Vol. 19 No. 40 The Cosmos.ca Thursday, October 12, 2023

Something to lift the spirits • Apple picking time • Listening to silence



FIND A BIG 'UN AT THE PUMPKIN CORRAL - Now that Thanksgiving is over, thoughts are quickly turning to Halloween decorating. Alex Childs and Maia Schnalzer of Lindsay stopped by the 'Pumpkin Corral' at Forsythe Family Farms in Greenbank on Tuesday to choose the perfect jack o'lanterns.

Photo by John Cavers

Bruins split weekend games

Roger Varley

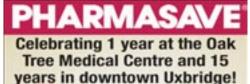
A solid team performance over the struggling Little Britain Merchants on Friday was followed by a lacklustre effort against the Port Perry LumberJacks on Sunday as the Uxbridge Bruins ended a winning streak.

The 5-3 victory over Little Britain at the Uxbridge arena was the fifth in a row for the Bruins. But the Bruins were playing against a team that has yet to register a win this season in the PJHL's Orr Division and has failed so far to put a full team on the ice. The Merchants were four men short on the bench Friday.

The Bruins opened with a power-play goal in the first by Quinn Meek, assisted by Jake Rigillo and Josh Czalij. Meek scored again before the period was over, assisted by Anthony Lamanna. They added another in the second period and made it 4-0 in the third before the Merchants scored their first. However, the Bruins faltered in the third. Midway through the period, the Bruins had a two-man advantage

...continued on page 3

Don't Trip this Fall! Contact me Today for ALL your REAL ESTATE needs Colin Noble REALTOR D: 647-967-7116



Colin@RalphCiancioHomes.cor

Saturday 0ct. 14 12-2 pm

Celebration location:
Oak Tree Medical Pharmacy
and Compounding Centre
48 Campbell Drive, Uxbridge
905-852-1007

See back page for full details!



DSTS rejects daycare's busing appeal

Conrad Boyce, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Things tend to happen in a hurry once school resumes and autumn arrives. Here are some quick updates on stories the *Cosmos* has covered over the last few months.

School Busing

On Sept. 14, the *Cosmos* reported that the agency responsible for school busing in Durham Region had, after more than 14 years providing busing to Goodwood Public School for students in pre- and post-school care at All About Kids Daycare, cancelled the service because the daycare was within 1.6 kilometres of the school. The agency, Durham Student Transportation Services (DSTS), told parents the students would have to walk via a narrow, dark walkway through the woods, and then along streets without sidewalks. The daycare decided the route was unsafe and hired a van

to transport the students, in the meantime appealing the decision.

"Our appeal was rejected," says All About Kids coordinator Caroline Erlingher, "and the van was too expensive, so we began walking the students. But once the snow comes, the walkway will become difficult. We began the school year with 15 school-age kids, but that number is now down to six, and we're closing our school-age program altogether effective Oct. 30. It's lost revenue for us, and lost convenience for those parents. They'll have to drive their children, or arrange busing from their home. It makes no sense."

Family dislocated by accident comes home

In early August, Shannon Duke, her husband Vince Dayrit and their infant son, who live on Toronto Street South, survived a truck plowing into their house; their belongings were stolen from the street while they were talking with

first responders. Now, after more than two months, they have finally been able to return to their home.

"The front of the house still hasn't been repaired," said Duke, "but at least we're back in a stable place, and able to resume our lives. The last two months have really been horrible. We've had to move eight times, and dealing with our insurance company has been very frustrating. And they're not even paying for it, the truck driver of course was responsible for the damage. Our Uxbridge community, on the other hand, has been very loving and supportive, so we're glad to be back home."

Building remains a burned-out eyesore

One year ago, the building at 11-13 Brock Street West suffered catastrophic fire damage, leaving people homeless and dislocating two

...continued on page 6



Thursday Trivia Night Uxbridge Legion TONIGHT @ 7:00

109 Franklin Street 905-852-5293 uxbridgelegion.ca





HAPPY SELLERS!

