

The Uxbridge COSMOS

Volume 16 No. 42

YOUR UNIVERSE

Thursday, October 29, 2020



PARKSIDE GOES WILDSIDE - A spookily-dressed house on Parkside Dr., across from Uxpool, is all set for Halloween. Those heading out for trick or treating this Saturday are reminded to follow safety guidelines and protocol for both Halloween and COVID-19 - and we're not sure which is scarier! This Saturday's full moon is also full of Halloween mischief - check out page 11 for more.

Photo by John Cavers

Where there's smoke, there's ire

by Roger Varley

A Coppins Corners couple failed to convince council on Monday to overturn a fine they received from the Uxbridge fire department for what they described as a small cooking fire.

Mark Parris and Bitia Makky told council in a deputation that the fire department visited their property in September after the fire was out. Two weeks later, they received a fine of \$485 from the fire department, which said the fire was an "illegal burn" because the couple did not have a fire permit and the fire was within 30 feet of their house.

The couple showed photos of the small metal outdoor fireplace they use for outdoor cooking, what Parris described as "a fireplace slash barbecue." The fireplace is set on paving stones and, according to them, burns small pieces of

wood and charcoal.

Parris said he obtained a fire permit the day after the fire department visited. He pointed out that, on the back of the permit, was a paragraph that said: "Article 2.6.3.4 of the Ontario Fire Code states open-air burning shall not be permitted unless approved, or unless such burning consists of a small, confined fire, supervised at all times, and used to cook food on a grill or BBQ."

"That's exactly what we use," he said.

The couple said they felt the fine was "unreasonable and excessive" and if they had done anything wrong, they should have been given a warning rather than a fine.

Parris said he believes the fire department received a complaint from a neighbour because of the smoke coming from the fire.

Fire Chief Phil Alexander told council that

residents are informed several times a year through different avenues about the need to obtain fire permits. He said the fire by-law was brought in years ago after several fires went out of control and because smoke was bothering neighbours resulting in complaints. As for the couple's request to have the fine reduced or revoked, the chief said: "I know it's council's wish that we increase our revenues and generate more income in the current budgetary situation."

When Councillor Todd Snooks asked why the ticket wasn't handed out immediately, instead of two weeks later, Alexander said that was because it wasn't a provincial offence, it was to recover costs. He said his department is authorized to issue provincial offences tickets but doesn't normally do that because it would

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Inside Your Cosmos

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Finding good in our neighbourpage 5

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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

TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE 2021 BUDGET

VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

Monday, Nov. 23rd
12:00-1:00pm and
7:00-8:00 pm

These virtual meetings will be streamed
lived from www.uxbridge.ca/agendas



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Over **65%** of all carbon monoxide
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occur in homes.

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ontario.ca/firemarshal



Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for November 2020

Friday, October 30, 9:00 a.m.
MUSIC HALL ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING

Monday, November 2, 10:00 a.m.
GENERAL PURPOSE AND
ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
MEETING

Monday, November 9, 10:00 a.m.
COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, November 9, 2:00 p.m.
COUNCIL EDUCATION SESSION –
EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND
INCLUSION TRAINING
(CLOSED TO PUBLIC)

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

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

Monday, November 23,
12:00 p.m. and 7:00 pm
2021 BUDGET OPEN HOUSES



The Durham Region Health
Department has tips to help you
celebrate Hallowe'en safely.

Learn more at

www.uxbridge.ca/en/news/celebrating-halloween-during-covid-19.aspx

From The Tax Department

Now is the time to enroll in our Monthly or Installment Pre-Authorized Payment Plan for the 2021 taxation year.

What are the Benefits?

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

Who is eligible?

To be eligible, your property must be fully assessed, and your tax account must be up to date (no arrears).

How to apply

Pre-Authorized Payment Forms (pdf) are available on the Township website at www.uxbridge.ca/en/living-here/property-taxes.aspx or at the Tax Department (51 Toronto St S).

Return the completed PAP Form and Void Cheque or Bank form to the Township of Uxbridge Tax Department:

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

The deadline to submit your Application is NOVEMBER 30, 2020.

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

New Baseball Diamonds Open House

Virtual meeting
Wed., Nov. 4th
7:00-9:00pm

Share your thoughts on this proposal. Presentation starts
at 7:00pm, public Q&A session afterwards.

Visit <https://bit.ly/2T9sUzC> to learn more and to
register for this session.

New baseball diamonds are proposed for the Fields of Uxbridge. The public is invited to an open house to examine the proposal and ask questions. The open house will take place virtually on November 4 at 7:00pm. The public is encouraged to pre-register for the event by contacting Amanda Ferraro at aferraro@uxbridge.ca More information about the open house can be found at <https://bit.ly/2T9sUzC>



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

Durham Region not headed to back to Stage 2 - yet

by Justyne Edgell, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Although it's small, the Township of Uxbridge is seeing an increase in COVID-19 case numbers. By press time on Tuesday evening, the town had four active cases, one requiring hospitalization. This increase is contributing to the rising Durham numbers that have the province on alert.

Earlier this week, Premier Doug Ford said the provincial government is "keeping an eye on Halton and Durham" regions before requiring them to regress to a modified Stage 2. On Sunday, the province hit a new record for the

highest single-day increase in positive COVID-19 cases, worrying many that it was on another uptick. However, Monday saw another downturn, logging about 200 fewer cases than the day prior, with 851 single-day positives results.

Premier Ford says he will "cheer on" all regions before locking them down again, hoping to encourage everyone to do their part to help lower the case counts. Health Minister Christine Elliot notes that this surge in cases is likely due to gatherings over the Thanksgiving weekend. The holiday occurred at the same time as Toronto, York, Peel and Ottawa

regions were further locked down. Minister Elliot notes "we still have to wait to see the effects of the provisions" and that this increase in cases does not accurately represent the result of adding those further restrictions.

