurora 2 - Liam Beresford 1G, Jack Caldwell 1G, Zac Cowl 1A, Robert Stokes 1A.

Bantam A - Bradford 3. Aurora 2 - Erik Balkovec 1G 1A, Evan Jackson 1G, Austin Persaud 1A, Jack Caldwell 1A, Alec Ground 1A.

Bantam AE - Beeton 4. Aurora 1 - J Gouveia 1G, K Strachan 1A, K Nice 1A.

Bantam AE - Aurora 4 - Brian Langdon 2G, Nathan Sinclair 1G, Nicklaus Steiner 1G, Scott Kostin 1A, Ryan McGolrick 1A, Kyle Nice 1A, Parker Baile 1A. Georgina 2.

Minor Midget AE - Quinte West 5. Aurora 2 - Christopher Tsianos 1G, Connor Moody 1G, M Reeves 1A.

Minor Midget AE - Markham 4. Aurora 0.

Minor Midget AE - Aurora 2 - Chris Cherubini 1G, Daniel Jones 1G, Christopher Tsianos 2A, Casey Severini 1A, Matthew Reeves 1A, Connor Moody 1A. **Whitby 2.**

REP LEAGUE

Tyke Select - Aurora 5 - Ryan Bryden 3G, Anton Sopov 1G 1A, Nicholas Giorgio 1G, Caden McHenry 1A, Luca Capraro 1A, Owen Papulkas 1A, Thomas Hollett 1A. **Clarington Black 3.**

Novice A - Aurora 4 - Jace Jackson 2G, Justin Hicks 1G 1A, Brandin Harris 1G, Joshua Torres 1A, Liam Mahoney 1A, Jake Piper 1A, Jonathan Gagnon 1A, Justin Lacroix and Dereck Avery, shutout. **Bradford 0.**

Novice A - Innisfil 5. Aurora 3 - Riley

PROUDLY SUPPORTING LOCAL SPORTS



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After losing to Stouffville

Tigers win in overtime

The Aurora Tigers Junior A hockey team needs to stay out of the penalty box.

Thursday night in Stouffville, the Spirit scored four times on the power play as they skated to a 5-1 victory over Aurora.

Saturday night, however, the Tigers fought back to defeat the Orangeville Flyers 5-4 thanks to Jordan Gidaro's goal in overtime.

In both games, the losers struck first, with Jordan Reed scoring the only goal of the first period for Aurora Thursday, while Mackenzie Scott scored first for Orangeville Saturday night.

In that game, Aurora responded in the second period outscoring the homesters 4-2, but they gave away the lead with an Orangeville marker at the 19.49 mark of the second, and then the tying goal came in the third period, as the Flyers scored the only goal of that frame at the 15.08 mark.

Less than two minutes into overtime, Gidaro's second of the night made him the hero for the visitors.

As a result, Gidaro held his tight grasp on the Tiger individual scoring race.

Thanks to an assist Thursday, and another one Saturday, Gidaro now leads his cohorts by a comfortable 14-point margin.

Gidaro has 15 goals and 17 assists for 32 points, followed by Sloan Stewart, who has 18 points.

Aurora is still firmly ensconced in fifth place in the north division, although their Yonge Street rivals, the Newmarket Hurricanes have taken over the lead from the Markham Waxers.

Newmarket has 48 points, while Markham, which led the league for several weeks, is in second place with 44 points. Newmarket won Sunday and Markham lost.

Tigers, meanwhile, have 28 points in 26 games so far this

year.

Aurora plays three more games this week.

Tuesday night, they meet the Collingwood Blackhawks in that town for a regular game.

Results were not available at press time.

Friday, Tigers host the Mississauga Chargers at the Aurora Community Centre for a game that begins at 7.30 p.m., then they play host to the Georgetown Raiders at the centre Sunday for a game that begins at 2.30 p.m.

