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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2021

Active cases decline

By Gordon Lambie

Tuesday's update on the COVID-19 situation in the Eastern Townships reported 235 new cases over the last week, and 325 active cases across the region. There were also three new deaths across the region, bringing the total number of people who have died of the virus in the Townships since the start of the pandemic to 371.

The number of people in hospital for Covid dropped to ten, only one of whom was in intensive care, but the number of outbreaks being monitored across the region increased to 24.

The cluster of infections in the Des Sources Region was still considered active on Tuesday and had picked up 10 new cases since the previous update.

The Province of Quebec reported 340 new cases, bringing the total number of people infected to 423,335. The number of active cases dipped back below 4,000 to reach 3,852.

There were four new deaths recorded for a total of 11,481 since the start of the pandemic, and 259 hospitalizations: the same number as the previous day despite 16 new admissions. The number of people in intensive care decreased to 66 after four new entries and seven new discharges.

Despite 8,900 new vaccine doses administered, the provincial rates of vaccination remained largely unchanged at 90 per cent for a first dose and 86 per cent for a second. In the Townships those rates are now at 86.5 per cent and 84.1 respectively.

Suicide prevention services cut in Sherbrooke



GORDON LAMBIE

By Gordon Lambie

Sherbrooke's suicide prevention service, JEVI announced on Tuesday morning that it has cut its telephone intervention line in a bid to maintain priority services despite a

significant drop in staff.

"We can no longer hope to offer the same level of service," said Tania Boilar, the organization's Executive Director, calling the decision a heartbreaking last resort.

Boilar said that the decision is linked

to a issue of chronic underfunding.

"For years now the recurrent funding has not been at the level of what we need for daily tasks," she said, sharing that the workload has only increased in recent years and particularly since

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LOW 2



THURSDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH 11
LOW -1



FRIDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH 11
LOW 3



SATURDAY:
PERIODS OF
RAIN

HIGH 11
LOW 8



SUNDAY:
RAIN

HIGH 11
LOW 4

HAND IN HAND

Upcoming workshops with Mental Health Estrie



Communication is unavoidable, everyone does it every day. Although we often evaluate our competency in communication based on our ability to convey a message, that is only half of the picture. We must also evaluate our ability to receive a message. Communication cannot be effective unless we are able to do both. As with any skill, some of us are better able to communicate than others, but most of us can still benefit from learning and practicing new techniques. Developing communication skills can improve our relationships, reduce frustration, increase self-confidence, and improve our overall mental health. Unfortunately, we rarely receive formal education in techniques for communication and developing these skills naturally is not always easy. To address this need, Mental Health Estrie's November workshops will focus on effective communication.

On Wednesday, Nov 10, at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom, in collaboration with the Montreal based community organization Vent Over Tea, MHE will present a workshop on "Active Listening Skills." Vent Over Tea has been training active listeners and offering free "vent" sessions for several years. Those attending this upcoming workshop will learn the

skills that their active listeners are trained in. This 1.5 hour workshop will cover the basic skills of active listening, which include; questioning, reflections, paraphrasing, validating, normalizing, and more. It will also include discussions about self-compassion, non-judgement, and empathy. The workshop will be led by Rachelle Doucet, who has been involved with Vent Over Tea since 2012 where she is the Director of Workshops and Training. She holds a Master's degree in Counselling Psychology, and also works as a high school guidance counsellor. Through her many different roles, she has witnessed the healing powers of venting and connecting with others. We look forward to her experience and knowledge being shared with our community.

On Wednesday, Nov. 24th, at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom, we will host Mélanie Hughes for a workshop titled "Conflict Resolution for Interpersonal Relationships". Mélanie holds a Master of Arts degree in Human Systems Intervention from Concordia University, worked in the non-profit sector for 15 years, and now offers her expertise in human relations through workshops such as this. In this two-hour session, she will teach participants skills to de-escalate situations and resolve conflicts that arise when communication breaks down.

Attendance is limited for both workshops, so we encourage you to register as soon as possible if one or both of these may be of interest to you. However, please be mindful that if you register and do not attend you may be taking a space away from a

person in need. Please advise us if you are unable to attend following registration.

To register for these free virtual events and/or to keep informed of our upcoming programming we invite you to stay tuned for future advertising in The Record, follow our Facebook page (facebook.com/MentalHealthEstrie) and Instagram account ([mentalhealthestrie](https://mentalhealthestrie.com)), check out our website (www.mentalhealthestrie.com), or join our mailing list (outreach@mentalhealthestrie.com), you can also call (819) 565-2388 for any questions regarding workshops/registration.

Mental Health Estrie (MHE) is a non-profit community organization committed to providing information, support, education, and advocacy to English-speaking families and individuals in Estrie impacted by mental illness. Services are currently available remotely by phone (819-565-3777) and email (mhe.info@bellnet.ca).




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Ben by Daniel Shelton



Local News

As of press time Tuesday, no new information was available regarding the status of the trapped workers or rescue operations underway.

Scaffolding collapse at Domtar in Windsor

Two workers trapped for hours after collapse, third in hospital

By Geoff Agombar
Local Journalism Initiative

At approximately 1:35 a.m. Tuesday morning, three workers were gravely injured at the Domtar factory in Windsor when scaffolding collapsed inside a 20-story reservoir.

Later in the day, operations were still underway to rescue two workers trapped in the debris since the accident. The third worker was transported to hospital and the company spokesperson has reported their injuries are not considered life threatening.

Sylvain Bricault, general manager, spoke to reporters outside the factory shortly before 9 a.m. He confirmed that specialist emergency responders were conducting rescue operations. Sûreté du Québec (SQ) officers, paramedics, and the factory's emergency team were on site to support these efforts.

In response to reporters, Bricault notably sidestepped a question about whether rescuers had succeeded in communicating with the two trapped workers. "At this time, we cannot confirm their condition." He could not estimate how long rescue operations would take.

Bricault clarified the injured workers are employees of contractors, not Domtar. The accident occurred inside a 20-story cooking vessel in the mill's pulp sector. Bricault said the injured workers were preparing

the reservoir for inspection when the scaffolding collapsed. He confirmed there were several teams of contractors working on site at the factory during the maintenance shutdown.

SQ investigations are underway to determine the causes of the incident. Bricault said Domtar will collaborate fully with investigators.

Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail (CNESST) spokesperson. Dany Grondin told Radio-Canada, "We have been notified of the event. We will gather information and meet with witnesses. We will see what may have happened and make recommendations if necessary. This is a major workplace accident."

The factory is currently shut down for major annual maintenance work. In a release last week, Domtar told residents to expect sulphurous odours and steam release noises between Oct. 23 and Nov. 3.

Other activities have been halted in the sector where the accident occurred while rescue operations are underway. "We are evaluating the remaining maintenance sites around the plant to ensure the health and safety of the workers conducting that work," said Sylvain Bricault.

Bricault said psychological support is available for workers, colleagues and family. In addition to the three injured workers, seven others have been treated for shock.



GEOFF AGOMBAR

Rescue operations for two workers trapped under scaffolding since 1:35 a.m. Tuesday were ongoing. By press time Tuesday, Domtar had yet to release updates on their condition.

"Other people were inside the equipment and around the equipment. They were able to get out with assistance and were treated for the psychological effects," Bricault reported. "Other workers in the vicinity were also treated for the psychological effects."

Domtar's website describes the company as "the largest integrated manufacturer and marketer of uncoated freesheet paper in North America, and one of the largest manufacturers of pulp in the world."

Last May, Richmond, BC-based Paper Excellence acquired Domtar for US\$2.8

million.

