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THE RECORD

THE VOICE OF THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SINCE 1897

Quebec 2021 budget

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WEEKEND EDITION

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FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2021

Daily cases jump in Quebec

Record Staff

The Province of Quebec reported 945 new cases of COVID-19 on Thursday, a significant increase over recent days when the number has tended to be closer to 700. The increase brought the total number of people infected since the start of the pandemic to 305,435, with 7,173 active cases.

There were four new deaths recorded, for a total of 10,630, but hospitalizations decreased by 12 to 496. The number of people in intensive care also decreased by one, to 117.

Another 39,814 doses of vaccine were administered, for a total of 1,065,823 out of the 1,321,795 doses received in total. An additional 58,500 Moderna doses are expected to arrive this week and will be added to the total once received.

Only five new cases were added in the Eastern Townships, but 22 cases retroactively added to past regional numbers meant that the local total jumped to 11,907. The number of active cases in the region still decreased, however, to 107. There were no new deaths or hospitalizations, although the number of people in intensive care increased by one.

Bishop's Outdoors Club organizes community cleanup challenge



GORDON LAMBIE

By Gordon Lambie

The Bishop's University Outdoors Club is coordinating a community cleanup in Lennoxville this weekend in an effort to take advantage of all the garbage exposed by the recent thaw. Although participants are encouraged to take part on their own or within family groups so as to

not be considered an illegal gathering, club founder Anika Malone said that representatives of the club will be present at Optimist Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday to hand out garbage bags and gloves to anyone who needs them.

"What we had originally intended was to get a bunch of people together to pick up garbage as a group, but in

the end it's more of a community challenge," the organizer said. "One of our main values as a club is it be environmentally connected, and with everything melting it's just so evident that this is the time to act."

Although a community cleanup is usually organized through the Borough office around this time of year, Lennoxville Borough President Claude

CONT'D ON PAGE 3



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LOW OF -1



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PERIODS OF
SNOW
HIGH OF 5
LOW OF 1



SUNDAY:
PERIODS OF
RAIN
HIGH OF 7
LOW OF -1



MONDAY:
RAIN OR SNOW
HIGH OF 1
LOW OF -10



TUESDAY:
SUNNY
HIGH OF 12
LOW OF 0



GOOD READS LENOXVILLE LIBRARY

By Jack Eby

Joshua Whitehead's *Jonny Appleseed* is about a "young Two-Spirit/Indigiqueer and NDN glitter princess" whose current career is cybersex. He is about as far removed from my senior, privileged, white existence as it is possible to get.

Jonny Appleseed is a name I have known since my childhood. I grew up in the Okanagan Valley in a town surrounded by apple orchards. The Johnny Appleseed I knew crossed America, spreading the gospel of eating apples, and planting apple trees. On page one, however, I realized this book didn't have anything to do with apples. It has a lot to do with sex, specifically gay sex. DH Lawrence's *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, written in 1928, established that sex is indeed part of everyone's life and that writing about it shouldn't be illegal. Lawrence used sex as a way to explore our greater humanity and, in the 100 years since, we've judged writers by asking whether sex is important in terms of the characters, plot, or theme. I decided about p. 2 that this book could not exist without understanding Jonny's sex life. By p. 3 I was thinking that this is a really good book, and that Jonny is a very interesting character. As for the sex - it's honest.

The book is written in the first person by the 20-ish Jonny, who presents his life story in a series of flashbacks set off by the need to return from Winnipeg to his Reserve for the funeral of his stepfather. The story unfolds over only a week, but in those seven days, Jonny fills in bits and pieces of his past life rather like a mosaic taking shape in front of our eyes.

His life certainly hasn't been easy, given the double challenges of being Indigenous and gay. The problem for Jonny wasn't coming to terms with being gay - but rather finding a place

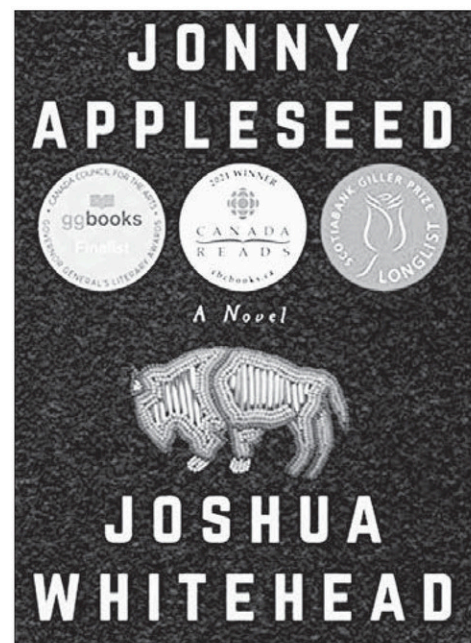
Jonny Appleseed

for himself in his world. Growing up gay on a Reserve presented particular challenges if your sexual orientation was public knowledge, despite the traditional notion of Two-spirit, which was part of aboriginal culture before the arrival of Europeans. It varied in different first nations, but always implied some blending of masculine and feminine genders. Two-spirit people were often revered as spiritually gifted, or healers, or keepers of tradition. Or as story-tellers. This doesn't mean that Jonny was accepted, however, since generations of residential schooling had effectively erased the notion of Two-spirit from Reserve life. The stories he relates about his youth are sometimes brutal and degrading, but somehow he escapes being a victim. The support and love of his Mom and especially his Grandma "kokum", sustain him. Kokum is the most important person in his life, and the one he "comes out to" first. After his tearful confession, she says, "Jonny, m'boy, your kokum old but she ain't dull. You's napewiskwewishot m'boy, Two-spirit. You still my beautiful baby grandchild no matter what you want to look like or who you want to like." Her link to traditional wisdom and acceptance may explain why there is so little anger in Jonny.

When Jonny heads to Winnipeg, fresh issues about being gay and indigenous emerge. When he talks to his Grandma about moving, she says, "You gonna be changing, and that's fine, but you come back when you do, okay? You come back here and you change me too." He swears to do so. But it's in Winnipeg that he takes up his lucrative career in cybersex. Is this the change Kokum expected of him?

In the city Jonny can be openly gay - but what about being indigenous? He has time to reflect on the issue, from a distance. What does he tell us about being indigenous in Canada? A great deal, because Jonny is on the inside, looking out, and speaks in unfailingly authentic language. He talks about his life in Peguis, weaving into his memories what is important in his heritage: traditional foods, crafts (Jonny does bead-work), hair, singing and dancing, living off the land, the Cree language. Finally - the importance of family in passing along culture. Can he maintain his heritage cut off from the land?

Whitehead gives Jonny the gift of writing to help sort himself out, and that's where the real strength of this book lies. Jonny introduces us



to wonderful characters: his beloved Kokum, his Mom, his best friend Tias. Even secondary characters - Peggy the crazy driver, Tias's girlfriend Jordan, his step-dad Roger - come to life. He writes impeccable dialogue; I'm sure the folks in Peguis can hear themselves on these pages. He writes with humour; if you've read the book, all I have to say is doing make-up, making collect calls, corn syrup, Nates. He revels in pop culture. He is also poetic, giving us loving descriptions of his relationships, and of the lakes, forests, or prairie skies of his home. And as the book draws to a close, he makes an intensely lyrical reckoning with Kokum.

But Jonny doesn't tell us everything. This is clear from Chapter 1, where the name of Walt Whitman is casually dropped in passing. More literary references follow: Kerouac, Dickens, Poe, Hemingway, Keats, John Richardson (wait - who? Google him!) What is going on? Jonny doesn't just write, he reads - and my professor mode jumps into action . . . I want Jonny in the office, across the desk, and I want to say to him - All right Jonny, you are getting by at present, but is this the change you promised your grandma? Do you realize the amazing gifts you have and where they might lead you? (Really, I'm not the right person to say all this to Jonny - but someone should.) If you give yourself the chance, Jonny, you could end up like . . . Joshua Whitehead, who is finishing off a PhD on aboriginal literature at the U. of Calgary. So life imitates art, or is it the other way around? We ought to listen to a voice like his.

Ben by Daniel Shelton



Local News

The wall of "Brad's Gourmet" dough mixes is surrounded by shelves of ingredients sourced primarily from local suppliers.

School buses can carry influx of secondary 3, 4 and 5 students

By Michael Boriero - Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

With high school students in secondary 3, 4 and 5 returning to class on a full-time basis in Quebec, the topic of transportation was brought back to the table at Tuesday's virtual Eastern Townships School Board (ETSB) council of commissioners meeting.

ETSB Chairman Mike Murray asked Chair of the Transportation Committee Gary Holliday whether school buses would be able to accommodate the sudden student increase. There are only 48 seats available on buses in order to meet the two-metre distance rule.

Holliday was unable to provide a concrete answer, however, Transportation, Communications and Community Development Director Éric Campbell assured the chairman that everything has been set in motion since the beginning of the school year.

"All the seating plans have been made including these students, so even if they are back in school now, they still have their place on the bus," said Campbell.

Murray also asked about whether school bus routes had been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Holliday replied that there had been a few changes to a couple routes in order to "accommodate different situations."

It did not have any impact on cost, he said.

Holliday also mentioned that committee members voted in favour of purchasing 10 buses with a capacity of 70 passengers. The measure is pending approval. They are all standard buses, he confirmed to one commissioner, but they haven't forgotten about the electric bus initiative.

"It is not on the back shelf, or the back burner of the stove, it is always in our discussions and it will be coming back. We will be having more buses, but not for this present year," he said, adding that the problem with electric buses right now is acquiring repair parts.

There was also some unexpected news from Murray. He told all commissioners in attendance that Ryan Darwin, Parent Commissioner and Representative on the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), resigned after the last virtual session.

Campbell noted that he was informed privately about Darwin's decision, citing personal reasons for his sudden departure from the council. Campbell added that he has already met with SEAC members to discuss the future of the committee.

"It's a job, not a hobby, with the time the commissioners are investing in this position. We have some SEAC members reflecting on the possibility of being commissioner for the rest of

the term," he said.

Murray also announced that the English Montreal School Board (EMSB) is in the final stages of appointing a permanent director general. Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) Executive Director Russell Copeman has been the interim director since November.

He also said that the legal challenge against Bill 40, which aims to convert school boards into school service centres, is heading to the Superior Court of Quebec on April 14. According to Murray, people can attend the meeting, but they need to register first.

