

The Uxbridge COSMOS



Volume 16 No. 19

YOUR UNIVERSE

Thursday, May 14, 2020

**100% of Commission
Earned Directed to
The Uxbridge Loaves
& Fishes Food Bank!**
Some conditions apply.



Patrick Bryant
Broker of Record
www.PatrickBryant.ca
Cell 905-439-2033



MAKING GOOD ON A PROMISE - Natasha Remtulla, right, smiles broadly as she shaves her husband Sameer's head on Tuesday afternoon. Remtulla, owner and pharmacist at Pharmasave Uxbridge, offered his locks up as part of a community challenge to raise donations for the Uxbridge Loaves & Fishes Food Bank. For more on the challenge, as well as some added incentive to encourage donations, see story on page 7.

Photo by John Cavers

Inside Your Cosmos

Filling bottles for babiespage 3

COVID updatepage 8

PHARMASAVE

Uxbridge Medical Pharmacy

*Your independent neighbourhood pharmacy
& Home Health Care Centre*

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DELIVERY
— and —
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PICKUP**



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29 Toronto St. S., Uxbridge | 905-862-2800

Helping Hands makes connections during COVID

by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

A Facebook page that was formed to reach out to people at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic has quickly morphed into one of the town's most popular social media pages, and no one is more surprised than the two women who created it.

"'Uxbridge Helping Hands' was just supposed to be something we did to help the community out, help people who needed groceries, maybe some babysitting while the kids were at home but people were still working," explains Lori Shaw, a founder of the group.

Shaw, along with friend Danielle Cameron, both Uxbridge residents with backgrounds in sales and online marketing, started the Facebook page on March 16 with the intent to be "a group where residents of Uxbridge, Ontario, can come together to support other Uxbridge residents during times of need." But changes in

social distancing regulations and the eventual shutdown of most businesses meant that those who had signed on to help out could no longer offer their services as intended. Shaw and Cameron moved with the changes, however, and helped the page move its focus to supporting the local businesses. This led to online raffles, theme days, and money going not only to local businesses but charities as well.

A post on the page last Sunday summed it up: "To date, our group has probably donated close to \$4,000 to local charitable organizations, either through raffles run through our page or calls for donations directly to the charities.

The charities we have helped are: Loaves and Fishes [Food Bank], Cam's Kids, The Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity, Sunrise Pregnancy, and the Uxbridge-Scugog Emergency Pet Food Bank, among others."

The post goes on to relay that, since the raffles began, approximately \$50,000 has been con-

tributed to local businesses. It also points out that the businesses are not just limited to those with storefronts in town, but extends to many of the home-based businesses that, according to Shaw, are "still vital to our economy. These people still pay taxes in Uxbridge, and they spend the money they earn in other local shops. If we all can keep doing that, we can continue to keep Uxbridge and the community together."

Shaw says she sees the page as not only being good for businesses and charities, but as a good social outlet too. And it's one that, so far, doesn't seem to have an equal anywhere else on Facebook.

"I haven't seen another town or group that's done this. And we're more than happy to share what we've got going on. I don't think I've seen the same level of community anywhere else. It's been an interesting social experiment, watching how this has turned out," says Shaw.

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MORE INFO  www.uxbridge.ca

Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for May, 2020

Monday, May 18

NO MEETING – VICTORIA DAY

Wednesday, May 20, 7:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL COMMITTEE OF
ADJUSTMENT

Wednesday, May 25, 7:00 p.m.

New Time: 10:00 a.m.

VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING

Check the Calendar of Events at Uxbridge.ca
for upcoming Virtual Advisory Committee
meetings.

Township of Uxbridge Employment Opportunities

Full details on employment opportunities with
the Township of Uxbridge can be found at
Uxbridge.ca/careers

Uxbridge Historical Centre - EXHIBITION
& BUILDINGS ASSISTANT
Closing Date: May 15, 2020

Uxbridge Historical Centre -
MUSEUM SERVICES
ASSOCIATES (2)
Closing Date: May 15, 2020

Bids & Tenders

All current bid opportunities are posted to
uxbridge.ca/tenders

The Township continues to accept bids and
tenders – all bids must be received by the
Township, by the deadline stated. Bids may be
delivered electronically or mailed to P.O. Box
190, 51 Toronto St. S., Uxbridge or left in our
'Red Barn' drop box located at 51 Toronto
Street South. In person submission of bids and
tenders are not being accepted at this time due
to the Township office closure. Public tender
openings will not be held until further notice.

Seniors Social Check-In Project

Are you a senior who would like to stay
connected by receiving updates on Township
and local resources and initiatives? Sign up for
our Seniors Social Check-In Project by emailing
hjarvis@uxbridge.ca or calling 905-852-9747.
Our telephone check-ins are intended to be a
source of information to help guide you
through these next few weeks and months,
while also giving you an opportunity to chat
with someone new.

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



This community appreciates the dedication and hard work of all those who:
Clean and disinfect, keep our drinking water safe, keep our roads maintained,
keep the electricity flowing, provide emergency help, keep us safe, ensure we
have access to food, and are involved in health care.

We are very grateful for all you are doing.
Thank you, from all Township residents!

Updates, Closures & Cancellations

All Township of Uxbridge facilities are closed **until further notice**. Visit

uxbridge.ca/en/news/facility-closure-notice.aspx

for updates. Call our main line or email our general mailbox with inquiries.

Local Resources to Assist - Do you need help, or can you help?

Visit

uxbridge.ca/en/news/resources-to-assist-businesses-and-residents.aspx

for links related to support provided by
local organizations, various levels of
government, and reliable health sources.

Craving Fresh Air and Exercise?

Area trails remain open.

Follow

uxbridge.ca/en/news/walking-trails-open.aspx

to plan your next excursion, and remember to
maintain proper social distancing from other
visitors.

Street Sweeping

Street sweeping has begun and will take 6 –
8 weeks to complete. Please try not to park
on the streets during this time. Sand may be
raked into the curb/gutter but please do not
leave sand in piles or in pails, as these will not
be picked up. Any areas that are missed due
to parked cars will be redone after all
sweeping is complete.

