

# The Uxbridge COSMOS



Volume 16 No. 22

YOUR UNIVERSE

Thursday, June 4, 2020



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**PROMISES - PART II** - Mayor Dave Barton, left, makes good on a promise by having his head shaved, alongside Pharmasave pharmacist Sherry Doodchenko. Both had promised to lose their locks if Pharmasave managed to raise \$20,000 for the local food bank by June 1. The challenge was met and exceeded early last week, and the two shaved it all off on Sunday afternoon. Hairdresser to Mayor Barton is daughter Indira, and Mike Morris shaves sister Sherry's head. More on page 3. Photo by John Cavers

## Inside Your Cosmos

A new member of our team .....page 5  
'Meat-ing' the COVID challenge .....page 6

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## Township sightlines are on traffic safety

by Roger Varley

Council was given five reports related to traffic concerns on Monday, but one report seemed to contradict another.

The councillors first dealt with a report from Public Works Director Ben Kester on the intersection of Davis Drive and Concession 6, which has seen numerous accidents over the years, two as recently as last month. As part of his report, Kester included a report done by the consultant firm Stantec following its examination of the intersection earlier this year. The Stantec report said traffic speed and poor sight-

lines were principal factors in the accidents and offered some solutions, including placing additional signage on both roads, cutting back some of the vegetation at the side of the roads, and improving sightlines, especially for drivers on Conc. 6. However, Stantec advised against putting in all-way stop signs, saying they are not warranted.

Following this report, council received four separate reports from the Traffic Safety Sub-committee and it's assessment of traffic on residential streets in both the urban area and in the hamlets.

In one of the reports, the sub-committee calls

for the installation of all-way stop signs "at intersections with high pedestrian and active transportation, with poor sight lines." The reports also recommended lowering the speed limit on all residential streets to 40 km/hr., instituting community safety zones near schools, recreation facilities etc., and improved road markings.

All the traffic sub-committee reports were sent to public works for review.

Also during Monday's meeting, a report was made to council on the proposed art boxes to be erected around town. Ben Kester said six

...continued on page 9

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## Council & Committee Meetings

### Meeting Schedule for June, 2020

Monday, June 8, 10:00 a.m.

VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, June 15, 10:00 a.m.

VIRTUAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, June 17, 7:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL COMMITTEE OF

ADJUSTMENT MEETING

Monday, June 22, 7:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETING

Check the Calendar of Events at [Uxbridge.ca](http://Uxbridge.ca) for upcoming Virtual Advisory Committee meetings.

## Public Participation

The Township of Uxbridge is committed to facilitating public participation, especially while its meetings are taking place electronically. You can now submit your questions and comments related to items on the agenda in real time during Council and Committee meetings. Check out our Public Comments feature through our website at [Uxbridge.ca/agendas](http://Uxbridge.ca/agendas) by selecting the meeting from the calendar and viewing the HTML agenda. If you have any questions about how to participate in our electronic Council and Committee meetings, please contact Josh Machesney, Deputy Clerk, at [jmachesney@uxbridge.ca](mailto:jmachesney@uxbridge.ca)

## Craving Fresh Air and Exercise?

Area trails have reopened!

Follow

[uxbridge.ca/en/news/walking-trails-open.aspx](http://uxbridge.ca/en/news/walking-trails-open.aspx)

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

## Active Transportation Committee Meeting

Tuesday, June 9, at 7pm

This meeting will be held virtually. Anyone wishing to take part can do so by pre-registering with Lukas Gilham at [lgilham@uxbridge.ca](mailto:lgilham@uxbridge.ca)

## Temporary Road Closure

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

# 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](mailto:info@uxbridge.ca)

## BOARD & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

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 an appointment to one of the following Committees for the remaining term of Council (expiring November 30, 2022).

### Uxbridge Downtown Revitalization Committee

This Committee will act as an advisory Committee for the Uxbridge Downtown Revitalization Project that will deliver a vision, a strategic plan and an action plan focused on the longer-term economic development and social well-being of the downtown area.

The Township is searching for nine dedicated, results-oriented volunteers for this Committee who have experience, skills and/or training in the following areas:

- Engineer (Site planning and/or technical construction commercial dev.)
- Commercial landscape designer
- Architect
- Four (4) Business and/or Property owners located in the downtown area (within the Central Business District as defined in the Township's Official Plan)
- One (1) Business and/or Property owner located within the Township of Uxbridge, but not within the downtown area; and
- One (1) Resident (own or rent) who resides within the downtown area

Note: Previous demonstrated interest in the downtown will be considered an asset. The deadline for submissions to this Committee is Wednesday, June 17, 2020.

### Economic Development Advisory Committee

The purpose of this Committee is to provide advice and recommendations to Council on matters relating to the attractions, development, and retention of all business sectors within the municipality inclusive of aggregates, manufacturing, commercial (personal service and retail), agriculture and home based businesses. The ideal candidate would have experience and expertise in the areas of agricultural and/or agri-tourism.

The deadline for submissions to this Committee is Friday, June 19, 2020.

Any person interested in offering their services, and would accept an appointment, is invited to submit a Committee Member Application Form available on the Township's Website <https://www.uxbridge.ca/committees> along with a letter of interest outlining relevant qualifications and experience to the undersigned.

