

# A little off the top

Feeling green? Dig into our spring lawn and garden tips, **Voice, C3-5**



**RACE TO THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION**  
**OBAMA WINS IN NORTH CAROLINA**  
Clinton holds a narrow lead in Indiana, **News, A2**



## Better eats can be appealing

Program at schools checks student lunches, packs info on nutritious eating, **Voice, C1**

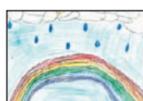


## Remember mom:

Your photos and warm thoughts of mom are due today — see **Voice, C1**

# The Aurora Beacon News

TODAY'S WEATHER BY:  
TIFFANY HAMLING  
ST. RITA OF CASCIA  
AURORA



HIGH 72, LOW 47

RAIN LIKELY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2008

**GOOD MORNING**  
LINDA CONARD OF AURORA,  
OUR VALUED SUBSCRIBER

AURORA • MONTGOMERY • SUGAR GROVE • BIG ROCK • HINCKLEY

75 CENTS

# Council: Metea High good to go

## Groundbreaking today: Agreement annexes 84 acres

By Dan Campana  
DCAMPANA@SCN1.COM

AURORA — On the eve of Metea Valley High School's

groundbreaking, aldermen took care of a logistical measure prior to any construction — again.

Before the Indian Prairie School District could begin work on the new school on Eola Road, the City Council needed to approve an amended agreement to bring the 84-

acre site into Aurora.

Aldermen did just that, by an 11-0 vote, during a special council meeting Tuesday night.

A formal ceremony to kick off construction was slated for today, district officials previously said.

Annexation for the 3,000-student school returned to the

City Council after changes in who was selling what to Indian Prairie.

In early April, aldermen approved an agreement and preliminary plans for a campus that included Metea and a new St. John's African Methodist Episcopal Church. That proposal was essentially nullified

when Midwest Generation opted not to sell its land to the School District.

Two weeks later, St. John's decided to sell all of its land — 84 acres — to Indian Prairie for \$19 million. Under the original scenario, the church was to sell 49 acres to the district, with Midwest Generation selling an

additional 37 acres for the school. The latter pulled out amid questions about whether the land was safe for a school.

District officials still expect classrooms to be ready for freshmen and sophomores by the start of the 2009-10 school

❖ Turn to **METEA, A2**

# FLOOD OF COMPLAINTS, A TRICKLE OF RESPONSE

Julie Cinnamon insists she and her neighbors are drowning in a flood of apathy.

Every time it rains — as it frequently has the last couple of months — water and gravel gush into the basements of their Yorkville homes on East Van Emmon Street.

"Everything right now is up on pallets," said Cinnamon. "How many times do we have to go down there and clean it up?"

Actually, she knows the answer: "Between eight and 12 times" since February, said Cinnamon, the frustration evident in her voice. "The water comes in through the walls and the floors, and I'm really concerned now about damage to the structure of the house."

Even more disheartening has been the city's response. Cinnamon says she's been calling Yorkville officials since last December. And still, the problem was not addressed. In fact, except for one brief meeting with the city engineer in March, she "couldn't even get anyone to call me back."

Until this week. That's when Cinnamon, upon learning other neighbors had been complaining just as loudly, decided to contact The Beacon News as "a last resort. Nobody seems to care," she told me. "Maybe you can help us."

Maybe. Within an hour of The Beacon's putting in a first call to Yorkville City Hall, an official came out to see Cinnamon and her husband, Walter. A meeting was also called on Tuesday with some neighbors.



Denise Crosby  
Columnist



PHOTOS BY CRAIG WATSON / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Howard Cinnamon stands in the basement of his home on Van Emmon Street in Yorkville, which floods every time it rains since the city started construction on water mains leading to a new subdivision. Cinnamon and his neighbors say the city has ignored repeated complaints about the situation.

And that same morning, city workers were out on Van Emmon, removing gravel from drainage ditches that had been covered up months ago.

The problem began last year with construction of water mains leading to the new Kendallwood subdivision down the street from Van Emmon. Dealing with the truck traffic was a nightmare in itself, said Cinnamon.

For example, taking her 8-year-old to school on those winter mornings took a good 45 minutes, even though they lived only a couple blocks away.

But things really got crazy when "they tore the road up to install the new pipes," said Cinnamon. "Once

❖ Turn to **CROSBY, A2**



After The Beacon News called Yorkville officials Tuesday, workers were sent out almost immediately to work on the water drainage problem on East Van Emmon Street. An official also met with Julie and Walter Cinnamon and affected neighbors.

# Gun-rights group seeking support from area counties

By Heather Gillers  
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YORKVILLE — A measure supporting residents' right to own guns is under consideration in some area counties.

A group of gun-rights advocates is bringing the non-binding resolution before county boards across the state. The measure would affirm citizens' Second Amendment protections in order to send a message to state lawmakers.

"It merely asks the legislators that if they're going to propose a new law, they uphold their sworn oath by not passing any laws that would infringe on the rights guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution," Oswego Township Trustee Tom Yackley said Tuesday.

Oswego Township already has approved the resolution, and the LaSalle County Board is expected to discuss it Thursday. The measure is being looked at by the Kane and DeKalb county boards.

And at Yackley's urging, the Kendall County Board also is considering it.

The force behind the measure is Illinois Pro 2A Resolution, a campaign by a group of volunteers opposed to proposed Illinois laws that would place restrictions on

❖ Turn to **RIGHT, A2**



Want to know more? Use our Web link at [beaconnewsonline.com](http://beaconnewsonline.com) to get to the Web site of Illinois Pro 2A.

# Evacuated victims fall prey to thieves after apartment fire

By Matt Hanley  
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After a fire forced the evacuation of an Aurora apartment building for almost a month, residents finally were able to return to 321 Old Indian Trail this week.

But when they returned, at least five people found that thousands of dollars worth of valuables had been taken from their apartments.

According to Aurora police, a keyboard and TV, all worth \$1,230, were taken from one apartment between the time of the fire and Monday, when the resident returned. A silver ring worth \$2,000 was stolen from a nearby apartment since the building was closed April 7, police said.

❖ Turn to **VICTIMIZED, A2**



## Dangerous store displays

Certain styles of product promotion in stores have injured area children, including a Sugar Grove girl. **Dave Savini** reports at 10 tonight on CBS2 and Thursday in The Beacon News.



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