

The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 20 No. 6

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, February 15, 2024

Updates on downtown • Bruins win two • Camps coming next week



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KICKIN' UP A GOOD TIME - An enthusiastic group of line dancers practice their steps at the Uxbridge Seniors' Centre. The Uxbridge Senior Citizens Club hosts line dancing at the centre on Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. Visit uxbridgeseniors.com for more information. *Photo by John Covers*



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Property taxes up 5.77 per cent

Roger Varley

Uxbridge Township will be coming after taxpayers for close to \$17.7 million as a result of this year's budget, which Township of Uxbridge treasurer Tobi Lee says will result in a property tax increase of 5.77 per cent over last year.

In a report to council, presented at Monday's regular session, Lee attempted to soften the blow by pointing out that the increase includes 2.03 per cent in additional funding for the township's Asset Preservation Reserve.

Councillor Willie Popp, chair of the finance committee, said the increase basically means taxpayers will be shelling out \$110 extra on average this year. However, the tax increase is less than the 5.97 per cent increase that was imposed last year. Referring to the asset

preservation reserve, Popp said the township is catching up on the cost of replacing township assets, which includes roads, parks, facilities, etc.

The budget report said expenditures for operations (the day-to-day business of the township) are expected to be \$26.2 million, with revenues estimated at just over \$5 million. The capital budget (that money spent on assets) is estimated at close to \$11 million.

Also on Monday, during a deputation to council, Carly Davenport and Derek Connelly asked councillors to support an application for Uxbridge to receive a "Bird Friendly Town" certificate from Nature Canada. Davenport is chair of the Bird Friendly Team in Selwyn, just north of Peterborough and Connelly, an active member of North Durham Nature, organizes Uxbridge's annual Christmas bird count (on behalf of

the National Audubon Society). Davenport told council that bird populations are decreasing at an alarming rate, with 2.9 billion birds lost in North America in the last 50 years, and 57 per cent of that total consisting of grassland birds.

She said local residents can do their part to help birds by making windows safer, keeping cats indoors, reducing the size of groomed lawns and planting native species, avoiding pesticides and "drinking bird-friendly coffee." Bird friendly coffee is certified organic and grown in shaded areas that provide cover for birds.

Davenport said certification as a "Bird Friendly Town" would be a badge of honour and source of community pride, and allow Uxbridge to join the growing movement of recognized bird friendly cities across Canada.



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Uxbridge at a Glance

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 Uxbridge L9P 1T1
 905-852-9181 info@uxbridge.ca

TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE

Trail Capital of Canada



Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for February, 2024

- Thursday, February 15, 7:00 p.m.
LIBRARY BOARD
- Monday, February 19
NO MEETING – FAMILY DAY
- Wednesday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.
COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT
- Thursday, February 22, 7:00 p.m.
BIA BOARD
- Monday, February 26
COUNCIL, 10:00 a.m.
LAND DIVISION HEARING, 11:30 a.m.
(LD 01-2024, 640 Reg. Rd 21, DE ACETIS)
(LD 02-2024, 10899 Conc. 4, VEENS)
DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION,
3:00 p.m.

Proclamations for February

- Council proclaims 2024 the Year of the 150th Anniversary of Lucy Maud Montgomery
- February is Black history Month
 - Feb 12-18 is Non-profit appreciation week
 - Feb. 17 is Random Acts of Kindness Day
 - Feb. 20 is World Social Justice Day
 - Feb. 28 is Pink Shirt Day

Bids and Tenders

All current bid opportunities are posted to https://www.uxbridge.ca/bids_and_tenders

- U24-02 - Parks Waste Receptacle Removal - Closes Feb 28 at 2:00 PM (EST)

All bids must be received by the Township by the deadline stated, either electronically via the Township's website or in-person at the Township Office located at 51 Toronto St. South. Public tender bid results are posted at https://www.uxbridge.ca/bids_and_tenders

