

# The Uxbridge Cosmos

Vol. 18 No. 37

TheCosmos.ca

Thursday, September 22, 2022

Mix it up on the trails this weekend • Bruins begin with a bang • Uxbridge bids farewell to outstanding volunteer



**HONEY, I SHRUNK THE FARMER** - Jim Forsythe, owner of Forsythe Family Farms just west of Greenbank, cranes his neck to admire his gigantic sunflowers. Forsythe has created a trail through the giant flowers and welcomes visitors Thursday through Sunday. Visit [forsythefamilyfarms.com](http://forsythefamilyfarms.com) for details.

Photo by John Cavers

## Residents object to condominium proposal

by Roger Varley

A number of neighbourhood residents attended a public planning meeting in council chambers Sept. 12, most of them opposed to a condominium development proposed for a small parcel of land on Toronto Street South.

The site, currently zoned for single-family homes, sits on the east side of Toronto Street, between Elgin Park Drive and Campbell Drive. The proposed development would see 10 three-storey townhouses built on the lot, which butts up against a row of bungalows on Fred Barnard Way. Residents fear the three-storey homes will cause them loss of privacy, increase

traffic on Toronto Street and change the character of the neighbourhood.

During the meeting, when asked if a row of mature trees behind the bungalows would be preserved, Michael Larkin, representing the applicant, said he "believed the intent" was to save the trees.

"Where possible, the trees would be kept," he said.

The proposed development would see 10 homes constructed with a small roadway running from Toronto Street to allow cars to be parked behind the homes. The homes would be 10.5 metres high. Preliminary plans call for the homes to have decks on the second storey,

overlooking the houses on Fred Barnard Way. Residents of Fred Barnard Way claim these too would impact their enjoyment of their own homes. The proposed development would also impact two homes that bracket the site, both of which are bordered by large mature trees.

Several residents sent letters to council suggesting the site would be more appropriate for bungalow-style homes, pointing out the need for more affordable housing. Some residents pointed out that families would likely be the target market for the proposed three-bedroom townhomes and noted there is no space on the development for a children's play area and there are no playgrounds in the immediate area.

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## Council & Committee Meetings

Meeting Schedule for September, 2022

Wednesday, September 21

~~COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT MEETING - CANCELLED~~

AGE FRIENDLY COMMITTEE, 2:30 p.m.

HERITAGE COMMITTEE, 7:30 p.m.

**Proclamations for the Month**

- National Hunger Action Month
- Sept. 21-International Day of Peace
- Sept. 30-National Day of Truth and Reconciliation
- 2022-Year of the Garden

## Employment Opportunities

Complete details and qualifications required for these positions are available at

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

Current Opportunities

**Arena Attendant Assistant, P-T, contract**

Closes September 30 at 4:30 p.m.

**Arena Attendant Assistant (Adult), P-T, contract**

Closes October 4 at 4:00 p.m.

**Crossing Guards**-Closing Date Extended

**Uxpool - Lifeguards**-Closing Date Extended

Board and Committee Appointment Opportunities

**2022 Santa Claus Parade Committee**

Closing Date Extended

*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.*

## From The Tax Office

Property Tax due date is September 27, 2022. Please ensure your payment is received at the Tax Department by the due date to avoid penalty/interest charges. **RETAIN YOUR 2022 FINAL TAX BILL FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES.** If a reprinted tax bill, receipt or Statement of Account is required for any year's taxes, a fee of \$15.00 will apply. To update or change the mailing address, please contact the Tax Department at 905-852-9181 or [tax@uxbridge.ca](mailto:tax@uxbridge.ca)

## Arena Public Programs Have Begun!

Registration now open for Fall Recreation Programs! Ages 4-9. Sponsored by Jumpstart! [uxbridge.ca/recreation](http://uxbridge.ca/recreation)

## Road Closures

- Planks Lane from Marietta St. to Franklin St. will be closed to traffic for road reconstruction between July 13 - October 14, 2022.
- Lake Ridge Road (Reg. Rd. 23) from 100m north of Myrtle Road (Reg. Rd. 5) to 1.6 km north of Chalk Lake Road will be minor traffic delays for construction work between August 22, 2022 – September 2023.
- York/Durham Line (Reg. Rd. 30) from north of Durham Reg. Rd. 39/Queensville Sideroad to south of Holborn Rd., East Gwillimbury will be closed for bridge repairs, to 2024.

### ELGIN PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Construction work is occurring in Elgin Park to replace a playground and make other improvements. For your safety, please respect any areas fenced off for this work. The park is open to enjoy at this time.

