

The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 19 No. 9

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, March 2, 2023

Bruins finish in second • Beer & yoga • Tuesdays are no trivia-I matter



TOP SCORE FOR DELICIOUS! - Local singer/songwriter turned culinary judge Leah Daniels (centre) looks on as Uxbridge Secondary School student Claire Cadman (right) and a student from another school prepare chocolate chip cookies at the Inclusive Skills Competition, which was held last week at USS. The competition featured mainstream and special needs students from across the Region working together in the school's industrial kitchens. *Photo by John Covers*

New hospital campus hopes for Fall 2025 opening

Conrad Boyce, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Uxbridge's hospital (once called the Cottage Hospital) has served the community faithfully for more than six decades, but it's in need of a refresh both inside and out. The building is difficult to renovate due to the types of materials that were used back when it was constructed (1957-58). The long-awaited refurbishment was trumpeted in recent elections both provincial and municipal, and the first of three new buildings opened last year. When will the others arrive, what will they cost, and what will be in them?

First, an outline of what the new site will look like. According to Oak Valley Health VP Elena Pacheco, the new Uxbridge Hospital campus will consist of three connected buildings (see the attached aerial drawing). The first, the Oak Tree Medical Centre, opened last spring. It includes a pharmacy, a dental office, and other

...continued on page 3

Hotel on the horizon for Uxbridge

Roger Varley

A public planning meeting at the township hall a week ago was the first step in the possible establishment of a hotel in Uxbridge.

Wooden Sticks golf club made an application for a zoning bylaw amendment and a change to the Official Plan to allow it to build a five-storey hotel on its property. According to the application, the proposed hotel would consist of 79 guest rooms with a lobby /reception area, office space and restaurant on the ground floor. The amendment being sought would change the hotel's proposed location, currently designated Oak Ridges Moraine-Countryside Area, from Rural Zone to Major Recreational Use.

Wooden Sticks proposes to build the hotel

immediately west of its current clubhouse. Development services manager Kyle Rainbow said the zoning amendment would apply strictly and solely to that part of the property where the hotel would be erected.

In making the pitch for the hotel, Greg Seeman, general manager for Wooden Sticks, said the golf course attracts up to 28,000 golfers a year, some from as far away as Montreal and Windsor, and a hotel would increase that number and draw people from even farther away. The course already has six cabins available for guests, accommodating up to 4,000 people a year.

There were few specifics about what the hotel will look like, but it would include increasing the size of the parking lot by adding an overflow area to the east of the club's

driveway.

Several members of the public questioned the positioning of the hotel, noting it would be close to a small condominium community on the golf course's western border. But Seeman said putting the hotel on the east side of the clubhouse would impact golf operations. Regarding a copse of trees that sits between the clubhouse and the condominiums, Wooden Sticks said some would have to be removed, but the majority would be preserved.

Asked why the hotel would be designated as "major recreational" rather than commercial, Rainbow said the hotel would likely fit into that designation under the Durham Official Plan.

See the proposed site plan at thecosmos.ca

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Uxbridge at a Glance

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Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for March 2023

Monday, March 6, 10:00 a.m.

GENERAL PURPOSE AND ADMINISTRATION MEETING

Wednesday, March 15, 7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

Monday, March 20, 10:00 a.m.

GENERAL PURPOSE AND ADMINISTRATION MEETING

Monday, March 27, 10:00 a.m.

COUNCIL MEETING

Proclamations for March

March - Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month

March 8 - International Women's Day

March 18 - Transit Operator and Worker Appreciation Day

March 21 - World Down Syndrome Day

March 21 - International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

March 22 - Crossing Guard Appreciation Day

March 26 - Earth Hour at 8:30 p.m.