Below is the schedule for sweeping:

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

(The town portion is divided into 4 areas
with Brock & Main Streets as the centre
point.)

Temporary closure

Victoria Street from Brock Street West to
King Street West, on Sunday, May 17
from 7am-3pm.

Uxbridge Township Board & Committee Appointments 2018-2022

The Council of the Township of Uxbridge
invites applications from members of the public
who are qualified electors of the Township of
Uxbridge who wish to have their names
considered for appointment for the remaining
term of Council (expiring Nov.30, 2022) to the
Santa Claus Parade Committee. The Township
is searching for dedicated, results-oriented
volunteers for this committee with varying
skills/backgrounds specifically in the areas of:

- event management/marketing/planning
- volunteer management
- parade planning
- design & creative capabilities
- strong communication skills

Special consideration will be given to:

- owners of commercial buildings/business in Uxbridge
- representatives from local service groups
- representatives from the agriculture sector

The Township will be looking to this team of 7-
9 individuals to plan and implement the
2020-2022 Santa Claus Parade. The Township

is recognizing 2020 as the 60th Anniversary of
the Uxbridge Santa Claus Parade.

Anyone interested in offering their services, and
would accept an appointment is invited to
submit a Volunteer-Committee Member
Application Form available on the Township's
website

uxbridge.ca/en/your-local-government/boards-committees-and-initiatives.aspx

along with a letter of interest outlining relevant
qualifications and experience/background to
the undersigned by **4:30 pm on Wednesday,
May 20, 2020.**

Any questions regarding these appointments
may be directed to the undersigned:

Debbie Leroux, Director of Legislative
Services/Clerk
P.O. Box 190, 51 Toronto Street South,
Uxbridge, ON L9P 1T1
Telephone: 905-852-9181
Fax: 905-852-9674
e-mail: dleroux@uxbridge.ca



We're looking for you!

The Uxbridge BIA (Business Improvement
Area) Board of Directors is seeking a dynamic
and experienced professional to join our team
as a part-time Administrative & Membership
Services Coordinator (12-month contract).

Supporting the efforts of the BIA, this person
will act as the key contact for all Uxbridge BIA
inquiries and will aid in developing and
strengthening new and ongoing relationships
with both businesses and customers, fostering
community engagement in the spirit of "Think
Uxbridge First." Reporting to the Township

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), and BIA
Chair and Board of Directors (approximately
20-30 hours per week), your duties and
responsibilities will include, but are not limited
to, administration, membership engagement,
communications and special events
coordination. Applications must be received no
later than May 25, 2020.

Applicants may submit a detailed cover letter
and resumé to dleroux@uxbridge.ca with
'Uxbridge BIA Administrative Coordinator
Application' as subject line. Alternatively, please
mail your submission in a sealed envelope
identifying the position being applied for and
marked "Confidential" to the attention of:

Debbie Leroux,
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
Township of Uxbridge
51 Toronto Street South,
P.O. Box 190 Uxbridge
ON L9P 1T1



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

Annual baby bottle fundraiser goes online

by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

We may be living through a rare global pandemic, but that doesn't mean that babies have stopped being born, and families have stopped needing support. In fact, having a child during this stressful time can leave new parents feeling even more overwhelmed than under normal circumstances.

Sunrise Pregnancy and Family Support Services is a local organization that offers free, confidential and non-judgmental pregnancy and parenting support to women and families, and like other charities and organizations, has moved its programs online.

It's moved its Parenting Support Group online and offers phone/video check-ins for any families in need of extra support. Sunrise also has a 24/7 phone line for crisis pregnancy support and can offer transportation and accompaniment for essential appointments. It also delivers food vouchers (in partnership with Food for Thought), diapers, clothing, and supplies to families in the community.

As always, however, the group needs outside support to offer these services.

"Normally, we pass out baby bottles to the community and ask you to fill them with your loose change," says Sunrise program coordinator Esther Veens. "But, since not much is normal these days, we're switching it up!"

On Mother's Day, Sunrise launched its first "Virtual Baby Bottle Drive." Visit sunriseuxbridge.com/events/ to be directed to the online fundraiser.

"If you prefer to collect cash, feel free to use a bottle, jar, ziploc, etc., and call or email us for pick up!" says Veens. Cheques can also be mailed to P.O. Box 1807, Uxbridge, L9P 1N9. Tax receipts can be provided for donations over \$20, and the fundraiser goes until Father's Day, June 21.

"To all of you parents out there: We see you!" exclaims Veens. "This is a challenging time for everyone right now, but parents, especially those parenting alone, have so much to juggle with little support. If you're struggling, financially or emotionally, please reach out."

www.sunriseuxbridge.com

Popular eatery reinvents itself on main street of town

by Roger Varley

The Tin Mill Restaurant is no more: long live the Tin Restaurant.

Don Andrews, co-owner of the former Tin Mill Restaurant, which was located on Toronto St. N. in the site of an old tannery, says plans to refurbish the old TD Bank building at Brock and Main Streets have been put on hold indefinitely because of the COVID-19 shutdown and the ensuing difficult economic situation. He said the design and costing stage of relocating the Tin Mill to the bank building took longer than originally anticipated, and then the coronavirus hit.

As a result, he and his business partner, Conrad Lepine, decided their plans needed to evolve. To that end, they have redesigned their Tin Cup Caffé on Brock St. W. into the Tin Restaurant. The retrofit includes a new kitchen at the rear, and the coffee counter has been replaced by a long bar-counter running along the east wall. The new arrangement reduces seating from 30 down to 26.

Although government restrictions still mandate that restaurants offer take-out only, Andrews says the Tin Restaurant has a full menu, including artisanal pizzas. The new menu can be accessed at www.tinrestaurant.ca.

Andrews said the government-mandated shutdown meant he had to lay off most of his staff, but noted they

have all been able to take advantage of government benefits. He added that most of them will return once the restaurant is allowed to fully open. Once that happens, the restaurant's reduced hours will gradually be extended.

