

The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 20 No. 5

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, February 8, 2024

Wishing a hometown hero Happy Retirement • Emmys and Foleys • Bruins putting in time



TALE AS OLD AS TIME - Ashley Olah, left, and Michael Yaneff bring the story of *Beauty and the Beast* to life in Ryleepuss Production's most recent offering, which opens tonight (Thursday) at the Uxbridge Music Hall. Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* will be in town until February 18. For complete show times and ticket details, visit starticketing.com
Photo by John Covers

Victim of accident was a visitor

Conrad Boyce, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Durham Regional Police have confirmed that the woman killed in a serious accident on January 29 in Uxbridge was not a resident of the township.

Malina Cardona, 32, a visitor from Colombia, was a passenger in a Subaru SUV northbound on Concession 6 early last Monday afternoon. According to police, the driver stopped at the stop sign at Sandford Road, but then proceeded into the intersection, not realizing it was not an all-way stop. The Subaru was T-boned by a Cadillac SUV heading west. The driver of the Subaru, as well as two other passengers, including a one-year-old infant, and the two occupants of the Cadillac, were taken to various hospitals by air and road ambulance, where all five remain with serious injuries.

Police said that at this point, they do not intend to lay any charges in the accident.

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Annual car show to take over Elgin Park

Roger Varley

A major car show is slated to take over Elgin Park on the last weekend in August, with organizers claiming as many as 1,500 automobiles could be on display.

The Motor City Car Club of Oshawa (MCCC), which has been running Autofest in Oshawa for the last 25 years, has decided it wants to move the event to Uxbridge. Following a deputation to township council in December, club officials received approval "in principle" for the event, subject to a staff report. That report, by Courtney Clarke, deputy director of public works, was delivered to council on Monday.

The report made a number of recommendations, the main ones being that council support the event and allow overnight camping for some of the participants. The report also recommended that the car club's request that fees

for the park be waived should be denied, and the club should pay the full rental price of \$7,648 for two days' "exclusive use of the park grounds." (The MCCC is a provincially-registered not-for-profit organization that donates its proceeds to charities that include Grandview Kids and Lakeridge Health.) In addition, the club must provide a \$1,000 damage deposit for each day and \$5 million liability insurance.

Mayor Dave Barton opined that the event "will be very good for downtown businesses."

Organizers claim that Autofest Nationals is one of Canada's biggest classic and muscle car shows. Car owners and enthusiasts reportedly come from across North America to attend the annual show, previously held in Oshawa. This year marks the 31st anniversary of the show. Organizer Blair Trotter said during the December presentation to council that it was time to "reinvent ourselves and refresh our event," and that "Elgin Park would be perfect for what we

have in store."

Last Wednesday, Jan. 31, an online Durham news publication, "insauga," proclaimed that the event was definitely relocating to Uxbridge, despite no report having been issued to council by Uxbridge staff on or before that date. When asked about the timing of the online publication's announcement, Clarke said that the MCCC had not seen her report before it was presented to council. Clarke did add that she has had several meetings with the MCCC and that more are planned.

A local resident familiar with car shows told the *Cosmos* that the Bonner Boys weekly Thursday night "cruise in" at Elgin Park usually features about 150 cars, and that one special event saw 400 cars on display. The resident said those 400 cars covered that part of the park usually used for the midway at the Fall Fair, and extended around the baseball diamond. When

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41 Ash Street, #304 - This 2 bed, 2 bath spacious condo is hitting the market on February 9th. Contact us or your favourite REALTOR® to view this unit or for more information.

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Uxbridge at a Glance

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 Uxbridge L9P 1T1
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TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE

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MORE INFO www.uxbridge.ca

Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for February, 2024

- Monday, February 12
COUNCIL, 10:00 a.m.
COUNCIL EDUCATION SESSION,
1:30 p.m.
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
COMMITTEE, 7:00 p.m.
HERITAGE COMMITTEE, 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, February 15, 7:00 p.m.
LIBRARY BOARD
- Monday, February 19
NO MEETING – FAMILY DAY
- Wednesday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.
COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT
- Thursday, February 22, 7:00 p.m.
BIA BOARD
- Monday, February 26
COUNCIL, 10:00 a.m.
DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION,
3:00 p.m.

Proclamations for the February:

- Council proclaims 2024 the Year of the 150th Anniversary of Lucy Maud Montgomery
- February is Black history Month
- Feb 12-18 is Non-profit appreciation week
- Feb. 17 is Random Acts of Kindness Day
- Feb. 20 is World Social Justice Day
- Feb. 28 is Pink Shirt Day

Bids and Tenders

All current bid opportunities are posted to https://www.uxbridge.ca/bids_and_tenders

- U24-02 - Parks Waste Receptacle Removal - Closes Feb 28 at 2:00 PM (EST)

All bids must be received by the Township by the deadline stated, either electronically via the Township's website or in-person at the Township Office located at 51 Toronto St. South. Public tender bid results are posted at https://www.uxbridge.ca/bids_and_tenders

Employment Opportunities

Complete details of all open positions are available at <https://www.uxbridge.ca/careers>

Current Opportunities
By-Law Services – Municipal Law Enforcement Officer, Parking Enforcement
 Closes Friday, February 9, 2024

From The Tax Office

FIRST Tax Installment is due on February 27, 2024.
SECOND Tax Installment is due on April 26, 2024.