"If anybody has the time and interest, it is apparently possible to attend virtually, if you apply," Murray said.

The ETSB chairman also told the council of commissioners that a school in the region has reported the first COVID-19 variant case. The school was not identified, however Murray said the situation is under control and more information is being gathered.

"The school in question has been advised, the parents have been advised and the class has been closed," said Murray.

The provincial government's website with details about the pandemic lists two ETSB schools that currently have a case of COVID-19, Richmond Regional High School and

Drummondville Elementary School, although whether the case is a variant is not specified.

During question period Appalachian Teachers' Association President Megan Seline asked when teachers in the Eastern Townships can expect to receive a dose of vaccine.

Murray said the council recently adopted a resolution "urging the government to prioritize educators for the vaccination of COVID-19." He has yet to hear back from the government, but he is trying to work something out with the region's health authority.

"I have had some discussion with our director general on the possibility of encouraging our local public health services to accelerate and prioritize vaccination of not only teachers, but all educators," said Murray.

Seline also brought up the fact that teachers' unions approved a five-day strike mandate. She added that there will be a commando action demonstration on March 26 in Magog and Sherbrooke. They will take place in front of CAQ offices.

Murray said he has not received an official communication for the strike mandate, but that he has followed the story in the news. He wished Seline and other demonstrators the best of luck. He added that he hopes the projected poor weather won't dampen their spirits.

"We're resilient," Seline replied.

Grand opening of Brad's Gourmet storefront

David Rossiter
Special to The Record

March 30 will be a momentous day for father and daughter, Brad and Jessica Laurie. The two are partners in Brad's Gourmet, opening the doors of their new shop on 127 Queen Street in Lennoxville on Tuesday.

As previously reported in The Record, this isn't your typical pizza joint. Brad's Gourmet sells you "Everything you need to make amazing pizza at home, from top to bottom." The focus of the shop is the homemade dry pizza dough mix sold in 300g packages, that Laurie has sold to a faithful customer base for

years now. "The dough mix is made with simple, good ingredients and is designed so that it is easy for anyone to use, follow the instructions and make a gourmet pizza dough," he said.

The wall of "Brad's Gourmet" dough mixes is surrounded by shelves of ingredients sourced primarily from local suppliers. Sauces, toppings, meats and cheeses fill the Italian market style shop, which is decorated to fit the pizza theme.

One corner of the store is designed for young pizza makers specifically. Laurie created "Le coin des petits chefs", adorned with pizza themed toys, picture books, as well as child sized aprons and rolling pins, because



DAVID ROSSITER

"Kids just love making pizza, families can come here and get everything they need to make a great meal together at home."

Jessica said she can't wait for Tuesday's big opening. "I'm so excited but I'm also a little nervous too. It should be really busy!"

Community cleanup challenge

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

Charron said that there is no official community clean up this year because it would constitute an organized public gathering, which is still not permitted under COVID restrictions in the region. That being the case, however, he said that there is nothing to prevent people from going out and picking up garbage on their own or as a family, provided

that they respect social distancing rules.

"I'm glad we're filling in," Malone said, sharing that although she was unaware of the pre-existing cleanup effort, the need for such an activity is clearly needed. "It's on people go and do this individually, but we're asking people to post on social media and tag

our club as a way of keeping that idea of working together."

In terms of priority areas the club founder said that she considers the areas around all of the main buildings in the student village area and down by the riverbanks to be a priority, but she also encouraged people to take the initiative anywhere they see garbage in

a place where it shouldn't be.

"We've had this on the back burner for a while now," Malone added, explaining that although the club was created to be a way to encourage outdoor recreation, it is hard to enjoy the outdoors when it is covered in garbage. "Outdoor rec and environmental issues go hand in hand."

ONE COLUMN, FOUR VOICES

Open to the Spirit

Today's word: Passover

By Revs Mead Baldwin,
Rabbi Boris Dolin
Lee Ann Hogle, and
Rev. Carole Martignacco

1) "And the Israelites wandered in the wilderness for... a year and a half to two years or so."

It is amazing to think back to last year at this time. Sitting down to our family Passover seder, we made sure that the same foods were there on the table in front of us. Steaming hot matzo ball soup, the crowded seder plate along with wine and juice for the kids. But of course, last year was different from all other seders, because instead of the usual families and guests, we had placed on the placemat right next to the cup of Eliyahu, a laptop computer. As we know now this strange experience, which at the time almost felt exciting in its novelty, would soon become the new normal. A year later, this Zoom Seder was just the beginning of our new way of being. Separated from each other, yet connected screen to screen.

As we enter the second year of living through this pandemic, it is easy to feel down and to feel more stuck than before. Yet I think the story of Passover, the core story of the Jewish

people, can offer us some important lessons as we move forward into this trying time. After being freed from Egypt, the story we all know so well could have been much shorter if the Israelites had just been led down a straight path to the Holy Land. But of course this is not how the story was meant to play out. As we read: "When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the Philistines, although it was nearer... So God led the people roundabout, by way of the wilderness at the Sea of Reeds" (Exodus 13:17-18).

Yes, the straight path would have been quicker, and it would have led to an easy and fast freedom. Yet, what happened during this complicated roundabout journey on the way to the Holy Land is in fact the meaning of freedom itself. Only through experiencing the difficult challenges, the times of fear and separation, of community upheaval, anger and healing could the people understand their true purpose. This was their shared journey, their crucible experience. Only through this painful yet enlightening adventure could all of those individuals become what would truly help them stay strong into the future—a community.

Like the Israelites, this experience is

now part of our story and ultimately, like the story of Passover, it will become so much of what makes us who we are as individuals and as a society. To paraphrase Robert Frost, we may not have chosen this path, but by taking the one less travelled, it has made all the difference.

2) Many years ago I lived in a Student residence at McGill where we had ministry students, plus many other men and women in various disciplines. Passover was coming up, and we students decided to have a Seder supper. In the 70's, in some Christian communities, people were discovering the significance of this ritual that is also part of Holy Week. We invited everyone in the residence to come, engineering students, nursing students, including some Jewish students, male and female, from the United States. There were four from Long Island, who grew up Jewish, but did not really practice their faith at McGill. Two of the Jewish girls had never actually attended a Seder. We were not led by a minister or priest that night, but by a senior student. None of us were immersed in the deeper meaning of each action, and often we would ask these girls what something meant. I was surprised to find they were as uncertain as the rest of us. In some ways, we Christians, and those Jews were all discovering this ancient tradition together. I look back and smile as I remember how we of different faiths shared a sacred meal together.

A few years ago in Sherbrooke I had a similar experience. A rabbi from Chicago, best friends with a minister here came and helped host another interfaith Seder on the Thursday before Easter. This time an imam from the local synagogue brought two friends and took part. The service was in French and English and many children attended. There was great banter among the hosts, and some laughter during the meal. I felt a deep sense of the Spirit that evening.

In a world that is filled sometimes with racial and ethnic hate, it's time to walk a different path. People from all faith groups celebrate special moments with a shared meal. When we sit down together, engage in conversation, and learn to appreciate others, divine love brings us together.

3) Although there are some who would insist that every faith is very distinct one from the other I would argue that each iteration of a belief in an over-arching benevolent power in the world is influenced by the other faiths it comes in contact with. Christianity chose to celebrate the birth of Jesus on an already popular winter festival time. In Rome they celebrated Saturnalia, in Germany and Scandinavia, Yule, in England the Druids celebrated the winter solstice. There is no historical basis for supposing Jesus was born on December 25, and

an argument could be made that it is an example of cultural appropriation. But when we look a little closer at each faith we see that many of them have similar creation stories, and a great flood. This searching for spiritual insights from other faiths continues on today. One of my favourite singer songwriters is Leonard Cohen, Jewish by confession. He often borrowed from Christian themes to pen stories of universal significance. Much of Christian understanding of the nature of God we owe to Judaism.

All the records we have, both religious and secular indicate that Jesus was a devout Jewish man. He might have been considered something of a mystic and he never had any intention of forming another religion.

This is a very longwinded way to come at this week's word Passover. I do so with a certain amount of trepidation as it is a very significant word both in the Jewish and Christian traditions. Christians have often been persecutors of those of the Jewish faith and anti-Semitism is still a very real problem. These days we are much more sensitive to cultural appropriation than we were in bygone times. Nevertheless for Christians there is no getting around the fact that the most significant week in the life of Jesus was marked by his last meal with his disciples and that meal, according to three of the four gospels, was celebrating Passover. In the context of his last meal, Jesus and the disciples reminded themselves of the story of their people's flight from captivity in Egypt and how they learned to place their trust in God, despite the very real trials and tribulations they faced. Jesus, in sensing that his execution was fast approaching, modeled what that trust looked like, exemplifying the very best of his faith tradition.

The Last Supper, originally a Passover meal, has come to be the most significant of Christian rituals, used as the focus for the binding of the whole human family as children of God, regardless our religions. That is the ideal and Jesus was an idealist. I'd say the world still has a ways to go before we get to the much-vaunted heaven on earth.

One word, three voices this time - now it's your turn to reflect: What meaning for your own life can you find in the Passover story?

Rev. Mead Baldwin pastors the Waterville & North Hatley pastoral charge; Rabbi Boris Dolin leads the Dorshei-Emet community in Montreal; Rev. Lee Ann Hogle ministers to the Ayer's Cliff, Magog & Georgeville United Churches; Rev. Carole Martignacco, Unitarian Universalist is retired from ministry with UUEstrie and now resides in St. Andrews-by-the-Sea NB, but keeps one foot in the Townships by continuing with this column.

GLIMPSES OF THE PAST



Fonds Carmen Fortier. Musée d'histoire de Sherbrooke

Cross-country skiing, which has been enjoyed in Scandinavian countries for over 5,000 years, was first recorded in Canada and Quebec during the 1890s. However, it wasn't until the 1920s that this winter sport became popular. Canadian Pacific offered passengers the opportunity to ski in the Laurentians and Herman "Jackrabbit" Smith Johannsen, a Norwegian who settled in Quebec, developed an extensive network of trails for the province's cross-country skiers. Cross-country skiing has become increasingly popular in recent years. It is, without a doubt, a winter activity for athletes, outdoor enthusiasts and anyone who wants to remain active during the long Quebec winters!

