

The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 20 No. 3

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, January 25, 2024

More on YDHR's changing "fortunes" • Canada Post takes on the news • Bruins have a new coach, new outlook



A CANADIAN GAME OF SHINNY - Hockey players of all ages took to the ice at Barton Pond over the weekend to hone their skills and have some fun. For those who want to help study the long-term impacts of climate change through winter weather conditions, join rinkwatch.org, a research initiative looking for information on outdoor skating rink conditions across North America. *Photo by John Cavers*

Provincial grant already accounted for

Roger Varley

MPP Peter Bethlenfalvy announced last Thursday that Uxbridge will receive about \$793,000 from the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund. However, the grant was already known to local councillors. Deputy mayor and chair of the finance committee Willie Popp said Tuesday the funds have already been accounted for in the current budget discussions and will not impact the final budget.

Popp said the finance committee was told early in its deliberations that the township would receive about \$130,000 less from the fund than it did last year. In 2023, the township received \$932,000 from the fund; in 2022, the grant was \$811,000.

The OCIF grants are aimed at helping municipalities to renew and rehabilitate critical infrastructure.

"Capital projects like improving our roads and maintaining our bridges and culverts represent about 40 per cent of the township's annual budget," said Mayor Dave Barton.

Railway's rapid decline ends in filing for bankruptcy

Conrad Boyce, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

In just over a month, the York-Durham Heritage Railway (YDHR) has taken its staff, volunteers, employees, fans, foes, township council and staff, and countless others, on what is likely the most interesting ride of its 30+-year-long existence. The "ride" began as a pledge to make right on issues and problems that the township had discovered, as close to the end of 2023 as possible. The last stop on the ride? Bankruptcy.

Only a few years ago, YDHR was a small volunteer-driven organization, taking families on trips through the countryside all the way to Stouffville (hence the "York" in the name). The trips got shorter, the crowds got bigger, the events got more extreme (like the "Dinosaur" experience last fall), and the volunteers found themselves working alongside more and more paid staff. The payroll expanded, the board of directors had fewer and fewer members from

the local community.

The railway's landlord, the Township of Uxbridge, became increasingly frustrated with building code and safety violations. Finally, late last year, the Township said it would not renew YDHR's lease on the train station unless it came into full compliance with numerous conditions, including the removal of four dilapidated passenger cars from the rail yard. It was this announcement that ignited a convoluted chain of events.

The YDHR's board of directors, under chair Michael Jacula, went on to release three announcements on its Facebook page, none of which were in the form of news releases, and none of which were officially sent to the Township.

The first, posted Dec. 21, said the YDHR no longer felt welcome in Uxbridge, and "with a heavy heart," was taking its trains and moving its operations somewhere else. It didn't say where, although then CEO John Perks told the

Cosmos they would be in a position to announce by late January where their new home would be. In response, the Township gave the railway until Jan. 31 to cease operations in the rail yard, and until April 30 to remove all its assets, including its rolling stock.

Less than three weeks later, on Jan. 9, after a wave of local reaction online urging the YDHR to reconsider its departure, the railway issued a second announcement. There were three significant highlights:

- The YDHR board confessed that its "current business model has not been successful."
- Accordingly, the YDHR had agreed to part ways with its senior staff (whether they resigned or were laid off was unclear), and would be returning to their volunteer-based roots.
- The YDHR had a plan to reduce its considerable debt load over the following 24 months. The statement gave no details of the plan, nor the size of the debt.

...continued on page 3

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Uxbridge at a Glance

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

TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE Trail Capital of Canada

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MORE INFO  www.uxbridge.ca

Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for January, 2024

Thursday, January 25

DEPARTMENT BUDGET
PRESENTATIONS - CANCELLED
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

Meeting Schedule for February, 2024

Friday, February 2
ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE, 8:30 a.m.
MUSIC HALL BOARD, 9:00 a.m.

Monday, February 5
GENERAL PURPOSE AND
ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE,
10:00 a.m.

PUBLIC PLANNING MEETING – ZBA
2023-13, Coral Creek Homes, Fabio Furlan.
11:30 a.m.

Proclamations for the Month:

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

January 29 – Hospice Awareness Day

Employment Opportunities

Complete details of all open positions are
available at

<https://www.uxbridge.ca/careers>

Current Opportunities

By-Law Services – Municipal Law
Enforcement Officer, Parking
Enforcement

Closes Friday, February 9, 2024

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

Elgin Pond currently
flagged **'yellow'**,
please skate with
caution.

Always follow the flag
status at the pond and
stay within the
barricaded area.



INDOOR WALKING TRAIL

Mondays & Wednesdays
Uxbridge Secondary School
6:00-8:00p.m.