At the time, Domtar was reported to employ 10,000 workers at 13 mills, primarily in the United States, with US\$3.7 billion in sales in 2020.

Media reports estimate the Windsor mill employs close to 900 people, and its activities may affect as many as 4,000 forestry-sector jobs in the Eastern Townships.

As of press time Tuesday, no new information was available regarding the status of the trapped workers or rescue operations underway.

Pig farmers upset over latest Olymel restructuring

Record Staff

The Éleveurs de porcs du Québec, an organization representing Quebec pig farmers for more than 50 years, has denounced Olymel's decision to reduce local purchases, and opting instead to continue buying from neighbouring provinces.

In a press release, the organization stated that the decision is nonsensical, since taxpayers in the province have invested \$150 million into the processing giant this year. Olymel plans to reduce its purchases by 25,000 pigs starting in March 2022.

The company also intends to shut down the Princeville slaughtering plant. These moves will impact roughly 15,000 pigs per week from Quebec and 10,000 pigs per week from Ontario. The organization believes farmers should not be made to pay for this decision.

The Éleveurs de porcs du Québec noted that it has been evaluating various means to ensure pig farmers become a real priority in the province. The organization's president, David Duval, said Quebecers are proud to purchase pork raised by Quebec families.

"Olymel must reiterate its values as a Quebec flagship. The entire business model of the pork industry may be shaken [...] it is the pork companies, which are our pride and joy and which shine through their world-renowned know-how, that will suffer the consequences," he said.

This decision by Olymel also comes at a tumultuous time for Quebec pig farmers, as they have all been struggling to get back on their feet after a longstanding labour dispute at the Olymel plant in Vallée-Jonction. Farmers have been backed up with livestock and no where to go.

JEVI

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the natural response in that case would be to hire more staff, Boilar said that there just hasn't been enough money and, as a result, the organization has lost five employees over the last year, leaving them with a third of what they had at full capacity.

"As a result, work that was already too much for a full team was spread out over a smaller and more worn-out team," she said.

Speaking alongside Yan Perreault, the President of JEV's Board of Directors, Boilar said that the organization made the decision to prioritize face-to-face interventions as they are considered to be the most important part of the organization's work. Recognizing the significance of the phone line however, she encouraged anyone in need of that

service to use the provincial line: 1-866-277-3553. A dedicated line for health professionals and social workers has also been set up in the meantime to help with referrals.

Last year JEV's phone service took over 13,000 calls from people seeking support.

Perreault, meanwhile, said that the decision was a matter of survival for JEV. Although he stressed the temporary nature of the reduction in services, he also admitted that the funding problem at the heart of the issue is not one with a clear solution at this time.

The board president said that at this point the organization is funded about half and half by the government and by direct fundraising, but he pointed out that the more energy the team has to put into fundraising, the less time and energy they have for their mission of suicide prevention.

Future holds promise for English farm education in the Townships

Bishop's program reflects new popularity of agriculture in Canadian universities



FARM NEWS REVIEW

SCOTT STEVENSON

Local Journalism Initiative

Bishop's University's new agriculture program and educational farm are fertile ground for a larger English-language community initiative that could reach well beyond the Townships' forests, fields, and urban landscapes.

The Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems program started at Bishop's two years ago but is already growing like a good weed, reflecting a new trend in agricultural education right across Canada.

In a February 2020 article by journalist Matthew Halliday, University

Affairs magazine identified the trend. "Canada's agriculture faculties are becoming, with surprisingly little fanfare, and often underappreciated by students and colleagues, among the most exciting hubs of interdisciplinary collaboration on Canadian campuses," wrote Halliday.

"From 1999 to 2007, full-time enrolment in agricultural programs... at all levels of postsecondary education across the country dropped from just over 6,000 students to 4,700. But, in 2008, something changed. Even as the number of farmers continued to dwindle, enrolment in agricultural programs started climbing. By 2016 – the latest year for which data are available – it reached an all-time high of 6,700 full-time students, with another 1,100 studying part-time."

Halliday quotes professor Lenore Newman of the University of the Fraser Valley, which now has its own Food and Agriculture Institute, as saying that the past few years have been "the greatest period of transition in modern history" in agricultural education.

Bishop's illustrates the trend well. When its agriculture program started, it received twice the number of students than expected by the program's leaders. Those numbers doubled again—to 27—in its second

full year, and the program still doesn't have its own dedicated undergraduate major yet.

"Compared to other minors, it's quite high," professor Jane Morrison told the Quebec Farmers' Advocate this fall.

Champlain and high schools

But Bishop's is also following the trend in attracting students from mainly urban, white-collar backgrounds, overlooking an important opportunity—and crying need—in the rural Townships, rural Quebec, and beyond.

No English-language farm training programs exist in Quebec outside Montreal. And yet, here we are in the Townships, a farming region with the most English speakers in Quebec off the island, with a federal experimental farm, and now with a university bachelor program studying farm and food systems.

Bishop's would do well to appeal to local farm kids as well, in part to break away from the stereotypical divide of urban versus rural, white collar versus blue.

Similarly, Champlain Lennoxville and our high schools—Galt, Massey Vanier, and Richmond—should join Bishop's agricultural initiative.

We need English-language technical training in the Townships, and Champlain is well suited and now perfectly located to offer it. In fact, it

used to, according to Darren Bardati of Bishop's Agriculture and Food Systems program.

Within the Eastern Townships School Board, high schools have been offering concentration programs successfully for over 10 years now. Galt has concentrations in the arts, science, sports, even hunting and fishing. What about an agriculture concentration?

Farm kids at Galt and elsewhere have too long experienced stigma, in part because of an under-valuing of their economic background. That under-valuing was obviously reflected in the lack of education opportunities for them in English in the Eastern Townships, their home.

A farm concentration in our high schools along with a larger community initiative in agricultural education, as now led by Bishop's, might do wonders to end that stigma and under-valuing—not to mention provide youth and others with a wealth of learning opportunities.

The three levels of education working together could even turn the Townships into a national hub for agricultural and food system training, study, knowledge, innovation, and development.

Bishop's is sowing the seeds now. Bring on the gardeners, farmers, and educators!

Scott Stevenson farms and writes at his home in Newport, Quebec.

PUMPKIN CARVING PHOTO CONTEST

ARE YOU A MASTER PUMPKIN CARVER?

The Record would like to see your Halloween pumpkins. Send us a selfie holding your pumpkin for a chance to win a prize.

The contest is open to all ages. The winner will be chosen by our esteemed panel of pumpkin judges based on a combination of skill, creativity and overall spookiness.



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Mackenzie Jones-Leggat

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Windsor Cenotaph to be fully restored



COURTESY ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 041 DANVILLE-WINDSOR

Record Staff

After having restored and refreshed the cenotaph of the City of Danville in 2018 and that of the City of Val-des-Sources in 2019, the executive leadership of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 041 Danville-Windsor recently decided to do a thorough and careful inspection of the cenotaph of Windsor.

The task was entrusted to a highly specialized firm from the region, Monuments de l'Or Blanc de Danville, which will carry out the work in the

weeks to come to restore the cenotaph.

In recent years the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 041 of Danville-Windsor, has made efforts to conserve the four monuments and cenotaphs in the region. The Legion also undertook the repair and complete restoration at its own expense, of the commemorative plaque of "Timothy O'Hea" formerly located on Daniel-Johnson Street in Danville. Branch 041 had the story of this remarkable man engraved on a new monument which is now located on the grounds of the Town Hall in Danville.

