

# The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 20 No. 1

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, January 11, 2024

Welcome to 2024!



**GET AIR - AND SNOW - WHILE YOU CAN** - Skiers and snowboarders alike took advantage of a brief moment of sunshine over the winter holidays to spend some time on the slopes at Dagmar Ski Resort. Unseasonal mild weather have forced local resorts to make snow at night, when the temperature dips a little.  
*Photo by John Covers*

## Council expecting a tough go through upcoming budget talks

Roger Varley

Uxbridge council opened its annual budget discussions on Wednesday, with finance committee chair Willie Popp cautioning that "lots of pressures and headwinds are heading our way."

Popp said it is too early to say what taxpayers can expect in terms of a property tax increase - or decrease - but offered that council would do its best to be at or slightly under last year's 5.93 per cent increase.

Budget discussions are scheduled for Jan. 11, 16, 18, 23 and 25.

Tuesday's session focused on general government, which included council, the office of the chief administrative officer, the treasurer's department, the clerk's department and by-law and animal control, and development

...continued on page 6

real  
NOBLE  
REAL ESTATE

Your Local  
Uxbridge Expert  
#TheNobleApproach

Collin Noble  
REALTOR  
647-967-7198  
Collin@NobleRealEstate.ca  
NobleRealEstate.ca

**PHARMASAVE**

Your independent  
neighbourhood pharmacy

ORDER REFILLS  
VIA OUR APP  
OR ONLINE AT

pharmasaveuxbridge.com

29 Toronto St. S., Uxbridge | 905-862-2800

**AXIS**  
CHIROPRACTIC

- Chiropractic •Acupuncture
- Custom Orthotics •Massage Therapy
- Laser Therapy

304 Toronto Street South  
905-852-9700  
axischiropractic.ca

## YDHR axes senior staff in bid to get Township back to the table

Conrad Boyce, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Three weeks ago, on its Facebook page, the York Durham Heritage Railway (YDHR) announced that it was reluctantly leaving Uxbridge for what it considered friendlier climes, no longer feeling welcome in the town it has called home since its inception in 1997. Giving up, so it seemed, on any hope of negotiating a new lease with its landlord, the Township of Uxbridge.

On Tuesday, the charitable organization posted another statement on its page, this time announcing a return to its "volunteer roots" by letting go all of its senior staff and undertaking a two-year plan to resolve a formidable debt.

In between the dates mentioned above, the Township took YDHR at its word, and gave notice that the railway would have to vacate the rail yard and cease operations by the end of this month, only being allowed to enter and remove assets until April 30.

At the regular township council meeting on Monday, Jan. 8, Mayor Dave Barton said it was sad to see the end of YDHR in Uxbridge, that instead of emerging from the pandemic determined to do better, its situation had gotten worse. CAO Kristi Honey said the Township had already received numerous expressions of interest in using both the train station and the rail yard, including from operators of other short-line railroads. She said she was "excited to see what's next."

Barton said the operation of a heritage railway in Uxbridge was important to the town, but that any new lease on the property would look substantially different from former ones, with a greater emphasis on regular safety inspections, and financial transparency. In response to a question from the *Cosmos*, he said that future lease negotiations could be held with any organization prepared to abide by the Township's conditions - including the YDHR.

Following Tuesday's announcement, the chair of the YDHR board, Michael Jacula, told the *Cosmos*, "We know that if we have to leave Uxbridge, we would be leaving our greatest asset, the hundreds of volunteers who have made this railway work over the years. We love this town. We also know the Township has a long list of conditions that need to be met if we're to continue to be able to operate here. We just want the opportunity to sit down and try to satisfy those conditions."

Jacula said the staff that have been laid off were very understanding of YDHR's situation.

At the Jan. 8 council meeting, Honey said that to date, YDHR was up to date on its rent, and had satisfactorily vacated the train station by Dec. 31, the end of its lease on that property; the lease on the tracks and rail yard, which the Township leases from Metrolinx and has then sub-leased to YDHR, is on a month-to-month

...continued on page 3

Contact me for a complimentary market analysis.

heather  
**MACKENZIE**  
SALES REPRESENTATIVE  
Direct 416-476-5905

ROYAL LEPAGE  
FRANK Real Estate

heathermackenzie@royallepage.ca

**STEP FORWARD**  
PHYSIOTHERAPY

YOUR FIRST STEP  
TO RECOVERY

905 852-1122

278 Main St. N Unit 4, Uxbridge

STEPFORWARDPHYSIO.COM

**NEW PRICE \$1,799,000**

**AMAZING WOODEN STICKS HOME 31 BUTTON CRESCENT**

- 4+2 bedrooms and 4 baths
- New I/G pool and hot tub and gazebo
- Newly fully-finished basement
- Toop many updates to list
- Check this one out!

www.HowardAndDebbi.com

Community  
ROYAL LEPAGE

DIAMOND AWARD 2023

DEBBI JEFFERSON & HOWARD LEE  
\*Sales Representatives

905.642.6333  
debbijefferson@bell.net

**FOR SALE**

7 James Hunt Court  
This beautiful 4 bed, 3 bath bungalow has lots of natural light and is situated on a quiet court. Boasting numerous upgrades inside and out, a fully fenced yard, a heated 2-car garage and is just steps from the Uxbridge Trail.

Marie Persaud Direct 416-970-8979 Mariepersaud.ca Realtor®

Alyssa Persaud Direct 647-232-8979 AlyssaPersaud.ca Realtor®

COLDWELL BANKER R.M.R. REAL ESTATE, BROKERAGE  
Office 905-852-4338

PERSAUD & CO.



# 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

**TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE**  
**Trail Capital of Canada**

**FOLLOW US**   


**MORE INFO**  [www.uxbridge.ca](http://www.uxbridge.ca)

## Council & Committee Meetings

**Meeting Schedule for January, 2024**  
 Thursday, January 11, 1:00 p.m.  
 DEPARTMENT BUDGET PRESENTATIONS  
 Monday, January 15, 10:00 a.m.  
 COMMITTEE MEETING  
 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - CANCELLED  
 Tuesday, January 16, 1:00 p.m.  
 DEPARTMENT BUDGET PRESENTATIONS  
 SPECIAL CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING, 4:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday, January 17, 4:30 p.m.  
 SPECIAL CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING  
 COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT, 7:00 p.m.  
 Thursday, January 18, 1:00 p.m.  
 DEPARTMENT BUDGET PRESENTATIONS  
 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - CANCELLED  
 Friday, January 19  
 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - CANCELLED  
 Monday, January 22  
 COUNCIL MEETING CANCELLED  
 Tuesday, January 23  
 DEPARTMENT BUDGET PRESENTATIONS  
 1:00p.m. - 5:00p.m. (if needed)  
 Thursday, January 25  
 1:00p.m. - 5:00p.m. (if needed)  
 DEPARTMENT BUDGET PRESENTATIONS  
 BIA BOARD, 7:00 p.m.  
 Monday, January 29, 3:00 p.m.  
 DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE  
 Tuesday, January 30, 3:30 p.m.  
 ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
**Proclamations for the Month:**  
 January 21 - World Religion Day  
 January 21 - Lincoln Alexander Day  
 January 24 - International day of Education  
 January 24 - Bell Let's Talk Day  
 January 27 - International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust  
 January 29 - National Day of Remembrance of the Quebec City Mosque Attack and Action Against Islamophobia

## Bids & Tenders

All current bid opportunities are posted to [https://www.uxbridge.ca/bids\\_and\\_tenders/](https://www.uxbridge.ca/bids_and_tenders/)  
 U24-01 – Tree Removal – Closes Jan 16, at 2:00 p.m.  
 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/](https://www.uxbridge.ca/bids_and_tenders/)

# 2024/2025 BUDGET

## Budget Meetings

Thursday, January 11  
 Tuesday, January 16  
 Thursday, January 18  
 1:00 - 5:00 pm

**Attend virtually or in person via online TEAMS meeting or at Town Hall (51 Toronto St. S)**



## Road Closures

- Uxbridge-East Gwillimbury Townline from north of Durham Reg. Rd. 39/Queensville Sideroad to south of Holborn Road, East Gwillimbury - closed for bridge repairs to 2024
- Uxbridge East Gwillimbury Townline from York St. 500m south of Ravenshoe Road to Zephyr Road - closed for bridge repairs to January 2024



## 2024 Pet Tags Now Available

Renew your licences on-line at [uxbridge.docupet.com](http://uxbridge.docupet.com)

## Time to Renew Your Burn Permit!



[www.uxbridge.ca/fire](http://www.uxbridge.ca/fire)



## Elgin Pond Ice Is Not Currently Safe for Use

No ice is safe ice. Red Flags at Elgin Pond mean ice is unsafe for use. Yellow flags mean use ice with caution.



