

The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 18 No. 2

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, January 13, 2022

Eat out and play Bingo • Ontario Junior Citizen Awards return • Keeping up the push for a town square



TAKING TO THE SLOPES - While COVID restrictions close up indoor activities, skiers and snowboarders relish their time on slopes, as was evidenced over the weekend at Dagmar Ski Resort. The resort has several COVID-19 protocols in place for all snow sport enthusiasts who visit.

Photo by John Cavers

Staff shortages not affecting Uxbridge stores and services

by Justyne Edgell & Roger Varley

While staffing shortages are reportedly affecting everything from education to healthcare to retail businesses throughout the province, Uxbridge appears to be weathering the latest COVID-19 surge well.

The *Cosmos* asked a few of the larger local stores how they were faring, as well as some of the various healthcare providers in the township.

Zehrs reported that it had no serious staff shortages, noting that "it's basically the same situation as every other day."

Pat Higgins of Canadian Tire said he usually has someone calling in sick every day and he has to manage the staff day by day. He noted that he's "never seen anything like this" and suggested that if the current surge peaks higher, his store might have to look at changing its

hours of operations. He added, however, that "I'm not saying this is going to happen."

Uxbridge Health Centre said it isn't experiencing any staffing problems.

Uxbridge Hospital chief of staff, Dr. Carlye Jensen, said current volumes are "stable and manageable," and that this is "in large part due to our high vaccination rates."

"The biggest risk is a staffing one. So far, we've been fortunate that not too many physicians, nurses and allied healthcare professionals, as well as other staff who work in the hospital, have been off on sick leave. That's been one of the major issues at the other hospitals in the GTA, where anywhere from 5 – 20 per cent of the staff are off sick, then coupled with increased volumes, it makes for the perfect storm," said Jensen.

Region of Durham Paramedic Services did report that it is experiencing similar pressures

being felt by all other paramedic services in the province. It's operating at approximately two vehicles less than optimum deployment due to the current COVID-19 surge. RDPS added that the number of vehicles in operation would be lower if not for the paramedic staff who have stepped up to work additional shifts and hours.

"The Region will continue its efforts to provide the best services it can, while navigating through this pandemic," RDPS said.

As of press time Tuesday evening, there were 455 active cases of COVID-19 across North Durham (Uxbridge, Scugog and Brock). Only one month ago, that number was at 15. Uxbridge had 184, Scugog had 188 and Brock had 83.

According to the Durham Region data tracker, Reachview Village is the only one Uxbridge long-term care residences to have an

...continued on page 6

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Uxbridge at a Glance

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Township of Uxbridge COVID-19 Updates

Facility Closure Information

Town Hall - Open for essential services
- Visit website for on-line services
Fire Permits - available on-line
Uxbridge Arena - Closed
Uxpool - Closed
Uxbridge Public Library - Express pick-up
Uxbridge/Scugog Animal Shelter open by appointment, call 905-985-9547

Questions? Contact Us!

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Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for January, 2022

Monday, January 17
COMMITTEE, 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, January 18
DEPARTMENT BUDGET
PRESENTATIONS (if needed)
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Monday, January 24
COUNCIL, 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, January 25
DEPARTMENT BUDGET
PRESENTATIONS (if needed)
1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Employment Opportunities

Complete details and qualifications required
for this position are available at
uxbridge.ca/employment_opportunities

Fire Department - Volunteer (Part -Time) Firefighters

Closes Monday, January 31st at 4:30pm

Candidates must be 18 years of age or older. An
information session will be held virtually at
7pm on January 19, 2022. Link is available at
uxbridge.ca

Please note: Schedules for the recruitment
process may be adjusted based on Covid-19
protocols.

**Community Services Department – Camp
Program Coordinator (F-T summer student)**
Closes Monday, February 7, 2022

**Community Services Department – Camp
Supervisors (F-T and P-T summer students)**
Closes Monday, February 7, 2022

*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.*

Closures

- Brock Rd. south from Hwy. 47 to Taunton Rd. will experience periodic lane restrictions to facilitate fibre option network installation through to Feb. 25.
- York/Durham Regional Rd. 30 from north of Durham Reg. Rd. 39/Queensville Sideroad to south of Holborn Road, East Gwillimbury. Bridge repairs over the Mount Albert Creek require road closure in the above area from Jan. 21, 2022 until completion, expected in 2024.



