

# The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 19 No. 17

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Remembering The Storm • uxperience is back • Legion honours those who remember



**A BOOMER-IN' GOOD TIME** - Huck Finn Youth Fishing Days cast off last Saturday at Elgin Pond. Among the first to drop their lines were, from left, Jakob Burtney, Emmet Quinn, Boomer the mascot, and Brayden Quinn. Huck Finn Fishing Days ends this Saturday. For details, visit [uxbridge.ca/huckfinn](http://uxbridge.ca/huckfinn)

Photo by John Covers

## Popular local choral group prepares its 'Last Song'

Justyne Edgell

After 20 years, local choral group *Bella Nove* is closing up its music folders for the final time on June 4.

In the early 2000s, Jennifer Neveu-Campsall, a local voice teacher and choral conductor, was inspired by a fellow voice teacher who had formed an ensemble of nine singers from her studio into a triple trio.

"They were excellent. With the students that I had at the time I thought, 'I can do that,'" recalls Neveu-Campsall.

She decided to form her own ensemble called *Bella Nove*, which translates to beautiful nine, as there are nine members in a triple trio, three on each musical part.

Every year since its inception, students from Neveu-Campsall's studio have been invited to join *Bella Nove*, with ages generally ranging from 13 to 18 years old, a format which, says

...continued on page 7

## Possible provincial park announced for Uxbridge

Roger Varley and Conrad Boyce

At an event in the rain-soaked woods of the former Gan Eden property on Old Stouffville Road on Saturday, the provincial government announced that a new provincial park might be in Uxbridge's future.

Finance Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy, Environment Minister David Piccini, Durham Region Chair John Henry, Mayor Dave Barton, the mayors of Scugog and Pickering, conservation authorities and local councillors all gathered at the property on the western edge of town to make the announcement.

Bethlenfalvy, who also is MPP for Pickering-Uxbridge, said a large swath of land to the west and south of the downtown area could become

the province's first urban provincial park..

"This is a perfect home for a park," he said. "Opening a new provincial park in Uxbridge would give families and people in the community new ways to enjoy the great outdoors all year around."

Piccini, noting the announcement was being made on Earth Day, said the creation of a park would be "a major step forward for conservation and biodiversity protection in Ontario. We look forward to working with the public and local stakeholders to make this vision a reality."

No clear plans for next steps laid out, nor was it said the park is set in stone.. Piccini said work will proceed over the next couple of years to determine "the feasibility" of a park and added: "We hope to make it a reality." A provincial

government news release on the subject referred to "the government's intent to explore the creation of this new protected area in Uxbridge."

Barton noted in his remarks that it is too soon to give details of what the park will look like or exactly how large it will be. The gathering was told that the park "may" include up to 532 hectares (1,315 acres) of provincially owned lands. The province took over ownership of that land almost two decades ago after developer Joey Tanenbaum abandoned plans in the 1990s to construct a massive subdivision. It has been protected land since then, but largely unused.

It is believed the park would take in the parcel of land bordered on the north and west by

...continued on page 3

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# Uxbridge at a Glance

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## The Township of UXBRIDGE

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

### Council & Committee Meetings

#### Meeting Schedule for May

Monday, May 1, 10:00 a.m.

GENERAL PURPOSE AND ADMINISTRATION MEETING

Monday, May 8, 10:00 a.m.

COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, May 8, 7:30 p.m.

HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, May 10, 7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

Monday, May 15, 10:00 a.m.

GENERAL PURPOSE AND ADMINISTRATION MEETING

#### Proclamations for April

April 28 – National Day of Mourning

#### Proclamations for May

Asian Heritage Appreciation Month

Community Living Month

May 2-8-Mental Health Week

May 5-Red Dress Day

May 10-Anti-racism Day

May 17-International Day against

Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia

May 18-Global Accessibility Awareness Day

May 20-Asian Gold Ribbon Day

May 21-27-National Public Works Week

May 22-28-VON Week

May 27-June 2-Durham Pride Week

May 28-June 3-National Accessibility Week

May 31-Red Shirt Day

### From The Tax Office

**Second Property Tax Installment was due April 26, 2023.**

**Monthly or Installment Pre-Authorized Payment Plan**

**Deadline to Enroll for the 2023 Final property taxes is April 30, 2023.**

To find out if you are eligible to enroll, visit our website [www.uxbridge.ca/en/living-here/property-taxes.aspx](http://www.uxbridge.ca/en/living-here/property-taxes.aspx) or call the tax office at 905-852-9181 for more information.

Change of Address: If you need to change or update your mailing address, please notify our office in writing or by emailing

[tax@uxbridge.ca](mailto:tax@uxbridge.ca)

### Employment Opportunities

Complete details and qualifications required for these positions are available at [uxbridge.ca/careers](http://uxbridge.ca/careers)

#### Current Opportunities

**Treasury – Deputy Treasurer, full-time, permanent**

Closes Friday, May 5, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

**Uxbridge Public Library – Facility Custodian, contract**

Closes Friday, May 5, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

**Public Works and Operations - Crossing Guards**

Resumés accepted on an ongoing basis

#### Summer Opportunities

**Uxbridge Historical Centre - Community Museum Technician, contract** - Closes Friday, May 19, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

**Tourism – Assistant Tourism Development Coordinator, summer student, contract** - Closes Friday, May 26, 2023

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

### Bids & Tenders

All current bid opportunities are posted to [https://www.uxbridge.ca/en/business-and-development/bids-and-tenders.aspx?\\_mid\\_=23193](https://www.uxbridge.ca/en/business-and-development/bids-and-tenders.aspx?_mid_=23193)

- U23-09-Supply and Application of Liquid Calcium Chloride  
Closes April 27, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
- U23-08 - Sidewalk Installation and Repairs  
Closes April 27, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
- U23-15-Traffic Control Markings  
Closes May 4, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
- U23-10 - Tree Planting - Closes May 5, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
- U23-05-Fire Extinguisher Maintenance  
Closes May 18, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.
- U23-14-Supply, Deliver and Installation of Library shelving for Uxbridge Public Library  
Closes May 25, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

### Weight Restrictions Lifted

Effective April 24, 2023, seasonal Weight Restrictions have been lifted on Township of Uxbridge roads.

### Horseshoes at the Museum

Register now for horseshoe games at the Museum! Beginning Tuesday, May 2 at 6:30pm, and running throughout the summer. All donations of horseshoes gratefully received. Call Bob Kirvan at 905-852-9176.

### The Thomas Foster Memorial

9449 Conc. 7 (Durham 1) 4km North of Uxbridge

[www.thomasfostermemorial.com](http://www.thomasfostermemorial.com)

Fridays at the Foster – 2023 Concert Series - every Friday night from 7:30pm – 8:30pm from May until September, 2023. Admission is by donation at the door.

