

The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 19 No. 8

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, February 23, 2023

UX-CAMPS SUMMER SCHEDULE IS OUT - PAGES 5-8!



IT'S TIME TO PARTY - Members of the Friends' Handicapable Ministry groove to the popular dance song "Y.M.C.A." at a Valentine's Day party held at the Uxbridge Seniors Centre last Wednesday evening. Established in 2010, the Friends' Ministry attracts handicapable adults from Port Perry, Stouffville, Newmarket, Richmond Hill and Uxbridge, and is run solely by volunteers. *Photo by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove*

Farmers' Market returning to Second Wedge location

Roger Varley

A week after asking council's permission to use Herrema Field for the 2023 season, the Uxbridge Farmers' Market has decided to return to the property beside the Second Wedge Brewing Co.

Lisa Cooper of Cooper CSA Farms, manager of the market, said that, after failing to receive immediate approval from council for another season at Herrema, the market asked Rob Garrard and Joanne Richter of The Second Wedge if the vendors could return to the micro-brewery's property, even though the facility has not yet been fully restored following last year's tornado.

"We decided we couldn't take any chances about where we might end up," Cooper told the *Cosmos*.

She said the market will open the new season on May 7, even though The Second Wedge itself might not be fully open. The last day of the summer season will be Oct. 29, with a series

...continued on page 3

Railway in hot water with unpaid entertainers

Conrad Boyce
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Uxbridge's York Durham Heritage Railway (YDHR), forced to cancel 18 lucrative pre-Christmas 'Santa Trains' because of track problems and mechanical issues, is now facing difficulties of a whole different sort: labour unrest.

Since early in the new year, dozens of entertainers have vociferously complained on social media that YDHR failed to meet its contractual obligations in missing payments to them. Although the last train was on Dec. 11, many of the entertainers also worked at a Dec. 17-18 event held in the yards beside the Uxbridge station.

In a post on its Facebook page last week, YDHR acknowledged the debt, but clarified that the entertainers' contracts were not with

the railway, but with a third-party producer from Oshawa. This contractor had failed to provide YDHR with the contact information required to pay the entertainers directly.

"The producer began rehearsals in late October," YDHR manager John Perks told the *Cosmos*. "Even though their contracts were with him, the payments to the individual entertainers were to come from us. As a registered charity, we have to meet strict guidelines in paying employees, including short-term ones. We made it clear to the producer that we needed full contact information in order to pay the entertainers. He assured us this was coming, but in the meantime we agreed to forward the first couple of payments to him, to pass on to the entertainers. Finally, early in December, we had to withhold payment until we had the information. We never got it, despite repeated requests, and repeated assurances it was coming."

Despite the lost revenue from the cancelled trains, YDHR earmarked funds to pay the entertainers in full, once it had the required information. By January 11, YDHR closed its offices for a month, a regular practice to compensate its employees for overtime worked during the busy Halloween and pre-Christmas seasons. But several of the staff, including Perks, returned to work early once the complaints from entertainers (and their parents, since many of the entertainers were teens) started to surface.

"I would have been upset, too, in their place," Perks said. "So despite the incomplete information, we've been doing our best to get these people paid. They did great work for us, and it wasn't their fault the trains had to be cancelled, or that the producer let them down. Of the 55

...continued on page 3

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Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for Feb. & March, 2023

Thursday, February 23, 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC MEETING – ZBA 2022-06 and
OPA 70 – Wooden Sticks Golf Inc.

Monday, February 27, 10:00 a.m.

COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, March 6, 10:00 a.m.

GENERAL PURPOSE AND
ADMINISTRATION MEETING

Wednesday, March 15, 7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

Monday, March 20, 10:00 a.m.

GENERAL PURPOSE AND
ADMINISTRATION MEETING

Monday, March 27, 10:00 a.m.

COUNCIL MEETING

Proclamations for February

February – Black History Month

Proclamations for March

Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month

March 8 - International Women's Day

Uxbridge at a Glance

The Corporation of The Township of Uxbridge
51 Toronto Street South, P.O. Box 190
Uxbridge L9P 1T1
905-852-9181 info@uxbridge.ca

Bids & Tenders

All current bid opportunities are posted to
<https://www.uxbridge.ca/en/business-and-development/bids-and-tenders.aspx?mid=23193>

- U23-03 - Street Lighting Installation & Repair
Closes March 2, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
- U23-06 - Supply and Delivery of Granular A
Closes March 21, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
- U23-04 - Goodwood Baseball Diamond - Harold Bell Park
Closes March 24, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

Winter Ice Conditions

Elgin Pond

The Township of Uxbridge will be testing the ice conditions at Elgin Pond throughout the winter. A flag notification system is in place:

No Flags – Testing has not begun

Red Flags – Ice is not safe. Please stay off

Yellow Flags – Skate with caution

Flags are located at the north end of Elgin Pond, beside Mill St. Please keep away from water inlets and outlets on the pond, as ice thickness is compromised.

Storm Water Management Facilities

Please keep off of all storm water management facilities. Water levels fluctuate at these facilities and as such are not safe for skating or other activities.



From the Tax Office

FIRST Tax Installment is due on February 24, 2023. • **SECOND Tax Installment is due on April 26, 2023.**

2023 Interim Property Tax Bills have been mailed for all properties, with the exception of properties enrolled in the Monthly Pre-Authorized Payment Plan or tax bills paid by mortgage companies.

The taxes due are based on the billing date. If your account is currently in arrears, the February 1st interest charge on "Past Due Taxes" is not included on this bill and will need to be paid in addition to the February installment.

Tax Payments Options:

- In person at Town Hall during regular business hours of Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Accepted payment methods are cash, cheque, or Interac debit.
- In an after-hours drop box located in the Municipal Office front parking lot. – DO NOT DEPOSIT CASH Post-dated cheques are accepted.
- By Mail - Payments must reach the Municipal Office by the due date.
- Through internet or telephone banking.

- At most financial institutions.
- Credit cards and e-transfers are not accepted for tax payments.

Penalty/Interest Charges:

For non-payment of a tax levy on or before the respective due dates of each installment, a penalty of 1.25% shall be imposed on the first day of each calendar month and thereafter in which the default continues. Failure to receive a Tax Bill does not excuse the taxpayer from responsibility for payment of taxes nor liability of any penalty or interest due to late payments.

The penalty/interest charges cannot be waived or reduced by the Tax Department or Council for any reason.

If a reprinted tax bill, receipt or Statement of Account is required for any year's taxes, a fee of \$15.00 will apply.

If you did not receive your 2023 Interim Tax Bill, please call the Tax Department at 905-852-9181.

Employment Opportunities

Complete details and qualifications required for these positions are available at uxbridge.ca/careers

Development Services – Building Inspector/Plans Examiner, part-time – 2 Positions

Closes Friday, February 24, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Uxbridge Public Library - Facility Custodian, contract

Closes Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at 8:00 p.m.

Public Works and Operations – GIS Data Collector, summer student, contract

Closes Friday, March 3, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Public Works and Operations – General Labourer, summer student, contract

Closes Friday, March 3, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Community Services – Summer Camp Counsellors (Ages 16+)

Closes Friday, March 31, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Community Services – Assistant Summer Camp Counsellors (Ages 15+)

Closes Friday, March 31, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Parks – General Labourer, summer student, contract

Closes Monday, April 3, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

Parks – Horticulture, summer student, contract

Closes Monday, April 3, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Uxbridge Historical Centre - Collections Associate, contract

Closes Friday, April 14, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Uxbridge Historical Centre - Community Engagement and Programming Associate, contract

Closes Friday, April 14, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Uxbridge Historical Centre - Interpretive Guides, contract

Closes Friday, April 21, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Uxbridge Historical Centre - Community Museum Technician, contract

Closes Friday, May 19, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Crossing Guards

Resumes accepted on an ongoing basis

Box Office Volunteers – Uxbridge Music Hall

Interested parties accepted on an ongoing basis

The Township of Uxbridge is an equal opportunity employer in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 and the Ontario Human Rights Code (OHRC). The Township of Uxbridge will provide accommodations throughout the recruitment and selection and/or assessment process to applicants with disabilities and/or needs related to the OHRC. Personal information provided is collected under the authority of The Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Road Closures

Visit Uxbridge.ca/roads for up-to-date notices.