Congratulations to our sellers on the sale of their Sunderland home.

If you are thinking to sell, reach out to us for your real estate needs. We are happy to help.

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



The Uxbridge Cosmos Thursday, October 12, 2023



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

The Township of UXBRIDGE

Trail Capital of Canada



MORE INFO www.uxbridge.ca

Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for October, 2023

Monday, October 16, 10:00 a.m. GENERAL PURPOSE AND ADMINISTRATION MEETING

Monday, October 23, 10:00 a.m. COUNCIL MEETING

TRAIL COMMITTEE MEETING, 10:00 a.m.

PUBLIC PLANNING MEETING 341 HWY. 47, 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, October 26, 7:00 p.m. BIA BOARD MEETING

Proclamations for the Month

- October Women's History Month
- October Breast Cancer Awareness Month
 - October LGBTQ+ History Month
 - October 1 International Day of the Older Person
- October 8-14 Fire Prevention Week
- October 11 International Day of the Girl
 - October 21 Take Me Outside Day
- October 16-20 Local Government Week
- October 16-20th Small Business Week
 - October 24 World Polio Day

Road and Sidewalk Closures

- Planks Lane, between Marietta Street and Main Street S., to end of September - road and sidewalk closure
- Victoria Street between Brock Street W. and King Street W., Sundays, May 7 - October 29, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Victoria Street is pedestrian-only during Farmers' Market hours
- Uxbridge-East Gwillimbury Townline from north of Durham Reg. Rd. 39/Queensville Sideroad to south of Holborn Road, East Gwillimbury - closed for bridge repairs to 2024
- Uxbridge East Gwillimbury Townline from York Street 500m south of Ravenshoe Road to Zephyr Road - closed for bridge repairs to January 2024

From The Tax Department

Now is the time to enroll in our Monthly or Installment Pre-Authorized Payment Plan for the 2024 Interim property taxes.

What are the Benefits:

Taxpayers will no longer have to worry about missed due dates or penalty/interest charges. Monthly payments allow for easier budgeting. Once you enroll, you do not have to reapply unless you have a new property within the Township.

Who is eligible?

To be eligible, your property must be fully assessed, and your tax account must be paid in full (no arrears).

How to apply

The Pre-Authorized Payment form (in pdf format) is available on the Township's website www.uxbridge.ca/en/living-here/property-taxes.aspx or at the Tax Department (51 Toronto St S).

Return the completed and signed PAP form with banking information (Void Cheque or Bank form) to the Tax Department:

- In person at the Municipal Office (51 Toronto St S) during regular business hours of 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday to Friday or use the after-hours drop-box in the front parking lot or
- By Mail to the Township of Uxbridge PO Box 190, 51 Toronto St S. Uxbridge ON L9P 1T1 or
- By Email to tax@uxbridge.ca

The deadline to submit your application is NOVEMBER 30, 2023.

Please direct phone inquiries to the Tax Department at 905-852-9181 Ext. 211 or 216.





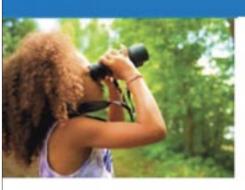






OPEN HOUSE

Proposal to create the Uxbridge Urban Provincial Park



Ontario is exploring the creation of the province's first urban provincial park in the Township of Uxbridge.

Please join Ontario Parks and Partners at a Public Open House to learn more about the proposal, our partner organizations and how to provide your comments. This is a drop in event.

Date: Monday October 23, 2023

Time: 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Uxbridge Secondary School Cafeteria, 127 Planks Lane,

Uxbridge, ON

For more information visit:

https://www.ontario.ca/ page/proposal-createuxbridge-urbanprovincial-park





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

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

Uxbridge at a Glance continued

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION AND PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING AN APPLICATION FOR A ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

This Notice is to inform you that the Township of Uxbridge has received a Zoning By-law Amendment Application which has been deemed complete in accordance with the requirements of Section 34 of the Planning Act. The Planning Committee of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge will hold a statutory public meeting to make available adequate information to the public regarding, and to consider, a proposed Township Zoning Bylaw Amendment pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, submitted by David Leuschner (Owner – Jeannine Leuschner).