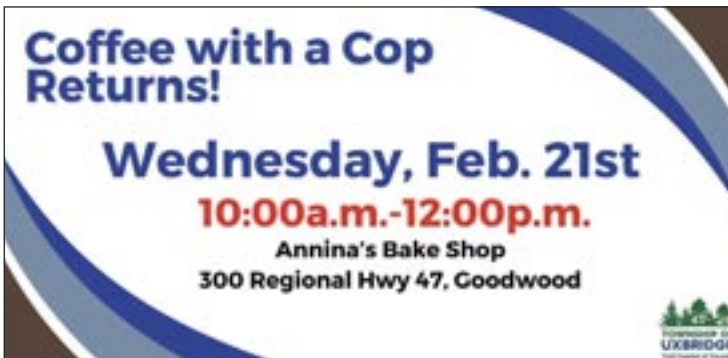
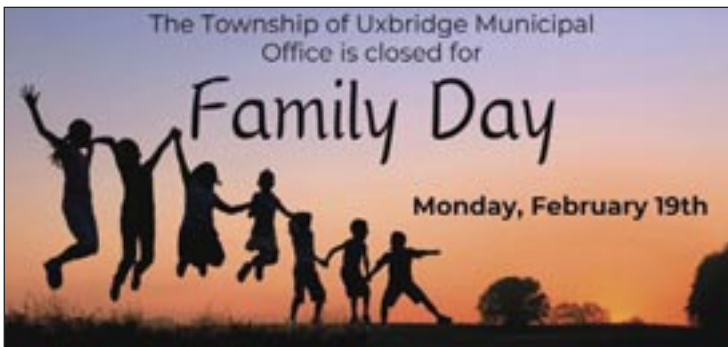


Employment Opportunities

Complete details of all open positions are available at <https://www.uxbridge.ca/careers>

Current Opportunities

- Community Services - Uxpool Swimming Instructors and/or Lifeguards - Spring**
Closes Friday, March 1, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.
- Office of the CAO – Communications Assistant, summer student**
Closes Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.
- Parks – General Labourer, summer student, contract**
Closes Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.
- Parks – Horticulture, summer student, contract**
Closes Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.
- Parks – Horticulture, gardener, contract, Union**
Closes Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.
- Parks – Skilled Labourer, contract, contract, Union**
Closes Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.
- Parks – Unskilled Labourer, contract, Union**
Closes Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.
- Parks – Unskilled Labourer – Grass Cutting, contract, Union**
Closes Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.
- Uxbridge-Scugog Animal Shelter - Animal Control Assistant/Kennel Attendant, contract**
Closes Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.
- Community Services - Uxpool Swimming Instructors and/or Lifeguards - Summer**
Closes Friday, March 28, at 4:00 p.m.
- Community Services – Summer Camp Counsellors (Ages 16+)**
Closes Friday, March 29, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.
- Community Services – Assistant Summer Camp Counsellors (Ages 15+)**
Closes Friday, March 29, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.
- Community Services – Summer Camp Supervisor**
Closes Friday, March 29, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.
- Community Services – Arena Summer Student, contract**
Closes Friday, March 29, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.



Board & Committee Appointments 2023 - 2026

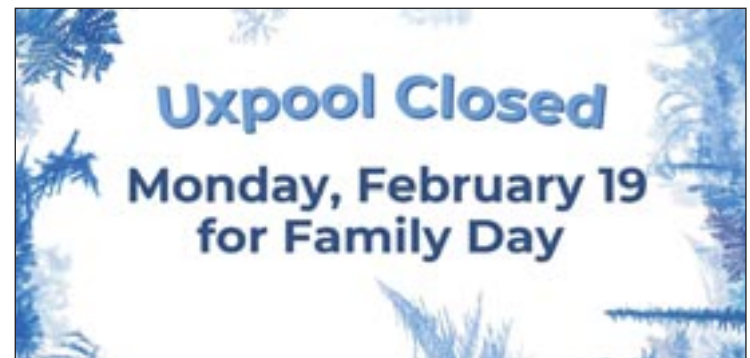
The Council of the Township of Uxbridge invites applications from members of the public who are qualified electors of the Township of Uxbridge who wish to have their names considered for a four-year appointment (term of Council – expiring November 2026) to the Uxbridge Town Trails Committee (see detailed description below). Any person interested in offering their services, and would accept an appointment (including present members with expired terms), are invited to submit a Volunteer-Committee Member Application Form available on the Township's website <https://www.uxbridge.ca/en/your-local-government/boards-committees-and-initiatives.aspx> along with a letter of interest outlining relevant qualifications and experience to the undersigned by **Friday, March 1, 2024**. Any questions regarding these appointments may be directed to the Clerk.