Any questions regarding these Committees 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  
[dlroux@uxbridge.ca](mailto:dlroux@uxbridge.ca)  
Telephone: 905 852-9181  
Fax: 905-852-9674

## 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 - COMPLETED
3. S/E corner of town - UNDERWAY
4. N/E corner of town - ANTICIPATED START EARLY JUNE
5. Rural subdivisions and hamlets - JUNE
6. Town parking lots - JUNE

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

## Attention All Pet Owners!

Please help keep our Community clean by picking up after your dogs, and keeping them leashed at all times other than when visiting the off-leash dog park. Not only is it the responsible thing to do, it's also the polite thing to do. Let's continue to keep Uxbridge a clean and safe environment we can all enjoy!



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

Visit

[uxbridge.ca/en/news/resources-to-assist-businesses-and-residents.aspx](http://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.

## Updates - Reopenings/Closures

Reopenings:

- The Fire Ban has been lifted – fire permits are available for sale at the Fire Hall, Monday through Friday between 8:30am – 4:30pm. Please note social distancing measures are in place and exact cash payment or cheques are preferred - no debit sales.
- The skate park, pump park, off-leash dog park, tennis courts, soccer pitches and baseball diamonds have re-opened for the enjoyment of families/individuals. Team sports and games (formal or informal) are prohibited at this time. Physical distancing requirements remain in place as are bans on groups of more than 5 people (not from the same household).

• Visit

<https://www.uxbridge.ca/en/news/select-township-facilities-reopen-for-use.aspx>

for updates.

Closures/Cancellations:

- All events at the Thomas Foster Memorial are cancelled for the remainder of the year.
- Outdoor playgrounds, washrooms, water stations, play structures and fitness equipment, public swimming pools, splash pad, museum, library and arena remain closed.

## Bids & Tenders

All current bid opportunities are posted to [uxbridge.ca/tenders](http://uxbridge.ca/tenders)

- U20-06 - Propane Furance - Zephyr Community Centre
- U20-17 - Selective Roadside Weed Spraying
- U20-18 - Rout and Seal

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.



Township of Uxbridge documents are available in alternate formats upon request. Please fill out the Request for Alternate Formats Form at [uxbridge.ca/accessibility](http://uxbridge.ca/accessibility)

email: [accessibility@uxbridge.ca](mailto:accessibility@uxbridge.ca)  
phone: 905-852-9181 ext.209



# Pharmasave helps fill food bank shelves - with hair

by Roger Varley

With a few sweeps of an electric shaver, the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank has become the recipient of over \$38,000 in donations.

On Sunday afternoon, Mayor Dave Barton and Pharmasave pharmacist Sherry Doodchenko had their heads shaved outside the Toronto Street Medical Centre in response to a challenge to raise funds for the Uxbridge Loaves and Fishes Food Bank. They were following the lead of Pharmasave owner Sameer (Sam) Remtulla, who had his head shaved for the same cause three weeks ago.

Doodchenko had her head buzzed by her brother, Mike Morris, who did a remarkably professional job, leaving her what remained of her black hair neatly and stylishly cropped. Bartons' head was shaved by his young daughter, Indira, who had to stand on a step-stool beside her father. Perhaps it was because of her unsteady perch that her father's head was not quite as polished looking as Doodchenko's.

Remtulla aired the shaving on

Facebook Live, and one watcher asked, apparently in jest, if Barton would shave his beard off as well. Barton took up the challenge and announced that, if they could raise another \$1,000 by the time the event/feed had ended,



Mayor Dave Barton, Pharmasave owner/pharmacist Sameer Remtulla and Pharmasave pharmacist Sherry Doodchenko in hairier days. Submitted photo

he would shave his beard as well. The money was pledged, and Barton shaved off his beard later that afternoon, at home.

While the razors were buzzing, Remtulla showed off a large cheque for \$500 from Uxbridge Montessori School. The mayor also announced that Maple Brook Homes had donated \$10,000.

In total, Pharmasave raised \$38,235.72 for the food bank, and according to Remtulla, donations are still trickling in.

Back in April, the pharmacy began raising money for Loaves and Fishes in response to the COVID crisis. After having raised over \$3,000, 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. 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 more than tripled this amount.

With files from the May 14 edition of the Cosmos.



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# How to Sell High: Avoid these Three Mistakes When Selling Your Uxbridge and Area Home

Uxbridge and Area - When you decide to sell your home, setting your asking price is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. Depending on how a buyer is made aware of your home, price is often the first thing he or she sees, and many homes are discarded by prospective buyers as not being in the appropriate price range before they're even given a chance of showing.

Your asking price is often your home's "first impression", and if you want to realize the most money you can for your home, it's imperative that you make a good first impression.

This is not as easy as it sounds, and pricing strategy should not be taken lightly. Pricing too high can be as costly to a homeseller as pricing too low. Taking a look at what homes in your neighborhood have sold for is only a small part of the

process, and on it's own is not nearly enough to help you make the best decision. A recently study, which compiles 10 years of industry research, has resulted in a new special report entitled "Homesellers: How to Get the Price You Want( and Need)". This report will help you understand pricing strategy from three different angles. When taken together, this information will help you price your home to not only sell, but sell for the price you want.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-855-953-0226 and enter 2416. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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# Our two cents

## A house divided

"A house divided against itself cannot stand." - Abraham Lincoln

The revered U.S. president made that statement regarding slavery in a speech three years before the start of the American Civil War. One could argue that the U.S. is currently as divided now as it was back then.