2024 Interim Property Tax Bills have been mailed for all properties, with the exception of properties enrolled in the Monthly Pre-Authorized Payment Plan or tax bills paid by Mortgage companies.

The taxes due are based on the billing date. If your account is currently in arrears, the February 1st interest charge on "Past Due Taxes" is not included on this bill and will need to be paid in addition to the February installment.

Tax Payments Options:

- In person at Town Hall during regular business hours of Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Accepted payment methods are cash, cheque, or Interac debit.
- In an after-hours Drop Box located in the Municipal Office front parking lot. – DO NOT DEPOSIT CASH Post-dated cheques are accepted.
- By Mail - Payments must reach the Municipal Office by the due date.
- Through Internet or Telephone Banking.
- At most Financial Institutions.
- Credit cards and e-transfers are not accepted for tax payments.

Penalty/Interest Charges:

For non-payment of a tax levy on or before the respective due dates of each installment, a penalty of 1.25% shall be imposed on the first day of each calendar month and thereafter in which the default continues. Failure to receive a Tax Bill does not excuse the taxpayer from responsibility for payment of taxes nor liability of any penalty or interest due to late payments.

The penalty/interest charges cannot be waived or reduced by the Tax Department or Council for any reason.

If a reprinted tax bill, receipt or Statement of Account is required for any year's taxes, a fee of \$15.00 will apply.

If you did not receive your 2024 Interim Tax Bill, please call the Tax Department at 905-852-9181.

Road Closures

- Uxbridge-East Gwillimbury Townline from north of Durham Reg. Rd. 39/Queensville Sideroad to south of Holborn Road, East Gwillimbury, to 2024. Bridge repairs over the Mount Albert Creek require road closure until 2024.
- Uxbridge-East Gwillimbury Townline from York St. (500m south of Ravenshoe Rd.), to Zephyr Rd., - to 2024. Bridge repairs will require road closure until 2024.

<https://www.uxbridge.ca/en/transportation/road-closures-and-construction.aspx>

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 a four-year appointment (term of Council – expiring November 2026) to the Uxbridge Town Trails Committee (see detailed description below). 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, March 1, 2024.

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

Debbie Leroux, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
 Telephone: 905-852-9181 Fax: 905-852-9674
 e-mail: dleroux@uxbridge.ca

P.O. Box 190, 51 Toronto Street South, Uxbridge, ON L9P 1T1

Uxbridge Town Trails Committee

This Committee oversees the development of new recreational trails and maintenance of existing trails in the urban area of the Town of Uxbridge. The Uxbridge Town Trails Committee meets 3 to 4 times per year, and includes representation from local conservation authorities, Township Council, Township Staff, and Trail Volunteers. Committee members may also sit on additional working groups and assist with trail projects throughout the year. Community residents who are interested in trail development and are able to participate actively in discussions and projects would be most welcome.

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

'Mr. Uxbridge' retiring after 48 years in the Canadian Tire biz

Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

There aren't too many people in the Township of Uxbridge who don't know who Pat Higgins is. Most residents here either know him personally, have seen his face and name in local media, or have at least had the pleasure of taking part in an event that he has either organized or sponsored in some way. Pat Higgins has earned the nickname "Mr. Uxbridge." But next Wednesday, after 48 years of working with Canadian Tire (26 of those in Uxbridge), Higgins will hand over the store keys to a new dealer and head into the chapter of life called retirement.

"I'm tired," says Higgins as he glances at a wall full of security monitors in his office, which overlooks the store. "I'm ready for a rest. But don't get me wrong, it's been fun!"

News of the local philanthropist's retirement has quietly been circulating for awhile; Higgins says he told his staff of approximately 125 in June of last year that a new store owner was coming on board. He says he confirmed right away that they would all still have their jobs, and confessed that some of the staff were upset at the news of his retirement.

"The last couple of weeks might be hard," says Higgins. "These people have been like a family, I certainly haven't been an absentee store owner. It's been my life."

Pat Higgins took over Canadian Tire Store #127 from Norm Kane in 1998. He had previously been a store dealer in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, and in Scarborough. Prior to that he worked with Canadian Tire's head offices, or "corporate," in various capacities. And he smiles when recalling how he began working for the company that be-

came his life's work.

"In high school, I thought I was going to be a chef. I was walking up Yonge St. (in Toronto) one day, just looking for a job, and there was a Canadian Tire Gas Bar there, so I got a job pumping gas..."

Higgins has contributed thousands of dollars and manhours to Uxbridge through donations to various service groups, events and organizations. He initiated Huck Finn Youth Fishing Day as a way to get young people and their families out to explore Elgin Pond and discover the joy of holding a fishing rod. He's made Uxbridge one of the most successful locations for the Jumpstart Program, a nation-wide initiative that helps children "overcome financial and accessibility barriers to sport and recreation in an effort to provide inclusive play for kids of all abilities." His

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Pat Higgins, owner of Canadian Tire Uxbridge, is retiring next Wednesday after years of service to both his store and the town.

