

Wales Home positive about the future

“There is a solution that’s coming”

By Gordon Lambie

Brendalee Piironen says that the meeting held last week between the board of directors of the Wales Home and provincial Health Minister Gaetan Barrette was very positive and that a solution to the private care home’s \$1.7 million deficit is on the way.

“There is a solution that’s coming,” the home’s executive director said, clarifying while it is not yet clear what form that solution will take, she is certain that it will be more than just a short-term patch on a long-term problem. “This isn’t a one-shot solution,” Piironen continued. “Our problem is recurrent.”

The director explained that the health minister wants to conduct an audit of the home’s operations prior to making any commitments regarding funding, but added that she’s not worried about it.

“We’re audited every year; we’re very open book, we have nothing to hide, and we want to find a solution,” Piironen said, emphasizing that she’s taking a positive stance on the whole procedure. “If, along the way, they find something and say, hey, you can do this better, all the better. It will be a win-win for us.”

The Wales Home went into last Friday’s meeting looking to be granted the status of établissement Privée-Conventionnée, which they believed would allow the home to continue to operate as a private institution but with the support of public funding. In the meeting, however, Piironen said that the health minister changed their minds about that idea.

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Sherbrooke lowers flags to honour Quebec City victims



MATTHEW MCCULLY

Record Staff SHERBROOKE

The City of Sherbrooke put its flags at half-mast in front of City Hall Monday morning in support of the people of Quebec City following the attack on a mosque Sunday night that re-

sulted in several deaths and injuries.

“It is a cowardly gesture that reminds us that, unfortunately, such terrorist acts can also occur in our country,” said Mayor Bernard Sévigny, who spoke with representatives of the Muslim community in Sherbrooke yesterday to offer support and to confirm his presence at

a vigil, scheduled for Monday evening.

“We often talk about tolerance towards cultural communities. In Sherbrooke, as in all of Quebec, we are not just talking about tolerance, but about respecting our fellow citizens of all origins,” added the mayor.

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Weather



TODAY:
MIX OF SUN
AND CLOUDS

HIGH OF -7
LOW OF -14



WEDNESDAY:
SNOW

HIGH OF -4
LOW OF -10



THURSDAY:
CLOUDY

HIGH OF -8
LOW OF -21



FRIDAY:
CLOUDY

HIGH OF -10
LOW OF -17



SATURDAY:
60% CHANCE
OF FLURRIES

HIGH OF -10
LOW OF -22

What's in a name?



DISHPAN HANDS

SHEILA QUINN

Quebec's entertainment industry is bright with names that indeed have achieved legendary status, for their talents, their contribution to society, and their dedication to their craft. One of those names in lights is Townships-bound, performing February 11th at The Lakeview Inn in Knowlton.

Here are a few feathers in this performer's cap:

- Began performing as a dancer, drummer, tenor sax throughout the US and Canada

- Dora Mavor Moore Award-winning actress

- Starred in 'Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill - Canada's first musical production portraying the life of Billie Holiday

- Apart from the US and Canada, has also toured South Africa as part of The Canadian Jazz Giant, was invited to perform in Israel, Brazil, England, China, toured Mexico, Spain, France, Scandinavia, and performed for Her Majesty The Queen of England, Elizabeth II.

- Co-starred in the role of African-American educator and civil rights pioneer Sadie Delany in a (non-musical) production at the Saidye Bronfman Centre for the Arts, in CBC TV's production of Stormy Weather (the story of American composer Harold Arlen), in Mon-

treil's Black Theatre Workshop's Swan Song for Maria and Raisin in the Sun (for Centaur Stage), as well as a cast member in Centaur Theatre's play Intimate Apparel, acted opposite Billy Dee Williams (Star Wars' Lando Calrissian) in the film Giant Steps and opened for the late legend George Burns at Place des Arts.

