

Canada Games closing ceremony free for everyone

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THE RECORD

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Page 10

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2012

Seniors group warns of imposters

SHERBROOKE (MCD)

The Fédération de l'Âge d'Or du Québec (FADOQ) - Estrie Region is warning the public that it is not associated with door-to-door soliciting for a group calling itself the Fondation pour l'amour de nos aînés. This group does not have a license for this solicitation, and use the name of FADOQ to raise money supposedly to improve the living conditions of the elderly in their homes. FADOQ-Estrie Region wishes to remind people to be cautious against this scheme and encourages people to contact Sherbrooke Police by calling 819-821-5555 if they are victims of fraudulent solicitation.

Arnold to serve four years

SHERBROOKE (MCD)

Coaticook resident Jocelyn Arnold will spend at least the next four years in prison, following his conviction Friday of charges of recklessly discharging a firearm, as well as aggravated assault.

Judge Hélène Fabi imposed the sentence after hearing recommendations from both Crown and defense attorneys.

Arnold was convicted of shooting Jean-René Garon at Arnold's home on Dec. 18, 2010.

Testifying in his own behalf, Arnold swore he was at the door wanting to escape what he claimed to be young

CONT'D ON PAGE 4

Local professionals perform in NH



HEATHER DAVIS

Louise Thibault and Jon Gearey played a jazz concert at the North Hatley Library Thursday night, Dec. 13. In the photo above, Gearey performs a Christmas song with his son, Michael. For the story and another photo, please turn to page 3.

Bishop's tackles \$1.2 million cut

By Gordon Lambie
Special to The Record

After having spoken of a feeling of ambitious excitement about the future of Bishop's University just a few weeks ago, Michael Goldbloom says the school is taking a new look at its finances to determine how it will face the challenge of cutting \$1.2 million from the budget. A government cut of 5 per

cent has been applied to all universities in the province, which has Goldbloom talking about the school's plans with strained optimism.

"As disappointed as I am in the government's decision and as concerned as I am about it, I am nonetheless confident that we are going to be able to build on all the things that have been happening."

Goldbloom mentioned his optimism several times in the conversation, but his tone was one of frustration and fatigue, and his message was one that underscored the ways in which Bishop's has had the metaphorical rug pulled out from under it by this news.

"We had expected that this would be the first year in seven where we

CONT'D ON PAGE 4

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CHRISTINE BLANCHETTE



THE GRIND
DOUG MCCOOEYE

Weather

TODAY: SNOW
HIGH OF 0
LOW OF -4

TUESDAY: RAIN
HIGH OF 2
LOW OF 0

WEDNESDAY: SCATTERED FLURRIES
HIGH OF 2
LOW OF -1

THURSDAY: CLOUDY PERIODS
HIGH OF 1
LOW OF -3

MIXED PRECIP.
HIGH OF 4
LOW OF -1

ETRC ARCHIVES

Jody Robinson
Archivist

The tradition of putting up decorations during this season has origins that stretch back to Europe during the medieval period when evergreen bows and plants, such as holly, were displayed in the home as signs of life and colour during the winter season. A much more recent custom, the Christmas tree was established in Germany in the sixteenth or seventeenth century and became common in the homes of European nobility in the early nineteenth century. Much unlike today, early Christmas trees were decorated with candles, fruit and homemade ornaments. Here in Canada, the Christmas tree was first introduced in 1781 by German soldiers stationed in Sorel, Quebec but it was not until the late 1800s that the custom became widespread.

Scattered throughout the ETRC Archives are records that give evidence of the Christmas traditions present in the Eastern Townships at the turn of the twentieth century. Photographs from the early 1900s show the interior of

Deck the halls: Happy holidays from the ETRC

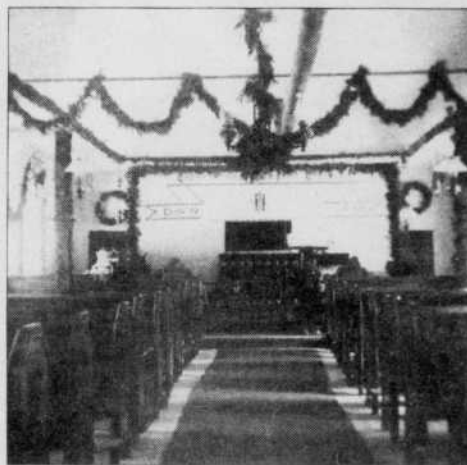


PHOTOS COURTESY OF ETRC

Christmas party at Pyramid Paper Products.

churches decorated with garlands and bows for the season. Other photographs show decorated storefronts in Magog and the first employee Christmas party at Pyramid Paper Products in East Angus in 1929.

1900s. As you carry on with your own traditions this season, the ETRC wishes you happy holidays.



Leeds Anglican Church, 1912.

A letter between sisters from 1944 describes a neighbour turning her house "upside down" as she put up her Christmas trimmings and the writer laments that she cannot afford to do the same. Also found among our documents are a number of charming Christmas and New Year's postcards, sending love and season's greetings to family and friends. In looking at all of these examples, it is clear that the many of the traditions we have today have origins that stretch back for hundreds of years and were firmly established in the Townships by the early



Christmas postcard, ca. 1910.

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	37 43 48	Bonus	21 38 42	Bonus

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Ben by Daniel Shelton



LOCAL NEWS

"We hope that the entire community will become engaged in this major project."

Canada Games closing free thanks to BRP

By Gordon Lambie
Special to The Record

A contribution by Bombardier Recreational Products (BRP) in the amount of \$250,000 has allowed organizers of the Sherbrooke 2013 Canada Games to announce that, for the first time in the history of the Canada Games, a host city will be holding a free, public closing ceremony. Thanks to BRP's donation, the cost of the closing ceremony of the games, planned to be held at Jacques Cartier Park next August 17, has been completely covered.

"We've wanted to offer this gift to the community ever since the City of Sher-

brooke was awarded the Games. We are thrilled to be able to announce this great news in time for the holidays," stated Tom Allen, chairman of the board and executive committee of the Canada Summer Games-Sherbrooke 2013.

"We wanted to do something special for the population," said José Boisjoli, president and CEO of BRP. "The athletes participating in these Games have sacrificed a great deal to represent their province and their country. They all deserve that we come out in great numbers to show our appreciation and encourage them to pursue their dreams and be counted among the world's top athletes."

Bernard Sévigny, mayor of Sherbrooke and first vice-president of the Canada Summer Games-Sherbrooke 2013, welcomed the announcement and its positive impact.

"We hope that the entire community will become engaged in this major project. By inviting them to the closing ceremony, we're demonstrating our commitment to having them take part in this historic event and experience its magic with all of us."

Organizers of the event wouldn't give away too much of what is being planned, but Director General Luc Fournier did say, "We want a big party; dancing, fireworks, everything to say it's a party." He

pointed out that there is an official protocol to the closing, including a parade of athletes and the Governor-General, which should take about one hour and a half but he added that, "maybe afterward we can open everything up 'till midnight."

Official word is that spectators can expect a very colourful show that will pay tribute to the excellence of the athletes and highlight the talents of Quebec and other Canadian artists, reflecting the country's rich culture and diversity. Fournier says they are looking at "a big crowd" of around 20,000 people.

Seasonal benefit concert at North Hatley Library

By Heather Davis

Louise Thibault and Jon Gearey, both local residents and professional musicians, gave a smooth jazz concert on December 13 at the North Hatley Library. The concert was attended by a large crowd that Librarian Annie Potter described as "just the right number."

Gearey and Thibault have been performing together for more than 18 years and are part of the trio, Avalon Motel (avalonmotel.net). Gearey plays 7-string guitar and has opened for Michael Buble. Thibault's voice has been described as, "beautifully seductive." She plays guitar, cello and percussion.

The couple moved to North Hatley last January with their now 10-year-old son because, as Thibault says, "Life is so crazy in Montreal." She finds the people in the Townships nicer, though she admits that maybe they just have more time to be nice. Her son attends the local village school. The loudest applause of

the evening came after young Michael played Jingle Bells on the violin.

Thibault has always loved books and the whole family loves the North Hatley Library. She and Gearey proposed the benefit show because, "The library needs a little help."

Since moving to North Hatley, Gearey has been teaching guitar at the University of Sherbrooke and he is now teaching at Bishop's as well. Thibault says that she doesn't perform as often now since she is spending more time "being a mom," but that she misses their regular Sunday evening gig in Old Montreal.

The couple has already played one concert at La Caravane in North Hatley and another at Dreamland Park this past summer. They would like to play more local concerts and are available to play at weddings as well.

Donations to the library are always gratefully received. All the proceeds from the concert will go to the upkeep of the library.

Electric circuit grows in the Townships

SHERBROOKE (MCD)

Taking advantage of his visit to the Sherbrooke Chamber of Commerce last Thursday, Pierre-Luc Desgagné, senior manager of Strategic Planning at Hydro-Quebec, took the opportunity to confirm, on behalf of the founding partners of the circuit to announce the sites selected for the first public charging stations for electric vehicles in the Eastern Townships.

Four terminals are already in service in Sherbrooke, at the Marché de la Gare, La Grenouillère parking lot (downtown), the plateau Sylvie Daigle, and the Rock Forest Recreation Center. In the coming weeks, terminals will also be installed at five sites at the University of Sherbrooke - on the main campus, at Innovation Park at the Health Campus in Sherbrooke, and de Centre de collaboration MiQro Innovation in Bromont. The university will also set install a unit on the Longueuil Campus. The University Institute of Geriatrics of Sherbrooke and the Cégep de Sherbrooke will also install terminals, at 300 King Street East and at 475 Cégep Street, respectively.