May 5 - Django Djunkies; May 12 - Garth Dynes – Blues Singer;

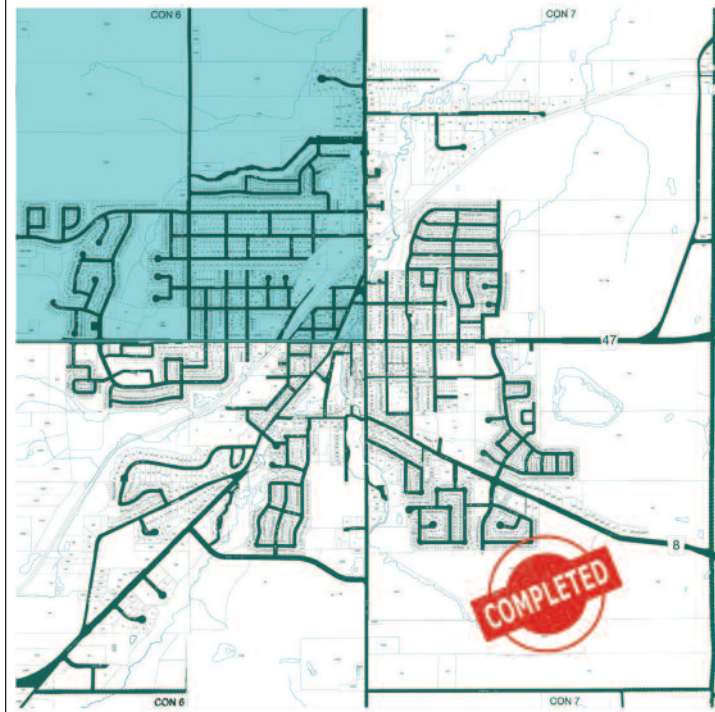
May 19 - Justin Dillon - Hand Pan;

May 26 - Bob Vopni - Fingerstyle Guitarist.

Check out the website for more information regarding Meditation Sessions, Tours and Purchase a Plaque.

### Street Sweeping

The Township of Uxbridge is currently sweeping streets in the North West quadrant of the Township. Please avoid parking on area streets while sweeping takes place.



### Notice of Road Closure



Victoria St. is closed between King St. W. and Brock St. W. for the Farmers' Market on Sunday.

7:00am-3:00pm



### AVIAN FLU SAFETY



- Do not attempt to rescue waterfowl who appear to be in distress
- Ponds and rivers are unsafe due to flooding and melting ice.

Report ill or dead birds to Uxbridge-Scugog Animal Control at 905-985-9547

April 28

### Day of Mourning

**Pause. Reflect. Remember. Renew.**

At 11 am, we will honour workers who have died, were injured, or became ill from their job, and will renew our commitment to health and safety in the workplace.

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



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



*New urban park, from page 1*

Highway 47, on the south by Old Stouffville Road and on the east by Concession 6 and the Gan Eden property on the south side of Old Stouffville Road. That land would be connected with other lands to the south, as well as to 80 acres donated to the cause by local philanthropist John McCutcheon.

McCutcheon, local environmental activist Brian Buckles and the Green Durham organization were singled out by the dignitaries for their work in advancing the plans for a park. As Barton said: "This wasn't my idea. This was a community idea."

Buckles said he was pleased by the announcement.

"We've been promoting this for ages and ages," he said. "It's been a long, long road."

He said the possibility of a park appears to have a lot of support from people such as the Nature Conservancy, which should lead to funds being made available to make the park a reality.

"That makes me feel more optimistic," Buckles said.

He admitted, however, that, so far, it has been hard to pin down who exactly will be responsible for management of the land.

Referring to the Tanenbaum proposal, Buckles said opposition to the project was "huge," to the point that there was so much unease, the province stepped in and froze development on the Oak Ridges Moraine.

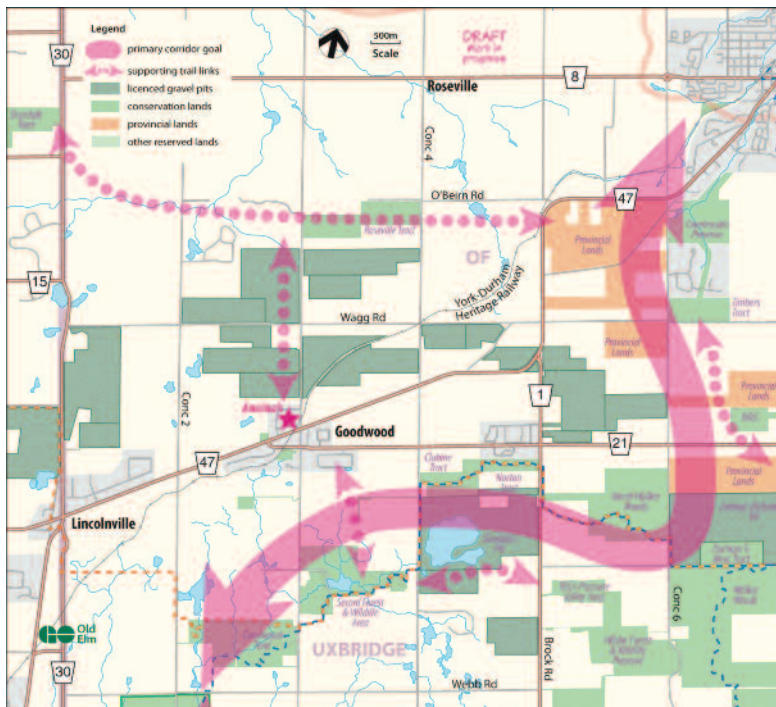
Former mayor Gerri Lynn O'Connor said she was not made aware of the announcement prior to it happening, but said that "if it's going to be a park, that's amazing." She said her understanding is that there will not be any camping sites in the park "but adding some green space is a plus."

She praised McCutcheon, Buckles, Green Durham and Uxbridge Naturally for their involvement.

"They have worked on this for years," she said.

She also said it was the wholesale opposition of Uxbridge residents to the Tanenbaum proposal that resulted in the lands moving into provincial ownership. She said the size of the proposed development was such that Tanenbaum suggested bringing in "the Big Pipe" to service the subdivision. The Big Pipe was a controversial sewer system designed to carry York Region effluent to a facility in Pickering. O'Connor said Uxbridge residents were opposed to the Big Pipe as well as the development project.

Resident reaction to the announcement has been varied. One Facebook page had many people wondering what exactly "urban park" meant. Mayor Barton told the *Cosmos* that



his understanding is that the urban designation is there because the park is similar to the Rouge Urban National Park, in that it will consist of

a number of tracts of protected land winding among pockets of residential, agricultural, commercial or even industrial development. These tracts

will include the Gan Eden property, the Nesbitt property (where the popular 1990s television series *Road to Avonlea* was filmed) and the McCutcheon property, but may include other lands currently owned by the TRCA, Durham Region or other entities. Exactly what lands are to be included will be part of the consultation process, but a total acreage of about 1,300 acres is currently contemplated.

As for usage in the park, Barton said he wants to be "1,000% clear" that no housing is contemplated, nor any intense recreation infrastructure like a major campground or swimming pool. His understanding is that only low impact recreation, such as those activities currently occurring on the rural trail system, is being contemplated.