During Monday's council meeting, Mayor Dave Barton opened the meeting by encouraging the community to "all do our part to keep this curve flat."

Barton also noted that, after speaking with Public Health and other townships, it appears that the virus is not being highly spread in restaurants and public locations, but rather in private residences where people are gath-

ering with friends and family outside of their bubble, and not taking proper safety precautions.

Social distancing remains a strict

safety recommendation, along with face coverings in public spaces.

Fire's burning, from page 1

be added costs to the township in court time and lawyers.

Mayor Dave Barton said if the township revokes the couple's fine, it could lead to others who have been fined over the past couple of years to come back and seek the same treatment. He suggested staff should look at the fire by-law to see if there is any way to make it easier for people to enjoy backyard fires, especially during the COVID-19 lockdown. That led to a discussion on barbecues and the type of fuel they use. Council agreed that Alexander should come back to council with clarification on what is legal and what isn't.



Uxbridge Bruins look to return to the ice

by Roger Varley

No definite decision has yet been made, but it is likely the Uxbridge Bruins of the Provincial Junior Hockey League's Junior C Orr Division could return to action at the start of December.

Bruins president Cam Stewart said last week that the league has set Dec. 1 as the tentative date to restart league operations, following the early closure of last season because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Bruins began team practices two weeks ago, with the team having a full roster of layers in place. If the season begins in December, the seven-team league will adopt a shortened season, with each team playing 24 regular games.

"There's no schedule yet," Stewart said. "There are still meetings to be held. It's still up in the air."

He said starting a new season is going to be "extremely difficult."

Some of that difficulty will occur if the current COVID-19 protocols instituted by the provincial government remain in place into December. Those protocols call for a limit of 50 people in any indoor arena. With such a limit, once the players, coaches, referee, linesmen and time-keeper are in the arena, there will be no possibility of fans attending the games. Without income from paying spectators or from the Bruins' 50-50 draw, the team would find it difficult to keep paying for ice time, equipment and buses to away games.

If such difficulties should come about, each team has the option of withdrawing from the schedule, Stewart said.



BOTTLES FOR FOOD: Bob Kennedy from the Goodwood Lions Club presents Loaves & Fishes Food Bank representative Mandy Inglis with the club's first donation of \$205 from its recent "Family & Friends Bottle Drive." The Goodwood Lions are planning another drive at the Goodwood Community Centre parking lot on Saturday, Nov. 7, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Photo submitted by Bob Kennedy



HONOUR OUR VETERANS DRIVE BY PARADE

Join us as we honour and pay tribute to local veterans!

Veterans will be gathered (following covid protocols) in Elgin Park.

You will have the opportunity to drive by and express your thanks from your car.

Please don't miss this opportunity to THANK OUR VETERANS!

Sunday November 8, 2020
Elgin Park, Uxbridge
1:00pm Parade Start
Entrance ONLY off Elgin Park Drive

Decorate your cars to show your support
Questions? Call Tish 905.649.0810

Royal Canadian Legion

Branch 170



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Thank you for helping us support our Veterans!

On Remembrance Day:

Complying with Provincial Emergency Orders, Wreaths will be pre-placed at the Cenotaph on the morning of November 11. The names of these organizations, individuals and donors will be displayed at the Cenotaph, on Social Media and in the local newspaper provided the order is received at the Legion by November 5, 2020.

Our two cents

Alas, no more Snug

The very first time we drove by and the sign was completely gone, we immediately went into denial. "Maybe it's just being repainted. Maybe it's just getting an overhaul, or a rebranding even." But the sign stayed gone for too long, and we let the reality settle in. The Hobby Horse Arms had most certainly been sold.

We weren't wrong. After having had the business up for sale on and off over the years, owner Jim Byers and his family had finally found a buyer for the old Commercial Hotel, and October 10 was their last day open.

Uxbridge is sad.

We're not exaggerating when we say this. The *Cosmos* has spoken to a few people about the Hobby closing up, and tears have literally been shed. The atmosphere, the gigantic Scotch selection, the wing meal, the Snug - practically everyone in Uxbridge has a Hobby story, a memory, a favourite menu item (we were partial to the fish and chips!). But as the saying goes, all good things must come to an end. And, according to Byers, they ended on his terms, which pleases him.

Built in 1860, the Commercial Hotel was for many years exactly that, a small hotel. For awhile it was livery stable, and it was eventually turned into apartments and offices, but was abandoned in 1968. In November, 1981, it was at the centre of a news story that went province-wide when it was transported from its original location on Brock St. E. near First Ave. to its current location at 37 Main St. N. The move cost \$12,000, and renovations another \$200,000.

Now the question that's on everyone's mind is "What's going in there?" Because we spoke with Byers rather casually and he was reluctant to do a full-on interview, we will only officially say that another local business will be taking up residence there, and Byers isn't sure what is going to happen with the pub. Given the clanging and banging that was going on in the background when we spoke on the phone, and the fact that he did say "Hear that? It's the kitchen coming apart," we're pretty sure a pub is not on the new owner's menu. But we're not sure, so stay tuned. (As a side note, from Nov. 19 through to the 26, Gillanders Auctions will be holding an online auction for some of the Hobby's restaurant equipment, kitchen wares and a little bit of memorabilia.)

Sadly, lots of businesses come and go, but the Hobby Horse Arms was more of an institution. Happy retirement, Byers family. You will be missed.

When one of these disappears, A LOT disappears.

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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.