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

*YDHR, from page 1*

basis. She said, however, that the railway remained non-compliant on the safety front, particularly with the removal of two dilapidated cars from the westernmost track (YDHR told the *Cosmos* those two cars have not been removed pending their sale to an American buyer).

In response to YDHR's statement on Feb. 9, the CAO said, "Mayor Barton has mentioned that rail tourism is good for Uxbridge, and should YDHR or another entity bring a viable, safe, reliable and compliant plan forward, we are keen to listen as we investigate ideas to determine what is next for this tourism asset. This will start with discussions with Metrolinx, and our related committees. YDHR has mentioned they have a monumental task in front of them, and we look forward to hearing what is next as they bring the operations back to a volunteer-led organization."

Here is the full text of the two Facebook announcements from YDHR:

**Dec. 21, 2023**

"A statement from the Board of Directors at York Durham Heritage Railway: It is with a very heavy heart we announce our tenure in Uxbridge is coming to an end on May 31, 2024. This is almost the end of an era for all who have been involved with the railway over the years, we

"grew up" and came of age in this wonderful community. Even though we are very excited about our future and look forward to it, we are very sad to depart from Uxbridge.

This is not a decision we made lightly; however the last few months the Township of Uxbridge Council

all, however, we are not perfect or in the business of war, and cannot stay when it is so clearly written we are not welcome. We are on a new journey and look forward to the future, our energy and vision is in the new plans and what the future brings.

We certainly look forward to host-

us until May 31, 2024 and find out when and where you will celebrate with us next.

We thank you Uxbridge for all you have done for our organization, for your patience and support. You will forever be in our hearts and we will miss you all."

**Jan. 9, 2024**

From the YDHR Board of Directors: Despite our best efforts, the current YDHR business model has not been successful, with unique delays and losses during our non operational years.

Effective Monday Jan 8, we are going back to our roots, a volunteer driven organization. We wish to thank the management team for the years of dedication and service, and wish them well in their future endeavours.

To the hundreds of volunteers that have come to support us during the past almost thirty years, a very sincere thank you, we could not have made it without you. We look forward to having your support for many years to come. The task ahead is monumental, however, we remain optimistic, as we go back to our roots, our priority is to keep growing a strong volunteer base and continue to provide our supporters and new

In the past four years, according to files from the Canada Revenue Agency, the number of paid full-time and part-time YDHR employees has been growing. In 2019, CRA figures show there were five employees, each earning anywhere between \$1 and \$39,999. One employee was being paid between \$80,000 and \$119,999.

The following year, only two employees were making between \$1 and \$39,999 but six others were being paid between \$40,000 and \$79,999. One continued to receive between \$80,000 and \$119,999.

In 2021, total compensation was \$903,239, with 18 full-time staff and 93 part-timers. Of the full-time staff, 10 were in the \$1 to \$39,999 range, six were receiving between \$40,000 and \$79,000 and two were now in the \$80,000 to \$119,999 range.

In 2022, the number of staff reduced somewhat, but the overall compensation increased to \$915,486. Of that figure, \$351,151 was shared among 88 part-timers. Seven full-time staff were paid between \$40,000 and \$79,999, one was paid between \$80,000 and \$119,999 and one full-time employee was elevated to somewhere between \$160,000 and \$199,999.

have shown us they believe with a whole heart we have overstayed our welcome, and made it very clear their insurmountable pressure will continue until we leave.

Our heart is with this community and we have tried and given it our

ing you at our new home in 2024, just as many thousands of people have come to Uxbridge during the past 20+ years, we know many of you will come and visit. Please stay tuned, check our website often for two reasons, enjoy the festivities with

**From fanfare to frustration: a railway's history**

On Saturday, Sept. 14, 1996, thousands of residents jammed the Uxbridge and Stouffville train stations for the opening of the York Durham Heritage Railway. For the next 20 years, the railway operated regular weekend runs between the two communities and added special event runs to the mix.

That opening day came nine years after the first recorded meeting of a group of heritage railway enthusiasts in August, 1987. The following year, the Township of Uxbridge purchased the railway station from Canadian National for the bargain basement price of \$1 and Canadian Pacific donated a caboose to the railway.

In 1990, YDHR was incorporated as a registered charity, and a year later received tax-exempt status from Revenue Canada. In 1991, Ron Pare built a mini-train that was used to generate funds and

interest in the new railway at local community events. Additional rolling stock was acquired over the next few years and volunteers began restoration work. In 1993, CN sold the right-of-way through Uxbridge to GO Transit and the province passed legislation establishing YDHR as an operating shortline railway.

In 1996, Uxbridge and Stouffville leased the railway line between the two communities from GO Transit; the municipalities then leased the line to the YDHR railway. Four months later came the grand opening, which occurred on the 125th anniversary of the old Toronto-Nipissing Railway.

During the next few years, the railway operated several special events, including sending the train to Union Station to bring people from Toronto to Uxbridge for a performance by the Toronto Symphony at Joey Tannenbaum's Gan Eden property. Crowds gathered in Uxbridge for Lucy Maud Montgomery (portrayed by Dorothy Partridge) arriving in her new

home. There were also Lady Dempster's Victorian teas, Halloween rides and corporate events, including one that involved a gang of wild west bandits holding up the train south of town and "kidnapping" the company CEO. The train and the station were also used by several film companies.

In July 2005, the railway sent its one operating vintage passenger coach to St. Thomas, Ont., to be part of that town's Thomas the Tank Engine event. In 2007, YDHR staged a Harry Potter night and an *Anne of Green Gables* event.

In 2015, YDHR staged its first of five annual Thomas the Train events. In 2019, Randall Bird, the newly appointed CEO of YDHR, told Uxbridge council the railway wanted to go "Disney," and laid out plans for major changes at the rail yard. Bird also announced that YDHR's annual payroll would be in the neighbourhood of \$500,000. Four months later, Bird was let go and John Perks took over as head of the operation.

friends, smaller, tamable events with the goal of reducing our debt load significantly over the next 24 months.

Your support is always appreciated. Thank you for continuing to believe in the mission of YDHR to bring Canadian Railway history to life.

*With files from Roger Varley and Lisha Van Nieuwenhove*



*FOSTER hope FOSTER care FOSTER love*

**Foster Care Information Sessions**

Foster parents provide safe, temporary care for children and youth, and play a fundamental role in supporting families when they need a helping hand.

To learn how you can help, join us at one of our upcoming information sessions in 2024.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Wednesday, January 17</b><br/>6:30 to 8:30 pm<br/>Pickering Library (Central Branch)<br/>1 The Esplanade S., Pickering</p>           | <p><b>Thursday, January 25</b><br/>6:30 to 8:30 pm<br/>Durham CAS office<br/>1320 Airport Blvd., Oshawa</p>               |
| <p><b>Thursday, February 1</b><br/>6:30 to 8:30 pm<br/>Uxbridge Public Library<br/>9 Toronto St. S., Uxbridge</p>                          | <p><b>Thursday, February 8</b><br/>6:30 to 8:30 pm<br/>Ajax Public Library (Main Branch)<br/>55 Harwood Ave. S., Ajax</p> |
| <p><b>Thursday, February 15</b><br/>5:30 to 7:30 pm<br/>Clarington Public Library (Bowmanville Branch)<br/>163 Church St., Bowmanville</p> | <p><b>Thursday, February 22</b><br/>6:30 to 8:30 pm<br/>Virtual Event<br/>(contact us for the link)</p>                   |

**DURHAM** Children's Aid Society [foster@durhamcas.ca](mailto:foster@durhamcas.ca)  
[durhamcas.ca](http://durhamcas.ca)

# Our two cents

## Stop the train, we wanna get off

Uxbridge didn't need to binge-watch "Succession" or "Fall of the House of Usher" or even the last season ever of "Letterkenny" to get a full dose of greed, horror and humour over the winter holidays. Tuning into social media and watching the ongoing saga between the township and the York-Durham Heritage Railway (YDHR) supplied all of the above in spades. And although it seems things have rounded the bend (train talk) a little and *may* be looking mildly positive, it's not been an easy ride (more train talk).