Trans rights groups argue Bill 2 is “a step backwards”

By Gordon Lambie
Local Journalism Initiative

Last week Quebec's Justice Minister, Simon Jolin-Barrette, announced the details of a large-scale revision to the province's family law. Although the minister hailed Bill 2 as a step-forward for people living in the province, notably for the changes it proposes to the rules around surrogacy and the rights of adopted children to know about their origins, the sections of the bill relating to gender identity are being criticized as transphobic by many sexual and gender rights groups in the province.

“It is very much a step backwards,” said Séré Beauchesne-Lévesque, the coordinator of TransEstrie, a Sherbrooke-based organization focused on supporting and advocating on behalf of transgender and nonbinary people in the Eastern Townships.

Beauchesne-Lévesque outlined several issues with the changes proposed in the bill, starting with the introduction of a separate identifier on a person's birth certificate to indicate gender identity. While the coordinator acknowledged that this change comes in response to a ruling by Quebec Superior Court Justice Gregory Moore last January calling on the province to allow for people to legally identify as nonbinary, they said that the way the government has chosen to make the change is “incomprehensible.”

“They decided to change it in a way that no one is asking for,” Beauchesne-Lévesque said, explaining that creating a gender identity label that is separate from the biological sex label that already exists on birth certificates will automatically identify people as trans, opening the door to possible discrimination and profiling when the two designations don't match up.

While that change is problematic enough, the TransEstrie coordinator said that a larger issue comes up in Article 23 of Bill 2, which reintroduces the need for surgery for a person to change the sex designation on a birth certificate.

In its current form, Quebec's civil code states that “Every person whose gender identity does not correspond to the designation of sex that appears in that person's act of birth may, if the conditions prescribed by this Code and by government regulation have been met, have that designation and, if necessary, the person's given names changed,” with the explicit note that: “These changes may in no case be made dependent on the requirement to have undergone any medical treatment or surgical operation whatsoever.”

Article 23 of Bill 2 eliminates those two paragraphs and replaces them with ones limiting that change to, “a person who has undergone medical treatments and surgical operations involving a structural alteration of the person's sexual organs and

designed to permanently change that person's apparent sexual characteristics.”

Beauchesne-Lévesque pointed out that since minors are not able to undergo such a surgery, the new bill effectively blocks anyone under the age of majority from taking steps to affirm their identity. They also pointed out that it was only a few years ago that the surgical component was struck from the code with a bill passed by many members of the National Assembly who are still in office.

“For the last six years the process has been relatively simple, but now all of a sudden we are back to a version that is worse than what we had before,” the coordinator said.

Beauchesne-Lévesque also said that the wording of the bill is very problematic when it comes to intersex children, those born with reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't fit the definitions of ‘female’ or ‘male.’

“Because the bill calls on parents or guardians to determine sex ‘as soon as possible’, it will likely push people to unnecessary surgical procedures,” they said, arguing that the government is taking a stance that pushes people towards a binary view of gender that is no longer supported by the scientific community.

The Record reached out to Jolin-Barrette for comment on the concerns being expressed. His press secretary, Élisabeth Gosselin,

responded in an email saying that the government is, “very sensitive to the issues and realities of the LGBTQ community,” and that the bill is “is in no way intended to hinder or harm trans or non-binary people in their efforts to have their civil status documents reflect their identity.” Gosselin pointed out that the proposed legislation modifies around thirty laws to “ensure the equality of parents of sexual minorities” and wrote positively about recognition for nonbinary persons on civil status documents, despite the criticism.

In presenting the bill last week Jolin-Barrette made reference to having consulted Quebec's LGBTQ communities, and Beauchesne-Lévesque acknowledged that was the case, but they said that it's not clear if anything actually came of that consultation.

“The government asked LGBTQ communities for input, but this is not at all what we said,” they said. “There is no one who was asking for this.”

Looking ahead, the TransEstrie coordinator said that they expect some form of public demonstration on the issue in the coming weeks if no changes are made to the bill, although nothing has been planned yet locally. In the meantime, they said that concerned members of the public should reach out to their local MNAs, and also make donations to the groups working for trans rights in their communities, as groups often operate on minimal budgets.

Quebec nurses' union changes leadership, demands greater government commitment

By Michael Boriero
Local Journalism Initiative

Nathalie Levesque has taken over as interim president of the Fédération interprofessionnelle de la santé du Québec (FIQ) following the recent resignation of Both the president and vice-president go the union.

Nancy Bédard, the former nurses' union president, suddenly stepped down from her position nearly two weeks ago.

Bédard was re-elected to lead the 76,000-member union just four months ago. Her decision came a few days after FIQ union organization vice-president Kathleen Bertrand also announced her resignation.

An election will be held in December.

The Record reached out to the union for a statement on the leadership shuffle, and according to the FIQ, Levesque, who has been a vice-president since 2017, has hit the ground running, and she already

“took up the torch” in fighting to eliminate mandatory overtime.

“The priority for all the members of the FIQ Executive Committee and the affiliated unions is to attack the crisis of working conditions that is currently raging in the health care network, to stabilize the work teams and to revalue the public network and its workers,” the FIQ said.

The exchange happened over email, though, as the union's media relations told The Record that there will be no interviews regarding the departure of both Bédard and Bertrand. The two resignations come during a chaotic time for nurses and health care workers.

The public health network has been stretched to its limit during the pandemic with many workers jumping ship to the private sector. This is due to the low wages, poor working conditions, a growing workload, and mandatory overtime in the public sector.

Premier François Legault has promised to stop the bleeding, and

he recently announced his intention to make private nursing agencies less attractive. Health Minister Christian Dubé confirmed the Quebec government's plan during a press conference last week.

According to Dubé, the public health network will be offered more favourable shifts, which is a promise he made earlier in the fall, while private agencies will be forced to impose less favourable shifts, including evening, overnight, and weekend shifts.

Levesque provided a statement to The Record, discussing the government's intention to make the public health network more appealing to nurses. She agreed that there should be a move away from private agencies, and an emphasis on propping up the public network.

However, she noted that expectations were high for concrete actions to support health care workers out of the Ministry of Health, and as it stands, the timeline remains unclear and there

has not been a formal commitment to getting rid of independent labour (MOI).

“It is more difficult to see the government's real intentions to stop using private agencies,” said Levesque, adding that the modernization of MOI was hastily completed after the collective agreement came into effect. It was an important aspect of the agreement.

It was supposed to help reduce the province's dependence on independent labour, and at the same time prioritize health care professionals in the public network, she continued, sharing that it is crucial to stabilizing work shifts and reinforcing workforce mobility.

“Private employment agencies are taking advantage of the crisis in working conditions in the public system. If we don't address the crisis, including banning [mandatory overtime], we will continue to feed them. We must try to break this cycle,” said Levesque.

EDITORIAL

Since we weren't wise enough to curb our overconsumption 50 years ago, would this be the second-best time to do so?

How education failed the environment

By Nick Fonda

Isometimes reflect on the role education has contributed to the climate crisis we now face. In particular, I think of Bev Steele who taught locally before drifting upwards in the hierarchy of the Ministry of Education. For me, she personifies the great dumbing down that started even before I began teaching half a century ago.

Bev Steele was the Language Arts consultant at the ETSB when the way students were taught to read and write was radically changed. She was the person who brought to Hole Language to our local schools. (Bev wrote it Whole Language, but, as I told Bev, I prefer to use the honest spelling.)