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M H I S T
MUSEE D'HISTOIRE DE SHERBROOKE

From isolating out of shame to teaching online Zumba in purple

By Marianne Lassonde
Special to The Record

Whenever she feels like she is floating “in an aquarium,” Audrey Huard said she needs to stop what she is doing and find a safe place to lie down. It is a sensation she has felt since she was a child but it only recently took on the label of epilepsy.

“I was scared to have a seizure and for people to look at me like I was a monster,” she admitted. “It is extremely scary and it made me very anxious.”

Diagnosed at 28 years old, Huard admitted she had little to no knowledge of what epileptic seizures look like and went her entire teenage years thinking her attacks were merely waves of fatigue.

Part of this is because there exists a severe lack of understanding regarding epilepsy, with most people associating the neurological disorder with convulsions – but that is not always the case. For Huard, most of her seizures manifested themselves through the feeling of dissociating or losing focus.

“Sometimes, when you are having an attack, you stop interacting with people altogether because you can’t see them or hear them anymore,” she explained, adding many do not realize they are experiencing an attack. “Sometimes we hear people and we think we are answering them but what we are saying is not fluid.”

According to Epilepsy Canada, there are a dozen different types of seizures that fall under two broad categories: generalized seizures and focal seizures, referring to where the attack begins in the brain. Adding to this, there are simple and complex seizures, which means a person is either aware they are experiencing an attack or they lose all sense of consciousness – Huard has experienced both.

But it was the complex seizure that landed her a proper diagnosis.

On Sept. 15, 2015, Huard was having supper with her family when she suddenly lost consciousness and began convulsing. She remembers waking up to find her husband and paramedics looking down on her while her children were crying in fear.

“I was so angry because [my doctor] had not explained to me that there are different types of seizures,” said Huard.

For many people, epileptic seizures can be a very scary experience. Often the person will return to consciousness confused, extremely exhausted and deeply traumatized. It can also lead to serious bodily injuries.

“You cannot go for a walk alone, you have to leave the door open when you take a shower,” she explained.

But for Huard, the worst part was the guilt of having scarred her

children.

“I felt guilty and angry that my children had to see that,” she confessed. “Had I been diagnosed earlier, it could have been avoided.”

Huard explained she felt extremely anxious for the months that followed her attack and admitted feeling post-traumatic symptoms. Questions regarding her safety and the safety of her children played like a broken record in her head – if I go out, will I be safe? Will my children be scared? Will people recognize a seizure?

“As long as your medication is not fixed, you can have a seizure at any time,” explained Huard. In her case it took her three months to find the proper medication.

To appease her own anxiety and shame regarding epilepsy, Huard admitted she would rarely leave her home and stopped going to her Zumba classes – a passion she had for seven years.

But soon enough, home also became a source of anxiety. During her interview with The Record, Huard confessed she would often feel guilty for asking her grandmother to help her take care of her two-year-old.

“For those three months where [my doctor] was adjusting my medication, I had so many side effects,” she said. “I would ask myself, am I the right person to be taking care of [my son]. I felt incredibly guilty.”

Huard added it takes up to six months without an attack for the medication to be considered effective. When it did not work, she would feel extremely discouraged and frustrated with herself and her doctor.

It was only after four years spent writing two novels processing her trauma that Huard was able to convince herself to leave her house and start taking up Zumba classes again. There she found her strength in being able to do a sport she enjoyed despite her diagnosis.

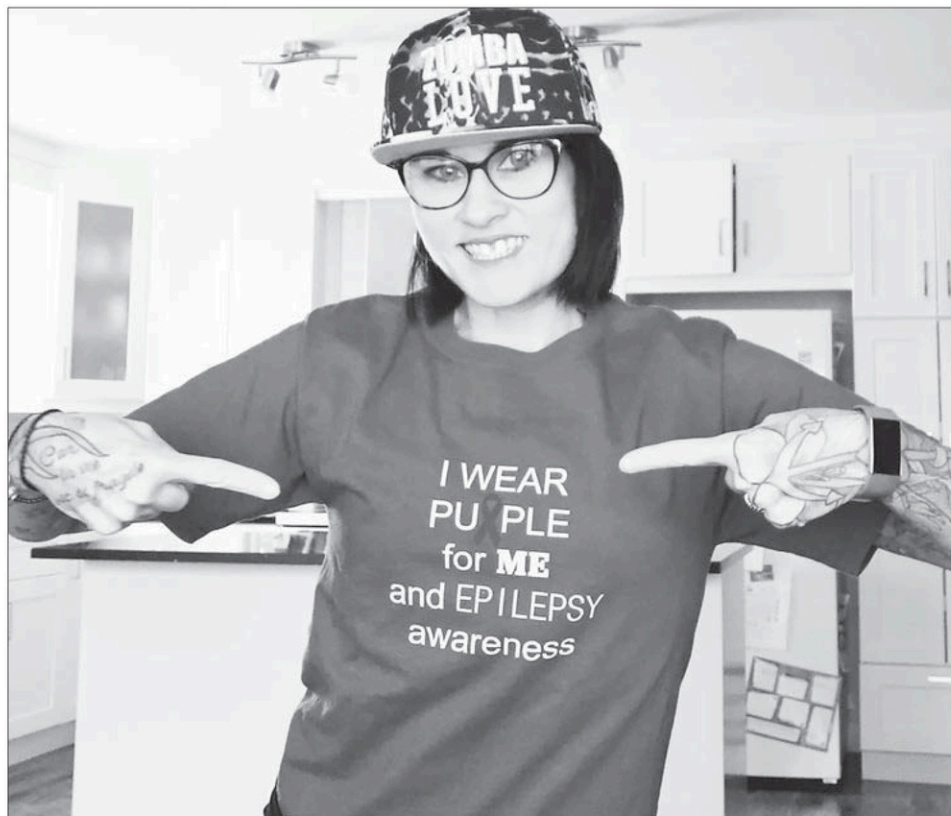
In 2020, she decided to participate in the 1 in 100 challenge to raise awareness for epilepsy and showed people they could continue to do what they love despite their diagnosis.

“What helps people who are isolating because of their illnesses is to find a passion that pushes them to leave their home,” said Huard.

Huard has since completed her training and is a licenced Zumba instructor for adults, children and, soon, toddlers. She hopes to be able to carry her passion into schools and community centres to raise awareness for epilepsy.

With the pandemic, however, this sense of dreading the outdoors has come back in waves and Huard admits to fearing people will not help her should she have an attack in public.

“People did not want to approach you before, now even less because of public health guidelines,” explained Huard.



AUDREY HUARD

March 26 marks the conclusion of epilepsy awareness month with you-can online Zumba class where all donations will be given to Epilepsie Estrie. The zoom link can be found on Purple Shirt Day. Huard said she will be sporting purple for a pay-what-Epilepsie Estrie’s Facebook page.

THE RECORD

Here for you through good times and bad

Dear Townships Community Member,

As we emerge together from a very challenging year, I would like to invite you to welcome The Record into your home or workplace.

The Record has been the voice of English-speaking Townshippers since 1897, providing evidence of a vibrant and resilient community with its focus on local news, community development, church and social activities.

Throughout the challenges brought on by the pandemic, The Record has continued to deliver trusted information to readers on a daily basis, while articulating the concerns of the community to decision makers, providing a forum for organizers to announce community events and linking far-reaching communities.

I encourage you to join readers throughout the region in strengthening the voice of English-speaking Townshippers and maintaining this 124-year-old Townships institution by subscribing to the print or e-edition of the paper.

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Sharon McCully
Publisher
The Record

EDITORIAL

The format of a My Take is 150 words - no more, no less - to express an opinion on a different topic each week. This week the topic was vaccination priorities.

My Take: By Michael Boriero

Quebec needs to vaccinate its teachers. Period. I don't think this should be up for debate.

They aren't nurses or doctors or health professionals. No, but they are on the front lines. This cannot be denied any longer.

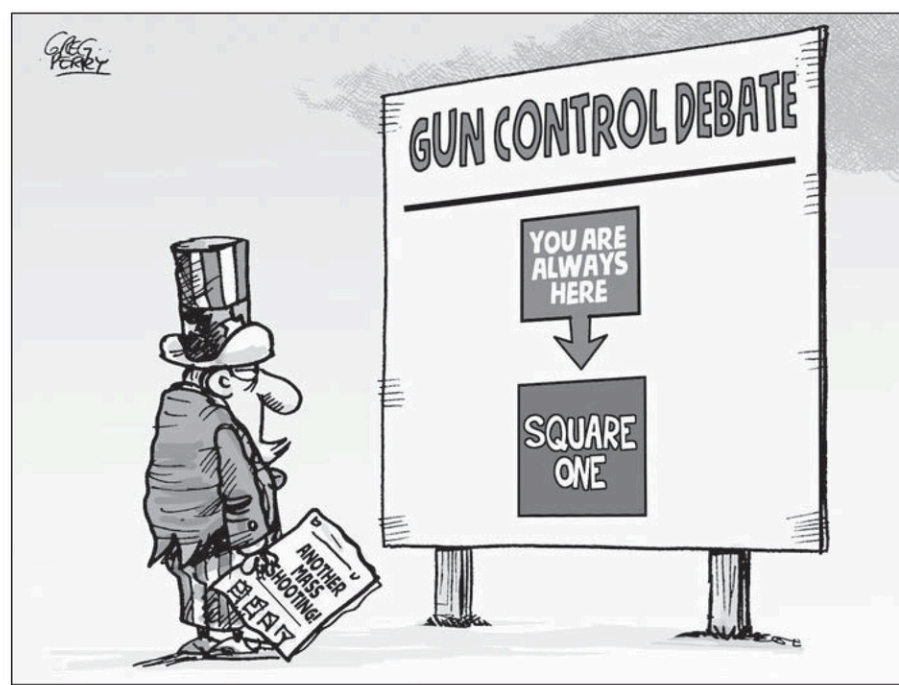
The lack of respect towards the province's educators is almost inconceivable. And it was reinforced when a vaccination pilot project was recently approved in Montreal.

The project aimed to vaccinate

parents with children attending schools in the Côte Saint-Luc and the Snowdon area in an effort to control the spread of the COVID-19 variant.