**Arena & Uxpool Closed
Starting
Wednesday, January 5, 2022
Due to Provincial Restrictions**

Winter Parking Reminder

The Township needs your cooperation to ensure the snow clearing operations in our community go as smoothly and efficiently as possible.

Parking vehicles on the street in winter months can interrupt or prevent effective snow clearing operations. Snowplow operators clear snow as close to the curb as possible (or end of travelled portion of roadway where no curb exists), but road obstructions, like parked vehicles, prevent this task from being completed.

The Township of Uxbridge would like to remind residents and visitors that:

- Parking on Township streets is not permitted between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m., from November 1 to April 1.
 - Parking in a manner that interferes with snow clearing operations is not permitted
- Abiding by these parking limitations is essential for expedient and thorough snow clearing operations.



Election Compliance Audit Committee

Townships of Brock, Uxbridge and Scugog

The Townships of Brock, Scugog, and Uxbridge are requesting applications from interested members of the public to serve on the Compliance Audit Committee for the 2022 Municipal Election. This committee, consisting of three (3) members, will serve all three (3) municipalities for the term of November 15, 2022, to November 14, 2026.

Ideally, membership on the Compliance Audit Committee shall be comprised of one (1) member of the public from each municipality to serve all three (3) municipalities.

Purpose

The purpose of the Committee is to review applications which may be referred by the Clerk or submitted by qualified electors who believe, on reasonable grounds, that a municipal election candidate or registered Third Party Advertiser has contravened the provisions of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, as amended, related to campaign finances. The powers of the Committee will be to:

- Review applications received and decide whether the application should be granted or rejected;
- If the application is granted, to appoint an auditor to conduct a compliance audit; and,
- Upon receipt of the report indicating a contravention, the Committee may commence legal proceedings against the candidate or Registered Third Party Advertiser; or,
- Upon receipt of the report indicating no contravention, the Committee may make a finding as to whether there were reasonable grounds for the application and determine whether to recover the costs of conducting the compliance audit

Qualifications

Committee members must have the ability to understand and apply the election campaign finance provisions of the *Municipal Act* and must be considered impartial with respect to their ability to fulfill their responsibilities. Preference shall be given to those Committee members with experience in accounting, law, and law enforcement.

The *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, as amended, prohibits members of Council, a local board, staff of the respective municipalities, candidates, and Registered Third Party Advertisers from serving on this Committee.

Remuneration

Members of the Committee shall be provided a retainer and remunerated for their attendance at meetings together with mileage.

Application Process

Interested persons are invited to forward a written expression of interest and resume outlining their experience and qualifications to serve on this Committee to the Clerk of one of the (3) municipalities.

Further Information

Further information, including the terms of reference may be obtained from the office of the Clerk in each municipality.

Application Deadline

Applications will be received in the office of each Clerk until **4:30 p.m. on January 28, 2022.**

Mr. Fernando Lamanna
Municipal Clerk & Deputy CAO
Township of Brock
1 Cameron Street East,
P.O. Box 10
Cannington, Ontario
L0E 1E0
flamanna@brock.ca

Ms. Becky Jamieson
Municipal Clerk
Township of Scugog
181 Perry Street
P.O. Box 780
Port Perry, Ontario
L9L 1A7
bjamieson@scugog.ca

Ms. Debbie Leroux
Municipal Clerk
Township of Uxbridge
51 Toronto Street South
P.O. Box 190
Uxbridge, Ontario
L9P 1T1
dleroux@uxbridge.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

Ordering in? Play Uxbridge Bingo, help the food bank too

by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

The pandemic has shut down dine-in restaurants again, but most are still offering take-out, and one Uxbridge resident has decided to turn ordering in into a game.

James Drake recently announced online that he is organizing “Uxbridge Take-Out Bingo” to help local restaurants. All proceeds go to the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank.

“We all love this town and it would be so hard to see any business have troubles through this time. This is a way of making it fun and also giving back to a local charity. Bingo is simple, something that anyone can do! There will be nearly 900 take-out meals purchased within this program if everyone goes for a full card,” says Drake.

He notes that he is not affiliated with any of the restaurants in Uxbridge, nor is he affiliated with the food bank.