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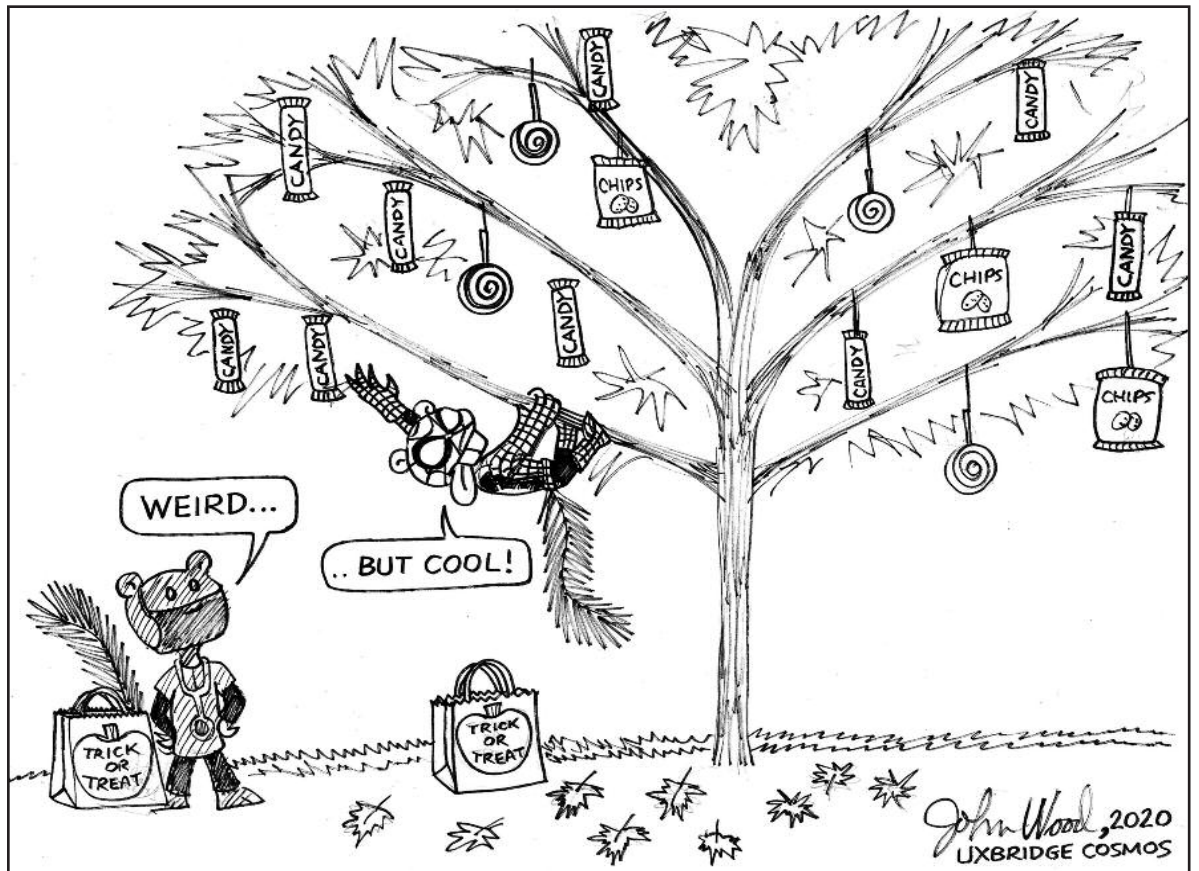
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Canada



Letters to the Editor

I am writing this letter to commend Dr. Wayne Cole and the Uxbridge Veterinary Hospital.

In late August, with extreme heartbreak, I lost Sabrina, one of my two beloved Shelties.

From her initial diagnosis with Dr. Cole in July 2019, until her passing, he was there for me, from finding me the best specialists to her ongoing care and support. The compassion and knowledge that he has helped me through everything.

I have known Dr. Cole for many years, and he has cared for all of my Shelties. I am not sure how I would have coped without him. I am forever grateful.

I would also like to thank Jim Young, owner of Pet Value in Uxbridge, for his support with my Sabrina.

Finally, I would like to thank Lisha Van Nieuwenhove, owner of our local *Cosmos* newspaper, for all of her kindness during my 13-month journey with Sabrina's illness.

RoseMarie Durward
Uxbridge

On behalf of our students, school, and myself, I want to express a huge thank you to Paul Curtis at Baldwin Sales for his generous donation of t-shirts for our students to decorate for their Terry Fox run.

As a four-decade-long resident of Uxbridge, our residents and local businesses are the best! Please support them all during this challenging time.

Thank you, Paul, and thank you Baldwin Sales!

Judy Bear
Uxbridge

In his somewhat defensive letter in the October 22 issue of the *Cosmos*, Mr. Heinz Nitschke engages in some interesting thought process contortions.

He protests that never did he "say that COVID-19 is a lie." Yet in his letter he states that "people are not dying of COVID-19 but by anxiety, depression and suicide." That statement is tantamount to saying that COVID-19 is a lie, or as President Trump once claimed, a "hoax."

He writes that never would he "believe in totally one-sided research like we have with COVID-19." While the world is devoting a great deal of research to develop COVID-19 vaccines and medications to counter the deleterious effects of COVID-19 on the human body, other medical research, for example, on diabetes and alzheimer disease, continues. With COVID-19 having a natural tendency to spread exponentially very rapidly and having killed more than a million people in only seven months, common sense dictates that there should be a major research focus on effective and safe vaccines for this dreaded and very real virus.

