

Happy Meals on Wheels week

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THE RECORD

THE VOICE OF THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SINCE 1897

Trump: Pragmatic is as pragmatic does

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THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018

City opens St. Francis Street to some trucks

Record Staff

Heavy vehicles that no longer have access to the Bishop's Bridge will be able to use St. Francis Street to access Route 108 from Sherbrooke.

The City of Sherbrooke modified its ban on heavy vehicles between Bowen St. South and Route 108 as long as the bridge in Lennoxville is closed to vehicles weighing more than 18 tonnes. Using St. Francis Street will be permitted to "medium trucks of no more than four axles."

Heavy traffic has been banned since the end of January on the steel bridge over the Massawippi in Lennoxville. The Quebec Ministry of Transport (MTQ) made the decision due to the poor state of the surface. This prohibition has required truckers traveling on Route 108 to make a major detour to continue on their way to Sherbrooke.

The City's decision aims to permit material delivery trucks to pass through this sector for access to Sherbrooke. The ban will be reinstated when the Bishop's Bridge has been repaired.

The MTQ says that replacing the bridge deck should take place this summer when the traffic on College St. and at Bishop's University is less heavy.

Last week's announcement that the extension of Highway 410 to Highway 108 should have no impact on plans for the bridge, the MTQ says.

Another successful daffodil campaign



GORDON LAMBIE

Another year, another successful daffodil campaign for the team of dedicated at work in the communities of Ayer's Cliff, Birchton, Bulwer, Bury, Cookshire, Earlstown, Hatley, Huntingville, Lennoxville, Milby, North Hatley, and Sawyerville: While those wishing to contribute to the Canadian Cancer Society's annual flower fundraiser in other areas are only now getting the chance, more than 20,000 flowers are already sitting on tables and counter tops in these parts of the Eastern Townships thanks to the efforts of a small group of women who have been putting their own spin on the daffodil campaign longer than any of them can say for certain. According to longtime volunteer Maureen Quigg, 85 per cent of the funds raised go back into the work of the Cancer Society, with 79 per cent of that being used directly for projects on the local level. While the majority of the flowers have already been delivered, supporters in communities like North Hatley and Bury can expect their flowers to be at their community's pick-up location today.

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HIGH OF 1
LOW OF -8



FRIDAY:
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AND CLOUD

HIGH OF 2
LOW OF -6



SATURDAY:
CLOUDY

HIGH OF -1
LOW OF -7



SUNDAY:
MIX OF SUN
AND CLOUD

HIGH OF 1
LOW OF -12



MONDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF 6
LOW OF -9

How to fight inertia, sweatpants and go out dancing



ROSS MURRAY

1 Are you already in sweatpants? Did you take your bra off?

It's too late. You will not go dancing. Inertia has won. Start again.

1. Have a spouse/partner who also is thinking about going out dancing.

"Do you want to go?" Deb asked me. "It's up to you," I replied. "Do you want to go?"

"I asked you first."

"I'll go if you want to go."

"That's not answering the question."

"Honestly, the last thing I want to do is go. I just want to get into my sweatpants. But I feel like we should go."

2. Come up with a reason to go out dancing that is not about going out dancing.

"Why should we go?" Deb asked.

"Because it's for a good cause," I moaned. In this case, it was to raise money for the Fire Department, the cause being, I don't know, nozzle training or something.

"Plus," I continued, "I feel like if we stay home, we're letting life pass us by." I put my head down on the table.

3. Call a friend.

Deb called a friend who had said she might be going with her beau.

"They'll pick us up at 8:15ish," Deb said. "There: we're committed."

4. Get dressed—but not in sweatpants!

Your good clothes are probably stored very near your sweatpants, so be careful here. In fact, if your clothes are stacked in a sort of reverse chronological order, you might need to dig all the way down to the 2014 stratum, which was the last time you mustered enough gumption to go out dancing. Me, I exchanged my usual attire of blue denim, T-shirt and pullover for brown denim, T-shirt and cardigan. With style like this, who wouldn't want to go out dancing! Wait: me.

5. Get picked up...
It was 8:15ish.

6. And go to the dance!
"Excuse me," our friend asked a man in the near-empty parking lot. ("I think he's with the band," I said.) "What time does the dance start?"

"Nine o'clock," he replied.

7. Go back home!
Preferably not your own home, because home (I think at this point it goes without saying) is where the sweatpants are. Home is wear bras get unlatched, and not in a fun way.

We went to our friend's house for a drink and conversations that veered, for obvious reasons, around the topic of bedtimes and wondering who on earth goes out for the evening at 9 o'clock?

But this type of talk will make you feel old, so when someone half-jokingly suggests staying in at this point, you better believe you're going dancing, dammit, because you are not a has-been! You are not an old fart, even as you make that groaning sound when you lean over to put your boots back on.

8. Go to the dance again!
It turns out all kinds of people start their evening at 9 o'clock. At 9:30ish, the hall was already bustling, Slightly Haggard was playing and the dance floor was full. We walked in, spotted some

friends and immediately joined them at their table. This is dangerous, because...

9. To go out dancing, you actually have to dance.

Inertia is crafty and will hit you where you live, or more precisely, where you sit. Add a table and a drink and you're basically back in your kitchen. Plus, there's the intimidation factor—and I don't mean people were dressed better than me; I had the best-looking cardigan in the place. I had the only cardigan in the place.

"These people can actually dance," I said to Deb.

Sure enough, couples were whirling and two-stepping counter-clockwise around the floor—men dancing with women, mothers dancing with sons, girls dancing with boys, women dancing with women. No men dancing with men, obviously. (Country music.) It looked fun. It looked dangerous. One wrong step and you've got yourself a 50-cowboy pileup.

Deb and I danced to a couple of straight-up rock numbers, where I could move like the middle-aged white man I am, but there was no way I was getting pulled into that country-dancing maelstrom. Until...

"Come on," Deb said. "We can do it."

We clumsily figured out how to hold each other and negotiated who would be dancing backwards. Then we awkwardly worked our way into the rotation. The trick is to stay near the hub where there's less circular movement, though the gravitational pull is stronger. I don't think we were actually doing the two-step. More like a 1.6-step. But we were out dancing, and it was past midnight! We were also concentrating so hard that I didn't think more than once or twice about sweatpants.

10. Congratulations! You beat inertia and went out dancing!
And repeat. Every four years.



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Ben by Daniel Shelton



LOCAL NEWS

The Sherbrooke Airport recorded nearly 11,000 flights in 2017 and serves as a starting point for all destinations in Quebec and throughout North America. It offers refueling services and hosts two flying schools as well as catering services.

Sherbrooke airport lands charter carrier

Record staff
SHERBROOKE

The Sherbrooke Airport will be serving a new partner this spring; Grondair airlines, based in Saint-Frédéric de Beauce is moving in permanently as of April 2. Grondair will offer small chartered flights to customers in Sherbrooke.

"Grondair's interest in the Sherbrooke Airport demonstrates once again the potential of our infrastructure," said Airport Development Chair Claude Charron. "This is an additional step that

could lead to the next stage of development and, ultimately, to provide a broader service to the regional population."

Grondair President Enrico Lessard, is pleased with the partnership. "It was important for us to position ourselves as a full partner of the Sherbrooke Airport. We will be better able to meet the needs of business people and the general public. We are pleased to participate in the ongoing process to make Sherbrooke Airport an increasingly important player in the globally booming air transport sector."

Ulverton death a homicide; victim identified

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

The Sûreté du Québec is treating the death of a man found along Highway 55 in Ulverton as homicide. The body of the 41-year-old man was found Monday morning at the mill stop.

After an autopsy performed Tuesday at the Quebec Legal and Medical Forensic Science Laboratory, the victim was identified as Jean-François Henri, 41, from Magog.

The SQ Crimes against the Person Division is continuing its investigation to try to determine the circumstances behind the homicide.

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The Sirkus is coming to town

By Matthew McCully

Well-known for establishing Shazamfest and promoting all things cultural in the Townships, promoter (or shall we say ringmaster?) Ziv Przytyk's next endeavour will bring the Blue Mushroom Sirkus Psyshow to Sherbrooke this Friday, March 23.

"We have some pretty impressive people coming," Przytyk said, regarding the performers in the line-up.

The show will include snake charming, burlesque performances, dancing on broken glass, feats of strength, and a

human pin cushion, to name a few unique talents.

The event is a celebration of all things freak and harkens back to the classic circus sideshow days of old.

Przytyk has been hosting Blue Mushroom members at Shazamfest since 2011, but said the upcoming spectacle is a show all of its own.

"This show is completely different from anything done at Shazamfest," he said.

"I've been looking for this since I was a kid," Przytyk commented, "and then I found it, and I think everyone should see this. These are some incredible show-

men."

There will be a tarot card reader, belly dancing, and an escape artist who will make a harrowing escape from a straight jacket, Przytyk said.

While Shazan shows are family friendly, Przytyk put a 13 and over advisory on the upcoming Sirkus Psyshow, explaining that it will be a bit darker and more intense than audiences might expect at his summer festival.

Przytyk described the upcoming show as a sort of branching out from Shazamfest, allowing acts he has supported to help take on a new life of their own.

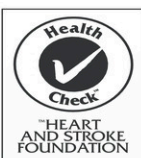
"I'm doing 15 shows between now and Shazam," Przytyk said, which will include bands that he has booked as well as some he would like to eventually get on the roster at his summer festival in Way's Mills.

"I like things to move. I want things to happen," he said. "It keeps me busy, and it's promoting culture," Przytyk said.

The Blue Mushroom Sirkus Psyshow will take place this Friday, March 23 at the Granada Theatre in Sherbrooke. Tickets are available through the theater website www.theatregranada.com or at Music Cité.



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Sherbrooke announces new downtown development subsidy program

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

Sherbrooke City Council has recognized by Law 1166 which aims to establish a new program of financial grants to promote the revitalization of the downtown core.

Developed following reflection and an exhaustive analysis of the various incentive programs found in other major Quebec cities, the City of Sherbrooke is proposing a plan that will apply to the Wellington South sector as well as the entire downtown. The program is part of a strategy that is designed to be diversified and attractive over a limited period.

"We want to attract private investors to create quality jobs and collective wealth," says Mayor Steve Lussier. "These incentive programs will help ensure that the environment is conducive to business development."

The planned subsidy will cover 100 per cent of the amount equivalent to property taxes over a period of 10 years for any construction or reconstruction whose value is greater than \$500,000 for a building with four or more storeys for commercial or professional use.

For Sectors 1 and 2, the planned subsidy will be 100 per cent of property taxes over a 5-year period for construc-

tion valued at more than \$200,000 or renovation work valued at more than \$20,000, for any building of four or more storeys.

For all other properties, the duration of tax exemption will be three years at 100 per cent and two years at 50 per cent for work valued at more than \$200,000 or for renovations over \$20,000.