Cosmos file photo



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Major development moves (somewhat) closer to reality

Roger Varley

Bridgebrook Corporation's proposal to build 588 homes on a 40-hectare swath of land running between Concession 6 and Centre Road, north of Quaker Village, has moved a step forward following a settlement reached between the developer, the township and the region. However, that next step might be a long time coming.

Bridgebrook made its original application in April 2021, seeking an amendment to the region's Official Plan; the township's Official Plan; the township's Zoning By-law to change the designation from Future Residential to Residential; and approval of a draft plan of subdivision. Kyle Rainbow, Uxbridge's director of development services, said Bridgebrook appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) for approval in

2022, citing the region's "non-decision" on its original proposal.

Last month, the OLT ruled that all evidence in connection with the application was to be heard in a single settlement hearing.

A township report this week on the settlement said the Bridgebrook lands and other Phase 2 lands in the township are now referred to as "Evolving Neighbourhood Areas." The township, in consultation with the region, retains the right to determine when and if lands in the Evolving Neighbourhood Areas are to be allocated sanitary sewer and water servicing capacity for development. Until the conditions for servicing allocation are met, these lands cannot be developed.

Rainbow said he had "no idea" when such servicing might be available for the proposed development,

noting there are other projects with claims on sewer and water capacity, such as the downtown revitalization project and the new hospital and long-term care facility.

The settlement also set forth conditions that must be upheld when development eventually occurs. They include the protection of environmental lands, the provision of 20 acres of green space and the minimizing of traffic impacts.

Rainbow said that, despite the report, "it's not official yet until the OLT gives its written report."

At the original application hearing in April 2021, Matthew Cory, planning consultant for Bridgebrook, said the proposal calls for the construction of 588 homes, ranging from townhouses to single detached homes to row housing. He said the site

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TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE RECREATION

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Our two cents

The man, the myth - the retiree

When we first learned that Canadian Tire Uxbridge store owner Pat Higgins was retiring this month, you could have knocked us over with a feather. Pat retire? He can't do that. He does too much around Uxbridge, he's always there for everyone, everything. What will Uxbridge do without him?

Before we set into panic mode, however, we remembered that the man works retail - a huge, national corporation, no less - and is likely tired beyond measure. If anyone deserves to retire, it's Pat Higgins.

Don't fret, Pat, if you're reading this. We aren't going to roast or embarrass you here. We are going to be bold, however, and use this space to publicly thank you for all you've done for Uxbridge. If you had a nickle for every time you've been asked for a donation, you'd be a millionaire. If you tallied up all the money you've handed over in sponsorships, you could probably purchase a house (in today's prices!). If you could measure the joy that Huck Finn Youth Fishing Day has brought to hundreds and hundreds of people over the years - well, you can't. That kind of joy is immeasurable. Your dedication to the Jumpstart program, your personal involvement in making Uxbridge a better place to be - it honestly blows the mind, and humbles those of us who are blessed enough to know you.

Mr. Uxbridge, you have done an amazing job of making sure that the familiar red triangle with the green maple leaf is everywhere, just as you wanted it. You *have* made Uxbridge a much better place, and you deserve every word of praise you receive, every award you hang on your wall, every heartfelt congratulatory message.

On behalf of the entire township, the *Uxbridge Cosmos* would like to take this opportunity to thank you, Pat Higgins, for all that you have contributed to the life, success and well-being of Uxbridge and its residents. We all wish you every happiness in your retirement, and sincerely hope that you won't be a stranger to events around town. Take a well-deserved rest, enjoy cottage life, try to not drive your lovely wife around the bend, and again, thank you. Forever, thank you.



Letters to the Editor

An open letter to Public Works director Ben Kester and the Township of Uxbridge council

I have received the full traffic survey that was carried out from the 8th to the 14th of June 2023, at 3899 Front St. in Goodwood. I have read the report and spoken to the people who carried out the survey.

Did you even read the conclusion of the survey? It says that 4,377 vehicles used the street in one week, and 90 per cent - or 3,940 of them - were speeding over the posted limit!

Your analysis of the survey is lacking or flawed. Your eighth or 85th percentile means nothing.

The survey people summarized the report to me by stating that fully 90 per cent of the vehicle traffic was speeding over the posted limit. In one 24-hour period alone there were over 100 vehicles exceeding the posted speed limit by over 10 km/h!

It is bad enough that there is an incredible amount of traffic on this once quiet street, but now the residents have to endure over 90 per cent of the traffic excessively speeding. There are a large number of people walking on the street with or without their children and dogs, as well as a large number of cyclists using the street.

There are at least a dozen solutions to this problem:

- a 3-way stop sign at Rebecca lane
- Grooved pavement
- Painted roadway (like at Davis Dr. and Conc. 6)
- Temporary speed bumps
- Permanent speed bumps (like

those found in Whitevale)

- Construction pylons center of road (like in Gamebridge)
- Police enforcement
- Speed recording sign
- More/larger speed limit signs

You and the town council need to take action and slow down the traffic on the side streets of Goodwood and the other hamlets in the township ASAP.