"Why does our news never show the millions of people protesting around the world against masks, distancing and lock downs, even in Canada," asks Mr. Nitschke. From where does he obtain his news? From folks on social media who hold views similar to his? Certainly, mainstream media have given plenty of coverage to these misguided protesters, in Europe, the USA and, yes, in Canada.

"I am not responsible for what you understand," writes Mr. Nitschke, apparently referring to the general public or perhaps to the several letter writers who have taken him to task. Thank God, that is true - otherwise, we would have a very warped view of COVID-19 and the sensible, responsible measures needed to control it.

I don't deny that pandemic-induced anxiety, depression and suicide have taken a toll, but if Mr. Nitschke believes that a virus called COVID-19 did not infect and kill 10,000 Cana-

dians, he may wish to check with a few of the families of the victims.

Let everyone follow all COVID-19 related public health rules and guidelines, including the wearing of masks, physical distancing, etc. It is the socially responsible thing to do. Those who refuse to follow the rules and guidelines, or in any way encourage others to not observe them, are making a statement to the effect that their independent beliefs trump the safety of everyone else. That is downright selfish and irresponsible.

Earle Lockerby
Sandford

With all the changes in our daily lives for the past several months due to COVID-19, it shouldn't surprise anyone that Halloween has become one of its victims.

I suggest that one of the ways that people can still celebrate Halloween and at the same time help others less fortunate is by donating the money one would normally spend on Halloween candy to the FOOD BANK. This would be of great assistance to those who are suffering financially due to the virus and need supplements from their local food bank to help them feed their families.

Halloween could be observed in private with parents and their children dressing up at home and playing games and maybe ordering a pizza. Children can still have some fun, while being kept safe at home.

And of course, don't forget to watch "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown"!

Rick Blair
Uxbridge

We dodged a bullet this week by not having Stage 2 restrictions put on our community and according to Premier Ford, it was due to the elected officials in Halton Region. There was

...continued on page 8



Am I Wrong?

column by Roger Varley

Beware the barbecue

I guess, like me, many of you assume the fire department is mostly concerned with the safety of the township's residents and properties. Obviously, that is why we always show support for our local firefighters. We put them in the hero category, as they deserve to be.

However, Fire Chief Phil Alexander, perhaps unwittingly, revealed another side of the department at Monday's council meeting.

Alexander was on hand to present his annual report to council. But before council dealt with his report, they first heard a deputation from a couple from Coppins Corners who were complaining about a \$485 fine they received from the fire department because they had had a small fire in a metal fireplace, sitting on stone slabs, which they used to cook some corn cobs. They said the fire was almost out when the fire department arrived and they had fire extinguishing equipment close at hand. And the reason the fire department responded? A neighbour had complained about the smoke.

Invited by council to respond to the couple, Alexander made note of the by-law requirements regarding distances required between fires and property lines and buildings, the types of fires allowed and so on. He said the \$485 fine was to "recover costs." Then he dropped this line: "I know it's council's wish that we increase our revenues and generate more income in the current budgetary situation."

Let that sink in for a minute. Council wants the fire department to generate more income. If Alexander's comment is to be taken at face value, it means some of the chief's time may be spent on finding new sources of revenue or increasing the revenue already available to him. There seems to be only one way for the department to do that and that is to issue as many tickets for questionable fires as they can. Of course, some fines are reasonable, such as when someone sets a field on fire through carelessness. But \$485 because some smoke was coming from a small fire bin?

Since when did the fire department become a revenue-generating operation? The department is funded through property

taxes. Unless the department opens some kind of boutique at the fire station, how else can they "increase revenue"?

The couple from Coppins Corners submitted a picture of their fireplace to council on Monday. It was tubular, perhaps about four feet high, made of metal, with a grill set in place above the actual fire bed, with everything encased in wire mesh. The unit was set on a base of slab stones. They also showed a picture of a small metal barbecue they sometimes use. If they had used the barbecue, they would have been okay, because it uses charcoal. But because they used small chunks of wood in their fireplace - (they said the wood gave the corn cobs a better flavour than charcoal) - they ran afoul of the by-law since it was too close to their house and because, as Alexander pointed out, they hadn't acquired a fire permit. Oh, and the smoke bothered a neighbour.

But when the couple pointed out that the fire permit, which they obtained the next day, states that small cooking fires are allowed, Alexander responded that it depends what type of fuel is being used. Gas or charcoal are okay, but wood is a no-no. Smoke, you know.

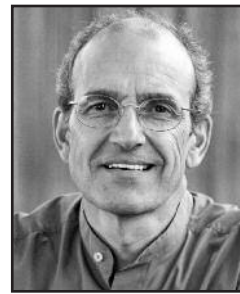
So, a barbecue on an apartment balcony - (and there are a number of them in the downtown area) - is okay, but a small cooking fire, that uses wood, in the backyard of a home in Wyndance is not.

Mayor Dave Barton said people need to be able to entertain outdoors during the winter, especially during this pandemic. But I offer a word of caution: if you are planning on a barbecue, make sure you don't burn the hamburgers. The smoke might annoy the neighbours.

Here's another thought: if you do have a barbecue, can you perhaps expect a visit from the fire department making sure you're using the right fuel?

Of course, if Alexander's statement is correct, we can't lay the blame for chasing more revenue on the fire department. The blame lays squarely on the shoulders of council, who apparently see nothing wrong in turning the department into a money-making enterprise.

Tell me, am I wrong?



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

Much to praise America for

It's just a small, rectangular piece of onion-skin paper. It was handed to us at the entrance to the exhibit, at the site of a national monument, actually. They also gave us a soft-lead pencil with the paper. It was up to us to find the information we wanted. And we did. Partway along a wall - several hundred yards long and four-feet high - containing the inscribed names of thousands and thousands of immigrants, we found the names we were looking for.