Debbie Leroux, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
 Telephone: 905-852-9181 Fax: 905-852-9674
 e-mail: dleroux@uxbridge.ca
 P.O. Box 190, 51 Toronto Street South, Uxbridge, ON L9P 1T1

Uxbridge Town Trails Committee

This Committee oversees the development of new recreational trails and maintenance of existing trails in the urban area of the Town of Uxbridge. The Uxbridge Town Trails Committee meets 3 to 4 times per year, and includes representation from local conservation authorities, Township Council, Township Staff, and Trail Volunteers. Committee members may also sit on additional working groups and assist with trail projects throughout the year. Community residents who are interested in trail development and are able to participate actively in discussions and projects would be most welcome.

The Township of Uxbridge is an Equal Opportunity Employer that is dedicated to an inclusive, barrier-free recruitment and selection process. The Township is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion within its community and organization, and welcomes and encourages applications from Indigenous Peoples, people of colour, women, persons who live with disabilities, people from 2SLGBTQI+ communities, and people from diverse communities. When requested, the Township of Uxbridge will accommodate applicants throughout the recruitment and selection and/or assessment process, pursuant to the Ontario Human Rights Code. These commitments also apply to our Board and Committee recruitment and selection processes. Personal information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.



Works in progress – updates on downtown Uxbridge

Conrad Boyce
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Much speculation occurs both in-person and online about what’s happening with various addresses along and around lower Brock St. Here’s the downtown low-down according to Township Development Services director Kyle Rainbow.

1. Circle K - As soon as the lease on this half of the building expires, the building will be demolished and a new one built as a cornerstone of the Town Square proposal. The new building will likely be a mix of commercial, office and residential space, and may include a convenience store at street level.

2. Coffee Time - This space will remain vacant until its neighbour’s lease runs out. As part of the recent culvert project, the Township purchased the building that housed both businesses.

3. The Culvert Project - This project, which ended up taking much more time and money than originally planned, is not quite over. There are still legal wrangles ongoing over the impact the culvert reconstruction had on area businesses, and they may not be settled for some time to come.

4. Uxbridge Shoes - To make room for the work on the Uxbridge Brook culvert, Uxbridge Shoes had to relocate to the former IGA building up the hill. This spring, the business will take its first steps toward coming home. Owner John Rodych is finalizing the design and project team for a two-storey building that will have four two-bedroom apartments on the top floor, and two businesses at street level. Rodych says the nature of his new neighbour’s business will be a “wonderful surprise.” He hopes to begin construction by early spring.

5. Sushi Park and Sugar FX - This site at 11-13 Brock West has made little progress since the fire that destroyed the heritage building in September 2022. Rainbow says the Township has launched legal action against the owner, who has not complied with orders to complete demolition of the building. When it is rebuilt, it will have to adhere to strict heritage design guidelines for Brock St., adopted by the Township more than 20 years ago. The same guidelines would apply to any new building on the street, such as the new Uxbridge Shoes building, or the buildings surrounding the Town Square.

6. Trinity United Church - Rainbow

says he has been assured by Kindred Works, the development arm of the United Church of Canada, that it intends to begin construction of the project to replace the church, demolished in the aftermath of the May 2022 tornado, by this coming summer. The project will include a

scaled-down church, facing on First Ave., as well as a new housing complex on Main St., consisting of 105 housing units in two six-storey buildings. A third of those units will be “affordable” (fixed at 30 per cent of the tenant’s gross income). The tenants of the three buildings on Main

St., owned by Trinity, have been given notice to vacate by spring, at which point the buildings will be demolished to make way for the new housing.

Updates on the Rush Photo space, the former La Petite Fleur, the old fire hall and the former Ash’s Lashes can be found online at thecosmos.ca

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Elections Canada

Our two cents

Birds of a feather - shouldn't be here now

The chirping of birds on a cool spring morning is always a sure sign that nicer weather is on its way, that snow and the detritus it leaves in its wake is a think of the past. Seeing a robin is confirmation of the above - happy days are here again!