Public consultation will take place before the boundaries, and uses, of the park are determined. The Township of Uxbridge has placed a survey

at [surveymonkey.com/r/LQ6MT27](https://surveymonkey.com/r/LQ6MT27) for residents to give their input.



## NOTICE OF PESTICIDE USE

Between May and October 2023, the Regional Municipality of Durham and the Ontario Ministry of Transportation will be conducting larviciding programs, under the authority of Durham Region's Medical Officer of Health, to control larval mosquitoes in order to prevent the development of vectors of West Nile virus.

The pellet and/or briquette formulation of the larvicide methoprene (Altosid - Registration No. 21809 and No. 27694 under the Pest Control Products Act, Canada), or the water soluble pouch formulation of the larvicide Bacillus sphaericus (VectoLex WSP - Registration No. 28009 under the Pest Control Products Act, Canada), will be placed into catch basins of storm drains in areas across the Regional Municipality of Durham.

The granular formulation of the larvicide Bacillus thuringiensis subspecies israelensis (VectoBac 200G - Registration No. 18158 under the Pest Control Products Act, Canada) will be placed in temporary pools of standing water, ditches, and storm water retention ponds in areas throughout the Regional Municipality of Durham.







The granular formulation of the larvicide VectoBac 200G and/or the granular formulation of the larvicide Bacillus sphaericus (VectoLex CG - Registration No. 28008 under the Pest Control Products Act, Canada) might also be placed in sewage lagoons in areas across the Regional Municipality of Durham.

All larvicides will be applied by Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks licensed applicators or trained technicians.

For more information on the locations and dates of treatment on:

Regional and Municipal property - contact the Durham Region Health Department at 1-800-841-2729 or visit [durham.ca/WestNile](https://durham.ca/WestNile) for additional information about West Nile virus

Ontario Ministry of Transportation property - contact Ontario Ministry of Transportation at 1-416-235-5462 (collect calls accepted) for additional information.

## Uxbridge One Year Later

### How are we doing?

Gather with friends and neighbours as we discuss the May 21, 2022, tornado. How were you affected? Are you still dealing with it? What did you lose? What did Uxbridge gain?

We invite the Township of Uxbridge to join one another, alongside a panel of guests who had various roles after the tornado went through, and share stories about what happened on May 21, and learn about where we are, one year later.

**Thursday, May 11, 7 p.m.**  
Uxbridge Seniors Centre  
75 Marietta Street

For more information  
905-852-1900  
[Lvann@thecosmos.ca](mailto:Lvann@thecosmos.ca)

Hosted by The Uxbridge Cosmos and Ted Barris

**The Uxbridge Cosmos**



# Our two cents

## It's a definite maybe

There has been a lot of buzzing around town lately regarding the news that Uxbridge is going to be home to a new provincial park. That buzzing reached a crescendo on the weekend when provincial cabinet ministers, the chair of Durham Region, various local mayors and councillors and conservation authority representatives gathered at the former home of Joey Tanenbaum's Gan Eden for a grand announcement about the park.

We were happy to hear, among all the self-congratulatory statements being made at the lectern, acknowledgement of the work over the past two decades by local conservationists such as John McCutcheon and Brian Buckles in saving the land from development.

However, no one actually came out and said the park is a done deal. A news release announcing the announcement stated: "Minister Piccini to echo the 2023 Budget commitment to *explore* (our italics) the creation of a new provincial park."

At the event, Piccini told those assembled the province will be studying "the feasibility" of a park and added: "We hope to make this a reality."

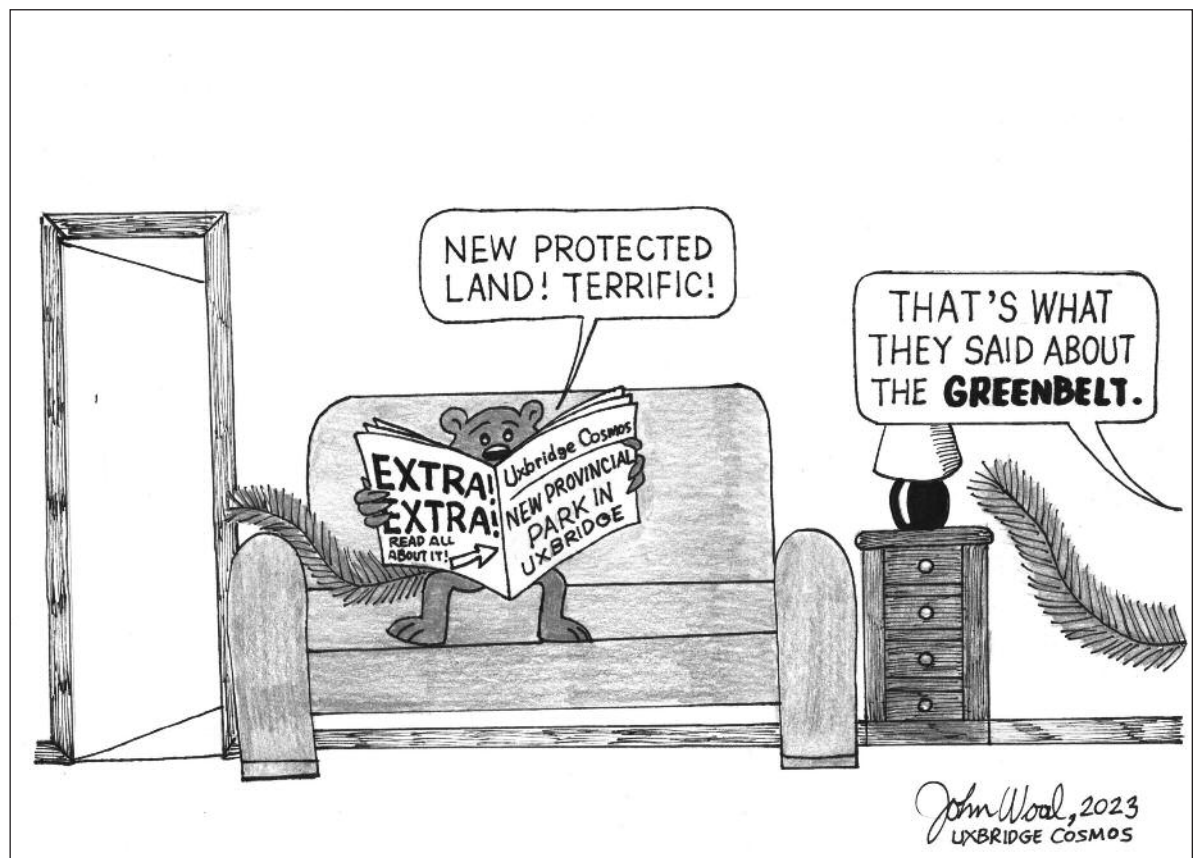
Exploring, hoping and studying the feasibility does not sound to us like a firm commitment. Nor was there any solid information about the size of the park. The township of Uxbridge forwarded a news release from the province which stated that "the proposed urban park *may* (our italics) include up to 532 hectares (1,315 acres) of provincially-owned lands."