**1 in every 7 households in Durham Region are food insecure**

Do your part by donating your non-perishable food to

**Town Hall (51 Toronto St. S.)**  
or  
**the Uxbridge Public Library (9 Toronto St. S.)**

**September 6-29**

## In Memoriam

The public is invited to sign a Book of Condolence for the Queen at:  
Uxbridge Town Hall  
or  
Uxbridge Public Library  
during regular hours of operation.



### Swimming Lesson Registration Now Open!

Register on-line at Activenet, in-person at the Uxpool, or by phone 905 852 7831

The Corporation of the Township of Uxbridge congratulates

*J. Patrick Higgins*

on being the inaugural recipient of the **ORDER OF UXBRIDGE**

in recognition of his long-term and outstanding commitment to the betterment of the community

The Township wants to hear from you!

May 2022 Tornado

### Uxbridge Emergency Response Survey

Share your experience and provide feedback on the Township's emergency management

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BJHVHT>

### Get on the list to vote!

Visit [Uxbridge.ca/elections](http://Uxbridge.ca/elections) to register

**Santa is ready, are you?**

Register your float today at [www.Uxbridge.ca/parade](http://www.Uxbridge.ca/parade)



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



# 'Trail Mix' returns to Celebration of the Arts this weekend

by Justyne Edgell

After a three-year hiatus, the Celebration of the Arts Trail Mix returns to the trails in and around Uxbridge this weekend.

The busker-style event, featuring both artists and musicians, will run through the trails of Elgin Park this Saturday, Sept. 24, between 12 and 2 p.m.

Trail Mix is free for the whole family, and visitors can expect a "mix" of art and music as they stroll along the trail. There will be singer-songwriters, textile artists, crochet, soloists, and even full bands. Art will be available for purchase and musicians will have their instrument cases should the audience would like to make a donation.

"We wanted to create a community arts event that celebrates some of the best parts of our town," says event organizer and local music teacher Amy Peck. "Art, music, treats, and trails! This is an event the whole family can enjoy!"

Gluten free bakery Frankie's will be serving up some delicious treats

for those on the trail as well.

"This year we have a great variety of emerging and established artists. Many are local but some are coming from out of town as well," says Peck.


To get a sneak peek at the lineup of artist, follow Trail Mix on Instagram at @trailmixuxbridge

Peck says that after a three-year break because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the artists are so excited to be back.

"The line-up is stellar! Come for a quick stroll or stay for the full two hours and take it all in!"

Gaia, a Photographic Celebration of Flora and Fauna  
with Peter Rasberry

Gaia was the Greek earth goddess, or Mother Earth, who in mythology gave birth to the mountains, sea and sky. On Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. at the Scugog Memorial Library in Port Perry, a presentation of flora and fauna celebrates the beauty, complexity and diversity of some of the many species with whom we share the planet, and their roles in sustaining the balance of life. Presenter Peter Rasberry worked for 38 years in outdoor and environmental education. He is excited to share his connection to nature through his photographs and experiences. North Durham Nature welcomes everyone to this presentation. Learn more at [northdurham-nature.com](http://northdurham-nature.com)



**THE ANNUAL TERRY FOX RUN** - Organizers say over 150 people (pups were not included in the count) registered to take part in this year's Terry Fox Run in Uxbridge, raising around \$30,000. Jeff Fahrer (front of crowd with ball cap) raised \$8,000 on his own and has been one of the top 200 fundraisers in Canada for the Terry Fox Run for the past several years.

*Photo by John Cavers*



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# Our two cents

## Play the Face & Name Game next Monday night

Just as there aren't an overwhelming number of candidates for the upcoming municipal election, there aren't an overwhelming number of election signs out there on the roadsides. We're not complaining, because we aren't huge fans of signage all over the place, temporary or otherwise. But we have noticed that, of the signs we *have* seen, not a one has a candidate's face on it.

Now, relying on name recognition alone is great when you're Brad Pitt or Lady Gaga. Sadly, none of our municipal candidates have yet to achieve that kind of status. We need to attach a face to a name so that we can sort out who's who when checking off that ballot on October 24.

Fear not! The *Cosmos* is providing an excellent opportunity to learn who's who by putting on an **All Candidates Forum at the Uxbridge Arena and Community Centre next Monday, September 26, starting at 7 p.m. sharp.** The evening will, as always, be moderated by our own Ted Barris, and everyone who is eligible to vote in the Township of Uxbridge is invited to attend.

