

The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 20 No. 16

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, April 25, 2024

Memorial statue ready to break ground • Nifty nifty, looks who's 50! • Lots of letters



DOWN BY THE STATION, EARLY IN THE MORNING - Engine 1603 lumbered its way out of the Uxbridge train station early Tuesday morning, headed on a long journey to North Bay, where it will join Ontario Northland. The engine was being leased to York Durham Heritage Railway, but the charity declared bankruptcy earlier this year, so its rolling stock is being returned or sold. *Photo by John Cavers*

Rail yard, station, looking for proposals

Roger Varley

Uxbridge Township is looking for an organization to take over the railway operations once run by York Durham Heritage Railway.

In a report presented to council by clerk Debbie Leroux on Monday that discussed the possible future of the railway station and the land around it, Leroux said the township "remains optimistic" that it can attract a short-line rail operator to run a tourist train in place of the YDHR, which declared bankruptcy at the beginning of the year. The report said some interest has already been shown by short-line rail operators, but the township recognizes a new train operation might not be in the cards and is preparing to invite other tourism-related enterprises to come forward with proposals for the station and the land.

YDHR's equipment and property still sitting on the railway lands have been put up for sale

...continued on page 8

real ESTATE

NOBLE REAL ESTATE

Contact me today for SPRING Market Promotions
#TheNobleApproach

Colin Noble
REALTOR
647-967-1196
Colin@nobleRealEstate.ca
NobleRealEstate.ca

PHARMASAVE

Your independent neighbourhood pharmacy

ORDER REFILLS VIA OUR APP OR ONLINE AT

pharmasaveuxbridge.com

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

Contact me for a complimentary market analysis.

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

ROYAL LEPAGE
FRANK Real Estate

heathermackenzie@royallepage.ca

Football fans looking to 'Restore the Roar'

Justyne Edgell, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Uxbridge Tigers are on track for a touch-down, with the revival of high school football.

For many high school students, Uxbridge Secondary School alumni included, football is central to their high school experience. Due to the financial stress of the sport, USS canceled its football program in 2012, though now, a selection of alumni and enthusiasts are looking to Restore the Roar with the help of the community.

Remembering their high school days, Restore the Roar organizer Michael Kerford approached fellow alumni, and Body Fit Health Club owner, Andy Luukkonen, to share his ideas to fundraise and support the return of football to USS. Together, and with the full support of Uxbridge Secondary School, they started the Restore the Roar Campaign.

"There is no denying that football is an ex-

pensive sport with equipment and related costs requiring a fundraising effort of \$50,000 to restore and maintain the program," says Kerford on their GoFundMe page.

"Football was a core program that brought together the entire community at the beginning of the school year. The pep rallies, the band, the cheerleaders, and the fans in the stands. It was something that made you feel like you were a part of something big and it was part of USS tradition for many generations," recalls Luukkonen.

Restore the Roar has created a long-term, sustainable budget that it says has been developed to ensure a lasting, successful Tigers football program. The funds raised by the campaign will be held in trust and used to purchase equipment and cover operating costs of the team for years to come.

The pair have also secured a celebrity coach to inspire and train the young athletes. "We're

thrilled to announce that USS Tigers alumni and CFL Grey Cup Champion, Jeff Keeping will be our head coach. He will bring his expertise, passion, and championship mentality to help develop the program that will guide our athletes to new heights starting this September!" says Luukkonen.

Restore the Roar plans to launch a junior team (grades 9 and 10) in 2024, and add a Senior team (grades 11 and 12) in 2026.

Restore the Roar is looking for community donations to support this program through a GoFundMe campaign, which can be found at www.gofundme.com/f/RestoreTheRoarUSS They have already surpassed 50 per cent of their funding goal.

"Together, we can make a difference," says Luukkonen. "Whether you're a business owner seeking sponsorship opportunities or an individual passionate about youth sports, your support matters." Go Tigers!

New Price! \$509,900

201 - 164 Cemetery Rd, Uxbridge

NEW PRICE! \$509,900

Beautifully appointed 1 bedroom 1 bathroom condo, offering 750 sq ft of living space, locker, rooftop terrace and greenspace views!

IAN MORRISON BEAU KELLAND

"Experience Matters"
416-791-9212

Re/Max All-Stars Realty Inc.

Uxbridge Physiotherapy

Serving the Uxbridge community since 2002
29 Toronto Street South, Suite 103
uxbridgephysiotherapy.com 905-862-3870

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

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

4 beds, 3 baths, bungalow, with an open concept kitchen/living/dining room. Walk out to the deck in the professionally landscaped & fenced yard. Asking \$1,249,999.

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



Uxbridge at a Glance

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

TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE

Trail Capital of Canada



FOLLOW US www.uxbridge.ca

Council & Committees

Meeting Schedule for April, 2024

Thursday, April 25

BIA BOARD @ 7:00 p.m.

Monday, April 29

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION @ 3:00 p.m.

Proclamation for April

• April 28 - National Day of Mourning

Meeting Schedule for May, 2024

Friday, May 3

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE @ 8:30 a.m.

Monday, May 6

GENERAL PURPOSE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE @ 10:00 A.M.

Thursday, May 9

TOURISM ADVISORY COMMITTEE @ 10:00 a.m.

Proclamations for May

• May - Asian Heritage Month
 • May - Community Living Month

Street Sweeping in Progress

Please avoid on-street parking while crews are sweeping.

More details are available at www.uxbridge.ca



From The Tax Office

Second Property Tax Installment is due April 26, 2024.

**Monthly or Installment Pre-Authorized Payment Plan
 Deadline to enroll for the 2024 final property taxes is
 April 30, 2024.**

To find out if you are eligible to enroll, visit our website 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

Would you like to receive your tax bills via email?

To enroll for eSend Electronic Tax Billing, visit the Property Taxes page of our website www.uxbridge.ca to submit the application electronically. The form can also be completed at Town Hall (51 Toronto St. S, Uxbridge) during regular business hours of 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

GUIDED TRAIL WALKS
 Join the Township's Trails Committee for a series of Guided Trail Walks taking place from April to December!

Each walk in this series is themed and provides educational information based on the topic.

Some topics include:

- Tree Identification
- Flora & Fauna
- Insects & Fungus
- and more!

For information about the walks and how to register, scan here

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
 Help us gain feedback on a proposed community garden

Take our online survey and let us know your thoughts on a proposed community garden in Uxbridge.

UXBRIDGE HUCK FINN YOUTH FISHING DAYS
 ALL SEASON LONG, STARTING APRIL 27TH

POP-UP PRIZES DELIVERED BY BOOMER THE BASS ON MAY 4TH, 11TH & 25TH

LEARN MORE AT UXBRIDGE.CA/HUCKFINN OR SCAN QR CODE

We Heard You! - Township Launching New Permit Parking System

Based on user feedback, the Township is launching a new permit parking system this May, offering a more user-friendly experience.