Those who wish to play “Uxbridge Take-Out Bingo” are asked to make a \$5 donation per Bingo card (Drake stresses that this is “100 per cent a donation and NOT payment to play Bingo”). There will be three prizes or rounds. There will be a \$10 local gift card for getting an ‘X’ or a ‘+’ (plus sign) through the middle using the Free Square. A \$20 local gift card is on offer for getting a ‘U’, using the sides and bottom line of the Bingo card, and a \$40 local gift card goes to the first person to get a full sheet, which fills every square.

Players are asked to send an e-transfer to bingo@jamesdrake.ca (if a password is needed, use UxBingo). Drake asks that e-transfers include the sender’s email address in the comments, as well. Once payment is received, Drake will send a link to generate a unique bingo card that is full of all the different places throughout Uxbridge. This can be bookmarked or printed.

“The faster you start playing, the faster you can start filling squares,” says Drake. “There is no end date, just like these lockdowns!” he jokes.

To win, email receipts to the above-mentioned email address.



HURTEAU, William

It is with deep sadness we announce that William (Bill) Hurteau, at the age of 81, passed away at The Village of Taunton Mills the morning of January 7, 2022.

Bill will be lovingly remembered by his wife and soulmate, Frances Lynn Hurteau, and his children Grant (Mimi), and Krystal (Haron). He was a cherished grandfather to Devin, Olivia, Roman and Dominik, and will be lovingly remembered by extended family and friends.

Bill started working at the Royal Bank of Canada in Kirkland Lake, and was transferred to other branches throughout the North. He eventually retired from Plaza head office as Manager of Investment Industry Banking Retail. After 39 years in the bank, he decided to work at Sears Promenade for nearly 5 years. He was passionate about sports and coached hockey and baseball. He served a term as general manager of Goulding Park Arena in North York. He enjoyed many staycations at Pigeon Lake over the summers and had hobbies of hunting, boating, fishing, golfing, and bowling. After 48 years in North York, he and Frances decided to move to Uxbridge to enjoy the small town amenities and a new puppy. He carried on with his love of music by singing his favorite country songs and playing his guitar. He was always around to give a helping hand and share in laughter by cracking a joke.

A heartfelt thank you to the staff of The Village of Taunton Mills for their care. A cremation is taking place and a Celebration of Life will be held in the spring. Arrangements entrusted to Barnes Memorial Funeral Home Ltd., 5295 Thicksen Rd. N., Whitby (905-655-3662). Donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Society of Canada.



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Our two cents

Negativity doesn't need a place to grow

Social media is top drawer for being the scapegoat for everything that is wrong in the world today. Kids acting up? It's social media's fault. Seems like no one has manners any more? Social media's fault. COVID-19 pandemic? Social media's fault.

Everything, but EVERYTHING seems to get posted on one platform or another now, from momentous occasions like Baby's first steps to incredibly boring, ubiquitous what-I-had-for-dinner photos. We have, however, seen a couple of things of late that concern us even more than usual, and we'd like to find out how others feel.

First up - a post that was made recently on TikTok by the user "dougherty dozen". We assume it was the mother of this family of 12 - parents and 10 children - who made the post, which contained a video and voiceover talking about "How much did we spend on our 10 kids for Christmas?" Not so much talking about as *bragging* about what they spent on Christmas 2021. The bikes, video game sets, cell phones, toys, custom wrapping paper, plane tickets, etc., totalled \$16,541.78 (most of it procured from Amazon, a lovely plug for a company that certainly doesn't need a lovely plug). That is not a typo. \$16,541.78. Who advertises that!? Who wants to spread that info around? We're delighted that they're able to afford it all, but have a little discretion, for crying out loud. And not only was the post in bad taste, we can only *imagine* what the comments were like (we don't have a TikTok account, so couldn't look). We're confident that they weren't all "Thumbs up, so glad you all had a great Christmas!" Negativity loves to prey on posts just like that one, and we bet it was in abundance there.