R. Robertson
Goodwood

The Uxbridge Loaves and Fishes Food Bank sincerely thanks you, our generous community, for your continued support!

Demand continues to climb significantly, with a total of 2,000 household visits during 2023, an increase of over 30 per cent from 2022. On average, 40 households visited our food bank each Wednesday afternoon last year, during client operating hours of 1-4 p.m. These 40 households per week represented approximately 100 individuals (adults and children) from Uxbridge Township, needing food support.

We continue to be amazed by the kindness and support from individuals, service clubs, businesses, churches, schools and other organizations for all your food and financial donations. We are truly grateful.

Special thanks to our dedicated volunteers, who collectively manage all aspects of our operations, and to St. Andrew's-Chalmers Presbyterian Church for embracing the food bank and allowing us to locate within their building. This year

marks our 35th year of operation (1989-2024)!

For more information, or to make a donation, please visit our website at uxbridgefoodbank.com; email us at uxbridgeLoavesandfishes@hotmail.com; call us at 905-852-0392; and follow us on Facebook @UxbridgeLoavesandfishes

Don Mertens
Board Chair
Uxbridge Loaves and Fishes
Food Bank

Three major accidents in less than two weeks, one death and multiple major injuries, all on Concession 6. That should get somebody's attention.

Perhaps the individuals who manage our roads might connect the fact that the traffic volumes on Concession 6 have increased significantly due to the terrible condition of Regional Road 1.

Another contributing factor is that there are a number of major crossroads on Concession 6, including Sandford Road, Davis Drive and Ashworth Road. These roads all cross Concession 6 while, on Durham 1 between Leaskdale and Sandford Rd., there are no crossing roads.

We have asked several councillors over the last three years when Regional Road 1 will be repaired. We have been constantly told "next year." It's time the Region prioritized the repair of Durham 1 and stopped the carnage.

Pat and Grant Nixon
Uxbridge

When one of these disappears, A LOT disappears.



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The Uxbridge Cosmos

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Am I wrong?

column by Roger Varley

Autofest and the Park - do they mix?

Cape Breton was just buried under up to 150 cm of snow! More than 100 people have died in a wildfire in Chile! Floods are devastating southern California, including Los Angeles, which has received 75 per cent of its annual rainfall already this year!

One might assume Mother Nature is just a little ticked off with humans and the way they treat the planet. So, it was with a little consternation that I received the news that Elgin Park - that green jewel in the middle of town - is going to be turned into a giant parking lot come August. The Motor City Car Club (MCCC) of Oshawa is going to stage its Autofest show in the park on the last weekend of August.

What's that got to do with the lead to this column, you might ask. In my opinion, it's just another example of humans cavalierly using our natural resources for our own amusement and gratification, consequences be damned.

Now, while it's unlikely the show will result in some major weather event, I wonder just what effect it will have on the park. That's because the MCCC boasts that as many as 1,500 vehicles could be on display in the park, plus vendors, food trucks and assorted attractions. On top of that, the MCCC claims they expect at least 6,000 visitors to the event. In the past, concerns have been voiced about damage caused to tree roots in the park during the annual demolition derby at the Fall Fair. If that was a concern, what can we expect from 1,500 cars driving over the greensward?

There are several things about this exercise that have me bothered. Although council received a report on Monday morning recommending the show be allowed to go on, the MCCC was already trumpeting last week that council had approved its proposal. How did they know? Or were they just being abundantly overconfident?

One of the recommendations in that report was to allow some of the show participants to camp in the park overnight. And yet, earlier in the report, it is stated that "the township will evaluate the feasibility and requirements for this request." If the request still has to be

evaluated, how can the report recommend camping be allowed?

With 1,500 cars spread out in display across the park, where are the 6,000+ visitors going to park? We were merely told "it can be handled."

Another aspect that has me confused concerns access to the park. The MCCC is being charged close to \$8,000 rent for what the report calls "two days of exclusive use of the park grounds." And yet council wants Uxbridge residents to be able to enter the park to use the walking trails, the playground and the fitness equipment. Does the word "exclusive" not mean what it used to mean? Council suggested MCCC implement a wristband policy to allow event organizers "to differentiate between event participants and special-requested township residents." No one explained exactly what a "special-requested resident" is or who would be required to wear a wristband.

And while there were numerous references to MCCC helping maintain washrooms and control garbage, there was no mention whatsoever in the report about security.

Finally, no one has yet explained why MCCC wants to move the show from Oshawa, where it has apparently run successfully for 25+ years. An online publication claims that the city of Oshawa has provided more than \$270,000 of in-kind support to Autofest since 2014. That's a lot of support to walk away from.

It appears there are a number of questions that have not been adequately addressed, questions that should have been asked before approving the show, including one about how much damage will \$1,000 cover? What is likely to be the environmental impact on the park grounds as a result of 1,500 cars driving over the grass?

