

The Uxbridge COSMOS



Volume 17 No. 20

YOUR UNIVERSE

Thursday, May 20, 2021



Patrick Bryant Broker of Record

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small commission **BIG RESULTS**

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FLAG OF RESPECT AND INCLUSION - Mayor Dave Barton and Rev. Elizabeth Allen, from PFLAG Durham, raised a flag in front of the municipal offices on Monday to mark the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia. In displaying the flag, Uxbridge joined members of LGBTQ2 communities all over the world in reaffirming their fundamental right to be treated equally, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. *Photo by John Cavers*

From out-of-town? Please pay at the skate park

by Roger Varley

Uxbridge council voted Monday to institute a six-month trial paid-parking system for non-residents using the skate park/pump park at the Fields of Uxbridge.

In a report presented jointly by Chief Administrative Officer Kristi Honey, clerk Debbie Leroux and by-law officer Kristina Bergeron, council was told that anywhere between 30 per cent and 75 per cent of the facilities' users are out-of-towners. The report said that, before the provincially ordered shut-down of outdoor recreation venues, the park was so popular that the parking lot was frequently filled to overflowing, with some people parking on

Main Street and nearby streets and others parking on the soccer fields.

Among other things, the report suggests the trial run use mobile app technology to enable non-residents to pay for parking. Surrounding streets would be turned into "No Parking" zones, but residents could obtain cost-free parking permits. For the trial period, it recommends that parking lot permits be offered for purchase on hourly basis at a cost of \$10 an hour. Permits for residents would be offered on an annual basis, free of charge. Residents would be able to register their vehicles so that they are not tagged. A follow-up report to council would be made at the end of the six-month trial.

Councillors were generally supportive of the proposal. Mayor Dave Barton, noting the facilities' popularity, said he was concerned with the number of people congregating at the park.

"We're looking for a deterrent against big crowds, even without COVID-19," he said.

Regional councillor Gord Highet was concerned with how the by-law department would enforce parking in the area. Bergeron said by-law officers already visit the park regularly, but acknowledged the department does not have the staff to monitor the park every weekend.

The report's recommendations were approved unanimously.

Inside Your Cosmos

Praise for a plannerpage 5
EV stations in our future?page 6

PHARMASAVE

COVID-19 Vaccines

Sign up for our **COVID-19 Vaccine** notification list at www.pharmasaveuxbridge.com

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Catch the Ace
PROGRESSIVE WEEKLY LOTTERY

PROJECTED JACKPOT FOR THE NEXT DRAW IS \$5,600

DUE TO PANDEMIC-RELATED RETAIL SALES RESTRICTIONS, THE LOTTERY IS CURRENTLY 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.
No one under 18 may purchase a ticket or win the lottery.

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Rotary Club of Uxbridge **Jumpstart**

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The Township of UXBRIDGE

Trail Capital of Canada

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

NOTICE OF THE PASSING OF A ZONING BY-LAW THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge passed **By-law No. 2021-041** on the 26th day of April, 2021, pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, as amended, to amend Zoning By-law No. 81-19, as amended, of The Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge. The subject lands are legally described as Lot 50, Block 6, Municipal Plan No. 83, Township of Uxbridge, in the Regional Municipality of Durham and are municipally known as 199 John Harvey Street (Chris and Nadine Armour).

AND TAKE NOTICE that through the circulation and review of the application to amend Zoning By-law No. 81-19, the Township received no written submissions and three (3) verbal submissions by members of the public prior to the decision of Council. Council considered Development Services Report DS-15/21 and the results of the statutory public meeting held on Monday, February 8th, 2021, the effect of which helped Council to make an informed decision.

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or agency may appeal to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal in respect of the By-law by filing with the Clerk of The Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge, not later than 4:30 p.m. on the 27th day of May, 2021, a notice of appeal. The notice of appeal must set out the objection to the By-law and the reasons in support of the objection together with the required Local Planning Appeal Tribunal fee of \$300.00. Cheques must be made payable to the **MINISTER OF FINANCE**.

PLEASE NOTE that only individuals, corporations and public bodies may appeal a Zoning By-law to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal. A notice of appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a notice of appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or the group on its behalf.

No person or public body shall be added as a party to the appeal unless, before the by-law was passed, the person or public body made oral submissions at a public meeting or written submissions to the Council or, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

An explanation of the purpose and effect of the By-law is given below. The complete By-law is available for inspection in the Clerk's Department during regular office hours.

DATED AT THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE THIS 7th DAY OF MAY, 2021.

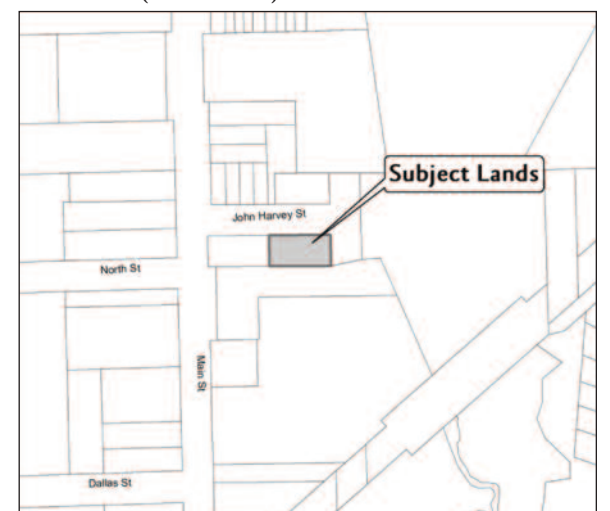
Debbie Leroux, Clerk
Township of Uxbridge
Box 190, 51 Toronto St. S.
Uxbridge, Ontario
L9P 1T1
905-852-9181 ext. 228
dleroux@uxbridge.ca

Township File:
Zoning By-law Amendment (ZBA 2020-04)
Applicant:
Chris and Nadine Armour
199 John Harvey Street, Uxbridge

PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE BY-LAW

- The purpose of this application is to amend the Zoning By-law to rezone 199 John Harvey Street to permit the construction of two new 3,240 sq.ft and 3,710 sq.ft semi-detached dwellings (for a total of four dwelling units).
- The subject property is designated "Mixed Use Area" in the Township Official Plan and currently zoned "Residential First Density Exception No. 37 (R1-37)".

