

# The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 18 No. 17

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Huck Finn Festival begins this weekend • Be a super hero • Celebrate the best little bookstore in Canada



**KINDRED SPIRITS** - Marilla Cuthbert, played by Kathy Bridgeman, and Anne-with-an-e Shirley, played by Katy Bellamy, have a heart to heart in *Anne of Avonlea*, Ryleepuss Productions' first production since COVID-19 shut down theatres everywhere. For details on the production and tickets, see page 6. *Photo by John Cavers*

## Major funding announcement pushes future of hospital to next step

by Roger Varley

Funding of \$2.5 million for a new Uxbridge Hospital was announced Friday on the grounds of the current hospital.

Facing a bank of television cameras, Health Minister Christine Elliott and Finance Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy shared the spotlight as they announced the funding, which will be used to expand and enhance Oak Valley Health's Uxbridge Site, known locally as Uxbridge Cottage Hospital.

Combined with funding of \$500,000 announced in 2019, the total \$3 million will be used to support the planning for the campus, which will see a new long-term care home with 92 beds, a major redevelopment of the hospital, which will include an additional 11 new beds, and an ambulatory care building. The new long-term care home will bring Uxbridge's

total long-term care beds to 192.

Elliott said the new funding will allow continued planning for new interconnected facilities which will reduce wait times for patients and expand services.

Bethlenfalvy said the redevelopment will improve access to care for Uxbridge residents and the new development will form a hub model of care.

On hand for the announcement were Mayor Dave Barton and members of council, Regional Chair John Henry, Jo-anne Marr, president of Oak Valley Health, and hospital staff. Marr remarked at one point in the ceremonies that "it wasn't long ago that we were worried about the future of this hospital."

As part of the announcement - and to underscore the importance of the Uxbridge hospital to the community - local resident and former patient Chrissy Farrell spoke of her experience

eight years ago. She was rushed to the hospital by her husband after becoming unresponsive, where she was first treated by Dr. Jennifer Wilson and Dr. Michael Damus, who placed her on life support. Soon after arrival, Farrell was flown to then Markham Stouffville Hospital by helicopter, where she was placed in a medically induced coma. She was diagnosed with bacterial meningitis. Farrell credited the assistance she received at the Uxbridge hospital with saving her life.

"Those moments in the Uxbridge hospital gave me a second chance," she said. "This hospital is small, but its people are mighty."

Councillor Bruce Garrod, chair of the finance committee, said Friday's announcement was "the biggest announcement in Uxbridge in decades."

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**THIS WEEK'S WINNER**

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**DRAW: \$1,000**

**MAX. 2,000 TICKETS SOLD PER WEEK**  
Tickets available at PharmaSave Uxbridge (both locations), Vince's Market Uxbridge, Canadian Tire Uxbridge, Uxbridge Legion Br. 170 & Stouffville IDA Pharmacy

In support of **Rotary** Club of Uxbridge

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### Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for May, 2022

Monday, May 2  
COMMITTEE MEETING, 10:00 a.m.

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

PUBLIC MEETING RE: ZBA 2022-04  
(7649 CONC. RD. 4), 11:30 a.m.

### Horseshoes for Men and Women at the Museum

Register now for horseshoe games at the Museum! Beginning Tuesday, May 10, at 6 p.m., and running throughout the summer. All donations of horseshoes gratefully received! Call Bob Kirvan at 905-852-9176.

# 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)

 **UXBRIDGE CANADIAN TIRE** 

**APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup> - MAY 14<sup>TH</sup>**

**UXBRIDGE HUCK FINN YOUTH FISHING DAYS!**

 **ELGIN POND, UXBRIDGE**  
Enter to win daily prizes!

FOR INFO VISIT: [WWW.UXBRIDGE.CA/HUCKFINN](http://WWW.UXBRIDGE.CA/HUCKFINN)

2022 MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

**ON THE LIST TO VOTE?**

HAVE YOUR SAY. LOG ON TODAY.

 [VoterLookUp.ca](http://VoterLookUp.ca)

### Employment Opportunities

Complete details and qualifications required for this position is available at

<https://www.uxbridge.ca/careers/>

**Development Services Department - Building Inspector / Plans Examiner, F-T**  
Closes Friday, April 29, 2022

**Parks Department – Attendant, Unskilled, Contract**  
Closes Friday, April 29, 2022

**Parks Department – Custodian, Contract**  
Closes Thursday, May 5, 2022

### Bids & Tenders

All current bid opportunities are posted to [uxbridge.ca/bids\\_and\\_tenders](http://uxbridge.ca/bids_and_tenders)

• U22-13 Supply and Delivery of 1 Fire Apparatus (Tanker Truck) – Closes May 5, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

• U22-18 Design-Build Herrema Park Playground Replacement – Closes May 19, 2022 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 at the Township Office located at 51 Toronto St. South. Public tender openings are posted at [uxbridge.ca/bids\\_and\\_tenders](http://uxbridge.ca/bids_and_tenders)

### Child Car Seat Clinic



**Saturday, May 7th ~ 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**  
**Uxbridge Arena, 291 Brock St. West**

**Learn how to properly use and install your child's car seat - it's free!**

Please bring your car seat manual and your vehicle manual with you.  
Questions? [Melissa.Brabant@ontario.ca](mailto:Melissa.Brabant@ontario.ca)

### Weight Restrictions on Lake Ridge Road (Reg. Rd. 23)

Weight restriction of 5,000 kilograms or five tonnes per axle comes into effect immediately and until further notice, on Lake Ridge Road (Reg. Rd. 23) from Myrtle Road (Reg. Rd. 5) to approximately 2 kms south of Goodwood Road (Reg. Rd. 21) in the City of Pickering, Town of Whitby, and townships of Scugog and Uxbridge.