Reading for comprehension was replaced by reading for personal relevance. It was deemed "old and boring" to carefully parse a text to learn what it meant, and what it might imply. Instead, Bev said, reading a text is exciting and genuinely meaningful only if it's contextualized within personal experience. In layman's language this meant that the dreaded English high school leaving exam no longer asked, what do you think about this text? It now asked, how did this text make you feel?

The writing process was transformed from a time of internal reflection to a convivial group activity. The instruction to, "Think for yourself!" was changed to the question, "How does your group feel?"

(It is telling that French as a second language continues to be taught by rote, and demands comprehension, grammar, and spelling—all things that are no longer emphasised in Language Arts.)

As Tim Belford pointed out last week, even our most vaunted institutions, like the CBC and the Globe and Mail that were once infallibly impeccable in their use of the written word, are no longer immune to sloppy language.

Of course, Bev Steele herself did not instigate the great dumbing down. It was designed by the captains

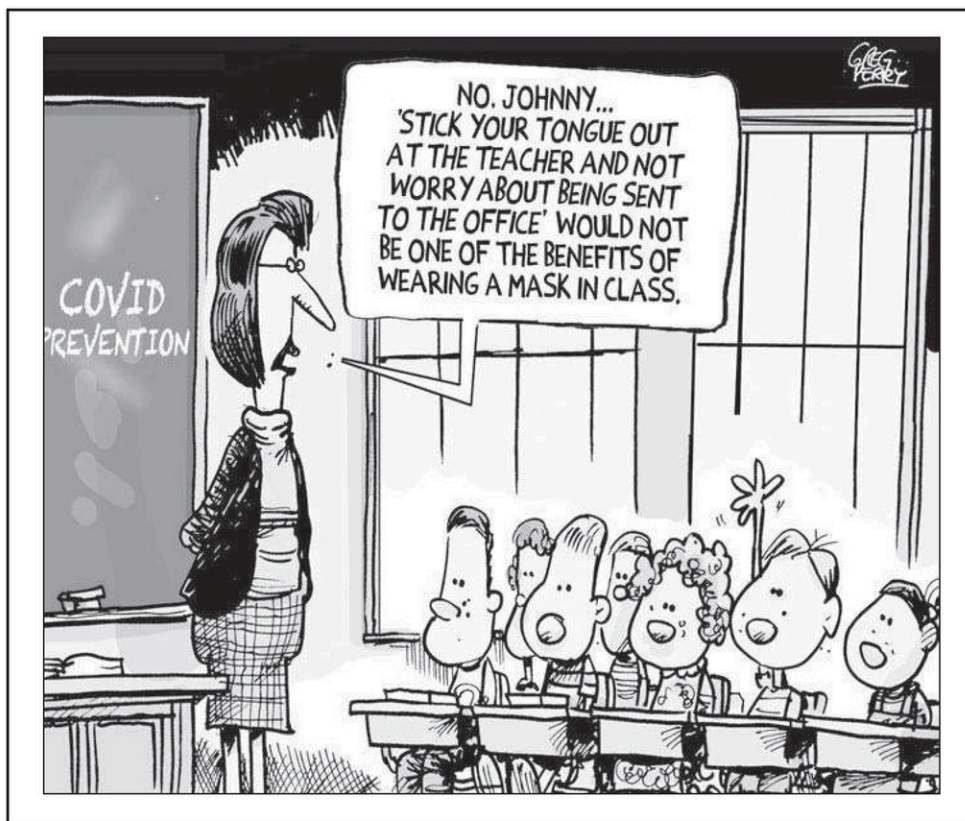
of capitalism who saw schools as essential to the creation of a society of over-consumers: people whose purchases are driven by desire, and not need. Desire has the advantage of being easily aroused by a bit of clever advertising. Consumerism made for a perfect and happy society. Consumers satisfy their desires by making purchase after purchase, ensuring continuous happiness; meanwhile, the captains of capitalism climb their way to billionaire status.

The captains of capitalism who oversaw the great dumbing down were the same ambitious folks who knew, more than 50 years ago, that the burning of fossil fuels was already affecting climate and would bring about significant change to the earth's ecosystems. (We are already experiencing weather events worse than what was predicted at the time.)

In hindsight, we can see that it would have been wise, 50 years ago, to start curbing our dependence on oil, to start living fully aware of our carbon footprints; in other words, to abandon consumerism. Unfortunately, that kind of wisdom wasn't compatible with the capitalist dogmas of profit at all costs, and more is better. It was expedient, if not essential, to hide those early scientific findings, to deny, minimize, and dismiss them. If unfettered capitalism was to work effectively, it was better not to hamper it with inconvenient truths or scrutinize it with analysis, reason, and logic. Besides, the captains of capitalism said, the weather's not that bad.

Now, 50 years later, it's harder to ignore the obvious. Even here in the Townships, we can't help noticing that water levels are low, and we all have a friend or neighbour whose well has gone dry. We can't help noticing that it's a lot warmer; it's a few days from the end of October and we've not yet had a frost.

Nor is it possible to ignore other signs that we overconsume. Our municipalities are finding it increasingly difficult to dispose of



garbage as the existing landfills are close to capacity.

Since we weren't wise enough to curb our overconsumption 50 years ago, would this be the second-best time to do so? Should we start to drive less, fly less, buy less? During WWII, to defeat the Nazis, the country rationed gasoline and ceased production of

many consumer products (including cars); should we do the same now to "defeat" climate change?

But these are questions that require one to think. Bev Steele, I imagine, wouldn't approve of asking anyone to think. More likely, she'd ask, so how do you feel about this lovely warm fall weather?

Black & white value

What is black and white, read all over and serves as a great teaching tool? The newspaper, of course. Teachers can use the newspaper in a number of ways in the classroom to enhance students' education. They can cut several pieces of art from the paper and have young students just learning to write name them, or clip a feature story from the paper and have older students respond to it in an essay. Whatever the activity, newspapers benefit students. When used in the classroom, they improve students' reading, writing and critical thinking skills, inspire them to participate in discussions and debates, and expand their knowledge of past, current and future events.

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Zebra mussels discovered in Lake Massawippi

Conservation group sounds the alarm

Record Staff

During the last stage of a rigorous zebra mussel control protocol on Lake Massawippi, conservation group Blue Massawippi found about 20 juvenile zebra mussels on five traps.

Faced with this finding, Blue Massawippi immediately called in experts for validation, and urgently formed a management committee with officials from the Ministère des Forêts, the Faune et des Parcs du Québec (MFFP), Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the COGESAF, designated coordinator of the Table de concertation régionale du suivi de la progression sur la moule zébrée.

In order to jointly respond to the threat posed by the recent discovery of the zebra mussels, the five municipalities bordering the lake have agreed to join forces to temporarily limit access to the lake.

As of this week, only access to the lake from the public beach located in Ayers Cliff will be available to boats until the end of the 2021 season.

According to Blue Massawippi, experts qualify the establishment of the zebra mussel in Lake Massawippi as an ecological catastrophe. In a press release Isabelle Picard, senior biologist and aquatic fauna specialist at Stantec stated that a disaster is to be expected that will eventually affect the entire downstream watershed. Picard described the situation as an ecological disaster, but also an economic and recreational disaster. "This is an environmental EMERGENCY. Given the conditions of the lake and its calcium level, the density of zebra mussels should increase exponentially, much more rapidly than what we have seen in lakes Magog and Memphremagog," the biologist said. "We are talking about a short time frame of 3 to 5 years for the impacts to be significant. There is a very small window of opportunity to avoid the worst, we must act this fall."