Winter Parking Reminder

No overnight parking on Township streets or in Municipal Lots from 2am -7am

November 1st to April 1st



Township of Uxbridge documents are available in alternate formats upon request. Please fill out the Request for Alternate Formats Form at uxbridge.ca/accessibility | email: accessibility@uxbridge.ca | phone: 905-852-9181 ext.209

Destination Uxbridge

Uxbridge tourism: who's promoting us?

Conrad Boyce
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The first two articles in this series were largely based on a short survey conducted last month with 50 random Uxbridgians. They were asked: what they thought were the township's top three tourist attractions; what they considered our "undiscovered gems"; and what factors were currently inhibiting Uxbridge's development as a tourist destination.

This week the *Cosmos* focuses on the current promotional framework for bringing visitors to the township. Who's selling Uxbridge, how are they working together, and what is it costing you, the taxpayer? The players can be conveniently divided into two groups: those based here in the township, and those at higher levels of government.

Local promoters of tourism can also be divided into two entities: businesses or non-profits who attract significant numbers of visitors, and promote that visitation either individually or collectively; and the municipal government and its various agents.

The extent to which an Uxbridge business or organization counts on tourism as a significant contributor to its bottom line varies widely. And although an Uxbridge business is likely to use traditional media, such as this newspaper or local radio, to broaden its local customer base, it is highly unlikely to use such media to attract the visitor, at least not individually. Advertising online, through websites or social media, has radically transformed the mechanism of business marketing, especially tourism promotion, over the last three decades. So if a business doesn't promote to tourists individually through

traditional advertising, how does it get the word out? There are plenty of possibilities, but let's start with local business organizations.

The two most prominent collective business organizations in the Township are the Chamber of Commerce and the BIA. The Uxbridge Chamber is independent of government, and in fact often lobbies the municipality on behalf of its members. Membership is voluntary, and open to businesses across the township, from all sectors. All businesses pay the same membership fee, regardless of size.

The Business Improvement Area (BIA), is an agency of the municipal government. Participation is mandatory; all businesses within the geographical business improvement area, which includes only a portion of the urban area, must contribute to the budget, proportional to the square footage of the business. The total budget for the BIA in 2023 is \$106K, all of which is recovered through the business levy. Taxpayers do not pay for the operation of the BIA, even though the municipality oversees it.

Many jurisdictions across Canada, municipal, regional, or provincial, have a Tourism Industry Association or TIA, which is much like a Chamber of Commerce in its independence from government, but is exclusively focused on tourism, with membership from the hospitality, attractions, and retail sectors. Could such an organization play a valuable role in Uxbridge?

Discover Uxbridge is the Township's website for tourism promotion, and the municipality maintains a tourist information trailer, which attends all major events through the year. The principal Visitor Centre is down-

town at the Uxbridge Public Library, with satellite sites at other localities. The 2023 municipal budget includes about \$88K for tourism, with \$10K allocated for promotion.

The Regional Municipality of Durham's tourism department has an overall budget this year of almost \$900K. A full-time staff person is dedicated to tourism in the three northern municipalities of Brock, Scugog and Uxbridge; that person has a seat on the Uxbridge Tourism Advisory Committee. Forty-five thousand dollars of the Region's budget is dedicated to development in the three northern municipalities.

The Province of Ontario delivers its tourism development programs through 23 Regional Tourism Offices (RTOs). Ours is called Central Counties, responsible for York and Durham Regions, as well as a collection of GTA municipalities called the Headwaters District. Although Durham has the smallest population of the three jurisdictions, it gets an equal share of the Central Counties pie, which this calendar year tallies about \$2 million.

Finally, there's the federal government. As part of its COVID recovery effort, the Government of Canada had several grant programs in 2022. The Township of Uxbridge received a large grant for improving its facilities at the Fields of Uxbridge. Grants from the Fed/Dev Ontario Tourism Relief Fund were received by the Uxbridge Historical Centre, the Foster Memorial, and the Optimist Club for the Fantasy of Lights.

This article has been edited for space. A more in-depth version of this Destination Uxbridge article can be found at thecosmos.ca

Farmers' market finds a home, from page 1

of winter events from Nov. 5 - 26. The market moved to Herrema Field last year following the tornado that ripped through town on May 21, destroying numerous properties, including The Second Wedge.

Unpaid performers not entertaining, from page 1

entertainers, 40 have now been paid in full; we need the others to get hold of us as soon as possible, their money is here waiting for them. We apologize sincerely for the delay."

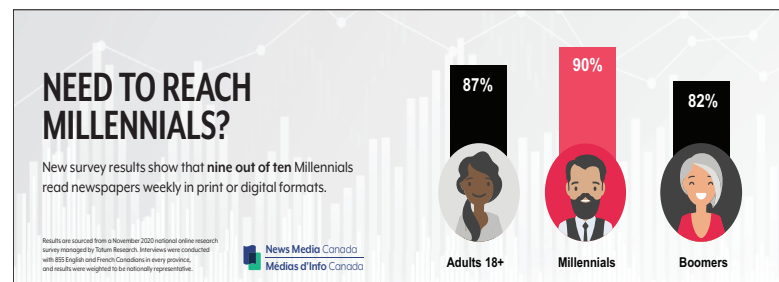
Perks says he and the YDHR learned a number of lessons from this situation.

"First, none of our workers will have contracts with a third party, they will all be with us. Like everyone, we were tired coming out of the pandemic, we were content to spread the workload to someone who came highly recommended. We were mistaken, and that led to other mistakes. As soon as he failed to get us the information we asked for, we should have

Despite a successful season last year at Herrema Field, when the Farmers' Market asked council last week for permission to return, councillors refused to give immediate approval, raising such issues as soccer games and downtown revitalization before sending the request to staff for a report.

gathered it ourselves from the entertainers, rather than continuing to trust him to do it. And we should have kept someone in the office through January, to ensure the payments were made. We were exhausted from all the other problems, but we should have made it a priority. Again, we apologize."

"The good news is that hopefully, everyone will be paid very soon. In the meantime, the track and the locomotive have been repaired, so we will be ready to resume trips by Easter. We realize how precious a resource the heritage railway is, and how important it is to Uxbridge's tourist economy. With everyone's support, we'll learn from these setbacks and keep moving down the track."



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Our two cents

The plight of a global citizen

"It's not a good time to be a citizen of this planet."