- Nominated for a Juno (2001) for her work (conception, writing, performance) Dark Divas (celebrating Sarah Vaughan, Ella Fitzgerald, Dinah Washington, Pearl Bailey and more).

- Juno Winner (2010) - Vocal Jazz Album of the Year 2010

- Hosted BET (US) and BRAVO (Canada) tv series The Performers highlighting talented Canadian Jazz musicians.

- Published children's author. (Nana What Do You Say?)

- Honoured with the ACTRA Award for Lifetime Achievement

- Appointed as a Member To The Order of Canada (2005, invested 2006)

The list goes on...

Sometimes a show poster just doesn't suffice. In this case it can't possible hope to contain all that she is...and this storied performer, and national treasure, is none other than Ms. Rane Lee.

The power Ms. Lee brings to musical performance rests on a foundation of experience, dedication, and also education, with over twenty years' experience on the faculty at the University of Laval in Quebec City, The Schulich School of Music and thirty years on the faculty of performance at McGill University. She is a recipient of the International Association of Jazz Educators Award (1994).

When a performer of Ms. Lee's calibre takes to the stage, she brings life experience with her - natural talent marries with visions of stages the world over and the music legacy of legends before her is channeled through her into own version of jazz. She makes jazz accessible, listener-friendly, constructing the ultimate gift to music lovers - a precious gateway to a musical genre.



COURTESY OF RICHARD GAGNON

Rane Lee

Jazz Report Magazine awarded her Top Canadian Female Jazz Vocalist two years consecutively (1994-1995), the AFIM honoured her with the Best Female Jazz Vocalist Award in 1998, and won the Toronto Urban Music Award for her recording of Just You, Just Me in 2005. Such recognition is the result of lifelong commitment and driven by remarkable work ethic.

Witness this renowned international recording artist and compelling musical talent with jazz guitarist Richard Ring on stage at Auberge Lakeview Inn (50 Victoria, Knowlton) on Saturday, February 11th, at 8:00 p.m. tickets (show-only) are \$30.00, available through Brome Lake Books, phone to reserve at 450-242-2242. For dinner reservations contact the Lakeview Inn at 450-243-6183. This show is presented by Emma Stevens and Lorna Wayne.

Snowmobiler found injured in Saint-Denis-de-Brompton

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

A snowmobiler was found unconscious and injured late Saturday night in Saint-Denis-de-Brompton. The man, about 30 years of age, was

traveling on trail 521 when it appears he lost control of his vehicle on a curve and was thrown from the snowmobile into a tree.

Emergency services were not contacted until around 11 .p.m. on Sunday

and arrived at the scene to find the man with multiple fractures. He was sent to hospital and remained in serious condition at press time. Alcohol is not believed to have played a role in the accident.

Ben by Daniel Shelton



LOCAL NEWS

Phoenix players had raised nearly \$6,000. This year, they will need the generosity of the population to reach their \$5,000 target.

Sherbrooke's Entrepreneur 'Welcome Kit' expands

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

The success of the first edition of Commerce Sherbrooke's entrepreneurial welcome kit made it possible to find additional partners to help entrepreneurs starting their activities in Sherbrooke.

"In 2016, there were twelve partners who offered different gratuities and privileged rates to more than thirty of our customers. In 2017, six new partners have been added. Start-up assistance will respond even better and more comprehensively to the needs of our customers," says Commerce Sherbrooke General Manager Gilles Marcoux.

Who is the Sherbrooke welcome kit for?

The welcome kit was developed to assist entrepreneurs during the start-up phase. "We identify the needs of the busi-

nesses at the start of their activities and we solicit partners who could fill those needs. Not only do we help entrepreneurs, but our partners also benefit from the formula. It's a win for everyone." Marcoux continues.

The Welcome Kit is available to all new entrepreneurs starting a retail or service business and who apply to Commerce Sherbrooke before the start of business.

