The Uxbridge COSMOS

Volume 15 No. 23

YOUR UNIVERSE

Thursday, June 13, 2019



A MOVING TRIBUTE - The Uxbridge Legion Pipes and Drums led a small parade along Campbell Drive in Uxbridge last Thursday evening as the opening to an evening of tribute to D-Day veteran Fred Barnard. The parade also featured members of the Queen's Own Rifles, other Uxbridge veterans, the Uxbridge fire department, police, and members of local cub and scout troops. For more, read story below.

Photo by Colleen Baskin

Uxbridge veteran gets personal D-Day Remembrance parade

by Roger Varley

At the age of 98, Fred G. Barnard sometimes "humbly wonders if anyone knows" he was among the Canadian soldiers who stormed the beaches of Normandy on D-Day - June 6, 1944. He received the answer loud and clear last Thursday evening.

Hundreds of people gathered outside his home to pay tribute to one of the last survivors of the first wave of assault on Juno Beach. His house was decorated with Remembrance Day banners featuring both him and his brother, Don, and the front lawn saw a carpet of small Canadian flags, rows of chairs for other veterans and tables loaded with memorabilia. From speakers set up in front of the house, the songs of Second World War chanteuse Vera Lynn wafted over the evening air.

When Fred stepped out onto his front porch at 7 p.m., a large cheer from the crowd was acknowledged by a smile and a wave. Fred had known nothing about the event until 40 min-

utes earlier

As he settled in his chair, a bass drum sounded in the distance, soon joined by the keening of the bagpipes. Within minutes, the Uxbridge Legion Pipes and Drums led a parade to the house. The parade also featured the Legion colour party, veterans, current members of the Queen's Own Rifles - (Fred's old regiment) - the Uxbridge fire department, Uxbridge cadets, cubs and scouts, Durham Regional Police and a Mountie.

With the pipe band assembled on the driveway and the rest of the parade gathered on the front lawn, what followed was a de facto personal Remembrance Day ceremony for Fred.

Tish MacDonald, who organized the event with her Vimy students from Uxbridge Secondary School, gave a brief review of the D-Day landings, noting that Fred and his brother were on the same landing craft. As they rushed from the craft, Fred yelled "Give 'em hell, Don." Minutes later, Fred came across Don's body lying on the beach. A couple of months

later, Fred was wounded by shrapnel in the neck, shoulder and foot.

Fred received letters of appreciation from the federal government - presented to him by MP Jennifer O'Connell - the provincial government, the region and the township. Noting the size of the crowd, O'Connell said she had "an incredible sense of pride representing a community like this."

There were other mementoes of appreciation: students from Uxbridge Public School and Quaker Village Public School presented Fred with letters of thanks; St. Joseph Catholic School students had a poem for him, as did students of USS; Joseph Gould Public School made a large paper Canadian flag signed by many of the students; there was a portrait by Port Perry artist Tyler Briley and gifts from the Queen's Own Rifles.

Following the ceremonies and after a rousing three cheers led by veteran Norm Goodspeed, the evening ended with Jacqueline Smith singing Vera Lynn's "We'll Meet Again."



The Cosmos online

A different kind of diet / Dear Treadmill MPP announces festival funding





















Marie Persaud Sales Representative Coldwell Banker R.M.R. Real Estate Brokerage Direct: 416-970-8979 Office: 905-852-4338 www.mariepersaud.ca

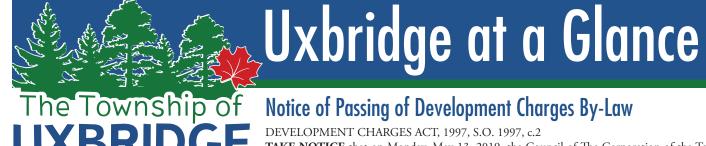


COUNTRY SETTING AT VICTORIA CORNERS

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Offered for sale at \$589,900.

For more info, call Marie at 416-970-8979.



Trail Capital of Canada

Council & Committee Meetings

Schedule for the month of June, 2019

Monday, June 17, 10:00 a.m: COMMITTEE MEETING 6:30 p.m: EDUCATION SESSION-COUNCIL /CofA DECISION MAKING

Wednesday, June 19, 7:00 p.m: COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT MEETING Monday, June 24, 7:00 p.m: COUNCIL MEETING

Proclamation for the month of June

National Indigenous Peoples Day: June 21, 2019

Street Sweeping

Street sweeping is ongoing, weather permitting. Please try not to park on the streets during this time. Any areas that are missed due to parked cars will be redone after all sweeping is complete. This schedule rotates annually.

Schedule for sweeping:

- 1. S/W corner of town COMPLETED
- 2. S/E corner of town COMPLETED
- 3. N/E corner of town COMPLETED
- 4. Rural subdivisions and hamlets
- 5. N/W corner of town
- 6. Town parking lots

For complete details, visit $uxbridge.ca/news_Spring_Street_Sweeping_Sche$ dule_Quadrant_3_Complete

Bids & Tenders

TENDER U19-17: The Great Trail-Ewen-**Brookdale Trail Re-build**

Sealed Tenders will be received until 2:00 p.m. local time Friday, June 28, 2019.

