

The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 19 No. 43

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Urban park proving popular • Getting our goat • Bruins stuck in second



THAT'S ONE HOT HOT DOG! - Trick or treaters of all shapes and sizes - and species! - were out on Saturday afternoon to take part in the Uxbridge BIA's Spooky Saturday Trick-or-Treat Trail. This adorable pup (whose name we weren't able to discover) stole hearts with his portrayal of a tasty hot dog.

Photo by John Cavers

Light show happens despite permit denial

Roger Varley

A large drive-thru Halloween lighting display has been operating on a Brock Road property since Sept. 29, despite the fact the Township of Uxbridge denied the operators a permit for the event.

Spooktacular Light Show and Journey into Enchantment, a GTA-based company, has been running the event at 1389 Brock Road, just north of the Uxbridge-Pickering townline, although Uxbridge council refused to issue a special event permit. A meeting of council on Sept. 18 received a detailed report on the proposed event from township staff which recommended that a permit not be issued. The by-law department, the fire department and development services all had concerns about the proposed event, which they said needed to be addressed before a permit could be issued.

...continued on page 3

Maud Squad launches fundraiser to 'enhance' museum

Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

Canada's most beloved author is about to become even more prominent if the Maud Squad has its way.

The Lucy Maud Montgomery Society of Ontario (LMMSO), affectionately referred to as the "Maud Squad" by members of the community, announced Saturday that it is launching a \$200,000 fundraising campaign to enhance the museum that profiles the life of author Lucy Maud Montgomery in Leaskdale.

Montgomery was the author of *Anne of Green Gables* and 20 other novels. Her books are regarded as classics and are beloved around the world. She is widely regarded as Canada's most prominent literary figure.

The fundraising campaign, titled "Maud's Museum – the Next Step," will work towards providing upgraded museum display systems, a library and modernized gift shop, an ex-

panded parking lot on the north side of the church, an attractive tearoom, a space designed for children, and enhancements to signage and building security.

"We plan to enrich and expand our ability to present the "Montgomery in Leaskdale" story and to meet the needs of our increasing number of visitors," says Earle Lockerby, chair of the campaign. "Previous campaigns, and a group of very dedicated volunteers, have enabled us to acquire the church and manse properties, restore them authentically and bring them to a solid financial footing and good repair."

Saturday, which was officially celebrated as Lucy Maud Montgomery Day, also saw the unveiling of a stylish new logo for the LMMSO, which features a fountain pen nib at its centre, flanked by pages from a book, all surrounded by a trillium. Also unveiled were 10 large panels which now line the downstairs walls of the Historic Leaskdale Church. Each panel discusses a

different aspect of Montgomery's life, revealing both common and little-known facts about the legendary author. The panels were designed to reflect the same colour palette as featured in the stained glass windows of the church sanctuary upstairs.

"We've been very successful, but now it's time to take the next step to create a museum of truly world-class stature," says Melanie Whitfield, president of the LMMSO. "People around the world love Maud and her books, and they need a first-class historic site to attract them to Leaskdale. We've offered engaging programming and events for the public for over a decade, and this year we hired a site manager and curator to work with the volunteers. We intend to improve our capacity to attract visitors ranging from students to seniors."

L.M. Montgomery lived for 15 years in the

...continued on page 7

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Uxbridge at a Glance

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The Township of Uxbridge

Trail Capital of Canada



Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for November, 2023

- Friday, November 3, 8:30 a.m. ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
 - Monday, November 6, 10:00 a.m. COMMITTEE MEETING
 - Monday, November 6, 11:30 a.m. PUBLIC PLANNING MEETING ZBA 2023-09, 10899 CONC. RD. 4
 - Monday, November 6, 11:45 a.m. PUBLIC PLANNING MEETING, ZBA 2023-10, 720 SANDFORD RD
 - Monday, November 13, 10:00 a.m. COUNCIL MEETING
 - Monday, November 13, 7:30 p.m. HERITAGE COMMITTEE
 - Wednesday, November 15, 7:00 p.m. COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT MEETING
 - Monday, November 20, 10:00 a.m. COMMITTEE MEETING
 - Thursday, November 23, 7:00 p.m. BIA BOARD MEETING
 - Monday, November 27, 10:00 a.m. COUNCIL MEETING
- Proclamations for November**
- Nov. 1 - 7: CO Awareness Week
 - Nov. 6: Daylight Savings Time Ends
 - Nov. 6-10: Battery Collection in weekly waste pickup
 - Nov. 8: Indigenous Remembrance Day
 - Nov. 11: Remembrance Day/Veteran's Day
 - Nov. 13: World Kindness Day
 - Nov. 15: National Entrepreneurs Day
 - Nov. 15-21: Anti-bullying Awareness and Prevention Week
 - Nov. 19: Women's Entrepreneurship Day
 - Nov. 19: International Men's Day
 - Nov. 20: Transgender Day of Remembrance
 - Nov. 25: White Ribbon Campaign to end violence against women

Pearls & Lace Craft Show

November 4, 2023, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Goodwood Community Centre
Free Admission



Road and Sidewalk Closures

- Temporary road closures for Remembrance Day service, Saturday, November 11, 10:30am - 12:30pm include Toronto St. from Mill St. to Brock St.; Brock St. from Spruce/Church Sts. to Main St.; Main St. from Toronto St. to Planks Lane; Bascom St. between Brock St. and Centennial Dr. Detours will be in effect.
- 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

CROSSING GUARDS WANTED!

Not all heroes wear capes... some wear high visibility while vests holding stop signs!

Become a community hero by applying for a crossing guard position!

For more information on how to apply, visit uxbridge.ca/careers

Thomas Foster Memorial and the Ladies of the Foster
present
A Reading of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol

Sunday, November 19, 2023 - 2:00 pm
9499 Durham Regional Rd 1, Uxbridge

After a long hiatus, the ladies are back and are gathering once again to read this iconic Christmas masterpiece. Join us as we bring Scrooge and the wonderful characters of this timeless story to life.