Based on findings in other ecosystems with large numbers of zebra mussels, the potential impact could include increasing cyanobacteria outbreaks, fish decline, major ecosystem modifications, plant proliferation, blockage of water intakes, degradation of the dam, docks and other structures, not to mention the decrease in property values, the accumulation of shells on the beach in the medium-term, the

impacts on swimming, fishing and boating, the dangers of avian botulism and eventual public health issues.

According to the president of Blue Massawippi, Patrick Fréchette, it is now time more than ever to call upon everyone to prevent the permanent establishment, or to slow down the dispersion and propagation in the lake: "Lake Massawippi is on the verge of the worst of threats, like a diagnosis of a devastating cancer. The fight that is beginning does not only concern Blue Massawippi, all the authorities must unite, invest, act, and the population must support this approach without reserve. If the awakening is brutal today, it will be much worse if, in a few years, we can only observe the damage and try to manage the unmanageable."

The organization has been strictly monitoring the search for zebra mussels in Lake Massawippi over the past four years, and Michèle Gérin, director general of Blue Massawippi, said she feared this news each time her team left to inspect the lake. This fear had grown recently with the sharp increase in boaters, coupled with the significant growth of the zebra mussel population in lakes Magog and Memphremagog this summer. "Although this is the worst news ever, it was expected, we knew it was coming. The fact that it comes at the end of the season, when our active search was negative all summer and into mid-fall, gives us hope that establishment is not yet inevitable, and that we are in the very early stages of contamination," Gérin said.

Blue Massawippi believes that the next eight weeks will be crucial, and the group has already begun knocking at all governmental doors to obtain the necessary funding to manage this crisis.

"Lake Massawippi is already on borrowed time, the measures we will take collectively will be difficult and costly," commented Gérin, calling for the temporary closure of lake access.

"This is a heartbreaking first step that, if implemented, will leave many people dissatisfied. Other steps will inevitably come in the spring, she said, adding that complacency towards the free-for-all entering of boats into the lake can no longer be tolerated and will have to be authorized.

"Hopefully everyone will understand and stand in solidarity."

Get tested, even if you've been vaccinated.



If you've been exposed to COVID-19 or you have COVID-like symptoms such as:



Fever



Cough

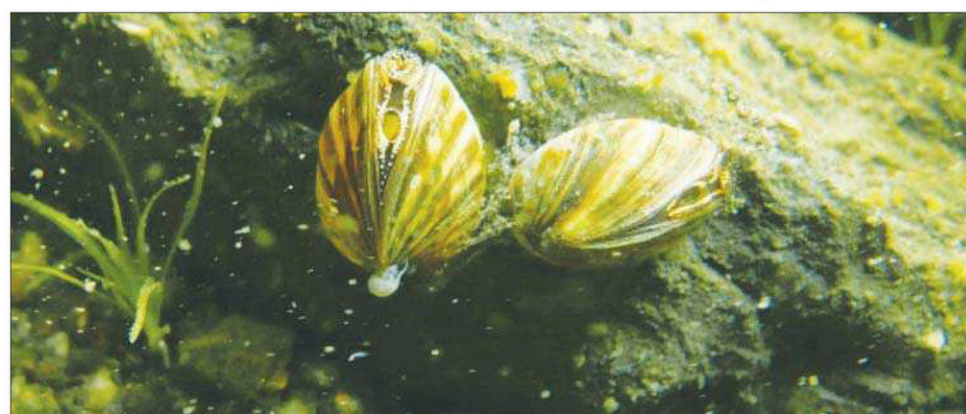


Loss of smell or taste

Follow self-isolation guidelines and get tested.

Let's continue to protect ourselves.

Quebec.ca/testCOVID19



DENIS MONGEAU/WWW.PLONGEEMAGOG

Death

Death



Audrey Patriquin

Audrey Patriquin left this world on October 21, 2021. Audrey was born in Bulwer, Quebec on August 31, 1927 to Orrin and Ruby Bailey. She worked for several years at the Littleton Savings Bank in Littleton, New Hampshire. She also worked for Amador Hydraulics (Brampton, ONT) before retiring and moving to Nova Scotia. She loved to travel and made annual trips to Reno and Arizona to visit her sons (and yes, even found time to visit a casino or two - more often than not a big winner!). She had also traveled to Israel, Portugal, and the Netherlands.

Audrey moved to the Manoir St. Francis in Sherbrooke six years ago, where she made many new friends...and even encountered a few from her youth. She was often the life of the party at the Manoir and was a feared bingo player. She'll be missed. The Toronto Blue Jays have lost a dedicated, major league fan. A special mention goes out to Sandie Williams, who was a great help to Audrey during her last years in Sherbrooke.

Audrey is survived by three sons, Dan Waterman (Christine Lanchester) in Bethlehem NH, Randy Waterman (Yvette Waterman) in Reno NV, Rob Waterman in Mesa AZ, Margaret Moore (John Hollis) in Fort Lauderdale Florida, Mary Ellen Moore (Max) in Toronto, nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her son Jay, husband Allan Moore, sister Reta Picard, brother Adelbert, and her parents.

Cremation was handled by Cass Funeral Homes in Sherbrooke. Burial will take place in the Eaton QC cemetery, next to Reta and Howard Picard. A small family celebration of life will be conducted at a future date.

CASS FUNERAL HOMES PHONE: 819-564-1750
 3006 College St., Sherbrooke QC FAX: 819-564-4423
 www.casshomes.ca

Datebook

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2021

Today is the 300th day of 2021 and the 36th day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1682, the city of Philadelphia was founded.

In 1787, the first of the Federalist Papers appeared in a New York City newspaper.

In 1904, the first underground New York City Subway line opened to the public.

In 2005, after three weeks of criticism, Harriet Miers withdrew her nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 2018, a gunman killed 11 people at a synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), 26th U.S. president; Emily Post (1872-1960), author; Joe Medicine Crow (1913-2016), historian/author; Dylan Thomas (1914-1953), poet/playwright; Ruby Dee (1922-2014), actress; Roy Lichtenstein (1923-1997), artist; Sylvia Plath (1932-1963), poet; John Cleese (1939-), actor/writer; Dick Trickle (1941-2013) race car driver; Ivan Reitman (1946-), director/producer; Fran Lebowitz (1950-), columnist; Matt

Drudge (1966-), journalist; Scott Weiland (1967-2015), singer-songwriter; Lonzo Ball (1997-), basketball player.

TODAY'S FACT: Joe DiMaggio sent roses to ex-wife Marilyn Monroe's crypt in Los Angeles three times per week for the next 20 years after the actress died in 1962. The couple's divorce was finalized on this day in 1954.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 2004, the Boston Red Sox defeated the St. Louis Cardinals 3-0 in Game 4 of the World Series, completing the sweep and winning the championship for the first time since 1918.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Classism and greed are making insignificant all the other kinds of isms." - Ruby Dee

TODAY'S NUMBER: 6 - number of subway systems worldwide that carry more passengers than the New York City subway (Beijing, Shanghai, Seoul, Moscow, Tokyo and Guangzhou).

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Oct. 20) and last quarter moon (Oct. 28).

Quick and filling meal served up in a snap

After the lazy days of summer, fall often arrives with packed schedules and everyone getting back on track, whether for work or school. Busy families may not have much time to spend in the kitchen these days, but they don't need to devote hours to cooking. Even quick meals can serve up significant flavor.

In the time it takes to boil rice, this recipe for "Creamy Rice With Roasted Shrimp and Tomatoes," courtesy of "Real Simple Dinner Tonight: Done" (Time Home Entertainment) from the editors of Real Simple, can be put on the table. Arborio rice makes this dish creamy, but if it's unavailable, long-grain rice also can be used - just follow the package directions for cooking.