In the meantime, hand sanitizer is available for staff and customers coming in to pick up orders, and physical distancing will be maintained.

Right: the newly refurbished interior of the Tin Cup Caffé, now called Tin Restaurant.

Photo - Facebook



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What's open & closed in Uxbridge

continues to be updated daily online. Visit thecosmos.ca for the latest.

This list is a free community service offered by The Cosmos.

The Cosmos is not responsible for any changes/alterations that may affect individual businesses.

The Uxbridge
COSMOS

BUSINESSES:

Do you have more
to publicize?

Let The Cosmos help!

Lvann@thecosmos.ca

for details

Our two cents

Hangin' tough

As of this writing, it appears the Ontario government will extend its COVID-19 emergency for another 19 days. Presumably that means Ontarians are going to be asked to stay home for at least another three weeks or so. This is not the news most want to hear, but it is not unexpected.

Despite the government's decision to open provincial parks and conservation areas for "limited" use - i.e. no overnights, no camping - plus moves to make it easier for stores to offer curbside pickups, evidence would seem to indicate that relaxing the restrictions too soon will only make things worse.

We've already been staying home and practicing social distancing for two months now, so another two or three weeks should be doable. Most of us have adapted to the circumstances and found ways to live with the inconveniences brought on by this pandemic. If we give up now, if we move too quickly to open things up, all we've been through so far will be for nothing.

No one wants their loved ones to contract this disease or die because of it. So why are so many ready to risk it all just for the sake of having their hair done or eating in a restaurant? One of our regular contributors is beginning to resemble the proverbial wild man from Borneo, but it doesn't hinder his life in any way. Getting a haircut is not worth taking a chance on either being infected or infecting someone else.

Having said that, it is long past time for our government leaders to stop sending mixed messages or breaking the rules themselves. For example, Premier Doug Ford has admitted he went to his cottage recently and was also visited by his daughters. Everyone else is told to stay away from their cottages and not have visits from family members. Whatever excuses Ford came up with to explain his flouting of the rules just don't cut it. And deputy prime minister Chrystia Freeland is now contemplating allowing more traffic across the Canada-U.S. Border. Given the reckless behaviour of many Americans by attending mass protests, ignoring social distancing, attending church services and so on, it seems to us that instead of increasing border traffic, Freeland should be closing the border tighter to stop Americans spreading the virus even more.

There are, however, a couple of bright notes. Seniors who receive Old Age Security and the Guaranteed Income Supplement likely will see an additional tax-free \$500 deposited in their bank accounts soon. The number of new COVID-19 cases and deaths in Ontario appears to be in a slow but gradual decline. And the weather is supposed to warm up on the weekend.

We can hang tough, Uxbridge. But more importantly, we *must* hang tough.

When one of these disappears, A LOT disappears.



Support our local businesses so they can support The Cosmos.

Because without them, we can't continue to deliver the news you want and need.

The Uxbridge COSMOS

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Advertising/Sales: 905-852-1900

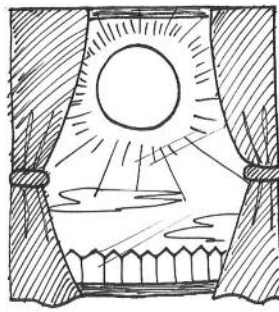
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E-mail: Lvann@thecosmos.ca Web site: Thecosmos.ca

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Friday to 4 p.m.

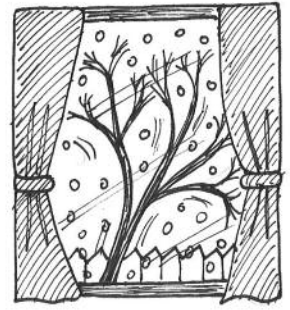
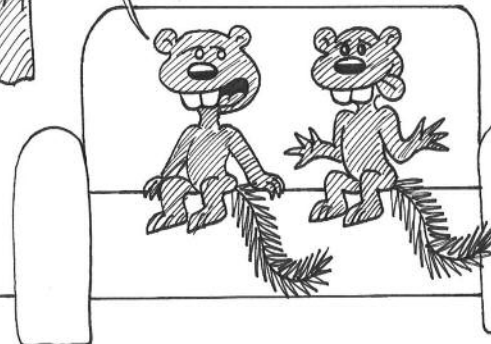
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9,500 copies of The Cosmos are published each Thursday in the Township of Uxbridge: 8,800 delivered by mail, 700 available in stores and boxes.



WHAT DAY IS IT TODAY?!



John Wood, 2020
UXBRIDGE COSMOS

Letters to the Editor

Wanted - Bird Box Buddies !

If you walk the town trails regularly and enjoy birds, then they need you.

By keeping track of bird activity at a bird house you can help them have a successful summer and help their babies survive.

To find out more contact Derek Connelly by email at ndnature7@gmail.com

Derek Connelly
Uxbridge

I'd like to provide an update on the hauling of fill in the township.

1. They [site operators] said they had notified all the neighbours in the area and yet it was close-by neighbours who were surprised this fill operation was happening.
2. There is testing going on with this fill operation and the reports come to the township through Soil Flo GPS software.
3. I requested a speed board be placed on Hwy. 47 (seeing as it will be a while before the region installs the photo radar), as the trucks were using Hwy. 47 like a speedway, and we have children and pets living in town. The route council agreed upon was the hamlet.
4. Township Clerk Debbie Leroux has answered all the questions and has been fantastic.

being found in the soil. There is a policy in place with the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) that all pits keep the overburden in the pit to be used to rehabilitate the pit.

The amount of fill in total is 85,000 cu/meters which is 8,500 trucks, and the contract doesn't expire until June 1, 2023.

I know these tests will hopefully assist in stopping all contaminated soil, but I do not agree with fill operations to just fill a pit. I accept that fill operations are a necessity sometimes to expand a business, i.e. ski hills, or for farmers, for building, etc., but not just to fill a pit when there is a policy to rehabilitate pits through the province.

When is a gravel pit no longer a gravel pit? Here in the township they haul gravel and fill into the pits and we live with these open pits for well over 25 plus years, when the policy with MNR was and (to my knowledge) still is "Progressive Rehabilitation."