All ward councillor candidates have confirmed their attendance, as has one regional chair candidate. One Durham District School Board candidate has confirmed, and both Durham Catholic District School Board will be there. It will be a full slate of candidates, so come prepared for a tight schedule and a full, interesting evening.

The Forum will be live streamed through Facebook and on the *Cosmos* YouTube channel for those who cannot or wish not to attend in person. (Masks wearing is optional and welcome for those who choose to wear one. Masks will be available on site, as will hand sanitizer.)

Those who wish to ask candidates questions will have an opportunity to do so during the Q & A portion of the evening. Please keep inquiries succinct and brief, in the interest of time. Readers are also invited to send questions in prior to the event by emailing them to [Lvann@thecosmos.ca](mailto:Lvann@thecosmos.ca).

If you want to know who Candidate X is, come find out at the All Candidates Forum next Monday night. We hope to see all your faces there.

When one of these disappears, A LOT disappears.

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## Letters to the Editor

*Re: Speed limit changes*

Our elected town councillors and mayor probably meant well. We like the 40 km/h limits, but couldn't that have been done without one single sign coming in to Uxbridge? Sadly, the town officials made an absolute mess when it comes to speed limits and traffic signs in our town.

Each traffic sign cost hundreds of dollars, they don't grow on trees, but get paid for with our hard earned tax dollars. Any wonder why taxes are so high?

Check out the candidates running for election this time around, ask questions.

Hopefully forests of unneeded traffic signs will never happen again.

Also, thank you, town officials, for effectively stopping hiking groups from coming to our restaurants in town. The small parking lots at the trail heads are now empty since there are multiple warning signs asking for parking payments. The town couldn't have picked a better time to implement these charges.

**Louise Mueller**  
**Uxbridge**

*Re: Proposed park pits neighbour against neighbour - again, Sept. 15 edition*

We live on Cemetery Road and were the first family to pick out a lot when Heathwood Homes proposed building on Cemetery Road and Campbell Drive.

Based on the approved site plan (approved by the town) for the

community, we chose our lot and paid a premium to back onto the green space and passive park. This space was designated as EP, environmentally protected land. The park was to include a fountain in the ponds, which lasted until the development was taken over by the town and they (the town) decided that maintaining the fountain and paying for the hydro to run the fountain was too expensive. So if the town cannot afford a little hydro to keep the ponds clean, how is the town going to pay for the building and maintenance of a playground?

I would also like to respond to the figures presented at the council meeting.

First, there are 111 homes within 500 meters of the park, including Campbell Drive, Cemetery Road and Kriton Court, so if the town received 15 letters opposing the playground, that would mean there could only be a maximum of 96 residents within 500 meters of the park who are for the park.

Second, it was presented that there are 132 children under the age of 18 living in this neighbourhood. I did not survey the neighbourhood to check on that number, but I was also never asked by anyone how many children we have living in our house. But more importantly, how many children living in the designated neighbourhood are within the age group that would use the playground? I do not see children above elementary school age playing on swings and merry-go-rounds, etc.

I would hope that before any decision to change the approved site plan was considered there would be a more decisive proposal with actual

numbers of residents (children of elementary school age or younger who live within 500 meters of the park) who would use the park and the true costs of building and maintaining the park.

**Dan and Angela Lawrence**  
**Uxbridge**

*Re: The Township Empire: the Historical Centre*

The Historical Society (Uxbridge-Scott) was started before the museum. It was formed in the spring of 1971. A main incentive to create a local historical society was that the next year, in 1972, Uxbridge would be celebrating the centennial of having officially become a village in 1872.

In 1972, the former Quaker Hill School was offered for sale by the then Ontario County Board of Education. The three municipalities, Uxbridge Town, Uxbridge Township and Scott Township, rented the school from the board for \$1 for use as a museum which was to be operated by the Historical Society. This was successful, and the next year, the three municipalities bought the school property for \$15,000.

I was not the first curator. There were two part-time curators for the first years of the museum who worked during the summer months. I became curator in the early 1980s, and worked from March to November. I was hired by the Township of Uxbridge, and fortunately my salary was paid over 12 months so I could receive the Ontario Municipal Employees benefits.

**Allan McGillivray**  
**Zephyr**





## Am I Wrong?

column by Roger Varley

### Learn the facts, then pour forth

This column is *not* intended to be anti-Indigenous, or anti-anyone, for that matter. It is simply a reflection on a series of unfortunate comments that were recently made by an Indigenous person.