A little closer to home, we saw a post on Facebook and Instagram from a retailer who happened to catch a shoplifter on a security camera. The security footage was uploaded to socials, and the store asked for help identifying the person who'd lifted some merchandise. Now, we in absolutely no way condone the actions of the individual who pocketed unpaid-for merchandise when we say that we feel sick about this being posted to social media! And we *did* see the comments following. Mostly they contained an outpouring of support for the business owner, which is great, but there were some pretty disparaging remarks about the perp. The judgements, name-calling, and in some cases vitriol that were left online were just so *unnecessary*. None if it helped do what the business wanted, which was put a name to a face. It only helped those on their computers and phones feel better about themselves by putting down someone they don't even know (albeit who was doing something very naughty). Vigilante justice, here in Uxbridge? We thought we were a little more civilized than that. Apparently not.

It is our understanding that the store also went through more appropriate channels (i.e. the police), and we admit that, as of press time, we don't know how or if the situation was resolved.

In the movie *Bambi*, Bambi and his friend Thumper have a little conversation, during which Thumper tells Bambi that he was taught "If ya can't say sumpthin' nice, don't say nuthin' at all." Users of any social media platform would do well to remember that phrase each and every time they go online. The world is full of enough crap and negativity to do us all a million times over. Do we need to encourage more?



Letters to the Editor

Re: "Am I wrong?" Jan. 6 edition

Well done, Roger - You are correct with all of your positive comments throughout the column!

People certainly are fed up and tired of everything connected to COVID, but you brought forward the best on how others (yourself included) are managing.

But, at the end of your column you make the statement, "...governments have absolutely no idea what they are doing. It seems to me that it is pointless waiting around for them to bring this pandemic to a close."

Roger, no government today has been in office during a pandemic [of this magnitude and nature] so there is very little, if any, history to fall back on, with regards to what works and what fails. Also, it is us, the public, that will end the pandemic by getting vaccinated so variants have no place to go. We also need to wear our masks all the time, wash our hands all the time, not

have parties, or hang out in areas with others we don't even know. As a society, we are not doing all of this constantly so COVID is hanging around like a bad smell.

It is time we all work together to destroy this pandemic.

**Bev Northeast
Goodwood**

Hamper campaign thank you

We would like to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported the Uxbridge Christmas Hamper Campaign this year, in spite of another year of COVID-19.

As coordinators of this campaign, in cooperation with the Uxbridge Loaves and Fishes Food Bank, we would like to thank all the churches, local businesses, service clubs and organizations, schools and individual families who prepared Christmas Hampers, (which included all the fixings for Christmas breakfast and dinner, lots of

extra goodies and snacks, and gifts for the children and their parents), for many families in our community.

We would also like to thank the Uxbridge Toy Drive, which went over and above to help.

And finally, we would like to thank Father Gerard Pilon, the pastor at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, for allowing us the use of the church hall for this endeavour.

In another very difficult year, the kindness and willingness by so many people to share came together, and together we were able to provide a little Christmas joy to 59 families in our community!

Thank you again for your generous support, it was very much appreciated!

**Susan Gilbert, Gloria Ross, Cathy Tweedy, Maryann Wagner
Coordinators,
Uxbridge Christmas Hamper Campaign**

Your Universe


The Uxbridge Cosmos

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Ontario Junior Citizen Awards return after COVID-caused hiatus

Celebrate the best of Uxbridge and help recognize the incredible determination, imagination, and spirit of outstanding young citizens between the ages of 6-17.

If you know someone who is involved in worthwhile community service, is contributing while living with a limitation, has performed an heroic act, demonstrates individual excellence, or is going above and beyond to help others, consider nominating them for an Ontario Junior Citizen Award. The deadline for

nominations is Feb. 11, 2022.

Nominees may be: involved in worthwhile community service; special young people who are contributing while living with a physical or psychological limitation; individuals who have performed acts of heroism or bravery in the past year; displayed excellence in personal achievements; be 'good kids' who show a commitment to making life better for others.

Any resident of Ontario, aged six to 17 years (must be at least six

years, but no older than 17 years by the Feb. 11 deadline), is eligible to receive an Ontario Junior Citizen Award.

A committee of newspaper editors and publishers will select up to 12 individual award winners. Every nominee will receive a certificate of recognition, and the final recipients will be invited to a special ceremony in the Spring.

For nomination forms and additional information, contact the *Cosmos* at 905-852-1900.



Am I Wrong?

column by Roger Varley

It's the little things that count

Somewhere in town there is a nine-year-old boy named Everett who, I suspect, has a mother or grandmother who is teaching him that the small things in life matter.

