

The Uxbridge COSMOS



Volume 9 No. 5 YOUR UNIVERSE Thursday, February 7th 2013



LIFE FOR THE PENNY - The poor penny is going out of circulation, but there's a great way for you to dispose of the ones you have in your pocket, or hanging around the house. The Uxbridge Youth Centre and Royal LePage FRANK Realtors are sponsoring the Uxbridge Penny Challenge to benefit the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank. Just watch for these piggy banks, being shown off by (L to R) Hayley Waines of the UYC, Ethan Jones, Martin Taylor, Carley waines, Kaleigh Jones, Sherry Cockburn of Royal Lepage and Cameron Soles, at the Youth Centre and other places around town. It's a great way to say a fond farewell! *Photo by Conrad Boyce.*

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Mourning Doves, Enzo Court by Renee Leahy





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The Corporation of
The Township of Uxbridge
www.town.uxbridge.on.ca

*Council and Committee
Meeting Schedule
for February*

Monday, February 11th
COUNCIL 9:30 a.m.
Council Education Session (Open to the Public) re Municipal Lottery Licencing - immediately following the Council meeting

Monday, February 18th
Family Day - No Meeting of the General Purpose and Administration Committee

Wednesday, February 20th 7:00 p.m.
Committee of Adjustment Meeting

Monday, February 25th
COUNCIL 7:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS WANTED

Want to make a difference in the lives of hundreds of animals in Uxbridge-Scugog? Then get involved with the New Animal Shelter for Uxbridge-Scugog Charitable organization as a Member of the Board of Directors.

In September of 2011, the efforts of a dedicated group of people lead to the incorporation of a new organization devoted to raising funds for the construction of a new animal shelter for the Townships of Uxbridge and Scugog. To date, almost 10% of the required funds have been raised through the generosity of the people, businesses and service clubs in our two communities. In order to sustain and grow this positive performance, we are expanding our Board of Directors and are now seeking applications from individuals with a passion for animals to come forward and help guide this corporation.

Ideally, we are looking for people who are...

- First and foremost, committed to the best care and support for animals
- Creative, innovative and ready for some hard work
- Residing in the Townships of Uxbridge or Scugog
- Able to commit to attending at least one Board meeting a month and one-to-two committee meetings a month
- Experience as a Board member of a not-for-profit organization would be an asset.

Specific officers being recruited for include Secretary and Directors-at-Large (for a detailed outline of these positions, please request position outlines through the volunteer link below).

Please submit your resume with cover letter electronically via volunteers@animal-shelter.ca by February 22, 2013.

Not all candidates will be interviewed, but all have our thanks, best wishes and hope that you will want to be involved down-the-road.

**FROM THE TAX OFFICE...
2013 Interim Tax Bills**

All 2013 Interim Tax Bills have now been mailed.

Payments are due on the due dates (payments must be received or paid on or before the due dates).

The FIRST Tax Installment is due on Thursday February 28, 2013.

The SECOND Tax Installment is due on Thursday April 25, 2013.

Please pay promptly to avoid penalty.

Penalty/interest of 1.25% is added on the first day of default and the first day of each calendar month thereafter. Failure to receive a Tax Notice does not excuse the taxpayer from responsibility for payment of taxes nor liability for any penalty or interest due to late payments. The penalty/interest charges cannot be waived or reduced by the Tax Department or Council for any reason.

Tax payments can be made by the following: In person by Interac, Cheque or Cash, by Mail (Post-dated cheques are accepted), telephone & Internet banking, drop box, or at most Banks.

If you did not receive your 2013 Interim Tax Bill, please call the Tax Department at 905-852-9181 Ext. 211.

PLEASE RETAIN YOUR 2012 FINAL TAX BILL FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES. If a reprinted tax bill or receipt is required for any previous year's taxes, a fee of \$10.00 plus HST will apply.

**Thank You
Tax Department**

VOLUNTEER FAIR
Wednesday, February 20th
6:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.

If you need volunteers, then register to have a table.
Call 905-640-3966
bnortheast@powergate.ca

REGISTRATION FAIR
Wednesday, February 13th
6:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.

For all groups who require registration.
To book a table, call 905-640-3966
bnortheast@powergate.ca

Both events take place at the Uxbridge Arena Community Centre.

**WANTED: A PUBLIC EDUCATION/
TRAINING OFFICER**

The Uxbridge Fire Department is seeking a qualified individual for the position of Public Education/Training Officer. The Public Education/Training Officer is under the direction of the Fire Chief and shall assist the Deputy Chief as required.

The position requires a thorough knowledge of the fire service, program development, teaching and training methods. You will be required to assume on call responsibilities and upon notification you will respond to incidents of emergency and non-emergency as necessary.

You shall have proven skills with project management, analytical and communication strengths, emergency incident management, and have a working knowledge of related legislation, codes, standards, and corporate and department guidelines. You instill and foster positive, sound labour relations practices, work closely with senior Fire Department and Township staff to implement cost-effective, innovative solutions that will improve internal and external client satisfaction and quality of service.

While attending emergency and non-emergency incidents you will be delegated the duties of the Safety Officer reporting directly to the Incident Commander.

Note: A job task list is available from the Fire Department or on the Township of Uxbridge website at www.town.uxbridge.on.ca

This position requires that the employee work a flexible schedule. Hours of work shall be 35 hours per week. Evening and weekend duties will apply. The salary for this position is \$67,522.00 (2012). Qualified candidates are invited to submit an application, in confidence, to the undersigned no later than Friday February 15, 2013 to:

**Township of Uxbridge Fire Department
Attention: Scott Richardson, Fire Chief
51 Toronto Street South,
P.O. Box 190, Uxbridge, Ontario, L9P 1T1
Telephone 905-852-3393 Fax 905-852-0125
Email: srichardson@town.uxbridge.on.ca**

We appreciate the interest of all applicants; however, only those being considered for an interview will be contacted.

In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Privacy Act, personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001 and will only be used for the purpose of candidate selection.

**PUBLIC TENDER
TENDER NO. U13-09
2 PICKUP TRUCKS**

Tenders may be picked up at the Municipal Office, 51 Toronto Street South, Uxbridge, Ontario for two (2) Pickup Trucks. Detail specifications are included in the tender document.

Tenders will be received until Tuesday, February 26, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.

**Debbie Leroux, Clerk
Township of Uxbridge**

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

UXBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Program Director, Pamela Noble,
905-852-9747, ext. 24**

OPENS at 10:00 am (previously 9:30)

CELEBRATION COOKBOOK: 125 RECIPES for 125 YEARS. Thanks to all for submissions to complete this project, which finished off our anniversary year! Cookbooks are available NOW at the Uxbridge and Zephyr Libraries for \$10.00 (incl. H.S.T.). Chocked full of family favourites. Going fast, so get yours soon! **FAMILY and FRIENDS DROP-IN STORY-TIME:** Ages 2&1/2 and up. Join Cathy Reesor and let free your imagination during our 'new' program, which does not require pre-registration. Includes stories, songs, rhymes and a craft. Child accompanied by adult, with younger siblings welcome too! 10:30-11:15 am., Mondays, February 11 & 25 OR Tuesdays, February 12 & 26.

TEEN'S CORNER: Movie Matinee Saturday, February 9, 2:00 pm. 'Star Wars Prequels'. Cost: \$2.00, with bottled water and hot popcorn available too, for \$1.00 each. **Amazing Race:** Saturday, February 16. For more details contact Corrinne at the library.

PA Day Activity: 'Get your GAME FACE on'. Join in for a fun afternoon of board games, card games, Wii games - WE PLAY THEM ALL!! Friday, February 15, 1:30-3:00 pm. for kids in grades 3-5. Cost: \$3.00. Sign up now in the Children's Dept.

ZEPHYR LIBRARY: Co-operative story-time on Thursdays, 4:15-5:15 pm, February 21 & Mar. 7. Pre-schoolers, with parent, and Jk-Sk welcome to tag along too! No charge. SIGN UP NOW at the Zephyr Library.

**NOW HIRING FOR
SPRING SESSION - UXPOOL**

Assistant Instructors must have current AWSI, Bronze Cross and SFA
Instructors must have current Red Cross WSI, LSS Instructors, SFA, Bronze Cross

Lifeguards must have current LSS NLS and SFA, Defib training an asset but willing to train.

Resumes with covering letters will be accepted until: February 15, 2013. Employment to commence on March 11th for Lifeguards and March 20th for instructors/assistant instructors. Must be able to attend Staff Inservice Training prior to start of employment. Date will be given at submission of resume.

All resumes can be dropped off at: UxPool, 1 Parkside Dr., Uxbridge. Please list session you are applying for on the cover letter.

Uxpool905-852-7831
Arena905-852-3081
Historical Centre905-852-5854
Animal Shelter905-985-9547
Chamber of Commerce . .905-852-7683
Ux. BIA ... 905-852-9181 ext. 406

Uxbridge Public Library 905-852-9747
Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat. 10 am - 5 pm, Tues., Thurs. 10 am - 9 pm
Sundays after Thanksgiving to May 24 weekend 1 pm - 5 pm
www.uxlib.com

Zephyr Library
905-473-2375
HOURS Tues., Thurs., 3 pm - 8 pm
Sat 10 am - 3 pm

Township of Uxbridge documents are available in alternate formats upon request. Please fill out the Request for Alternate Formats Form at www.town.uxbridge.on.ca or contact the Accessibility Coordinator at 905-852-9181 ext. 209 or at accessibility@town.uxbridge.on.ca.

Am I Wrong?

column by Roger Varley



I can see clearly now

There is a documentary on YouTube, made by National Geographic some years ago, that chronicles a Nepalese eye surgeon's visit to North Korea, during which he performed over 1,000 cataract removal operations in just 10 days.