The statutory public meeting will be held in a hybrid format allowing for in-person attendance or virtual viewing of the public meeting. The Township of Uxbridge will be processing the Zoning By-law Amendment as required by the Planning Act and welcome any comments that you may have.

PURPOSE OF PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT:

- The purpose and effect of this application is to amend the Zoning By-law to permit the division of the lot with the intention of separating the residential use from the commercial use on the property to be described as separate RU-XX and RU-YY zones.
- The subject property is designated as "Oak Ridges Moraine Countryside Area" in the Region of Durham Official Plan and zoned "Rural Exception No. 98 (RU-98) Zone" pursuant to the Township Zoning By-law No. 81-19.

LOCATION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY:

The subject property is located on the South side of Regional Highway 47, East of Goodwood in the Town of Uxbridge. The property is legally described as Part of Lot 17, Concession 3, Part 1 Plan 40R-27279 and is municipally known as 341 Highway 47, Goodwood. The location of the property is graphically illustrated on the key map below.

FILE NO.: Zoning By-Law Amendment 2023-08 (ZBA 2023-08)

APPLICANT: David Leuschner (Agent: Alexander Planning Inc. – Deborah Alexander)

OWNER: Jeannine Leuschner

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Additional information relating to the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment is available for inspection in the Development Services Department between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, at the Township Municipal Office, 51 Toronto Street South, Uxbridge, Ontario. It is preferred that if you require additional information that it be requested by email, mail, or telephone from the undersigned. However, if necessary, the Township Office can be accessed Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or by contacting the undersigned.

Jennifer Beer

Permits & Approvals Analyst, Development Services Township of Uxbridge

51 Toronto St. S., Box 190, Uxbridge, ON L9P 1T1 Email: jbeer@uxbridge.ca

(t) 905-852-9181 Ext. 225 (f) 905-852-9674

PLANNING ACT REQUIREMENTS:

This Notice is being given in accordance with Planning Act requirements. A final recommendation on the application will not be presented until after the Township Public Meeting and all technical comments have been received.

The public meeting is being held in a hybrid format allowing for in-person attendance or virtual viewing of the public meeting. The livestream public viewing can be accessed by visiting https://www.uxbridge.ca/en/your-local-government/council-meeting-calendar.aspx

The meeting date and time is as follows:

MEETING DATE: Monday, October 23rd, 2023 TIME: Public Meeting 11:30 a.m.

REPRESENTATION

ANY PERSON may participate in the public meeting and/or make written or oral representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Township Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment.

1. Written Submissions

Written submissions should be addressed to the Township Clerk at the address shown below. Written comments should be submitted before Friday, October 20th, 2023. If you wish to be notified of the adoption or the refusal of the proposed Township Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment, you must also make a written request to the Township Clerk before the adoption of the by-law.

2. Oral Submission

Oral submissions may be provided to Council at the meeting on livestream, you must pre-register with the Clerk's office by email at **dleroux@uxbridge.ca**, or telephone at 905-852-9181 ext. 228 or mail at the address below before 12:00 p.m. (Noon) on Friday, October 20th, 2023. Please include your full name, address, and a call-back phone number. You will be contacted by the Clerk's office to confirm your participation and receive the online call-in information before the meeting. Technical assistance may be provided to ensure you are able to participate.

PLANNING ACT REQUIREMENTS

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at the public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Uxbridge before the proposed application is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Township of Uxbridge to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

If a person or a public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Uxbridge before the application is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

DATED AT THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE THIS 3RD DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023.