We won't bother to recap all the goings on here (read the story elsewhere in this edition). Suffice to say that it has been one heck of a ride, and both sides have been bold with what they've had to say. But all of this has been going off the rails for a long, long time, and only got real when the December 31, 2023, deadline loomed large in YDHR's headlamp.

We have a *lot* of questions. We've had them for quite awhile. In fact, we've had them since we ran a story on April 18, 2019, that had the headline "Heritage railway wants to go 'Disney style'." A new CEO, Randy Bird, had come on board, and wanted to shake things up. He lasted five months in the job. John Perks then took the controls, and YDHR appears to have been involved in the world's slowest derailment since then.

When December - and the eviction notice - arrived, it seems like YDHR realized it knew it couldn't meet the township's conditions on time, and so bluffed that it was going to take its proverbial bat and ball and leave town. The township, it seems, called YDHR's bluff, and told them thank you very much, here's the date by which you need to be gone. YDHR staff and volunteers alike must have had a rather stressful holiday season, trying to figure out a way out of that one. And now here we are. YDHR is saying it's returning "to its volunteer roots," which to us indicates how serious it is about *not* wanting to leave Uxbridge. The township is saying that it is "keen to listen" as it "investigates ideas to determine what is next for this tourism asset." Metrolinx (which owns the railyard and the tracks) as well as related township committees will also be involved in listening to what YDHR divulges what is next as they go "back to their roots, a volunteer-driven organization."

Our biggest question - *why* did it take YDHR so long to try and get its act together? How did it all get to this point? Why did the board (YDHR is a registered charity) not step in say, oh, five years ago?

From our vantage point, the township has been more than patient with YDHR, even through COVID and a tornado (which, as Mayor Dave Barton mentioned during Monday's council meeting, the rest of the town seemed to recover from relatively quickly, but YDHR "got worse"). The posts back and forth on social media only prove how strained the relationship between the two has become. This is a real shame, considering what a gem that train station and its trains has been. Can be.

We don't want YDHR to leave Uxbridge. We want the trains, and we want the people who come to ride them. But we don't want the YDHR that has been here for the past five years. We sincerely hope that there is a track forward for the township and YDHR. It's going to be a monumental task, undoing years of problems, but we think it might be worth it. As long as they don't bring back Thomas...



## Letters to the Editor

I would like to thank the good Samaritan lady who stopped to help my husband, who fell on the icy sidewalk on Brock St., adjacent to Butternut Manor, on Dec. 20, 2023.

Your kindness is very much appreciated. He broke his hip and had surgery to repair it; however, he is still in the hospital, as treatment for rehab was not available over Christmas and New Year's.

Neither the township nor Butternut Manor will take responsibility for the condition of the sidewalk, and I fear for the safety of others who regularly use this sidewalk to walk dogs, etc. When the next storm hits, what will it be like?

My dog, Charlie, also thanks you for getting him out of the cold into your car until I arrived at the scene.

*Joan Smith  
Uxbridge*

We did it again! The fantastic volunteers in the community gave of their time to make sure the Salvation Army Kettle was represented at both Zehrs and LCBO.

Zehrs, who for many years has welcomed us, and again this year the LCBO opened its doors to participate in the Kettle Fundraiser.

The local businesses that stepped forward and gave generously to the fundraising by Salvation Army to support those less fortunate: the Lions Clubs of Uxbridge and Leaskdale/Udora, Jones Pools, the Uxbridge Fire Department, Sandford United Church, the Toby family, S. Hawkins, Zephyr

Church, the Uxbridge Legion, Edna Smith, and Lows Furniture.

The residents who make Christmas morning magical, those who donated to the toy drive, and the toy drive workers, Andy, Melanie and Reggie Luukkonen; Lorna Waters and Heidi Weitzman, who worked many days assisting all agencies/churches in Uxbridge to select the perfect toy for every child in need.

The residents who sponsored the families were very generous with the beautiful gifts they brought in to show the families that others really care.

And the residents of Uxbridge, who personally donated and assisted with the hampers and gifts to make sure every child saw the miracle of Christmas when they got up on December 25.

Thank you to everyone who assisted us with our fundraiser. Remember - when a community pulls together great things happen.

*Bev Northeast  
Chair of Salvation Army  
Uxbridge Unit*

The provincial PC government has announced many new cannabis stores. Do we need them in Uxbridge? I don't think so. I can buy liquor at just one place, beer and wine at several other places and cannabis items at about five places, by my last count.

It seems to me we should sell more liquor, beer and wine and less cannabis.

*David Moseley  
Uxbridge*

We would like to take this opportunity to express a sincere thank you for the generosity of those who supported the Uxbridge Christmas Hamper Campaign.

As coordinators of this campaign, in cooperation with the Uxbridge Loaves and Fishes food bank, we did our best to ensure that every family who applied for assistance received a Christmas hamper.

We would like to thank all the churches, local businesses, service clubs and organizations, schools and individual families who prepared Christmas hampers (which included all the fixings for Christmas breakfast and dinner, lots of extra goodies and snacks, and gifts for the children and their parents), for the many families in our community.

In addition, a huge thank you to the organizers and volunteers of the Uxbridge Toy Drive who went over and above to help.

Last but not least, we would like to thank Father Gerard Pilon, the pastor of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, for allowing us the use of the hall for this endeavour.

It's amazing when that spirit of kindness and generosity by so many different people comes together, and together we were able to bring a little Christmas joy to 64 families in our community.

Thank you again for your generous support, it was very much appreciated.

*Susan Gilbert, Gloria Ross,  
Cathy Tweedy, Mary Ann  
Wagner, Coordinators, Uxbridge  
Christmas Hamper Campaign*

The **Uxbridge Cosmos**

Publisher/Editor: Lisha Van Nieuwenhove 905-852-1900  
Advertising/Sales: 905-852-1900

38 Toronto Street North, Unit One, Uxbridge Ontario L9P 1E6  
E-mail: Lvann@thecosmos.ca Website: Thecosmos.ca

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Friday to 4 p.m.

EDITORIAL POLICY: Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of The Cosmos. Letters must be signed and the telephone number provided (number will not be published). Requests that a name be withheld will be honoured only if there is a compelling reason. Errors brought to our attention will be corrected. The Cosmos reserves the right to edit and/or refuse to publish unsolicited material. ADVERTISING POLICY: The Cosmos reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. The Cosmos is not liable for slight changes or typographical errors in advertisements or any other errors or omissions in advertisements. All material herein, including advertising design, is copyrighted, and may not be reproduced in any form without permission.



9,800 copies of  
The Cosmos are  
published each Thursday  
in the Township of  
Uxbridge and delivered  
by Canada Post.



## Wandering the cosmos

column by Conrad Boyce

### The Bard of the Yukon

“There are strange things done in the midnight sun by the men who moil for gold...”

If you're not already aware, this year marks the 150th birthday (in November) of one of Canada's most beloved authors, and one who lived in Leaskdale for a key 15-year period in her career: Lucy Maud Montgomery.

Coincidentally, another writer, best known for the work he did in Canada, although he was born in England, raised in Scotland, and lived much of his life in France and Monaco, is also celebrating his sesquicentennial this year. Next week, in fact. And though he and Maud likely never met (although he did live in Toronto briefly in 1912-13), they were almost certainly aware of each other, since they were among the country's most celebrated literary figures in the early part of the 20th century. He published his best-known book in 1906, she in 1908.

And although this other writer played no part in Uxbridge's history, he had a huge role in mine. The fellow's name is Robert William Service. Although he wrote a bit of fiction, even a non-fiction fitness book, his reputation, and his publishing success, were built on his dramatic poetry. You might recognize the lines at the top of this column as being the opening of one of his most popular pieces, *The Cremation of Sam McGee*, which is set in the Yukon during the years following the Klondike Gold Rush. And that's where and when Service wrote it, while he was working as a bank teller in Whitehorse in 1905.