"Magdalene Kontozis Kontozoglu," read one name, and below it, "Theodosios Kontozoglu."

Magdalene was my mother's mother. And Theodosios was my mother's father, and the man after whom I am named. When we found their names on the American Immigrant Wall of Honor, at Ellis Island, in 1994, our two daughters placed the onion-skin paper against the inscriptions on the wall. They rubbed the soft-lead pencil across the paper to make an imprint. Our visit to the wall and the Immigration Hall at Ellis Island in New York Harbor has left equally indelible impressions on me, all these years later. Without the America that opened its arms wide to my grandparents and millions of other immigrants between 1880 and the First World War, my family and I would not be here.

An election in the United States is five days away. They say it's the most critical "first Tuesday in November" in a generation. In this column and in spoken word, I'm admittedly not terribly complimentary of American attitudes, institutions and politics. But partly because I am the grandson of those two Greek immigrants who became proud Americans, I thought I'd muse a bit about the good there is in America.

When my parents immigrated from the U.S. to Canada, after the Second World War, they, my sister and I often travelled to New York for family visits. NYC then was a kid's paradise, especially when Theodosios showed us around. He took us to the Empire State Building for the view, Statue of Liberty for his story, Radio City for the Rockettes and Baskin Robbins for the 31 flavours (that was big in the 1950s). As an adult, NYC gave us a kaleidoscope of museums, art galleries, the odd Broadway show and the world's greatest people-watching spots - Central Park, Times Square and the NYC Transit system.

For a time, my father's work took him to Hollywood. Naturally, I visited and played tourist there too - seeing the Queen Mary museum, the hillside Hollywood sign, the Walk of Fame,

and Venice Beach - each a unique celebration of American culture. One year, I chose to get to L.A. by car. A friend and I acted out the TV series *Route 66* by driving the full length of the highway. My buddy Dave was Marty Milner (Todd Stiles) and (because he was Greek) I was George Maharis (Buzz Murdock). As the song says, "It winds from Chicago to L.A. More than two thousand miles all the way." The one difference, sadly, Dave and I didn't drive it in a '64 Corvette, but a '64 Valiant. Didn't matter, we had lived the iconic, trans-America highway for the adventure. And it was all of that.

Nobody displays its historic leaders' history the way the Americans do. And in Washington, I've walked every inch of the National Mall between the Lincoln Memorial and Capitol Hill. The Washington Monument has always left me cold, but every time I've approached the Daniel Chester French statue of Abraham Lincoln (built in 1922), I've read the 275 words of his Gettysburg Address from Nov. 19, 1863 and absorbed its meaning.

"That government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth."

Then, just steps from there, the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, with its cherry trees, waterfalls and stones commemorating all four of his momentous terms in office. And aside from the controversial sculpture of FDR in his wheelchair, I've always stopped at the George Segal sculpture, of a citizen listening to one of FDR's legendary "Fireside Chats" at the beginning of which he coined the phrase, "My fellow Americans..."

An appreciation of America, I think, is less about place than it is about people. I fondly recall meeting George Braucht. He was from a small town in Illinois, where he farmed, was the mayor, and drove the school bus. He was truly everyman. My days spent as a teenager in a Baltimore diner kitchen with a dishwasher named Mr. Beale have stayed with me for his insight; an African American, he never saw colour, but only goodness in people. And my grandparents, the ones on that Immigrant Wall of Honor; they loved America so much, they worked all their lives - Magdalene as a seamstress, Theodosios as a cook - to improve the lives of their family.

Something to celebrate and be grateful for as America votes Tuesday.

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



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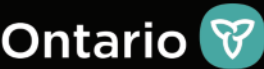
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Poppy Fund Financial Report



For Year Ending September 30, 2020

Poppy Trust Funds as at October 1, 2019\$18,775.69

REVENUE:

2019 Poppy Campaign\$41,984.20

TOTAL REVENUE\$60,759.89

EXPENSES:

Advertising\$389.85

Cost of Wreaths & Poppies\$3,867.65

Promotional Materials\$284.76

Grants — Veterans\$456.70

Donations\$23,584.50

Misc. Expenses\$500.21

TOTAL EXPENSES\$29,434.32

Poppy Trust Funds as at September 30, 2019\$18,775.69

Balance Sheet as at September 30, 2020\$31,325.57

Due to COVID-19, we sadly regret there will be no Remembrance Dinner, Parade, or public Remembrance Day Service.

Honour Our Veterans Drive-By Parade



Honour and pay tribute to our local Veterans
November 8, 1 p.m. - Enter Elgin Park Drive



**We invite you to join us on November 11,
at 10:50 a.m. on the Uxbridge Legion Facebook page
to watch our virtual service.**



A message from John Henry, Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer

I have seen our community come together—in amazing ways—to help flatten the COVID-19 curve. I understand that many of us are tired and frustrated, but we still have work to do.

With cold and flu season upon us—and COVID-19 cases back on the rise—it's more important than ever to follow public health advice: keep washing our hands, wearing our masks, practising physical distancing, and staying home when sick.

Now, the second wave is upon us. We are prepared—even as community transmission continues to be the main driver.

Rest assured, our staff are working around the clock to deliver essential public services, such as clean water and waste collection. Services that help some of our most vulnerable individuals: long-term care residents, those who need shelter, social assistance recipients, and more. We're also helping local businesses by offering resources for themselves, their workers and affected families.

We are doing our part; and appreciate that you are doing yours too. We understand that everyone has been affected by the pandemic. In these uncertain times, I am proud of how our community has come together.

For more ways to help the community, visit durham.ca/CommunityResources. Keep up to date by visiting durham.ca/NovelCoronavirus. For the most recent case information, visit durham.ca/COVIDCases.