March 31 - Transgender Day of Visibility

Bids & Tenders

All current bid opportunities are posted to https://www.uxbridge.ca/en/business-and-development/bids-and-tenders.aspx?_mid=23193

- U23-03 - Street Lighting Installation & Repair – Closes March 2, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
- U23-06 - Supply and Delivery of Granular A – Closes March 21, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
- U23-07 - Pulverization and Hot Mix Paving – Closes March 22, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.
- U23-04 - Goodwood Baseball Diamond - Harold Bell Park – Closes March 24, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.

Road Closures

Visit Uxbridge.ca/roads for up-to-date notices.

Employment Opportunities

Complete details and qualifications required for these positions are available at uxbridge.ca/careers

Public Works and Operations – GIS Data Collector, summer student, contract

Closes Friday, March 3, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Public Works and Operations – General Labourer, summer student, contract

Closes Friday, March 3, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Community Services – Summer Camp Counsellors (Ages 16+)

Closes Friday, March 31, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Community Services – Assistant Summer Camp Counsellors (Ages 15+)

Closes Friday, March 31, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Community Services – Summer Camp Supervisor

Closes Friday, March 31, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

Parks – General Labourer, summer student, contract

Closes Monday, April 3, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Parks – Horticulture, summer student, contract

Closes Monday, April 3, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Parks – Horticulture, Adult Skilled, contract

Closes Monday, April 3, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Parks – Attendant, Unskilled, contract (Union)

Closes Monday, April 3, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Parks – Grass Cutting Attendant, contract (Union)

Closes Monday, April 3, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Uxbridge Historical Centre - Collections Associate, contract

Closes Friday, April 14, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Uxbridge Historical Centre - Community Engagement and Programming Associate, contract

Closes Friday, April 14, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Uxbridge Historical Centre - Interpretive Guides, contract

Closes Friday, April 21, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Uxbridge Historical Centre - Community Museum Technician, contract

Closes Friday, May 19, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

Crossing Guards

Resumés accepted on an ongoing basis

Box Office Volunteers – Uxbridge Music Hall

Interested parties accepted on an ongoing basis

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

Uxbridge Music Hall

Now accepting bookings for July

Check out upcoming shows at uxbridgemusichall.com

For bookings call 905-852-3081 ext.2

Winter Ice Conditions

Elgin Pond

The Township of Uxbridge will be testing the ice conditions at Elgin Pond throughout the winter. A flag notification system is in place:

No Flags – Testing has not begun

Red Flags – Ice is not safe. Please stay off

Yellow Flags – Skate with caution

Flags are located at the north end of Elgin Pond, beside Mill St. Please keep away from water inlets and outlets on the pond, as ice thickness is compromised.

Storm Water Management Facilities

Please keep off of all storm water management facilities. Water levels fluctuate at these facilities and as such are not safe for skating or other activities.



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

New hospital on the horizon, from page 1

related health services, including a section operated by the hospital dedicated to ambulatory care and diagnostic imaging. To the west of it will be a new long-term care centre, replacing Reachview Village, increasing its capacity from 100 to 192. This building will also have a section on the second floor for hospital use, 50 beds intended for patients recovering from acute care of various types.

The third building, to the north of these two, will be the new hospital itself, with upgrades in equipment, the number of beds (up to 31 from 20), and the variety of

services available. Once the new hospital opens, the old one will be demolished, with the space to be used for parking.

The helicopter pad will be on the roof of the new building.

Pacheoco says that having all three buildings on the same campus will mean considerable efficiencies in utility costs and other infrastructure, such as shared kitchens and loading docks. The long-term care residents, for example, will no longer have to venture outside in winter weather, or be transported by ambulance, to take advantage of a variety of health services.

Despite all the announcements and photo ops, however, the project has yet to be given the final seal of approval by the province. When asked when approval was expected, Mayor Dave Barton replied, "Two weeks ago!" Once the go-ahead is given, the final design process can begin, expected to last eight to 12 months. Earth movers are expected to be on site by the early spring of 2024.