Learn more about these changes at:

Board & Committee Appointments 2023 - 2026

The Council of the Township of Uxbridge invites applications from members of the public who are qualified electors of the Township of Uxbridge who wish to have their names considered for one of the following committees (term of Council – expiring November 2026):

Uxbridge Downtown Revitalization Advisory Committee

This Committee provides advice and a community perspective on how to achieve the Downtown Vision as it relates to the Downtown Revitalization Strategic Plan and Action Plan. The Committee will seek opportunities that further the implementation of the 2022 Downtown Revitalization Strategic Plan & Action Plan, and the 2022 Downtown Uxbridge Public Consultation and Visualization Report. The Uxbridge Downtown Revitalization is comprised of four to ten (4-10) voting community members and several non-voting Township, Regional, and Provincial representatives.

The Committee has reviewed their current membership and identified that priority will be given to individuals who are either a youth representative (over the age of 18), or work in a role with youth.

Accessibility Advisory Committee

This committee will provide advice to Council with respect to the Annual Accessibility Plan and matters relating to accessibility issues within the Community. Legislation requires the majority of the nine (9) voting members of the Committee to be persons with disabilities including visual, hearing, physical, speech, cognitive, perceptual and mental health. The other four (4) members shall include a Senior Citizen, a Member of Council and persons from the community with an interest in issues relating to persons with disabilities who may be employed by supporting agencies or parents of children with disabilities. Members shall be chosen for their expertise and commitment to the promotion and facilitation of a 'barrier-free' Uxbridge. Pursuant to legislative requirements, the Committee is seeking a person with lived experience of a disability.

Any person interested in offering their services, and would accept an appointment (including present members with expired terms), are invited to submit a Volunteer-Committee Member Application Form available on the Township's website <https://www.uxbridge.ca/en/your-local-government/boards-committees-and-initiatives.aspx> along with a letter of interest outlining relevant qualifications and experience to the undersigned by **Friday, April 26, 2024.**

Any questions regarding these appointments may be directed to the Deputy Clerk.

Emily Elliott, Deputy Clerk
 Telephone 905-852-9181
 e-mail: eelliott@uxbridge.ca

Fax 905-852-9674
 P.O. Box 190, 51 Toronto Street South
 Uxbridge, ON L9P 1T1

The Township of Uxbridge is an Equal Opportunity Employer that is dedicated to an inclusive, barrier-free recruitment and selection process. The Township is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion within its community and organization, and welcomes and encourages applications from Indigenous Peoples, people of colour, women, persons who live with disabilities, people from 2SLGBTQI+ communities, and people from diverse communities. When requested, the Township of Uxbridge will accommodate applicants throughout the recruitment and selection and/or assessment process, pursuant to the Ontario Human Rights Code. These commitments also apply to our Board and Committee recruitment and selection processes. Personal information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.



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

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

Community Living on the move

Staff and clients of the Community Living facility on Church Street will soon be moving to new quarters.

The neat, two-storey house they have used for several years (it was formerly the home of Ollie Barton,

popular for its doll display in the front window) is being sold by the owner. Community Living has been on a month-to-month lease.

The organization said the facility will be moving to new quarters in the Testa Building next to the hos-

pital in August.

Since the current location is not used for a residential program, programming for the clients is likely to remain unchanged at the new location.



Budget Blinds

905-487-8363
Toll-free
888-982-8343

budgetblinds.com



8829 York Durham Line \$1599,900

2 acres, heated separate shop, renovated home with main floor family, laundry and too many upgrades to mention!



Kelly Meek
sales representative

24 Toronto Street N., Unit 3, Uxbridge

Direct 416-557-4919

kellymeekhomesales@gmail.com



One Voice Singers
Presents

I am Song

Friday April 26th 7:30 pm
St Paul's Anglican Church
59 Toronto St. South, Uxbridge
Tickets \$20 at the door or from choir members
No charge children under 12

Director: Charles White Accompanist: Jackie Crawford
Bass: Jenny Kanis Drums: Mike Raines
With special guests: Abbey Chevrefils and Jillian Foote

Energizing Life

every day



Building in your neighbourhood

The heart of lake country has a bright future with growing needs. With new local businesses in town and thriving education and healthcare sectors, it's a beautiful place to call home.

Hear from locals on the value our system upgrades bring to town.

Benefits to you and your community



Reduce the impact of power outages for customers.



Ensure safe and reliable power today, and in the future.



Support growth in communities across Ontario.

Learn more: HydroOne.com/everyday



Our two cents

Going backwards to go forward? Hm.

There was a story we published in last week's paper that stuck in our craw a bit, but we thought we'd sit with it awhile, look at it from all angles, really figure out how we felt about it before coming to any kind of a real feel for the situation. That story was "Uxbridge council receives a pay raise," on page 6, in case you're looking for it.

We decided that we felt 'unsettled' about the fact that the mayor had decided to give all council positions an approximately 10-11 per cent increase in remuneration. But we weren't sure *why* we felt that way. After all, Mayor Barton's argument that the pay for being on council should make people *want* to run for public office was sound. No one will want to do it if it's endless hours, total usurpation of personal time, *and* crummy pay. Like he said during the council meeting that announced the raises, no one should be acclaimed to council, it means there's something wrong. More money might make it more appealing, especially with today's cost of living crisis.

Therein lies the rub. How, in today's economic climate, can a council justify that large of an increase? During the same meeting mentioned earlier, the mayor said that these increases should have happened during the term of the last council (upon which he and many other current council members sat), but COVID and the tornado and all kinds of things got in the way and it "felt like it would be selfish then for us to be talking about our wages." It seems a bit selfish now, too. Everyone one needs more money right now - how lucky that council can just vote for an increase. The rest of us have to grovel to a boss, or wait for collective bargaining.

What really made for that unsettled feeling, however, was the fact that these increases are all retroactive to November 2022. How does that wash? In his explanation, Barton (who created the report and said that he alone crunched the numbers, with some help from CAO Kristi Honey) said that his vision was for the next term, all part of succession planning, but that it meant the current council "wouldn't have been compensated appropriately." That just doesn't compute. To have the increases come into effect now, when there are still two years left for this council, and have salaries increase in sync with township staff and management increases is digestible, manageable. But to be retroactive just because the last council didn't get around to doing something about succession planning? At the end of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, Ebenezer Scrooge, who has chosen to live more generously, gives his clerk, Bob Cratchit, a raise in salary *going forward*. Notice he doesn't say "I've made a right mess of it all for the past 10 years, Bob, so I'll make your raise retroactive..."

