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Second Section

Wednesday, November 16, 1983

Brock Street dirty

BY AUDREY GREEN
 UXBRIDGE — The business section of Uxbridge is "a real mess" said Ward 5 Councillor Ian Morrison during Thursday's council meeting.

"I think we should give some real consideration to cleaning up Brock Street," said Morrison during a heated discussion with council members. "We don't maintain the street."

He explained that shoppers and businesses have been the target of dirt and dust blowing about on a windy day and the need for a regular street cleaner was necessary. He said the annual spring cleaning wasn't good enough.

However, Mayor Bill Ballinger's ideas on the situation were totally opposite. "I don't think it's a big problem."

Ballinger said Brock Street would be much cleaner "if a lot of the businessmen would pick up their own garbage." Presently, Uxbridge has one full-time employee who manually cleans the streets everyday, but to have a street cleaning machine maintain Brock Street on a regular basis would be too costly and too much trouble said Ballinger.

"You don't know the amount of work involved," he said. "Every municipality has the same problem."

Morrison said the answer is to have a street cleaner work the roadway on a regular basis, but Ballinger said it would entail having to clear the street of all vehicles.

"It should be done properly...therefore, if any vehicles are on the street it becomes totally ineffective," he commented. "If you have one car to go by — forget it." "That's utopia and that will never be done," rebelled Morrison.

He made reference to the town of Stouffville being able to keep their streets clean, but Regional Councillor Gerri-Lynn O'Connor mentioned how other communities are not subject to the same amount of truck traffic which Uxbridge has.

"We could be out there eight hours a day, five days a week and dirt would still be there," she concluded.

The council passed a motion to discuss the situation further at the next upcoming Works and Roads Committee.

Tractor trailer crashes

UXBRIDGE — A Schomberg man escaped injury when his tractor-trailer jackknifed west of Marsh Hill Road in Uxbridge Township, Nov. 11.

According to police, Norman Hunter, Lot 28, Conc. 10, was driving his 1979 GMC west on Regional Road 8 when it veered out of control and ended up in the ditch.

Damage was estimated at \$2,000. No charges were laid.

Theft
 A camera and tape recorder were reported stolen Nov. 9 from Uxbridge Secondary School. Police are investigating.

Tearful memory

Remembering how freedom evolved

Durham resident, Hillary Chen, of Oshawa, won first place for her Junior Essay in The Royal Canadian Legion Award-Winning Student Essays and Poems 1982-83. Her Remembrance Day story is as follows:

It is a cool November morning in a little village in Holland. People are hurrying along the little cobblestone streets. Everyone is carrying their few belongings as they try to escape from the war that is approaching their village. There is noise of guns and hand grenades off in the distance.

In a neatly kept house there is a woman sitting at a table, her hands folded in prayer. In front of her is a picture of her husband who has gone to fight in the war. She remembers how hard they had to work and save to buy their little house. How they watched the tulips grow and bloom and then fade away. She remembers all the happy times they had together and now it is all gone. Tears begin to stream down her face.

She looks across the room. On the cleanly swept floor is a little girl playing happily with an old rag doll. She gently hugs it and sings lullabys to it. She is so young that she is not aware of the happenings that are going on outside.

Suddenly the noise gets louder and louder. The little girl, terrified and frightened runs to her mother. The mother holds on to her daughter tightly. The little girl clings on to her rag doll, afraid to let it go. There is nowhere to hide, nowhere to go, nowhere to run. Bombs are falling outside, people are screaming, running frantically about. Then, in a flash it is all over.

It is night. The stars are twinkling in the clear sky. The moon dimly shines upon the little village in Holland below. All that is left is a scene of devastation and destruction. People, still shocked and terrified, huddle together, not to escape the chilling cold but to comfort each other. In the distance the noise of the guns, the rumble of the tanks, gradually fades away.

Amidst the smoldering rubble of a once proud home there lies a little, tattered rag doll. Now there are no more tears, there is no more joy, there is no more laughter — only silence.

Photos by Audrey Green



Lest we forget

Durham Regional Councillor Gerri-Lynn O'Connor places a wreath in front of the Uxbridge cenotaph to praise those who lost their lives in World War I and II.