I was irked by remarks made over the weekend by Albert Dumont, an Indigenous poet who serves as the City of Ottawa's poet laureate. He was one of the speakers at a memorial service for Queen Elizabeth II on Monday, and offered that "I have a heart for people when they lose somebody special." But he apparently couldn't leave it there. He continued, saying that "I also felt I needed to speak about the horrors of the past monarchies, the past monarchs and the brutality that was involved."

The death of a monarch is not something that happens every day or even every year. In fact, it has been 70 years since the last monarch died. A memorial service dedicated to recognizing the Queen's 70 years of unfailing service and duty is no place to discuss past or present grievances.

By trying to tie Queen Elizabeth II's monarchy to the Canadian government's imposition of the residential school program, Dumont appears to have no idea of neither Canadian nor monarchical history. Not since the days of Charles I has the monarchy enjoyed ultimate power: that power passed to Parliament in 1649. And although various governments - British and Canadian - pass laws and acts in the name of the monarch, they (or their representative) can only *recommend* changes to a bill. No Governor General or monarch has ever refused to give Royal Assent to a parliamentary bill.

Dumont also said in an earlier interview that he was horrified that Queen Victoria had knighted John A. MacDonald, saying "I'll never be able to understand that."

Maybe he should understand that the monarch does not decide who gets a knighthood: the government of the day decides that. The government presents the monarch with a list of people they want to see honoured and the monarch goes along. But as far as Dumont is concerned, Queen Victoria is directly to blame for John A.'s honour.

This might be a good time to point out that

comedian Bill Maher had a recent segment on the rise of "presentism" in our approach to history. That means we judge past historical figures and their actions based on today's values, morals and ways of thinking without taking into consideration the norms of the society they lived in at the time.

Dumont himself said "nobody is perfect," yet he and many others would see Sir John A. discarded on the waste pile of history for his role in the establishment of residential schools while ignoring the fact that he also led the country towards Confederation, built a national railroad, added large areas to Canada and is generally recognized by historians as one of the more important of Canada's prime ministers.

I was also mildly offended when Dumont referred to Queen Elizabeth II as "cute." For a so-called poet, I would think he could have come up with a more appropriate term than "cute." How offended would he be if I referred to Governor General Mary Simon as "cute?" Or Buffy Sainte-Marie or Kahn-Tineta Horn or RoseAnne Archibald? Are they "cute?" Would he think I was demeaning them by using the term? All are strong women fulfilling important roles in society, and to fluff them off as being "cute" is disrespectful. In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, we *all* need to realize and react to the fact that, going forward, respect should run both ways.

Now many Indigenous people are calling on King Charles III to "apologize" for the residential school system. Show me historically what exactly he or his ancestors had to do with it?

The death of Queen Elizabeth has called to question the place of the monarchy in Canada. And before both plebians and poet laureates go spouting off about the sins of our fathers, they should know a little about how our constitutional monarchy works - it's not a matter of saying "no more British monarch for us!" They should invest some time in a bit of research on how our history has evolved and discover who the perpetrators really were. Because the informed don't say cute things, they say respectful, correct things.

Tell me, am I wrong?



## The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

### A few degrees of separation

I wasn't expecting to be surprised. This particular public-speaking event seemed straight forward. I'd arrived early and worked with the tech guy to get my presentation ready. I'd met with the bookseller to pre-inscribe some books. While I sat watching people file in, a face suddenly registered, and her name tag - Jane Hutchison. She spotted me and came right over.

"Hi, Ted," she said with a smile. "I'm John Dougall's niece."

"What are you doing here?" I asked as I gave her a hug.

She said she was a longtime member of Canadian Club of Halton and heard that I'd been invited to speak about those who'd served at sea in the Battle of the Atlantic (the subject of my latest book). She said she didn't want to miss this event, since the subject was near to her heart. Jane and I met several years ago, when she found a batch of long-forgotten letters that her uncle, John Birnie Dougall, a wartime merchant sailor, had written to his mother in Cornwall while he served at sea during the Second World War.

"I'm sure these letters aren't earth-shattering," she said. "They've been tucked away in a big plastic bin, pretty much forgotten."

By coincidence, the night before my talk to the Halton club, I'd inserted a section into my speech about the dedication of young merchant sailors during the war. How they'd repeatedly gone to sea transporting fuel, food and munitions to the U.K. despite the horrendous toll taken by German U-boats sinking merchant ship convoys on the North Atlantic. During the war, if a man served in the merchant navy, he had a one-in-eight chance of being torpedoed and sunk - the highest casualty rate of any Canadian services (army, navy, air force, etc.) I'd used quotations from John Birnie Dougall's letters home, the ones Jane had sent me.

