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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2019

Alleged arson rampage in Brome-Missisquoi causes six fires in a matter of hours

By Matthew McCully

Sûreté du Québec officers have arrested two men, aged 21 and 24 years old, in connection with a string of fires that happened early Monday morning in Frelighsburg, Dunham and St. Armand.

The first fire was started around 4 a.m.

According to an SQ spokesperson, no people or animals were injured in the fires.

The buildings affected included barns and sugar shacks.

The case has been handed over to the SQ major crimes unit as an arson investigation.

Local fire departments spent the early morning hours heading from call to call in the three towns to deal with the six fires. A seventh intervention was required by firefighters when the first fire of the morning reignited.

The Canadian winter is upon us



TAYLOR MCCLURE

By Taylor McClure
Special to The Record

For many, yesterday was a cold and blustery day that we all wanted to avoid but for hockey lovers, it was not a deterrent. Yesterday was the perfect time to take head down to Atto-Beaver Park in Lennoxville.

Julia Dührkop, from Germany, was

introduced to hockey once before but yesterday was the first time on Canadian ice. She managed to borrow equipment from friends to get to know the game a bit better.

Two other locals, Logan Letourneau and Scott Loach, also hit up the rink for some shinny. Both have been playing the game for quite some time and notice a difference between playing

hockey indoors compared to outdoors. "Well, inside the ice is cleaner and the puck slides better," said Logan. "And it's not as cold," added Scott. Despite the advantages of playing hockey indoors, they all headed down to the rink, laced up their skates, and braced the cold in true Canadian fashion.

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Weather



TODAY:
SNOW

HIGH OF 1
LOW OF -3



WEDNESDAY:
SNOW

HIGH OF -1
LOW OF -4



THURSDAY:
MIX OF SUN
AND CLOUDS

HIGH OF -1
LOW OF -4



FRIDAY:
PERIODS OF
SNOW OR
RAIN
HIGH OF 2
LOW OF 1



SATURDAY:
SNOW OR
RAIN
HIGH OF 2
LOW OF -7



DISHPAN HANDS

SHEILA QUINN

A lot happened in my life this year. I feel like it's one for my record books (The Record books pun not intended but it works). As I sit here and contemplate how it feels a bit like a year powered by rocket fuel, when I sit and really think of what went on, it really was a year.

Since I have a very challenging and unpredictable homelife, centered a great deal around the care of my Autistic teenage son, sometimes I feel like I won't have the opportunity to experience life as others do. And that is at least partly true. But what I learned this year in particular is that there are gaps - and in the gaps are other kinds of opportunity. It's a little like the foundation cracking, but revealing pure gold therein.

I want to frame it in lessons, slip-clicking through it like it's the slide projector in our Bampi Chatfield's basement in NDJ.

In January of 2019 people were on the purge, as Netflix treated the world to a series of Marie Kondo's Tidying Up approach to sorting your stuff and your life. I think I still have a few things folded Kondo-style. There is a chance that I haven't worn those things since January. I learned that purging is fun. I also learned that I absolutely love an artsy, weird home that is like a little altar of weird. And you can't Kondo that. Some Kondo, and some Kondon't.

February 2019 saw my youngest (in his first year of high school) manage to make the Honour Roll at school for a second term. He would hold that pattern through the rest of the year. A wide gap in the achievement level meant that some of the classes he applied himself less in found themselves far down in the land of 'really needs improvement', but a pattern was set that gave him an idea of what he is capable of. Motivation in high school can be one of the trickiest, and most important, factors of academic (and otherwise) success. I learned that motivating teenagers is a crucial, and also elusive practice.

sive practice.

On March 6th, 2019, a little family member of ours turned one year old. We were all waiting on tenterhooks for results from genetic testing that had been ordered. We wondered about signs, and half of her first year was full of this shadow of concern. A few months later, we would all be relieved to know that all tests came back negative. I knew that as a family, we know what collective pain is, and in this case, we all learned what a collective sigh of relief is.

Then on March 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st and April 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th, I was granted the gift of being on stage with Knowlton Players, taking on the role of Tanya in the musical play Mamma Mia. With a full ABBA soundtrack, we sang our little guts out. Just about everyone got sick at some point, thank goodness for cast member Louise G  linas making sure we all had enough Vitalit   Sureau elderberry elixir to bring us back to health. For a first time on stage I felt so spoiled - the Groundhog Day feeling was very welcome as we repeated lines and moves, everyone with little goofs here and there, mostly going unnoticed. For the final show I bought twelve boxes of Kleenex. I was sure we were in for a deluge, but I was wrong. Instead we all kind of felt this exhausted elation, and we all pitched in to clean and strike the set, clearing out what had been our little Greek island for a few weeks, setting sail from what had truly been our little Greek Island since we were all cast and began rehearsing in the fall of 2018. I learned that being involved in theatre is like every kind of travel imaginable, and that dreams can come true.

On April 22nd, 2019, Easter Monday, my best friend Tracey took me on the most beautiful vacation of my life. We left Montreal for Zurich, then Zurich to Rome, then we put the lug in luggage and dragged our backside to a train, then transferred to the wrong train, but along with a lovely stranger we met who was headed to the same ship, we got onto the right one and then lugged again through the town of Civitavecchia, a small port city, where we boarded the Jewel of the Seas, an absolutely colossal Royal Caribbean cruise ship. We kayaked in Crete, where we ate a traditional Greek meal at a traditional taverna, drank real Greek coffee in Chania, visited the blanch   and blue island of Mykonos, cable-carred up to the breathtaking heights of Santorini, visited Rhodes and the Parthenon and Temple of Poseidon in Athens. We took the funicolare up to Ana Capri, Italy where we saw lemons just about the size of footballs and ate heavenly gelato. We took in amazing shows

on board and met friends we've remained in touch with. We walked through Pompeii, the Coliseum and visited the Vatican City, including the dizzying work that is St. Peter's Basilica. I learned that in spite of living a strange life, I rarely feel trapped, and this was a crack in the foundation that led to the other side of the world.

In May of 2019 I attended my godson's first art show, as he makes his way through studies at Champlain College Lennoxville. Seeing his passion, understanding and drive to succeed was beyond inspiring. I learned that he is developing expertise that is forming a trajectory - and that it's drawing us along with him.

June of 2019 saw the school year end, and both of my boys won awards at MVHS's awards night. Them being in the right place for their schooling was reaffirmed that night.

In July of 2019 my cousin Tracy and her daughter Jessie (in her early twenties) came to visit from British Columbia. There are people in this world that you just want to 'be' with. You just want to be able to call up and get together, and laugh, eat, talk, play, and my cousins offer me the same feeling that I've felt with them all of my life. I learned that being cousins will never grow dull or fade. We will always be so glad to be together.

That month we also developed The Party Animals, so-named by my friend Shirley. Her grandson Kai, my son Angus and their friend Joseph became something of a sensational trio, surrounded by other family, three young men with special needs who defied social odds and went out on the town, out for pizza and movies, to a birthday party and just had more fun together than I think they realized was possible. I learned that sometimes the cracks in the foundations are because the foundations aren't what we think they are.

August of 2019 saw my youngest son take to the stage for the first time with The Piggery summer camp. I learned that still today sometimes growing up means looking for the edges of things - for forbidden zones or where we can be someone else just for a while.

Late that month we all returned to school, in a new way. Rather than my usual route to-and-from school with both boys in tow, my eldest began taking an adapted transport minivan to school - he was so proud. This gave him independence that he needed - time when there wasn't just Mum around all of the time. This was in preparation for completion of my studies that would take place in

CONT'D ON PAGE 4

Ben by Daniel Shelton



LOCAL NEWS

According to the QCTC, the most recent statistics show that vaping among Quebec high school students rose by 70% between 2016/2017 and 2018/2019, from 9.8% to 16.7%.

Vaping restrictions too little, too late, according to the Quebec Coalition for Tobacco Control

New federal restrictions on the promotion of electronic cigarettes will make little difference in Quebec, where youth smoking continues to increase.

Record Staff

“We are relieved to see the federal government finally starting to respond to the flashy and aggressive promotion of vaping products that is blanketing the country, but it's hard to applaud a gesture that comes so late in the game and will clearly not be enough to reverse the growing trend of youth vaping,” commented Flory Doucas, co-director and spokesperson for the Quebec Coalition for Tobacco Control (QCTC) in a recent press release.

“We recognize that the Honourable Patty Hajdu has done more to concretely address the issue of youth vaping in the month since she was appointed Minister of Health by the Liberal government over the past year, since Health Canada had access (in November 2018) to statis-

tics showing a dramatic increase in the number of youth who vape. But, frankly, strong restrictions on promotion and a few basic rules on packaging without restricting flavours or nicotine levels are inadequate to effectively reduce the appeal of these products to youth and the powerful nicotine addiction they create. How much time and evidence does the federal government need to finally implement the range of urgent and appropriate measures to address youth vaporization on all fronts, as called for by the Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health last October?”