Although being separately funded, the hospital and long-term care centre will be built simultaneously by the same contractor. The job is expected to last about 18 months, which

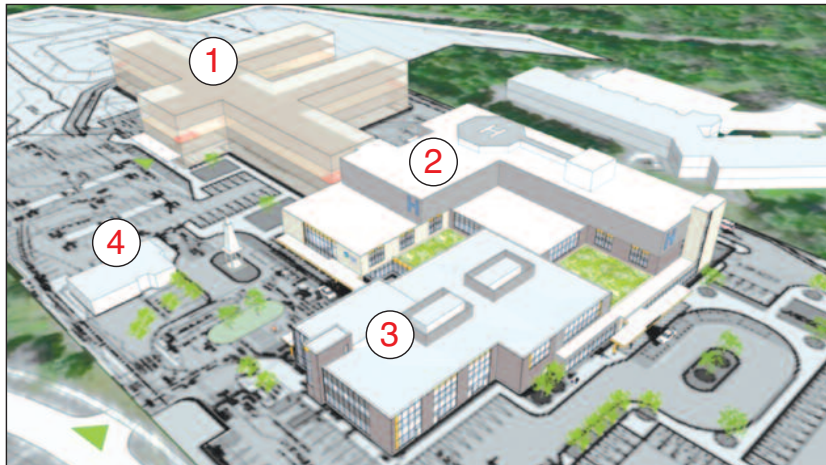
means the township may be able to use the new hospital, or entrust loved ones to the new state-of-the-art long-term care facility, by the early fall of 2025.

When considering the cost of the project, taxpayers only need to worry about one of the three structures that are going on the site. The Oak Tree Medical Centre was built by a local consortium of health professionals, and the long-term care centre will be paid for by Revera, the operator of

are finalized and tenders awarded) is just under \$200 million, of which about \$25-30 million will be for furnishings and medical equipment. Of the remainder, 90 per cent will be covered by the provincial government. The other 10 per cent of construction costs, as well as all the equipment costs, must come from any source other than provincial coffers: Durham Region (which has been approached to contribute \$10 million), charitable foundations (including the Uxbridge Hospital Foundation), corporate and individual donors, and local fundraisers. The lower tier municipality traditionally has no fiscal responsibility for health care; the Township of Uxbridge has

nothing in the budget for this project.

A local campaign committee is charged with the task of raising the local share, and will begin its quest in earnest once the project has officially begun. The money doesn't need to be in hand by the time the shovels start digging, but the full amount must be under the mattress before the ribbon is cut.



An artistic rendering of the Uxbridge Hospital redevelopment, aerial view: 1 - New long-term care centre. 2 - New Uxbridge Hospital. 3 - Recently opened medical building - Oak Tree Medical Centre. 4 - New ambulance station. Photo courtesy Oak Valley Health

Reachview. In return for the land they sit on, and reduced costs because of shared infrastructure, such as utilities and parking, each building will provide some space to the hospital free of charge, although the hospital is responsible for the furnishings and equipment in those spaces.

The estimated cost of constructing and equipping the new hospital (and as with all capital projects, it's only an estimate until designs

MONTHLY DRAW WINNERS

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

The 'Freeport Frolic' trip was won by Marjorie Watson
ticket #080, sold by Dale Hickey

2nd place, \$150, won by Pam McGowan
ticket #358, sold by Richard McGowan

3rd place, \$100, won by Rob Allen
ticket #085, sold by Dale Hickey

Congratulations to our February winners, and best of luck for the March 2023 draw of the Rotary Club of Uxbridge Trip of the Month Club. The 'Belize Breeze' trip includes round trip direct, non-stop flights from Toronto to Belize City, 7-nights' stay at the boutique hotel Royal Blue, located steps away from the Belize Barrier Reef, with included WIFI and round trip airport transfers.

A gift certificate from Getaway Travel worth \$2,500 or cash of \$2,250 is available instead of the trip. The trip must be taken in the month following the draw.



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Our two cents

The sound of silence

There is an old saying that "you can't fight city hall." This is especially true when you don't even know what's going on at city hall.

