

# The Uxbridge COSMOS

CANADIAN  
COMMUNITY  
NEWSPAPER  
AWARD 2019

Volume 17 No. 3

YOUR UNIVERSE

Thursday, January 21, 2021



SELL for as low as 1%  
Patrick Bryant, Broker of Record  
small commission  
BIG RESULTS  
www.comFLEX.ca



**A HAPPY BIRTHDAY DELIVERY** - Instead of candles, 94 Canadian flags wished Uxbridge veteran Norm Goodspeed a Happy Birthday on Tuesday, outside his home on Mill St. He also received a special birthday dinner from TIN restaurant courtesy of the Honour Our Veterans Banner Committee. *Photo by John Cavers*  
Celebrate the life of another of another of Uxbridge's beloved veterans, beginning on page 8.

## Inside Your Cosmos

Bruins not hanging up towels yet . . . .page 3  
Cannabis is coming to town . . . . .page 11

Your Local Link to Real Estate  
www.**StacyKearley**.com  
Sales Representative  
Listing Local  
Marketing Global  
**Re/Max All-Stars Realty**  
Inc. Brokerage  
47 Brock St. W., Uxbridge  
905-852-6143  
416-570-0393  
www.stacykearley.com

**AXIS**  
CHIROPRACTIC  
New Patients  
Welcome  
304 Toronto Street South  
905-852-9700  
axischiropractic.ca

## Wildlife refuge busier than ever despite pandemic

by Justyne Edgell,  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

While the world was put on hold for the COVID pandemic, not everything shut down. The Shades of Hope Wildlife Refuge, in Pefferlaw, saw a very busy year in 2020.

"We usually have just under 5,000 animals come through our doors, and in 2020 we had well over 6,000," said Shades of Hope founder and wildlife concierge, Gail Lenters.

And while they do have some full time staff, who have been bubbling together to continue working through the pandemic, Lenters says the centre usually takes on volunteers as well, which was very hard to do this year. "So we had less help and more animals."

As the spring season approaches, so does the busiest season for the wildlife refuge. Lenters says she is currently in the process of ordering all of the refuge centre's supplies, including products like special feeds coming from as far

away as Australia.

"If people want to help, the best thing they can do is to help support financially. We ask people to consider a monthly donation, even \$10 a month, that we can budget with."

While it's not a lot of money, Lenters says it



This owl is one of the many animals currently in care at Shades of Hope Wildlife Refuge in Pefferlaw. The refuge brought in 1,000 more animals than expected in 2020. *Photo from www.shadesofhope.ca*

goes a long way to help the refuge plan and purchase the required essentials for proper animal care. Alternatively, dropping off donations of bird seed or cleaning products like paper towel, bleach and laundry detergent, is also greatly appreciated.

Lenters wants to encourage everyone to keep an eye out as the warmer weather approaches.

"All those creatures are there, nestled in trees, in wood piles and in sheds. Come spring, when you go to clean up, you risk disturbing those little guys."

If any member of the public does find an animal that is believed to be in need of assistance, Lenters suggests using the "Find Out What To Do" button on the Shades of Hope website, or give the refuge a call.

Shades of Hope is open seven days a week, "COVID or no COVID," says Lenters.

Visit <https://www.shadesofhope.ca> to learn more.

**Catch the Ace**  
PROGRESSIVE WEEKLY LOTTERY  
PROJECTED JACKPOT FOR THE  
NEXT DRAW IS \$5,600  
DUE TO GREY ZONE RESTRICTIONS,  
DRAWS DURING THE LOCKDOWN  
PERIOD ARE ON HOLD. WATCH THIS  
SPACE FOR UPDATES.  
Tickets available at PharmaSave Uxbridge,  
Vince's Market Uxbridge, Canadian Tire Uxbridge,  
Uxbridge Legion Br. 170 & Stouffville IDA Pharmacy  
Ontario Problem Gambling Hotline 1-888-230-3505.  
Lottery rules at [www.uxbridgerotary.com/catchtheace](http://www.uxbridgerotary.com/catchtheace).  
No one under 18 may purchase a ticket or win the lottery.  
In support of  
Rotary Club of Uxbridge  
Jumpstart  
Ontario

**FIRST TIME BUYERS/RETIREEES**  
-upscale 1 bedroom condo -1 washroom -laundry room  
-upgrades -hardwood floors -granite counters  
-10ft. ceilings -exercise room -party room  
-doggie wash stall -covered parking  
spot owned plus lots of visitor  
parking -transit -shopping  
and schools close by  
\$474,900  
www.HowardAndDebbi.com  
STAY SAFE!  
DEBBI JEFFERSON  
& HOWARD LEE  
\*Sales Representatives  
905.642.6333  
debbijefferson@bell.net

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
Marie Persaud  
Sales Representative  
Coldwell Banker R.M.R.  
Real Estate Brokerage  
Direct: 416-970-8979  
Office: 905-852-4338  
www.mariepersaud.ca  
**ABERDEEN PLACE**  
41 ASH STREET  
EXCLUSIVE LISTING  
Aberdeen Place, 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom spacious 4th floor condo with ensuite laundry, underground parking and locker, ensuite storage, updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors throughout except in washrooms/laundry room/storage room, ceiling fans in both bedrooms, kitchen, living and dining room. Offered for sale at \$425,000.00. Call me at 416-970-8979 to arrange for a viewing.





# The Township of UXBRIDGE

Trail Capital of Canada

FOLLOW US



MORE INFO

[www.uxbridge.ca](http://www.uxbridge.ca)

## Council & Committee Meetings

### Meeting Schedule for Jan. 2021

Thursday, January 21,  
1:00p.m. - 5:00p.m.  
DEPARTMENT BUDGET  
PRESENTATIONS

Monday, January 25, 10:00 a.m.  
COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, January 26,  
1:00p.m. - 5:00p.m.  
DEPARTMENT BUDGET  
PRESENTATIONS (if needed)

Proclamations  
January 27 - INTERNATIONAL  
HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

## Employment Opportunity

### Township of Uxbridge Spare Crossing Guards

Complete details and qualifications required for these positions are available at [uxbridge.ca/employment\\_opportunities](http://uxbridge.ca/employment_opportunities)

The Township of Uxbridge is currently seeking Spare Crossing Guards to cover various locations in the Town of Uxbridge. If you are interested in a position, please contact Jo Ann Merrick at 905-852-9181 ext 202 or email: [jmerrick@uxbridge.ca](mailto:jmerrick@uxbridge.ca)

*We thank all those who apply, however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.*

*The Township of Uxbridge is an equal opportunity employer in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 and the Ontario Human Rights Code (OHRC). The Township of Uxbridge will provide accommodations throughout the recruitment and selection and/or assessment process to applicants with disabilities and/or needs related to the OHRC. Personal information provided is collected under the authority of The Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.*

## Township of Uxbridge COVID-19 Updates

### Facility Closure Information

Town Hall - closed to public, call for service  
Uxbridge Arena - closed until further notice  
Uxpool - Closed until further notice  
Uxbridge/Zephyr Libraries - curbside pick-up only  
Pump Park/Skate Park - closed for season  
Dog Park Open - 5 person limit  
Uxbridge/Scugog Animal Shelter - call 905-985-9547 for service or appointment

Trails and Parks are open for use - 2m physical distancing required

### Questions? Contact Us!

t: 905-852-9181  
[info@uxbridge.ca](mailto:info@uxbridge.ca)  
[www.uxbridge.ca](http://www.uxbridge.ca)

## COVID-Related Outdoor Recreation Notice

### Outdoor Skating Rinks in Uxbridge

The Township of Uxbridge reminds residents to keep off frozen storm-water outlet ponds in the Township of Uxbridge. Water levels can fluctuate making the ice unsafe for use.

### Outdoor Team Sports and Games

Current Health Regulations **prohibit activities** such as playing hockey, having scrimmages, or participating in team sports. These activities cannot be done indoors or outside, as participants are unable to maintain a 2m distance from each other which contributes to the spread of COVID-19. Violators may be fined.

### Elgin Pond

Elgin Pond is CLOSED for use. The Township of Uxbridge is NOT currently monitoring the ice conditions. Ice monitoring may resume when Public Health regulations permit hockey games, scrimmages or other forms of unmonitored group/team interactions to occur outdoors. Please help us limit the spread of COVID-19.

### Tobogganing

Help reduce the spread of COVID-19 while tobogganing. Families should keep to their household bubble and stay more than 2 m apart from those in another household. Masks are strongly recommended. Please remember that participants can be fined if the size of an outdoor gathering exceeds 5 people.

# 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)

## SENIORS' CENTRE *Without Walls*

A FREE TELEPHONE-BASED  
SENIORS' ACTIVITY PROGRAM



UXBRIDGE SENIORS  
AGES 55+

\*LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE\*  
THE COST IS FREE!

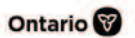
WHAT YOU WILL NEED:  
ACCESS TO A TELEPHONE.  
NO INTERNET OR COMPUTER REQUIRED.

HOW TO REGISTER:

CALL 905-852-7831

LEAVE YOUR NAME AND PHONE  
NUMBER AND OUR REPRESENTATIVE  
WILL CALL YOU BACK TO REGISTER.

MONDAYS - FEB. 8 & 22, MAR. 8 & 22: Scattergories.  
WEDNESDAYS - FEB. 17: Trivia, MAR. 3: Would You Rather,  
MAR. 17: Fact Or Fiction, MAR. 31: 5 Minute Mysteries.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE OLDER ADULT CENTRES' ASSOCIATION OF  
ONTARIO (OACAO) WITH FUNDING PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO.