The documentary shows patient after patient delirious with thanks after the bandages are removed and they can see again, sometimes for the first time in years. The only problem is, the thanks were all directed at portraits of then

leader Kim Jong Il. Not one single patient thanked the doctor himself.

But the human disgrace that is the North Korean state is not the subject of this column: it's about cataract removal.

Last Thursday, I had my second such surgery in four months and now I have new lenses in both my eyes and clear vision. The difference from what was in staggering.

I attended the Uxbridge Bruins' final game of the regular season the following night and could not believe how much the colours of the team uniforms popped and how sharp and clear the

numbers and logos were. It was rather like going from watching an old colour television to viewing a 42-inch screen in HD. Another analogy: it was like looking at the world through a window that had suddenly been cleaned for the first time in five years.

As Johnny Nash sang in his 1972 hit song, "I can see clearly now."

And I was profuse in my thanks to the doctor who performed the surgery and the staff at South Lake Medical Centre in Newmarket. The care and treatment was first-rate and the operations themselves were remarkable.

Each procedure took only about 15 minutes to perform and I was on my way home an hour after arriving for the surgery. Not only that, but I didn't even have to take my shoes off, which was a bit disconcerting because my mother would never allow shoes in bed.

I was concerned about what my reaction would be as I watched a scalpel heading towards my eyeball, but I needn't have been. All one sees during the operation is bright light, nothing else. The only irritating thing about the procedure came just as they strapped my

head in place and loosely tied my hands down: my nose started to itch fiercely and I couldn't scratch it.

It is astonishing what one takes for granted until it is taken away. For some time before the surgery, stars were a blur and the moon was double, then triple and finally a circle of moons. The Christmas lights were all star-bursts rather than bright pinpoint and driving at night was becoming almost impossible. Now, the stars are as they should be, the moon sails through the heavens in solitary splendour once again, and the tree lights along Brock Street are a brilliant collection of hundreds individual points of light.

There are a couple of drawbacks, however. The face staring back at me from my mirror is also now in sharper relief and that is not attractive. And I think I'm starting to bore people with my continual outbursts of "Wow, look at that!"

There is one serious note I need to mention, though. During my initial evaluation by the doctor, I was told the government pays for a \$100 procedure to test the thickness of one's own lenses

so that the new lenses inserted will be as close a match as possible.

The doctor said there was an even more accurate test available, but it cost \$250. When I said I couldn't afford it and would go with the standard test, he offered the better test for \$150 and then quickly knocked that down to \$125. If he could offer the better test for \$125, why did he want to initially charge \$250? Is this part of the reason our health costs are soaring? And if there is a better test than the standard and it apparently can be done for only an extra \$25, why doesn't the government pay for it?

I remain grateful to the doctor and all the associates who helped restore my sight to normal, but it seems to me that it would be beneficial to all if patients didn't have to make a choice between two tests based on their financial standing.

Tell me, am I wrong?



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

Welcomes you to our

PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, February 12, 2013 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Adults/Teens \$7.00
Children Gr. 1-8 \$4.00
Preschoolers FREE



AND come join us the following evening (Wed. 13th) for our special Ash Wednesday Service at 7 p.m. Begin preparing for Easter with this deeply meaningful spiritual practice. All welcome!



THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Township Summer Day Camps are looking to hire students for Summer 2013! ALL Resumes Must have a Cover Letter stating the camps you are interested in and addressed to Camp Coordinator Rebecca Harman. Uxbridge Summer Camps hire the "best of the best" every year! We are looking for potential staff that are versatile, organized, a caring adult, friendly, punctual, flexible and creative! Working with children and sharing their experiences for an entire summer is something you will never forget! Any questions, please call the Uxpool @ (905) 852-7831 or Email Camp Coordinator Rebecca Harman - camps@town.uxbridge.on.ca

CAMP COUNSELLOR (16 YEARS +):

- Assist in daily activities and routines. Must also develop versatile lesson plans that can be applied to call camps.
- Must be mature, responsible, enthusiastic, versatile, and have an interest in working with a variety of people and as a TEAM member!
- All staff are required to have current Standard First Aid and CPR "C".
- Weeks worked are dependent on registration numbers.

ASSISTANT CAMP COUNSELLOR (15 YEARS +):

- Applicants must be mature, responsible, enthusiastic, and able to adapt to many new Assistant Camp Counsellor Roles.
- Must be able to assist in lesson planning, daily activities and routines.
- All Staff are required to have Standard First Aid and CPR "C"
- Preferred but not mandatory: Certificate in Counsellor In Training and/or Leadership program.
- This is a paid Counsellor training position.
- Weeks worked are dependent on registration numbers.

Due Date: March 31st, 2013

**Please Drop Your Resume off at:
UXPOOL, 1 Parkside Dr.**

ARENA AND PARKS DEPARTMENTS

The Township of Uxbridge is seeking mature summer students to fill positions in the Arena and Parks Departments. Preferred qualifications include tractor experience, gardening, lawn maintenance, landscaping, painting and general carpentry. A valid G2 driver's licence is required accompanied with a driver's abstract. This position is 40 hours per week and the applicant must be willing to work weekends when required.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The Township of Uxbridge is seeking one (1) student labourer to perform a variety of tasks related to road maintenance and construction. Applicants must have a valid "G2" driver's licence accompanied with a driver's abstract. Applicants should submit a cover letter together with a detailed resume containing experience, background, past employment, references and work related skills, experience and training. Students in a University/College Civil Engineering co-operative education program may apply.

Applicants should submit a cover letter along with a detailed resume to the attention of Ben Kester, C.E.T., CRS-S, Director of Public Works and Operations, 51 Toronto St. S., PO Box 190, Uxbridge, ON L9P 1T1 no later than February 15, 2013.

Please ensure the position being applied for is clearly marked on the application.

SUMMER STUDENT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

The Township of Uxbridge is accepting applications for a Summer Student placement within the Clerk's Department. An applicant should be currently enrolled in a post-secondary education program and returning to continue their education in September, 2013.

Position Summary:

- Assists with File maintenance, including laser fiche scanning & index up-dating
 - Provides main receptionist relief, including mail processing
 - Completes various tasks as assigned by the Clerk and Deputy Clerk
- #### Minimum Qualifications:
- Excellent oral, written and communication skills
 - Superior customer service skills & ability to deal with the public & staff in a courteous & tactful manner
 - Proficient in the use of computers & current related software
 - Self-starter with demonstrated strong time-management and organizational skills
 - Must possess valid Driver's Licence
 - An interest in Public Administration

Interested candidates are invited to submit a cover letter together with a detailed resume outlining experience and detailing how the minimum qualifications are met, identifying the position being applied for and marked "Confidential" to the attention of: pshipway@town.uxbridge.on.ca or the undersigned no later than 4:30 pm, Thursday, March 28th, 2103.

Township of Uxbridge

**ATTN: Paul Shipway, Deputy Clerk
P.O. Box 190, Uxbridge, ON, L9P 1T1**

We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those being considered for an interview will be contacted.

Leaskdale News

with Helen Harrison

Who could blame Warton Willie for returning to bed? Cold and windy weather is continuing again this week...

Belated congratulations to Elsie Taylor, who marked a very 'special' birthday at the end of January. Best wishes, Elsie, for a good year, and many more...

Leaskdale W.A. will meet at the church on Wed. Feb. 20 @ 1:30 p.m. Group 2 is in charge. Nancy Loraine will speak on the recent mission trip to Hainomosa D.R. If you wish, please bring donations of Pancake Mix (group 1) and pancake syrup (group 2) for the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank..

Stan Taylor has launched his new book 'Taylor's Pneumatic Toys', complete instructions for building toys using wood. These books are available at Leaskdale Country Store, and at Blue Heron Books in Uxbridge...

Our best wishes to George Paisley, who is celebrating his 'special' birthday with an Open House at St. Paul's Leaskdale Church, this Sat. Feb. 9, 1 - 4 p.m. Many happy returns, George, and we hope you will have many more enjoyable years...

We are sorry to hear of the death of Rev. Frank Conkey of Pickering. He was often supply minister at St. Paul's Church during pulpit vacancies some years ago...

The Annual General Meeting at St. Paul's Leaskdale Church will take place on Sun. Feb. 24. Beginning at 12:30 with a hot lunch, with the meeting to follow. This will be a great time to connect with people, and note what is happening at the church.

The Township of Uxbridge is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

If you require accommodation at any time throughout the employment activities process, please contact us at: 905-852-9181 ext. 209, accessibility@town.uxbridge.on.ca or by visiting www.town.uxbridge.on.ca and we will make every effort to provide appropriate assistance pursuant to the Township of Uxbridge Employment Activities Accommodation policy.

our two cents

The budget - the good, bad and ugly

Next week, Uxbridge council will pass its 2013 budget after going through several weeks of concerted effort to trim as much excess away as possible.

Anyone who questions their local municipal representatives' concern for the taxpayers of this township hasn't sat in on one of these budget meetings. If they did, they would see how councillors not only examine expenditures of hundreds of thousands of dollars; they also pay attention to items costing mere hundreds of dollars.

Bringing down the budget could be likened to the old spaghetti Western *The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*.

On the good side, council managed to reduce an expected four-per-cent property tax increase to 3.77 per cent, and about one quarter of that results from the proposed new fire hall, which will be done in a couple of years. Department heads responded well to council calls for extra trimming and had good explanations ready where cuts were not able to be made. While keeping the increase as small as possible, township services are being maintained at current levels. This despite rising costs which the Township has to face as do we all: for hydro, for fuel, for materials, for insurance, etc.