Running now until April 24th

\$40 Membership Fee
or \$5 Drop-In Fee

Register at Uxbridge.ca/recreation or call 905-852-7831

Snow Removal Reminder

All snow, slush, and ice must be cleared from sidewalks beside properties and roofs adjacent to sidewalks within 24 hours of snowfall





Friday February 9, 2024

Be #UnHackable
4 Keys to Online Safety
for Older Adults

Two session options:
Session 1: 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
OR
Session 2: 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Uxbridge Public Library
Register by phone or in-person
(905) 852-9747 | 9 Toronto Street South, Uxbridge



Winter Parking Reminder


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

November 1st to April 1st




2024 Pet Tags Now Available

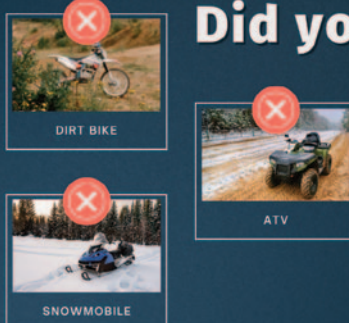

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Township of Uxbridge documents are available in alternate formats upon request. Please fill out the Request for Alternate Formats Form at uxbridge.ca/accessibility

email: accessibility@uxbridge.ca
phone: 905-852-9181 ext.209



Uxbridge at a Glance continued

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION AND PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR A ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

This Notice is to inform you that the Township of Uxbridge has received a Zoning By-law Amendment Application which has been deemed complete in accordance with the requirements of Section 34 of the Planning Act. The Planning Committee of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge will hold a statutory public meeting to make available adequate information to the public regarding, and to consider, a proposed Township Zoning By-law Amendment pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, submitted by 1093560 Ontario Limited (Coral Creek Homes – Fabio Furlan).

The statutory public meeting will be held in a hybrid format allowing for in-person attendance or virtual viewing of the public meeting. The Township of Uxbridge will be processing the Zoning By-law Amendment as required by the Planning Act and welcome any comments that you may have.

PURPOSE OF PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT:

- The purpose and effect of this application is to amend the Zoning By-law to permit a semi-detached house on the subject property.
- The subject property is designated “Living Areas” in the Durham Regional Official Plan, and “Residential Area” in the Township of Uxbridge Official Plan. It is zoned “Residential First Density (R1)” zone pursuant to the Township of Uxbridge Zoning By-law No. 81-19, and is proposed to be rezoned to “Residential Second Density (R2)” zone.

LOCATION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY:

The subject property is located on the north side of Planks Lane, west of Third Avenue South, in the Town of Uxbridge. The property is legally described as PT LTS Q AND R, BLK 66 PL 83 AS IN D453569 and is municipally known as 50 Third Avenue South, Uxbridge. The location of the property is graphically illustrated on the key map below.

FILE NO.: Zoning By-Law Amendment 2023-13 (ZBA 2023-13)

APPLICANT/OWNER: 1093560 Ontario Limited (Coral Creek Homes – Fabio Furlan)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Additional information relating to the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment is available for inspection in the Development Services Department between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, at the Township Municipal Office, 51 Toronto Street South, Uxbridge, Ontario. It is preferred that if you require additional information that it be requested by email, mail, or telephone from the undersigned. However, if necessary, the Township Office can be accessed Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by contacting the undersigned.

Jennifer Beer
Permits & Approvals Analyst
Development Services
Township of Uxbridge
51 Toronto St. S., Box 190
Uxbridge, ON L9P 1T1
Email: jbeer@uxbridge.ca
(t) 905-852-9181 Ext. 225 (f) 905-852-9674

PLANNING ACT REQUIREMENTS:

This Notice is being given in accordance with Planning Act requirements. A final recommendation on the application will not be presented until after the Township Public Meeting and all technical comments have been received.

The public meeting is being held in a hybrid format allowing for in-person attendance or virtual viewing of the public meeting. The livestream public viewing can be accessed by visiting <https://www.uxbridge.ca/en/your-local-government/council-meeting-calendar.aspx>

The meeting date and time is as follows:

MEETING DATE: Monday, February 5, 2024
TIME: 11:30a.m.

REPRESENTATION

ANY PERSON may participate in the public meeting and/or make written or oral representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Township Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment.

1. Written Submissions

Written submissions should be addressed to the Township Clerk at the address shown below. Written comments should be submitted before Friday, February 2nd, 2024. If you wish to be notified of the adoption or the refusal of the proposed Township Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment, you must also make a written request to the Township Clerk before the adoption of the by-law.