To start the Holidays in a good old-fashioned way, a Christmas carol sing-along will follow the reading! Admission is by donation.

NORTH DURHAM Building Business Forum

November 14, 2023 • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Trail Hub, 722 Chalk Lake Rd., Uxbridge

Remembrance Day Ceremony

Nov. 11th 10:30am
Uxbridge Cenotaph
Local road closures in effect

Siloam Park Playground Update

The removal of the playground at Siloam Park is currently underway.

Replacement playground construction expected to last 2-3 weeks.

Santa is ready, are you?

Register your float today at www.uxbridge.ca/parade

Winter Parking Reminder

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

November 1st to April 1st

Child Water Play Swim
Wednesdays and Fridays
9:30 to 10:30 am at Uxpool

Cost:
Adults \$6.50
5 and Under \$3.50
6 to 14 \$4.50
Family \$17.00

Park open house draws high interest

Conrad Boyce
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Government-sponsored open houses about future development are not infrequently met with a collective yawn by the Uxbridge public. But that was emphatically not the case with the Oct. 23 event held by Ontario Parks in the cafeteria of Uxbridge Secondary School, the subject being the proposed Uxbridge Urban Provincial Park.

According to Parks, about 450 people attended the session, curious about the proposal announced by then-Environment and Parks Minister David Piccini last spring. The new minister, Andrea Khanjin, attended and spoke briefly, as did Uxbridge Mayor Dave Barton and Pickering-Uxbridge MPP Peter Bethlenfalvy.

"I was happy to see the community come out and meet with the important leaders who are making this new park a reality," said Bethlenfalvy. "I saw many individuals bringing their valuable feedback, and that's what the open house was all about, consultation and community involvement. I'm excited to see that input, and look forward to the continued collaboration with all the partners involved to make this space a reality in the near future."

In addition to Ontario Parks, many of the agencies and organizations involved in planning the park - the Township, Durham Region, the Toronto and Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authorities, and conservation groups including Green Durham and the Nature Conservancy of Canada - had booths at the open house.

In their speeches, the politicians singled out Uxbridge conservationist John McCutcheon as having fought for the park concept over many years. Yet in the maps displayed by the province at the event, the only lands shown as being part of the pro-



Pickering-Uxbridge MPP Peter Bethlenfalvy, accompanied by Mayor Dave Barton and other provincial ministers, at the urban park announcement in April 22, on the former Tannenbaum lands.

Photo by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

posed park were the former Tannenbaum properties south of town, now owned by the province. McCutcheon's own land on Conc. 7, which he recently donated to the Township with the express purpose of being part of an eventual park, was not included.

"Without question the open house was a big success," McCutcheon told the *Cosmos*. "Both ministers represented the project in an enthusiastic and forthright manner, and mentioned how impressed they were with the large turnout and community support. But I am concerned that the overall vision as expressed after the announcement on April 22 at Gan Eden is having very little exposure. This vision statement is exciting. An evolving vision will attract more supporters."

"I think the attendance numbers showed that people care deeply about the lands and trails south of Uxbridge," said Elizabeth Calvin, president of Green Durham. "They want to be a part of the planning process. The partners in this project

are working really hard and under very tight timelines. I think that's because the Province is so heavily behind this initiative. Ontario Parks follows a prescribed, step-by-step process - I hope people got an idea of those steps and were reassured of where we are in the process. And I hope people will take the time to share their comments through the posting which is now on the Environmental Registry. In time there will be more opportunities to give input on what the park could and will be."

Earlier in the day, the politicians met with 40 grade 11 and 12 students from the high school at a so-called Youth Summit. They discussed youth involvement in parks, and in helping to plan this park in particular. Input from both the students and the general public will be considered as the development of the park goes forward. No date for the eventual opening of the park was discussed.



No light shed on no-permit problem, from page 1

Deputy Mayor Willie Popp moved that the permit be denied and the motion carried unanimously.

Nevertheless, the light show has been operating.

The *Cosmos* visited the site three times over the past two weeks. On one occasion, a reporter spoke to a man who identified himself only as Mr. Alam, and he said he was in charge of the event. When it was pointed out to Alam that council had not issued a permit, he said the company was "in the process of obtaining a permit." He then asked the reporter to leave because it was private property.

When asked on Monday about Alam's claim regarding obtaining a permit, clerk Debbie Leroux simply responded that council had denied a

permit. Both Leroux and chief by-law officer Hilary Williams would say only that an investigation is underway. They said they were not at liberty to discuss the investigation. Williams said, however, that the by-law department can only lay charges if warranted and does not have the authority to close down the operation.

According to a Spooktacular website (spooktacularlightshow.com), the display opened for visitors on Sept. 29, with entry fees ranging between \$27 and \$57 per car. The display closed after Oct. 31.

Another website says the company will run a Christmas lighting display (Journey into Enchantment) in December and January at the same location. It also says the property is located in Pickering, instead of Uxbridge. That event also was denied a special event permit.

St Paul's Anglican Church Music Program

Remembrance Day Concert

In Remembrance of those who made the ultimate sacrifice

Chamber Strings and Winds from the Orpheus
Symphonietta
Director Stuart Beaudoin

Sunday Nov. 12, 4:30pm

Programme
Bach Dorian Toccata
Handel Organ Concerto in Bb
Beaudoin Oratio ad Benedictionem
Albinoni Concerto for 2 Oboi
Bach Symphonia BWV 29

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Our two cents

Betraying Pearson's legacy

Lester B. Pearson would never be content with just rolling over in his grave. Hopefully, his fiery spirit is haunting Justin Trudeau, exhorting his Liberal descendant to get off his duff and play a creative, meaningful role in the current Middle East crisis.

As prime minister, Pearson was responsible for instituting some of the most iconic aspects of modern Canadian life: universal health care, the Canada Pension Plan, our maple leaf flag. But even before he became PM, as External Affairs Minister under Louis St. Laurent, he won Canada's first and only Nobel Peace Prize (1957) by playing a major role in solving the Suez Crisis, which had occurred the year before. A fundamental part of that solution was the creation of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF), the U.N.'s first foray into peacekeeping.

