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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2018

Sherbrooke Budget sees tax, rate increases in 2019

By Gordon Lambie

The City of Sherbrooke presented its 2019 operating budget on Monday night, foreseeing \$314,942,700 in expenditures over the coming year. That figure comes in at nearly \$15 million more than the 2018 budget, and includes a 2.96 per cent property tax increase as one of several measures to offset that added cost.

The new rate means that for a single family home with a value of \$233,750 the increase will be \$60.53 per year or \$5.04 per month. For a building of six apartments having an average value of \$524,070 will be \$64.39 and the increase for a building of 24 lodgings with an average value of \$1.6 million will be \$17.46.

The city separated the presentation of its capital and operating budgets for the first time this year, presenting the former at the end of October while saving the latter for the last meeting of the year, as has been more typical.

Where the Mayor characterized the capital budget as "visionary and audacious" he argued that the operations budget represents responsible money management on the part of the city council.

According to Lussier, the 4.9 per cent increase in municipal expenses over last year is mainly due to legal obligations on the part of the municipality, including the training of police officers following the implementation of the new laws on cannabis, the construction and staffing of the new fire station in Lennoxville, environmental obligations, personnel salary indexation, and the purchase of new equipment for city services.

CONT'D ON PAGE 3

Lennoxville Elementary students wish local seniors a merry Christmas



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW MCCULLY

By Matthew McCully

Bells were ringing and children were singing at Renaissance - Manoir St-François yesterday during a concert put on for the residents by Lennoxville Elementary School Grade 1 students.

Singing in English and French, the students spread holiday cheer with

some Christmas classics.

According to teacher Cathy Dustin, Grade 1 is the year that a lot of students lose their teeth. For that reason, they decided to share the song 'All I Want for Christmas is my Two Front Teeth.' A few students currently missing their two front teeth came to the front of the ensemble to lead the song.

The students, conducted by Dustin

and Lynne Villeneuve, closed the show with 'We Wish you a Merry Christmas.'

The residents applauded, and then returned the gesture by singing a verse of the same song back to the children.

After the music, the Grade 1 kids handed out Christmas cards that they had made to the St-François residents.

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Weather



TODAY:
FLURRIES

HIGH OF -8
LOW OF -12



WEDNESDAY:
CLOUDY

HIGH OF -4
LOW OF -5



THURSDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF 3
LOW OF -6



FRIDAY:
SNOW

HIGH OF 9
LOW OF 3



SATURDAY:
RAIN OR
SNOW

HIGH OF 3
LOW OF -6

Knowlton Players Coffee House Fundraiser:

More seasonal fun than you can shake your candy cane at



DISHPAN HANDS

SHEILA QUINN

On Sunday night the Knowlton Players held their annual Christmas coffee house fundraiser for the local food bank. A virtual poster had circulated for a few weeks, and folks who felt brave enough to take to the stage had registered with Jessica Brown-Gauthier, a KP board member who was doing the organizing.

Could we manage something? I didn't know. I had done silly variety show stuff in the past, but I rather hoped I could swing something with my boys. It would be fun to get up on stage together, and at a festive fundraiser - even better.

My youngest son turned thirteen this fall. He's a big lover of telling jokes, puns, cleverly placed comments, usually with a bit of a sly grin on the side.

Jokes. That was what we could do. We could tell Christmas jokes.

I wrote to Jessica. A short comedy act. We'd be called Herself and the Himselves.

A friend of mine had been making personalized stuff for some time - embroidered, or with vinyl stickers. Could she make us Santa hats? She said she could. Good. One less thing that I would have to make, and a local artist to support.

My youngest and I began searching for Christmas jokes that would be appropriate enough, but still fun, and at least somewhat clever.

Knock Knock!
Who's there?
Uh...Wayne
Uh...Wayne who?
Uh...Wayne in a manger...!
(Sing that last verse, it sounds better...)
My son's favourite was:

What do you get when you cross a Christmas tree with an iPad?

A pineapple

I rather liked one that we ended up not using in the spirit of keeping things

a little shorter:

How did the Christmas ornament get addicted to Christmas?

He'd been hooked on trees his whole life!

We tweaked a series of jokes to make them Knowlton-centric.

Why do the Knowlton Players always cast Santa in the lead role in their plays?

Because he has such good PRESENTS.

Why does the team at BMO love reindeer so much?

Because every single buck is dear to them.

I wondered how I would incorporate my older son, who is almost sixteen years old, and has Autism. He couldn't tell the jokes with us, and he might be rather nervous to be up there. I thought I would still challenge his comfort zones a little though, and give him a chance to get the best laughs of the night. I decided to make him signs to hold up between the jokes.

The first one I made him said 'APPLAUSE' and then I decided to tell a bit of a story as we went. Then came My Mother Made Me Do This, Please Laugh, and Send Help! Since our jokes were pretty cheesy, this would hopefully crank things up a notch, and we could laugh at ourselves in the meantime.

Sunday night came. With no time to contribute to the baked goods that would be shared that evening my youngest and I decided on a box of clementines, some candy canes and egg nog (his favourite) to share.

We joined the other folks at card tables with Christmas table cloths set up in the United Church basement. Jessica's

son, Spencer Beaulne, a Massey-Vanier Class of 2019 graduate-to-be, was our emcee for the evening, telling a few jokes of his own, leading several activities and sing-alongs. He was a natural. (He's also been cast as Sky in the KP's upcoming production of *Mamma Mia* this spring.)

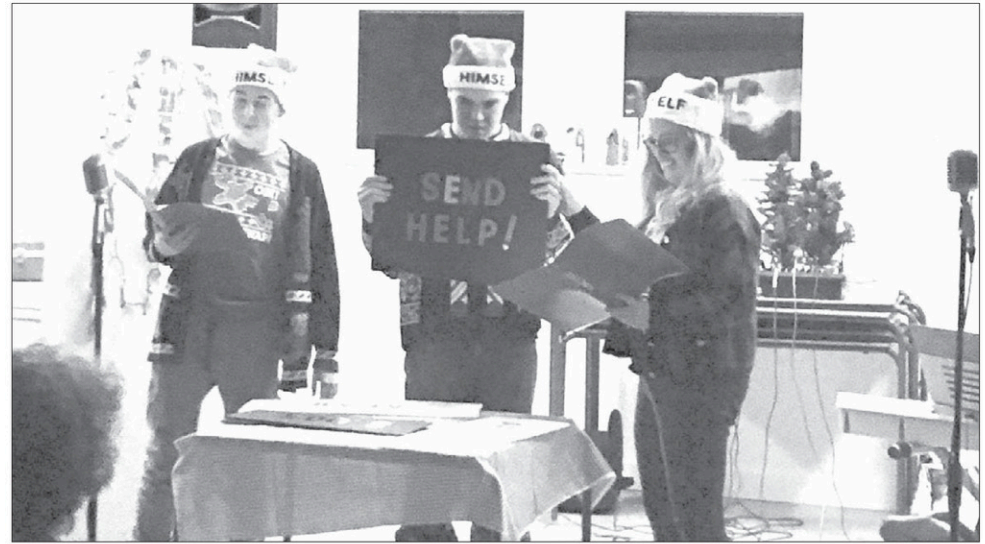
There were short dramatic acts, enthusiastic singing (from intricate harmonies to Riley and Bill Jarand's son-and-father performance of Mr. Grinch), and the most fun performance of *The 12 Days of Christmas* I have ever witnessed - with each table responsible for jumping up to sing their day with a little interpretive dance involved. I don't think I'll ever hear 'six geese a-laying' the same way again.