Or are they?

A member of the *Cosmos* team burst into the office last week boasting that she had seen a robin while out for her morning constitutional. Normally, this would send the rest of the team into ornithological bliss - robins mean spring! But a robin sighting on Feb. 7 is not bliss. It's the opposite. It's bad. It's bad because it means the poor little thing is confused. Warmer temperatures in what is notoriously a wickedly cold month have tricked it into thinking it's time to head north again and set up house. If real winter comes back, our feathered friend won't survive.

In "A Matter of Timing: Can Birds Keep Up With Earlier and Earlier Springs?" (*Audubon Magazine*, Spring 2022) author Scott Weidensaul states that, "Spring is coming earlier and earlier, gathering speed at a gallop by the year, by the decade. As spring's warmth advances, the average emergence of tree leaves and other vegetation...is also accelerating. American robins are arriving on their U.S. and Canadian breeding grounds earlier in spring than they did a few decades ago. Because those species mostly winter within the United States, they likely can pick up on the signals of an early spring, such as warming air, and time their migration accordingly." Weidensaul further explains that, while birds are flexible and adaptable animals, able to adjust their behaviours. But he says that birds may be "shaving time off their stopovers," sacrificing their recovery time and risking "arriving in poorer physical condition, to try to match their migration to the season."

Migrating birds may be able to adapt, but at what cost? If they scurry like mad to get back here, but suffer physically, their mating will be less than satisfactory, as it were. Less baby birds means less birdsong come next spring. Says Weidensaul: "The fact that so many migrants are finding ways to at least partially compensate for the mess we've made of the seasons only adds to the sense of awe and wonder (we feel) for them. In the end, the responsibility for migratory birds' success - and the blame, should they fail - lies entirely with us.

Worth noting the next time you hear a robin in February.



Letters to the Editor

I would like to send a big shout-out to the person(s) responsible for the colourfully-lit Christmas tree on Conc. 6, across the road from the Historical Centre. It lifted our spirits during December and January, and continues to cheer us during the (mostly) gloomy month of February.

Thank you for making our days (and evenings) brighter!

Laura Morrison-Flint
Uxbridge

As always, when composing an ad thanking people for their help and support, it is always nerve wracking in case you missed someone. I managed to miss four. Apologies for omitting the following folks who had displays at our Fantasy of Lights: Uxbridge Lions Club. 100 Women who care, Precious Minds and the Lunn Family. Your participation is truly appreciated.

Thank you also to the *Cosmos* for the stunning artwork for our thank you ad last week. You are the best, and we are fortunate to have such a great paper in our town.

Jan Wilson
Secretary
Optimist Club of Uxbridge

I would like to share my personal reflections on our changing local landscape following World Wetland Day on Feb. 2.

I observe a lot of tiling going on in the farm fields in Uxbridge Township and all over southern Ontario. Tiling is an agricultural method to dry down fields more rapidly to allow machinery onto the fields earlier and later in the season by installing rows of big 'O' high-density

polyethylene plastic tubing below the workable surface of the soil.

If I am to believe our provincial government's Climate Change Impact Assessment projections in the coming 30 and 60 years, which show increasing summer droughts and extreme heat, I wonder if tiling might actually hinder agricultural practices in the long term and reduce the climate-resiliency of the land?

I am also really curious about the longevity of the big 'O' tubing and how costly removal might be when it begins to degrade, because if it is left in the fields, that is a lot of plastic entering into our groundwater.

Carly Davenport
Uxbridge

I know I'm likely preaching to the choir with this note, but when will people start to be more considerate toward Chances Are, the thrift store supporting the Uxbridge Hospital?

My son, who lives in a local group home, has volunteered at Chances Are for 15 years. Despite his disability, he is responsible for opening and closing the store each day. This man has called me in tears, telling me about the piles of junk left outside the doors, making it difficult to open until he clears it away. The same thing happens during the open store hours when people dump in broad daylight, and he has to sort through things before he can close. This is hard enough in good weather. In rain, snow, or icy conditions, the job is downright miserable.