Emergency preparedness starts with you

# be prepared

 **make a plan**
 **build a kit**
 **stay informed**

[ontario.ca/beprepared](http://ontario.ca/beprepared) 

April 28  
**DAY OF MOURNING**

**We grieve** with those whose lives were forever changed by a workplace tragedy.







### Notice of Trail Reroute

Contractors are installing a footbridge on a section of trail leading to the Countryside Preserve from Elgin Park Drive.

The main trail remains open to the public during construction. The side trail will be closed to use.

Closure in effect April 18-May 30 weather permitting.

**Enter the Home Fire Escape Plan Contest!**



**Visit Sparky at Huck Finn (Elgin Pond) April 30th 10am-1pm**

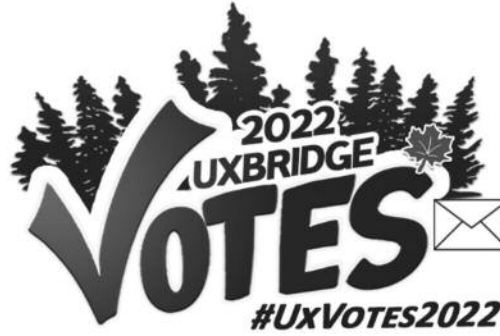
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Township of Uxbridge documents are available in alternate formats upon request. Please fill out the Request for Alternate Formats Form at [uxbridge.ca/accessibility](http://uxbridge.ca/accessibility)

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





# NOMINATIONS - 2022 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

NOTICE is hereby given to the Municipal Electors of the Township of Uxbridge  
MUNICIPAL ELECTION DAY - MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2022

## CANDIDATE NOMINATION

**NOMINATIONS** in the Township of Uxbridge for the Election, which will be held on **MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2022**, will be accepted for the following list of elected offices by completing the prescribed form in the Office of the Clerk:

### MAYOR

One (1) Member to be elected by general vote;

### REGIONAL COUNCILLOR

One (1) Member to be elected by general vote;

### WARD COUNCILLORS

Five (5) Members to be elected by the electors of each of the five (5) Wards in the Township of Uxbridge.

### REGIONAL CHAIR

One (1) to be elected by the electors of the Region of Durham.

\*Note: Nominations will be received in the Clerk's Office of the Regional Municipality of Durham, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario, L1N 6A3

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

One (1) Trustee to be elected to represent the combined area of the Townships of Uxbridge, Scugog and Brock.

\*Note: Nominations will be received in the Clerk's Office, Township of Scugog, 181 Perry Street, P.O. Box 780, Port Perry, Ontario L9L 1A7

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE DURHAM CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

One (1) Trustee to be elected to represent the combined area of the Townships of Uxbridge, Scugog and Brock.

\*Note: Nominations will be received in the Clerk's Office, Township of Uxbridge, 51 Toronto Street South, Uxbridge, Ontario L9P 1T1

### LE CONSEIL SCOLAIRE VIAMONDE - FRENCH LANGUAGE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

One (1) Trustee to be elected by all French public electors in the Region of Durham, the Counties of Haliburton, Northumberland and Peterborough, and the Cities of Kawartha Lakes, Peterborough and Quinte West.

\*Note: Nominations will be received at the City of Oshawa, City Clerk's Branch, 5th Floor, Rundle Tower, 50 Centre Street South, Oshawa, Ontario L1H 3Z7

### LE CONSEIL SCOLAIRE CATHOLIQUE MONAVENIR - FRENCH LANGUAGE CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

One (1) Trustee to be elected by all French catholic electors in the Region of Durham, the Counties of Northumberland and Peterborough and the Cities of Kawartha Lakes, Peterborough and Quinte West

\*Note: Nominations will be received at the City of Oshawa, City Clerk's Branch, 5th Floor, Rundle Tower, 50 Centre Street South, Oshawa, Ontario L1H 3Z7

### NOMINATION PROCEDURES

Nominations are required to be submitted on the prescribed form (available at the Clerk's office) and shall be filed **IN PERSON** or by an **AGENT** at the Clerk's Department, Township of Uxbridge, 51 Toronto Street South, Uxbridge, Ontario, L9P 1T1 during normal office hours (8:30am - 4:30pm) commencing May 2, 2022. The last date to file a nomination form is **FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 2022 (NOMINATION DAY) between the hours of 9:00am and 2:00pm.**

Each filed nomination form must be accompanied with the prescribed nomination fee (\$200 – Mayor and \$100 for all other positions). No person who proposes to be a candidate may solicit or accept contributions for election purposes or incur campaign expenses until a nomination paper has been filed.

Further information related to these requirements or any other issues related to the Municipal Election in the Township of Uxbridge may be obtained from the Clerk's Department by calling (905) 852-9181.

### Official Municipal Election Information shall be available through:

- The Township Page & Website [www.uxbridge.ca/elections](http://www.uxbridge.ca/elections) or via email at [election@uxbridge.ca](mailto:election@uxbridge.ca) and our social media pages
- The Clerk's Department, Township of Uxbridge, 51 Toronto Street South, Uxbridge, Ontario, L9P 1T1

Dated at the Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge this 30th day of March, 2022.