2. Oral Submission

Oral submissions may be provided to Council at the meeting on livestream, you must pre-register with the Clerk's office by email at dlroux@uxbridge.ca, or telephone at 905-852-9181 ext. 228 or mail at the address below before 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on Friday, February 2nd, 2024. Please include your full name, address, and a call-back phone number. You will be contacted by the Clerk's office to confirm your participation and receive the online call-in information before the meeting. Technical assistance may be provided to ensure you are able to participate.

PLANNING ACT REQUIREMENTS

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at the public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Uxbridge before the proposed application is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Township of Uxbridge to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

If a person or a public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Uxbridge before the application is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

DATED AT THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE THIS 16th DAY OF JANUARY, 2024.

Debbie Leroux, Clerk
Township of Uxbridge
51 Toronto St. S., Box 190, Uxbridge, Ontario L9P 1T1
Email: dlroux@uxbridge.ca
(t) 905-852-9181 Ext. 228 (f) 905-852-9674

KEY MAP (not to scale)



A bankrupt railway, from page 1

Although the Jan. 9 announcement didn't specifically mention the abandonment of YDHR's plan to move, board chair Jacula told the *Cosmos* the railway loved Uxbridge, and would work hard to meet whatever conditions the Township set for the renewal of the railway's lease. In response, Township CAO Kristi Honey said that although the municipality had received many expressions of interest in the rail properties (the Township owns the station, but leases the tracks and yard from the province through Metrolinx), including from other short-line rail operators, they were prepared to consider YDHR's proposal alongside any others.

Less than two weeks later, on Jan. 21, YDHR released its third Facebook announcement, declaring it had filed for bankruptcy.

“The YDHR is sad to announce it is ceasing operations immediately and has filed for insolvency protection after almost 30 years of providing train experiences for our guests.

We will miss seeing everyone coming on board for a train ride.

We encourage you to visit and support our friends at other heritage railways in southern Ontario such as the Waterloo Central Railway, Port Stanley Terminal Rail,

South Simcoe Railway, Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario, Muskoka Heritage Place, and the Elgin County Railway Museum. In Quebec, visit Canada's national railway museum, Exporail.



...continued on page 4

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In addition to the education and examination components of my certification, I have also committed to abide by the Exit Planning Institute's™ Code of Ethics and Standards of Professional Conduct.

To talk more about any of the above topics, please contact our office.

Tammy Scuderi, DFSA™, CEPA®
Financial Advisor
80 Brook Street West
Uxbridge, ON L9P 1P4
905-852-1244

Our two cents

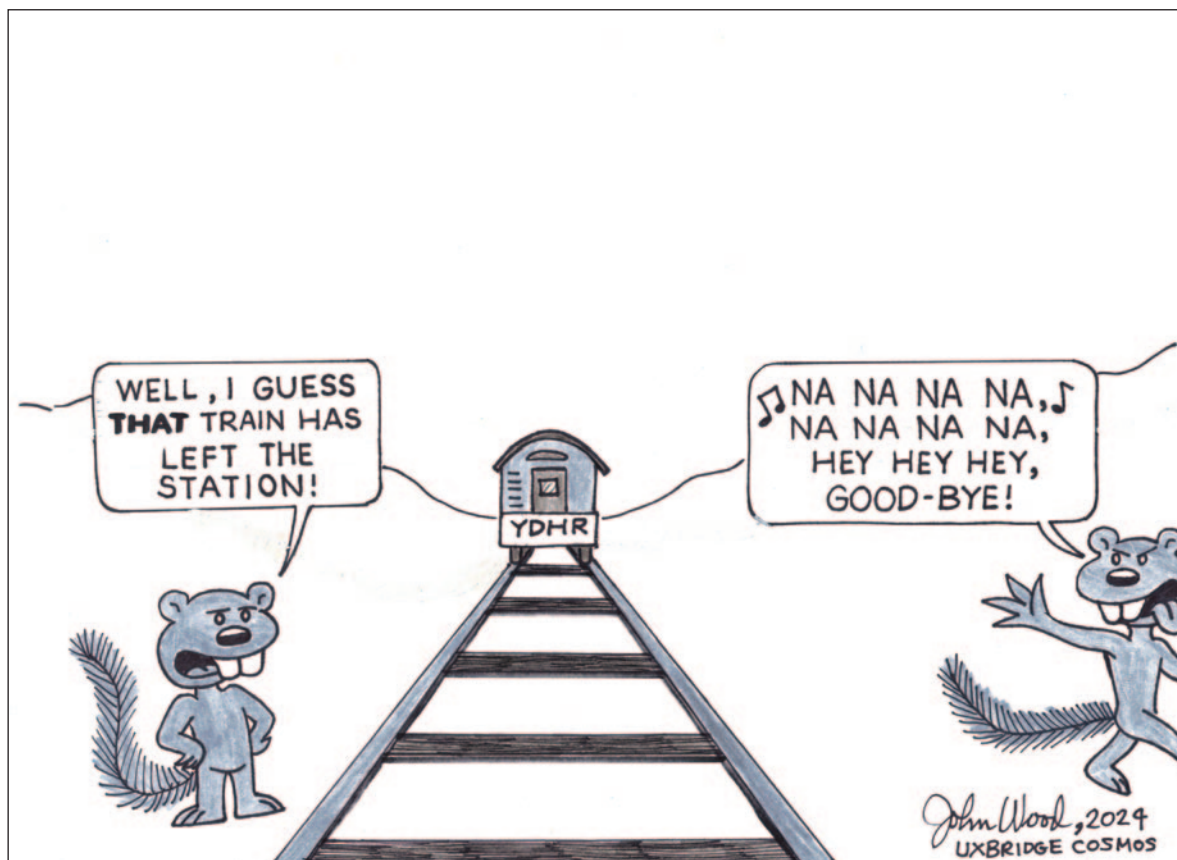
Junk mail or local news - how badly do you want it?