There's that shuffling again.

When our government representatives tell us they are exploring, hoping and studying a park and it "may" be such-and-such an acreage, we find it hard to become overly excited by the news.

To hear the politicians and conservation authorities on Saturday, one was given the impression that it was thanks to all their hard work that a provincial park is a possibility. Yes, there was a tip of the hat to Messrs McCutcheon and Buckles and Green Durham, but nothing was said about the way the residents of Uxbridge came together back in the '90s to fight against Tanenbaum's mega development project. The opposition to his proposal - which would have seen construction continuing to this day of a development that would have doubled the urban population - was so intense that Tanenbaum eventually backed down and, after some wheeling and dealing, the province took over the land and set it aside as protected land.

If a new provincial park is eventually established on the lands in question, all the thanks should go to the residents of Uxbridge and the council of the day who fought against unbridled development.



## Letters to the Editor

On this Earth Day, I would like to give a shout out to the Uxbridge Horticultural Society.

For so many years, it has been a dedicated group that not only helps beautify our area, but also educates about nature. We have taken on subjects from invasive plants to litter. We have helped youth groups, seniors and newcomers to our town. As our members have aged, we have had to cut back on projects, but overall still do a fine job.

Many members have given their time planting at the library and seniors' centre, but in the past we did as many as eight or nine gardens in town.

If anyone needs advice, information on gardening or plants on their property, they can join a meeting. They're held on the second Wednesday of each month, April - December, at 7 p.m. Many members will take phone calls as well.

Please note - we will not come to your house to help pull weeds!

**Pam Kuiper**  
President

**Uxbridge Horticultural Society**

This is a special thank you to Gord V. Gord found my phone/wallet in the parking lot at Dollarama this past Saturday. He picked it up and dropped it off at my home. My husband caught your first name but not your last. Thank you for picking up the wallet, thank you for taking time out of your day to drop it off. Thank you for being a decent guy.

When I found myself at Shoppers Drug Mart without a wallet to cash out, I started the "retrace, don't

panic" journey. By the time my friend dropped me at home with my groceries (the ones she paid for at Shoppers - thank you, dear friend) - I was listing all the things I was going to have to do, like cancel cards, get a new phone, etc. I jokingly asked my husband if there was any chance someone had dropped my wallet off. I couldn't believe it when he pulled it out of his pocket and told me about Gord. So thank you, Gord, for making it a happy day!

As an aside, my friend later called to tell me she'd found two \$5 bills on the passenger side of her car. Some days you should just stay home...

**Sally Kotsopoulos**  
Uxbridge

**Re: Letters, April 20 edition**

To say "our police are not special, just a club with gun rights and bullet-proof vests," is quite disturbing.

The letter writer in this particular case has rented out a portion of her home (hopefully legal). In today's market, the owner should obtain from the renter a list of references, confirmation of employment and first and last month's rental payment. The police are not expected or required to do this ground work. The police do not write the laws but will enforce them if possible.

I'm suggesting the blame in this particular case does not belong on our police force. Maybe the landlord (again, hopefully legal) failed to do her preliminary task.

No reason to call the police a club with gun rights and bullet proof

vests and not special.

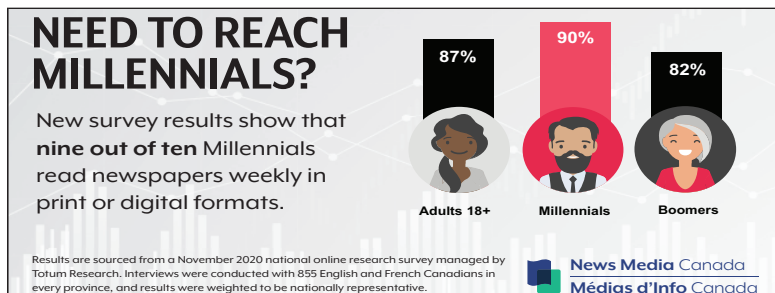
**Roger Snoddon**  
Uxbridge

Thank you so much for such a pair of entertaining op-eds by Ted Barris and Roger Varley in last week's edition. We were vastly amused by their obvious satire in showing us how ludicrous biased opinion pieces can be - they were both so blatantly anti-Conservative/anti-Republican in their stances, it was a truly brilliant display!

But wait, did I misunderstand? Was the extraordinary bias they showed actually genuine? Reading the columns again, I got an eerie feeling that perhaps they were in fact in earnest. Oh dear.

Neither of these gentlemen, despite their professed journalistic expertise, may have heard about recent election results in our own Pickering-Uxbridge riding. While federally, Liberals won 47 per cent of the vote, followed by 36 per cent for Conservatives and 13 per cent for the NDP, provincially, the Conservatives won 44 per cent of the vote, followed by the Liberals at 28 per cent, with the NDP leading the back of the pack with 16 per cent of the vote. It might, therefore, be advisable for these two columnists, rather than repeatedly record their pro-Liberal/anti-anyone else's positions to appreciate the discerning and subtle skill with which Pickering-Uxbridge residents understand the differing issues at different levels of government, and the merits of all three party platforms.

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Your Universe

# The Uxbridge Cosmos

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## Am I Wrong?

column by Roger Varley

### They walk among us!

Just about anyone who lives in urban Uxbridge can walk or cycle to anywhere else in the urban area in 15 minutes, give or take. Within the urban area is just about everything you need: shopping, health care, restaurants, recreation, entertainment, gas stations, town services, etc. Heck, you don't even have to leave the urban area to access the trail system.

That's basically the idea behind the "15-minute city" fad that is gradually filtering into our consciousness. In effect, it's an extension of the old idea of "neighbourhoods." For example, when I was a child, most everything we needed to go about our daily lives was at the end of our street. A grocery store, a greengrocer's, tailor and dry cleaning, butcher shop, fish and chips, sweet (candy) store, tobacconist, chemist, pub, cafés, churches, all arrayed around the intersection of five streets. There were two large public parks and my school was within walking distance.

Sounds ideally convenient, doesn't it? Not to some, as a crowd at the Corner House in downtown Uxbridge heard last week. Local resident David Ward and a woman named Tish Conlin, who claims to be the People's Party of Canada candidate in Durham riding in the next federal election, told us of the horrors we can expect if the 15-minute city comes about. They also slammed the idea of Digital ID, whatever that is.

According to these two, 15-minute cities mean people will have to give up their rights and their properties, society will resemble that shown in the movie *Hunger Games*, vaccinations will be needed for people to go anywhere and the government will decide what people are allowed to buy. I'm not making this up, folks. These are the dangers Ward and Conlin actually warned us about. Ward told the crowd this is "the most important issue facing us today. This is our war!"

But they weren't finished. According to Conlin, green energy is a fraud, climate change is all lies, LED lights cause vomiting and paedophiles are in our schools grooming and sexualizing our children.