This week, I stopped in at Blue Heron Books and there was a letter waiting for me. It was from Everett and it was a lovely letter of thanks for a book I bought him a few months ago. The letter, addressed to "Mr. Rogers," came complete with Star Wars drawings. The letter is now taped to the wall next to my desk. I can't tell you how much it meant to me.

At the same time, I received a Blue Heron gift card that was left for me by a lady and I have no idea who she might be. Again, I can't tell you how much it meant to me.

There have been a few other instances of late where I have observed people doing little things that, although minor in the grand scale of the universe, nevertheless meant a lot. I was enjoying a cup of coffee at Veterans Memorial Park recently when a woman came out of her house to shovel the snow off the sidewalk. But she didn't just clear the pathway in front of her home: she cleared the sidewalk from Reach Street to Bell Street.

A few days ago, someone went into the Bridge Social and paid for everyone's coffee for the day. On New Year's Eve, at midnight, I strolled to the corner of Brock and Church Streets. The streets were deserted except for one man who stepped out of his apartment, fired off some Chinese firecrackers and then went back inside. A small gesture, but it showed that at least one person wasn't going to let this horrible COVID-19 thing prevent him from acknowledging a new beginning.

In this era of doom and gloom and monstrous weather events, it's little things like this that keep us going. A friendly wave from a passerby or a toot on the horn from someone driving by can give someone that

little lift that they desperately need right now. Hugs are few and far between these days, but my boss and my friend, Lisha, seems to know exactly when I need one.

As I said, it's the little things that count. A friendly word or a kind gesture can mean the world to someone who is lonely or going through a rough patch. A word or gesture can take the edge off what at times can seem like a cold and brutal reality. And, gift cards and free coffees notwithstanding - (though much appreciated) - the little things usually don't cost anything. But they can have big rewards: the good feeling that comes from helping someone, the happiness felt by bringing a smile to someone else's face, the thought that someone might just "pay it forward." It pays even bigger rewards when doing something nice for a complete stranger or doing something unexpected, rather like Scrooge buying a Christmas turkey for the Cratchits.

There is a lot of griping and grumbling going on nowadays - (and I've done my fair share) - and to a certain extent is it understandable. Whether it is COVID-19, ongoing evidence of climate change, the disastrous state of democracy in the U.S., the government's approach to schooling in these difficult days or the fact that the Uxbridge Bruins are on hold, the news just seems to be bludgeoning us down non-stop. But if Everett can pick up a book that he will enjoy, if I can have a cup of coffee courtesy of a stranger, if the neighbours don't have to shovel snow for just one day, then the bad news can be pushed aside, even if it's just for a few brief moments.

It seems to me it's the little things that can help us all weather the storm.

Tell me, am I wrong?



The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

The space of the century

Remember? We all assembled downtown.

There were politicians of all stripes, bands, a parade of veterans, Indigenous representatives, vehicles, lots of kids running around in the streets and rows of seating spilling out from the curb. The police had to cordon off our main intersection of Toronto and Brock streets. There must have been 500 or 600 people seated, standing, passing by or gathering to witness the unveiling of the L/Col Sam Sharpe memorial sculpture in May 2018. That evening, as I organized my MC notes, a friend from out of town poked me in the shoulder. We shook hands.

"Wow, what an event!" he said.

I smiled and nodded, but then he added a comment and a question that cut me to the quick.

"You've got a hell of a town here, Ted. But how come we're sprawled all over the street? Don't you have a downtown square for this?"

The answer is: "No, we don't" have an outdoor focal point for events, music, markets, recreation, unveilings, meetings or just about any kind of gathering of more than a handful of people. Unlike other Ontario towns, such as Niagara-on-the-Lake, Picton, Stratford or Port Hope, we don't have that place where when somebody asks, "Where should we meet?" the answer automatically is, "At the downtown square." And as a result, in many ways, we are a town with no heart.

Oh, we've got plenty of attractions. There's Lucy Maud Montgomery and her beloved manse and church site (both located in Leaskdale). You can gather at the Thomas Foster Memorial, but you wouldn't tell your friends, "Hey let's meet out of town, up on the Seventh," would you? In town, there's the York-Durham Heritage Railway station, but if you gathered there you'd either be shooting a movie scene, or lining up to see Thomas the Tank Engine.