"I want to thank the Chamber of Commerce for its warm welcome and highlight the important role played by the city and its institutional partners in supporting the deployment of public charging stations in the Estrie. It is a very dynamic environment and I am confident that soon the service companies in the region will also get involved," said Desgagné. "The addition of these terminals is very important for us because it is designed to serve along the Montreal-Sherbrooke axis, a priority for the electrical circuit."

"The Sherbrooke Chamber of Commerce is more

than satisfied with the scope of electric circuit development in the region," said Louise Bourgault, vice-president and general manager of the Chamber of Commerce.

The electrical circuit is a major step in the deployment of the charging infrastructure needed to support the arrival of rechargeable electric vehicles in Québec. It will include, by the end of 2012, nearly 150, 240-volt terminals in Québec, particularly in AMT parking lots, several RONA hardware stores, Metro grocers and St-Hubert restaurants. Since its beginning in March 2012, 19 private and institutional partners have joined the electrical circuit (see attached list). The expansion continues to provide greater geographical coverage and serve a larger number of EV drivers in several regions of Québec.

Much electric vehicle charging takes place at the owner's home or at work. Public charging infrastructure, however, allows motorists to drive with peace of mind by offering them the opportunity to charge up on the road when necessary. There is a 24-hour hotline operated by CAA-Quebec as well as a terminal location service and, the website, www.lecircuitelectrique.com is updated as new terminals are placed in service or deployed.

Electric circuit partners:

- Aéroports de Montreal
- Auberge Internationale du Témiscouata
- CAA-Quebec
- Cégep de Sherbrooke
- Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke

CONT'D ON PAGE 5



HEATHER DAVIS

Louise Thibault and Jon Gearey entertain at the North Hatley Library.

FUTURE SHOP

Please be advised that this product: 7" Samsung Galaxy Tab 2 with Wi-Fi (WebCode: 10206559), advertised on the December 14 flyer, page 1, is limited in quantity with no rainchecks, and only 2 per customer. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our valued customers.

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Super Hiro Productions presents Shadow Theatre presentation Potton's youth



THE SCOOP

MABLE HASTINGS

Super Hiro Productions will be presenting a Shadow Theatre production done by some of Potton's talented young people as a result of an arts workshop offered in Mansonville for youth.

In the holiday theme, a group of young people ages 6-10 years will present a short show that will display their joy at this festive time of year. Also, there will be an exposition following the show of various techniques in drawing.

The public is invited to come and encourage



COURTESY

these young and talented artists on Monday, December 17 at 4:30 p.m. upstairs in the Mansonville Town Hall.

For more information about Hiro Gagnon's Super Hiro Production workshops, visit the Potton website at www.potton.ca.

Bishop's staff agrees to pension changes

SHERBROOKE (MCD)

Beginning in January, the pension plan for employees of Bishop's University will be less generous as employees have agreed to changes in the plan, which now faces a deficit of approximately \$19.6 million. The institution has also recently reached an agreement with two other employee groups for the renewal of their collective agreements.

The agreements provide wage increases of 5.5 per cent over the next three years for librarians and teachers, whose employment contract expired last June.

"The changes to the pension plan were negotiated in the context of the renewal of the contract of employment of librarians and teachers ... But there are other employees who are not covered by this agreement who have now been heard from," Michael Goldbloom. "Our employees have responsibly agreed to have fewer benefits."

The changes, which were the subject of a referendum, will save the university approximately \$448,000 per year.

The pension deficit has increased from \$4.3 million in 2008 to \$19.6 million in 2011, according to data from the last actuarial review, which took place in 2011. The next is scheduled for 2014.

Among the changes to the plan, the number of years required before becoming eligible for a full pension has been increased to 25 years service from 15. In addition, the age at which a full pension can be collected has also been raised to 60 from 55.

Bishop's cuts

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

wouldn't be running a deficit," the principal explained.

Bishop's has been in a process of what Goldbloom called, "financial recovery," since 2007. Starting in the autumn of 2008, facing large accumulated deficits, the school put together an economic recovery plan meant to turn the school's financial situation around over the course of 10 years. That plan was endorsed by the provincial government in February 2009.

"We have met or exceeded the plan in each of the first four years," Goldbloom said, his pride in the achievement clearly challenged by the fact that this year's balanced budget, a part of the plan, has been cut two-thirds of the way through the fiscal year.

This 5 per cent cut is the "second hit" to the school's balanced budget this year, according to Goldbloom. The budget was calculated in May based on tuition increases promised by the former

Liberal government at the time, which were repealed by the Parti Quebecois. As a result, Bishop's students are receiving a credit on their tuition.

In talking about what the school has already done to streamline its finances, Goldbloom highlighted the 38 per cent increase in student enrolment; the fact that the pension plan now splits responsibility for the deficit between the university (60 per cent) and its employees (40 per cent); recent negotiations for reduced benefits; spending delays on maintenance projects; and about \$450,000 in heat cost savings with the school's geothermal pump. He also addressed a concern, however, that 70 per cent of school expenses are made up of salaries and benefits, meaning that the cuts that have to come will be challenging, to say the least.

"We will do our very best to ensure the student experience is impacted as minimally as possible," the principal said, responding to the concern voiced by leaders of Quebec's student movements that universities will be cutting money in a way that is negative to student development. "I will say, not to Bishop's students, but to those students who were so forcefully opposing the tuition increases, there are consequences to one's actions. If the universities aren't going to have the financial resources that they need, it's going to be very difficult."

Goldbloom spoke very highly of the Bishop's community's commitment to education and development, pointing out the positive result of a referendum

to voluntarily add to student fees in order to help renovate the library.

"No one wants to pay more money, but our students seem to recognize that there is a value to what they are paying for."

It's worth noting, in this situation, that while the cut is a universal 5 per cent to all institutions, Bishop's is being hit harder because it draws almost 25 per cent of its income directly from tuition. That, according to Goldbloom, is "more than virtually any other institution in the province," because of the school's focus on undergraduate studies, which draws less research income.

"A small institution like ours would say, when you are as minimally resourced as we are, cutting is even more difficult. When you have one person in a department, you can't cut that department in half."

In a time when schools are being accused of financial mismanagement, Bishop's principal said he is, "confident that if anyone were to come to take a look at our university, they would find that we have been extraordinarily judicious in terms of managing our costs... it is as lean an operation as I, in my working career, have ever seen."

Through it all, Goldbloom maintains his optimism.

"I think one has to keep a broad perspective to begin with... Bishop's has faced lots of challenges in its 170 years, and it's always come out strong, and stronger as a consequence. We will work our way through this"

Four years

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

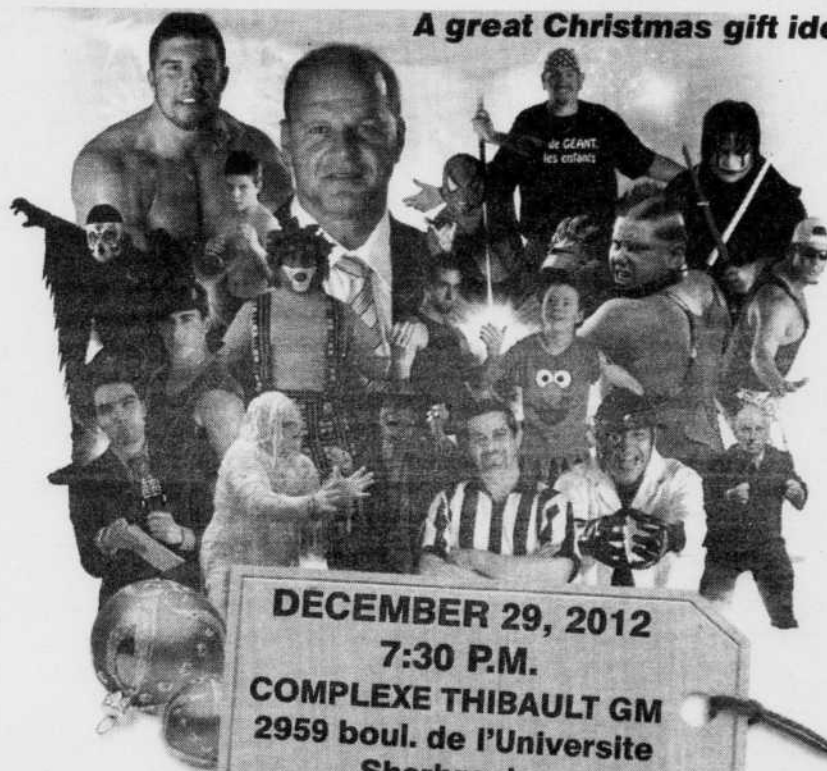
people giving him the scare of his life. Judge Fabi dismissed his testimony as "incredible."

"The accused made use of unreasonable force. The shot was exaggerated and excessive. He used more force than is necessary ... clearly, he must have known

he could hit someone. He did not care for the lives or safety of others. The accused knew that there could be a person very close to where he was shooting," Fabi said, in handing down the four-year term.

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Destroy the phone numbers, argues Vallieres

By Stephen McDougall
DANVILLE

Karine Vallieres has some advice for the new provincial environment minister: do not interfere with the work of your employees.

"This is what the former environment minister tried to do," argued the elected Liberal member of the provincial assembly for Richmond.

"Daniel Breton demanded and got the cell phone numbers of BAPE members intending to intimidate them.