One of the findings to come out of the Downtown 2020 reflection that led to the adoption of the Downtown Master Plan for Sustainable Development is the importance of increasing the number of residents in the area. This new program addresses this issue through the establishment of a subsidy for housing construction.

For Sectors 1 and 2, a grant will be awarded based on the number of additional dwellings, that is, \$1,000 per unit (one to four units), \$5,000 per unit (five to nine units) and \$10,000 per unit (10 dwellings and more).

The total amount of a grant cannot exceed the actual cost of the work and all the terms and conditions of this new grant program will be available at sherbrooke.ca/aidealarenovation. The public will also be able to find all other existing grant programs at the same address.



(COURTESY VILLE DE SHERBROOKE)

BMP Foundation Brunch at Auberge Lac-Brome

Record Staff

The Brome-Missisquoi-Perkins Hospital Foundation has announced the 30th annual BMP Sunday Brunch, to be held Sunday, April 29 at the Auberge West Brome. Two sittings will be offered at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. to raise funds to support the BMP Hospital Recruiting and Training Program for graduating nursing students.

Knowlton Lions Club

Since 2014, the BMP Foundation has been able to count on the support of the Knowlton Lions Club, founded in 1956. The Club of 46 members works tirelessly all year to meet the needs of those less fortunate in the community. Each year, the Knowlton Lions Club organizes various activities and all funds raised go back into the community.

George Bristol Award

The vitality, strength, and sustainability of the BMP Foundation lie in the active and continued participation of its volunteers. In 2016, the Foundation created the George Bristol Award for Volunteering Excellence. The award is designed to promote and recognize outstanding volunteers and is awarded on an annual basis. This year's award will be presented at the BMP Brunch. Tickets to the Brunch are \$40 each and can be purchased at the BMP Foundation office, Auberge West Brome, the Lac-Brome Recreation and Community Services, and the Lac-Brome and Sutton Town Halls. Online purchase is also available on the Foundation's website at www.fondationbmp.ca. For any questions or to reserve a table of eight or more, please call 450-266-5548.

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Happy Meals on Wheels Week

Meet the Wednesday Lennoxville Community Aid crew

By Matthew McCully

The theme for Meals on Wheels Week in Quebec this year is “good taste, good price, smile included.”

The Record stopped by the Lennoxville Community Aid office yesterday to catch a word with some of the volunteers before they head out with their deliveries.

Meals on Wheels has six routes in

Lennoxville that deliver three times per week, which requires a substantial bank of volunteers to cover the 18 runs. There are also deliveries weekly in North Hatley and Waterville.

According to the Wednesday crew of volunteers at Community Aid, serving up a smile is easy work; Interacting with the clients while they deliver is a perk of the job, they said.

PHOTOS BY MATTHEW MCCULLY



Jody Bailes delivered years ago, but had to give it up for a while because of other responsibilities. “This is my second year back after a break. I’m back at it because I missed them. I love to see a smile on their face,” she said.



Colleen Bobbitt, from Global Excel, was doing her delivery route during her lunch break. She has been involved with meals on wheels for the past eight years. “They’ve got some great stories,” Bobbitt said, referring to the clients she delivers to. “You really get to know your people,” she said.



Grace Mazzoca is relatively new to Meals on Wheels. She has been delivering since September, and said she enjoys the experience.



George Martel has been delivering meals on wheels for the past four years. “It’s a fun hobby,” Martel said, happy to help out.



Johanne Houde, Pierette Bergeron and Lorraine Hosteler are the faces behind the food. They arrived at 7:30 a.m. to begin preparing yesterday’s meal, and then filled, stacked and placed the separated containers of food for easy pick-up from the volunteers.

Join us in recognizing local heroes - our Firefighters & First Responders

The Record will be publishing a special section entitled, “Keeping our Community Safe,” on April 17 dedicated to thanking the men and women of the fire departments and first responders.

Do you have someone you would like to thank?

Send in your text, with or without a photo, thanking that person, or persons, to classad@sherbrookerecord.com or mail to The Record 6 Mallory Street Sherbrooke, QC J1M 2E2.

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Robert Black (right) and his wife Susan (left) deliver as a team. Involved with Community Aid in one way or another for around 20 years, they said seeing the clients is their favourite part of the experience. “I love chatting with them; it gives them a little joy each day,” Susan said. Ann Johnson (centre) was in full agreement. She has been delivering meals on wheels since 2014.

EDITORIAL

Solution: Insist that all teachers who don't possess a weapon already, purchase one and take mandatory weapons handling courses.

Trump: Pragmatic is as pragmatic does



TIM BELFORD

works. Putting aside the question of whether or not Trump is capable of, or inclined to, evaluating anything before he acts, it is still possible to assess the last two years of his administration to see where it leads us. Here's what we find.

Problem: Your Secretary of State disagrees with going out of your way to insult foreign governments and calling poorer countries "s---t holes."

Solution: Fire your Secretary of State and replace him with someone who knows nothing about international affairs so is unlikely to disagree with you.

Problem: The Heads of the C.I.A., the F.B.I., the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of the Environment and the Attorney General caution you on the legality of your actions with reference to ignoring the constitution and other picky little legalities.

Solution: Fire them all on the basis of disloyalty to the President, incompetence and thinking way too much.

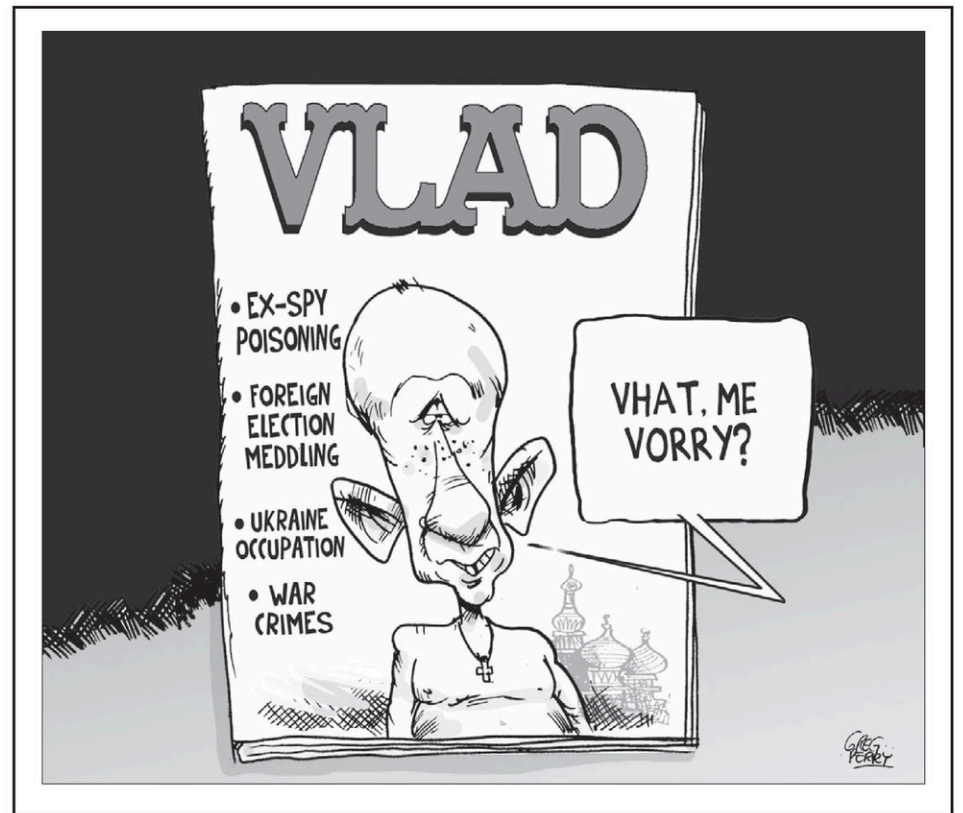
Problem: Gunmen armed with more weapons than Rambo are killing innocent students in ever increasing numbers leaving a trail of destruction and pain across the nation.

Solution: Insist that all teachers who don't possess a weapon already, purchase one and take mandatory weapons handling courses. Then make it mandatory for those teachers to wear their weapon to work. Also establish armed police patrols in school hallways. Finally, reintroduce safety courses for students including the standard "Duck and Run" training as well as "How to Avoid a Crossfire."

While I was enjoying a libation at last Friday's meeting of the Lennoxville Genealogical and Ale Appreciation Society (G.A.A.S), one of the denizens of the club put forth an interesting theory. The reason, he opined, that the lefty, liberal elites in the United States hate Trump with such a passion is that he tries to get things done. The much despised Obama, Hillary and their ilk talk a good game but by the time they are through all that's left is a pile of red tape and the same old problems. Trump is a pragmatist.

Now, one of the cardinal rules at a G.A.A.S. meeting is that we do not discuss politics. That way lies only argument, recrimination and usually childish name calling, so I refrained from putting in my two cents worth but the question remained: Trump as a problem solving pragmatist?

The Oxford dictionary defines pragmatism as "... a doctrine that evaluates any assertion solely by its practical consequences ..." In other words, take a look at the problem, figure out where it will lead and apply a solution that



Problem: Global warming is affecting the climate resulting in increasingly severe weather patterns with a generally acknowledged risk of rising water levels around the world.

Solution: Make America Great Again by saving the coal industry and opening up wilderness areas to both mining and drilling operations. Ensure that the Presidential home, Mar-a-Lago, in Florida has a new stone retaining wall to prevent beach erosion and then stick your head in the sand.

Problem: An increasing use of opiates and the appearance of even more powerful versions of the drug results in a dramatic spike in deaths by overdose.

Solution: Hire more police officers and increase the number of young people, particularly minorities, arrested for marijuana possession or use. Blame the problem on Chinese, Columbian and

Mexican drug lords and ignore the spike in Physician-prescribed opiates.

Problem: Nuclear bomb threats become common from North Korea, Russia, China and anyone else who can spell megaton.

Solution: Call the leaders of these countries names like "Rocket Man" unless they're your friends like good old Vlad or Jinping. And then suggest that the United States armed forces should have a parade like they do in Moscow or Beijing where you show off your tanks and ICBMs and warn everyone that yours are bigger and better. And when the new Secretary of State suggests pursuing talks with Kim Jong-un, fire him as well.

To paraphrase Forrest Gump, Pragmatic is as pragmatic does.

Just For Laughs sold to Howie Mandel and U.S. company ICM Partners

The Canadian Press MONTREAL

specials and annual festivals around the world including in Toronto, Vancouver and Sydney.

Just For Laughs has been sold to an investor group led by Howie Mandel and ICM Partners, an American talent agency.

Financial terms of the deal were not immediately available

The new owner says the company will continue normal operations, with the same leadership in place.

In addition to the comedy festival in Montreal, Just For Laughs produces international comedy tours, television

The company was rocked after several women came forward last fall with allegations of sexual assault and sexual harassment against its founder and majority stakeholder, Gilbert Rozon.

Rozon said he would sell his majority shares in the Just For Laughs company he founded in response to the allegations, which he has denied and have not been proven in court.