The bestselling single book of poetry in Canadian literary history was the slim volume Service published while he was volunteering as an ambulance driver on the front lines of the First World War (a job he shared with Ernest Hemingway and A.Y. Jackson, among others). It's called *Rhymes of a Red Cross Man*, and just about every soldier in the trenches had one in his backpack. Of course, Canada's best-known poem from that war, *In Flanders Fields*, was also written by a medical man, and it would be surprising if Service didn't encounter John McCrae at some point in the chaos of the conflict.

But as popular as Service's war poems were at the time, and as powerful as they still are today (I did a play based on them at the Uxbridge Museum a few years ago), Service is best remembered for his Yukon ballads. I first

encountered *The Cremation* in a junior high English class, but I promptly forgot about him until about a dozen years later. It's the summer of 1977, and I'm working in the small northwest Alberta town of Grande Prairie, which just happens to be on the bottom end of the Alaska Highway. We'd never been north of 60, so a bunch of us jump into my little red Toyota and go on a road trip. On our way to Alaska, we stop in Whitehorse and take in a Gold Rush style vaudeville revue called the Frantic Follies. Wow. Singing, dancing, silliness, and a lot of Robert Service.

If you know me, you can predict what came next. I arranged an audition in Edmonton, where I had to sing, play my trumpet and recite another of Service's classics, *The Shooting of Dan McGrew*. The following spring, I quit my job and headed north for a three-month run of the Follies (with no clear idea of what would follow). Every night, I took part in a dramatization of *Sam McGee* (as the frozen corpse), as well as doing a solo recitation of *Blasphemous Bill*, still one of my favourites. It led not only to settling in the Yukon and becoming a true sourdough, but to performing Service just about everywhere, from a cruise ship to an Arizona RV park to a classroom in the bard's native Scotland.

The highlight was two summers, 1984 and 1985, working for Parks Canada as the interpreter at Service's own cabin on Eighth Avenue in Dawson City. Twice a day, I did an hour-long programme for tourists, all the hits plus whatever the audience wanted to hear (over the two summers, I recited more than 200 different poems!). The second summer was Parks Canada's centennial, and they brought in special guests. One day, gold rush historian Pierre Berton (who grew up in Dawson), showed up, and we recited “The Spell of the Yukon” together.

Service had a fascinating life - Google him sometime. And after almost 50 years of reciting his work, it's still some of the richest material I've worked with. The guy just had a way with words. So here's to you, Robert. And stay tuned, gentle readers. Some time this year, I'll do a show of some of his best stuff up in Leaskdale. And dedicate the proceeds to his birthday twin, Lucy Maud.



## The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

### Boldness. Not belligerence

It was the end-of-year party for our oldtimers hockey club at a pub in town. After some wings, some beer and a lot of laughs, we got down to the serious stuff of discussing the game we love. And it didn't take long, before the elephant in the room emerged.

“What're they going to do about fighting in hockey?”

Somebody said, “Nothing.” Somebody else said, “The NHL will never do anything because it draws fans.” Most said at rep and junior levels, the parents are the problem. Another blamed bad coaching. One said he knew a way to stop it. But most of us just threw up our hands, as if to say nobody's going to do anything about it anyway.

That all changed a week ago during a hockey telecast, when Jennifer Botterill, a three-time Olympic champion and Sportsnet analyst, challenged the views of male panelist, Jamal Mayers, a former NHL player, about “getting even” in hockey. What sparked the debate? During a New Year's Eve NHL game, Ryan Hartman of the Minnesota Wild and the Winnipeg Jets' Cole Perfetti came together in a face-off. Hartman intentionally ripped his stick up into the face of Perfetti, cutting him, as payback for an apparent Jets' cross-check on the Wild's Kirill Kaprizov in a game the day before. Hartman was penalized and then fined \$4,400 for the infraction.

But the real showdown occurred when Jamal Mayers, who played 915 games in the NHL with five different teams during his career, tried to rationalize the incident. “Hartman is (saying) you're not going to go after our star player,” Mayers said in the Sportsnet broadcast. “It's not about fighting. To me, sending a message is important.”

In other words, Botterill retorted, highsticking is acceptable because revenge has to be exacted in the NHL? “I don't think that's selling your game for your biggest stars, your skilled players coming up. You're saying, ‘Get ready because this could happen to you at any point.’ And you're OK with that?”

Hockey belligerence has come and mostly gone in 50 years. There were times such as the 1970s when the Philadelphia Flyers, a.k.a. the Broad Street Bullies, won games by intimidation. Then in the 1980s, the Edmonton Oilers used speed and European-style finesse to win their five Stanley Cups in six years. I know. Some will say the only reason Wayne

Gretzky excelled was because Dave Semenko was his enforcer - making sure that anybody who took a run at the star got a taste of it back. Well, I covered the Oilers' home games for a full season in Edmonton, and I think I saw Semenko fight at the Northlands Coliseum once, and Gretzky's welfare had nothing to do with it.

Jamal Mayers represents a significant segment of NHL hockey fans who believe that the league and its owners should leave the sport alone, that the key elements of the game - speed, size and physical intensity - are what make it great. Like Don Cherry, they say “rock'em sock'em” players will always be there. That group, like Mayers, often says, “When we get into the playoffs there is an element of meanness ... out there. And if you don't like that kind of hockey, then maybe you don't like playoff hockey. This isn't archaic.”

“Yes it is,” Botterill interrupted. “There's a difference between tough and physical and cheap and dirty. And to me (what Hartman did) is cheap and dirty.”

I personally don't think NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman wants to clamp down on fighting; quite the opposite. I think he views it as a means of drawing more fans through turnstiles in lucrative U.S. markets where people will really never understand the intricacies of hockey, but will always pay to see a rumble on the ice.

By the way, if you want to end fighting in the NHL, one of my hockey buddies says it's easy. He recommends the rugby model. In rugby, even so much as the hint of a punch and a player is red-carded/ejected from the game. His/her team plays the rest of the game short one player. “Have an NHL team down a player for the rest of the game,” he said, “and fighting will stop overnight.”

It's worth noting that the first 11 days of this month have featured the birth of the Women's Professional Hockey League. All WPHL games have already sold out. The players make less, play harder and don't fight. What does that tell us?

I agree wholeheartedly with Jennifer Botterill's insight, keep the toughness, penalize the cheap shots, and save a beautiful game.

For more Barris Beat columns, go to [www.tedbarris.com](http://www.tedbarris.com)

## EVERYDAY LOW PRICES AT CANADIAN TIRE UXBRIDGE!



2pk Victor  
**Mouse  
Traps**

**ONLY \$2.49**  
each  
Everyday! 59-3608



3.78L  
**Pacer -35°C  
Washer Fluid**

**ONLY \$3.79**  
each  
Everyday! 29-4199



10kg  
**Sifto  
Ice Salt**

**ONLY \$4.49**  
each  
Everyday! 59-6985



“With the Best Selection,  
Price and Service...  
Why Shop Anywhere Else?”

Canadian Tire Uxbridge

[www.canadiantire.ca](http://www.canadiantire.ca)

Store 905 852 3315

*Tough budget season, from page 1*

services. On general government, staff projected an overall increase in

expenses of 6.7 per cent, with an increase of 18.9 per cent on revenue. After amortization, the total increase was projected at 4.6 per cent.

One item in the council budget saw most council members agree on the cost. The council budget calls for \$5,000 to be allotted to conferences and conventions. Mayor Dave Barton said such events give councillors an opportunity to network as well as learn and the returns far outweigh the expenditure. CAO Kristi Honey said such events allow Uxbridge to lobby senior decision makers, which has resulted in major grants and

funds for the township.

*New bus route:* At Monday's regular council meeting, it was announced there is a new Durham Transit bus route in town. Bus 605 will travel from Railway and Albert Streets to the Brock/Toronto Street intersection and then south to Douglas Road. From there, it will head down to Walmart and Zehrs before returning to Douglas Rd..

The route then continues up past Elgin Park to the Nelkydd Lane area before returning to its starting point.

*New storm sewer by-law:* Chief by-law officer Hilary Williams introduced a new by-law to address the discharge of waste water into the township's storm sewers.