"I can only hope that Mr. (Yves-Francois) Blanchet does not try and do the same thing. The best thing he can do is destroy those phone numbers."

BAPE (Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement) is an independent environmental assessment agency that often holds public hearings into environmental projects and disputes.

Breton resigned his cabinet post at the end of November after it was learned he had not paid \$8,000 in rent to a landlord, had been prosecuted for employment insurance infractions, had failed to file an income tax return and had speeding violations.

But Vallieres was more concerned about Breton's actions on October 24 when it was alleged in media reports that he personally visited the BAPE offices, then asked for and got the cell phone numbers of every BAPE bureau employee.

In the past, Breton had been critical of BAPE work and had fired its president and vice-president after he became the environment minister.

According to a Quebec City newspaper, Breton reportedly told BAPE employees that he intended to call the president anytime he was dissatisfied with his work.

The report then led Liberal and Coalition Party members in the assembly to pass a motion ordering Breton to appear before a transport and environment committee of the legislature to explain himself.

The appearance before the committee never occurred.

Instead, Premier Pauline Marois accepted Breton's resignation on Nov. 29 because she had earlier vowed to have "zero tolerance" for corruption in government.

Vallieres can only hope that Blanchet does not repeat the mistakes of Breton and is more tolerant of and detached from the BAPE.

"We have asked Blanchet about the phone numbers and about his approach to handling environmental investigations, but he will not comment for now," said Vallieres.

"We will have to keep on asking him these same questions in the new year."

What Vallieres will not ask about is Blanchet's past, including a drunk driving conviction he received two years ago.

The conviction stemmed from an incident days before he was elected as a Parti Quebecois member of the legislature during the December, 2008 provincial election.

Blanchet was detained by provincial police in Drummondville after they found him sitting in his car with alcohol on his breath.

The car was idling in a no-parking zone. Blanchet initially told the police the car was not fully functioning because it was an electric-gas hybrid and only the electrical system was working to heat the interior and recharge his cell phone.

An investigation by *The*

Record revealed that hybrid cars need to have the gas engine running to warm up the car interior and charge the electrical system.

According to the provincial highway code, drivers with an illegal level of alcohol in their blood cannot operate a motor vehicle, even if that vehicle does not move. A breathalyzer test revealed Blanchet was over the blood-alcohol limit at the time.

After a year and a half of court delays, Blanchet pleaded guilty to the drunk driving charge and was given a fine of \$1,000 and a one-year suspension of his license.

Blanchet was allowed to sit in the assembly despite the conviction, because he was not given a prison sentence of two

years or more in a federal institution.

"I don't want to comment on such private matters," Vallieres told *The Record* last week.

"I am more concerned with how the new minister will conduct himself. We want to make sure he does not abuse the system like his predecessor tried to do."

Blanchet could not be reached for comment at press time.

Vallieres also told *The Record* she voted against the government budget two weeks ago, but it passed anyway because many of her Liberal colleagues chose not to show up in the assembly for the vote.

"We let the budget pass even though we do not support it,"

she said.

"If the vote had rejected the budget, then the minority PQ government would have fallen due to a show of non-confidence and an election would have been necessary.

"I don't think Quebec voters would have appreciated another election so soon after the last one."

The budget was passed by a vote of 49 to 48.

She said the Liberals, who hold 50 seats in the assembly, may choose to bring down the government next year after they select a new leader in March.

Vallieres said she supports former Transport Minister Pierre Moreau as the party's new leader.

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Electric circuit

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EDITORIAL

In the meantime, however, we are passing through the astounding total of seven billion human beings, on our way to nine or ten billion.

A shortage of sperm

By Gwynne Dyer

Many years ago, when I was young and handsome, a friend inveigled me into taking a small role in a film he was making. It was a Cold War spoof called "The Last Straw" in which the Soviets were plotting to bring the West to its knees by causing the sperm count in Western males to collapse. I got the Dr. Strangelove role, and briefed the leaders of the Free World on the gravity of the threat.

You cannot even find this film on YouTube now, I'm pleased to report. However, it did give me a head start on considering the appalling strategic consequences of a drastic fall in the sperm count of Western men. This comes in handy at the moment, since that is now actually happening.

In the 15 years between 1989 and 2005, according to a study just published in the journal Human Reproduction, the sperm count of French men fell by one-third. More than 26,000 men were tested in the study, and the number of millions of spermatozoa per millilitre of their semen was falling by almost 2 per cent a year.

The numbers are quite impressive: from 73.6 million sperm per millilitre in 1989 to only 49.9 million per millilitre in 2005. If the rate of decline has stayed the same since 2005, the number now would be around 43 million. Doctors generally regard 15 million as the number below which there will be serious problems with fertility, so there's another 40 years or so before the problem gets really serious, but still...

There are really three questions here. One, is the same thing happening elsewhere? Two, what's causing it? And three, how much does it matter?

Most other scientific studies in developed countries in the past 20 years have also found falling sperm counts. There is no comparable research on the trend in developing countries, but it is at least plausible that this may be a global phenomenon.

Secondly, if environmental factors are causing the decline, are they the same in rich countries and poor ones? A common theory lays the blame on chemicals in the environment like Bisphenol A, found in some plastics, that disrupt endocrine function and change hormonal balances. Another theory blames smoking, drinking alcohol, and high-fat diets. These factors vary from one country to another, and more research is clearly needed.

But let us suppose that the trend is continuing, and that sperm counts are also declining in developing countries. Should you lie awake at night worrying that this is a threat to human survival?

Definitely not. If you're really worried about keeping human numbers up, then you should be doing something quite different at night. And afterwards, you might lull yourself to sleep pondering whether it would really be such a bad thing if the birth rate dropped for a while.

If this decline in sperm counts really is due to environmental factors, then it can almost certainly be reversed eventually by doing enough research and then eliminating those factors. In the meantime, however, we are passing through the astounding total of seven billion human beings, on our way to nine or ten billion.

That's far too many for this finite planet, and a rapid decline in the birth rate, even to below replacement level, would be a Good Thing.

Gwynne Dyer is an independent journalist whose articles are published in 45 countries.

Choice: It's time to compete with the world

By Marc Garneau

Big bills, poor service, few choices - on wireless, Internet and phone services, Canadians are fed up. They want competition and it's time to give it to them.

The evidence is clear. In initiating its recent public consultation on a wireless code of conduct, Canadians inundated the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) with comments.

We are at best ranked in the middle in the developed world and our prices are high. While some may quibble about one methodology versus another in ranking us, the evidence supports Canadians' frustration. Studies from the Organization of Economic-Cooperation and Development (OECD), Harvard University and the CRTC, show where we stand. According to the CRTC's latest report, Canadian wireless revenues, measured as the monthly average revenue per user (ARPU), are the highest in the G7. At \$55 per month per mobile subscriber, Canadians pay 20 per cent more than users in the US, 70 per cent more than users in France, and 100 per cent more than users in the UK and Germany. On mobile data, roaming rates and Internet combined, Canadians pay more per month for telecommunications than many of our developed world counterparts.

Beyond just prices, Canadians are frustrated with the endless list of roadblocks: Locked

phones, ridiculous contract penalties, hidden service charges, bogus "system access fees," the list is endless.

Small, medium and large businesses are also frustrated with the lack of choice, high prices and restrictive contracts. According to the latest study by the Centre for the Study of Living Standards (CSLS) Canadian business investment in information technology and telecommunications in 2010 was just 53 per cent of that in the US. This, in turn, has negatively affected Canada's productivity and ultimately the strength of Canada's overall economy.

While I commend the CRTC for making the effort on its wireless code of conduct, I hold little hope for success in achieving change. In a system without real competition in which consumers have few choices, the CRTC, the regulator, has limited options. Technology will change, providers will change their packages, their price offerings, slip in a new fee here, there and everywhere, and the regulator will not be able to keep up.

Ultimately, the key is competition. Only real, market-based competition will keep providers in line. With competition and choice, providers will weed out unnecessary fees, invest in service quality to retain customers and improve their product packages.

That is why I believe Canada must open the

CONT'D ON PAGE 7

Who and what do we blame?



ANNA MAY KINNEY

Forgive me for making this personal for a minute, but those who have met me in real life, those who know the lifestyle I choose, know that I live a very, even extremely isolated, quiet existence. Well they also know that because my contacts in person, on the phone are few and far between, when I do get the chance to interact, this solitary individual does not shut up. I appear very outgoing, friendly to a fault and a bit

hyperactive, total type A personality. I'm explaining this for a good reason. As back in 1976 I bought my land/house and began my adventure into self-sufficiency.

Never in my life was I so happy, everything was falling into place by 1977, I'd learned all kinds of valuable things, which included splitting firewood, even using a chainsaw, but my heart started to act up from what I believed was the heavy work I was doing. You see, I'd been on heart medication back in '73, my rare thick blood clotting condition had to be watched closely. Well when my heartbeat became to fast, not having loads of time to travel into Sherbrooke for tests and such, thought a visit to the new local "young" doctor might be a good idea. After five minutes of talking with me, no heart tests, not even listening to my heartbeat; he did not even want my medical history. He turns to me and tells

CONT'D ON PAGE 7

Letter

An open letter to American gun lovers and the NRA

So it's happened again. You have killed Presidents and defenceless little children, and everything in between.

I suppose some of you would suggest that if these children had been packing arms they could have defended themselves. Bravo, wonderful logic.

You have thrown out regulations that could have protected these innocent people.