Generous partners

As the goal of the toolkit is to provide visibility, guidance and tools to support success, the majority of partners offer their services free of charge. "Thanks to our generous partners, the 2017 kit contains over \$ 7,500 in free benefits," concludes Marcoux.

2017 Welcome Kit Partners:

Commerce Sherbrooke, Uni-D, La Tri-

bune, EstriePlus, Bell Média, Cogeco, Padgett, Lord, Carrier, Hanahem, Avocats, Cain, Lamarre, Avocats, Reuse Inc.,

Crowd Chat, Global Payment, Net Revolution, Priorité Sherbrooke, Publiforme, Multi Visuel, Enseignes Sherbrooke, and C3 Estrie.

Winter Fun Day in Lennoxville Saturday

Record Staff
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Winter Fun Day comes to the Borough of Lennoxville Saturday, February 4, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Atto Beaver Park on St. Francis St.

The day invites citizens to enjoy In-

flatable games, skating, snowshoeing, and many other winter activities.

Participants should bring their own skates, but snowshoes will be provided on site to allow for the discovery of the magnificent trail along the river.

Beginning at 11 a.m. horse-drawn sleigh rides will also be available and meals will be served on site.

Sherbrooke Police tighten security near Muslim centres

Record Staff
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Sherbrooke Police increased their surveillance near Islamic places of worship after the attack against a mosque in Quebec City that killed six

worshippers and wounded many more. According to Police spokesperson Martin Carrier, the force didn't receive any threat in Sherbrooke but decided not to take any chances.

Patrol vehicles carried out regular pa-

trols near the mosques such as that of the Estrie Islamic Cultural Association on Massé St. in the west and the Sherbrooke Islamic Center on Richard St. in the north.

"Our policemen are much more visi-

ble near the various places of worship, Carrier said. "The leadership of the SPS and our intelligence division are closely following the situation. Our environmental security officers are also on the ground."

Phoenix launch Leucan Shaved Head Challenge

Record Staff
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The Sherbrooke Phoenix Hockey Club launched the second edition of the Proxim Leucan Shaved Head Challenge on Monday and three of the team's players will be shaving their locks on Sunday, February 12 at the Leopold-Drolet Sports Center during a game against the Moncton Wildcats. Johnathan Legault, Evan Mackinnon, and Benjamin Tardif will be mobilizing to support young people with cancer.

The Sherbrooke hockey organization is committed to the Leucan cause and by 2015, Phoenix players had raised nearly \$6,000. This year, they will need the generosity of the population to reach their

\$5,000 target.

Shave yourself with your favorite player!

For this edition of the Leucan Shaved Head Challenge, fans seven or older are invited to participate by registering on the tetesrasees.com website. Hockey fans can encourage their favorite players by attending the event and making a donation on the Challenge page: (https://www.tetesrasees.com/en/defi?id=213814®ion_id=8112).

The Leucan Shaved Head Challenge is a major Leucan fundraising activity that mobilizes the community in a spirit of solidarity to provide services to families of children with cancer and to invest in clinical research.

Participants shave their own heads to collect donations from family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues, and the event is a gesture of support for children who experience a decline in their body image

by the loss of the hair during chemotherapy. Being part of the Leucan Shaved Head Challenge means being part of a unique family that children with cancer can rely on every day.

Church communities celebrate 50 years of connection

By Gordon Lambie

This past weekend 75 members of the local Anglican community joined the regular worship service of the Syrian Orthodox church on 13th Avenue in Sherbrooke as a part of ongoing efforts to recognize and strengthen a relationship that goes back 50 years.

"Many of them worshipped in our churches," said Father Edward Simonton, Vicar General and Archdeacon of the Anglican Diocese of Quebec, explaining that the local Anglicans played a major part in welcoming the region's first Syrian refugees decades ago. "We gave our churches to them for anything they needed, and they remember."

Last fall the two religious communities came together at St. George's Anglican Church in Lennoxville in a celebration of friendship. After that

gathering, however, Simonton said that the community will to continue rekindling their connection to the Syrian church was so great that another exchange seemed necessary.