The ongoing protests and demonstrations now raging across that nation - indeed, around the world - result from yet another death of an unarmed black man at the hands of police, an event that happens all too frequently south of the border. And how are police forces handling these protests? It would appear with even more police brutality and shows of overpowering force. Police cars deliberately running into protesters, police horses deliberately being ridden into protesters, people deliberately being pepper-sprayed simply because they were within range of the spray, orderly protesters deliberately being tear-gassed and subjected to flash bombs just so President Trump could walk to a church for what can only be described as a pre-election photo opportunity.

So, as always, the nation is divided into those who have power and those who do not. Those without power use protest signs, chants and marches: those with power use military forces, tanks, guns, tear gas, batons, pepper spray, tasers and physical force. There are those who argue the police response is justified because of looting and property damage during the protests. But upon looking at hours of video from various locations around the U.S., it becomes apparent that most of the looting is being done by young, white males, similar to the damage caused a few years ago during the G20 protests in Toronto. Did the police apprehend any of those black-clad, masked vandals? No. Instead, they suspended the rights of the law-abiding protesters and locked hundreds up in cages in a warehouse. They beat up protesters, ran horses into them and, in one infamous incident, arrested a young woman for blowing soap bubbles.

But even when this time of unrest is over - if ever - the U.S. will still be deeply divided. We are hard-pressed to think of any other nation where the major political parties are sworn enemies with little or no chance of ever agreeing on anything. Then there is the division between the rich and the poor, a divide that widens every day. And, of course, the racial division.

Yet, while we shake our heads and tut-tut about the state of race relations and policing in the U.S., we have our own problems with discrimination here in Canada. It might not always be as blatant as some of the examples we see coming out of the U.S., but it is here nonetheless. We have recently had a surge in verbal and physical attacks on people of Asian origin as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Native Canadians have suffered for years from discrimination and still do. And, of course, people of colour face discrimination every day.

Even here in Uxbridge, we have a council that couldn't bring itself to endorse the installation of a rainbow crosswalk to show solidarity with the LGBTQ community and its fight against discrimination. That seems to be a far cry from what we are seeing in the U.S., but not standing up against discrimination - in any form - is tantamount to supporting said discrimination.

Talking of discrimination, we don't hear too much lately from people who want Muslim women banned from wearing face coverings. We wonder if that's because most of us are wearing face coverings these days, even when we go into the bank. Suddenly, the thought of a woman wearing a veil doesn't seem quite as threatening to some people as it did just a few months ago. Of course, a woman in a veil never was threatening: the move to ban the veil was quite simply religious intolerance. It was, and is, discrimination.

### The Uxbridge COSMOS

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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.

EDITORIAL POLICY: Opinions expressed by columnists, contributors and in letters to the editor are not necessarily those of The Cosmos. Letters must be signed and the telephone number provided (number will not be published). Requests that a name be withheld will be honoured only if there is a compelling reason. Errors brought to our attention will be corrected. The Cosmos reserves the right to edit and/or refuse to publish unsolicited material. ADVERTISING POLICY: The Cosmos reserves the right to refuse any advertisement. The Cosmos is not liable for slight changes or typographical errors in advertisements or any other errors or omissions in advertisements. All material herein, including advertising design, is copyrighted, and may not be reproduced in any form without permission.



## Letters to the Editor

This past weekend, the trails and parking lots south of Uxbridge reopened. For mountain bikers, the trails have a new look - many of them now run one way only, to keep users safe in these COVID times. This re-opening effort took planning, ingenuity, cooperation, collaboration and many hours.

I'd like to express appreciation to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, the Toronto and

Region Conservation Authority, the Durham Mountain Biking Association, and the members of the East Duffins Headwaters Stewardship Committee for their efforts.

The emergency measures put into place to keep COVID-19 from spreading have been unlike anything any of us has ever experienced. During this strange time, unexpectedly high numbers of visitors have come to enjoy our trails.

Those of us who live near the trails have been acutely aware of how people hunger for a dose of nature. It has been an eye-opener.

Our Uxbridge trails are a priceless, precious resource. Thank you to everyone who cares about them, and who contributes to keeping them safe and enjoyable to visit.

*Elizabeth Calvin*  
*Green Durham Association*

## LOCAL MATTERS.



Remember that time when **Amazon** sponsored your church fundraiser?



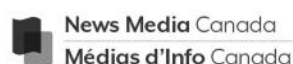
Remember when **Facebook** bought a case of Girl Guide cookies to support your daughter?



Remember when **Google** provided free pizza to your child's soccer team when they won the championship?

## Neither do we!

Local businesses live here. They play here. They invest here.  
They need our support, now more than ever.







## ...I'm just sayin'

column by Justyne Edgell

### Allow me to introduce myself

Hello everyone!

I'm excited to introduce myself to you as the brand new journalist for the *Uxbridge Cosmos*!