KEY MAP (not to scale)



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MORE INFO  www.uxbridge.ca

Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for May 2021

Monday, May 24
NO MEETING – VICTORIA DAY

Thursday, May 27, 9:00 a.m.
TRAILS COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, May 31, 6:00 p.m.
CLIMATE ADAPTATION &
TRANSITION COMMITTEE

Proclamations for the month of May
• Sexual Assault Prevention Month

Did You Know?
You can apply
for a fire permit
on-line!
www.uxbridge.ca/fire

Township of Uxbridge Municipal
Office closed for
VICTORIA DAY
Monday, May 24th

Ux-Camps
Registration
opens May 20
Spaces are limited. Summer programming
subject to change without notice
as per changing
COVID-19 regulations.

Bids & Tenders

All current bid opportunities are posted to Uxbridge.ca/bids_and_tenders

- U21-21 Rout and Seal – Closes May 25 at 2:00 p.m.
- Q21-03 Township Page – Closes May 25 at 2:00 p.m.

All bids must be received by the Township by the deadline stated, either electronically via the Township's website or in-person (by appointment only) at the Township Office, located at 51 Toronto St. South. Public tender openings are not happening currently; however, bid results will be posted at Uxbridge.ca/bids_and_tenders in a timely manner.

COVID vaccination registration NOW OPEN in Uxbridge for residents 18+ or those turning 18 in 2021.

To book your appointment call 1-888-444-5113
or click www.durhamvaccinebooking.ca



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

Street Sweeping

Street sweeping has begun, and will take 6 – 8 weeks to complete. Please try not to park on the streets during this time. Please leave the sand on the road as there will not be any special pick up of sand left in piles or in pails. It is acceptable to rake any sand that has accumulated on the boulevard into the curb and gutter prior to the sweeping of the street. Any areas that are missed due to parked cars will be redone after all sweeping is complete.

Below is the schedule for sweeping:

1. Rural subdivisions and hamlets COMPLETED

- N/W corner of town
- S/W corner of town
- S/E corner of town
- N/E corner of town
- Town parking lots

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



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



NOTICE OF THE PASSING OF AN INTERIM CONTROL BY-LAW THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge passed By-law No. 2021-059 on the 10th day of May, 2021, pursuant to Section 38 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, as amended, to provide for Interim Control with respect to New Drug Addiction Treatment and Harm Reduction Facilities including Methadone Dispensaries for a period of one year.

AND TAKE NOTICE that the Interim Control By-law applies to all of the lands within the geographic limits of the Township of Uxbridge. For this reason, no Key Map is provided.

AND TAKE NOTICE that Council of the Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge has authority pursuant to Section 38 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, as amended, to extend the period during which the Interim Control By-law will be in effect to a total period not exceeding two years.

An explanation of the purpose and effect of the By-law is given below. For a complete copy of the Interim Control By-law, please contact the Clerk's Department during regular office hours.

DATED AT THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE THIS 19th DAY OF MAY, 2021.

Debbie Leroux, Clerk

Township of Uxbridge
Box 190, 51 Toronto St. S.
Uxbridge, Ontario L9P 1T1
905-852-9181 ext. 228
dleroux@uxbridge.ca

Township File: N/A

Interim Control – New Drug Addiction Treatment and
Harm Reduction Facilities including Methadone Dispensaries

PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE BY-LAW

- The Interim Control By-law (No. 2021-059) was passed to allow Township staff and consultants to undertake a study in respect of land use policies for new drug addiction treatment and harm reduction facilities including methadone dispensaries and clinics, needle exchange sites, overdose prevention sites, and drug addiction treatment and drug rehabilitation residential facilities for all the lands in the Township of Uxbridge. The study will provide a basis for the development of a policy and regulatory framework, anticipated to include amendments to the Township's Official Plan and Zoning By-law.

- The Interim Control By-law provides that notwithstanding the permitted uses and regulations of the Township Zoning By-law, no person shall use any land, building or structure or expand any use on the land, or use or erect any building or structure, including any addition to an existing building for the purpose of new drug addiction treatment and harm reduction facilities including methadone dispensaries and clinics, needle exchange sites, overdose prevention sites, and drug addiction treatment and drug rehabilitation residential facilities (including those located as an accessory or ancillary use within a pharmacy, other retail store or other similar commercial or institutional use).

- The Interim Control By-law will remain in effect until May 10, 2022 unless otherwise extended in accordance with Section 38 of the Planning Act or repealed by Council at an earlier date.

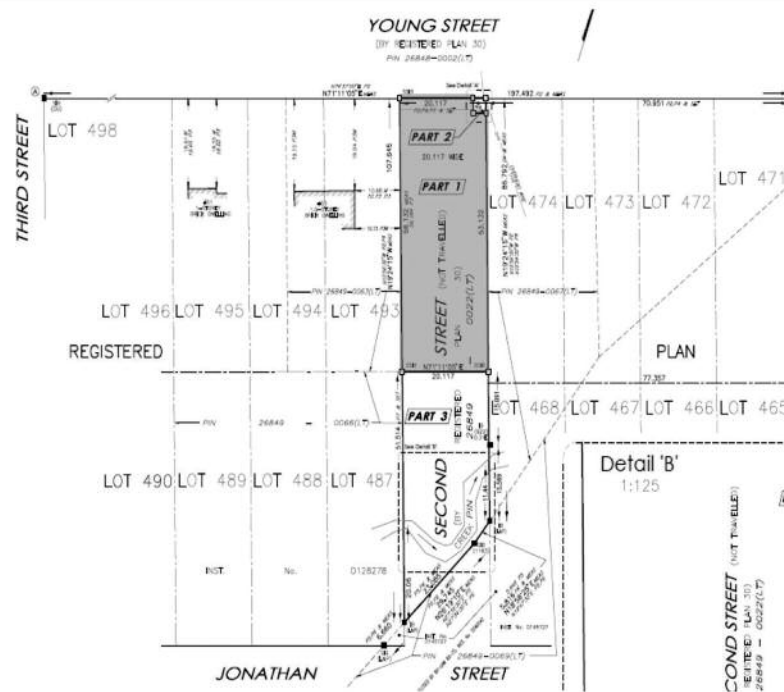
THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Council of the Township of Uxbridge hereby declares the following lands to be surplus to the needs of the Municipality;