QUOTE Q19-07: One (1) 4 x 41/2 Ton Truck Quotes will be received until 2:00 p.m. local time Friday June 21, 2019.

These Documents are posted at uxbridge.ca/bids_and_tenders

Employment Opportunities SPARE CROSSING GUARDS

Please contact Jo Ann Merrick at 905-852-9181 ext 202 or email: jmerrick@uxbridge.ca

SUMMER STUDENT: ASST. TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COORD.

Please submit a resume with cover letter by June 14, 2019, to tourism@uxbridge.ca or by mail to Lisa John-Mackenzie, Uxpool, 1 Parkside Dr., Uxbridge L9P 1K7

Complete details of these positions are available at

uxbridge.ca/employment_opportunities

YDHR DAY OUT WITH THOMASTM

Various positions required for August 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18. Please apply online at ydhr.ca/thomas-jobs/

Notice of Passing of Development Charges By-Law

DEVELOPMENT CHARGES ACT, 1997, S.O. 1997, c.2

TAKE NOTICE that on Monday, May 13, 2019, the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge passed By-law No. 2019-076 under Section 2 of the Development Charges Act, 1997, which imposes Township-wide development charge rates.

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or organization may appeal to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal in respect to the by-law by filing with the Clerk of The Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge, not later than Monday, June 24, 2019, a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the by-law and the reasons in

The charges in the aforementioned by-law will apply to all new residential and non-residential development, subject to certain terms, conditions and limited exemptions as identified therein.

Development charges are levied against new development to pay for the increased capital costs related to the provision of such Township services as General Government, Library Services, Fire and Rescue, Animal Control, Parks and Recreation, Public Works and Township Engineering. The development charges imposed by the by-law are as follows:

Rate Phase-In Schedule	Residential Development Charge (Per Dwelling Unit)				Non-Residential Charge Per
	Singles & Semis	Rows & Other Multiples	Apartments	Special Care/Special Needs	Square Metre of GFA
Discounted Services	\$7,458	\$5,710	\$3,728	\$2,564	\$0.08
Non-Discounted Services	\$7,784	\$5,959	\$3,892	\$2,675	\$53.74
Total	\$15,242	\$11,669	\$7,620	\$5,239	\$53.82

Both the residential and non-residential development charge rates are in effect as of May 13, 2019. Copies of the by-law can be viewed and downloaded at the Township of Uxbridge website at www.uxbridge.ca. The complete development charges by-law can also be examined at the Township Clerk's Office from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday at the address shown below.

A key map has not been included in this notice as the Township-wide development charges applies to all lands located within the boundaries of the Township of Uxbridge.

For further information, please contact the Clerk's Office at 905-852-9181.

DATED at The Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge this 24th day of May, 2019.

Debbie Leroux, Township Clerk The Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge

51 Toronto St. S Uxbridge, ON L9P 1H1

Notice of Passing of Zoning By-Law

Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge passed By-law No. 2019-081 on the 27th day of May, 2019, pursuant to Sections 34 and 36 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, as amended, to amend Zoning By-law No. 81-19, as amended, of The Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge. The subject property is with respect to certain lands located in Part of Lot 30, Concession 7, and Part of Lots 55-60 and Centre Street, Plan H5006, in the Township of Uxbridge, in The Regional Municipality of Durham (West Lane Developments).

AND TAKE NOTICE that through the circulation and review of the application to amend Zoning Bylaw No. 81-19, the Township received ten written submissions, including one from an adjacent condominium corporation. A petition was also received signed by five people concerned with the protection of snapping turtles, all of which were provided by members of the public prior to the decision of Council. These submissions were addressed in Development Services Report DS 30/19 and at the statutory public meeting held on Monday, September 24, 2018. Council considered all public submissions received on this application, the effect of which helped Council to make an informed decision.

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or agency may appeal to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal in respect of the By-law by filing with the Clerk of The Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge, not later than 4:30 p.m. on the 27th day of June, 2019, a notice of appeal. The notice of appeal must set out the objection to the By-law and the reasons in support of the objection together with the required Local Planning Appeal Tribunal fee of \$300.00. Cheques must be made payable to the MINISTER OF FINANCE.

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the PLEASE NOTE that only individuals, corporations and public bodies may appeal a Zoning By-law to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal. A notice of appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a notice of appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or the group on its behalf. No person or public body shall be added as a party to the appeal unless, before the by-law was passed, the person or public body made oral submissions at a public meeting or written submissions to the Council or, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body

> An explanation of the purpose and effect of the Bylaw is given below. The complete By-law is available for inspection in the Clerk's Department during regular office hours.

DATED AT THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE THIS 7th DAY OF JUNE, 2019.