## Winter Reminders

### Overnight Parking

Please be advised that By-law 2013-184 as amended prohibits overnight parking from November 1 until April 1 between the hours of 2 am and 7 am on roadways and municipal lots within the Township of Uxbridge.

### Snow removal obstruction

Did you know that in accordance with the Township of Uxbridge Traffic By-law 2013-184, it is an offence to stop any vehicle on a highway in such a manner as to interfere with the movement of traffic or the clearing of snow from the highway?

Please ensure you park off any highway or roadway so as to permit snow removal equipment and vehicles to clean the streets during the winter season.

### Snowmobile by-law

Please keep the Township Snowmobile By-Law in mind while operating your motorized snow vehicle this winter season. You are not permitted to ride your snowmobile on any sidewalks, park lands or any other Township property except to cross. Any person found in contravention of this By-Law is liable to a fine.

## Township of Uxbridge Off-Leash Dog Park Committee is looking for new members

applications now open



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



## TOWN HALL

by Roger Varley  
Notes from the January 18  
Council Meeting

*Paid parking being considered for trails:* People using the Uxbridge trail system, particularly those trails in the southern part of the township, could soon be paying for parking at the trailheads.

In a report to council on Monday, Recreation Director Amanda Ferraro said the township will be applying for a Rural Economic Development grant from the province that will help staff research an appropriate process that would use a mobile phone app to charge trail users for parking. She said the idea is not only to raise some revenue from the trail system, but to encourage hikers to patronize local businesses by using the technology to allow the township to advertise local businesses and events.

Councillors were enthusiastic in their support of the idea. Mayor

Dave Barton said people are using the trails more than ever before and "we need to find a way to empty their wallets. We have a revenue issue and this could be a way to tout local businesses."

Finance committee chair Bruce Garrod said the township needs to encourage trail users to support local business and make contributions to help with trail maintenance.

Ferraro said the idea has the support of Durham Region Economic Development and Tourism as well as the conservation authorities.

If the project proceeds, people could pay for parking using mobile apps. Those without the technology could pay at the township offices.

Ferraro said she will deliver a report in the near future outlining the proposed parking locations, revenue estimates, costs, and other details such as whether residents would be charged for parking.

Communications director Colleen Baskin explained later that, if the grant application is successful, the money would be used "to help us figure out what the best approach would be to use an app to charge for

parking."

She said that study would look at numerous questions, including how are cars monitored, how much the parking fee would be and how to motivate people to travel downtown.

"All that management has at this point is an idea and lots of questions, but we need funding via a grant to get resources to help us figure it out," she said.

*Ruona fights for residents:* Councillor Gary Ruona fought another losing battle for Wagner's Lake residents following a report from Public Works director Ben Kester recommending no maintenance work be done on Mooney Road.

Kester's report said Mooney Rd., on which there are eight lots, is an unassumed road and if any work is done on it the township would then be responsible for continuing maintenance. He said no work has been done on the road in the last 25 years "that I'm aware of." He explained

that most of the residences on Wagner's Lake were originally summer cottages, not year-round residences, which is why they were allowed to be built on unassumed roads.

Ruona noted that other roads in the area are maintained and offered a letter from a long-time resident claiming work was done on Mooney Road some time between 1985 and 1990.

"As the residents all pay the same taxes as other residents, I feel the township has an obligation and the responsibility to maintain the road on a permanent basis," he said.

Councillor Pam Beach said if Mooney Rd. is maintained, residents on other unassumed roads in the township would be asking for the same thing.

Ruona responded that perhaps the residents on Mooney Road should have their taxes lowered.

However, Ruona received no support from council, which voted in favour of not doing any maintenance

on Mooney Rd.



## Bruins not ready yet to call it quits

by Roger Varley

Despite the uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Uxbridge Bruins are not yet ready to write off their season.

Under normal circumstances, the Bruins and all the other teams in the Provincial Junior Hockey League would have started their 2020-21 season last September. As it is, the pandemic has put all of them on hold and, with a provincial emergency and lockdown still in effect until mid-February, there appears little chance of starting soon.

However, Darryl Knight, a member of the Bruins executive, said Tuesday the team is still preparing to play until they receive word from one of the governing bodies such as the PJHL, OHA and, ultimately, Hockey Canada that the season is scrubbed. Knight said he couldn't say what date would be considered the cut-off date for starting a season.

"That comes from Hockey

Canada," he said.

Meanwhile, the team is looking for other venues in which to play, since the Uxbridge arena is closed for the rest of the season. Knight said the Bruins have held practices "when it was safe to do so. We wanted to be ready."

Knight said no schedule has yet been put out for the PJHL and admitted that if the season does start up "it will be a challenge."

He said if play does resume, it would be a shortened season and might see such things as round-robin play, teams sharing arenas and perhaps playing two games in a day. In the event a season does begin, he admitted there would be concerns with revenue, since it is unlikely there would be paying spectators. He said the team could rely on player registration fees and it might be possible to offer viewing games on-line for a fee. As well, the organization is working on some fund-raising opportunities.

## MORE ..... IN UXBRIDGE!

We would love to get a better understanding of our community's thoughts on household appliances.

PLEASE scan the code or click the link below to fill out a quick 6 question survey for a chance to win!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/629HNYV>



All respondents providing an email will be automatically entered to win 1 of 3

All-Clad 5 Qt Square Pan with Lid

Valued at \$109.99

Random draw to be held January 29th, 2021. One response per household please. Emails will not be shared. Winners will be contacted by email.



What happens when you don't advertise?

# Very little.



# Our two cents

## A good first step

Over the last few weeks, the world has seen just what happens when political ideology careens off into uncharted territory. The United States is now a nation divided, seemingly irreparably, between the left and the right to the extent that Democrats and Republicans no longer just disagree on policy, they apparently see each other as "the enemy."

This warfare between the two sides has been going on for decades, but reached its peak during the four years of the disastrous Trump administration. It would be easy to slough it off as our neighbour's problem if it didn't affect us. But it does.

This divide between left and right has been increasing in Canada over the past few years, though, thankfully, not to the extent we see south of the border. There have been a number of right-wing politicians in this country who have stated their admiration and support of Trump and even gone so far as to wear MAGA hats.

Now, newly-installed Conservative leader Erin O'Toole, who represented Uxbridge in Parliament until ridings were redrawn a few years ago, has stated that there is no room in his party for far-right extremists. He made that statement in seeking the removal of MP Derek Sloan from the Conservative caucus because Sloan had accepted campaign donations from a known white supremacist.

This is a good first step. But there are many more steps to take before this country can truly shake its head at the U.S. and not appear hypocritical.

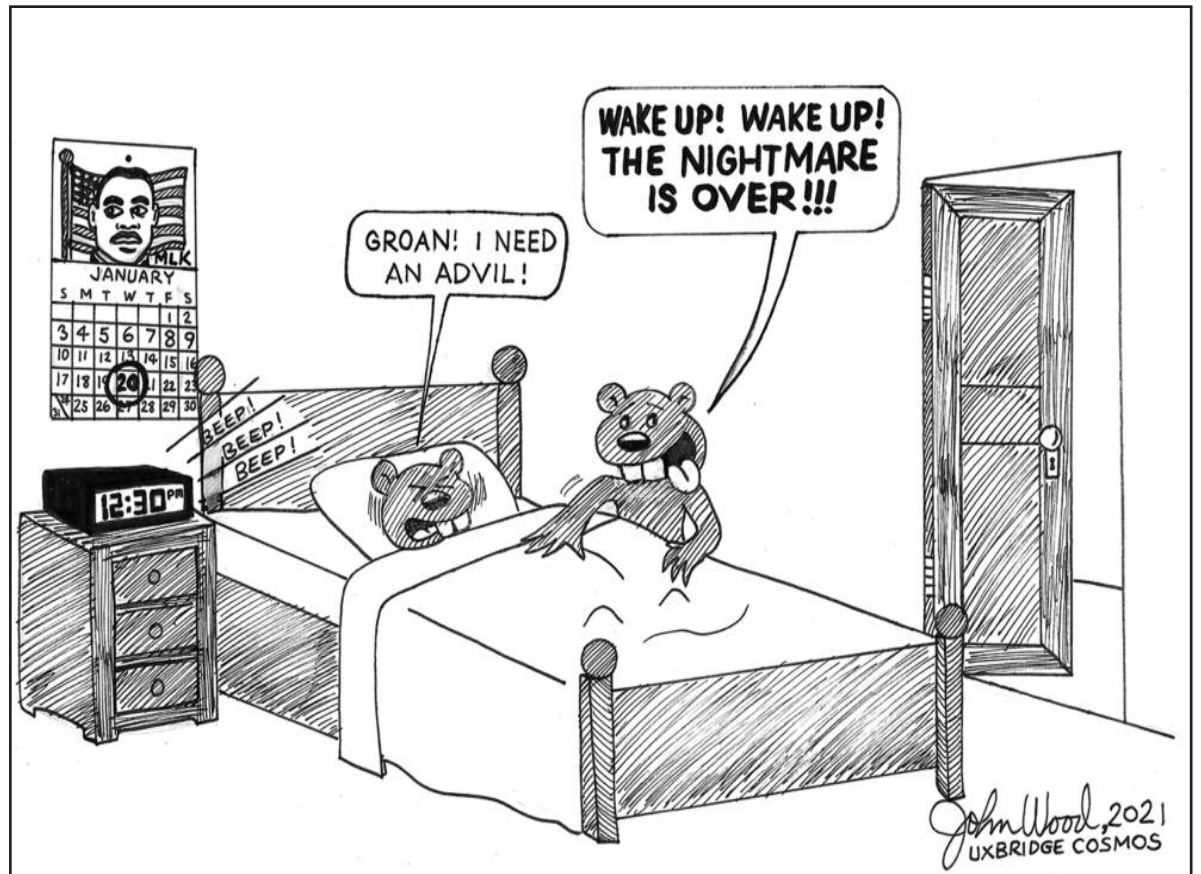
On just about every comment section in news stories concerning Canadian politics, the insults far outnumber any comments that could be considered thoughtful. "Libtards!" "Conbots!" These meaningless epithets dominate any conversation between the two sides and generally discourage any worthwhile discussion of differences of opinion. The divide between the two sides is not as great - nor as violent - as that in the U.S., but it has reached the point where it is of concern.