Considering that many of the councillors at last Monday's meeting claimed they hadn't known what the going rate was in the township for a council position when they threw their hat in the ring, the mayor included, they mustn't have taken on the job to alleviate financial suffering. And we firmly believe that every heart in that council chamber is in the right place - they took the job on because they truly care about their community, they want to make a difference in their community, and they are willing to give the time and energy to it. We wouldn't want the job for love nor money. But we feel that the retroactive raise sets a dangerous precedent. Who wouldn't want to run for council if the possibility of a retroactive raise is ever-present. Nice work, if you can get it.



Letters to the Editor

Re: Council remuneration, April 18 edition

Councils, both regional and municipal, now have the ability to run somewhat under the radar with the demise of local newspapers/reporters. At one time we had three reporters sitting at every council meeting locally, and five or six at the region. We in Uxbridge are fortunate to still have a local newspaper.

Reading the April 18 edition of *Cosmos*, I was appalled to learn the actions of council regarding their remuneration. I know first hand how difficult it can be to deal with this matter, having sat on council for over 30 years. However, in my opinion, their actions are an insult to every taxpayer in our municipality.

Mayor Barton presented a four-page report to council members last week regarding succession planning and council remuneration. The report recommended:

1. A 10 per cent increase in salaries for all members – mayor will receive \$53,811, an increase of \$5,604. Councillors' salaries increased \$3,497, from \$31,268 to \$34,765.
2. A \$1,107 increase for the chair of the Finance committee, from \$2,743 to \$3,850.
3. A 100 per cent increase for Public Works, Planning and Administration committee chairs from \$1,920 to \$3,850.
4. A \$944 increase for the chairs of the Parks and Environment committees from \$1,920. to \$2,864.
5. The position of deputy mayor will be compensated at the rate of \$400 per month and will be a rotated yearly appointment of sitting members.

6. A monthly mileage allowance for the mayor and regional councillor and rural ward 1 and 2 councillors of \$575 each, and \$425 each for ward 3, 4 and 5 councillors.

If that wasn't enough, it is all RETROACTIVE TO NOVEMBER 2022. That is unconscionable.

The report then goes on to state "The annual remuneration..... shall be automatically adjusted to reflect the same economic percentage salary adjustments that may be granted to the full-time non-union salaried staff group, with the same effective dates (which takes place on April 1st of each year)."

This is a direct reflection taken from Bylaw 70-2023 Durham Region.

So now council's remuneration is linked to staff/management as opposed to the CUPE Agreement for the outside workers which was normally from one to three per cent.

The report also states "No changes are currently proposed to the Township's benefits plan; however, the Township's benefit program may be changed and or amended from time to time over the term of council..." Will we the taxpayers be advised of any changes?

Let's not forget that additional remuneration is received by the mayor and regional councillor from Durham Region. Last year, Mayor Barton's regional remuneration was \$67,212 (conferences not included), along with Lake Simcoe and Toronto Region Conservation Authorities stipend of \$1,479. Add this to the Township remuneration stated above and it amounts to \$133,253 (mileage included but not conferences).

Regional councillor Bruce Garrod received \$61,661 (conferences not included) from Durham Region and \$1,126 from Lake Simcoe Conservation. Add this to the Township remuneration just passed for a total compensation package worth \$108,302 (mileage included not conferences).

I, along with most people, do not object to fair compensation. Uxbridge Township mayor and councillors have always, in my humble opinion, been treated fairly and equitably. The actions of this council in today's environment cannot be justified.

Gerri Lynn O'Connor
Uxbridge

In response to the *Cosmos* article regarding pay increases of 11.62 per cent, retroactive from 2022 for the council and the mayor, I find it interesting this is being pushed through at this time.

I agree that we are blessed to have these people on council and am sure this a calling for many in public service.

In a recent council meeting there were at least three members, including the mayor, who said they had no idea what their position paid. I have never heard a person say this before...maybe it's just me, but I find it remarkable that they had no idea.

If we take the council and the mayor on their word that they had no idea how much they would be paid, then why is this a concern now if it wasn't initially?

As the council and mayor had mentioned during their meeting,

...continued on page 11

The Uxbridge Cosmos

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

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

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

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



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

Funded by the Government of Canada
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada | Canada



Am I wrong?

column by Roger Varley

If it ain't broke...

For some reason, Uxbridge has a bit of a history of taking good things and ruining them. The usual excuse is to make things better but, as the old line goes, "if it ain't broke, don't fix it!"

The Huck Finn fishing derby returns to Elgin Pond this weekend, but, in my opinion, it might be a pale reflection of what it used to be. And that's not a slight on the new owner of Canadian Tire - he just took over a huge store, he can hardly be expected to put a splashy (pun semi-intended) event right away. But when Huck Finn Youth Fishing Day began years ago, it was a one-day event. Thousands of children and their parents lined the banks of the pond to try their luck at hooking a trout. It was a true community event with various service clubs and volunteer organizations taking part, offering free use of fishing gear, free fish cleaning, food and prizes.

This year there will be no official contest taking place: instead, families will be able to fish at Elgin Pond at their leisure all season long, starting April 27, with the chance to win pop-up prizes on specific dates.

Huck Finn Day was originally held on the first day of trout season. The fact that people could still fish in the pond for the rest of the trout season was beside the point. Opening day was a chance to bring the community together and introduce youngsters to the joy and art of fishing.

I will concede that Huck Finn Youth Fishing Day was just one of many events and traditions that got kiboshed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Things just haven't been the same since. But we have seen this kind of thing happen before, even pre-COVID. Years ago, Uxbridge had something called Celebration of the Arts. Celebration of the Arts was one full week of music, dance, movies, theatre and other arts related activities and attracted some marvellous and memorable performances. The Music Hall was usually packed for every performance, no matter what the genre. Part of the Celebration was the annual children's theatre, which I was involved with for several years, and those shows garnered as much attention as the other parts of the celebration.

But, for reasons unknown to me, someone

decided to spread Celebration of the Arts over several weeks and then several months until, finally, it has practically disappeared.

The York Durham Heritage Railway was received by this community with open arms and opening day saw a huge crowd at the railway station. The train offered two trips to Stouffville and back every Saturday and Sunday, with the occasional special train ride thrown in, such as Lady Dempster's Victorian tea, Teddy Bear runs, Halloween rides or the time the train was "held up" by masked bandits on horseback who "kidnapped" the boss of the company that had hired the train for the day. Then new people took over the operation, erecting fences to keep non-ticket holders off the property and making deals with mega corporations that left local retailers high and dry. The actual train trips were reduced to travelling just a couple of miles down the track. Eventually, the operation was run into the ground until it went into bankruptcy.

The Highlands of Durham Games was a full weekend of everything Scottish, attracting large crowds, with competitors in the Highland games and Scottish dancing coming from around the province. It quickly became known as one of the best Scottish festivals in the province. That was then. In the past few years it has been reduced to a much watered down one-day version attracting far fewer people. Again, a victim of COVID.