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge deems it desirable to declare surplus and convey real property legally described as Part of Second Street Registered Plan 30, more particularly described at Parts 1 and 2 on Plan 40R-31341, Township of Uxbridge, Regional Municipality of Durham;

FURTHER NOTICE is hereby given that the Township Council at its regular meeting held on May 10, 2021, declared by Resolution No. 2021-05 the aforementioned lands to be surplus to the needs of the municipality. A copy of the plan showing the location of the lands may be viewed in the Office of the Clerk.

Debbie Leroux, Clerk



2021 SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Uxbridge Public Library Summer Student for Children's Program

Please note that the start date for these positions may be subject to the provincial government's pandemic mandates.

The Township of Uxbridge Public Library is looking for a student to work with our Children's Summer Program Coordinator, to provide exciting, enjoyable, educational in-person and/or online programs for school-age children at the Uxbridge Public Library. The successful candidate will help to plan, coordinate, and conduct all children's summer programming, as well as assist with the general operations of the Uxbridge Public Library as needed.

Qualifications and Experience

- Should be enrolled in a post-secondary program in the Fall of 2021.
- Experience in planning and conducting activities for/with children.
- Previous experience in a library setting and/or Insignia ILS is an asset.
- Self-motivated and well organized.
- Ability to adapt.
- Solid knowledge of common word processing and publishing programs.

This position is 35 hours per week from July 5, 2021, until August 27, 2021, with a wage of \$14.25/hour. Please note that this position will be contingent on student grant funding approval.

If this position is of interest to you, please forward your resumé to Ethan Goldsmith, Children's Summer Program Coordinator at ethan.goldsmith@uxlib.com. Resumes will be accepted until Friday, June 4, 2021. We thank all applicants, however only those selected to proceed through the hiring process will be contacted. Phone interviews will be conducted during the week of June 14, 2021.

We are 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.



Sunflower Contest

Free seeds are available for the Uxbridge Fall Fair Sunflower Contest!
Learn more at <http://uxbridgefair.ca/2021-sunflower-contests>






Our two cents

Blame it on the lilacs

Just 54 steps from the door to the *Cosmos* office stands a lovely lilac bush. Our editor passed by it on Tuesday morning as she dashed out to run an errand, and as she walked by, she said that “its heavenly scent just wrapped around me like a favourite cardigan that I’d forgotten existed.” Lilacs have such a pungent scent; it’s one that people either love or hate (although we don’t know of too many people that hate the real thing). And it just seems like so long since that delicious smell of spring was in the air.

It could be that we’re on a high right now - it’s around 24 degrees outside at the time of writing this, and it’s supposed to be just as divine going into this weekend, the first official long weekend of summer. *Happy sigh*

COVID-19 has elongated the more undesirable seasons, it seems. Skiers, of course, will balk at that statement, but given that slope time was at a bare minimum this past winter, we bet that even the most diehard outdoor enthusiasts who rely on amenities like ski resorts would agree that Winter 2020/21 was not “desireable”. Even our spring seemed interminable, with rain and cool temperatures working in tandem with stay-at-home orders to keep us indoors. But now, now the sun is shining, and the blooming flowers smell wonderful, and vaccinations seem to be going full steam ahead... We feel daring. Heady even. Maybe, just *maybe* there is light at the end of this crazy tunnel. Maybe we will have a summer that may look a lot like last summer (no Canada Day celebrations, no concerts or events, not even a CNE), but we might be able to see friends and family and not be inside our own heads as much.

Oh, we know that we are totally being a Pollyanna right now, and that this column should come with a side of pink, fluffy cotton candy. But we can’t help it. Blame it on the sunshine, the lilacs, and the fact that we’re 15 months into a pandemic, and we’re battling it back.

Enjoy the weather, enjoy your long weekend, and enjoy the hope.

The *Cosmos* wants to take a moment to thank every single person/business who put up a sign during the recent Sign War. It was thoroughly amusing reading the posts online, and seeing the signs in person. Many people in Uxbridge have quite a way with words - or puns, at least!

It’s been said already (like, in the Global News report that was done on our little war of words!), but it really was an exceptional way to connect people, and hopefully a few of the businesses who got involved got some new traffic and customers! What an awesome place our Uxbridge is.



Books Go Round provides good reads to children in need

by Justyne Edgell

Books Go Round, a grassroots initiative to help remove barriers and ensure that all children and youth have access to age appropriate literacy in the home.

Uxbridge’s Kate Devine, a teacher and educational consultant with the York Region school board, is passionate about making learning accessible, specifically in the early childhood years.

“Our mission is inspired by the Million Word Gap,” says Devine, “a study which revealed that children entering kindergarten who’ve been read five books a day have heard 1.4 million more words than children who were never read to.”

Devine also notes how research shows that children with 20 books in

the home get three more years of schooling than children from book-less homes, independent of their parents’ education, occupation, and class.

While Books Go Round is aimed at providing literacy to homes where there is currently little or none, Devine says that over the summer they have plans for contests and initiatives to help remove the stigma around those in need.

“We’re planning an online Summer Reading Challenge, open to all kids in the community. Each week, a challenge will be shared on our Instagram platform, participants will share a photo of themselves completing the challenge, and a winner will be announced at the end of each week,” says Devine.

Each child in need who is registered

with Books Go Round will receive a book bag filled with at least 20 age-appropriate books. They are allowed to either keep the books or return them to Books Go Round once they have finished reading and enjoying them.

Those interested in donating gently used books can schedule a drop off.