Life-long reminder

World War II army veteran Hank James (left) and airforce veteran, Richard Newman (right), take a minute to remember those lost in the World Wars. The cold, snowy Remembrance Day Service was held at the cenotaph by the Uxbridge Legion Branch 170 Friday, Nov. 11.



A final salute

The Uxbridge Royal Canadian Legion Branch 170 Pipe Band march down Brock Street following the completion of the Remembrance Day Service. The band, in full attire, braved the chilly weather to participate in the annual Remembrance Day parade.

Let's make a deal

UXBRIDGE — To avoid a long, drawn out legal battle, Uxbridge Town Council has negotiated a "compromise" with the owner of a local shopping centre complex.

In a tie vote, council members passed a resolution Thursday, requesting the developer of Landawn Shopping Centres Ltd., Jerry Sprackman, to adhere to five specific requests or else the town would refuse dealing with the company in any future matters.

"It's a good deal for all parties," said Mayor Bill Ballinger. "The developer has produced...it shows his intent."

The Hwy. 47 entrance to the complex, where Zehrs Market is located, was to be closed on the completion of a \$100,000 road widening project. This decision was made after Sprackman failed to comply with a 1980 entrance permit for a right-hand-in and right-hand-out addition.

In accordance to one of the four requests, Landawn Shopping Centres Ltd., paid the town \$5,000, which will pay for the new median installed at the widened entrance, and agreed to cover any further median costs charged back under local improvement.

The company also submitted a letter withdrawing an objection to the Restricted Area By-Law no. 83-20, which allows Ashly 333 Company Ltd. to have two additional property uses over Landawn.

Landawn must also change the present complex footage to conform to the bylaw, forfeit the one-foot entrance reserve into the mall, and install a low-bar above the Hwy. 47 entrance to restrict truck traffic into Zehrs.

Santa arrives

UXBRIDGE — Keeping up with tradition, Santa Claus will arrive in Uxbridge early to participate in the annual Santa Claus Parade Saturday, Nov. 26 at 11 a.m.

Santa's planned route of travel is from the west end of Brock Street, east to Victoria Street, around Uxbridge Cottage Hospital to Hwy. 47, up Toronto Street to Brock Street, and back to the starting point.

"We have the best Santa Claus parade in the whole county," said Santa Claus Parade Committee Organizer, Bill Scott. "It's community oriented...and it's a lot of co-operation."

Many of the floats will be designed after this year's theme — "The Night Before Christmas."

According to Mr. Scott, there should be approximately 80 floats, most of which are handmade; eight individual bands; and many other people participating in the festivities.

"It's (the parade) a local individual event," he said.

After the parade, hot dogs and pop will be served to those who were involved in the production.

With 800 hot dogs on order for after the parade, Mr. Scott said he hopes he doesn't run out like he did last year.

History is alive in Uxbridge today

UXBRIDGE — Uxbridge Town Council has supported a recommendation by the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) to designate the former Commercial Hotel, 39 Main St., North, Uxbridge, under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Dorothy K. Fletcher, LACAC chairperson, appeared before council Thursday to outline the historical and architectural value the former hotel contributes to Uxbridge Township.

The two-storey wood frame hotel, which was built

during the 1860's, has now been named Hobby Horse Arms. The private owner, Ronald Tindley, is presently renovating and restoring the structure to preserve its original characteristics. He said this is his first attempt at such a project and when the restaurant opens he plans to take active

participation in the daily operations.

"I just didn't want to see a building like this destroyed," he said. "It was too good to put in a graveyard."

Mr. Tindley has renovated the old hotel into a restaurant with eight dining rooms. Each room will be named after the eight hotels

which were operating in the town of Uxbridge years ago.

LACAC recommended the hotel be declared an historical site because it's the only building still in existence from the 1860 era and its appearance hasn't been changed drastically throughout the years. The committee has also viewed

the hotel as a prominent establishment within the town core.

According to Mr. Tindley, he purchased the old hotel in late 1981 and he has been working since to keep it as close to its natural state as possible. He plans to open Hobby Horse Arms at the

end of the month or in early December.

If the site is declared under the Ontario Heritage Act, Mr. Tindley will not be allowed to dramatically change the architectural style or demolish the building without the permission of Uxbridge town council.