Creamy Rice With Roasted Shrimp and Tomatoes
 Serves 4

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 1 cup Arborio rice

- 1 cup dry white wine
- Kosher salt and black pepper
- 1 pound peeled and deveined medium shrimp
- 2 pints grape tomatoes
- 8 sprigs fresh thyme
- 2 cloves garlic

Heat oven to 400 F. Heat 1 tablespoon of the oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Add the onion and cook until soft, 5 to 7 minutes. Add the rice and wine and cook, stirring, until the wine is absorbed, 1 to 2 minutes.

Add 2 cups water and 1/4 teaspoon each salt and pepper to the saucepan. Simmer, covered, until the water is absorbed and the rice is tender, 18 to 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, on a rimmed baking sheet, toss the shrimp, tomatoes, thyme, and garlic with the remaining tablespoon of oil and 1/2 teaspoon each salt and pepper. Roast until the shrimp are opaque throughout, 15 to 20 minutes. Serve over the rice.

PHOTO OF YOUNG CANADIAN SOLDIER

Join

THE RECORD

in saying thank you to our veterans

They were sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, friends and neighbours.

They were a new generation of teachers, doctors, lawyers, farmers and businessmen who set aside their hopes and dreams to fight for our freedom.

The Record would like you to join us in paying tribute to the many Townshippers who served their country in time of war.

Send a photo of a veteran(s) in your family at the age they were at the time they served and a brief description, to allow Townshippers to say a collective thank you.

The Record will publish a special section November 4 on Townshippers' contribution to the war effort.

Send photos before October 29 to classad@sherbrookerecord.com

- Name:
- Hometown:
- Age when enlisted:
- Regiment:
- Served:
- A few words about him:



If your business or organization would like to recognize veterans in the special section, please contact one of our sales representatives at 819-569-9525

Muscular Dystrophy Canada
 Dystrophie musculaire Canada
 www.muscle.ca

NEA Crossword Puzzle

Your Birthday

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2021

ARIES (March 21-April 19) – It's OK to say no; being a people pleaser can be exhausting. Stop and consider doing what pleases you for a change. Channel your energy into something that brings concrete results.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) – A friend or relative will offer unusual insight into how you can use your experience, knowledge and skills to get ahead. Don't resist change; seize an opportunity to show others what you have to offer.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) – Jealousy will play a role in how well you interact with others. Maintaining a positive attitude and recognizing others' accomplishments will help you maintain healthy relationships.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) – Stop and think before you say or do something you'll regret. Getting into an emotional spat with someone will lead to a power struggle that will be difficult to win. Keep the peace.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) – An energetic approach to whatever you do will help you avoid disappointment. Don't wait around for someone to pitch in and help. Take care of unfinished business yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) – You'll get the help you require if you team up with someone who shares your beliefs and sentiments. Take your time when dealing with work-related matters. Make decisions based on facts.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) – Keep your thoughts to yourself. If you say something while under emotional duress, you will have regrets. Be a good listener and take the time to sort out what matters most.

You have a unique way of doing things that will separate you from the crowd. Be ready to put changes into play that will make your life better. Personal growth, enlightenment and working to relieve stress will lead to peace of mind and new beginnings. Let go of the past so you can move forward with no regrets.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) – Explore the possibilities and learn all you can to ensure you make good decisions. Take the path that leads to knowledge and experience. Be honest and do what makes you happy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) – Take a second look at a deal that sounds too good to be true. Making an impulsive move will result in disappointment. Use your intelligence and charm to outmaneuver someone trying to take advantage of you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) – A discussion will turn into a debate. Do your best to keep the peace and avoid a feud that can disrupt a partnership. A compromise may not be ideal, but it will help you avoid regret.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) – Set a goal and don't stop until you reach it. Leave nothing unsaid or to chance. Take care of pressing details to avoid having your plans stymied by protocol.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) – Get involved in something that concerns you. You can make a difference if you are part of the solution. How you handle medical and financial situations will affect your relationship with a loved one.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

S	E	E	L	A	W	P	E	A	S				
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Beard site
 - 4 Actress Sedgwick
 - 8 Prayer wheel turner
 - 12 Made in the —
 - 13 Winged god
 - 14 "Excuse me!"
 - 15 Wire measure
 - 16 Moving upward
 - 18 Song of triumph
 - 20 Call in sick
 - 21 Playful activity
 - 23 Grant
 - 26 Public meeting places
 - 29 Press for
 - 32 Gives the go-ahead
 - 34 Stravinsky or Sikorsky
 - 35 Sully
 - 36 Strive to win
 - 37 Attach
 - 38 Casual farewell
 - 39 Mailed out
 - 40 Golf peg
 - 41 Library sound
- 42 PTA and NEA**
- 43 Protuberance**
- 45 Sigh of content**
- 47 Web addr.**
- 49 Bad, as apples**
- 53 Noted Bergman role**
- 58 Bullfight cheer**
- 59 Hoarded**
- 60 Bottle stopper**
- 61 More than most**
- 62 Twisted**
- 63 Swiss artist**
- 64 Funnyman — Brooks**
- DOWN**
- 1 Flinch
 - 2 Three oceans touch it
 - 3 Corduroy rib
 - 4 Reeves of "John Wick"
 - 5 Soph. and jr.
 - 6 "Arabian Nights" bird

- 7 Between ports
- 8 King-size spoon
- 9 Triumphant cry
- 10 Adult persons
- 11 Oz. or lb.
- 17 Good-natured
- 19 From a distance
- 22 Gives Novocain
- 24 Delaware's capital
- 25 Barely scraping by
- 26 Edict
- 27 Limerick writer — Nash
- 28 Cowboy show
- 30 Starfish arms
- 31 Ms. Garbo
- 33 TV receivers
- 39 Carnaby St. locale
- 41 Sassy
- 44 Grimy
- 46 Up and about
- 48 Be without
- 50 Gallivant
- 51 Mme.'s daughter
- 52 Shout
- 53 APB datum
- 54 Up-to-date
- 55 Calendar abbr.
- 56 Costa del —
- 57 Ill temper

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2021

Always assume a bad break

By Phillip Alder

G.K. Chesterton wrote, "A good novel tells us the truth about its hero, but a bad novel tells us the truth about its author."

A good trump split often makes life easy for the deal's hero, the declarer; but a bad split tells us the truth about the declarer's skill level.

In today's deal, how should South play in four spades? West leads the club ace, under which East plays the queen, showing the jack as well. (Here, he could not have a singleton.) West continues with the club king and another club.

South's two-club opening was strong, artificial and forcing. North's three-club rebid was the double negative showing a very bad hand. Regardless, South wasn't going to stay out of game with one of the best hands he had ever held.

"I did warn you, partner," said the dummy as he tabled his cards.

After ruffing the third club, the declarer could have entered the dummy and taken a trump finesse, but he saw that there was little advantage in this play. It would be of benefit only if East had king-doubleton. A greater risk was a bad trump break.

South led the spade queen from his hand at trick four. If East had

North		10-27-21	
♠	7		
♥	8 5		
♦	J 10 9 8		
♣	A J 9 8 5 4		
West		East	
♠	10 6 5	♠ 9 2	
♥	J 10 9 4 3 2	♥ A K Q 7 6	
♦	Q 2	♦ K 6 3	
♣	7 3	♣ Q 6 2	
South			
♠	A K Q J 8 4 3		
♥	—		
♦	A 7 5 4		
♣	K 10		
Dealer: East			
Vulnerable: East-West			
South	West	North	East
			1♥
Dbl.	4♥	5♣	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: ♥ J			

won with his king and played his last club, declarer would have ruffed with dummy's spade eight. Therefore, East ducked. But now South entered the dummy with a heart to the jack and took a trump finesse. When it won, he cashed the spade ace. The king didn't drop, but declarer claimed, stating that he would play his red-suit winners until East opted to ruff.