Usually at budget time, some councillors have some pet projects they would like to see funded. Most of the time, such projects require what would, in the grand scheme of things, be minor amounts. But councillors were determined to keep the increase as small as possible and a few pet projects were simply not approved. For example, Mayor O'Connor wanted to increase the tree-planting budget by a mere \$5,000 to see more trees planted in the hamlets. No go. Another councillor, noting that the Elgin Park parking lot is to be paved, wanted a few thousand thrown in to also pave the pathways through the park. No go.

On the bad side, during the budget sessions our councillors had to ponder some serious issues that affect Uxbridge residents' hearts as well as their wallet. Do we keep the Foster Memorial? The train station? The heritage centre? Community halls? They made no decisions about these properties this time around, but will be discussing their future later this year.

These could be issues that see them criticized no matter what they decide. Keep paying money into them despite their poor revenues and some taxpayers will call the councillors spendthrifts. Get rid of them to save money and others will call them anti-cultural barbarians. Not a good position to be in.

Nevertheless, councillors recognize that everything has to be questioned, even those things which are close to our community heart. They ran into the same thing last year when the future of the Zephyr branch of the library was in doubt. Hopefully, in the future, as they did last year, they will be able to find a way to keep the aforementioned properties while cutting down the cost of maintaining them, but they will need the collective wisdom of Solomon.

Then there's the ugly side, which has nothing to do with our council. About 57 per cent of the money raised through property taxes goes directly to the Region of Durham. Another 23 per cent goes to the school board. Uxbridge gets to keep a mere 20 per cent. As well, just like other municipalities, Uxbridge has been hit hard by a reduction in provincial funding and the reduction is not just this year but will continue in years to come.

But that's not all of it. Despite the lower provincial funding, Uxbridge has brought in a reasonable budget and remains one of the few municipalities in Ontario to be absolutely debt free. Do they receive due credit for this from the province? Not at all.

On the contrary, Mayor Gerri Lynn O'Connor says the Municipal Affairs Ministry is giving Uxbridge "flak" about being debt free. Being debt free makes Uxbridge ineligible to gain access to some provincial financial programs. In other words, says the mayor, the province is rewarding municipalities who are not as financially sound and responsible as Uxbridge, and punishing us.

So, when your new tax bill comes in the mail and you see how much more you will be paying this year, count to 10 before coming down hard on your council. There are other players out there who are affecting the outcome; they just don't have to take the "flak" from the taxpayers.

The Uxbridge
COSMOS

9,000 copies of the Cosmos are published each Thursday in the Township of Uxbridge: 8,300 delivered by mail, 700 available in stores and boxes.

Publisher/Editor Conrad Boyce 905.852.1900

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Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 1:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

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Letters to the Editor

Stephen Leahy's article "We owe it to our children" (Jan. 24) is an excellent piece describing the situation we have let our planet fall into. We have forgotten the message of the first nations that this earth is not for us to use up, but borrowed from our grandchildren.

His plea to find ways to conserve and avoid the overuse of fossil fuels has been stated by many. I have been doing something for years now that might help others do their bit and save a little money as well. I call it the No Car Day.

One day each week I make certain that I do not drive our car. It is usually the same day each week, a weekend as I work. Sometimes it varies if we have a family function or whatever, but I always make up for it with another day the same week whenever possible.

I know that we have made busy lives for ourselves. Those families with children especially have many commitments. Things like hockey games and soccer practices as well as frequent runs to the grocers for food. But it really is possible (without a lot of hardship) to set aside a single day to not use our cars and organize our activities to get everything done.

Think of it like the commitment our ancestors made to make one day a week a day of rest. In these times let's just call it a day of rest for our machines. It surely will help save our environment and save on gas money.

Gary Supp
Uxbridge

The Board of Directors of Loaves & Fishes Food Bank would like to express sincere thanks for the tremendous and unwavering support the Food Bank receives.

In 2012 Loaves & Fishes served 926 households in Uxbridge Township. This was made possible by very generous cash and food donations from individuals, schools, churches, service clubs and businesses in our Township; it is deeply appreciated by those in need throughout our community.

We are grateful for the ongoing support of the *Cosmos*, in particular the December article by Shelagh Damus about Food Drives and Food Bank needs; it made a large and positive impact on donations received at Christmas.

Over 40 dedicated volunteers who ensure the Food Bank runs smoothly each week also deserve our recognition and heartfelt thanks for their hard work, caring and

compassion.

We are blessed to be a part of this community.

Julia Fraser, Secretary
Board of Directors,
Loaves & Fishes Food Bank

I would like to comment on Stephen Leahy's recent commentary on climate change (Jan. 24).

Mr. Leahy states that an increase in carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere is the cause of Global Warming, as if this is an undisputed fact. I would like to point out that:

1. Many scientists and others disagree with this conclusion.
2. There are many other factors affecting climate change.
3. The correlation between CO₂ and Global Warming is not solid.
4. The Earth's climate has changed, both warmer and colder in the past.

As an example of a differing opinion on the cause of Global Warming, we can point to the letter by 49 NASA scientists who wrote that there is no proof that Global Warming is caused by CO₂. There are also many other letters and web sites which question the assertion (use Google to check the internet). Even The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), only lists the possibility that most of the increase in Global temperature is due to CO₂ as "very likely".

Other factors which affect climate are listed on the NASA Global Climate Change web site (NASA). These include: variation in sun radiation, the amount of water vapor, and other gases in the atmosphere, cloud cover, the ocean currents, the amount of heat absorbed by the Earth including the oceans, aerosols and dust in the atmosphere, etc. The most important factor is the sun's radiation which is known to vary over time, with water vapor and clouds being the next most important. CO₂ is classified as a greenhouse gas, but is recognized as a relatively minor greenhouse gas (Windows to the Universe web site).

We know that global temperatures have gone up and down over time. Earth has been very warm during a number of periods including the period of dinosaurs, and it has been cold during other periods, often called ice ages.

Over the last 30 years we have been in a period where the Earth has been warming, at the same time as CO₂ levels have been increasing. This correlation between

increases in atmospheric CO₂ and average global temperature is the main reason that many scientists and others believe that CO₂ concentration is causing global warming. However, during the preceding 40 years (1940 to 1980), there was a cooling period, and scientists were afraid of global cooling (*Time* magazine June 1974). For that 40 year period, CO₂ was increasing while the Earth temperature decreased, which shows that the correlation between CO₂ and Global Warming doesn't always hold. (For a graph of Global, land-Ocean Temperatures see NASA-GISS, or Wikipedia-Global Warming web sites).

The medieval warm period which occurred from about 800 to 1000 AD, is interesting as a comparison to present conditions. It occurred without an increase in CO₂ levels. This medieval warm period had temperature similar to what we have now. It is known that Greenland's west coast was inhabited by Vikings, and that Iceland was even warm enough to grow grains. (See www.sunnysuffolk.edu and Wikipedia - Iceland). This demonstrates that global warming can occur without an increase in CO₂ levels, and that the Earth has had temperature increases similar to today's.

The period from about 1650 to 1850 is known as the little ice age with temperature much cooler than at present. Glaciers expanded in Europe, destroying towns, crops failed and famine resulted. Iceland was mostly abandoned as not even grasses would grow. (Wikipedia- Little Ice Age) This cool period was associated with low radiation levels from the sun. (For a graph of radiation levels see Wikipedia-Maunder Minimum).

Even though the effect of CO₂ on Global Warming, has not been proven, and may very well be wrong, reducing our dependence on fossil fuels is a good objective, which should be encouraged. Fossil fuel supplies are limited, so we should conserve them. Also pushing CO₂ concentration to higher levels than occur naturally is not a good practice. My main objection to Mr. Leahy's Commentary is his conclusion that CO₂ is the (undisputed) cause of Global Warming, and his use of fear mongering to make his point. Global Warming is certainly nothing like exploding 400,000 atomic bombs per day.

Tom John
Uxbridge



a blonde moment

column by Lisha Van Nieuwenhove

My Million Dollar year

So here we are, the beginning of February, and I am very proud to say that I have kept a New Year's resolution for the past 37 days. Minus one half hour. Not something many people can boast, I'm sure.

There were a few things I was fed up with in my life, and although I took care of a couple of them last year (we needn't go into detail), there were still a few things nagging at me. So I decided to take the bull by the horns, so to speak, and start to sort some things out. Life things, to be precise. Money things, to be more precise. I am so blinking tired of lying in bed at night worrying about how to pay the bills. I am tired of saying to my girls "We can't afford this, we can't afford that." I am tired of counting every penny (what am I gonna do when I don't have THEM to count!!!) and still wondering how all the various and sundries that require good ol' cash are going to get paid for. I am tired of working five or six jobs just to bring in what seems like barely enough, sometimes. Now that I'm trying to maintain a household all on my own, it's even more daunting, more frustrating. More infuriating. Why does money never seem to be a problem for anyone else? Oh, I know - I just a resounding groan emitting from Uxbridge, everyone reading this sighing a collective "We ALL have money problems!" I won't go into a big moan, but I see a lot going on around me that I just can't participate in because the bank balance just won't allow it.

But that's all going to change. You see, back on January 1, I decided that 2013 is going to be my Million Dollar Year. That doesn't mean I'm going to earn/get/inherit/win/steal a million dollars. It just means that it's the year that it's all going to change. And going with this resolve is a feeling, a conviction somewhere in the pit of my stomach that feels good and positive. These aren't just words. This is really going to happen. I'm going to turn a corner with my life, somehow, and do whatever it takes to make my woes disappear. Or at least recede a little. OK, a lot.