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The Record is published daily Monday to Friday. Back copies of The Record are available.

The Record was founded on February 9, 1897, and acquired the Sherbrooke Examiner (est. 1879) in 1905 and the Sherbrooke Gazette (est. 1837) in 1908. The Record is published by Alta Newspaper Group Limited Partnership. PM#0040007682

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CFUW-50 YEARS OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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Sherbrooke & District

During CFUW Sherbrooke & District's 50-year history, publications have played a key role. One of the significant projects was the publication of *Days to Remember: One-room Schoolhouses in the Eastern Townships of Quebec* in 2007. Club members taped a series of interviews with former teachers in the 1990s and the project was revived in 2006 when it was discovered that there were many more former teachers and students who had attended one-room schoolhouses. The oral history project took on a life of its own when we discovered the many people who had fascinating historical information about their experiences. It was then that the decision was made to publish a book.

Some readers may recall that during the first few decades of the 1900s, one-room schoolhouses dotted the rural landscape of the Eastern Townships. Functional in style and constructed of local materials such as wood, fieldstone or brick, schoolhouses were built wherever families of school-aged children lived. Almost all of the teachers in these early schools were young women in their late teens or early twenties. Many had attended McDonald College, but some had come directly from high school into the role of teacher. Nevertheless, they assumed sole responsibility for education of all children from grade one to seven within their schoolhouse. Often other duties such as cleaning the schoolhouse, organizing events, and stoking the wood stove were also part of the position.

This was an interesting period in Townships' social and educational history and *Days to Remember: One-room Schoolhouses in the Eastern Townships of Quebec* offered a unique window into that time. Following are some comments that have been given about the publication: "...this book is a treasure trove of local social history. The reminiscences contained therein seem as fresh as in the minds of the tellers as though they had just happened yesterday, and we are fortunate that they have been preserved for posterity," stated Matthew Farfan (QAHN). Ardith Toogood, national CFUW President in 2007, stated that CFUW Sherbrooke & District promoted education and community involvement with this social history book. A Book Launch was held to honour contributors and special guests.

In 2010 the walking group published a 2011 calendar with the aim of highlighting some of the wonderful walking locations in the Townships with photos, description and directions. The chosen sites were in Eastman, Mont Bellevue, Murals (Sherbrooke), Danville, Johnville Bog, Rock Forest, Richmond, Cookshire, Ayer's Cliff, Baldwin Mills Pinnacle, Racine-Valcourt, and Academy St. Woods in Lennoxville. Teams of two or three members collaborated on text and pictures for each walk. Written eight years ago, the process of preparing and printing the calendars turned out to be a challenging summer learning experience for all members. Some examples of communications during the editing process were: "We need a better photo of Danville Square clock..Who can take a pic? Should we include the phases of the moon, holidays? The cover photo is not working; let's change it." And then, at the last minute on the printer's recommendation, we had to improve the resolution of all the photos. CFUW launched the Walking Calendar at the 2010 Townshippers' Day in Danville. Looking back

now, the calendar proved to be a bigger task than first anticipated but a rewarding learning opportunity in the end. Funds from sales of the calendars were donated to the Johnville Bog and Forest Park.

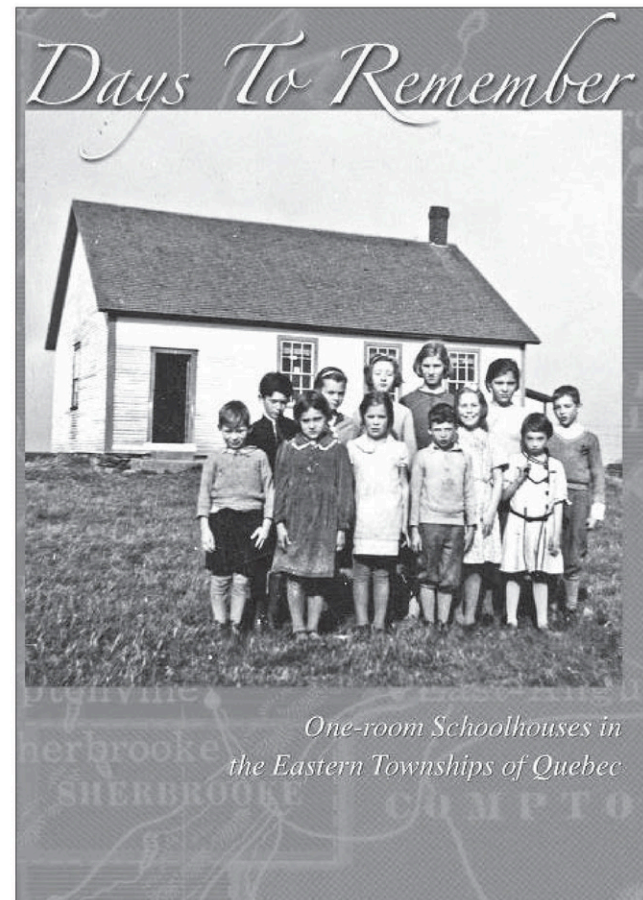
Inspired by the International Cooking interest group, CFUW published a cookbook called *Gateways to the Kitchens of the World* in the 1970s. Linda Allen remembers the first meeting held at the late Elke Rodger's house. "We first decided to feature one course per monthly meeting but that decision quickly changed after tasting 18 different soups at our opening meeting. "One of their best dinners ever was at the late Sue Haddon's for a Hawaiian luau, complete with roast suckling pig (and the instructions on how to carve it). Partners were invited to join on this special occasion.

The out-of-this-world recipes introduced new flavours, different ingredients, and innovative cooking techniques that begged to be recorded. A group of women undertook the task of writing and then typing a cookbook. To start, members researched different customs pertaining to the culinary art of the country to get a feel for the chosen nation. Wine pairings were suggested.

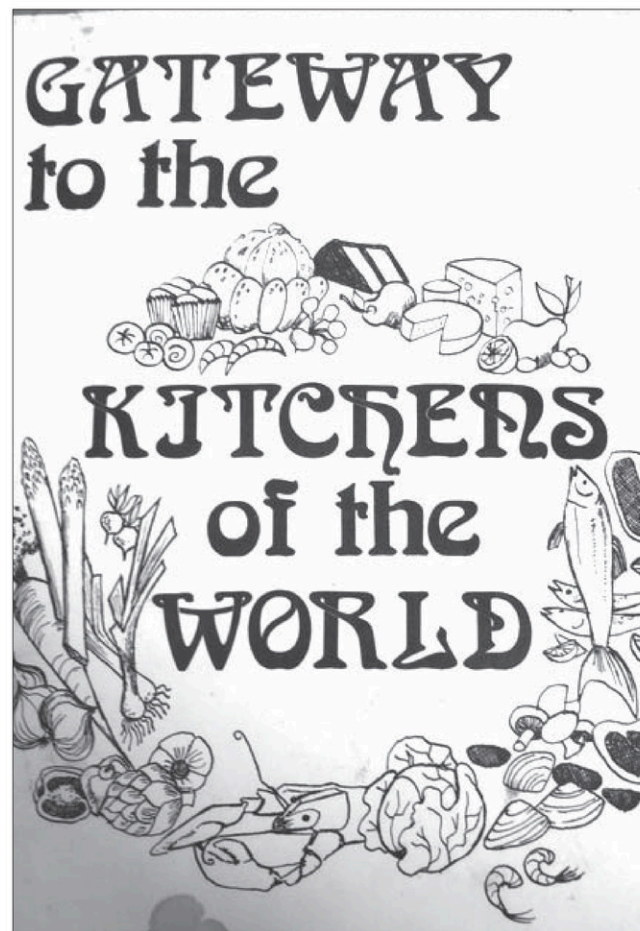
The final selection included a 'Dinner Menus' section featuring complete meals from Russia, France, China, Spain, Greece and Hawaii. It was impossible to omit some favourite recipes from other countries and sources. "The Gazpacho recipe is my favourite and most often used," said Josée Rourke. "Marinated mushrooms and Moussaka à la Grèque are a close second." Several members still refer to their well-used copies. The proceeds from the sale of the book were donated to the career counselling project at Champlain College, Lennoxville.

This is the third article in a series about CFUW Sherbrooke & District, celebrating 50 years in 2018. Its vi-

sion is to be a dynamic club for all women in the Eastern Townships, engaged in our community by promoting education and life-long learning in a gender-equal society. To learn more about CFUW Sherbrooke & District, please contact cfuwsherbrooke@gmail.com.



One-room Schoolhouses in the Eastern Townships of Quebec



PREFACE

The members of the Gourmet Cooking Group of the University Women's Club of Lennoxville, Quebec are pleased to take you on an exciting and hopefully rewarding cooking trip through many foreign countries. We have studied the foods and compiled complete dinner menus of various countries which we hope shall answer that proverbial question when guests arrive, "What shall we have for dinner?"

We have tested all of these recipes ourselves with love and always with enthusiasm. Our gourmet dinners have been a constant high point of each month for our members and we hope that you will share and enjoy our favourite menus and recipes from some of our dinners.

Bon appetit and above all, may you have many happy hours of cooking.



Help us.

1 800 361-9643
www.leucan.qc.ca

leucan
Association for children with cancer

The Border Report

"To raise money is one thing, but having people come out and show a little support, that will be the big thing," commented Curtis.

Fundraising dance for the Johnston family

By Matthew McCully

On the morning of Feb. 11, Sandy Johnston, owner of Elm Shade Farm, was in his milking barn when he smelled smoke. By the time he made it around to the front of the building, he could already see flames and smoke coming from the barn.

Johnston lost 15 dairy cows and seven calves in the blaze. A dog and several barn cats also died.

Long-time friend and neighbour Brian Curtis, who just happens to be a member of the band Slightly Haggard, said the group will host a fundraising dance in support of the Johnston family following the tragedy.

"I've known him all my life," Curtis said. "Some of his cattle are in my barn," he added. Curtis used to have a dairy operation, so he had some space and equipment to spare to lend Johnston a hand.

"There's a lot to it," Curtis said, when it comes to picking up the pieces after a fire. On top of the stresses of rebuilding and insurance, there are all the animals that still need to be taken care of.

"On the day of the fire, you wouldn't believe how many neighbours and fellow farmers came by to help," Curtis said. In a matter of an hour, helpers were cleaning out his barn to prepare for the trans-

fer of some of Johnston's cattle. "It was really impressive," Curtis said.

The upcoming fundraiser is an extension of that support for Johnston, well-established in the local farming community, according to Curtis.

In addition to the dance, there will be an 'All for the Cows' auction during one of the band breaks.

Curtis will serve as auctioneer, with help from spotters Dale Salisbury, Jay Smith and Shane Coates.