15.43

A - Jordan Gidaro (Bouchard, Prinsen) 17.04

O - Alex Botten (Britton, McPherson) 19.49

Third Period

O - Mackenzie Scott (Botten, Leader) 15.08

Overtime

A - Jordan Gidaro (Reed) 1.24



The traffic was heavy in front of Tigers goaltender Knick Dawe in Stouffville Thursday night. Tigers Captain Brett Priestap tries to cover a Stouffville forward, but all efforts failed as the Aurora Tigers lost to the Stouffville Spirit 5-1 after scoring the only marker of the first period. Stouffville scored four times while Aurora was a man short. *Auroran photo by Steve Mitchell*

STOUFFVILLE 5 AURORA 1

First Period

A - Jordan Reed (Gidaro) PP 4.40

Second Period

S - Declan Gunovski (Caradonna, Ferry) PP 8.02

S - Chris Porter (Stephenson, McLaughlin) 12.19

S - Declan Gunovski (Caggiola, Ferry) PP 16.29

Third Period

S - Trevor Carrick (Finch, Neal) PP 6.03

S - Kory Kennedy (Gunovski) PP 7.42

AURORA 5 ORANGEVILLE 4 (Overtime)

First Period

O - Mackenzie Scott (unassisted) PP 6.33

Second Period

A - Eric Bouchard (Gidaro, Reed) 8.11

A - Jordan Reed (Lisi) 10.51

O - Cody Britton (Beckett) 12.49

A - Ryan Johnson (Dundas)

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Highland Chev-Cadillac	5	3	0	27	25	10	
Baldwin's	4	4	0	40	37	8	
Rec Cycle N'Sports	2	4	2	25	34	6	
Priestly Demolition	2	6	0	25	33	4	
Tom & Jerry's	1	6	1	23	34	3	

WEEKLY RESULTS

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FPL Aggregates	5	Masterclean	6
Priestly Demolition	3	Tom & Jerrys	1

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Buck has "high hopes" for incoming council

Returning veteran councillor and former Mayor Evelyn Buck, who came in third place in the October 25 election, said she is feeling "very, very positive" with how the next council is shaping up.

This optimism stems in part from the fresh faces that will join her, Councillor Gaertner and Councillor Gallo at the table, she said.

"They're not carrying baggage with them and I find that people on average, people who are elected to public office are overwhelmed by voter confidence and only want to do the very best they can to justify it," she said.

"When you're running for council, you're so busy telling everyone how great you are that when you get elected you think, 'Oh, my God! I hope I'm good enough and I hope I don't disappoint them!' It is quite a sensation."

When Councillor Buck returns to the chamber in December one of the things she said she would like to tackle is increasing accessibility to Town proceedings, including streaming council and committee meetings online and having permanent cameras in the Council chamber.

"I've [been on] YouTube and I was completely bowled over by the potential of having people log in at any time in the day and watch whatever, the possibilities of interaction between people and their council," she said.

When I proposed it [in the 2003 - 2006 term] the CAO thought the cameras were very expensive but then somebody in the Town who was familiar with the cameras says, 'No, they used to be expensive, they're not expensive anymore.' It just boggles the mind, the potential for

changing the way we do government and the way we make decisions, the way we keep people informed, [and] the way we let people see what we do.

"It would be like a classroom. That excites me! There wasn't even any point in bringing it forward to this council."

Councillor Buck said she would also like to examine the authority signed over to the CAO during this term as she said she wasn't happy about the process and the timing of the review.

"I thought it would be an excellent project for the new council because they would be learning about the new policies while they were doing that task," she said. "I see a lot of good coming from it, a lot of merit coming from it, but I thought it was an excellent project for the new council to undertake and learn what the difference is between the admin-

istrative and political structures."

Comparing elections passed, Councillor Buck said she wasn't able to get out and about and go door-to-door the same way she used to, but said she thinks she is "compensated in that by the number of years I have served and how well people know what to expect from me."

"I regret that I'm not able to go out because the population shifts all the time," she added. "You have new areas but you also have changes in the population in the old areas and I hope to be able to make up for that during the next four years because I feel bad I wasn't able to do that."

Regrets aside, Councillor Buck said the future looks bright for Aurora Council.

"I have high hopes," she said. "We have a lot to make up for."



EVELYN BUCK

Gaertner wants to hear from the public re issues

Returning Councillor Wendy Gaertner is "very excited" to kick off her third term at the council table, a council into which she is going "with an open mind," she said.

"It's an accomplishment that voters have elected me for my third term," she said. "I find council is the most interesting job I have ever had. Each term is so completely new and different and it always makes for a great learning experience."

With six new faces joining her, Councillor Buck, and Councillor Gallo in the chamber, she said she is looking towards hearing their perspectives on various issues.