"They generously welcomed us when we suggested it," the Archdeacon said.

As the Syrian community came to Lennoxville for the last visit and shared a meal with their hosts, this time the Anglicans brought the lunch and participated in a traditional Syrian Orthodox service.

"It was a very, very different experience; that's why I was so proud of the people who came out," Simonton said, explaining that the ancient roots of the Syrian church mean that prayers are chanted in Aramaic and Syrian. "It was far, far outside their comfort zones and they enjoyed it."

The Archdeacon was particularly ex-

cited about the fact that the Syrian Archbishop, Mor Athanasius Elia Bahi, shared communion with the visiting Anglicans.

"That was extraordinary; they just don't do that," Simonton said. "Most of my people won't have realized what a significant thing that was, but for him to say we are brothers and sisters in Christ and so we will share communion is just as an extreme an act of hospitality and Christian witness as you can ever get between two vastly different communities."

Although the links between the two church communities go back many decades, Simonton said that it was more recent work to support refugee initiatives that have reopened the cooperation and cultural exchange. He shared that in the last year the Anglicans have provided the financial resources to enable thirty Syrian refugees to settle in Sherbrooke

as well as providing children's summer camps for them.

With another 40 families on the way in the coming year, the archdeacon said that the support will continue, as will the efforts to build links between the two communities.

"They've invited us for a barbeque when the weather gets warmer," Simonton said.

Asked if the decision to celebrate history of supporting refugees together this past weekend had any link to the recent news of United States President Donald Trump's decision to ban refugees from certain Middle Eastern countries, the Anglican leader said that the timing was coincidental but meaningful.

"It just happened to be an even stronger witness because of what was happening," Simonton said.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF EDWARD SIMONTON

Edward Simonton, Anglican Vicar General; Mor Athanasius Elia Bahi, The Syrian Archbishop; Giuseppe Gagliano, Priest of the St Francis Regional Ministry; and Father Gabriel Sarkis, the Syrian priest for the church of St Ephrem on 13th Avenue in Sherbrooke.



Smoking behind Félix-Hébert St. fire

Record staff
SHERBROOKE

Careless smoking was at the root of a fire that forced the evacuation of more than a hundred people Thursday night in east Sherbrooke.

The tenants of the 60-unit apartment

building at 95 Félix-Hébert St. in Sherbrooke were forced to evacuate Thursday night shortly before 9 p.m. when a fire erupted in one of the apartments.

Firefighters were required to rescue six people, five of whom were on their balconies. Another woman was suffering from cardiopulmonary arrest. The three-

room unit at the origin of the blaze was completely destroyed.

The Red Cross was on hand immediately and assisted several victims by offering immediate shelter to those who had no place to stay overnight.

The building was built in two parts, in 2006 and 2009 and the recent con-

struction of the wood and brick structure helped to reduce the damage, which is currently assessed at more than \$200,000. The building is compartmentalized, making it possible to limit the ability of fire to spread.

Wales Home positive

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

"Doctor Barrette went against this because he felt that we would have lost control over who would be admitted into our long-term care facility," the director said. "The people living on the residential side would most likely be transferred into the public system."

According to Piironen, Barrette said that transformation into a semi-public

institution would change the way that the Wales Home's long term care facility operates and automatically tie it to public waiting lists, regardless of the home's existing service to the English speaking community.

"I believe they're going to take everything into consideration," the director said. "My fingers are crossed."

The office of Richmond MNA Karine Vallières, who has been supporting the

home in its advocacy for a solution, put out a press release regarding last week's meeting, calling the encounter constructive.