They never actually got around to explaining to the crowd just what 15-minute cities,

Digital ID and some gobbledegook about banking actually involved. They just told us what these things would do to make us all slaves to the government.

As a reporter, I have been trained not to insert myself into a story except to ask questions. But I had to respond when Ward told the crowd he had talked with councillors Pam Beach and Todd Snooks about these ideas and both "were receptive." As far as I was concerned, he was trying to give the crowd the impression that Beach and Snooks agreed with him. When I challenged him, he admitted he meant only that they were receptive to the conversation.

Conlin told the crowd no politicians could be trusted - (strange, coming from someone running for election) - even municipal councillors. I told her I had the greatest respect for our local council and added: "and I give them s\*\*\* every week." In an attempt to bolster her argument that we all face danger, Conlin gave a couple of quotes about tyranny, starting with: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of tyranny is that good men do nothing." I felt compelled to point out to her that the quote by Edmund Burke actually was about evil, not tyranny.

They told us they were not conspiracy theorists, yet I saw several local individuals who have told me in the past that we are regularly being sprayed with chemicals by high-flying aircraft, that the three-week Ottawa siege was merely a peaceful protest by patriots and that the COVID-19 pandemic was just propaganda.

But, notwithstanding the warnings Ward and Conlin were putting forward, the only danger I saw was the possibility of a tray-load of food landing on someone's head as waitresses tried to serve diners by weaving their way through the crowd which was clogging the spaces between tables. The whole scene was completely chaotic.

It seems to me that some of the wacky ideas flooding the United States these days are slowly lapping over the border and it's up to all of us to do a little research and challenge these banshees.

Tell me, am I wrong?



## The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

### A town hall to remember The Storm

It came out of a conversation my daughter and I had a couple of months ago. Whitney explained that one of her children's teachers had commented about a little-known after-effect of last year's tornado. She said teachers at the public school from time to time have to calm down their young students when rain pelts the building's roof or winds moan outside their classroom windows.

"Some of the kids react badly when stormy weather hits town," she said. "And they wonder if we're about to get hit by another tornado."

I admit that many such winds and rainstorms over the 11 months since the EF-2 tornado whipped through Uxbridge on May 21 last year, have given me pause. Instinctively when I hear or feel strong gusts, I look to the large limbs on some of the trees that are left in our yard and I scan the horizon to the west where the storm came from last year. And I dread any sky that hints at that ugly wine-bottle green colour that preceded the tornado. As my daughter and I talked about such bad memories, we concluded that people in our community haven't really had ample opportunity to tell their stories or experience full closure from the storm.

"We need to talk about it," Whitney said. "We're human. It's what we do."

In response, the *Cosmos* is inviting everyone to a town hall at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 11, at the Seniors' Centre on Marietta Street. As facilitator of the gathering, I've invited a number of friends and acquaintances who'll share stories. One of my guests will walk us through what some of our first responders faced that Saturday afternoon last May. Another guest from the town office will review what impact the storm had on township buildings and the challenges of getting things back up and running. Perhaps most important, I've invited several friends and neighbours who sustained severe property damage and who've consequently faced tough decisions - decisions about rebuilding, restoring and recovering.

Among the toughest recoveries is that faced by the congregation of Trinity United Church. In a matter of seconds that Saturday afternoon last May, the storm tore the roof from the body of the church, leaving the sanctuary uninhabitable and its precious interior exposed to the elements. Ultimately, church leaders had to forego any plan for

restoration of what was. But all of us - churchgoers or not - were heartened by the show of support when another congregation brought prayer shawls and physical support to lift spirits of the Trinity family. Rev. Karen Hammond Croxall summed up feelings of loss this way:

"This continues to be a long road for our church and town," she wrote last November. "Next week will be the demolition (of the church) and more tears. ... It is similar to when you lose a person in your life - everyone grieves differently and the time frame is different."

Rev. Croxall is absolutely right. Once we knew nobody had been killed during the fury of the tornado, we all began sorting through damaged possessions hoping for the best, prepared for the worst. I grieved over the smallest things - things lost in a car flattened by a fallen tree, newly acquired garden plants blown away, and tools lost that were passed down from our parents. But mostly I grieved over the mature trees toppled or torn to pieces along our street; in one of my columns last May, I recalled my longtime neighbour Ronnie Egan (who died in 2016) enjoying the windbreak those trees provided in winter and the shade in summer.

"Sentries," Ronnie said. "They're like sentries up and down our street."

And that's another perspective I hope we'll explore during our town hall on May 11. Uxbridge's township canopy has always drawn praise for its diversity and resilience. It's a subject I've often discussed with arborist Dave Watts as he's attended trees in our yard over the past 30 years. The storm, he told me, had an impact on his life he didn't expect. When it hit, he was about to turn his tree service over to new owners.

"The storm delayed my retirement for two months," he said. "More important, in the first few hours after the storm, we had over a hundred emergency calls - amongst the first, to clear entrances to Lakeridge and Bowmanville hospitals, several nursing homes and township roads."

Perhaps Dave's most remarkable story is where he was when the storm hit. And for that story, you'll have to attend our town hall on Thursday, May 11, to find out. All are welcome to come and listen or share a story.

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

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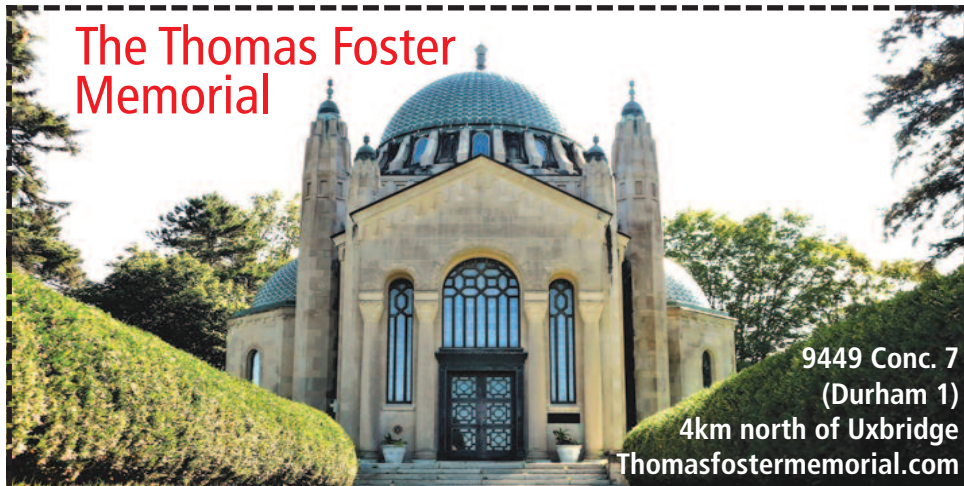
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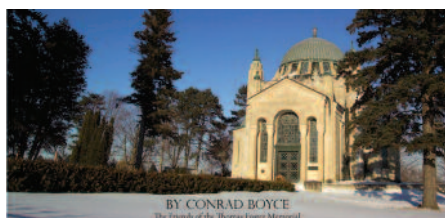
### Meditation at the Foster

May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September TBA. 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
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### Fridays at the Foster Concert Series

Every Friday night, May - September 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Admission is donation at the door

#### May 5 - Django Djunkies

Gypsy Swing/Jazz, 1920's style of early jazz. One of the best in jazz/blues music.

