

The Uxbridge COSMOS

Volume 15 No. 24

YOUR UNIVERSE

Thursday, June 20, 2019



BAGPIPES AND BREWS - Members of the Uxbridge Legion Pipes and Drums launched a flashmob at the Uxbridge Farmers' Market and the Second Wedge Brewing Co. on Father's Day. Dressed in their "summer casual" best, they did the flashmob "mostly for our love of the pipes and drums". Appearances like this also help to raise awareness of the band in the community, as it's a teaching band that loves to recruit new students!

Photo by John Cavers

YDHR on track for season despite CEO derailment

by Roger Varley

Just months after being hired, and only a couple of weeks after he made his first appearance before Uxbridge council, Randy Bird has been ousted as the York Durham Heritage Railway's (YDHR) chief executive officer.

That came after an annual general meeting in late April at which there were rumblings of discontent among the membership over Bird's handling of his new job.

New president Ron Layton said Bird was hired a few months ago "at a fairly steep rate. He tried to make it (YDHR) his own, not our vision."

Much of Bird's vision for YDHR was contained in his presentation to council on April 15, and included growing YDHR's payroll to "exceed \$500,000" this year, creating a "Disney-style" look for the rail yard, erecting a large work shed, putting in parking for up to 300 cars and fencing in all of the Uxbridge rail site,

with the exception of the train station itself.

In an interview with the *Cosmos* last week, Layton said Bird was running the operation in an authoritarian manner, noting that Bird would not show his proposed presentation to council to any YDHR officers beforehand.

In his April council presentation, Bird said he had joined Waterloo Central Railway about three years ago when it was "near bankruptcy" and increased sales to \$4 million from under \$200,000. However, Norm Etheridge, an official with that railway, told the *Cosmos* that the bankruptcy claim was exaggerated, and although Bird did increase sales, his \$4 million figure was also an exaggeration.

Although Bird is gone, YDHR will continue to work on some of the ideas he presented to council.

On the payroll issue, Layton said the new chief operating officer, John Perks of Oshawa, two office workers and a contract worker are the only paid positions on YDHR, but added

that payments are also made to special events workers such as entertainers. He said upcoming events like the planned Polar Express require trained performers.

"Polar Express is basically a Broadway show on the train," he said.

Perks, who was also at the interview, said the entertainers have to be paid at union rates. He added, however, that 90 per cent of YDHR workers are volunteers and the payroll likely would be under \$500,000.

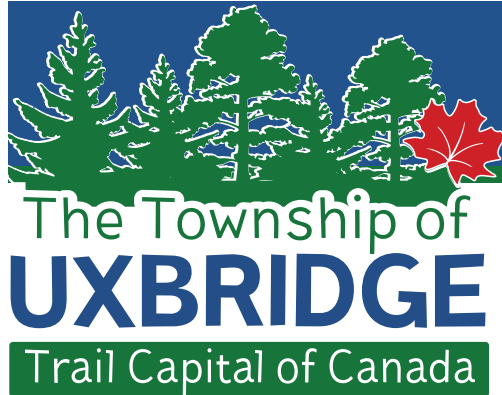
Layton said YDHR is still looking at the fencing proposal, noting there are laws against trespassing on railway property. When Bird proposed fencing off the site, a couple of councillors noted that Uxbridge residents have long crossed the railway tracks at the station as a short-cut from downtown to King Street and beyond. But Layton said the fencing is aimed at making the site safe for people in town and increasing security.

...continued on page 3

Inside this week's Cosmos

Pride and poverty pages 3 & 6

Learning on The Rock page 5



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

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Council & Committee Meetings

Schedule for the month of June, 2019

Monday, June 24: Council meeting, 7:00 pm

Schedule for the month of July, 2019

Monday, July 15: Council meeting, 10:00 am

Proclamation for the month of June

National Indigenous Peoples Day - June 21

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 – IN PROGRESS
5. N/W corner of town
6. Town parking lots

For complete details, visit uxbridge.ca/news_Spring_Street_Sweeping_Schedule_Quadrant_3_Complete

Bids & Tenders

QUOTE Q19-07:

One (1) 4x4 ½-TON TRUCK

Quotes will be received until 2:00 p.m. local time Friday, June 21, 2019.