As Mr. Heston once said they would

have to pry his gun from his cold dead hands. Wonderful slogan Mr. LA Pierre.

There will be a great wringing of hands and gnashing of teeth over the coming months, gives you something to do, but nothing will be done, death must go on.

Don't worry girls and boys, the government will not take away your toys.

JOHN KEENAN
Sherbrooke

THE RECORD

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JOHN KEENAN
 Sherbrooke

North Hatley Elementary serves up *Oliver!* as a holiday treat

Richard Williams
Grade 5-6 teacher
North Hatley Elementary
School

On Tuesday, Dec. 18, 7 p.m., the entire student body of North Hatley Elementary School will present *Oliver!* in the North Hatley Elementary School gymnasium. *Oliver!* was a hit in London and on Broadway with script, music, and lyrics written by Lionel Bart, and was a musical adaptation of the Charles Dickens novel, *Oliver Twist*.

Teachers Catherine Barnard, Crystal Rattai and Richard Williams adapted the play for elementary school students and, with the help of all their fellow teachers, involved students from kindergarten to grade 6 in singing, dancing, and even learning the necessary Cockney and upper class English accents to make it a wonderful evening's entertainment. It is the Cycle 3 students, however, who have taken on the characters with musical support from grades K-4. Parent volunteers produced a wonderful backdrop, set and costumes. The students rehearsed during recesses, lunch hours and after school to get all the musical numbers just right. *Oliver!* is a whole-school and parent community effort!

Ella Canzani plays *Oliver Twist*, the young orphan who escapes abuse at the world's most horrible orphanage to survive on the streets of London.

Choice

CONT'D FROM PAGE 6

door fully to competition in telecommunications. Canadians want world-class service, and we want to be able to compete in the world. Perhaps this sounds redundant, but we can't compete with the best unless we actually compete with the best. You won't make the NHL if you keep playing in house league.

I would maintain restrictions on foreign ownership in broadcasting because of cultural and content implications to ensure continued production and broadcast of Canadian shows and content for television, film and new media. But I would open the doors on telecommunications. In Germany, Sweden, Italy, even France, there exist no restrictions on foreign investment in telecommunications. It is time for Canada to enter fully into the global market as well.

Let's compete with the best and let competition bring new ideas, entice investment in new technologies, create new jobs in Canada and drive down the costs of our wireless bills. If a Vodaphone or a Verizon enters Canada and offers Canadians new choices, new options, all the better. New entrants will invest in new advanced networks benefiting Canadian consumers and businesses alike. The investment will support continued innovation in the digital economy, improve Canadian competitiveness and help create jobs.

Only through competition with the world will we innovate on the leading edge and create our own homegrown, globally competitive businesses. I have every faith that when put to the test, Canadian businesses, Canadian entrepreneurs will step up to the plate and compete - and the ultimate winners will be Canadians.

Marc Garneau is Canada's first astronaut, a former captain in the Canadian Navy, the former president of the Canadian Space Agency, the current Member of Parliament for Westmount Ville-Marie and a candidate for the leadership of the Liberal Party of Canada.

"*Oliver* is very shy, a bit like me. I like the challenge of being a boy because it's fun doing different stuff. At first, I found the singing scary, but then I thought it was really fun."

Oliver is picked up on the street by the Artful Dodger, played by Luke Fedida. Luke was very keen to do this part.

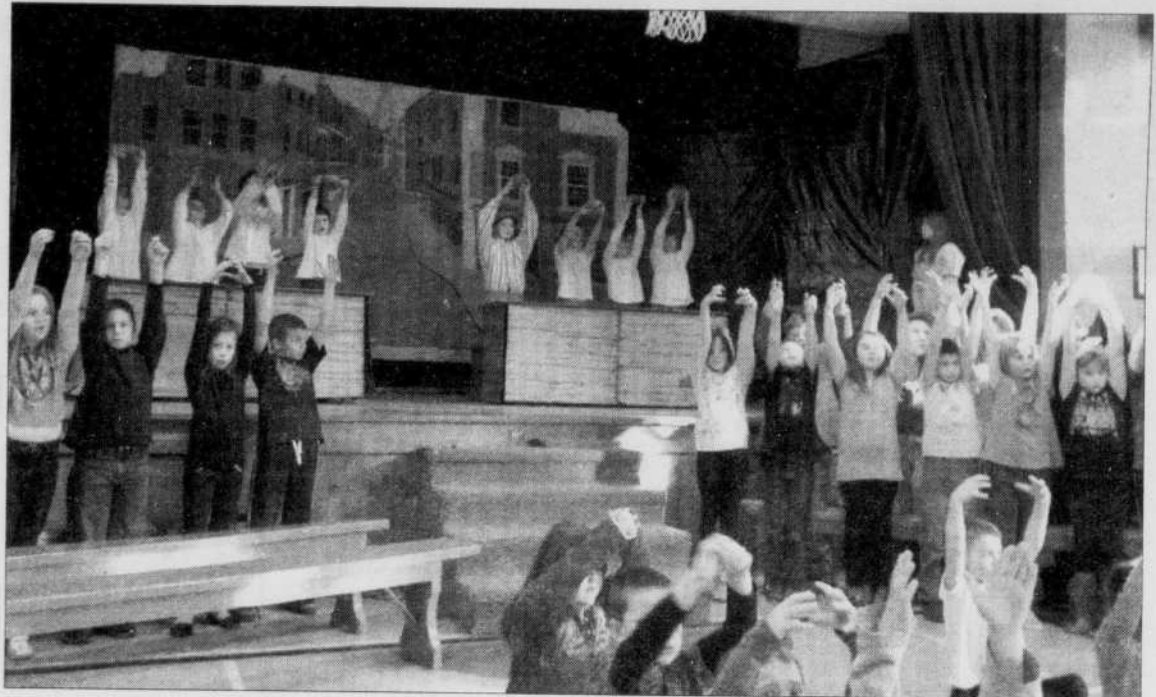
"I'm all ramshackle like the Artful Dodger. The rehearsals are fun and I like singing. It wasn't too hard to do the accent because my parents are British."

The Artful Dodger takes *Oliver* to a most suspicious establishment, Fagin's lair, where boys are taught to pickpocket and bring back their loot to Fagin, played by Kevin Parnell. Kevin really enjoys the challenge of playing a villain who might not be all bad.

"Fagin is trying to stop being a bad guy and the fun is trying to be a bad person and a good person at the same time. The most fun was learning the accent because it's a weird accent."

Great musical numbers such as "Consider Yourself," "I'd Do Anything," and "Food Glorious Food" will have you humming the tunes long after the show is over.

Oliver plays only one night at North Hatley Elementary School, on Tuesday, December 18 at 7 p.m. Admission is free but there will be a silver plate collection at the end.



COURTESY OF NORTH HATLEY ELEMENTARY

Blame

CONT'D FROM PAGE 6

me that I was suffering from "emotional" stress and hiding depression, all because I was too outgoing.

While politely listening to him, I was very annoyed with the ego I saw in front of me, that knew me in five minutes of talking. Nothing like an MD playing psychologist/psychiatrist. When he was done, I not so politely told him that he was extremely wrong and this was the most peaceful time I had ever had in my life and I did not need the "new" antidepressant he was pushing. Also told him that I'd never be back and was going to warn people not to trust him.

So many people look up to doctors as though they are gods, but they are not, and during the last 40 years the medical profession has changed from one that sacrifices its own time/money and pleasure to help their patients, into one that pushes, often not-understood prescription drugs. The reason for this is simple, new drugs are constantly appearing on the market place, doctors have limited time in their busy schedule and do not take time to read up on the drugs they administer, other than the information provided by the drug companies hawking their wares, and these companies offer incentives to doctors to prescribe these "drugs." As we have all learned since many of these drugs are advertised on television, most come with a long list of potential side effects, which most MDs downplay, saying the percentage is so low that we need not worry and that they will monitor us. But do they, yes, I'm sure that some do, but most do so in their six-month checkups or yearly visits and nothing more. We are talking about very, seriously dangerous drugs some like diabetes drugs can affect our liver and kidneys and recommended testing is required every month in some cases, that includes a series of blood workups.

Only one of many

While this quack of a doctor did not intimidate me into taking a drug I did not need, there are many people who would have believed and probably did believe what someone told them with MD after his name. We've been told that Prozac was not marketed until 1988, yet the drug introduced by Eli Lilly and Company in 1974 as Fluoxetine is the key ingredient in quite a few Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitor (SSRI) antidepressants (trade names: Prozac, Sarafem, Fontex).

The history of SSRI drugs is more than a shady one, being prescribed for all kinds of assorted emotional/mental and even physical problems such as "major depression, obsessive compulsive disorder, bulimia nervosa, panic disorder, body dysmorphic disorder, premenstrual dysphoric disorder (what woman has not had PMS, is it any surprise that

some attacks are worse than others, some women affected stronger than others, but now these stronger attacks are defined as a mental illness? With the absorption of hormones through our food, water, air and even the makeup we choose to use, is it any wonder that some women are having these "hormonal" symptom, which are being treated with SSRI drugs?, trichotillomania (hair pulling brought on by chemical imbalance, could be caused by environment and bad nutrition issues, while it's really unknown what causes such behavior, let's just give them a chemical), also used for obesity, and alcohol dependence, as well as binge eating.

