

On Heritage Trails

with Allan McGillivray

Of Zephyr and environs

Has anyone heard of The Elbow?

Names were often given by residents to identify a particular intersection or land feature. Often the name came from the owner of a nearby property. If Harry Smith lived at the intersection, it might have been called Smith's Corners.

Sometimes a name came about because of a particular situation, and an example is The Elbow. When you drive down Durham Roads 39 and 30 from Zephyr, you come to Hollinger Road. In earlier days, the main road to Mount Albert turned west at that intersection, went a very short distance along what is now Doane Road, and then turned sharply south to follow what was the 9th Concession Road of East Gwillimbury. The old 9th road allowance is still there but has grown up with trees. That zig-zag was called The Elbow, and the news from that area was sometimes reported in the *Uxbridge Journal* under that name. Also, the *Newmarket Era* of April 14, 1893, stated that "Mr Alsop has rented the old Pingle farm near the Elbow and has started to plow."

Brown Hill is a hamlet on Ravenshoe Road just west of the northwest corner of Uxbridge Township. It started as Blake Station when the Lake Simcoe Junction Railway was built through there. J. N. Blake owned the adjoining land. Brown Hill doesn't have a hill, but is located on a level area. It has been suggested that it was named after the local Brown and Hillis families. An article in the *Globe & Mail* in 1946 stated that "the village's metropolitan population consisted chiefly of branches of the Sedore family", and Reford Sedore was the unofficial mayor.

Zephyr got its name before a hamlet was even thought of. A zephyr is a west wind or gentle breeze. George W. Hunter was the first post master starting in 1865. He lived then near the location of the present Evangelical Missionary Church. The next year, John Nelson built a store just north of the present Minimart, and the post office was soon moved down there.

In 1874, M. N. Dafoe started a subdivision in the southeast part of Zephyr, and the street there became known as Dafoe Street. Its extension north of Zephyr Road is called Foote Street. William B. Foote owned the land, and built a hotel right at the main intersection in 1873. A Temperance Hall was built in 1875, and the street that went east beside it became known as Temperance Street.

A newer street in the northwest part of Zephyr is called Kester Lane. Ben Kester was treasurer of the former Scott Township from 1938 to 1956, and was clerk-treasurer from 1956 to 1962. His son, Ron Kester was clerk-treasurer of Scott Township from 1962 to 1973. Ron became the chief administrative officer of the new Township of Uxbridge in 1974. Ron's son, Ben Kester, is currently head of the Uxbridge Works Department. Zephyr's newest street is called Horner Court. Bill Horner was a prominent citizen of Zephyr who among other things in 1936 donated the land to start Zephyr Park.

The location of the Evangelical Missionary Church north of Zephyr has been referred to as Hog Back Hill, and a one time the church was sometimes called Hog Back Church. This was likely because the ridge on which the church was built resembled the back of a hog or pig.

The area near the intersection of Meyers Road and the 4th may have been called Providence as Providence Methodist Church was a short distance to the north. To the south on the 4th, the area was called Black River after the river. Black River School was there. The flat area stretching south from the river was known as Madill Flats. By 1877, a fellow called John Madill owned land there on the west side of the road.

I wonder how long a newcomer had to live in an area before his name became part of the local geography.

Bruins tackle Mojacks in semi-finals

by Roger Varley

When the Uxbridge Bruins hit the ice tomorrow night for the start of their playoff season, it could be the match-up fans have longed for - and dreaded.

The Bruins host their long-time rivals, the Port Perry MoJacks, at the arena at 7:45 p.m., to start their OHA Jr. C Central Division best-of-seven semi-final series.

On the plus side for the fans, the two teams' rivalry over the years has led to some exciting hockey and has drawn large crowds to the games. An added plus for the fans is that it is only a 15-minute trip down Reach Street to attend the away games.

On the down side, the match-up is hardly likely to be a walk-away for the Bruins, who finished the regular season in first place. Although the MoJacks finished in fourth place, they gave the Bruins more trouble than any other team and were the only team in the league that Uxbridge did not dominate. In the eight games between the two clubs this season, both won four and only one game went into overtime or a shoot-out. And home-ice advantage didn't exist as each team won three of its four games in the opponents' rink. Overall, Uxbridge scored only three more goals than the MoJacks in their regular season games.

On paper, Uxbridge should have the advantage.

Defensively, Brandon Francey led all goalies in the league with a remarkable 1.71 goals-against average, winning 18 of the 21 games he played. For the MoJacks, starting goalie Drew Siydock had a season goals-against average of 3.27,

winning 11 of the 25 games he played.

Offensively, the Bruins scored 33 more goals than Port Perry over the season while the MoJacks allowed 49 more goals than the Bruins. The Bruins placed six men among the top 20 point scorers and the MoJacks had only three.