And there appears to be a lot going on at our "city hall" - the Uxbridge township hall - that we and the general population don't know anything about.

Uxbridge council(s) appear to have a penchant for secrecy. In 2022, there were 27 regular meetings of council, plus five "special" council meetings. Among the regular meetings, one was the inaugural meeting of the newly elected current membership. Of the other 26 meetings, councillors went in camera 19 times. The five "special" council meetings saw council go in camera four times. For those who don't know, *in camera* is a Latin term which literally means "in chambers" and carries the meaning that what goes on "in chambers" is private. An "in camera" session means there is no public attendance and no media scrutiny. All that occurs in camera is secret, known only to those in attendance.

That trend continues into 2023. So far, there have been five regular council meetings and two "special" council meetings. Out of that total of seven, only once did council *not* go in camera.

In other words, in the last 14 months, councillors have held a total of 29 secret sessions.

Now, there's always a brief explanation of why the in camera session is being held: potential litigation, disposal or acquisition of property, personnel issues, etc. But that's it. We are not told if anyone appears before council at these secret sessions and we are not told, even after the fact, what was said in them.

We *are not* suggesting for a minute that anything untoward is going on in these sessions, but it does seem that for a small municipality like Uxbridge, that's a heckuva lot of litigation and personnel problems. We can't see that the township has that much property to dispose of or needs to acquire. Of course, we are aware that the township is facing a lot of suits or is party to a lot of suits emanating from the construction of the Brock Street culvert. If, as we suspect, many of the sessions dealing with litigation revolve around the culvert, it would indicate the final cost of what was originally touted as a \$10-million project and later projected to reach \$23 million is going to be a lot higher. Should that be the case, we shudder to think what future property tax increases are going to be.

But while council merrily continues to go in camera, its regular meetings have increasingly become an exercise in frustration. It has been three years since council began holding virtual meetings, where the public could tune into the proceedings on their computers. Three years, and yet the technical glitches appear to be getting worse all the time. At a public planning hearing last week, the problems were so bad that anyone wishing to speak to the subject at hand had to position themselves in front of regional councillor Bruce Garrod's computer and talk into that. Audio of these meetings is regularly interrupted to the extent that council has had to take a recess a couple of times while the problem gets sorted out.

Since council appears committed to the idea of continuing virtual attendance at council meetings, we think it's long past time for someone to fix the problems.



Letters to the Editor

Police work dangerous, deserves respect

I would like to respond to the letter from David Watts in the Feb. 23 edition.

Mr. Watts outlines several other dangerous occupations that could result in injury or death. These occupations all concern humans responding to a dangerous situation and deaths occur due to accident. Police respond to many, many calls that are social or domestic but they also respond to calls that are potentially lethal to themselves as they protect the public. I highlight the mental health support program that the response team can easily enter a lethal situation. The SWAT team is well known for its high potential to meet lethal force on their call out. Even your day to day officer is in peril of being a target for some deranged individual wanting to strike back at governance.

The Durham Regional Police Service has an impressive number of programs to engage with the public and demonstrate their desire to keep our communities safe and show that officers are approachable. Some of those programs are the Children's Safety Village, Youth in Policing, and citizens' advisory groups. They offer support in instituting Neighborhood Watch areas and support seniors through services for elder abuse and fraud protection. They also have victim services, human trafficking programs and many fundraising initiatives such as the Polar Plunge and food drives.

Police funeral processions are defi-

nately long but are a very small inconvenience for those of us that they confront lethal conditions for. Police don't want to be considered 'special,' they just desire the respect that we all should have for one another.

Dave Jones
Uxbridge

The last time I checked, I found that police officers were constantly called to disasters and dangerous situations such as armed robberies, fatal traffic accidents, out-of-control domestic disputes, hostage-taking, and armed and crazed protest groups. This is done to protect the public.

Having personally known local OPP and RCMP officers who have faced these situations, it appears to be a dangerous occupation. Why would anyone would suggest that police work is not really dangerous and then go beyond to criticize the police for banding together to show support for their fellow fallen officers?