Here's a little something you may not know. Starting a couple of weeks ago, Canada Post no longer delivers community newspapers with commercial inserts or enclosures to addresses that are signed up for the Consumers' Choice program. And that's not cool.

The Consumers' Choice program allows those who receive mail the option of not receiving unaddressed advertising mail (i.e. flyers). Just put a note on your mailbox that says "No unaddressed mail" and you won't get "junk mail." Previously, you would still receive government mailings, election material, and community newspapers like this one! But these newspapers sometimes have an insert or two in them, and apparently Canada Post doesn't like the newspapers getting the money for those flyers. So it's made the decision that, when there's a flyer in it, a mailbox that doesn't want "junk mail" won't get *any*, even if it's wrapped in a community newspaper.

To be clear, we've done the math, and it *is* cheaper for an advertiser to pop a flyer in our paper and have it delivered than for Canada Post to do it directly. But for a business to deny residents access to community news because it's salty that newspapers are getting flyer business and it's not? That's bad form, Canada Post. Us newspapers who deliver via you pay thousands of dollars for delivery *each week*. We're pretty sure you won't decrease our delivery numbers according to this new rule...you think we're going to pay for papers *you won't deliver*? AND you think it's ok to decide who gets local news and who doesn't, based on a flyer? Like we said, not cool.

The *Cosmos* has an insert booked for next week. If you don't get your paper, it's because Canada Post has instituted this stupid new rule. You can always check out our spiffy new website, but you'll miss out on the flyer.



A bankrupt railway, from page 3

All equipment, parts, and inventory will be available for purchase in the near future through our trustee, Riley Farber of Toronto.

No part of the announcement explains the railway's seemingly abrupt turnaround. The *Cosmos* did reach out to Jacula to try and obtain an explanation, but had not heard back from him by press time Tuesday night.

The *Cosmos* has obtained a copy of the Notice of Bankruptcy from trustee B. Riley Farber of Toronto, dated Jan. 19, which invites creditors to attend a ZOOM conference on Friday, Feb. 9, at 11:00 a.m. This conference will affirm the company as trustee, and discuss how the bankruptcy will proceed. Creditors must lodge a Proof of Claim in order to participate in the meeting, the form for which is available on the trustee's website.

The notice states that YDHR filed

for bankruptcy on Jan. 18, with the guidance of Riley Farber. It contains a brief statement of liabilities, totaling more than \$2.071 million, and assets, valued at about \$860,000. It has a list of 52 "unsecured" creditors, those without any kind of lien on the railway's assets, as well as three "secured" creditors (the Canada Revenue Agency and two railway-linked companies in Colorado) that will receive priority in any kind of payment plan. Neither list includes the many temporary contractors who worked on the railway's recent holiday trains.

A representative of Riley Farber told the *Cosmos* that any corporate bankruptcy, including for a registered charity like the YDHR, follows the same procedure. The corporation must work with a licensed insolvency trustee (LIT) to prepare a detailed application to the Office of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy (OSB), a federal government agency. The application has a lot of financial detail. Would work on that application

(filed Jan. 18) have begun before Jan. 9, when YDHR said it had a 24-month plan for resolving its debt? The trustee wouldn't tell the *Cosmos*, but he did say that question could be legitimately asked at the creditors' ZOOM conference.