As dangerous as the current situation is, the Suez Crisis was potentially much more explosive. It began with Israel, then Britain and France, invading Egypt to prevent Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser from nationalizing the Suez Canal. The Soviets, then the U.S., applied pressure to get them to retreat. After a furious diplomatic effort, with Pearson as chief mediator, the three powers did back off, and UNEF became the police force on the Israeli-Egyptian border, again with Canada as a principal player.

On the surface, the current Gaza conflict seems more contained. To this point, no major powers have become combatants on either side, although things are tense on the Jordanian, Lebanese and Syrian borders. But Russian President Vladimir Putin has made threatening noises on behalf of the Palestinians, even inviting Hamas to make a delegation in Moscow. And of course, the U.S. is the main supplier of the firepower being used by Israel.

But even if it remains just Israel against Hamas, thousands of innocent people are dying, utterly defenceless against what's raining down on them. Innocent people died on Oct. 7, and the Hamas knew full well they were sentencing their own people, and the 'nation' they were elected to govern, to death as a result.

The slaughter goes on, humanitarian aid is desperately inadequate, and hundreds of thousands of civilians are trapped, unable to escape. The U.N. General Assembly calls for a ceasefire, even a temporary truce, to allow food, water, fuel, and medicine to reach those who need it. Netanyahu says no, and we all just watch.

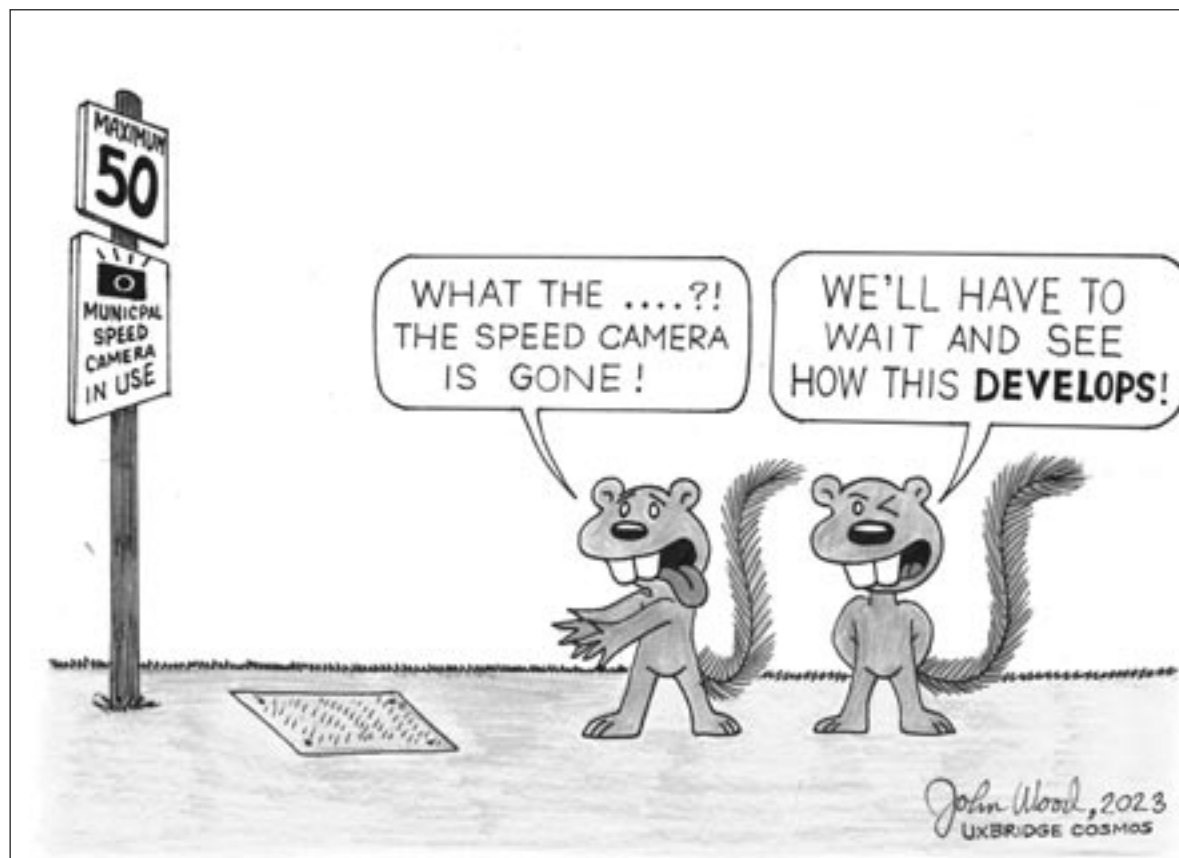
Those trapped in Gaza include dozens of Canadians, and yet our U.N. ambassador abstains on the ceasefire resolution, because it wasn't worded to sufficiently condemn Hamas. A ceasefire is about stopping the shooting, not what caused it.

By now, Pearson would have found a way to at least make the civilians safe. And that doesn't mean bringing aid in, it means bringing the civilians out. Why are they still suffocating in that tiny slice of hell? By now, a camp should have been built in the Sinai, full of sustenance and security. The doctors and nurses currently suffering and dying in Gaza could instead be treating their people in a safe place, away from the fury.

It would have been a huge undertaking, but with a fraction of what's been spent on bombs and bullets, and the political will, it could have happened. Most of the people of Gaza would have nothing to go home to, but at least their children, the hope for a Palestinian future, wouldn't be dying in their arms.

Instead, the world stands by, making no effort. Including Canada, which mostly thanks to Pearson, used to have a reputation as a caring, daring nation. Now we are totally ineffectual.

It's hard to watch.



Letters to the Editor

To all the people of Uxbridge who came out to hear the amazing 'Classic Lightfoot Live' at the Uxbridge Music Hall on Oct. 12, thank you!

It was a delightful evening, ending with a standing ovation for the band, its music, and the memories.

The Music Hall is a beautifully designed, historic space that offers an intimate setting for both artists and audience. It was the perfect venue for our concert.