When it was our turn to take to the floor, I was nervous. My older son was already fidgeting and asking in his simple way to go to the bathroom (I had made one obliging trip with him, but knowing that it is a habit of his to run away to the bathroom, I gently insisted that he stay put). We got set up, and then my younger son proceeded to deliver a performance I was really surprised by. My older son cooperated through most of the sign holding and, as predicted, got the best laughs.

When the show wrapped up the crowd enjoyed coffee, tea, eggnog and treats, and visited briefly before heading home.

In an evening of simple togetherness and fun, the Knowlton Players raised \$350 (plus a few bags of food) for the local food bank. Now that we've got our stage fright out of the way, I hope my boys and I can participate again next year.

Thanks Knowlton Players for keeping the stage going throughout the year!



COURTESY OF SHEILA MCMANUS-JARAND

Ben by Daniel Shelton



LOCAL NEWS

This initiative is part of Global Excel's Global Wellness Program, which not only promotes physical fitness and healthy eating habits, but also offers opportunities for personal growth and increased self-confidence.

Global Excel hosts community Christmas

Record Staff

Global Excel Management hosted its third annual community Christmas event this past Saturday, December 15, at the Hope Community Church in Lennoxville. This year, the event included two meals: one at lunchtime geared towards families, and a second in the evening. In total, the event served just under 200 people.

The idea for the community meal dates back to 2016 and was born out of the executive team's desire to give back to the community during Christmas. Once again this year, employees and their family members volunteered to help coordinate this event. For several

weeks, teams of volunteers have been working hard to prepare for this celebration, planning out the traditional meal, decorations, entertainment, musical performances, gifts and activities for the children, and a visit from Santa Claus.

This initiative is part of Global Excel's Global Wellness Program, which not only promotes physical fitness and healthy eating habits, but also offers opportunities for personal growth and increased self-confidence. The company places a great importance on commitment to the community and its



PHOTOS COURTESY
The team of servers who served the meals



The volunteers enjoying a quick bite between lunch and supper

Minor changes at Lennoxville CLSC

By Matthew McCully

Moving signs posted at CLSCs in Sherbrooke had some locals worried that services at the

Lennoxville clinic could be compromised as of Jan. 20, 2019.

According to CIUSSS de l'Estrie-CHUS media representative Geneviève Lamay, the only changes coming apply to the

walk-in clinic on Sundays for patients of the CLSC whose family doctor is there. Those patients will be served at the new clinic opening at the corner of Belvedere and McManamy as on Jan.20, and the

move applies to Sundays only. The other services currently available at the Lennoxville CLSC will remain the same, Lemay said.

Sherbrooke Budget

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

In addition to the increase in the municipal tax rate, service fees for drinking water will increase by \$6 a year from \$142.75 to \$148.75. The cost for the treatment of water increases by \$8.70 from \$230.05 to \$238.75, and the rate for emptying of septic tanks increases by \$3.75, going from \$65.85 to \$69.60.

The full text of the municipal budget will be available on the city's website today.

Although Lussier presented the budget in the company of the members of his executive, the document was not without critics on the council.

Evelyne Beaudin, city councillor for the Carrefour district and leader of the Sherbrooke Citoyen Party held her own press conference on the budget Monday morning to criticize the document and the way in which it was prepared. In particular she argued that Lussier's 2018 tax freeze was an irresponsible decision fuelled by a desire to score political points. She cited this year's tax and rate increases on top of a reevaluation of the municipal roll as negative impacts brought about by "populist and irresponsible policies" in the previous year.

"The mayor likes to say that he wants to respect people's ability to pay but he must also respect their intelligence," Beaudin said, calling the mayor's plan "improvised, irregular, and insulting" to the citizens.

Lussier, however, stood by the tax freeze.

"I do not regret it," the mayor said, arguing that even with this year's rate increases the residents of Sherbrooke still pay less than those of Quebec's other large cities. He acknowledged that the increases will upset some people, but said that as Sherbrooke is a growing city, there are costs that need to be covered. He also underlined a desire not to cut municipal services in the name of a balanced budget.

"We had choices to make," Lussier said. "What I ask people to do is follow me for four years and see where we end up."

The lead-up to the budget presentation was coloured by a decision on the part of the mayor to cancel the Monday afternoon briefing over the weekend as a response to a leak of budget information to local media. The Mayor eventually reversed that decision, and began Monday's meeting with an acknowledgement of the importance of ensuring that as many people as possible have access to the information in the municipal budget.

Asked about whether he had identified the source of the leak, Lussier deflected the issue stating that, "we are not preoccupied with that today, today is about the budget."

Although the mayor said nothing more on the weekend's back-and forth, Beaudin argued

that the mayor's approach of keeping matters behind closed doors made the matter a bigger issue than it needed to be.

"It is harder to manage closed doors and secrets," the councillor said, calling the mayor's initial reaction impulsive. "When (the conversation) is open there is no problem."

Christmas for you

Join us for Carols and Christmas Dinner

our gift to you

on Tuesday, December 25

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.




(doors open at 10:30 a.m.)


at Hope Community Church

corner of Queen and College, Lennoxville.

For transportation and/or information, call Paul McLean at 819-820-5932, OR Don & Jackie Loughheed at 819-563-7750
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'Flexible' night parking rules in Magog

Record Staff

The City of Magog is advising the public that the prohibition of street parking at night is now in effect at all times until April 1. Two exceptions apply, however, on the nights of Dec. 24 to 25 and Dec.

31 to Jan. 1, when the City may allow parking on the street between midnight and 7 am, if weather conditions are favorable and no winter maintenance is planned.

Winter parking regulations this year are taking a more flexible approach in Magog. Between Nov. 15 and Dec. 15, the City of Magog could authorize parking on the street during the night.

During this trial period, parking was allowed 10 nights out of a possible 31. "Our goal was primarily to meet a need of citizens without hurting snow removal operations," said Mayor Vicki-May Hamm, who said she was satisfied with the experiment. "I admit that for this time of year, we thought we could allow parking more often. However, the variable weather conditions and the early snowfalls of recent weeks have forced us to proceed with snow removal and icebreaking operations and therefore, to maintain the ban on parking on public roads. I want to thank the people for respecting the regulations. I encourage citizens to remember to visit the City's website on Dec. 24 and 31 to find out if parking will be permitted."

From 4 p.m. Dec. 24 and 31, the City of Magog's home page will announce whether street parking is allowed or prohibited for the coming night.

By subscribing to the "winter parking" alert on the City's website, an email will be sent to subscribers of this service when parking is allowed.

A special section on the City's website at (ville.magog.qc.ca/stationnementhiver) contains all related information.

Application for authorization to the Régie de police de Memphrémagog

The City wants to remind citizens that it is possible to ask the Régie de Police de Memphrémagog for a specific night. The City will not issue tickets during the period requested, provided weather conditions and snow removal operations permit.

To make such a request, citizens must contact the Memphrémagog Police at 819-843-3334 during the day in question. If weather and snow removal conditions are favorable, the application will be accepted. The applicant must, however, leave his name and a telephone number where he can be reached at any time.