Don't get me wrong. Attractions are vital. They spark commerce. They draw visitors and generate buzz. And if we ever get out of this pandemic, we'll need as many buzzing visitors and tourist dollars as possible to get this township, this province, this country back to some sort of normal. But Maud, the Foster, the railway station, are *attractions*, not *meeting places*. They're not downtown, multi-

purpose focal points where both tourists and regular Uxbridge citizens can collect, converse and celebrate community. Jane Jacobs, the legendary urban planner who helped change Toronto into a livable city in the 1970s and '80s, said building a vibrant downtown community means having "feet on the street," at gathering places, where citizens go – almost like a reflex, by rote – while they're shopping, taking in a concert or farmer's market, participating in a regular, repeating and anticipated event, or just hanging out with friends.

Build it and they will use it. Why? Because it's on everybody's way. For many months, the Downtown Revitalization Committee has considered plans to do just that – revitalize downtown. The township ran ads in the *Cosmos* inviting readers to submit ideas last summer. Uxbridge's own Wynn Walters, who never stops thinking, planning and projecting images of a sustainable community in his art and design, says that a vision of a town square in Uxbridge has been prominent in every planning study going as far back as 1983.

But what did the vision always need? A place to put it. Now we have it! It's the township-owned property under which we've just built a multi-million-dollar culvert to protect us from the *storm of the century*. Now we have the *space of the century* to transform a parking lot into the downtown gathering spot we've before only artificially created for one-off occasions. The space over and around the culvert – as a downtown square – offers Uxbridge a permanent, defined place for regular events, right in the part of the town that seems emptiest right now. A town square would create the heart our downtown has generally lacked.

What will it take? Money, sure. But good ideas attract investment. And it will take Uxbridge citizens and the civic representatives who represent them to be braver than they've ever been before, to consider a town square on which to build a future of habit, practice, interaction and identity.

Then, one day I'll be able to call that out-of-town friend of mine, and tell him, "Hey, come back and visit again. Meet you at our town square."

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

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Region offering virtual fitness, safety programs for seniors

Older adults in Durham Region are invited to get online, active, and learn a few things along the way.

On offer is an upcoming series of free virtual movement classes which will focus on core strength and bal-

ance, tailored to older residents looking to get active and fit. This free virtual event series will be instructed by Wendy of Wendy's Gentle Yoga, in Oshawa. Wendy has been teaching movement for 15 years in the com-

munity. Her initial training was rooted in yoga, and she has studied many different movement and strength techniques.

These classes will take place Jan. 12, 19, 26 and Feb. 2, from 1 to 2 p.m.

they can remain independent and healthy longer. Led by Community Care Durham (CCD), the session will start with information about falls, risk and prevention. Following this, participants will be led through a falls prevention class, educating participants on how to avoid falls, and learn about CCD's falls prevention programming.

This workshop, which is also virtual, takes place Monday, Jan. 17, from 2 to 3 p.m.

Register for both programs online at durham.ca/LearningSeries.

This programming is funded through an Ontario Inclusive Community Grant.



Photo by Cottage Health

The Region is also offering a free falls prevention workshop for seniors, where older adults can learn how to reduce the risks of falling so



The local chapter of IODE (Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire), a national women's charitable organization, recently presented a cheque to the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank. Food bank representative Heather Stover, left, accepts the \$500 cheque from Shirley Vance, treasurer of the Chapter. Submitted by Carol Guinane

WILSON, June Marie (née Fiss)

After a courageous battle with Lewy body dementia, June passed away peacefully at the age of 88 with family at her side. June was in the hearts and thoughts of her many family members and friends.



Daughter of Charles and Leola Fiss. Adored wife of the late Bill Wilson for 65 years. Loving and devoted mother of Randy (Monique), Peter (Tammy) and Lisa. June will be dearly missed by her many grandchildren, of whom she was so proud: Darcy, Lane, Sienna, Emily, Cole, Brooke, Sarah, Jacob, Hayley, and great-granddaughter Ayla.

Special thanks to the wonderful caregivers at Amica Unionville who gave her much love in her final years. A private family service will be held.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Low & Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Box 388, Uxbridge L9P 1M8 (905-852-3073). Online condolences can be made at www.lowandlow.ca



ONISTO, Silvano

Nov. 23, 1927 ~ Jan. 6, 2022

With sadness we announce that Silvano died peacefully on January 6, 2022, in Uxbridge, Ontario.