Debbie Leroux, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk & Returning Officer

# Our two cents

## Book banning - right here at home

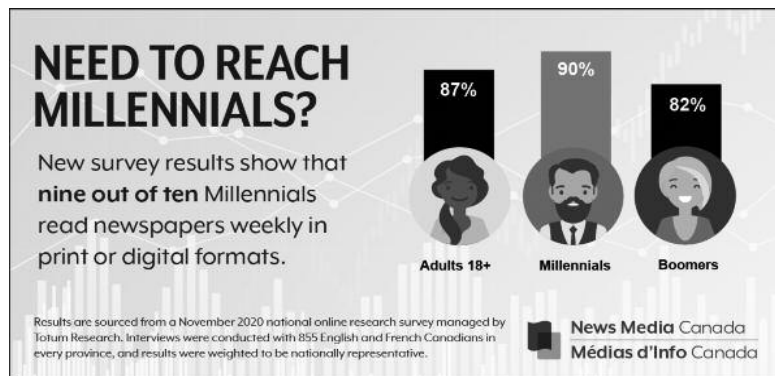
We recently read an article in the *Saturday Star* regarding books that have been banned by the Durham District School Board. You read that correctly - this isn't a book banning in some ultra-right leaning state south of the border, it's a ban by the very school board that runs the majority of the schools in this township. *Et tu, Brute?*

The story goes that the board apparently pulled several books from school libraries claiming they contain "content that could be harmful to Indigenous students and families." The kicker - among these books is "The Great Bear" by Cree writer David A. Robertson. Robertson is quoted in the article as saying he wrote the book *for* Indigenous youth and families, and that he is "at a loss" to understand what the DDSB could possibly have found offensive. "The Great Bear" was shortlisted for the Ontario Library Association's Silver Birch Award, and was named one of the Canadian Children's Book Centre's favourite books of the year.

It's great that the DDSB has *some* input and oversight into what can be found on the shelves of public school libraries across the region. No one wants smut or rubbish available to our youth, especially when those youth are reaching for a book and not their phones. But it's a pretty slippery slope when books are being pulled because they "don't align with the recently updated DDSB Indigenous Education policy and procedure"... *but were written by an Indigenous person for Indigenous people*. Is the DDSB succumbing to the dark side, overstepping its bounds by making decisions that are better left to parents, guardians or - a radical thought - the youthful readers themselves? If they have questions, then adults should be ready to answer them, not spirit the material away and pretend that it never existed. How on Earth will they learn? How will they form knowledgeable, thoughtful opinions about issues that may directly affect them? How will they grow into sensible, well-rounded, educated adults?

Book banning is censorship, plain and simple. And when it comes to the Indigenous community specifically, it's likely that *it* wants to decide what is or isn't offensive to its people. It's absolutely *not* up to a school board. The DDSB isn't helping with truth and reconciliation with First Nations when it pulls a stunt like this, it's halting it, harming it, insulting it.

Like so many other knee-jerk decisions being made nowadays that make no sense whatsoever (got that license plate rebate cheque yet?), this appears to be a case of idiocy trumps common sense. And there ain't no book in any library that can combat that.



Your Universe

# The Uxbridge Cosmos

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Advertising/Sales: 905-852-1900

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Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Friday to 4 p.m.

9,500 copies of The Cosmos are published each Thursday in the Township of Uxbridge: 8,800 delivered by mail, 700 available in stores and boxes.

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



## Letters to the Editor

On January 13, 1959, the doors opened at the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital - a health care facility built by the residents of our community and surrounding area at a cost of approximately \$415,000. While to the community the hospital remains the "Cottage Hospital," the legal corporate name has undergone several changes and is now known as Oak Valley Health's Uxbridge Hospital site.

The building has become old and tired. The building materials used in the 1950s are no longer considered safe. For the past 15 plus years, it has been reported that the hospital is in dire need of upgrading, and if not addressed the hospital could be closed.

We have been fortunate having strong advocates for our hospital in president and CEO Jo-anne Marr and Elena Pacheco, vice-president Planning and Transformation. Their vision was to form a healthcare hub with a new hospital. Simultaneously

a group of very dedicated community members were advocating for a new nursing home on the hospital site. Added to this is the newly constructed Oak Tree Medical Centre, owned and operated by a group of family physicians, which opened its doors in November. The three buildings will form a hub for health care for our community and surrounding areas.

Politics aside, we are fortunate to have the Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, the minister of finance, as our MPP. He has brought millions of dollars to our municipality, the building of a new hospital being the latest announcement. A huge thank you to him and to Minister of Health Christine Elliott.

As a young girl I walked with the Brownies and Girl Guides to the sod turning ceremony for our hospital. Now, as a senior, I can look forward to the opening of our new and modern hospital. Thank you to all those volunteers and advocates

over the years for their commitment and dedication that have made this a reality.

**Gerri Lynn O'Connor**  
Uxbridge

Thank you so much to everyone who helped us support a family from Ukraine (pictured below). After changing their flight twice, they arrived safely on April 11.

They are safe and as happy as can be here, though they really miss home and the father of the family. The flat looks like a home, they have beds, clothing, crafts, food, furniture, towels, bathroom products, and even a few gift cards and cash to spend at their leisure.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for each and every donation. You all contributed to such a warm welcome for this uprooted family.

**Lesley Cornelius**  
Uxbridge



Photo supplied by Leslie Cornelius





## Am I Wrong?

column by Roger Varley

### You can't tell the players without a program

As of this Sunday, the provincial general election campaign in Ontario officially kicks off. Most of you are probably wondering - (if you're thinking about the election at all) - which party/candidate you will support: Conservative, Liberal, NDP or Green.

But hold on, folks: if that is where your thinking stops, you're short-changing yourself. Apparently, there are no less than 23 parties running candidates who will be seeking your vote. Since, like me, you probably haven't even heard of most (any) of them, let me introduce to you just a few.