"Each of the parties was able to present its realities," Vallières is quoted as saying. "I am truly satisfied that the Minister has acknowledged that the Wales Home CHSLD plays an important role in the Val-Saint-François MRC and that we are working together to ensure that ap-

propriate financial assistance is provided. The Minister has also committed to work on a rapid solution concerning this unilingual English-speaking CHSLD (...) Given the important and essential role of this residence in the community, and the Eastern Townships, we must have more than a half-solution."

Magog Montessori School opens new classes this year

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

The Magog Montessori School, which has been housed in its new facilities on Ch. Roy for the past three years, has reached full capacity and is opening two new classes to meet the ever-increasing demand at both the Mille Sourires preschool and at the elementary and secondary levels, where English and Spanish courses are offered from

early childhood to adolescence.

When Sylvie des Rosiers, primary school principal and founder of the Magog Montessori School, developed the Intensive English as a Second Language curriculum for the 5th and 6th grades, she was far from imagining that it would be necessary to open two new classes to meet the demand.

"Our program is increasingly recognized in the region and since last year we have had to put children on a waiting

list for the next school year. Our school will open two new classes dedicated to the Intensive English program for the 2017 academic year. This will mark our 10th anniversary," des Rosiers says.

Faced with this development and the occupation of the premises by the primary and the preschool which also envisages the opening of two new short-term classes to meet demand, the high school will be relocated by September 2017.

Currently, several scenarios are under consideration by the Secondary Development Committee. Sylvie Gauvreau, director of secondary education is thrilled to continue growing a high school that stands out for its distinctive educational philosophy, in which a student develops his or her full potential through an individualized journey that recognizes the uniqueness of each individual, in an inclusive environment, conducive to creativity and innovation.

Destination Sherbrooke reissues 'mural circuit' call for tenders

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

Destination Sherbrooke is hoping to offer an exciting circuit around its 15 murals as of next summer and to this end, the City of Sherbrooke has just launched a second call for tenders inviting companies to propose ideas for a circuit around Sherbrooke's iconic public art.

This is a second draft for a project which was put on hold last autumn. An initial invitation was issued in September and three firms from the region

were invited to propose projects for a concept for an evening tour. However, the firms were working without a budget scale, which complicated matters considerably. Destination Sherbrooke canceled the call and reorganized for a second try.

"At City Council on December 19, we found out that our budget for the project was \$500,000. Now that we know how much we can work with, it's easier to re-issue the call with more specific parameters," explains Amélie Boissonneau, Communications Coordinator at Destination Sherbrooke.

There are two significant changes from the first call for tenders that stand out.

It is no longer a call by invitation only; also, the proposed tour can also take place during the day, and not only in the evening.

Interested firms have until February 9 to submit their project. The proposal must include a maximum of murals close to downtown Sherbrooke, which are part of the "half-circuit", which is more easily walkable.

Once the bidding process is completed, Destination Sherbrooke will

quickly enter the selection and interviews process.

"We have a very busy schedule in February. Our goal is to make our proposal to the municipal council on March 6," says Boissonneau. The chosen firm will have the end of winter and all spring to put its project in place.

"In the best of worlds, we will be able to put this experience in place this summer. We would not want to miss summer, which is a strong season for tourism," adds Boissonneau.

UdeS rugby players get new home-grown training tool

Record staff
SHERBROOKE

A group of electrical, computer and mechanical engineering students at the Université de Sherbrooke have teamed up to design and build an ingenious rugby 'scrimmage' simulator for players at UdeS. The new device, called SAMUS, can simulate scrimmage scenarios by advancing at a specific pace.

SAMUS made its public debut last December during the MégaGÉNIALE Exposition, winning the public favourite prize. The future engineers succeeded in

designing at low cost, a machine that will improve players' technique because of its stability, which is not always the case in practice situations between players. In this way, athletes will be able to train more without always having to attack each other.

In a rugby match, a scrimmage unfolds when a foul is committed, the most frequent being when the ball is sent forward intentionally or accidentally, or if the ball is no longer playable. During the scrum, each team forms a block and players who are part of the scrimmage are called fronts and together they form

the pack. The eight players of the pack join up to form a common force in order to win the ball.