Debbie Leroux, Clerk Township of Uxbridge Box 190, Uxbridge, Ontario L9P 1T1 905-852-9181 Ext. 228

dleroux@uxbridge.ca

Township File: ZBA 2018-10, SUB 2018-02 and CONDO 2018-2

Region of Durham File: S-U-2018-02/C-U 2018-02 Applicant: West Lane Developments c/o David Sud (Agent: GHD Limited - Engineering Company)

PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE BY-LAW

The applications propose a development with 60 townhouse units that would be implemented by means of a plan of subdivision in combination with a common element condominium. The Plan of Subdivision over the entire 2.61 hectare property will create one block for the headwater drainage feature



info@uxbridge.ca

The Corporation of The Township of Uxbridge

51 Toronto Street South, P.O. Box 190

Uxbridge L9P 1T1 905-852-9181

MORE INFO www.uxbridge.ca

Notice of Board Opportunity

The Council of the Township of Uxbridge is now inviting applications from members of the public who are qualified electors of the Township of Uxbridge and wish to have their names considered for appointment to the Property Standards

Any persons interested in offering their services by accepting an appointment to this Committee are invited to submit a letter of interest along with a completed Volunteer - Committee Member Application Form, available at the Clerk's Department or on the Township of Uxbridge website under Committees and Initiatives, http://uxbridge.ca/committees_and_initiatives, to the undersigned by Friday, June 18, 2019.

Any questions regarding this appointment may be directed to:

Debbie Leroux Director of Legislative Services/Clerk Township of Uxbridge 51 Toronto Street South P.O. Box 190 Uxbridge, Ontario L9P 1T1 Telephone: 905-852-9181

Email: dleroux@uxbridge.ca

KEY MAP (not to scale)

(0.28 hectares) and one block for the condominium townhouse development (2.33 hectares). The Plan of Common Elements Condominium is only over the 2.33 hectare condominium townhouse development and will create the common elements of development (access road, sidewalks, visitor parking, underground services and common open space) as shared property to which the individual lots will be attached.

The subject lands are primarily designated "Brock Street Mixed Use Area" and "Residential Area" in the Township of Uxbridge Official Plan. The purpose and effect of this application is to amend the Township Zoning By-law No. 81-19 in conformity with the Official Plan to replace the existing Rural Exception No. 45 (RU-45) Zone applicable to the subject site with a Residential Zone to permit the proposed townhouse development.

The subject lands are located on the south side of Brock Street East, east of Nelkydd Lane, having the municipal address of 216 & 226 Brock Street East. The lands are legally described as Part of Lot 30, Concession 7, and Part of Lots 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60 & Centre Street, Plan H5006, Township of



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

Uxbridge at a Glance

905-852-9181 info@uxbridge.ca

The Corporation of The Township of Uxbridge 51 Toronto Street South, P.O. Box 190 Uxbridge L9P 1T1

From The Tax Office: 2019 Final Tax Bill

Residential, Managed Forest and Farmland Final Property Tax Bills were mailed May 29, 2019. Payments for these bills are due on the following due dates:

> FIRST Tax Installment is due on June 26, 2019. SECOND Tax Installment is due on September 26, 2019.

Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential Final Property Tax Bills were mailed June 6, 2019. Payments for these bills are due on the following due dates:

> FIRST Tax Installment is due on July 16, 2019. SECOND Tax Installment is due on September 26, 2019.

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.

Tax payments can be made: in person by Interac, cheque or cash; by mail (post-dated cheques are accepted); telephone & Internet banking; drop box at Town Hall (no cash please); or at most financial institutions. Credit Cards and E-Transfers are NOT accepted for tax payments.

PLEASE RETAIN YOUR 2019 FINAL TAX BILL FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES. If a reprinted tax bill, receipt or Statement of Account is required for any year's taxes, a fee of \$12.00 will apply.

If you did not receive your 2019 Final Tax Bill, please call the Tax Department at 905-852-9181 ext.

Splash Pad Now Open

Hours of operation are 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. 7 days a week. The splash pad is located at 291 Brock Street West (Arena grounds).

For more information, contact our Parks and Arena Manager at 905-852-9181, ext. 500.

If you love them, licence them!

Door-to-Door Pet Licensing begins in Uxbridge in June License on-line at uxbridge.docupet.com

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YDHR picks up tab for Canada Day

by Roger Varley

York Durham Heritage Railway (YDHR) presented a cheque for \$12,000 to Uxbridge council on Monday morning, enough to cover the fundraising usually carried out to pay for Canada Day festivities at Elgin Park. The township covers the cost of the celebratory fireworks.

In a report to council, Ward 4 Councillor Willie Popp said the YDHR contribution will make it "inappropriate" for the Canada Day committee to solicit or accept donations from the public attending the free Canada Day event as has been done in previous years. The report also recommended that YDHR be allowed to collect donations at the event, with the proceeds going to YDHR. Popp said donations collected at Elgin Park in past years has averaged about \$3,000.

John Perks, YDHR's new chief operating officer, said those donations will be used to provide rides on the railway's special events trains for handicapped and under-privileged children. However, Popp's report said in part: "YDHR has requested that we allow them to collect donations." He recommended that the donations collected go to provide train rides for community and local groups and that YDHR provide an accounting of the donations received.

Perks said YDHR has struggled to persuade local residents to take advantage of special events such as the Thomas the Tank Engine weekends and sees its Canada Day presence in Elgin Park as a good marketing opportunity. That presence will also include YDHR offering mini-train rides in the park.