We still have some good and worthy events happening. The Lions' Art in the Park is something I never miss and draws in good crowds. That's probably because they have kept to the same formula over the years. Same with the Optimists' Fantasy of Lights: the only thing they have changed over the years is to increase the number of displays. So successful is the Fantasy, in fact, that last year we saw a couple of attempts to cut in on its popularity by companies offering their own versions - but at a price. Both were aimed at intercepting Fantasy-bound visitors before they reached Uxbridge.

It seems to me that a successful event needs nurturing and care far more than it needs change.

Tell me, am I wrong?



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

WhatsApp versus what really happened

That October, the country was on the verge of civil war. At least that's what it felt like. A Quebec cabinet minister had been murdered by the FLQ (*Le Front de libération du Québec*). A British trade official remained kidnapped. The then prime minister had introduced the War Measures Act to ferret out FLQ members and arrest those responsible. And as a senior student of then Ryerson's Radio and TV Arts program and thinking only about getting the story on the air, I sat down in a radio studio at CJRT FM in Toronto and interviewed four students of Loyola College who'd been questioned in a Montreal dragnet just days before.

"My guests are John Welsh, Alan Saig, Joe Sagantic and John McKay," I began. "Tell us how all this affected you."

And they did. It was October 28, 1970. As they spoke, I kept thinking, "What would the radio listeners on my all-night radio broadcast want to know? How frightening was arrest without *habeas corpus* (right to a trial)? What did my guests think was happening to the country? What I hadn't considered, was that having them on the air was a violation of that same War Measures Act.

I'd nearly forgotten about that interview recorded 53 years ago. Except that my nephew, Jesse Doig, visiting from Saskatoon this week, has spent the week poking through my library of audio tape, listening to some of my old interviews and documentaries to digitize them. My makeshift archives - in a dark, dry corner under the garage - contain hundreds of hours of reel-to-reel tapes and cassettes of radio material I assembled for broadcast between the mid-1960s and the 1990s.

Among the golden oldies that have excited my visiting nephew is an interview I conducted in Edmonton with Hollywood actor Norman Fell, probably best known for his role as landlord Mr. Roper in the TV sitcom *Three's Company* in the late 1970s. Of all the memorable comments in such interviews, one that Fell shared has stayed with me. I recalled asking him what aspects of performance he found the most challenging.

"People think comedic actors are standup comics. It was the script writers who created the humour. We just lifted it off the page. And, by the way," he added, "thanks for not asking me to be funny."

Then, there is the radio script (we're still

looking for the actual tape) of a documentary my then collaborator, Ross Perigoe, and I produced for CBC Radio. Perigoe and I were still learning about radio but pitched some ideas to producers of a network show called *Action Set*. We'd found experts in 1970 to talk about a looming environmental problem - noise pollution. To emphasize the point, Perigoe and I dramatized the perils of noise by taking listeners graveside to history's first fatality (supposedly) due to excessive noise. I later shot a 60-second public service announcement of the script. The clergyman presiding over the burial. As he finishes the eulogy to "the world's first-ever victim of noise pollution," the city noise around him drowns out his words. We found the film, the script and the White Owl Conservation Award that the PSA earned among the boxes, cases and files in my basement archives.

It occurred to me this week, as I watched my nephew load up the reel-to-reel tape deck and cassette playback machine for his digitizing of the content, that I was experiencing a rare phenomenon. Most moments of note today are not recorded the way we used to do it - for archival purposes. While social media have become ubiquitous, I suspect very little is ever isolated, catalogued and stored with any more than instant gratification in mind. Most media, like the photos and video on your cell phone are captured quickly and haphazardly. Sure, you can Google or YouTube search for highlights, but rarely are those pieces of history catalogued, contextualized or reviewed for anything other than instant gratification and out-of-context exposure. Somehow the respect for what actually happened has become secondary to how quickly I can source it, play it and then forget about it.

As for that interview I conducted on CJRT 53 years ago? Was I ever prosecuted for violating the War Measures Act? No. I was a practising radio show host. I was live on the air from midnight to dawn (the graveyard shift) on an October night in 1970. CJRT was considered, in part, a student radio station. And it was the 1970s. Anything could and did happen. However, the truth is, probably very few people - maybe nobody - ever heard the interview. Nobody except for me and now, my nostalgia-inspired nephew listening and remembering what really happened.

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

PharmaChoice

Trail Capital Pharmacy 905-852-5555



- Full-service Pharmacy
- Easy Prescription Transfers
- Home Health Care
- Seniors Discount on Copay
- Home Delivery

Services

- Compression Socks
- Now offering Minor Ailments Prescribing (UTI, cold sores, heartburn & more). Please book your appointment at trailcapitalrx.ca
- Blister Packaging
- Compounding
- Greeting Cards
- Lottery

Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9am - 7pm, Sat. 10am-4pm. Closed Sundays and stat holidays.

2 Douglas Road, Uxbridge
(in the Starbucks plaza)
trailcapitalrx@gmail.com
trailcapitalrx.ca

Family Owned & Operated
Follow us
[@trailcapitalrx](https://www.facebook.com/trailcapitalrx)  

UXPERIENCE THE TIMES
A Grand 30th Show

THE LOCAL VARIETY SHOW RAISING MONEY FOR OUR COMMUNITY

May 2-4

Uxbridge Music Hall

DIRECTED BY ERIC SPEEDS & MATT GIBB

WWW.UXPERIENCE.CA TICKETS AT STARTICKETING.COM

Library 'info session' more a 'q & comments' for residents

Roger Varley

It was billed as an information session but the public meeting on the future of the Zephyr library, held on Saturday, was designed to gather information from the local residents.

Almost all members of council attended, as did a number of township staff and members of the library board, but the only physical information available was a diagram of the

proposed redesign of Zephyr community hall to accommodate the library, a couple of aerial photos of the current library building and a marked off section to show how much floor space the hall would lose if the library moves in. There was no formal presentation regarding the proposal.

Instead, tables were set around the hall at which residents were asked to

comment on five questions. The comments could either be handed in to staff or posted for all to see. The questions asked were: (a) what are the pros of having the library in the hall; (b) what are the cons; (c) how could the playground be improved; (d) how could the community hall be improved; and (e) how could the library be improved.

Roughly 50 residents attended the session.

Common themes among the posted comments were a need for better lighting and sidewalks on the street leading to the community centre, the safety of the librarian and children if the proposal goes ahead and the possibility of building an addition onto the centre. On the safety aspect, some residents claimed that because the children's section would be separated from the adult section, children would be unsupervised and the librarian would be alone to deal with anyone entering the community centre.

A sign at the store at the hamlet's main intersection claimed 432 people have signed a petition opposing the proposed library move.

Amanda Ferraro, director of community services, said there will still be time for residents to send in comments and also to take part in a Survey Monkey poll in the summer. She said she expects to give a report to council sometime in September or October, but there will be no movement on the proposal this year.

WET BASEMENT?