The biggest decision I made is, I'm going to finally decide what I want to be when I grow up. Seeing as my life is probably around halfway through, I'm betting that a career on the stage is no longer an option. I'm OK with that - I find stages that will have 42-year old me, and that's enough. So I still get to live my dream. What is NOT living my dream is driving a bus, working in an office, waiting tables, etc., etc. I don't mind any of these jobs, and they put food in my family's bellies, but they're just that - jobs. I want to do something meaningful, something helpful, something I feel passionate about. I've started looking into going back to school (I know, that costs money) and am excited about the path I may head down. At a low point, I lamented to a friend that my father would roll over in his grave if he could see his university-educated daughter waiting tables for a living. My friend simply replied that he would not roll over if he could see that I was being creative in resolving what I saw as a problem. (As an aside, I'd be the first to tell my dad that serving is a heap of fun, and probably some of the best money I've ever made!) Anyway, it's time to get creative. I get a little worried that I may be 50 by the time I finally "become" something, but then I think "Hey, I'll be an insert-profession-here, and I'll have a tonne of life experience to boot - that'll make me the best insert-profession-here out there!"

I'm also going to work darn hard on changing my attitude. I'm going to stop worrying about what I don't have, and concentrate on what I do have. I'm going to budget better. I'm going to develop a strong relationship with my financial advisor. I'm going to succeed.

I did get some unfortunate financial news back at the beginning of January, and spent a lunch hour despairing over my future, wondering what I was doing wrong to make this happen to poor little me. That was the half hour I mentioned earlier. That's as long as I let my pity party last. Then I put my big girl panties back on and decided to work with it, rather than let it work me over. Maybe I'm just changing my karma, putting out to the universe what I want to actually have happen in my life. Wanting isn't enough, though. If you want, you'll just keep on wanting. I am going to do. Be. I don't just think it, I know it. It's happening. 2013 is going to be a very good year. A Million Dollar Year. Best ever. Yeah, baby.



the barris beat

column by Ted Barris

Words R Us

I know Walter Cronkite did it and that made it OK. Walter Cronkite, the CBS TV news anchor from the early 1960s until 1981, was once considered "the most trusted man in America." But just because he was most trusted didn't make him the most correct. He still couldn't pronounce the name of the second month on the calendar. All those years ago he still closed his show this way:

"And that's the way it is, this Thursday, February 7, 1963," he'd say in his sign-off. "This is Walter Cronkite for CBS Evening News. Good night."

But sorry Walter, it's February, not Febuary. The fact of the matter is, Cronkite wasn't really the most trusted man in America. It's just that an opinion poll, conducted in 1972 by U.S. securities firm Quayle & Co., to rank some of the day's prominent people - Richard Nixon and Spiro Agnew, for example - tossed in Cronkite's name and not surprisingly, Cronkite came out on top. And so to enhance their anchor's high ranking, didn't CBS tag its coverage of the 1972 election campaign: "Choose Walter Cronkite, the most trusted man in America."

That's not the point of my column, however. But this being the first week of February (with an "R") allows me to fly into one of my periodic rants about how we are murdering the English language in usage, pronunciation and meaning. Right at the top of my list are the sportscasters seen and heard on some of our national networks - broadcasters who should know better. These are (supposedly) educated men and women who say such things as:

"Can you believe the amount of people in the stadium today?" Or, "Based out of the University of Connecticut, and wearing No. 22, Rudy Gay!"

Amount of people? It makes the spectators attending the Super Bowl last Sunday the equivalent of Cheerios poured into a cereal bowl, not a finite number of people. They should refer to the size of the crowd as "the number of people" in attendance. And, based out of? Well, perhaps "based in Connecticut," or "from Connecticut." But "based out of" makes it seem as if Gay was abusively smacked around and booted out of the University of Connecticut by someone wielding the First Base bag from a softball game.

Next on my hit list are the news and traffic reporters who cannot pronounce the 23rd letter of the alphabet - Double-ue. Instead, they massacre the abbreviation of the Queen Elizabeth Way (that extends from the west end of Toronto to the Niagara Peninsula). They insist on describing crashes, back-ups and delays on the east or westbound "Q.E. Dubb-ya," the way we used to imitate pronunciation of President George Walker Bush's middle initial. Or worse, as if they were speaking baby talk, as in "Q.E. Dubb-ue."

Then, there are the words people simply abuse out of ignorance. Yes, there is such a word as "obligated," meaning "to bind morally or legally." But the more appropriate word is "obliged." Similarly, there is no such word as "irregardless," except that people use it because they think it's more emphatic than a simple "regardless," which is the correct way to say "with no heed or care." Now, in fairness, those who use "inflammable" and those who use "flammable" are both correct when referring to something easily set on fire. However, the key to choosing the more appropriate term is that the negative of "flammable" is "non-flammable," not "non-inflammable." By the time you got that last one out of your mouth, the gas can and anything within a hundred yards of it would have burned to a crisp.

And while we're into supersizing your superlatives, there is no such thing as "really unique." It's either unique (one of a kind) or it's not.

Finally, there's the story of a bunch of rather ignorant (a.k.a. illiterate) vigilantes on the rampage through a small community in Wales. About a dozen years ago, Britons were riled up by the sensational newspaper, the *News of the World*, publishing photos of alleged sex offenders. Overnight, a number of paediatricians in the Welsh town found themselves the object of vigilantes' anger. Among other things, the mobs spray-painted the doctors' doors and windows with the word "paedo," an abbreviation for the British spelling of "paedophile." Yvette Cloete, one of the doctors who fled her home, couldn't believe the vandalism or the misunderstanding. At the time she was a prominent specialist in paediatric medicine at the Royal Gwent Hospital.

"I suppose I'm really a victim of ignorance," she told the press.

All this suggests a number of things. People don't read nearly enough anymore. It also suggests we've thrown away our dictionaries or our pride in speaking with clarity. And whom should we blame? Among other things, smart phones, the absence of grammar and spelling instruction in school curricula or maybe our love affair with the 140-character Twitter-verse.

Me? I blame February and the trusted Mr. Cronkite.

For other Barris Beat columns go to www.tedbarris.com

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Pets and their People

with Dr. Karen Bardecki

One more reason to love cats

First of all, put down that snack and don't read this before dinner...

Coprophagia is the medical jargon. In layman's term it is poop eating. Cats never do this but some dogs do, hence one more reason to love cats.

Some dogs eat other species' stools. Rabbit and horse poop are considered delicacies in some doggy circles. Owners can take some solace in the fact that rabbit, horse and cattle poop is not harmful when eaten (probably somewhat nutritious even). But the thing that grosses dog parents out even more is when their pooch eats their own or other dogs' stools.

"What can I do about my dog eating its own stool?", is one of the most common behaviour questions I am asked. Medical problems causing coprophagia are rare but they do exist. Feeding a poorly digestible diet, not feeding enough, or certain medical problems that cause poor absorption of nutrients all can lead to coprophagia.

As well, some medical conditions or medications can cause an increase in appetite and may lead to poop eating.

Some dogs start as puppies and outgrow the habit, some start as adults (there is more likely to be an underlying medical reason when this happens), some partake only in winter (we call them "poopsicle" eaters), some eat stool only occasionally and others are lifelong, two poops-a-day addicts.

Why poop eaters do what they do is a good question. Left without supervision, some puppies will play with and investigate their poop and this can lead to eating it. Owners who see their pups do this and give the pup attention (even negative attention) may inadvertently reinforce the behaviour. Sort of like the bad kid in class who likes to make a ruckus because bad attention is better than no attention. There is also a theory that because mother dogs normally eat their pups' stool to keep the den clean, some pups mimic this behaviour and start to eat stool too.

Whatever the cause, the really

important question is how do I get it to stop? Coprophagia is common amongst puppies but most cases will stop by adulthood with good nutrition and proper supervision. First, you need to prevent access to the stools. This means accompanying your dog to the yard (every time). After your dog eliminates, call him over to get a non-poop treat then quickly clean up the stool. Changing your dog's diet may help as diets that are high in carbs and low in fibre tend to encourage poop eating. Feeding regular breakfast and dinner meals can help too. I have also heard of adding meat tenderizers (a product called "Forbid") to your dog's food and also giving a Certs at mealtime to your dog to discourage coprophagia, but I have had little to no success with these two products.

If your dog has special nutrition requirements, check with your vet before starting a new diet. In summary, the only reliable ways to stop this nasty habit are: deny access, train your dog to eat a good treat instead, and feed regular meals of a highly digestible food. With Valentine's Day this month, maybe you will be able to kiss your dog once again.

A new Twist on Oliver!

"Some new acquaintances are introduced to the intelligent reader, connected with whom various pleasant matters are related to this history". This is the heading to Chapter 13 from Charles Dickens classic novel *Oliver Twist*. This so accurately conveys the journey of casting Lionel Bart's wonderful musical *Oliver!*

Casting a large musical theatre production is always an eventful journey, much like the journey Oliver travels during the show. You meet lots of different "characters" who may charm, bedazzle, or mystify you. All of them sing, dance and act their hearts out, hoping for a chance fill a role in the show.

In Uxbridge we are blessed to have so many talented residents from which to choose. This can make a director's, musical director's and choreographer's life both simple and very complicated. However from that lot you, as an audience, will find orphans and pickpockets that will charm the handkerchiefs straight from your pockets! You will

discover a wonderful adult chorus, who you will want to sing along with during their rousing rendition of Oom-pah-pah! The varied instruments of the four-piece band will accompany the fabulous voices you will hear from the soloists, such as Nancy pleading for her man in the ballad As Long as He Needs Me, Fagin reflecting upon his life in Reviewing the Situation, and Oliver joyfully loving the moment in Who Will Buy.