Stay **#DurhamStrong** and let's **#StopTheSpread** as a community.



#DurhamStrong

Batteries dead? Recycle instead!

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Special orange labels were provided in your waste management calendar.

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Place the sealed battery bag on **top of your paper blue box** on your collection day.



Call 1-800-667-5671 or visit durham.ca/battery

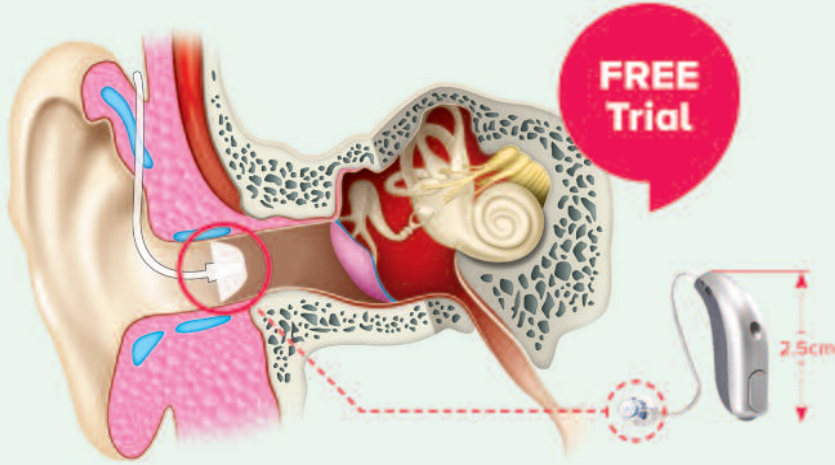
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Letters, from page 4

no mention of anyone from Durham Region trying to defend us, and that has led to many more questions than we already had about these rollbacks.

When gyms and restaurants were allowed to open in Stage 3 in July, our number of cases started declining. The numbers did not go up until September. Could it be that the case numbers actually increased due to something that happened then and not in August?

Where can we find the information to support the government's theory that gyms and

dining indoors at restaurants are to blame for the recent spike in cases?

Why is it that our elected officials are not showing us the numbers to prove this is the case? I know multiple business owners that have asked their officials for this information just as we did. They either received no response or (probably worse) a standard email reply sent from the office of our MPP Peter Bethlenfalvy.

How did an action from Halton have any effect on Durham Region?

Will Halton be able to save us again if our own officials don't start fighting?

I guess as there is no response coming, we will have to send a response of our own when the next election is called.

Signed a disappointed and a little confused,

Scott Campsall
Uxbridge

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The Nature Nut

column by Nancy Melcher

Look up this Halloween

October 2020 is an unusual month. And in these COVID times that's saying a lot! Something will happen on Halloween that hasn't happened since March 2018. In fact, Halloween is a double whammy for another event, and that one hasn't happened since October 31, 2001!

First, there will be a full moon on Halloween, the second full moon in the month of October this year! That means Halloween's is called a "blue moon," the term given to the second full moon in one month (the first happened Oct. 1). Many Halloween images include the full moon, black cats, and flying bats. I can't promise cats nor bats, but the full moon is a guarantee.

The second "Wow!" moment is realising that the last time a full moon shone on October 31 was in 2001. A

full moon on Halloween is much more rare than a blue moon. But a full blue Halloween moon is REALLY RARE! They happen every 19 years, so the next time will be October 31, 2039.

While you are out looking up at the moon, there are also three planets that are easy to see in the night sky. Jupiter and Saturn have been hanging out together near the constellation Sagittarius all summer. They will be low in the southwest sky once it gets dark. Jupiter is brighter, with Saturn shining yellow up to the left a bit, about as wide apart as your hand. Can you spot any of Jupiter's four bright moons in your binoculars?

Mars shines a fire-orange bright, close to the moon. It's especially bright right now (brighter than

Jupiter) because it's close to us. Mars is only about half the size of Earth, so when it's close it seems very bright. When it's not close it gets very dim. By comparison, Jupiter is very far away but is a huge planet so always looks about the same.

You might be lucky to see Northern Lights, or Aurora Borealis. These shimmering curtains of light shine in the northern skies, away from the planets' path in the southern night sky. They are caused by electrically charged particles from the sun colliding with the Earth's atmosphere. The most usual colour is pale yellowish-green, but sometimes displays may include pink, purple and red. They may be wispy strands and fuzzy patches, or rippling arcs and curtains shooting across the sky. Wouldn't THAT be an awesome COVID October Full Blue Halloween Moon - planets - Northern Lights display? Only a meteorite landing in the Countryside Preserve could top that!

Nancy Melcher is The Nature Nut. Send details of your sightings or questions about the natural world to: general@melcher.cx

Perspective with Brian Evans

Do you like word pictures? They are a unique way to help explain or understand a concept which seems more difficult to define by simply using words. Apparently, our long-term memory is best stimulated and utilized with pictures. Maybe that is why it is often said that 'a picture is worth a thousand words'! Word pictures provide a basis for a concept that may also need additional fine tuning with words.

Let's use some word pictures to help understand basic options for life insurance.

There are many life insurance companies who between them provide hundreds of policies, each with their own benefits and characteristics that may appeal to your need and objective of providing for your loved ones when you are unable to provide for them yourself. However, each of these policies are actually a variation of probably three root types of life insurance products.

Let's consider Term Insurance. This is a life insurance policy that has been calculated only to be required for an anticipated period of time. It might be related to the repayment of a loan or mortgage and once the repayment is complete it may no longer be required. The word picture...term insurance is like renting an apartment. If you pay the rent, you can live there. If you choose not to pay the rent, your benefits are removed. There is no ownership and there is no equity building in your favour. You do not have ultimate control of your living arrangements. In the short term, the cost is very affordable. In the long term, the cost is prohibitive. Term Life Insurance is the right coverage for certain life objectives.