We need to put pressure on MNR to "Progressively Rehabilitate" pits in the township.

Bev Northeast
Goodwood

Re: The Barris Beat, April 30 edition

Two loads were reportedly stopped due to hydrocarbon

I would just like to say a few words regarding the terrible

tragedy resulting in the needless loss of life in Nova Scotia, and to those who would try to use the tragedy to further their own agenda regarding legal guns.

I would like to offer the opinion that this sorry event was ultimately ended by a legal gun in the hands of a licensed and trained gun owner. Yes, a police officer. Nonetheless, the killing of innocents ended when the perpetrator's life was taken by, I'm assuming, a hand gun.

To those against legal gun ownership, I ask you this: When this seriously demented "illegal" gunman started his killing spree, would you have objected to a gun owner living nearby going to their locked gun cabinet, retrieving their own weapon and ending the life of this killer in the early minutes of his killing spree, rather than it taking the 13 hours it took the RCMP to track this killer down?

Taking guns away from those who wish to own them legally is not going to stop the seriously ill or criminally-minded people from getting possession of them. All the wishing in the world is not going to make that happen. Just as me wishing someone could have ended the senseless loss of life a whole lot sooner.

God bless those that lost their lives and all their loved ones.

Andrew Craddock
Sandy Hook



A Blonde Moment

column by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

A puzzling misery

This is the first time I've written a "Blonde" since the world shut down because of COVID-19. Not because I've been too horribly busy - quite the opposite, in fact. Like everyone else, I'm either at home, at the office, or planning my big weekly trip to the grocery store. Everything else went right out the window. I have only been outside the township to pick up newspapers from the printer's and collect a kid from university. And I am not complaining. At all.

I feel pretty confident in assuming that I am not the only person who is maybe, perhaps, just a little bit revelling in this monstrous shut-down of society. All my kids are under one roof, I'm cooking more, we're walking together, laughing together, working out together - and doing puzzles.

It's no secret that, since the pandemic really took on steam and forced us all into our homes, puzzles have become a leading source of family entertainment. In fact, according to a recent piece on CTVNews, Ravensburger, one of the world's leading manufacturers of jigsaw puzzles, has seen an astronomical rise in the number of both kids and adult puzzles since around March 14.

"In North America alone, the company reports a 370 per cent increase in organic sales year-over-year. 'What we saw in the last couple of weeks is a surge in demand that is equivalent to the likes of a Christmas surge, and that's really unprecedented for this time of year,' Stephane Madi, head of Ravensburger Canada, told CTVNews."

I received a 1,500 piece Ravensburger puzzle featuring an inviting, warm, relaxed photo of a tiny bay in Cinque Terra, Italy, about five or six years ago. I casually started it on a large board on a coffee table, popping in a piece here and there during the long winter months. But it took up space that I needed, so I got a puzzle mat, rolled up what little of it I had completed (the edges, of course, or what my eldest likes to call "The Crust"), and tucked it into what I considered was a fairly safe place. I often looked at the mat and the box containing the unfinished puzzle as I vacuumed around it, constantly saying to myself "I really must take that out and finish it one of these days."

One of those days happened to come sometime soon after March 14. I announced my resolve to restart the puzzle, and my husband cut me a new large board that I placed on top of my piano in the living room. The light was good, and I would have to stand to work on it,

so it seemed the perfect spot. I rolled open the mat, turned all the little pieces right side up, and set to work.

We (myself and whoever happened to wander by and help) managed to get "The Crust" re-assembled, and quickly realized that we were likely missing some pieces. My middle daughter tagged out then - she couldn't handle the incompleteness. I even sat down one day and went through every single piece just to make sure we hadn't overlooked any edge pieces. We hadn't. But on we forged.

The puzzle quickly took on a nickname - the F%&*^\$!puzzle. No spaces, no emphasis, just the F%&*^\$!puzzle. "Where's Mom? Oh, she's working on the F%&*^\$!puzzle." No one was reprimanded for foul language - it was just a name, like John or Karen.

The F%&*^\$!puzzle started to take over our lives. It made dinner late. It made workouts get skipped. It made early bedtimes non-existent. It made delicious glasses of wine go unnoticed, untouched. It made us all miserable.

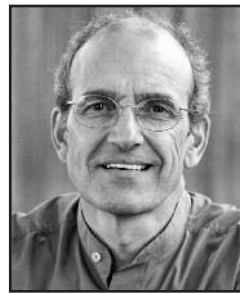
But I was determined. No puzzle that I had held on to for six years was going to get the best of me. Every day I'd walk up to it and, while trying to find a piece of waterfront, I'd calmly repeat "I hate this puzzle." My daughter threatened to flip it and burn it when I wasn't home. In a blind F%&*^\$!puzzle fury I told her I'd disown her. It had crept into my very soul, its happy coral-pink buildings with their green shutters mocking me when I tried to sleep at night, its lazy, Mediterranean vibe emanating scorn and contempt at me and my loved ones as we tried to put its dissected face back together. I needed to exorcise it from my brain, my being.

On Thursday, May 7, at approximately 8:30 p.m., I slid the last piece of the F%&*^\$!puzzle into place. I loudly announced to all within earshot "The F%&*^\$!puzzle is done!" Everyone rushed into the room, and we all hugged, jumped about and cried together, rejoicing in what this meant, not only for me (they'd finally get dinner), but for the universe (it just didn't need all that negative energy).

In total, it was missing 17 pieces, which I know would send many people screaming. I figure the pieces just got tired of waiting for placement and escaped up the vacuum cleaner to a better life.

I've since started a new puzzle, in the same place, and am enjoying it so much more. It doesn't even *have* a nickname.

Yet.



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

From isolation can come greatness

Imagine a curfew keeping you inside your home. You can. Imagine quarantine as if it were imprisonment. You can. Then, imagine coming up with a unique way to deal with your isolation by turning to one of your life skills. I imagine that you can do that too. That's what Victor Ullmann did, in 1942. Imprisoned at a place called Terezin, a concentration camp in Nazi-occupied Bohemia, Ullmann, a music composer by profession, wrote an opera inside the prison depicting his predicament. It was called *The Emperor of Atlantis*.