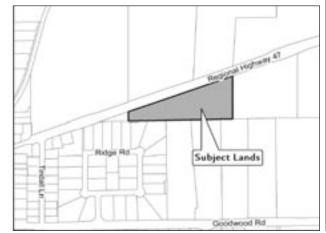
Debbie Leroux, Clerk

Township of Uxbridge

51 Toronto St. S., Box 190 ., Uxbridge, Ontario L9P 1T1 Email: dleroux@uxbridge.ca

(t) 905-852-9181 Ext. 228 (f) 905-852-9674

KEY MAP (not to scale)



Bruins, from page 1

for 105 seconds but were unable to capitalize. Midway through the period, the Bruins had a two-man advantage for 105 seconds but were unable to capitalize. They scored one more goal, but allowed the Merchants to salvage a little pride with two goals before the final buzzer. Yet the Merchants had only four shots on net in the period, for a total of 14 in the game.

for a total of 14 in the game.

The *Cosmos* selected Czalij as the Bruins player of the game and gave the nod to Owen Worsley of the Merchants.

Down at the Scugog arena on Sunday afternoon, the poor play of Friday's third period continued for the Bruins. In the scoreless first period, they once again had a two-man advantage for 105 seconds but could not score.

Midway through the second period, the LumberJacks scored two

quick goals, both the result of giveaways by the Bruins. Gavin Graham scored Uxbridge's only goal on a power play, assisted by Lamanna and Czalij.

The LumberJacks cruised to a win with two more goals in the third, including a short-handed empty-netter. Midway through the period, the Bruins had the man advantage for four minutes as a result of a double minor, but once again were unable to convert.

The Bruins were scheduled to face off against the league-leading Eagles in Clarington tonight (Thursday), returning to the arena tomorrow at 7:45 p.m., to meet the North Kawartha Knights.

The Uxbridge squad remains in second place in the seven-team division, five points behind unbeaten Clarington.



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www.ski-lakeridge.com

JOB FAIR Sunday, October 15th 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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905-649-2058 josborne@lakeridgeresort.ca

Our two cents

We are all ears

Here we are, the middle of October, our bellies still full from a long weekend of feasting on turkey and giving thanks for all the wonderfulness that life has offered us. If we watch the news (or read this week's 'Am I wrong?', our happy feeling may disappear rather quickly, but in general, we here in Small Town, Ontario, have it pretty good.

Council hasn't met publicly in a couple of weeks, so there isn't much to report on there. In fact, the *Cosmos*'s cover story this week is just a compilation of several little story follow-ups - nothing juicy to report there (sorry, folks)

The best news of the week came on Tuesday, with the words, "The RCMP has announced it has launched a criminal investigation into Ontario Premier Doug Ford's plan to open up Greenbelt land for development." Not much else was said, of course, because now it's an investigation, and nothing can be even so much as breathed about during an investigation.

Mind you, that shouldn't be too hard for our own MPP and Minister of Finance Peter Bethlenfalvy. We're beginning to wonder if he still exists, he's been so quiet the last few months. He's breathed nary a word regarding the whole Greenbelt debacle, and he's missed out on the many public events he was invited to that have been held here in Uxbridge. We guess it's a good way to keep oneself out of trouble. It would have been terribly awkward for him to publicly congratulate all the inaugural Kinsmen Wall of Fame winners knowing the whole time people only wanted to hear juicy deets on the Greenbelt scandal. And it would have been hard for him to walk around our fall fair, he'd have been accosted at every turn.

Giving out radio silence on such an important topic is a good way to keep clean in the moment, but this newly announced investigation by the RCMP may eventually make a few politicians sing like canaries. We are *not* implying, or even hinting, that our MPP is/was involved in the Greenbelt land swap in any way at all. But high-level investigations have a way of making people talk. And we're incredibly eager to listen.



Uxbridge Cosmus

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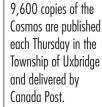












THIS WEEK'S CARTOON BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE TURKEY COMA

Letters to the Editor

I was surprised when I read about ing from cars, anti-abortion signs

Thank you to the Rotary Clu

I was surprised when I read about the show being cancelled because of the nudity ('Nudity kills On-Stage production,' Oct. 5 edition). Only adults could buy a ticket, and it was being held inside, not on the street.