Job-seeking women get helping hand

Record Staff

Employees of the Labor Market Integration Centre (CIME) cooked meals last Wednesday for 16 women seeking employment in the region.

"Improving the socio-economic situation of women requires food security. During this holiday season, when there are many expenses and when we gather with family, it is comforting to have some pre-cooked meals," said Geneviève Collette, Executive Director of CIME. "Although we would have liked to cook for all our participants, we had to choose the ones that would benefit the most."

On Dec. 12, team members cooked spaghetti sauce, soup, biscuits and desserts together. The next day, workers distributed the food to the 16 participants in the employment assistance program. Joana Méthot, Employment Counselor and Community Officer, said the donations were emotional. "The women were so touched and grateful, they could not believe it. The fact that we cooked for them, they found an important gesture, beyond the food, it's the attention that was appreciated!"

"Throughout the year, we help women find jobs, but first of all to trust each other, to get to know each other," said Christina Nadeau-Yuill, CIME guid-

ance counselor. "We develop a special bond with them. Today, giving them these meals as gifts, we are helping them in another way too. And the greatest gift to us is when they proudly announce that they have found a job."

The Labor Market Integration Center has enabled 55 women to find or keep a job, and 12 women to return or stay in school. The overall rate of return or job retention for 2017-2018 is 62%, 19% higher than in 2016-2017.

CIME accompanies women in their professional exploration, job preparation, job search, and job retention or studies. Group and individual services are offered free of charge, everywhere in Estrie. The organization promotes the integration of the female workforce by making businesses and institutions aware of the reality of women in the labor market, especially in non-traditional occupations. They provide expert advisory services for women's integration into the labour market, on pay equity, and in family-work-study-close-care conciliation, which are adapted to the needs of employers. Finally, CIME is piloting a research and development component in socio-professional integration. CIME-EMPLOI.COM



(COURTESY CIME)

2018 Babies!



Proud parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, show off your pride and joy in our "Babies of 2018" edition of The Record to be published on January 11, 2019.

Mail a 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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Deadline for winter tires

Record Staff

Police are reminding people that as of Saturday, Dec. 15 all vehicles on Quebec roads must be equipped with winter tires or face a fine of \$312. All-season tires are not compliant.

Sherbrooke police will have their eyes

open for offenders.

"There will be no targeted tire operation for the moment. But police will be on the lookout," said SPS spokesperson Martin Carrier.

According to Carrier, cars were still rolling on summer or four season tires in recent days, despite the winter arriv-

ing early this year.

Winter tires are specially designed to meet the rigors of the winter season, both for snow and ice, he said.

Carrier pointed out that police will also pay attention to wear on the tread. "A person may have put his winter tires on, but they may be too worn," he ex-

plained. That type of offense can also face a fine, he said.

The law requires motorists to keep their winter tires on until March 15. Next year, the date for putting winter tires on has been advanced to Dec. 1.

New offices in the heart of the action for Saint-François MNA

By Emilie Hackett
Special to the Record

Geneviève Hébert, Member of National Assembly (MNA) for Saint-François, inaugurated her team's new offices on King Est Street on Monday, Dec. 17, as promised.

After her October 1 win in Saint-François with 34 per cent of the vote, the CAQ's Geneviève Hébert has fulfilled one of her first campaign promises. The Deputy Government Whip announced that if she were elected, she would open her head office on King Est Street.

According to Hébert, the Saint-François riding shares a dual reality: "our riding is both rural and urban, and we must meet our citizens halfway." That is why she has chosen to open her main office on one of Sherbrooke's main arteries. She has also opened a satellite office in Coaticook inside City Hall, where she will be every Tuesday. Her political staffer will also be present every day during the week.

Hébert was also the spokesperson for "Rue Principales: Revitalisation rue King Est" for five years. "I grew up in the Saint-François riding so revitalizing King Est was dear to me," she explained.

"Now, as the MNA, I feel like I can do even more."

The CAQ's MNAs in Estrie have not experienced the smoothest transition. In fact, Hébert, François Jacques (Mégantic) and Gilles Bélanger (Orford) had to start from scratch, as the former deputies destroyed the riding's files and records at the end of their mandate.

Hébert and her colleagues have pledged to put an end to what she referred to as "old-fashioned partisanship." They have created a consent form that will be signed by citizens whenever they open a file with a CAQ MNA. "This form ensures that the files will be transferred to the new MNA if anything were to happen to either MNA, if we were to not get re-elected, or not seek another term, or if there were to be a change of government," explained the Saint-François MNA.

"We have campaigned that the Coalition would be a government of change. We want to show that cohesion is important to us and that we are committed to promote smooth transitions," said Hébert. "There are more than 30 CAQ MNAs who were affected by the destruction of files, and we want to denounce the issue to make sure it does not hap-

pen again."

Geneviève Hébert's new office is located at 373, King Est Street near down-

town Sherbrooke. Her satellite office has now opened at 150, Child Street in Coaticook, inside City Hall.



EMILIE HACKETT
Saint-François MNA Geneviève Hébert next to her logo in her new offices on King Est Street.

Coaticook MRC adopts Universal Climatic Emergency Declaration

Record Staff

Following a request made at the last regular meeting of the Coaticook MRC council Wednesday, Nov. 28, the MRC has decided to join hundreds of Quebec citizens and signatory municipalities by supporting the Universal Climatic Emergency Declaration.

This comes in the wake of last October's report of the Intergovernmental

Panel on Alarming Climate Change and the global warming and its consequences for the planet that ensue. The report mentions that the climate has warmed by around 1.00 C since the industrial era and that if the trend continues, this warming will reach 1.50C by 2030 to 2052. Research shows that the consequences a global warming between 1.50C and 2.0 C would be dramatic. But to limit global warming to 1.50C, the

necessary effort is gigantic and requires urgent implementation. To achieve this, the report recommends, among other things, a 45 per cent reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 2010 and the establishment of a carbon neutral society by 2050.

The Universal Climate Emergency Declaration was drafted and promoted by a group of environmental activists who are essentially calling for recognition of

the "climate emergency" and the need for rapid action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions climate change.

The MRC recognizes the urgency of the situation. Since it is obvious that it can't act alone and that it is a global issue, it is asking the governments of Quebec and Canada to act accordingly and to help municipalities that are facing the consequences of climatic changes.

SQ seeks witnesses in attempted murder case

Record Staff

The Sûreté du Québec is asking for help from the public in order to retrace witnesses to an attack on Sunday, Dec. 16, near a licensed establishment located on Bromont Blvd

in Bromont.

Around 12:40 a.m. a young 22-year old man was found on the ground outside the bar, seriously injured with a gunshot wound. The victim, a Granby resident, is still in critical condition.

Investigators from the Major Crime

Investigation Service, in collaboration with the Bromont Police are continuing the investigation.

The police are specifically looking for someone who may have witnessed an altercation outside the bar in the moments leading up to the assault on the

victim.

Anyone with information about this event can contact the Sûreté du Québec Criminal Information Center on a confidential basis at 1-800-659-4264.

EDITORIAL

Studies have shown that having family discussions about generosity had a stronger influence on children's charitable behaviour than parent role modelling alone.