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.

TENDER U19-22: Tree Removal

TENDER U19-20: Testing, Inspection & Maintenance of Fire Extinguishers

Sealed tenders will be received until 2:00 p.m. local time Tuesday, July 9, 2019.

These documents are posted at uxbridge.ca/bids_and_tenders under Current Bid Opportunities.

Employment Opportunities

SUMMER STUDENT: ASST. TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COORD.

Please submit a resume with cover letter by June 20, 2019, to tourism@uxbridge.ca or by mail to Lisa John-Mackenzie, Uxpool, 1 Parkside Dr., Uxbridge L9P 1K7

Complete details are available at uxbridge.ca/employment_opportunities

YDHR - DAY OUT WITH THOMAS™

Various positions required for August 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18. Please apply online by July 11, 2019

ydhr.ca/thomas-jobs/



Notice of Passing of Development Charges By-Law

DEVELOPMENT CHARGES ACT, 1997, S.O. 1997, c.27

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 support of the objection.

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 Square Metre of GFA
	Singles & Semis	Rows & Other Multiples	Apartments	Special Care/Special Needs	
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 p.m., 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

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 6th, 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. 211.



CELEBRATE WITH FIREWORKS AT DUSK

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On July 1st, 2019, come out and celebrate Canada Day! Enjoy an evening full of events featuring: Now & Then (Duet), Town Crier (Bill McKee), Uxbridge Legion Pipes and Drums, Leah Daniels Band with the "Rock the Bridge" Contest, wagon rides, food trucks, kids activities and more!

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Monday

JULY 1st

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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



A note from Dave's desk

column by Mayor Dave Barton

Feeling community pride

As mayor, I get to participate in a lot of great events, but two recent events made me incredibly proud of our community and I felt humbled to live amongst such wonderful people.

The first was the amazing D-Day tribute to Uxbridge veteran Fred Barnard. Our community is second-to-none in terms of remembering our veterans, and the June 6 D-Day ceremony was no exception. Special thanks to Tish MacDonald for inspiring the community to come together to honour Fred and his fellow veterans.

The second event was our impromptu Toronto Raptor's Game 5 viewing party. It was gratifying to see how many businesses and individuals came together to make Jurassic Park North happen on June 10. It was a great night and it wouldn't have been possible without the amazing cooperation and "Raptor's Spirit" in our community. Thank you to everyone who participated in either of these events.

Another event of which I am proud is our annual Canada Day celebration, which is on July 1 at Elgin Park, starting at 5:30 p.m. We will name the 2019 Citizen of the Year, and we are grateful to the York Durham Heritage Railway for partnering with us to present this wonderful family celebration. Leah Daniels is headlining a great line-up of live music, and she is organizing the "Rock the Bridge" competition, where the next generation of famous Uxbridge musicians will perform.

Regional Councillor Hight and I are both very engaged at the Region and we have been working on several files to ensure that Uxbridge receives its fair share of value for our tax dol-

lars. I have heard from many of you that you are disappointed with my support for the Regional vote for Airport Development in North Pickering. This was a difficult decision for me as I am not necessarily pro-airport, and I certainly don't want to see our greenspace compromised. This land was expropriated nearly 50 years ago in anticipation of building a future airport and I support having an airport provided there is demand for additional capacity in the GTA. I believe that, with or without my support (the vote was 20 for and six against), an airport will be built there at some point in future decades. The Township of Uxbridge needs a strong voice at the table when those airport lands are planned because it will give us the opportunity to ensure the impacts of that airport are taken into account and Uxbridge is not adversely affected. I am working very hard to make sure that we will have representation on that file moving forward. A vote against the airport would have helped my reputation short-term in Uxbridge, but it would have weakened our township's ability to shape how an airport affects our residents in the future. So I made the difficult choice to support it in order to be able to influence it.

I am happy to report that all councillors have been providing input to our local Durham Regional Police detachment and we have seen an increase in the enforcement of traffic offenses in our various communities. Please drive respectfully on our streets and highways. You can call DRPS at 905-579-1520 to report road safety concerns. If you see an incident in progress, call 911.

TOWN HALL

by Roger Varley

Notes from the June 17 Council Meeting

Possible new look for lower Brock?: In a report to council regarding the federal government's one-time top-up of its gas tax funding, treasurer Donna Condon indicated township staff would like to see a new look for lower Brock Street.