Let's not ridicule, but rather show support for our protectors.

Roger Snoddon
Uxbridge

Friends Ministry likes spotlight

Thank you for putting our Friends Ministry on the front page of the *Cosmos* (Feb. 23 edition).

This has so many positives for us. It provides a great reaching out for more handicapped friends to join us, for building on positive feelings of self-worth, for enlightening the community that this valuable min-

istry actually exists in their own hometown, for offering enlightenment to folks who might consider becoming a part of the ministry as mentors or contributors to this cause.

This has been another expression of the value that a local newspaper has on its own community. Thank you for making it so.

John Wilson
Uxbridge

High snow bar a bane of existence

Last Thursday, as I cleared the high bar of ice, snow, sand and gravel that was dumped at the end of my driveway for the umpteenth time by the regional snowplows, I once again swore under my breath. If anyone dumped a load of anything else at the end of the driveway 18 inches high and eight feet up the driveway (I have a double driveway), it would be considered illegal dumping. But somehow, the snowplows get away with this travesty every snowstorm we have. On the rare occasion I've been clearing the driveway as the plow comes by, I stand out in the road and wave him off so he can't dump the snow - but as the plows frequently come around at 4 -5 a.m., this isn't a winning strategy.

I know the technology exists to clear the snow bar because I grew up in North York when Mayor Mel Lastman designed a plow with an flexible arm that followed the usual snowplow and cleared whatever snow had been dumped up each

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Your Universe
The Uxbridge Cosmos

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Wandering the cosmos

column by Conrad Boyce

Spinning the wheel

I was still a callow youth when I first found myself aiding and abetting the gambling community. I was 25, working as an editor and writer for a municipal agency in north-western Alberta. One of my co-workers volunteered with the local equivalent of our Fall Fair board, and one of its principal fundraisers was when the horse races came to town for a couple of weeks in the summer. When my friend discovered I had a way with numbers - I used to help my accountant father from time to time when I was in school - he recruited me to help compute the payouts after each race (no handy computers in the mid-70s).

As people flocked to the betting windows between races, it never occurred to me that any of them might have a gambling addiction, or that they were sacrificing money that should otherwise have gone to feed or house their family. They were just plunking down a few bucks on Sawdust Sadie in the third, to make it a bit more exciting as Sadie came down the home stretch. It was just another form of recreation, except that how much you paid for it was entirely up to you.

It might surprise you to know that in Canada at that time, less than 50 years ago, the ponies were just about the only legalized form of gambling (apart from your local church raffle). No online gaming, no sports betting, no government lotteries, and only one casino in the entire country. One. And as it happened, only a few years after my horse-racing employment, I walked into that casino and placed my very first bet - two bucks on blackjack.

It was the crazy summer of 1979 in Dawson City, Yukon, the city founded on a moose pasture in 1896 to service the Klondike Gold Rush. There was a spring flood in '79 that threatened to wash the town away, and they set free the price of gold, letting loose a flood of amateur placer miners who were sure there was still plenty to be dug up in them thar hills. The tourist boom to the Yukon was getting stronger, so I was with a troupe of actors who came north to keep everybody happy.

The Klondike Visitors Association (KVA) was a registered charity, and the entire town of Dawson a national historic site, so with a lot of lobbying, the KVA was able to get special dispensation from the feds to operate a casino, as long as it was an artifact. The deal-

ers dressed in period costume, there were can-can girls and ragtime piano on the stage, and not a slot machine to be seen. Only games that would have been played during the gold rush: faro, keno, poker, roulette - and blackjack. This was Diamond Tooth Gertie's, and to make sure it was run fairly, a pit boss was imported from Vegas for the summer.