Piles of bags are left outside the donation boxes, and furniture (broken and useless), baby items (car seats, cribs, Pack & Plays, not ac-

ceptable due to safety regulations) and glass things, from lamps to vases to dishes that are dirty, cracked or broken, show up all the time.

I could tell you stories - from a Pack & Play that was opened and found filled with vomit and feces, to underwear - three pairs - with actual chunks inside, and gross and dirty clothing that no one would consider touching, let alone selling. That barely scratches the surface.

As I said, I know I'm probably speaking only to the kind and responsible citizens of our town who would never do this, but please - if there is any way for you to educate someone else, take the time to do so.

The money raised at the store supports purchases of equipment for OUR hospital, for crying out loud. Every dollar that must be spent sending YOUR/THEIR junk to the dump is diverted away from purchasing specialized diagnostic equipment for use right here in Uxbridge.

I don't understand such uncaring behaviour: "out of sight, out of mind"? "Dump it, then it's someone else's problem"?

Please, let's all try to make things a bit easier for everyone at Chances Are, and stream more money to the hospital where it will benefit all of us - even the folks who feel that Chances Are is a dumping ground.

It's worth noting that the hospital Auxiliary president let me know that they spent \$3,000 in January to dispose of garbage.

Phyllis Diller
Uxbridge

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The Uxbridge Cosmos

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Wandering the cosmos

column by Conrad Boyce

Felines

There's a reason that Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Cats* is one of the longest-running Broadway musicals of all time (one of the few to beat it, to be fair, is just about bigger cats, Disney's *Lion King*). Hundreds of thousands have flocked to see the Jellicoes simply because human beings are continually fascinated with felines.

For years, anthropologists were convinced that the ancient Egyptians were the first to domesticate the cat. They even had a very cool cat goddess named Bastet. The theory was that they got a litter of kittens from the African wild cat, which still exists, and raised them in isolation for a few generations until they became comfortable with humans. In recent years, however, a different theory has emerged, that the cat was domesticated by an older Mediterranean civilization, because a cat was found buried with a child on Cyprus in a grave that pre-dated the Egyptians by a couple of millennia.

In my view, these theories miss the point. The true facts are that cats domesticated us. Every other domesticated animal came into being as either a beast of burden, a source of food, or a regular supplier of the raw materials for clothing (or like the amazing llama, all three!). Good luck trying to get your tabby to carry anything. The most desperate of tribes cannot convince themselves that cats taste like chicken. And even Cruella de Vil avoided trying to skin the cat, and picked on Dalmatians instead.

And if I needed any more evidence that cats have never really been truly tamed, I need go no further than a certain ginger owned by my editor. That cat was raised in the *Cosmos* office, for Pete's sake! Yet soon after my return to Uxbridge a couple of years ago, I had occasion to visit the editor's pastoral home, populated largely by a real domesticated animal, the gentle Holstein cow. I doffed my coat, wandered into the living room, and spotting Facebook legend Toby, I extended my hand in greeting. I still have the scars.

The cat only lets us think she belongs to us. As one social media meme has it, the surest method of suicide is to try to give Puff a bath. Nevertheless, millions of families persist in trying to have one as a pet. Why? As one who has frequently been permitted to share a cat's home, I think there are two reasons. The first is one of the most phenomenal sounds ever to

enter the human ear: the purr. The second is that felines are endlessly fascinating to watch.

I've been reminded of that the last few weeks as we've been granted custodianship of two lovely tabby sisters, Billie and Cleo (named after jazz singers), while our neighbour has her house renovated. We haven't heard the purr very much, we're still strangers after all, but it's been a joy watching them: chasing toys, engaging in calisthenics on their cat trees, and twitching their tails as they gaze at squirrels gambolling in our wee back yard. We'll miss them a little when they go back home.

I think my favourite of all the "domestics" I've spent time with was a small orange one I called Cumquat (get it?). He seemed reasonably content in the mobile home we shared, perched above Whitehorse. Because the trailer park was fenced, it was relatively safe from wildlife, I thought, so I would let the little guy out from time to time. He would wander while I was at work, and return for the aforementioned food and shelter. Until one October night, he didn't. After a couple of weeks, I assumed he'd been caught by a roving lynx or coyote. I spent the winter occasionally mourning him, but resisted the temptation to replace him. And sure enough, I drove in on April Fool's Day, and there he was on the porch, waiting for supper. Had he been taken in by another family who hadn't let him out, and then finally escaped when a door got left ajar? Had he responded to the call of the wild and spent the winter hibernating in some bobcat's forest den, woken up and decided he'd rather be "domesticated" after all? He wouldn't say.