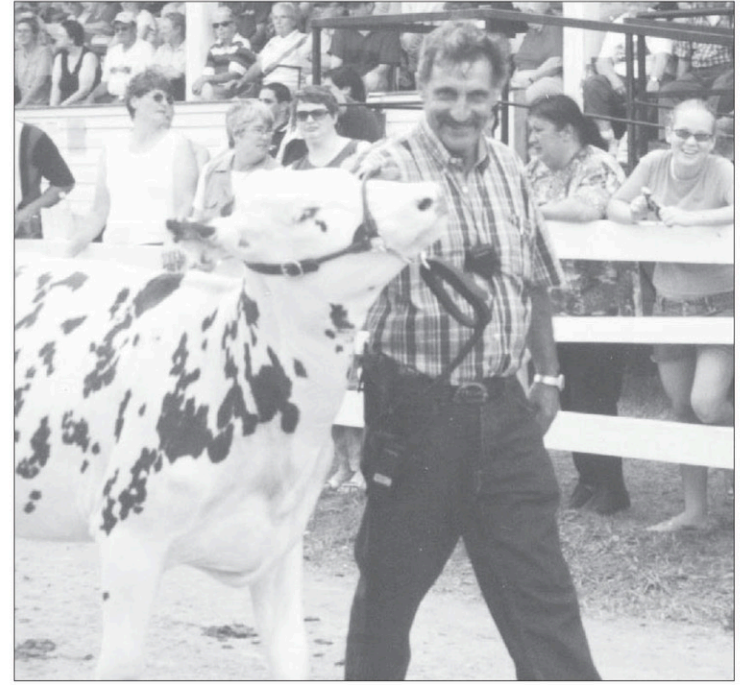
The group is already well-known for the popular 4-H turkey auction that takes place every year at Ayer's Cliff Fair.

"This will be in the same style," Curtis said.

"To raise money is one thing, but having people come out and show a little support, that will be the big thing," commented Curtis.

"Get there early," Curtis suggested, saying that tickets are already selling well. There is a facebook event page 'Fundraising Dance for the Johnston Family', which lists the different people who have tickets available in Ayer's Cliff, Richmond and Stanstead. Clarke and Sons in Lennoxville also has tickets for sale, Curtis said.

The dance will take place on Saturday, March 31 at the Burrough's Falls Reception Hall, located at 14235 Route 143, starting at 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$10.



RECORD ARCHIVES

An archived photo of Sandy Johnston from 2004 walking one of his heifers in the Ayer's Cliff Fair Sunday parade.



By Clea Corman

Every year, as the sun starts to shine more brightly after our long winter, there is a shift within Phelps's weekly programs. Our university volunteers are finishing up their semesters and many return home or are planning adventures for the spring and summer, taking them far from the Eastern Townships. As we approach then end of the school year, our high school students come out of the woodwork and we see participants returning to our sessions that we haven't seen in a month or more. On Tuesday, we had 25 partici-

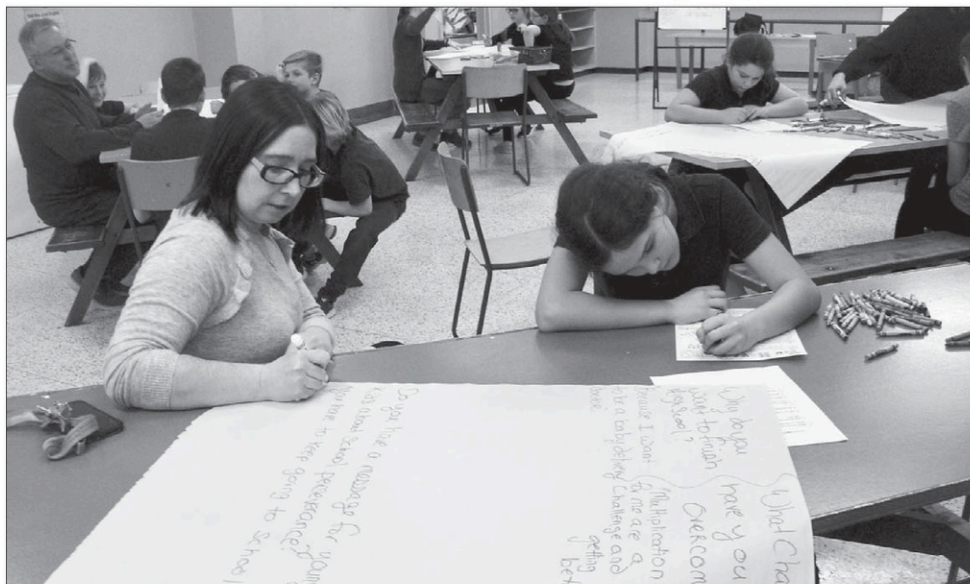
pants at our high school session, and with the help of volunteer community members we were able to help students tackle homework in Math, English, French and a variety of social sciences. To fill the gap that our peer-tutors and university students will leave, we are asking the community for help. We are looking for positive role models to help with our weekly sessions, specifically on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. We provide gas reimbursement for those who are willing to volunteer from outside the town of Stanstead. Even if you only have a couple of hours a month to spare, that is plenty to contribute to-



wards making a difference in a student's life. Please consider helping our elementary and high school participants succeed by becoming a Phelps volunteer.

Phelps Aide Phelps Helps is a rural community non-profit striving to reduce the elevated drop-out rate in the Stanstead area. Phelps was started in 2012 by two community members, and has grown from a single program to

seven unique programs, providing Stanstead area youth with free tutoring, educational and career support and hands-on learning from Grade 3 to the end of high school and further. For more information or to volunteer, please email us at info@phelpshelps.ca, visit our website www.phelpshelps.ca or call our offices at 819-704-0799.



FRONTIER ANIMAL SOCIETY

Featured pets: Alice and Pixie

Alice and Pixie came into our care a few weeks ago. They were living in a home with a few too many cats and in order to ensure they would get the care and vetting they need, they were surrendered. It was the responsible thing to do and we are glad to help.

Alice and Pixie are sisters and while we know they'll do fine apart, as you can see in the photo, they do love to cuddle. If we can find them a home together, it would be really nice.

Both cats are friendly, affectionate and playful. Without a doubt they will fill their adoptive home (or homes) with lots of love. Beautiful tortoiseshells, Alice in particular has a unique look and is the only cat we've ever met who has an orange nose.

To meet these lovely sisters, please send an email to frontieranimalsociety@gmail.com or give the shelter a call at 819.876.7785 and we'll be happy to set up an appointment. We also hold a weekly cat adoption open house which takes place every Saturday from 10 a.m to noon at 2405 Griffin.

We have so many wonderful cats in search of a place to call home. We welcome your visit.



15
Minutes of Fun
Take 15 minutes a day to learn with your family.

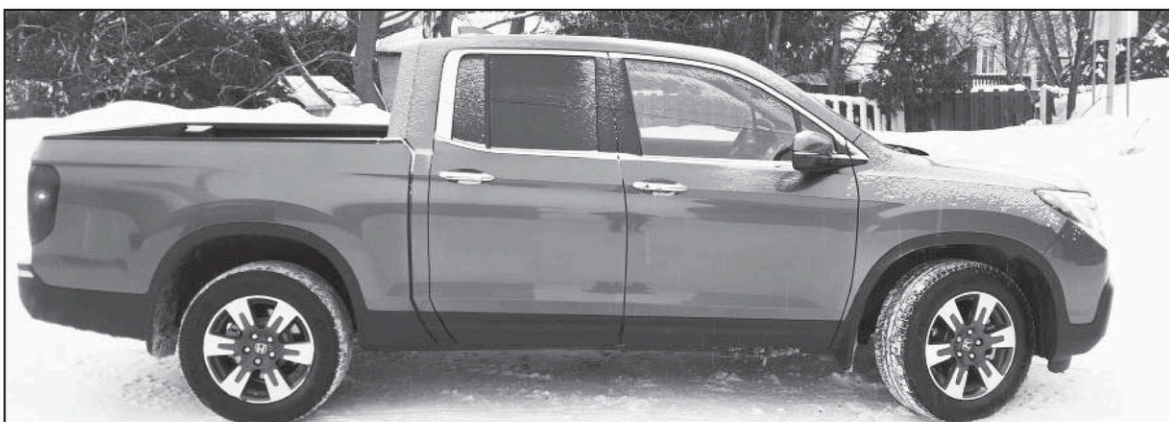


#4 Tell knock-knock jokes together while doing the dishes.

Learning can happen at any time. For more great ways to share 15 Minutes of Fun with your family, visit FamilyLiteracyDay.ca



2018 HONDA RIDGELINE



Let's call it a family pickup

PHOTO: C. GAGNON



By Christian Gagnon

To develop an opinion on a vehicle, it helps to have a point of comparison. This is tricky in the case of the 2018 Honda Ridgeline. Should I consider it to be a kind of mutant El Camino for the modern era? Uh, no, mainly because the El Camino (or the Ranchero if you like) didn't allow for intensive use of its cargo bed, plus it had room for only two or three occupants, not a small family. So, where do I go if I want to stack this Ridgeline up against something? Full-size pickups? No way - I'd never hear the end of it from fans of big Ford, GM and RAM trucks! How about mid-size pickups, then? Maybe, but their comfort levels and workplace capabilities are in a whole other category.

OK, so here's what I'll do: create a new category. Let's call it the family pickup. Several years ago, when my wife and I bought our current home, I considered buying a small truck as a second vehicle. I figured if I ever had to transport a big object, it would save me having to borrow the neighbour's pickup or trailer. I never followed through on the plan, but the point is that the 2018 Honda Ridgeline is perhaps the type of vehicle that would appeal to those who have only one vehicle in their driveway, but want a cargo bed just in case...

In its Touring iteration - the one I tested - the Ridgeline is highly comfortable, every bit the equal in that regard of the Pilot, which it is in fact closely derived from. Access to the front seats is easy enough, although you have to lift your leg a little higher than usual to get in. Comfort of the seats is fine, just don't expect miracles from the lateral support they provide. Climbing into the back is a little trickier, the doors to access it being quite a bit smaller. Once inside, though, my kids were happy enough with the comfort level. Legroom is not an issue, and you can also lift up the bench to fit larger objects.

The dashboard is imposing, its design acceptable without being remarkable. The instrument cluster includes two half-dials for the speedometer and to indicate the fuel level and the temperature of the engine coolant. All information relevant to the engine's functioning can be easily displayed without needing to change the

page on the data screen. Also easily viewed is the speed, displayed in digital form above the dashboard computer.

At the very top of the central console sits the infotainment screen. Once derided, with reason, for its no-fun-at-all-to-use screens, Honda has made good strides to improve its interface. The one thing that still irritates is the touchscreen command for the volume level; it's a little surprising the Ridgeline still has this, as other new Hondas have reinstated an actual knob. Here's hoping they bring it back for every vehicle in their lineup.