However, it didn't include teachers, or any school staff. It took public outrage to add them to the project after the fact, which honestly doesn't look great.

Teachers were forced to work all year. Their exclusion from the vaccine priority list is a sad reminder that they continue to be ignored.



My Take: By Gordon Lambie

I don't know how to have a conversation about vaccine priorities that doesn't just boil down to arguing about who should live and who should die.

I know that for many the stakes are not that high, but without being 100 per cent certain about how contracting COVID is going to impact a person's life in the long term, isn't the question of whether or not they get a shot essentially just playing the

odds?

It is vitally important for the needs and experiences of vulnerable communities that are not being heard to be amplified, but I don't believe for a second that I know better than our directors of public health who should be first in line. Unfortunately, the unpredictability of this pandemic means that even their expertise is not always going to be right, but I still trust that they're doing their best.

My Take: By Marianne Lassonde

I'm baffled by the sheer entitlement when it comes to vaccine prioritization.

As soon as health professionals and CHSLD residents were vaccinated, vulnerability became a foreign concept and, now, it's all about flouncing job titles. The whole thing just doesn't sit right with me.

I understand people are tired and want life to go back to "normal," but there is too much ambiguity to be arguing priority. A grocery

store clerk could argue they are a priority because they spend hours around large masses of people, some of which are anti-maskers. A single mother could argue her child spends time around other kids and she is at risk. Everyone has a good reason to be next in line. To be perfectly candid, I think teachers and customer service folks should be next, but there is just no point in arguing about it in comment sections.

My Take: By Matthew McCully

For Pete's sake, vaccinate teachers. No one will say it, so I will. And why no one will say it is frustrating in the beyond.

Maybe we're all channeling our inner uber-polite Canadian. Oh no, please, you first, I'm fine.

Maybe they should give out Tim Hortons coffee with the vaccine.

Teachers' unions can't push forcefully for it because it would make them look entitled.

School boards won't ask for it because they've either become service

centres (aka government agencies), or they tried, but are too busy fighting on another front.

No one wants to cut the line.

Well newsflash, schools have been super spreaders since the beginning of the pandemic.

Our leaders are responsible for making tough decisions, and tough decisions aren't always popular.

This is a vaccination campaign, not a re-election campaign. It's time to snuff out the deadly elephant in the classroom.

My Take: By Taylor McClure

Prioritizing vaccines makes sense when there are specific groups of people that are at higher risk to catch a virus, but who decides who is priority? If you have social media, then you know first-hand that someone who has 'priority' isn't necessarily someone who is at high-risk. I think in some cases, priority is being confused with privilege. When you have the government telling you one thing only to scroll

through your Instagram page to find that the Kardashian family was vaccinated so that they could throw a party, people will begin to wonder: why them and not me? In Quebec, the COVID-19 situation is constantly changing, priority groups are shifting and unclear, and people are told to wait their turn with little to no explanation as to why. I'll wait my turn, as long as privilege is put to the back of the line.

My Take: By David Rossiter

Vaccine prioritization is one thing I really haven't followed closely. Who should get their doses before who? I really don't have much of an opinion other than the fact that I, a healthy 20-year-old who works from home, should be getting it last.

Obviously healthcare workers who are in direct contact with Covid patients getting it right at the start was a good move. Then other healthcare workers, senior citizens and so on.

The next stage seems to be the more debated or even contentious one. Essential workers. But isn't everyone's job "essential"? I think a better way of putting it is "people whose jobs have them dealing with the general public everyday".

I certainly don't envy the people who have to decide who gets vaccine priority over who. Especially with Canada lagging behind other nations in doses administered, as everyone looks forward to summer.

THE RECORD

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Summer camps hoping government allows overnights

David Rossiter
Special to The Record

After the provincial government allowed day camps but not overnight camps to operate last summer, many of the latter are hoping something changes for this upcoming season. People from multiple Eastern Townships area camps told The Record that day camps will be a go, but that they are still awaiting an announcement on the fate of overnight options, hopefully by early April.

Brian Wharry, Camp Director at Quebec Lodge in Hatley Township said that another year with no overnight campers would really hurt financially, as they represent at least half of their business. "Day campers are local, but we get tons of campers every year from Montreal, Quebec City and beyond for our overnight programs. It'll sting financially if they aren't able to attend for a second year in a row," he said.

Lara Willis is the co-director at Wilvaken summer camp on Lake Lovering in the Magog area. Wilvaken is located on 100 acres of nature split by a lake and the camp has been in the Willis family for three generations

now, ever since its founding in the 1950s.

Willis explained that since their camp is an exclusively overnight one, they were not able to open in any capacity during summer 2020.

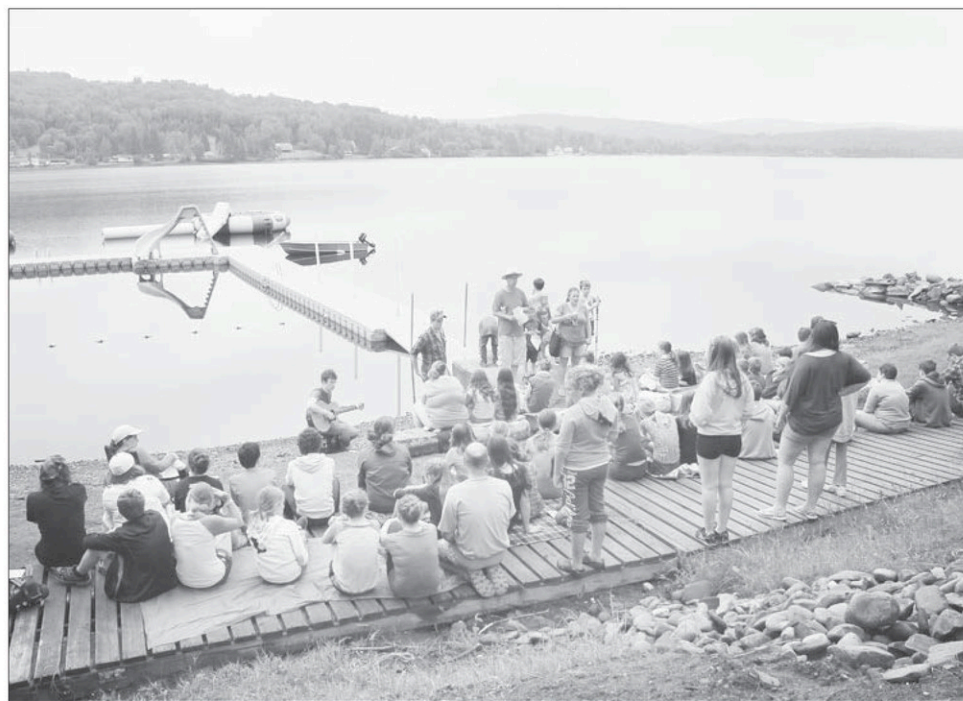
"We're preparing and hoping that this will be different this year, but we're not sure," she said.

Willis shared that this uncertainty brings the same challenges experienced by other camp directors she's talked to, namely the loss of revenue, but that there's more to it than that.

"Another thing is that every year there is a lot of transfer of knowledge between outgoing staff and counsellors and newer ones. If we were to be closed for two years, we would lose out on a lot of that."

Willis said that there's lots of skills children learn while away from home at an overnight camp. "Resilience, independence and socialization to name a few", but that "we do understand that there's risk involved too, we don't just want to open, we want to open if it's possible to keep safe all of the communities we serve."

It goes without saying that many camp directors, employees, as well as campers and their parents, hope



RECORD ARCHIVES

overnight camps are a go, but health professionals are speaking out on the issue as well.

In an open letter titled "we need to give Quebec youth the summer they deserve", Montreal pediatrician, Dr. Earl Rubin, made his case for

the necessity of day camps and overnight camps alike, in spite of Covid-19. The letter which was co-signed by 80 Quebec health experts, and discussed health issues that youth have faced throughout the pandemic, including mental health.

St. Paul's United supporting young families

Record Staff

St. Paul's United Church in Magog recently presented the Memphrémagot Food Bank (BAM) with a cheque for \$1,000 in support of the Départ Canon program. This new initiative offers services to families with pre-school age children. We congratulate the BAM for looking out for our smallest residents of Magog, giving them a good start in life and

we are happy to be able to help. For more information about the project or to register your family please call (819) 868-4438, extension 1 or email bamint@cgocable.ca.

Seen here are Rev. Lee Ann Hogle, minister at St Paul's United (left) and Debra Goss, member of St Paul's United (right) presenting a cheque to Andrée Gagnon, the Director of the BAM.

Submitted by St. Paul's United Church, Magog



Alexander Galt 2021 Easter Basket Campaign

Initiated in 2018, the AGRHS Easter basket campaign is now part of the local traditions. From the start, we have been fortunate enough to receive generous donations from our community.

This year again, your support will be essential in making this Easter a hopeful occasion for our less fortunate families.

The baskets will benefit families from Alexander Galt Regional High School sector (elementary and high school).

We hope we can continue to rely on your support, as it remains very important to the success of our Easter basket campaign.

**Please, make cheques payable to
(tax receipts for donations of 10\$ and over will be issued):
AGRHS Easter Basket Campaign and mail to:
AGRHS, P.O. Box 5002,
1700 rue College, Sherbrooke, QC J1M 1Z9**

Thank you for your generosity!

Quebec tables \$12.3 billion deficit budget, says balance will take another 6 years

By Jacob Serebrin
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quebec needs to make up the economic ground lost during the pandemic before it can balance its books, which will take another six years, Finance Minister Eric Girard said Thursday.

Girard tabled his third budget since becoming finance minister, and he forecasts a deficit of \$12.3 billion this fiscal year. He also estimates the damage caused by the pandemic will leave a structural deficit of \$6.5 billion.

He said his plan is to balance the books by the 2027-28 fiscal year. And to succeed, he said, the government will need to amend a law that requires the state to return to a balanced budget five years after posting a deficit.

"I think we need to recognize that we're still in the pandemic," he told reporters in Quebec City, explaining why his government can't balance the books within the time frame required by law. "So, the number 1 priority is to fight the pandemic. There is no economic rebound unless there is health safety."

Girard said the government's first priority remains dealing with COVID-19, followed by getting people back to work. Getting economic growth back to pre-pandemic levels is his third priority - and after that it's budgetary balance.