First off, I'll start with a little about me. My name is Justyne Edgell, I'm a 23-year old Uxbridge resident, born and raised in our wonderful small town. After beginning my schooling at Uxbridge Public School, I completed high school at USS, and I recently received my undergraduate degree from Ryerson University's RTA (Radio, Television and Arts) School of Media. Through my schooling, some of my favourite studies were current affairs journalism, marketing and graphic design, and interactive media. You may have seen me around town working at the Uxbridge Health Centre, Blue Barn Creative, doing my freelance photography, or maybe even just at the grocery store!

I have always loved our small town. There's a great feeling of comfort and a strong sense of community that I find makes us Uxbridge residents feel more like a family than just neighbours. While I met many interesting people from all sorts of interesting places during my years at university, it was the connection to small-town life that drew me to some of my closest friends. I find that those who live in small towns know how to enjoy the simple things in life, and thrive on connections with people. It's these people and the "homey" feeling that I love so much about our little town.

I'm excited to be taking on this position as a *Cosmos* Local Journalism Initiative, or LJI, reporter. I'll be the gal around town! Getting to know all that happens in our community, attending town council meetings, covering events, and engaging in as much civic journalism as possible.

Over my 23 years in this town, I have seen it grow and develop, all the while maintaining the small-town charm and culture that makes it such a wonderful place to live. Through the COVID-19 pandemic, I have seen our community come together and stand tall to stay ahead

of the curve and be a force to be reckoned with in the wake of something terrible. It's that banding together, respect, and love for our community that I am most excited to explore and share with all of you. Once a month, this will be my space, and I am excited to start my column "... I'm Just Saying." I hope my youthful and vibrant energy will bring a new perspective to our town matters and that I will inspire some of our younger generations to get interested in community happenings!

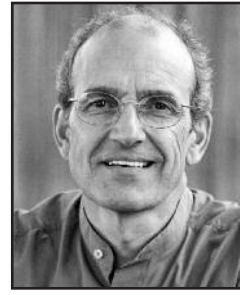
**Editor's note:** *The Uxbridge Cosmos is a host news organization for the Local Journalism Initiative (LJI), a federally funded program aimed at fostering and supporting the creation of civic journalism. LJI reporters will hold politicians and public bodies to account and shine light into dark places, with the goal of providing accurate, diverse and relevant news about civic institutions to communities.*

*To protect the independence of the press, seven not-for-profit organizations representing different segments of the news industry administer the LJI. These organizations oversee the funding given to Canadian media organizations to address the need for local civic journalism in underserved communities.*

*The Local Journalism Initiative is intended to support the creation of civic journalism; therefore, LJI reporters are required to cover civic issues and civic institutions such as courthouses, city halls, band councils, school boards, Parliament or provincial legislatures and the like.*

*Ms. Edgell's stories will be shared across the Canada, as LJI stories are available for re-publication by accredited media organizations across the country through a Creative Commons license, broadening and strengthening the reach of the content and coverage.*

*The Uxbridge Cosmos welcomes Ms. Edgell - Justyne - to the team, and looks forward to working with her as together, we serve Uxbridge!*



## The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

### With title comes responsibility

Conditions gave him no cause for optimism. A large low-pressure weather cell had socked-in England and occupied France. Low clouds and high winds portended the worst circumstances for a crossing of the English Channel. The Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces commander chain-smoked his Camel cigarettes and shared stiff drinks with other SHAEF members at the back of the Golden Lion public house in Southwick, England, waiting for better news. It came on June 5, 1944. The rain let up. Winds abated. The Channel calmed. And Gen. Dwight Eisenhower reclaimed the element of surprise and unleashed Operation Overlord on Nazi-occupied Europe on June 6, 1944.

"You are about to embark upon a great crusade," he wrote to Allied troops on the eve of D-Day. "The eyes of the world are upon you."

There's a famous photograph of Ike, as he was nicknamed, on the eve of the invasion – surrounded by members of the U.S. Airborne, their faces blackened for camouflage and in full paratrooper battle dress – giving a final pep talk at bases in southern England. He was as optimistic as a military commander could be expected to be. But what the 160,000 troops who landed successfully in Normandy the next morning did not know, was that Eisenhower had written a second letter:

"Our landings in the Cherbourg-Havre area have failed to gain a satisfactory foothold and I have withdrawn the troops," Eisenhower wrote just in case. "My decision to attack at this time and place was based upon the information available. The troops, the air and the Navy did all that Bravery and devotion could do. If any blame or fault attaches to the attempt it is mine alone."

The "mea culpa" letter never had to be issued on D-Day. The Allied invasion of Normandy landed successfully, 76 years ago this Saturday. But in the tradition of responsible leadership under pressure, Gen. Eisenhower wrote the letter accepting blame anyway. Like other U.S. leaders with legitimate wartime experience, the general recognized that with power came responsibility. Ike proved himself worthy of the title "wartime leader" and quite understandably built on that credibility to win the White House for two terms (1953-1961).

I've thought about Eisenhower and other American leaders in troubled times a great deal this week. Then, Monday night, as his country spiralled deeper into chaos over what many consider his mishandling of the COVID-19

pandemic, the killing of George Floyd (a black Minnesotan), and street violence in dozens of U.S. cities such as we haven't seen since the 1960s, we watched President Donald Trump apparently order police to fire tear gas canisters and rubber bullets into hundreds of peaceful demonstrators in front of the White House, so that he could cross Lafayette Square for a photo opportunity in front of St. John's Episcopal Church. Defiantly holding up a Bible (for some reason), Trump mythologized himself a president in war, standing up for ... something.