Since most of the tourist population was American, a lot of the men and women who sat down at Gertie's that summer were familiar with how Las Vegas worked. So they knew they weren't going to pay for their vacation in one night at the tables. They knew that the longer they stayed at those tables, the greater the certainty they would end up losing. It's called the house edge, and depending on the game, it can range from one per cent to 40 per cent. Any gambling enterprise is designed to make money, lots of it, not give it away. We Canadian actors were rubes. One of my cast mates thought he had a system for roulette. He was wrong.

Now, only 43 years later, the gambling universe has exploded. There are more than 120 casinos in Canada (including Gertie's, which now has slots). Lotteries are big business for federal, provincial and territorial governments, even though the odds of winning the Lotto Max jackpot are a mind-boggling 33 million to one. You can bet on baseball, hockey, even pickleball if you really want to. There are guys sitting on their couches who swear they're making a living playing poker online, although they know in their hearts that they're bound to lose it all eventually, and the cost will be a lot more than money. There are couples for whom winning the lottery is part of their retirement plan!

A recent Stats Can study estimated that more than 300,000 Canadians have a gambling problem, and that's only based on those who admit it. Gamblers Anonymous chapters are multiplying, but it's really the governments who are most heavily addicted, to the tax revenue gambling provides.

How to end this plague? We could start by restricting advertising, as we did with cigarettes. I swear every third ad on TV, or on my computer game, is related to gambling of one form or another. Or we could stop spinning the wheel, and just get back to the ponies. Sawdust Sadie's great-grand-daughter is waiting.



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

Trivial Tuesday

The room started off sounding pretty rowdy. Many of the regulars had arrived - including Team SMRT, the 74s, Upper Mondolia, the Whatever's and Jan's Clan - and they'd all begun settling in for Tuesday night's festivities. A voice on the microphone welcomed everybody to the weekly gathering. And the room went quiet, everybody listening to what the MC was about to say. She paused and read: "Question No. 1," she announced. "What fictional doctor lives in Puddleby-on-the-Marsh?"

Several years ago, when Joanne Richter and her husband Rob Garrard opened The Second Wedge Brewing Co. in Uxbridge, they not only offered craft beer refreshment as an attraction, but also events that might draw patrons on an otherwise nondescript night of the week. They inaugurated "Pubstumpers' Trivia" each Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. Folks of all ages came out, assembled in teams of a half-dozen players or so, and took up the challenge of answering several rounds of trivia questions about mostly useless but wonderfully entertaining facts.

Then, the pandemic hit in 2020 and after it, in May 2022, the tornado which forced the Wedge into a rebuild program (with plans to reopen this June). Having attracted so many regulars on Tuesdays each fall and winter, however, Joanne and Rob didn't want to lose the momentum. So, with Branch 170 available, Trivia Tuesdays moved downstairs to the bar at the Legion. Several weeks ago, Jayne and I accepted an invitation from our neighbours Jan and Dave Sterritt, to join Jan's Clan in the competition. My wife and I have always had a fascination for unique and little-known stories and factoids, so we discovered that getting together with like-minded friends on Tuesdays fit our personalities and schedule perfectly.

It'd be logical to think that trivia games originated over several mugs of suds in a beer garden or a Legion hall. But no. One night in December 1979, Chris Haney (then photo editor at the *Montreal Gazette*) and Scott Abbott (sports journalist with *Canadian Press*) got tired of playing Scrabble and considered inventing their own game. Within minutes they'd come up with a game that tests players' grasp of wickedly inconsequential trivia, and had invented the board, the wedges and the basic categories - geography, entertainment,

history, art and leisure, science and nature and sports and leisure. By 1981, they'd raised \$40,000 from 32 investors and had patented Trivial Pursuit in Canada. In one year - 1984 - their invention racked up \$800 million in sales. In 2008, corporate game giant Hasbro purchased the intellectual rights to Trivial Pursuit for \$80 million. By then, their game was outselling Monopoly.