How to infuse your family with the spirit of generosity this Christmas

By Sheri Madigan

Assistant Professor, Canada Research Chair in Determinants of Child Development, Owerko Centre at the Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute, University of Calgary

Around this time each year, many children have made a Christmas wish list that includes items like toys, games, crafts and electronics. While children may express gratitude and joy in response to receiving gifts, the concept of generosity of spirit has certainly changed over the years.

It was St. Nicholas's legendary status of generosity that gave rise to the modern-day tradition of Santa Claus. As the story goes, as a young boy, St. Nicholas was left with a substantial amount of inheritance when his parents died, which he then used to help others, primarily the poor.

St. Nicholas was generous. Generosity is defined as the quality of being kind and giving time, attention or gifts to others without conditions or the expectation of getting something in return. Being generous is seen as a positive virtue in people and has links with other emotions such as empathy and compassion.

Parental behaviour matters

The roots of generosity, such as empathy, compassion and prosocial behavior, begin to develop in the toddler years.

One study of charitable giving by children shows that boys and girls give equally. Research also shows that by the age of nine most children have a good understanding of generosity. As with all

aspects of development, as the child ages, greater understanding and mastery of generosity will unfold.

What role do parents play in socializing children to be more generous? One way is by showing generosity themselves. Research shows that a parent's level of generosity and charitable behaviour is correlated with their child's display of the same behaviours.

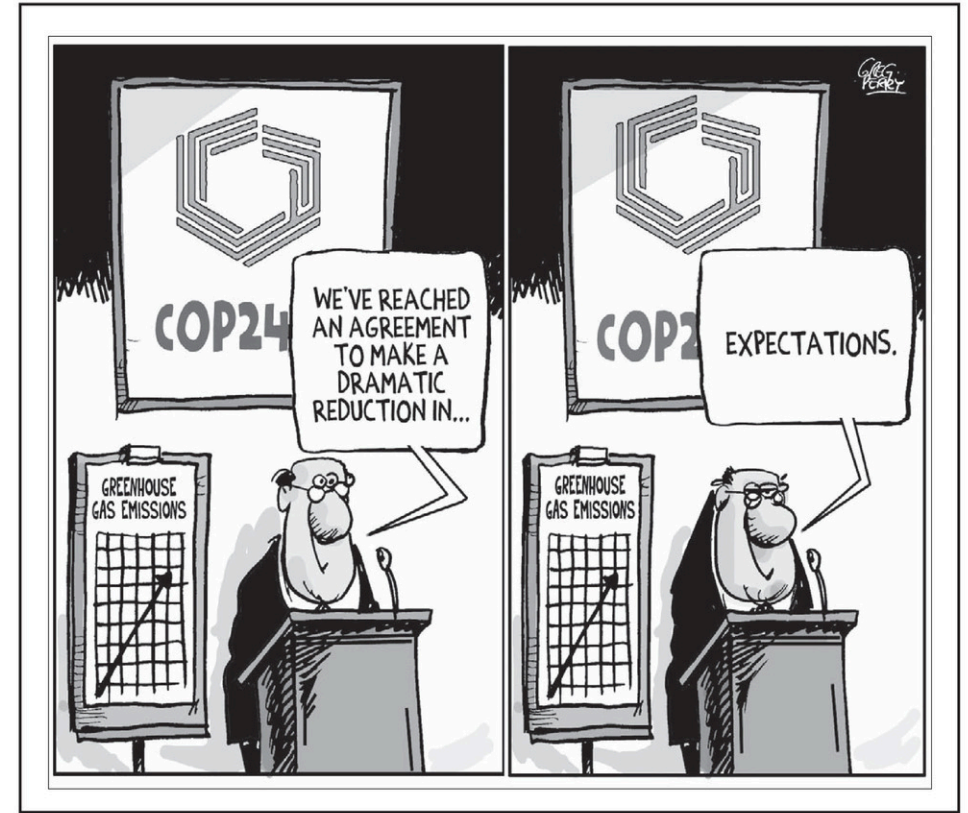
Modelling generosity makes an impression on children and is thus a great first step to fostering this behaviour. Siblings can also effectively role model empathy and compassion, and by extension, generosity.

Another way is to talk with children about generosity. Studies have shown that having family discussions about generosity had a stronger influence on children's charitable behaviour than parent role modelling alone.

Five ways to help foster generosity

Give experiences. Gift giving does not always need to come in the form of material possessions. Giving experiences can be of value as well. This can include time with caregivers, such as a set of tickets that children can "turn in" to bake together, do arts and crafts, go skating, swimming, hiking, or to a movie or the theatre. These experiences are also opportunities to discuss the value of family connection and making memories.

Give to those in need. Discuss the legend of Saint Nicholas (Santa Claus) and his spirit of giving to those who are less fortunate. Encourage children to add a gift to someone in need to their Christ-



mas or birthday wish list, or to give used or unused material possessions (such as toys, books or clothing) to those without.

Give without expecting anything in return. The core concept of generosity is to give without conditions. Several reputable local, national and international organizations have charitable gift giving programs for children in need (for example, providing water purification tablets and school supplies).

Give the gift of time. Together with your children, come up with a list of ways they could give their time to someone else. This could be shovelling someone's driveway, weeding a neighbour's garden, or cleaning up his or her local park. They could also give their time to an organization in need of volunteers (for example a soup kitchen).

Give year round. Generosity and kind-

ness shouldn't just happen over the holidays. Make these concepts part of your everyday family life and try to schedule acts of kindness together. At the dinner table, ask your children: "Can you tell me a time today you showed kindness?" You can also talk about how, as a parent, you showed kindness or generosity to someone in your professional or personal life that day.

Giving gifts is certainly part of being generous, but as we all know, the holidays can also be a time of stress and panic about getting the right gift, navigating the shopping mania in stores, and frankly, just paying for everything. All is not lost, however, there are other narratives that parents can use around kids when it comes to generosity.

Sheri Madigan receives funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the Canada Research Chairs program and the Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation.

Messenger service suggests things to do in region

Record Staff

Sherbrooke-based company CrowdChat has introduced its latest technological innovation, Archie, a Messenger robot that suggests possible activities in the Estrie region every week.

Launched last November, Archie already has more than 1,500 subscribers who get suggestions according to season

and fields of interest. Suggestions are delivered every Thursday to subscribers directly into their Facebook inbox.

"The response from the public has been excellent," said CrowdChat co-founder and president Kevin Michaud. "More than 50 per cent of subscribers say they've used Archie's suggestions for going out in the regions."

The Record welcomes your letters to the editor. Please limit your letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit for length, clarity, legality and taste. Please ensure there is a phone number or email where you can be reached, to confirm authorship and current town/city of residence. Names will not be withheld but the address and phone number of the writer are not published, except by request. Preference is given to writers from the Eastern Townships.

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Local Sports

Also known as the Presidents vs. Vice-Presidents Bonspiel or the Red vs. Yellow, the tournament is now named after late curling club member Cliff Boudreau, who was a chief organizer of the event years ago.

Lennoxville Curling Club Turkey Bonspiel winners

Record Staff

Next up for the Lennoxville curling club is the Cliff Boudreau Memorial Bonspiel on Dec.27-29.

Also known as the Presidents vs. Vice-Presidents Bonspiel or the Red vs. Yellow, the tournament is now named after late curling club member Cliff Boudreau, who was a chief organizer of the event years ago.