“We are also graciously accepting monetary donations or gift cards to help compensate for costs associated with the development, printing and purchasing of learning resources for families that accompany our book bags,” says Devine.

For those interested in accessing the services of Books Go Round or to get involved, reach out via social media (Instagram and Facebook) or email contactbooksgoround@gmail.com

Staying on top of COVID information change may mean faster return to ‘normal’

by Justyne Edgell

Along with the suddenly glorious spring weather came a huge jump in vaccine eligibility as booking portals opened for all those 18 and over on Tuesday, also the first day that the daily case count dropped below 2000 since March.

With the expanding eligibility of vaccines, it is expected that appointments will fill up quickly. The regional clinic, being held at the Uxbridge Arena, is booking appointments through the regional booking platform at durhamvaccinebooking.ca/ With the AstraZeneca vaccine now on hold, many pharmacies are waiting for mRNA vaccine shipments to resume working through their waitlist.

Hank Parsaniya, pharmacist at Trail Capital IDA, says that his first 100 dose shipment of the Moderna vac-

cine went very quickly. He says he is hoping for more supply next week but can’t be sure of the delivery schedule.

“Patients can go to my website and join the waitlist from there and we will reach out to them when we have doses available for them.”

Sameer Remtulla at Pharmasave says he is also expecting a delivery of an mRNA vaccine and is looking forward to starting up vaccinations again after a three-week pause due to vaccine supply being diverted to Peel region.

After opening for only one day, the Uxbridge Health Centre put a pause on its vaccination clinic as it was also administering the AZ vaccine. However, it is now expecting a shipment of Moderna and is estimating to re-open the clinic for the week of May 31. More information about this vaccination clinic can be found on

the Uxbridge Health Centre website.

The theme here is “keep an eye peeled.” Similar to the beginning of the pandemic, information, health advice, vaccine supply, etc., is constantly and quickly evolving. Residents who are “in the market” for a particular vaccine are still encouraged by experts to join any waitlist available. It is possible to remove yourself from a list if you receive a vaccine elsewhere.

While there is now a strong feeling of hope and that light at the end of the tunnel is seeming to get much brighter, health professionals remind the public that it needs to hold on a little longer. If the collective guard is let down too soon, the risk of experiencing another wave of this virus is real, which can endanger more lives and prolonging the return to “normal.”

When one of these disappears, A LOT disappears.

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The Uxbridge COSMOS

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CANADIAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER AWARD 2019



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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.



Am I Wrong?

column by Roger Varley

A voice of reason

To my way of thinking, one of the most valuable resources this township has comes in the person of planning consultant Elizabeth Howson. Her reports on development proposals are thorough, detailed and expansive and (usually) devoid of any comments based on feelings or emotions. She knows all the pertinent legislation and regulations that govern development, applies them to any proposals she is studying and makes her recommendations.

On Monday, Liz (as members of council are wont to call her) suggested that the township take a somewhat different approach when it comes to development on Cemetery Road.

As you may recall, residents on that street awoke last week to the sound of a stand of trees being cut down on a property that is being redeveloped and were, understandably, upset. During council's discussion Monday of an application to sever a Cemetery Road lot, members started showing concern over tree cover.

"Let's keep what's there and keep residents happy," said Councillor Willie Popp. Nevertheless, he made note of the fact that developers are seeking to buy properties along the street and remove trees with the aim of adding as many housing units as possible.

"I feel we should have a little bit more of a plan for Cemetery Road," he said. "It's being redeveloped in spite of ourselves."

Mayor Dave Barton chipped in: "And with a lack of control."

Those two statements are a little alarming. We don't have a plan? We don't have control? It took Liz Howson to offer a voice of reason.

She told council she was proposing that one developer in particular, the Furlan Group, pay for a study to be conducted by the township to look at Cemetery Road "and see where this is going." She said the township needs to take a look at how many lots on the street have the potential for redevelopment. She also advised the township to look at the road in a comprehensive way instead of just dealing with redevelopment applications as they come in.

"We're getting all these applications," she noted.

Howson also appeared to take a small swipe at provincial legislation regarding in-filling.

"We need to balance the requirement for in-filling with recognition that Cemetery Road has its own unique character," she said.

Indeed! I'd go even further and say a number of our neighbourhoods have their own unique character. Barton Farms and Coral Creek are two subdivisions consisting of neat and trim single-family homes with well-tended front and back yards. The last thing those two neighbourhoods need is a stack of townhouses and a six-storey apartment building looming over them.

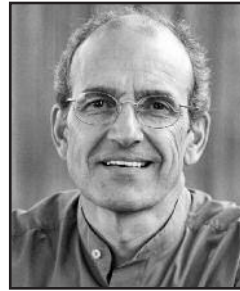
With a golf course on one side of the road and some lovely single-family homes on the other, Reach Street is a good example of a pleasant country road in an urban setting. But that scene is going to be changed considerably when townhouses go in on that devastated property, which is currently being used for police and firefighter training. Bad enough that all those trees came down, but now neighbours have to (temporarily) put up with training exercises.

But Howson also appeared to challenge councillors on how they approach the problem. Noting that, based on the facts of the case, she recommended that the severance be allowed, she said council had a few options, including continuing down the usual path or recommending that the severance be deferred until the proposed Cemetery Road study is completed.

Council opted to defer. As Popp commented: "This is a lot for the residents (of Cemetery Road) to have going on. Let's pump the brakes a little."

So, Liz recommended the severance be allowed but also gave council a way to skirt that recommendation. Seems to me like a voice of reason was raised when it was needed.

Tell me, am I wrong?



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

Strangers in the blight

We met because of COVID. Having retired from a surgical practice just before the pandemic struck, Dr. Ian Anderson found that he had a bit more time on his hands. Consequently, he began to read more of the non-fiction books on his shelf, in particular writings about Canadian military medical personnel. During the Alberta lockdowns and stay-at-home orders, he found time to read my book about military medics. That's when he corresponded.

"I read history and biography," Anderson wrote in a letter to me in 2020. "The truth is always better than the imagination."