In a report, Williams said that Uxbridge does not have a dedicated regulatory by-law for enforcing storm sewer restrictions and requirements. As a result, improper stormwater use, environmental concerns, public safety concerns, and instances of public mischief have resulted in limited enforcement options for the township. The new by-law sets out standards and practices for permitting discharge into storm water facilities and outlines penalties and fines for violations.

Williams said the new by-law won't affect the average homeowner unless there are oil spills and leaks, such as when someone is changing their vehicle's oil.

"We're just filling a gap," she said.

However, she did note that anyone responsible for an unwarranted discharge into a storm sewer would be responsible for the clean-up

# WE ARE HIRING!

**Become part of the Butternut Team!**

**We have positions for Care Attendants, RPN's and UCP's.**

Please contact [dow@butternutmanor.com](mailto:dow@butternutmanor.com) to set up an interview.

**Butternut Manor**  
3 Norm Goodspeed Drive,  
Uxbridge  
905-852-6777



## Help Plan Our Fall Fair!

### Uxbridge Scott Agricultural Society AGM

Please join us at the Uxbridge Seniors Centre, Marietta Street.

**Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 7:30 pm**

to elect our board and executive and plan for the next fair September 6,7 and 8, 2024 - Hats Off to Agriculture.

Memberships will be available for purchase at 7:00 pm

## MONTHLY DRAW WINNERS

**The Rotary Club of Uxbridge is pleased to announce the winners of the December monthly draw for the 2023 Trip of the Month Club!**

**The 'Santa's Surprise' trip was won by Pieter & Johanna Homsma**

Ticket #077, sold by Dale Hickey

**2nd place winner, \$150, won by Deb Lunney**

Ticket #372, sold by Elaine deBlicquy

**3rd place winner, \$100, won by Bob & Debi Lewis**

Ticket #245, sold by Ian Morrison

Congratulations to our December winners, and best of luck for the January 2024 trip! 'Jolly Beach Bums' includes round trip, direct, non-stop flights from Toronto to Antigua, 7 nights' accommodation at the Jolly Beach Resort, all meals, drinks, entertainment, and non-motorized water sports, as well as all airport transfers and gratuities.

A gift certificate from Getaway Travel worth \$2,500 or cash of \$2,250 is available instead of the trip. The trip must be taken in the month following the draw.

**The 2024 TOTM Club Early Bird Winners are:**

December 7 - a \$250 gift certificate from Getaway Travel: ticket #345 Bill Ballinger, sold by Ron Hunter.

December 14 - a 5-piece luggage set from Getaway Travel: ticket #218 Gil Kee, sold by Greg Eickmeier.

December 21 - a free TOTM ticket for additional chances to win: ticket #485 - Robert Scherz, sold by Chuck Taylor

December 28 - the Grand Early Bird Prize of \$1,000: ticket #475 - Carol Gelette, sold by Deb Dee.



**WAS YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO EAT GOOD STEAK? WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU STICK TO IT!**

**CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS!**  
[www.themeatmerchant.ca](http://www.themeatmerchant.ca)

3 Brock Street West  
905-852-9892

**TOO MUCH HOUSE?**

Downsizing can seem like a large task. Let me help.

- ✓ Complimentary Cleaning & Staging
- ✓ Packing & Decluttering Assistance
- ✓ Painters & Trades on call for repairs

I specialize in helping my clients prepare their home for market and help find the perfect home for the next phase of life.

Call or text to see how I can help.

**LEAH SPROTT**  
Sales Representative  
(647) 994-1272  
Chestnut Park Real Estate Ltd.  
9 Main Street S., Uxbridge

**CHESTNUT PARK**  
REAL ESTATE LTD. BROKER  
**CHRISTIE'S**  
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

## Music Lessons in Uxbridge

**In your home or online lessons offered in piano, theory and all band instruments.**

**Beginner to grade 10 RCM. Ages 4 to adult.**

**35 years experience.**

**Susan McMullen**  
B.Mus., B.Ed., ARCT, OCT  
Royal Conservatory of Music Certified

905-904-0570 [susanmcmullen100@gmail.com](mailto:susanmcmullen100@gmail.com)  
For more information please visit my Facebook page  
[f Susan Jean Thomas McMullen](#)

## NEED TO REACH MILLENNIALS?

New survey results show that **nine out of ten Millennials** read newspapers weekly in print or digital formats.

87% Adults 18+  
90% Millennials  
82% Boomers

**News Media Canada**  
**Médias d'Info Canada**

Results are sourced from a November 2020 national online research survey managed by Totum Research. Interviews were conducted with 855 English and French Canadians in every province, and results were weighted to be nationally representative.

SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM

# Make your business shine

**Free upgrades** that boost your customer experience and bottom line.

Get an energy-efficiency edge:

|             |  |                             |
|-------------|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>FREE</b> | LED lighting upgrades<br>up to <del>\$2,000</del> <b>\$3,000</b> |                             |
|             | Refrigeration upgrades<br>up to <b>\$2,500</b>                   | <b>AND</b> Smart thermostat |

Apply now at [SaveOnEnergy.ca/SBP](https://SaveOnEnergy.ca/SBP)



# Township official named project manager for urban park

Conrad Boyce  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Colleen Baskin, the Township of Uxbridge's communications manager, has been named to a new position as the local project manager for the proposed urban provincial park.

"I have taken the role on a part-time basis," Baskin told the *Cosmos*, "as part of a six-month contract to assist the Township and our project part-

ners with moving issues forward to support the Ministry of Environment, Parks and Conservation (MEPC). At the moment, their efforts are about completing the required planning, assessments, consultation, and recommendations so the provincial legislature can review and vote on accepting the proposal to create, through regulation, the Uxbridge Urban Provincial Park. If that proposal is adopted, the plan-

ning for the park opening will proceed and the lands that are currently owned by Infrastructure Ontario will be transferred to MEPC, and provincial funding will be released so MEPC can begin to create the park. The park will open some time after MEPC obtains possession of it, and can make it safe and accessible for visitors."

This new position is not being funded by taxpayers, but is supported by the Schad Foundation and revenues that the township is collecting from conservation lands that have recently be donated to the township. The position may be renewed after six months depending on what work needs to happen in the second half of the year. Baskin retains her regular job for two days a week,

and various staff have had their positions tweaked in order to manage the workload of her regular role between them as long as the new job lasts.

"My main role," Baskin said, "will be to support communications across all the partner groups who are involved with the project, assist with stakeholder and community relations, and to provide project management and administrative support on various specific sub-projects and files. I remain employed by the Township, but am a resource available to all our partner groups. We liaise with the province as they already have many staff dedicated to this project."

Related to the urban park, township council, at its Jan. 8 meeting, reviewed a letter from Durham Region planning director Brian Bridgeman, forwarding several recommendations to the province about the park. These include:

1. That the Region be included in any stakeholder advisory committees and/or working groups related to

park management planning, to ensure that regional interests

2. The park may include a number of disconnected parcels. It should be made clear how the province envisions the connections between these individual parcels to be made, as this will likely require coordination on implementation and maintenance between the Region, province, Township of Uxbridge, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and private landowners.

3. Some of the lands identified for the park area may be required to accommodate future regional infrastructure projects. Establishment of the park area should not restrict the Region's potential future use of these lands, if the need arises. The Region requests that the province consult with the Region on potential land rights that may be required to accommodate potential future regional infrastructure projects in the park area.

4. The proposed park is located within the Greenbelt and Oak Ridges Moraine, and benefits from existing protections. Establishing the area as a provincial park could add an additional layer of environmental protection for various significant natural heritage features on-site and ensures long-term management of the land. It is critical that permitted uses within specific locations in the park be clarified to ensure no negative impacts on these features.

5. The proposed park is near other significant tourism locations, including the Rouge National Urban Park, Durham Region Forest, and CN Rail Trail that connects the Township of Uxbridge to Lindsay, and beyond. It is requested that the province, in partnership with the Region and Township of Uxbridge, investigate trail and cycling connections between the proposed provincial park and these other areas to support and strengthen sustainable tourism and active transportation initiatives within the Township and wider region.