The measures on the promotion of vaping products proposed by the federal government have essentially been in place in Quebec since 2016 and, in the current context, have not been sufficient to prevent the continued increase

in vaping among Quebec teenagers.

According to the QCTC, the most recent statistics show that vaping among Quebec high school students rose by 70% between 2016/2017 and 2018/2019, from 9.8% to 16.7%.

“The restrictions put forward by the federal government are welcome for the rest of Canada, but very similar measures have not been able to counter the flagrant increase in vaping among youth in Quebec. Instead of simply leveling the federal measures to what exists in Quebec, why not propose stronger and more effective restrictions than those that have already proven to be ineffective in curbing the increase in youth vaping? Urgent restrictions on flavours and nicotine concentration were the order of the day a long time ago, and there is still no firm commit-

ment from the federal government to put such measures in place within a specific and quick timeframe. Standardization of vaporization products and their packaging as well as specific taxes on the products themselves to counteract low-price strategies are also necessary”.

Doucas added that more than 18 months after their legalisation, nicotine vapor products are still not subject to any specific rules concerning additives, nicotine content and warnings adapted to the multiple health risks linked to vaporization. “The flavours remain unrestricted and the products are not subject to any specific taxes, which means that manufacturers can sell them at any price they want,” she said.

Borderline Players to hold auditions for 2020 season

Borderline Players will hold auditions for its spring and fall shows on Friday, January 3 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm and Saturday, January 4 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at the First Universalist Parish Hall in Derby Line, Vt.

The first production of the season will be the classic comedy Noises Off! by Michael Frayn and directed by Steve Gonyaw. Performances are May 8-9-10 and 15-16-17, 2020 at the Haskell Opera House.

This play-within-a-play captures a

touring theatre troupe's production of Nothing On in three stages: dress rehearsal, the opening night and a performance towards the end of a run. Frayne gives us a window into the inner workings of theatre, progressing from flubbed lines and missed cues in the rehearsal to mounting friction between cast members in the final performance. Noises Off is a backstage farce, complete with slamming doors, falling trousers and flying sardines!

The cast includes 9 characters, 5 male

and 4 female.

The fall production will be the comedy-drama, The Tin Woman by Sean Grennan and directed by Benjamin Tabah. Performances are slated for October 16-17-18 and 23-24-25, 2020 at the Haskell Opera House.

Reeling in the wake of an unexpected heart transplant, Joy finds herself drawn to contact the donor's family. A tempestuous meeting ensues resulting in a roller coaster of tears, laughter and healing. An intimate and poignant play that

explores the power of human connection.

The cast features 6 roles, 4 female and 2 male, including two for actors 60-plus.

For further character details, visit <http://borderlineplayers.org>.

Borderline Players' summer musical will be announced soon, with auditions at a later date.

For more information or to reserve an audition time, contact borderlineplayers@outlook.com.

Owners of pyrrhotite damaged Quebec demand money from SNC Lavalin settlement

The Canadian Press

Owners of pyrrhotite-damaged homes in Quebec are eyeing the \$280-million penalty SNC-Lavalin was recently ordered to pay for its fraudulent business dealings in Libya.

Alain Gelinas, president of a group of owners whose homes have been dam-

aged by the mineral, says that settlement money belongs to his members.

Hundreds of homes in Quebec's Mauricie region were damaged after being built between 1996-2008 with low-quality concrete that contained pyrrhotite, which expands when it comes into contact with water and air.

In 2014, the Quebec Superior Court

ruled that SNC-Lavalin was 70 per cent responsible for the damage because one of the company's geologists produced a report stating the concrete was fit for use.

SNC-Lavalin is appealing that ruling and Gelinas says a decision in the case is expected in early 2020.

In the meantime, he's calling on the

federal government to set aside the \$280-million the company was recently ordered to pay in a separate case involving its fraudulent dealings in Libya, and give it to the victims of pyrrhotite-damaged homes.

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The benefits of having a large human chassis for traction

By Linda Knight Seccaspina

One snowy New Year's Eve I remember leaving a dinner with friends that invited me to crowd into a Mini Austin for a ride home. It was not

exactly an invite per say - it was actually more of a dare to see how many people we could fit into the "Cooper". One by one we piled into this tiny car with me scoring a seat riding shotgun.

Since I seemed to have the largest "chassis" in the group it was only fair that I house a couple more people on my lap. There was no way in the world we would ever reach the Guinness World's Book of Records total of 21. We had no super smart Bishop's students that had once figured out the solution and no one volunteered to sit in the boot of the car.

Packed to the rafters with 9 people the driver attempted to leave and immediately the wheels spun in the fresh new snow. We were all pretty uncomfortable at this point and voices of desperation start to surface to the top.

My father Arthur Knight always insisted that you keep bags of sand or salt in the trunk for traction in case you got stuck in the winter.

However there was no sand or salt in the back end of this car, only a bunch of lightweights.

I sat in the front seat slowly losing the feeling in my legs due to the human load being forced upon me and suddenly had an idea. I could be the "living" bag of sand in the rear and hopefully that would help. After shouting out my idea everyone agreed and the doors opened with people literally falling out into the snow. I immediately got into the back end and the passengers resumed more uncomfortable positions. With a huge push from a passerby we were off.

The car swerved and slipped in the snow but one by one we were safely dropped off and had enjoyed a life experience we would never forget. Arthur Knight's bag of sand, who was really his daughter in this case, had saved the day.

This is dedicated to my late father Arthur Knight from Cowansville who always drove the worst in Ford vehicles and went nowhere without a sandbag in the trunk in the winter.



Rearview

CONT'D FROM PAGE 2

October. I learned that developing forms of independence is possible for everyone.

On August 31st, my kindred spirit got married. Watching he and his husband celebrate their day, I thought of the many adventures during our twenty-six years of friendship, and how I am certain that on the day we met he spoke of being married one day. This commitment was so important to him. I learned that often our biggest, most precious moments actually belong to the people we love. The fringes of those moments hold virtually the same magnitude as the center.

I hardly remember September of 2019. All I can say for sure is my nose was to a grindstone. School was winding down as we performed for our last big regular exams and prepared for our final...I learned that BLIP! Oh, there goes a month.

In October of 2019 I finished my hairdressing course. We haven't received our diplomas yet, but we will soon! I learned that it actually is possible to go back to school as an adult, AND have to work tremendously hard (and keep working) to understand something, and that it is possible to complete full, real, career studies much later in the game.

In other news, I welcomed a third little girl kitten into my home and thought at first introduction that I must be mad, but within a few weeks all three of my furry loves got along, and follow me everywhere. We lost our beloved boycat Radio in 2019, and gained two more, Mercury and Rhapsody, who joined Radio's sister Pixie, hopefully making up for her lost brother. I learned that the lives of our pets can be tremendously important to our daily lives, and that the joy they bring far outweighs the occasional frustrations. I learned that I have absolute plans of being a crazy cat lady. I believe it starts with having three of them.

In December of 2019 I watched my youngest son on stage at MVHS for the first time. I helped him practice his lines and prepare parts of his costume. Seeing him up there was such a huge thrill - again with the fringes of another person's experience. If you let them, they reach out to you with silvered and spectacular tendrils.

Just before my boys finished school for the holidays, the last thing of 2019 that I must note, on a Thursday morning, I learned that there were potentially several armed individuals in their school. I was working on a client's hair (a very complex job) when my colleague came to very gracefully explain what was being reported. I learned that my boys were on lockdown. I went into the storehouse of my former school staff experience and determined what to do. Find calm. Focus on the task at hand. Allow the authorities and school officials to do their jobs. But inside, in the layers beneath, the birds of panic were flying. Batting their wings against my insides. At the speed of light my mind trolled my memories for the last moments that I saw my boys' faces. Leo walking up the street to the bus, me making my way quickly to my bedroom window to wave at him. Angus's smile as he went outside to wait for the adapted transport van. That story ends with the safe return home of the children that day. I hope that I never again have to experience those same birds of panic again, and those same slides caught in the projector, of smiling faces leaving, and my concern that they wouldn't come home. I learned new compassion for the people who have had similar experiences and those whose stories did not end with such grace.

In all of our adventures, I learned that our lives can be smelted down to moments. May you and yours know the gold in the cracks, opportunity in the holes and the gentle fringe of another person's happiness. Here's to 2019, all the best in 2020!

2019 Babies!



Proud parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, show off your pride and joy in our "Babies of 2019" edition of The Record to be published on January 10, 2020.

Mail a colour photograph of the baby with: baby's name, birth date, 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

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Honorary Certificate finds its way back to the Foss family

By Taylor McClure
Special to The Record

The story of the 'Fossmobile' is one that many Sherbrooke locals are familiar with.