Township CAO Honey said, "It's unfortunate to see a long-standing organization like YDHR close its doors. With the announcement of its insolvency, we will work with the trustee through our lawyers to ensure Permission to Enter for the removal of assets. We have not established a timeline, nor met with the trustee on this new development and their associated timelines."

One local lawyer says it is possible for a corporation to declare bankruptcy in order to relieve itself of the mountain of debt, take a breather, and start afresh. The railway's Jan. 21, announcement says it is ceasing operations, not necessarily dissolving the organization.

The list of unsecured YDHR creditors is long

Roger Varley

More than 50 people, businesses and organizations are listed as unsecured creditors in York-Durham Heritage Railways' bankruptcy filing.

Ranging from \$339 to \$218,500, the outstanding debts to unsecured creditors total \$1,439,798. An unsecured creditor does not have the right to seize the debtor's property or assets and must rely on bankruptcy proceedings or lawsuits to recover the debt. Eight of the unsecured creditors are based in Uxbridge Township, but some are from as far away as British Columbia and Georgia. The list does not include the many performers, including children, who were not paid for their work on the YDHR's special events.

Mansergh Inc. Borrowed Vintage of Zephyr is owed \$2,333. Owner Alex Aldridge said her company rented out vintage tableware for YDHR's Heritage Tea Ride. She said her last invoice was submitted on Dec 16, and was the only amount owing.

"To be fair to them," she said, "everything else was paid."

The filing shows that Uxbridge company Meek Electric is owed \$10,278. Owner Paul Meek disagrees with the amount, saying it's more in the neighbourhood of \$17,000. He said he has been owed the money "since this time last year," adding that YDHR has approached him for other work since then but he refused until they paid their invoice.

"It's quite a hit," said Meek. "We're probably not getting it back."

Alysa King of Acton runs Inspiring Imag-

inations. Her company is owed \$12,200. She has started a GoFundMe campaign but not for herself. King said the aim is to raise money to pay some of the young performers who worked on YDHR's special events. She claimed some of the children are owed as much as \$1,000. She said she has not been able to contact all the children who were not paid, but she has set a goal of \$3,349 to help those she has contacted. As of press time, the fund had raised \$1,240. King said the money raised will likely be distributed to the children on a percentage basis.

One entry on the list is \$84,750 owed to Nestleton Waters Inn. The inn, which catered to weddings and offered luxury suites, was sold by its owners in March 2023. The former owners could not be contacted for details on the reason for the debt.

Uxbridge Legion Events

Thursday Night Trivia @ 7:00 P.M.

Friday Night Euchre @ 7:30 P.M.

Saturday Meat Rolls @ 4:00 P.M.

Sunday Open Mic 2:00 - 5:00 P.M.



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Uxbridge

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Help Support your local Legion


The Uxbridge Cosmos

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Am I wrong?

column by Roger Varley

Tick tock, tick tock

A couple of times a year, many of us complain about having to reset our clocks. You know the routine: one hour ahead for daylight saving time and then one hour back to return to standard time. It is likely, however, that most of you don't know about another clock reset that happened this week. The Doomsday Clock was inched ahead to 90 seconds before midnight!

The Doomsday Clock is symbolic, established in 1947 by atomic scientists to show how close the world is to global catastrophe, with midnight being the onset of such catastrophe. Back in 1947, the clock was set at seven minutes to midnight. It has fluctuated somewhat since then, but currently sits at 90 seconds before C-hour.

I have been following other news in the last couple of weeks - from Sweden, Norway, Finland and Germany - and there are indications that those 90 seconds are ticking off fast. Sweden has been openly urging its citizens to prepare for war. Norway and Germany have declared that war with Russia is imminent, with some declaring a Third World War could be upon us as soon as 2025. In Finland, there are fears that Russia might be preparing a Ukraine-style invasion in the near future.

North Korea's Kim Jung-Un is becoming increasingly belligerent and threatening to obliterate South Korea and the U.S. with nuclear weapons. The Republic of China is making more and more ominous threats of a takeover of Taiwan and the mad men of the Middle East seem intent on drawing the western allies into the various conflicts in the region. There have been attacks on U.S. bases in Iraq and the Houthis in Yemen are now firing missiles at allied warships.

For Russian President Putin, Chinese Premier Xi, Kim and the Iranian ayatollahs, the timing probably couldn't be better. The United States, the principal member of NATO, is in the middle of a presidential election that is tearing the country in two. The European Union is having trouble with the right-leaning Viktor Orban in Hungary and that will have an effect on NATO. And

while all of this is going on, some Western allies are beginning to balk at continuing aid for Ukraine. Slovakia's new leader opposes Ukraine membership in NATO and has even downplayed that there is a war in Ukraine.