So you will find some new acquaintances and some old friends in the Ryleepuss Production of *Oliver!* playing at the Uxbridge Music Hall beginning on Sunday February 10 at 2pm. Tickets are \$20 for adults and seniors and \$12 for youth 13 years of age and under. You can purchase tickets from 10am to 6pm at Sugar Fx on Brock St W. Please call Mike Bridgeman at 905-852-1836 for more information or group rates. For full details please check our website www.ryleepussproductions.com or see the ad on page 14 of this issue.

THE RENAMING OF THE KENNEDY HOUSE PROPERTY

Thank you to all residents that submitted a name. After our first round of submissions we believe we need to give a bit more description to the concept of re-naming the property.

History: In 2008 the Township of Uxbridge purchased the former St. John's Training School/Kennedy House property from the Province of Ontario through the Ontario Realty Corporation.

The Township has always felt that we should eventually rename the property and we feel the time is now. A committee was formed in late 2012 to begin this exercise.

The Committee has established a few new guidelines to help with the renaming of Kennedy House.

1. The Master Plan below shows what the property will eventually look like. We would like to choose a name that reflects this vision. As you will note, this property will be the future home for parks, recreation and cultural activities.

2. While many of the components that will eventually be located at this site will have specific names such as the Rotary Skate Park, these names will be part of a sponsorship program and may be subject to change in the long term for those specific components. The Committee feels the property name should never change and should therefore be timeless.

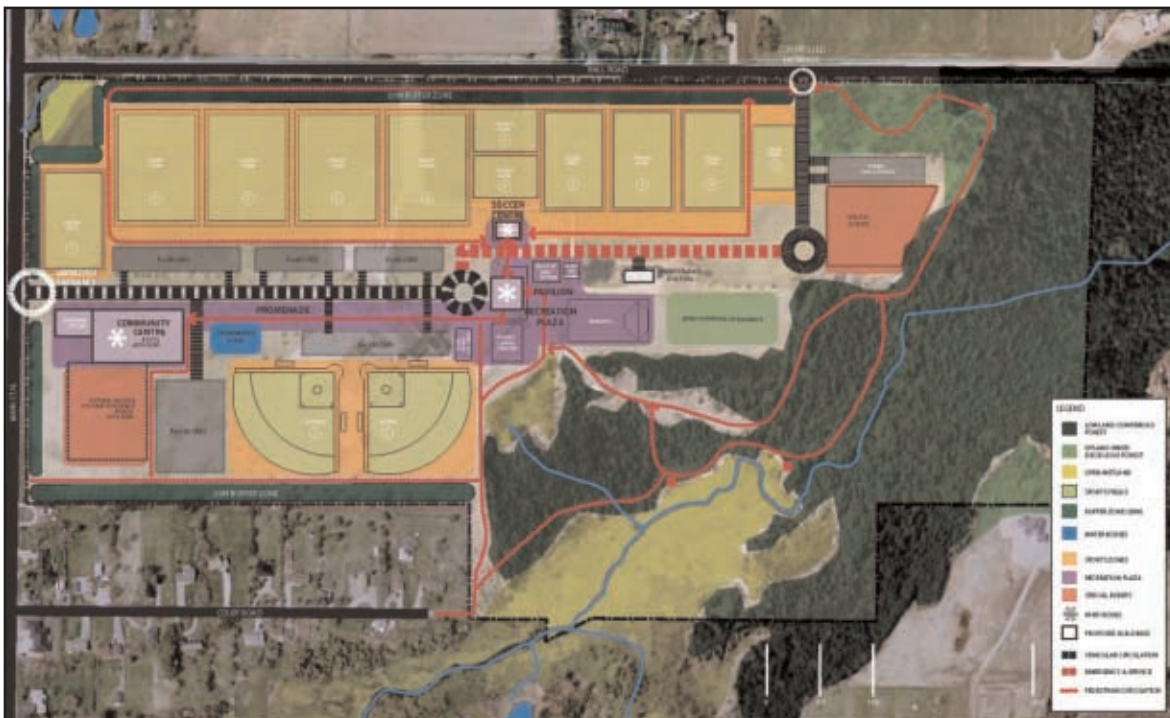
3. No individual's name be considered as a name for the Park.

4. The name should include Uxbridge.

At present two names have risen to the top: Uxpark and Uxbridge Common. If you have another suggestion, please go to our Website www.town.uxbridge.on.ca and submit a name. Be part of History and submit a name that will be our future destination name for this property.

You may also submit your name at Uxpool, 1 Parkside Drive (open Monday - Sunday) and fill out a suggestion form.

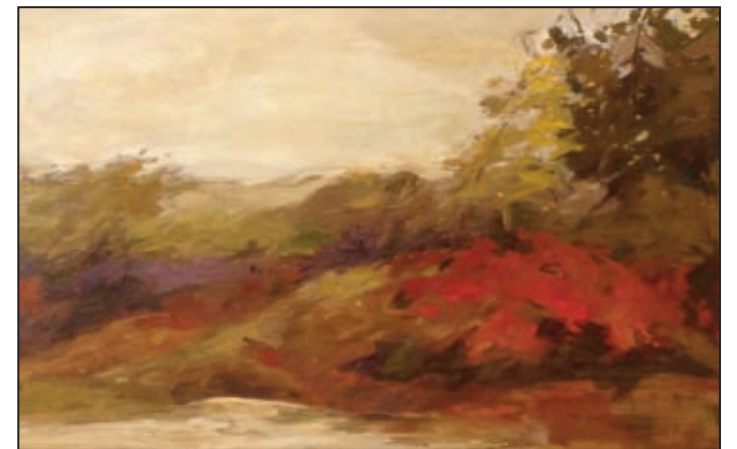
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 Children and adults alike have learned through my workshops how to make many of the toys in this book. The sparkle in the eye of a child and the broad smile of an educator when they have made the toy and when they see it working is most gratifying.
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Uxbridge stars at the Grammys

by Shelagh Damus

The 55th Annual Grammy Awards are set to take place on Sunday February 10th at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. That is a long way from small town Uxbridge, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't tune in. There are a couple of Uxbridge connections to the Grammy Awards this year. The first is the posthumous lifetime achievement award being bestowed upon celebrated Canadian pianist, Glenn Gould by the U.S. Recording Academy. The award will be presented in the lead up to the ceremony. He and the other posthumous recipients will be recognized during the televised Grammy ceremony.

Glenn Gould is a descendant of the Gould family that founded Uxbridge. His first public performance took place at the Trinity United Church on First Ave. Gould was an incredibly gifted pianist who picked up a quartet of Grammy Awards during his lifetime. He was known for his unique and often controversial interpretations of the works of J.S. Bach; his recording of the Goldberg Variations catapulted the pianist onto the world music stage. He combined incredible technical skill with an interpretive style that verged on reinvention. His eccentricities were many; his exceptionalities were more. Gould exhibited perfect pitch at the age of three. He learned to read music before he learned to read words. He achieved the highest mark from the Royal Conservatory of Music for his final exam which he took at the age of twelve. Rather than work through a piece of music at the piano, Gould claimed he would read the music, study its nuances and then play it. His time at the piano was dedicated more to improving his technique. His preferred approach of pulling down on the keys instead of striking them from above led to one of his more visible eccentricities – his chair. Gould had a special chair he used whenever and wherever he played piano that situated him in a position lower than conventional wisdom dictated a pianist should sit. It travelled with him for all concerts, performances and recordings.

Gould's performing career ended at the age of 31. Then he dedicated himself to recording his music and the pursuit of opportunities within the print media, and the broadcasting sector where he discussed music, music theory and philosophy as it applied to music. Gould died in 1982 at the age of 50. His innovation within the world of classical music is the reason his recordings remain relevant today. The Lifetime Achievement Award honours performers who have made contributions of outstanding artistic significance to the field of recording.

The second Uxbridge connection to the awards is jewellery maker Judy Cogo. A custom-made Swarovski Crystal necklace is to be included in one of the gift bags given to celebrities at the 2013



Grammy Awards. Much like Ginny VanVeghel's 'Friggin' Lip Balms' that conditioned the lips of the music industry's A-list at last year's Grammys, Cogo is hop-

ing to capitalize on the exposure the necklace's inclusion in the swag bag will bring to her line of jewellery.



"Celebrity gifting is a very selective process and many businesses are evaluated for inclusion," says Cogo. She was first approached by Black Diamond Celebrity Gifting. "They found me on Facebook and contacted me with an invitation to submit a piece of jewellery for consideration for the Country Music Association Awards." They were impressed with her submission and her work was given to Taylor Swift and a couple of other celebrities at the awards in November. Cogo is "very honoured to participate in such high profile events and to be recognized for [her] creative styles."

Some of the Grammy swag "gets delivered to the celebrities in the days prior to the actual ceremony. Therefore, there is a chance it might get worn on stage at the Grammys," says a hopeful Cogo. Otherwise, the piece will be included in a gift bag given out back stage. Cogo will be notified in the days that follow which celebrity received her necklace. Should the celebrity be caught on camera wearing the piece it will serve as "an endorsement – when a celebrity wears it then for lots of people it is okay for them to wear it too," says Cogo.

Both looking back and going forward, Uxbridge is a community that celebrates creativity in the arts. This year's Grammy Awards, and the inclusion of both Gould and Cogo illustrates that the world is sitting up and taking notice too!

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Coming Up

THIS WEEKEND

Fri., Feb. 8, 9:30AM, Oak Ridges Trail Association Hike: Walker Woods ; 10+km; Fast pace; 2+hrs. Hike or snowshoe, some hills. Meet at the parking lot on the west side of Uxbridge 7th Concession, 2 km south of Durham Road 21. Russ Burton at 905-830-2862.