On the final day of the bonspiel on Saturday, Dec.29, there will be a luncheon after the morning matches with a special guest speaker.

This year, 98-year-old Rolf Benson will speak to club members and guests about his experience in the war.



Turkey Bonspiel winners A: Back row: Jim Mastine, Jeff Windsor, Dominique Blais and Vicki Angers. Runners-up A: Front: François Lacourse, Richard Frappier, Pierrette Charbonneau and Richard Labbé.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALLAN ROWELL

Turkey Bonspiel Winners B: Front: Diane Bourque, Christian DePas-sille, Denis Singher and Diane O'Farrell. Runners-up B: Back: Sylvia Smith, Marc Frappier, Amanda Young and David Watts.

Impact acquires 2020 Superdraft pick from Houston Dynamo In exchange for full-back Chris Duvall

The Montreal Impact announced on Monday the acquisition of a third-round pick at the 2020 MLS SuperDraft from the Houston Dynamo in exchange for full-back Chris Duvall.

Duvall, 27, played 42 games with the Montreal Impact in MLS, including 39 starts, scoring a goal and adding three assists. Before joining the Impact at the start of the 2017 season, the defender from Georgia spent three seasons with the New York Red Bulls.

Transaction: The Montreal Impact acquires a third-round pick at the 2020 MLS SuperDraft from the Houston Dynamo in exchange for full-back Chris Duvall.



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In Memoriam

MARSH - In loving memory of our father, Russell Marsh.
*Dad,
 The rolling stream of life rolls on,
 But still the vacant chair,
 Recalls the love, the voice, the smile
 Of the other one who once sat there.
 Loved and missed every day.*

Card of Thanks

HEBERT - I wish to thank all family and friends who celebrated my 80th Birthday with me. Also thank you for the cards and gifts.
ROBERT



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2018

Today is the 352nd day of 2018 and the 88th day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1865, slavery formally ended in the United States with the ratification of the 13th Amendment.

In 1892, Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker" premiered in St. Petersburg, Russia.

In 1957, the first civilian electricity-generating nuclear facility in America opened in Pennsylvania.

In 1958, a U.S. rocket launched SCORE (Signal Communication by Orbiting Relay Equipment), the world's first communications satellite, into space.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: H.H. Munro aka Saki (1870-1916), author; Ty Cobb (1886-

1961), baseball player; Robert Moses (1888-1981), urban planner; Betty Grable (1916-1973), actress; Ossie Davis (1917-2005), actor; Keith Richards (1943-), musician; Steven Spielberg (1946-), director; Ray Liotta (1954-), actor; Brad Pitt (1963-), actor; Steve Austin (1964-), wrestler/actor; DMX (1970-), rapper/actor; Katie Holmes (1978-), actress; Christina Aguilera (1980-), singer.

TODAY'S FACT: The SCORE satellite launched in 1958 used a tape recorder to save and relay voice messages. It communicated a Christmas message from President Dwight D. Eisenhower to the world via shortwave frequency on Dec. 19.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1932, a blizzard

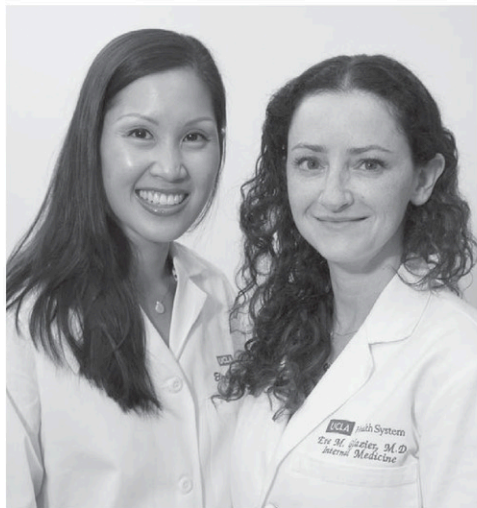
forced the National Football League to hold its championship game inside Chicago Stadium on an 80-yard field. The Chicago Bears defeated the Portsmouth Spartans, 9-0.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Think how many blameless lives are brightened by the blazing indiscretions of other people." – Saki, "Reginald"

TODAY'S NUMBER: \$10.5 billion – lifetime domestic box office gross (adjusted for inflation) of Steven Spielberg's feature films, making him the highest-grossing director of all time.

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter moon (Dec. 15) and full moon (Dec. 22).

Recent studies call into question use of low-dose aspirin



ASK THE DOCTORS

By Eve Glazier, M.D., and Elizabeth Ko, M.D.

Dear Doctor: Our dad had a mild stroke about a year ago and has been taking daily low-dose aspirin ever since. But I just heard about a new study that says this kind of therapy isn't actually helpful and might even be dangerous. Is this true? Should he stop? I'm confused!

Dear Reader: We've been hearing from patients (and some friends and family) that they're also confused by the new aspirin study you're referring to. The truth is that while low-dose aspirin has indeed been associated with improved health outcomes for individuals

like your father who have previously experienced a stroke or a heart attack, the idea of aspirin therapy as a hedge against cardiovascular disease in healthy adults has always been under debate. Now, a trio of studies published in September in the New England Journal of Medicine pave the way for a clearer understanding of the effects of low-dose aspirin therapy.

In the main study, which lasted about five years, researchers in Australia looked at the effects of low-dose aspirin therapy in 20,000 people with a median age of 74. Each person was in good health at the time that he or she entered the study, without a history of heart disease. Unlike the observational studies we've discussed lately, which draw conclusions from data in which variables are not under the researchers' control, this was a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial. That means that half of the study participants took aspirin and half took a placebo. Study participants were randomly assigned to the two groups, and the double-blind part means that neither the participants nor the researchers knew which group was getting aspirin and which was getting the placebo.

Bottom line: This is the best type of study to figure out whether a specific exposure, in this case aspirin, is directly responsible for a particular outcome.

When the study was concluded, it turned out there was no observable difference in "disability-free survival" between the two groups. That is, low-dose aspirin therapy did not deliver additional health protections. What was different between the two groups was that over the course of the study, the participants taking low-dose aspirin had a measurably higher incidence of bleeding, some of it life-threatening. This finding was corroborated by two additional studies, which uncovered a higher risk of major hemorrhage among the aspirin group, as well as a higher incidence of "all-cause mortality." The authors of the studies appear to be somewhat surprised by the results, which they called "unexpected."

It's important to keep in mind that the participants in these studies were all healthy adults without heart disease or stroke. However, for those individuals who have already had a heart attack or stroke, or who do have cardiac disease and other comorbidities, such as diabetes, there is significant data to support aspirin use. It is our opinion that those patients should not stop their aspirin regimens based on these findings.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health.

Do Just One Thing



By Danny Seo

If you create a fire in your fireplace during the winter months, you know it's important not to burn things like pressure-treated wood, cardboard and plywood, since they can release a significant amount of toxins into the air when burned. But did you know that it's also imperative to not burn driftwood? Even though it came from a tree and simply tumbled in the ocean, driftwood also acts like a sponge, absorbing chemicals in the oceans that – you guessed it – are released when burned.