Since the 1990s we've seen the number of mass murders as well as murder/suicides within families jump to an alarming rate, it's almost become normal to turn on the news and hear another heart-breaking story. The US congressional subcommittees have heard thousands of testimonies from loved ones who lost someone to suicide, killed family members or struck out against society. Since 1992, Dr. Ann Blake Tracy, a Ph.D. in Health Sciences with the emphasis on Psychology, the director of the International Coalition for Drug Awareness has testified as an expert witness regarding Prozac and SSRI related court cases around the world and before US congressional committees, linking thousands of suicides, attempted suicides and murder to these drugs.

Even the company that manufactures these drugs admits to the following side effects: nausea 22 per cent, insomnia 19 per cent, anorexia 10 per cent, anxiety 12 per cent, nervousness 13 per cent, and tremor 9 per cent. If you notice, many of these side effects are the same problems that the drug is prescribed for. Numerous shooters including Connecticut school shooter Adam Lanza, and the Colorado theatre shooter where under psychiatric care and diagnosed as having "personality disorder," the type such drugs are usually given to treat.

The evidence is overpowering that there is a super big connection between treating people with SSRI drugs and what we are seeing happening within our society. Families who have had a member go over the edge while on one of these drugs testify that not having access to a gun makes little difference. Spouses, family member and even small children have come to their ends being drowned, stabbed, poisoned, suffocated, burnt to death and other diverse means. Banning guns is not the answer to this problem, which is not caused by the weapon of choice, but rather the person whose mind is so mixed up he wants to kill others before killing him/her self.

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Local Sports

"Without a doubt I miss it. I would like to do it again, but I think my time has passed. Most days I accept that, other days not so much."

Record sports reporter Mike Hickey inducted into the Concordia Sports Hall of Fame

By Jesse Feith
Special to The Record

Mike Hickey was cut from his high school basketball team his freshman, sophomore, and junior years. In his senior year, he was cut at the initial tryout — along with another 80 or so hopeful teenagers — and told he could try out one more time a few weeks later after the football season ended. He did, and was cut again.

Decades later, a now 63-year-old Hickey has made his own fair share of cuts.

Hickey was recently inducted into the Concordia Sports Hall of Fame for having put together one of the most consistent coaching careers you can ask for, being involved with the game of basketball in one way or another since 1973.

Growing up in Long Island in the mid-1960s, a young Hickey practiced layups and jump shots on a makeshift basket on a tree in his backyard. Despite being a hockey fanatic, his father, Patrick Valentine Hickey III, stood 6 feet, 2 inches tall and played and coached basketball himself, passing his knowledge on to his sons.

One of four children, Hickey practiced basketball with his older brother Pat, whom he calls "the best athlete of the family, but not the best basketball player." His other brother, Jack, was "more of an academic type," while their sister, Mary Anne, shied away from sports due to her mother's fear that she would "become a tomboy."

Hickey's backyard practices with his father and older brother were never enough to earn him a jersey for his high school team, but applied hours of hard work and occasional weekend pick-up games with NBA players the likes of Julius Erving in New York eventually landed him a roster spot at Saint Michael's College in Vermont.

While there, Hickey started coaching a team in the school's intramural league. When not at school, he'd



MATT HICKEY

Concordia University Hall of Famer Mike Hickey.

coach a community church team in Burlington. By the young age of 24, he jumped on an opportunity to move to Montreal and coach Sir George Williams University, the school that would later merge with Loyola College to become Concordia University, where he was inducted last month.

Inducted as a "builder" — someone who "made outstanding contributions to Concordia, Loyola or Sir George Williams varsity athletics," — Hickey has made a career out of improving struggling teams.

In his two years at Sir George Williams, he posted a 56-18 win-loss record over two seasons, bringing the team to the national championship tournament in back-to-back years.

After the merger, Hickey took over the women's program, holding the position for 14 years, winning numerous conference championships and representing Quebec at nationals five different times. Three of those trips to nationals garnered him the Quebec conference women's Coach of the Year award, a distinction he'd also win on two other occasions during his Concordia stint.

Through the years Hickey also got involved with the Canadian national teams, never passing up an opportunity to attend national team coaching clinics, many times hosted by the great Jack Donohue.

In 1982, Donohue chose Hickey for an apprentice coaching program, and Hickey joined the rest of the men's national team program in Cuba for the FIBA World Championship. The team would finish in an impressive sixth place.

Hickey later made the switch to the women's national team, serving as an assistant for six years, and getting a chance to coach in the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta.

In 1998, Hickey's coaching career switched gears as he stepped down from the university ranks and moved to the Eastern Townships to coach at the college level. He put his dedication to building to work, taking over and revitalizing the Champlain-Lennoxville College women's team for a decade.

"It was such a privilege for our school to have a coach of his level running our program, you don't often find coaches of his calibre at the CEGEP level," said Sylvain Laflamme, who took over as athletic director for Champlain in 2002.

As with his other positions, upon his arrival at Champlain, Hickey knew there was a lot of improving that needed to happen, but welcomed the challenge.

"I think timing is a part of it, the last thing you want to do is go coach at a program that just won a championship," he says about his knack for improving programs. "Everywhere I went, I understood it wasn't going to be a quick fix, that the work needed to be put in."

"It's one of the things he's always done well," comments his older brother, Pat. "At Sir George, he took a program that wasn't good and made it a national contender. Then after the merger, he did the same with the women's program."

"What he accomplished in the Townships was an extension of the things he had done earlier, wherever he went, he always did a good job," said the elder Hickey.

Today, Hickey is back in Montreal, serving as a player development coach for Concordia's men's team. Though he holds individual practices with players once or twice a week, working on specific skills and pinpointing parts of their game that need improving, he misses having the reigns of a team.

"Without a doubt I miss it," he said. "I would like to do it again, but I think my time has passed. Most days I accept that, other days not so much."

He says he's humbled by his recent induction, and though he considers himself deserving of the honour, he had never thought too much about it.

"I only thought of it because it's here, you know," he said, pointing to the Hall of Fame wall that greets anyone who enters Concordia's sports facilities. "I'm happy it happened here, this is home."

Hickey would welcome a return to the Townships one day, and doesn't see himself letting go of the game of basketball anytime soon.

Maybe someday, somewhere, there will be a team that needs improving, and he may just be the best coach around at doing it.

Polar Bears look for improvement in second half of season

By Mike Hickey
Special to The Record

The Bishop's University women's hockey team has struggled in its first season as a member of the Maritimes Women's Intercollegiate Hockey League, but head coach Maryse Richard said the team is benefitting greatly from the experience.

"We are in what you could call a building year," Richard said in an interview. "The first semester has been a struggle as we went 2-9 but this does not mean, however, that we do not have a skilled team. It is a young, talented group, but it has taken us a little while to gel, to get use to one another on and off the ice."

One of the areas that have hindered the team's development is a lack of practice time.

"When you are only on the ice once or twice a week for three hours, it's hard to expect more," Richard said. "There is a lot of potential as was demonstrated in our last game of the semester where four different players found the back of the net in 5-1 win of Sherbrooke Red Wine. It may have taken us a while to find our stride, but I believe that we are on the right path and can only improve from here. We are working on establishing a team identity, a certain amount of stability, and making a name for ourselves on campus

and in the community. It will come and I am proud to have a hard-working group representing Bishop's."

While Richard has worked hard taking the Polar Bears to the next level, the former goalie admits that part of her wishes she could still play.

"From a former player's perspective, I'm jealous. The level of hockey is significantly higher than what I experienced as a Polar Bear and the new generation of players coming to Bishop's keeps getting stronger. Being able to offer a legitimate program has helped in the unofficial recruiting process and it is encouraging for the future of our program. We are quite competitive with the teams in our league although we fell 0-4 in our first tournament. We are very excited to have this opportunity and look forward to traveling to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia in the coming months."

Richard expects the team to play better when they return from an extended holiday break.

"Our goals for the second half of the season are to start off just where we left off; playing strong, working hard, and communicating in all facets of the game," she said. "We lost nine consecutive games, and didn't score once in that time period...we intend not to let that happen again. Practices resume January 8 and our first game will be a re-match against Red Wine on January 12."

FROM CONSUMER REPORTS (R)

Putting vacuums to the test

By the editors of Consumer Reports

Sleek shapes and trendy colors such as sienna, taupe and goldenrod are turning some of the latest vacuums into fashion statements. Consumer Reports' tough tests of more than 100 models show that when it comes to cleaning, beauty can be more than skin-deep.

Impressive pick-up on bare floors and carpets, including pet hair, at a relatively low price helped make the Kenmore Progressive 31069, \$180, a new CR Best Buy among bagged uprights. You'll also appreciate its work-saving features long after the thrill of its crimson finish wears off.

Style and substance can also coexist in bagless uprights. LG's new Kompessor LuV350P, \$400, now tops this category and joins three other Kompessors in Consumer Reports' winner's circle. The "plum purple" machine includes a swiveling head for easier steering and a rotating blade that helps pack more debris into its bin.

Want a canister vac? Two of Consumer Reports' top picks, at \$250, cost hundreds less than most. But reports of subpar reliability in the magazine's survey knocked one big brand off that list. The organization's tests — using more than 16 miles of carpet and floors — also show that some pricey vacs deliver less than their price tags suggest, and some of the lightest models are light on performance or features. The details:

— Hoover canisters lose Consumer Reports' nod. Hoover now joins Electrolux

as the most repair-prone canister brands in the organization's latest survey of more than 100,000 subscribers. As a result, Consumer Reports has removed all of Hoover's canisters, including the bagged WindTunnel S3670 and the Platinum Bagless Canister S3865, from its recommended list.