George Foote Foss, who owned a bicycle repair shop in the city, occupied himself during the slow winter months by taking on the role of inventor. After building various model steam engines, model train locomotives, and his own electric motor for his boat, George Foss succeeded in developing the first ever gasoline-powered car in Canada in 1897. The car was eventually referred to as the 'Fossmobile.'

While George never made a business out of this invention, his story is quite an important one. Since 2018, the Foss family has been working hard to bring recognition to his accomplishment and make people aware of this very important piece of Canadian Automotive history through Fossmobile Enterprises.

Recently, the Foss family received an unexpected Christmas present in the form of an original certificate given to George by the Antique Automobile Club of America. It is one of only two certificates awarded by the organization to a Canadian and it has finally found its way back to the Foss family.

Fossmobile Enterprises was started by Ron Foss, grandson of George Foss, over a year ago after meeting a group of people who wanted to create a replica of the 'Fossmobile'.

Ron started to work alongside the group on the project, but their perspectives clashed. "We had two different per-

spectives on how it should be done and how the story should be told so I decided it was best to part ways," explained Ron. "They did inspire me though to pick up the ball and role with it. Their efforts helped create that passion in me to achieve this."

After parting ways, Ron carried on with the project and decided to establish Foss Enterprises to better tell his grandfather's story.

"It's been in the back of my mind since I was a kid," Ron said, "there must be a better approach to instill in Canadian Automotive history that this was an accomplishment."

An important part in better telling George's story was building the tribute to the 'Fossmobile.' With no original pieces to work from, Ron started collecting pieces that his grandfather would have had access to during the time he built the car, like a motor that isn't branded and a 1901 chassis, and is working alongside experts to create a tribute as close as possible to the original 'Fossmobile.'

Beyond the tribute to the 'Fossmobile', having possession of original historical memorabilia and sharing it with others was also important; especially the original AACA certificate.

In the early 1960s, George Foss was awarded two honorary memberships, one from the Vintage Automobile Club of Montreal and the other from the Antique Automobile Club of America. While Ron has had possession of the original VACM certificate for decades, the family could never find the original



George Foote Foss

COURTESY OF RON FOSS

certificate awarded to George by the AACA.

Ron knew that he had been given the award because he had a picture of his grandfather receiving it, but he needed to validate his membership. "I called the AACA and they said that they couldn't reproduce the original certificate but they could send a letter confirming that he was an honorary member, which they did."

For years, Ron assumed that the certificate had been lost as he had all of his grandfather's and his aunt's artefacts with no certificate to be found. Then, he received a message from a member of his Fossmobile Facebook group with a shocking claim. "Someone joined my Facebook group and I noticed that he was from Montreal and he was keeping up-to-date with all the posts," said Ron. "About two weeks ago, I received a message from him saying he had a file with the original certificate. Turns out, he, Gérard Montpetit, was an active member and a part of the administration of the Montreal Club."

While Montpetit couldn't recall how the file ended up in his possession, he assumed he was cleaning up an office space when he came across it. He kept it, knowing that it was important, and stored it in a filing cabinet where it has been preserved for more than 40 years. In the file along with the AACM certificate there were also old photos and articles by Hugh Durnford.

Durnford was a former president of the Montreal Club and he co-wrote a book titled *Cars of Canada* in 1973. "This book is the Bible for the history of automobiles in Canada. We reckon that either my grandfather or my aunt lent Hugh information as a means to write a story about him (George) in the book and these documents were never returned to the family."

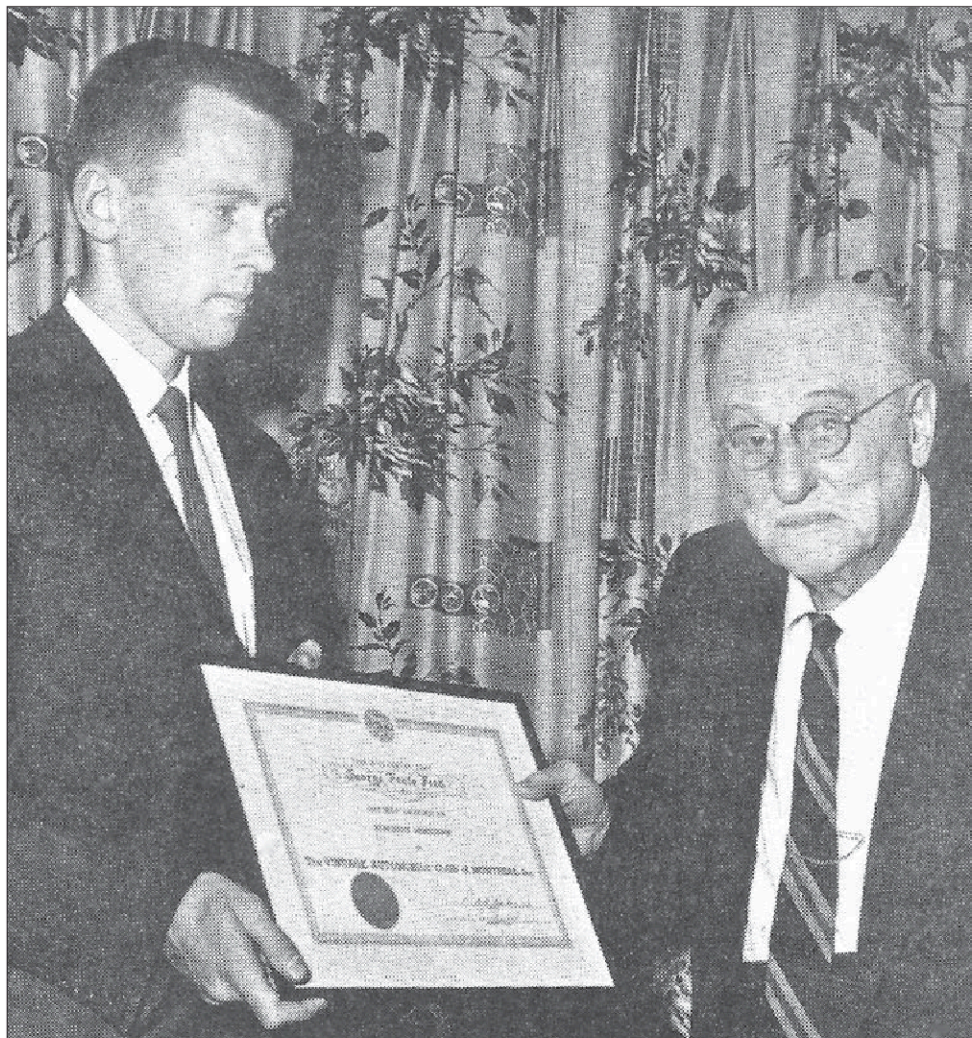
Now that the original certificate

found its way back to the Foss family, it plays an important role in validating the story of the 'Fossmobile' and helping give his grandfather the recognition he deserves.

"It's important for the degree to which it helps authenticate the story. The AACA is the pinnacle of history, membership, and exclusivity. It holds the highest level of respect by all car enthusiasts out there. The fact that he is only one of two Canadians who received an original certificate holds a lot of value. They wouldn't have awarded that certificate very easily and they would have done extensive research."

While George Foote Foss has been recognized in Quebec and the United States, he has yet to be recognized in Canada, as there were doubts as to whether or not the 'Fossmobile' was truly the first gas-powered car in the country. But with the AACA certificate and no evidence pointing elsewhere, Ron wanted his grandfather's accomplishment to be recognized nationally. "If Quebec did it and America did it, why not Canada? I've been told now that they will but I don't know how or when. It's an important missing piece in properly telling the story and giving him the recognition he deserves. He paved the way in many ways."

With offers from two museums to hold the 'Fossmobile' tribute, one from the Canadian Museum of Science and Technology and one from the Canadian Automotive Museum, Ron hopes this important piece of Canadian history will be preserved for years to come with both of George's certificates accompanying it. "The certificates should stay with the vehicle. There are lots of decisions and discussions to be had amongst the family but there will be a representation of some sort of these certificates with the car. Just as a family, to say we have the originals is quite great."



George Foote Foss

COURTESY OF RON FOSS.

EDITORIAL

Public interventions such as parenting programs like the Family Acceptance Project can help parents who initially reject their LGBTQ+ teen learn how to accept them.

Home for the holidays? LGB youth report lower parental support than heterosexual youth

By Hilary Rose, CFLE
Associate Professor of Applied Human Sciences, Concordia University

During the holidays, most people – including young people – spend more time at home and with their families. But home and family can feel different based on varying levels of support from one’s family. Our research found LGB (lesbian, gay and bisexual) youth’s perceptions of family support remained the same or, in fact, worsened from 1998 to 2013.