Raptors frenzy invades Uxbridge

by Roger Varley

Hundreds of people descended on the arena Monday night to attend Uxbridge's version of Jurassic Park as the Toronto Raptors sought to defeat the Golden State Warriors and win the NBA cham-

Organized in less than two days, the free event featured two 12-foot screens, set up on the floor

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of Pad 2, carrying the live television coverage of Game 5 in Toronto. Free snacks and soft drinks were provided by Zehrs, free popcorn was handed out by Roxy Theatres and The Second Wedge Brewing Co. set up a beer tent at one end of the ice pad. At the other end of the pad, scores of young people tested their basketball skills with two basketball nets provided by Canadian Tire and numerous balls from the township's parks and recreation department.

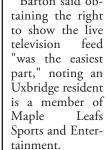
Attendees flocked to the arena carrying lawn chairs for seating, with many parents bringing along pillows and blankets for their pyjama-clad little ones. Few, if any, of the little ones succumbed to sleep.

Mayor Dave Barton, leading a solid contingent of councillors, said the idea of holding the event came from a suggestion posted on the Uxbridge Parents Group page on Facebook. On Sunday, Shooting Star Productions of Zephyr came on board to provide the screens and the sound. Zehrs answered Barton's call with the question: "What do you need?" At Monday morning's council meeting, council voted to make the evening a significant municipal event, making it eligible to serve alcoholic beverages (beer). That led assistant clerk Laura Rupprecht to rush out and obtain a liquor licence for the event.

The arena sported a number of purple, red and white balloons - the Raptors' colours - courtesy of Sugar FX - and a large black-and-white banner reading "We The North."

To accommodate the event, arena staff rearranged their work hours and Uxbridge Lacrosse changed its schedule to

free up Pad 2. Barton said ob-



At the end of the evening, after the Raptors lost the game by one point, the big question was: Will Uxbridge do it again for Ğame 6 on Thursday (tonight). mayor said council will be working on it. Watch social media posts for updates.



Home • Automobile • Farm • Commercial • Recreational

Our two cents

No one picture, no one word

It was incredibly difficult choosing a photo for this week's cover. We wanted one that encapsulated everything that occurred last Thursday evening on Campbell Dr. (In case you glanced over both the photo and the story below it, on page 1, we're talking about the mini-parade and tribute that Tish MacDonald and her USS Vimy students arranged to happen right on the front lawn of D-Day veteran Fred Barnard's house.) But it was not easy, finding the perfect photo. A photo of the crowd, which isn't terribly exciting to begin with, didn't do justice to the size of the crowd - an estimated 300 - 400 people showed up to honour Mr. Barnard and his brother, whom he lost on June 6, 1944. A photo of Tish MacDonald with some of her students would be fitting - the woman is a machine, and is beyond incredible for all the work she does with students and veterans - but the evening *was* about Mr. Barnard, and if we know Tish at all, we know she wouldn't be keen about being on the front page.

We could have chosen a photo of Mr. Barnard receiving one of the many accolades that were presented to him. Pickering-Uxbridge MP Jennifer O'Connell flew in from Ottawa in time to say a few words and present messages from the Governor General and the prime minister. Pickering-Uxbridge MPP Peter Bethlenfalvy sent along congratulations from the province, and Regional Councillor Gord Highet spoke on behalf of Durham Region. But to pick out any one of these presentations would have diminished the importance of the other presentations, all of them commending a man who has lived through what many of us can never imagine.

Even the local schools all contributed pieces, and the photos of small, schoolaged children sent to present tokens of appreciation to a man old enough to be their great-grandfather, though cute and endearing, aren't all-encompassing enough to represent what the evening felt like. It was an evening that invoked pride. Nostalgia. Sadness. Thankfulness. Thoughtfulness. No one photo we saw summed up all those things.

We finally chose the cover photo based on a word written in the headline below - "Remembrance." When we see that word, when we think of Remembrance Day, we think of grey skies, rain, and have November feelings. But last Thursday, on a sunny, warm, pleasant evening that promised summer ahead, hundreds of people gathered together and sported the same poppies that are worn in November, and waved tiny Canadian flags. The weather messed with our heads, the clash between the evening sunshine that poured through the green trees and the celebratory somberness of the event (if that makes sense) was terribly incongruous, yet peaceful, and right. And the feeling that won over everything, we think, was joy. Joy that we came together as a community to honour one of our own. Joy that we still have many veterans with us, alive and telling us their stories. Joy that we were able to celebrate a 75-year old victory.

The cover photo isn't a typical Remembrance Day photo. We think it portrays all that we've described here. And we still haven't done the event justice. If you weren't there, you really missed out on an incredible event. But then, there's November 11 to look forward to. We bet the weather won't be as cooperative, but we're confident the sentiments will be the same.

COSMOS.

9,500 copies of The Cosmos are published each Thursday in the Township of Uxbridge: 8,800 delivered by mail, 700 available in stores and boxes.