"It's a (musical) parable about a mad, murderous ruler," wrote a reviewer years later, "who proclaims universal war."

Born in Vienna, trained at the Second Viennese school, in Austria, and at the apex of his artistic abilities, in September 1942, Ullmann was deported to Terezin because he was also Jewish. Undeterred, the 44-year-old artist secretly composed songs, choir repertory, and charts for string quartets and piano sonatas inside the concentration camp. And though the camp's SS *Kommandantur* never allowed its performance (partly because the opera appeared to satirize Hitler), Ullmann's *Emperor* was smuggled out of Terezin in 1944, just as its composer was transported to the gas chambers at Auschwitz. The opera outlived the Nazis, however, and was staged first in Amsterdam in 1975, then in the U.S. and U.K. in 1977 and 1985 respectively.

I offer Viktor Ullmann's courageous story neither to exploit the tragedy of his murder nor to insult his memory with this comparison, but it strikes me that in spite of the hardships of widespread isolation - whether a manmade calamity or one born of natural causes - much greatness can come from within catastrophic events.

Pablo Picasso's depiction of the fascist bombardment of the Basque town of Guernica in 1937, further illustrates the point. The twisted, dismembered bodies of men, women and children and the shrieking of a horse amid the chaos in the streets, make Picasso's *Guernica* stand out as remarkable symbol of its time. The newly elected Republican government had asked the artist to create a painting for the Spanish Pavilion at the 1937 Paris World's Fair. But history overtook Picasso as the fascist forces of Francisco Franco (supported by Hitler's *Luftwaffe*) obliterated the pro-Republican northern village killing or wounding 1,600 civilians.

"I clearly express my abhorrence of the military caste which has sunk Spain into an ocean of pain and death," Picasso explained of his 20th century masterpiece.

In his time, William Shakespeare coped with

conditions not unlike COVID-19. The Bard lived in the late 16th century when all manner of pestilence ravaged England. Weeks after baby William was baptized in Stratford-upon-Avon, in 1564, the church registry recorded, *hic incepit pestis* (here begins the plague). Some suggest Shakespeare penned *King Lear* in the early 1600s, in the middle of another plague. We know this because instead of opening the play at public theatres, Shakespeare premiered it in front of the monarchy at the Palace of Whitehall. Add to that, Lear even curses his daughter with:

"Vengeance, plague, death, confusion," and calls her down as "a plague-sore." It's sad for all of us, that the current coronavirus has felled Canada's 2020 Stratford Festival season.

About five years ago, I travelled to Washington, D.C., and on a warm fall day was invited to visit a newly inaugurated park near the Pentagon. As I approached northwest side of the iconic building that day, a woman in a red Polo shirt with her name "Laurie Laychak" and her title "Volunteer" embroidered on it stood waiting. I introduced myself and asked if she would show me around the recently inaugurated park.

"This is the Pentagon Memorial Park," Laychak said. "This is where American Airlines Flight 77 struck the building on Sept. 11, 2001."

"Of course, the fourth hijacked jet during the 9/11 terrorist attacks," I said. "And what's your connection?"

"My husband David Laychak was literally at ground zero, where the plane hit the Pentagon," she explained, and she led me along inlaid granite walkways, past reflective ponds and Crape Myrtle trees to one of the 184 stainless steel memorial benches where her husband's name was inscribed. Laurie and I sat for an hour as she explained the aftermath of 9/11 - grieving a lost husband and helping their two children to recover. As painful as this place was for her, Laurie Laychak made her volunteer work a personal commitment to his memory and therapy for feeling so alone.

"I feel compelled to make sure visitors know these people were not numbers, but actual lives," she said.

A final point: In 1995, Viktor Ullmann's clandestine opera made its triumphant return to Terezin concentration camp. It was performed inside the very prison where Ullmann had composed it. In spite of Hitler, the Holocaust and his murder at Auschwitz, Ullmann's art had superseded curfew, imprisonment and isolation to showcase his brilliance forever.

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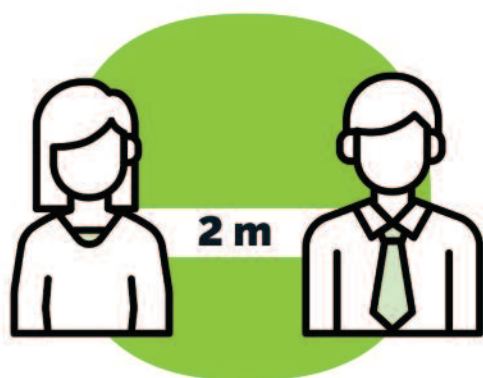
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Inside or out, stay safe. Save lives.

Loaves & Fishes Food Bank gets ahead - three bald heads, in fact

by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

“Our Community Matters” has long been a motto that Pharmasave Uxbridge has used in its advertising, and it has stood by it. But the onset of the novel coronavirus pandemic made the local pharmacy kick its community service readiness up a notch, and that dedication has lead to the loss of one beard, one head of hair, and two more heads are slated to be shaved.

“It’s only hair, it’ll grow back,” joked Pharmasave Uxbridge owner Sameer Remtulla after having his head shaved bald on Tuesday afternoon (see photo, page 1). Two weeks earlier he had shaved off his beard.

All this hair cutting isn’t taking place because the salons and barbers are closed due to the pandemic - it’s because Remtulla, wanting to raise money for the food bank, also wanted to “have a little fun.” On April 22, the pharmacy has raised over \$3,000 in donations to the Uxbridge Loaves & Fishes Food Bank, and Remtulla put out the challenge that, if the community pitched in and helped double that amount by the Victoria Day long weekend, he would shave off his beard. That challenge was met way ahead of schedule, and he shaved his beard off a mere eight days later. In the same April 22 post, he also committed to shaving

his head bald if donations reached \$9,000, and fellow pharmacist Sherry Doodchenko said she would shave her head if donations reached \$12,000.