However, there is another - and perhaps more worrying - divide in the U.S. and that is the racial division. White supremacist groups have grown in number and adherents in recent years to the point where many see it as their right to show up anywhere they want, carrying all kinds of guns and ammunition. That white supremacy is also gathering strength in Canada and it is good to see O'Toole call out an MP for seemingly siding with that ideology.

It was also good to see senior military personnel call out racism, bullying and white supremacy in a recent Canadian naval command change. Also, following calls from the NDP, the federal government is considering whether to list the Proud Boys as a terrorist organization. Any steps taken to eradicate - or at least stem - this rising tide of hate is welcome.

This doesn't mean no one should be allowed to protest against the other side or disagree strenuously with the other side's policies. Lord knows, there were numerous spirited debates between John Diefenbaker and Lester B. Pearson, who couldn't even agree which side of a slice of bread to butter. But they never descended into hateful personal attacks and they at least held a grudging respect for each other.

We at the *Cosmos* may or may not necessarily agree with the policies of Premier Doug Ford or Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, but that does not stop us from acknowledging the good work done for Pickering-Uxbridge riding by Conservative MPP Peter Bethlenfalvy and Liberal MP Jennifer O'Connell. No side is always right and no side is always wrong. The sooner we all realize that, the sooner we can lower the level of rhetoric and vitriol and reduce the risk of becoming as splintered as the U.S.



## Letters to the Editor

**Re: "Am I Wrong?", Jan. 14 edition**

Local by-laws are passed under the authority of the Municipal Act. The wordings in local by-laws are often verbatim from the Act. By-laws are often written in a manner which attempt to anticipate as many potential problems as possible. Otherwise, the by-law division would be constantly seeking amendments every time a new issue arose. Just like police officers, I expect the local by-law officers are expected to exercise good judgement and discretion in the interpretation and enforcement when enforcing a local by-law.

I get that you don't like by-law enforcement as your position has been made clear in a number of columns over the years. In this regard you are likely not alone. However, I feel it is an injustice to go after the division and the employees in such a ridiculing manner when they are likely precluded from publicly responding.

If the quality of enforcement is, in your opinion, below par, then by-law enforcement should be taken to task such as a complaint directly to the head of enforcement or to the mayor or applicable councillor.

In my opinion, by-law enforcement is a necessary but thankless task and this very public ridicule just makes it that much harder.

**Bryan Byng**  
Uxbridge

It's disgusting.

**John Brown**  
Uxbridge

**Re: "The Barris Beat", Jan. 14 edition**

Thank you, Ted, for your words in the *Uxbridge Cosmos* newspaper last week ["A spade. No Trump"].

I have likened Donald Trump to Adolf Hitler over the last four years and was told that I was being "a bit" of an alarmist. These comments coming mostly from younger people, those between 20 and 40 years of age, that do not seem to understand the history related to the Nazi regime. Being older, I have met and spoken to people whose families were murdered in those concentration camps.

As you compare history with today's reality, I applaud you for calling a spade a spade.

**Pat Gizzie**  
Uxbridge

My God, Ted, you nailed it! This was an absolute gem of a column and it deserves to be read by a greater audience than just Uxbridge! Can someone please forward it to the *New York Times* or *Washington Post*, etc., preferably ASAP?

How many more times? Do we ever learn? Guy Fawkes comes to mind.

**J. Davy-Ward**  
Greenbank

Wow, so happy to be living in Uxbridge! First the township mismanages and wastes our tax money on the culvert in downtown Uxbridge. Now they just passed the Gestapo Nuisance Law.

Now they will drastically increase our property taxes to pay for their mistakes and mismanagement.

Residents are already hurting and under pressure and stressed out with this pandemic.

We would like to take this opportunity to express a heartfelt thank you to everyone in Uxbridge Township who supported the Uxbridge Christmas Hamper Campaign this year.

It was a very challenging year with the COVID-19 pandemic, and in our effort to keep everyone safe and healthy, a decision was made early on that instead of a Christmas Hamper, each family would receive gift cards only.

All of our supporters were on board with this decision and our thanks go out to all the churches, local businesses, service clubs and organizations, schools and individual families who came together to provide each family with an assortment of gift cards, enough to provide a Christmas Hamper with all the fixings and gifts for the children.

We would also like to thank the organizers of the Uxbridge Toy Drive who went over and above to help.

Last but not least, we would like to thank Father Joseph Rodrigues of Sacred Heart Catholic Church for allowing us the use of the church parking lot for this endeavour.

In a very difficult year, the kindness and willingness to share by so many people came together, and together we were able to provide a little Christmas joy to 63 families in our community!

Thank you again for your generous support. It was very much appreciated!

**Susan Gilbert, Gloria Ross, Cathy Tweedy & Mary Anne Wagner**  
Coordinators, Uxbridge Christmas Hamper Campaign

Last week's *Cosmos* editorial ["We're in the driver's seat now"] summed up life lately as an 'era of weirdness'. The Doors were right: "Strange days have found us/They're going to destroy/Our casual joys."

While strange days have been around since 2016, until 2020 we in the Great White North could sit back and watch Donny's Flying Circus to the south, but for the last number of months all of us 'Earth riders' have found we are sharing global weirdness in our vehicle. Like the smell of an egg salad sandwich being ripped open in the front seat, it thickly envelops the entire vehicle. That

...continued on page 9

**The Uxbridge COSMOS**

Publisher/Editor: Lisha Van Nieuwenhove 905-852-1900  
Advertising/Sales: 905-852-1900

38 Toronto Street North, Unit One, Uxbridge Ontario L9P 1E6  
E-mail: [Lvann@thecosmos.ca](mailto:Lvann@thecosmos.ca) Web site: [Thecosmos.ca](http://Thecosmos.ca)  
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Friday to 4 p.m.

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.

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.

**nnc** National NewsMedia Council

**ocna** Ontario Community Newspapers Association

**CMCA** AUDITED

**News Media Canada** Médias d'Info Canada

**CANADIAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER AWARD 2019**

**Local Journalism Initiative** Supporting Canadian Journalism to ensure the vitality of democracy [Learn More](#)

**Canada**





## Wandering the Cosmos

column by Conrad Boyce

### The Great Kiwi Road Trip

New Zealand has been getting a lot of good press these last couple of years. For its young, dynamic female prime minister. For its swift action on gun control after a horrific massacre in a mosque. And above all, for its forceful policies to control COVID-19, to the point where New Zealanders have experienced almost no second wave, and as a result, no restrictions.

The country was also celebrated a couple of decades ago when director Peter Jackson, a Kiwi himself, filmed the entirety of the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy on the islands, opening up the eyes of the world to the country's wide variety of spectacular scenery. If the place wasn't so darn far away, it would definitely be higher on my must-see list.

I actually had exposure to New Zealand in my youth, when I took part in one of those penpal programs the schools promoted for the sake of international awareness. As I remember, I had a choice of kids on three different continents, and I think I chose New Zealand precisely because it was on the other side of the world. My pen pal was from Christchurch on the South Island, and we actually kept up our correspondence for a couple of years before we ran out of new things to talk about.

Fast forward to 1984. I am in my early 30s, scraping together a living as a professional actor in the Yukon. My main gig in those days was performing for the tourists in the summer, from about mid-May till Labour Day. Then I'd play in community theatre until this lovely job I had in mid-winter, when for six weeks or so a troupe of us would head down to the RV parks in Arizona and California and do a multimedia show for the snow birds, trying to convince them to bring their rigs up the Alaska Highway some future summer. Escaping the Yukon in January and February for the American Southwest, and getting paid to do it, was a bit of a dream.

Most of those years I would fly down and back, but in 1984, I had a bit more time to kill before starting my summer job, reciting Robert Service poems at his cabin in Dawson City. So I hatched a plan to see a bit of the world in those three free months. Instead of flying down, I would drive my little red Toyota, and take a bit of a detour on my way home. Not only that, but I'd tack on three weeks before the gig began in mid-January. I was single, so no domestic obligations whatsoever...