The war of 1914-18 was known as The Great War because, after it was over, no-one could imagine such a large-scale war ever happening again. It later became the First World War because the second one started a mere 20 years later. After the world witnessed the carnage of that first conflict, how on earth could they let it happen again? And yet, having gone through a second global conflict that ended only when atomic bombs were used for the first time, here we are again.

One has to believe that humans are the dumbest species ever to inhabit this planet. Throughout history, we have seen that war never solves anything. No empire has ever survived. Not the Roman empire, the Mongol empire, the Ottoman empire or the British empire. No matter who declares themselves master of the world, they eventually fall from power. And yet, mankind continues to devise new and more efficient ways to exterminate each other. And to what end? So that a very few people can claim to have power over others. It is not unsurprising that Putin, Xi, Kim and Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the supreme leader of Iran, all lead dictatorships. Any opposition or criticism is dealt with harshly. And we all know what former president Donald Trump thinks about them. According to him, they're all "great guys."

I believe the outcome of the U.S. presidential election is going to encourage people like Putin whatever the result. No matter who is declared the winner, I foresee chaos erupting in that country, with a new civil war a strong possibility. It seems to me that would be the perfect time for the dictators to make their moves.

It seems to me that 90 seconds on the clock is going to tick off very quickly.

Tell me, am I wrong?



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

Norm and Alex - the stars they were

It's the early 1960s. The Cuban missile crisis is still fresh in people's minds. The Cold War is at its peak. A Soviet submarine has run aground on the New England coast. Locals in the closest town think it's the start of a Soviet invasion of America. The panicking townsfolk - armed to the teeth with shotguns - are lined up on the dock facing an armed Soviet sub. And the local sheriff stands between the two sides about to open fire. He pulls out his parking ticket pad, looks up at the sub commander and through a Russian sailor translating, says, "All right, let's have your full name and address."

The sub commander orders his deck gunners to prepare to fire.

It's the climactic scene from one of my all-time favourite movie comedies, *The Russians Are Coming, The Russians Are Coming!* It was produced and directed by Norman Jewison. And thanks to my father's friendship with Norman, dating back to the 1950s, I knew how the movie ended before people saw it on movie screens in May 1966. I got thinking about Alex, my father, who died 20 years ago this week, and then with the passing of Norman over the weekend, it all came back to me.

Based on the popularity of the daily newspaper column Alex wrote for the one-time *Toronto Telegram*, called *The Barris Beat*, CBC consented to his idea for a weekly variety TV show with the same name in the summer of 1956. The show combined my father's talents as an interviewer, conversationalist and entertainment reviewer. He had a cast of regulars - singers, dancers, comedians - and visiting guests. The late-night, live show each Wednesday enjoyed moderate success. But when up-and-coming director Norman Jewison was assigned to direct the show, it took off.

"Norman was brought on to try to strengthen the show," Dad wrote. The show was moved to Saturday nights and it went on to win audience loyalty and numerous excellence awards. When we celebrated my dad's 80th birthday in 2002, Jewison, the seven-time Oscar nominee as best director, and winner of the Irving Thalberg (Academy) Award for lifetime achievement, attended the party. He reflected on his time directing *The Barris Beat* TV show. "Alex," he said, "you were my star!"

He wasn't kidding. After several seasons directing Dad's show, Norman got the chance

to direct big TV shows in the U.S. "An agent with William Morris Agency in New York had seen kinescopes (sample excerpts) of *The Barris Beat*," Norm wrote in his autobiography, "and he liked what I was doing." Soon he was directing U.S. shows such as *Your Hit Parade* and *Tonight with Harry Belafonte*. (In fact, when my sister and I searched the CBC TV archives for visuals to show at Dad's 80th, we discovered that all the musical numbers, comedy sketches and dance routines that Norman had directed had been edited out. Those were the clips Norm showed the New York agent.)

Even though the two men went separate ways - Dad to further newspaper journalism, books, and more TV-variety writing and hosting, and Norman to direct such iconic movies as *In the Heat of the Night*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Moonstruck*, *A Soldier's Story* and *The Hurricane* - they remained fast friends. In fact, most summers, because our families had cottages close to each other, we often connected socially. And I remember vividly the night I saw the plot to *The Russians Are Coming* from the man himself.

"Jewison regaled a group of us at a Lake Simcoe summer cottage with the details of the story," Dad wrote later. "In his lengthy and hilarious recitation, Jewison acted out every part."