In March, Uxbridge received a payment equal to the \$650,000-plus it had received from the fund in 2018 in addition to the 2019 payment of \$642,000. The township has five years to spend the money, but it must go to infrastructure.

Condon's report said township staff has proposed that some of the money - \$350,000 - be spent on improving the lower end of Brock Street, with changes to the sidewalks, accessibility improvements, new street lighting to provide better illumination, surveillance cameras and more over the next two years.

Her report recommended that council approve the Brock Street improvements.

Mayor Dave Barton said there have not yet been any specific reports or recommendations on what the proposed improvements would involve or look like, especially on changes to sidewalks.

Rec rates going up: Parks and recreation manager Amanda Ferraro, now known as director of community services, provided council with a report on rates for municipal recreational facilities and programs that will see an average increase of three per cent on fees charged.

Ferraro said the rates are reviewed every two years.

Her report said fees for "pay as you go" services such as public skating sessions and public swimming will remain unchanged while the rest of the increases are in line with neighbouring municipalities.

YDHR on track, from page 1

"We're being pro-active," he said. "We've been lax on security over the years. Cameras won't stop vandalism."

Ward 1 councillor Pam Beach said "doing it the way we've always done it doesn't cut it anymore."

Among special runs planned for this year are two in July: Winnie's Train Festival on July 6 and the Teddy Bear Train on July 7. Later in the year will be the Polar Ex-

press and the Santa Train.

"It's a new day at YDHR," Perks said. "We needed a shake-up, but we could have done without the drama."



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Our two cents

We stand to lose a Fair bit

What would the reaction in Uxbridge be if it were announced that there would be no Uxbridge Fall Fair in September? Would there be outcry, dismay and disappointment, or would people just shrug their shoulders and say “who cares?”

We’re willing to bet that the former would occur, that there would be real sadness if this mainstay of Uxbridge life, this 155 year-old tradition, were to die. But die it may if no one cares enough to take it on.

We’re being a bit alarmist here, but with just cause. The *Cosmos* had a sit-down with Uxbridge Fall Fair manager Dave Dickie and president Bev Larva not long ago, and what we learned during our chat scared us. Our Fall Fair really is on the endangered species list, and it’s not, believe or not, because of a lack of money to run it. It’s due to a lack of *people*. The Fair Board is desperate for people to join and learn, not just for Fair weekend, but for the entire year.

Says Dave, “A succession plan is a real concern. What do we do when us, or [Rick and Nancy] the Hannahs, aren’t able to do it all anymore? What happens then?”

Both Bev and Dave are also convinced that many people in Uxbridge have the misconception that the Fall Fair is put on by the Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge. It’s not. It’s a separate entity, entirely unto itself, and run as such.

The cost of staging each Fair is about \$130,000. The Board that manages the event is *not* a Committee of Council and relies heavily on sponsorship for funding.