Our study’s trend analyses show that, generally, youth’s perceived parental support and family relations have improved steadily since 1998. As hopeful as that might be, the LGB youth in our study – average age 14 years – don’t see their parents and families as being as supportive as their heterosexual peers do, or indeed as they used to. It’s a striking difference when you consider that attitudes toward LGBTQ+ people have generally improved over time.

Missing Support and Connection
I study parent-child relations in the context of the family. In particular, as an associate professor at Concordia University in Montréal, I study at-risk youth. I also belong to a research centre, Stigma & Resilience Among Vulnerable Youth Centre (SARAVYC) at the University of British Columbia, which is connected to the McCreary Centre Society, a non-profit organization in Greater Vancouver aimed at improving the health and well-being of youth.

Parental support and family connectedness are key factors in supporting health and well-being in adolescents, especially sexual-minority youth. For example, LGBTQ+ youth are at greater risk than heterosexual youth of being harassed and victimized at school. In the face of such negative experiences at school, parents’ support can act as an important buffer. But what if parents are seen as being less supportive of their

LGBTQ+ children? And why might this be so in the light of improved attitudes toward LGBTQ+ issues?

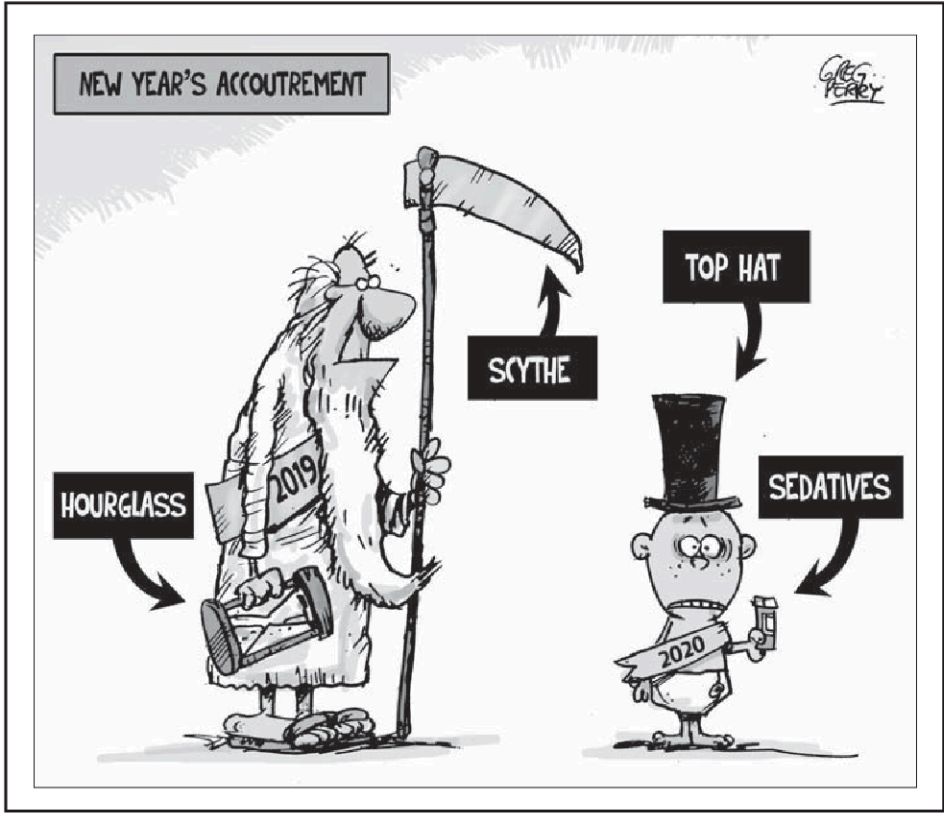
Our study looked at how adolescents’ perceptions of family connectedness and parental support (tested separately by gender) changed over a period of 15 years beginning in 1998 – among heterosexual as well as sexual-minority youth.

Beginning in 1998, and every five years since, the McCreary Centre has conducted a comprehensive B.C. Adolescent Health Survey. Almost 100,000 adolescents have participated in these surveys over a period of 15 years from high schools across British Columbia, representing 75 per cent of B.C. school districts.

Using four waves of the B.C. Adolescent Health Survey (1998, 2003, 2008, 2013), our interdisciplinary team (under the direction of Elizabeth Saewyc, Director of the UBC School of Nursing) looked at perceived family support variables (such as family connectedness, mother support and father support) in four different groups of students: heterosexual, mostly heterosexual, bisexual and lesbian/gay. Our data did not include trans, queer or other non-LGB sexual-minority youth youth.

We compared means of perceptions of family support of the LGB youth to those of the heterosexual youth, with those of the latter as the benchmark or point of comparison. We also wanted to see if prior discrepancies between the perceptions of heterosexual youth and sexual-minority youth with respect to family support persisted over time. That is, across four waves of data, did these discrepancies get bigger, smaller or stay the same? Although we found perceptions of family support improved generally, among bisexual youth, there was a decrease in perceived support from their mothers.

For bisexual youths, means of perceived mother support dropped significantly between 1998 and 2008 (the year



of reference for that variable). A similar drop in perceived support from mothers was found for lesbian girls. For gay boys, however, there was a significant drop in perceived support from fathers. We also found that existing disparities between heterosexual and LGB youth’s perceptions of family support widened over time. That is, while heterosexual youth see their families as a source of support, LGB youth are less likely to do so.

A Widening Gap In LGBTQ2S Rights

Our study does not have data to address why LGB youth might see their families as less supportive than heterosexual youth do. We can, however, speculate. LGBT youth are coming out at earlier ages now than in the past. For example, parents of a tween who comes out might be more upset than if they had an adult child in their 20s or 30s who comes out.

Although LGBTQ+ issues are more visible in society today, that visibility could be a two-edged sword for different family members. For a young LGBTQ+ family member, greater visibility could be seen

in a positive light (more role models in the media, for example). For the parents of an LGBTQ+ youth, increased visibility could be concerning as parents worry about their children and their children’s futures.

Public interventions such as parenting programs like the Family Acceptance Project can help parents who initially reject their LGBTQ+ teen learn how to accept them. In addition to more basic research, we need to develop and offer programs to help parents be more supportive of all of their children.

Since the passing of the Civil Marriage Act in 2005 legalizing same-sex marriage in Canada, many Canadians assume that LGBTQ+ people in Canada now have equal rights. Our research, however, shows that these equal rights have not trickled down to LGBTQ+ youth, whether at school or within their families.

Hilary Rose, CFLE receives funding from CIHR (PI Elizabeth Saewyc, 2012-2017, Reducing Stigma, Promoting Resilience: Population Health Interventions for LGBTQ Youth).

Letters

SEASON’S GREETINGS!

I took this photo on Christmas day of ATV tracks starting at the parking lot at 4 Massawippi Street and heading down the cycling/walking trail. It seems apparent that the sign indication ‘No walking’ on the trail during the winter was taken too literally by the vehicle owners!

It is likely that the official ATV trails in the region are not open yet due to the changing weather and unfrozen ground, but this/these motorized vehicles have or will likely cause extensive damage to this portion of the Massawippi portion of Sherbrooke’s 126 kilometres of trails, which is also part of the provincial Route Verte #1.

Access was made by going through some trees beside the closed fence. It is not known how far the ATVs travelled south towards North Hatley.

BRUCE PORTER



THE RECORD

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Local Sports

Anglers have a funny way of identifying, and even creating problems that might have otherwise appeared or been nonexistent.

Too few hours in a day



ON THE HOOK
ANDREW HOWARTH

So much of my fishing time is spent working toward and waiting for a moment of virtual perfection—for the alignment of some hypothetical stars—and as a result, most of my excursions leave something to be desired. But, that’s only half the story. Rarer, and yet more impactful, are the days when I leave the river dreaming of an endless day, and wishing for ultimate freedom from the constraints imposed by Earth’s celestial movements and our twenty-four hour day. The few that I’ve wished would never end are what keep me coming back to the river.

For some reason, good fishing just doesn’t lend itself to good writing the way bad fishing does, but good material relies on inspiration from both. Maybe bad days serve as a necessary form of catharsis: if it weren’t for poor fishing, what would us anglers have to complain about? What follows might come as a surprise to friends who are most familiar with my affinity for the outdoors and all things fishy, but it sometimes takes a great day on the water to remind me of how fun my favourite activity truly is. Nothing bothers me quite as much, or in the same exact way, as failing to maximize the potential enjoyment and meaningful experience that are gifted to me periodically by nature. Wasting a good day definitely has a place on my shortlist of deadly sins. In the past, ‘maximizing my enjoyment’ might have meant catching as many fish as possible, but revised goals and a more informed perspective have made my definition of a great day more supple and elusive. A recent float down one of Western Ontario’s beautiful rivers left me feeling like I’d received an early Christmas gift, and then been deprived of my opportunity to enjoy it by the waning light of day.