At first, their innovation became a hit with baby boomers. Then, Haney and Abbott left their jobs in journalism to create spinoffs such as Junior Edition, Silver Screen, All-Star Sports, Baby Boomer edition, All About the 80s, 1990s and even a Harry Potter edition. *Maclean's* magazine once asked Chris Haney, in light of the game's incredible success, how he thought of himself. "It's like we became rock stars," he said. When Chris Haney died prematurely in 2010, Trivial Pursuit had sold more than 100 million copies in 26 countries, in 17 languages. Sales were estimated at well over \$1 billion.

Now about quizmaster Joanne Richter's trivia question regarding the doctor from Puddleby-on-the-Marsh ... it's fascinating to consider how a brain processes trivia. With half a dozen of us in Jan's Clan around the table last Tuesday night, the potential answer went in several different directions. We all figured the doctor had to be British. And because the character was fiction, one came up with Dr. Jekyll (from *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*). Another suggested Dr. Watson (Sherlock Holmes' "elementary" sidekick). All those potential answers seemed sound, but ultimately we agreed on the first name that came to all of us.

"Puddleby sounds too silly to be real," one of us said. "My gut feeling is it's Dr. Doolittle, the guy who talked to the animals."

And that's one truism about trivia competition - going with the first thing that comes to mind generally pays off. Second guessing is the wrong way to think, or as a Trivial Pursuit friend of ours once said, "If you hear hooves, think horses, not zebras."

We went with Dr. Doolittle. And we were right. Jan's Clan didn't win overall that night. But thanks to The Second Wedge and the Legion, there's always another Trivia Tuesday.

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Bruins finish regular season in second place

Roger Varley

February was truly an up-and-down month for the Uxbridge Bruins as they won four games and lost four.

That back-and-forth continued last weekend as the Little Britain Merchants came to town on Friday and blanked the Bruins 2-0 with two quick unanswered goals in the third period. On Sunday, the Bruins went down Reach Street to face the Port Perry LumberJacks and squeaked out a 4-3 win.

With one game remaining in the regular season (this Friday night against the Ice in Georgina) the Bruins have locked up second place in the seven-team PJHL Orr Division. As expected, the Clarington Eagles take first place, while third place re-

mains a toss-up between the Merchants and the Ice.

Sunday's game saw the LumberJacks take a quick two-goal lead in the first period. Quinn Meek reduced that lead to one, assisted by Peter Kerr and Anthony Lamanna.

The LumberJacks re-established the two-goal lead in the second, but Meek once again shortened the lead with an unassisted marker just 15 seconds before the period ended.

Meek's brother Declan tied the score in the third period, assisted by Kerr, and it remained that way until the 19:47 mark, when Matt Gordon scored the game-winner, assisted by Caleb MacLeish and Noah Button.

Details of the playoff schedule have yet to be announced.

Al K. Pilkey

June 10, 1933 ~ February 24, 2023

It is with heartfelt sadness that we say farewell to Al, who left us on February 24, in his 90th year, after living a long and happy life.



Al enjoyed his retirement life, filled with curling, golfing, lawn bowling, travelling, gardening and woodworking. He was a proud member of the Oddfellows Lodge Brougham, and a volunteer with the Brougham Fire Department. Al and Lou started Pilkey Glass in 1967, which is still a thriving business today.

Beloved husband of 38 years to Jean. Devoted father to Debbie (Brian) and Heather (John). Beloved grandfather to Michelle (Anthony), Arizona and Sequoia, and to 2 great-grandchildren. Beloved stepfather to Stephanie, Jason (Tracy), Nick (Lisa), 7 step-grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Al was predeceased by his parents Mabel and Russ Pilkey, brother Earl (Shirley) Pilkey, son-in-law Chris Rouble, and wife Louise Pilkey.

A private family service will be held at a later date. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Low & Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Box 388, Uxbridge L9P 1M8 (905-852-3073).

The family wishes to thank the nursing staff and Dr. Gad, for their care and compassion shown to Al at this time.



In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the charity of your choice in memory of Al. Online condolences can be made at www.lowandlow.ca

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Beer and yoga - a thirst-quenching combination to combat breast cancer

Justyne Edgell

Yoga while drinking beer, is there anything better than that? And while raising money for cancer to boot!