It seems to me that if we have a by-law on the books that prohibits you from disturbing worms in Elgin Park (that's a fact) we ought to be just as stringent in protecting the park as a whole.

Tell me, am I wrong?



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

Behind the brush strokes of history

It's one of those iconic Canadian images - when you're a Canadian kid growing up with history books and images of Canadiana all around - that registers permanently. It shows a biplane - really little more than a pair of kite-type wings with a man, Douglas McCurdy, sitting on the lower wing at the controls - flying over a wintry scene. It's the Silver Dart, flying just a few feet above the frozen surface of Bras d'Or Lake near Baddeck, Nova Scotia, on Feb. 23, 1909. And as iconic as the image is, I only learned this week who captured it.

"I'm Kathryn Bradford Stevens," said the speaker at the function I attended this week. "I'm the daughter of aviation artist Robert Bradford."

Kathryn's father died in May 25, 2023, in his 100th year. And to help celebrate his extraordinary life in aviation and preserving aviation history, she agreed to speak to the Toronto chapter of the Canadian Aviation Historical Society last weekend. We'd gathered to hear her in a lecture hall at Canadian Forces College in Toronto.

"What Dad has depicted here is the first flight of the Silver Dart," Kathryn began. And, as I said, it's indelible, those few moments of flight over about half a mile of frozen lake. But what she then noted are all the things in that historical image that we mostly overlook. It was damn cold that day! "You can feel the cold," she continued. "You can see the breath coming from the horse drawing the red sleigh in the background."

I've never noticed the sleigh before, the sleigh just below the aircraft. And, yes, there's steam coming off the horse and from the people seated in the sleigh. And did you know who's there in the sleigh, by the way?

"That's Alexander Graham Bell and his wife," Kathryn pointed out. Bell was not only known for his pioneer work with telephone communications, but also with something called the Aerial Experiment Association (AEA), formed under Bell's guidance. But "Mrs. Bell is a very famous woman in aviation history; she bankrolled the development of many of the AEA pioneer aircraft," Kathryn went on.

And there's more. If you've ever visited Baddeck Bay on Cape Breton, you'll know that the inland countryside there has very little contour. And so, the artist's daughter speculates, "I think Dad might have exaggerated the hills a bit, taking artistic licence."

Robert Bradford was born in Toronto in 1923 and, like lots of boys growing up in the 1930s, fell in love with aviation and the notion of flying. In 1941, at age 18, he enlisted in the RCAF, trained here in Canada, and in 1944 went overseas to serve in the Royal Air Force as a staff pilot. From my own research, these pilots were worth their weight in gold, helping wartime pilots, navigators, and wireless radio operators learn the skills required to crew bomber and fighter aircraft to defeat Hitler's Luftwaffe. Post war, Bradford illustrated for A.V. Roe (who designed/built Lancasters and the Arrow), then moved to de Havilland. As his daughter pointed out, while he had a day job and family to attend to, he always made time for his passion.

"These paintings were painted in the basement of our Don Mills home, with artificial light, many hundreds of hours of research and sketching and painting," she said.

In 1961, Robert Bradford created four aviation paintings for a calendar. His ability to capture aircraft suspended in mid-flight as well as the atmosphere of the space surrounding them was uncanny. What's more, designers and manufacturers relied on the details of the aircraft he painted to generate blueprints, schematics and actual replicas of the aircraft themselves.

The National Aviation Museum, whose collection Bradford would later curate, next commissioned him to capture many of these historic Canadian aviation moments, including McCurdy's flight in the Silver Dart, for its collection. Then, in the 1980s Canada Post invited him to capture even more with classic images of float planes, bombers, trainers, jets and bush planes on 16 postage stamps. He continued to paint into his centennial year. For his daughter, however, the Silver Dart painting holds particular significance.

"I went through private pilot training myself," she explained. "And after I flew solo, my dad gifted me a copy of (the Silver Dart) painting, signed. And on it he wrote, 'Now you know how McCurdy felt.'"

"Very true," she admitted, "because, yes, McCurdy was probably a little anxious. And I was a little anxious."

Only an artist who understood his subject by experience the way Robert Bradford did could capture that in a paintbrush stroke.