RATES and DEADLINES: ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

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 With photo: additional \$18.50. **DEADLINE:** 11 a.m., day before publication.
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 Text only: \$16.00 (includes taxes)
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WEDDING WRITE-UPS:
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Please Note: All of the aforementioned (except death notices) must be submitted typewritten or neatly printed, and must include the signature and daytime telephone number of the contact person. Can be e-mailed to: clas-sad@sherbrookerecord.com - They will not be taken by phone.
DEADLINES FOR DEATH NOTICES:
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TOWNSHIPS' CRIER

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

Bingo on Wednesday, December 18 at 7:30 p.m. sharp at the A.N.A.F. Unit 318, 300 St. Francis Street, Lennoxville. Everyone is welcome! Info: 819-346-9122.

NORTH HATLEY/LENNOXVILLE

The Saint Francis Regional Ministry of the Anglican Church is organizing Christian Meditation sessions. The approach used is centering prayer. This is a contemplative Christian practice which in-

volves sitting in silence, letting go of thoughts and emotions in order to rest in the presence of God. All are welcome to join us on Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at St Barnabas' Anglican Church, 640 Sherbrooke Road in North Hatley and on Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at St George's Anglican Church, 84 Queen Street in Lennoxville. The sessions have already begun. For more information, please contact Sam Borsman at 819 620 6058

LENNOXVILLE

The Saint Francis Regional Ministry of the Anglican Church is organizing a group discussion on Seeking God in a Secular age. Charles Taylor, a Roman Catholic Québécois, is considered one of the world's most important philosopher and his book, A Secular Age, will be at the center of the discussions. The group meets every Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at 84 Queen Street, Lennoxville. The discussions have al-

ready begun. For more information, please contact The Rev'd Canon Giuseppe Gagliano, ggagliano@quebec.anglican.ca, 819-570-3433.

SOUTH DURHAM

Annual Carol Service at South Durham United Church on Sunday, December 23 at 7 p.m. Worship led by Tracey Badger. Everyone Welcome.

LENNOXVILLE

December 24: Christmas Eve Service at Hope Community Church, corner of Queen and College, Lennoxville at 6:00 p.m. Everyone welcome. December 25: Christmas For You. Join us for singing, fellowship and Christmas Dinner at Hope Community Church, corner of Queen and College, Lennoxville, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (Doors open at 10:30 a.m.) No charge - "our gift to you." For transportation and/or information call: Paul McLean at 819-820-5932 or Don and Jackie Loughheed at 819-563-7750, email: info@hcclennoxville.ca or face-

book.com/hcc.lennoxville.

SAYWERVILLE

New Year's Eve Celebration, presented by Loisir Sawyerville, at the Sawyerville Catholic Church, in the basement, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Entertainment by The Countrymen. Bring your own drinks. Pot-luck lunch. Admission charged. To reserve, call Martine at 819-553-8500.

MILBY

St. Barnabas Church, Milby invite you to join us for our Christmas Eve service, December 24, at 7 p.m. with carols and readings. Everyone welcome.

HATLEY

Christmas Eve Outdoor Worship Service and Candlelit Vigil. You are invited to celebrate the magic of Christmas at Hatley United Church, 57 Main St., Hatley Village on December 24 at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments to follow inside the church. All welcome.

The Village Newsletter

November News

November is often one of our busiest months at Grace Village, and with the arrival of all the lovely snow, we were kept busy and a focus shifted to all things warm and cozy! We had many community events that brought hundreds of people through our doors to appreciate our wonderful home including the Apple Pie Fundraiser, where we sold over 1000 pies, the Community Flu Clinic, which gave us a chance to help keep 500 members of our community safe and healthy, and the Christmas Market which welcomed 45 vendors and around 500 shoppers! We celebrated World Kindness Day by making care packages for some of our student volunteers from Bishops University Psychology Club for their upcoming exam period, and we celebrated other fun days like the Melbourne Cup with Tabletop Horse Races, and National Peanut Butter Fudge Day and National French Toast day by making and eating tasty treats. The end of the month brought on preparations for the Resident Christmas Banquet the week of which our amazing Potato Peeling Club peeled around 250 pounds of potatoes and 50 pounds of carrots, and our kitchen was buzzing with hard work preparing to feed 120 residents and 180 guests! As November came to an end, the weather, the décor, and the upcoming festivities put us all in the Christmas mood and we are excited to spend the coming month celebrating!

December Delights

We will be singing all throughout December as we welcome many musical guests, both new and long-time friends of Grace Village, as we eagerly count down to Christmas day. To kick everything off, we are holding our Annual Resident Christmas Banquet, where a Christmas meal is enjoyed between residents, families and invited guests! This year, Karen McKenna will be joined by Carol, Chris and Vicky Porter to bring the spirit of Christmas to the village in the form of music! A Christmas message will be shared by Mrs. Heather Thomson. This month brings new musical guests to Grace Village like The Bishop's College School Choir and Christmas Carolers from North Hatley Elementary, as well as old friends like Jesse & Amy, Ted Robb, Beth & Friends, and Joanie & Friends. Two special musical events include Tea Time with the St. Francis Manor With music by Wayne and Friends, and a special concert by Eight Misbehavin' so be sure to invite your friends! December always brings fun Christmas activities and this year is no different as we make winter birdfeeders, play Name the Christmas Carol and Christmas Family Feud, have our annual Christmas Parade, and watch a Big Screen Christmas Movie! The Frazer Family will be here on December 24th for a special Christmas Eve Service to focus on the blessings that the Christmas season represents. We will finish off the month with our Annual New Year's Eve Party the morning of the 31st where we will look back on 2018 and celebrate the eagerly awaited 2019! As we close our first full year living at Grace Village, we focus on celebrating the friendships we have made, our wonderful families supporting us, and all the lovely things to come!

- Resident Christmas Banquet - Dec. 1st
- Music w/ Herb Sharman & Ann Crawford - Dec. 4th
- Sherbrooke Connection Meeting - Dec. 6th
- Music w/ Bishop's College School Choir - Dec. 6th
- DIY Pinecone Feeders - Dec. 8th
- Cozy Corner Books - Dec. 11th
- Tea Time w/ St Francis Manor & Wayne & Friends - Dec. 12th
- Christmas Concert w/ Eight Misbehavin' - Dec. 13th
- Music w/ Tedd Robb - Dec. 17th
- Christmas Carol Sing w/ North Hatley Elementary School - Dec. 18th
- Birthday Bash - Dec. 18th
- Name that Christmas Carol - Dec. 19th
- Christmas Family Feud - Dec. 20th
- Music w/ Beth & Friends - Dec. 20th
- Decorate your Tea Time Christmas Cookie - Dec. 21st
- Christmas Parade - Dec. 22nd
- Big Screen Christmas Movie - Dec. 22nd
- Christmas Eve Service w/ The Frazer Family - Dec. 24th
- Po-ke-no - Dec. 27th
- New Year's Activity - Dec. 31st

Check out the calendar and daily activity boards for all the additional weekly and bi-weekly activities!



Making Five Minute Fudge



Tree Decorating with Champlain Students

For information, or to learn how to volunteer at Grace Village, contact the Recreation & Leisure Department
819-569-0546 ext. 5007 & 5008 dmontgomery@masscom.ca kpile@massom.ca



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.