Thank you to Joel Myslik for helping with advertising, providing the lighting for the show, and

calming my nerves when ticket sales were lagging! Also, thanks to Oakley Audio for providing great sound for the show, and to John Stinson and the band for playing and singing the music of Gordon Lightfoot as we remember it.

Thank you, also, to all the businesses in town that allowed us to advertise on their store fronts, and to Lisha at the *Cosmos* for giving us a two-for-one deal!

The event was a benefit concert in support of Ukraine, and I am happy to say that, after expenses, \$2,119.28 was sent to the Canada-Ukraine Foundation. The funds will be used to purchase medical supplies and to help the Ukrainian people prepare for the winter months ahead.

I am hoping that Classic Lightfoot Live will return to a sold-out concert at your wonderful Uxbridge Music Hall next year.

*Laurie Oakley
Beaverton*

The Leaskdale Park Improvement Survey has been completed. As a result, the Udora-Leaskdale Lions Club is pleased to announce that it will be planting an additional two trees this fall and a new bench and picnic table will be installed in 2024.

We thank the residents of Leaskdale in assisting us in helping make the Park a more enjoyable community space.

*Lion Dave Minns
Udora Leaskdale Lions Club*

The Uxbridge Cosmos

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Am I wrong?

column by Roger Varley

The good, the bad and the ugly

Most of us like to think of Uxbridge as a pleasant community, far removed from the ills of the big city and, to a large extent, it is. But, just as it was in Sergio Leone's iconic Western movie, we actually have the good, the bad and the ugly.

Let's start with the good. On Saturday, the shopping areas in Uxbridge were awash with a multitude of children - and many parents - dressed up in a dazzling array of Halloween costumes as they descended on stores in search of treats. Initiated by the local BIA as the Spooky Saturday Trick-or-Treat Trail, youngsters crowded into shops for their rewards. Some of the costumes were extravagant, some were clearly home-made, but for the children, all that mattered was dressing up and having fun. Indeed, a small pooch dressed, quite literally, as a hot dog, appeared to be having fun too. All around the downtown area, children were laughing and enjoying time with their parents.

Uxbridge tends to do these types of events well. From Halloween to Waldo events to the Santa Claus parade to Remembrance Day, this community comes together in a way that would be the envy of many similar sized towns. And that makes me feel good.

Then there's the bad. On Facebook this week, a local resident who is homeless at the moment and sleeps in his car complained that someone reported his "suspicious vehicle" to the police. Homelessness is a growing problem, not only across the country but right here in Uxbridge as well. Local church leaders know of several people who sleep in their vehicles because they have no place to call home. Although this person's Facebook post received a multitude of supportive replies, that didn't alter the fact that apparently, in this town, there are people who are so narrow-minded, so lacking in compassion, that they feel the need to set the police on someone sleeping in their car. And that makes me feel bad.

Finally, there's the ugly, although I am happy to say that, in this case, the ugliness doesn't come from Uxbridge residents. It has come from - (forgive the word) - outsiders. A GTA-based company appears to have decided that the rules laid down by Uxbridge township do not apply to them. In one of the most blatant nose-thumbings I have seen in some time, this company decided to go ahead with a Halloween lighting display despite the fact that Uxbridge council specifically and emphatically denied its request for a special event permit to allow the show to take place.

For several weekends now, the light show has been drawing in visitors - (some of them paying as much as \$57 a car for the privilege) - in knowing violation of township regulations. It appears to be a case of "rules be damned, we're making money."

And I find that to be ugly. But the ugliness continues. Despite having knowledge that this unlicensed event was taking place and having visited the site, the by-law department is still "investigating." What's to investigate? A by-law officer can see the light show in full swing and knows no permit has been issued. I might be naive, but that seems to me to be an open and shut case. But the show wasn't shut, it stayed open. On Tuesday night, with Halloween over, the display came to an end and, as of Tuesday, to the best of my knowledge, no charges had been laid, no one shut the operation down and, so far, no one has been held to account.

This same company is planning a similar event for the Christmas period and that display was also included in the denial of a special event permit by council. It will be interesting to see if the lack of a permit stops the company from going ahead anyway.

It seems to me that however much we look for the good, the bad and the ugly are always around to spoil things.

Tell me, am I wrong?



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

Speaking first, engaging the brain later

I thought I was in complete control of the moment. I'd read - both aloud and to myself - all the appropriate practice phrases. I arrived right on time for my first CBC Radio News announcing audition at the main Toronto studios. They gave me the audition scripts - a newscast, a piece of poetry and lists of words in French, Italian, German and English to just read aloud during my audition. I had time to review the copy, then I entered the studio to record my audition. Everything went swimmingly - including the French, Italian and German. But then I tripped up on an English word. I came across the word "epitome," paused and said:

"E-pi-tome," with the emphasis on the first syllable, as if I'd said "epic tome." And the moment I mispronounced it, I knew I was wrong and I wished I could've quickly crammed the word back in my mouth to say it properly the first time. But it was too late.

I thought of my verbal miscue back in 1970, as I watched and listened to the media conference staged by the Ford government on Tuesday morning in his home constituency of Etobicoke North. Reporters were told the premier would be making a bold new announcement to the people of Ontario. Oh, but first, the premier needed to be introduced by our own MPP, Peter Bethlenfalvy, the finance minister. He came to the lectern and the first words out of his mouth were to praise "You know, we've got the Holy Trinity of ministers here," he said. "Christine Hogarth, Kinga Surma ... and the great MPP for Etobicoke North, who also happens to be the premier of Ontario."

When that fell flat, he fell all over himself praising the premier for always saying that "he's not going to toll anything," but that he, Bethlenfalvy, still had to pay a toll - probably the toll on Hwy. 407, which the Conservative government of Mike Harris sold off for \$3.1 billion to an international consortium instead of more wisely using 407 tolls to help fund critical provincial programs in health, education and housing. Then, after kicking the federal government on everything from the cost of living to Bank of Canada interest rates (over which it has no control) to environmental policy, Bethlenfalvy handed it off to the premier.