"If I should (be sunk), don't you fret," Dougall had written his mother in 1941. "If I have to be splashing about in it, it is the way I would want to go, always living with the spirit of the sea." Dougall did indeed lose his life when his merchant ship, *Gretavale*, was torpedoed and sunk in November of that year. The happenstance meeting with Jane gave my speech in Halton all the more meaning for me and my audience.

This week, I've travelled through the Maritimes with appearances on the south shore of Nova Scotia, Halifax and Charlottetown. And the coincidences have continued. On Sunday, I travelled to LaHave River Books. The book store not only offered an extraordinary array of current titles, but every window in the place overlooked picture postcard views of the Atlantic. During my presentation there, Bernice Hazzard suddenly appeared and threw her arms around me. I'd interviewed her husband, Howard Hazzard, wartime telegraphist aboard HMCS *Huron*, just before he died in London, Ont., in 2017. After he'd passed, Bernice had moved to Nova Scotia, just down the road from LaHave.

"Thank you for keeping the vets' stories alive," she said.

Then, on Monday night, I spoke at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia in Halifax. The audience unexpectedly included friends and former neighbours Celia Klemenz and John Frechette (recently moved from Claremont), Bryan Fumerton (formerly of Uxbridge) and my wife's cousin Judie MacSween. We'd expected a larger audience that night, but since that was the day of Queen Elizabeth's funeral (and a stat holiday in Nova Scotia) attendance was limited. It didn't matter to me. With so many familiar faces, I felt right at home.

One of the flukes of working in media since the 1970s and teaching journalism for nearly 20 years means that, sooner or later, working journalists will cross paths. Earlier this week, I rose pre-dawn on the south shore of Nova Scotia and travelled into Halifax. I'd been invited to appear on the local CTV morning news/talk show broadcast across the Maritimes. I was met at the stage door of the studio and was led to the green room (where guests wait before going on air). I had arrived at the studio early, so I watched the program preceding my appearance. The face of one of the female hosts, the weathercaster, looked familiar. When I arrived on set for my interview, I was greeted by Lataevia Beezer. "I was so nervous when I heard you were coming on the show," she said. "I was in your broadcasting class at Centennial College."

Coincidence is great fun when mixed with pride.

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



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# The Township Empire: our parks, fields and trails

by Conrad Boyce,  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

In this series about the properties that belong to you, the taxpayer of the Township of Uxbridge, so far we've discussed our community halls, libraries and museum. But now we'll switch from buildings to outdoor recreational spaces, for the township

is blessed with a great variety of parks, playing fields and of course, trails (for which we were dubbed the Trail Capital of Canada by the federal government in 2008 ).

Many of the trails in the rural areas of Uxbridge are managed by conservation authorities and other entities, but the Township maintains more than 30 km of trails within the urban boundary, listed here in alphabetical order. How many of these have you walked? They are: Barton Trail, Brookdale Trail, Butternut Trail, the

Countryside Preserve, Ewen Trail, the Historic Rotary Trail, John McCutcheon Way (which includes a refurbished rail trestle bridge), Maple Bridge Trail, O'Neil Trail, Quaker Trail, South Balsam Trail, Wooden Sticks Trail, and Kettle Pond Trail in Goodwood.

The largest of our public parks is the Fields of Uxbridge, the former grounds of the St. John's School and Kennedy House facility, a 111-acre site which was acquired from the

...continued on next page



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# CULTURE DAYS





**OUR HUB VENUES**


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- Scugog Memorial Public Library - Port Perry
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### *Parks and play in Uxbridge, from previous page*

Province of Ontario in 2008. It contains the skatepark and pump park, a new baseball diamond, multiple soccer fields, and perhaps one day, a new swimming pool (on the site of the old school building).

Our oldest park is Elgin Park, a beautiful green space first set aside in the mid-19th century. Its 22 acres can be very busy, as they were for the recent Fall Fair, or quiet as a whisper, early on a winter's morning. The park has everything from a bandshell to a series of workout stations, and will soon have a fully accessible playground, to which you can donate through the Uxbridge Lions Club. Elgin Park is also headquarters for most of the Township's summer camps, which utilize the full range of the municipality's recreational spaces, indoor and outdoor. And at Christmas, it's the site for the Optimist Club's Fantasy of Lights.

The great variety of Uxbridge parks includes Centennial, behind the library, which has Uxbridge Brook running beside it (and used to be the site of the town dump!); Bonner Fields, nestled north of Reach Street, which includes the town's only outdoor pickleball court; Veterans' Memorial, on the eastern edge of Elgin Pond; and Herrema Fields, east of Barton Farms. There are also several small parkettes scattered through town, most of them designated in residential plans, and assumed by the Township once the subdivisions were opened.