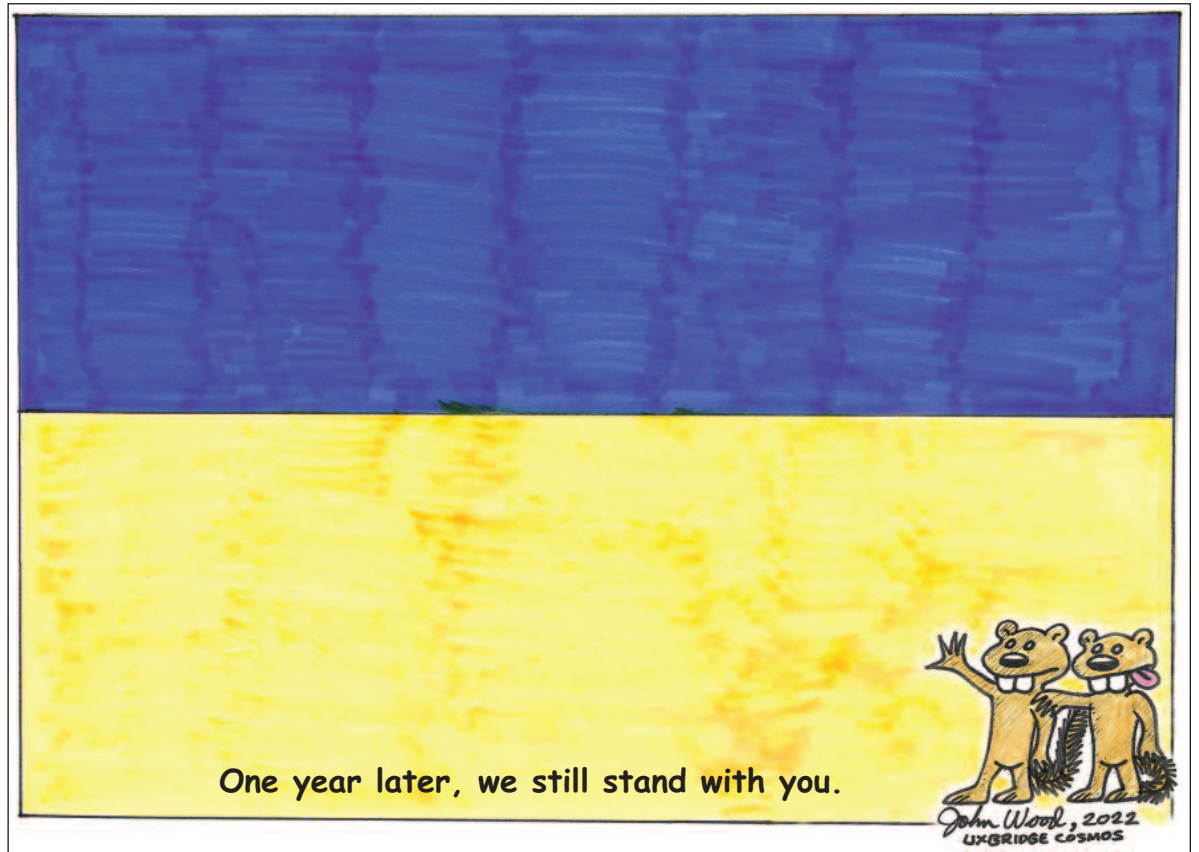
One of the *Cosmos's* favourite visitors proclaimed this during a brief visit on Tuesday, just before the paper went to print. He had just recited a litany of global problems, ending with the prediction that the world is headed for all-out nuclear war.

"It's not a good time to be a citizen of this planet." Ug.

If one wanted to get weighed down by the doom and gloom that makes up the news cycle, then one would be inclined to agree with this statement. But the rose-coloured glasses wearers among us will turn this proclamation around, and offer that it *is* a good time to be a citizen of this planet. Because never has it been so clear that serious change needs to occur if we are to continue as a species. The glasses-wearers are the ones who are optimistic enough to try and ensure we all don't become radioactive ash. They'll be the ones to bring this nutty world back from the brink and (hopefully) set it on a path that brings humans, animals and nature to a place where they all coexist and mutually benefit one another.

Sounds like lofty, pie-in-the-sky thinking at the moment, we know. There are too many horrible things going on in the world (including Big Red Boots - see page 11); too many to wrap one's head around. This week marks one year since Russia invaded Ukraine. It's admirable and remarkable how Ukraine has stayed so strong, and stood up to the bully. We still stand with you, Ukraine, and will continue to do so. Ukraine sets the example for the optimism of which we speak here. Ukraine has hope, it has strength, and it has support from much of the rest of the world. In our own lives we need hope, strength, and support from those around us. We'd rather foster hope and give support than live each day convinced that the end days are just around the corner.

What's our ask, here? Convince yourself it *is* a good time to be a citizen of this planet. Don't be ruled by fear and pessimism. We are all *capable* of creating the acceptance and tolerance that is necessary for us to survive and thrive. What we can *all* agree upon is that our lives depend on it.



Letters to the Editor

A couple of weeks ago, I was walking up and down along the edge of a snow pile beside Sandford Rd., trying to figure out a safe way to access Sandford United Church, when a lady walking her dog stopped to help me. She took my arm and helped me right up to the side door. Next, she said she'd take her dog home and come back with a shovel to make a path.

I looked outside several times to thank her but missed her, and was surprised when I saw the lovely useful path she had made, with more than a shovel.

Two ladies coming to help get the church ready for our Sunday service were surprised with what was done.

This experience fit in well with our February emphasis on love, as found in many places in the Bible, and used on our new display board. This unknown lady stopped, changed her schedule, and helped a stranger.

Being in my mid-80s, with no one else anywhere near me, this meant a lot to me, and helped the other two volunteers.

Many thanks to this lady who I hope reads the *Cosmos!*

**Carol Johnson
Sandford**

There has been a growing awareness that there is a need for police to have better training and a better allocation of the resources given to them. How media, politicians and police officers see police as public heroes is an exaggerated narrative.

I have employed people for 40 years and have been responsible for their safety and paying different

WSIB (workers safety insurance board) premiums according to the number of injuries and deaths per industry that occur per year. Policing is one of the safest professions. It is more dangerous to be a farmer, nurse, construction worker, road maintenance worker, fisherman, forester, utility worker, firefighter and electrician. This list is far from complete.

After informing a spouse of a police officer these statistics, the response to me was, "but when my spouse leaves for work I don't know if I will see him again." She has a better chance of seeing her spouse returning home than most people.

When the death of an officer at work occurs, it is a very personal tragedy for the family, friends and immediate coworkers. I don't think it right that police officers from across the country need to get involved.

Last month I got delayed one hour because of a procession on the 401 and 400 highways for a fallen officer. I don't recount this because of any inconvenience to me, but to point out the size of these extravaganzas and the cost to the public. Those participating are likely using up earned personal time off (a payroll expense) and need to be replaced by someone likely being paid overtime. Those participating in any parade/procession are not permitted to carry their firearms and are protected by armed undercover officers. The pomp and ceremony is often fitting for the death of a prime minister, a head of state or a person well liked by the public prior to his or her death.

My main concern is that this contributes to an attitude of how special the police think they are, their sense of privilege, their need for belonging to a brotherhood for self-worth. They are more important as individuals interacting within their communities, respecting others as equals.

It would be nice to see the media and politicians acknowledge that it takes more courage to do a lot of jobs than that required to do police work, and adjust salaries accordingly. I believe that most jobs are of equal importance to our society.

Does the unnecessary special status given to our police attract some people that want their self-esteem boosted? Most police are kind and work hard, but the "special" status could be attracting some who are abusing their power, some that want to feel special by joining a brotherhood instead of being kind.

**David Watts
Uxbridge**

I am writing in response to the recent article regarding the property tax increase for 2023 in Uxbridge ("Township property taxes to increase..." Feb. 9 edition).

I found it deeply concerning that Mayor Dave Barton justified the tax increase by comparing it to another arbitrary number. His statement, "It's unbelievable how well we've done on this," is not something to be proud of. Such an approach does not justify the increase, and it is entirely inconsiderate to the citizens of Uxbridge.

It is disheartening to feel that

...continued on page 12

When one of these disappears, A LOT disappears.



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Your Universe
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Ux-Camps



Early Bird Registration Bonus

Register on or before May 31 to receive a 5% discount per camp registration and a free UxCamps t-shirt!

How to Register

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Contact

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Register Early!

Registration Opens March 7 9:00 am

Please visit uxbridge.ca/recreation to review frequently asked questions, policies, and reminders prior to registering.

Ux-Camps info on following pages



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Jr. Adventure

Looking for a fun summer adventure? Jr. Adventure is a fan favourite! Enjoy treasure hunts, outdoor exploring, water activities, outdoor sports, games, and crafts! Campers can look forward to specialized activities such as water day and creek walk! At the end of the week, family and friends are invited to watch campers participate on stage in our camp show at Elgin Park. *Swimming at Uxpool Thursday and Friday.