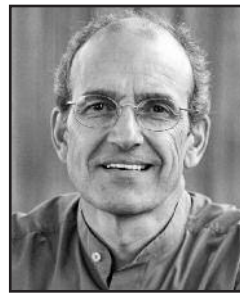
After a quiet Whitehorse Christmas, I threw in a tent and a suitcase, waved goodbye and drove to Vancouver via the Cassiar Highway. Then it was straight down the west coast of the US, which I'd long wanted to see. When I got

to San Diego, I didn't stop, but kept on driving right down to Cabo San Lucas, at the far tip of the Baja peninsula. And it was there, while basking on the beach (which I can only do for a couple of days before I get bored), that I met a nice young couple from New Zealand. I told them about my road trip scheme, and they said they would love to do something like that, to see a bit more of North America before heading home. Hmmm, says I, here's a way to have some expense-sharing company on my journey. So, Tony and Claire, I asked, do you have to be home before the end of May? And can you handle a few more weeks in Mexico or California? If you're interested, meet me in this park in Phoenix at noon on Feb. 26, and we'll go for a bit of a saunter.

Sure enough, they were there, and saunter we did. First we headed east, to Albuquerque and Houston and on to New Orleans (where my Yukon licence plate attracted quite a crowd). Then up the beautiful Natchez Trace Parkway, through Tennessee and Kentucky to Pittsburgh. That probably wasn't on Tony and Claire's top 10 list of American cities to visit, but I had to stop there for a few days, at the University of Pittsburgh, to research a show I was writing about composer Stephen Foster. Pittsburgh is his hometown, and there's a whole library dedicated to him.

Then it was on to the Big Apple, definitely on their list, where they saw the sights while I saw plays. By now, spring was approaching, and we moved into Canada, first to visit my aunt and uncle on an island in the Bay of Fundy. Then I wanted to see Charlottetown, but we encountered a legendary April PEI blizzard, and quickly moved on. It got greener and warmer as we moved west. Then we arrived in Grande Prairie, in northwestern Alberta, at the bottom of the Alaska Highway, a former home where I had to stay for a while to debut the play I'd written in Pittsburgh. By then, Tony and Claire and I had become such good friends that I happily handed them the keys to the Toyota and my Whitehorse apartment, told them to carry on to the Yukon, I'd follow by bus later. What can I say? It was a more innocent age.

The trip was a bit of an epic adventure, tackling about 22,000 kilometres onto the Toyota's odometer, and a pile of memories into my mental photo album. Tony and Claire would be in their late fifties now. We haven't been in touch for decades, and the chances of me getting Down Under to try to find them are probably pretty small. But we'll always have the Great Road Trip of '84.



## The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

### So, you want to write a book

My dental hygienist has her eye on a second career. The other day, after I'd passed the temperature test and questionnaire at Dr. Bessay's office, one of his hygienists, Vivian, got to work cleaning my teeth. Naturally, with my mouth wide open and instruments inside, she had me as a captive audience. So, she told me about wonderfully uninhibited things her children say. For example, one time her toddler son searched for the word to describe his elderly grandfather's face.

"It's crumply," he said.

"He probably meant 'wrinkly,'" Vivian said with a chuckle. Then, she added, "I think I'll write a book about the darnedest things kids say. Maybe you can help me get it published."

I mumbled an "Uh-huh," through the gauze and dental instruments in my mouth. Vivian didn't know that hers was the third or fourth approach I'd received this week to help a friend, relative, or total stranger get their book written or published. I'm not kidding. One friend asked me about publishing a wartime memoir. Another asked me to edit a non-fiction foreword. And a third, this week, wanted me to read the manuscript for a musical based on a Second World War battle.

So, with some of those well-intended requests for assistance to get their book written or published, I thought, why not help some who've had a similar thought in mind, but not the confidence to call me? Why not, based on my 50-years-plus as a professional writer, offer a few tips on do's and don'ts of writing a book as a kind of public service?

First, ask yourself, how original is this book? You might consider that all people have an original book inside them because all people are different. In response, you might hear your toughest critic (perhaps yourself) say, "There is nothing new under the sun." Then again, one of my all-time favourite philosophers and vagabonds, Ambrose Bierce (author of *The Devil's Dictionary*), said, "There's nothing new under the sun, but there are lots of old things we don't know."

I taught journalism for nearly 20 years. In nearly every lecture, tutorial or editing session, my reporting students heard me say, "Don't tell me! Show me!" I offered an example showing one man's anticipation on D-Day 1944. I could have written, "The Spitfire pilot was nervous..." Instead, based on my interview with one, I wrote, "Charley Fox slipped into the cockpit. In his words, 'You put a Spitfire on and you wore it.' He felt his heartbeat quicken. He no-

ticed the palms of his hands were damp. 'Nervous? No,' he said, 'but I felt very much alive that morning.'"

I believe strongly in the use of active as opposed to passive voice. Some of you will know the name E.B. White as the author of *Charlotte's Web*. I know him from what he called his "little book," *The Elements of Style*. In it, he offers a thousand juicy writing tips, among them this.

Don't write: "My first visit to Boston will always be remembered."

Write: "I shall always remember my first visit to Boston."

Using active verbs, White wrote, delivers direct and vigorous writing.

Perhaps another valuable piece of advice. Before book, think chapter. Before chapter, think paragraph. Before paragraph, think sentence or phrase. I remember leading a workshop in Moose Jaw, a few years ago. I had 25 would-be novelists in a circle around me, all asking, "Where do I start?" I listened to the book idea each of them had. And I asked, "How might you write part of the book as a thousand-word magazine piece, or a short story, or even a one-page anecdote?" Start with bite-sized, move on to gluttony.

Finally, my father Alex Barris, a lifelong journalist, author, broadcaster, had a sign hung over his writing desk. "Nothing gets done, 'til the seat of the pants hits the seat of the chair." Words I live by.

When people tell me they want to write a book, I generally chuckle. I'm not laughing at them. I'm thinking of a story Peter C. Newman once related about Canadian novelist Margaret Laurence. Newman wrote that the iconic Ms. Laurence was once approached by a noted brain surgeon.

"Oh, I'm so glad to meet you. I've read all your books," he gushed. "I'm a brain surgeon, and when I retire I'm going to write novels too."

Laurence grabbed him by the elbow and with pretend enthusiasm blurted out, "What a coincidence! When I retire, I'm going to be a brain surgeon!"

That's not to say, a person cannot cultivate a second or third career as a writer. It takes time, more time, and lots of patience.

I haven't told Vivian at the dental office yet, but next time she talks about her planned book, yes, I'll offer lots of encouragement. Then, I'll tell her, "In my spare time, I'm planning to become a dental hygienist."

**For more Barris Beat columns, go to [www.tedbarris.com](http://www.tedbarris.com)**

# Shop Online @ [canadiantire.ca](http://canadiantire.ca)

## COLLECT YOUR ORDER

*curbside*

Curbside pick-up hours

Monday to Friday 8am-6pm

Saturday & Sunday 8am-5pm

## AUTO SERVICE

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Monday to Friday 8am-6pm

Saturday & Sunday 8am-5pm

Call 905-852-9857 to book your appointment



Canadian Tire Uxbridge  
905-852-3315



# WANTED

## 20 PEOPLE WANTED FOR A HEARING AID TRIAL



**Hear the difference hearing aids can make!**

Our ears are powerful sensory organs, but if you have hearing loss, you may need advanced support to help them function the way they should. Fortunately, there is help.

**Take the first step towards better hearing.**

Schedule an appointment with one of our hearing professionals and try the latest advanced or premium digital hearing aids\* during a 14-day trial. Our hearing professionals will perform a hearing assessment and fit you with hearing aids suited to your loss.

**Trial offer ends February 26<sup>th</sup> 2021**

ACTUAL HEIGHT 2.5cm



**BOOK YOUR TRIAL TODAY**

**Uxbridge | 11 Main Street North**  
Call Lisa at **1-877-835-3308**



**Jordanna Blacker**  
Hearing Instrument Specialist

**UXBRIDGE HEARING CENTRE**

Must be 19 or older to participate. Offer expires February 26th, 2021. [1] <https://www.oticon.ca/hearing-aid-users/hearing-aids/products/opn-s>

Promo Code **NSP-HATL-UXBC**

# COVID-19 continues to hammer budget

by Roger Varley

Already impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, council's budget talks took another hit Tuesday when treasurer Donna Condon gave a report listing further revenue losses because of recent provincial government restrictions.

Condon said the lockdown ordered in December, combined with the second provincial emergency proclaimed on Jan. 12 and the stay-home order issued Jan. 14, will result in estimated revenue losses \$283,000 because of the closure of the arena and Uxpool. However, those losses will be fully covered by savings realized from laying off staff, reduced utility charges and other savings, she said.

She recommended that the budget discussions continue as planned with approval of the 2021 budget by early February, "with the understanding that staff will . . . continue to monitor the impact of COVID-19 on the township's operations throughout 2021."

In Tuesday's discussions, finance committee chair Bruce Garrod said 41 changes have been made so far since the various departments submitted their original budget proposals. One of the major changes appears to be that the proposed new aquatic centre for the Fields of Uxbridge is on indefinite hold. Mayor Dave Barton said that with a request for an infrastructure grant denied by both the federal and provincial government "there's no path to a new pool today."

He said the close to \$4 million held in reserve for a new pool will remain where it is because it is funded mainly by development charges and cannot be used for any other purpose.

Another budget meeting is scheduled for today (Thursday), at which time Condon will deliver another report on the impact on the property tax levy.