"I am going to do what I always do, which is argue for what I believe is right for the community," she said. "I really don't know any of the people

on council except for my council experience with Councillor Buck and Councillor Gallo. To me, that is six new people that I am looking forward to better understanding what their point of view is with regards to the Town and how they want to make it better.

"I believe everybody runs because they want to make Aurora better."

Following the slated inauguration day of December 7, Councillor Gaertner said she would like to tackle three main issues.

The first is protecting designated employment and lands east of Leslie Street "because we desperately need jobs and the taxes that come from employment lands", protecting The Oak Ridges Moraine, and review-

ing the upcoming Youth Needs Analysis to gauge, among other things, the desire for a youth centre.

Another set of issues councillors are expected to tackle are the ongoing issues surrounding the Integrity Commissioner and the Code of Conduct.

Councillors Gaertner and Gallo have previously supported both initiatives but several of the newcomers to the table - including Mayor-Elect Geoff Dawe - and Councillor Buck have expressed concerns.

Councillor Gaertner said she holds the belief that every organization needs a Code of Conduct "at this point in time" and said a lot of work went into it.

"I believe that it may need to be improved, but I believe that it is necessary," she said. "I think a Code of Conduct holds us all to a high standard, so that is what I believe is important. With respect to the integrity commissioner, if this council believes that a Code of Conduct is in order, then it

just can't be a lame duck.

"There needs to be a process in which complaints can be filed by the public or by the council and somebody who is arms-length who will look at those complaints impartially and decide whether they are valid or not."

She conceded, however, that majority rules at the table.

"I may still hold my beliefs but if my belief is not championed by the other members of council then I must abide by the democratic decision."

In the meantime, Councillor Gaertner had nothing but thanks to say to the electorate and hopes that the community gets more involved during this term of council.

"Councils need to make their decisions based on what the community thinks and needs," she said. "The only way we're going to know that is if they come to the council chamber, or are in touch with us through the course of the year, to let us know what it is they would like us to accomplish."



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Ballard wants to bring better jobs to Aurora

Focusing on economic development will be one of the key issues Councillor-Elect Chris Ballard hopes to bring to the table following the December 7 inaugural meeting of the new council.

Looking for a "better quality of life" was a primary theme Mr. Ballard says he encountered when going door to door throughout the election campaign, and keeping the spotlight on economic development is a one way to bring this to fruition.

"[People] got excited at the thought of what Town Council can do to bring quality jobs to Aurora so they one day might be able to find a good job close to home," he said. "The impact on people's lives will be tremendous if we can bring 100, 200, 500, 600 quality jobs into this Town that hopefully will employ primarily Aurorans.

"I want to spend some time bringing my fellow councillors, perhaps those who haven't been involved with the Town in the past, up to speed with what the Town has done with regards to the Official Plan and the Promenade Study, the importance of preserving employment lands, and the importance of bringing quality jobs to Aurora."

Getting to know his fellow councillors, including the four new faces that will be joining him, is something he says he looks forward to.

Having known Mayor-Elect Geoff Dawe from their days on the Economic Development Committee, Mr. Ballard says he is looking forward to working with him again.

"It looks like it is a diverse group of people from a wide variety of backgrounds and I look forward to hearing and learning from all of them," he says.

"I think [I] still have some ways to go to understanding what the priorities are of my fellow councillors, but looking at their election material I don't see huge differences among people," he adds. "People seem to be talking about fiscal responsibility which I'm big on and everybody talks about economic development. How we achieve those objectives might be a little different, but I think we're singing from the same hymn book."

While he says he was struck by how engaged people were in this election when meeting voters door to door, he faced some criticisms on a different front in the forms of some blogs which focused on his perceived closeness to outgoing Mayor Phyllis Morris.

"I'd say anyone who is concerned [with that] will have to see how I act at the council table," he said. "It's as simple as that. I'm not going to start critiquing who is friends with whom because some people



CHRIS BALLARD

are friends with ex-mayors themselves.

"At the end of the day I am starting with a clean slate with a group of individuals and I will say that if anyone has any concerns they will just have to see how things unfold. Of course, there are going to be some people who are never happy, but too bad. That's the way the world works."

In advance of the December 7 inaugural meeting, Mayor-Elect Dawe has underscored three priorities he would like to address off the bat: putting a moratorium on the integrity commissioner, opening up the Code of Conduct for review, and putting the brakes on Ms. Morris' lawsuit against three local bloggers.

For these issues, Mr. Ballard says he needs more information before making a decision.