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



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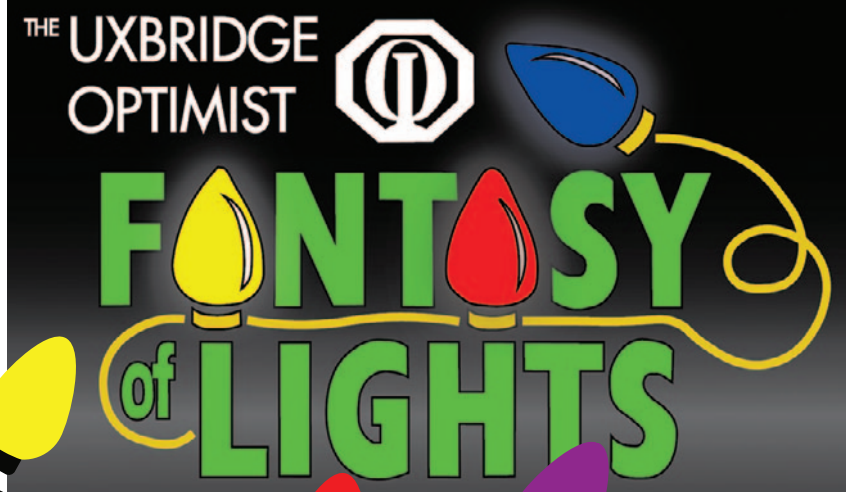
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- Tank Truck Transport
- Uxbridge Cosmos, uxbridgedaily.com and 105.5 FM for helping to promote the event
- Uxbridge Town Council and staff for their ongoing support
- Finally, we wish to thank the local residents for their patience, understanding and support. We had a very successful event, which allows us to put a lot of money back into the community for the good of our youth. We are so grateful to everyone who helped to "pull this off." We could not have done it without you.

UXBRIDGE CLUB**Your Donations at Work!**

Thank you so much for your support of the Optimist Fantasy of Lights. Monies raised from this event go toward our initiatives to help the youth of our town.

Last year we handed out \$64,000! A list of some of the organizations who benefitted last year:

- Multiple USS scholarships
- Jumpstart Program
- 1st Uxbridge Scouts
- Loaves and Fishes Food Bank
- Uxbridge Youth Centre
- Precious Minds
- Durham Farm and Rural Family Resources
- Springtide Music Festival Youth Stage
- Optimist Youth Chess Tournament

**UXBRIDGE CLUB****Uxbridge Optimist Christmas Trees**

Many thanks to Pat Higgins and Mark Quibel of Canadian Tire Uxbridge, and to Jeff and Bernie at Scugog Rentals for their continued support for our Christmas tree sales.

If you would like to learn more about us, please go to our website, uxbridgeoptimist.com for information



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<p>May 18 Qiu Xia He & André Thibault - "China Speaks Your Language" Family Series 🎫 \$15 each Family Package 4 tickets for the price of 3!</p>	<p>May 25 & 26 WeeFestival Weekend Arts & Culture for Early Years (Paper Playground and Quest for the Moon) Magic Carpet Series 🎫 \$10</p>	<p>June 7 Gryphon Trio Great Artist Music Series 🎫 \$35</p>	<p>June 14 Mia Sheard's "Songs are Like Tattoos" Joni Mitchell Tribute 🎫 \$50</p>

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Bruins mark time with a win and a loss

Roger Varley

A sustained attack against the North Kawartha Knights gave the Uxbridge Bruins a 7-4 win at the arena on Friday, but the fire power was lost two days later as the Georgina Ice blanked the Bruins 4-0.

The Bruins jumped from the opening whistle on Friday, with Ryan Shier scoring the first goal unassisted just 30 seconds into the game. Less than five minutes later, Shier scored again on an excellent passing play with Tanner Ryan and Noah Button. Nevertheless, despite the constant attacks, the Knights found the scoreboard late in the period, even though their forays into the Bruins' zone were few.

Evan Gilbert scored early in the second for the Bruins, assisted by Nolan Winter and Jake Rigillo, but the Knights cut the lead again when Jacob Lemere took a long pass that put him alone in front of Uxbridge goalie Andrew Claughton. In the last five minutes of the period, Gilbert,

assisted by Anthony Lamanna, and Ryan, assisted by Button, scored two more and North Kawartha added their third.

Less than a minute into the third period, the Knights again reduced the Bruins' lead to one, but the Bruins maintained their offensive, with Lamanna scoring an unassisted marker at the midway point and Gavin Graham, assisted by Jaxon Koehler, rounding out the scoring.

The *Cosmos* selected Gilbert of the Bruins and Geoff Boates of the Knights as players of the game.

In Keswick on Sunday, the second-place Ice shut out the Bruins in what appears to have been a nasty game. The game-winning goal came less than two minutes after the opening whistle. The Ice scored two more in the second period and a short-handed marker in the third for the win.

According to the game report, the second and third periods saw a slew of egregious penalties by both teams.

In the second period alone, the Bruins were cited three times for unsportsmanlike conduct as well as goalie interference, while the Ice had four unsportsmanlike conduct penalties. Things did not improve in the third period, when officials called numerous penalties on both teams for unsportsmanlike conduct, fighting, goalie interference, leaving the bench, illegal equipment and spearing.

As of Tuesday, the Clarington Eagles remained on top of the seven-team league with 60 points. Georgina has 52, with a game in hand. The Bruins are in third place, 19 points behind Clarington but only four points ahead of the Port Perry LumberJacks, although they have two games in hand.

The Bruins are back in action tomorrow (Friday) night at the arena, when they host the Little Britain Merchants at 7:45 p.m. On Sunday, it's a short jaunt down Reach Street to face the LumberJacks at 2:25 p.m.