Nowadays, good water and weather conditions, soaring bald eagles, picturesque runs, good company, challenging stretches of rowing, and a few active fish are more than sufficient to ensure what I would consider a great day of December fishing. My most recent outing was noteworthy because of a thought that occurred to me while reflecting on the day that had been: a truly great day

of fishing has to end with my gracious acceptance of such good fortune, and its limits. Many of life’s experiences are very similar to the act of hooking, landing, handling, and releasing a great fish, because the experience is likely to spoil and become sour if we hold on to it too tightly, and mistakenly ask for too much. It’s hard, and yet necessary, to understand how one can actually love someone or something to death. As it turns out, there are also very good conservation-related reasons for learning restraint. My memories of days when the fishing was fast and easy are mostly cloudy, partly because the challenge was too small for the result to have been meaningful. In my experience, big numbers tend to fade quickly over time. An experienced angler with smart goals can call it quits after two fish, despite knowing that they could very possibly turn that two into a ten. Learning to leave something for tomorrow is both an act of conservation, and an indication of greater proficiency in fishing and other similar activities. In short, I think it’s better for the health of both anglers and fish, if we become more willing to call ‘last cast,’ and learn to accept a great day along with its limitations.

Anglers have a funny way of identifying, and even creating problems that might have otherwise appeared or been nonexistent. In reality, some of our purported dilemmas are quite trivial, and in some sense, they’re actually good problems to have. As the title of this article implies, I’m often bothered by what seems like a lack of time to enjoy all that a day out has to offer. It seems much more reasonable and necessary, therefore, to remind myself that the desire for a never-ending day is a gift in and of itself. Having more good water than you’re able to cover is a prime example of a great problem to have, but that’s not to say that there isn’t something unsettling about such an abundance of untapped potential. After all, if fishing good water thoroughly is the goal, what could be more anxiety-inducing than an overabundance of good water to fish? If we were to regard rivers and fish as showmen and entertainers, and assume their adherence to the ‘leave them wanting more’ principle of show business, both could certainly be considered consummate professionals.

This entry highlights the bright side of unfulfilled angling ambitions and unquenched thirst for adventure, while pointing to solutions for the many anxieties that fishing and other outdoor fanatics commonly face. Although not recognized formally in the most recent edition of the DSM, ‘next bend syndrome’ feels very real to those of us who constantly dream of the perfect run, and spend our lives obsessing over what exists eternally just beyond our reach. I like to think I’ve embraced this aspect of fishing more recently, and I’m glad I can’t see around the next bend.



It’s a great day when I can peer over the side of my drift boat into some fishy-looking water and think ‘Is that worth stopping for? There might be greener grass downriver, but then again, there’s green grass everywhere I look.’

2019-2020 SEASON | NEXT GAME

Ville de Sherbrooke

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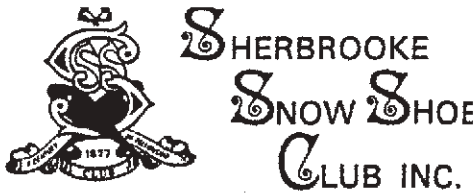
In Memoriam



Florence Liza Blouin Perron
(March 24, 1929 – January 1, 2018)

*Two years have come and gone,
We miss your smile and laughter.
Your touch and your presence, is
greatly missed.
You are always present in our minds.
Our love is still strong and will never
fade away.
We think of you everyday.*

We love you, always.
OSWALD PERRON
AND FAMILY



Members of the Sherbrooke Snow Shoe Club gathered at the clubhouse on Prospect Street in the city’s north end on Wednesday, December 4th. It was their fourth meeting of the new season and the winter-like conditions continued to characterize the surroundings in this older part of the city and beyond.

While the temperature outside continued to range below the freezing mark, the climate inside was more hospitable. This was due in large part to the somewhat ancient brick fireplace in the core of the building that was both heat producing and atmospherically inviting at the same time.

At the appointed hour, President Harry Brown called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. As per his duties, Sergeant-at-Arms Brian Heath identified all the emergency exits, noting that some doors are compromised by the unstable door frames in the old building.

A Challenging Quiz

The membership rose to sing the national anthem, following which veteran member Doug Beattie asked the blessing. The White Knights proceeded to serve the evening meal, starting off with enticing bowls of traditional French-Canadian pea soup. Then entrees of sausage and mashed potatoes were handed out, followed by dessert offerings of strawberry and rhubarb cake.

The president extended expressions of gratitude to the Knights and the kitchen crew after which drawings for the evening’s door prizes were held. The first lucky member was the aforementioned Sergeant-at-Arms, Brian Heath, the second, perennial winner Malcolm Juby.

Chorister Phil Kerwin led the post dining sing-along bolstered by fellow members Ron Smith, Lawrie Sakamoto and Steve Moore. As always, Janis Graham provided the musical accompaniment.

Jokester and former club president, Dave Moore, offered up an assortment of jokes, one about the appropriate frequency with respect to marital relationships, another about a married couple asking for assistance navigating a play yard swing. The final anecdote dealt with the use and mal-use of a typical household product. All three offerings were somewhat lame in nature, but amusing nonetheless.

President Harry then convened a short business meeting. Besides the usual issues relating to the clubhouse, the other focus of the meeting was the distribution of copies of the revised proposed new constitution, which is to be addressed in the new year following the Christmas interlude.

The business meeting concluded, a short break ensued before member Steve Moore presented a quiz to the membership. Consisting of questions relating to the physical and political geography of the country, as well as various trivia issues, the members were divided up into groups of three before tackling the queries placed before them. In the end, it was the winning team of Stuart Robinson, Ron Husk and Walter Enslin who took away the semi-valuable prizes for the contest.

The meeting over, members made their way home.

Submitted by Steve Moore
SSSC Secretary

Datebook

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2019

Today is the 365th day of 2019 and the 11th day of winter.

TODAY’S HISTORY: In 1600, the British East India Company was chartered.

In 1862, Abraham Lincoln signed a bill admitting West Virginia into the United States.

In 1879, Thomas Edison staged the first public demonstration of the electric lightbulb.

In 1999, the United States handed over complete control of the Panama Canal to Panama.

TODAY’S BIRTHDAYS: Henri Matisse (1869-1954), artist; Elizabeth Arden (1878-1966), businesswoman; George C. Marshall (1880-1959), U.S. military commander/diplomat; Anthony Hopkins (1937-), actor; John Denver (1943-1997), singer-songwriter; Ben Kingsley (1943-), actor; Diane von Furstenberg (1946-), fashion designer; Donna Summer (1948-2012), singer; Bebe Neuwirth (1958-), actress; Val Kilmer (1959-), actor; Lance Reddick (1962-), actor; Nicholas Sparks (1965-), writer; Gabrielle “Gabby” Douglas (1995-), gymnast.

TODAY’S FACT: West Virginia, a new state created from Virginia counties that chose not to secede from the Union, was originally named Kanawha, after the Kanawha River.

TODAY’S SPORTS: In 1967, Vince Lombardi’s Green Bay Packers defeated Tom Landry’s Dallas Cowboys in the NFL Championship Game, 21-17, in subzero weather. The game became known as the “Ice Bowl.” Green Bay went on to defeat the Oakland Raiders in Super Bowl II.

TODAY’S QUOTE: “It happens to everyone as they grow up. You find out who you are and what you want, and then you realize that people you’ve known forever don’t see things the way you do. So you keep the wonderful memories, but find yourself moving on.” – Nicholas Sparks, “True Believer”

TODAY’S NUMBER: 3,987 – length in miles of the border between Canada and the lower 48 states.

TODAY’S MOON: Between new moon (Dec. 25) and first quarter moon (Jan. 2).

Do Just One Thing



By Danny Seo

Is there some residual yogurt inside that plastic container? Don’t rinse it out; use it to create a highly effective face mask. Turns out yogurt made from dairy milk has an active ingredient called lactic acid, which can help improve your skin’s clarity. Just spoon out the leftover yogurt and smear it on your face, throat and chest for about 15 minutes (a great thing to use before you shower). Then rinse it off. It’s gentle enough to use daily, and you’ll see results after just a few applications of this one-ingredient mask.



