



LEADERSHIP AURORA CLASS OF 2016/2017

Media Day

1/11/17

IN THIS ISSUE

You remind me of the babe!

by Heather Wydock

Our incredibly yellow friend, Mandy Young, welcomed her second baby into the world in early January. Baby Jack, Mandy, and her husband Brad are doing very well! They enjoy naps whenever possible.

Jack is a healthy little peanut and is our newest classmate in Leadership Aurora. He came into the world on January 6, weighing in at 8 lbs. 3 oz. Everyone please welcome baby Jack.

Congrats Mandy!

We are extremely happy for you!



Kindergarten Cop...firefighter...

Our resident fire fighter tells us about his experience reading to a crazy bunch of kiddos!

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Haggis Recipe

Seriously. We have recipes now! Thank you Sharon Hatton. Please enjoy another Scottish tradition and a fabulous recipe. Mmmmmmm. Nummers.

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Media Day Review

by Terry Spencer

What a great day Leadership Aurora enjoyed for Media Day, visiting gKUSA and Aurora TV, and hearing from the experts at GBSM were all amazing! Where else, in one day, could this have happened - other than the opportunities that Leadership Aurora presents to all of us.

In today's world, communication is so critical to your business, your cause and your brand - that it's crucial to understand how to gain access to the media.

Knowing your talking points and presenting them in a positive, professional manner is vital to the credibility of your topic. We experienced this by "playing" in the Aurora TV studio.

It's not often that you get to rehearse in a television studio. Many times, a situation can throw you into the light of the media when you least expect it, but knowing what to expect and how to react is of the utmost importance.



So, bring it on Barbara Walters, we're ready for you.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

Thanks to Channel 8 for the opportunity to be behind the scenes to work the cameras for an Aurora segment called *Aurora Perspectives*. Our discussion on minimum wage kept the class engaged!

Poor, poor Eli...



Eric's Top 5

by Eric Franks

As often occurs this time of year, I am called by the staffing office and told I have vacation time I must use or I will "lose." This year, the time was significant, so I spent an inordinate amount of time at home during the holidays. I suspect my wife had enough of my "vacationing attitude," and often gave me "instructional guidance" while I loitered around the house.

Here are the top five instructional pieces of advice I was told/reminded about by my patient wife:

5. "Quit telling Eli (our 11-year-old son) that you 'Triple dog dare' him to lick every possible frozen metal thing outside."

4. "I know it's the holidays, but I really don't think eating that much butter in your diet is healthy for someone like you." (wait...what?)

3. "No, I already told you that you can't wear sweatpants and a flannel shirt to every church gathering / office party / dinner with the in-laws etc..."

2. "Its December 24th - of course the Christmas shopping for the family is already done. Please don't tell me you haven't shopped yet."

And at #1

1. "Please go get a warm glass of water, Eli's tongue is frozen to the mail box again!"

Kindergarten Frenzy

by Eric Franks

As one of my LA Community explorations, I visited a Kindergarten class at Park Lane Elementary in North Aurora.

Laboring under all of my firefighting gear, I entered the classroom and was immediately hit with 80 degree, humid, and slightly medicinal smelling heat. The teacher, Mrs. S., was bundled up like she was trekking to the North Pole. Sniffles and coughs echoed through the room and a forest of trees were spread out on desks and in garbage cans in the form of tissues. Mrs. S. went home sick after I left.

Half the class was sick with coughs and running noses, and six were absent. The sickness did not inhibit any of the kids as the collective group of excited five and six year olds, like a frenzy of sharks, smelled blood in the water and enjoyed the relative lack of adult oversight. (Most firefighters act like kindergartners instead of adults, so I was really no help)

Every time I turned my back, a curious little kindergartner was rummaging through my equipment trying to put it on and/or asking "what is this for?" Many tried to put my SCBA face piece on and imitate my example of talking like Darth Vader. I could almost see the germs colonizing in the air and on my equipment.

After calming everyone down and with the introduction of their favorite book *Pete the Cat: I love my White Shoes*, I began the reading portion of the event. Having memorized the book, the kids assisted me in reading by yelling the words before I could get them out of my mouth. I glanced at Mrs. S. whose eyes were closed, and was rubbing her sinuses and grimacing at each loudly enhanced word. I'm still not sure if the silent words I saw her lips forming were a solemn prayer for help or a silent promise to punch me in the gut for not being the prior referenced "adult oversight."

At one point, the youngest in the class stood up in front of the book and ran her fingers along the words as I read them. Mrs. S. asked my young assistant to sit down so the other kids could see the book and with smiling hesitation the sniffing young lady finally did. As my coughing little helper left my side, she lovingly patted my cheek and left a wet chunk

of something on my face. Although she was frequently wiping her runny nose, I am hoping the wet stuff was hand sanitizer that the teacher was liberally spreading around to all the little hands in the room!