"In recent years, the scrum has become extremely technical and powerful, hence the importance of this machine in practicing the technique in order to be one step ahead of the opposing team in terms of commitment, stability and thrust", says Vert et Or player Benoît Goyette, and engineering student was inspired by a simulator developed by the French team. It was as a result of meetings with Vert & Or players and coaches that the engineering students under-

stood the peculiarities of the scrum and the needs to correct and improve the technique of the athletes. "For players, the important thing is to know if they are pushing too far down as this scrum crumbles. If they push too far upwards, they are less effective. For an optimal result, they have to push in a straight line. This new machine takes into account all these variants," says Chad Bombardier, a graduating mechanical engineering student. A player pushes an average of 1000 newtons in a scrum, equivalent to lifting about 100 kilos for eight seconds.

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EDITORIAL

Loss in life and love is inevitable. It is not measured or mimicked. We each feel it as we do and deal with it as we can.

When grief knocks...you must answer



MABLE HASTINGS

I guess in truth, we all leave suddenly when we go. No matter the circumstance, when the time comes to lose a loved one expected or not, we are rarely if ever prepared and while the end may have been looming in the distance, it always feels like death snuck up behind us and robbed us blind. Ill prepared we collapse in shock and sadness and selfishly we question everything on this level and beyond. I suppose that is where our beliefs and faith are either born or destroyed. In time, we rise again. We wade through the memories and we both celebrate and mourn the days long gone and never to return.

Many of us, me included, cling to every fragment of the "known" and safe. This provides some sort of comfort and

justifies the tears that enter our body and leave as they wish with no rhyme or reason. When we expect to cry we are strong and stoic and when we are least prepared a bout of despair rises from our chest and throat into an inappropriate justification that we are human and we feel.

Loss in life and love is inevitable. It is not measured or mimicked. We each feel it as we do and deal with it as we can. No recipe is quite the same and the result does not taste the same nor look like we might have thought or been told that it should. Even Julia Child could not combine the ingredients of grief and put forth a recipe for the perfect heart break. A slug of wine, a glass or bottle cannot remove the bite of loss. The effects remain until we find our own way...

Elizabeth Kubler-Ross has written wonderful books about death as have other wise folk but, deep inside I know that I am the author of my own story. I refuse to tell others how and what to feel but instead prefer merely to listen. Sometimes in another's experiences, there is a morsel of wisdom that can be tucked away for future reference.

With the recent loss of a loved one, grief moved into our home with arms of suitcases for a good long stay. An un-

wanted guest, she walks the floors at night unable to sleep and keeps me awake. While anxious for her to leave, I know that she is here until I ask her to depart and neither one of us is ready for that. So, for now, we sit up way too late and sip our tea in silence; uncomfortable strangers who don't want to get to know each other too well.

Almost two weeks have passed and I am still in disbelief. Apparently there are stages of grief...I still feel that I am standing on the arrival platform at a train depot. I have along way to go...the only comfort is that time is all that helps and I have plenty of that, right?

That being said, I find myself constantly trying to figure out what to do with time and to find a distraction. Focusing on grief and knowing how to be a good host seems to be difficult as it feels like I am wasting time on an emotion that I wish would not come to visit again. I don't want to be too hospitable to this discouraging guest.

As grief adjusts the cushions on the sofa to her liking, I am too exhausted to argue. I sigh, a deep exhausted intake of air and she glances my way. I leave the room and she follows. In sleep there is temporary escape and minimal relief. I open my eyes and she has left the room

but I find her in the next room not far away; no longer in my face with her nose pressed to mine.

In time, she will pack up and take her burdens to someone else's door. And what shall I do? Well, I will find a way to cope and move forward as I know I must in the knowledge that while I have lost and others have lost, we are left behind to live life. The simple fact is that life as we knew it is over and done never to be the same. It now takes on a different shape and we are called to live and love and laugh and cry and grieve and rise...one moment at a time until our own time comes and we exit stage left in our destined way, leaving someone behind to deal with grief as she lands on their doorstep.