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TOWNSHIPS
If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, we can help. Call Alcoholics Anonymous 1-888-424-2975, www.aa.org

LENNOXVILLE
The Lennoxville and District Community Aid will be holding a Blood Pressure clinic on Tuesday, January 14 at 164 Queen Street, Suite #104, from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

WATERVILLE
The Lennoxville and District Community Aid will be holding Blood Pressure clinic on Tuesday, January 7 at the Town Hall from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

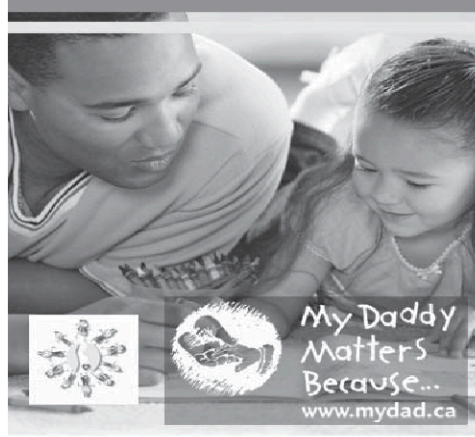
NORTH HATLEY
The Lennoxville and District Community Aid will be holding a Blood Pressure clinic on Friday, January 10 at the Library, 165 Main St. North, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

SHERBROOKE
Annual Christmas Exhibition (Nativity sets and Charles Dicken's village) at Beauvoir's Sacred Heart Shrine, 675 Côte de Beauvoir, Sherbrooke on Sunday, December 15 to Sunday, January 12. Monday to Saturday: 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, Christmas Day and New Year's Day: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: suggested donation \$5/person or \$10/family. Happy Holidays!

LENNOXVILLE
New Year's Eve party, Tuesday, December 31 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the A.N.A.F. Unit #318 (a.k.a. "The Hut"), 300 St. Francis Street, Sherbrooke, Quebec J1M 2B0. Cocktails at 8, live music with Philip Patton and Friends starting at 9. A little Rock'n'Roll, a little Country and a whole lot of fun!! \$25 per ticket. Reserve now! 819-346-9122.



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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2019

All ears

Dear Annie

Dear Annie: Lots of people need nothing, but everyone wants something. If you ask someone directly, "What do you want for Christmas/your birthday/the holidays?" then they'll probably say, "Nothing." Or "Save your money." So don't ask. Just pay attention.

I learned from my older sister that if you watch and listen, you'll easily think of a gift they'll love. You might notice they don't have a covered serving dish, have never heard of a blender bottle or haven't gotten around to framing a special poster. Perhaps they will mention loving a particular theater, from which you can order tickets.

Last Christmas, when my sister was talking about an upcoming Baltic cruise, a lightbulb went on. I drove to a currency exchange kiosk in the mall and bought her seven different countries' worth of pocket money. The whole gift cost me less than \$100. She was thrilled, and I was thrilled to have learned from the GGGOAT: greatest gift-giver of all time. — For the Person Who Has Everything

Dear Everything: Thank you for pointing out how we learn more from observing people — watching what they do rather than what they say. And it is also outstanding because the best gift you can give someone is to *hear* them. It is not just your physical presence but also your mental awareness, really listening to what they say and how they say it. Congratulations on cracking an important code in relationships; namely, the gift of listening. Your sister sounds very wise, and so do you.

Dear Annie: You gave wonderful advice to "One Concerned Brother" about gently appreciating and helping his 90-year-old sister who chooses to continue taking care of her livestock. Cherishing the sweet twilight years is easier if caring people can understand what's really important, and your advice will help get that across. So many dear hearts get institutionalized to help them be "safe." And by doing so, many older people lose their independence and what makes them unique. — Don't Break Their Hearts to Save Them

Dear Don't Break Their Hearts: Thank you for your kind letter. Doing what we love, and having a reason or purpose to get up in the morning each day, keeps all of us healthier at any age.

Dear Annie: It's a pretty sad sight when visiting coffee shops and restaurants these days.

Here's a typical scenario: an older couple sitting at a breakfast table, not talking to each other. They are having conversations on their phones, messaging away. Breakfast is served, but they continue texting. After eating, it's the same thing.

Then you have the younger couple nearby, texting away, putting their legs on nearby chairs. They stop to order food, and then it's back to texting or scrolling. Breakfast or dinner is served, and they are still texting. After eating, they're still at it.

My question is, why come together if there is no communication whatsoever? — Flipped Out Flip Phone User

Dear Flip Phone User: You paint a grim picture of restaurants today. While it is true that some couples pay more attention to their phones than to each other when eating out, there are plenty of us who prefer to talk to our dining companions.

When you pay attention to the person opposite you at a table, it is easy to ignore others in the restaurant and not be bothered by their ridiculous behavior. Plus, behavior can be catching. If you choose to pay more attention to your partner than your phone — or than to the diners around you — then others might choose to do the same.

"Ask Me Anything: A Year of Advice From Dear Annie" is out now! Annie Lane's debut book — featuring favorite columns on love, friendship, family and etiquette — is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit <http://www.creatorspublishing.com> for more information.

Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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

12/31

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

HOW TO PLAY:

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

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

1/1

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

SUDOKU

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.

"ILJRFNFM AR AB VEZ'MF BPJMFO EY
OEAXW, OE AR. KJSF VEZM KABRJSFB
XFTR VFJM JXO YEMFNFM." — XFAU
WJAKJX

Previous Solution: "Let it be said I've played the friend, Have lived and loved and labored here, And made of it a happy year." — Edgar Guest

TODAY'S CLUE: H equals L

CELEBRITY CIPHER
by Luis Campos

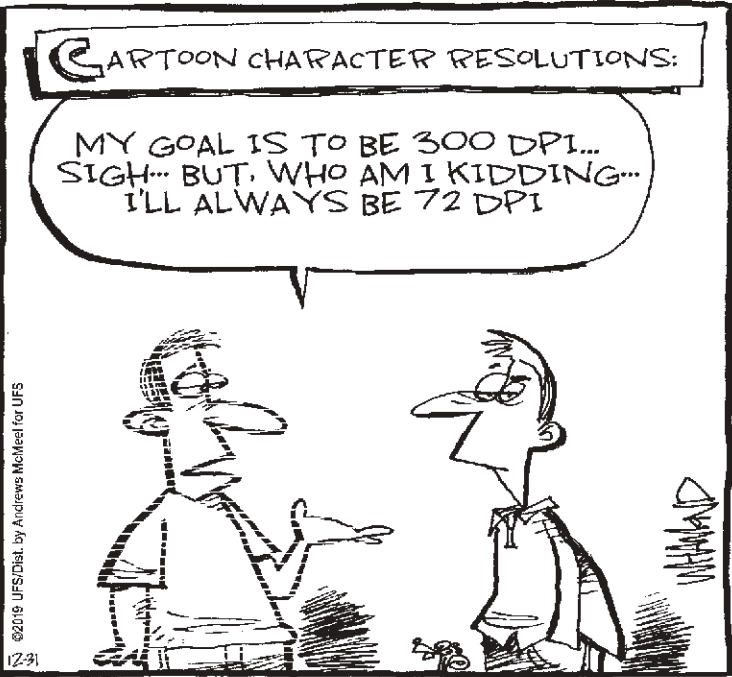
Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"FMGZ LXC JLWKF JPMZV JVMB
KFZ YFZZVJEP OZZCO MJ KFZ MPC
DZLV KM KFZ OGVMEKWXS SLVCZX
MJ KFZ XZA DZLV'O CLAX."
— KZVVW SEWPPZBZKO

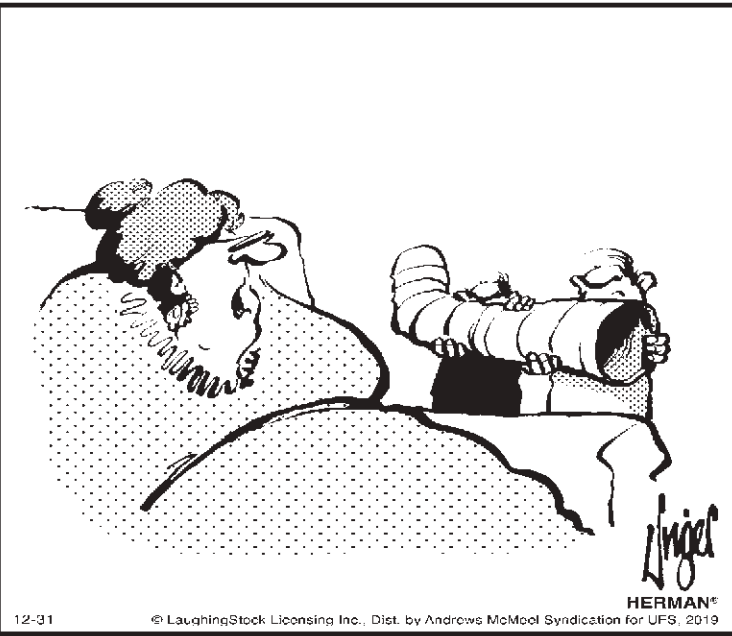
Previous Solution: "Whatever it is you're scared of doing, do it. Make your mistakes next year and forever." — Neil Gaiman