Otherwise, the audio interface is straightforward to use, and the mediocre navigation system of the previous generation has given way to a Garmin module that can be easily used either manually or via voice commands. Surprisingly, and this is no fault of Honda's, the GPS data on it is out of date. A roundabout near my house, built four years ago, doesn't appear on the map (my smartphone's Garmin GPS does show it. Weird...). In any case, you can always plug in your smartphone using the USB output to use Apple CarPlay or Android Auto and your preferred GPS. Oh, and the music? Sound quality is excellent, and you can even play music on the exterior speakers installed in the vehicle.

Lower down, you find the climate control buttons. The Touring version features a tri-zone system, by the way; this allows driver, front passenger and rear passengers to choose their own desired setting. How well does that work, you might reasonably ask. I don't want to pronounce myself on that definitively, but it does certainly make people feel in control. Everyone, with the exception of the person in the middle seat of the back row, gets heated seats. Front seats are also ventilated. The driver, meanwhile, gets a heated steering wheel.

Beneath the A/C commands, I noticed a piece of equipment that is fast becoming an endangered species: a CD player! Below that, a USB and 12V outputs, unfortunately not tucked into a closed compartment. You'll find the same two outputs in the storage box between the two front seats, though there the USB port can only be used to charge devices; it does not give access to the infotainment system.

Over to the left of the steering wheel, there are a number of switches for activating or deactivating collision warning systems, for instance the anti-skid system, forward collision warning and lane keep assist. About this last module: it works extremely well and allows you to take your hands off the wheel for a few seconds, at least until the system orders you to put them back. It's impressive, albeit a bit disconcerting at first, to see the steering wheel move by itself to keep the Ridgeline on the straight and narrow between the yellow lines.

On to the 'pickup' part of the equation. One length only is offered for the cargo bed: 6 feet, 4 inches. For an ordinary city-dweller, that should be sufficient, but an entrepreneur might find it difficult to fit in their 4x8 panels. That said, the 2018 Ridgeline, like its predecessor, does propose some unique solutions, most notably that hatch door that can open to the left or downward. I had my doubts as to the water tightness of the door, but was reassured in that regard after speaking with an owner of the older-generation Ridgeline. Also, if you feel like piling a bunch of ice in there for your next tailgate party, there's a stopper on the floor of the bed for draining away water. Several LED lights turn on when you open the hatch; these can also be turned on manually via one of those switches next to the steering wheel. Another switch activates the 150W/400W outlet in the bed.

Honda has also thought to include hooks so you can tie down any cargo you've loaded. Since the new Ridgeline is ostensibly a family-friendly pickup, I would have liked to see Honda equip it with a cover (or at least provide a canvas) for the cargo bed as standard equipment (or at least for the Touring version, which carries a big-enough price tag of \$50,000 to warrant that). That said, no other competitor offers that, so...

Under the hood of the Ridgeline sits a new Earth Dreams series engine with direct injection. This 3.5L V6 generates 280 hp and 262 lb-ft of torque, plenty enough for the jobs the Ridgeline should typically be called on to do. With the proper equipment, you can pull up to 5,000 lbs (2,268 kg); payload capacity is close to 1,500 lbs (674 kg). All Ridgelines sold in Canada come with all-wheel drive, while south of the border consumers do have a choice of front-wheel drive on some models.

Unlike the Pilot, the Ridgeline gets a 6-speed automatic transmission with Grade Logic Control for added power and durability; drive ratio, in case you're interested, is 4.25. The rear suspension is of a multi-link independent variety, which helps explain the really impressive level of comfort enjoyed by occupants. This is such that, out on the road, you never feel like you're driving a pickup. Sorry, a family pickup. The drive is more akin to that of a large SUV.

The 2018 Honda Ridgeline is a mighty nice-looking pickup. I found its contours well-balanced, and they imply a premium level of luxury inside. The engine has muscle, and given that most of the time the Ridgeline will not be loaded down with extra-heavy cargo, it does the job. Honda continues with the new edition to offer original solutions RE the cargo bed. Really, this family-friendly vehicle is versatile enough to be the only one you need.

Aluminized steel & stainless steel mufflers



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Local Sports

Canada's Olympic team selection committee decided last May that one Youth Olympic berth would go to the rugby women if they qualified.

Canadian under 18 rugby sevens men caught up in Youth Olympic numbers game

By Neil Davidson
THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Canadian men's under-18 rugby sevens team did its part to qualify for the Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires later this year.

The young Canadians went undefeated at a qualifying tournament earlier this month, defeating the U.S. 14-10 in the final at Sam Boyd Stadium in Las Vegas. The Canadian women did the same, downing the Americans 36-5 in their final.

But under IOC guidelines, each country is limited to one women's and one men's team for the Summer Youth Olympic Games.

The women are going to Argentina this fall. But the men's rugby team, caught in a numbers game, has had to give way to Canada's men's under-18 field hockey team.

Canada's Olympic team selection committee decided last May that one Youth Olympic berth would go to the rugby women if they qualified. The men's spot was allocated to field hockey, with the rugby men going only if they qualified and the field hockey team did not finish first or second at the Continental Qualifier for the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Guadalajara, Mexico.

The Canadian field hockey men finished third on the weekend, blanking Paraguay 6-0. But because tournament

winner Argentina is hosting the Youth Olympics, Canada joined runner-up Mexico in qualifying.

It can be argued that the choice of rugby and field hockey gives both sports a chance to take advantage of the Youth Olympics. But that is not much solace for the rugby men.

And rubbing salt into the wound, the Americans will replace Canada in the Youth Olympic men's sevens competition.

"This is very disappointing for the players and the union but we are happy about the talent that we developed through this process and encouraged by the age-grade sevens in our country and the future they represent," Meaghan

Howat, Rugby Canada's director of rugby sevens, said in a statement.

Canadian international Admir Cejvanovic was a little more pointed in his remarks.

"Absolutely gutted to hear that the ?RugbyCanada's Mens U-18 sevens team won't be going to the ?youtholympics even after they qualified. To our young men, don't let this cloud your vision your rugby careers are just getting started. Some serious talent in that group!" he tweeted.

Athletes aged 15 to 18 will compete in 32 sports from archery to wrestling at Buenos Aires 2018 in October.

Ottawa Senators announce the son of captain Erik Karlsson has died

The Canadian Press

The Ottawa Senators rallied around their grieving captain Tuesday night.

Star defenceman Erik Karlsson didn't play in Ottawa's 7-2 home loss to the Florida Panthers. Earlier on Tuesday, the NHL club revealed Karlsson's son had died.

In November, Karlsson, 27, and his wife, Melinda, announced they were expecting their first child.

"I can't even imagine what Erik and Melinda are going through right now," defenceman Mark Boroweicki said. "It puts perspective on life and what's going on here. It's important they take time to grieve and be together.

"There is so much love coming out of this dressing room for them. Erik is a huge part of this team and Erik and Melinda are a huge part of this community and this city. We really are a family in here and it hurts all of us deeply. It's so important they take all the time they

need and we respect that and show our support and love in whatever way we can."

Head coach Guy Boucher echoed those sentiments.

"Everybody is heartbroken, it's awful," he said. "We definitely feel for Erik and his wife and his family.

"It's been a tough year but this is a real personal, devastating blow to them. We feel for them and Erik is going to take the time he needs to come back and once he does we'll do our best to support

him. It's definitely a sad day."

Tuesday's news hit close to home for Senators forward Zach Smith.

"As expecting parents it hits a little deeper," he said. "You realize what it would be like, the feeling, the attachment.

"I don't know what else to say. It's devastating and I just feel terrible for them. I just hope they're doing OK and we'll be here to support them."

Canada's Jennifer Jones wins two more games to remain unbeaten at women's worlds

By Gregory Strong
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's Jennifer Jones was given a rather favourable schedule at the start of the world women's curling championship and she's taken full advantage.

The Winnipeg skip picked up two more wins Tuesday at the North Bay Memorial Gardens. She beat Denmark's Angelina Jensen 10-5 in the morning before topping Scotland's Hannah Fleming 8-6 in the evening.

Jones has opened the competition with six straight victories.

"They're really in a bubble, really on a bit of a roll with a rhythm and a routine ... I don't think you've seen the best yet, it's still to come," said national coach Elaine Dagg-Jackson.

Canada's first three wins over the weekend went smoothly and China provided a mild test Monday.

On Tuesday, Jensen's team was game against the host side in the early going

before fading in the eighth end, giving up four points for the loss.

"We started a little bit slow so we'll try to fix that in the next game," Jones said. "But we're ending really strong, which if you're going to pick a way to do it, that's the way to go."

The Canada skip put up three points over the first two ends against Scotland, but Fleming scored a deuce in the third and nailed a delicate double-tapback for three in the fifth to take the lead.

Scotland stole a single in the sixth when Jones was wide with a raise attempt. But Jones rebounded with a double takeout in the seventh to score three for a lead she wouldn't relinquish.

The schedule will get a lot tougher for Canada starting Wednesday.

First up is an afternoon game against Olympic silver medallist EunJung Kim of South Korea. It will be followed by a showcase matchup against Pyeongchang champion Anna Hasselborg of Sweden.

"Playing Canada in Canada in front of this audience _ awesome," Hasselborg

said.

Hasselborg, meanwhile, defeated Anna Kubeskova of the Czech Republic 8-6 in the afternoon and edged Switzerland's Binia Feltscher 5-4 in the late game to improve to 7-0.

South Korea moved to 5-1 with a 12-3 rout of China's Yilun Jiang in the minimum six ends while Kubeskova came back for a 9-8 win over Denmark.

In the early game, Denmark did a nice job of applying pressure after giving up a deuce to Jones in the opening end. Jensen scored back-to-back singles before Canada tacked on two more points in the fourth end.

In the fifth, Canada third Kaitlyn Lawes rubbed a guard and couldn't clear two opposition stones from the rings on her next throw. Jones went for a freeze with her last shot but it overcurled, allowing Jensen to draw the four-foot ring for a deuce.

"We were making our shots and we had good draw weight," said Denmark lead Lina Knudsen. "We were also able to

get a few misses out of them by placing rocks really well."

Jones rebounded with a pair in the sixth end and forced Jensen to a single in the seventh.

Denmark struggled in the eighth end and Canada pounced. Lawes used a nice hit and roll to leave Canada sitting two under cover and Jones closed it out with a draw to score four.

After 11 draws, Russia's Victoria Moiseeva was at 4-2, ahead of the Czechs at 4-3 and Japan's Tori Koana and American Jamie Sinclair at 3-3.

China was 3-4 and Italy's Diana Gaspari and Switzerland were 2-5. Denmark and Germany's Daniela Jentsch sat at 1-5 while Scotland dropped to 1-6.

Round-robin play continues through Friday night. The top six teams in the 13-team field will make the playoffs and the medal games are set for Sunday.

Jones, the 2014 Olympic champion, won her lone world title in 2008. This is her sixth appearance at the world women's championship.

Memorial Service

THAYER, James – A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, March 24 at 2 p.m. at Knowlton United Church. Rev. Steve Lawson officiating. Family and friends welcome.

In Memoriam

JUDD, Evelyn: 1923 – 2012. In loving memory of mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.
Rest in Peace.