I think as I write this, I can here her packing in the other room. She has left a long list of "to do's" on the refrigerator. She will be leaving soon but the trace of her perfume will no doubt linger here for months. She will be gone and then alone, I will find my own way with all the time in this world. And like a family recipe is moulded and shaped as it is passed to the next generation, my grief will be done in my own way.

Commentary

Trump's 'Muslim ban' order may be another con job

By Frank Nixon

U.S. President Donald Trump signed another executive order Jan. 27. This order suspends all entry to the U.S. from seven Muslim-majority countries in the Middle East. The countries are Syria, Iraq, Iran, Yemen, Somalia, Sudan and Libya.

At first glance, the ban looks like a bold and decisive step to secure the homeland from Islamic extremism, but to many observers it's just the latest example of Trump's predilection to deceive, deflect and distract - another con job, because the list also protects and promotes his business interests in the Middle East.

Critics have noted that Trump's list does not include other Muslim-majority

countries where the Trump Organization has done business or pursued potential deals, which include two luxury towers operating out of Istanbul, Turkey.

Sadly, Turkey has been rife with Islamic extremism leading to widespread carnage and bloodshed. Since 2015, more than 400 people have been killed in major attacks throughout the country, according to a New York Times report on Jan. 5.

Other countries excluded from the Muslim ban, where Trump has ongoing and active business ties, are Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, the home countries of all but one of the nineteen 9/11 hijackers.

The world should not be surprised by Trump's latest confidence trick. After all, the president implicitly admits to being

a con man in his book *The Art of the Deal*, which could easily have been titled *The Art of the Con*. The book is full of examples of how Trump misleads ("truthful hyperbole") and manipulates people to take advantage of them.

Recently, Trump's critics have moved forward with legal action due to the numerous and on-going conflict of interest allegations. The watchdog group Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington D.C, or CREW, filed a lawsuit alleging that Trump's business holdings violate the Emoluments Clause of the Constitution, which makes it illegal for government officials to "accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State."

Could this eventually lead to the impeachment of Trump?

Allan Lichtman, a political historian who teaches at the American University in Washington, thinks so. "The Republicans are nervous about Donald Trump," said Lichtman, in part. "He is loose cannon. Nobody knows what he really believes or really where he stands."

9/11 Hijackers by country:

- American Airlines Flight 11
- Mohamed Atta - Egypt, tactical leader of 9/11 plot and pilot
- Abdul Aziz al Omari - Saudi Arabia
- Wail al Shehri - Saudi Arabia
- Waleed al Shehri - Saudi Arabia
- Satam al Suqami - Saudi Arabia
- United Airlines Flight 175
- Fayez Banihammad - United Arab Emirates
- Ahmed al Ghamdi - Saudi Arabia
- Hamza al Ghamdi - Saudi Arabia
- Marwan al Shehhi - United Arab Emirates, pilot
- Mohand al Shehri - Saudi Arabia
- American Airlines Flight 77
- Hani Hanjour - Saudi Arabia, pilot
- Nawaf al Hazmi - Saudi Arabia
- Salem al Hazmi - Saudi Arabia
- Khalid al Mihdhar - Saudi Arabia
- Majed Moqed - Saudi Arabia
- United Airlines Flight 93
- Saeed al Ghamdi - Saudi Arabia
- Ahmad al Haznawi - Saudi Arabia
- Ziad Jarrah - Lebanon, pilot
- Ahmed al Nami - Saudi Arabia

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1 YEAR	135.60	6.78	13.53	\$155.91
6 MONTHS	71.19	3.56	7.10	\$81.85
3 MONTHS	36.16	1.81	3.60	\$41.57

ON-LINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

QUEBEC:		GST	PST	TOTAL
1 YEAR	71.50	3.58	7.13	\$82.21
1 MONTH	6.49	0.32	0.65	\$7.46

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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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Local Sports

Kamane, the Montreal native, had eight points, six rebounds and three steals in Bishop's 76-55 loss to Concordia on Thursday night.