**PHARMASAVE**  
**Uxbridge Medical Pharmacy**  
*Your independent neighbourhood pharmacy & Home Health Care Centre*

**FREE DELIVERY — and — CURBSIDE PICKUP**



**Download our app or visit [pharmasaveuxbridge.com](https://pharmasaveuxbridge.com) to:**

- Order refills and transfer medications
- Access your prescription profile
- Fill a new prescription by taking a picture with your phone

**Follow us on Facebook & Instagram**  
[@PharmasaveUxbridge](https://www.facebook.com/PharmasaveUxbridge) [@PharmasaveUxbridge](https://www.instagram.com/PharmasaveUxbridge)

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

## CORRECTION

The Jan. 7 edition of the *Uxbridge Cosmos* contained a story on page 4 entitled "Canada's national horse brought back from edge of extinction." This story also ran an accompanying photo, identifying it as 'submitted', as the photo was not properly credited in correspondence with various sources.

The *Cosmos* has since learned that the photo was originally taken by Mackenzie Madeley of Madeley Photography, and should be credited as such.

The *Cosmos* apologizes to Mackenzie Madeley for this error and any inconvenience that it may have caused.

# Are you ready?

**Tammy Scuralli**  
Financial Advisor  
80 Brock Street West  
Uxbridge, ON L9P 1P4  
905-852-1244

You're paying down your mortgage.  
You're saving for your child's education.  
But what about your future?  
Keep your retirement strategy on track.  
Call me today.

**edwardjones.ca**  
Member - Canadian Investor Protection Fund

**Edward Jones**

IRT-12138-C EXP 30 MAR 2022 © 2020 Edward D. Jones & CO., L.P. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED





The Optimist Club of Uxbridge wishes to thank the following for their contribution to helping us make our 13th anniversary of the Optimist Fantasy of Lights so successful. Even though our event was cut short by 10 days due to COVID-19 restrictions, we had our best year yet.

Monies raised from this event go to helping improve this event, as well as toward our initiatives for helping the youth of our town.

We look forward to our 2021 event with great anticipation.

# Thankyou!

## Our Display Owners

1st Uxbridge Scouts  
Arens/Merrick Families  
Bendell Family  
Beta Sigma Phi  
Bonner Boys  
Coldwell Banker R.M.R Real Estate  
Community Living Durham North  
Douglas Crossing Retirement Community  
Durham Farm and Rural Families Resources  
Durham West 4-H  
Durham West Junior Farmers  
Flooring Barn  
Goodwood Baptist Church  
Graham Family  
H. Bee Architecture  
Habitat for Humanity Uxbridge Restore  
Heart to Heart Healing  
Joseph Gould Public School  
K. Kuula Construction  
Lunn Family  
Marx Mechanical Contracting LTD  
Music by the Bay  
Nexus Coffee Company  
NorthStar Currency  
Pharmasave Uxbridge  
Precious Minds  
Rotary Club of Uxbridge  
Serenity Hair Studio  
St Andrew's-Chalmers Presbyterian Church  
St. Paul's Anglican Church  
Still Waters Shiatsu  
Straughan Family  
The Bridge Social

Toronto & North York Pony Club  
Trades By Jack  
Trinity United Church  
Udora-Leaskdale Lions Club  
Uxbridge Chamber of Commerce  
Uxbridge Cottage Hospital Auxiliary  
Uxbridge Cycling Club  
Uxbridge Fair Board  
Uxbridge Fire Department  
Uxbridge Horsemen's Association  
Uxbridge McDonald's  
Uxbridge Minor Lacrosse Association  
Uxbridge Probus Club  
Uxbridge Public School  
Uxbridge Skate Club  
Uxbridge Township  
Uxbridge Youth centre  
We Wilsons  
Wee Wilsons  
Welsh and Company RE/MAX All -Stars Realty Inc, Brokerage  
Wright Web & Photography

## Our Park Set-up, Take down & Tech Support Volunteers

Tom Archer  
Davidson Barrow  
Mike Duhamel  
Bruce Garrod  
Bill & Nancy Knapp  
Ron Peever  
John Ponech  
Adam Ruppel  
Evan Sahakian  
Tony Schwab  
Skye, Luke & Leia Steeves  
Keith St. John

Aaron VanTol  
Reese Walker  
Larry Whitelock  
Hannah & Preston Wilson  
Randy & Alice Wilson

## Our Gate Volunteers

Cooper Alovert  
Samantha Arrowsmith  
Connie & Connor Barnes  
Davidson Barrow  
Dave Barton  
Terry & Colleen Baskin  
Debbie Buck  
Paige Cassibo  
Ngaan Chan  
Cathy & Mark Christoff  
Reuben Cole  
Lisa Cook  
Carolyn Dempster  
Tess Dempster  
Jack Dunlop  
Margaret Dunlop  
Diane Dyke  
Braedon Edwards  
Greg Eickmeier  
Sandy Evans  
Sarah Fagan  
Hayley, Kyle & Declan Flear  
Richard Forkun  
Gina Gabileo  
Bruce Garrod  
Jack Heeren  
Ken & Louise Hendry  
John Henry  
Kristi Honey  
Ron & Heather Hunter

Cyndie Jacobs  
Bill Johnstone  
Owen Keeping  
Weldon Kester  
Bill Knapp  
Dustin Lalonde  
Cooper Lavery  
Kim & Piper Lunn  
Arlene Lyons  
Laine Maknyik  
Nancy & Ben Mann  
Erin Matresky & Family  
Laya & Mary-Ann McKenzie  
Mark & Nancy Melcher  
Abby Milner  
Dennis & Loius Misurka  
Corrinne Morrison  
Gerri Lynn & Layla O'Connor  
Sherry Pollard  
Elaine Porter  
Molly Priestman  
Julie Pritt  
Alyssa & Robin Redshaw  
Cassandra Rigo  
Alex Rinella  
Jim Roche  
Bryon Rodd  
Rotarians Ken, Carol, Keld & Elaine  
Gary Ruona

Koen and Nathen Searles  
Owen & Carly Skovhoj  
Allison Slater  
Steve Snodden  
Skye & Luke Steeves  
Andrea Stewart & husband  
Sarah Stuart  
Jon & Sara Sullivan  
Grace Tayler  
Sophie Taylor  
Clark Tracey  
Michelle, Ted, Alexa & Nicola Todorovski  
Rita Van Halteran  
Lisha Van Nieuwenhove  
Krista & Craig Volkman  
Krystal Wagner  
Chris & Sheila Weekes  
Tyler & Brooke Wilkinson  
Carol Wilson  
Hannah, Parker, Preston & Shannon Wilson  
Randy Wilson

## Thanks

To Creative CNC for the beautiful Optimist plaque.  
To the Chowns for providing us with cookies and to Jim Curtis for the hand warmers.  
To the Uxbridge Parade Committee for its financial support and loan of its sleigh and reindeer.  
To Derek Heyes of Heyes Landscaping for the snow clearing and sanding.  
To Uxbridge Town council and staff for their ongoing support.  
The Uxbridge Cosmos, Uxbridge Times-Journal, Uxbridgedaily.com and 105.5 Hits FM for helping to promote our event.

## Uxbridge Optimist Christmas Trees

Many thanks to Pat Higgins and Mark Quibell of Canadian Tire Uxbridge and Scugog Rental for their continued support for our Christmas tree sales.

Finally, we wish to thank the local residents for their patience, understanding and support. The number of visitors we had this year was mind-boggling but just helped us to put more money back into our own community for the good of our youth. We are so grateful to everyone who helped to "pull this off!" Readersdigest.ca listed us in the top 12 drive through light events in **Canada**. We could not have done it without you.

**\*\*\*If you would like to learn more about us, please go to our website, [uxbridgeoptimist.com](http://uxbridgeoptimist.com) for information.\*\*\***

**Stop the  
Spread  
COVID-19  
can be deadly.  
Stay home.  
Stay strong.  
Save lives.**



Visit [ontario.ca/coronavirus](https://ontario.ca/coronavirus)

Paid for by the Government of Ontario

**Ontario** 

## A life well-lived - remembering a local veteran

by Shelagh Fitz

One can think of no better epitaph than the one Tish MacDonald offered of Jack MacQuarrie - "He led a rich life."

MacQuarrie, a popular Uxbridge resident, veteran, and unabashed joke teller, passed away on Jan. 10, at the age of 95.



Goodwood resident and decorated veteran Jack MacQuarrie at a parade for the late Fred Barnard in June 2019. MacQuarrie passed away Jan. 10.

*Photo submitted by Tish MacDonald*

Born on Christmas Day in 1925, and schooled in Windsor, Ont., Jack MacQuarrie followed in his World War I veteran father's footsteps when he signed up for the army at 17. Unlike many of his contemporaries, this was done with his father's permission. When the army's age requirement for active service impeded his plans, Jack took it upon himself, on a day's leave from infantry camp, to sneak off to Montreal to join the Navy. However, the war ended before Jack made it to the Pacific front.

Jack returned to attend university. Upon graduation, Jack returned to the sea for the Korean War as an electronics operator. Once attached to an air squadron, he talked them "into teaching [him] to fly." This effort was scuttled by a higher-up in the chain of command who didn't want to squander his signals, radio and radar training, returning MacQuarrie to the realm of radio communications and electronics. Seemingly never satisfied with the status quo, MacQuarrie found his way into a diving unit, where he qualified as a naval diver. He participated as a "subject" in experimental chamber dives, performing deep chamber dives and rapid ascents to test the decompression computer programs being developed at the Defense and Civil Institute of Environmental Medicine.