Each of our hamlets also has a fairly substantial park. The community halls are each beside one, while Leaskdale's is hidden to the north of Harrison Drive. And Goodwood has a second one, Harold Bell Memorial Park, with a number of playing fields, including beach volleyball. Speaking of which, most outdoor sports have places to play in Uxbridge, including tennis (at the arena, Bonner Fields and in Goodwood), lacrosse (on a number of the soccer pitches), and even basketball. Not to mention special parks for splashers and off-leash canines!

**Management:** All the above spaces (as well as miscellaneous jobs like emptying garbage cans and watering hanging flower pots) are taken care of by only six employees, on contract from April through October. Come winter, many of them move to the arena, or to the roads department. For late spring and summer, they are assisted by a number of students, mostly focussed on horticulture (parks employees maintain the grounds and flowers at all Township properties) and camps. All are supervised by parks manager Courtney Clarke and director Amanda Ferraro.

The parks have a multitude of uses, and a corresponding multitude of


user organizations, most of which play an active role in administration and maintenance. For example, Parks mows the grass on the pitches at the Fields of Uxbridge, but the Soccer Club paints the lines and puts together the very complicated practice and game schedule. There is a Trail Committee which has played a huge role in the development of the trail system over the last couple of decades, and continues to marshal volunteers in its maintenance. Over

at Elgin Park, the Fair Board, although naturally focussed on its signature event, donates its energy for many other uses year-round, and plays an advisory role in the ongoing development of the park.

"We've had strong relationships with most of these groups for a very long time," says Ferraro. "Uxbridge is fortunate to have such a large park and trail system in relation to its population, and its success has a lot to do with these great partnerships."

**Funding:** Operationally, the parks and trails will cost us about \$1.07 million this year, mostly on salaries and maintenance. That will be balanced by about \$128,000 in revenues, mostly from user fees to soccer and softball players. On the capital side, \$2.2 million in improvements were planned for this season: improvements in lighting, fences, bridges, irrigation. Grants from senior government will contribute more than \$1.2 million to that expense.

**The Oval:** If you've walked the perimeter of Elgin Park, from Water Street up the hill, then down to Main Street and over to the parking lot by the bandshell, you may have noticed that the path has an oval shape. There's a good reason for that: for decades, the park had a race track! You can see some great photos of it at the Historical Centre; race day at Elgin Park was quite the social occasion.



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Uxbridge Arena & Community Centre

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# Belly up to the bookstore – the Book Drunkard Festival returns

by Justyne Edgell

The popular Book Drunkard Fall Festival, hosted by Blue Heron Books, is just around the corner. With 14 different events, the festival will run from Oct. 5 to Nov. 14, in a variety of venues across Uxbridge.

Blue Heron Books owner Shelley Macbeth says she's "so excited this year's festival will return to in-person gatherings and we've gathered some incredible talent from across the

globe to celebrate!"

The first event will see the long-awaited conclusion to the *New York Times* bestselling book *Beartown*, with Swedish author Fredrik Backman, author of *A Man Called Ove*. Store favourite Terry Fallis will discuss Backman's new novel, *The Winners*. Backman is only making two stops in Canada and this event is one of them!

Giller Prize nominee for *Fall On Your Knees* and *As the Crow Flies*,

Ann-Marie MacDonald will return, with *Fayne*, "a tale of science, magyk, love and identity."

Three different Indigenous storytellers will share their work, including seven-time Stanley Cup winner, Bryan Trottier, who will discuss his new bio, *All Roads Home* with sportscaster Stephen Brunt.

The *Cosmos*' own award-winning Ted Barris will chat with Fallis about *Battle of the Atlantic*, Barris' newest addition to the Canadian history catalogue.

And it's not only books and authors. "Foodies will be well sated with two Book Drunkard events," says Mac-

beth.

The Fig Kitchen will dish an evening with author Hannah Sunderani as she presents her French-inspired vegan recipes as featured in her *Two Spoons*. The Urban Pantry Restaurant will prepare food as Deirdre Buryk, author of *Peak Season*, shows how to make the most of seasonal Ontario produce.