To start with, two of the new parties were founded by disgruntled former members of established parties, much like Maxime Bernier started the People's Party of Canada after losing his bid for leadership of the Conservative Party.

The Ontario Party is headed by Derek Sloan, a former Conservative MP who was kicked out of that caucus. He is an opponent of COVID-19 public-health measures and has promoted anti-vaccine talking points. Just this week, Sloan announced his party has hired the infamous Roger Stone as the party's strategic planning consultant. Stone, a close ally of Donald Trump, was convicted on seven felony counts and later pardoned by Trump.

Then there's the New Blue Party of Ontario. This party, started by MPP Belinda Karahelios, states openly on its web page that Doug Ford's Progressive Conservative Party actually supports the Liberals. Karahelios was kicked out of Ford's caucus after voting against a government bill. She and her husband say the Conservatives aren't blue enough!

Also for your consideration is a party that claims it isn't a political party at all. Consensus Ontario says its candidates are all independent and, should they form a government, the elected representatives will choose a premier from among their ranks. And yet the Consensus Ontario web site lists Brad Harness of London as its "leader." If it's not an organized party, how can it have a leader?

Some of the registered parties sound so bizarre it's difficult not to believe they are some kind of joke, as their names indicate: Stop the New Sex-Ed Agenda; the Pauper

Party of Ontario; the Party for People With Special Needs; None of the Above Direct Democracy Party; Go Vegan. It is difficult to imagine anyone actually casting a vote for a candidate from any of these organizations, even a candidate's mother.

On top of these, there are other fringe parties that have been around for a few years but apparently still haven't absorbed the message that no one wants them: e.g.: the Communist Party and the Ontario Libertarian Party.

One is tempted to laugh out loud and dismiss all these would-be vote getters out of hand. The danger there is that being dismissive can come back to haunt us. Witness Donald Trump's election as president. Throughout the long, long presidential campaign, from the primaries to the presidential debates, most of us laughed at the orange clown. And yet he won. And witness how quickly the Republican party has followed him down the rabbit hole, with the result that many Republican states have now banned abortions outright, a lot of states have returned to banning books, a Republican governor has retaliated against a company (Disney) that dared to criticize him and the Republican Party actually claims the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection was "legitimate political discourse."

But one does muse about a future with one of the above-named parties in power. Would a Go Vegan government ban all beef, dairy and poultry operations in the province? Would a government led by the Party for People With Special Needs require all parking lots to have 80 per cent of their spots marked for disabled parking only? Would a Pauper Party government bring in legislation forcing everyone to live on a subsistence budget? The mind boggles at the possibilities.

Whatever party wins the upcoming election, the province will have to live with the result for the next four years and either cheer or moan about the legislation the winner brings forth. It seems to me there's enough confusion just sorting through the platforms of the four main parties. Bringing all these others into the mix is not going to make the waters any less muddy.

Tell me, am I wrong?



## The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

### Adapting to saving the planet

I've never been afraid to seek advice, particularly when it comes to legal matters, health care or buying a car. Several weeks ago, I raised the challenge of buying an electric or hybrid car in front of some knowledgeable friends. I play summer hockey with a group of men almost all of whom have worked in the automobile industry all their lives. When I asked what make and model of electric or hybrid car I should consider, just about all of them had the same answer:

"Within a year or 18 months," they said, "they'll all be making EVs (electric vehicles) of some sort. Not just Tesla, Toyota and Hyundai. Everybody."

My wife and I have contemplated what direction we might take in the purchase of our next car, when one or both of our two Japanese-manufactured gas-powered cars expires. I was surprised to learn that the internal combustion engine has been around for over 150 years. (According to Google, Belgian inventor Étienne Lenoir used a turpentine derivative fuel to power the engine on his three-wheeled "hippomobile" in 1863; he got about nine kilometres on the tank of fuel driving from Paris to Joinville-le-Pont and back). And we've been hooked on gas-fuelled engines ever since.

One of the experts there in the hockey dressing room later sent me some links to sites explaining the concepts and technology of both fully electric and hybrid cars (vehicles that have the facility to function on battery power or gas power). He pointed out that not only are such cars leading the curve toward Canada's carbon-neutral environmental targets, but the government (not the province, but the federal) is also offering rebates (up to \$2,500) depending on whether you're leasing or financing the purchase.

On my own, I searched out a number of websites exploring the pros and cons of both electric and hybrid vehicles. Naturally, you have to recognize who is actually providing the assessment. According to the Electric Vehicle Society, fully electric cars offer the best driving experience, added safety (because battery packs give the car added rigidity), greater reliability (gas cars have 2,000 moving parts, electrics about 20), cheaper maintenance and higher resale value. On the con side, EVs admits the upfront purchase price is prohibitive; an American site claims the next generation

of electrical vehicles will sell in the \$35,000 range (that's nearly \$45,000 Canadian).

But here's the big question for fully electric models: How can I be sure I'll make it out and back on one charge? Or, can I depend on finding enough recharging centres? An expert I heard on CBC claimed the projected 50,000 charging stations across Canada need to be 50,000 across Ontario in order to make EV driving in this province as convenient as driving our old gas guzzlers.

On the hybrid side of the ledger, the facility to go either way makes the charging-station availability a non-issue - when the battery runs dry, the gas engine kicks in and gets you home. Another of my hockey pals said he drove to Ottawa and back with his hybrid on less than a quarter tank of fuel. Hybrid engines, says Economical, the Canadian insurance company, aren't responsible for running the vehicle on its own, so hybrid engines tend to be smaller, lighter and more efficient. On the downside, hybrids still emit harmful emissions; their engines have a higher up-front cost; if you drive longer distances, you'll still end up consuming a lot of gas to keep the battery topped up; and, a common problem apparently, hybrid engines don't accelerate as well as gas engines or offer the same kind of driving experience.