Lee-Anna Hamilton and her sister-in-law, local yoga instructor Claudia Hamilton, came up with the idea to raise money for the Kelly Shires Breast Cancer Foundation, combining two of their favourite things, yoga and beer.

The event was held last Sunday, Feb. 26, at the Uxbridge Legion, with the goals of having a fun afternoon getting moving while raising money for a good cause.

"The idea kind of just came to us when we were thinking of a fun way to get people out and about and to raise funds for this foundation," says Lee-Anna.

The Kelly Shires Breast Cancer Foundation began over 24 years ago, and in 2019 they raised almost \$700,000. Annual fundraising has since dropped as a result of the pandemic.

The foundation helps cancer pa-

tients by supporting the purchase of wigs, prosthetics, providing transportation to treatments, lodging expenses, hospital parking costs, counseling, and more. In 2022, the

foundation was able to help over 500 patients across Canada. "There ended up being 13 participants, and after paying out expenses, we brought in \$665, which we are truly happy about!" says Lee-Anna.

The "sisters" say they are hoping to make this a recurring event and possibly reach out to a local brewery for an outdoor event in the warmer months.

"Everyone who came said they would like to come back again and would bring more people to the next one," says Claudia.

For more information about the Kelly Shires Breast Cancer Foundation, and more of their events like their February snowmobile ride, summer golf tourna-

ment, and fall ATV ride, visit kellyshiresfoundation.org To find out when the next Beer & Yoga event might be, email leeannahamilton@rocketmail.com



NAMAS-TASTY! Claudia Hamilton holds a beer while in Tree Pose during a recent Beer & Yoga event she and her sister-in-law hosted at the Uxbridge Legion. The one-off class raised money for the Kelly Shires Breast Cancer Foundation.

Photo by Justyne Edgell

Letters, from page 4

driveway. This invention was a truly excellent device.

So as I once again spent an extra hour clearing the high and heavy bar, I wonder why this still is hap-

pening. These bars prevent people from leaving their property, but they also prevent other people accessing their property.

I wonder how soon will it be before the township is sued - either because the excess effort to clear the snow bar causes a heart attack - or

worse. First responders are unable to get to someone needing medical care inside the house. My late husband experienced just such a difficulty and the ambulance attendants had to wait for the firefighters to arrive and even then the firetruck couldn't get up the driveway and he had to be carried down the driveway manually by four men. Imagine if this delay in receiving life-saving attention caused a death?

Here's an interesting little point: we protect the health and well-being of garbage collectors; the rule is that no garbage bags or cans can weigh more than 44 lbs (20kg). I calculated the weight of the snow bar dumped at the end of my driveway driveway - about 2000 lbs (907kg). Wouldn't it be appropriate if the township considered residents' well-being just as diligently?

I pay really high property taxes (this year topped \$10K for the first time) and for that I get garbage removal and snow plowing. And that's about it, as I live in a hamlet. I would very happily forgo the snowplowing in exchange for a break on my taxes. When talking to my rural neighbours on my little crescent, many of us would be much more content to contract with a private bespoke plowing company for our road than have the township's crude and counterproductive plows making our lives just that more difficult.

Chris Clark
Siloam

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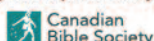
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UXBRIDGE CLAY'S 2023 SATURDAY SCHEDULE The Uxbridge Clay's club will be in open and in operation on the following Saturdays in 2023: February 25, April 22, June 24, August 26, October 21, December 2. 3/2

JAZZ CONCERTS IN LEASKDALE: Tom Baker (piano) & friends perform at the Historic Leaskdale Church. Fri., March 3, at 7:30 p.m. Donations at the door, proceeds to the Lucy Maud Montgomery Society to help refurbish grand piano.

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 is: 2 Campbell Dr., Ste. 201. Email Gail: ghorner550@gmail.com



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