Love
**LINDA, GERRY,
MARIA AND LEWIS**

In Memoriam

SYLVESTER, Albert George: August 22, 1937 – March 22, 2013.

*Hard times come and hard times go
But they never come to stay,
If you let Jesus hold your hand
He'll lead you safely on your way.
To lose a grandchild, then a child,
And then a husband dear,
Is more than anyone can bear
If Jesus wasn't near.
Cancer is the "C" word
That sent shivers down our spine,
We hoped and prayed for miracles
But you ran out of time.
My memories are precious treasures
And though we are apart
The happy years we spent together
Will live forever in my heart.
R.E.*

In Memoriam

SYLVESTER - In loving memory of our loving Dad and Grampa, Albert Sylvester, who went home to Heaven March 22, 2013.

A letter to my Dad,

Dad I just wanted to tell you I miss you more than words could possibly say and more than you could ever know. It doesn't seem possible yet we've struggled through another year and somehow managed to go from one day to the next without you by our side. Our days are busier now more than ever and somehow life seemed easier back when we were young. The kids they miss you and our special family times we had together, it's not easy watching them grow up so fast. I miss your presence, your words of wisdom and your gentle fatherly ways, but when I close my eyes I can almost hear your tender words of advice and guidance and feel your gentle, warm embrace. There's so much that has happened since we've seen you last, we've had our share of losses and experienced new beginnings with trials to test our faith. And so we remember what you've taught us, Dad, to trust that God will carry us through as He has before, and to believe that He will never give us more than we can handle for He knows our true hearts. If I could I would turn back the hands of time; I would relive the days gone by when you were strong and vibrant walking by our sides. I'd wander down the path of life stopping more frequently to take in His glorious creation; I'd stop, take a deep breath and really smell the flowers. I'd find the shade of a big old maple tree and we'd sit and listen as the birds sing. And when our day is done and it was time for me to say goodbye, I'd hug you even longer than I'd ever done before and I'd whisper in your ear.....

*Don't forget Dad,
I LOVE you the MOSTEST!!*

Lovingly remembered and deeply missed by:

**JENNIFER, JAMES
KASSANDRA & RYAN-JAMES**

When you have muscular dystrophy your muscles say stop, but your mind says go

We provide hope and support to people with neuromuscular disorders



Fordyce Branch Women's Institute

The members of Fordyce Branch Women's Institute gathered in Emmanuel United Church hall at 10:30 a.m. for their March 7, 2018 meeting. President Norma Sherrer welcomed everyone, then read the following: "Flour Sack Underwear - When I was a maiden fair / Mama made our underwear / With five tots and Pa's poor pay / How could she buy us lingerie? / Monograms and fancy stitches / Were not on OUR flour sack britches / Just panty waist that stood the test / Gold Medal's seal upon the chest / Little pants were best of all / With a scene I still recall / Harvesters were gleaning wheat / Right across the little seat / Tougher than a grizzly bear / Was our flour sack underwear / Plain or fancy 3 feet wide / Stronger than a hippo's hide / Through the years each Jill and Jack / Wore this sturdy garb of sack / Waste not want not, we soon learned / Penny saved a penny earned / Bedspreads, curtains, tea towels too / And tablecloths were all reused / But the best beyond compare / Was OUR flour sack underwear (Dianne-Slama).

The Mary Stewart Collect, Salute to the Flag repeated and "O Canada" sung. "Happy Birthday" was also sung to Edwina Bougie (24th).

Motto for the month was "Snowflakes are one of nature's fragile things, but look at what they can do when they all stick together." The Roll Call was "Bring a label from something made in Canada and cookies for the Group Homes."

Secretary June Lamey read the Minutes of the February Meeting, which were approved as read.

Business arising from the Minutes was the Semi-Annual County Meeting, which is on March 14th in Trinity Anglican Church hall. Isabel Sutherland and Michilynne Dubeau offered to be Delegates and June Lamey will be in charge of the Sale Table. Correspondence: None was received. Evelyn Lewis thanked the members for the donation to the Helping Hands Food Bank and said that a letter should be in the mail from the person in charge

Elizabeth Milroy, Treasurer, read her report, which was accepted as read. There were no bills. A donation was made to Heroes' Memorial School for the playground which is being planned to replace what they presently have.

New Business. President Norma read the names of those who have let their names stand for offices in the QWIC.

Program - Michilynne Dubeau presented many good ideas,

as to how the W.I. could encourage mothers with children to join it. One was to hold a short meeting to which they would be invited. It would include an activity, snack, presentation about W.I. and a gift bag.

There being no further business, Coins for Friendship were collected and June Lamey read a story before Grace was said.

CANIS FIDELIS - Drinking is trouble, that's easy to see, and a Mistress can mess up your life. But the guy with a problem / I'm sure you'll agree / Is the man with a Dog and a Wife. Women are lovely / But their logic is strange. Somehow they just don't seem to understand. The kind of true love that can somehow exist / 'tween a scruffy old dog and a man. A dog is your Buddy thru' thick and thru' thin / Tho' sometimes he chews up your shoes / But he doesn't have family, who like to drop in / Then sit there and drink all your booze. A dog never grumbles, he never complains / He's never downhearted or blue / And when he's been playing outside in the rain / He'll come in and share it with you. A dog will defend you. A dog's love is true / He'll die for his master 'tis said. And when thunder rolls and the rain's pouring down / He'll come and crawl under your bed. When I'm weary and low and I sit all alone / My dog comes and sits by my knees. Then he lifts up his back leg, he gives a big groan / And sits there and scratches his fleas. My wife keeps insisting he stinks up the room / But to me the old dog smells just fine. All it took was a bit of my wife's new perfume / I think she calls it Chanel number 9. Well my wife don't like dogs / and she don't want him around anymore / I guess 'cause he ate up her best pair of shoes / Then upchucked all over the floor. Now my wife's really sore and she said "It is time to choose / 'tween that dog and your wife." Lord I hope she's just kidding / cause I really would hate to see / her walk out of my life. We do have a problem / I'm sure you'll agree / But it's really not grounds for divorce. And I hope we resolve it / quite soon, for you see / I'm thinking of buying a horse.

The "Potluck Lunch" following the meeting was enjoyed by all before it was time to leave.

*Until next time,
Happy St. Patrick's Day
Evelyn Beban Lewis*

In Memoriam

Datebook

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018

Today is the 81st day of 2018 and the third day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1882, the U.S. Congress passed an act that made polygamy a felony.

In 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Beer and Wine Revenue Act, which legalized the sale of alcoholic beverages.

In 1945, the Arab League charter was adopted in Cairo.

In 1995, cosmonaut Valeri Polyakov returned to Earth after completing the longest single spaceflight in history, at 437 days 18 hours.

In 2017, a terrorist attack near the Palace of Westminster in London left five dead and more than 50 injured.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Louis L'Amour (1908-1988), author; Karl Malden (1912-2009), actor; Marcel Marceau (1923-2007), mime artist; Stephen Sondheim (1930-), composer; William Shatner (1931-), actor; James Patterson (1947-), author; Wolf Blitzer (1948-), journalist; Andrew Lloyd Webber (1948-), composer; Bob Costas (1952-), sportscaster; Keegan-Michael Key (1971-), actor/comedian; Kathryn Jean Lopez (1976-), journalist; Reese Witherspoon (1976-), actress; J.J. Watt (1989-), football player.

TODAY'S FACT: The Beatles' debut album, "Please Please Me," was released in the United Kingdom on this day in 1963.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1894, the Montreal AAA beat the Ottawa Generals 3-1 in the first Stanley Cup championship hockey game.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Work is what you do for others, liebchen. Art is what you do for yourself." — Stephen Sondheim, "Sunday in the Park With George"

TODAY'S NUMBER: \$223.2 billion - total alcoholic beverage sales in the United States in 2016.

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (March 17) and first quarter (March 24).

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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

Men's general meeting, A.N.A.F. Unit 318, Wednesday, March 28 at 7 p.m. on the main floor.

LENNOXVILLE

Uplands Music Fundraiser on Sunday, March 25, 3 p.m. A spectacular musical presentation given by Daniella Bernstein and Laretta Altman, two wonderful pianists, in support of the Uplands Cultural and Heritage Centre. Featuring works by Mozart, Schubert and Debussy. Bubbly included. Info or tickets (\$): 819-564-0409. Uplands is located at 9 Speid Street, Sherbrooke (Lennoxville).

LENNOXVILLE

Pass It On! Clothing Exchange at Oasis Christian Centre, 219 Queen Street, Sherbrooke. Free used clothes. All are welcome. Collecting: Wednesday, March 21 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Thursday, March 22 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Distributing: Friday, March 23 from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday, March 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, please contact Stephanie Goddard: 819-564-1377 or info@oasiscentre.ca.

RICHMOND

Please note the RCM Library, 820 Gouin St., Richmond, will be closed on March 31.

SHERBROOKE

Advance notice. The Church of the Advent, 473 Bowen St. South, Sherbrooke invites you Saturday, April 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. to the Spring Salad Bar Luncheon with ham, salads, rolls, desserts, coffee and tea with a sales table of homemade goodies. Admission charged. All welcome.

DANVILLE

The Directors of the Danville Curling Club are pleased to invite everyone to the Club's Brunch on Sunday, March 25 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Danville Curling Club, 1449 Route 116, Danville. Junior Invitation Curling Bonspiel being played.

STANSTEAD

The Volunteer Firefighters of Stanstead invite you to a blood drive to be held on Friday, March 30 from 1:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Sunnyside Elementary School (gymnasium), 441 Dufferin Street in Stanstead. The members of the Héma-Québec team and the volunteers hope to welcome 75 donors. Giving Blood: a feel good act!

RICHMOND

This year the Richmond County Historical Society's (RCHS) theme is music. We are going to highlight some local musicians as well as display some artifacts that deal with this theme. If anyone has an instrument (adult or child), sheet music, unique records or anything related to music such as pictures, etc., we would be interested in borrowing them for our exhibit. A brief history of the article would also be appreciated. If you are interested in lending, please contact Grace Johnston at 819-826-3118. Thank you and please come to visit our exhibits and hear some wonderful

musicians at work.

LENNOXVILLE

HCC Senior Luncheon will be held at noon on Thursday, March 29 at Hope Community Church, 102 Queen St., Lennoxville. Entrance from parking lot, wheelchair accessible, elevator available. Everyone welcome. The next luncheon will be held on April 26.

AYER'S CLIFF

English Grief Support Group. If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, L'Envolée (Palliative care volunteers) will be offering a free 10-week support workshop. This will take place in Ayer's Cliff beginning in April. A maximum of 10 participants will be accepted. Hosted by Claudie Séguin, Lorraine Holt and Liette Compagna. For more information call Lorraine 819-868-8641.