A case in point. Last fall, I travelled to Alberta, rented a car and discovered in the parking garage it was a hybrid. I was excited at the prospect of acquiring first-hand knowledge. I was surprised how well it handled, how little fuel it consumed, and how similar it felt to my exclusively gas-powered car back home. There was one problem, however. One time when I parked the car, got out, shut the door and tried locking the car with the fob-key, it wouldn't respond. I tried it a second time, and no matter how hard I pressed the fob button, the car wouldn't lock. I asked a guy for help in the parking lot.

"Did you turn it off?"

"How can you tell?" I asked in my ignorance. "There's no sound!"

"You're new at this," the guy observed.

I nodded. When you've driven a gas-powered car all your life, trying to save the planet with an electric or hybrid car takes some getting used to.

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# BOOK LAUNCH

for Book 1 of  
The Avalier Adventures:  
**Kate and the Dragon**

Help celebrate the launch of a new series, The Avalier Adventures, by a local author publishing her first book!



**Susie Murray**  
(Author)

**Sarah Johnston**  
(Illustrator)

**Sunday May 15th, 2022 @ 2:00pm – 4:00pm**  
**Blue Heron Books**  
62 Brock Street West  
Uxbridge ON, L9P 1N1  
905-852-4282  
blueheronbooks.com

**Event is free! Please join us for the celebration!**

## Join 'Carrots' for tea and *Anne of Avonlea*

by *Melanie Whitfield*

The "little red-headed girl" from Green Gables is back!

*Anne of Avonlea*, the current dramatic project of Ryleepuss Productions, is ready to begin its run at the Uxbridge Music Hall this Friday, April 29, for seven performances. In collaboration with the Lucy Maud Montgomery Society, it then moves to the Historic Leaskdale Church for four shows, beginning with a performance on May 8, which happens to be Mother's Day, and includes a delectable five-course tea!

The play *Anne of Avonlea* was written by playwright Janette Carlisle. It's a humorous and affectionate

telling of the next chapter in the life of the beloved Anne Shirley, the *Anne of Green Gables* heroine.

Now age 17 and a schoolteacher, Anne and her friends still seem to find themselves in a variety of misadventures! From the parlour of Marilla Cuthbert, we get to spend time with familiar kindred spirits such as Diana Barry, Gilbert Blythe, Rachel Lynde, and some new friends too. Anne's relationships with these people are at the heart of *Anne of Avonlea*, and Anne will rely on them as she faces the realities of growing up and moving into the next phase of her life.

Mike Bridgeman is producing the show, and says that Ryleepuss originally planned to stage this play in the fall of 2020, but due to COVID, it was shutdown several times. In the two intervening years, he says the production only lost two actors who were not able to continue their commitment.

Nonetheless, Bridgeman and his wife, Kathy, were determined to bring this show to the stage.

"All of our cast is experienced in theater which has made our work so

enjoyable!" says Bridgeman.

*Anne of Avonlea* is directed by Jackie Bellamy and Carolyn Kent. The title role of Anne is played by Katy Bellamy, and Kathy Bridgeman plays Marilla Cuthbert. Gord Bibby plays J.A. Harrison, and Hannah Watson plays Diana Barry.

The Lucy Maud Montgomery Society (LMMSO) has worked together with Ryleepuss Productions before. In 2018, they collaborated on the musical version of *Emily*.

"The key to solid promotional experiences is to recognize the talents and importance of the people around you and connect in a variety of ways. This happens over and over again in Uxbridge Township and has helped to make us a hub of cultural activity," says Melanie Whitfield, a member of the LMMSO.

Both Ryleepuss Productions and the LMMSO invite Uxbridge residents and all their friends and family to support local theater and the Mother's Day Tea, and join them for *Anne of Avonlea*.

For more information and to book tickets go to [www.starticketing.com](http://www.starticketing.com)



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## No more sleeping in for USS students

by Roger Varley

Students at Uxbridge Secondary School will have to tumble out of bed a lot earlier starting in September.

The Durham District School Board and the Durham District Catholic School Board have agreed with a Durham Student Transportation System report that recommends USS start classes in September at 8 a.m. For the past couple of years, because of COVID-19, school classes have started at 10 a.m. Prior to the COVID-19 start time, USS classes began at 8:25 a.m.

Part of the reason for the time change, according to DSTS, is a shortage of school bus drivers. It claims the region needs about 80 or 90 more drivers.

While some claim the new start time will cause problems for parents, not all students are opposed. Carley, a USS student, said she likes the change, saying it will allow her to "do more stuff" after school and also look for a part-time job. Her friend, Isabel, is also in favour.

"It will help with after-school activ-

ities," she said.

Both admitted, however, that not all their friends support the change.

The *Cosmos* reached out to USS to learn whether the bell time change would affect staffing requirements, but did not hear back before press time.

Other Uxbridge schools will also be affected. Goodwood Public School will start classes at 9 a.m., 60 minutes later than usual. Quaker Village Public School will open at 8:15 a.m., 35 minutes earlier. St. Joseph Catholic School will ring the bell at 9:15 a.m., 20 minutes later than usual. There will be no changes at Uxbridge Public School or Scott Central Public School.

DSTS says the time changes result from extensive public consultation and represent a "best case under current constraints" scenario.