"The \$6-billion effort over five years is manageable," he said about reducing the structural deficit after the pandemic is over. "It's less than one per cent of our expenses. It is manageable, we can do it, but we need to start once we've reached full employment."

Last March, before the pandemic caused Quebec's GDP to contract by 5.2 per cent, Girard's 2020-21 budget forecast a \$2.7-billion surplus. That

became a \$15-billion deficit over the course of the fiscal year.

In total, Girard said he expects COVID-19 to cost the Quebec government \$30 billion, with around half coming from a drop in revenue and half from increased spending. The minister said his government spent \$12 billion on COVID-19-related measures in 2020-21 and will spend another \$4.3 billion on the pandemic in 2021-22.

The budget forecasts total expenditures by the government will be about \$130.5 billion this fiscal year, including debt service and COVID-19 related costs. Spending on programs - including COVID-19-specific costs - will drop by about 1.2 per cent compared with last year.

Girard is estimating the province's GDP will rebound by 4.2 per cent this year after last year's pandemic-induced drop. He called the forecast "prudent" and below the median projected by private sector economists.

Debt servicing will increase by more than 12 per cent this fiscal year, to \$8.6 billion. Quebec's net debt-to-GDP ratio, which estimates the province's ability to pay back debt, will rise by about 13 per cent, from 39.9 per cent to 45 per cent.

Girard described the debt as "under control" and said the province has a

"coherent plan" to reduce it.

The budget includes \$15.5 billion in new program spending over the next five years, with \$5.2 billion set to be spent this year. Most of that - \$2.9 billion - is earmarked for the health-care system.

There will also be new tax credits for small business and seniors.

The budget also adds \$4.5 billion to the province's 10-year infrastructure fund. Quebec plans to spend \$13.5 billion on infrastructure this fiscal year.

The opposition Liberals said the government's plan to get back to a balanced budget within a specific time frame is "imprudent".

"We just don't know what's going to happen in the next months," Andre Fortin, the Liberal finance critic, told reporters.

He said the focus on infrastructure is also the wrong approach. "It doesn't address the need coming out of the pandemic," Fortin said, adding that women were most affected by pandemic-related job losses.

"The government is basing its relaunch of the economy on a sector that's already doing well - the construction sector - so the only thing that can happen is that prices will continue to go up," Fortin said.

THE RECORD Brome County NEWS

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The CHUS Foundation Enables Aurélie to Receive Treatment in Sherbrooke

At 21 years old, in the middle of the pandemic, Aurélie learned that she has leukaemia, but thanks to the CHUS Foundation and its donors, she can be treated in Sherbrooke and have her family's support during this trying period. Aurélie, like many other children, is benefiting from a response to research protocols in oncology-pediatrics in Estrie as well as the reintegration of the CIUSSS de l'Estrie - CHUS as part of the Children's Oncology Group.

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CHUS Foundation | 2018-2022 Major Fundraising Campaign

Better winter than expected in Orford

By Marie-Camille Théorêt
Special to The Record

With the snow now beginning to thaw, both Orford's National Park and Mont-Orford have reported a positive winter despite COVID-19 restrictions and uncertainties.

Last Saturday, Mont-Orford National Park announced that both the seasons of cross-country skiing and fatbike had come to an end. Winter trails are also closing soon for the whole thaw period and "to protect the fragile environments crossing our trails and to ensure a good support capacity for our infrastructure." Looking back on the winter, the national park is satisfied with the way things unfolded.

"In general, everything went well. We didn't really know how things would turn out, but our planning was great, and we had good infrastructure. It went beyond our expectations," mentioned the national park's interim director Mario Landry.

The addition of new mountain bike tracks is also something Orford's national park is looking forward to. Mountain bikers will benefit from new singletracks found in the same Étang Aux Cerises area as the other ones.

"We go from 12 km of tracks to about 30 km. This completes our offer since we add intermediate and difficult trails. If things continue as they are, it will all open in mid-May," said Landry.

For this summer, Mont-Orford National Park still has no special events announced or any

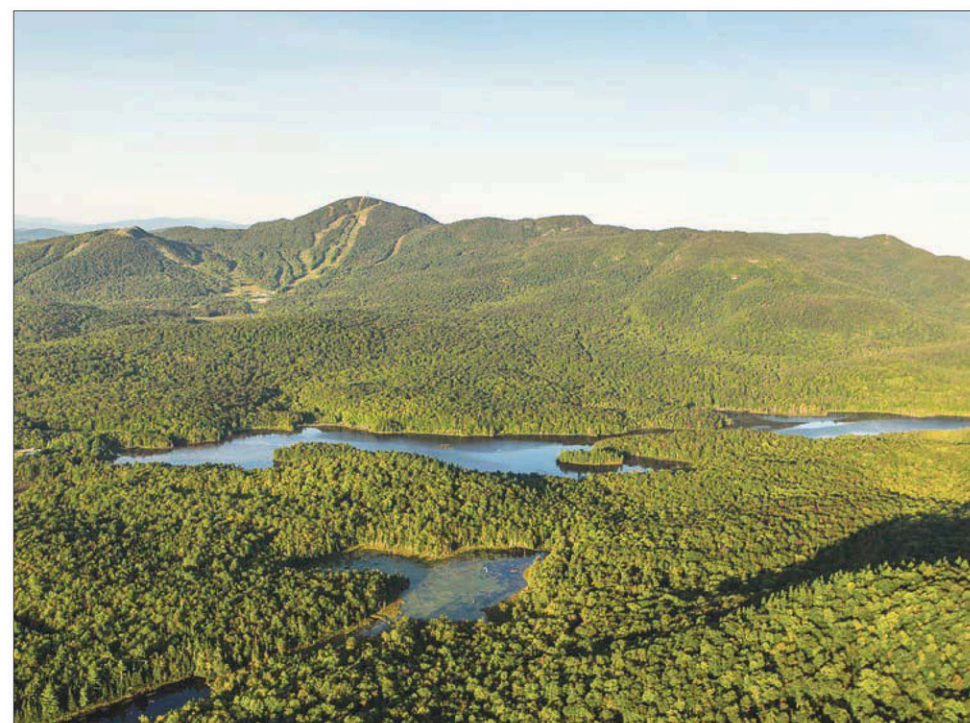
partnership because noting has been established by public health authorities. For now, efforts are put towards the camping and ready-to-camp facilities. The regular activities and services offered in the summer like trekking, mountain biking, camping, the two beaches (Stukely & Fraser), and equipment renting are supposed to be offered this summer.

On the mountain

The other important part of Orford, the mountain itself, saw an increase in sales of seasonal passes which reflects the popularity of alpine skiing this past winter. Even if the Mont-Orford had to deal with restrictive public health measures such as limiting its sales of daily ski passes, everything went better than expected and the overall weather conditions were good.

"It took more time than usual for winter to arrive and there weren't many winter storms, but the cold was there consistently. This allowed our machines to produce lots of artificial snow," explained marketing consultant Valérie Collette.

For now, most ski hills are still open and there is no clear date as to when the mountain will close. While being reluctant to say too much, Collette affirmed that Mont-Orford is preparing events for the upcoming summer. Before revelling anything, the mountain is waiting for clearer public health directives. In the case of the Orford golf course, it is planned to open in May or a little earlier if weather conditions allow.



MATHIEU DUPUIS

Picturesque view of Mount-Orford

Let's avoid new outbreaks.



In red and orange zones, private gatherings are forbidden and family get-togethers should be avoided, even if some members are vaccinated.



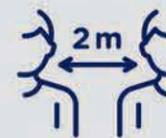
Avoid gatherings



Wear a mask



Wash our hands



Keep our distance

[Québec.ca/coronavirus](https://quebec.ca/coronavirus)

Let's follow all the rules, no exceptions.



Obituaries

Death



Marie-Ange Monvoisin (Hujoree) July 14, 1935 - March 16, 2021, Gatineau

Passed away at the age of 85 on March 16, 2021. Beloved wife and predeceased by Claude Gérard Monvoisin. Loving mother of sons Jean-Michel, Gilles (Melissa Phypers), Louis, and daughter Mauricette (Steve Howlett). Cherished by her grandchildren Jonathan, Matthew, Jackson, Harrison and Amélie. Sister of Sybil Bella, Gaëtan, Maxime and the late Jimmy Hujoree. Born in Mauritius, Marie-Ange and Gérard immigrated to Sherbrooke via England in 1972 when Gérard was hired to work in the laboratory at the Sherbrooke Hospital and where Marie-Ange worked as an Auxiliary Nurse. She was devoted to the excellent care of her patients. A loving Grandma who adored her grandchildren, she would not hesitate to drop everything and babysit or help when asked. She enjoyed weekend road trips with Gérard and loved summer holiday vacations across Canada and the US. She was an amazing cook who could conjure up delicious meals out of seemingly nothing and never turned away any friends that were brought home for dinner. As a member of St. Peter's Church, she attended the women's auxiliary group and never hesitated to lend a hand to those in need.

Due to the COVID pandemic, a private family service will be held at the Steve L. Elkas Complex, Sherbrooke, Quebec on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. The service will be available on-line at FUNERAWEB.TV

Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Society of Canada:

www.alzheimer.ca

Online condolences at La Residence Funeraire Steve Elkas www.steveelkas.com

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info@steveelkas.com

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FAX: 819-820-8872
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Anne Standish 1963-2021

It is with sadness that the family of Anne Standish announce her death, at the CHUS Fleurimont on March 17, at the age of 57 years. She was the wife of Sylvain Dansereau, and daughter of Marion and the late John Standish.

She leaves to mourn her husband Sylvain and her children: Simon (Thu), Sarah (Guillaume) and two adored granddaughters: Charlotte and Ophelie, her siblings: Matthew (Jill), Andrew (Mary) and Rachel (Christopher), nieces and nephews, aunts and uncles, cousins, and friends.

She was a strong, hard-working woman who dedicated herself fully to everything she undertook. Her memory will remain an inspiration to those who knew her.

She spent her life in the place she loved most, the family farm where the Standishes have lived since the 1820's. Anne was involved with the St. Thomas Anglican Church and its connection with the Standish family's early history in Rougemont. She worked for Lassonde Industries for the past 26 years.