" B P O J L N P Z R L C , F X R B P O ' C L L M N U L C
O X H O S S L H H K O Z F X R B P O T P X R L C T U B ,
P C B P O ' C L H O S S L H H K O Z F X R B P O
T P X R L C T U B . " - L N U F X S P L X

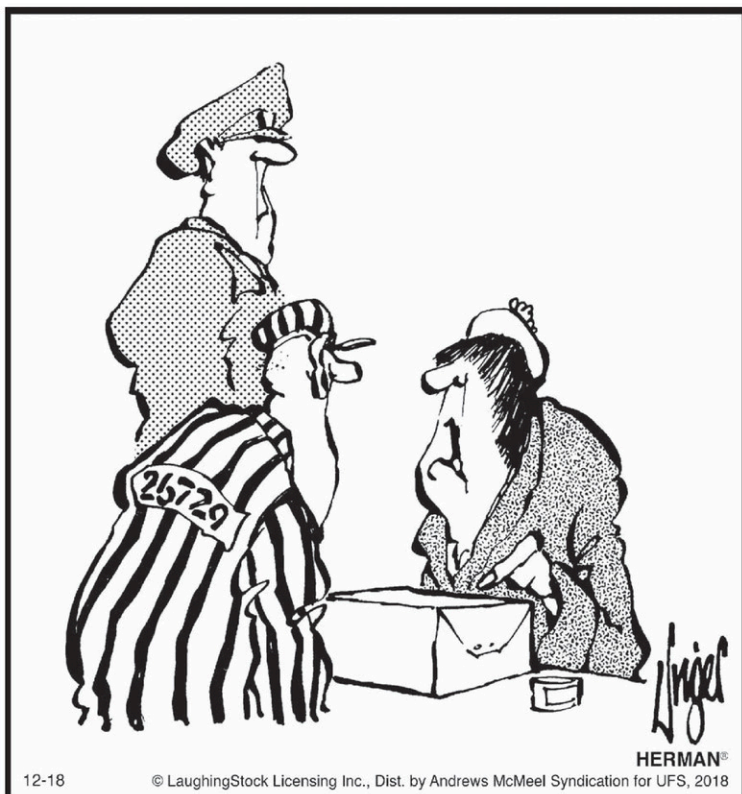
Previous Solution: "I like Hollywood just the way it is. ... I like that it's out here, 3,000 miles from where I live." — Joel Coen

TODAY'S CLUE: *g s j e n b e r*

REALITY CHECK



HERMAN

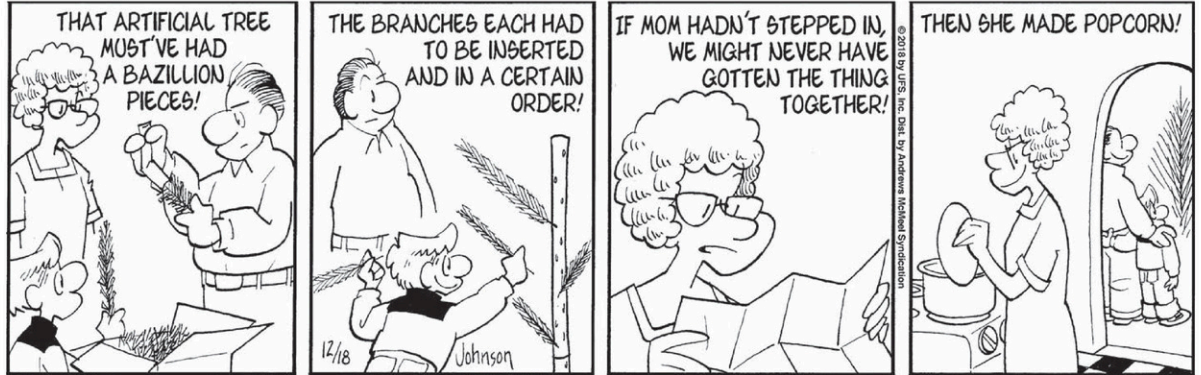


"There's a F-I-L-E in the C-A-K-E."

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



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 OR KNOWLTON: (450) 242-1188 BETWEEN 9:00 A.M. AND NOON

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A solution for a lack of gratitude

Dear Annie

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2018

Dear Annie: Over the years, my son, his wife and our granddaughter have been the recipients of many gifts from my wife and me. Unfortunately, other than the holidays when we are in the same room with them as they receive gifts, we never receive any recognition that they have received the items or any thank-yous for the gifts.

These gifts are given because we are thinking of them. It is frustrating and so disappointing to us and lessens our desire to keep giving. I believe I should express these feelings with my son. My conclusion is that in raising my son, I must have neglected to properly convey proper etiquette and respectful actions to him. My wife believes we should just not say anything. How do we proceed? – Sad in Wisconsin

Dear Sad: It's wrong not to send a thank-you for a gift, plain and simple. If your son had written to me, that's what I'd tell him. But because it's you who's written to me, I'll outline your three apparent options: 1) Keep sending gifts, and make peace with the lack of thank-yous. 2) Continue sending gifts and resenting the lack of thank-yous. 3) Stop sending gifts.

It sounds as if the first option isn't going to work for you. The second option would most likely lead to a buildup of resentment that would eventually create a wall between you and your son. So that leaves the third option. I don't see anything wrong with stopping. If they haven't been bothering to express gratitude for their gifts, then they ought not miss them much. And if your son asks you why the presents stopped, just be honest. Tell him you figured he and his family didn't care much for them, as you never heard back from them about any.

Dear Annie: Thank you for your

words of wisdom to "Not Sure in Norfolk" regarding the use of handicapped restrooms and train seats. Your last sentence should have been in bold print: "Not all disabilities are obvious." You are 100 percent right. A lot of us do not want to draw attention to our disabilities by having to ask someone to yield the Americans with Disabilities Act seat to us on a commuter train.

I asked a 25ish young man to move so I could sit in an ADA seat and was met with "You're not disabled. You're just lazy." Before I could respond, other riders came to my defense. I then rolled up my pant leg to show the brace I wear on both feet for my foot drop issue (nerve damage from an unsuccessful back surgery). The embarrassed young man got up and moved to a new train car.

I wish I could say this has been my only issue since becoming disabled, but I had several when using ADA parking spots when I first became disabled in my early 40s, before I was wearing the braces. I'd point to my ADA placard hanging from my mirror and then ask whether they'd like to see my Medicare card or my DMV paperwork. That would stop them in their tracks and usually result in an apology. – Uncle Dino

Dear Dino: I hope that flush of shame was enough to burnish a sense of decency into these folks' hearts. Thanks for taking the time to share your story.

"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.creator-publishing.com> for more information.

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

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275 Antiques

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290 Articles for Sale

FRESH LIVE NOVA SCOTIA LOBSTER delivered to you for Christmas! The lobsters will be delivered on December 21, 22 & 23. Deadline to order: December 19. Call 902-541-9177.

440 Miscellaneous

ST. PAT'S STUDENTS of the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s. If you are out there, we owe it to ourselves to gather for friendship. Let's plan something for the season. Begbie 819-791-2768.

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SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

12/18

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

HOW TO PLAY:

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

Final Military Whist of 2018

Thirteen tables of players gathered at St. Anne's Church, Richmond, on Thursday, December 13 for the final Military Whist party of 2018. Tables of "Attic Treasures" are set up in the Hall and a clearance sale took place on all the Christmas articles. After welcoming everyone and passing on any announcements, play got underway. At the conclusion of a fun evening, a delicious lunch was enjoyed by all.