**COY, Arthur Newton**  
December 7, 1933 - December 24, 2023

Passed away peacefully at Markhaven Home for Seniors, early on the morning of Sunday, December 24, at the age of 90. Predeceased by his loving wife of 57 years, Wilma Coy; son Jason; siblings Doug, Shirley and Vaughan. Art will be missed by his son Geoff (Stephanie), daughter Fiona (Dan), and 6 beautiful grandchildren: Fontaine, David, Camille, Kelsey, Jackson and Wesley.

Art was a devout Jehovah Witness and family man. He worked in many different fields throughout his life, with his passion being golfing. Arthur was a golf pro for many years and he always held a special place in his heart for Cedarhurst in Beaverton, where he worked for over a decade making lifelong friendships. Art enjoyed golfing with Wilma, and they created decades of memories together on and off the course. Art loved playing Euchre with his grandchildren, and had fun teaching them new skills at the driving range. He cherished time spent with his family.

Art will be missed by his brothers and sisters from the Jehovah Witness congregation, as well as the golfing community.

*In Loving Memory of*  
**Bruce Wallace Harwood**  
February 10, 1936 - December 31, 2023

With heavy hearts and great sadness, we announce that our father, Bruce, passed peacefully at his home north of Sandford, in his 88th year.

He was the beloved husband of Barb (predeceased 2019) for over 62 and a half years, and a loving and cherished father to Steve (Sandra), Brenda (Brian), Maggie (Gord), Karen (Jerry), and Brian (predeceased 1984).

Bruce was the proud grandfather of 11 grandchildren and 10 adorable great-grandchildren. He was a cherished brother to Bill and George (predeceased 1951), and loving son to his parents Robert (predeceased 1997) and mother Ezella (predeceased 1999).

Bruce will be fondly remembered by family, extended family and friends.

Visitation took place on Sunday, January 7, 2024, from 2 – 5 p.m., at Low & Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Uxbridge, 905-852-3073. Funeral Service was held on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 2 p.m., at the Sandford United Church, 405 Sandford Road, Sandford, with a visitation at 1 p.m., at the church prior to the service.

In memory of Bruce, please consider a donation to the Sandford United Church or the Margaret Bahen Hospice in Newmarket. Friends are invited to send condolences or make donations by visiting [www.lowandlow.ca](http://www.lowandlow.ca).



# Not a happy holiday for the Bruins

Roger Varley

A visit from Santa Claus on Friday, Dec. 22, did not produce any holiday cheer for the Uxbridge Bruins as they suffered a 6-0 loss to the league-leading Clarington Eagles. The Bruins rebounded a week later with a 5-1 win over the Little Britain Merchants, but started the new year with two losses. In those four games, the Bruins were outscored 14-8.

In the Clarington game, the Bruins' effort was dismal, allowing the Eagles to score three power-play goals. Christian Lambert replaced Andrew Cloughton in the net during the second period but the Eagles scored two on him in the third. The *Cosmos* was hard-pressed to select a player of the game for Uxbridge but settled on Nolan Winter. For the Eagles, the nod went to Kyle Smith.

A week later, the Bruins took on the lowly Little Britain Merchants at the arena and came out flying, scoring three goals in the first two periods, including a power-play goal, before the Merchants hit the scoreboard. Two more goals late in the third period made up somewhat for the previous week's effort. Jack Davis was named player of the game for the Bruins and Owen Worsley was picked for the Merchants.

However, last week, playing another Friday night game in Georgina against the second-place Ice, the Bruins were humbled again. Quinn Meek opened the scoring with the only goal of the first period, an unassisted short-handed marker. Georgina then lowered the boom with three unanswered goals in the second and one more in the third. After the fourth goal, the Bruins once again changed goalies, this time with Cloughton replacing Lambert.

On Sunday, the Bruins took a trip down Reach Street to meet their arch-rivals, the Port Perry LumberJacks. Port Perry scored a goal in each of the three periods before Owen Shier finally put Uxbridge on the scoreboard with an unassisted goal. Meek narrowed the gap, assisted by Davis and Anthony Lamanna, but the Bruins were unable to tie the game


even after pulling the goalie for an extra attacker.

The Bruins' scheduled meeting with the Chiefs in Lakefield on Tuesday night was postponed because of weather. They play the Merchants again tomorrow (Friday) night at the arena at 7:45 p.m.

As of the beginning of the week, the Eagles retained the lead atop the PJHL's seven-team Orr Division, but the Georgina Ice have closed the gap, sitting six points behind with a game in hand. The


Bruins continue to hold down third place, but the LumberJacks are just six points behind.

*Bear pause:* Not all was doom and gloom for the Bruins. On Nov. 24, Meek notched his 100th point as a member of the Bruins squad and linemate Lamanna picked up his 100th point on Dec. 16, against the North Kawartha Knights.



**For complete season and player information go to**  
[uxbridgebruins.pjhl.on.hockeytech.com](http://uxbridgebruins.pjhl.on.hockeytech.com)

**Friday, January 12,  
 7:45 p.m.  
 against Little Britain  
 at the Uxbridge Arena**




**Thecosmos.ca**

- Catch up on township news
- Read your favourite columnists
- Contact us directly from website
- Direct links to advertisers

38 Toronto St. N., Uxbridge 905-852-1900 [Lvann@thecosmos.ca](mailto:Lvann@thecosmos.ca)

# COSMOS CROSSWORD

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |    | 5  | 6  | 7  |    | 8  | 9  | 10    |
| 11 |    |    |    |    | 12 |    |    |    | 13 |    |       |
| 14 |    |    |    |    | 15 |    |    |    | 16 |    |       |
| 17 |    |    |    | 18 |    | 19 |    |    |    |    |       |
|    |    |    | 20 |    | 21 |    |    |    | 22 |    | 23 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 |    |    |    | 28 |    |    | 29 |    |       |
| 30 |    |    |    |    | 31 |    | 32 | 33 |    |    |       |
| 34 |    |    | 35 |    |    | 36 |    |    |    |    |       |
|    |    |    | 37 |    | 38 | 39 |    | 40 |    | 41 | 42 43 |
| 44 | 45 |    |    |    |    | 46 |    | 47 |    |    |       |
| 48 |    |    |    | 49 |    |    |    | 50 |    |    |       |
| 51 |    |    |    | 52 |    |    |    | 53 |    |    |       |

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Across</b>             | <b>Down</b>                               |
| 1. Duck feature           | 1. Safari camp                            |
| 5. Call upon              | 2. Skillet type                           |
| 8. Water source           | 3. Portside                               |
| 11. Square footage        | 4. Most in-style, say                     |
| 12. Campaigned            | 5. Rainbow                                |
| 13. Have bills due        | 6. Condiment                              |
| 14. Insufficiently strict | 7. Understood                             |
| 15. Less murky            | 8. Early scene in "The Wizard of Oz"      |
| 17. Put in                | 9. Shock's partner                        |
| 19. Romulus or Remus      | 10. m.p.g. part                           |
| 20. Put into words        | 16. Hang on a clothes line                |
| 22. Explode               | 18. Teller                                |
| 25. Missing               | 21. Vote                                  |
| 29. A ___ in the life...  | 23. "Juice" for Jeff Gordon               |
| 30. Projecting edge       | 24. Look at                               |
| 31. Gather                | 25. It's often found in a vein            |
| 34. Turnoff               | 26. Put together                          |
| 36. Attention             | 27. Ape                                   |
| 37. Trial                 | 28. Directly                              |
| 40. Yellow parts          | 32. Take care of a bill                   |
| 44. Mad                   | 33. Showed to be true                     |
| 47. Creepy plant          | 35. Early Pearl Jam album                 |
| 48. Consume               | 38. Worry                                 |
| 49. Prohibition ___       | 39. Burn out                              |
| 50. Level                 | 41. In play                               |
| 51. Make blond, maybe     | 42. It might be slapped after a good joke |
| 52. Part of WWW           | 43. Fax, say                              |
| 53. Exploit               | 44. Banking advisers                      |
|                           | 45. Bit of sun                            |
|                           | 46. Driving location                      |

# COSMOS BUSINESS BULLETIN BOARD



**GILLDERCROFT**  
FURNITURE

Early Style Canadian  
Handcrafted Pine Furniture

905-852-2275 Like us  
www.gilldercroft.com




**GOODWOOD**  
HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Home renovations including: additions,  
kitchens, bathrooms, basements, garages,  
hardwood flooring, trim etc