Fri., Feb. 8 Uxbridge Networking Group 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Scrambles Restaurant, Foxbridge Golf Club. Guest speaker is Teresa Shaver, Executive Director of BACD (Business Advisory Centre Durham), on "We're Connected!" RSVP to 905-852-6686, or by email to networkingsvgroup@uxbridge.com.

Fri., Feb. 8 Cottage Hospital Auxiliary Glow in the Dark Bingo Bowling Parish Lanes, Uxbridge. 7-10pm, Tickets \$20 in advance available at the Bowling Center, Presents Presents & the Hospital Gift Shop, tickets \$26 at the door.

Sat., Feb. 9, 7:00AM, Oak Ridges Trail Association Hike: Al Shaw Side Trail; 4+km; Moderate pace; 1+hrs. Hike or snowshoe. Meet at the entrance on the west side of Uxbridge 6th concession, 1.5 km south of Durham Road 21. Russ Burton at 905-830-2862.

Sat., Feb. 9 Precious Valentine's Dance, Mill Run Golf Club, 8 pm-midnight, \$40 p.p. Live Music and DJ. Chance to win a romantic trip for 2 to the Caribbean. Full details and ticket orders at www.preciousminds.com. Tickets also avail-

able at Blue Heron Books and Mill Run Golf Club.

Sun., Feb. 10, 2:00PM, Oak Ridges Trail Association Hike: Secord-Goodwood Tracts; 6+km; Slow to Moderate pace; 2+hrs. T&B hike. Families and well-mannered dogs welcome. Bring snacks and water. Dress for the weather; bring icers or snowshoes. Meet at Secord Parking Lot, 2km south of Goodwood Rd (Durham 21) in Goodwood on Concession 3, E on Secord Rd. Brian & Kathy Clark at 905-841-9757.

Feb. 10-23 Oliver Classic musical from Ryleepuss Productions. For box office details, see page 14.

NEXT WEEK

Tues., Feb. 12 Trinity United Church Pancake Supper from 5.00 - 7.00 pm. Pancakes,sausages, syrup, muffins ,tea,coffee etc. Cost \$ 7.00 for adults & teens, \$ 4.00 ages 6-12, 5 & under free.

Tues., Feb. 12 Sandford United Church Annual Pancake Supper 5 - 7:30pm. Sandford Hall, 433 Sandford Road. Prices are \$7 for adults, \$3 for those ages 6-12, 5 and under are free.

Tues., Feb. 12 - Pancake Dinner St Paul's Anglican Church, with sausage, real maple syrup, fruit salad & more. Continuous serving from 6:15 PM in the Lower Hall. Adults \$ 7, Children (5-12) \$ 4, Pre-schoolers FREE, Family Rate - Parents & Children \$ 16. Proceeds to our Church & Outreach Programs. Tickets available at the door, or phone 905-852-7016. www.stpauls-

uxbridge.ca and on Facebook.

Wed., Feb. 13 FREE Mobile Productivity Workshop Hosted by Take Root Creative and Treehouse Business Centres. We will show you the latest tools for working collaboratively from and home or remote office. 7pm, Treehouse Business Centres, 99 Brock Street West Unit #2. To sign up, contact Jelena at jelenab@treehousebusinesscentres.com

Wed., Feb. 13 7-9 pm Free Diabetes Support Group Evening Love your Heart! Join us for a fun and informative evening to learn about heart health. Bring along your sweetie, family member or friend, everyone is welcome. Diabetes Education Centre Uxbridge Cottage Hospital Testa professional Building Suite 208, 2 Campbell Dr. Uxbridge. Contact: 905-852-9771 ext 5260

Fri., Feb. 15 Blood Donor Clinic 1-8 p.m., Uxbridge Seniors Centre, 75 Marietta St.

Sat., Feb. 16 Valentine's Lasagna Dinner Goodwood United Church, 6:30 p.m. \$12 including choices of lasagnas, bread, dessert. ADVANCE RESERVATIONS ADVISED since this event sells out quickly. To make your reservation, call 905 640 3347 before February 13.

Sat., Feb.16, 7:00AM, Oak Ridges Trail Association Hike: Al Shaw Side Trail ; 4+km; Moderate pace; 1+hrs. Meet at the entrance on the west side of the 6th Conc., 1.5 km south of Durham Rd. 21. No dogs please. Bob Comfort at 905-473-2669.

UPCOMING

Mon., Feb. 18 Living Water Community Church will be hosting a **Free Bowling time** at the Uxbridge Bowling Alley from 9:30-11:30 am on Family Day for anyone in the community.

Mon., Feb. 18 RBC UXBRIDGE BRANCH will be hosting a **Free Family Skate** to celebrate Family Day at the Uxbridge Arena between 12:00-3:30pm. There will be a RBC Olympian there to sign hockey pucks and give-a-ways for the children. Come out and have some fun!

Tues., Feb. 19 Uxbridge Senior Citizens' Club "TEA" at 12:00 Noon Speaker from Uxbridge Fire Department Safety here and at home. Tickets for March Catered Chicken Dinner. Available \$12.00 pp. New Members Welcome! \$10.00pp/per year.

Thurs., Feb. 21 Uxbridge Genealogy Group Lower Hall Uxbridge Public Library, 7:00 PM. \$2.00 admission, 50/50 draw. Guest speaker is Allan McGillivray, retracing the steps of the old settlement trail that brought pioneers to Uxbridge and area over 200 years ago; history, personalities and intrigues of Uxbridge in the late 18th and early 19th centuries! All welcome.

Sat, Feb. 23, 7:00AM, Oak Ridges Trail Association Hike: Al Shaw Side Trail ; 4+km; Moderate pace; 1+hrs. Hike or snowshoe. Meet at the entrance on the west side of the 6th Conc., 1.5 km south of Durham Rd. 21. Joan Taylor at 905-477-2161.

Sat., Feb. 23, 8 PM, Greenbank Folk Music Society presents David Essig, internationally known singer, songwriter and master of the blues and slide guitar. Opening for David is Nonie Crete, a stunningly beautiful voice and "veritable

1-woman music festival" from Kitchener-Waterloo. Greenbank Centennial Hall, Tickets \$25 at: Blue Heron Books.

ONGOING

DRUMMING: "Ladybeat" Women's Community Drum Circle, Monday evenings Jan 28 - Mar 4. Beginners or experienced drummers welcome. Drums available if you don't have your own. For info and registration, contact Anne Webb, lwc-missions@hotmail.com

Invitation to Meditation is open to anyone interested in practicing meditation. Sessions are every 1st and 3rd Thursday starting at 7:00 pm at Siloam Community Centre. By donation. (905) 852-9974 for information.

Loaves & Fishes Food Bank is open Wednesdays 1-4 p.m. for those requiring assistance. All donations are always appreciated. Current needs include: Instant Coffee, Tea, Ketchup, Peanut Butter, Tuna/Hamburger Helper, Canned Fruit, Toothpaste, Soap, Shampoo. Tax receipts are issued for Financial Donations. Donations may be dropped in the Food Bank Box at Zehrs or at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Monday to Friday 9 a.m.-noon.

Hospital Auxiliary "Chances Are" Store on Bascom Street accepting good winter clothing. Proceeds to Cottage Hospital.

If you have a community event you'd like us to mention, please contact us at cosmosboyce@powergate.ca or 905-852-1900. The deadline for our next issue is 6 p.m. Sunday.

Tiger Talk



A Sonnet (and a Plea) for Student Scribes

by Maggie Anderson

When I consider how my school time is spent

O'er half my days, in USS so full of pride,

And that one talent which is mine to hide,

Lodged with me useless, though to write I am bent

To serve therewith the *Cosmos*, and present

My true account, of 'Tigers' fortune's tide;

"Doth Conrad not want excellent writing, in our stride?"

I fondly ask; but my reluctance to present

That murmur, soon replies, "But Conrad doth most need

Students' work and their own gifts; who best

Could supply such stuff, they serve him best. His state

Is Kingly. Thousands of Tigers at his bidding speed

And pounce o'er land and ocean without rest;

They do not serve who only stand and wait."

(with apologies to John Milton!)

And it's SO true – it is NOT the time to stand and wait, but rather all of us at Tiger Talk encourage USS students to jump in and give us some ideas, some writing, some inspiration. At the start of this fresh, new semester, we are soliciting student input for the articles to come in the second half of our school year.

Are YOU the lonely writer, sitting in your garret, churning out sonnets like the one above? Do you want to share some of your spark with Tiger Talk? We'd love to have some creative work from students to include in our columns: poems, short stories, prose, maybe even song lyrics. Try us!

Or do you have a burning story idea you'd like to either write or share with us? Perhaps you've witnessed an act of unusual kindness or bravery, or you've sat

in on a classmate's amazing presentation, or you've learned someone has a talent or a hobby you think others would like to learn about (or you have one of your own to share). We simply can't have our eyes and ears out there for all that's going on at our school, so we're turning to you, our student readers, for your important contributions. Whatever involves USS students, either in the school or in the community, is of interest to

Tiger Talk readers. So DON'T stand and wait – come on out! The Tiger Talk Team of Maggie, Connor, Michelle and Jenna are waiting for your input. All you need to do is speak with any one of us, or contact *Cosmos* editor Conrad Boyce at cosmosboyce@powergate.ca. Go for it, Tigers!!

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On Heritage Trails by Allan McGillivray

The wild west

In earlier days, the Brock Road, Durham Road 1, split north of Claremont, and a branch went west and north to connect with the Uxbridge-Pickering Townline near the 4th of Uxbridge. The 4th continued north into Scott Township which is now the part of Uxbridge Township north of Davis drive. This was a main route by which grain and lumber was taken down to Lake Ontario. Like many such major early roads, there was a hotel every few miles. There were hotels at the Uxbridge-Pickering Townline, at Regional Road 47, at Roseville, and at Sandford. Further north, the route went west to the 3rd with a hotel located in Zephyr and one at the north end of the 3rd at Ravenshoe Road.