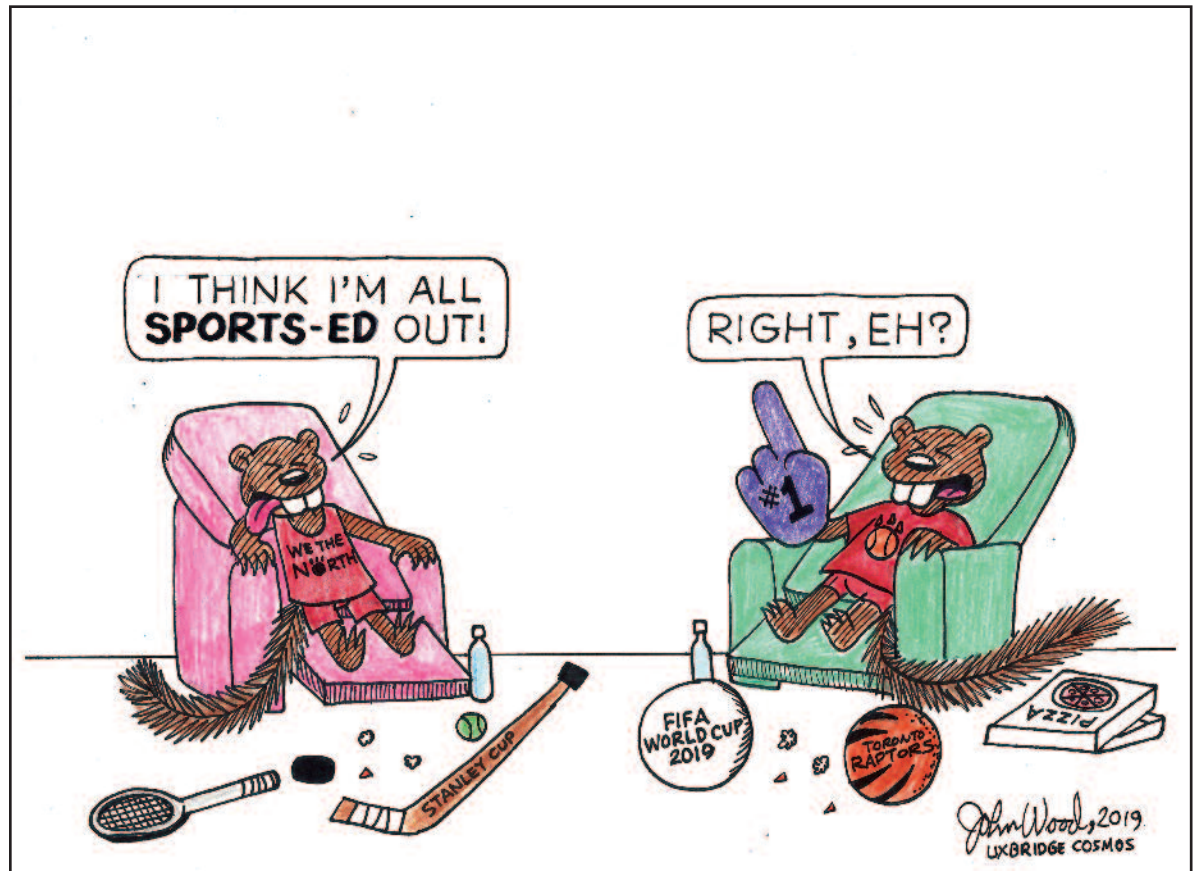
But as mentioned earlier, it’s not so much the money the Fair needs as it is the bodies to do the work. The Fair board currently consists of 18 directors and four executive. Dave says that board members are constantly overlapping jobs, which, in his words, is “ok, but I tell you, it leads to burn out, and that’s where we are now.”

Dave is quick to note that future Fair volunteers don’t have to have a background in fair or event planning, they just need to be able to think, to have ideas and to stick with it. As he said, many of the current volunteers have been putting on the Fall Fair for longer than many of us have lived here.

The Fair does get much-appreciated help through the partnerships its forming with other local organizations. The Bonner Boys do the Demolition Derby. The Uxbridge Horsemen’s Association oversees the horse activities. This takes a bit of the workload off the board, but it still wants people who are computer and social media savvy, people who are skilled at writing grants, people who are willing to commit the time and effort. The time commitment isn’t huge - one meeting a month, and then a pretty full week leading up to and including Fair weekend.

This year’s fair, with the theme “Farm Boots and Country Roots,” will be Sept. 6 - 8. On Thursday, June 27, Boston Pizza is hosting an Uxbridge Fair Celebrity Server day. Fair Board members will be there - while they’re bringing you your meal, ask them some questions about volunteering with the Fair. If you can help before, during or after the Fair, please contact Bev at chalngr@sympatico.ca

It just won’t be fair if Uxbridge loses its Fall Fair. Give it a Fair chance - you’ll be doing the future of fall fairs a big favour.



Letters to the Editor

The drive between Canadian Tire and the Walmart area is a traffic lane for the ease of shoppers. All too often I find when making this drive that I am stopped because of the overflow of self-entitled coffee drinkers who feel that their coffee comes before flow of traffic. I have even been stopped by individuals who block the lane by their stopped left turn be-

cause they are afraid another coffee drinker coming the other way may jump ahead of them.

There is ample room in the drive through lane within Tim Hortons drive, and I understand that a drive-through is necessary for the disabled or moms with children. However, when this drive-through lane is full it does not give one the right to block

the way in a public traffic area.