But young children out for walks and bike rides with their parents are subjected to hearing loud music filled with racial slurs blaring from cars, anti-abortion signs from protesters on street corners, and the sight of the unfortunate searching for food in garbage cans and sleeping doorways, with parents left to explain why.

What is wrong with this picture?

Betty Stewart

Betty Stewart Uxbridge Thank you to the Rotary Club for supplying an incredible turkey dinner to the residents of Trinity Manor apartments. Much appreciated

Gillian Cameron Uxbridge

BAILEY & SEDORE BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS NOTARIES PUBLIC

EST. 1895

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

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

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

> Suite 100B 2 Campbell Drive Uxbridge, Ontario L9P 1H6

Telephone: 905-852-3900 Fax: 905-852-3666 Email: rwsedore@bellnet.ca You are invited to celebrate with the Sandford United Church congregation on the occasion of its 161/124th anniversary.

Service is at 10 a.m., Sunday, Oct. 15, with the Rev. Wayne Reed as guest minister and special music. All are welcome to join with us on this very special day.

Drawing by Allan McGillivray





Am I wrong?

column by Roger Varley

The beginning of the end?

We are living in scary times - and I'm not talking about Halloween. As the cliché goes, the world is a powder keg and there are sparks flying all over. Which will be the spark that sets light to the fuse?

The attack on Israel on the weekend by Hamas has left people around the world shocked. The brutality of the Hamas attack, including the killing of hundreds of innocents at a music festival and hundreds of civilians taken hostage, is sure to result in a ferocious response by the Israelis. Before this is over, we can expect widespread civilian casualties on both sides, because, as is always the case, it's civilians who suffer most in wars.

But it's not just Israeli and Palestinian civilians who are at risk: civilians are at risk in far-flung reaches of the world. The Balkans appear to be ready to explode once again: tensions are escalating between Bosnia's Serbs and Croats and we saw what happened there the last time. Armenia and Azerbaijan forces are seeing the most serious spike in hostilities since 2016 and more than half the ethnic Armenians in the Nagorno-Karabakh region have fled for their lives. In Asia, there are an increasing number of clashes on the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, Syria, Turkey and the Kurds in the Middle East continue having at each other, the long, drawn-out conflict in Yemen shows no sign of ending and, of course, Ukraine and Russia take turns pounding each other with drones and ar-

And while the world's attention is focused on those conflicts, in Africa there have been a number of coups resulting in military dictatorships. And in each case, there are civilian casualties and suffering.

It is perhaps somewhat comforting knowing we live in Canada, far away from these troubled regions. But in this age, distance is not a guarantee of safety. For some time now, Kim Jong-Un, the dictatorial leader of North Korea, has been threatening to wage nuclear war against the West and has been

testing long-range ballistic missiles said to be capable of reaching North America. And Kim has such total control, there is no one to stop him if he decides to launch an attack. If that's not scary, consider Kim's sister, Kim Yo-Jong: she is even more belligerent and hostile against the West than her brother.

There is also a threat closer to home. There has been talk for some time now about the possibility of a civil war in the U.S. and that talk has now reached the stage where some are openly calling for such conflict. We saw how close that possibility is when insurrectionists attacked the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2022. And should a new civil war break out, you just know it will boil over the border. After all, we have seen violent clashes in the last couple of months between opposing Eritrean groups in Canada, and there was violence at demonstrations in support of both Israelis and Palestinians over the weekend.

One might be tempted to think that, somewhere along the line, cooler heads will prevail and tensions will eventually be eased. But when I see far-right (including neo-Nazi) political parties continuing to gain strength across Europe, a palpable wavering of support for Ukraine in its fight against Russia, the strengthening of ties between North Korea, Russia and Iran, I'm inclined to think it's not going to happen. In the U.S., the Republicans are so hell-bent on scoring political points that the government almost shut down because the Republicans wanted aid to Ukraine slashed. Putin must have been rubbing his hands in glee.