"I think I'll have to wait until I

am sworn in to be able to access the confidential records of the past council so I can better understand why they came to the conclusion they came to because I have some concerns that I don't know enough about it and I don't want to jeopardize the Town by acting too hastily," he said.

In terms of the Integrity Commissioner, Mr. Ballard, who has previously spoken in favour of it, maintains it can ultimately save the Town money if council and the mayor consult with him. He said it is not an "adversarial" role but can be someone to talk to before they make decisions that can have serious "impacts financially on the town".

"I'm not going to be too hasty to run and try to cut him loose," he said. "What are the real costs of getting rid of an integrity commissioner? What are the true costs? It might make for a great sound bite, but let's look at it with level heads after the heat of the election."

Looking ahead, Mr. Ballard says the excitement he felt on election night continues as he prepares to get down to business on December 7.

"[I'd like to thank voters] for the trust they've put in me to represent their interests and I am humbled by it and excited by the opportunity to work with the citizens of Aurora in the years ahead."

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Pirri wants downtown theatre

Councillor-Elect Paul Pirri, whose position as the eighth elected councillor for the incoming term was solidified in last week's recount said he and his fellow new and returning councillors have accomplished their first goal "to bring integrity back to Council".

The 23-year-old sat down with The Auroran the day after the recount and reiterated his stance that he had "full faith in the process".

"I said that from the beginning," he said. "If the recount had gone through and gone the other way, I would have dealt with the loss. However, I can't think of any recounts where a 21-vote margin had been overturned. I was quietly confident the whole way through but I was nervous for the results."

Looking back at this campaign, he said he is thankful for the help and support of former local politicians for lending him a hand in his ultimately successful campaign.

"I had spoken to Alison [Collins-Mrakas], Bob [McRoberts], Grace [Marsh], and Tim [Jones] just to get their input on things and I think having their perspectives added to my vision. I think it helped me get things in motion," he said. "It's served me very, very well."

"I think respect was one of the biggest things [they imparted] and the importance of treating constituents with respect, and really doing my best to have a clean race because I think it was something Aurora really wanted to see."

"I don't think Aurora really wanted to see more angry politics."

Reflecting on election night, Mr. Pirri laughed when he said he "peaked" at number five, with his lowest point reaching 13th place.

"It was a roller coaster to say the least, but I enjoyed every



PAUL PIRRI

second of it. After the first poll came in I relaxed a little bit, not as much as I would have wanted to, but I definitely did relax. I just buckled my seatbelt and enjoyed the ride."

In preparing to get down to business on December 7, Mr. Pirri said he is not the only Councillor-Elect who has spoken in favour of a youth centre and would like to see that come to fruition. Another initiative he would like to see is bringing a theatre to the downtown core.

"It would do wonders to help revive the core," he said.

Over the course of the campaign, Mr. Pirri said he was asked frequently about both the Integrity Commissioner and the Code of Conduct. The latter, he said, needs a "massive overhaul."

"I'm not sure if it needs to be scrapped entirely because I have felt that the Code of Conduct's use is to help avoid ethical dilemmas, and then usually prescriptive and not restrictive in that manner, so I think if we can create a Code of Conduct that fosters that sort of mindset it would be an asset to the Town."

"With regards to the Integrity Commissioner I do believe that if we were to have one it would be best suited if he or she sat at the Regional level and could be shared between all the different towns and cities in the Region."

In being the youngest person not just elected to the table, but in the entire election mix, Mr. Pirri said his youth occasionally helped him make inroads with - or at least an impression on - with different demographics.

"I had one group of teenagers I witnessed destroying one of my signs," he recalled. "I went up to talk to them, I explained who I was and at first they were sort of denying the whole thing, but by the end of it I was able to garner interesting input regarding a youth centre from them and I think I left them with a positive impression."

"I'm not convinced that if one of the older individuals caught them doing the same act that the younger individuals would have left with the same frame of mind. I would hope that through the work I do through the community for four years that come next election that there are some young people who will decide to become a part of this as well."

"I think people saw me as enthusiastic and young and I think they saw that as a very important asset because I represented a voice that wasn't really being heard."

Before December 7, Mr. Pirri said he is busy doing his homework in preparation and is looking forward to an orientation this

Wednesday, as well as getting to know everyone at the table.

"I think you have to keep an open mind," he said, reflecting on things he wants to keep in mind at the council table.