TODAY'S CLUE: C equals Y

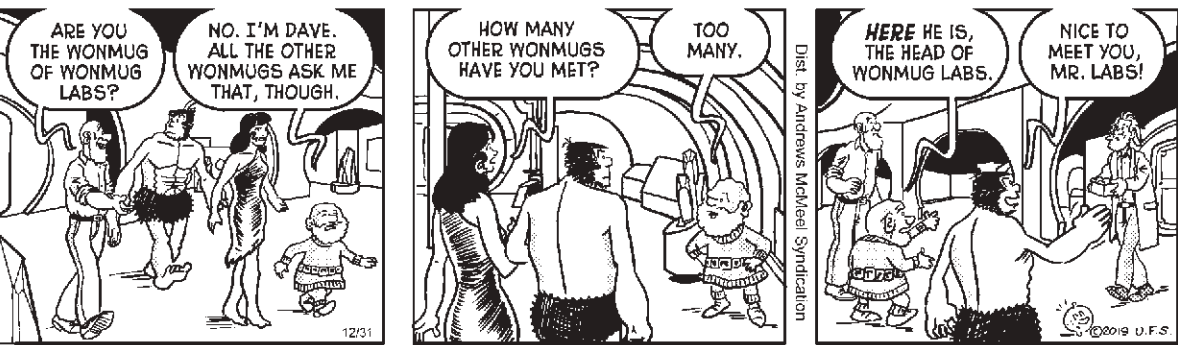
REALITY CHECK



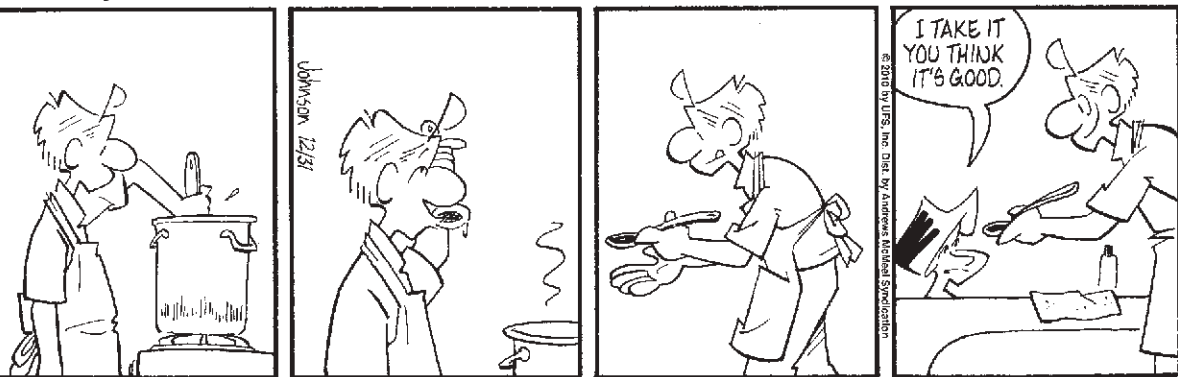
HERMAN



ALLEY OOP



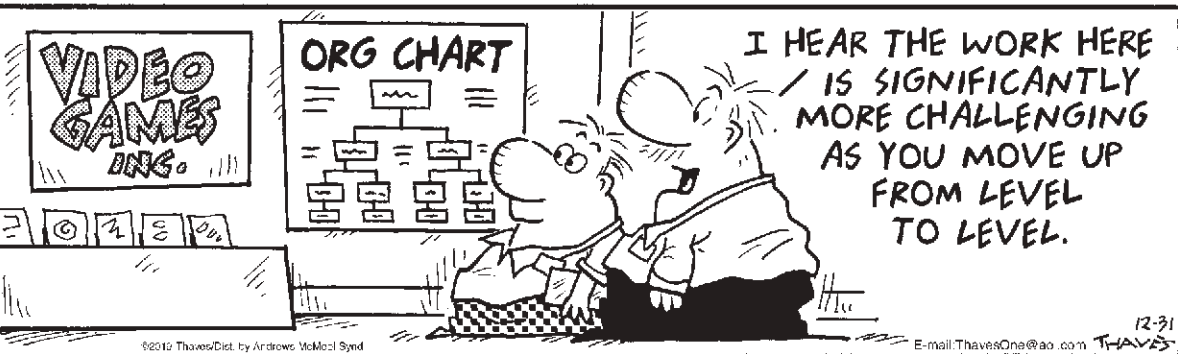
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FRANK AND ERNEST



GRIZWELLS



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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Be bold enough

5 Membership dues

8 Wan

12 Out loud

13 Produce an egg

14 More than bad

15 Sweater letter

16 Taconite

17 Place for skating

18 Not as complicated

20 Pitches

22 Hunter's org.

23 Ja, to Jacques

24 Unveils

27 Newspaper name

30 Percent ending

31 Robert of "Airplane!"

32 Bumbler

34 Iced drink

35 Less than ten

36 Had brunch

37 Some newlyweds

39 Sir's opposite

41 Edible seed

42 Not worth a —

43 "1984" author

46 Put in order

50 Gridiron advance

51 Khan of note

53 Unfounded, as rumors

54 Tiny stream

55 Orange veggie

56 Decorated tinware

57 Vortex

58 Jungfrau

59 — dunk

DOWN

1 Catnap

2 Type of rug

3 Charlie Brown's word

4 Seinfeld pal

5 Flower goddess

6 Corn unit

Answer to Previous Puzzle

G	A	B		G	A	G		T	I	E	R
I	R	A		C	L	U	E		R	O	D
N	A	B		R	A	F	T		U	N	I
	B	Y	F	A	R			V	A	S	E
			U	T	E			V	O	N	
I	N	A	N	E		K	O	W	T	O	W
T	O	P		R	U	N	T		B	A	D
D	I	S		N	E	E	D		E	C	O
	R	E	B	A	T	E		R	A	Y	O
			A	G	O		F	E	D		
	V	O	C	E				A	N	D	E
T	A	L	K		N	U	N	C		B	I
L	I	E	U		E	T	C	H		B	R
C	L	O	P		B	A	Y			S	E

7 See — — — (agree)

8 Shah's domain

9 Hertz rival

10 Queue

11 Broad-antlered deer

19 Pause fillers

21 What we have

24 Harness part

25 Shake — — (hurry)

26 Situated at the back

27 — Christian Andersen

28 Fill

29 Statistics

31 Nepal's mountains

33 Not masc.

35 Carol

38 Not furtively

39 Miss Piggy's word

40 Checks for fraud

42 Philatelist's item

43 Fiend

44 Maraud

45 Natural

47 Graven image

48 Jazzy Fitzgerald

49 Form an opinion

52 Four qts.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18					19			20	21			
				22				23				
24	25	26					27				28	29
30							31				32	33
34					35						36	
	37			38					39	40		
				41				42				
43	44	45						46			47	48
50						51	52			53		
54						55				56		
57						58				59		

Make the holidays a little sweeter

What would the holidays be without platters full of homemade cookies? It's that time of year for pulling out favorite recipes and filling the house with delicious aromas and delectable treats.

This recipe for "Stareos" from "Classic Stars Desserts" (Chronicle Books) by Emily Luchetti adds a gourmet spin to a popular chocolate sandwich cookie.

Stareos

Makes 18 cookies

Chocolate Shortbread

11/2 cups all-purpose flour

Pinch of kosher salt

1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa powder, sifted

8 ounces (16 tablespoons) cold unsalted butter, cut into 1/2-inch pieces

1/2 cup granulated sugar

Flour for dusting

Filling

1 cup mascarpone cheese

1 tablespoon granulated sugar

1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract

To make the chocolate shortbread: In a bowl, stir together the flour, salt and cocoa powder and set aside. Combine the butter and sugar in the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment and beat on low speed until the butter and sugar begin to incorporate, about 15 seconds. Add the dry ingredients and continue to mix until the dough comes together, about 3 minutes. It will look dry just before it comes together.

Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper. On a lightly floured work surface, roll out the dough 1/4 inch thick. Using a 2-inch star cutter, cut out as many cookies as possible. Gather together the scraps, reroll, and continue cutting out cookies until you have 36 cookies. Place the cookies on the prepared baking sheets, spacing them 1 inch apart. Refrigerate until firm, at least 1 hour.

Preheat the oven to 300 F. Bake the shortbread until firm, about 35 minutes. At the midway point, switch the baking sheets between the racks and rotate them 180 degrees to ensure even baking. Let cool on the baking sheets to room temperature.

To make the filling: In a small bowl, stir together the mascarpone, sugar and vanilla until smooth.

Turn 18 of the cookies bottom-side up on a work surface. Using a table knife or a small icing spatula, spread about 1 tablespoon of the filling on the bottom of each cookie. Top with the remaining cookies, bottom-side down.