Mr. Uxbridge retires, from page 3

Canadian Tire sponsors sports teams throughout the town. He even donated his own money to help build the "Pat Higgins Park" (the Jumpstart multi-sport court at Bonner Fields) in town. His generosity to Uxbridge is so legendary he was, in 2022, awarded the first Order of Uxbridge by the Township. Higgins says he was intent on "having the (Canadian Tire) Triangle around town as much as I could!" He admits, however, that the new dealer may find it challenging to take over the position.

"It's not going to be easy on him, stepping in. He'll likely continue some stuff, like Jumpstart and the Games, and the sponsorships. Huck Finn, though, that might be tougher for him.

"Him" is Mike Howell, from Whitby. Howell currently has a Canadian Tire store in Mississauga, and he'll be taking over the Uxbridge store on Wednesday, February 14. The store will be closed all day to accommodate the changeover.

"The corporation owns the store, and I own everything in it," explains Higgins. "Having the store closed for a day means I can hand everything over with all the stock counts intact, everything clean and tidy, and ready to go."

When asked to reflect on his time with Canadian Tire, especially as a store owner, Higgins says he remembers the blackout of August 2003 as being particularly challenging, only to be topped by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We had to scramble to do business in a different way in short order. We were doing 700 transactions a day!"

He says he prefers, however, to think about the better times he has had with his staff and the community.

"I'm ready to move on. I'm proud

of my team, I couldn't have done it without them."

As for plans come February 15, Higgins says he plans to "lay low" for awhile.

"We've got a cottage, I'm going to do some work there," he says.

Parked cars in the Park, from page 1

asked about the possibility of hosting 1,500 cars, the resident said: "Maybe if you used the whole park. Not sure where spectators would park." MCCC has said it expects more than 6,000 visitors to the event.

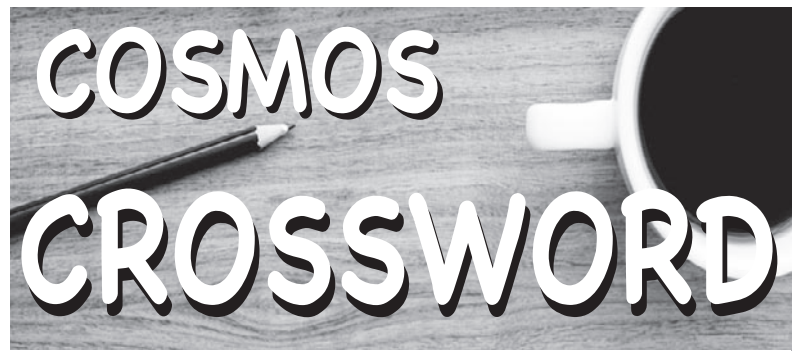
Clarke confirmed Monday that visitor overflow parking can be handled.

Clarke's report also suggested that, to ensure Uxbridge residents can still access the park during the event

for activities such as walking, playing on the playground and working out, a wristband policy be implemented to allow event organizers to differentiate between event participants and township residents.

MCCC will also be responsible for assisting staff in maintaining washrooms and managing garbage overflow, including renting a dumpster for the event.

On the camping issue, although the report recommended camping be allowed, it also said the township "will evaluate the feasibility and requirements for this request."



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Across

- 1. Given
- 4. "Savvy?"
- 7. Casino attraction
- 11. Sci-fi gun
- 12. Can
- 13. "Aquarius" musical
- 14. Harmonized melody
- 15. Smeltery's raw material
- 16. Nothing but
- 17. End a game temporarily
- 19. Track wager
- 20. Depict
- 25. Barber's job
- 28. Band-__
- 29. Set-to
- 30. Longboat propeller
- 31. In times past
- 32. Captivated by
- 33. Bubbly
- 36. Use a chaise longue
- 37. Parachute material
- 41. Bridge
- 43. Endorser's need
- 45. Pronoun
- 46. Suspend
- 47. Exist
- 48. Gnawed
- 49. Football positions
- 50. 70s rock group
- 51. Acquiesce

Down

- 1. Middle Eastern person
- 2. Brace
- 3. It's inflated in England
- 4. Fire sign
- 5. Swabbed spot
- 6. Observer
- 7. Pumps and clogs
- 8. Type of light
- 9. Lubrication
- 10. Essay
- 18. Body part
- 19. Sleeping place
- 21. Paper leaf
- 22. Uprising
- 23. "As if!"
- 24. Smallest prime number
- 25. Part of a golf club
- 26. Headed
- 27. Country that gave us Baileys
- 31. Bronze __
- 32. Distant
- 34. Places for kayos
- 35. Word with ear or peace
- 38. Stake
- 39. Catch __
- 40. Requirement
- 41. "__'s the one for me"
- 42. Cooking equipment
- 43. Animal foot
- 44. Generation



For complete season and player information go to

uxbridgebruins.pjhlon.hockeytech.com

Friday, February 9, 7:45 p.m.
against Little Britain
at the Uxbridge Arena

Sunday, February 11, 2:25 p.m.
against Port Perry
at the Scugog Arena



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UXBRIDGE MINDFULNESS/INSIGHT MEDITATION is holding in-person meetings at 10 a.m. every other Sunday. Whether experienced or new to meditation, all are welcome. Location: 2 Campbell Dr., Ste. 201. Email Gail: ghorner550@gmail.com

100 WOMEN WHO CARE UXBRIDGE Feb. 15, Uxbridge Legion, 7 p.m. Join us for an hour, bring a friend, and help make a difference for local charities. Details at 100womenuxbridge.ca

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Local Foley team wins Creative Arts Emmy

Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

It's awards season, and Uxbridge is walking the red carpet!