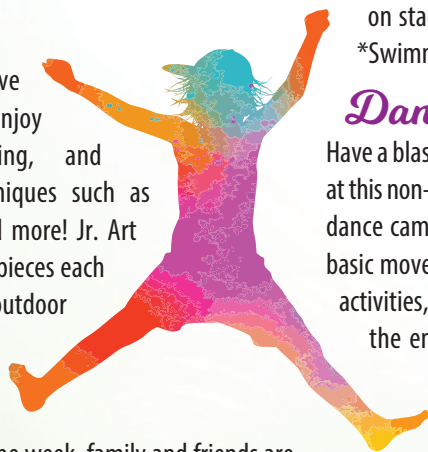


Jr. Whiz Kids

Discover your inner scientist! At Jr. Whiz Kids, do hands-on science experiments, build your own airplane, create an exploding volcano, and make ooey-gooey slime! Campers will also participate in indoor and outdoor activities, including a creek walk. At the end of the week, family and friends are invited to watch campers participate on stage in our camp show at Elgin Park. *Swimming at Uxpool Thursday and Friday. All experiments subject to change.

Jr. Art

In a creative and imaginative environment, Jr. Art campers will enjoy drawing, sketching and painting, and experimenting with different techniques such as watercolours, paper maché, clay and more! Jr. Art campers will bring home new masterpieces each week. Artists will also participate in outdoor games and activities. Each Thursday, parents are invited to the Uxbridge Historical Centre to walk through the Jr. Art Camp Art Show. At the end of the week, family and friends are invited to watch campers participate on stage in our camp show at Elgin Park. *Swimming Friday. All art projects subject to change.



Jr. Cheer

At this high-energy, non-technical cheer camp, campers will enjoy indoor and outdoor activities, with a variety of dance games, cheers, and group routines in a fun, action-packed environment. No previous dance or cheer experience required! At the end of the week, family and friends are invited to watch a cheer performance on stage in our camp show at Elgin Park. *Swimming daily. T-shirt included for Friday performance.

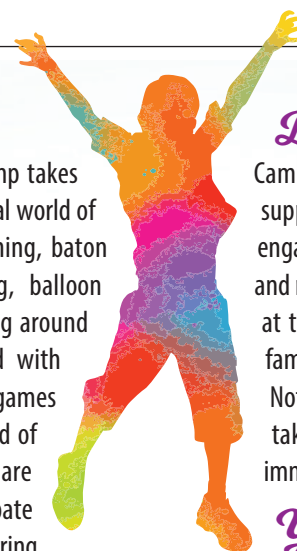


Jr. Sports

The camp with all the best indoor/outdoor sports and games all wrapped up into one! Jr. Sports campers will develop their skills and play a variety of sports including basketball, floor hockey, soccer, archery, swimming, bowling and more! This camp is geared toward all levels and abilities and encourages fitness and participation with a focus on conditioning, team building, and physical literacy. At the end of the week, family and friends are invited to watch campers participate on stage in our camp show at Elgin Park. *Swimming daily.

Jr Circus

Come join the circus! Our high-energy Jr. Circus camp takes campers into the depths of the wondrous, magical world of the Circus! Campers will learn plate spinning, baton tossing, magic tricks, stunts, juggling, balloon workshops, slack lining, and clowning around with equipment specially designed with youth and safety in mind. Camp games and activities included. At the end of the week, family and friends are invited to watch campers participate on stage in a circus extravaganza during our camp show at Elgin Park. *Swimming Thursday and Friday. All circus tricks subject to change.



Trailblazers

Campers will enjoy a variety of camp favourites, all wrapped up in one action-packed week! At Trailblazers, explore our parks, creeks, and trails, and participate in outdoor staples like hiking, fort building, campfires and more! Campers will also partake in favourites such as outdoor sports, water activities, arts and crafts, and camp games. At the end of the week, family and friends are invited to watch campers participate on stage in our camp show at Elgin Park. *Swimming daily.



Dance & Cheer Camp

Have a blast dancing and cheering your heart out at this non-technical, high-energy cheerleading and dance camp! Learn choreography and cheers with the basic moves of cheerleading. Campers will enjoy indoor and outdoor activities, as well as theme days, including the famous "Spa Day"! At the end of the week, friends and family are invited to a final performance in the camp show at Elgin Park. *Swimming daily. T-shirt included for Friday performance. No previous dance or cheerleading experience required.

Drama Camp

Campers will explore the world of theatre production in a supportive and hands-on environment. Drama campers will engage in areas such as directing, acting, producing, improv, and more! Campers will create a small production to showcase at the end-of-week Camp Show at Elgin Park. Friends and family are invited. Never taken part in a production before? Not to worry, all campers will have a role! Drama Camp will take place at the historic Uxbridge Music Hall to create an immersive theatrical experience. *Swimming daily.

Yoga Plus

If you mix yoga, creative art, mindfulness, and a whole lot of fun together, you will find yourself at Yoga Plus Camp! Each day, the basics of yoga will be introduced by a certified yoga instructor in a themed yoga session! Campers will also have the opportunity to enjoy classic camp games and do fun activities such as crystal making, creating personalized journals, and making a healthy snack each day to keep their creative juices flowing. At the end of the week, friends and family are invited to a final yoga-style performance in the camp show at Elgin Park. *Swimming daily.

Outdoor Quest Camp

Outdoor Quest is the ultimate for outdoor fun! A true fan favourite! Campers will get the chance to explore our parks, creeks, ponds, and trails. Campers will also learn the fundamentals of canoeing, campfire building, hiking, fort building, archery, and more! At the end of the week, family and friends are invited to watch campers participate on stage in our camp show at Elgin Park. *Swimming daily.



Registration opens March 7, 9:00am
uxbridge.ca/recreation

Week 1 July 4-7 (Short week: Pro rated) Week 4 July 24-28
 Week 2 July 10-14 (Jumpstart Games Day: Friday) Week 5 July 31- August 4
 Week 3 July 17-21 (Tour Camp: Blue Jays Game) Week 6 August 8-11 (Short week: Pro rated)

Camp Name	Ages	Drop off location	Pick-up location	Camp location	Time
Jr. Adventure	5 - 8 yrs	Elgin Park Playground	Elgin Park Playground	Red Barn: Elgin Park	8:30a
Jr. Whiz Kids	5 - 8 yrs	Elgin Park Playground	Elgin Park Playground	Grey Barn: Elgin Park	8:30a
Jr. Art	5 - 8 yrs	Museum School House	Museum School House	See emailed Itinerary	8:30a
Jr. Cheer	6 - 8 yrs	Uxpool Upstairs Hall	Uxpool Park	Uxpool Hall	8:30a
Jr. Sports	7 - 9 yrs	Local School/Elgin Park*	Uxpool Field	See emailed Itinerary	8:30a
Jr. Circus	6 - 8 yrs	Local School/Elgin Park*	Uxpool Field	See emailed Itinerary	8:30a
Trailblazers	7 - 9 yrs	Elgin Park	Uxpool Field	Elgin Park	8:30a
Dance and Cheer Camp	9 - 13 yrs	Elgin Park	Uxpool Field	Elgin Park	8:30a
Sr. Creators	9 - 13 yrs	Elgin Park	Uxpool Field	Elgin Park	8:30a
Drama Camp	9 - 13 yrs	Uxbridge Music Hall	Uxpool Field	Uxbridge Music Hall	8:30a
Yoga Plus	9 - 13 yrs	Elgin Park	Uxpool Field	Elgin Park	8:30a
Sr. Sports	9 - 13 yrs	Bonner Fields	Uxpool Field	Bonner Fields	8:30a
Swim Camp (swim level requirement)	7 - 11 yrs	Uxpool Park	Uxpool Field	Uxpool	8:30a
Jr. Lifeguard Camp (swim level requirement)	10 - 13 yrs	Upstairs Classroom	Uxpool Field	Uxpool	8:30a
Outdoor Quest	9 - 13 yrs	Elgin Park Picnic Shelter	Uxpool Field	Elgin Park	8:30a
Tour Camp	9 - 13 yrs	See Itinerary	Uxpool Field	See emailed Itinerary	8:30a
Leadership In Training Camp (LIT)	13 - 14 yrs	Uxpool Upstairs Hall	Uxpool Field	Uxpool	8:30a
Counsellor In Training (CIT)	14 - 15 yrs	Uxpool Upstairs Classroom	Uxpool Field	Uxpool	8:30a
Jr. Finale	5 - 8 yrs	Elgin Park Playground	Uxpool Field	Elgin Park	8:30a
Sr. Finale	9 - 13 yrs	Elgin Park Picnic Shelter	Uxpool Field	Elgin Park	8:30a