His tenure in the Navy played out in the underwater world. Assignments, during active and reserve time, took him to many underwater sites. His underwater adventures were ultimately curtailed by two separate incidents that affected him physically. It was during a six-month long rehab at Sunnybrook Hospital that MacQuarrie began graduate school.

He remained loyal to the Navy and his comrades for the rest of his life. Long-time friend and fellow Navy man, Norm

*...continued on page 11*

**Captain George's**  
**Fish & Chips**

**Halibut & Chips Special**  
**7 days a week!**

*only*  
**\$9.99**

**Open 7 days a week**  
**Take-out only. 905-852-0777**  
**21 Brock St. W., Uxbridge**



**THE MAD**  
**ACCOUNTANT**

**Tired of Getting beat up by the taxman?**

**Are you getting all the deductions you deserve?**  
**Are you capturing ALL your expenses?**

**Poor bookkeeping is the #1 reason**  
**for paying too much tax!**

**Get The Mad Accountant in your corner**  
**We will keep more of YOUR money in YOUR pocket**  
**Contact us now for tax and bookkeeping services**



[taxadmin@themadaccountant.com](mailto:taxadmin@themadaccountant.com)

[www.themadaccountant.com](http://www.themadaccountant.com)

**905-862-2727**

**Located at 29 Toronto St. S., Uxbridge**



### Letters to the Editor, from page 4

sulphurous smell wafting throughout our earth vehicle is COVID-19. The smell is spreading, and our windows are locked shut.

Last year, the casual joys of unrestricted movement, social contact and instant gratification were eliminated for long enough that life became quite stressful. Now, months later, after enjoying some relief, we are being restricted again. Can anything good come out of such a sulphurous ordeal?

This pandemic may even be a good thing. Earth riders are learning to slow down, stay at home, get by with what we have and be kind. With shopping limited, people have learned to make do with what they have or do without. Mindless consumerism is frowned on. People have rediscovered the importance of family, either through being kept apart or spending more time with once busy household family.

Wearing a mask and social distancing is teaching people to be considerate of others and barging into lines and crowding people out of the way at the grocery store gets the stink eye at least.

Since the Boomer generation there has been no global conflict. In Canada we have not suffered threats to our lives, property, or culture. Strife draws people together, and without it we have become self-centered, unconcerned, and expecting instant gratification of our wants. COVID-19 is changing those attitudes.

These are strange days indeed, but vaccines have been developed in record time and soon we will get past this pandemic. It will hopefully have left behind a slower paced, more responsible, and more caring tribe of Earth Riders. May we become easy riders.

**Dave Jones**  
Uxbridge

As a country person who has an attachment and an interest in farm machinery and the restoration of it, it pleased me to see the windmill on the front page of the Jan. 14 issue of the *Cosmos*.

When we can get out of the COVID-19 restrictions I hope to travel and see it; however, I expect that going west to the Powell property may involve a long journey to get to the Marsh Hill Road. I think that I will go east instead, that being the shorter distance.

**Bill Richardson**  
Uxbridge

*Editor's note: The Cosmos did, indeed, note that the property on which the above-mentioned windmill could be found was west of Uxbridge, and this is incorrect. Marsh Hill Road, and the windmill, can be found east of Uxbridge.*

*The Cosmos apologizes for any con-*

*fusion this error may have caused.*

Your article on the Canadian horse breed a few weeks ago ["Canada's national horse brought back from edge of extinction", Jan. 7 edition] triggered a fond memory of Brock Street in springtime in the early 50s.

Each year, Bill Hardy, who lived in a small house west of the tracks, strolled our way behind his sturdy little Canadian horse. My sister, Doris, and I watched in awe as Bill controlled his willing workmate with simple commands: "Gee" and "Haw" for left or right. The pair always left a tidy rectangle of straight furrows that would become that season's garden.

I can't be sure that all of our neighbours were Bill's clients, but I remember that the Whitneys, Lambs, Prentices, Lintons, Orrs, Gold-

stones, Rodmans and Calbecks all had bountiful gardens. I don't remember any rototillers on our street. No one would have had to rely on couriers to deliver fresh vegetables in those years.

In his retirement, Bill joined the entertaining group of seniors who gathered almost daily in my dad's Shell station to swap yarns. It was years before Coffee Time or Tims came to Uxbridge. Our garage eventually became Tony Peck's Shell. That building is gone now, and our old house on Brock sits empty. I have no idea what became of Mr. Hardy's gallant Canadian horse, but I'm grateful for the memories the *Cosmos* revived.

**Bruce Brandon**  
Uxbridge

## Registration for new seniors program begins next week

In collaboration with the Uxbridge Senior Citizens Club, the Township of Uxbridge is launching the new Seniors' Centre Without Walls Program, where those 55+ can interact with their peers and enjoy the seniors' centre experience from their own homes.

The Seniors' Centre Without Walls is a free, telephone-based program aimed at socially connecting seniors during this period of isolation. The program will run eight sessions through February and March, and has been made possible by the Older Adults Association of Ontario, along with a \$5,000 grant from the Ontario government.

The program will run every other Monday and Wednesday, beginning Feb. 8. Pre-registered seniors can play games like Scattergories, Five Minute Mysteries, Would You Rather, and more. Registration for the first session opens Jan. 25, and one week prior to the activity date for all following sessions.

For more information and to register, call 905-852-7831. Voicemail is checked regularly.

**www.thecosmos.ca**



**Catch up on township news**

**Contact us directly from website**

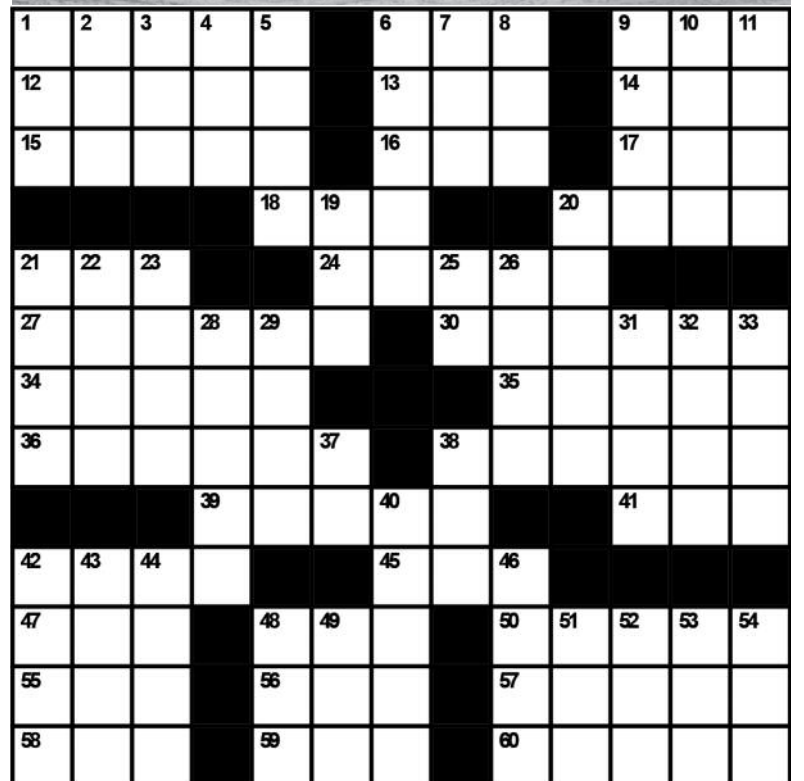
**Read your favourite columnists**

**Direct links to advertisers**

**The Uxbridge Cosmos Online.**  
**No subscription necessary.**

38 Toronto Street North, Unit 1, Uxbridge, Ontario, L9P 1E6  
Tel: 905.852.1900 Cell: 647.220.9173 Email: thecosmos@powergate.ca

# COSMOS CROSSWORD



### Across

1. Fab Four drummer
6. Hip-hop
9. Old time Dad's
12. No-no
13. Capitalize
14. Coffee holder
15. S. American cassava plant
16. Gas guzzle rate
17. Can be open or choppy
18. Swindle
20. Fellow
21. Behave affectedly
24. Beeper
27. Dry red wine
30. First act
34. Some reality show winners
35. Butterfly
36. Hindu festival
38. Perfume base
39. "Get your \_\_\_ running....." Steppenwolf
41. Keats creation
42. Finale
45. "\_\_\_ show time!"
47. Bother
48. Peruvian coin
50. \_\_\_ and desist
55. "Forget it!"
56. 5th for one
57. Operatic solos
58. If at first you don't succeed, \_\_\_ again
59. Protective covering
60. Get a new tenant for

### Down

1. Messy place
2. Greek letter
3. 1970 Jackson 5 song
4. Bird of myth
5. Jungle sound
6. Cuban dance
7. Egyptian snake
8. Hit the nail on the head
9. Word on a door
10. Kind of rug
11. Zest
19. Select
20. Thick liqueur
21. Involved with
22. Ghana money
23. Suppose (old way)
25. Decision to move forward
26. Grandiose
28. Pack carrier
29. Norway seaport
31. Alliance acronym
32. Relative of "Oh, no!"
33. Character
37. Player, in tag
38. Gallery display
40. Lubed
42. "Out of the question"
43. Skunk's defense
44. Decayed
46. Lasting effect
48. Fall guy
49. Fertility clinic stock
51. "Maid of Athens, \_\_\_ we part": Byron
52. Have a bug
53. Returnable envelope, for short
54. Approx.