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.

“ D XIYETMBSN RUPYC DKISR RMST
NDSCURTM PV RUDR PR GSVR
ETVRMIFV DYF WPYE IB VVVRTA IB
EPLPEPYC ZTIZNT.” — GIUY JNTTVT

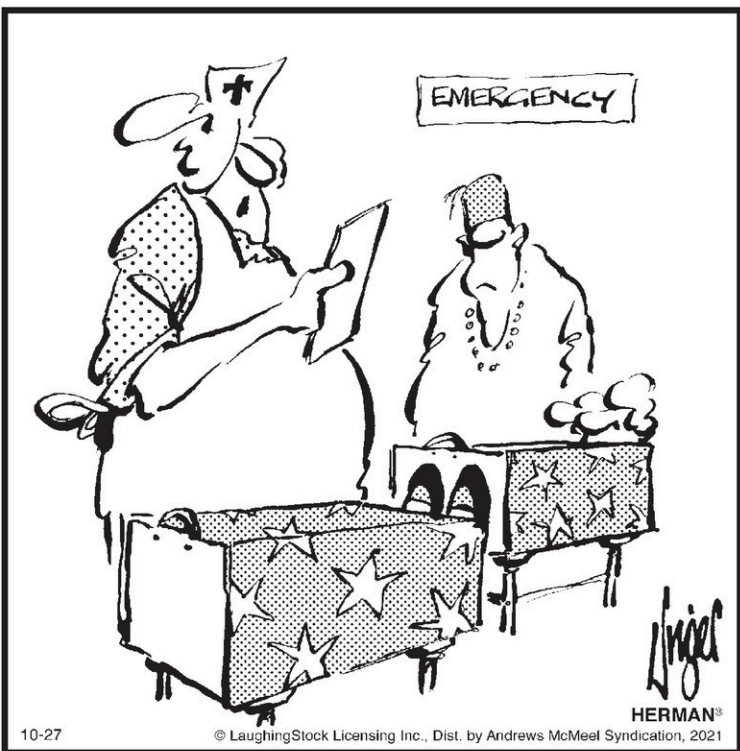
Previous Solution: “Nothing like seeing the genesis of the relationship between an instrument and a child.” — Keith Urban

TODAY'S CLUE: A sjenbø 7

REALITY CHECK

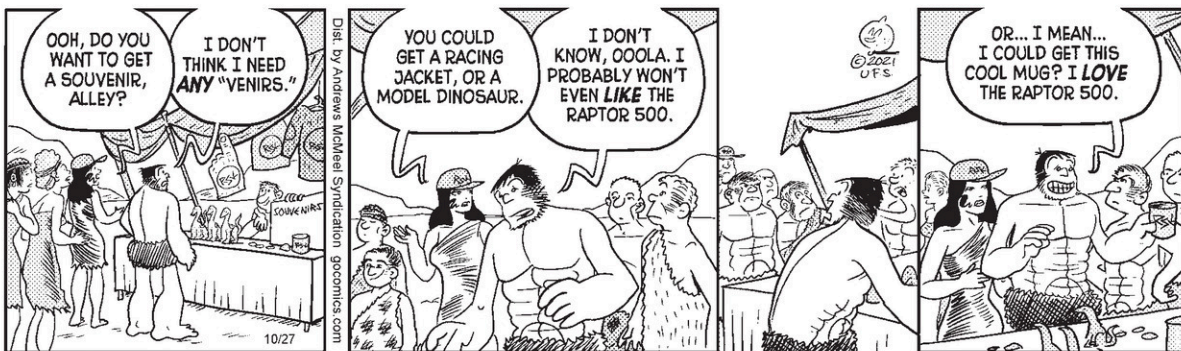


HERMAN



“Are you three all together?”

ALLEY OOP



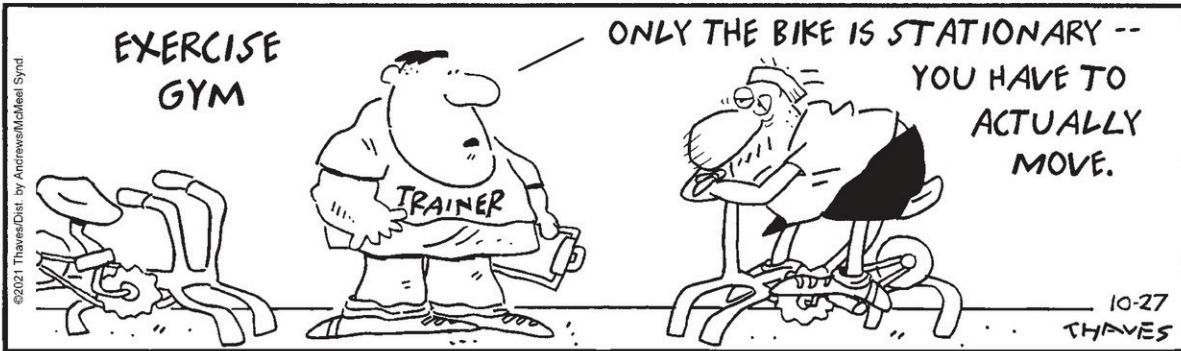
ARLO & JANIS



THE BORN LOSER



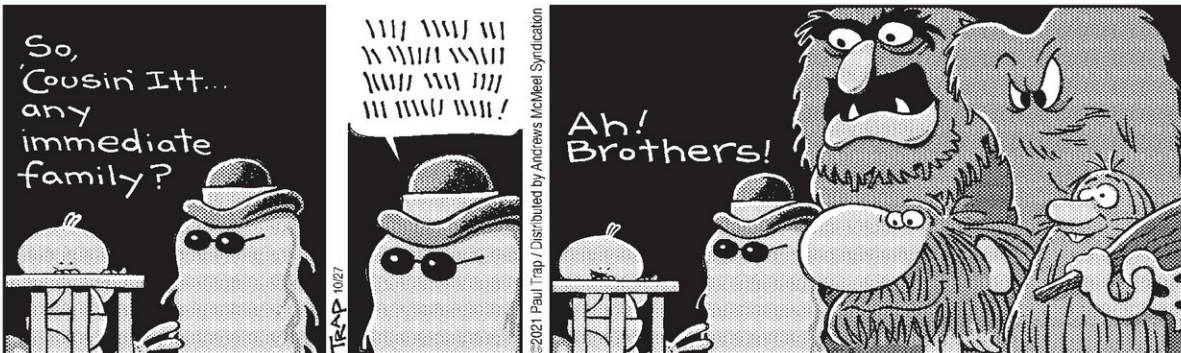
FRANK AND ERNEST



GRIZZWELLS



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 E-mail: classad@sherbrookerecord.com
 or Knowlton: (450) 242-1188 between 9:00 a.m. and noon

CLASSIFIED

Deadline: 12:30 p.m. one day prior to publication
 Or mail your prepaid classified ads to
 The Record, 6 Mallory, Sherbrooke, Quebec J1M 2E2

275 Antiques

Was it a mistake to call the cops

Dear Annie

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27

Dear Annie: I am a 45-year-old single man. I have three children: two sons from my marriage, both in their 20s, and my daughter, who is 14, from an ex-girlfriend. When my oldest son was thrown out of his mother's home, I had him move in right away.