I know this is a radical thought, but if the drive-through lane is full, go park your vehicle and go into the shop and get your coffee. Just once, think of others and how your actions may impact others.

Ron Dempsey
Uxbridge

Smaller jackpot is still a big community win

The jackpot may not yet be huge, but purchasing a Catch the Ace progressive lottery ticket is still a win for both the ticket holder and three local charitable organizations.

Many Uxbridge residents and families already purchase Catch the Ace tickets on a weekly basis because they know the money supports Uxbridge. And as was evidenced earlier this year, many, more jump in as the jackpot grows and the \$5 ticket starts to look more attractive.

For those not “in the know,” 50 per cent of a \$5 contribution goes toward the weekly prize payout and building of the progressive jackpot. The other 50 per cent - \$56,000 from the first draw alone - was shared by Jumpstart Uxbridge, Uxbridge Legion Branch #170 and the Rotary Club of Uxbridge.

The Legion is not just a meeting place for Veterans and their families. It’s also the home of many wartime artifacts, to remind visitors of the horrors of war. Uxbridge’s Legion is a very important institution to the community. It also provides a meeting and training facility for various community organizations at little or no charge, such as the Pipe band, Uxbridge Swim Club, experience, the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital, North Durham Community Services and the Uxbridge Cadet Corp #76.

Jumpstart Uxbridge, a local initiative sponsored by Pat Higgins/Canadian Tire Uxbridge, provides access to organized sport for those who would not normally be able to afford it. In addition, it runs school programs that are designed for all children, to assist them in overall

development and focus. Last year Jumpstart Uxbridge supported over 1,600 local youth in various programs and with funding assistance for registration.

Finally, just a partial list of what the Rotary Club of Uxbridge supports locally: Uxbridge Youth Centre, Blue Heron Literacy Festival, Uxbridge Music Scholarship Trust, UOIT Scholarship, Precious Minds, Grandview Children’s Centre, Durham Farm and Rural Family Resources, Durham College Centre for Collaborative Education, experience, Brushmania and Uxbridge Blood Donor Clinics. The list goes on.

Your \$5 “Catch the Ace” ticket is not only a chance to win the weekly progressive lottery, but an investment in the many programs and services available to all ages in Uxbridge.

Zephyr Road summer road closures

The Regional Municipality of Durham Works Department is advising residents of road closures and lane restrictions on Zephyr Road (Regional Road 13), from Concession 5 to 750 metres east of Concession 5.

These restrictions/closures will occur starting Monday, June 24 through to Monday, July 22. Some lane restrictions will occur intermit-

tently from Monday, June 17 to Friday, August 30. Please be advised that unfavourable weather conditions may influence the work schedule.

Work being done includes road excavation, laying of a new road base and asphalt, culvert replacements, ditching, new storm sewer, concrete curb and gutter, and installation of a steel beam guide rail.

The Region realizes that the work is

disruptive, and will make every effort to complete the work as quickly and efficiently as possible. Drivers are asked to exercise caution for the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and the work crews.

For more information about Regional construction, design and environmental assessment projects, visit durham.ca/WorksProjects.

The Uxbridge 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.

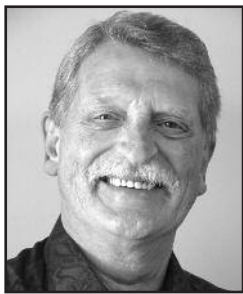
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Am I Wrong?

column by Roger Varley

Animal welfare left in limbo

As of eight days from now, there will be little to no help for animals in Ontario who are victims of mistreatment or neglect. Dear Reader, let that fact sink in a little.

On June 28, the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) will cease investigating any complaints of cruelty, causing suffering or neglect. They were going to have to do that at the end of the year anyway, given that an Ontario court ruled in January that the OSPCA's police powers to enforce federal and provincial animal cruelty laws were unconstitutional since it is a private organization. The court gave the government a year to solve the problem.

But, for some reason, the OSPCA decided to stop looking into cruelty and neglect cases six months before it had to, leaving nothing to take its place. From here on in, most cases of animal cruelty and neglect will have to be handled by police. Now of course, every police force on the planet claims to be undermanned, but taking over the cases the OSPCA used to handle will just add to their workload. However, there's a small helping hand from the ministry of agriculture which will take on cases of agricultural animal mistreatment.