**ARE YOU A UNG MEMBER? ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE AT A SPECIAL MEMBERS-ONLY RATE.**

Call 905-852-1900 or email [Lvann@thecosmos.ca](mailto:Lvann@thecosmos.ca) for pricing and information



# COSMOS BUSINESS BULLETIN BOARD



**GILLDERCROFT**  
FURNITURE

Early Style Canadian  
Handcrafted Pine Furniture

905-852-2275 Like us  
www.gilldercroft.com



**GOODWOOD**  
HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Home renovations including: additions,  
kitchens, bathrooms, basements, garages,  
hardwood flooring, trim etc

**905 852 0057**

**#1 REASON FOR READING**

PRINTED  
COMMUNITY  
NEWSPAPERS  
IS **LOCAL NEWS**

Source: News Media Canada



**GILLANDERS**  
AUCTION SERVICES  
WWW.G-A-S.CA

**Online Auctions**

Ajax Woodworking Shop  
Equipment, Tools, Lumber, Antiques  
February 18 - 25, 7 p.m.

Richmond Hill Estate Sale  
+ Additions  
Furniture, Art, Tools, Antiques.  
March 4 - 11, 7 p.m.  
Call to consign early  
Contactless transactions  
Curbside pickup

gillandersauctionservices.hibid.com  
647-212-2275  
Like us on Facebook

**AAO**  
Auctioneers Association of Ontario



**BRIAN J. EVANS**  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

**Best GIC rate: 1.60%**  
Terms & conditions apply  
Effective January 18, 2021

**LIFE INSURANCE**  
**YOU CAN AFFORD...  
We Can Help You!**

38 Toronto Street North, Unit 2  
905-852-3184 www.investsmart.ca

**PUT YOUR AD  
IN THIS SPACE**  
and get seen by everyone in  
Uxbridge Township!

Call  
**905  
852-1900**  
for details

**RON BROWN AUTO**

We will not be undersold.  
We service all  
makes and models.  
We fix it right the first time!

170 Main Street North  
**905-852-5981**



**UPRIGHT**  
DOOR SERVICE INC.

**Garage Doors  
& Openers**

**905-852-1981**  
uprightdoorservice.com

**JONES PUMPING**  
Septic & Holding Tanks

**905-852-2486  
416-476-7170**

Serving Port Perry,  
Uxbridge &  
surrounding areas

**MOE licensed**

**Windcrest**  
electrical contracting ltd

**Paul Fraser**  
Cell 416.527.0878

windcrestelectrical@gmail.com  
esa #7007893

need a hand?  
**Call My Guy**

**Handyman Services**  
For all your  
home  
projects

**Brad @ 647-472-1484**

## CLASSIFIED

Classifieds are \$15/week up to 25 words; \$0.20 per additional word (plus HST). Payable in advance by cash, cheque, debit or credit card. Contact Lvann@thecosmos.ca or 905-852-1900 Deadline: Tuesday, 12 noon. Ask about online link possibilities, too.

**SERVICES**  
**DO YOUR OLD PHOTOS NEED RESTORATION?** Boxes of slides taking up room? Preston Gallery/BiA Photography at 77 Brock St.W. (Uxbridge) specializing in restorations and scanning. Stop in or call Sabrina 905-550-8825.

**ONTARGET ELECTRIC INC. –** Master Electrician and Licensed Electrical Contractor, ESA/ECRA license #7013923. Electrical upgrades, repairs, new builds and renovations. Covid safe. For more information visit www.ontargetelectric.ca or contact sam@ontargetelectric.ca 289-338-2734 2/25

**HOME-WATCH HOUSE/PET SITTING SERVICES:** Voted #1 for Protecting Your Home and Caring for Your Pets. Home Owners have trusted Heather Stewart for 17 years for her reliability and detailed professionalism. Property Services / Dog Walking / Cat Sitting / Doggie Sleep-Overs! Visit home-watch.ca for more info on Heather's services. Call or text 905-852-8525, email hstewart@home-watch.ca and follow us on Instagram - HomeWatchUxbridge 12/23

**LAWN SLIDE SERVICES - "Reliable Service with Quality Results".** Snow Removal - contact Noah, 647-523-

6730 or email lawnslice@gmail.com  
Serving Uxbridge and Surrounding Area. 1/28

**THE GIRLS BRA SHOP -** Find the bras you'll love living in with our expert fitters at The Girls Bra Shop in Stouffville. Contact thegirlsbrashop@gmail.com for details. 905-642-3339. An uplifting experience! 1/28

**FOR SALE FIREWOOD.** Hardwood. Small truckload, \$125 delivered. Call 416-460-4637 or 905-640-5977. 3/11

## WANTED

**WANTED TO RENT:** Youngish senior couple seeking two bed, two bath rental in Uxbridge area, beginning early May. Multiple references available. Please reply by email to conradboyce50@gmail.com 1/14

**COLLECTING** gently used/clean heavy sleeping bags, blankets, wool socks, boots and tents for the homeless. Please text or leave a message. 647-884-1720. 2/18

## FREE

**CRIB & BASSINETTE:** Dark wood with organic mattress in excellent condition. Free, call 905-852-0090 (Salvation Army) Or 905-640-3966.


**NEWSPAPERS  
MATTER**  
NOW MORE THAN EVER  
**LES JOURNAUX**  
PLUS IMPORTANTS QUE JAMAIS

**#NewspapersMatter  
#NowMoreThanEver**

PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT AT  
**newspapers  
matter.ca**

**LIGHT FOR YOUR PATH**

*"Be careful how you think.  
Your thoughts make you the  
person that you are."*  
Proverbs 4:23

 **Canadian Bible Society**  
The Word. For Life.  
UXBRIDGE BRANCH  
More Bible help at:  
www.biblesociety.ca/the\_word\_and\_you

1	S	2	T	3	A	4	R	5	R	6	R	7	A	8	P	9	P	10	A	11	S	
12	T	A	B	O	O	13	U	S	E	14	U	R	N									
15	Y	U	C	C	A	16	M	P	G	17	S	E	A									
						18	R	O	B	19				20	C	H	A	P				
21	A	22	C	23	T					24	P	A	25	G	26	E	R					
27	M	E	R	28	L	29	O	T		30	O	P	E	31	N	32	E	33	R			
34	I	D	O	L	S					35	I	M	A	G	O							
36	D	I	W	A	L	37	I			38	A	C	E	T	A	L						
						39	M	O	T	40	O	R					41	O	D	E		
42	C	43	O	44	A					45	I	T	46	S								
47	A	D	O			48	S	49	O	L			50	C	51	E	52	A	53	S	54	E
55	N	O	T			56	A	V	E				57	A	R	I	A	S				
58	T	R	Y			59	P	A	D				60	R	E	L	E	T				

The Uxbridge  
**COSMOS**

**OPEN**  
**FOR BUSINESS?**

**Let your customers  
know with an ad!**

Lvann@thecosmos.ca  
905-852-1900 647-220-9173



## Uxbridge's first cannabis dispensary opens next week

by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

Opening a business at any time is difficult. Opening a business during a global pandemic while trying to combat stigma is even more difficult. But one entrepreneurial couple is doing exactly that – opening a cannabis dispensary in Uxbridge.

The shop, called The 4SSST (The Forest, because a portion of the trails and a forest are right behind the store) is housed in what was once a chain bookstore in the Walmart plaza, two doors down from the LCBO. The 4SSST had a soft opening just over a month ago, but was only been able to sell cannabis accessories, as it was waiting on final paperwork from the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario and from the Ontario Cannabis Store (OCS).

"We had our inspection done virtually back in August," explains one of the owners (who asked not to be named in this article because one of their children attends a local school). "We were waiting on that final approval so that we can order all our product in, and then we can have a grand opening!"

That approval finally came last week, and that grand opening will be next Tuesday, Jan. 26. This means that topicals, dried flower, edibles, drinks, oils, and other products will be added to their expansive accessory line.

Although they exercise complete discretion when it comes to the customers that have already visited the store, the owners do reveal that one particular demographic has been interested in when stock is coming in, and that demographic is not what many would expect.

"We've had a cancer patient, paramedics, some older people...the government and people are all worried about youth and that, but that isn't who is going to be coming to our shop, that isn't going to be our base," says one owner.

The husband and wife team, along with their son (their daughter is under 19 and cannot work in the store), plan to not only bring cannabis product to Uxbridge, but education as well.

"We're still working on that a lot. We are really focused on what our role in education can be, explaining what is cannabis, what is THC versus CBD, that sort of thing."

This education can only go so far, however – by law, cannabis retailers are only allowed to discuss the qualities of the product with customers. They are not allowed to discuss, con-

sult or advise on what a customer should buy.

"We can have a list of staff picks," explains the owner, "but if you come to me and ask me what is the best thing to take because you're having trouble sleeping at night, I can't tell you. I can tell you what a product does, then you need to go and do your own research on that product and see if it will work for you."

The 4SSST is currently working with a cannabis specialist who, having been a cancer patient herself, has become an expert on the various effects cannabis can have on certain complaints.

"She's a certified cannabis educator in Uxbridge. We can't recommend anything, but she can."

This is just one of the many regulations that cannabis retailers have had to become familiar with since

one side of his body.

His wife still works outside of the store while also handling most of the administration for the store. Their son, a graduate of Uxbridge Secondary School, is a welder when not at the store acting as store manager.