Sr. Sports

One camp with all the best indoor/outdoor sports and games! Campers will develop their skills and enjoy playing a variety of sports including basketball, floor hockey, soccer, archery, swimming, bowling and more! This camp is geared toward all levels and abilities and encourages fitness and participation with a focus on conditioning, team building, and physical literacy. At the end of the week, family and friends are invited to watch campers participate on stage in our camp show at Elgin Park. *Swimming daily. All sports and activities subject to change.



CJT - Counsellor in Training

This TWO-WEEK certification program is designed for youth who are looking to gain knowledge and experience working with children in a fun, recreational environment. Learn and expand leadership skills, lesson planning for specific ages and abilities, physical literacy, municipal policies and procedures, and resumé building. Participants who successfully complete this program will be certified in Standard First Aid and CPR 'C' and are invited to partake in a volunteer field placement for a minimum of two weeks. A great learning opportunity and addition to a resumé! *Ages 14-15 yrs. Limited space in leadership programs. We highly recommend registering early to avoid disappointment! Participants must be present for the full two-week course in order for successful completion.



Swim Camp

Campers will enjoy a variety of aquatic activities such as water-themed games, learning dives and jumps, introductory water sports, free swim time, and basic water safety skills! This camp includes 3-4 action-packed hours of pool time per day. If you love the water, then this is the camp for you! (Campers MUST be a Lifesaving Swimmer 5 or equivalent or higher. If you are unsure of swim level or need camper to be evaluated before registration, please visit the Uxpool.) Campers will also get the chance to experience outdoor camp games and activities, including water day.

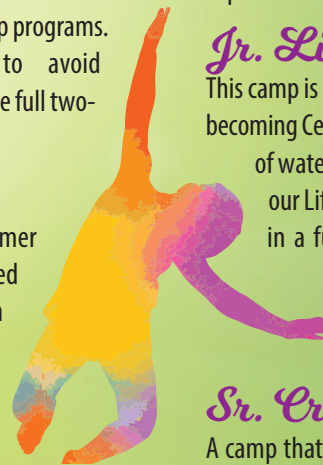
LIT - Leadership in Training

This one-week program is designed to teach and expand participants' leadership skills, with an emphasis on those required to be a future Camp Counsellor. Topics include Basic First Aid, volunteer responsibilities, professional communication, program planning, exceptionalities workshop, and most importantly, the power to influence as a positive and effective leader. Successful completion of this course allows participants a volunteer placement for up to two weeks of the summer! A great learning opportunity and addition to a resumé. *Ages 13-14 yrs. Limited space in leadership programs. We highly recommend registering early to avoid disappointment!



Jr. and Sr. Finale

The best of the best! All your summer favourites rolled into one fun-filled week! Campers will participate in drama, sports, crafts, games, fort building, theme days, canoeing, campfires, archery, swimming and more. Finale camp will be divided into Junior and Senior age groups. End your summer with an action-packed, high-energy week you're sure to never forget! Note: canoeing and archery are reserved for Sr. Finale participants only. Please register early to avoid disappointment! *Swimming daily.



Jr. Lifeguard

This camp is geared towards youth interested in taking the first step to becoming Certified Lifeguards. Jr. Lifeguard campers will enjoy a variety of water rescues, lifesaving techniques and stroke efficiency from our Life Saving Society Rookie, Ranger, and Star Patrol Programs in a fun-filled atmosphere. (Campers MUST have completed Lifesaving Swimmer 6 or equivalent). Indoor and outdoor camp games and activities included! *Please contact Uxpool for more details.

Sr. Creators

A camp that gets your gears going, your creative juices flowing, and inspires you to put your skills to the test! Sr. Creator campers will experience the wonder of science experiments, work on meaningful art projects, and will improve their handy work making DIY projects. The goal of this camp is to have fun creating – whatever that may look like to you! This camp will provide a creative and welcoming environment, so all can enjoy participating! At the end of the week, family and friends are invited to watch campers participate on stage in our camp show at Elgin Park. *Swimming daily. Projects subject to change.

Tour Camp

What a great way to celebrate summer fun! These outgoing campers will participate in a wide variety of out-trip touring activities such as Laser Quest, Glow in the Dark Mini Putting, Metro Toronto Zoo, Ontario Science Centre, NEBS Fun World, or Sky Zone! Special Blue Jays 'Camp Day' against the San Diego Padres included on Week 3! Tour Camp is limited to 40 participants per week. Waitlists will be created after maximum participant number reached. Please register early to avoid disappointment! *All activities are subject to change. Swimming Monday only. Tour Camp itineraries will be emailed one week prior to the scheduled camp week. We are not able to confirm or guarantee activities upon registration, other than the Blue Jays Game on week 3.



Every camp (except Tour Camp) has an optional Friday Pizza Party.

Ux-Camps info continues on next page



Camps

Week 7 August 14-18

Week 8 August 21-25

Week 9 August 28 - September 1

Early Bird Registration Bonus

Register on or before May 31 to receive a 5% discount per camp registration and a free UxCamps t-shirt!

Extended Care

AM \$20 per week - PM \$20 per week
Emergency AM/PM \$5/Extended care

	Week(s) offered	Cost per week	Optional Costs	Swimming 3:00 - 4:00pm	AM care 7:30 - 8:30am	PM care 4:30 - 5:30pm
am-4:30pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	\$204	\$5 Pizza Lunch	Thursday & Friday	Elgin Park	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	\$204	\$5 Pizza Lunch	Thursday & Friday	Elgin Park	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	\$211	\$5 Pizza Lunch	Friday	N/A	N/A
am-4:30pm	3, 6, 7	\$211	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	N/A	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	1, 5, 8	\$211	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	See Itinerary	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 8	\$211	\$5 Pizza Lunch	Thursday & Friday	See Itinerary	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	2, 4, 6	\$204	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	Elgin Park	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	1, 2, 5, 8	\$211	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	Elgin Park	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	4, 5, 7, 8	\$211	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	Elgin Park	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	4	\$204	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	N/A	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	3, 6	\$219	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	Elgin Park	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	4, 5, 6, 8	\$211	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	N/A	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	6	\$163 (pro-rated)	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	N/A	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	6	\$169 (pro-rated)	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	N/A	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	\$204	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	Elgin Park	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	3, 7	\$343	See Itinerary	Monday	See Itinerary	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	2	\$264	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	Volunteer	Volunteer
am-4:30pm	1 AND 2	\$417 (inclusive)	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	Volunteer	Volunteer
am-4:30pm	9	\$204	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	Elgin Park	Uxpool Park
am-4:30pm	9	\$204	\$5 Pizza Lunch	DAILY	Elgin Park	Uxpool Park

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Ux-Camps

Frequently Asked Questions, Policies & Reminders

Age of Participants

Our camp programs are designed and programmed for specific age groups. Participants must meet the minimum age requirement within the current calendar year to participate in the camp program.

Conduct

UxCamps is proud to provide safe, secure, and welcoming environments for all participants and staff members. Coarse language, bullying, vandalism, or physical or aggressive behaviour is strictly prohibited. Such activity will be recorded, reported, and may result in the removal from the camp and/or facility at the discretion of Management.