"I think honest and open discussion at the table is paramount to making sure you're doing a good job."

Bridge results

Monday, Nov. 8 - N/S: Lucille Sequeira and Dave Legallais; Jean Bongard and Frank Henriques; Audrey Robertson and Ev Dickie. E/W :Carolynn Liddy and Christine Woolley; Priscilla Hull and Inger Kamel and Greta Ogden and Judy Salmon tied for second place; Noreen Hashem and Marion Warburton.

Monday, Nov. 15 - N/S: Dennis Champ and Larry McGrath; Bernie O'Brien and Mary Oglanby; Carole Bell and Nan McLean. E/W: Carol Gordon and Marion Warburton; Joe Bidali and Ed Werenich; Bev Kilpatrick and Gayle Connor.



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Lois Brown addresses students from three Grade 5 classes at Aurora's Lester B. Pearson school recently.

Students see real thing studying the government

Recently, the Grade 5 classes at Aurora's Lester B. Pearson Public School visited the government buildings at Queen's Park. The timing was great as a class was invited to the council chambers where students met and spoke with the premier of Ontario, Dalton McGuinty. He said he was part of a family of 10 kids. He also

talked about no cell phones when you're driving and why Kindergarten is now a full day. It was an extraordinary experience that will not soon be forgotten. Recently, Lois Brown, Aurora - Newmarket Member of Parliament in Ottawa, visited the school and spoke to Grade 5 students.

She spoke about how the government works and how she feels very lucky to have a job in government where she can help people. Students learned what she does as a Member of Parliament. The two experiences were related to the government unit being taught at the school.

Pearson woes fixed...for now

From page 1
 drew some positive response from audience members. While Lester B. Pearson parent Kate Kurtz said the proposed solution to house some of the overflow at Devins was a positive thing, she said she left the meeting feeling "a little disappointed". "[The board] didn't have a lot of concrete plans," she said. "They have a solution for 2011 registration but they haven't thought longer term. Eventually [the overflow students] will be back to Lester B., but we will have the same problem in 2012. Ms. Kurtz called the lottery system "equitable and fair" but wonders why the school board will not provide priority registration for students whose siblings are already registered in the Pearson program when they do so for children entering kindergarten. This, she said, is a discrepancy that should be addressed. Having the overflow students housed at Devins Drive is also preferable to having students bussed to Newmarket's Mazo de la Roche Public School, she said. "It [would have been] a long

bus ride and I think it has about a 45-minute difference in start time and end time, making it really difficult for families," she said. "[This] is definitely a better option than what happened this year. I was looking forward to 2012 which is when my [third] daughter would be going to Lester B., and there was no answer for anything beyond next fall." Another parent whose children might be affected by this, Kasie Savage, concurred with Ms. Kurtz and said the school board is "excellent in playing neutral politics". Ms. Savage, who plans on registering her two younger sons for French Immersion in 2012 and 2013, said there is a lot of frustration and confusion out there among parents and that students going to Devins Drive in 2011 is a band-aid solution. "It's absolutely mind blowing and baffling to me that they have no plans set out beyond next year to fix the problem that has been festering and brewing for years now," she said. "The bottom line is they have solved a problem - sort of - for next year." Another matter of concern

for parents is capacity at Lester B. Pearson, agreed Ms. Kurtz and Ms. Savage. The school board kept referring to a "planning department" which is working on the problem but when pressed to answer the question to tell parents where children are going to go if there is no more physical space at Lester B. Pearson in the coming years, "they could not answer that question," said Ms. Savage. "I know the reaction of many parents was that in any other sector or business you look beyond one year and it is just alarming that there is no plan in place for children who wish to go to French Immersion in Aurora in 2012 and beyond. "It is just frightening that

Town wins Welcome Wagon award

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- B) Ms. Morris' \$6 million lawsuit against three local bloggers to obtain the identities of anonymous posters on AuroraCitizen.ca?
- C) Neither of these issues affected Ms. Morris at the poll.

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Business as usual for mayor



At Aurora's Trinity Anglican Church's annual Christmas bazaar held last week, there was, as usual, a multitude of items for sale. Favourite for Tara Storm was a pair of stuffed animals which she was able to nab before someone else did.

Auroran photo by David Falconer

It was business as usual for outgoing Mayor Phyllis Morris when The Auroran sat down with her recently following the October 25 election for a campaign wrap-up interview.