Former British prime minister Stanley Baldwin said in 1932: "I think it is well, also, for the man in the street to realize that there is no power on Earth that can protect him from being bombed." That was almost 100 years ago, long before we had long-range bombers and intercontinental ballistic missiles. It seems to me that Baldwin's statement is far truer today than it was in his time.

Tell me, am I wrong?



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

Ford's foxes in our hen house

We had considered many options. People. Places. Past knowledge. We knew the subject – youth violence and alienation – required some very specific understanding of the causes and effects of the problem. We had plenty of experts on hand because we worked among them. But somehow we sensed that, to get to the root of the problem, we had to get closer to the ground. There was a vital element missing in our approach.

It was experience.

Eventually, one of my photo-journalism colleagues at Centennial College, Neil Ward, in order to help Indigenous youth talk about the problems they faced in the northern Ontario community of Grassy Narrows, suggested we let youth experience tell the story. We gave cameras to the young people there. We asked them to shoot photos and video of their lives, their friends, their world. Then, we asked them to show us the results. In order to find answers, we went to those who knew. We relied on experience to lead the way.

So, why did the Conservative government of Ontario, Doug Ford's administration, (back in September) appoint Sajjad Hussain, a person with apparently no background in the world of endangered species to an advisory committee for Ontario's Species at Risk Program? Advisers to this program meet twice a year to offer their views about the protection and recovery of rare and endangered species such as bats, bees and Monarch butterflies. I checked the man's biography; he's got a bachelor's degree in accounting and finance from a university in Illinois. Was he an amateur apiarist? Hobby night-species specialist? No. He runs a housing development company. Which just happens to operate on the edges of Ontario's protected Greenbelt lands.

And if his lack of species experience weren't odd enough, at the time of his appointment, Mr. Hussain and his company, Sunrise Acquisitions, faced court proceedings regarding default on mortgages connected to a housing development in Unionville. Meantime, the *Toronto Star* recently reported that the same appointee to the Species at Risk Program and his partner had improperly diverted \$10 million – designated for the housing project – into their own pockets.

Just when you thought the Ford government scandal over the Greenbelt land swap couldn't get worse, it appears that instead of placing *care* and *consideration* into an advisory role for the protection of Ontario's environment, Premier Ford's administration has chosen *crony*-

ism. Not experience but expediency.

Putting a person with a dubious background in charge of critical portfolios is just the latest in this government's endless record of ethical missteps. Remember Premier Ford's former energy minister, Greg Rickford, who in 2019 cited a blog that denies human-induced climate change, all while he defended the Ford government's decision to scrap green energy projects in Ontario? Then, in 2020, there was then finance minister Rod Phillips, who prerecorded a Christmas Eve video on Twitter by his fireplace in Ajax, telling us to stay at home during COVID.

"As we all make sacrifices this Christmas," he preached, "remember that some of our fellow citizens won't even be home for Christmas dinner over Zoom," Phillips said. Truth was, Mr. Phillips was himself enjoying a holiday in the Caribbean. Then, when Ford and Phillips both admitted the gaffe, the premier dumped Phillips from finance and appointed him minister in charge of Long-Term Care and those hardest hit by COVID. How does that make ethical sense?

Then, back in August from Bonnie Lysyk's damning auditor's report, we learned that then minister of housing Steve Clark had allowed his politically appointed aide, Ryan Amato, to orchestrate a process that favoured developers with a potential return of \$8.3 billion in profits from swapped Greenbelt properties. Again, it was a case of political friends, not professionally qualified adjudicators of property development clandestinely running the show. Both Amato and Clark ultimately resigned. All these bad choices in provincial appointments make you wonder whether anyone in the premier's office bothers to check CVs or assess experience, before making vital appointments to the public trust. I can think of no better analogy than: "Putting the fox in charge of guarding the hen house.

When my colleague at Centennial College, Neil Ward, retrieved the cameras we'd loaned to Grassy Narrows young people, the results proved overwhelming. When their thoughts and photos were published in the *National Post*, they won a National Newspaper Award. We had turned to those in the know and they had delivered authoritative, honest results. We chose experience over expediency.