The drawing of the prizes started with two tables tying for first place with 30 flags; one table was made up of Ian & Shirley Smith, Francis & Judy Saffin; the other was Peter & Carol Boisvert, Donna Ham & Bob Dunn. Second place with 25 flags belonged to Patsy Biggs, Collette Pageau, Andrea Blouin & Raymond Fortier. Low score honours went to Loretta Irwin, Annie Day, Jeannine Lancaster & Darlene Beaudet. Marcel Tremblay held four kings in one hand and Helen Sargent won a prize for 4 twos.

Door prizes went to Jerry Willett, Shirley Smith, Raymond Mastine, Darlene Beaudet,

Andrea Blouin, Pat Jackson, Carol Boisvert, Wendy Ridley, Lou Joyal, Norma Morin, Fernand Lussier, Helen Sargent, Ian Smith, Amanda Woodford, Elizabeth Mastine, Loretta Irwin, Marie Cassidy, Joyce Mastine, Debbie Knowles, Judy Saffin, Allie VanderWal, Peter Boisvert, Marcel Tremblay, Celine Deschambeault, Noel Gregoire, Raymond Fortier, Francis Saffin, Freda Coote, Marcel Geoffroy and Rita Trudeau.

Thanks go out to all those who helped with the lunch and the cleaning up of the Hall. A special thanks to those who supplied prizes and grocery box items – it was greatly appreciated.

We look forward to seeing you once again when the next Military Whist will be held at St. Anne's on Thursday evening, January 10, 2019. To reserve a table, please contact Elizabeth at 819-826-6134.

The organizers of these events would like to wish all the participants a very merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

Submitted by Loretta Irwin and Jean Storry

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 1 What, in Oaxaca
- 4 Flavor enhancer
- 7 Animal foot
- 11 Explosive letters
- 12 Parroted
- 14 Wrist-to-elbow bone
- 15 Boise's st.
- 16 Jot down
- 17 Docile
- 18 Spud
- 20 Pick
- 22 Chatty alien
- 23 Corn unit
- 24 Wash
- 27 Got the soap out
- 30 Natural resources
- 31 Polka —
- 32 Freedom, in slogans
- 34 Boat implement
- 35 WWW addresses
- 36 Aboard ship
- 37 Firearm part
- 39 Peruvian animal

40 Collected sayings

- 41 "The Tell-Tale Heart" penner
- 42 "I" trouble?
- 45 Geometry pioneer
- 49 Notorious pirate
- 50 I say!
- 52 GI entertainers
- 53 Toledo's lake
- 54 Go fast
- 55 Bunk
- 56 Husky's burden
- 57 Part of mpg
- 58 Want ad letters

DOWN

- 1 Ear swab (hyph.)
- 2 Take apart
- 3 Iowa, to Jacques
- 4 Loose cloak
- 5 Amusing satire
- 6 Figure out
- 7 Indulges

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- 8 Fridge stick
- 9 Small bills
- 10 Not genuine
- 13 Liars' practices
- 19 Sighs of relief
- 21 — Christian Andersen
- 24 Show disapproval
- 25 Part of UAE
- 26 Trillion: Prefix
- 27 Film purchase
- 28 Designer — Schiaparelli
- 29 Caesar's day
- 31 Stargazer
- 33 Meadow murmur
- 35 Impressive vases
- 36 Actor — Baldwin
- 38 Made a foray
- 39 Noisier
- 41 Serenity
- 42 — out (scrapes by)
- 43 Damsel
- 44 Comic strip dog
- 46 Grease job
- 47 Gotcha! (2 wds.)
- 48 Extinct bird
- 51 Opening

Your Birthday

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2018

Think big and look over all your options, but when it comes to making important decisions, it's in your best interest to listen to your heart. Ignore someone trying to take advantage of you. Work alone and stick to a set budget.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Be reasonable when engaging in festivities or offering your services to others. It's important to put your time and effort where they will count most. Put family first.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Make a couple of minor adjustments at home to help prepare for special events or settle in for family fun. Romance is highlighted.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Make changes for the right reasons, not because someone else wants you to make them. Being helpful is one thing, but letting others take advantage of you is another.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — A reasonable request should not be denied, but you must know where to draw the line. Someone's behavior should be pointed out if it's upsetting people you love.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Be careful what you wish for. Offers, gifts and found money are apparent, but expect to pay a price for what you receive. Personal gain will have stipulations attached.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) —

Concentrate on personal changes that will make you look and feel your best. If you put quality before quantity, you will be happy with the results. Romance should be a priority.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Don't let your generosity leave you short of funds. It's OK to help others, but first look out for yourself and your loved ones. Indulgent tendencies should be squelched.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You'll come up with a great gift idea for a loved one. Strive for stability and equality when it comes to important relationships. A physical improvement will fetch compliments.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — A change will take place if you get together with colleagues or sign up for activities that include older or younger friends or relatives. An offer or proposal looks interesting.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Pick up small items that you want to have on hand for the upcoming festivities. Make arrangements to visit older friends and relatives or include them in your plans.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — A change in the way you feel about someone will lead to a surprise that will bring you great joy. Travel plans or a promise you make will brighten your day.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Update your look or pick up something that will give you the sophisticated appearance you searching for. Your uniqueness will be admired. Romance is highlighted.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2018

Five bidding topics and many deals

By Phillip Alder

Melih Ozdil is a Turkish and American international who lives in New York City. His book, "Competitive Bidding," covers five topics: overcalls, takeout doubles, defense against weak twos, defense against higher pre-empts and balancing.

The bidding instruction is thorough, if a tad terse, with many example hands. In the 276 pages, the numerous deals with bidding and card-play points are very beneficial.

In this example from the book, how should the defense go against four spades doubled?

North made an aggressive jump to game, which would usually have included five-card support, but one may make that bid with four trumps and a void. Also, North anticipated that his opponents could make a vulnerable four-heart contract. East did well to make a card-showing responsive double, not plunge into a hopeless five hearts. West, with such a flat hand, had no reason to bid higher.

West leads the club king. East overtakes with his ace and returns the suit. West wins with his 10 and cashes the club queen, under which East signals

		North	12-18-18
		♠	9 7 6 2
		♥	—
		♦	Q J 10 9 3
		♣	9 8 5 4
West		East	
♠	Q 4	♠	J 8
♥	A 9 5 3	♥	Q 10 7 6 4 2
♦	A 7 2	♦	K 8 4
♣	K Q 10 6	♣	A 3
		South	
		♠	A K 10 5 3
		♥	K J 8
		♦	6 5
		♣	J 7 2
		Dealer: South	
		Vulnerable: East-West	
South	West	North	East
1♠	Dbl.	4♠	Dbl.
Pass	Pass	Pass	
Opening lead: ♣ K			

encouragingly with the diamond eight. West shifts to the diamond two, low guaranteeing an honor in the suit. East wins with his king and leads back the diamond four. Then West continues with either his last club or diamond. When East ruffs with the spade jack, it effects an uppercut, promoting West's spade queen for down three.

East ruffs high, not low, because he knows that South is out of whichever minor West chooses; he has seen all 13 cards in that suit.

Available at baronbarclay.com and bridgeworld.com.