Well, Mr. President, you are no wartime president.

I've never claimed to be a scholar of U.S. presidential history, but I've probed the times of several American presidents whose mettle in war and peace was tested and proven more credibly than Donald Trump will ever know. I think of the tribulations of Abraham Lincoln wrestling with the Emancipation Proclamation (freeing hundreds of thousands of African American slaves) and the resulting U.S. Civil War. I think of Woodrow Wilson leading his country in the latter stages of the Great War, while drafting his 14 points of peace for a future league of nations. I think of Franklin Roosevelt steering his country through the darkest days of the Depression and even darker days in the Second World War. I think of Jimmy Carter and the Iran hostage crisis (1979-81). I think of John F. Kennedy staring down the Soviets in the Cuban missile crisis of 1962.

I believe these are presidents worthy of the title "wartime president," not the former reality TV host, pandemic-denying, impeached, so-called commander-in-chief who has not once presented himself to his fellow citizens as a leader displaying empathy, inspiration or hope under fire.

"We will accept nothing less than full victory!" Dwight Eisenhower wrote in his published letter of June 5, 1944. "Good Luck!" Of note, when the "blame" letter was finally disclosed in Gen. Eisenhower's papers, it showed a very down-to-earth wartime leader; he had accidentally dated it July 5, not June 5. I guess he had lots on his mind that night.

But unlike his 21st century successor in the White House, Gen. (later President) Eisenhower had the sense and strength to live up to his decisions and take full responsibility of leadership.

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# From zero to smokin' - how a food truck continues through COVID

*by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove*

Practically all eat-in restaurants have been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, and many have moved to delivering their food in paper containers rather than on fine china. But think for a moment about the restaurants that *only* deliver their food via paper/plastic containers - those original meals-on-wheels - food trucks. Not only are they not allowed to operate as they have in the past, the

events that they attend have been cancelled for the foreseeable future, hitting them with a double-whammy under COVID practices and regulations.

Bob and Enza Yayros own one such food truck. Several, in fact. Their “Smokin’” food truck, along with nine other food trucks and trailers, had to park their business along with the rest of the province back in March. Their busy season begins in May, and they spend the entire sea-

son travelling in and around the Ottawa region and the GTA. But, as the pandemic advanced, one by one, they quickly began seeing the events and festivals that they normally attend year after year get cancelled. And that left them with literally nothing to do.

“For most other businesses, the whole COVID thing has slowed things right down for them. They might only be doing pick up and take out. In the food truck business, festivals are our mainstay, and all that has completely stopped. There are no festivals, no gatherings, no nothing. For the time being, we just have to survive,” explains Bob. “As much as

we hate the fact that all these shows have been cancelled, we also understand that safety comes first.”

The Yayros' put their thinking caps on, and turned one of the food trucks into a test kitchen, of sorts. It was already a certified kitchen - many have seen it at ribfests around the province, at the Canadian National Exhibition, or at the Royal Winter Fair. They started using the kitchen to prepare their own style of smoked meats.

"We've smoked all our own meats for quite awhile," says Enza, "and we've been perfecting our rubs and cooking processes and trying them out on friends and family. And we've

been getting some positive feedback!”

Smokin' now delivers "smokin' good meats" that are pre-packaged and "heat and serve" style. They feature slow-smoked pulled pork, slow-smoked brisket, smoked chicken, smoked sausage (made without fillers, says Enza), and a signature BBQ sauce. Enza also says the meats are prepared to be gluten-free, but the sauces are not.

"We use all Canadian meat," says Bob. "We have a meat supplier in Oakville who gets all our beef, chicken and pork in Ontario. Then we do all the smoking and other preparation in our truck."

The Yayos' only moved to Uxbridge in January of this year, so they're also getting to know their new community while they promote their new business model. If things go well with the smoked meats, they'll look at expanding the menu to include full meal options, as well.

The Yayos' have been in the food truck industry since 2006, and also run the mobile franchise for Tiny Tom Donuts, Slushy Bear, and Quench, an Italian soda bar found at the CNE.

*This article is the third in a series of features that focus on how local bricks-and-mortar operations are changing how they do business during the COVID-19 pandemic.*



The locally owned 'smokin' ' food truck, a fixture at the CNE, is finding new ways to deliver summer's food during COVID-19. *Submitted photo*