It's a lesson some of those in this provincial government don't yet get.

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

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CHESTNUT PARK CHRISTIE'S



Apple picking at its peak in township

The height of apple season is hear, and there is no shortage of apples to pick in and around Uxbridge. Apple picking is a fun fall activity that makes for a great family outing.

Many farms offer the pick-yourown option, as well as the opportunity to purchase a variety of apples that have been already picked and



packaged for customers.

Here are a few local farms and orchards that offer a wide variety of local apples:

Applewood Farm
Hy-Hope Farm
Willow Tree Farms
Apples of Glasgow
Organics Farm
Slabtown cider
Brooks Farms
Nature's Bounty Farm

While apple picking is a fun and rewarding pastime, there are a few rules that should be followed in the orchard.

Pick-Your-Own Apples – Orchard Etiquette
Most importantly, treat the trees with

Most importantly, treat the trees with care.

the apples. Climbing trees is a time-honoured activity for kids every-where, but climbing onto the branches knocks apples to the ground, damages the tree limbs, and can be a safety hazard. Because these trees are an investment for the farm, they must be kept as healthy and damage-free as possible so that they can continue to produce apples year after year.

Don't climb the apple trees to reach

To pick an apple properly, twist it gently so that the stem comes away from the branch naturally. A small stem and a leaf or two are acceptable. A bigger twig and five other apples being shaken to the ground by a single yank on the branch... not so

Courtesy Central Counties Tourism

Story updates, from page 1

businesses. More than a year later, the building

is still un-demolished. When asked why progress on the site was non-existent, Township of Uxbridge development services director Kyle Rainbow wrote: "Township staff have identified steps necessary for the property and have provided a deadline to the property owner by when those steps must be completed. We will continue to work with the owner, their insurance adjuster and their consultant team on the future of that building. In terms of timing, we expect some of items to be completed this fall, and some will extend into next year."







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Light For Your Path

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For Bible Resources:

biblesociety.ca/scriptures-daily-manna/





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EVENTS

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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 is: 2 Campbell Dr., Ste. 201. Email Gail: ghorner550@gmail.com 10/19 **GOODWOOD LIONS CHARITY BOTTLE DRIVE.** Sat., Oct. 21, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. South diamond, Harold Bell Park, 279 Hwy. 21, Goodwood.

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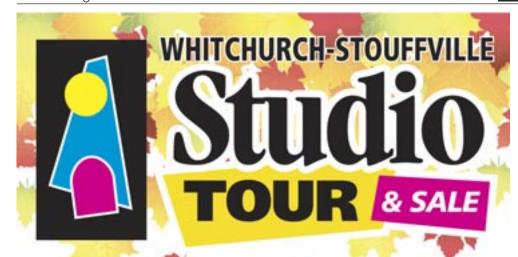
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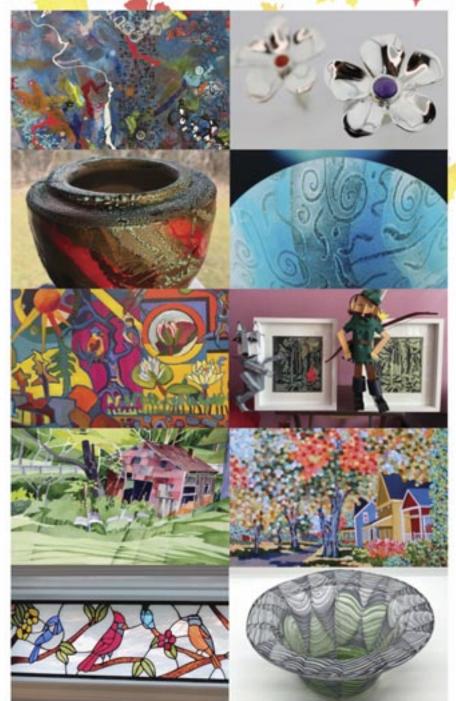
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*see store for details