YOUR LOCAL WATER PROOFING COMPANY

- Window wells
- Drainage
- Foundation repairs

416-806-7041

Over 35 years experience

CORNERSTONE CONTRACTING INC.

Save in Spring is on now

BULK BAG SALE

Top Soil & Triple Mix
\$170 for the 1st bag delivered, \$105 for additional bags

Weedless Top Dressing & Mulches
\$185 for the 1st bag delivered, \$115 for additional bags

Conditions: For orders delivered to any address in Uxbridge. Order must be placed before June 30, 2024. Not applicable with any other promotions or discounts. Limit of 10 bags per delivery.

UXBRIDGE STONE & LANDSCAPE SUPPLY
905-852-0202

Other materials available for your spring & summer projects

UXBRIDGE STONE & LANDSCAPE SUPPLY
www.uxbridgestone.com
905-852-0202
Visit us at 545 Highway 47 Behind Petro Canada

CHOKO[®]
AUTHENTICS

Fast Eddie
- SPEEDWEAR -

3 DAYS ONLY!!

SPRING WAREHOUSE SALE



Follow us on our Facebook Event Page @annualwarehousesale

Scan Me



OUR FAMOUS CHOKO & FAST EDDIE PRODUCT AT KICK-ASS PRICES!

THIS THURSDAY TO SATURDAY ONLY!!!

**JACKETS • FLEECE • POLOS
T-SHIRTS • HATS • ACCESSORIES**

**END OF LINES & ONE OF A KINDS!
THE AUTOMOTIVE & FARM BRANDS YOU KNOW & ❤️**



19 Anderson Blvd.
Uxbridge, ON
905-642-1010
www.choko.com

**THURS 12pm - 8pm
FRI 12pm - 8pm
SAT 9am - 5pm**

cut out to save



Township to celebrate 50 years with merch, custom flag

Roger Varley

Quick quiz: How old is the Township of Uxbridge? Many residents might be surprised to discover it is only 50 years old!

In a report to council, Leroux pointed out that although the Township of Uxbridge was first incorporated as a municipality in 1850 and became part of Ontario County two years later, the current township came about with the formation of

Durham Region in 1974. At that time, Uxbridge Township was amalgamated with the Town of Uxbridge and Scott Township to create the current expanded Township of Uxbridge.

To mark the occasion, a 50th anniversary logo has been commissioned and it will appear on clothing/merchandise, a custom township flag to fly in Elgin Park and at the township offices, and on the township page and through social

media. An anniversary celebration will be held in council chambers on June 3, which will see former members of council and staff invited and acknowledged.

As well, a large tree will be planted at the rear of the township offices where trees were lost after the tornado and a limited number of free packages of Cosmos seeds (the Cosmos is the official flower of Uxbridge) will be available.

Firefighter memorial on schedule

Roger Varley

Former fire Chief Phil Alexander appeared before council to announce that the fire department is ready to begin preparations for the installation of a firefighters memorial at the fire station.

He said the unveiling and dedication of the memorial is scheduled for Oct. 5 and will be accompanied by a parade and an open house.

The memorial statue will honour

those who have died in the line of duty or while actively serving.

It will be surrounded with a garden, providing a place for reflecting and connection to the community

Alexander said fundraising for the memorial exceeded the fire department's goal but is still ongoing. However, anyone wishing to make a "significant" donation - and thus be recognized on the memorial - has only 30 days to do so.

Next steps for station, yard, from page 1

by the bankruptcy trustee, B. Riley Farber, but the cut-off date for offers is April 26. Leroux said there is no deadline set for removal of any equipment that remains unsold and the township is working with the trustee. She said any equipment that has been sold must be removed, but purchasers can come to an arrangement with the township on removal dates.

Mayor Dave Barton added: "We'll be flexible."

He noted that volunteers ran YDHR well for years but it "went off the rails" because of a few individuals.

Council passed Leroux' recommendations that staff continue to work with Metrolinx on the continued use of the rail yard and rail line lands by a short-line railway operator and that, if no viable interest is received, a Request for Proposals be prepared to invite other tourism uses for the station and the lands.

TOO MUCH HOUSE?

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

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

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

Call or text to see how I can help.



CHESTNUT PARK
REAL ESTATE LTD.
CHRISTIE'S



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

SEAWAY

spring special

\$10.00 OFF OUR SERVICES!

<h4>Water Supply</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fill wells, totes • Hot tubs • Pools • Emergency water tank rental 	<h4>Waste Management</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Septic pumpout (every 3-5 years) • 14 yard bin rental
---	--

Call Today 905-683-1397

We offer emergency service
Proudly serving Durham for over 62 years
Seawaywatersupply.com



COMPOST GIVEAWAY

durham.ca/waste

Saturday, June 1

8 a.m. to noon, or while supplies last

Uxbridge Arena & Recreation Centre
291 Brock Street West, Uxbridge

- Residents may fill up to four (4) blue boxes with compost.
- Green bins, blue boxes and backyard composters will be available for sale (VISA, MasterCard or debit only).
- Damaged blue boxes and green bins may also be exchanged for new ones free of charge.
- Please bring a non-perishable food item for the local food bank.



If you require this information in an accessible format, please contact 311 (within Regional limits) or 1-800-372-1102.



New studio promises boundless opportunities for community

Justyne Edgell, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A popular local theatre organization is opening a new studio downtown, with Boundless possibilities! Vocally Inspired Performers (VIP) founder, Marisa Hachey, says this new adventure has been a long time in the making.

"We searched for over a year for our perfect location and are delighted to have found the ideal spot, right in the heart of town," says Hachey. The Boundless studio is located at 5 Bascom Street, a convenient, short walk from the Uxbridge Music Hall, where the group often performs.

"Boundless Studio Uxbridge is first and foremost the home of Vocally Inspired Performers, where we will rehearse for our upcoming productions," says Hachey. "We will now also be able to offer much more performing arts programming for a wider variety of ages and experience levels, so that more people can experience the joy of musical theatre."

Hachey also runs Princess Parties, as well as first aid and CPR classes, and says she is overjoyed to finally have a home base for these offerings as well.

"The dream is for Boundless Studios Uxbridge to be as ever-growing and as multi-faceted as the wonderful community it serves," says Hachey. "We are eager to hear any and all ideas for what could be brought to life at the studio, because the possibilities are truly...BOUNDLESS! I am honoured to be the captain of the ship, but this studio is meant to be a place for everyone where "boundless possibilities await."

Boundless Studio will have its grand opening event on May 4, beginning at 1 p.m., with a ribbon cutting ceremony. They will be offering tours of the space, announcing some upcoming programming and launching their website. "Plus, of course photos, refreshments and giveaways!" says Hachey.

Vocally Inspired Performers is currently working on their 15th production, set to hit the Uxbridge Musical Hall stage this August. They will be performing *The Wizard of Oz: Youth Edition*, with a cast of over 30 local youth and a pup ready to play Toto!