Donations came in fast and furious, and before Remtulla could sharpen the blades on the electric razor, donations had surpassed the anticipated \$12,000 mark. So, at 4 p.m. Tuesday afternoon, Remtulla had his head shorn by his wife, Natasha, while his

two-and-a-half year old daughter Naila looked on, and the event was on Facebook Live.

Also in attendance was Mayor Dave Barton, who announced that he, too, would shave his head if donations, which had reached over \$13,000 at that point, reached \$20,000 by June 1.

“Businesses all over are helping out, and Sameer, you are the shining star, to make this kind of sacrifice for the

Food Bank is incredible,” said Barton.

Food and monetary donations can

be dropped off at the pharmacy, and monetary donations can be made via e-transfer at uxbridge.rx@gmail.com



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- We are supporting pregnant/new moms with prenatal and doctors appointments.
- We are doing what we can to alleviate the stress that many parents are facing with busy little ones, online schooling and lots on their minds by connecting them with resources and support.

We are accepting donations of diapers, wipes, craft supplies and food vouchers. Financial donations can also be made through our website.

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Got questions? Youth Centre says Ask Away

by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

With every student working and

learning at home during the COVID-19 pandemic, access to information and resources has be-

come a bit more limited. The Uxbridge Youth Centre (UYC) recently announced its "Ask Away" program. Ask Away is an online program where a community member who is a "community vip"/featured guest can post video responses to any questions that have been submitted through the website.

"The goal is to connect youth with important resources so they can get the answers they need in an efficient and accessible way," explains UYC program facilitator Dale McKnight.

The program is completely free to users and can cover any topic.

"It's a fantastic way for youth to get

free expert advice on certain topics," says McKnight.

The current VIP is Helen Daymond, a registered psychologist.

Youth are free to ask about anything that may be on their mind, for example: inquiring about stress relief techniques, or looking for tips for lifestyle changes during COVID, etc.

Youth can submit their questions at uxbridgeyouthcentre.com/programs/ask-away/

McKnight also says that the Youth Centre will soon be running online activities like art challenges and game events.

COVID-19 Uxbridge Update

As of Tuesday, May 14, Uxbridge had 39 reported and confirmed cases in the township, a number that has almost doubled in two weeks. Fourteen of these cases are currently in home isolation (this includes residents in long-term care and retirement homes); 16 cases have been resolve, and two are currently hospitalized. Seven residents have passed away from the virus - all but one of these were LTCH and RH residents.

For current updates on the status of COVID-19 cases in Durham Region, visit the COVID-19 Data Tracker at durham.ca/covidcases

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• All correct entries received weekly over the entirety of the Quarantainment Contest will be entered into a grand prize draw.

Last week's answers: Uxbridge Legion Entrance; H.H. Goode - Red Barn; Uxbridge Off Leash Dog Park; Bell in front of Uxbridge Public School; Bell in walk-thru at Hillside Plaza.

Student-focused financial literacy course free during school closures

A program that was partially founded and developed by an Uxbridge resident (and financed by one of the dragons from *Dragon's Den*) is providing its online financial literacy course free of charge for students until the end of the school year in June.

Enriched Academy is offering the teen-tailored course now because they have time at their disposal, and can use it wisely.

"We know parents are concerned that their children continue to learn at home during these uncertain times," says Kevin Cochran, president and co-founder of Enriched Academy, and Uxbridge resident. "Our online course is designed perfectly to help fill this need for parents."

Enriched Academy's online program is video-based and includes quizzes after each course, an online workbook and tools, plus a certificate of completion for each student.

According to the website, the online course entails learning the money and life skills that are often not taught in schools, including: Money Myths: Debunk common myths about money; Understanding Credit: Understand credit, credit scores and the fundamentals of credit cards and minimum payments; Student Loans: Learn the essentials about getting and paying back a student loan; Where Are You Today: Budgeting, saving and tracking your spending; and Career Mastery: Master the key skills you need to launch yourself into the working.

"We know this is an extremely stressful time for all Canadians from both a personal and financial health and wellness perspective," he continues. "Our hope is that students and families can use this time to invest in themselves with this crucial financial education while helping ease some of that stress."

Its website claims that Enriched Academy is one of Canada's "leading personal financial education providers, offering unbiased financial training through online courses, personal coaching and live events. Enriched has spoken to over 100,000 Canadians and helped educate some of the largest organizations in the country, including corporations, unions, high schools, the CFLPA, TransUnion, police associations, colleges and universities among others. Enriched Academy focuses on inspiring, honest education through simple, engaging language and easy techniques to understand finances."

For more details, and to sign up for the course, go to enrichedacademy.com

Garage/yard sales 'strongly discouraged'

by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

A letter from a concerned resident prompted council to have a discussion about whether to ban garage and yard sales in light of the ongoing COVID-19 social restrictions.

An email from Frank Charamonte was submitted to the Township asking that all garage and yard sales be banned during the COVID-19 pandemic. The email was on the agenda for Monday's council meeting, and Councillor Willie Popp, noting that the concern was "relevant," suggested that council have a discussion regarding the request.

Kristina Bergeron, manager of by-law for the township, pointed out that, under the provincial state of emergency declaration, municipalities were still forbidden from having gatherings of five or more people. She noted that this

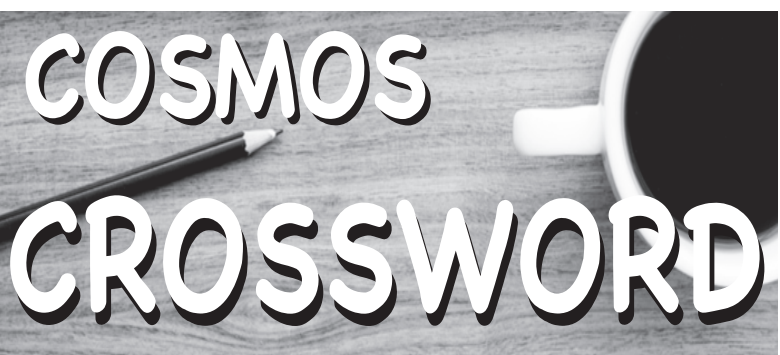
would include yard and garage sales, so an individual municipal by-law did not appear to be necessary.