I remember Norman explaining a scene in which the Russian sailors tie up two Americans - a New York writer and a buxom female phone operator - back to back. Left alone in a second-floor room the pair decides to escape, spinning themselves inside the ropes so they are facing each other; then they hop their way down a steep flight of stairs. (Jewison cast comedian comedian Larry Mann and English comedienne Tessie O'Shea in the roles.) He performed the whole scene for us. "None of us had any doubts," Dad said, "that Norman would sell the idea. The result was the phenomenally successful *The Russians Are Coming*."

And I'm not going to tell you how that climactic showdown on the New England dock turns out. In memory of my dad, and as a tribute to Norman Jewison's genius, I suggest you download the movie. It stands up, perhaps offering even more resonance now, given the states of America and Russia today.

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

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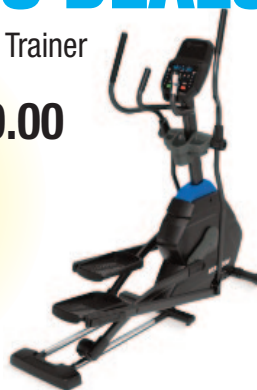


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Bruins welcome new coach with two wins

With a new head coach and two new players, the Uxbridge Bruins appeared to show a new attitude last Friday as they dominated the North Kawartha Knights with a 7-1 win and followed that with a 7-5 victory over the Little Britain Merchants the following night.

Chris Kerr took over as head coach, replacing Phil Kestin. Bruins general manager Jay Simmonds said the change was necessary to move the Bruins in the right direction, adding that Kestin's departure was "amicable." Kerr was formerly on the coaching staff of the Knights and also the

Clarington Eagles.

Along with Kerr, the Bruins also debuted two new players: Evan Gilbert and Ryan Shier. Shier joins his brother, Owen, on the team and replaces Josh Czajik, who has moved up to the Junior B ranks with the Pelham Panthers. Gilbert earlier played for the Knights.

Friday's game saw the Bruins displaying more teamwork than they have shown recently, with 10 players sharing in the points. Anthony Lamanna opened the scoring early when he took a little flip pass from Ty Roberts and scored a short-handed goal. Later in the first period, Quinn Meek took a perfectly placed pass from Owen Shier to score a power-play marker.

In the second period, the Bruins attack was relentless, adding three more goals to the scoreboard. Lamanna picked up a power-play goal, assisted by Jack Davis and Meek, Ryan Shier made it 4-0, assisted by Noah Button and Tanner Ryan, and Roberts closed out the period, assisted by Gilbert and Meek.

Early in the third, Meek picked up his fourth point of the game, assisted by Lamanna. As the game wound down, North Kawartha's Liam Kelly spoiled goalie Andrew Claughton's shut-out bid and Lucas Marshall closed out Uxbridge's scoring, assisted by Roberts.

The *Cosmos* selected Meek as player of the game for Uxbridge and gave the nod to Geoffrey Boates for the Knights.

In Little Britain on Saturday night, the Bruins matched the previous night's goal output but had to stage a third period rally to pull out the win. There was no scoring in the first period but the two teams more than made up for that in the next two periods. The Merchants opened the second with a goal 30 seconds into the stanza, but the Bruins responded with three goals in just over three minutes, including a power-play marker. The goals were scored by Lamanna, Owen Shier and Gilbert. Little Britain ended the period with a power-play goal.

The third period was a barn burner. The Merchants scored just 90 seconds into the period, only to see Uxbridge's Jake Rigillo respond with an unassisted goal 30 seconds later. Little Britain quickly tied the score and then took the lead again with their third power-play effort. With less than 10 minutes remaining, Owen Shier combined with Lamanna and Meek on the power play and 20 seconds later Gavin Graham re-established the lead, assisted by Gilbert and Roberts. With the Merchants' goalie pulled for the extra attacker, Gilbert put the puck into the empty net. The Bruins were scheduled to meet the league-leading Clarington Eagles in Bowmanville tonight (Thursday) before hosting the Lakefield Chiefs at the arena tomorrow at 7:45 p.m.



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John Edwin Rowarth November 5, 1924 - January 17, 2024

It is with heavy hearts we announce the passing of John Edwin Rowarth in his 99th year, peacefully and surrounded by his loving family.

John was born and raised in Ilfracombe, England, a true Brit through and through. After the war had ended and he had completed his time with the British Navy, he moved to Canada at the coaxing of his sister, Joan, and brother-in-law. He soon met and married Arlene Elizabeth Edwards, the love of his life for more than 50 years.

Together they bought a home in Markham, and raised several foster children and four children of their own, Robert, Linda, Laura & Jane. John & Arlene watched as their family grew and all were married, and before they knew it, 12 grandchildren followed, and now there are several great-grandchildren.