Publisher/Editor Advertising/Sales Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

905.852.1900 905.852.1900

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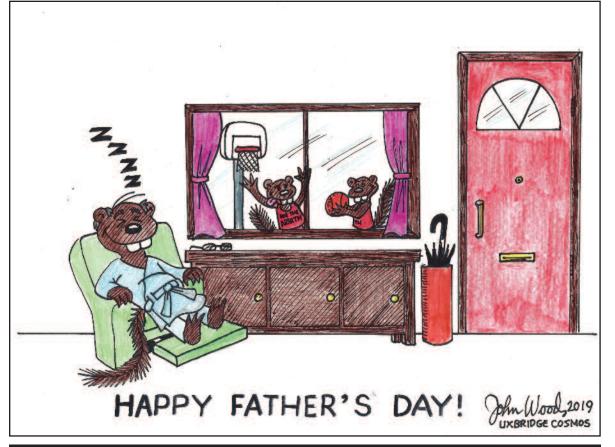
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Letters to the Editor

Our sincere thanks and appreciation to Boston Pizza for the Celebrity Server Fundraiser they hosted for the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital Auxiliary (UCHA). Their extensive support of our local charities is very welcome and commendable. The beneficiary, our hospital, is supported by the UCHA's many fundraising arms. These funds go towards the procurement of the many pieces of medical equipment they need to purchase each year.

Thank you to all who came out to support this event and to our many volunteers.

Darryl Tims UCHA

The Uxbridge Legion will recognize and honour the service of our veterans by placing Canadian flags in Township cemeteries for Decoration

If you have a family member or friend who served in the military and was not recognized in previous years, please contact the Uxbridge Legion at 905-852-5293 to let us know.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Decoration Day Ceremony at the Uxbridge Cemetery on Sunday, June 23, at 1 p.m.

Lest we forget.

Michelle Viney Uxbridge

To the person or persons who thought it would be smart to steal the sign at the corner of the Sandford Sideroad and Reg. Rd. 1, advertising the Friday Night Concerts at the Foster: For several years now I have been putting out that sign Friday mornings and picking it up Friday evening after the concert was over. It is one of the few advertising features the Friends of the Foster employ to inform the public about the weekly concert. Those signs are expensive and Friends of the Foster is a very

small group which, with these weekly concerts, raises funds for the maintenance and restoration of the Foster Memorial, one of the premiere tourist attraction of Uxbridge Township.

Please put the sign back where you found next Friday morning. We need that sign, why do you think you do?

Pat Asling Friends of the Foster

We were away this past weekend, (June 6-9) in Ottawa. I had so wanted to be part of the celebrations and parade for Fred Barnard. You can imagine our surprise when, having breakfast in the hotel, the CBC News came on and there was Uxbridge showing tribute to him!

We couldn't have been more proud and happy to see our wonderful community we call home once again making its mark - showing everyone coming together with support for this gentleman and all those who gave up their lives for us. God Bless!

Maureen & Dane Coxworth Uxbridge

'Twas bittersweet this morning as I watched from my window, the film crew dismantling the "Schitt's Creek" motel sign for the very last time. While it hadn't been very flattering to be thought of as "the arm pit of Ontario," the filming of the outdoor scenes for the show had afforded our sleepy village some excitement every June for the past six years.

It was even more intense than usual this year. We were bombarded with fans and tourists from all over because it was well-known that this was the last season for the show. Cars were arriving from New York, Michigan, New Brunswick, Pennsylvania, and even a couple of buses arrived, carrying a "Schitt's Creek" Fan Club, all wearing matching T Shirts.

I was wondering to myself what

would happen now to all the props that were used to turn Goodwood into "Schitt's Creek." I'll bet they could be had for a song.

Thursday, June 13, 2019

When I recently approached council with a suggestion that our historic municipal hall be moved to the museum grounds, one of my suggestions was that it could be turned into a "Schitt's Creek" Museum displaying artifacts from the show. At least it would make a little money attracting tourists to the site. I was only mildly serious at the time, but after watching the crowds this weekend I'm thinking council should have paid more attention.

Eleanor Todd Goodwood

Re: Proposed Pickering Airport

From a pilot's standpoint, Pickering airport would be a disaster waiting to happen. The Durham area is known for the most foggy days in the area.

We've been told that driving our cars is largely contributing to climate change. No one mentions anything about the 12,000 or more jet airplanes that are in the air every minute of the day, with an exhaust gas temperature of 600 to 800 degrees Celsius. This doesn't include military airplanes.

Incoming flights would, depending on wind directions, be mostly from the west/north-west, flying Ajax, Whitby, Oshawa and Pickering. Outgoing flights, the most noisy, most polluting because of high fuel burn, would be over Uxbridge, Stouffville and Markham.

If ever there was a need for those living in these areas to stop something before it is too late, the time is now. Help bring our seemingly out of control politicians back to what they should be doing, namely helping to protect and preserve our towns.

...continued on page 6



Am I Wrong?

column by Roger Varley

Remembrance Day in June

I am not a veteran (being a school cadet doesn't count). My father served in the British army in the Second World War but never saw "action." But last Thursday night's honouring of Uxbridge's 98-year-old Fred G. Barnard caused a stirring of emotions in me that maybe many people wouldn't understand. Perhaps that's because I was born in the middle of a German bombing raid on Birmingham and spent the first few hours of my life in a bomb shelter in the basement of the hospital. I still have brief recollections of times spent in the bomb shelter at the bottom of our garden.