"I think most people would be wary of attending something like this now anyway," said Bergeron. "I don't think it's going to be a major problem that arises."

Mayor Dave Barton said he agreed with Bergeron's advice.

"I suggest we don't jump into a by-law specific to COVID," he said, recommending instead that the township work other messaging that would not encourage the outdoor sales.

Council ultimately agreed that it would promote positive messaging that discouraged both hosting and attending yard and garage sales until the provincial emergency order is lifted.



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Across

- 1 One-third of a Beatles refrain
- 5 Peculiar
- 8 Nest part
- 12 Lab burner
- 13 Directly
- 14 Wheeze
- 15 Switchblade
- 16 Lure by flattery
- 18 Soccer blunder (2 words)
- 20 Bananalike plant
- 23 Polished
- 27 Martini ingredient
- 28 Winter Palace ruler
- 31 Chinese money
- 32 Auctioneer's sale
- 33 Big drinker
- 35 Word on a nickel
- 36 "Sitting on the dock of the bay" singer
- 38 Famous fiddler
- 39 Kiwi walk-alike
- 40 Sushi condiment
- 42 Proof of purchase
- 44 Kids' room item (2 words)
- 47 Form a base for
- 50 Cambodian money
- 54 Skyrocket
- 55 Absorbed, as a loss
- 56 Not to be trusted
- 57 Sleeves go here
- 58 Soaked
- 59 Mute performer

Down

- 1 For sure
- 2 Numerical ending
- 3 Florida blackbird
- 4 Disorder
- 5 Valhalla V.I.P.
- 6 Fertilizer
- 7 Someone who eats greedily or voraciously
- 8 Fedora
- 9 Funny person
- 10 Feverish
- 11 "Wow!"
- 17 Corn part
- 19 Scottish inventor
- 20 Burning
- 21 Flora and fauna
- 22 Opposers
- 24 Type of bit
- 25 Model Campbell
- 26 Get to final form (2 words)
- 29 Relative (3 words)
- 30 Gibbon, for one
- 34 Pink table wine
- 37 Heavy one-edge swords
- 41 Sticker
- 43 Computer storage medium
- 45 Spring day toy
- 46 Red vegetable
- 47 Dos Passos trilogy
- 48 Here ___ there
- 49 Hydroelectric project
- 51 "Rocky ___"
- 52 Wych or white
- 53 Soap ingredient

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- a licensed driver, preferably with a car

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Kim Nicholls, Uxbridge resident

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Mocking mom makes home video, ends up on *Good Morning, America*

by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

A video that started out in a subdivision in Uxbridge as a family joke has gone around the world on Facebook and now has more than 24 million views.

Melissa Dilkes Pateras saw that her kids were having a hard time with the isolation imposed by the coronavirus pandemic, so they all began having some fun, making videos while doing things like a driving lesson or a home haircut.

"I had been watching them, thought 'They're animals. I can't believe the mess they can make! Nobody's going anywhere, why am I doing laundry three times a day,'" recalls Dilkes Pateras with a laugh.

So she made a video showing what it would look like if adults acted like them. Daily, mundane tasks are involved - putting toothpaste on a toothbrush, pouring cereal in a bowl, even taking toilet paper off the roll in the bathroom. But Dilkes Pateras gave these seemingly ordinary tasks the look of the 7 - 17 crowd (the age range of her three children), set it to "ABC" by the Jackson Five, and the results are anything but ordinary.

She put it on Facebook on April 22 to share with friends and family, and later that night, her phone woke her up with the constant "ping" sound of Facebook alerts.

"It was like watching a slot machine, just shares after share," she says. She said that just two hours later the video had hit 50,000 shares. "I'd had other videos make 14,000 shares, and I thought that was a lot - I only have 500 friends!" she jokes.

The popular video made its way around the globe, from Australia to South Africa, and caught the attention of the daily tv show *Good Morning, America*.

"I did an interview with them a couple of days later, and it was completely unreal," says Dilkes Pateras.

Other media outlets, both social and mainstream, expressed interest and delight in the video. Rumour had it being passed along to popular talk show host and comedian Ellen DeGeneres (no word on what may happen with that), as well as landing in the hands of LadBible. Dilkes Pateras says she knows that some articles were written about it in France, and that a podcast had been done about it, as well.

Sites that have commented on and shared the video include Workingmother.com, upworthy.com, moms.com, and parentingisnteasy.com, to name a

few.

Dilkes Pateras says she thinks the video has been so popular because so many people can relate to it. And, because there is no speaking in it, the images are universal, everyone just "gets it."

She does joke that she had to do a follow-up video explaining what the white material was that she was pouring out of a bag and into a bowl - very few other places in the world have bagged milk.

This has, however, lead her to do many more videos.

"I do a lot of videos now! I've got thousands of followers now, all kinds of people who are thanking me, telling me I'm so funny, that I'm a bright spot in their life and that - people are really taking it really to heart," says Dilkes Pateras.

A friend did point out to her that, if she had released the video on YouTube she could have made almost \$100,000 by now.

"I'm not interested in making money on it, but I guess if it makes people laugh and smile and gets them out of feeling blue, I guess I'll keep on making videos. But I couldn't care less about the money.

The amount of laughing and fun we've had with this whole experience is worth WAY more than any money I could have earned on YouTube!" she says.

To watch Melissa Dilkes Pateras' hilarious video, follow the link on thecosmos.ca, or visit Facebook.

Pet food bank ensures furry friends aren't forgotten

by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

A few local volunteers have made sure that, while people face financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic, they won't have to choose between feeding their family or the family pet - they can do both.

The Emergency Uxbridge-Scugog Pet Food Bank is setting up shop right across the road from the Uxbridge Loaves & Fishes Food Bank, in the parking lot of the township municipal offices at 51 Toronto St. S.