#### May 12 - Garth Dynes

Garth is a songwriter with Blues roots. He delivers a variety of authentic blues in a fresh entertaining style.

#### May 19 - Justin Dillon, hand pan

Drummer Justin creates melodic and syncopated patterns on the handpan.

#### May 26 - Bob Vopni, fingerstyle guitarist

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#### June 2 - Now and Then

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#### June 9 - Wayne Madder, guitar

Wayne's music is Jazz/Blues, country blues folk.

#### June 16 - Ferrport Jazz Ensemble

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#### June 23 - Douglas Mackenzie, guitar

Douglas plays a six & twelve string Ovation guitar.

#### June 30 - Melanie Hebert Vocals

Take a musical journey reminiscent of the folksy 60's.

#### July 7 - Justin Kerswill, multi-instrumentalist

Justin plays jazz, East Indian, African, rock & Celtic, with Guitar. Percussion Loops.

#### July 14 - Mike Burns, guitar

A variety of music styles that keep toes tapping.

## Celebrate our 'indie' bookstore this weekend

Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

Most Uxbridgians don't need an excuse to pop into Blue Heron Books on Brock St. W., but if one is necessary, you have one this Saturday – it's Canadian Independent Bookstore Day.

"Blue Heron Books has an action-packed day planned with over 15 visiting Canadian authors, as well as prizes, giveaways, exclusive merch, and generally, a literary extravaganza!" exclaims store owner Shelley Macbeth.

Some of the authors Macbeth is referring to include: Karen Connelly, Lucy Black, Ted Barris, Terry Fallis, Sylvia McNicol and Tamara Williamson. And more are signing on to attend, says Macbeth.

Canadian Independent Bookstore Day (CIBD) is an annual event that gives readers the chance to support local independent bookshops. With more than 150 shops across expected to participate, CIBD is an annual cultural celebration and an opportunity for book buyers, authors, illustrators,

and publishers to acknowledge the vibrant literary ecosystem created by "indie" bookshops. Indie booksellers are experts in their field, passionate about facilitating connections between reader and writer and creating genuine, lasting relationships with their customers.

Shops like Blue Heron Books function as pillars of the community – inclusive spaces for conversation and hubs for events promoting enlightenment and entertainment – think the Book Drunkard Literary Festival.

"Independent bookstores are also important to a national literary ecosystem," says Macbeth, "championing Canadian authors and illustrators from all genres and promoting writers who identify as Black, Indigenous, people of colour, and LGBTQ2S+."

Uxbridge's "indie" has been named one of the best bookstores in all of North America by the *Globe & Mail*, and was one of the late CBC personality Stuart McLean's favourite haunts.

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*The Last Song' for Bella Nove, from page 1*

Neveu-Campsall, allows for mentorship from older members and fosters continual growth within the group.

"They have always essentially been the "rep team" of singing in Uxbridge. Choral singing and ensemble work is essential for any young singer, not only for them as singers, but especially for them as musicians," says Neveu-Campsall. "Bella Nove has always been a safe space that allows singers of various abilities to be able to work within a supportive and close knit group."

The COVID-19 pandemic made it difficult for Neveu-Campsall to work in her studio and hold rehearsals. After three years of disrupted mentorship and learning, she says it was very difficult to rebuild the caliber of performance that the group is capable of. "That's not to say that I am giving up on them. There will be a new opportunity for them to sing, and for many other singers too."

Neveu-Campsall says she is ready to close this chapter of her musical career. "Everything has its season, and while the ensemble has been an incredible opportunity for not only the singers, but so much for me as well, I am ready to move on to new and bigger, choral opportunities."

Over the past 20 years the ensemble competed in many different festivals winning multiple awards.

"One year at Canadian nationals, *Bella Nove* received a compliment from an adjudicator who told us that the singing sounded like a movie soundtrack," says Neveu-Campsall. "We were doing an Eric Whitacre piece called "The Seal Lullaby" (which was composed for an animated film that was never actually released) and it was exactly the sound that I had wanted from them."

In addition to her love for teaching, Neveu-Campsall says joy came from working with "incredible young ladies who bring so much individually to rehearsals and their performances."

*Letters, from page 4*

Roger Varley wishes intelligent individuals of all political stripes could gather together to debate in the best interests of Canada. I wish there were columnists at the Cosmos of all political stripes who could do the same - a little variety is the spice of life.

Chris Clark  
Siloam

Many *Bella Nove* alumni have gone on to professional music careers, ranging from teaching to conducting to singing to acting, and everything in between.

*Bella Nove's* final performance will take place on Sunday, June 4, at St. Andrew's-Chalmers Church, at 3 p.m. The current ensemble will also be joined by many alumni from past years.

"I want to say thank you to our wonderful community who has supported the ensemble so much over the years," says Neveu-Campsall. "Those businesses and BIA leaders who have hired us for Christmas caroling, the families who have supported me in my efforts with their daughters, and last and most importantly, the dozens and dozens of girls and women who have shared their time and talent with me and with each other. Each and every singer has a special place in my heart."

Tickets for *Bella Nove's* "The Last Song" concert are available for purchase through choir members or at the door.



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# Uxbridge students prove to Legions across Canada that they *will* remember

Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

Several local school children were honoured last Saturday for their outstanding contributions to the Royal Canadian Legion's Annual Remembrance Poster and Literary Contest,

including one youth whose piece was chosen to place second in all of Canada.

Over 100 people gathered at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 170 yesterday to recognize the accomplish-

ments of all the participating students in the annual contest. Through the contest, thousands of Canadian school children honour Canada's veterans through creative art and writing, and ultimately perpetuate remembrance.

Uxbridge Secondary School's Norah Adams' senior essay submission advanced through each of the levels – Branch, Zone, District, and Province, placing first at each. Her essay, entitled "Healing," made it to the Dominion level (national) and was chosen second overall. This means her essay (which *Cosmos* read-

ers can find online at thecosmos.ca) will be printed on the provincial Legion website, and reproduced in next year's "Winners" magazine.

"We are all very proud of Norah for her dedication to remembrance in submitting such an incredible entry," exclaimed Tish MacDonald, youth education officer for Branch 170.

Veterans, Legion members, invited guests and parents and friends gathered to view the exhibits and celebrate the accomplishments of the award winners, as well as of those who entered the contest. Guest speakers included author/journalist Ted Barris and retired Scarborough firefighter Tyler Briley, who presented their related backgrounds related to remembrance in art and literature.

During the ceremony, MacDonald recalled a question once posed to her by the late Fred Barnard, a veteran who lived in Uxbridge.