The emotions started as I walked up Campbell Drive towards Fred's home. Passing the hospital, I noticed the lowering sun was illuminating a large carpet of gone-to-seed dandelions from behind, making the fluff balls shine with a stark whiteness. That image immediately brought to mind the war cemeteries I have visited in Europe where rows and rows of white crosses mark the final resting place of so many Canadian and Allied soldiers.

Continuing up the street, I saw a small group of veterans on a porch, preparing to head up to Fred's place. I wondered what they were feeling that day, the 75th anniversary of D-Day. Did they feel proud? Did they feel sad? What emotions were they feeling?

Outside Fred's home, a sizeable crowd had gathered, soon to be joined by hundreds more. As they ambled across Fred's front lawn, looking at the memorabilia and signing the guest books, I couldn't help but wonder: "What about Fred's lawn?" That thought occurred more than once as the lawn was filled to capacity by the end of the evening. And then I realized loudspeakers were serenading the gathering crowd with the songs of Vera Lynn, songs that were as much as part of my childhood as nursery rhymes, and again the emotions stirred.

The Vimy students from Uxbridge Secondary School - those who have travelled to Europe in recent years to visit historic battle sites and memorials - were much in evidence, having done most of the work, along with teacher Tish MacDonald, to organize

the event. Many of them took the opportunity to pose for photographs with elderly vets like Jack MacQuarrie.

Then my heart leapt a little as the skirl of bagpipes came drifting in: the parade had started. The next emotion was a great sense of pride - pride of community - as the parade came to Fred's house. Apart from the Legion's pipes and drums and colour party, there were local veterans, firefighters, cubs and scouts and cadets, as well as Durham Regional Police, members of the Queen's Own Rifles and a Mountie. All members of council were also there, as was Pickering Uxbridge MP Jennifer O'Connell.

When the entire parade and most of the onlookers had gathered on Fred's lawn, what followed was a mini version of Remembrance Day ceremonies, all for Fred.

Why? Because, as organizer Tish MacDonald told the crowd, "Fred often humbly wonders 'if anyone knows I was there'." The "there" she referred to was Juno Beach on D-Day, 75 years ago, when Fred and his brother, Don, were in the first wave to hit the beach as the invasion of Europe began. Minutes after leaving the landing craft both were riding in, Fred came across his brother's body on the beach. Fred was wounded a couple of months later with shrapnel in his neck, shoulder and foot.

Then there were the schoolchildren, most of them too young to fully comprehend the importance of the day and the event, but nevertheless presenting Fred with heartfelt letters of thanks and poems.

But while all this was going on, even smaller children were playing on the sidewalk, oblivious to war and the experiences Fred and the other veterans went through. And it struck me that that, in part, was what Fred and the others had been fighting for.

The whole evening was a special tribute to Fred, but it was also a tribute to the community that came together to honour a true war hero.

And it seems to me that Fred will never again have to ask "if anyone knows I was there."

Tell me, am I wrong?



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

What-ifs of Canadian warriors

He sat down to rest. He sighed a long, audible sigh. And he smiled with a touch of satisfaction. Around Bill Novick sat family and some of his fellow travellers, gathered, this spring day, at a museum in Normandy, France. Bill had a story to tell: the time, just before D-Day, when his Halifax bomber was coned.

"Enemy gunners at Cologne (Germany) put up a box barrage (concentrated anti-aircraft fire) 3,000 feet high, two miles wide by 10 miles long," he said. "Searchlights moved all over the sky ... and we were coned by the lights. That required evasive action called a corkscrew." That meant Pilot Officer Novick put the 18-tonne bomber into a violent dive one way, then another, at speeds up to 250 miles per hour to escape the lights and the anti-aircraft fire.

"It was four minutes of sheer terror," he concluded. "If we were scared, it never entered my mind that I wasn't going to make it."

At 95, Bill Novick is still a working ear, nose and throat specialist in Montreal. This past week he joined a tour I led through the battlefields of Normandy during 75th anniversary observances of D-Day. On the night of June 5/6, 1944, P/O Bill Novick's crew bombed a vital target – the Caen Canal bridge – to prevent German tanks from counterattacking against the D-Day troops landing on Juno Beach.

Among the others in the group exploring Second World War battlefields, museums, and the famous Juno invasion beaches, Liz and Brian Hadley came from Woodstock, Ont. At a tombstone in Beny-sur-Mer Canadian military cemetery (where more than 2,000 Canadians killed in the Battle of Normandy lie buried), the Hadleys placed flags and read the epitaph "At Rest" on the headstone of Cpl. Ralph Hadley, Brian's uncle, affectionately known as "Bud."

In early July 1944, as the Canadian Essex Scottish regiment pushed inland toward the German-occupied city of Caen, Cpl. Hadley took a sniper's bullet in the leg. Some distance from medical treatment at a regimental aid post, Cpl. Hadley, age 20, refused to be evacuated before his more seriously wounded comrades received first aid. But before he could be transfused, Bud bled to death, Brian said. "If this kind of wound had happened today, he'd probably have survived."

Brian Hadley laments the grief of Cpl. Hadley's father, Brian's grandfather, Malcolm Hadley, who was flying operations against the Germans elsewhere in Europe in the war, when he learned that his son had died in action. Brian and Liz felt drawn to Uncle Bud's grave out of respect and a sense of loss.