HUNTINGVILLE

Three Link Fraternity, Princess Rebekah Lodge #4, would like to invite you to our Chicken Pie Supper on Sunday, March 25 from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at 4150 Route 147, Waterville (Huntingville). Chicken, sauce, biscuits, all the "fixins" and fruit cocktail for dessert! We have a family price. Remember, that this is all you can eat! This is a great opportunity to support our community projects. If you would like more information on any of our projects, please come to our supper or contact Princess Rebekah Lodge, IOOF at princess4ioof@yahoo.ca or 819-562-3222. Come on out, have a great meal, and help us help you and your community! We do have take-out. Call 819-679-8493 and let us know what time you will be by to pick it up.

WATERVILLE

The Waterville-North Hatley United Church will hold their annual Pancake

Breakfast on Saturday, March 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Breakfast consists of pancakes, sausage, fruit cup, muffin and tea, coffee or juice. Admission charged.

LENNOXVILLE

Cribbage "BACKWARDS" Tournament to be held at the A.N.A.F. Unit #318 "The Hut," 300 St. Francis, Lennoxville on Thursday, March 29. Registration at 7 p.m. All profits go to Men's Sports at "The Hut". Everyone welcome, must bring your partner.

NEWPORT, VT

Osher Lifelong Learning Lecture series, Spring 2018. Wednesday, March 28: James K. Oliver presents "Trump's Foreign Policy: An Interim Assessment" from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Hebard State Office Building in downtown Newport, 2nd floor conference room. Admission charged, season passes available. Beverage and conversation to follow. More info? www.learn.uvm.edu/osher or Suzi at 802-673-9499.

LENNOXVILLE

St. Francis Valley Naturalist Club meeting, Wednesday, March 28 at 7 p.m. at the Amedee Beaudoin Community Centre, 10 Samuel Gratham Street, Lennoxville Borough. Program - Hereford Community Forest: Conservation and Future Projects. Presented by Dany Senay, ing. F., Directeur, and Francois Bouchy-Picon, President. Come and learn about this Eastern Townships treasure. Everybody is welcome.

RICHMOND

Richmond St-Patrick's Society Irish festivities wrap up with a Brunch on Sunday, March 25, 9 a.m. to noon, at the Richmond Legion 235 Collège N. Admission charged. All are welcome!

Shifting attitude on gratitude

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018

Dear Annie

Dear Annie: I'm in my late 30s. I've read the many letters you've printed about how thank-you notes have gone the way of the dodo. I have a different angle on this complaint.

Let me preface this by saying that I am not perfect in this realm. It took my wife and me forever to get around to sending thank-you notes after our wedding, and I think that most of the readers who have weighed in are expecting too much.

That said, I am noticing a trend of giving no thanks at all. When I get a gift or someone does a favor for me, I send thanks via email or text (though I realize that a handwritten note or a phone call would be better). That's all I expect myself, but some of my peers don't even text a thank-you when I give them something. I find that very annoying.

I used to chalk up this thank-you note issue to laziness, but I'm beginning to agree with your readers who say that gratitude is trending down. It's disturbing. It takes next to no time to shoot off a quick "Thanks for that!" on your smartphone. — You're Welcome

Dear You're Welcome: Laziness is the enemy of

gratitude, and reading your letter I have to agree that it seems to have the upper hand in a big way. Thanks to technology, it's easier than ever to be self-absorbed and unappreciative of others; to do whatever's convenient.

But the good news is that gratitude is also the enemy of laziness. Fight the good fight by looking for ways to be more thankful in your own life every day. Perhaps you will be a positive influence on your friends. In the meantime, I'd stop sending them presents. Redirect your generous energy toward charitable causes or loved ones who will really appreciate it.

Dear Annie: Your advice to Granddad's Girl about speaking to him about his driving abilities fell far short. This man very likely has early dementia, as evidenced by his geographic disorientation. His continued driving is a huge risk to himself and others. His family needs to insist he see his doctor, accompanied by a family member, to discuss this. I am a retired internist, and I often had to deal with this difficult problem. This was often scheduled as a "check up" to avoid alarming the elderly patient.

Discussion of driving abilities and tests of memory,

spatial orientation, reflexes and executive functioning can be done in the office. Almost all states have laws requiring or allowing physicians to report impaired or potentially impaired drivers.

Going beyond having the DMV test his driving abilities, which might lead to his license being revoked, I would encourage the family to disable or remove his car. Simply taking his keys away is not enough. One of my wily elderly patients simply had the car towed and the ignition system replaced.

This is a very contentious problem in my experience, because it means a loss of independence, and often, a move to an assisted living facility or the home of a family member. These were some of most difficult discussions I had with patients and family, but they were necessary for the safety of the patient and the public because of the high risk of accidents. — Retired Oregon Internist

Dear Retired Oregon Internist: You're right. In my response, I should have been more emphatic about the importance of getting her grandfather a medical evaluation. Thank you for sharing your expertise.

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

Soup and Sandwich Lunch and card party for the benefit of Expo Cookshire Fair

Our annual fundraising event held at the Bury Armoury Community Center on March 19 was a big success. We enjoyed serving 38 people a lunch of 4 delicious soups and a variety of sandwiches with cakes for dessert.

The lucky winners of the half and half were Keith Lowry and Richard Coates. Two grocery boxes were won by Cathy Jacklin and Theda Lowry. The marked plate was won by Dennis Chapman. Five door prizes were drawn at

this time as some come to enjoy the lunch only.

We had 8 tables of 500 played. Ladies high score went to Bob Halsall and second to Cathy Jacklin, for Gents Mark Bolduc and second Jean Marc Castonguay. Consolation prizes were Madelyn Betts and Laura Fleury. The 4 of a kind was won by Rena Halsall, the 10 bid by Serena Wintle, the secret score by Diane Castonguay and the most skunks by Rena Halsall. Door prizes were won by

many.

We would like to thank everyone for attending, all the donations of food, grocery box items, door prizes and all the volunteers, for supporting the Expo Cookshire Fair. A special thank you for the cash donations made from those unable to attend. We look forward to seeing you at our annual BBQ on May 26.

Submitted by Brenda Hodge

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.

“ X IPPJ JXCP PYPNDSHP'L MXIIPNPHG
 XH GAPXN SOH OWD, LS EPSEJP
 LASRJM'H'G GND GS TWCP GAPT IPPJ
 UWM UPBWRLP SI GAWG.” — PJJJ
 IWHHXHZ

Previous Solution: “I’ve said things and meant them, but I’m... a very confused person who has no idea how they feel about things.” — Sienna Miller
 TODAY’S CLUE: *o sianba g*

REALITY CHECK



HERMAN

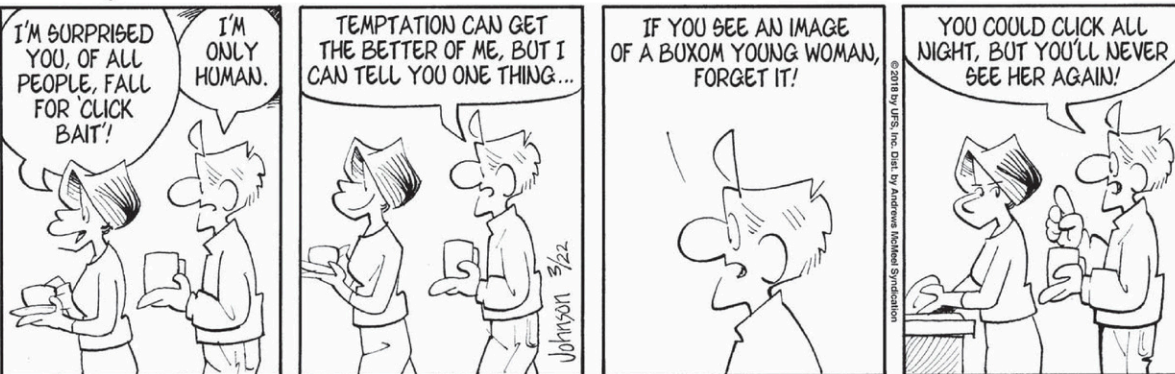


“He must have heard a noise downstairs!”

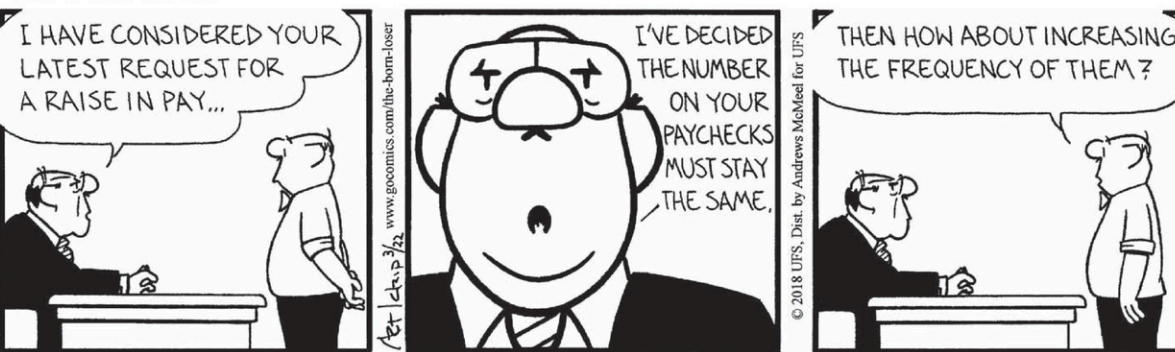
ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



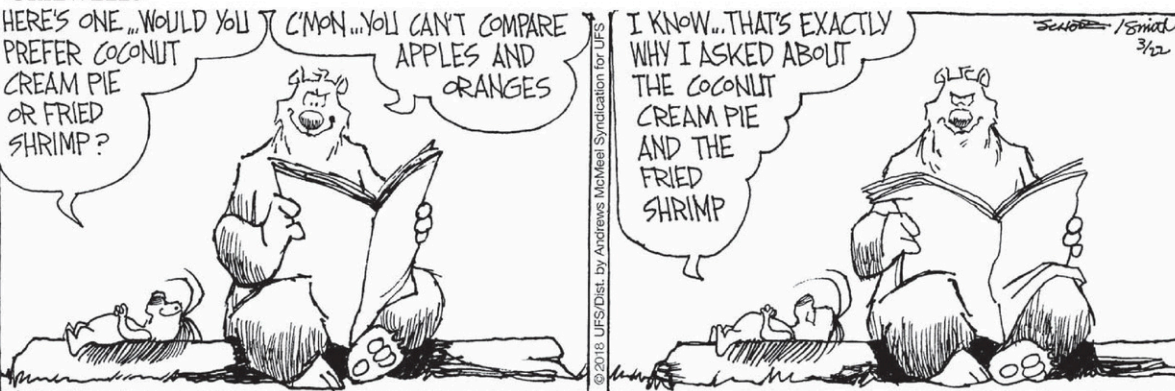
THE BORN LOSER



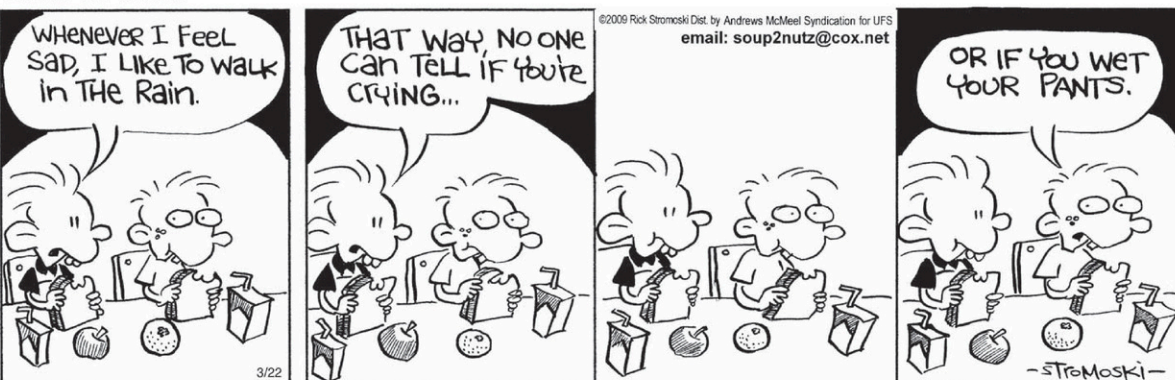
FRANK AND ERNEST



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THE RECORD

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If interested, please contact