Born in Asolo, a beautiful ancient town in northern Italy pre-dating Rome, he emigrated to Canada in 1950, in the hard times after the war to make a future. He married in 1952 in Toronto and made it possible for his family and extended family to emigrate and establish themselves in Canada. He worked hard and made a happy life for his family, and lived well and long in the enjoyment of it. He is remembered for his love of life, fishing, tireless devotion to his family and his trickster sense of humor.



He leaves behind his loving wife of nearly 70 years, Lina (née Reginato) and his two children, Lawrence (Delfina), Maria (Corrado); his younger brother, Giuseppe (Luigina); grandchildren Katrina and Andre, Kathleen (Peter), Bruce (Kimberley), Matthew (Jenna), Eveline (Trevor), and Mairead; great-grandchildren Thomas, Atticus, Matthew, Naomi and Sloane, James, Natalie and Emma; and nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held at a future date when family can gather again safely. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Low & Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Box 388, Uxbridge L9P 1M8 (905-852-3073). Online condolences can be made at www.lowandlow.ca



HANSON, Roy

Passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, December 23, 2021, in his 95th year, while holding the hand of his partner, Marie Hockley. Roy is survived by his daughter Cherry Hanson, stepchildren Wayne, Brad (Kelly), Brent (Lisa), and his grandchildren Zach (Ashley), Nam, Hani, Chin, Katie (Matt), Jesse (Kirsty), Devon, Andrew, Richelle (Curtis), Samantha (Ivan), Katrina (Kyle), Liam and Renee. He is predeceased by his wife Phylliss and son Michael.



Roy was born on February 15, 1927, in Derby, Derbyshire, England, he often entertained his grandchildren with stories of his life in England, his favorite being one about catching fish in the creek behind the garden at his home. He became a master bricklayer, known as one of the few remaining bricklayers in England who could perfect a domed cathedral ceiling. He served his country in the Second World War; upon leaving the service he swore he would never again pick up a firearm, and he never did. He married his wife Phylliss on May 6, 1949. Roy then began a long and rewarding career at Rolls-Royce. Upon his retirement, Roy and Phylliss moved to London and eventually emigrated to Uxbridge, Ontario. Phylliss died in 2007 after a battle with Alzheimer's Disease.

Roy was a lifetime member of the Royal Canadian Legion, the Uxbridge Curling Club, and volunteered with Community Care North Durham. Roy met Marie at the Uxbridge Lawn Bowling Club and after considerable coercion convinced her to go on a date with him. Roy and Marie spent the remaining years of his life traveling, enjoying time with family and friends and attending St. Andrew's-Chalmers Presbyterian Church. Roy was known to many as a kind, gracious and gentle man, a true gentleman. He will be greatly missed by many friends and family members who were blessed to be loved by him.

Cremation has taken place, and a celebration of Roy's life will be held when it is safe to do so. Donations in memory of Roy may be made to Community Living Durham North or the St. Andrew's-Chalmers Presbyterian Church. Arrangements entrusted to Low and Low Funeral Home, 1763 Reach Street, Port Perry (905-985-7331). For online condolences, please visit www.lowandlow.ca



Uxbridge running as usual, from page 1

active outbreak, with one active case in isolation.

Daily changes continue to trend upwards as more people are being admitted to hospital with COVID-19. On Tuesday afternoon, the province reported 3,220 COVID-19 patients in hospital, 477 of those in intensive care units. Fifty-two per cent of those ICU patients were on ventilators. With these numbers, the province has 22 per cent of its ICU capacity remaining.

The Region has a "COVID-19 Case and Contact Hub" on its website, which contains information and outlines what to do if you suspect you may have contracted COVID-19. durham.ca/en/health-and-wellness/covid-19-case-and-contact-information-hub.aspx



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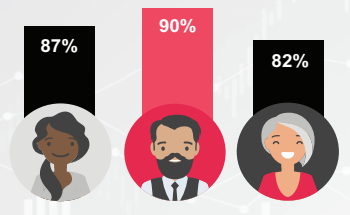
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Results are sourced from a November 2020 national online research survey managed by
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