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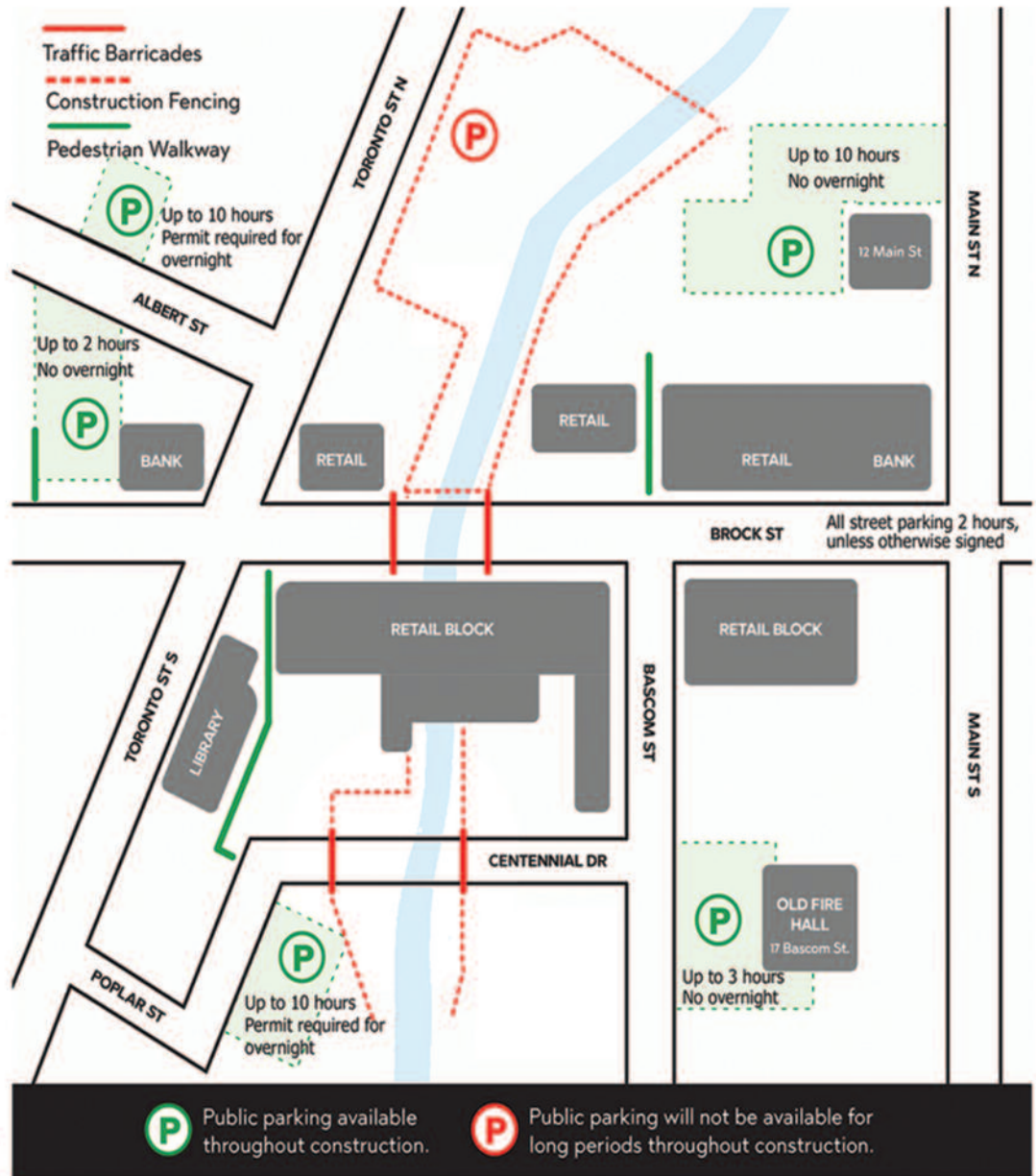
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# Website featuring downtowns of the region ready for stay-cation summer

The Region of Durham, in collaboration with local business improvement areas (BIAs), has launched a new website to support the region's vibrant downtown-area businesses.

DowntownsOfDurham.ca offers residents and visitors a chance to explore the region's many "main street" shops, restaurants, and services virtually, as they work through the COVID-19 crisis. From historic storefronts to family-owned restaurants, each of Durham's 13 distinct

downtown areas - Ajax, Pickering Village, Whitby, Brooklin, Oshawa, Bowmanville, Newcastle, Orono, Port Perry, Sunderland, Beaverton, Cannington and Uxbridge - are home to a diverse range of small businesses in urgent need of support.

According to a statement released by the region, downtown businesses are facing unique challenges due to their high density of locally owned and independent businesses, which

rely on daily foot traffic from surrounding offices, which are now closed. Also, many of their promotional campaigns are tied to events such as parades and festivals which are not able to occur due to the pandemic.

Developed in response to the coronavirus pandemic, the new site makes it quick and easy to see which businesses are operational, and which offer delivery, curbside pickup, or online shopping. Searches are

possible by location, industry, service or product offered.

"Durham Region's downtowns offer urban excitement and country charm; from quaint décor shops to craft breweries and from gourmet cupcakes to spicy roti. Our downtowns also offer the practical services our communities need, from law offices to pharmacies. Working in partnership with our region's BIAs, we are supporting these diverse businesses as they recover,"

says Simon Gill, the regional director of Economic Development and Tourism.

Downtowns of Durham is the first collective project that all local BIAs have undertaken, with the goal of raising the profile of Durham's downtown businesses and encouraging local momentum for these areas.

For more, visit [DowntownsOfDurham.ca](http://DowntownsOfDurham.ca)

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Sarah Pollard's graduation from McGill University with a Masters in Music Performance (Honours).

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# Uxbridge's own shopping channel

by Roger Varley

A local version of the Shopping Channel is operating in Uxbridge, with a number of downtown merchants taking part.