"I want to start by thanking all the people of Circle K and over at Timmy's," he said, "for my double-double and the best egg sandwiches around."

He then took his turn bashing the federal government for the state of the economy.

Avoiding the obvious parallel with the Greenbelt fiasco, Ford praised his own plans to build the Bradford bypass and Highway 413 and eventually announced the extension of his program to pay the provincial gas tax cut at the pumps through to June 2024. Then, he finally took questions for the elephant in the room - the scandal surrounding the estimated \$8.3 billion developers' swap of Greenbelt lands.

One reporter (quoting Freedom of Information documents revealed Monday) asked how it was that 18 Minister's Zoning Orders (MZOs) were given to developers attending a wedding party for Ford's daughter. Ford didn't answer the question, but waxed eloquent about how allocating MZOs speeds up process, part of which was the same process that forced Ford's previous minister of housing Steve Clark to resign in disgrace.

Another reporter referred to emails that lobby group Environmental Defence obtained legally via Freedom of Information legislation. Those emails revealed that former political appointee Ryan Amato told bureaucrats how concerned he was that land near Nobleton, Ont., needed to be cleared for development, and had maps to illustrate. "Did you instruct your staff to deal with those lands owned by Shakir Rehmatullah?" the reporter asked. Ford said, "I don't know which lands you're talking about. But no, I didn't." Another reporter followed up a little later by asking, "If you didn't know about the land, but you instructed staff to pull them all, which do you mean?"

"I told Minister Calandra to pull all of them," he said, and then Ford used that infamous Nixonian phrase, "Let me be perfectly clear..." And he clearly wasn't.

All this, and the RCMP has only just begun its investigation. And if that weren't enough double-speak, the premier wrapped up his media conference, on Tuesday (Oct. 31), wishing everybody a "Happy Halloween." And thinking he was still a pretty good stand-up comic, he added, "I was thinking I would dress up as a media person."

Well, repeating that word that haunted me 50 years ago - this is the "epitome" of a provincial government with foot-in-mouth disease.

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

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CANADA'S GARAGE™

Beasts of Uxbridge: the nibbling Nubians

Conrad Boyce
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

In our occasional series on Uxbridge's variety of farm animals, we began with the largest, the bison of Thunder Ridge, and followed with the smallest, the hive-dwellers at 3 Boz Bees. Now for a beast somewhere in between.

In a small orange barn visible from Old Highway 47 just south of Uxbridge, I'm conducting an interview with hobby farmers Cam and Alice Stewart. After meeting some of their fascinating livestock, I'm about to follow the Stewarts out into the autumn sunshine, when I suddenly feel a tug on my jacket. I turn and

find myself face to face with the inquisitive gaze of a young black and white Alpine goat.

"Hey, Mister," she seems to say, "this fabric seems like it could be tasty... mind if I sample a bite or two?"

As you will know if you have spent more than a few seconds with a goat, they are among the most aggressively curious animals on the planet. They are also extremely agile, quite handy at rock climbing like their wild ancestors, and unlike any other ungulate, easily able to clamber into trees. Their vocabulary includes a wide range of bleats, snuffles and snorts which a goatherd soon learns to interpret for the health of his charges.

Fascinating fauna altogether.

There are about 300 breeds of do-

mestic goat, all of which are genetically descended from an ibex in the

mountains of northern Iran. The Persians began to domesticate that ibex about 10,000 years ago, and now you'll find them in every corner of the world, more widespread than just about any farm animal larger than a chicken.

Some goats are bred for meat, some for fur (think cashmere). But most of them are milk producers, providing arguably the most succulent cheese imaginable. And those are the kind of goats the Stewarts have in their barn.

Cam has a day job. He trains the operators of specialized utility vehicles, like those that leap into action in a power outage. He and Alice are also heavily involved in the community as volunteers, Alice on the goat committee for the Uxbridge Fall Fair, Cam as the long-time president of the Uxbridge Bruins board and a member of the Goodwood Cemetery board.

But the couple are also devoted animal lovers. They've long had beef cattle on their 16 acres, buying a small herd in the spring, nurturing them over the summer, selling them in the fall. They've had sheep, they've had chickens. But for the last 15 years, they've had goats, and have become celebrated for their success in showing them at agricultural fairs all across the province.

...continued on page 9



Alice and Cam Stewart with two of their prize-winning does: Lulu the Alpine (left) and Foxy Lady the Nubian.
Photo by Conrad Boyce

Thank You
mani tea

Community Donations at work!

To celebrate Mani Tea's one-year anniversary in Uxbridge, Yiyuan Wang, co-owner of the shop with husband Guowen Zhang, recently donated several dementia-friendly books to the Uxbridge Public Library.

NEW

Dementia Friendly Books

Uxbridge BRUINS HC

For complete season and player information go to uxbridgebruins.pjhl.on.hockeytech.com

Friday, November 3, 7:45 p.m.
against Georgina at the Uxbridge Arena

Sunday, November 5, 7 p.m.
against Little Britain at the Little Britain Arena

Tuesday, November 7, 7:25 p.m.
against Lakefield at the Lakefield Smith Community Centre

THE YES MEN

One Night Only!

Saturday, November 4
7 p.m.

Uxbridge Music Hall

Tickets, \$40 each, available through starticketing.com

The Yes Men comedy improv troupe 'The Yes Men', all of whom are veterans of the Second City MainStage, playfully interact with the audience throughout their show. Fast-paced, electrifying, and fly-by-the-seat-of-your-pants funny, an evening with 'The Yes Men' is completely improvised from start to finish. No two 'Yes Men' shows are the same!

Proceeds going to support Anna MacKay-Smith - friend, fellow artist and long-time pillar of the arts community in Uxbridge.

Maud Squad wants money, from page 1

hamlet of Leaskdale, 10 km north of Uxbridge, and wrote 11 of her 21 novels there. Over the past 20 years, the LMMSO has established a historical tourist site that draws visitors from all over the world. The site includes the church where Montgomery's husband, Rev. Ewan Macdonald, was the minister, and the manse where they lived. The church includes a museum where artifacts from Maud's life and times are displayed.