The Durham District School Board said, however, it is committed to exploring "long-term solutions, specifically for secondary school bell times as the group most impacted by this update."

## Huck Finn returns to Elgin Pond this weekend

by Justyne Edgell

Fabled fishing fan Huck Finn brings his namesake festival back to Elgin Pond this weekend. The Uxbridge Huck Finn Fishing Festival is back, and the one day event has been extended to a two week long festival!

Starting this Saturday, April 30, right through to Saturday, May 14, families will be able to fish at Elgin Pond in a COVID-safe environment, with daily prizes and a final grand prize available at the end of the festival.

"We are hoping our new format this year gives families more flexibility to fish at their leisure in a comfortable setting," said the Huck Finn committee in a press release.

By posting a Huck Finn Festival photo using the hashtag #huckfinnUxbridge, youth aged 15 and under will be eligible to enter a daily photo contest hosted by Hits 105.5FM and Uxbridge Canadian Tire. There will also be goodie bag giveaways, a free bait time slot, fishing games and even some surprise visits by Sparky the fire dog mascot and Boomer the Bass.

Participants under 18 or over 65 will not require an outdoors card or fishing license to participate. Regular catch and possession limits will be in place.

"We are excited to once again bring back this popular community event albeit in a different format," says Uxbridge Canadian Tire Owner, Pat

Higgins.

For more information on the Huck Finn Fishing Festival, visit [uxbridge.ca/huckfinn](http://uxbridge.ca/huckfinn)

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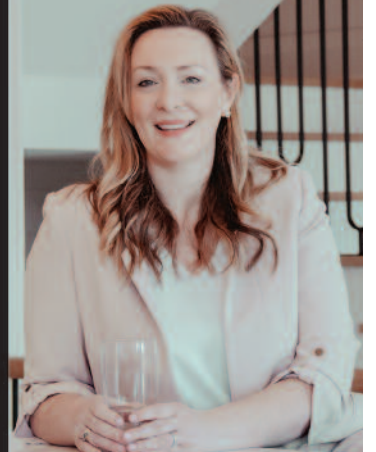
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## We Need You...

North Durham Soccer is seeking  
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(Coaches, Assistants, Parent Helpers)  
Evenings 6:00pm-7:45pm  
May 30-August 20 plus training dates  
Fields of Uxbridge Park, 355 Main St. N.  
Scugog Soccer Fields, 16700 Old Simcoe Rd.  
Supporting youth 6-15 years of age



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For more information or to volunteer:  
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905-862-0083

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

# Super heroes to descend on Elgin Park

The Uxbridge Lions Club is in the home stretch of raising money for its Universal Accessible Inclusive Playground, and hopes to reach its goal by hosting a Walk & Roll-A-Thon on May 7 in Elgin Park.

The Walk & Roll-A-Thon will comprise a short course around the exercise ring of about half a kilometre, and an extended track, which will measure about three-quarters of a kilometre. Both tracks will be marked to accommodate different abilities.

The Lions say they do expect to see children and adults of all ages, as well as all abilities, participate in this event, enjoying the fun by dressing up as a super hero! Says Lions member Stuart Blower: "Don't be surprised if you spot Batman or Spiderman as they mingle with local heroes from the fire department, police department, and medical professionals! We want to fill the park with super heroes! We hope this will be a fun event for the entire family!"

The Lions will be giving away a free "Playground Super Hero" t-shirt to the first 100 registrants. T-shirts may also be available for a donation, while supplies last.

Some of the grants that were applied for by the Lions to help finance this playground project require matching funding from the community. Funds raised from the Walk & Roll-A-Thon will be used to provide these necessary funds, which will, in turn, allow the Lions to receive those specific grants.

The Uxbridge Lions Club wants to thank the Uxbridge business community for its generous donations.

"This playground has been designed with community input and will be built by the Uxbridge community's generosity and commitment, making a place where all are welcome," says Blower.

Participants can raise sponsorship funds for walking or rolling around one of the two ring courses. Water and granola bars will be provided for participants. There will be prizes for Best Costumes and Most Money Raised, and several age categories, from young children to seniors.

Registration is \$5 for an individual or \$10/family. There will also be a special Corporate Challenge fee of \$50, which includes any number of business or company employees who want to challenge their peers.

Sponsorship forms and more information available at [uxbridgelions.com](http://uxbridgelions.com)



## You Can Be A Playground Super Hero

Help Us Raise Funds For Our  
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**Sat. May 7th, 2022**  
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**Elgin Park, Uxbridge**

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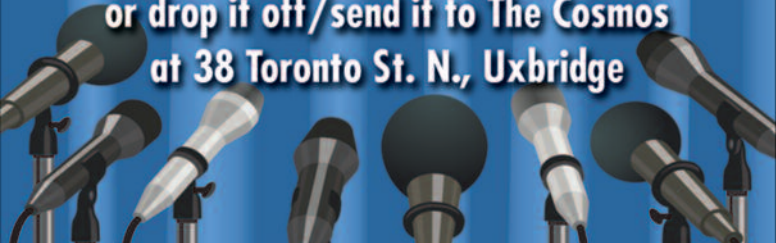
## The Uxbridge Cosmos

### Candidates Forum

**Wednesday, May 11, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Uxbridge Arena**

Also available to watch on Facebook Live and posted to the Uxbridge Cosmos YouTube channel.

If you have a question you'd like to submit prior to the meeting, please email it to [Lvann@thecosmos.ca](mailto:Lvann@thecosmos.ca) or drop it off/send it to The Cosmos at 38 Toronto St. N., Uxbridge





# Get your hands dirty again with the Uxbridge Garden Club

Spring is on its way! And after over two long years, The Uxbridge Horticultural Society/Garden Club is ready to meet again in person. It will hold its first meeting of 2022 on Wednesday, May 11, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Uxbridge Seniors' Centre.