Thus began a correspondence that has continued through the pandemic. A bit of digging on my part revealed that his is an extraordinary life of medical service. Indeed, last year, retired Col. Dr. Ian Anderson received the John McCrae Medal for "exemplary service as a clinical health service member of the Canadian Armed Forces." In our correspondence, he began sharing articles he's written about the evolution of military medicine in the world wars, profiles of heroic medical personnel, assessments of advanced surgery on casualties, and views on post-traumatic stress disorder.

But retirement from the military hadn't ended Anderson's sense of service or his need to be innovative as a lifelong medical practitioner. In the face of the pandemic, quite literally, he had designed and manufactured "the Anderson mask," a 100 per cent cotton-quilt fabric, two-layered mask. Before long he'd mailed me four of them, complete with instructions and diagrams for proper application and maintenance. "Not to be used for more than half day, and not designed to be reversed," his instructions said.

Dr. Anderson is just one of a number of people I've met and enjoyed where under non-pandemic conditions I might not ever have had the chance. The nature of general self-isolation, working at home alone, restricting physical egress (except for exercise) and avoiding maskless contact, even with family and friends, has introduced me to other writers, hikers, front-line service providers, dog walkers, cyclists, neighbours and delivery workers – those I've nicknamed "strangers in the blight."

A year or so ago, during my early morning walks, I began taking cellphone photographs of the sun rising or the moon setting. Somehow, as friends learned of my amateur photographic habit, they began sharing their shots of the crack of dawn online. In particular, my wife's friend and equestrian coach, Karin Davis, has

an incredible eye for these moments. Because she's on the road to a riding stable to tend horses early each morning, Karin photographs the sunrise almost every day – each image exploding with colour, more art than nature. When a day or two passed without another dazzling Davis cell shot, I was perplexed.

"Didn't the sun rise today?" I asked.

"Picture wasn't good enough," she wrote back.

Like many of us during these times working from home, the give-and-take of industry has turned almost entirely to delivery vehicles and the diligence of delivery crews – whether FedEx, DHL, UPS – and not surprisingly, with continuous drop-offs in our neighbourhood, we've become accustomed to the same delivery person stopping by. One day, the UPS delivery truck stopped out front, and out came a familiar guy with his arms full of boxes. "You come by along our street all the time," I said, "and I don't even know your name."

"Tony, at your service," he said.

We chatted for a while. I learned where he lived, all about his family, when he got his first anti-COVID shot, and about his delivery territory. Then, he admitted time was money. He had to go. I thanked him for the chat. And he said in jest, "See you tomorrow."

The package that contained Dr. Ian Anderson's innovative anti-COVID masks also offered one of his survival stories. It was instructive. He spent two two-month deployments as a triage surgeon in the war in Afghanistan. During one massive casualty event at the Canadian-run Kandahar hospital, his medical team attended 11 critically burned Afghan citizens who suddenly arrived unannounced. When he returned to Canada he was required to answer a PTSD questionnaire:

"Did you see injured soldiers?" the survey asked.

"Yes," he answered.

"Did you see badly burned people? Dead children? Dismembered bodies?"

"Yes. Yes. And yes."

The psychologists merely concluded that Dr. Anderson was back from another routine deployment. And when he returned to Canada each time, he retired to his books and inventing ways to help others.

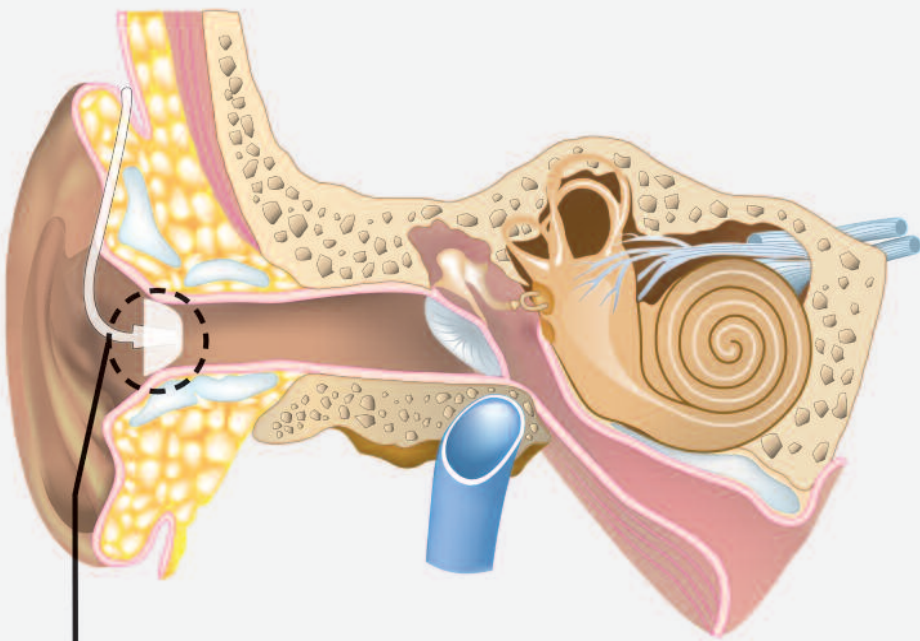
I think it is these acquaintances with strangers that the pandemic has given us – whether we wanted them or not – that have tempered our mental health and will perhaps ease us back into what we remember as normal.