The family will forever be grateful to the staff of the intensive care unit at the CHUS Fleurimont, especially Dr. Marc-André Leclair.

A memorial service will take place at St. Thomas Anglican Church in Rougemont at a later date.

As a memorial tribute, donations to the Saint-Thomas Church Cemetery would be appreciated.



Death



Phyllis Emery Skeats

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our dear Mom, Phyllis Emery Skeats, in her 93rd year. Phyllis passed peacefully on March 18, 2021 attended by her family and the compassionate caregivers of Grace Village.

Phyllis is predeceased by her first husband, Lindsay Pocock, and she leaves to mourn her second husband, Terry Skeats,

with whom she shared 40 years of marriage. Cherished mother of Sharon (Bernard), Russell (Thérèse) and Joanne (William); beloved grandmother and step-grandmother of Sandra (Roland), Robyn (Kevin), Matthew, Anna, Lara (Raouf), D'Arcy (Caroline), Nathaniel (Joanie), Emily (Adam), James (Megan), Aimée, Paul and Camille (Loic); great-grandmother of Hayley, Lauren, Meaghan, Mya, Amelia, Zachary, Noah and Celia.

Phyllis was born in 1928 to Willis and Geneva Emery of East Hatley, Quebec and was one of four children. She spent many years in Waterville as a busy mother and active volunteer at church and the elementary school. In 1967 she began employment at Bishop's University where she spent many years as a Reference Librarian. She enjoyed her continued years of education and graduated from Bishop's University in 1980. Among her accomplishments were genealogical research, the writing of several books on local history, and involvement in numerous volunteer organizations, including the Lake Massawippi Area Historical Society, Heritage Huntingville, and the Old North Church Cemetery Association.

In 2010, the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN) awarded Phyllis the Marion Phelps Award for her dedication as librarian, archivist, scholar and genealogist to Anglophone heritage.

Mom loved to sing and dance and was active in a Waterville theatre group. She loved to garden and enjoyed the creative design of four homes she built. Along with their historical research, she and her husband Terry were the proud owners of Sunset View, a bed and breakfast they established together in North Hatley. To honour Phyllis a donation to the Alzheimer's Society of Canada <https://alzheimer.ca/en/take-action/donate> or the Old North Church Cemetery Association oldnorthcem@gmail.com would be appreciated in lieu of flowers.

Due to the circumstances surrounding COVID, a celebration of life will be announced at a later date.

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Church Services

Presbyterian

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Lennoxville. Due to the Covid-19 virus, our church is currently closed for Sunday services. We welcome you to view Rev. Susan Smith's weekly message on our facebook page, Saint Andrew's Presbyterian Church/community/my services. The Word of Grace broadcast can be heard each Sunday morning on the community station CJMQ - 88.9 FM at 8:30AM. It can accessed anytime at www.cjmq.fm

United

AYER'S CLIFF, MAGOG, GEORGEVILLE

The Ayer's Cliff Magog Georgeville Pastoral Charge has decided to keep our church buildings closed for the foreseeable future. You are all invited to join us for our Sunday worship services on Zoom at 10:45 a.m. If you would like to join us please call Mel Bryant at St. Paul's in Magog 819-843-3778 or Sue Young for Beulah United Church 819-838-5815 to receive the zoom link. You can also visit our Pastoral Charge web site <https://amgunited.wixsite.com/amgunited> to find the link our YouTube channel

LENNOXVILLE

Lennoxville United Church. Facebook Live: Prayer and Reflection with Rev. Linda. Every Sunday @ 10 a.m. & Wednesday @ 10 a.m. Available Live through Linda Buchanan's Facebook Page or Lennoxville United Church Facebook Page. Video available afterwards through Linda Buchanan's Facebook Page or Lennoxville United Church Facebook Page or Lennoxville United's Website <http://lennoxvilleunitedchurch.com/>

SHERBROOKE

The Plymouth-Trinity United Church community of faith, at 819-346-6373 and www.plymouthtrinitychurch.org in Sherbrooke, invites you to a 10:45 a.m. service on Palm/Passion Sunday, March 28, when we will join with congregations worshipping across the Eastern Townships. All are welcome! Connect via the Internet, or by telephone (long distance charges will apply): Call us or check our website for details (our building is closed). Joignez-vous à nous pour notre culte du Dimanche des Rameaux, le 28 mars, à 10h45. Le culte est diffusé en ligne ou par téléphone (avec frais interurbains). Téléphonnez-nous ou visiter notre site web pour les détails (notre bâtiment est fermé). Cordiale bienvenue à tout le monde. Minister: Samuel V. Dansokho.

Death



Paul Voisard
1942-2021

At Fleurimont CHUS hospital, Paul passed away peacefully on March 22, 2021.

He leaves to mourn his wife Yvette (52 years) and his two sons, Shane (Michelle Gibson) and Jason (Lara Holmes) and four granddaughters Riley, Abby, Kiera and Alexie; his sister Louise of Sherbrooke and two nieces Cathy and Mary of Montreal and their respective families. Also mourning are the many in-laws, Cecile, Jeanne, Jeannette, Marcel and Lillian, all of Nova Scotia.

I wish to thank the ambulance paramedics of Richmond as well as the Staff at the ICU (Dr. Marie and nurse Sebastian), for the care given to Paul.

Following Paul's wishes, cremation will take place and there will be no funeral services.

Thank you to our many friends and acquaintances for your thoughts and prayers.

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www.casshomes.ca

Death



Betty Ann Painter-McConnell

Betty Ann Painter-McConnell, age 82 of Lennoxville Quebec passed away on March 18, 2021 at the Hotel Dieu Hospital in Sherbrooke Quebec.

Betty is survived by her son Steven K Ferguson and her step-children Joanne Peach and Grant McConnell, her cousin Ardyth Davidson and friends Pat Bryant and Richard (Dick) Emperor. She is predeceased by her parents Thelma and Gleason Painter and her husband Burton McConnell.

A lover of the arts, literature, travel, teaching, horses, cooking and the great outdoors. Betty was a person who made the most out of life and always kept herself in excellent physical condition.

It takes a community! Betty had lived with Alzheimer's disease for 14 years. During this time, she received the best of care from family, friends and the extraordinary people at the Wales Home in Cleveland, Quebec.

A burial will take place at a later date. She will be laid to rest with her late husband Burton, at East Clifton Cemetery.

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Card of Thanks

COGSWELL - My husband, Malcolm Cogswell, and I were detained at the Covid-19 centre at the Residence Familiale in early February. My husband passed away on February 21, 2021. My son and I would like to extend our most sincere appreciation for the care received there, especially for the excellent, compassionate care during my husband's last moments.

With thanks to all,
his wife JEAN
and our son MARK



Wallace "Joe" Gordon Mosher
1935-2021



We are saddened to announce the peaceful passing of Wallace "Joe" Mosher at the

Magog Hospital on March 23, 2021, in his 86th year. Loving husband of the late Fredericka Laraway and son of the late Gordon Mosher and the late Margaret Breaky.

Joe leaves to mourn his children Debra (Maurice Roy) and Donna (Keith Trafford) as well as his grandchildren Cynthia, Lindsey, Sophie (Adley), Kirsten, Daniel and William. He was the brother of the late Beryl (late Raymond Imbeault), Breaky (Gail Elizabeth "Betty" Chamberlain), Beverly (late Glen Hale). He will be dearly missed by many other family members and friends.

Joe lived and farmed in Boynton, Quebec, throughout most of his life.

The family wishes to thank the local CLSC's for their incredible coordination and support, the staff at the Manoir Stanstead, the CHUS Fleurimont and the Magog hospital for their excellent care. Special appreciation goes to Dr. Jean-Luc Castilloux. As a tribute to Joe's memory, donations to the Manoir Stanstead, 496, Dufferin, Stanstead QC, J0B 1E0, or to the Memphremagog Hospital Foundation, 50 rue St-Patrice Est, Magog, QC, J1X 3X3, would be appreciated by the family.

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Datebook

FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2021

Today is the 85th day of 2021 and the seventh day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1830, the Book of Mormon went on sale at a bookstore in Palmyra, New York.

In 1979, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin signed the Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty during a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

In 1997, police discovered the bodies of 39 victims of the Heaven's Gate religious cult's mass suicide in a mansion near San Diego, California.

In 1999, a Michigan jury found Dr. Jack Kevorkian guilty of second-degree murder for euthanizing a terminally ill patient.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Robert Frost (1874-1963), poet; Viktor Frankl, (1905-1997), psychotherapist/author; Tennessee Williams (1911-1983), playwright; Sandra Day O'Connor (1930-), former U.S. Supreme Court justice; Leonard Nimoy (1931-2015), actor; Alan Arkin (1934-), actor; James Caan (1940-), actor; Richard Dawkins (1941-), biologist/author; Diana Ross (1944-), singer; Steven Tyler (1948-), sing-

er-songwriter; Martin Short (1950-), actor; John Stockton (1962-), basketball player; Keira Knightley (1985-), actress.

TODAY'S FACT: The term "gerrymander" was first printed on this day in 1812 by the Boston Gazette; it described the shape of one of the election districts as redrawn in a bill signed by then-governor of Massachusetts Elbridge Gerry.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1917, the Seattle Metropolitans defeated the Montreal Canadiens 9-1 in Game 4 of the hockey championship series, becoming the first American team to win the Stanley Cup.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "A poem begins as a lump in the throat, a sense of wrong, a homesickness, a lovesickness." - Robert Frost

TODAY'S NUMBER: 1.46 million - number of Mormons in Mexico, the country with the second-most Mormons after the United States.

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter moon (March 21) and full moon (March 28).