416-526-3469

**Alec Leask**  
Earthmoving & Haulage  
Mobile/text 416-346-1623  
alecleask.com

Large & small jobs welcome  
Site preparation  
Basements & driveways  
Trenching & drainage  
Septic systems



Call Gillanders today  
to consign your  
quality items to an  
upcoming sale or to  
discuss an auction of  
your own!

www.g-a-s.ca  
gillandersauctionservices.hibid.com  
647-212-2275  
Like us on Facebook



**Best GIC rate: 5.95%**  
(1 year term)  
Terms & conditions apply. Effective January 8, 2024.

38 Toronto Street North, Unit 2  
Uxbridge, Ontario  
905-852-3184 www.investsmart.ca

Serving our clients &  
communities since 1965

Life Insurance • GICs • Funds • Planning

**PUT YOUR AD  
IN THIS SPACE**  
and get seen by everyone in  
Uxbridge Township!

Call  
905  
852-1900  
for details

**#1 REASON FOR  
READING**

PRINTED  
COMMUNITY  
NEWSPAPERS  
IS LOCAL  
NEWS

Source: News Media Canada

**JONES PUMPING**  
Septic & Holding Tanks

905-852-2486  
416-476-7170

Serving Port Perry,  
Uxbridge &  
surrounding areas

MOE licensed

**OLE HANDYMAN & FAMILY**

Now booking for  
work indoors

Bathrooms, kitchens, basements &  
"granny" suites. Seamless eavestrough,  
waterproofing, cement, stonework,  
electrical, plumbing, mold, roofing,  
drywall, painting, ceramics, flooring.

Licensed. 52 years experience.  
Seniors' discount. Please call:  
905-473-5197 or 647-225-3311 24/7

**LOCAL MATTERS.**

Remember that time when Amazon sponsored your church fundraiser?

Remember when Facebook bought a case of Girl Guide cookies to support your daughter?

Remember when Google provided free pizza to your child's soccer team when they won the championship?

Neither do we!  
Local businesses live here. They play here. They invest here.  
They need our support, now more than ever.

News Media Canada  
Médias d'Info Canada

CANADA'S NEWS MEDIA  
**CHAMPION  
THE TRUTH.**

**Windcrest**  
electrical contracting ltd  
Paul Fraser  
Cell 416.527.0878  
windcrestelectrical@gmail.com  
esa #7007893

**Light For Your Path**

*"Obey the Lord and you will live a long life, content and safe from harm."*

Proverbs 19:23

For Bible Resources:  
biblesociety.ca/scriptsures-daily-manna/  
Canadian Bible Society

|    |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |   |   |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1  | B | I | L | L  | 5  | A  | S  | K  | 8  | T | A | P |   |   |
| 11 | A | R | E | A  | 12 | R  | A  | N  | 13 | O | W | E |   |   |
| 14 | S | O | F | T  | 15 | C  | L  | E  | 16 | A | R | E | R |   |
| 17 | E | N | T | E  | R  | 18 |    | 19 | T  | W | I | N |   |   |
|    |   |   |   | 20 | S  | A  | Y  |    | 22 | R | A | G | E |   |
| 25 | O | M | I | T  | T  | E  | D  |    | 29 | D | A | Y |   |   |
| 30 | R | I | M |    | 31 | S  | U  | P  | 32 | P | O | S | E |   |
| 34 | E | X | I | T  | 35 |    | 36 | E  | A  | R |   |   |   |   |
|    |   |   |   | 37 | T  | E  | S  | T  | 40 | Y | O | L | K | S |
| 44 | F | R | A | N  | T  | I  | C  |    | 47 | V | I | N | E |   |
| 48 | E | A | T |    | 49 | E  | R  | A  | 50 | E | V | E | N |   |
| 51 | D | Y | E |    | 52 | W  | E  | B  | 53 | D | E | E | D |   |

## 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.

### SERVICES

**MIKE THE HANDYMAN** – experienced, reliable, affordable. Services: carpentry/trim, laminate flooring, tiling, drywall repair, plumbing & electrical fixture installation, vanity installation, interior painting/caulking, picture/painting hanging, TV mount, weather stripping, much more. 647-505-9204. 1/25

**DO YOUR OLD PHOTOS NEED RESTORATION?** Boxes of slides taking up room? Preston Gallery/BiA Photography at 77 Brock St. W. (Uxbridge) specializing in restorations & scanning. Call Sabrina, 905-550-8825. 1/25

**PRIVATE PSW SERVICES** Specializing in Alzheimer's, dementia, Parkinson's, geriatric and end-of-life care. Lots of courses completed and fantastic references. Reliable, professional, mannerly. Contact Robert at 647-225-8245. 2/1

**ACTION OUTDOOR SERVICES** Formerly Lawn Slide Services. Offering landscaping, hardscaping, lawn cutting, light excavation work, snow plowing. Email noah@actionoutdoorservices.ca

Instagram: @action\_outdoor\_services, 647-523-6730. 1/25

**HOME-WATCH HOUSE/PET SITTING SERVICES:** Home Owners have trusted Heather Stewart for 19 years for her reliability and detailed professionalism. Property Services / Dog Walking / Cat Sitting / Doggie Sleep-Overs! Visit home-watch.ca for more info on Heather's services. Call or text 905-852-8525, email hstewart@home-watch.ca and follow us on Instagram - HomeWatchUxbridge 1/25

**THE GIRLS BRA SHOP** - Find the bras you'll love living in with our expert fitters at The Girls Bra Shop in Stouffville. Contact thegirlsbrashop@gmail.com for details. 905-642-3339. An uplifting experience! 1/25

### FOR SALE

**HAY BALES, ALFALFA** (reduced). Firewood (maple plus mixed) - both stored inside. Also, farming opportunities, outdoor farm parking, organic farm plot. Location - edge of Uxbridge. 905-852-7634. 1/18

**SUZUKI DIGITAL PIANO** with bench. Model HP-275E. High-gloss black. Seldom

used. \$600 firm. Please call 365-533-2867. 1/11

### WANTED

**HELP AT MY HORSE FARM** Need a horsey person to help with light work - early close up, chores around the barn and help lovely group of clients with their horses. Privately owned and run by Kathy Fremes (OE Coach of the year 2023 and former instructor at U of G), opportunity to learn and ride. Retirees are welcome to apply and text 416-399-9347, or send an email kathy.fremes@countryhillfarm.ca 1/11

### EVENTS

**UXBRIDGE CLAY'S SATURDAY OPENINGS 2024** The club will be open the following Saturdays in 2024: March 16, May 18, July 13, September 7, and November 9. 1/11

**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: 2 Campbell Dr., Ste. 201. Email Gail: ghorner550@gmail.com


**PUT YOUR MONEY  
WHERE YOUR HOUSE IS** 

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper >

**Grief and Trauma Recovery Service**  
 Are you in emotional pain from unresolved loss? Unhealed grief and trauma are at the root of most illnesses. In person or online sessions available.  
*The Sanctuary*  
 A place to Heal and Transform  
 647-222-6862

**CARL B. CORNELL**  
 January 26, 1938 - November 9, 2023  
 The family of Carl Cornell invites you to a Celebration of his Life at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #170, 109 Franklin Street, Uxbridge, on Friday, January 26, 2024, from 3-6 p.m. (Eulogies and toasts will begin at 4 p.m.)  
 Please join us to share stories and raise a glass to our Dad, Poppa, Brother, Uncle and Dear Friend, and celebrate a life well lived.

**HANLEY, Jill**  
 February 15, 1953 - December 7, 2023



Jill passed away after a long battle with cancer at the age of 70. Jill will be remembered and deeply missed by her brother Chris Hanley, niece Alison Hanley and nephew Tom Hanley.

Jill was actively involved in the arts community since moving to Uxbridge in 1998. She was a founding member of the Uxbridge Youth Theatre, and was on the board of directors for both the Celebration of the Arts and the Music Hall. Her artistic talents and innovative spirit were instrumental in her work as Props Master for many productions in Uxbridge. If she couldn't find it, she would make it from scratch, giving attention to even the smallest detail.