John was an electrical engineer and had a long and interesting career with The Defence and Civil Institute of Environmental Medicine (D.C.I.E.M) in Downsview. There were several unique facilities created in Downsview, and a lot of study was investigating the effects of occupational hazards such as cold, heat, impact, and pressure on pilots and divers. There was not a lot of talk about his job at home, but we do remember the conversation about the effect of G-forces on pilots being researched, with hypobaric and hyperbaric chambers being used to study decompression sickness and motion sickness. John always enjoyed his job and found it very fulfilling; he retired at the age of 59, after 35 years of loyal service. The next chapter began and he was never short on projects to keep himself busy - between babysitting grandchildren, and building a cottage, he definitely filled his days.

Sadly and quite unexpectedly, Arlene passed at the age of 73, and several years later John sold their home in Markham and moved to Uxbridge. Always an outgoing person and easy to chat with, he met people and grew a large circle of friends from his swim group, artist group, to his friends in Testa Heights - he was never at a loss of things to do or people to see.

Arlene had always encouraged him to get back to his painting, but a busy life and family never seemed to allow him the time. Once he settled in Uxbridge, he joined a group of local painters and took lessons to improve his water colour technique. His love for art and time painting with friends filled many days.

John had a great sense of humour and he enjoyed life and lived it to its fullest. He will be forever remembered as a kind and loving man with a heart of gold, he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Family and friends will be received at Dixon Garland Funeral Home, 166 Main St., Markham North, Markham, Ont., on Sunday, January 28, 2024, visitation 11-1 p.m. Chapel service to follow at 1 p.m.

In Loving Memory Hildred (Heidi) Dorothy Cushing

1924 - 2024

Peacefully, with her family by her side on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, 2 months short of her 100th birthday. Hildred "Heidi" (née Driver), beloved wife of the late Gerald King Cushing.

Heidi was born in Toronto on March 13, 1924. She joined the Woman's Royal Canadian Naval Service (WRENS) in 1942 and served in Canada and Washington D.C. She retired as a supervisor from Canada Post in 1986. Left to mourn her loss are her daughter, Anne Renwick (Robert); granddaughter Arlene Goode (Bradley); grandsons Andrew D'Arcy (Jordi), and Kevin D'Arcy (Samantha); and great-grandchildren William and Hannah Goode, Scarlett, Amelia, Jack, and Evelyn D'Arcy and Veronica D'Arcy, and last but not least, her beloved cat, "Miss Sophie".

Rested at the WAGG FUNERAL HOME, 216 Queen Street in Port Perry (905-985-2171). Private interment at Pine Grove Cemetery, Prince Albert. If desired, memorial donations may be made to your preferred animal shelter or the Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Trust Fund. Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at www.waggfuneralhome.com



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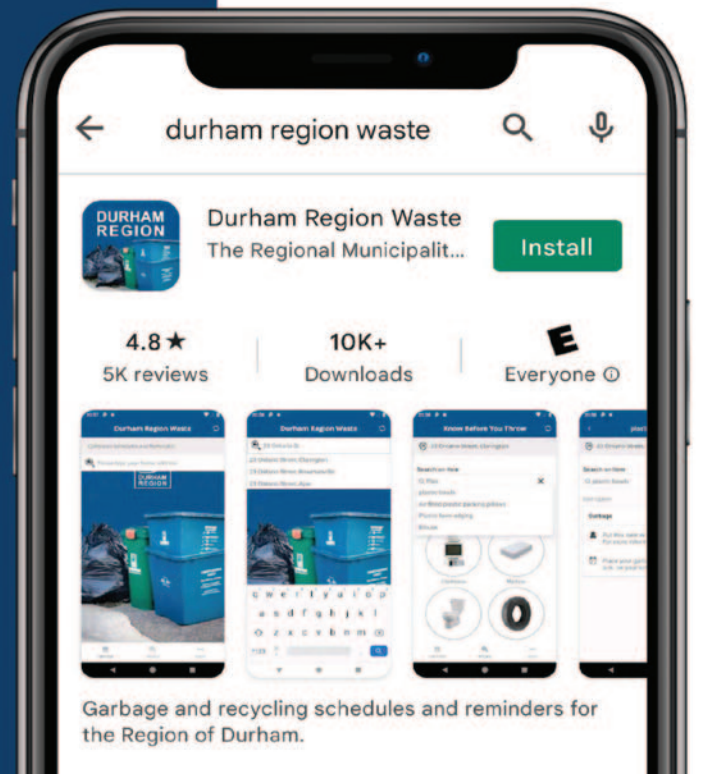


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