Your Birthday

FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2021

Make adjustments to the way you work or how you earn your living. Being efficient will buy you time to work on projects that excite you. Put together a schedule focused on health, fitness and personal growth. Let your intuition guide you in a direction that offers peace of mind.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) – Finish what you start before moving on to something more enjoyable. Choose your words wisely when dealing with a friend or relative. An argument will ruin a perfect day if you let it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) – Make a change because you want to, not because you are emotional or angry. Look for a way to make your home more comfortable. A positive attitude will bring the best results. Work to improve a special relationship.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) – Tempers will flare if you spend too much time with someone who is critical or if you focus on what's not working instead of on what you can accomplish. Personal growth is encouraged.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) – Take note of what others are doing, and consider what you can do to improve your life. A chance to do things differently will help you stand out. You'll find a loophole that will save money if you update documents.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) – Pay more attention to your actions and how you present yourself, and less to what others are doing. It's better to look for opportunities than to try to make what someone else is doing work for you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) – Let your feelings dictate your decisions. If you follow your heart, you will discover the best way to use your skills to reach your objective. Refuse to let anyone goad you into an argument.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) – Look for safe ways to get out and enjoy the fresh air. Spending time in nature will encourage you to live a healthy lifestyle. Exercise often, eat well and spend time with someone you love.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) – You'll get a chance to change your environment, but don't go overboard financially. Look at ways to cut corners to find ways to stay within budget. Aim to lower your stress levels.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) – Monitor what others do or say. Someone will misinterpret what you say if you aren't articulate. Leave nothing to chance, and you'll outdo anyone who tries to get in your way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) – Take a different approach to the way you handle money. A possible change that interests you will cause you to question your relationship with someone. Go directly to the source if you want the truth.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) – Clear a workout space and get moving. Fitness and exercise will give you the boost you need to start new projects. Spend time doing things, not contemplating. Seek out family members.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) – An emotional situation will be eye-opening. Don't get upset when something goes wrong; use your anger to motivate you to change. Let go of the past and do what's best for you.

Saturday horoscope on page 15

Friend won't stop trying to set me up

Dear Annie

FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2021

Dear Annie: When I was in my early 50s, I became very ill and eventually found out I had severe rheumatoid arthritis. During that time I was in and out of hospitals. The last time I was hospitalized, my husband was too busy to come visit me. On arriving home, I discovered he had changed the locks and moved his girlfriend in. Needless to say, this was quite a shock. His defense was that he was still young and wanted to have fun and didn't want to be around a sick person. So after 20 years of marriage, we divorced.

That was 10 years ago. I'm now 64. I've been able to manage the symptoms of my illness much better. I fish, ride bikes with my granddaughter and volunteer at my church. I'm very content. My problem now is that a good friend keeps trying to convince me to let her set me up with men.

I have no interest in dating. I finally told her I think men are untrustworthy and to please just let it go. How do I convince her to let it lay? Her husband passed away last August from Lewy body dementia, and she started pestering me about dating after that. Why is she like a dog with a bone about my dating life (or lack thereof) all of a sudden? – Let Me Be Single

Dear LMBS: For what it's worth, your ex sounds like a once-in-a-generation scumbag. I can understand why that experience would lead a person to swear off dating for life, but not all men are untrustworthy. There are some faithful fish out in the sea. That being said, it's perfectly fine to swim solo.

Your friend's fixation on setting you up isn't about you. It's probably not a coincidence that she started up with the matchmaking mania after her husband died. Perhaps she's using it as a distraction from her grief. Maybe she's lonely herself and desires companionship but is not ready to face the prospect of dating, so she's projecting it onto you. I suggest gently asking her why she keeps bringing up the

subject and lovingly asking her to please drop it.

Dear Annie: I'm a cashier, and every day I see people who are gambling addicts. I would never approach strangers and lecture them, nor even bring up the subject to them. But perhaps if they can see some signs, they may be able to see themselves and recognize that they may need professional help.

One of the first signs may be when, instead of just buying an occasional ticket as they did previously, they start doing so out of boredom rather than fun, and trying to "make up" for what they already spent. Others are further along the path, and instead of taking their tickets home, they will stay for half an hour or more scratching in the store, until they run out of money. Among the worst are those who don't actually play at all, but simply scratch the barcode at the bottom and scan it immediately expecting to get the top prize. It would be great if you could publish some resources for people who are addicted to gambling. – Concerned Citizen

Dear Concerned: I appreciate your raising this important subject. By some estimates, there are roughly 10 million Americans who struggle with this. I encourage anyone who finds themselves gambling more often than they'd like to – or anyone concerned about another person's gambling – to reach out to the National Council on Problem Gambling at 1-800-522-4700. (You can call or text that number.) Another resource is SMART Recovery (<https://www.smartrecovery.org>), which offers support in recovery from many forms of addiction, including gambling.

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

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

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

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

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

SUDOKU

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

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.

“GEWL K HIS RVKWLVAJ GKSE
XIGDIJB, K BSMVSWY VIYWIKLH. ... K
LWNWV VIYW M DCAA — K'T LIS SEMS
BSCFKY.” — ZMTWB XMML

Previous Solution: “Once you have people around you who don't question you, you're in a dangerous place.” — Elton John

TODAY'S CLUE: A snab N

CELEBRITY CIPHER by Luis Campos

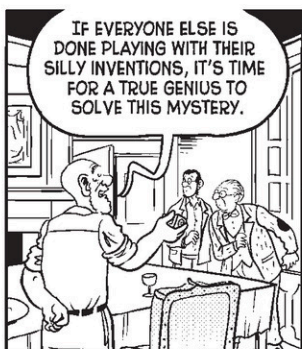
Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“CZYX IZM IWBEUZYO BZU UEZ
DRLOWVZYPURRL RI YPDZERYOZO,
MEWDE PYZ KHU RHU UR KPOUHYZ UR
BYRM RTV MWUE VWBLWUX.” — AHVV
ODEHTAZYB

TODAY'S CLUE: A snab C

Previous Solution: “When I got friendly with cowboys, I started rodeoing. ... I never rode a bull — I'm not that stupid.” — James Caan

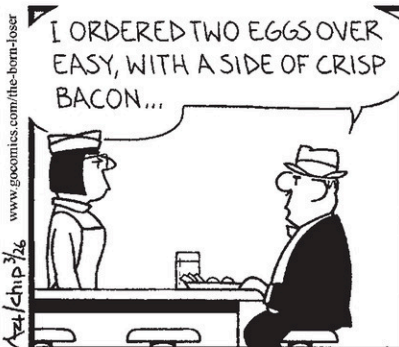
ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



THE BORN LOSER



REALITY CHECK



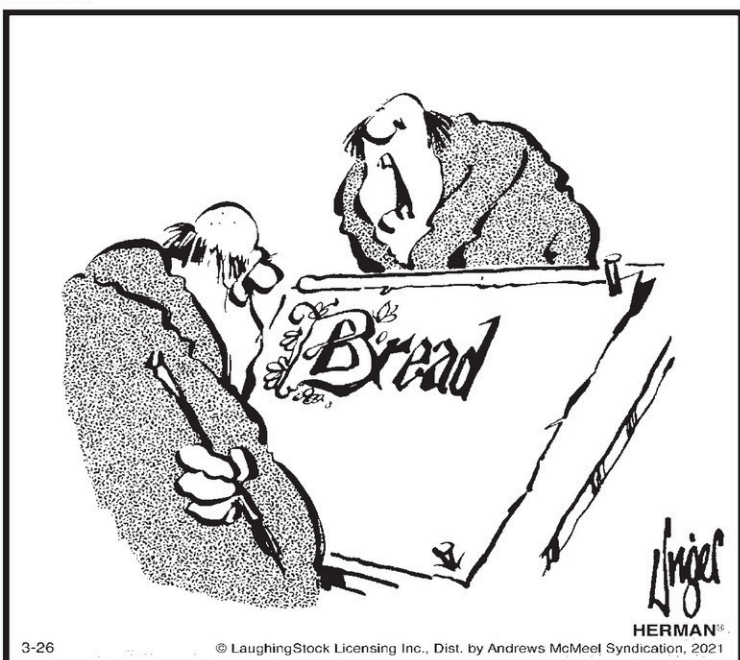
FRANK AND ERNEST



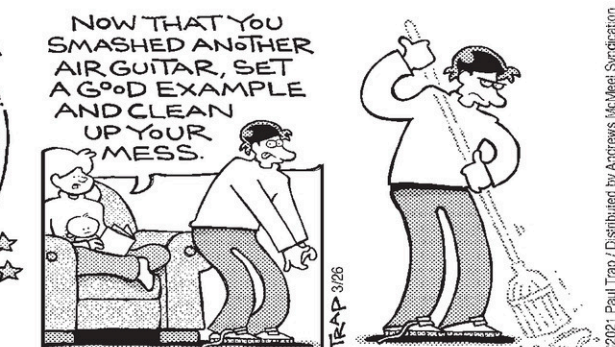
GRIZZWELLS



HERMAN



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- 100 Job Opportunities
- 100 Job Opportunities

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LOOKING FOR ADVANCED or professional pianist, violinist, and cellist to meet to play great repertoire with the flute. Possible concerts. Email with subject 'Music' to douglasnadler62@gmail.com

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

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WANTED: 28x48 Dion thrashing machine or 28x46 McCormick thrashing machine. International or John Deere grain binder. Phone evenings 905-983-9331.

340 Garage Sales

NORTH HATLEY Fundraiser! North Hatley Legion, 95 Jackson Heights, North Hatley, on Saturday and Sunday, March 27 & 28 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All welcome! Covid restrictions apply. Info: 819 837-2906.

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Do Just One Thing



By Danny Seo

It's tempting: Your favorite sweatshirt is in the dirty laundry pile and you really, really want to wear it, so you consider running it in the washing machine all by itself. Do just one thing: Wear something else from your closet. Running a washing machine with a small load is a significant waste of water, energy and money. When you consider the fact that your washing machine uses about 13,500 gallons of water per year, small runs can contribute significantly to excess waste. Always run full loads and use cold or cool water whenever you can.