Having arrived back at Town Hall after a long-standing engagement to visit the Aurora Seniors' Centre for their driver education course, Ms. Morris said "it has been a pleasant day and business carries on."

In the days that had passed since election night, Ms. Morris said she had been receiving congratulations for the work that she and the outgoing council had done in the past as well as "hearing from people expressing disappointment that we haven't come back" and sending out thank you notes.

"There are a lot of people in this Town," she said. "It has just been a great, fabulous experience being the Mayor of Aurora."

Looking back over the election campaign, Ms. Morris said her team continually focused on the positive and her accomplishments.

"We were pleased when we were able to put out our accomplishments as a council as a whole," she said. "We were able to talk about our vision. We were able to articulate the performance of the taxes, how we've managed to bring the taxes down to a 10-year record of lows."

"We didn't focus at all on rebutting the negativity and the negative advertising that was portrayed. One only has so much time and money to spend and we focused on the positive messaging."

In light of the fact Geoff Dawe bested Ms. Morris for the top job

by nearly 4,450 votes when all was said and done, when asked if it was a mistake to make little effort to "rebut the negativity", Ms. Morris said, "There is way too much positive in Aurora to go negative."

She concedes, however, that there may have been some missed opportunities during the campaign, including communication.

Focusing on what she said are prime accomplishments of this council, including the Aurora Promenade Plan, and the Official Plan Review, the establishment of the Church Street School Cultural Centre, and the urban wildlife park, she indicated these might not have been promoted as they should.

"We did the work, we just didn't brag about it enough, or even at all," she said. "We minimized the communications and we chose to turn the other cheek and rise above some of the negative, and particularly the anonymous advertising."

"That is something that past councils never had to endure - negative anonymous advertising. It was new for some of us and it is not something we spent time focusing on."

"I believe that members of council have the opportunity at the table to express their views. It was never my choice or style to enter into letter writing in the media. Perhaps in hindsight there are lessons learnt there, but again my style is to be positive for Aurora, not to harm Aurora's reputation."

In going door to door, one of the primary questions Ms. Morris said she fielded from residents - aside from questions regarding the new faces in the election mix - were pertaining to The Oak

Ridges Moraine.

"People are shocked when they realize the Moraine Legislation is going to be opening up in 2015," she said. "This council is going to be making decisions along the way that will have consequences potentially on the future of the Moraine."

Residents were also worried designated commercial and industrial lands are being flipped to residential.

"Other than that, the main concerns are still the same as they have been while Aurora has experienced growth over the last 20 years - traffic congestion... [and] of course, and people have asked about the Code of Conduct."

Ms. Morris said she would say that when one has staff "it behooves the employer to stand up for their staff and there needs to be a process in place", whether it is workplace harassment policies or a Code of Conduct.

"Without it, I would ask how the new council will function if indeed any further complaints are brought forward from staff concerning councillors against them," she said.

As Mayor, Ms. Morris said she has seen the benefits of the Code of Conduct and said it would be difficult to have a Code of Conduct without an Integrity Commissioner as it would be hard for council to "do their own evaluation."

"As everyone is moving towards having Codes of Conduct and Integrity Commissioners, is Aurora really going to back away from having one?" Ms. Morris asked, when speaking about similar policies that have been adopted by other municipalities. "If so, what will

they do when a member of council receives a complaint from another member of council or staff? What will replace it?"

"The previous Mayor had Councillor (Evelyn) Buck removed from the council chambers. I prefer to have a process in place. I like to leave people at the table as long as decorum is followed and I was supportive of a Code of Conduct and remain so. I was supportive of an Integrity Commissioner being in place to adjudicate at arm's length and I remain so."

Ms. Morris also said "headlines" regarding her lawsuit against, among others, three named Aurora bloggers on The Aurora Citizen "may have alarmed" the voters "unnecessarily".

"The concern that I have for this community is if anonymous blogs and anonymous advertisements continue to be run that defame or threaten harm. I believe the community and our council and our staff have the right to know who is making anonymous defamatory or threatening comments," she said.

"That is what this action seeks to determine, the identity of those who make comments continually and don't tell us who they are and don't wish to."

When asked what is ahead for her, Ms. Morris said that it was a very "exciting" time.

"Over the next few weeks and months, I will be reflecting back on what I learned since 1994, the people I met along the way, some of the initiatives we started," she said.