Camp Information Packages

All camp specific program information (i.e., medical forms, permission to pick up forms, etc.) will be emailed to the email address associated with the camper's account by the Thursday evening before the camp start date. Please ensure that your email address, emergency contacts, and camper medical and special request information is up-to-date in our system. Should you have any further questions after reading the camp information package, please contact the Camp Director at camps@uxbridge.ca or 905-852-7831.

Health and Safety

All campers with a medical concern(s) are required to complete a Medical Form prior to their first day of camp. Medical Forms can be found in the camp information package, which is emailed to the address on file prior to the first day of camp. If a participant has a communicable disease or a current public health concern, we kindly ask that they not attend UxCamps during such time.

Camp Inclusion

If your child requires special assistance for one of our programs, please notify the Camp Director by June 2, prior to registration, so that we can properly accommodate you. All 1:1 requests require an interview with the Camp Director to ensure that we are able to meet the needs of your camper. To meet the needs of as many participants as possible, families requiring 1:1 assistance can request support for up to two (2) weeks of camp. If you have any questions regarding our 1:1 system, please contact the Camp Director at camps@uxbridge.ca or 905-852-7831.

Allergy Awareness

UxCamps strives to create the safest environment possible for all participants. Peanut/Nut products are not permitted at camp, due to severe camper and staff allergies. All other food allergies (if any) will be listed in your camp information package for that specific week, for parent/guardian awareness. We ask you to please be conscious while packing camper lunches. Allergies should be listed as a medical concern on your camper's Medical Form. Our facilities are used by the public and although we promote a peanut/nut free environment, we cannot guarantee the absence of allergens in our facilities.

Swim Tests

Each camp will have the chance to participate in an hour of free swim at least once per week. Should your child choose to participate, a swim test may be required. A deep end swim test consists of swimming the width of the Uxpool (there and back), in a front crawl, without stopping. A shallow end swim test consists of only one width of the shallow end. A swim test is required if: the camper wishes to swim in the middle or deep end, or the camper is over the age of six (6)* and wishes to swim in the shallow end without a lifejacket. The passing of the swim test is at the discretion of the lifeguards only. Campers may either be granted full access of the pool, partial access of the pool (shallow end and middle section only) or may be asked to remain in the shallow end. *Please note, campers ages 6 and under are required to wear a lifejacket, as per Uxpool policy, and are not required to participate in a swim test.

Sign In/Out Procedures

All campers are to be signed in and out with their camp supervisor by an authorized parent/guardian. Prior to your camper's first day of camp, please fill out a 'Permission to Pick Up' form located in your camp information package, listing and authorizing specific persons to pick up your child. Those who arrive to pick up a camper will be asked to provide a piece of photo ID matching the authorized person(s) before the camper is released from our care. If you need to update your Permission to Pick Up list throughout the week, please speak with your camper's supervisor.

Extended Care

AM Care is available for certain camps and is offered at Elgin Park, for drop-offs between 7:30-8:30am. We are not responsible for your camper before 7:30am. Please see camp flyer for availability. PM Care is available for certain camps and is offered at the Uxpool, for pick-ups between 4:30-5:30pm. The late fee policy will apply to those who pick up after 5:30pm. Please see camp flyer for availability.

Late Fee Policy

A \$5 late fee will apply for every five minutes after 4:30pm that a camper has not been picked up and who is not registered for Extended Care. To avoid a late fee, please consider registering your camper for Extended Care, should you anticipate not being able to arrive on time for pick up.

Postdated Payments

Option to postdate 50% payment to June 19, 2023 (at the discretion of the Camp Director). Please email camps@uxbridge.ca for more information or call 905-852-7831. Please note that postdated payments are not possible for online registrations. Registrations requiring a payment plan must be completed by a member of our staff either over the phone or in person at the Uxpool.

Refunds, Transfers, or Credits

Please visit www.uxbridge.ca/recreation to review current refund, transfer and/or credit policies.

**16th Annual Run for the Diamond
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Am I Wrong?

column by Roger Varley

We're being taken for fools

There's a new "sensation" on the internet which, to my mind, proves that we're all being taken for fools. It's called The Big Red Boot!

This so-called footwear is over-the-top cartoonland that, according to the internet, is being embraced wholeheartedly by "celebrities" and "influencers," who likely will be the only ones able to afford to buy them since they sell for \$350 a pair (over \$400 in Canada).

Anyone who purchases these boots - (and, God forbid, actually wears them) - sends out two messages to the world: "Hey, look at me, I'm an attention seeker" and "I'm stupid."

No doubt, the boots will be a big seller - (for a while, anyway) - and somebody will be laughing all the way to the bank, because, as P.T. Barnum famously said: "There's a sucker born every minute." Just like those suckers who spend huge amounts of cash on Gucci handbags and Kanye West sneakers. Is a Gucci handbag any more serviceable than a regular handbag? Does a pair of Kanye West sneakers enable the wearer to run faster or jump higher? No. They just make the manufacturer richer because they're a "name" brand.

And so it is just about everywhere one looks. I have cable TV, but many (most) of the channels that show up on my screen require a "subscription." I already pay for cable, but they want to charge me more to watch it. I used to travel on B.C. Ferries quite often and, like most passengers, my first stop on boarding was the cafeteria. You paid for your meal, but if you wanted a small pat of butter for your toast, it cost you extra.

We're being taken for fools every time we turn around. Premier Doug Ford takes us all for fools when he asks us to believe that developers, who purchased undevelopable land on the Greenbelt just weeks before his "Build Better Homes Faster" announcement, had no advance notice of his intentions, or that he had no idea what gifts developers brought to his home for his daughter's stag-and-doe. It

was at his home, for Pete's sake. Are we really to believe he didn't see all the envelopes being handed over or that all those developers in attendance talked only about the weather? The fact that Ford refused to answer any questions in Tuesday's Question Period regarding his dealings with developers proves to me that he did and they didn't.

Locally, did our municipal council take us all for fools when it agreed to spend \$10,000 on a fence at the bottom of the toboggan hill at the arena? The fact that the fence was part of the budget process's "wish list" (council hates that term) proves to me that it was not an urgent requirement, but they approved it anyway and went to on finalize a budget that will see homeowners pay a 5.93 per cent increase on their property taxes.

When you get right down to it, politicians are the worst offenders when it comes to taking us for fools. Justin Trudeau does so with his "sunny ways" and his apparent unwillingness to address ethics violations by members of his cabinet. Pierre Poilievre does so when he tries to convince us he's just one of the people, though he has never worked a day in his life that wasn't paid for by those same people. And when it's time for the next election, be it federal or provincial, we'll have incumbents and challengers all telling us what they'll do for us if elected and then ignore everything they said once they get into office.

And don't even get me started on all these sports betting apps. Are we supposed to believe there couldn't possibly be anything wrong with a betting company actually owning a professional soccer team, as is the case in England? And what is one to think when a veteran NFL place kicker misses four scoring attempts in the same game, given that one such betting company bills itself as the official betting site of the NFL?

It seems to me we *are* fools if we don't start standing up for ourselves and telling P.T. Barnum to take his circus elsewhere.

Tell me, am I wrong?



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

Rhythm of responsibility

The first time she went missing, the rest of the family nearly went crazy with anxiety. We searched in neighbouring yards, down the block, around most of the village. We were beside ourselves with guilt and worry that we'd never get her back. We even put up signs:

"She's three. She's friendly. She's been missing for several days," our handmade poster proclaimed. "She answers to Topsy." She was my family's first real household pet, a three-year-old collie, the spitting image of TV's *Lassie*. And because we knew everybody around us felt the same way about their family pets, we figured she'd be returned to us really quickly. But that was the early 1960s.