Jill had a huge circle of friends, a full social calendar, and loved going to various plays and musicals across Ontario. She found great fulfillment sharing her passion for theater over the years by working with children in Uxbridge, and took great pride in seeing their successes on stage. She adored animals and was an enthusiastic and trusted pet sitter to many cats and dogs whenever a friend or family member was in need. Jill was a loving sister, doting aunt and loyal friend who was fiercely independent and always fought for what she believed in.


Jill worked as the front of house manager at the Tin Mill restaurant, where she greeted the guests with a smile and helped Don Andrews with the day to day running of the Mill. In later years, she brought her cheerful disposition to the shop Presents Presents Presents on Brock Street.

We would like to thank doctors Burridge, Jensen, Munn, and Gad in Uxbridge, and the team at Sunnybrook for their professional and empathetic care of Jill; pharmacists Garry and Luna for simplifying Jill's complex medical regime; Dr. Popa of Markham Stouffville Hospital, and nurse April Roznik for their compassionate assistance.

Cremation has taken place and a celebration of Jill's life will be held in early 2024. Arrangements entrusted to Low & Low Funeral Home, Uxbridge. Friends are invited to send condolences by visiting [www.lowandlow.ca](http://www.lowandlow.ca)

**DARRYL NOBLE ELECTRICIAN**  
 Complete Electrical Service  
 New installations ~ Troubleshooting  
 Commercial ~ Residential  
 Agricultural ~ Electrical Repair  
 Replacement Panel Upgrades  
 Service Changes  
 Generator Installation ~ Auxiliary Power Solutions  
 647.220.6093  
[darrylnobleelectrician@live.com](mailto:darrylnobleelectrician@live.com)

*In Loving Memory of*  
**Kathleen 'Kathy' Smith**  
*(née Martin)*  
 May 14, 1929 - December 31, 2023



Kathy passed away peacefully at the Uxbridge Hospital on December 31, at the age of 94. She was the cherished wife of Derek for 71 years, and the loving mother to Martin (Jan), Trudy (Grant), and Colin. She will be greatly missed by her grandchildren, Selby (Kyle), Zachary (Chelsea), Wren, Andrew (Kristin), Martin, and Jeff (Emily). She adored her great-grandchildren Parker, Rylan, Leighton, Roan, Briar, Iris, and Maggie.

**BUSINESS, FARM, and ESTATE TAX STRATEGIES**  
 FREE CONSULTATION  
 647-333-7229  
[eric@aquilian.ca](mailto:eric@aquilian.ca)  
**ERIC GROSSMAN, CPA**

Kathy and Derek emigrated to Canada in 1952, and raised their family in Scarborough, Ontario. Kathy was a Mum to all the kids who came into our home. Her family and friends were always in her heart. She loved to play games (and win!), was an avid reader, she threw a great party, cooked some amazing roast dinners, and danced up a storm! She was involved with the St Andrew's soccer club as a coach, manager, and social director. She was a top fan of the Chelsea Football Club and took great pleasure in managing the team from her Facebook page!

**UTS TREE CARE**  
 SINCE 1981

- ISA Certified Arborists
- Bucket & Crane Trucks
  - Consulting
  - Fertilizing
- Hydro Line Clearing
- Stump Grinding
- Tree Pruning and Removals
- Planting & Plant Health Care

905-852-5313  
[UTSTreeCare.ca](http://UTSTreeCare.ca)

Kathy adored her grandchildren and great-grandchildren! She introduced them to reading, games (Boggle, cribbage, Mexican Train), and provided them with hours of play time. This also included her extended family and friends' children who called her Grandma or Mumsie. She loved her bear collection, with her favourite being Paddington Bear! She was an accomplished knitter and produced many sweaters and blankets, each individually designed.

A special thank you to the wonderful doctors and nurses who cared for her at Uxbridge Hospital and Markham Stouffville Hospital. They went above and beyond to make her comfortable and guide our family.

As a memory to Kathy, laugh a lot, plant some tulips, feed the birds, help all animals, play some games, love and spend time with your family, and enjoy every moment life has to offer.

A Celebration of Life will take place in the Spring, information to follow at a later date. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Low & Low Funeral Home in Uxbridge. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Uxbridge Hospital Foundation. Friends are invited to send condolences or make donations by visiting [www.lowandlow.ca](http://www.lowandlow.ca).



*To place a death or in memoriam notice*

Visit [thecosmos.ca](http://thecosmos.ca)  
 Call 905-852-1900  
 Email [Lvann@thecosmos.ca](mailto:Lvann@thecosmos.ca)



**Great conversations don't start themselves.**

From first dates to Main Street meet-ups to the last virtual call of the day. Turn to the local news to spark your next great conversation... 9 in 10 Canadians do.

Visit [ChampionTheTruth.ca](http://ChampionTheTruth.ca)



News Media Canada  
 Médias d'Info Canada

CANADA'S NEWS MEDIA.  
**CHAMPION THE TRUTH.**



**COLDWELL BANKER**  
R.M.R. REAL ESTATE,  
BROKERAGE

[ColdwellBankerUxbridge.ca](http://ColdwellBankerUxbridge.ca)

75 Brock Street West, Uxbridge 905-852-4338 Toll Free 1-866-666-2696

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated



With the advent of low inventory and recent BOC rate announcements, buyers are actively looking NOW! Get a FREE Instant Home Value in 10 Seconds at [QuickHomeValues.ca](http://QuickHomeValues.ca)

**Gerald Lawrence**  
Manager/Realtor®  
[QuickHomeValues.ca](http://QuickHomeValues.ca)  
Cell 416-556-0238



**THINKING OF SELLING?**  
Give me a call. I have potential buyers looking in Uxbridge!

**Judy Esmonde**  
Broker/Realtor®  
[JudyEsmonde.ca](http://JudyEsmonde.ca)  
Cell 416-677-8709



**BUYERS:** Watch this space for our upcoming listings or reach out to us if you are looking for help with your buying needs!  
**SELLERS:** If selling is on your mind, reach out to us for a no-obligation evaluation.  
not intended to solicit buyers/sellers currently under contract

**Marie Persaud** Realtor®  
[MariePersaud.ca](http://MariePersaud.ca)  
Cell 416-970-8979



**LIMITED RELEASE**  
Luxury Townhomes in Uxbridge  
Family-sized 3 Bedroom, Over 1,700 sq.ft. \$75,000 Interior Upgrades Included! Priced from \$949,000

**Gwen Layton** Realtor®  
[GwenLayton.ca](http://GwenLayton.ca)  
Cell 647-991-3276



**SUNDERLAND BUNGALOW**  
3 beds, 2 baths, 48 Lorne St. Situated on just over a 1/4-acre lot in a quiet friendly neighbourhood. Attached single car garage. Asking \$798,000.

**Chris Larmer** Realtor®  
[Powerofbluex2.ca](http://Powerofbluex2.ca)  
Cell 416-500-6377



**YOUR NEXT CHAPTER STARTS HERE**  
Right in the heart of Uxbridge is 63 Bell St., with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, carport with entrance to the basement, large deck off the kitchen and a great sized fenced in yard. \$749,000

**Shane Coxworth** Realtor®  
[Powerofbluex2.ca](http://Powerofbluex2.ca)  
Cell 905-903-7965



498 Scarborough Golf Club Road sold in JUST 4 days! If you're looking to buy or sell call today!

**Alyssa Persaud** Realtor®  
[AlyssaPersaud.ca](http://AlyssaPersaud.ca)  
Cell 647-232-8979



**IN-TOWN BRICK BUNGALOW**  
38 Marietta Street, Uxbridge, 2 bed, 1 bath, detached heated garage, fenced yard, updated finishes

**Brandon Van Tol** Realtor®  
[brandon-vantol@coldwellbanker.ca](mailto:brandon-vantol@coldwellbanker.ca)  
Cell 647-880-4827



Whether they're thumbing through pages or swiping to the next article, 4 in 5 people in Canada read the news each week — by print, online or digitally.

Learn more at [championthetruth.ca](http://championthetruth.ca)

**News Media Canada**  
**Médias d'Info Canada**

CANADA'S NEWS MEDIA  
**CHAMPIONS**  
OF THE TRUTH