— Pricey brands sell so-so models. Dyson's DC28 Animal, \$650, is a top performer among bagless uprights. But its DC41 Animal and DC40 Multi Floor proved to be mediocre or worse at carpet cleaning and pet-hair pick-up, despite their high prices. Similar slip-ups kept Dyson's DC39 Animal bagless canister out of Consumer Reports' recommendations. And while impressive cleaning and quietness make the \$990 Miele S 5281 Callisto a winner among bagged canister vacuums, the S 6270 Topaz and S 6290 Jasper fell far behind.

— Two lightweights leave Consumer Reports cold. The Shark Navigator Light NV100 weighs 12 pounds and costs just \$150. But it was so-so on carpets and clogged in the organization's airflow test. And although Oreck's 9-pound Magnesium cleaned capably, its \$400 price doesn't include tools.

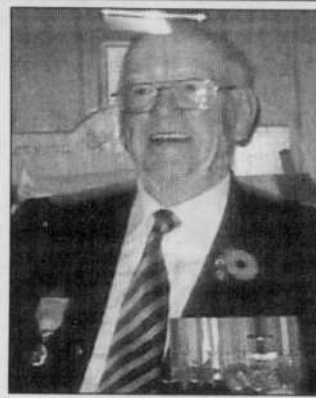
HOW TO CHOOSE

Start by matching the type to your cleaning. Uprights, especially with a bag, do best overall on carpets. Canisters are easier to maneuver, particularly on stairs. Here's what else to consider before you buy:

— Check the features. A brush on/off switch helps protect bare floors and avoid scattered debris. A motorized brush cleans carpets better than only suction. Also helpful: manual pile-height adjustment, which can be matched to carpets better than with automatic, and suction control for cleaning delicate fabrics with tools.

— Consider bagless carefully. Bagless

Death



Reginald Lloyd BLAMPIN
(1923-2012)

A World War II Veteran passed away on December 12, 2012, at the age of 89 years, Mr. Reginald Lloyd Blampin.

Predeceased by his wife of 63 years Audrey Eveleigh, survived by his daughter Heather (David), his son Richard (Lise), his grandchildren Alan, Leanne, Oliver, Emilie and his great-grandchildren, also survived by other relatives and friends.

The family wishes to thank Centre Santé Courville for their care and sincere compassion.

Cremation was held at Les Jardins Funéraires Bessette Crematorium. Family will receive condolences, at Les Résidences Funéraires Bessette in Waterloo, on Tuesday, December 18 from 7-9 p.m. and Wednesday, day of the funeral, from 10 a.m. Funeral service will be held in the chapel on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 at 11 a.m. Interment will be held at the Frost Village cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Brome-Missisquoi Perkins Hospital Foundation or to the St-Luke's Anglican Church in Waterloo would be appreciated. Forms will be available at the Funeral home.

LES RÉSIDENCES FUNÉRAIRES BESSETTE PHONE: 450-539-1606 or
5034 Foster, Waterloo, QC 1-888-730-666
www.famillebessette.com FAX: 450-539-3035
Member of the C.T.Q.

Death



John Barrington LODGE

April 13, 1934 -
December 2, 2012

of Brampton, Ontario. Son of John and Gertrude Chatterton Lodge (both deceased). Brother of Jean Lodge (Adrien Langevin) and Eurda Hoorweg-Lodge. Barrington's wife, Dorothy Jesso, preceded him on November 11, 2012.

A kind and gentle man who will be remembered with love.



In Memoriam

DAVEY (Johnston), Linda.
Memories of my dear sister Linda will always have a special place in my heart...
HAZEL



RATES and DEADLINES: ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

BIRTH NOTICES, CARDS OF THANKS, IN MEMORIAMS, BRIEFLETS:

Text only: 37¢ per word. Minimum charge \$9.25 (\$10.63 taxes included)

Discounts: 2 insertions or more: 15% off

With photo: additional \$18.50. DEADLINE: 11 a.m., day before publication.

BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY & GET-WELL WISHES, ENGAGEMENT NOTICES:

Text only: \$15.00 (includes taxes)

With photo: \$25.00 (\$28.74 taxes included) DEADLINE: 3 days before publication.

WEDDING WRITE-UPS, OBITUARIES:

\$25.00 (\$28.74 taxes included) WITH PHOTO: \$35.00 (\$40.24 taxes included)

Please Note: All of the aforementioned (except death notices) must be submitted typewritten or neatly printed, and must include the signature and daytime telephone number of the contact person. Can be e-mailed to: classad@sherbrookerecord.com - They will not be taken by phone.

DEADLINES FOR DEATH NOTICES:

For Monday's paper, call 819-569-4856 between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday.

For Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday's edition, call 819-569-4856 or

fax 819-569-1187 (please call to confirm transmission) or e-mail: production@sherbrookerecord.com between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. the day prior to the day of publication. The Record cannot guarantee publication if another Record number is called.

2012 Babies!



Proud parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, show off your pride and joy in our "Babies of 2012" edition of The Record to be published on January 11, 2013.

Mail a photograph of the baby with: baby's name, birthday, parents' name, hometown and 10 words describing the little tyke, along with \$20. (taxes included), daytime phone number and a stamped, self-addressed envelope to

The Record at 1195 Galt St. East,
Sherbrooke, QC J1G 1Y7
or e-mail:

classad@sherbrookerecord.com
with Visa or MasterCard for payment.

Deadline: January 4, 2013.

Published on January 11, 2013

Prizes to be won:

\$50 gift certificate courtesy of



218 Alexandre, Sherbrooke
819-564-0033

\$50 gift certificate courtesy of

Lennoxville Tri-Us

3003 College, Sherbrooke
819-822-2632

\$25 gift certificate courtesy of



147 Queen Street, Lennoxville
819-569-3601

and three
1 year ONLINE subscriptions to

THE
RECORD

I got a nasty text from Lacey demanding that I stop speaking to Luke

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2012

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I have been close friends with "Luke" for more than a year. We have a strong bond, but it's strictly platonic. However, all that changed when he started dating "Lacey," who, at age 20, is 10 years younger than Luke.

Naturally, when I first met Lacey, I was friendly. But there was something about her that put me off. Almost as soon as Luke started seeing her, she got him into partying all night and doing hard drugs and began alienating him from his friends and family. Despite our efforts to tell him that he was heading down a dark path, he ended up getting fired. Then he stopped contacting me.

After I hadn't heard from him for two months, Luke called and said he missed our friendship and wanted to talk things out. He sounded like a broken man. I was thrilled that he was coming around. But shortly after he called, I got a nasty text from Lacey demanding that I stop speaking to Luke and saying he's her man and she doesn't want any other woman around him. I was startled and angered by her rudeness and told her that Luke is my friend and I have every right to talk to him. I told her to calm down and grow up.

I haven't heard from Luke since, and I am worried. I tried calling, but his cellphone number has been disconnected. A mutual friend said that Luke's email account was also cancelled. I have a feeling that Lacey is forcing him to cut ties with us and be totally dependent on her.

It's out of character for him to abandon all the people who mean so much to him. He reads your column, and I can only hope that he can get away from this woman and know we are still here for him. — Worried Friend in Canada

Dear Canada: Lacey is isolating Luke from friends and family, which is descriptive of an abusive relationship, and it doesn't help that he is using drugs. The sad part, however, is that there's not much you can do if he is unwilling to

seek help. Do you know where he lives? Is he in touch with any family

members? If you can reach him, please give him the number of the National Domestic Violence Hotline (theline.org) at 1-800-799-SAFE.

Dear Annie: I was taught the bride and groom had one year to send a handwritten thank-you note following a wedding. Shower gifts are to be acknowledged within two weeks of the bridal shower.

In the past two years, however, the closest I've gotten is a postcard with a wedding picture of the bride and groom on one side and "Thanks for everything" on the other. If a handwritten, proper thank-you note is too difficult, I would much prefer an email acknowledging my specific gift than a bulk mail postcard. — Appalled in Georgia

Dear Georgia: There is no excuse for not decently thanking those who have taken the time and effort to purchase a gift. It's sheer laziness and lack of consideration.

However, we'd like to correct a common misperception: Guests have a year in which to give the bridal couple a gift, but thank-you notes should be written immediately, and certainly within three months.

Dear Annie: "Devastated Daughter" said her father died suddenly in an accident and she isn't sure about leaving Mom alone to attend college out of state.

If she chooses to defer admission, I would advise her to wait a full year and start school in the fall so she can "learn the ropes" with the rest of her classmates. I enrolled in the second semester, and it was so much harder because my classmates were ahead of me in every way. And when I graduated in December, it was difficult to find a job. — Winter Graduate

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column.

Sherbrooke Snowshoe Club



Tim Belford's Stories

On Nov. 28, 2012 fifty nine members, wives and friends were in attendance at the Sherbrooke Snow Shoe Club. All were treated to a tasty dinner of vegetable soup, rolls, tourtiere, carrots and mashed potatoes with date squares for dessert.

The Grand Prize winners at this event were Harry Brown and Phil Kerwin.

After the traditional sing-along, honorary purveyor, Karl Hunting introduced the speaker for the evening, Tim Belford. Tim retired in 2011 after 21 years as host of the CBC morning program, Quebec AM, based in Quebec City. At the helm of Quebec AM through such memorable events as the Ice Storm, the Saguenay floods, the Summit of the Americas, Tim kept the English community abreast of current events every morning for over two decades.