I read a news story this week that was the polar opposite to the predicament of our lost collie. The papers and TV news have reported this week that Parks Canada staffers are facing an odd problem. People are dumping domesticated animals in our national parks; they're abandoning dogs, cats, rabbits, reptiles and other exotic animals that were formerly kept indoors at their homes. At Rouge National Urban Park in Pickering, for example, park officials said in 2020 they retrieved just two former household pets; in 2022, they found 18. In a case last November, they came across the remains of a dog on a woodland trail; it had succumbed to starvation and exposure to the cold. "Pets are not equipped to survive in the wild," Lorraine Chung, one Rouge Park officer told the *Toronto Star*.

Three years ago, when COVID-19 suddenly forced us to stay home in isolation, a lot of us craved the companionship of pets. In the U.S., 23 million households got new pets during the pandemic. In the same period, Canadians introduced three million new pets into their lives. One of those pandemic pets came into our home. Without a dog for several years and working entirely from home, I contacted a breeder in Millbrook and bought a springer spaniel. I named him Jazz. I knew from past experience that a mostly house-bound dog needs plenty of attention. I have to feed him almost exactly the same time each day. I have to attend to his medical needs. I have to let him out regularly. And I have to walk him; Jazz is so tuned to walks, he's on my case - running for the leash, leaping at the door and poking my hands (even when they're on

this keyboard) to get off my butt for his walks. The rhythm of responsibility is as vital for a pet as it is for a child. Strangely, however, in the COVID pandemic, when we learned how much we needed to depend on each other as humans, some our pets became expendable.

Because now it's 2023. Anti-COVID vaccines have mostly done their work. For the moment, the deadly waves of the pandemic have subsided. With that pendulum shift, more people have returned to their offices, and some cannot/will not attend to those pandemic pets the way they did in isolation. What's worse, with the recent economic downturn, some pet owners have found the cost of pet food, veterinary bills, grooming and kennel services have all put a strain on that rhythm of responsibility.

Stu Johnson volunteers with Team Chelsea, helping to retrieve lost pets in Durham Region. He told Global TV last week that sometimes it's unexpected vet bills, or because an owner can't put a sick animal down, or a marriage breakup - that's how pets become victims. "In one situation, somebody thought it was OK to drop their dog in its crate along with all its belongings on a back road in Durham Region," Johnson said. Apparently desperate people have abrogated the commitment to their house pets and have hidden their desperation in the woods - leaving their problem behind for others to fix.

By the way, we eventually did find our pet collie, all those years ago. It was the Victoria Day weekend about 1963 or '64, and Topsy had followed her nose to a neighbourhood park where children began playing with her. About the time she thought about retracing her steps back home, it was dusk, and the village fire department ignited some holiday fireworks. Well, that did it. Topsy bolted into a backyard where a family recognized her panic panting, took her in and tried to track us down. Next morning, word got up the street. We heard about a collie in distress. And Topsy came home safely.

We just couldn't imagine life without our canine family member. And I think that has to be the prerequisite before anybody brings a pet home to keep.

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



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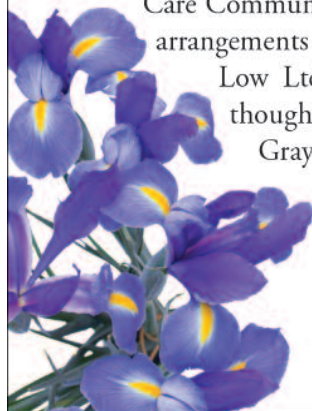
Thank You

A simple thank-you does not begin to express our appreciation for the kind words extended by family and friends, lovely flowers received, as well as donations made in memory of Mom. Our heartfelt gratitude is extended to Dr. Jennifer Wilson for her home visits, to the compassionate and caring staff of Bloomington Cove

Care Community, to Keith's Flowers for the beautiful arrangements and to Bradley, Joel and Lori of Low & Low Ltd., who guided us at each step. The thoughtful and comforting words of Jo-Anne Gray and Pastor Craig Wilson enabled each of us to smile with remembrance for a life well lived.

Sincerely,

The Family of Mavis Hope



Bruins' goalie makes club history

Roger Varley

Uxbridge Bruins goalie Kyle Groff pulled off a first last Saturday, scoring a goal against the North Kawartha Knights with just one second remaining on the clock. According to Bruins officials, Groff is the first goalie in Bruins history to score a goal.

The goal came as the Knights were pressing to tie the game and pulled their goalie for an extra attacker. Groff took the puck and fired it the length of the ice into the empty net to give the Bruins a 5-3 win.

The game was one of three the Uxbridge team played on the weekend, starting with a thumping of the last-place Lakefield Chiefs at the arena on Friday. After a scoreless first period, the Chiefs opened the scor-

ing less than two minutes into the second. Caleb MacLeish tied the game with an assist from Anthony Lamanna midway through the period.

In the third, Lamanna and MacLeish reversed roles for what proved to be the winning goal and then it was MacLeish and Lamanna again, with Quinn Meek thrown into the mix. The desperate Chiefs pulled their goalie in an attempt to come back, but Meek nailed an empty-netter, assisted by Sam Davis and Matt Gordon.

An indication of the Bruins' domination of the game showed in shots on goal: Uxbridge fired 35 shots on the Lakefield net, while Uxbridge goalie Noah Acciaccaferra faced only 14.

The following night, the Bruins

travelled to Apsley to take on the Knights. The Knights opened the scoring in the first, but call-up Evan Breckles replied for the Bruins, assisted by Stellucio Basile and Cohen Mackie.

In the second, the Bruins added two more. Lamanna scored 26 seconds after the period began, assisted by brothers Quinn and Declan Meek, and Basile made it 3-1, assisted by Mackie and Andrew Swan.

However, the Knights showed they were not about to roll over and scored two goals in the first 10 minutes of the third period to tie the game. As the period wound down, Lamanna put the Bruins ahead again, assisted by Breckles and Quinn Meek, which led the Knights to pull their goalie for an extra attacker, which in turn led to Groff's unassisted empty-netter at 19:59.

Back in the arena on Monday for a make-up game, the Knights came on strong. They scored the opening goal in the first period, but Lamanna and Meek combined to tie the score. The Knights scored two more in the second period, including a power-play marker. The Bruins replaced Acciaccaferra with Groff for the third, but North Kawartha potted another for a 4-1 win. Yet the Knights fired a total of only 14 shots on the Bruins' net.

The Bruins return to the arena tomorrow (Friday) night at 7:45 p.m. for their last home game of the regular season, facing the Little Britain Merchants. On Sunday, they nip over to Scugog to take on the Port Perry Lumberjacks and then round out the season with a game against the Georgina Ice in Keswick on March 3.

It Was a Wonderful Life



Norma O'Connor


Born September 5, 1920 - Died February 13, 2023

Passed peacefully at Port Perry Place, surrounded by love and family. Predeceased by her beloved husband, Bill, in 2011. Loving Mother to: Bill (Fabiana), Mary-Anne, Margaret (Graeme), Betty. Devoted Grandmother to: Kathleen (Steve), Jennifer (Jay), Thom (Amanda), Mary (John), Jessica, Madison, Justine (Kyle). Loving GG to: Jack, Henry and Lauren; Oliver and Grace; Luca, Matteo and Nico; Keira and Bowen; and Lorena.

Long time resident of Uxbridge, from 1956 till 2005, when they moved to Port Perry. Mom worked in banking from the age of 15 until she retired at 66 to care for grandchildren. She was always involved in many things, and loved to help others. She dearly loved animals and had many kitties over the years.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Toronto Sick Children's Hospital or an animal shelter of your choice. A Celebration of Life will take place at the Royal Canadian Legion, 109 Franklin Street, Uxbridge on Saturday, March 18, at 1:00 p.m. Private family interment at a later date.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Low & Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Box 388, Uxbridge L0P 1M8 905-852-3073. Online condolences can be made at www.lowandlow.ca




*In loving memory of
Elizabeth (Sandra)
Botham*

November 17, 1947 ~ February 26, 2022

A loving, kind and devoted wife, mother and grandmother, and friend to all who knew her.