Hachey says they are very excited to run their first production rehearsals in the new studio space, and will have a full schedule of upcoming courses and programs released with the launch of their website, boundlessuxbridge.com, on May 4.

"I am feeling overwhelmed with gratitude for the support I have received from my wonderful family, my VIP community, and the community at large," says Hachey. "I want to extend my boundless appreciation to everyone who has jumped in to lend a hand. I can't thank everyone enough for helping my dream come true."

NOTICE OF PESTICIDE USE

Between May and October 2024, 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 for additional information about West Nile virus

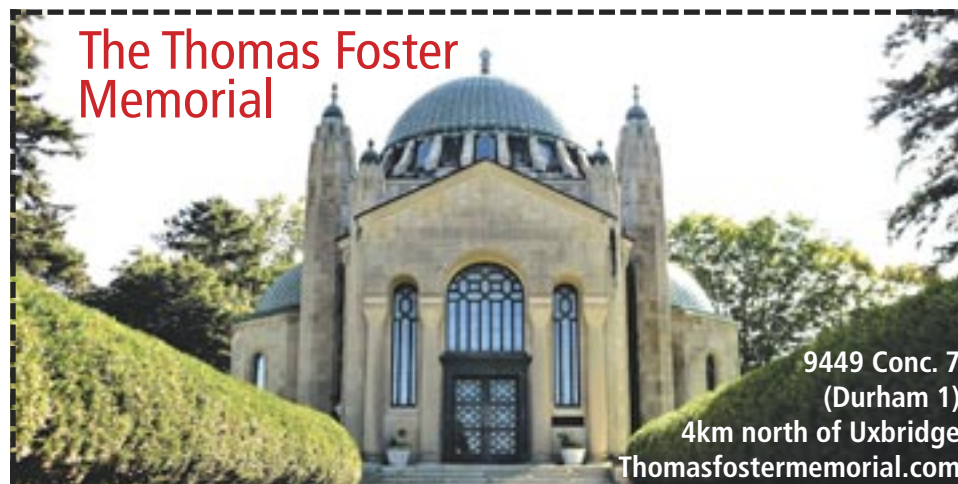
Ontario Ministry of Transportation property - contact Ontario Ministry of Transportation at 1-416-235-5462 (collect calls accepted) for additional information.





The Thomas Foster Memorial



9449 Conc. 7
(Durham 1)
4km north of Uxbridge
Thomasfostermemorial.com

Volunteers Needed



Foster Tours

The Foster is open for tours Wed. to Sun. 11:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (except July 21, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.)
Open Mon., July 1 & Aug. 5. Bus tours and group tours can be arranged. \$8 per person. Call 905-640-3966 or email beverlynortheast@gmail.com
For more information



The Jewel on the Hill

The only book written about the Foster by Conrad Boyce. Beautifully illustrated. Perfect gift for that special person.

CD of Handel Sonatas

Flute & Cello. Recorded at the Foster by James Warburton

Purchase a Plaque

In memory of a family member or family name. Call 905-640-3966 or beverlynortheast@gmail.com
For more information about this special program (limited number to be sold).



Meditation at the Foster

May 13, June 10, July 8, Aug. 12 and September 16. 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Join sound practitioner Linda Lee Purvis for an innovative soundscape from crystal singing bowls – chimes, crystal harp & various sound tools
Call or email to register 905-640-3966 beverlynortheast@gmail.com



Fridays at the Foster Concert Series

Every Friday night, May - September 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Admission is donation at the door.

May 3 - Django Djunkies

Fantastic gypsy swing / jazz, a 1920s style of early jazz. One of the best in jazz/blues music.

May 10 - Garth Dynes

Songwriter/Blues/Roots/romantic ballads. "WithYou" is his brand.

May 17 - Justin Dillon - Hand Pan

As a drummer, Justin creates melodic & syncopated patterns on the hand pan.

May 24 - Wayne Madder - Guitar

Wayne's music is jazz/blues, country, folk. Single "Crack in the Wall" was on the winning album at the 2022 Oshawa Music Awards.

May 31 - Harpin Norm Lucie, Harmonica & Guitar

Folk music. He writes music & has played in many other countries, in Nashville & across southern Ontario.

June 7 - Ferrport Ensemble

A classic jazz and swinging blues quintet, with saxophone, guitar, piano, upright bass, drums & vocals.

June 14 - Bob Vopni - Fingerstyle Guitarist

Blues, jazz, Latin & classical guitar, folk. Bob is author of "Chord to Chord: A beginner guitar method."

June 21 - Scot Benson & Susan - Flute & Guitar

Scott & Susan play music of the Great American song book.

June 28 - David Owen - Guitar & Harmonica

David brings a modern singer songwriter approach to the traditional blues/folk genre.

COSMOS BUSINESS BULLETIN BOARD



GILLDERCROFT FURNITURE

Early Style Canadian Handcrafted Pine Furniture

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



GOODWOOD HOME IMPROVEMENTS

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

416-526-3469

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

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



Online Auctions
Buys 4 Guys
May 2 - 9
7 p.m. soft close
Tools / Equip/ Powertoy
& more.

Call to consign your items today.

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

EVANS FINANCIAL SERVICES

Best GIC rate: 5.48%
(1 year term)
Terms & conditions apply. Effective April 22, 2024.

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

Serving our clients & communities since 1965
Life Insurance • GICs • Funds • Planning

Maplecreek Property Maintenance
Uxbridge • Scugog • Brock

- Weekly lawn cutting
- Yard clean-ups
- Hedge trimming
- Garden rototilling
- Snow removal

Call or email for a quote
647-230-1695
maplecreekpm@gmail.com

OLE HANDYMAN & FAMILY

Spring Booking Now

Seamless eavestrough, waterproofing, cement, stonework, plumbing, electrical, post rebuild, mold, kitchen, bath, basements, roofing, demolition, drywall, painting, brick chimneys & gates, ceramics, flooring.

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



EJC PROPERTY CARE

- Spring & Fall clean up
- Lawn cutting & trimming
- Weeding & pruning
- Garden design

Support local, book today!

Call today for your free quote 905-207-5296 (LAWN)
Check us out online at ejcpropertycare.com
Facebook and Instagram

STOUFFVILLE MONUMENT

Creating Your Story in Stone Since 1839

INSCRIPTIONS
MONUMENTS
MARKERS

905-640-3643 | 6194 Main St., Stouffville



Tails on Wagg

doggy daycare and overnight lodgings

416-525-6161
tailsonwagg390@gmail.com

DARRYL NOBLE ELECTRICIAN

Complete Electrical Service

New installations ~ Troubleshooting
Commercial ~ Residential
Agricultural ~ Electrical Repair
Replacement Panel Upgrades
Service Changes
Generator Installation ~ Auxiliary Power Solutions

647.220.6093
darrylnobleelectrician@live.com

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

Light For Your Path

"Everything that God has created is good; nothing is to be rejected, but everything is to be received with a prayer of thanks."