Started by Rebecca Harman and Julia McDonald of The Bridge Social, a half-hour-long webcast is produced every Wednesday at 12 noon to promote goods from various stores. Each store promotes one product per week, with Harman acting as hostess.

Among stores taking part in the shopping experience so far are Presents, Blue Heron Books, Woods, Preston Gallery, the Tin Restaurant, Uxbridge Shoe and Repair, Community Cleaners and the Lemonade Stand. Harman said other stores could be added as the project continues.

Harman and McDonald started the project to help move product and sell to customers during the COVID-19 shutdown. Harman said they included other stores because "if our neighbours are doing well, we're doing well."

The show is live-streamed on Facebook, Instagram and

Zoom. Harman said some of the shows have seen some stores sell hundreds of dollars of product "in seconds." Customers watching the show can order on-line. Harman said they have had calls from retailers in East Gwillimbury and Pickering wanting to be included but she and McDonald want to keep it local.

The show airs for half-an-hour on Wednesdays because Harman said that is a time when people find it most accessible and acceptable.

At the end of May, Harman and McDonald produced a promotional video featuring the stores on lower Brock Street in an attempt to get more of those retailers involved and to urge shoppers to support them.



## COVID-19 Uxbridge Update

As of Tuesday, June 4, Uxbridge had 86 reported and confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the township, with the majority of these cases (69) being at ReachView Village Long Term Care Home.

In ReachView Village, 27 residents are currently in isolation, and 28 have recovered from the virus. Fourteen residents have passed away. Eighteen members of the staff there have contracted the virus - 14 of these have recovered, and the remaining four are still isolating.

The *Cosmos* contacted MPP Peter Bethlenfalvy's office to learn what role the provincial government may be playing with regards to offering assistance to ReachView Village during this outbreak, and received the following statement: "I am committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of the residents of ReachView Village Long-Term Care Home.

I have been in contact with the Ministry of Long-Term Care and they are diligently monitoring the situation at ReachView Village, as are Mayor Barton, Durham Public Health, Markham Stouffville Hospital, Uxbridge Cottage Hospital, and the Central East Local Health Integrated Network.

I will continue to monitor the situation and do whatever I can to ensure that ReachView Village meets the level of care that its residents and families deserve."

Of the 17 cases occurring elsewhere in the Uxbridge community, one person is currently hospitalized, and four other people have succumbed to the virus (including three individuals from Douglas Crossing Retirement Home).

Uxbridge remains in second place for having the highest number of COVID-19 cases per capita in Durham Region, trailing Pickering.

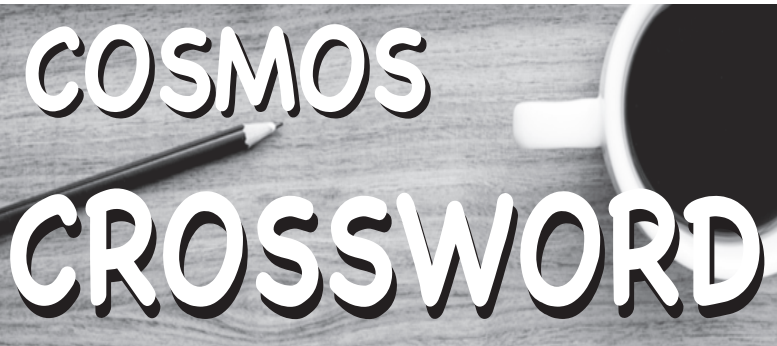
For current updates on the status of COVID-19 cases in Durham Region, visit the COVID-19 Data Tracker at [durham.ca/covidcases](https://durham.ca/covidcases)

## Art installations, from page 1

boxes will be installed and two locations have been identified already. A box for children's art will be posted at the Uxbridge Public Library, and another box will be located at the Uxbridge Historical Centre. Locations for the other four boxes will be determined by AVEC, and approved by council later.

Kester said council will also have final approval of any art that is displayed in the boxes, even though the Arts and Visual Enhancement Committee (AVEC) will jury all submitted art. The art must be insured by the artist.

He said AVEC proposes that art be kept in the boxes from May to November, and noted that this period essentially means all year. He also proposed that council consider art projects be displayed for a maximum of three months in order to increase the number of art works put on display.



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54					55				56			

### Across

- 1 Leave a mark
- 5 Deli loaf
- 8 Arsenal stockpile
- 12 Place for a pig
- 13 Boar
- 14 Certain tide
- 15 Pavarotti solo
- 16 Sharer's word
- 17 British general in America
- 18 Chance
- 20 Nausea inducing medicine
- 22 Triangular sail
- 23 Musical "G"
- 24 Grave robbers
- 27 Underside of a building
- 31 Is unwell
- 32 Sworn declaration
- 33 Lawn grass
- 36 Rundown
- 38 Welcome site
- 39 Stripling
- 40 Ravel classic
- 43 Climb a hill
- 47 Golf club
- 48 Warmed the bench
- 50 Medicinal berry
- 51 Disappeared
- 52 Clinch
- 53 Bollywood superstar actor, last name
- 54 Plenty
- 55 Sloppy digs
- 56 Ages and ages