In another plot at Beny-sur-Mer, journalist and author Ellin Bessner (also on our tour) paid her respects, not to a relative, not even an acquaintance, but to a member of the Royal Canadian Artillery she considers a hero. In 1942, while training in Britain for the invasion, 22-year-old George Meltz met hospital volunteer Trudy Lewis. They fell in love, got married at a synagogue in London, and seven months later, on July 8, 1944, Meltz died in the Battle of Normandy. From the moment she discovered his tombstone, several years ago, Ellin was captivated by the epitaph composed by Meltz's widow

"He died so Jewry shall suffer no more," it read.

Ellin felt she had to search out Meltz's story. She learned that the president of her synagogue was artilleryman Meltz's nephew. Her discovery led to a search for the stories of other Jews who served in the Canadian armed forces between 1939 and 1945, and her book *Double Threat: Canadian Jews, the Military, and World War II.*

"Your name is now known," Ellin said during a Kaddish (a prayer of mourning) at George's gravesite this week. "In the Jewish tradition, if you talk about someone then they're never forgotten."

In the same vein, former Halifax bomber pilot Bill Novick paid tribute to his aircrew mates for their skill and bravery in attacking the Caen Canal bridge on D-Day 75 years ago this week. Bill explained that he remembered a magazine interview with a surviving German tank commander who'd tried to mount a counterattack against the Allied beachheads in Normandy in 1944. But the panzer officer explained that he was thwarted because that bridge over the Caen Canal had been destroyed by Allied bombers.

"We'd completed our D-Day operation," Novick said. "Consequently that German tank commander couldn't attack our troops."

The Canadians travelling with Bill applauded. He just nodded quietly.

If Pilot Officer Novick hadn't completed that mission, if Cpl. Hadley hadn't served so self-lessly, and if artilleryman Meltz hadn't decided to defend his faith to the death, D-Day and the rest of the liberation of Normandy, France, might have been a very different story.

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

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COMING UP

THIS WEEKEND

Sat., June 15: Zephyr Community Garage, Bake, Barbeque and Bag of Books for a Buck Sale. 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 pm. Set up in town, book sale is at the hall.

Sat., June 15: Uxbridge Guides

Garage Sale-UK Trip Fundraiser. 50 Carmody Ln., 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sat., June 15: Yarn-Painting Workshop. Uxbridge Historical Centre, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Len de Graf will lead this workshop. No art experience required! Cost: \$85. Registration IS re-

COUCH, Margaret Theresa

September 10, 1926 -June 9, 2019

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Margaret Theresa Couch on Sunday, June 9, 2019. Loving wife of the late

William Couch and mother of Teri Evangelista (late Angelo), late Nora Richards (Paul), late Bill, Jim (Lynn), Helen Neal (Wayne). Lovingly remembered by her grandchildren and greatgrandchildren, sisters and brothers. Margaret dearly loved her family, the outdoors and her euchre. Her wit and good humour will be sadly missed.

Family and friends may call at the Low and Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Uxbridge (905-852-3073) on Thursday, June 13, 2019, from 2 – 4 p.m. and 7 – 9 p.m. Funeral Mass will be held at the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, 70 Toronto Street North, Uxbridge, on Friday, June 14, 2019, at 11 a.m. followed by a reception in the church hall. If desired, donations in memory of Margaret may be made to the Canadian Diabetes Association or the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital. For online condolences, please visit www.lowandlow.ca

quired. Contact museum@uxbridge.ca **Sat., June 15: Uxbridge Gay/Straight Alliance.** St Paul's Anglican Church, 2 - 4 p.m. stpauls-uxbridge.ca 905-852-7016

NEXT WEEK

Tues., June 18: Seniors' Pizza & Ice Cream Lunch. 12 noon, Uxbridge Seniors' Centre. Tickets available at the Community Care office, \$5 for members. No ticket sales at the door.

Wed., June 19: Bethesda-Reach Women's Institute meeting. Epsom United Church, 6:30 p.m. Come for dessert & tea, bring your ideas for our 2019-20 programs.

COMING UP is a free community bulletin board. If you have a community event for a *charity or non-profit organization* that you'd like us to mention (AS SPACE PERMITS), email Lvann@thecosmos.ca or call 905-852-1900.

BUD DOUCETTE June 10, 2015

In loving memory of a beloved husband & father.

Softly the leaves of memory fall, Gently we gather & cherish them all. Unseen, unheard you are always near, So loved, so missed & so very dear.

Sadly missed & lovingly remembered by wife Wilma & family



Letters, from page 4

The dream of creating jobs near by is nothing but hogwash. Visit the Oshawa airport, Buttonville, or Peterborough and count the people working there. All are under used. And once the concrete is poured, the land to grow food will be gone for good. Compare how many people need to eat with how many people need to fly. By the federal government's own admission, Pearson Airport, with all its new extensions and runways, is sufficient for many, many years to come.

If the airport should ever be built, the cost to every one of us living in Durham Region will be astronomical. Start your opposition to this monster now, before it's too late. The thought of building an airport on the finest farmland that we have, borders on the criminal.