"He once said to me 'I wonder if the students will remember.' He wondered if students would remember the sacrifices that soldiers made and continue to make to this day for our country. I assured him that yes, they would. And ALL of you have proven that today, by taking the time to submit your posters, poems and essays. You have proven that you will remember!"

A complete list of all the winners can be found online at thecosmos.ca

Information for the 2023-2024 contest will be distributed to schools in the fall. Information can also be found at: legion.ca/communities-youth/youth-education/remembrance-contests



U.S.S. student Norah Adams, centre, received several honours at Saturday's ceremony, including a national second place, for her essay entitled "Healing." Presenting her awards were, on left, Sherrill Hodgson, president of the Uxbridge Legion Branch 170, and Tish MacDonald, youth education officer for Branch 170.

Photo by John Cavers

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CN may use the following herbicides and active ingredients: Credit Xtreme (Nufarm), Esplanade (Bayer), Detail (BASF), Arsenal Powerline (BASF), Navius Flex (Bayer), Gateway (Corteva), Hasten NT (Norac), Round Up Weather Pro (Bayer), Glyphosate (540g/L), Indaziflam (200 g/L), Saflufenacil (29.74%), Imazapyr isopropylamine (26.7%), Metsulfuron-methyl (12.6%), Aminocyclopyrachlor (39.5%), Paraffinic Oil (586 g/L),

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CN only uses herbicides that have been approved for use in Canada and in the province within which they are applied.

The program is expected to take place from May to October 2023.

Visit [www.cn.ca/vegetation](http://www.cn.ca/vegetation) to see the list of cities as well as the updated schedule.

For more information, contact the CN Public Inquiry Line at [contact@cn.ca](mailto:contact@cn.ca) or 1-888-888-5909.

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**Spring Concerts**

*Saturday May 13th*

*Sunday May 14th*

**Port Perry United Church**  
 294 Queen St., Port Perry  
 Show times 3:00 & 7:30

**St. Paul's Anglican Church**  
 59 Toronto St S., Uxbridge  
 Show time 3:00

Tickets \$25.00 adults \$20.00 seniors & children under 16 available at The Wee Tartan shop 177 Queen st Port Perry, Woods Clothing Uxbridge 70 Brock st West, Starticketing.com and at the door



# 'A Day in the Life' of Uxbridge - a once-in-a-lifetime experience

Uxbridge's infamous fundraising variety show is back! After a three year COVID-inspired hiatus, experience is returning to entertain and support the community.

This year's show features both new and old - a new director and new faces in the cast and crew will sing and dance alongside some favourite recurring skits and lots of familiar faces.

Local musician Matt Gunn is this year's show director. He took on the role of rebuilding the show with the idea to poke fun at modern day life "to try and raise spirits after the long three years we have just been through, to create positive energy and let everyone have a good time."

Organizers of this year's experience say the audience will see that Gunn has "brought us back in some ways to our roots with lots of made-in-Uxbridge content to showcase the talent we have right here in our own backyard."

From the inspiration of the stage set to the skit references, the audience will be "walking in the shoes of our own Uxbridge residents and laughing and singing along with them."

experience is an annual variety show created and presented by community volunteers who sing, perform skits, dance, play music, or help backstage, providing great entertainment, having fun, making new

friends and donating funds to a worthy cause within the community.

Since its beginning in 1992, this non-profit group has donated over \$160,000 to local charitable organizations. Recipients of the proceeds have included the local hospital, hos-

pice, sports facilities, children's programs and seniors' projects, and yearly provides three scholarships to graduating students from Uxbridge Secondary School.

This year's show is raising money for the Uxbridge Youth Centre to

support summer programming. experience runs Thurs., May 4, and Fri., May 5, at 7:30 p.m., and Sat.,

May 6, at 2 and 7:30 p.m. See ad on page 7 for ticket details, or visit [starticketing.com](http://starticketing.com)

**Community Supper**  
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**12th Annual Prayer Breakfast**

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Breakfast begins at 7:00 a.m.

Tickets \$25 each, available at Blue Heron Books and Brian Evans Financial Services.

Program will be video recorded and available, by May 23, through the website [uxbridgebaptist.com](http://uxbridgebaptist.com)

To contribute to the ministry of the Uxbridge Prayer Breakfast, donations can be made by e-transfer to [uxbprayerbreakfast@gmail.com](mailto:uxbprayerbreakfast@gmail.com)  
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Guest Speaker Phil Pharoah  
Music Bella Nove

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


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**OLD LAWN TRACTORS, TIN TOYS AND HOT WHEELS.** Call Jim at 647-766-5811. 4/27

**WANTED: VINYL RECORD/CD COLLECTIONS. CASH PAID.** Classic Rock, Reggae, 80's Pop, Jazz, Hip Hop, R&B, Soul, Punk, Blues, Psych, Metal etc. Call or text Mark, 647-884-1720.

### FOR SALE

**DOWNSIZING:** GE Profile 30", 5-burner slide-in range, \$500; Bosch 4-cycle dishwasher, \$100; Oak dining table w/ 6 chairs & extenders, \$200; Recliner, \$150; Club chair, \$50; Kenmore top-loading washer, 3.2 cubic ft. capacity, \$50. All excellent condition. 416-524-7126. 4/27

**SLEIGH BED:** King size, solid oak, made by Mennonites, dove-tailed joints, used, in

excellent condition. \$499. Night tables (2): Solid oak, used, like new, matching with the sleigh bed. \$99 each. Call 905-852-6538 or 416-712-9947. 4/27

**LG WASHER/DRYER** Stacking, cherry red, front load. Excellent condition, barely used. 647-391-0326. 4/27

### EVENTS

**WALKSTRONG CLASS IN GOODWOOD:** Improve gait, posture & core with walking intervals. May 9 - June 29. Tuesdays/Thursdays 8 - 8:55 a.m. Contact Lauren at 647-294-5155 or torontopersonaltrainer@gmail.com 5/4

**I.O.D.E.** Informal planning meeting, Monday, May 8, 12 noon. For more information, call 905-852-6890.

**UXBRIDGE LAWN BOWLING OPEN HOUSE** Sat., May 6, 1 - 3 p.m.; May 8 - 11, 7 p.m. Located behind Arena. Free lessons - try it, it's fun! uxbridge.ulbc@live.ca or call 905-852-5842 for more information.

**USHS HORSESHOE CLUB** begins Tuesday, May 2, at 6:30 p.m., Uxbridge Historical Centre.

### FOUND

**CHILDREN'S PRESCRIPTION EYEGLASSES** Tiger rims w/ teal arms, at the Foster Memorial after concert on Sat., April 15. Email conradboyce50@gmail.com to claim.



**BOTTLE DRIVE**

**McHappy Day is May 10th**  
Uxbridge McDonald's is raising money for RMHC Toronto, Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Durham, Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity & Precious Minds

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**Saturday, April 1st**  
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**Saturday, April 15th**  
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**Saturday, April 29th**

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## Uxbridge concert band wants YOU

In a few weeks, the flutes will be fluttering, the trumpets will be tooting, and the drums will be, well, drumming, because the Uxbridge Community Concert Band is resuming its summer time rehearsal and performance schedule. The call is out for musicians, young and old, to come and be a part of the band's 28th season through the months of June, July, and August.