In the 1850s, Joseph Galloway had a hotel at the 4th and the Uxbridge-Pickering Townline called the Mount Pleasant Inn. The area soon took on the name Mount Pleasant, and even a Primitive Methodist Church a couple of kilometres to the north was sometimes called Mt. Pleasant as was the nearby cemetery. Another hotel run by Henry Vanzant near the townline intersection was called the Ontario House. By 1874, it

was known as the Buffalo House, and the area became known as Buffalo Corners.

One of the hotels had an outside stairway, and the story is that after a few drinks some of the guys would try to ride their horses up the stairs. Apparently one fellow could get his horse up the stairs and back down again.

The little cemetery further north is now called Eastgate Cemetery. Hezekiah Eastgate once owned the adjoining land.

Nelson Bice was running the North Albion Hotel at Roseville by the mid 1860s. The local post office, which was open from 1879 until 1889, was called Rothes which is also a place in Scotland. The news from there was in the newspaper under Rothesville which is pronounced almost the same as Roseville. That's how the name Roseville came about.

Lance Hutchinson ran the hotel there for many years, and the area was also sometimes referred to as Hutchinson's Corners. Phillip Mortson had a blacksmith and carriage shop there by 1877, and the little hamlet became Mortsonville for awhile.

The hotel building is still there on the northeast corner, owned now by Uxbridge councillor Pat Mikuse.

North of Durham Road 8, and east of the 3rd, there was a sawmill settlement called Randallville as the Randall family once owned the property. By the 1870s, there were about 10 houses there as well as the mill. The first Siloam post office was a short distance away on the 3rd as was the school. This little settlement was also known as Slabtown because of all the slabs from the sawmill that were piled there. The early Uxbridge Trail went over the dam at the mill. When the Widdifields owned the property, the pond became known as Widdifield's Pond, a name which is still on some maps. The hamlet disappeared when timber was no longer available for the mill.

Sandford post office opened in 1862. One idea is that it was named after Sir Sandford Fleming who designed the first postage stamp about that time. However, there is a place called Sandford in Lanarkshire, Scotland, and some local settlers were from Lanarkshire. Did they bring the name with them?

The area on the 3rd south of Ashworth Road where the trailer park is located was known as Titusville as a Titus family once lived there. Our neighbour, Arnot Harrison, said he knew a fellow who had a girl friend there. One

time when the guy went to see her, he came running back out the lane and a rabbit jumped out in front of him. He said, "Get out of the road, rabbit, and let a fellow run who has to."

I once mentioned Titusville at a Historical Society meeting, and the late Gould Barton knew the name, and said they used to go hunting

there.

Some current maps show the name "Dumphuston" at the corner of the 3rd and Ashworth Road. As far as I know, there never was such a name used for that location, and why it is there is a mystery.

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Bruins claim first with an exclamation mark **THE POLICE BEAT**

by Roger Varley

It was not the nail-biter the fans had expected.

When the Uxbridge Bruins faced the Lakefield Chiefs at the arena last Friday, first place in the OHA Jr. C Central Division was on the line: only two points separated the Bruins from their Ottonabee River rivals.

At the end of the game, it was apparent no nail-biting was necessary as the Bruins thumped the Chiefs 8-2 to nail down the regular season title.

As the game began, the Bruins appeared a little slow to get started. The Chiefs jumped on an early mistake by the defence, intercepting a slow cross-ice pass in front of goalie Brandon Francey and scoring the first goal of the game. But in the second half of the period, the Bruins pressed much harder, gaining several good scoring chances. Tim Bierema evened the score in the closing minutes when he tipped in a pass from Corey Brand. Marco Mastrangelo recorded the other assist.

Early in the second period, Joey Vocino put the Bruins ahead with a power-play goal, assisted by defencemen Andrew Liboiron and Callum Lynch. Almost 10 minutes later, Vocino scored again, this time assisted by Jarrett Smith and Michael Spataro. It was a small but important play by Vocino that led to the Bruins third goal 24 seconds later. Vocino body-checked a Lakefield player in the corner to the right of the Chiefs' net, freeing up the puck for Jarrett Smith, who passed to Matt Allen for the score.

Lakefield scored a couple of minutes later with a long, high shot that beat Francey cleanly. But Francey redeemed himself just before the buzzer with a great save on a Lakefield three-on-one rush.

With Bierema serving a four-minute penalty for spearing at the start of the third, the Bruins killed the penalty excellently, with Mastrangelo having two good scoring chances. Then the roof fell in on the Chiefs. Steve Douitsis made the score 5-2, assisted by Keegan Cairns and Lynch, followed seconds later by Allen's second of the night, once again assisted by Jarrett Smith and Vocino. A minute-and-half later, Patrick Morgan scored an unassisted marker after stealing the puck off a Lakefield

defender's stick right in front of the Chiefs' net. With just under six minutes left in the third period, Lynch took advantage of Lakefield having two men in the penalty box to make the score 8-2, assisted by Morgan.

The Bruins and the Chiefs now have to stay sharp and focused while waiting for the first round of the playoffs to play out. The Clarington Eagles visit the Georgina Ice tomorrow night and Port Perry MoJacks travel to Little Britain to face the Merchants on Saturday. Both series are best-of-five affairs and are slated to end Feb. 17 if they go the distance. At this writing, it is not known whether the Bruins will face the winner of the Eagles-Ice match-up or the Merchants-MoJacks series.

Bruins pause: Defenceman Justin Bean (see photo below by Peter Ovens) was awarded the Percy Macklin Memorial Trophy by League Convenor Liz Bassinger at the arena Friday after being named the Central Division's Rookie of the Year. Bean was the third highest scoring Bruin during the season - and 12th overall in the league - with eight goals and 24 assists for 32 points.

Almost 400 people were on hand to watch Friday's game, one of the biggest crowds of the year.



OLD MILITARY BOMB FOUND IN UXBRIDGE SHED

While cleaning out a rented residence near Zephyr on Saturday, January 26, workers found what they believed to be a percussion bomb along with other military paraphernalia. The workers were not immediately concerned and placed the old military shell in a car with the other items. When the tenant arrived back at the home yesterday, he immediately called 911.

As a safety precaution, officers created a perimeter on Hollingers Road and stayed at the top of the home's long driveway. Canadian Forces specialists were called in for safe removal and disposal.

If you find a suspicious item that you believe to be an explosive, do not handle the item and call police immediately for assistance.

K-9 TRACKS ASSAULT SUSPECT THROUGH SUB ZERO TEMPERATURES

A 25-year-old Uxbridge man was tracked seven kilometers in sub zero temperatures and arrested by a K-9 unit after fleeing the scene of a domestic assault incident.

On Sunday February 3 at approximately 4 a.m. North Division officers responded to a domestic-related assault incident at a residence on the York Durham Line. Police received a 911 call from the female victim who sustained minor injuries and received immediate medical attention. No weapons were involved. Officers arrived to the residence where several other persons were in attendance, but the suspect had fled the scene on foot.

A K-9 unit assisted patrol officers with the search for the suspect and tracked over seven kilometers, in sub zero temperatures, of forested terrain, along railway tracks and through a gravel pit to Highway 47 to where the accused was located. The accused sustained a minor bite wound from the K-9 unit upon arrest and was transported to a local hospital for medical treatment.

A 25-year-old Uxbridge male is charged with Assault and was held for a bail hearing.

Best-selling thriller writer hits Uxbridge

by Shelagh Damus

Blue Heron Books has a healthy tradition of bringing authors to town just as they are about to break into the big leagues, or just after they have taken home one of the top literary prizes in the country or internationally. Timing is everything and this time Blue Heron Books has conspired to bring James Rollins to the Blue Heron Studio on Sunday, February 10th, just as his new novel, *The Blood Gospel*, has landed on the *Globe and Mail's* Bestseller's List. Rollins is a high-octane thriller writer in the same league as James Patterson, Tom Clancy, and Michael Crichton, to name a few. This is one of only two stops James Rollins is making in Canada!

Rollins' Sigma Force series has been deemed a "top crowd pleaser" by the *New York Times*. He is an imaginative and original author that navigates his high speed adventures and scientific plot twists accurately and convincingly. Historical locations and events are interwoven with technological advancements to create situations that both challenge the protagonist physically as well as morally. His novels, whether part of a series or stand alone books, are the

definition of page-turning, can't-put-it-down, won't-put-out-the-light, need-to-know-how-it-ends writing. Author and radio personality, Ted Barris will be on hand to interview Rollins' and lead the question and answer session.

The event is a coming together of a great author with a great cause. Uxbridge resident, Catherine Walker is part of a grassroots organization of "grateful grannies who want to make life better for African grandmothers who are raising a generation of AIDS orphans." The G-Moms as they are known raise funds to respond to the ongoing and growing crisis of African grandmothers.

"We not only raise funds but raise awareness about the situation in Africa," says Catherine Walker.

All money raised "goes straight to the Stephen Lewis Foundation (S.L.F.)" which now includes over 250 Grandmothers to Grandmothers fundraising chapters. As part of the S.L.F. the funds raised by the G-Moms supports both the immediate needs of African grandmothers including food, school fees, uniforms, health care, etc. -- and longer-term needs such as parenting and business skills, micro-credit

grants, bereavement counseling, HIV awareness training, counseling and testing and grandmother support groups.