So what is the government doing about the situation? It is sending out members of its team, like Pickering-Uxbridge MPP and cabinet member Peter Bethlenfalvy, to gather the opinions of municipal leaders and look for others to take on the OSPCA role. Bethlenfalvy came to Uxbridge last Friday, along with a representative from the community safety ministry, and met with Mayor Dave Barton, Chief Administrative Officer Ingrid Svelnis and Chief Bylaw Officer Kristina Bergeron.

Svelnis said they told the MPP that it would be difficult for local animal control services to handle the wide spectrum of cases that the OSPCA dealt with.

Clerk Debbie Leroux said the township's animal control officers don't get involved in cases of cruelty or neglect, noting that the locals are only allowed to pick up stray dogs and cats - and the occasional stray bunny - and have no authority to seize an animal from its owner. She said even if they located a puppy mill the only thing they could do is charge the owner with having more dogs than the municipal bylaw allows.

She said the province shouldn't even think

about downloading the OSPCA's responsibilities onto the municipalities.

"We aren't equipped to take it on and we'd need a great deal of training."

Leroux summed up the situation succinctly: "It's a big void right now."

If any of you should think this is small potatoes, nothing to get too steamed up about, I would remind you it's all around us. A couple of months ago, a family in Stouffville was found guilty after 13 dead and 15 starving horses were found on their property. And it's only a couple of years ago when there was something of a furor over the owner of the Bowmanville Zoo (now defunct) beating a tiger with a whip.

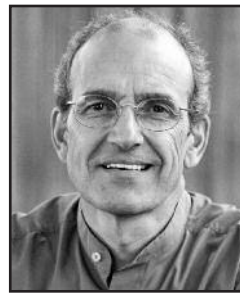
But a couple of questions come to mind. First: if the government knew almost four months ago that the OSPCA was going to call it quits, why did it wait until eight days before the deadline to go and find some answers? My guess is they really don't care that much, as demonstrated by their lack of compassion for other vulnerables. Second: apart from the animals, who else is going to be hurt by whatever solution the government comes up with? My guess is the local taxpayer.

Since the Ford government is extremely unlikely to form some new provincial group to take over all animal cruelty and neglect cases - a sort of OPP-PCA if you will - there's only two logical alternatives: local police forces or local animal control. And given how Ford cuddles up to the police and will have a sympathetic ear to their complaints, local municipalities could find themselves on the hook. Of course, the government will offer compensation, but no matter what the compensation is, you can bet it won't cover all the municipalities' costs.

So who looks out for animals now while we're in this "big void"? All I can think of is us, by staying alert and keeping our eyes open. Stay aware at petting farms, midways, carnivals, zoos, around cars on hot days. But mostly we need the rural people. They're the ones most likely to see hints of agricultural animal neglect, and I know they care about animals because I read the Facebook groups in the hamlets.

It seems to me that until those who must be obeyed get their ducks in a row, we're the only hope some of these animals have.

Tell me, am I wrong?



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

Putting a face on The Rock

We met a hundred feet underground. The walls around us consisted of a seam of iron ore. It was about six degrees Celsius in there, but she said the temperature never changed year-round. At one point, when she turned out the lights and lit a single candle, she explained that was all the light miners had during their digging shifts - 10 hours a day, six days a week - year after year. Then, she made the whole place human. She said her dad had worked there in the 1950s, lost the lower part of his leg in a mining accident, but was able to joke about it.

"He wagered strangers he could put a foot down in one spot and his other 25 feet away," she said. "When they bet he couldn't, he took off his prosthetic foot and tossed it 25 feet away."

Our tour down the No. 2 Bell Island Mine and Museum, in Newfoundland, could have bored me to tears. After all, as we discovered, it was just a 600-foot-long, 17-foot-wide hole in the ground, dark, cold and responsible for some of the bleakest conditions working people in the deeps in Atlantic Canada have ever known. But because our guide, Geraldine Hibbs, related it to her father, somehow the place seemed almost human. Every once in a while, she asked those of us on the tour, last Sunday, if we were feeling cold.