The entrance to the shop features several samplings of art by local artist Sherry Crawford. Every piece is for sale, and The 4SSST does not take commission for the sales, it simply provides the space. The featured artist will be switched up every three months.

Inside the shop itself, local craftspeople and contractors were hired to help turn the space into what is described as a "fun, vibe-y place, going strictly casual!" (be on the lookout for Bad Bird). There will be large tables with product on display, and large monitors announcing product

and prices. Staff - The 4SSST hopes to employ 25 - 30 local people once the store is fully operational - will be on hand to help. The 4SSST will also offer delivery.

"It's going to be a safe place to be," explains the store manager. "You can't come in unless you're 19, and it's not going to be intimidating or overwhelming. It's just supposed to be open, welcoming. Peaceful, like you feel at home!"

When asked about their logo, the owners laugh and say that they went with the Christmas tree look because "when you do weed, it's like Christmas every day!"

The 4SSST is open for curbside pickup from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m., seven days a week. Call 705-344-9086 or visit [www.The4SSST.ca](http://www.The4SSST.ca)



cannabis sales became legal in Canada, and Ontario, in October 2018. One of the owners half-jokingly says that, when the store is quiet, the trio often sits and just studies the regulations, making sure that every i is dotted and every t is crossed.

"It's important that it's done the right way. And you have to respect the herb."

The 4SSST owners, who live north of Uxbridge, say that setting up shop in Uxbridge wasn't as challenging as all the paperwork and red tape has been.

"The Township was easy to deal with, they didn't give us a hard time at all," they said. They also added that, when they asked if the township was considering limiting the number of cannabis retailers allowed within its boundaries, they weren't given a concrete answer.

No matter how many other shops open within the township (the OCS indicates two others are slated to open soon), these business owners are pleased that they are the first. The husband, a former commercial pilot, originally hails from Barbados, and says that he has been a cannabis advocate his entire life. A motorcycle accident several years ago got him more intimately acquainted with cannabis when he started using a topical treatment to relieve pain on

## A rich life, from page 8

Goodspeed, recalls being invited to share the ride to attend the Naval Club of Toronto. This invitation was the "start of a wonderful friendship."

More recently, on Thursday afternoons, Jack would arrive prepared for the meeting of "The Knights of the Round Table" with a "little story to tell," recalls former USS teacher Tish MacDonald. According to MacDonald, MacQuarrie had "a wonderful sense of humour" that was on display with these humorous tales that were reminiscent of ones found in *Reader's Digest*. Mostly social, the club offered opportunity for younger members to hear stories of military service from those who remember it all like it was yesterday.

MacQuarrie, like so many of his colleagues, gave back to his community. Says MacDonald, he was a resource, an inspiration, a mentor and a friend.

"Jack eagerly participated in all of our remembrance-related activities at USS and in the community of Uxbridge and equally enjoyed sharing his stories and hearing about the students' Remembrance Tour experiences," says MacDonald.

During her high school years, Uxbridge student Emma Runnells was paired with MacQuarrie through the veterans matching project in preparation for the USS Vimy 100 tour. Runnells says she "had no idea" that the friendship "would become so important" to her and to MacQuarrie. Just as he would introduce Runnells as his adopted granddaughter, she claimed him as her "adopted grandfather."

"Despite being 95 years old, Jack had an ageless passion and vigour for life that inspired me and those who knew him," says Runnells. She credits MacQuarrie with imparting lessons with respect to being adaptable, willing to take chances and to pursue one's own passions.

An art collector, with a keen eye for

works by the Group of Seven, in 2017, MacQuarrie generously donated 22 works of art to the Varley Gallery in Unionville. The collection was representative of all Group members except Edwin Holgate

"Jack was thoughtful," says MacDonald, "but more than that, he would act on that thoughtfulness."

A talented and involved musician, MacQuarrie was moved at a funeral for fellow veteran Fred Barnard by the presence of a bugle that had been modified to accept a standard trumpet mouthpiece. MacQuarrie decided the Uxbridge Legion needed a similar bugle, and through his efforts, it was presented to the Legion last July.

In his early years, MacQuarrie was encouraged by a couple of classmates to join a band. This became a lifelong passion. Locally he was a member of the Uxbridge Community Concert Band among others. While not a founding member, MacQuarrie was highly instrumental in bringing attention to what UCCB was trying to accomplish, says conductor Steffan Brunette.

"The band received more than its share of publicity and exposure into the Toronto market through Jack's regular contributions to *WholeNote* magazine."

Jack MacQuarrie is survived by his partner of many years, Joan Andrews and his son, Andrew. Memorial and/or Celebration of Life details had not yet been released by press time Tuesday.

**ALL TRAFFIC TICKETS**  
TRUSTED EXPERIENCE

**john@alltraffictickets.com**  
**647-831-4205**

**Mention this ad  
for \$50.00 off!**

**Uxbridge Denture Clinic**

VISIT OUR  
NEW WEBSITE

**uxbridgedentureclinic.com**

**Alex Mitchell**  
DD Denturist

- Complete and Partial Dentures
- In-house Lab
- Free Consultations
- Free Parking
- Same day Reline and Repairs
- House calls within the Uxbridge area

**2 CAMPBELL DRIVE  
SUITE 307A, UXBRIDGE  
905-852-5859**

**UTS TREE CARE**  
SINCE 1981

- ISA Certified Arborists
- Bucket & Crane Trucks
- Consulting
- Fertilizing
- Hydro Line Clearing
- Stump Grinding
- Tree Pruning and Removals
- Planting and Plant Health Care

**905-852-5313 UTSTreeCare.ca**

**YOU SHOULD STAY HOME RIGHT NOW.  
EXCEPT FOR WHEN YOU COME TO SHOP WITH US!**

**THE MEAT MERCHANT**  
Family Owned and Operated Since 1990

**CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR  
THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS!**  
**www.themeatmerchant.ca**

**905-852-9892**

**3 Brock Street West**





**Gerald Lawrence**  
Manager/Sales Representative



**Judy Esmonde**  
Broker



**Marie Persaud**  
Sales Representative



**Gwen Layton**  
Sales Representative



**Shane Coxworth**  
Sales Representative



**Chris Larmer**  
Sales Representative



**COLDWELL BANKER**

**R.M.R. REAL ESTATE,  
BROKERAGE**

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

[www.ColdwellBankerUxbridge.ca](http://www.ColdwellBankerUxbridge.ca)

75 Brock St. W., Uxbridge  
905-852-4338 • Toll Free 1-866-666-2696



[www.ColdwellBanker.ca](http://www.ColdwellBanker.ca)



**COLDWELL BANKER**

**R.M.R. REAL ESTATE,  
BROKERAGE**

[www.ColdwellBankerLuxury.com](http://www.ColdwellBankerLuxury.com)  
The Global Luxury Difference



**JUST LISTED**  
End Unit Freehold Townhouse.  
2+1 Bedrooms, 3 Full Bathrooms.  
2-Car Garage, Wooden Shed.  
Finished Basement w/1 Bdrm & Bath.

**Gerald Lawrence**, Sales Representative  
[www.MultipleListings.ca](http://www.MultipleListings.ca)  
Cell: 416-556-0238



**FREE CMA**  
**IT'S A SELLERS MARKET!**  
Thinking of a move?  
Call Judy today for a complimentary  
Comparative Market Analysis.

**Judy Esmonde**, Broker  
[www.JudyEsmonde.com](http://www.JudyEsmonde.com)  
Cell: 416-677-8709



**WANTED**  
-farms -vacant building lots -waterfront  
-homes on 3 to 10 acres -condos  
I have qualified buyers looking for any of the above  
types of properties. If you are thinking of selling,  
please call me at 416-970-8979 to discuss or arrange  
for a covid safe meeting.

Not intended to solicit buyers/sellers under contract.

**Marie Persaud**, Sales Representative  
[www.MariePersaud.ca](http://www.MariePersaud.ca)  
Cell: 416-970-8979



**SOLD!**  
**FAMILY-FRIENDLY  
CORNELL VILLAGE**  
Spacious Markham Semi in "Original" Cornell  
Tree-lined streets, Parks, Top-rated Schools  
Recently Reno'd and Radiant!

**Gwen Layton**, Sales Representative  
[www.GwenLayton.ca](http://www.GwenLayton.ca)  
Cell: 647-991-3276



**FREE CMA**  
**IT'S TIME TO START THINKING  
SPRING!**

Give us a call today to discuss  
your personalized marketing plan.

**Chris Larmer**, Sales Representative  
[www.powerofbluex2.ca](http://www.powerofbluex2.ca)  
Cell: 416-500-6377



**FREE CMA**  
**NEW YEAR - NEW BEGINNINGS**

Get YOUR home in front of buyers first.  
Call us for a FREE home evaluation and  
your personal marketing plan.

**Shane Coxworth**, Sales Representative  
[www.powerofbluex2.ca](http://www.powerofbluex2.ca)  
Cell: 905-903-7965

- Permanently installed on your home
- Controlled by Smart Phone App
- Completely programmable/customizable
- Never climb your ladder again
- Can double as pot lights
- Un-noticeable by day
- Check out our YouTube Channel

Authorized Dealer of  
**gemstone lights**  
SMART | OUTDOOR | LIGHTING

**TRADES BY JACK**

**(647) 247-2711**

**CALL FOR  
A FREE  
ESTIMATE**

**ANY COLOUR • ANY PATTERN • ANY BRIGHTNESS • ANY OCCASION**