Tim took the audience on a reminiscent journey

through the years of his career at CBC. He recalled his first appearance on the show when he got up so early he put his underwear on backwards. He related many other humorous anecdotes: the reporter who fell through the ice while covering the canoe race across the St. Lawrence; the farmer who surprised a reporter who was visiting a turkey farm in the Saguenay region when he said he was "milk-ing the turkey"; the producer who was facing him during the show, on the other side of the window in the studio, dozed off with his mouth wide open and his upper denture plate fell. He also recalled how once when the hourly news was coming from Montreal, he announced "dress with George Finstad" and George ended the news cast with "You look cute too Tim." Tim talked about the many talented people he had the opportunity to work with over the 21 years.

Don Watson, the SSSC President, thanked Mr. Belford and presented him with a homemade apple pie in appreciation.

Tim Belford

Activities later in the evening included card games and volleyball.

Don Jondreville
Past President

CELEBRITY CIPHER
by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"O M J D S Y X F O F D Z J Z W F O D V J F T ...
M W M O V V T Y M C J Z W N W X M W K J F Z Y
C W V H." — K C X O D Z O F J J U A O V W X J , Y F
C A X X O K J F W D J F T B ' D T W N J D Z J Z O Y F

Previous Solution: "I think that is what film and art and music do; they can work as a map of sorts for your feelings." — Bruce Springsteen

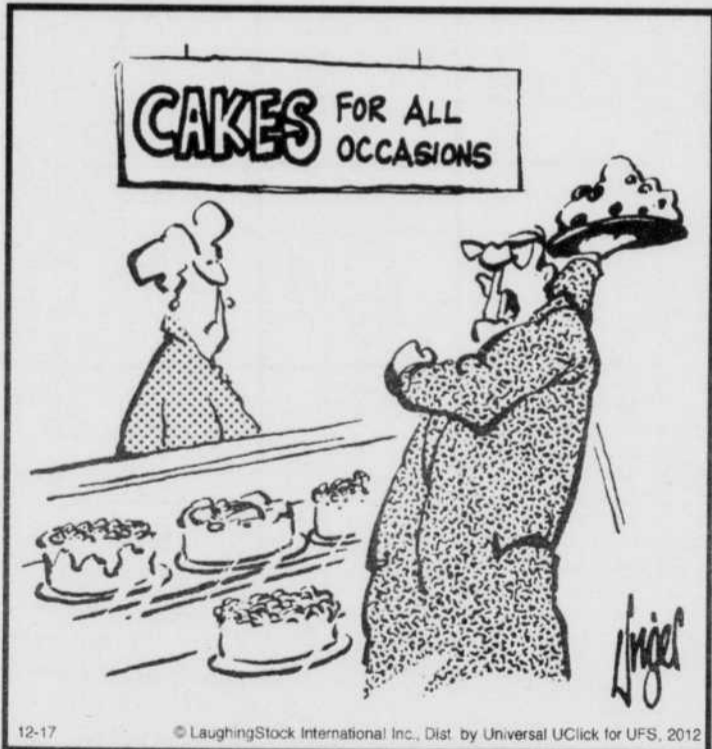
TODAY'S CLUE: *B r u c e S*

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KIT N' CARLYLE



HERMAN



"Yeah, this feels about right."

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



GRIZWELLS



SOUP TO NUTS



Go grocery shopping with dietitians. When you choose products with the Health Check symbol, it's like shopping with the Heart and Stroke Foundation's dietitians, who evaluate every participating product based on Canada's Food Guide. www.healthcheck.org

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REACT NOW!

CALL SHERBROOKE: (819) 569-9525 BETWEEN 8:30 A.M. AND 4:30 P.M.
E-MAIL: classad@sherbrooke.com
OR KNOWLTON: (450) 242-1188 BETWEEN 9:00 A.M. AND 4:00 P.M.

CLASSIFIED

DEADLINE: 12:30 P.M. ONE DAY PRIOR TO PUBLICATION
OR MAIL YOUR PREPAID CLASSIFIED ADS TO
THE RECORD, P.O. BOX 1200, SHERBROOKE, QUEBEC J1H 5L6

The World Almanac Databank

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2012

Today is the 352nd day of 2012 and the 87th day of autumn.
TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1903, Orville Wright made the first controlled, sustained flight in a power-driven airplane. In 1989, the first episode of "The Simpsons" aired. In 1992, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was signed by the leaders of the United States, Canada and Mexico.

In 2010, street vendor Mohamed Bouazizi set himself on fire in protest of government mistreatment in Tunisia, becoming a catalyst for Arab Spring protests in the region.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892), poet; Ford Madox Ford (1873-1939), novelist; William Safire (1929-2009), columnist; Eugene Levy (1946-), actor/comedian; Bill Pullman (1953-), actor; Peter Farrelly (1956-), director; Paula Radcliffe (1973-), long-distance runner; Sarah Paulson (1974-), actress; Manny Pacquiao (1978-), boxer; Chase Utley (1978-), baseball player.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1933, the Chicago Bears defeated the New York Giants 23-21 to win the first NFL Championship game.

TODAY'S FACT: An attempt to recreate the Wright brothers' inaugural flight on North Carolina's Outer Banks failed to take off in 2003, on the first flight's 100-year anniversary.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "I think we all have a need to know what we do not need to know." - William Safire

TODAY'S NUMBER: 27 - Emmy Awards won by "The Simpsons" as of 2012.

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (Dec. 13) and first quarter moon (Dec. 20).

001 Property for Sale

CANCEL YOUR TIMESHARE. No risk program. Stop mortgage and maintenance payments today. 100% money back guarantee. Free consultation. Call us now. We can help! 1-888-356-5248.

035 For Rent

CLASSIFIEDS ONLINE!
www.sherbrooke.com

100 Job Opportunities

THE RECORD
is looking for a carrier in **Lennoxville** for the following route starting December 24, 2012:

Deacon, Elliott, Gordon Bown, Lorne, Warren Streets (20)

If interested in this route, please call

THE RECORD
819-569-9528
between 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or leave a message after hours or e-mail:
billing@sherbrooke.com

100 Job Opportunities

190 Cars For Sale

CLASSIFIEDS ONLINE!
www.sherbrooke.com

275 Antiques

ABRACADABRA turn your hidden treasures into ready cash. International buyer wants to purchase your antiques, paintings, china, crystal, gold, silverware, jewellery, rare books, sports, movies, postcards, coins, stamps, records. 514-501-9072.

440 Miscellaneous

CRIMINAL RECORD? You can be arrested, jailed or deported if you enter the United States with a criminal record. A waiver clears you for entry. Call now, toll free 1-800-pardon (1-866-972-7366). RemoveYourRecord.com, in business since 1989.

ATTENTION!

Let everyone know your classified ad is **NEW** on its first day of publication! Attract more attention to your ad on its first day of publication by including a new ad logo (shown here)

NEW AD

For only **\$3.00**, a new ad logo will help you get quick results. Some restrictions apply. For more details call: **(819) 569-9525 (450) 242-1188**

100 Job Opportunities

URGENT
THE RECORD
is looking for a carrier in **Lennoxville** for the following route:

John Wilson and Queen Streets (25)

If interested in this route, please call

THE RECORD
819-569-9528
between 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or leave a message after hours or e-mail:
billing@sherbrooke.com

100 Job Opportunities

040 Wanted to Rent

FAMILY LOOKING FOR HOUSE to rent, 3 bedrooms, finished basement. We have dogs. Willing to pay \$750. per month. Between Lennoxville and Ayer's Cliff. Contact Tammy at 819-571-8918.

WE BUY from the past for the future, one item or a household, attic or basement, shed or garage. We like it all, give us a call. 819-837-2680.

290 Articles For Sale

FREE 120 PAGE CATALOGUE from Halfords. Butcher supplies, leather and craft supplies and animal control products. 1-800-353-7864 or email gisele@halfordhide.com or visit our web store: www.halfords-mailorder.com

294 Events

CLASSIFIEDS ONLINE!
www.sherbrooke.com

330 Pets

DOG BOARDING at Blue Seal. Weekends, holidays and day care. **Cageless.** Personalized care for your pet. **Blue Seal,** the Animal Nutrition Centre, 1730 Wellington South, Lennoxville, **819-**

145 Miscellaneous Services

#1 HIGH SPEED internet \$28.95/month. Absolutely no ports are blocked. Unlimited downloading. Up to 5Mbps download and 800Kbps upload. Order today at www.acanac.ca or call toll-free at 1-866-281-3538.

100 Job Opportunities

THE RECORD
is looking for a carrier(s) in **Lennoxville** for the following route starting January 3, 2013:

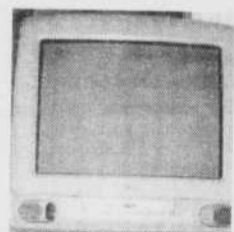
Archie-Mitchell and Oxford Crescent (39)

If interested in this route, please call

THE RECORD
819-569-9528
between 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or leave a message after hours or e-mail:
billing@sherbrooke.com

100 Job Opportunities

150 Computers



Make your classified stand out, add a photo for \$10. per day. Deadline: 2 days before publication. Drop by our office in Sherbrooke or Knowlton. **819-569-9525.** classad@sherbrooke.com

430 Personal

TRUE PSYCHICS! 4 answers call now, 24/7, toll free 1-877-342-3032, mobile #4486, www.truepsychics.ca.

Looking for a job or qualified personnel? Consult our Classified ads!

RATES

25¢ per word
Minimum charge \$6.50 per day Mon. to Thurs., \$7.50 on Fridays, for 20 words or less.