"We've got lots of shovels lying around," she said sarcastically, "if you want a bit of exercise." In its heyday, this mine that stretched for kilometres under the Atlantic Ocean floor gave work to thousands of Newfoundlanders. And its miners yielded some of the richest deposits of iron ore in the world, shipping them as far away as the U.S., Scandinavia and Germany. In fact, when the Second World War broke out, Nazi U-boats torpedoed and sank four ore carriers docked at Bell Island to prevent the ore from getting to wartime steel producers in North America. But the mine closed in 1966 and the population of Bell Island shrank from 12,000 to 1,400 almost overnight.

At the St. John's museum known as The Rooms, we explored the province everybody here calls "The Rock," from its prehistory to its 21st century cultural heroes. But I knew I'd found the marrow of this place when I sat with local archivist Gene Quigley, who's compiled personal Newfoundland history from its rich Irish, Scottish and English roots, to its Second World War heroes.

"Back in 2008, nobody'd bothered to ask the vets any questions," Quigley said, "So I did. And I discovered the way Newfoundlanders

served and died in the war."

When it was finally time to stop touring and rest our weary tourist bones over the weekend, we found what could have been just another anonymous watering hole in St. John's. Stuck between a federal office building and one of those picture post-card "I am yellow today" downtown residences, a narrow staircase led to a third-floor doorway.

"This is a private officers' club. Members only," the sign on the door read. "Make yourself known to the staff."

Which we did. The bar inside was nearly empty of patrons when - as the sign instructed - we identified ourselves. And we could have sat there quietly taking in the collection of decades-old crests, plaques and navy artifacts occupying every nook and cranny of the place. Except that, like in the Bell Island mine and the St. John's archives, the Crow's Nest officer's club has a bar manager who's a raconteur. Joy Griffin dazzled us with the tales of dignitaries she said had visited the site of the Crow's Nest - Admiral Nelson, Captain Bligh (of "Mutiny on the Bounty" fame), and during the annual Confederation masquerade night, Winston Churchill, Amelia Erhardt and Newfoundland's father of Confederation and first premier, Joey Smallwood.

"But the best of them all, though, was Arthur Barrett," she said. "Pilot who flew tours in Bomber Command during the war."

She looked to the stool where Arthur sat for years, and she spoke about him as if he were still there, at age 95, regaling patrons about air-crew he'd known, missions he'd flown and the hard-fought victory they'd brought home. Joy told us Arthur had lost a brother in the air war, but after the war returned to Newfoundland, worked as a broadcaster, and brought drama and classical music to outposts around the province. She missed him dearly.

"I feel lucky to have known him," Joy said. When we'd finished our refreshments and paid our tab, we knew we'd enjoyed the best travel experience of all. Our thirst for some Newfoundland history had been quenched not by facts, figures and glass-encased artifacts, but by guides, archivists and bartenders who offered the stories of real people who'd lived extraordinary lives kept alive in an island tradition of aural storytelling.

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

What happens when you don't advertise?

Very little.

COMING UP

THIS WEEKEND

Thurs., June 20: Uxbridge Loaves & Fishes Food Bank Annual General Meeting. 10 a.m., St. Andrew's Chalmers Presbyterian Church, Ladies Parlour. Members of the public welcome. Questions? 905-852-6262.

Sat., June 22: Uxbridge United Church Yard & Bake Sale. 8 a.m. - 12 noon.

Sat., June 22: Yoga in the Park for Charity. 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Elgin Park. Cost: \$10 (\$5 for kids). Outdoor Yoga with Julie Thayer, supporting Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity, rain or shine. Bring your own mat & water bottle. All ages & skill levels welcome. Family Friendly.

Sun., June 23: Sandford Cemetery's Decoration Day. 2 p.m.



Please join us in wishing a
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NEXT WEEK

Mon., June 24: Claremont Garden Club meeting - Growing the Romantics-Roses, Peonies & Irises. Guest speaker: Master Gardener Joan Bostock. Claremont United Church, 7 p.m. for refreshments (bring your mug), presentation starts at 7:30 p.m. \$5 for guests. Visit claremontgardenclub.ca for further details.

Tues., June 25: North Durham Nature presents Cattails and Phragmites: Changes in our Wetlands. Uxbridge Seniors' Centre, 7 p.m. Speaker Sara Pieper (Trent University). All welcome - \$10 donations accepted to cover costs, members free.