The choice of Ted Barris as interviewer pleases Walker who says he is "one of the most precious resources that Uxbridge has." Shelley Macbeth of Blue Heron Books couldn't agree more. "Ted's unfailing enthusiasm for his town and everything he holds dear in it - the arts, sports, politics - makes him the most underappreciated arts patron/volunteer/advocate in this town."

There is moral compass alive in all of us. A guiding force that says we need to do something about the loss and devastation in Africa. The lesson the G-Moms have for us is that it doesn't have to be something big, and it can be something fun. By hosting events that are enjoyable we can continue to raise awareness, as well as funds to support the cause. This event provides the opportunity to stock up on a great novel, engage in an interesting dialogue, commune with like-minded individuals all the while offering monetary support to a very worthy cause.

Rollins will be in the Blue Heron Studio, Sun. February 10th at

10:00am. Tickets for the event are \$30 and include a \$15 voucher for a James Rollins book, refreshments at the event and a donation to the G-Mom's of Port Perry. Tickets are available at Blue Heron Books, 62 Brock St. W., Uxbridge, 905-852-4282.

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One Way of Looking At It

with Jai Darshanand

Unfettered and entrenched

Let's see, a Gibson acoustic guitar, a black Lexus, a four-week holiday - one of many, in the South of France and a sixty-inch flat screen TV, with surround sound. Better yet, I'd get a new custom built house with a theatre in the basement, complete with plush armchairs, popcorn machine, pool table, ping pong table and of course a beer fridge. If only I win the 649 tonight...

I was contemplating this idyllic exist-

ence one Saturday morning at breakfast, when my wife interrupted my thoughts with a public service announcement: we had to replace the kitchen sink because it now qualified for CPP, or words to that effect.

The man at a home supply store that shall remain nameless assured me nonchalantly that replacing a sink was a piece of cake, even for a clueless homeowner like myself. They rated it as one of the projects most incompetents could accomplish without much misery, and it did seem easy, come to think of it - take the old one out and drop the new one in.

The old sink did not surrender without a fight, and why should it? Would you get up and leave after sixteen years of lying there doing nothing? Sinks are no different from regular people, or even irregular ones; once we get set in our ways it's tough to change and get out of the old rut and routine. After half an hour of trying to pry the edges up from the countertop, I started to get a sinking feeling this project would drain every bit of my patience. Then I noticed there were clamps underneath, and in a state of euphoria, I promptly undid them, but without fanfare, because my wife was around and would have said something sarcastic. But the sink would not budge. It just sat there, unfettered yet entrenched. It occurred to me that's how I would feel when I won the lottery, unfettered and entrenched.

Finally, after an eternity of pushing from underneath and prying the edges up, I dislodged Rip van Sinkle. But, as I said before, sinks are like people, no

two are exactly alike, you don't just drop a new sink into the void created by the previous one.

The new sink didn't fit, the void was null, my Saturday was ruined and there was no more beer in the house.

I visited nameless again and fortunately for him, I did not see Mr. Nonchalant but an accomplice of his, who listened to my tale of woe and made some recommendations. I returned home with a jigsaw, a cool tool, that allowed me to modify the void, thus allowing the new sink to be sunk. Total cost of this project so far was \$350.00 plus beer. I have never used the jigsaw since, and it enjoys a heavenly existence in my basement workshop - the proverbial one hit wonder, never required to prove itself again, and retired at a young age. I wish I were so lucky.

But I could be lucky, you never know. After all, I did have a 649 ticket for the draw that night. If I won, I would buy myself a cell phone, but not just any cell phone, an iPhone. My old Samsung flip phone would bite the dust, shuffle off its mortal ring tone and I would no longer be ashamed of whipping it out in public for all to see. I would carry my iPhone around proudly, like everyone else, my head lowered in solemn contemplation of its wonderment. I would even learn to send text messages; I'm all thumbs anyway when it comes to technical things, so I would be a quick study.

The ringing of the kitchen phone broke my reverie. It was the plumber, Paul, whom I'd contacted earlier, calling to say he would come by within the hour.

For some reason, I could not connect

the old drainpipes to the new sink; the entire configuration was out of sync, but that could have been due to the beer in which I had drowned my frustration.

I did consider a third pilgrimage to nameless, but what would be the point of such an exercise? It would be like going to Confession, to purge my soul of all ineptitude and beg the indulgence of yet another Customer Service person. Instead, I just kept my fingers crossed, hoping I would win the lottery so I could afford to pay the plumber.

FEB. 20 • 6-9pm @ ROXY THEATRES

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VIEWPOINTS

How well do you know the highways and byways of Uxbridge Township? The first person each week to call into our office number, 905-852-1900, and correctly identify the location of our photo, will receive a prize; this week, it's two tickets for *Oliver* at the Music Hall. Last week's viewpoint (lower photo) was on the wall at the Family Health Clinic. It was guessed by Katie Fortune of Uxbridge. We'll have the answer to the upper photo next week. Photos by Renee Leahy.



Oliver!
Produced with special permission by the Village of Uxbridge

Director: Kathy Bridgeman
Music Director: Jackie Crawford
Choreographers: Shira Forsyth
Producers: Mike Bridgeman
Set Chief: John Harkins

Uxbridge Music Hall

February 10-23

more info 905-852-1836

Tickets available at:
Sugar 1x 905-852-7811
13 Brock St West
Adults \$20 and Youth \$12 (13yrs and under)

www.ryleecussproductions.com

Sun, Feb. 10 @ 2pm
all tickets \$10
Thurs., Feb. 14 @ 7:30pm
Fri., Feb. 15 @ 7:30pm
Sat., Feb. 16 @ 3pm & 7:30pm
Sun, Feb. 17 @ 2pm
Thurs., Feb. 21 @ 7:30pm
Fri., Feb. 22 @ 7:30pm
Sat., Feb. 23 @ 3pm & 7:30pm

DO YOU HAVE HEADACHES?

If you suffer with headaches, I can relate. As a teenager I endured frequent and severe headaches and was told to live with them and take medication to dull the pain. Of course the drugs did nothing to prevent the next headache. Even worse than that, I would get "rebound" headaches if I didn't take the pills.

This pattern continued until age 20 when I went to my first chiropractor.

Much to my amazement, the chiropractic adjustments cured my headaches. I was so impressed by this that I decided to switch career paths and become a chiropractor too.

Most headaches are literally a pain in the neck and shoulders.

posture, and tight muscles and fascia irritate sensitive nerves which in turn "refer" the pain to the head.

These same hyper-sensitized nerves are what make people prone to the common headache triggers such as change in weather, stress, certain foods, strong smells, loud noises etc. Remove the cause (irritated nerves) and these triggers no longer have an effect.

Life is too short to waste days of your life with headaches. Call today for a no-charge consultation and treatment plan to eliminate your headaches.



*Dr. John Clark,
Chiropractor and
Acupuncture Provider*



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SUMMER 2013 SOCCER REGISTRATION



Uxbridge Soccer Club



Register Online

Visit www.uxbridgesoccerclub.com to register from the comfort of your home any time you want!

U4: Born in 2009	\$115
U5: Born in 2008	\$115
U6 to U10: Born 2003-2007	\$155
U11 to U18: Born 2001-1995	\$180
Adult resident: 1994 and prior	\$220
Adult non-resident: 1994 and prior	\$276.50
Late Fee after February 28, 2013	add \$25
Canadian Tire JumpStart funding available (contact the club)	

Contact Sandra or Julia:
admin@uxbridgesoccerclub.com or 862-0083

Or register in person at the Uxbridge Arena Hall:
 Wed. Feb. 13, 7-8pm or Tues. Feb. 26, 7-9pm

U.S.C. registration is for players born in 2009 or earlier.
 All new players require proof of birth date.
 Players born in 2008 & 2009 play one night per/week.
 All other ages have one game and one practice per week.

Local Adult Soccer

Uxbridge Women's Over 30 Recreational League

A recreational, fun league for Women over 30. No experience required. Come and join the fun, meet new people and enjoy a great game! Games Sunday nights.

Register in person at the USC registration nights (above).
 Contact: Cecile cecileh19@gmail.com 647-382-2403.

Uxbridge Men's Tuesday Night Soccer League

A recreational men's league for men over 30. Season runs from late May until late September.

Register in person at the USC registration nights (above).
 Contact Chris: chrisjhanley@gmail.com 416-859-8692



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Six Generations Of Small Town Friendly Service!

Founded in 1860, Low's is the oldest family business in Uxbridge. It was Mr. McGuire, the maternal grandfather of John Low Sr., who owned the Uxbridge Piano and Organ Co. and also sold caskets and furniture from the original location.

About 1891, they moved the business to its current location at 76 Brock Street West. John Low came into the business in 1917 and was actively engaged in both the funeral home and furniture store businesses until the 1950's.

Bill Low came into the business in 1949. In 1964 the original name of McGuire and Low, was changed to Low and Low upon incorporation.

In 1988 John Low, the fifth generation, joined the family business.

Our store has undergone many changes in the past year, and we are pleased to present a newly renovated bed shoppe and store front.

Moving forward, we have exciting plans of further expanding our store and offering a greater selection of living and dining room furniture; and welcoming our 6th generation into the business, Ella.

At Low's we pride ourselves on providing great quality and selection of unique furnishings at reasonable prices, with small town friendly service.



Drop by and see our newly renovated bed shoppe and storefront!

Grand Re-Opening

**Saturday February 9th 2013
From 11:30am – 1:30pm
Ribbon cutting at 12:00pm**

*Free cake, snacks, and beverages
Free gift for the first 25 guests
Prizes and Giveaways*

Enter to win

**1 of 3 \$100 gift certificates to Lows
1 free 1 hour massage at Highfields Spa
1 free 1 hour in home interior design and
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