Then there is Universal Life. This is a policy that combines term insurance with investment options and takes ad-

vantage of some of the tax preferences inherent to life insurance. The word picture...universal life insurance is like renting to own. A portion of your rent payment is actually being applied to building equity or ownership in the property. For this reason, the cost is higher than basic rent. Over time and with the ever-increasing equity position, a higher portion of the monthly rent is applied to property ownership. If you pay the rent, you can stay there. If you don't pay the rent, you have the amount of the property you own that can help! Universal Life Insurance is the right coverage for certain life objectives.

Finally, there is Whole Life. This is a policy that will provide coverage throughout your entire life. You have control of this policy. The word picture...whole life insurance is like owning the house. A portion of the mortgage payment is attributed to interest costs. The more equity you have in your home the less interest you pay. You are on title for the property and make the decisions concerning the property. The value of your property

generally increases over time and once you have repaid the mortgage you maintain full ownership of the property until you decide otherwise. Whole Life Insurance is the right coverage for certain life objectives.

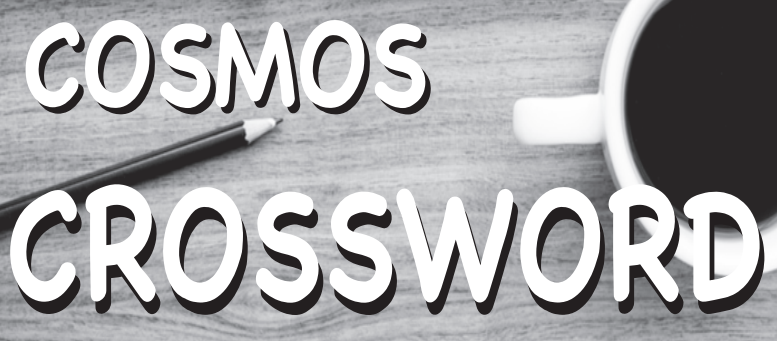
Please keep in mind that life insurance in all its various forms provides peace of mind. You and your family can be assured that should something tragic happen, loved ones will at least have an opportunity to be supported financially as they rebuild their lives. It is a very loving gift in a time of unanticipated need.

These word pictures will help to understand the simple basics of life insurance options. However, you are best to seek the advice of a qualified insurance advisor who can help you understand the best long-term and short-term solutions to give you and your family confidence. No one is immortal! Don't delay making a decision that will benefit your whole family. A life insurance advisor will help you determine your best insurance options.

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54					55				56			

Across

- 1 Breaks off
- 5 Boat or car perhaps
- 8 Cleaning bar
- 12 Gad about
- 13 Shoulder ____
- 14 Cheer
- 15 Looking up to
- 17 Miller, for one
- 18 For the most time
- 20 Invited
- 23 Passe
- 25 Writer
- 26 Recesses
- 30 Couple
- 31 Sandy hills
- 32 Mischievous fairy
- 34 Like some straws
- 36 Clear the ____
- 37 Ocean
- 38 Papa
- 40 Capable of being influenced
- 44 Rough
- 47 Like some experiments
- 51 Most populous continent
- 52 Truck weight measure
- 53 Facts and figures
- 54 Face up to
- 55 Ready, ____, go
- 56 One-dish meal

Down

- 1 Victorian, for one
- 2 Consent

- 3 Beaver's work
- 4 Look happy
- 5 Washer cycle
- 6 Be undecided
- 7 Perimeter
- 8 Devious
- 9 Profitable rock
- 10 Don't ask a woman this
- 11 For each one
- 16 "Maggie" singer Stewart
- 19 Our boys
- 20 Disposed
- 21 Stitches
- 22 Boy Scout training subject
- 24 Apprehension
- 26 Vessel
- 27 It's the loneliest number
- 28 "Lady in ____" - song
- 29 Glided
- 31 Don't touch that ____
- 33 Cooking method
- 35 Ditto
- 38 With low light
- 39 Caustic substances
- 41 Puts on a show
- 42 Sole supporter?
- 43 Camping need
- 44 Farm butter
- 45 ____ and abuse
- 46 Not live
- 48 Mouse catcher
- 49 Wore away
- 50 "Alfie" star Jude ____



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Loaves & Fishes marks 31 years of service to Uxbridge

Submitted by Don Mertens

The Uxbridge Loaves & Fishes Food Bank noted it had been serving Uxbridge for 31 years during its annual general meeting, held on Sept. 21.

The Food Bank is run solely by volunteers, and Patti Maloney and Jeffrey Ross have been board co-chairs since January 2018. Their three-year term will end in a few months, and a search is underway for a new board chair (or co-chairs).

Over 50 local volunteers help support over 200 clients (representing more than 500 people including family members). These clients form a range of residents, including the disabled, underemployed, single-parent families, and seniors.

Volunteers manage all aspects of the Food Bank, including purchasing, food intake and sorting, warehousing, distribution, client care, and accounting.

The Food Bank is currently open on Wednesdays from 1 - 4 p.m., at St. Andrew's Chalmers Presbyterian Church. COVID-19 protocols are in place.

Board members thank the generous

community, including organizations, businesses and media, with a special acknowledgement to St. Andrew's

Chalmers Presbyterian Church.

'It is through the generosity of our community we are able to provide food secu-

rity to our clients in a consistent and reliable way," says volunteer Don Mertens. For more information, visit [uxbridge-](http://uxbridge-foodbank.com)

foodbank.com, email uxbridgeloesand-fishes@hotmail.com, or call 905-852-0392.