In addition to the fundraising campaign announcement, LMM Day also included an interview with Maud herself. Author and journalist Ted Barris sat down with Maud (portrayed by actor Jennifer Carroll, who has embodied the role of Maud in the one-woman play *Maud of Leaskdale* for 12 years) and questioned her about life in Leaskdale, the plight of being a female author in her time of writing, and the two shared stories on life as an author.

Independent Montgomery scholar Mary Beth Cavert gave a presentation on the various ways Montgomery's husband spelled his name through the years, revealing at the very end of her presentation that the reverend's tombstone has both "Ewen Mcdonald" and "Ewan Macdonald" inscribed on it, leaving both

scholars and commoners no closer to knowing the correct spelling.

Many of Montgomery's descendants were there, including one of her granddaughters, Kate Macdonald Butler, along with other great-grandchildren.

The Lucy Maud Montgomery complex in Leaskdale is the only National Historic Site in Uxbridge township and has contributed significantly to the economy of the area. Donations to the "Maud's Mu-



Jennifer Carroll, left, unveils one of 10 new information panels devoted to L.M. Montgomery's life. Anne Dalton, right, designed the panels. Photo by John Covers

seum" campaign can be made by cheque to the LMMSO, by e-transfer to mzilawhitfield@gmail.com, or via

PayPal through the LMMSO website, lucymaudmontgomery.ca

MONTHLY DRAW WINNERS

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

The 'Reggae Sunsplash' trip was won by Keith and Debbie Miller ticket #082, sold by Dale Hickey

2nd place, \$150, won by Trevor Winter ticket #323, sold by Lisa Brooks

3rd place, \$100, won by Julia Kearley ticket #090, sold by Dale Hickey

Congratulations to our October winners, and best of luck for the November 2023 draw of the Rotary Club of Uxbridge Trip of the Month Club. 'Chateau Montebello Christmas' begins with deluxe motor coach transportation to Old Montreal/Montebello and 3 nights' stay at the 1st class Fairmont Le Chateau Montebello, the world's largest log cabin. You will also enjoy a guided tour of Montebello, lunch at Sucrerie de la Montagne, and a full day at the Atwater Market's Christmas Village.

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.



Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune
by Terrence McNally

December 13, 14, 15 & 16 at 7:30 pm
Matinée December 16 at 2 pm

Uxbridge Music Hall | Directed by Conrad Boyce
Produced by Ray Walker
Tickets: starticketing.com | Starring Lisha Van Nieuwenhove and Grant Evans
Produced by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, New York | Presented by Ted Barris and Stupefied Theatrical Productions

Warning: Adult situations & language, including some nudity. Recommended for ages 16+

THURSDAY, NOV. 16

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Bruins win and lose as struggle continues

Roger Varley

Forty-four minutes in penalties did not help the Uxbridge Bruins' cause last Friday as they were defeated 6-4 by the Georgina Ice at the Ice Palace in Keswick.

The Bruins, who have been struggling with their third-period performances recently, gave up three power-play goals in the final period, allowing the Ice to come back from

a 4-3 deficit. The Bruins opened quickly, with Anthony Lamanna scoring just 25 seconds into the game, assisted by Jake Rigillo. The Ice came back a few minutes later with a short-handed marker, but Noah Button, assisted by Lamanna, evened the score.

In the second, the Bruins notched their own short-handed goal, courtesy of Lamanna. Georgina tied the score again near the midway mark,

only to see Nolan Winter put the Bruins ahead again 40 seconds later, assisted by Luke El-Ayari and Josh Czali.

Then came the third period, where the Bruins racked up a total of 11 penalties, allowing the Ice to score three power-play goals.

While Lamanna had two goals and an assist, Georgina's Austin Paulmurt and Mike McCullough each had two goals and two assists.

The following night, the Bruins travelled to Little Britain to meet the floundering Merchants, who have won only one game in the first 10 starts. The Merchants opened the scoring early in the first but the period ended in a tie, thanks to a goal from Ty Roberts, assisted by Jack Davis.

Roberts scored again just 11 seconds into the second period, assisted by Lucas Marshall. Little Britain re-

sponded soon after but Gavin Graham combined with Owen Shier and Roberts to put the Bruins ahead with a power-play goal.

Quinn Meek gave the Bruins a two-goal lead midway through the third, with Graham and Button assisting, but the Merchants did not go down quietly. Pulling the goalie for an extra attacker, Little Britain scored with one minute left on the clock. In a last ditch attempt to tie the game, the Merchants pulled the goalie again, only to see Button find the empty net with four seconds remaining.

As a result of the weekend, the Bruins now have a tenuous hold on second place in the seven-team Orr Division of the PJHL. Georgina sits just one point behind, but they have two games in hand.

The Bruins are back in action tomorrow (Friday) night at 7:45 p.m. when they start a replay of last weekend. They host the Ice at the arena and then go back to Little Britain again on Sunday.

Meanwhile, the arena will see action on Saturday afternoon when the PJHL holds its Prospects game, with the Eastern Conference meeting the Southern Conference at 1 p.m. Nolan Winter and Luke El-Ayari will represent Uxbridge on the Eastern team.

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EST. 1895

Robert W. Sedore is pleased to announce that, effective November 1, 2023, the law practice of Bailey and Sedore, Uxbridge, will merge into the law practice of Randall B. Hoban, Uxbridge, and that, from that date, he will work on staff at the Hoban firm as Counsel.

Bailey and Sedore is the successor to the law practice of Lt. Colonel Samuel Simpson Sharpe, DSO, M.P. and Willard F. Greig. The practice has served Uxbridge and surrounding area since 1895.

Bob Sedore celebrated his 40th year in law practice on April 10, 2021. He wishes to thank all of the wonderful people who have been clients of Bailey and Sedore over the years, and hopes to continue to assist them at the Hoban firm, which is located in the Testa Office Building, in front of the Uxbridge Hospital:

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Telephone: 905-852-3900
Fax: 905-852-3666
Email: rwsedore@bellnet.ca

Greenbank Folk Music Society hosts duo Brooks and Bowskill

If you're into hearing how much fun the Greenbank Folk Music Society Stage can hold, then come and see Brooks and Bowskill with the Hometown Beaus on Saturday, Nov. 11.