"A lot of people are hurting now, the last thing we want them to do is give up their animals," says Mel Diebel, a founder of the pet food bank and a volunteer with Barn Cat Co-op, a local rescue that deals mostly with feral cats in Uxbridge.

Diebel says that, although her rescue has unofficially been giving out pet food for years, the onset of the pandemic really put need at the forefront of their operation.

"Barn Cat had food donated, so we started giving it out. We thought we knew the demand but we were way off, and it got to the point where me and my rescue partner were going out and buying food just to hand out!" recalls Diebel.

Other shelters and rescues in Durham Region have pet food banks associated with them, but Uxbridge-Scugog is a vacuum in this regard. Diebel says other shelters and rescues have been "filling her truck" (she talked to the *Cosmos* as she was on her way to a shelter to do a donation pick-up), and that so far the organization hasn't had to say no to anyone who has come to them for help.

All Uxbridge and Scugog residents who need pet food can go to the Township of Uxbridge offices between 1 and 4 p.m. on Wednesdays. The day, time and location was chosen to work in conjunction with Uxbridge Loaves & Fishes Food Bank in order to allow access both services. "We really want people to know it [the pet food bank] exists so they can use it!" says Diebel. "People

who need help should feel comfortable coming to us for help."

If residents would like to donate pet food, they're asked to stop by the Uxbridge distribution site during the final hour of operation (3 - 4 p.m.), or email UxScPetFoodBank@gmail.com to make arrangements. Diebel says there is a great need for dry cat food at the present time.

Marie Dawn Collyer (née Atkins)

June 26, 1938 - May 10, 2020



On May 10 (Mother's Day), we lost our beloved Marie, Mom, Mimi, who passed peacefully at home. Kind, practical, empathetic, and unfailingly positive, Marie was the embodiment of grace. She had a great generosity of spirit that never missed an opportunity to express her gratitude right to her final days, baking gifts of cookies for every neighbour, doctor and friend.

Marie loved flowers in her garden and in her home just as much as she loved watching birds and caring for pets - hers, her neighbours and her family's. There weren't any visitors to her house sacred enough not to be interrupted by Marie rallying everyone to watch a cardinal or laugh at a rascally squirrel.

Marie was a lifelong VON nurse (graduate of Hamilton General Hospital, 1959) and both personally and professionally, a caregiver of exceptional quality. Extraordinary chef, consummate hostess, passionate tennis player and later, avid aqua fit devotee.

Loving, supportive wife to Gerry for close to 59 years, Marie, with Gerry, forged strong friendships from coast to coast through their Canadian Tire dealer network. In every place she lived, Marie built cherished friendships that lasted a lifetime: in Toronto, St. Catharines, Brandon, Whitby, Uxbridge and over winter holidays at Cedar Grove Lodge.

Family was everything to Marie. Mother to Julie Thompson (Dan) and Cam (Lauren Baker) and doting grandmother to Kaitlin, Megan, Samuel and Henry. Daughter of Samuel John Atkins and Laura Dorothy Atkins (nee Ludford), and sister to Lois Breton.

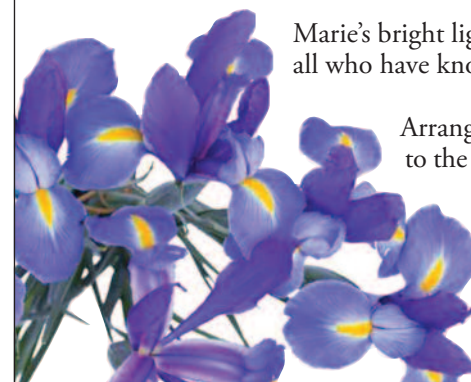
Marie grew up in Ancaster closely connected with the large, tight-knit, fun-loving Ludford clan on her mother's side. Once married, she enthusiastically embraced the Collyer clan and her infectious laugh at family gatherings was only matched by her late sister-in-law's, Jane.


We'd like to thank Dr. Cal Doobay, Dr. Luk, Dr. Ra and all the wonderful nurses. The level of care was exemplary.

The pandemic has created uncertainty around an in-person memorial so the family would love to hear from Marie's friends. Please leave messages and a way to reach you at lowandlow.ca While Marie loved flowers, if you are so inclined, in lieu, we encourage a donation to your local animal shelter or the Canadian Cancer Society.

Marie's bright light will continue to shine in all who have known her.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Low & Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Box 388, Uxbridge, Ontario (905-852-3073). Online condolences can be made at www.lowandlow.ca.





In Loving Memory of John McAra Scott

March 27, 1930 - May 14, 2012

Eight years ago you left us,
But memories keep you near
To help us when we're troubled,
And to fight that silent tear.
You touched so many people
In a special kind of way.
Family friends and others,
Each and every day.
Your memory is our keepsake
With which we'll never part.
God has you in his keeping -
We have you in our hearts.

*Missed, loved, and remembered always by
Norma, Robert & Mary, Brian & Joanne, Jean & Al,
Ian & Cheryl, David & Tracy, and their families.*



Gerald Lawrence
Manager/Sales Representative
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Marie Persaud
Sales Representative
Cell 416-970-8979



Judy Esmonde
Broker
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Chris Larmer
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Coldwell Banker R.M.R. Real Estate is committed to the continuity of our services with the health and well-being of our clients and staff as top priority. We are taking additional precautionary measures throughout this period of escalated concern.

At this time, our office is open by appointment only.

Should you require immediate assistance or would like to schedule an appointment, please give us a call at 905.852.4338 or send us an email to uxbridgermr@coldwellbanker.ca.

Thank you for your cooperation and doing your part to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus.



Notice from the Publisher of the Uxbridge Cosmos

The Cosmos wishes to thank all those who continue to work tirelessly through this pandemic - we sincerely appreciate all those who are putting themselves at risk in order to serve this community.

We also want to thank our advertisers, from our local businesses right through to the various levels of government. Without them, it would not be possible to continue delivering local news right to your mailbox every week.

Please continue to support the businesses that we feature on these pages and online - they keep the Cosmos alive.

The Uxbridge
COSMOS

Lisha Van Nieuwenhove
Publisher/Editor