(Metro Creative)



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Extremist sect

5 Roman historian

9 Mr. Damone

12 Pittsburgh river

13 Liniment target

14 Gladiator's hello

15 Magnificence

16 Went flat

18 Bought some stuff

20 Oater extras

21 Guided

22 "The," to Wolfgang

23 Greek epic poet

26 Shoe sizes

29 Language suffix

30 "Once — a Time"

32 Last word

34 Fr. miss

36 Abominable Snowman

38 Baja gold

39 Furry swimmers

41 Microsurgery tool

43 Step on it

44 Go-aheads

45 Parking attendant

48 Fair treatment

52 Make too warm

54 Sooner city

55 Charged particle

56 Bahrain VIP

57 Hayworth of old movies

58 Molecular bio. topic

59 Run the show

60 Flower holder

DOWN

1 Ticket-givers

2 Klutz's cry (hyph.)

3 Airport vehicle

4 Fall

5 Put cargo on board

6 Frosted a cake

7 Channels 2-13

Answer to Previous Puzzle

D	A	R	E		F	E	E		P	A	L	E
O	R	A	L		L	A	Y		E	V	I	L
Z	E	T	A		O	R	E		R	I	N	K
E	A	S	I	E	R			T	O	S	S	E
				N	R	A		O	U	I		
B	A	R	E	S			H	E	R	A	L	D
I	L	E			H	A	Y	S		O	A	F
T	E	A			N	I	N	E			A	T
		G	R	O	O	M	S		M	A	D	A
				P	E	A		S	O	U		
O	R	W	E	L			T	I	D	I	E	D
G	A	I	N		A	G	A		I	D	L	E
R	I	L	L		Y	A	M		T	O	L	E
E	D	D	Y		A	L	P		S	L	A	M

8 Barked

9 Dye

10 Currier's partner

11 Grant

17 Major artery

19 Pizarro's conquest

22 Force

23 Skirt

24 King Harald's capital

25 Liquefy

26 Misfortunes

27 Med. plans

28 Dried up

31 Ceremonial fire

33 Postal creed word

35 Outer space

37 Sorts

40 One or the other

42 Fall blooms

44 Outlandish

45 Emptiness

46 Cosmetics brand

47 Actress — Olin

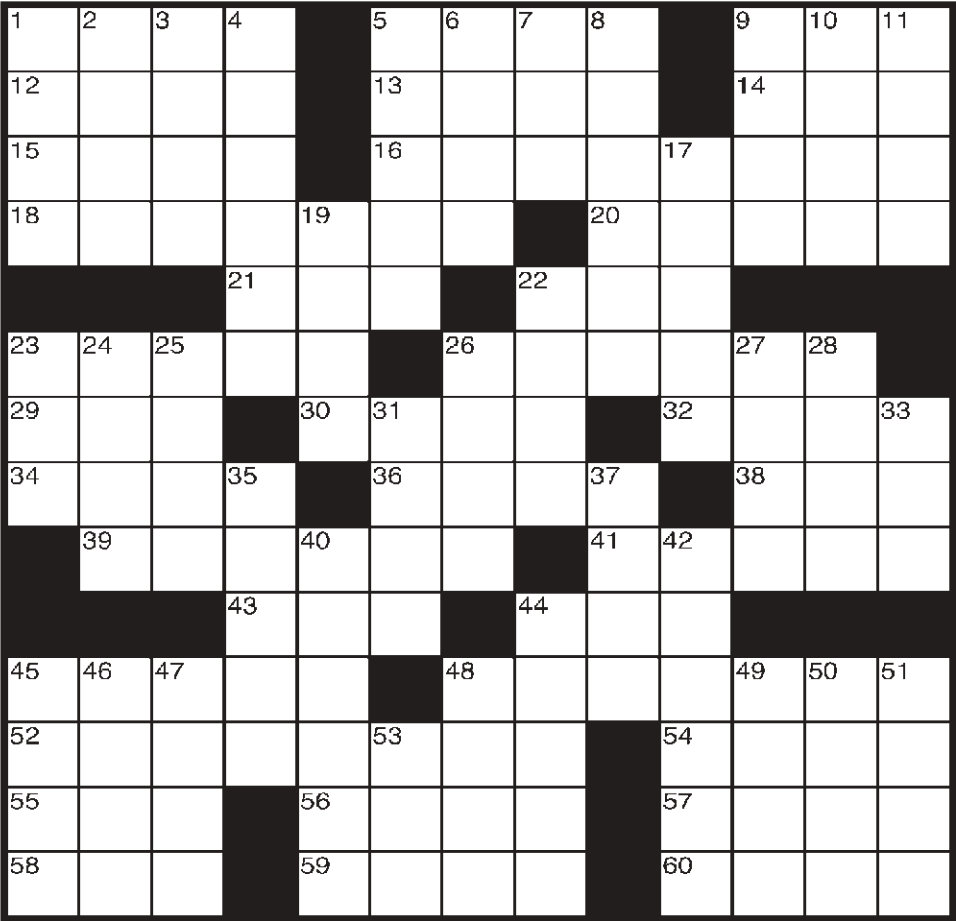
48 Slammer

49 J in JFK

50 Commend

51 Wax-coated cheese

53 Outback bird



Your Birthday

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2019

Leave nothing to chance. Take the initiative to do things yourself. If you give too much authority to someone else, you will end up being disappointed. Don't hesitate to make a change that will streamline your life and make it more comfortable. Clear up uncertainty and find out where you stand.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — You will have a change of heart regarding what you want to do. You are best off taking control instead of taking a risk or ignoring what's going on around you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Be smart. If you plan to party with friends, offer to be the designated driver. Staying in control mentally and emotionally will also encourage you to be more sensible financially.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Be honest and expect honesty in return. Offer reasonable suggestions. Someone you encounter will prompt you to consider heading in a different direction.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Keep moving forward. If you plan to make a resolution, aim for something doable. Taking better care of your physical well-being is the right place to start. Romance is featured.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Assess your situation, the people around you and what you can do to ensure that you start next year off on the right foot. Knowledge is power, so expand your mind and your interests.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — If you stretch the truth, lead someone on or

renege on a promise, you will end the year in a negative space. Focus on honesty, integrity and looking your best.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — This can be the start of a new and exciting year. Set your sights on something that excites you. Use your imagination to come up with ideas that will help you excel.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Put regrets and emotional baggage behind you. Making personal improvements and sticking close to valued friends and loved ones will help stabilize your environment. Romance is on the rise.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Don't let an emotional situation upset your day. Spending time with the people you love will bring you closer together. Personal growth is encouraged. Live in the moment and learn from experience.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Don't overdo it. Do what you can, but don't make promises you cannot keep. Keep your plans simple and moderate. Time spent with a loved one will encourage a stable relationship.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Touch base with people you haven't seen lately. A gesture or suggestion someone makes will encourage positive change. Make plans to get back to what motivates and inspires you the most.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Take it easy. If you go overboard, you will end up facing the consequences. Someone will take advantage of you if you are indulgent. Abide by the rules and don't reveal secrets.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2019

If not brave, defend carefully

By Phillip Alder

A.N. Onymous said of radio: "Wire telegraph is a kind of a very, very long cat. You pull his tail in New York, and his head is meowing in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? And radio operates exactly the same way: You send signals here; they receive them there. The only difference is that there is no cat."

Yesterday, we looked at a deal in which one defender had to anticipate how declarer would try to make his contract and how he could thwart him. Today, though, one defender must rely on his partner's broadcasting the right defense. What happens in four spades after West leads the diamond two?

South followed the modern style when nonvulnerable, especially against vulnerable opponents, of pre-empting one level higher than recommended by his grandmother. After North raised to four spades, East was persuaded by the vulnerability not to intervene with four no-trump, which would have shown at least 5-5 in any two of the unbid suits. That would have probably resulted in West's playing in five hearts doubled. How would that have turned out?

East correctly read the diamond two as a singleton. So, he won with his ace and returned a diamond for partner to ruff — but which one?

North12-31-19

♠ A 2

♥ 9 7 4

♦ K J 8 3

♣ A K Q 10

West

♠ 6 5

♥ K 10 6 5 2

♦ 2

♣ J 9 7 5 4

East

♠ 9 4 3

♥ A Q J 8 3

♦ A 10 9 7 6

♣ —

South

♠ K Q J 10 8 7

♥ —

♦ Q 5 4

♣ 8 6 3 2

Dealer: South

Vulnerable: East-West

South

West

North

East

3♠

Pass

4♠

All Pass

Opening lead: ♦ 2

East sends a suit-preference signal to tell his partner which suit to lead at trick three. Here, East would like a club, so he returns the diamond six, his lowest, asking for the lower-ranking of the other two side suits. Then four spades goes down two.

Five hearts by West fails if North leads a trump at trick one, or at trick two after cashing the spade ace.