"Our Garden Club is for everyone, regardless of your level of gardening knowledge and experience," says club member Sandee Basten-Snell. "Our meetings are a great opportunity to learn and share information, and a number of our more experienced members are always accessible to answer questions and generally talk gardening."

Basten-Snell says that the club's Executive has been meeting via Zoom over the past few years and has "exciting and interesting" speakers lined up for this year's meetings. She says the club will be resuming its regular flower shows as well.

"We are keen to get out and participate in our various projects around the gardens of Uxbridge. This is certainly not a requirement as a member, but it is a great opportunity to get involved in the community and make even more friends in and around Uxbridge!" says Basten-Snell.

The Garden Club says it's excited to be back together, but asks attendees

to note that, in the interest of everyone's health and safety, mandatory masking for the whole meeting will be in place for the foreseeable future. Although triple vaccination is not mandatory, the club would appreciate members be fully vaccinated. Chairs at meetings will be spaced out to respect physical distancing, and no refreshments will be served at this time. Attendees are invited to bring their own water, coffee/tea or soft drink.

Annual membership in the Uxbridge Garden Club (Horticultural Society) is \$20, and \$5 per meeting for guests. Cheques are payable to The Uxbridge Horticultural Society.



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- Across**

  - 1 Alaska King \_\_\_\_
  - 5 Combine
  - 8 Motley
  - 12 Actress, Archer
  - 13 Inn intake
  - 14 Helper
  - 15 Babe in the woods
  - 16 Sound practical judgment
  - 18 Artist studio
  - 20 "Gone with the Wind" star
  - 23 Wanderer
  - 27 To mix together some liquids
  - 31 Great find, with mother
  - 32 Rocky prominence
  - 33 Simple chord
  - 35 Seven, in ancient Rome
  - 36 Puffins, e.g.
  - 38 Antagonisms
  - 40 Follow
  - 42 Malady
  - 43 Italian rice dish
  - 47 The total of attributes passed on from parents
  - 50 Energy measures
  - 54 Therapeutic plant
  - 55 Dignitary
  - 56 "\_\_\_ No Sunshine"
  - 57 Secluded valley
  - 58 Crackerjack
  - 59 Inside shot?
- Down**

  - 1 Film container
  - 2 Part of a cell nucleus
  - 3 "Wheel of Fortune" request (2 words)
  - 4 Come about
  - 5 Minimum \_\_\_\_
  - 6 Jewish calendar month
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  - 10 Chicken Alfr \_\_\_\_
  - 11 House room
  - 17 Bic
  - 19 Midterm, e.g.
  - 20 Discover (2 words)
  - 21 Love affair
  - 22 Muslim woman's garment
  - 24 Multi-plex picture
  - 25 Goodbye in Paris
  - 26 Belief in a supreme being
  - 28 Conniption fit
  - 29 Swimming aid
  - 30 Thanksgiving grub
  - 34 Grime
  - 37 Monitor
  - 39 Where the heart is
  - 41 Tease
  - 44 The Destroyer (Hindu)
  - 45 Auditory
  - 46 Classify
  - 47 Hardly a beauty
  - 48 Pipe joint
  - 49 Kind of deer
  - 51 Make known
  - 52 Modern courtroom evidence
  - 53 Pig's home

## REPORTER WANTED

The *Uxbridge Cosmos* is seeking a part-time reporter to cover general news and feature articles for our award-winning newspaper in Uxbridge, Ontario.

This position is an excellent opportunity for recent graduates of a journalism program, as assignments will cover a variety of beats - from municipal affairs to arts and entertainment and longer feature stories.

Your main responsibilities will be reporting and writing stories for both print and online; posting stories to our website and social media accounts; evening and week-end work on occasion.

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Applicants should send a cover letter and resumé, along with relevant writing samples to: [Lvann@thecosmos.ca](mailto:Lvann@thecosmos.ca), or by mail to 38 Toronto St. N., Uxbridge L9P 1E6

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## NOTICE OF PESTICIDE USE

Between May and October 2022, the Regional Municipality of Durham and the Ontario Ministry of Transportation will be conducting larviciding programs, under the authority of Durham Region's Medical Officer of Health, to control larval mosquitoes in order to prevent the development of vectors of West Nile virus.

The pellet and/or briquette formulation of the larvicide methoprene (Altosid - Registration No. 21809 and No. 27694 under the *Pest Control Products Act, Canada*), or the water soluble pouch formulation of the larvicide *Bacillus sphaericus* (VectoLex WSP - Registration No. 28009 under the *Pest Control Products Act, Canada*), will be placed into catch basins of storm drains in areas across the Regional Municipality of Durham.

The granular formulation of the larvicide *Bacillus thuringiensis subspecies israelensis* (VectoBac 200G - Registration No. 18158 under the *Pest Control Products Act, Canada*) will be placed in temporary pools of standing water, ditches, and storm water retention ponds in areas throughout the Regional Municipality of Durham.







The granular formulation of the larvicide VectoBac 200G and/or the granular formulation of the larvicide *Bacillus sphaericus* (VectoLex CG - Registration No. 28008 under the *Pest Control Products Act, Canada*) might also be placed in sewage lagoons in areas across the Regional Municipality of Durham.

All larvicides will be applied by Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks licensed applicators or trained technicians.