Jimmy Bowskill, who is currently a member of Blue Rodeo, first played Greenbank in 2003, a young guitar prodigy at just 13 years of age, following the release of his debut solo album "Old Soul." His career has included 12 subsequent recordings, and he's worked with such names as Jeff Healy, Jeff Beck, ZZ Top, Joe Bonamassa and Deep Purple. The Greenbank Folk Music Society will welcome Bowskill back to Greenbank in his latest musical collaboration - Brooks and Bowskill - along with their band The Hometown Beaus - with members Kyler Tapscott, Wayne DeAdder and Ian McKeown.

Ennismore's Melissa Payne will open the night with some old time fiddle and traditional Celtic music. Tickets are \$35 each and available now at: Blue Heron Books in Uxbridge; P O E Design in Port Perry, or call 905-985-8351 for reserved tickets and information.

Swim Club gives Uxpool, itself a little makeover

James Houghton

The Uxbridge Swim Club recently added new lane ropes and new diving blocks to the Uxpool facility, its home for both swim practices and meets.

After many years of service, both the existing lane ropes and diving blocks were showing evidence of wear and tear. Concerns about them becoming a safety issue were also a driver to ensure replacements were made as soon as possible.

The Swim Club - the most active tenant of the pool - decided to "step up" (pun intended) and replace both the lane ropes and the diving blocks.

The new equipment was recently installed, and on Saturday, Oct. 28, the six current longest serving members of the club - Indira Barton, Chloe Walker, Tristan McKinney, Ethan Sneath, Ava Milenov and Maryn

Wray, "cut" the ribbon by diving off the new blocks at morning practice. They were quickly followed by all of

ditions to the pool," explains club president Laura Lee and past-president / treasurer Jenn Davies.

Though the equipment will continue to be owned by the club, it will benefit not just the swim club members but all users of the pool.

"The new ropes, and particularly, the new blocks, will also attract more visiting swim clubs to our meets - which will help raise funds for more infrastructure such as new timing boards and related equipment," says Sarah Steinke, head coach of the club.

The Uxbridge Swim Club started its 2023-2024 season in September and continues

to welcome swimmers of all abilities from beginners to elites - For more information on the Uxbridge Swim Club, contact Sarah Steinke at coachsteinke@gmail.com



Six long-time members of the Uxbridge Swim Club "cut the ribbon" on new starting blocks at Uxpool.

Submitted photo

the other swimmers at the practice.

"The club has been fundraising for many years, and thanks to our parents, patrons and the general public, we have been able to make these ad-

Nifty Nubians, from page 6

Although they've tried other breeds, including the infamous myotonic or fainting goat, which is more a meat breed, they now exclusively keep two milk breeds: the Nubian, originating in northeast Africa, and noted for its floppy ears (the better to keep out sand flies) and rich, buttery milk; and the Alpine, noted for being among the most productive milkers. Alpines are a popular breed for commercial goat milk farmers, but the Stewarts have a modest herd, only 20 Nubians and half that many Alpines, just enough for their private use.

Male goats, most of which are inevitably sold for meat, are known as bucks or billys. Females are does, or nannies. And the young ones were known as kids long before we humans were. Kidding season is, of course, a busy time for Cam, Alice and their charges, and a time when the does need their privacy. Late summer and fall weekends are occupied with loading the does into trailers and taking them to the goat shows. But the rest of the year, visitation, particularly by young people,

is greatly encouraged, and the Stewart goats are gaining a reputation as cherished therapy animals.

Alice loves to tell the story of a young girl who had turned darkly inward, shunning other youngsters and



The tall and the small: Alice Stewart with Jefferson, their prize Nubian buck, and Spritz, the barn kitten.

Photo by Conrad Boyce

even her family. But she lightened when she saw animals, in books, on TV, especially in person. By chance, her grandmother heard about the opportunity to have her girl meet a

young goat one-on-one at the Stewart farm, and she arranged a private "session." Soon the girl was visiting her new friend on a regular basis, and she took a part-time job one summer, caring for the whole herd. Now, years later, she is on the cusp of a career in animal care. And as a predictable bonus, her long hours communing with the goats have made her much better at dealing with that other species, her own.

There is also the story of Piglet and the ring. A local fellow was aware that his girlfriend was an occasional visitor to the Stewart farm, and had become charmed by a young Myotonic doe named Piglet. He placed a call to Cam and Alice. The next time the young lady went to visit, she was accompanied by her suitor. She went to the barn, Piglet came out to greet her. And there around the doe's neck was a ribbon. With an engagement ring. A unique way to propose.

But that's a goat in a nutshell. A unique delight, even without the feta. Next time you visit the Fall Fair, make time to see the goat show. And watch the Stewarts walk away with a bunch of ribbons.

COSMOS CROSSWORD

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49				50					51			

Across

- 1. Not operating
- 4. Scarf material
- 8. Piano piece
- 11. One of a Vegas pair
- 12. Kind of pad
- 13. Two or more periods
- 14. Unique
- 15. Stabs
- 17. Pertain
- 19. Cavity
- 20. TV room, often
- 21. Occupy time and space
- 24. Extorted
- 27. "My dear man"
- 29. ___ of averages
- 30. Intention
- 31. Safety device
- 32. Forbid
- 33. Northern sky fliers, in formation
- 35. "___ you kidding?"
- 37. Column's counterpart
- 38. Most recent news
- 42. Charming
- 45. Had seconds
- 46. Be liable to
- 47. Saturate
- 48. "Under the Tuscan ___"
- 49. Sack
- 50. Counting method
- 51. Wrap things up

Down

- 1. Cause for opening a window
- 2. Financial penalty
- 3. James Brown's "I ___ Good"
- 4. Ice or roller
- 5. Strong
- 6. Serve to be re-served
- 7. Employee to retain
- 8. Its blood runs cold
- 9. Simon's singing partner
- 10. Cooking choice
- 16. Put together
- 18. Calculate
- 22. Served on a jury
- 23. First prime
- 24. Tool holder
- 25. Invention
- 26. Came out
- 28. Leather type
- 31. Most fresh
- 32. Inspect as an expert
- 34. Royal wish
- 36. Cue containers
- 39. Smooth
- 40. Astound
- 41. Mind
- 42. Corleone group
- 43. State of shock
- 44. Lower digit



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EVENTS

JAZZ IN LEASKDALE CONCERT SERIES, hosted by the LMMSO. Tom Baker & friends return to entertain. Friday, Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m. Guest guitarist Mike Graham. Tickets by donation at the door.