There are more than 40 species of them, native to every continent except Australia and Antarctica. You will only find three in Canada. The bobcat is much like a large tan tabby, but the lynx and cougar are spectacularly unique. Up in the Yukon woods, I found myself sharing a path with a lynx a couple of times. Not comfortable. I tried to convince myself he was more scared of me than I of him, but I highly doubt it. He didn't exactly scurry off. And I'm happy to say I've had no cougar encounters.

All cats are magnificent. Google the caracal or the Pallas cat if you want a treat for the eyes. Overall, an excellent evolutionary development. But trust me - never, ever tamed.



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

Does Bell really care about community?

It was one of the first phone calls I made. I dialed city hall and asked for the mayor's office. I explained that I was new in town and wanted to meet with the man to discuss a media opportunity with him. His assistant took down my name and number and said the mayor would get back to me. A day or so later he phoned me back.

"Mayor Cliff Wright here," he said. "How can I help you?"

"Thanks for returning my call, Mr. Mayor ..."

"You can call me Cliff," he said.

I explained that as a new radio producer of CFQC Radio (part of Baton Broadcasting, owned at the time by CTV) I'd been asked to approach him and offer him a weekly spot on our morning radio show. It was part of the station's initiative to connect with community. Such was "the beginning of a beautiful relationship," giving our CTV-owned radio station (and therefore its thousands of listeners) regular access to the chief administrator of the city. It gave Mayor Wright the chance to speak about and answer phone-in questions on everything from potholes to policy, taxes to transit, and gossip to good news. If it wasn't already, such current affairs programming confirmed our radio station as the voice of the community.

It's not rocket science, but reflecting community to its citizens – delivering local news, weather, sports, analysis and commentary – has been the hallmark of successful broadcasting and publishing for a hundred years. It's something that Mirko Bibic, and his fellow corporate executives at Bell Canada Enterprises, don't appear to understand. Last Thursday, Bibic announced BCE was cutting 4,800 jobs, or nine per cent of its CTV workforce, and selling 45 radio stations in its national network.

What does that mean? It means noon newscasts at all CTV stations (except Toronto) are gone. It means CTV newscasts at 6 and 11 p.m. on weekends are gone. It means that *W5*, CTV's flagship investigative journalism show, is gone (reduced to periodic documentary inserts). In my view, what it also means is that any suggestion by CTV that it still speaks for, about or with Canadians is not true.

Evidence the fact that in the same announcement, last Thursday, CEO Bibic proudly proclaimed that the cuts will save BCE \$250 million a year. In other words, not only is BCE killing CTV's journalistic presence, he's just trying to save his own neck as

benefactor to his corporation's shareholders. It's all about saving profits, not about searching for the truth. Here's the way B.C. Premier David Eby characterized the move.

"Bell (has) overseen the assembly of local media assets that are treasures to local communities. They bought them up like corporate vampires. They sucked the life out of them. They have overseen the 'encapsulation' of local news, by laying off journalists. And now they say it's no longer economically viable to run these local radio stations, to have investigative news, and they were allowed to do this."

The premier further noted that last year alone, BCE chalked up \$3 billion in commercial profits from those same broadcast outlets in B.C. He called it reprehensible, with all its MBAs, that Bell could not ensure that communities in his province could depend on accurate, impartial and reliable sources of local news, particularly in the face of so much disinformation on social media. He demanded that Bell be held accountable.

I agree. For far too long, corporate telecoms in Canada have whined about regulation and controls cramping their style. Every time their licences come up for review, private communication conglomerates complain that they can't be expected to build infrastructure, hire professionals and broadcast for such low rates of return. Those same conglomerates whimper that they can't compete in a marketplace where public broadcasters (such as the CBC) are allowed to pursue ad revenue to enhance its investigative journalism, its cultural programming and its delivery of Canadian content from coast to coast to coast.