1 Tim 2:5

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

THE WEATHER MAY BE GETTING NICER, BUT YOU STILL CAN'T BEAT OUR HOT SOUP AT LUNCH TIME!



CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS!
www.themeatmerchant.ca

3 Brock Street West
905-852-9892

LOCAL MATTERS.

Remember that time when Amazon sponsored your church fundraiser?

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

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

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

News Media Canada
Médias d'Info Canada

CANADIAN NEWS MEDIA
CHAMPION THE TRUTH.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

SERVICES

GILLANDERS AUCTIONS EARLY BIRD CONSIGNMENT SPECIAL Are you trying to sell trucks, equipment, autos, boat, ATVs, tractors, for a 'Buys4Guys' online auction. Pay only 5% commission to have your item sold. Space limited. Call 647-212-2275 for more info. 4/18

JASON'S PROPERTY MAINTENANCE Call now for spring cleanups, eavestrough cleaning, grass cutting and more. Sign up for grass cutting for the season and get a FREE eavestrough cleaning. Conditions may apply. Seniors' discount. RoseMarie 905-967-2644. 4/25

DECKS & FENCING Does your deck or fence need repair, powerwashing or re-sealing? We specialize in decks & fencing. No deck is too small or big. Very competitive prices, 20 years' experience, 2 year written warranty, free estimates. For all your outside upgrades & projects, contact RBC Decks. Ron, 437-777-1281. 8/24

HAPPY YARDS is here to assist with your spring clean up & yard projects! We specialize in trimming, pruning, weeding, soils or mulch, garden

design, chainsaw and clearing services. Booking has started early! Call or text Sean for a free consultation 416- 804-0639. 4/25

PRIVATE PSW SERVICES Specializing in Alzheimer's, dementia, Parkinson's, geriatric and end-of-life care. Lots of courses completed and fantastic references. Reliable, professional, mannerly. Contact Robert at 647-225-8245. 5/9

ACTION OUTDOOR SERVICES Formerly Lawn Slide Services. Offering landscaping, hardscaping, light excavation work, snow plowing. Instagram: @action_outdoor_services, Email noah@actionoutdoorservices.ca 647-523-6730.

MIKE THE HANDYMAN – experienced, reliable, affordable. Services: carpentry/trim, laminate flooring, tiling, drywall repair, plumbing & electrical fixture installation, vanity installation, interior painting/caulking, picture/painting hanging, TVmount, weatherstripping, much more. 647-505-9204. 4/25

HOME-WATCH HOUSE/PET SITTING SERVICES: Home owners have trusted Heather Stewart for 19 years for her reliability and detailed professionalism. Property Services / Dog Walking / Cat Sitting / Doggie Sleep-Overs! Visit home-watch.ca

for more info on Heather's services. Call or text 905-852-8525, email hstewart@home-watch.ca and follow us on Instagram - Home-WatchUxbridge 4/25

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

FOR SALE

VARIOUS - 19' Mastercraft V8 inboard, with trailer, \$17,500. New Karu pizza oven, \$175. Thule roof rack, \$250. 24" Drytac Mounting Press, \$200. PROV golf balls, \$20/doz. Call Ken, 416-801-8255. 4/25

JOIN OUR CSA and receive a box of seasonal, fresh vegetables and fruit bi-weekly or monthly. Pick up at farm or delivered to a hub. For more information go to forsythefamilyfarms.com. 905-985-6749. 4/25

WANTED

FULL TIME LANDSCAPER WANTED to cut the grass, fertilize the lawn, plant flowers & maintain the gardens at our large inn and farm property in the Zephyr area. We supply the equipment to do the job right. Looking for the golf green grass. Pay commensurate with experience. Please send resumé to info@highfieldsfarmcorp.com 5/2

LOCAL LAWN MAINTENANCE COMPANY IS HIRING! Lawnscape Property Maintenance is looking for immediate full time employees to provide outdoor services with our company. This requires a basic knowledge of small machinery, attention to detail. If you have questions or would like to submit a resumé please contact 905-852-4378 or lawnscape@eclarity.ca 4/25

Bruce Clark & Son Ltd.
PLUMBING & RENOVATIONS **LOW HOURLY RATE**

Since 1960 Complete renovations and service
Specializing in Main Floor, Bathroom & Basements
Commercial • Industrial • Residential

905-852-7967 **bruceclarkandson.com**
Seniors Discounts • Lic. & Insured (Master License # P-21035)

GUARANTEE ON ALL WORK

Letters, from page 4

this is about succession planning. If that is the driving force behind these huge increases, why can't it wait another two years before the next elections to have these discussions on succession planning?

More than 11 per cent is a huge increase, regardless of how it is spun. Will you attract more qualified and suitable candidates as mentioned by the mayor by increasing the compensation to \$54k annually? Not likely - this is about public service and for those interested in such endeavours.

Being that there isn't a single individual who hasn't been affected by the huge cost of living increases we have seen over the last number of years, these huge, precedent-setting, retroactive increases should be reconsidered.

Jim Prosser
Uxbridge

Re: Northeast Letter to the Editor, April 18 edition

Last week's letter to the editor by Bev Northeast shows that the only thing she understands about agriculture is that farmers produce food. To insinuate farmers and supporters "rumbled" into town demanding more money is appalling and infuriating. They were there asking the Liberal government to keep our production costs in Canada in line with our competing countries for all industries and Canadians.

Ms. Northeast says our economy is not healthy due to high costs, yet she wants costs raised! Yes, diesel fuel creates carcinogens but all modern diesel-powered equipment has expensive emission controls to reduce this.

Ms. Northeast also insinuates that farmers don't pay their share of mu-

nicipal taxes, when we pay full rate on dwellings and still pay 25 per cent of residential on land that requires no services.

Yes, farmers do get HST rebated on production-related expenses. If we didn't, it would be added along with any HST on value added and consumers would pay HST on their daily food like any other product or service. It's Ms. Northeast that doesn't pay HST on her food! Farmers pay HST on any personal consumption of goods and services, same as all Canadians.

Ms. Northeast states we can apply for a rebate of \$1.86 per \$1,000 spent on fuel. This means we can buy a chocolate bar for every \$1,000 spent!

To insinuate that farmers do not care about their environment when we are the environmental stewards of the land. Plus, our crops convert CO2 to oxygen and food.

We, in our rural communities, absolutely know how to work together. That is why we take time away from our farms to "rumble" into town and demonstrate to our government how much it is hurting our communities.

David Barry
Zephyr

Re: Zedic Letter to the Editor, April 18 edition

Bravo to Jennifer Zedic and Wallace

for their well-written letter. I would like to add another perspective to the conversation, the non-dog owner.