While many of these events are ticketed, there are three free events for anyone to enjoy. Local authors Alie and Hejsa Christensen will launch their first novel, *Stealing John Hancock*. Jeremy John will launch *The Strange Grave of Mikey Dunbar*

and *Other Stories to Make You Poop Your Pants*, a creepy collection of spooky short stories for ages 8 – 80. And Canadian indie publisher Biblioasis will introduce an evening of "Small Stories/Big Ideas" at Slabtown Cider, a gift to purchasers of the 'Top Flight' ticket package. With this package, attendees receive five events at premier venues and five of the hottest fiction choices this season to set up that "to be read" pile for the fall. The package also includes a Book Drunkard cushion, tote, book light and an invitation to an exclusive cocktail party at Slabtown featuring the authors of Biblioasis. Tickets are also available to be purchased individually.

"All ticketed events are offered book-in and presenting authors will be available to sign copies of their books on site," says Macbeth.

For more information, tickets, and for the full festival schedule, visit [bookdrunkard.com](http://bookdrunkard.com)



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# Promising start to season for Bruins

by Roger Varley

It was only the first game of a 42-game season, but the Uxbridge Bruins' performance at the arena on Friday night held a lot of promise for the fans as the team downed their arch-rivals, the Port Perry LumberJacks, 4-3 in overtime.

Opening the 2022-23 season of the PJHL's Junior C Orr Division with a typical Uxbridge-Port Perry matchup, the teams traded goals throughout the game, with only seven penalties called. Despite the score, goaltenders Nick Acciaccferri of the Bruins and Cameron Hansen of the LumberJacks turned in terrific performances, with both making several great saves.

Newcomer Noah Button opened the scoring less than two minutes into the game when he stole the puck off a Port Perry defender and streaked in to notch an unassisted marker. The visitors came back to tie the score near the midway point of the first period, but the Bruins finished the period one goal ahead after Travis Winder scored on a power play with two minutes left on the clock. Assists went to Jake Rigillo and Nic Colangelo.

In the second, the Lumber-Jacks' Rudy Heezen beat Acciaccferri with a shot over the right shoulder, but Anthony Lamanna regained the lead two minutes later, assisted by Blake Edgerton and Quinn Meek.

The only goal in the third period was Port Perry's marker at the 6:17 mark, leading to a seven-minute, three-on-three overtime period. At the 4:53 mark of overtime, Button, on his knees against the end boards, passed the puck to Alex Hyde in front of the net, who blasted it past Hansen for the win.

Button and his linemates Colangelo and Winder were impressive throughout the game, with Button being chosen by the *Cosmos* as the Bruins' top player. Dale Faubert was selected for the Lumber-Jacks.

With no COVID-19 restrictions or protocols in place for the first time in two years, approximately 300 fans turned out for the game. The Bruins return to action tomorrow (Friday) night at the arena when they host the Clarington Eagles at 7:45 p.m.



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- Across**  
1 Leave a mark  
5 Deli loaf  
8 Arsenal stockpile  
12 Place for a pig  
13 Boar  
14 Certain tide  
15 Pavarotti solo  
16 Sharer's word  
17 British general in America  
18 Chance  
20 Nausea inducing medicine  
22 Triangular sail  
23 Musical "G"  
24 Grave robbers  
27 Underside of a building  
31 Is unwell  
32 Sworn declaration  
33 Lawn grass  
36 Rundown  
38 Welcome site  
39 Stripling  
40 Ravel classic  
43 Climb a hill  
47 Golf club  
48 Warmed the bench  
50 Medicinal berry  
51 Disappeared  
52 Clinch  
53 Bollywood superstar actor, last name  
54 Plenty  
55 Sloppy digs  
56 Ages and ages
- Down**  
1 Train in boxing  
2 "The Last of the Mohicans" girl  
3 Like  
4 Realignment  
5 Parallelograms with four equal sides  
6 One to thank  
7 Leave  
8 Light sponge dessert (3 words)  
9 Essential part  
10 The wise men  
11 Oil decision makers  
19 Content of some barrels  
21 Dairy farm sound  
24 Predatory fish  
25 Speed  
26 Antique  
28 Something everyone starts doing  
29 Common contraction  
30 Pronoun  
34 Rowboat need  
35 Upper eyelid droop  
36 Granite colored  
37 Owns  
40 Paper money  
41 Creme-filled cookie  
42 Certain apartment  
44 Lingering trace  
45 Leavened bread of India  
46 Rackets  
49 Play division

**CAR OF THE WEEK** - Last Thursday's Cruise In Feature of the week was a bright green and black 1970 Road Runner 383-4spd, owned by Ron Broad from Holland Landing. Come out to Elgin park at 5 p.m.!