NEA Crossword Puzzle

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- ACROSS**
- 1 Small music makers
 - 5 Telegraph syllable
 - 8 Dazzle
 - 11 Like some bathrooms
 - 13 Literary collection
 - 14 Small child
 - 15 "Ciao!"
 - 16 Violent storm
 - 18 Dijon dad
 - 20 Chinese mammal
 - 21 Ticket info
 - 23 Provo inst.
 - 24 Sturm — Drang
 - 25 Is, in Avila
 - 27 Mine car
 - 31 Hurry along
 - 32 Bruce or Laura
 - 33 Limerick locale
 - 34 "Rubaiyat" author
 - 36 Vegas alternative
 - 38 "Exodus" character
 - 39 Irwin of the PGA
 - 40 Swerve
 - 41 Shoe color
 - 42 Drone or worker
 - 44 Pass along
 - 46 More appealing
 - 49 Peace Prize city
 - 50 Drag out
 - 52 Mollify
 - 56 In the past
 - 57 Computer key
 - 58 Ms. Barkin of films
 - 59 Stage scenery
 - 60 Summer, to Pierre
 - 61 Calculator key
- DOWN**
- 1 Hagen of "The Other"
 - 2 Billy the —
 - 3 Lilly of pharmaceuticals
 - 4 Trickles
 - 5 See each other
 - 6 Whichever
 - 7 Carefree
 - 8 Like — of bricks
 - 9 Desk material
 - 10 Sicilian landmark
 - 12 Fought with swords
 - 17 Terre —, Ind.
 - 19 Arrange for a hotel
 - 21 Feminine side
 - 22 Optimal
 - 23 Pennants
 - 24 "Yikes!" (hyph.)
 - 26 Nesting place
 - 28 Cowboy's rope
 - 29 Vast assortment
 - 30 Lo (noodle dish)
 - 35 Break the rules
 - 37 End of a threat (2 wds.)
 - 43 Wash away
 - 45 Lazes about
 - 46 No. crunchers
 - 47 Try to persuade
 - 48 Whistle sound
 - 49 Look at impertinently
 - 51 Table tennis divider
 - 53 Will Smith biopic
 - 54 Recognize
 - 55 Capt.'s heading

TAKE A LOOK...



at what's in the **Classifieds.**

THE RECORD

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1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	
11				12		13			14			
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50					51			52		53	54	55
56				57				58				
59				60					61			

NEA Crossword Puzzle

Your Birthday

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 2021

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) – Be honest with yourself and do what’s best for you. A change takes you in a direction that promises a better lifestyle. Don’t let someone else’s decision lead you down the wrong path.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) – Put your energy where it counts. Explore opportunities that excite you. Share your plans with a loved one, and you’ll come up with a schedule that allows you to spend more time together.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) – Don’t disregard what others are telling you; it may sound far-fetched, but it might be what you need to hear. An interesting path will lead to personal growth.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) – Look for the truth. How you handle situations will influence your reputation and personal life. Stick close to home and make adjustments that add to your comfort and convenience.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) – An interesting way to bring in more cash will grab your attention. A couple of changes will help you lower your overhead and make room to focus on something new and exciting.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) – A physical improvement will help you leave the past behind. Nurture what you have to work with, and don’t look back. Physical action will pay off. Romance is on the rise.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) – Don’t get angry; get moving. Head in a direction that is less stressful and aligns you with people who share your goals. Financial and domestic changes will pay off.

Do whatever it takes to stabilize your life. Reach out to those who have something to offer, and work to expand your knowledge, skills and interests. Minimize problems with bureaucracy and institutions by keeping your records updated. Leave nothing to chance, and make self-improvement and romance priorities.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) – Sign up for something educational. What you learn today will help you improve your life. Stick to the truth and say what’s on your mind, and you’ll find out where you stand.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) – Explore your options, and organize a virtual event that offers mental stimulation. The information shared will spark all sorts of ideas about how to use your skills and services to get ahead.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) – You’ll have a choice: You can put your talents to better use, or you can debate with someone who will never see things your way. Choose your friends carefully, and do what’s best for you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) – Don’t neglect the people you love. Take care of your responsibilities swiftly, then move on to more pleasurable pastimes. Share your feelings and discuss your intentions. Don’t take a health risk.

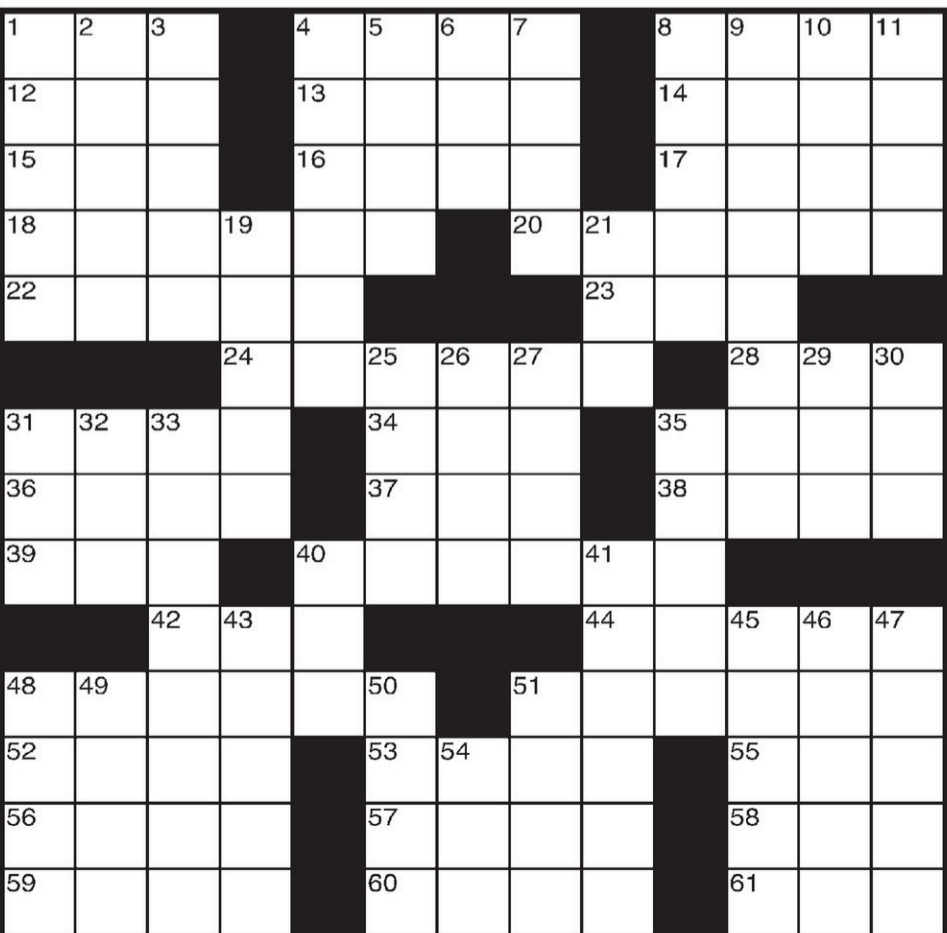
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) – Self-improvement projects will pay off. Get in shape; focus on nutrition and physical endurance. Spend time with someone who makes you happy and offers encouragement. Be open about your feelings and plans.

Answer to Previous Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- 1 Kind of agt.
 - 4 Conks on the head
 - 8 Defrost
 - 12 Fellow
 - 13 Face shape
 - 14 Pledge
 - 15 Homepage addr.
 - 16 Actress – Olin
 - 17 Type of rug
 - 18 Seesaw
 - 20 Bookish one
 - 22 Bad move
 - 23 W-2 info
 - 24 Snake venoms
 - 28 Whitney invention
 - 31 Tiny insect
 - 34 That, to Juanita
 - 35 Positive
 - 36 Brace for trouble
 - 37 Ballpoint point
 - 38 Lap dog
 - 39 – de Janeiro
 - 40 Mortar-board feature
- 42 Wham!**
- 44 Ravi’s forte**
- 48 Noted sci-fi writer**
- 51 Pianist’s span**
- 52 Isinglass**
- 53 Dog food brand**
- 55 Knock**
- 56 Not so hot**
- 57 Level**
- 58 Pablo’s aunt**
- 59 Earthenware jar**
- 60 Transmitted**
- 61 Underhanded**
- DOWN**
- 1 Champagne glass
 - 2 More desolate
 - 3 Sluggard
 - 4 Composition by Ravel
 - 5 Done with
 - 6 Prospect for gold
 - 7 Wallop
 - 8 Common amphibians

- 9 Tirade
- 10 – – -foot pole
- 11 Riddle starter
- 19 Lugged
- 21 Winding curve
- 25 Warrior princess
- 26 Cow-headed goddess
- 27 Catches a crook
- 29 Tick off
- 30 Bridal notice word
- 31 Exec
- 32 A crowd, for Caesar?
- 33 Hot and humid
- 35 Divide
- 40 Early afternoon
- 41 Prom partner
- 43 Warren Buffett’s town
- 45 Bakery items
- 46 Benefit
- 47 Return the favor
- 48 Pulpit
- 49 Window part
- 50 Wine casks
- 51 Ajar
- 54 Twist the truth



FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2021

The trump royals are important

By Phillip Alder

Following the bidding convention senryus comes this logical follow-up from Charlie Smyth of Urbana, Illinois: Hours spent playing bridge / Learning all the conventions / But I’m still lousy.

Gnash! But keep applying yourself with a likable partner with whom you can have success.

Some conventions are easy at the start, but as you unpeel the layers, they get more complicated. Roman Key Card Blackwood is one example. Most players can handle 14-30-20-21. Five clubs shows one or four key cards (counting the four aces and the trump king as key). Five diamonds indicates zero or three keys; five hearts promises two keys but no trump queen; five spades announces two keys and the trumps queen. However, when a minor is agreed, especially clubs, you should instead use 30-14-20-21.

In today’s auction, five hearts told North to pass with zero key cards, or to treat the bid as the trump-queen ask with three keys. North’s five no-trump denied the key queen.

Against six hearts, West led the club queen. How did South play?

After winning with the club ace,

North		03-26-21	
♠	A 7 6 4 3		
♥	A 9		
♦	J 6		
♣	A 8 7 2		
West		East	
♠	J 2	♠	Q 10 9 8
♥	3	♥	Q 5 4 2
♦	Q 10 9 8 3	♦	5 4
♣	Q J 10 9 5	♣	K 6 3
South			
♠	K 5		
♥	K J 10 8 7 6		
♦	A K 7 2		
♣	4		
Dealer: North Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
		1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
5♥	Pass	5NT	Pass
6♥	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: ♣ Q			

declarer planned to ruff his diamond losers in the dummy and concede only one trump trick. But he had to be careful. After cashing the diamond ace-king, declarer ruffed the next diamond with the heart ace. If he had ruffed low, East would have overruffed and returned a trump, with fatal consequences. Here, caution was duly rewarded.

How do I know COVID-19 vaccines are safe?

Only vaccines that are safe, effective and of the highest quality are authorized by Health Canada. Canada is recognized around the world for its high standards and rigorous vaccine review process.

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The COVID-19
vaccines
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