THE RECORD

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With the success of the both the Can-Am Games and the Red-Baron Bowl-a-Thon behind them, Worthy Grand Matron Helen Black and Worthy Grand Patron Bryan Mitchell are looking forward to taking part in the St. Patrick's Day Parade and their Official Visits to the chapters, which start March 19th in Cowansville Chapter #17 with a supper.

W.G.M. Helen Black congratulates Brother Bill Miller (Estarl) and Sister Judy Christiansen (Service Dogs) becoming members of General Grand Chapter and especially Sister Marjorie Empey with her special commission "Campfire Friend." W.G.M. Helen also presented Grand Representatives' Commissions to Sisters Judy Christiansen PGM (Wisconsin), Della Yaxley (B.C & Yukon), Fabienne Winter PGM (New Brunswick), Madeline Weidner PM (Michigan), Patricia Green Millberg (Louisiana) and Brother James Champion (District Columbia).

Sister Bobby Hall PGM writes about the beginning of the Bowl-a-Thon, which started in 1986 by Sister Helen Dumant WGM as a moneymaker to furnish the Secretary's office. The first bowling event was at the Rose Bowl Lanes. Supper following did not take place the first few years. Now it is one of the chapter's biggest event.

Events coming - Maple Leaf Chapter #2 will hold a Chicken and Biscuits Supper with Bake Sale in Stanbridge East Memorial Hall on April 14th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. They will be also celebrating their 109th birthday on April 29th with a luncheon at "Wongs" Restaurant, Granby. The Quebec/New Hampshire Exchange will take

place at Fiddler Lake Resort, Mille Isle, Quebec on May 4th to 6th.

Some local news about the Can-Am Games: 435 jars were filled and labeled with our own Quebec maple syrup to be given as gifts; Snowmen Tiles were made by Sister Heather MacDonald PGM and some of the members. Sister Megan Jenne brought extra hats and mitts for those going to the Eco-Musee and provided hot chocolate with marshmallows on the bus trip. Sisters Donna Jenne and Louise Smith taught a craft class on how to make a Bonhomme Carnaval.

Chapter News - Cowansville Chapter #17 Worthy Matron Donna Mitchell likes to welcome guests with quotes. Two that were well received were "Kindness is something the deaf can hear and the blind can see" and "Carry out a random act of kindness safe in the knowledge someone will return one to you" from Lady Diana.

Happy March Birthday Greetings to Sister Eileen Eldridge PGM#35 (5th) and Anniversaries. Congratulations to Sisters Sheila Bellam (1976) Karolyn Kirby and Karyn Kirby (2005), Victoria Davis (2008) Owl's Head Chapter #35 Brothers Raymond Wescott (1973) Stanbridge East #2 and Robert Mayhew (1996), Cowansville #17.

Thank you notes were received from Brother Leo Dryden, Sister Brenda and Brother Terry Radford for support received during illness and Sister Barbara Wheaton and family for being remembered when Brother Bob Wheaton passed away.

A CUP OF TEA Story: Once, when my mother was out, I was left with my dad. My favourite toy was a tea set, so while my dad was in the living room watching the news, I kept taking him cups of tea, which he drank and said that "it was delicious," as I was only two and a half at the time. When my mother returned, my dad asked her to stay in the living room as I brought him another cup of tea, My mother watched then said, "Did it ever occur to you that the only place she can reach to get water is the toilet?"

Our Best Wishes go out to Brother Bryan W.G.P. and Sister Donna (Grand Chaplain) Mitchell as they leave at the end of March for a month's vacation in England.

Remember: All you need is love, but a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt. (Charles Schultz)

Until next time,
 Star Love,
 Evelyn Beban Lewis (Publicity)

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

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Your Birthday

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018

Remembering the past will help you move forward. View any crisis that occurs this year as a chance to show how remarkable you can be in such situations. Take every opportunity to use your leadership qualities to get ahead and make a difference. Personal growth is encouraged.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Look at a competitive situation as a test to prove your ability and as a chance to advance. Turn frustration into determination, and take care of business.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Don't be too willing to share your feelings or to let others see your vulnerability. Work hard and finish what you start. Don't give anyone a reason to complain.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Get out of dreamland and look at situations realistically. Don't let emotional situations slide because you don't want to deal with sensitive issues. Tackle matters with swift determination.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You'll get wind of some information that probably isn't accurate. Before you make a fuss or add to the problem, get your facts straight. Gossip will get you into trouble.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Don't lend or borrow money or possessions. Someone will take advantage of your generosity if you are too open about what you have. You can't buy love or friendship.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — An

emotional letdown will occur if you trust someone to take care of something you should be handling. Be ready to counter a last-minute change that someone tries to initiate.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — One of your peers or someone you look up to will not give you a true picture of what's going on at work, school or within a group you belong to.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Go over details pertaining to your home. Making sure your papers are in order and up to date will help you avoid being caught off-guard with an expense you didn't foresee.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Make changes for the right reason, not because someone is applying pressure or using emotional blackmail to twist your arm. Be kind but stern, and only do what makes you feel comfortable.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Last-minute changes and unpredictable people will cause you grief if you aren't prepared to cut them loose. You are best off doing your own thing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Something you loved to do when you were young will come back into your life. Take the initiative and find out how you can incorporate an old hobby or skill into your current lifestyle.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Stay on track. Your tendency to multitask will end up working against you. The process you use to get from one task to another should have a positive flow.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018

What rules in a no-trump kingdom?

By Phillip Alder

William Shakespeare, in Act 5, Scene 4 of "Richard III," has the king shout, "A horse, a horse! My kingdom for a horse!"

What is the horse that rules our kingdom of no-trump? In this deal, what should West lead against three no-trump, and what happens after that?

It was a simple, quantitative auction. South rightly did not worry about his club weakness, and North just went for the nine-trick game.

In no-trump, length rules. So, West should lead the heart eight, not the spade jack.

South starts with six top tricks: three spades and three hearts. He will hope to establish three more winners in the minor suits, but that necessitates losing the lead thrice. The result is determined by the number of tricks that the defenders can bank before declarer has nine.

It is normal for South to take the first trick on the board and to lead a club. Now East must be on the ball, winning with his ace and leading a second heart. That leaves West with two entry cards, the diamond ace and club king. With one he can dislodge declarer's last heart stopper, and with the second entry he can cash two heart tricks to defeat the

North		03-22-18	
♠	K 5 2		
♥	K J		
♦	7 6 4 3		
♣	Q J 10 9		
West		East	
♠	J 10 9 8	♠ 7 6 3	
♥	8 7 5 4 2	♥ 10 9 6	
♦	A 8	♦ J 10 9	
♣	K 2	♣ A 6 5 3	
South			
♠	A Q 4		
♥	A Q 3		
♦	K Q 5 2		
♣	8 7 4		
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
Opening lead: ??			

contract. East-West take two hearts, one diamond and two clubs.

Note that if East fails to put the club ace, West will win the trick and continue with a second heart. Now, though, South can play on diamonds to dislodge West's last entry and take nine tricks.

Finally, note that an initial spade lead establishes only one long card, so three no-trump makes.

CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Fall face first while skiing, say
- 6 Mighty silly
- 11 Part of ROM: Abbr.
- 14 Longest-serving prime minister of India
- 15 Austrian actress Berger
- 16 Kanye West's "I __ God"
- 17 Soda fountain come-on?
- 19 Monarch catcher
- 20 Brooklyn Dodgers legend Campanella
- 21 In questionable taste
- 22 All excited
- 24 Radiant glow
- 25 Italian cheese
- 26 Earthquake coverage?
- 31 Aids in illegal activity
- 32 Roberts of "That '70s Show"
- 33 Comic Martha
- 34 One-named singer with 15 Grammys

36 Neeson of "Love Actually"

- 40 Continue gabbing
- 42 Ship's seepage
- 43 List in a quiz program recap?
- 47 Latin ballroom dances
- 48 Berlin octet
- 49 One of a Dumas trio
- 50 Civil rights leader Chavez
- 52 __-tip steak
- 55 Barnyard sound
- 56 Lower hulls fortified?
- 59 Directional suffix
- 60 Missouri tribe
- 61 Not-giving-up phrase
- 62 Completed
- 63 Fishing boot
- 64 Taboos, and a hint to the four longest puzzle answers

Down

- 1 Career for a sci. major
- 2 Flight-related prefix
- 3 Unspecified folks
- 4 Sportswriter Berkow
- 5 Clucks of disapproval
- 6 __ School: art movement featuring NYC scenes
- 7 Top out
- 8 Very dark
- 9 Abbr. in some Québec addresses
- 10 Contributes
- 11 Oscar-nominated "Flashdance" song
- 12 Arise
- 13 San __, California
- 18 Asian dress
- 23 Contender for the crown
- 24 Steve Rogers, for Captain America
- 25 Composer of the

opera "Alfred"

- 26 At a distance
- 27 Chicago-based law org.
- 28 Illegal fwy. maneuver
- 29 Court worker
- 30 Co. that merged with Continental
- 34 Queen's subjects
- 35 "And how!"
- 37 Sort
- 38 Sit in a cellar, maybe
- 39 Club __
- 41 Base entertainment
- 42 Persian Gulf monarchy

43 Persian Gulf native

- 44 Release
- 45 Egyptian leader for whom a lake is named
- 46 Union foe
- 47 Gained control of
- 50 Dressed
- 51 Advantage
- 52 1982 sci-fi film
- 53 Defaulter's risk
- 54 Time to beware
- 57 Spanish she-bear
- 58 Frat letter

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

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