### Down

- 1 Train in boxing
- 2 "The Last of the Mohicans" girl
- 3 Like
- 4 Realignment
- 5 Parallelograms with four equal sides
- 6 One to thank
- 7 Leave
- 8 Light sponge dessert (3 words)
- 9 Essential part
- 10 The wise men
- 11 Oil decision makers
- 19 Content of some barrels
- 21 Dairy farm sound
- 24 Predatory fish
- 25 Speed
- 26 Antique
- 28 Something everyone starts doing
- 29 Common contraction
- 30 Pronoun
- 34 Rowboat need
- 35 Upper eyelid droop
- 36 Granite colored
- 37 Owns
- 40 Paper money
- 41 Creme-filled cookie
- 42 Certain apartment
- 44 Lingering trace
- 45 Leavened bread of India
- 46 Rackets
- 49 Play division

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# 103rd International Plowing Match and Rural Expo plowed under by COVID

The 103rd edition of the International Plowing Match and Rural Expo (IPM) has been postponed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The IPM will now run from Wed., Oct. 13 to Sat., Oct. 16 at the Lindsay Fairgrounds and surrounding area.

This is only the third time in its 107-year history that the event has had to be cancelled/postponed.

In a statement from IPM, organizers said they are working hard and looking forward to

“working with farmers to showcase their resilient and dedicated community.”

The statement also announced that next year's event is scheduled to occur in September, 2021 in

the municipality of North the neighbouring farms around Grenville, highlighting the Kemptville, Ontario. Kemptville College campus and

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## Kathryn (Fallis) Balmer

February 25, 1925 ~ May 25, 2020



On Monday, May 25, 2020, Kathryn Balmer (always known as Kathryn, Nana and Auntie Kay to family, and as Kay to friends), loving mother, grandmother, aunt, and friend passed away at home near Uxbridge, ON at the age of 95. She will be greatly missed.

Kathryn was born on February 25, 1925, in Shelbourne, ON, to Leslie and Marion Fallis. She lived in London, ON, attending Western University before moving to Toronto with her family, where she attended University of Toronto, graduating in Chemistry in 1948.

On May 22, 1948, she married Allan Balmer, whom she met at UofT. They raised two daughters, Ann and Tricia, and one son, Michael. In moves related to further education and work opportunities, Kathryn and Allan lived in several places over the years, including Toronto, Scotland, Ohio, and New York State.

Kathryn obtained an MSc in Chemistry while in Ohio and initially worked in research. After discovering that she loved to work with students, she taught high school chemistry for 22 years in Pittsford, NY (near Rochester), where she also served as Science Department Head for several years and co-authored an updated Chemistry textbook. She later worked in the science department at the Royal Military College in Kingston, ON.

Upon retirement, Kathryn and Allan returned to Ontario, settling in Seeleys Bay on the Rideau River north of Kingston, moving to the Uxbridge area in 2008. While in Seeleys Bay, they lived through the 1998 ice storm, opting to stay at home to keep water pipes from freezing. They said they survived the long hours with no electricity by playing backgammon by candlelight. Later that summer they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

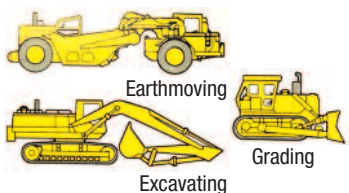
Kathryn's interest in community led her to participate and help willingly where she could, often taking on leadership roles. She enjoyed the community of the Seniors Club in Seeleys Bay and the United Church there, and in Greenbank near Uxbridge.

Kathryn liked learning new things and, among other things, enjoyed quilting, birding, folk art, reading and camping. She was an avid Blue Jays fan and enjoyed following curling. She was a wonderful mother, always ready to do something interesting with her children and grandchildren.

Kathryn was preceded in death by her husband, Allan; son, Michael; and her two brothers, Bob and Jim. She is survived by daughters Ann (John) and Tricia, grandchildren Tanya (Erik), Heather (Kerry), Myrna, Meghan (Jake) and Allan, and several nieces, nephews and great-grandchildren.

Low and Low, 23 Main Street South, Box 388, Uxbridge, Ontario L9P 1M8 (905-852-3073) has been entrusted with arrangements. Due to Covid 19 restrictions, a memorial will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Greenbank United Church. Online condolences can be made at [www.lowandlow.ca](http://www.lowandlow.ca)

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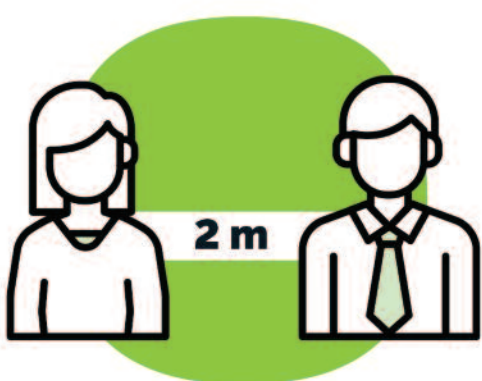
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# **We're Making a Difference to Keep Each Other Safe from COVID-19**

As businesses begin to reopen, we all need to continue our efforts to protect each other.



**Practice physical distancing.**  
Stay two metres away from others



**Wear a face covering** when physical distancing is a challenge



**Wash hands** thoroughly and often

**Inside or out, stay safe. Save lives.**