Randy Wilson and Davi Aquino recently brought home the Creative Arts Emmy for outstanding sound editing for a comedy or drama series for their work on HBO Max's *The Last of Us*.

"We were up against *The Boys*, *House of The Dragon*, *Andor*, and *The Lord of The Rings: Rings of Power*," says Wilson. "I knew we were nominated in July, but when it came to our category, there was so many names, and then they said, 'the crew from *The Last of Us*'. It was a shock. None of us moved, because it took a few seconds for us to realize that it was actually us!"

Wilson says it was nice to finally

meet face to face with so many colleagues that he had only ever emailed, texted, or FaceTimed with.

"At the awards, Pedro Pascal came up to us and congratulated us and spent some time chatting with us, and I had little chat with Weird Al (Yankovic) at the reception later on."

Wilson explains Foley as "the very specific sounds in a soundtrack that would be too difficult to normally put in from conventional sound effects libraries. It could range from footsteps, hand pats, glass debris, to little subtle clothing and cloth movements an actor might be doing on-screen."

On the Foley team, Wilson is a supervisor and Foley mixer. "In addition to bringing in jobs and putting Foley teams together for each project, I'll record a Foley artist as they

perform the sounds in front of microphones."

Aquino (who currently resides in North Bay) takes recorded tracks and edits them to be in perfect sync with the picture, as well as eliminates any unwanted sounds that may have made it to the tracks.

Wilson and his freelance team do Foley work for some of the larger studios in Toronto, in addition to some of the big ones in Los Angeles.

Wilson was nominated for a Day-time Emmy award "a few years ago," and has won a Canadian Screen Award.

"I just found out that the Cinema Audio Society has included me for nomination for Television Series - One Hour for *The Last of Us* too. Those awards are going to be down here (Los Angeles) in March."

Robert "Bob" Joseph Ferguson

September 12, 1962 - January 25, 2024



Passed away peacefully on January 25, 2024 in Newmarket, Ontario. Loving husband to Carol (nee Zys). Devoted father to Joey, Billy and Jonathon. Son of the late Bernadette Ferguson and Robert (Bonnie) Ferguson. Brother of Cathy Weir (Bill), Mike (Rosa), Mary and the late Frank Ferguson. Uncle to Brooke Weir.

Bob had a courageous journey dealing with ALS after he retired from a long career with Community Living Toronto.

Bob was gentle, loving, patient and supportive to all. He was passionate about many things, including empowering people with intellectual disabilities and newcomers, and making Shadow Lake Center an experience for both. In lieu of flowers, donations to Community Living Toronto will go towards creating these opportunities and can be made at www.cltoronto.ca. Alternatively, donations may be made to the ALS Society. The family would like to thank all for their support over time, particularly the last 1.5 years. They are also grateful for the caring comfort offered by the Margaret Bahen Hospice. Cremation has taken place.

A memorial service for Robert will be held Saturday, February 24, 2024 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Thompson Funeral Home, 530 Industrial Parkway South, Aurora, ON L4G6W8, followed by a reception at 12:00 PM.



Development coming eventually, from page 3

would preserve an area of natural heritage and would also contain a park. At the time, councillor Todd Snooks noted that Quaker Village sits on 80 hectares but only has approximately 340 homes. He pointed out that the proposed development would put more homes on land that is half the size.

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In Loving Memory of Theodore Croxall

February 23, 1923 - January 31, 2024



It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Ted Croxall, in his 101st year. Ted was the loving husband of Corinne (King) for nearly 75 years, and caring father of Elizabeth (Robert Winters), Robert (Karen), Katherine, and predeceased by daughter Donna (Neil Arnold). His grandchildren and great-grandchildren were his special joy - Melissa Klassen (Matthew), Bryan Winters (Stephanie), David Croxall (Kelsey), Ryan Croxall and Olivia Croxall. Five great-grandsons - Aiden, Preston and Quentin Klassen, and Nathaniel and Liam Winters - were a very special part of his life.

Ted was the son of Pearle (Chapman) and Clarence Croxall. He was born on the family farm that his great-grandfather settled in 1845. The farm was on the Ninth Concession of what was then Reach Township, and Ted would often tell tales of the value and fun times of country life in the now almost forgotten community of Bethesda.

His life will be celebrated with visitations on February 22, 2024, from 2 - 4 p.m., and 7 - 9 p.m., at Low & Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Uxbridge, with a memorial service the following day, February 23, 2024, at 2 p.m., in the Low & Low Funeral Home Uxbridge chapel.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Building Fund of Trinity United Church and/or the Uxbridge Hospital Foundation would be much appreciated. Family & friends are invited to send condolences & special memories by visiting www.lowandlow.ca





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