Discounts for prepaid consecutive insertions without copy change
3 to 20 insertions - less 10%
21 insertions - less 20%
#84 Found - 3 consecutive days - no charge
Use of "Record Box" for replies is \$5.00 per week.

We accept Visa & MasterCard
DEADLINE: 12:30 p.m. working day previous to publication. Classified ads must be prepaid.

Thank You For Checking

Please look over your ad the first day it appears making sure it reads as you requested, as The Record cannot be responsible for more than one insertion.

SUDOKU

Difficulty: 2 (of 5)

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8		9		5			6

12-17-12

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

2	7	4	5	8	6	3	9	1
9	8	5	7	1	3	6	4	2
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8	6	3	9	5	4	2	1	7
1	9	7	3	2	8	5	6	4
5	4	2	1	6	7	9	8	3
4	2	1	6	3	5	8	7	9
6	3	9	8	7	1	4	2	5
7	5	8	2	4	9	1	3	6

HOW TO PLAY:

Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

Want your ad to stand out?

For **.50** a word - **bold** it.

Your Birthday

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2012

A small but consistent financial growth pattern could be in the offing in the year ahead, but only if you take the initiative. Be careful about trying to speed up the process, however, because if you go flying off without your propeller, you're likely to crash.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Although it's always important for you and your spouse or loved one to be like-minded, today it could be even more crucial. Don't expect desirable results if you two aren't simpatico.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Even though you might do little, you could still expect a lot. However, because your rewards will be commensurate to your service, you're not apt to get what you want.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Going to a place that attracts only small groups of people is likely to be far more pleasing to your taste than being where the large crowds gather. Make a smart choice.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — If you're planning on hosting something at your place, be very selective about the guest list. Without careful consideration, you could invite someone who doesn't fit in, making everyone uncomfortable.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — You might not be as well tuned to your audience as you think, so be extremely careful that you don't blurt out something that could be offensive to your listeners.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Your

judgment regarding a commercial matter might not be up to its usual sharpness. Tread softly when it comes to negotiating a transaction so that you don't make any bum deals.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Don't be tempted to change a well-considered opinion due to pressure from a companion. He or she might merely be biased or self-serving.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — If you accidentally put your foot in your mouth by blurting out something you shouldn't have, take care when trying to make amends. You could do more damage if you're not careful.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — It could be a big mistake today to try to alter some social plans that would affect others in order to suit your personal interests. You might get your way, but anger a lot of companions in the process.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You aren't apt to achieve too much today if you're not methodical or purposeful. Even if you get back on track, it might be too late to get to where you need to go.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Pretending to comprehend something you really don't understand could put you in an embarrassing position. Don't let your ego get you in a situation that you won't be prepared to handle.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — If you've been pretending to be the underwriter of hopeless causes lately, there's a chance that others might get you involved in a costly undertaking that you'll have a hard time dodging.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2012

Don't rely on odds; count your tricks

By Phillip Alder

Augusta Jane Evans, a Southern author who died in 1909, said, "Life does not count by years. Some suffer a lifetime in a day, and so grow old between the rising and the setting of the sun."

A bridge deal does not take a year, but misplaying one can remain in the memory for a lifetime.

The most important aspect of reducing errors is counting; the more counting you do, the better.

In today's deal, it is winners that are important. How should South plan the play in four hearts after West leads a low spade?

North responded with the Jacoby Forcing Raise, guaranteeing at least four-card heart support and game-going values or more. South's three-no-trump rebid showed some extra values: a good 14 to a so-so 16 high-card points and denial of a singleton or void.

If South played the contract without thought, he would probably take the spade finesse, win East's diamond-king shift, draw trumps, and try the club finesse. But when that lost and East cashed two diamond tricks to defeat the contract, declarer would probably mut-

North		12-17-12	
♠ A Q		♠ K 10 6 5 3	
♥ J 10 8 3		♥ 9	
♦ 7 6 4		♦ K Q J 9	
♣ A Q 5 2		♣ K 10 3	
West		East	
♠ J 8 7 4		♠ K 10 6 5 3	
♥ 6 2		♥ 9	
♦ 10 5 2		♦ K Q J 9	
♣ 9 8 7 4		♣ K 10 3	
South			
♠ 9 2			
♥ A K Q 7 5 4			
♦ A 8 3			
♣ J 6			
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: East-West			
South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♥	All pass
Opening lead: ♠ 4			

ter that he was unlucky.

But now go back to trick one and force South to refrain from playing dummy's card until after he has checked losers and winners.

He should see four potential losers: one spade, two diamonds and one club. But he also has 10 winners: one spade, six hearts, one diamond and two clubs. So, he should take the first trick with dummy's spade ace, draw trumps and try the club finesse. Yes, it loses, but declarer has 10 tricks.

CROSSWORD

- Across**
- 1 Mop & __: cleaning brand
 - 4 "Fiddler on the Roof" dairyman
 - 9 Hannibal crossed them
 - 13 Author Fleming
 - 14 On __: counting calories
 - 15 Cathedral topper
 - 16 "Shakespeare in Love" Oscar winner
 - 18 Ann __, Michigan
 - 19 Sporting site
 - 20 "Brian's Song" actor James
 - 22 Johannesburg's land: Abbr.
 - 23 Part of a bottle
 - 24 "Pirates of the Caribbean" series star
 - 27 Moose relative
 - 28 Cousin of edu
 - 29 Perfectly
 - 30 Venus, e.g.
 - 33 USPS pieces
 - 34 The Yankee Clipper
 - 37 'Vette roof option

- 39 Cooks over boiling water
- 40 Sea west of Greece
- 43 Drill insert
- 44 Law school grads, briefly, and an apt title for this puzzle
- 47 "Slouching Towards Bethlehem" author
- 50 Song for two
- 51 Final: Abbr.
- 52 Nerve cell part
- 53 "It's Not About the Bike" author Armstrong
- 54 Pale
- 56 "East of Eden" co-star
- 59 "Cool beans!"
- 60 Eye-fooling pictures
- 61 First of a Latin threesome
- 62 Periodic table fig.
- 63 Uses a swizzle stick
- 64 Good times

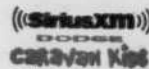
- 26 Works by Salvador
- 28 Cavs, on scoreboards
- 30 Drop by
- 31 CPR specialist
- 32 Trendy aerobics regimen
- 34 Satirist Swift
- 35 Narrow the gap
- 36 Prime meridian hrs.
- 37 Mexican border city
- 38 Gift for a handyman
- 41 Hersey's bell town
- 42 Say no to

- 44 U.S. capital nearest the Arctic Circle
- 45 Take down the tents and move on
- 46 Pool workers
- 48 Judo schools
- 49 Not suited
- 50 Youngster's "play catch" partner
- 53 D-Day fleet
- 55 Gen. Eisenhower's arena: Abbr.
- 57 Month after avril
- 58 Go down the wrong path

M	A	Z	E	S		T	W	O	T	I	M	I	N	G	
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T	E	X	A	S	T	E	C	H		N	E	R	T	S	

- Down**
- 1 Demi Moore military movie
 - 2 Hardy's comedy partner
 - 3 Next to bat
 - 4 "I did it!"
 - 5 Suffix with stamp
 - 6 Wine, on le menu
 - 7 "That's gross!"
 - 8 Revolutionary Allen
 - 9 Showery mo.
 - 10 Opera text
 - 11 Flourish
 - 12 Colorful shawls
 - 15 Japanese electronics giant
 - 17 Squid's squirt
 - 21 Formicarium insect
 - 24 "The Grapes of Wrath" surname
 - 25 Old Dodge hatchbacks

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13				14						15			
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59							60					61	
62							63						64



"Less Fuel, More Power, Great Value" is a comparison between the 2013 and the 2012 Chrysler Canada product lineups. 35 mpg or greater claim (8.1 L/100 km) based on 2013 EnerGuide highway fuel consumption estimates. Transport Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on powertrain, driving habits and other factors. See retailer for additional EnerGuide details. **Wise customers read the fine print:** †, ‡, §, ¶. The offers of this ad apply to retail deliveries of selected new models purchased from participating retailers between December 1, 2012 and January 2, 2013. Offers are subject to change and may be extended without notice. Price includes freight (\$1,595) and taxes on air conditioning (when applicable). No fees will be added to the all-inclusive prices of the advertised models. Price excludes license, insurance, duties on new tires (\$15) and applicable taxes, and will be required on purchase. A down payment may be required. Retailer order or trade may be necessary (when applicable). Retailer may sell for less. See participating retailer for complete details and conditions. † Purchase Price applies to 2013 Dodge Dart SE (PEP041 - 25A); \$17,590. ** 2013 Dodge Dart R/T (PFD041 - 25J) shown. Late availability. Price (including \$500 Holiday Bonus Cash): \$25,250. Models shown may differ slightly from the models commercialized in Canada. ‡ Based on 2013 EnerGuide highway fuel consumption ratings. Government of Canada test methods used. 2013 Dodge Dart Aero model (late availability) with 1.4L Turbo engine and manual transmission - 4.8 L/100 km hwy (7.3 L/100 km city). Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on powertrain, driving habits and other factors. See retailer for additional information about the EnerGuide program. † Based on 2012 Ward's Upper Small sedan costing under \$25,000. † Star ratings are part of the U.S. Government's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). * Optional features on certain models. Vehicle's total price varies depending on selected options. †† Tigercat is a trademark of Chrysler Group LLC. ††† SiriusXM logo is a registered trademark of SiriusXM Satellite Radio Inc. ® Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

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