Well, sorry BCE and kin, in Canada we consider telecommunication a public service and access to Canadians important enough to be closely regulated. Hence, for 56 years, the Canadian Radio Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) has protected access to that public resource and limited abuse with regulatory measures. It's a fact of life in this country.

From that very moment, 50 years ago, when I invited the mayor of Saskatoon to speak and answer questions on our CTV station airwaves, I recognized the importance of local news delivery. So, if BCE can't comprehend that reality, I don't think they belong in my community.

For more Barris Beat columns, go to www.tedbarris.com

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Five points for Meek as Bruins win two

Roger Varley

Quinn Meek boosted his points total

by five on the weekend as the Uxbridge Bruins won two games in a row.

In last Friday night's home game against the Little Britain Merchants, Meek had a goal and an assist as the Bruins hung on for a 5-4 victory. On Sunday, he added two goals and an assist in a 5-1 trouncing of the Port Perry LumberJacks. The star forward now has 27 goals and 20 assists for 47 points in the regular season.

Friday's game saw the Merchants give the Bruins a scare in the first period, scoring three unanswered goals in the space of two-and-a-half min-

utes.

The Bruins replied in kind in the second period, notching three goals in the first half of the period. Ty Roberts scored the first, assisted by Jaxon Koehler. Nolan Winter cut the Merchants' lead by one, assisted by Alex Hyde, before Gavin Graham tied the score with an unassisted marker just as Little Britain ended a penalty. However, the Merchants regained the lead late in the period when Bruins goalie Christian Lam-

bert gave up a big rebound.

Anthony Lamanna tied the score early in the third after making a lovely move on the Merchants' defence. Assists went to Tanner Ryan and Meek. Meek scored the game-winner on a power play, assisted by Lamanna. Winter had an opportunity to add to the score late in the period, but missed the net on a penalty shot.

The *Cosmos* selected Winter and Little Britain's Brando Mancica as players of the game.

Down Reach Street on Sunday, the Bruins scored a power-play goal, a short-handed marker and an empty netter on their way to the win. Owen Shier opened the scoring, assisted by Meek, with the man advantage in the first, followed by Ryan's unassisted short-handed goal.

Following a scoreless second period, Meek gave the Bruins a three-goal lead just 90 seconds into the last stanza, assisted by Jake Rigillo and Koehler. He then combined with Lamanna for his second goal of the game. Port Perry finally made it onto the scoreboard with less than five minutes remaining and then pulled their goalie in a vain attempt to come back. That led to Lucas Marshall's empty netter, assisted by Blake Edgerton and Owen Shier.

The loss was a hard one for the LumberJacks as they slipped from fourth to fifth place in the seven-team PJHL Orr Division. The Lakefield Chiefs registered wins over the Georgina Ice and the Merchants on the weekend to move up to fourth spot, with a game in hand on the LumberJacks.

The Bruins return to action tomorrow (Friday) night at the arena when they host the league-leading Clarington Eagles at 7:45 p.m. The Eagles are currently on an eight-game win streak, but the two teams are tied at three games apiece in their meetings so far this season. On Sunday, the Bruins travel north to meet the Chiefs in Lakefield.



LOCKIE, William Bertram

February 12, 1933 - February 10, 2024

Peacefully passed away at home, Douglas Crossing Retirement Community, Uxbridge, on Saturday, February 10, 2024. William "Bill" Lockie of Uxbridge and formerly of Zephyr, in his 91st year.

Beloved husband of the late Jackie (née Wilson). Loving father of Anne (Roy) Mason, Barbara Maloney, Deborah Andrews (Pete Dunford) and Robert (Karen) Lockie. Proud grandpa of Ryan (May) Mason; Jennifer (Matt) Archer, Rachel Maloney, Carly (Sean) Annable and the late Curtis Andrews. Cherished great-grandpa of Wyatt Archer, Aiden Archer, Hannah Mason, Owen Mason, Blake Annable and Hunter Annable. Dear brother of Marie (late John) McGillivray and Freda (Lowell) Sedore. Bill will be fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews.

Sincere thanks to Dr. Spencer Chau and Dr. Patricia Wong for their compassionate care, and to the attentive care of the wonderful staff at Douglas Crossing.