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49	B	E	D		50	T	E	N	S		51	E	N	D		

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Publisher, Uxbridge resident Sharon Fitzhenry - 1950 - 2023

We are deeply saddened to announce that the bright light that was Sharon Fitzhenry was lost suddenly on August 26.

Sharon was loyal, protective, tenacious, stubborn, assertive, and above all, loving.

Sharon, who lived in Uxbridge, was president and CEO of Fitzhenry & Whiteside Limited, a Canadian family-owned publishing company specializing in children's books, adult non-fiction and cook-books.

Fitzhenry & Whiteside was Sharon's life. Her visionary spirit was the driving force behind morphing Fitz and Witz (as it was fondly known) into a publishing company, where before it had mainly focused on distribution. An innovator, she was among the first who saw the importance of supporting children's publishing in Canada. She launched the careers of hundreds of authors, illustrators, publishers, marketing execs and more. She was tireless in her pursuit of the next book, and looked to every conversation, experience, and acquaintance as a potential jumping off point. She was often quoted as saying, "Is there a book in that?" She loved abstract and obscure ideas which can be seen through the books that she published.

When her father, Robert (Bob) Fitzhenry, suffered a debilitating stroke, leaving him paralyzed and unable to speak, Sharon moved home to care for him. She devoted every morning and evening to be by his side, while still working full time as CEO of Fitzhenry and Whiteside.

Public libraries loved Sharon be-

cause she single-handedly boosted their circulation numbers. Week-ends would often see her taking 10-15 books out at a time, reading most of them. Her phenomenal memory meant she retained most of

ceiling and double stacked. Her generous nature meant that if you came for a visit you left with a bag of books and some cookies or ice cream and/or jujubes.

Sharon was a huge animal lover,



Uxbridge resident and celebrated publisher Sharon Fitzhenry. Submitted photo

what she read, and she could recite whole plots and details years later. This memory served her in handily solving every crossword puzzle she came across.

Fiercely intelligent, spirited and full of life, she reveled in a good argument for the mental challenge it provoked. She loved instigating verbal discussions with people to bring out their inner 'gumption.' This was received with mixed results by the people in question...

Sharon was an avid book collector, boasting of a personal library that exceeded 10,000 titles. She didn't have a house, she had a home with books. Every wall, table, and nook overflowed with books in all subject areas. Bookshelves were floor to

taking care of a veritable menagerie of animals across her lifetime, including a myriad of cats, dogs, several horses, two hamsters and a donkey. She had a very tender heart, and always did her best to defend and support animals. This included occasionally sheltering the neighbour's cat in winter to make sure he was warm enough. She liked to be extremely well informed, reading local, national and global newspapers. Once, while reading a newspaper from Yellowknife she saw a notice about a dog who had been in a shelter for a year and was next on the list to be euthanized. A few phone calls later, the rambunctious Sumatra was on a cross-country trip as the newest member of

the family.

Sharon liked to fly under the radar. She was never one to self proclaim - she preferred her authors and illustrators to be in the lime-light rather than herself. Because of this, she never received the kind of lifetime achievement awards and recognition befitting her contribution to book publishing in this country and to our Canadian culture in general.

Sharon is predeceased by her mother and father (Hilda and Bob Fitzhenry), her sister (Bridget), and her life partner (Sal Nasello). She is survived by her sister, Holly (Peter), her nephew Martyn (Gretta) and her nieces Jillian and Pamela.

She will always be remembered for her warm loving support of family and friends.

Her words will stay forever in our

minds, and her love in our hearts. We will miss hearing her catchphrase "holy s—" anytime something exciting happens.

A celebration of life for Sharon Fitzhenry will be held on November 14. Please contact laneanderson-award@gmail.com for more details.

In lieu of flowers, donations are welcome to any of the following charities:

Uxbridge Public Library - uxlib.com/about-us/adopt-a-book/
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George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary - reifelbirdsantuary.com
Uxbridge Animal Shelter - uxbridge.ca/en/living-here/adoption.aspx

Wilderness Committee - wildernesscommittee.org/

In loving memory of our beautiful & precious daughter, sister, aunt & mom,
Lisa Northeast-Jones,
who was tragically killed by a drunk driver on November 2, 1991.

If roses grow in Heaven, Lord, please pick a bunch for us. Place them in dear Lisa's arms, and tell her they're from us. Put your arms around her, Lord, when she turns to smile. Place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for a while.

Missing you is easy, dear, we do it every day, but there's still an ache within our hearts that will not go away.

Dance with the angels, Lisa, you touched many with your spirit for living. We love you and miss you dearly.

Mom, Mathew, Jacqui, Racheal, Carrie, Vince and Brenden.

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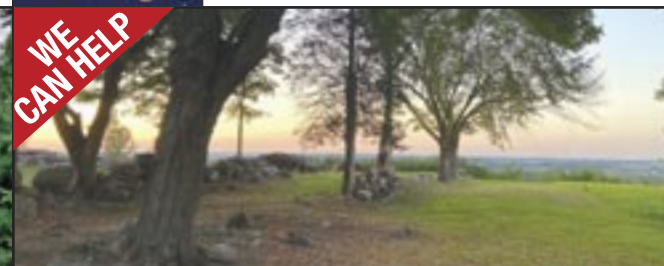
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