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

 <p>4 Banff Road Uxbridge 905-852-8889 Open for Take-out 11:00am to 8:00pm Checkout our full menu at Halibuthouse.ca/menu</p>	<p>Basa Fish and Chips (Introductory offer) Buy one Get 1 Free Regular Price \$10.95</p> <p><small>* Coupon Expires Wednesday, May 26, 2021 * Coupon valid at Halibut House Uxbridge location * Present coupon at the time of purchase * Cannot be combined with any other ongoing offer/promotion/discount</small></p>	<p>Haddock Fish and Chips Buy one Get 2nd for Only \$2.00 Regular Price \$12.95</p> <p><small>* Coupon Expires Wednesday, May 26, 2021 * Coupon valid at Halibut House Uxbridge location * Present coupon at the time of purchase * Cannot be combined with any other ongoing offer/promotion/discount</small></p>	<p>Halibut Fish Burger and Chips Buy one Get 2nd for Only \$5.00 Regular Price \$10.95</p> <p><small>* Coupon Expires Wednesday, May 26, 2021 * Coupon valid at Halibut House Uxbridge location * Present coupon at the time of purchase * Cannot be combined with any other ongoing offer/promotion/discount</small></p>	<p>\$10.00 off Family Pack 5 Fish, Large Chips and 2 Coleslaw</p> <p><small>* Coupon Expires Wednesday, May 26, 2021 * Coupon valid at Halibut House Uxbridge location * Present coupon at the time of purchase * Cannot be combined with any other ongoing offer/promotion/discount</small></p>	<p>Lunch Specials for Limited time \$4.99 Starting at</p> <p>Available only Mon. to Fri. from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.</p> <p>Beyond Meat Burger \$5.99 Beef Burger \$4.99 Chicken Burger \$4.99 Chicken Fingers (3) \$4.99 Fish Fingers (4) \$4.99 Garden Salad (Small) \$4.99 Greek Salad (Small) \$5.99 Cesar Salad (Small) \$5.99 Add Pop or small Fries for \$1</p> 
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[1] <https://www.oticon.ca/hearing-aid-users/hearing-aids/products/opn-s>

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EV charging stations in the works for Uxbridge

by Roger Varley

Acting on a report from treasurer Donna Condon, council agreed to join with the Region of Durham in seeking federal funding for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations, with two proposed for downtown Uxbridge.

Condon said the federal government is seeking requests for proposals under the Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program (ZEVIP), a five-year, \$280-million program that will address the lack of electric vehicle charging and refueling stations in Canada, with the emphasis focused, among other

things, on public places, on-street and multi-unit residential buildings. A minimum of two fast chargers, or 20 Level 2 charging stations, are required to submit an application.

Condon recommended Uxbridge should install two Level 3 Fast Charging Stations (output 20kW to 49kW). She said that type of charger will typically provide an 80-per-cent charge in 30 to 60 minutes. She suggested a payment of \$15 an hour with a one-hour limit.

In discussing what locations would be preferred for the charging stations, Councillor Bruce Garrod said he would not want to see them located

on a downtown street, such as Brock Street.

"In my opinion, if you put these (stations) at facilities, it would be easier to use," he said.

Uxbridge CAO Kristi Honey suggested locations behind the library and the township hall would be ideal, allowing people to shop downtown while their vehicle is charging. A suggestion that a station be installed at the arena was turned down.

Honey offered that, if the application is successful, the charging stations could be in operation within 30 months.



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Photo from Jay Thibert, North Durham Nature



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Find out when, where and how to get vaccinated at **ontario.ca/covidvaccineplan** or call 1-888-999-6488 for assistance in more than 300 languages.

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Sunflower Contest



As part of our 2021 Uxbridge Fall Fair activities, we are pleased to announce a Sunflower contest!

There are 4 classes:

1. Tallest Sunflower
2. Biggest Sunflower Seed Head
3. Most Beautiful Sunflower Display
4. Best Storefront/Window Display

1st place: \$50.00
2nd place: \$30.00
3rd place: \$20.00

There will also be a \$100.00 People's Choice Award for the best retail window display. The \$100.00 award will be donated to a local charity of the winner's choice. Free Sunflower seed packages for this contest are available (while supplies last) at Sugar FX, Blue Heron Books and Sharpe Farm Supplies Ltd. You are also welcome to use your own seeds if you wish.

For more details, please visit www.uxbridgefair.ca

10th Annual Prayer Breakfast

Uxbridge

First Nations Friendship
Walking Together on Life's Journey

Join us online
for a new and meaningful experience!
Program premieres on Wednesday May 26, 2021
8:00 - 9:00 am

Please link to the event through the following link or through the Uxbridge Baptist Church website and YouTube Channel
<https://uxbridgebaptist.com/uxbridge-prayer-breakfast/>

Although there is no charge for this event, donations can be made by e-transfer to:
uxbprayerbreakfast@gmail.com

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Guests
Jennifer Wilson and Don Simmonds will demonstrate the deepening roots of friendship between several First Nation communities and Uxbridge. These growing relationships model what a lasting impact of unity in our nation can look like.

Jennifer is the founder and coordinator of Heart to Heart, an outreach to Indigenous individuals & families offering friendship and a variety of community programs. Her unique presentation will include her beautiful music talents on her harp.

Don is the Chairman and CEO of the Blyth Group. A specific passion for Don is coaching the USS Tigers and helping these young men "win at life" partly through the Hope Through Hockey program in the last 7 years.



Please send your comments to uxbprayerbreakfast@gmail.com

UMST wants musicians for virtual concert

COVID-19 has made things difficult for musicians who thrive on performing live. But technology has helped many stay connected, and the Uxbridge Music Scholarship Trust (UMST) is hoping to use this technology to unite local music students, both past and present.


The UMST is hosting a "Rising Stars Virtual Concert" on June 28, at 7 p.m. During this concert, a compilation of various performances by local music students will be broadcast through Zoom and on YouTube. All information regarding the applications and guidelines

can be found on the UMST website at uxbridgemusicscholarship-trust.com

The UMST is also reaching out to all music teachers and their students (past and present) to prepare for future performance opportunities.

For the past 20 years, the UMST has raised funds to offer bursaries to selected musicians who are pursuing music at a post secondary level.

"Through quality live concerts and community donations, the dream lives on" says Lesley Joosten, one of the UMST's founding members.



Happy Birthday Greetings to
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as she turns 90 on May 21!

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Return, re-sell, recycle - a win-win-win business

by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

COVID-19 and lockdown after lockdown have driven more and more people to online shopping, from both local businesses and larger online-only retailers. Ease and the comfort of shopping while still wearing pyjamas are the pros to this situation; more returned merchandise is the con. It's estimated that between 25 – 40 per cent of merchandise bought online is returned for various reasons, as opposed to the 10 per cent of returns made to bricks and mortar stores.