"I'll still work to protect the Moraine as best I can with David Tomlinson, Susan Walmer, and others."

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At the Aurora Seniors' Centre Christmas Bazaar last week, Gail van Wolde, left, and Flo Murray modelled their Christmas hats. *Auroran photo by David Falconer*

Network wins water award

Neighbourhood Network has been honoured by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority with a Water Conservation Award.

The award was presented to a number of local "Watershed Heroes" at the Conservation Authority's annual Conservation awards ceremony recently.

The Water Conservation Award recognized individuals and groups who have improved local water quality, and was given to Neighbourhood Network for its volunteer tree-planting initiative, Planting a Future: Students for the Environment.

The initiative took place during National Volunteer Week in April of this year and involved close to 140 high school students from 11 local high schools planting approximately

1,000 trees and shrubs along river banks and in environmentally-sensitive areas throughout the community.

The trees will help shore up river banks and enhance water quality in the streams and wetlands of the East Holland River.

Tom Taylor, former Mayor of Newmarket and a Neighbourhood Network Ambassador, accepted the award on behalf of Neighbourhood Network at the awards ceremony held at Madsen's Greenhouse in Newmarket.

Neighbourhood Network is a "Magna for Community" initiative that provides opportunities to engage volunteers from Newmarket and Aurora with local charities and community groups.

It currently has more than 2,100 volunteers and 160 partner organizations.



Senior Scape

Membership agrees to license

By BRIAN WARBURTON

The membership of the Aurora Seniors Association (ASA) met to debate a recommendation by a Board of Directors (BoD) appointed committee, to apply for a permanent liquor license.

Presentations were passionate leading to input from the general membership showing a mood to accept liquor as part of an acceptable Seniors' Community Centre.

Marie Leone made the first presentation in favour of the application, noting that the application had the unanimous approval of the BoD.

All of the Seniors' Centre would be included in the application but, alcohol should be forbidden in the poolroom, computer room and woodworking shop, but the rest of the Seniors' Centre including the back deck would be included.

Flexibility in excluding other areas from drinks is assumed and a Happy Hour program is not planned, except with approval of the BoD.

A permanent liquor license would grant the Seniors' Centre greater viability as a venue for other functions and enhance service to members who enjoy a drink, allowing privilege of choice.

Lydia Schuster took the microphone to note that liquor host liability insurance would cost \$750 annually if we obtain a permanent liquor license.

Members will be encouraged to take the Smart Server training course, and be available as volunteers for ASA events, and could be available for Town functions and other outside

functions as paid help.

The West McKenzie Hall was full for the meeting.

In conclusion, the membership expressed favour of the recommendation by voting 68-23 for a decisive vote in favour of application.

The approval of the BoD and the membership has been gained for the application, but the approval of the community and the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario must be sought successfully for the application to be successful.

Christmas is approaching with the whole round of festivities, lots of good food, dancing, and socializing with old friends.

Technological toys find their way to seniors more and more, and many seniors are adept in their use.

Certainly, some seniors will never find comfort e-mailing or sending digital photographs around the world, but many more meet the challenge successfully.

The Seniors' Centre offers help with a meeting for seniors starting at 10 a.m. every Tuesday and everybody is welcome regardless of computer knowledge.

In addition, computer lessons are available to seniors, taught by seniors at the pace at which seniors grasp the subject.

Consequently, a wonderful world opens its technological magic to seniors generating new hope of computer literacy.

The Seniors' Centre enables complete beginners, with the assistance of instructors and their own efforts, to become capable senior computer operators.

When you visit the

Seniors' Centre, read the monthly newsletter; look at the activities and programs filling the days, weeks and months, keeping the spark of youth alive.

When the last century is considered in which, we were born and lived, worked, married and raised families besides fighting in wars we did not start, our lives have become a marvel of perseverance, luck, determination and good judgement.

Two words express the Seniors' Centre, hope and future; hope for the future expresses it all, because seniors have a future and live it daily.

The Achilles Heel of retirement is loneliness, and the remedy is a large close family if one is available, which is unlikely among the small families of today, or joining a community organization, and the Aurora Seniors' Centre springs to mind.

Can the Seniors' Centre banish loneliness? In practice, loneliness is not a factor in the Seniors' Centre since everybody including new members either have a purpose or soon find one.

Opportunity stares everybody in the face and opportunity ranks as a powerful option, which should not be neglected.

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