The MoJacks had 123 more penalty minutes than the Bruins, but their penalty-killing average was only slightly lower than the Bruins, as was their power-play scoring percentage.

But intangibles also come into play in a short, live-or-die series. The Bruins haven't seen action since Feb. 1. It remains to be seen whether the long layoff will hurt them. On the other hand, injured players will have had almost three weeks to recuperate. The MoJacks, meanwhile, will be coming into the opening game with a sense of confidence following their fairly easy opening-round best-of-five series against the Little Britain Merchants, which they won 3-1.

But neither team will have much time to sit and ponder such things. After tomorrow night's game, the teams meet again in Port Perry at 7 p.m. on Sunday, return to Uxbridge for a 7:45 p.m. game on Tuesday and then travel back to Scugog Arena for a fourth game either Wednesday or Thursday.

While the Bruins and the MoJacks have at each other, the Lakefield Chiefs will be playing the other semi-final series against the Clarington Eagles, who downed the Georgina Ice 3-1 in their best-of-five opening series. During the regular season, the Chiefs won five of their eight games against the Eagles.

Letters to the Editor

I'd like to thank Gary Supp for his practical suggestion in his letter in response to my column two weeks ago "We owe it to our children". Mr Supp's idea is to give your car a day off or what he calls No Car Day. As he explains it's easy to do, saves money and reduces emissions of climate-heating carbon dioxide (CO2). The average passenger vehicle emits around 4.8 tonnes of CO2 a year.

Cars and trucks are extraordinarily expensive. The full cost of driving 100 km is between between \$50 and \$75 when fuel, wear and tear, insurance, depreciation, and repairs are included. The cost of owning and operating a car, van, SUV or truck ranges between \$9,000 to \$15,000 a year depending on the purchase price of the vehicle according to automobile clubs like the CAA. That's a big chunk of aftertax income spent each and every year. Double this for two-car families.

If you pay \$50 at the pump, about \$33 will go directly to oil companies. The gas station gets around a dollar and the rest is for provincial and federal taxes.

Finally, ask yourself how many hours a day your vehicle isn't being used? Most are parked 22 hours a day.

Driving less or having a No Car Day once a week will certainly save money. The biggest savings by far is to get rid of one vehicle. When you consider the full costs of ownership, the \$9000 to \$15,000 saved will let you rent vehicles or taking taxis as needed with plenty of cash left over. For maximum savings, use the bus. The Go Bus from Uxbridge is only \$10 to downtown Toronto. By car that 75 km trip really costs \$48 not including parking.

Stephen Leahy
Uxbridge

Ted Barris ("Papal Opportunity" Feb. 14) sees an opportunity for the Catholic Church in the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI, one which, alas, he suspects she will decline. And what is Barris' prescription? Stop preaching the Gospel and get with the times. Rock n' roll is here to stay, so bring on the Hollywood

Pope who will finally okay the Church faithful's participation in worshipping our culture of death. Christ's mandate to worship God alone and love Him above all else and, in so doing, one's neighbor as oneself: how passé! The Church has before her Barris' "golden opportunity for change".

But, as the French say, the more things change, the more they stay the same, and Barris' new morality of canonizing contraception, homosexuality (only bad when engaged in by perfidious priests) and feminism turns out to be nothing other than the old immorality condoned. When fasting in the desert, Our Lord was tempted unsuccessfully by Satan whose final and pathetic attempt to prevent Him from saving the world was "Worship me." Our culture has come a long way, alright, full circle back to this sad and sorry temptation.

If Barris is so in love with taking the easy way out and letting our corrupt age have its head instead of keeping his own, it strains credulity to believe-- despite his profession of being "always haunted" by fears of Nazi sympathies on the Pontiff's part, that were the date 1933 and not 2013, the place Germany and not Canada, Barris would be enthusiastically cheerleading for that inhuman regime. Its depersonalizing atheism and the evil it spawned is the same which undergirds the "change" our own regime promotes.

At least the sixteen year old Joseph Ratzinger's Hitlerian "service" -- consisting solely in wearing the uniform foisted upon him while refusing to harm a soul and then deserting--had to be com-

pelled.

Dana Pavlick
Uxbridge

Ted Barris' column (February 7), "Words R Us," struck a chord with me. Ted might well have included "Leaskdale" as a word that is butchered by the local populace with distressing frequency. This place name is derived from the Leask family, early Scottish immigrants to the community. It grates on me every time I hear someone incorrectly pronounce "Leaskdale" as if it were spelled "Leaksdale." Admittedly, "Leaksdale" rolls off the tongue more readily than "Leaskdale," but that is a poor excuse to blatantly mispronounce the name of one of the fine hamlets in Uxbridge Township! Do the many folks who mispronounce this word realize that they are rendering its meaning "valley of the leaks"?

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