There are some, however, who don't find these returns a con at all. Tiffany Ashmeade and her husband, Dan, are building an entire business from these returns. Their new company, called Load Up Liquidation, is solely focused on buying up truckloads of returned merchandise from one giant online retailer, parsing that merchandise into smaller lots that fit on skids, and selling those skids to people who want to generate extra income from their own homes ... selling online.



A skid of returns from Load Up Liquidators has between 75 - 150 boxes on it, and can earn between \$1,800 - \$2,500.

Photo from loadupliquidation.ca

"We started in November last year," explains Tiffany Ashmeade. "We learned about it from someone in Vaughan who was doing it, so we got two skids, and I sold the stuff online. I thought it was kind of neat, so we talked about it, went back and got four more. By February we'd gone through 16 skids!"

The Ashmeades also run a personal training business, so they're no strangers to self-employment. They have a client who owns a warehouse in Whitby, and they were able to secure space for their skids of merchandise there. They receive truckloads of returns from a company that distributes them, and, at the warehouse, distribute the merchandise onto

more manageable skids. Tiffany says that they do not count the number of boxes per skid, and they don't open boxes that may appear to have more items inside. She says that there are usually between 75 – 150 pieces per skid.

"There might only be 75 boxes, but one box might be a big gaming chair or something, which is super profitable but it takes up more space, so it all evens out," says Ashmeade.

She estimates that the value per skid is anywhere between \$1,800 to \$2,500. "Oh yeah, you can certainly make your money back, and a fair profit, too," she says.

One skid costs \$750, tax included. Two skids are \$1,350. Buy three skids, and the fourth is 50 per cent. Buy four skids, and the fifth skid is free of charge.

Tiffany explains that not all the merchandise they receive is "returns". Items can also be overstock, such as yoga mats, shoes, and backpacks. Some of the items may indeed be broken, and the skid buyer assumes the risk of contents when purchasing a load. Ashmeade admits she's seen some "really weird things" come through on the skids. "Stuff I didn't even know existed, like a face slimming strap that goes under your chin to hold your jaw!" She does confess to having come across brand new sex toys, and once she discovered a body suit that came complete with fake breasts.

"I've found some really great stuff, too. We found a PS4 once, we've found iPhones, and some nice electronics, and we see lots of vacuums – Dysons and that – and they make good coin.

Reselling liquidation items is, says Ashmeade, a huge time commitment. She says buyers must go through their skid and sort what they want to sell. A photo must be taken of each item, and an appropriate price must be researched. Then the item is ready to post online or, when permitted, at a flea market.

"There is a process to it and it does take time, money doesn't just fall into your lap. But it is worth it," says Ashmeade.

The Ashmeades are learning the process quickly. Their website, loadupliquidation.ca, has photos of the loaded skids they have available. Prospective buyers choose the number of the skid they would like, then book the load number online. It gets marked as 'sold' online, and the buyer is then contacted regarding payment and pick up time. Load Up Liquidation offers delivery across the GTA, and pick up at the warehouse can be arranged between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., Monday to Friday, as well as

some Saturdays.

Tiffany also offers buyers tips on how to get started.

"I want people to learn from my mistakes, to help buyers learn some tricks. If they have a problem, like they can't find an item online to find pricing, etc., I like to help them out. We don't just sell to buyers, we teach them how to sell at home, too."



Items returned to large online retailers often end up in landfill. Resellers like Load Up Liquidation keep tons of merchandise from being destroyed.

Photo from loadupliquidation.ca

The Ashmeades do have a particular client base they'd like to engage. "This is great for stay-at-home parents," says Ashmeade, who is at home full-time with her two children, ages 2 and 11. "You can work on this during school or while the kids nap."

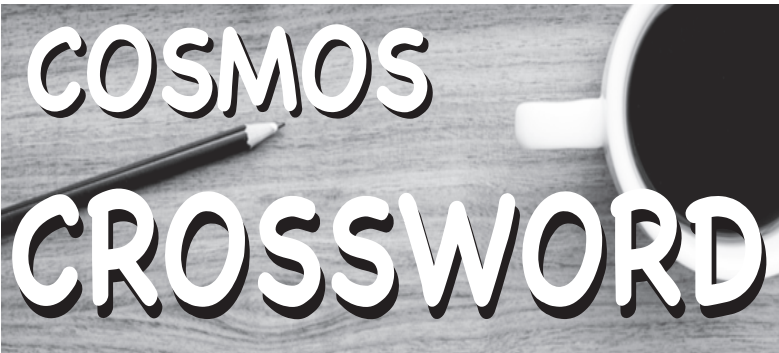
She shares that buyers they have now say they can't keep their inventory up. "People are going through items really quickly!" she says. And the model is well-suited to COVID-wary buyers and sellers alike.

"You don't even have to see anyone. Just arrange the e-transfer, then they can come and pick [their item] up."

Aside from the profit potential, Ashmeade outlines that there is also an environmental benefit to this liquidation scenario. A CBC Marketplace investigation broadcast last October revealed that "tons and tons" of returns to one online retailer warehouse in Toronto, many of them practically brand new, are sent to landfill.

"The broken items might have to go to landfill, of course, but keeping a lot of it out of landfill and people turning a profit at home, that's why we're here. We're being good for the environment and doing something different, says Ashmeade."