One long and lonely year has passed
Since you were called away.
We sure do miss those by-gone times;
You're in our hearts each and every day.

Occasionally we feel your presence,
So happy, delighted you're there.
Suddenly we have to face sad reality
When we see your empty chair.

We would not wish to see you back
To a world of pain and strife;
The good Lord has granted you peace
For an everlasting, eternal life.

One day we'll be together again,
And be together for evermore.
We'll walk side by side, hand in hand,
When we meet on that heavenly shore.

*Love you always,
Wes, Scott, Katherine,
Terry, Susan, Dianne,
and families.*



Alvars: A globally significant habitat... right next door
Presentation with David Hawke
Feb. 28, 7 p.m. on Zoom

Most naturalists are familiar with a wide variety of habitat types, such as a hardwood forest, cedar swamp, or grassland... but an alvar?

This presentation takes a close look at the ecology of limestone plains (alvars) found scattered around central Ontario. It is a harsh environment, subject to flooding and drought each year; therefore the plants and wildlife that live here are a hardy and often unique group.

David Hawke has been visiting this habitat since the 1970s. His stories and photographs reveal the lure and excitement of exploring alvars.

To participate in this Zoom meeting you must be a member of North Durham Nature. Go to northdurham-nature.com for membership details.

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Light For Your Path

*"The Lamb at the centre of the
throne will be their shepherd;
He will lead them to springs of
living water."* Rev. 7:17

For Bible Resources:
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CLASSIFIEDS

Classifieds are \$15/week up to 25 words; \$0.20 per additional word (plus HST). Payable in advance by cash, cheque, debit or credit card. Contact Lvann@thecosmos.ca or 905-852-1900 Deadline: Tuesday, 12 noon.

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EVENTS

JAZZ CONCERTS IN LEASKDALE: Tom Baker (piano) & friends perform at the Historic Leaskdale Church. Fri., March 3, at 7:30 p.m. Donations at the door, proceeds to the Lucy Maud Montgomery Society to help refurbish grand piano.

REGISTER YOUR RENTAL: Landlords or Home owners - If you have a rental (apt., or room), Please call 905-640-3966 or 905-852-0090 or email beverlynortheast@gmail.com

UDORA LEASKDALE LIONS CLUB'S SPAGHETTI DINNER RETURNS Friday, Feb. 24, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Udora Community Hall (24 Victoria St., Udora). Adults \$15, children \$5.

UXBRIDGE MINDFULNESS/INSIGHT MEDITATION is holding in-person meetings at 10 a.m. every other Sunday. Whether experienced or new to meditation, all are welcome. Location is: 2 Campbell Dr., Ste. 201. Email Gail: ghorner550@gmail.com

SPAGHETTI DINNER Friday, Feb. 24, 5-6:30 p.m., St. Paul's Anglican Church. Free! Served in the lower hall. To volunteer, contact church office by email at stpaulsuxbridge@yahoo.ca or by phone at 905-852-7016.

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Call 905-852-1900
Email: lvann@thecosmos.ca



February 28
is National Spay Neuter Day!
Please Support SNIP
 Spay Neuter Initiative Project

The Problem:
 The Region of Durham has a big problem with pet overpopulation.

Help us be the Solution

Companion animal overpopulation is one of the most pressing animal welfare issues of our time. Overpopulation exists when there are too many animals relative to the number of potential homes in which they can be responsibly cared for.

By spaying or neutering your pet, you'll help control the pet homelessness crisis. Spaying and Neutering prevents unwanted pregnancies, disease, cancers, and feral colonies.

Spay Neuter Initiatives Association has recently been offered an amazing opportunity to lease a property in Port Perry located right in the center of Durham Region, which will include a much-needed, fully functioning low cost spay/neuter vet clinic.

Please help us meet our start-up funding goals.

Every dollar makes a difference! Tax receipts will be issued for all donations over \$20.

Registered Name: Spay Neuter Initiatives Association
 Business No: 855146312RR0001
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www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/spay-neuter-initiatives-association/
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Letters, from page 4

citizens are not valued for anything other than their ability to pay taxes, regardless of the rate. I fear that if the citizens of Uxbridge can no longer afford to live here, they will move somewhere cheaper. Unfortunately, council and the mayor have given no thought that the increase in costs will drive some people out of Uxbridge. The mayor is well aware of the housing demand, and replacing current residents with those willing to pay more will not be a problem. However, where is the thoughtfulness and protection for the people of Uxbridge?

The cost of this tax increase does not match the income increase of most people in 2023. If people remain in their current homes with this outrageous tax increase, spending on other items in the community will have to be cut. For example, this tax increase alone is worth 10 dinners for two at Swiss Chalet. If you raise taxes, people will spend less at local businesses. This approach will make citizens unhappy.

I urge the council and the mayor to reconsider their de-

cision and prioritize the well-being of the citizens of Uxbridge. They should give careful thought to the impact of their decisions on the community and aim to protect the interests of the citizens.

Doug van Wolde Goodwood

Herrema Fields felt right for a farmers' market. What may be considered the edge of town became central. Easy access on foot or wheels. One could rush in and out for last-minute ingredients or purchase fresh and in season for the week.

While the farm is my happy place, it is draining. But after five hours at the Herrema Fields, I could recharge my batteries with a renewable resource - kindness. The space literally was a breathe of fresh air. The playground, the grassy area, reasons for children to be outdoors...

I am not a member of council, but I will answer and thank the *Cosmos* for it's question. Yes, I believe a soccer game can be played while the farmers' market is nearby.

Angela Nickle f.N. Happy Farm Uxbridge

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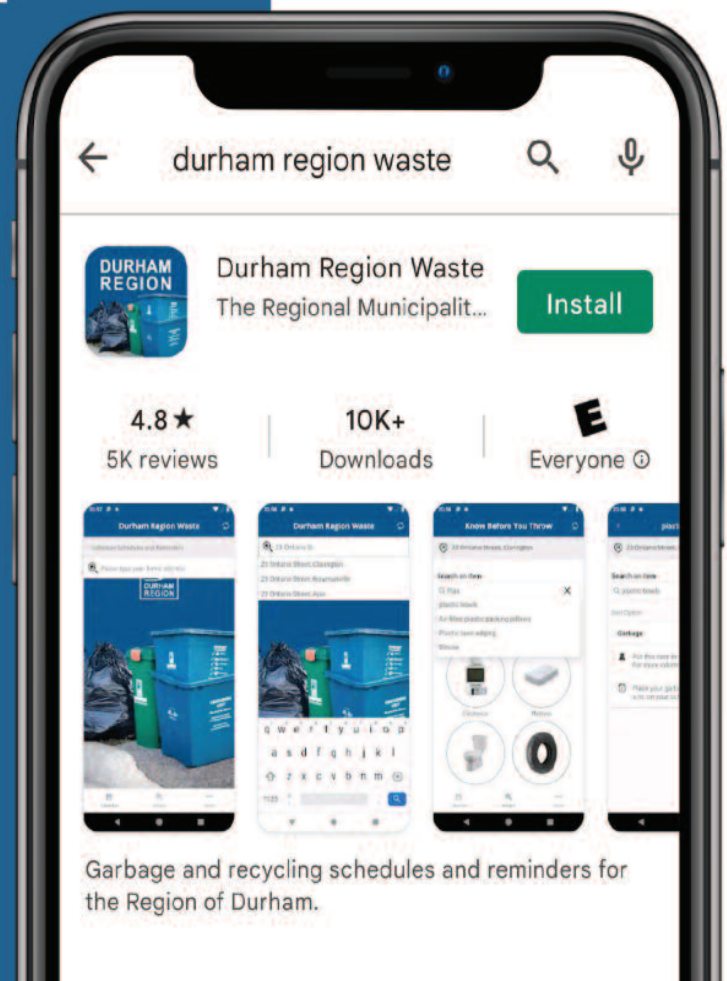
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