Thurs., June 27: Boston Pizza & Uxbridge Fair Celebrity Server Day. From 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. 10% of all

proceeds will be donated to the Uxbridge Fall Fair. Prizes & a raffle table also available.

Fri., June 28: Uxbridge Leaskdale Lions Club All-You-Can-Eat Spaghetti Dinner. Uxbridge Hall, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Adults \$15. Children 13 to 6 \$5. Under 6 free.

UPCOMING

Fri., July 5: Blood Donor Clinic. Uxbridge Seniors' Centre, 1:30 - 7:30 p.m. Refreshments provided by the Uxbridge Rotary Club.

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.

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Sheila & Stephen Leeming, of Sandford, are overjoyed with the safe arrival on February 24, 2019, of twin granddaughters, born at 33 weeks...



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Sunday
Rose,
4 lbs 7 oz

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Sunday
Rose,
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New coalition to probe poverty in Uxbridge

A new initiative is taking shape to address the needs of those living on the margins in poverty. The "Uxbridge Poverty Coalition" hosted a community information forum on Wednesday, June 19, at St. Paul's Anglican Church, in Uxbridge.

According to Rev. Mark Kinghan of St. Paul's Anglican Church, the idea stemmed from conversations between Bev Northeast of the Salvation Army, Mona Emond of North House, and himself about how "to do something that can make a difference for the poor of our community."

"We see two primary functions for the coalition: (1) to educate ourselves and the community about what poverty looks like in Uxbridge; and (2) to develop ways to engage in conversations with those living in poverty to hear firsthand from them their experience and their greatest needs. From this, we hope to develop an action plan to address what we learn and implement partnerships that build on existing social agencies and their work."

Although the initial meeting had already occurred by press time, Kinghan says organizers hope this becomes a community initiative involving anyone who is interested, including other faith communities of Uxbridge, politicians, landlords, and social service agencies.

For more information, email revmk.stpauls.uxbridge@gmail.com or telephone 905-852-7016.

Summertime is tea time with LMMSO

Any time is a good time for a good cup of tea. Some of the best summer teas are hosted by the Lucy Maud Montgomery Society of Ontario, and on July 10, the LMMSO begins its season with the first of six summer teas.

These teas are one of the LMMSO's main fundraising events of the year, drawing patrons from a wide area. Tea includes a five-course meal, tea, a speaker and a tour of the Historic Leaskdale Church and Montgomery's home, all for \$25.

The first tea features well-known speaker Koidu Sulev from Richter's Herbs. Sulev has many years of experience and knowledge of herbs and will share her expertise on creating container gardens with the most useful and popular herbs.

Other summer tea topics include: an exploration of sea buckthorn; how to make an artisanal flute; the history of photography and how it transformed the world; and seeing the beauty of flowers through the eye of an accomplished artist or through garden design. For more information visit lucymaudmontgomery.ca

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Classifieds are \$10/week up to 25 words; \$0.10 per additional word (plus HST). Payable in advance by cash, cheque, debit or credit card. Contact Lvann@thecosmos.ca or 905-852-1900 Deadline: Tuesday, 12 noon. Ask about online link possibilities, too.

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GARAGE SALE: Sat., June 22, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. 39 McGuire Cres., Uxbridge. Rain date: Sun., June 23.

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NOTICE

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Lien due to unpaid training bills in the amount of \$12,994 plus an additional \$7,400 in shipping, boarding, and auction fees, R.S.O. 1990, c. 1.7, s. 3(1). The Benlolo's' shares of aforementioned horses to be auctioned off at 11499 Regional Road 30, Mount Albert, ON, L0G 1M0 by Auctioneer Jim Young. Auction will take place on July 5th, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.



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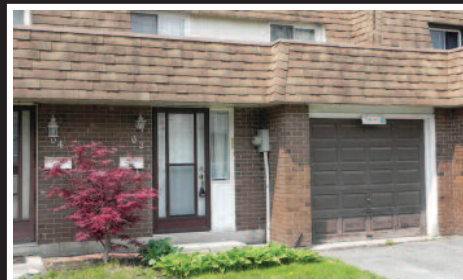
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