For more information, email loadupliquidation@gmail.com or visit loadupliquidation.ca



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Across

- 1 Quote a source
- 5 Physique, slangily
- 8 Do __ others
- 12 Flow
- 13 "Adam and __", painted by Tintoretto
- 14 Close
- 15 Provide for free, informally
- 16 Sense organ
- 18 Chinese appetizer (2 words)
- 20 Lead-in
- 23 Extort
- 27 In direct opposition (3 wrds)
- 31 Forerunner of a helicopter
- 32 Forum greeting
- 33 Farm young
- 35 Hay land
- 36 Close, a contract for ex.
- 38 Takes stuff off
- 40 Column of boxes on a questionnaire
- 42 Tie type
- 43 "You Give Love a Bad Name" singers (2 words)
- 47 Gather resources (2 words)
- 50 Old empire center
- 54 Digs up the garden
- 55 "___ to Billie Joe"
- 56 Sacred bird of Egypt
- 57 Cutting part
- 58 Negative prefix
- 59 River deposit

Down

- 1 Emission that's bad for the environment (abbr.)
- 2 United Nations labor org.
- 3 Antacid brand, ____s
- 4 Ace
- 5 Floating ice
- 6 Settled
- 7 Art style
- 8 Go acoustic
- 9 Safety __
- 10 Chinese "way"
- 11 "Catch-22" pilot
- 17 Street shader
- 19 Flub
- 20 Europe's "boot"
- 21 Brighter stars, temporarily
- 22 Young people
- 24 New Hampshire's state flower
- 25 System of belief
- 26 It may be French
- 28 In addition
- 29 Blockhead
- 30 North Pole toymaker
- 34 Croat, e.g.
- 37 Knock down
- 39 Egyptian deity
- 41 Drench
- 44 Broadway brightener
- 45 Martial art
- 46 Visible
- 47 Girl
- 48 Trawler's catch
- 49 Coffee order: abbr.
- 51 Japanese sash
- 52 A million bucks
- 53 Time zone



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EVENTS

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL LINDSAY DAY! May 21 is International Lindsay Day! Wish your favourite Lindsay a Happy (belated) International Lindsay Day at the Uxbridge Farmers' Market this weekend! 5/20

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column by Nancy Melcher

Bob-bob-bobbin' with robins

Bing Crosby, Raffi, Bobby Day and Michael Jackson had it right. They all sang about the lovely, red-breasted bird we call the robin. Crosby was right when referencing the robin's quintessential early-bird tendency, crooning, "Wake up, wake up you sleepy head / Get up, get out of your bed".

The birds around my house are in good voice long before sun-up these days, participating enthusiastically in the dawn chorus!

Raffi's song includes great descriptions of their appearance: "Mind your socks of yellow / Running in the garden on your nimble feet / Digging for your dinner with your long strong beak."

A medium-sized songbird, robins have dark grey backs and heads, round rusty orange breasts, bright yellow legs, a white throat and marks around the eye, and a pointed yellow beak.

They feed on earthworms, insects, and fruit. Last summer, one would perch nearby whenever I was digging in my flowerbeds. I think it wanted the worms I carefully re-buried! When foraging, they will run a few steps and stop abruptly. They'll also cock their heads, looking and listening intently for the movement of

worms just below the surface. A quick jab of that sharp beak, a few tugs to pull a worm out of the soil, and down the hatch it goes.



Baby robins await a feed in their grass-lined nest. The Nature Nut recommends that, if you find a baby robin on the ground, leave it alone, as its parent is likely nearby.

Photo by Nancy Melcher

The females build the nests, often on our houses, on downspouts, light fixtures, and window ledges. Pairs may raise more than one brood a year together, with three to five

bright blue eggs laid in the deep, grass-lined, cup-shaped nest. The young may leave the nest a day or two before they can fly well, so don't try to "help" if you find a baby. The parents are nearby and will care for the youngster.

Robins are found in a wide variety of habitats, as long as there's open grassy areas to hunt for worms. They're found on urban lawns and parks, at rural farm properties, as well as throughout cottage country. Herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers can be hazardous to robins since they feed on lawns. Be careful with all outdoor chemicals for their sake.

Busy, colourful, and fun to watch, robins are successful neighbours. Day and Jackson sang truthfully: "All the little birds on Jaybird Street / Love to hear the robin go tweet tweet / Rockin' robin. Tweet, tweedle-lee-dee"! Enjoy!

Robin Fun Facts:

- Average lifespan is five to six years
- They can fly 30-55 kilometres per hour
- It is one of the earliest bird species to lay its eggs
- Nests take two to six days to complete
- Indigenous legends consider the robin either a guardian of fire or a thief of flames - those stories explain the robin's orange-red breast.

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

Quaker Common trails to be paved, but maybe not plowed

by Roger Varley

Trails winding through Quaker Common are to be paved to make them more accessible, but whether the trails will be plowed in winter remains under discussion.

Although a report from Amanda Ferraro, director of community services, said the paving would make the trails accessible 365 days a year, Garrod said he was "uncomfortable" with promising snow plowing all winter. Council also balked at Ferraro's suggestion for paying the township's portion of the project through the Canada Community Building fund, preferring instead to fund it through reserves. A \$60,000 grant already has been received from the Inclusive Community Grants project.

Councillor Todd Snooks said paving of the trails should not be looked at as "something nice to have" but as part of the township's active transportation program. He also questioned why the trails couldn't be plowed in winter, noting pathways in Elgin Park are cleared. Ferraro said

she has received only one request for the trails to be plowed, but more would likely come after the project is completed. She said work could begin this summer.



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Woodland, Eleanor Glynne (Walters)

On Tuesday, May 11, 2021, Eleanor passed at the Markham Stouffville Hospital, Palliative Care unit after a brief battle with cancer.

Eleanor, was a local Uxbridge girl, born April 12, 1934, and was married for over 60 years to her loving husband, Fred. She was predeceased by her parents, Jim and Eva Walters.

She will be lovingly remembered by husband Fred, son Jim (Elizabeth); her sisters Sandra Barrow (Ray), Muriel Paradine (Ken), and Marg Maciver (Iain). She was a wonderful Auntie to Jennifer & Geoff Barrow and Robert and Elizabeth Maciver.

The family would like to thank her many friends and colleagues, particularly Uxbridge Library staff, for their comforting thoughts and memories.

A private Celebration of Life will be held at a later date with internment at Uxbridge Cemetery. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Low & Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Box 388, Uxbridge L9P 1M8 (905-852-3073). Due to COVID, please no floral tributes; instead, donations can be made to the Canadian Cancer Society. If you wish to add condolences, please visit www.lowandlow.ca.

To place a death or in memoriam notice

Visit: thecosmos.ca
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