*Submitted photo*

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## CLASSIFIED

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

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### EVENTS

**UXBRIDGE MINDFULNESS/INSIGHT MEDITATION** is holding in-person meetings at 10 a.m. every other Sunday. Our next one is Sept. 18. Whether experienced or new to meditation, all are welcome. Location is Blue Heron Studio. Email Gail: ghorner550@gmail.com 9/29

**ATTENTION ALL SENIORS:** Progressive Euchre, 2nd Tuesday of each month. Sept. - June. Uxbridge Legion, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Cost \$2, on now!

**MUSICFEST IS BACK AT REACHVIEW VILLAGE.** Since 1993, we have been entertaining residents with all kinds of music, dancing, joke-telling once a month on the first Sunday at 10 - 11 a.m. For more info please contact jo at 905-852-6487.

**FASHION SHOW AND DESSERT:** Thurs., Sept. 29, 7 p.m. Sponsored by Bethesda Reach Women's Institute, featuring fall fashions by Brock's of Port Perry. Tickets \$20. Call 905-852-5284 or 905-852-4024. Proceeds to support local scholarship projects.

**100 WOMEN WHO CARE UXBRIDGE** Come join us Thursday, Sept. 29, Uxbridge Legion, 7 p.m. For more information, visit 100womenuxbridge.ca

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# Uxbridge loses 'dedicated,' 'hard-working' volunteer

by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

The world lost a hard-working, dedicated servant when Queen Elizabeth II died on Sept. 8. Uxbridge lost its own hard-working, dedicated servant when Shirley Vance passed away one day earlier, on Sept. 7.

Vance was a well-known volunteer in Uxbridge, giving her time and efforts to many different organizations, namely the Uxbridge Hospital Auxiliary and the IODE (Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire). She was also an active member of the Uxbridge Lions Club and of Community Care Durham.

"I can do that, just leave it with me." That's who Shirley was. She never said no," said Sandra Will at a memorial that was held last Friday, Sept. 16, at the Uxbridge Seniors Centre. Many of the more than 80 people attending the memorial nodded their heads in agreement with Will's statement.

Hard-working and dedicated

were not the only two words used to describe Vance. Auxiliary president Teri Murphy said "it was impossible to sum up everything Shirley did in the 35 years she was part of the Auxiliary, 25 as a member of the executive. She wasn't only our treasurer,



Shirley Vance, an active volunteer in Uxbridge for over 30 years, died Sept. 7.

Photo from Uxbridge Hospital Auxiliary website

she was our historian, too."

Eileen Ball from the IODE revealed that Vance was active in the organization for 30 years, and should be looked to as a "wonderful example."

It was also noted during the memorial that, when not working or volunteering for an organization, Vance drove dialysis patients to their appointments and helped women trying to leave abusive situations.

"That's why she was always late for things," quipped Vance's daughter, Cheryl Reynolds. "She was too busy!"

Born in 1934, Vance was the eldest

of nine children. She met her husband, Ron (predeceased), at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, where she worked as a bookkeeper for 51 years. Combining their families, they had five children between them. Outside of her volunteer life, Vance was an accomplished seamstress and an avid

five-pin bowler.

Vance leaves behind daughter Cheryl, son Wayne, nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

On the Auxiliary's Facebook page, former mayor Gerri Lynn O'Connor wrote, "A picture of Shirley should be beside the word 'volunteer'."

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## CLARK, Jeffrey

It is with heavy hearts and great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of Jeff Clark on September 12, 2022, age 57. He was known by many names: husband, father, brother, uncle, friend, and to his closest friends Snake, Chummer and Barney. Predeceased by his father Ralph. He is survived by many loving individuals, including his mother Betty Ann, his wife Mary, his son

Nathan, his sister Denise and his brothers Trevor (Sue), Steve (late Susan) and Pat (Tammy). His memory lives on in his nieces and nephews, Shannon, Sydney, Micheal, Michelle, Austin, Carter, Chrissy and Ashley.

Jeff worked for Zehrs markets for 40 years and was an integral part of the community there. His love of baseball, hockey and cream corn will always be remembered. In his younger years, he was a prominent member of the Gorgon foundation, as well as director for the Big Brothers association of North Durham.

He will be sadly missed and will always hold a place in our hearts. A celebration of life has been scheduled for Sunday, September 25, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Scrambles Kitchen and Bar at the Foxbridge Golf Course. All are welcome to stop by and have some of his favourite grub and share your favourite memories of Jeff. Food and drink will be provided.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory of Jeff can be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Low & Low Funeral Home, 23 Main Street South, Box 388, Uxbridge L9P 1M8 (905-852-3073). For online condolences, please visit [www.lowandlow.ca](http://www.lowandlow.ca)



## To place a death or in memoriam notice

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