He got a good job, and I added him to my insurance and charged him \$100 a week for rent. That was really to help out with the insurance and to teach him responsibility.

Well, after a few years, there was a nightmare one night. My son's friends were over, and unfortunately, he had too much to drink and

smoke. He blacked out and started attacking his friend's younger brother. He started attacking me as well. After an hour of trying to calm things down, I had to call the police to have him removed for the safety of everyone in the house. Well, my son remembers that he spent the night in jail. When he got out, he came to my place and grabbed his belongings, and his mother picked him up.

This was a year ago, and since that time, neither he nor my other son will visit or even talk to me. The worst part is that they are ignoring their sister, who lives only two miles away from them. This really hurts me, and I have reached out, trying to mend fences and come to an understanding. Neither of them will respond.

When my daughter texts them, they mostly ignore her, or when they do answer, they give her a hard time. She is as ashamed of them as I am. I have even touched base and told them via text that they only have one sister and they need to be there for her, as they are her older brothers. Be mad at me, but please, be there for her.

What else can I do? My daughter visits on a regular basis, and I love our time together. I want the boys to join us, but they won't answer any invitations. They haven't even met the dog I adopted. Do you have any advice? I don't want to give up, as they are my children.
 - Lost Dad in Massachusetts

Dear Lost Dad: Your sons are not taking any responsibility for their actions. Instead of thanking you for calling the police, and hopefully helping them clean up their act, they are blaming you for the night spent in jail. It was your son who committed the assault, not you. The anger they feel might be old anger they felt toward you for the divorce or other things when they were young.

But now that they are adults, they must take responsibility for their actions. They are acting very entitled. As for your daughter, just continue to love and appreciate her. Hopefully, your son will get into treatment for his drinking, and once he is sober, he will realize that what you did was for his own good.

Continue to tell both sons how much you love them, even if they push you away.

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

Send your classified to:
 classad@sherbrookerecord.com
 or call 819-569-9525



Province of Quebec
 Memphremagog MRC
 Municipality of Austin

Poll Date November 7, 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE POLL

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given by Manon Fortin, Returning Officer, to the electors entered on the municipal list of electors, that:

- A poll will be held.
- The candidates for the seats listed below are :
 - Councillor, seat no. 3:**
 - Jean-Claude DUFF 36, chemin Dufresne
 - François TANGUAY 44, chemin Meunier
 - Councillor, seat no. 5:**
 - Paul-Émile GUILBAULT 35, rue des Vignes
 - Pierre HENRICHON 170, rue des Tilleuls
- You can exercise your right to vote by presenting yourself at your assigned polling station **between 9:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.**, on the following dates and at the locations listed for the following polling subdivisions:
 - Election Day: Sunday, November 7, 2021**
 - Polling subdivisions 1 to 4: Town Hall, 21 Millington Rd., Austin
 - Advance Poll: Sunday, October 31, 2021**
 - Monday, November 1, 2021**
 - Polling subdivisions 1 to 4: Town Hall, 21 Millington Rd., Austin
- You must wear a face covering inside the polling station (Town Hall).
- You can bring your own pencil or a blue or black ink pen to mark your ballot.
- If you are registered to vote by mail:
 - The Returning Officer must have received your ballots no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, November 5, 2021.
 - If you haven't received your ballots a few days after having registered to vote by mail, you may contact the Returning Officer to receive new ones.
- You may attend the tallying of the votes, which is to take place at Town Hall, 21, Millington Road, immediately after the counting of the votes, at approximately 9:15 p.m. on Sunday, November 7, 2021.
- You can contact the Returning Officer or her assistant:
 - At 21, chemin Millington, Austin (Québec) J0B 1B0
 - Telephone: 819 843-2388

Given in Austin on October 27, 2021,

Manon Fortin
 Returning Officer

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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10/27

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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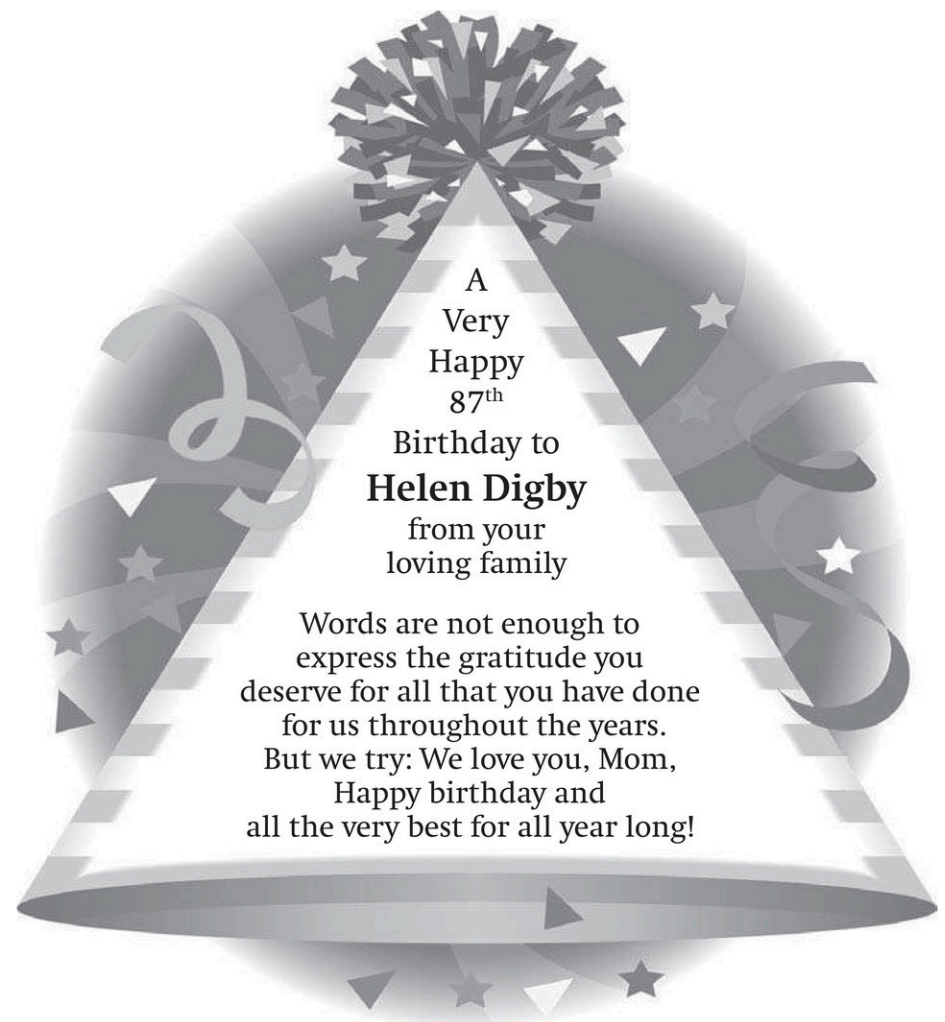
HOW TO PLAY:
 Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

103rd birthday wishes

Sending very happy birthday wishes to **Violet Thorneloe**, who resides at the Wales Home, on the occasion of her 103rd birthday on November 2, 2021.

Very best to you, Mom.

With all our love,
your family.



A
Very
Happy
87th
Birthday to
Helen Digby
from your
loving family

Words are not enough to express the gratitude you deserve for all that you have done for us throughout the years. But we try: We love you, Mom, Happy birthday and all the very best for all year long!



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Marie-Josée Taillefer
Ambassador of Lobe clinics and of hearing health

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