In loving memory of

Lisa Northeast-Jones

our daughter, sister and aunt, tragically killed by a drunk driver on November 2, 1991.

Remember me when the flowers bloom in early spring, remember me on sunny days in the fun that summer brings.

Remember me in the fall as you walk through the leaves of gold, and remember me in the wintertime in the stories that are told.

And if by chance, you wish to remember me, do it with a kind deed or word to someone who needs you.

Be kind to your fellow man and help someone in need and expect nothing in return, as the seeds of kindness will never be forgotten.

Dance with the angels, Lisa
~ loved as always.
Mom, Brad, Mathew, Jacqui, Racheal,
Carrie, Vince, Paul, Jason

In loving memory of

Patricia Barbara Harwood

February 20, 1938 - October 26, 2019

A beloved and cherished wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother

~

One long and lonely year has passed
Since you were called away.
You will always remain in our hearts;
We lovingly remember you each and every day.
Oh, what we would give to see you again,
Even for just a little while.

To sit and have a pleasant chat
And see your gracious smile.
Sometimes we feel your presence,
It truly seems that you are there.
Then once more we face reality
When we see your empty chair.

The good Lord knew that you were weary,
And He knows what is best.
He welcomed you to His heavenly home
So you could have eternal rest.
May you rest in peace,
Free from pain and discomfort forevermore.
One day we will be together again,
We will meet on that heavenly shore.

Always on our minds, forever in our hearts.

Bruce, Steve & Sandra, Brenda & Brian, Maggie & Gord,
Karen & Jerry, and families



It is with great sadness that the family of

Sybil Anderson

announce her passing on October 25th, 2020 in her 85th year.

Predeceased by husband Robert. Lovingly remembered by her daughters Teresa Black (late husband Robert), Heather Ramsey (Ted), Roberta Rahimi (Farid) and Lynn Anderson. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Daniel Koomar, Ashley Grass and Sarah Rahimi and her great grandchildren Abigail and Emmett. She will also be sadly missed by the Golden Age bowling league and the her friends at 2 Testa Road.

Cremation has taken place.

George Forrest Kydd

It is with great sadness that the family of George Forrest Kydd announces his passing on October 22, 2020, at the age of 93.

He was born in Uxbridge on September 28, 1927, the only son of George Kydd Sr. and Nellie (nee Johnston) Kydd. He is survived by his wife Shirley (nee Veale) and children Jane and Gerry, and grandchildren Ashley, Madison, Lindsey and James, and 7 great grandchildren.

George grew up on the family farm in Uxbridge where he farmed for his entire life. He also built the Uxbridge Golf Course in 1958 on his existing farm land. He was actively involved in hockey as a player in his younger years and later as a referee throughout the area. He loved horses and was a breeder and owner of a number of Standard Bred race horses.

He passed away peacefully at Lakeview Manor Beaverton. Due to COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings, a private family memorial service will be held. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Low & Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Box 388, Uxbridge L9P 1M8 (905-852-3073) In lieu of flowers a donation can be made in memory of George to the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital Foundation or a charity of your choice. Online condolences can be made at www.lowandlow.ca



In Loving Memory of my parents,

*Lisa Northeast-Jones
and Gary Jones*

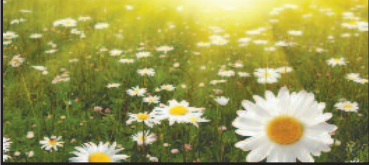
Tragically killed by a drunk driver on November 2, 1991.

Memories are a lovely lane where hearts are forever true.

A lane I so often travel down because it leads to both of you!

Always on my mind and forever in my heart.

Always loved, always missed.
Your loving son Mathew.





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Buy 1 Get 1 Free! ** Valid only on Thursday Oct 29th 2020, Friday Oct 30th and Saturday Oct 31st <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coupon valid at Halibut House Uxbridge location only! Present Coupon at the time of purchase Offer cannot be combined with any other offer 	Buy 1 Get 1 Free! ** Valid only on Thursday Oct 29th 2020, Friday Oct 30th and Saturday Oct 31st <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coupon valid at Halibut House Uxbridge location only! Present Coupon at the time of purchase Offer cannot be combined with any other offer 	Buy 1 Get 1 Free! ** Valid only on Thursday Oct 29th 2020, Friday Oct 30th and Saturday Oct 31st <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coupon valid at Halibut House Uxbridge location only! Present Coupon at the time of purchase Offer cannot be combined with any other offer 	** Valid only on Thursday Oct 29th 2020, Friday Oct 30th and Saturday Oct 31st <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Fish + Large Chips + 2 Coleslaw Coupon valid at Halibut House Uxbridge location only! Present Coupon at the time of purchase Offer cannot be combined with any other offer 	** Valid only on Thursday Oct 29th 2020, Friday Oct 30th and Saturday Oct 31st <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Fish + 1 Chips Coupon valid at Halibut House Uxbridge location only! Present Coupon at the time of purchase Offer cannot be combined with any other offer

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C. VIN PULL-OUT KITCHEN FAUCET IN CHROME. 2-function sprayhead. 43-422-4. Reg 179.99...**143.99**

D. CRUCE PULL-OUT KITCHEN FAUCET IN CHROME. 2-function sprayhead. 43-423-4. Reg 179.99...**143.99**

E. SEVE PRO PULL-DOWN KITCHEN FAUCET IN STAINLESS STEEL. 3-function sprayhead. 43-424-4. Reg 349.99...**279.99** 11.67/24 mo*

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White quantities last. Rainchecks unavailable.

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*See page 23 for details.

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