Friends may call at the Zephyr United Church, 12990 Durham Regional Road 39, Zephyr, for a memorial visitation on Thursday, February 22, 2024, from 11 a.m., until the time of the memorial service at 12 noon. In Bill's memory, donations may be made to Oak Valley Health - Uxbridge Hospital (formerly known as Uxbridge Cottage Hospital) or Zephyr Zion Cemetery Board. Arrangements entrusted to Skwarchuk Funeral Home, Mt. Albert (1-800-209-4803). Online condolences may be made at www.skwarchukfuneralhome.com

GEARY, Diana Lee

July 15, 1965 - February 10, 2024

Diana Lee Geary of Uxbridge, Ontario, passed away suddenly but peacefully at home on February 10. Loving wife of Doug Geary, exceptional mother of Hillary Geary, beloved daughter of Carol and the late Paul Wilson, dear sister of Eric Wilson (Lianne Wilson), Sue Rhodes, predeceased by her brother Grant Wilson. Diana will be lovingly remembered by her nieces, nephews, family, and numerous friends.



Diana was a family first person, and put everyone's needs in front of her own. She treated her friends like family and was often the nucleus of organizing events, making sure there was a great playlist, fresh flowers and far too much food.

Although Diana had only been in Uxbridge for 8 years, she loved the town dearly. She was proud to support small local businesses, be it for fresh flowers, the Farmers' Market, brewers and cideries, the movie theatre, Music Hall, and all the local shops in town.

Diana put down roots in a great number of communities. She was a member of the Uxbridge and District Curling Club, an avid attendee of Books and Brunch and the Book Drunkard Festival, a long-time fan of the Uxbridge Studio Tour, an annual volunteer at Springtide Music Festival, and was always in search of a fun yoga class.

Horses were an important part of Diana's life. She learned to ride at 13 years old, working at the barn and going to pony club with all of her friends. Diana shared her love of horses with Hillary, and they spent many early mornings braiding manes and loading horses to go to shows and pony club. Diana cherished every moment spent in the barn with her friends and her daughter, being around the animals she loved.

Diana's passions evolved over the years. At 24, she earned her pilot's licence, and logged many hours in the sky while working at Peterborough and Buttonville Airports. She dabbled in many art mediums, from drawing to painting, inks, ceramics, and most recently stained and fusion glasswork. She always took pride in her vehicles and could drive the wheels off with anything with a stick shift.

Diana was also very devoted to her work. Over 23 years, she climbed through the ranks from Business Analyst at Financialinx to VP of Operations at GM Financial, and was often the first (and sometimes the last) person in the office.

Relatives and friends are invited to call at Low & Low Funeral Home (23 Main St. S., Uxbridge) on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, from 2 - 4 and 6 - 8 p.m. A celebration of Diana's life will be held at the funeral home on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 1 p.m. Reception to follow.

In memory of Diana, donations may be made to Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada or Uxbridge Loaves and Fishes Food Bank or the Uxbridge and District Curling Club. Friends can send condolences or make donations by visiting www.lowandlow.ca

Matthew Gordon Graham

Passed away unexpectedly on Monday, February 5, 2024, at the age of 66.

He is predeceased by his father William, who passed away in 2012. Matt leaves behind his loving wife Leslie, sons Jerrod (Sarah), Dylan (Rebecca), and dog Bandit. Survived by his mother Darlene Graham (Taylor), as well as by his siblings William (Angela), Sherri (Bill), Mark (Carol), Jeffrey (Melanie), Samuel (Kathy), and two granddaughters, Taylor and Rebekka.



Matt grew up in Uxbridge and thrived in the auto industry as a Master Mechanic, and later as a Marine Mechanic. More recently, he loved driving truck for Taylor Farms at Windemere. Matt was always there to lend a helping hand to friends and neighbours. He was happiest when out on the lake fishing with George and his brother William.

Many thanks to the Critical Care unit at the South Muskoka Memorial Hospital, especially Dr. Maieran and the nursing staff.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Carter's Forever Rescue and Sanctuary. Cremation arrangements entrusted to Cottage Country Cremation Inc. (55 Ann Street, Bracebridge, ON).



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