Heinz Nitschke Uxbridge

I would think a mayor makes a thousand large and small decisions on our behalf every day. Most days, those decisions are just fine with most of us, if we even notice. Now and then, however, there are significant issues in which the public shares an interest, such as a new development application, a big pipe under the downtown, or a frigging airport!

In a stunning display of arrogance, Mayor Barton has voted in favour of a massive airport development without any public consultation with Uxbridge residents. Our friends and neighbours have been fighting this airport since 1972, after the great expropriation of Grade A farmland for Ontario's Mirabel. Does Mayor Barton understand that he can be voted out of office as easily as he was voted in? Does Regional Councillor Highet?

Apparently, Mayor Barton prefers the roar of low altitude jets flying over our homes, businesses and schools over the song of birds and insects, quiet conversa-

tion and uninterrupted sleep. Moreover, the mayor is inviting more traffic, trucks, noise and air pollution, development pressures, more crime and more demands on our precious water, not to mention the flooding this development will cause according to former Ontario Environment Commissioner Dr. Dianne Saxe.

While the federal Ministry of Environment and Climate Change is claiming a climate emergency countrywide, the Ministry of Transportation is pushing this environmental disaster. Let's get serious here. There is no such thing as an environmentally sensitive or sustainable airport/industrial/housing development no matter what it's called or how well it's marketed. Further, where will we grow our food if our various levels of government continue to refuse to protect our most productive farmland?

This airport development will permanently and irrevocably change our township into an ugly, flyover industrial satellite, one among many outside major airports across Canada. Is this what the people of Uxbridge want? Mayor Barton seems to think so. Is he right?

MK Maynard Goodwood

Uxbridge did not vote in favour of the airport, Mayor Barton and Regional Councillor Highet voted in favour of the airport. The residents of Uxbridge did not have a say in the matter. There was no survey or vote on the issue. I have not talked to a single person who is in favour of the airport.

Who will enjoy walking the trails in Uxbridge or the newly minted Rouge Park with the sights and sounds playing overhead? Pity the animals.

The Trail Capital of Canada will become the noise and pollution capital of Canada. The area is also much more prone to fog than most other areas in southern Ontario.

The vote by Barton and Highet was short-sighted, not well-researched and represents an egregious lapse in judgement. We expect more from our elected representatives. With climate change, "catastrophic flooding will be exacerbated if the farmland is turned into concrete and asphalt," according to Dr. Dianne Saxe, former Environment Commissioner of Ontario.

We may need an airport down the road to fly in the food we are no longer able to grow when our best farmland is turned into asphalt and concrete.

Barb Malcolm Uxbridge

Jean Rae Ritenburg (nee MacLellan) January 19, 1928 - June 5, 2019

It's almost impossible to sum up 91 years of life in a few paragraphs. Jean was a child of the Depression who loved a bargain, kept all kinds of things should they ever be needed, always knew a good recipe and some good advice, and loved to laugh. She was born in Toronto, once worked in the old CHUM building on Yonge Street, and in 1948 married a farmer, Hilton Ritenburg.

Life on a farm wasn't their destiny, and in 1949 they moved back to Toronto where Hilton joined the Toronto Police Service and they started life and a family together, settling in Willowdale. In 1990, Jean and Hilton retired to Uxbridge where they enjoyed a new community and made many friends. Jean was known for her great sense of humour, but those close to her also knew of her intermittent struggles with depression. Her family are forever grateful to the team at Ontario Shores who provided such support to her and for the ECT treatments that brought her back to being herself and enabled her to enjoy life again. In 2004, Jean moved to Woodhaven LTC in Markham and found community there among the many residents and staff. We so appreciate the many staff and volunteers who gave her such kind care, and in doing so became family to her and a support to us. Jean was a lively presence who will be greatly missed. She leaves her daughter, Sandra and her husband Neil Findlay. She enjoyed every moment being grandmother to Katie and her husband Rob Wallace, and to Claire and her husband Mitch Wetton. She was thrilled to recently become a great-grandmother to June and Layne, making her greater than ever! On Wednesday, June 5, 2019, Jean peacefully left this world after only missing one meal at the Woodhaven. Feisty to the

Mom was so proud of her Scottish heritage and would say Sláinte! A memorial service will be held at HIGHLAND FUNERAL HOME, MARKHAM CHAPEL, 10 Cachet Woods Court, Markham on Thursday June 27, 2019 with visitation beginning at 10:30 am and service at 11 am. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Ontario Shores Foundation for Mental Health or the Ladies Association of St. Andrew's - Chalmers Presbyterian Church in Uxbridge.

GERALD EDWARD KNEE

After a hard and long illness we lost Gerry on June 5th.

We thank the PSWs who helped him at home and the nurses at the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital.

Gerry is survived by Margaret, his loving wife of 66 years, and his children Michael and Carol and their families. He was predeceased by sons Edward and Robert.

As per Gerry's wishes, a family service was held for him and we celebrated his life on our sunny deck where he loved to sit and relax.



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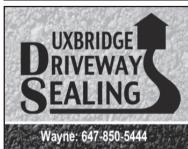
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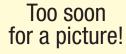
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