It really was an ultra-enjoyable experience. I found myself laughing and remembering how awe struck and cute five and six year olds are. I also enjoyed the questions that soon turned into unrelated stories and pushed us continually closer to the edge of the "class out-of-control" cliff.

After I left I went to the closest fire station to liberally clean my equipment with Cavicide (a potent cleaner that kills all types of germs on EMS equipment). As I was cleaning I happily contemplated the Kindergarten lesson I had learned that day: **THEY DON'T PAY TEACHERS NEARLY ENOUGH!**

IN THE NEWS



Channel 9 Studio Tour



Behind the Scenes



On the set!

Another Scottish Tradition...

By Sharon Hattan

Burns Night is annually celebrated in Scotland on or around January 25. It commemorates the life of the *bard* (poet) Robert Burns, who was born on January 25, 1759. The day also celebrates Burns' contribution to Scottish culture. His best known work is *Auld Lang Syne*.

What Do People Do?

Many people and organizations hold a Burns supper on or around Burns Night. These may be informal or formal, only for men, only for women, or for both genders. Formal events include toasts and readings of pieces written by Burns. Ceremonies during a Burns Night supper vary according to the group organizing the event and the location.

The evening centers on the entrance of the *haggis* (a type of sausage prepared in a sheep's stomach) on a large platter to the sound of a piper playing bagpipes. When the haggis is on the table, the host reads the "Address to a Haggis." This is an ode that Robert Burns wrote to the Scottish dish. At the end of the reading, the haggis is ceremonially sliced into two pieces and the meal begins.

Background

Robert Burns was born in Alloway, Scotland, on January 25, 1759. He died in Dumfries, Scotland, on July 21, 1796. He was a *bard* (poet) and wrote many poems, lyrics and other pieces that addressed political and civil issues. Perhaps his best known work is *Auld Lang Syne*, which is sung at New Year's Eve celebrations in Scotland, parts of the United Kingdom, and other places around the world. Burns is one of Scotland's important cultural icons and is well known among Scottish expats or descendants around the world. He is also known as "Rabbie Burns," the "Bard of Ayrshire," "Scotland's favorite son," and in Scotland as "The Bard."

Robert Burns' acquaintances held the first Burns supper on July 21, the anniversary of his death, in Ayrshire, Scotland, in the late 1700s. The date was later changed to January 25, to mark his birthday. Burns suppers are now held by people and organizations with Scottish origins worldwide, particularly in Australia, Canada, England, and the United States.

Want to Try Your Hand at Making Haggis

Ingredients

- 1 sheep stomach
- 1 sheep liver
- 1 sheep heart
- 1 sheep tongue
- 1/2-pound suet, minced
- 3 medium onions, minced
- 1/2 pound dry oats, toasted
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon dried ground herbs

Directions

- Rinse the stomach thoroughly and soak overnight in cold salted water.
- Rinse the liver, heart, and tongue. In a large pot of boiling, salted water, cook these parts over medium heat for 2 hours. Remove and mince. Remove any gristle or skin and discard.
- In a large bowl, combine the minced liver, heart, tongue, suet, onions, and toasted oats. Season with salt, pepper, and dried herbs. Moisten with some of the cooking water so the mixture binds. Remove the stomach from the cold salted water and fill 2/3 with the mixture. Sew or tie the stomach closed. Use a turning fork to pierce the stomach several times. This will prevent the haggis from bursting.
- In a large pot of boiling water, gently place the filled stomach, being careful not to splash. Cook over high heat for 3 hours.
- Serve with mashed potatoes, *if you serve it at all*.



Shout out to the Photography Committee!

Hello everyone, and thanks for keeping those camera's clicking at all our events. Here is a reminder of the google drive to load your photos.

Login: leadaurora2015@gmail.com

Password: Bestclass2016

Once you access the drive, look for the main folder for LA 2016-2017, click on that and you will be taken to a directory of folders for all our events. Please load your photos into the appropriate folder and please make sure to name your photo rather than just leaving it as 4589698.JPG---for example "Mayor Hogan at Mock City Council.JPG works great for identification.

AWTN!

The Projects Committee is asking for donations for Aurora Warms the Night this month. Coats and gloves of all sizes are needed; both new and gently used. Please bring your donations to class next Thursday and please see if your network can contribute to this effort also. We did a great job for CCN and AWTN really needs our help too! They can either drop donations off at the Chamber or call me at 303.505.5644 to schedule a pick-up. We will be accepting donations through Jan 20th.

Women in Business

Jamie Alvarez of GBSM, who spoke at Media Day, is going to be our speaker at this month's Aurora Chamber of Commerce Women in Business Meeting. The meeting is Tuesday, January 24th at Noon, at the offices of the Chamber. Listen to Jamie's insights and conquer the new year by defining a clear, successful strategy for your business.