My husband and I love to walk around Uxbridge, and meet many dog owners on our travels who are very friendly, but we are often "greeted" by their dogs as well. Most are calm and inquisitive, but as non-dog owners, we really don't feel the need to stop and meet them, or be sniffed and surrounded. We have nothing against pets, but not everyone wants or is comfortable around them, so a smile and nod as we pass is just as appreciated. With a smile and a wave...

Eileen & Chris Ethier
Uxbridge

To the person chopping down and mutilating young trees on the conservation lands at East Duffins Headwaters (Glen Major & Walker Woods) – how dare you? Who gave you the almighty authority to kill and mutilate hundreds of native trees and shrubs? I can assure you the landowner, TRCA, did not.

You may think you are "helping" to keep the trails clear, but you are destroying habitat, ruining the trail experience for all the other trail users, and releasing carbon into our already too warm atmosphere. Perhaps you have been living under a rock and do not know that we are currently experiencing a climate change crisis and a biodiversity cri-

sis? Every single native plant matters.

Your single-minded, ill-informed work has removed food and shelter for wildlife, will increase the invasive plant burden since all the invasive buckthorn you cut will just re-sprout, and altered what used to be an intimate experience on narrow trails that are now filled with hundreds of trees cut off at waist height – some of them meters off the trail.

Trail hikes that used to bring me peace now fill me with rage because of your actions. You seem to have a particular hatred for native hawthorn and American beech trees – both of which provide excellent

wildlife habitat.

I was so shocked when I saw you on the trail with your mechanical pruners that I did not confront you, but I should have. The destruction that you have caused is criminal vandalism of public lands and you should be charged. It will be hard for you to make this right, but a step in the right direction would be to publicly apologize to all the trail users you have impacted and make a generous donation to TRCA to support ecological restoration on these lands. It's the least you can do.

Karen McDonald
Uxbridge

In Loving Memory of
Susan Marilyn
England

October 1, 1951 - April 12, 2024



Passed away peacefully at her Uxbridge home on Friday, April 12, 2024, at the age of 72 years. Wife of the late John England (d. 2018). Loving mother of Adam (Laura), grandmother of Clayton.

Sue will be missed by her extended family and friends, too numerous to mention.

Cremation arrangements have been entrusted to Low & Low Funeral Home in Uxbridge. As per Sue's wishes, a small private family funeral will take place at a later date.

Friends are invited to make donations to Uxbridge Hospital or a charity of your choice. Please send condolences by visiting www.lowandlow.ca

RICHENS,
Charles James

March 20, 1934 - April 21, 2024



Passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 21, 2024, at Lakeridge Health, Oshawa, at the age of 90 years. Loved and missed by his wife of 68 years, Mary Lou (née Townsend). Cherished father of Stephen (Christine), Donna (late Bill) and Stuart (Carolyn). Loving Papa to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Charlie worked as a project manager at IBM for 42 years. He was an avid gardener, winning many awards for his gardens and plants. He took pride in taking his plants from little seedlings to blossoms full of colour. Charlie was never idle, always volunteering with some project or service. In his spare time, he enjoyed traveling and spending time with family and friends, especially if it involved dessert. Charlie had a legendary sweet tooth that few rivalled.

A memorial service to honour Mr. Richens' life will be held at Low & Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Uxbridge, on Monday, April 29, 2024, at 11 a.m., with visitation to commence at 10 a.m. Reception to follow. As expressions of sympathy and in lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Heart & Stroke Foundation or Uxbridge Hospital would be appreciated by the family. Friends may send condolences or make donations at www.lowandlow.ca

TREE CARE

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

(905) 852-5313
utstreecare.ca

Butternut Manor

Retirement Living... Among Friends

Suites starting at \$4000 per month

All suites include:

- Meals
- Tea times
- Activities
- Housekeeping
- Laundry
- Care plan
- 24 hour access to care staff
- Medication management program

Call us today and
arrange a visit to our residence

We can't wait to meet you! 905-852-6777 ext. 414

3 Norm Goodspeed Drive, Uxbridge
email: generalmanager@butternutmanor.com

BUSINESS, FARM, and ESTATE TAX STRATEGIES

FREE
CONSULTATION

647-333-7229

eric@aquilian.ca

ERIC GROSSMAN, CPA

Get ready for PATIO SEASON

Patios ✓
Decks ✓
Driveways ✓
Cabanas ✓

CALL FOR
A FREE
QUOTE

647-208-3607
PEYSON.CA



INCREDIBLE PRICE
18⁹⁹

Fully Cooked Chicken Wings
907 g/2 lb

Also available,
Chicken Chunks
17-28 PIECES 680 g
\$18.99 save \$7



2 lb of Wings

CHOOSE FROM 8 VARIETIES. SELECTION MAY VARY BY STORE.

save \$10

SCRATCH & WIN!
EVENT

EVERY CARD'S A WINNER!

Spend \$50* and receive a scratch card for a chance to win 5%, 10%, a Free Product or up to \$100 off your purchase until May 1, 2024. While Quantities Last.

*Full Rules & Regulations can be found in store and on our website: mmfoodmarket.com/scratch-and-win-rules

save \$7

Chicken Nuggets
33-40 PIECES
907 g



13⁹⁹ each

Italian Style Beef Meatballs
89-95 PIECES 907 g
Other size available,
130-140 PIECES 1.36 kg \$17.99 **save \$8**

save \$5

save \$9

INCREIBLE PRICE
19⁹⁹

4 STEAKS



Bacon Wrapped Beef Top Sirloin Steaks
4 STEAKS x 142 g/5 oz

SNACK & LUNCH IDEAS

Sausage Rolls
26-28 PIECES
500 g

save \$2

Mini Vegetable Spring Rolls
16 PIECES
384 g

sale

Pizza Rolls
8 PIECES
460 g

save \$2 each

STOCK UP NOW

9⁹⁹ each

LOWEST PRICE OF THE YEAR

save \$14

INCREIBLE PRICE
25⁹⁹



WOW!

Boneless, Skinless Chicken Breasts
8-12 BREASTS 1.36 kg/3 lb

LIMIT OF 3 PER CUSTOMER

ALL PRICES IN EFFECT THURSDAY, APRIL 25 TO WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024 UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

FAST, CONVENIENT WAYS TO SHOP



FREE IN-STORE PICKUP



SAME-DAY DELIVERY



FREE CURBSIDE PICKUP



DELIVERY AVAILABLE







To view our full flyer, scan the QR code or visit us at mmfoodmarket.com

Visit our website for store locations

All discounted prices of products are exclusive to members of the M&M Food Market Rewards program. Simply present your membership card, or sign up for a free membership in store or online, to take advantage of these exclusive offers. M&M Food Market Express and other non-traditional stores offer a limited range of products; therefore special pricing and promotions are not valid there. We reserve the right to correct any errors.