For more information on the locations and dates of treatment on:

Regional and Municipal property - contact the Durham Region Health Department at 1-800-841-2729 or visit [durham.ca/WestNile](http://durham.ca/WestNile) for additional information about West Nile virus

Ontario Ministry of Transportation property - contact Ontario Ministry of Transportation at 1-416-235-5462 (collect calls accepted) for additional information.





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**THE UXBRIDGE HOSPITAL AUXILIARY** is holding a Plant Sale on Saturday, May 7, in front of the Hospital. All proceeds go to the purchase of diagnostic equipment.

**MOTHER'S DAY WORKSHOPS** Learn to Carve a Wooden Spoon, Birch Bark Ring Making. Now offered May 7 & 8. www.woodgifts.ca 416-402-6746 4/28

**EVERYTHING SPRING BAZAAR** Uxbridge United Church, Sat., May 7, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Raffle, bake sale, large variety of vendors.

**UDORA LEASKDALE LIONS CLUB 36TH CANOE RIVER RUN FUNDRAISER** Sat., May 7. Registration from 8 - 10 a.m. Start at Zephyr Rd., 2 km west of Durham Rd. 1, finish at Pufferlaw Dam. Min. pledge \$30/paddler. For info, email burtonruss@hotmail.com For sponsor/pledge form, visit udoraleaskdalelionsclub.ca

**HANDEL'S MESSIAH, ORIGINAL CHAMBER VERSION** Performed by Cantorei sine Nomine, directed by Stu Beaudoin. Sunday, May 15, 2:30 p.m. Trinity United Church. Audience must be masked and vaxxed; max. audience 200.

### MISCELLANEOUS

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# 'Go big or go home' - with a good book

by Justyne Edgell

This Saturday, April 30, is Independent Bookstore Day all across Canada, and Uxbridge's own independent bookstore, Blue Heron Books, has a day full of contests, giveaways and activities planned.

Shelley Macbeth, owner of Blue Heron Books, is on the board of directors of the Canadian Independent Booksellers Association, and says that Indie Bookstore Day is an important celebration of stores like hers.

"We weren't too sure whether we could be in person or online; last year we had it all planned and then got the rug pulled out from under us at the last minute, so we have some virtual events and some in-person that will spill out onto the patio and in the studio," says Macbeth.

If you buy a book from Blue Heron Books this Saturday, you can enter the Canadian Independent Booksellers Association's Contest For Book Lovers - the chance to win three prizes up to a \$1,000 gift card to the indie bookstore of your choice. And you'll get a bonus entry if you purchase a Canadian book!

But that's not all. Macbeth says she is a "go big or go home party plan-

ner" and has a day full of fun planned.

Along with some celebrity authors in-store (including Marissa Stapley, the first ever Canadian pick for the Reese Witherspoon book club), there will be a virtual scavenger hunt, a micro-writing contest, a name-that-book game, a Read And Walk Down Brock Robert Munch Book (a percentage of the purchases from this book will go to the Alzheimer's Society), a children's book launch, a puppet show, and more! Additionally, Blue Heron Books has partnered with the Roxy Theatre for their "The Book Is Always Better" giveaway.



Shelley Macbeth's Blue Heron Books has been named Best Bookstore in Canada, and celebrates Independent Bookstore Day this weekend. *Photo from Facebook*

With the purchase of a book that has been adapted into a movie, you will receive a gift certificate for The Roxy (while supplies last).

"We have a busy schedule and are hoping for great weather," says Macbeth.

For more information visit [blueheronbooks.com](http://blueheronbooks.com)



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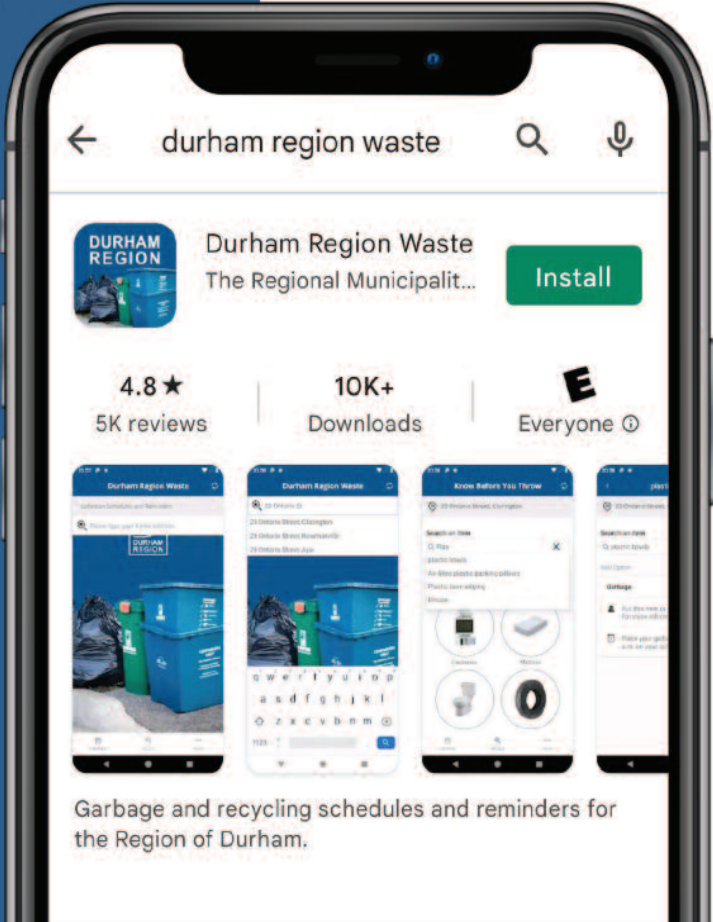


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