The UCCB first formed in 1992, and continues to serve today as a way for students to continue to play and practice over the summer. Adults who have fond memories of being in their high school's band are also encouraged to grab an instrument and join in.

"The band's main purpose is to create a social space to make music," said Steffan Brunette, the group's conductor. Over the band's 14-week season, players of all levels work towards a final August concert. Younger musicians get to learn from more experienced ones, and returning players find that they can quickly remember the joy of playing in a concert band.

Registration for this season's ensemble is currently open, with rehearsals scheduled to begin on May 31, continuing every Wednesday evening until the end of August. Players who register by May 5 will have a chance to weigh in on the choices of music being performed. A registration fee of \$40 will be collected at the first rehearsal.

To register, contact the band at [uccb@rogers.com](mailto:uccb@rogers.com), or visit the website at [bit.ly/uccb2023](http://bit.ly/uccb2023) for more information.

## Don't feel bad, Bruins fans

Roger Varley

Any Uxbridge Bruins fans who feel a lingering disappointment in the team's quick exit from the PJHL Orr Division finals might perhaps take comfort from knowing the Bruins were up against a powerhouse.

The Clarington Eagles eliminated the Bruins in four straight games. But Uxbridge wasn't the only team to be swept aside. In the opening round, the Eagles demolished the Lakefield Chiefs in four games, outscoring them 24-6. Then they did

the same to the Georgina Ice before taking on the Bruins.

Now the Eagles appear ready to do the same thing to the Port Hope Panthers of the Todd Division. The Eagles hold a 3-0 lead in their best-of-seven final series for the Eastern Conference title and were in a position to wrap it up with a win last night (Wednesday).

Counting the final two games of the regular season schedule, the Eagles have now won 17 games in a row.

## Thank You

The family of R. Keith Bacon wishes to offer its sincere thanks and appreciation for the many expressions of sympathy from friends and neighbours during the recent loss of their husband, father and grandfather.

Special thanks to Low & Low Funeral Home for their services, to Minister Stephanie Richmond, to organist Linda Hunter, and to the Greenbank UCW for the funeral reception. Thank you for the beautiful floral arrangements and donations to the Greenback United Church in Keith's honour, and to everyone who attended his Celebration of Life.

He touched many lives with his kindness and compassion. We were truly blessed.

Carol Bacon & Family



## In Memoriam

*Sarah Margaret McNelly*



December 19, 1918 - April 29, 2019

Time may heal the broken hearted,  
Time may make the wound less sore.  
Time will never stop the longing  
For the loved one gone before.

Remembered by Gord, Dianne and families

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## David Hutchison

September 12, 1936 - April 17, 2023



It is with great sorrow and love we announce the peaceful passing of David Hutchison after a long battle with dementia and Alzheimer's.

Dave was the beloved husband of Jean for 64 years, loving father to son Stewart (Debra), daughter Lori (Kelly), daughter Kimberly (Eddie), and proud and adoring grandfather to Michael, Erin, Emma and Jackson.

Dave is survived by his younger brother, Jimmy (Margaret), his sisters-in-law Myra and Doreen, and all his nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Dave was born in Kirkcaldy, Scotland, and as a young man played professional soccer while attending Herriot Watt University in Edinburgh, where he studied architecture. Dave and Jean were married in 1959, and shortly thereafter made their way to Canada and settled in Toronto. Dave continued to play soccer in Canada for the National League Olympia Harmonie Soccer Club for several years, while building his career in the architectural field.

One of Dave's proudest accomplishments was to engineer, manage and oversee the installation of the glass and glazing exterior structure of the Commerce Court skyscraper (the first of its kind in downtown Toronto).

When Stewart turned seven, Dave encouraged him to play soccer and assumed the role of coach. After several years of competing together at a very high level, Dave took the Scarborough Caledonia Mosquitos to Winnipeg, where they won the prestigious title of 1973 Canadian National Champions.

Thirty years ago, Dave and Jean moved to Uxbridge, where they enjoyed everything Uxbridge had to offer. Many days were spent lawn bowling, curling and shuffle boarding, but the activity Dave enjoyed the most was golfing each Wednesday with his friends.

"Loving husband, father and grandfather forever in our hearts"

Visitation will take place at the Low & Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Box 388, Uxbridge (905-852-3073) on Saturday, April 29, from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Alzheimer Society of Canada would be appreciated by the family.

Online condolences can be made at [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)





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**Shane Coxworth**  
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**HAPPY BUYERS**



Every client's needs are different and it was fun helping our clients find this home which suits their needs perfectly!  
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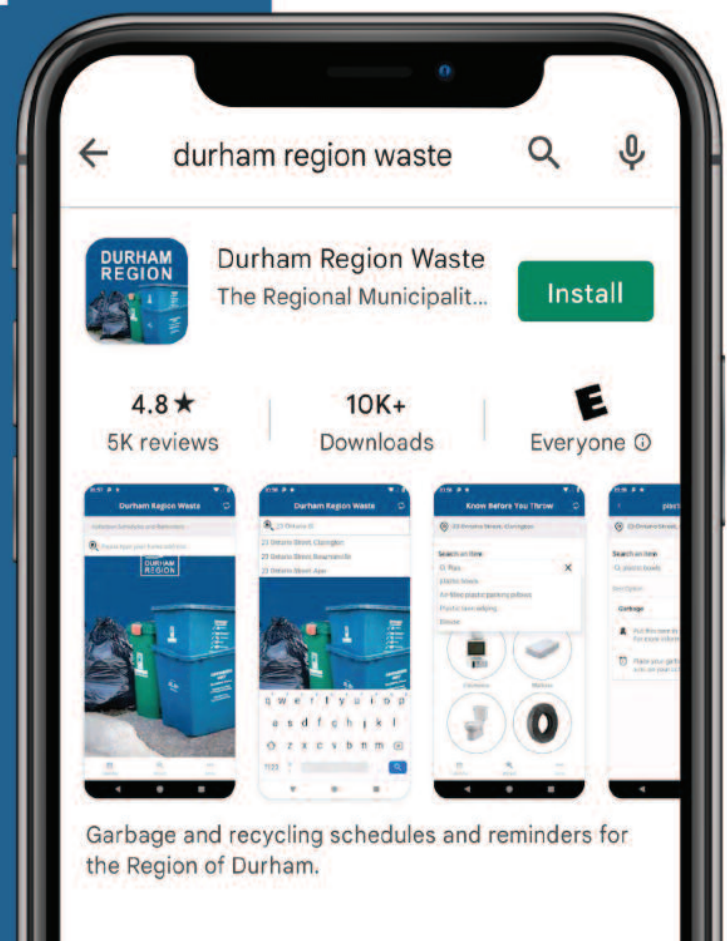
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