Archambault and Kamane named Provigo Robert Lafond athletes of the week

Submitted by Clare Webb
Sports Information Assistant

The Bishop's University Department of Athletics and Recreation is pleased to announce that Maude Archambault of the women's basketball team and Abdul Kamane of the men's basketball team have been named the Provigo Robert Lafond Athletes of the Week.

Archambault, from Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures, Que., had 10 points and four rebounds in the Gaiters 57-42 loss to Concordia in Montreal on Thursday night.

The 5-8 guard led Bishop's with 18 points in their 76-66 win over Concordia in Lennoxville on Saturday night. Archambault added eight rebounds and four assists to her stat-line. The business

student was 4-10 from behind the arc.

Kamane, the Montreal native, had eight points, six rebounds and three steals in Bishop's 76-55 loss to Concordia on Thursday night. On Saturday night at home the business student led the Gaiters with 19 points and 11 rebounds in Bishop's 75-69 loss to Concordia. He had one block and two steals in 31 minutes on the floor.

Bishop's will travel to Montreal to face the McGill Martlets on Thursday in Montreal at 6 and 8 p.m. and host McGill in the back end of the home-and-home on Saturday, Feb. 4 at 6 and 8 p.m. in Mitchell Gym.

Stay up-to-date anytime with the Bishop's Gaiters at www.gaiters.ca, or follow them on social media using @BishopGaiters.



BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY

Maude Archambault of the women's basketball team



BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY

Abdul Kamane of the men's basketball team

Alouettes release offensive lineman Jeff Perrett

The Montreal Alouettes announced on Monday that the club has released national offensive lineman Jeff Perrett.

Perrett (6'7", 320 lbs.) played 166 games in ten seasons with the Alouettes, helping the team win back-to-back Grey Cups in 2009 and 2010. The 32-year-old Taber, AB native was elected the East Division's Most Outstanding Lineman in 2015. That same year, he was recognized for his leadership and his courage, as he

was the recipient of the Jake Gaudaur Veterans Trophy in 2015.

"We would like to thank Jeff for everything he has done for this team and this organization," declared Alouettes General Manager Kavis Reed. "Jeff always gave it his all during his time in Montreal and it is never an easy thing to part ways with someone who has done such an outstanding job representing the team on and off the field."

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Death

Betty Jocelyn HOLMES

Passed away peacefully at the Connaught Home, North Hatley, Quebec on January 28 in her 94th year.

Loving mother of Judith (Maurice), Glenn (Brenda), daughter-in-law Anne Houstoun, granddaughter Heather and sister Nancy Young.

Predeceased by her husband Steve (2007), sons Timothy (1984) and Hugh (2010), brother Phillip and sisters Joanne, Mary Jean and Barbara.

Cremation has taken place and a private interment will be held at a later date.

Sincere thanks are extended to the Connaught Home for their care and compassion over many years and a special thank you to Sue Black.

Contributions to the Dr. W.J. Klinck Foundation Building fund would be welcomed.

Death

**Vera NIELSEN
(nee Morrison)**

It is with great sadness that the family of Vera Morrison Nielsen announces her passing on Sunday, January 29, 2017, at the age of 81 years.

Vera, wife of the late Orla Nielsen, will be lovingly remembered by her children, Garry, Penny and Brenda (Henry); her six grandchildren, Shawn (Courtney), Brandon, Kiersten, Danika (Steven), Kyla and Ryley; and her great-grandson Chase.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, February 1st, 2017 at the Cass Funeral Home, 15 Station, Sawyerville, Que., from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and on Thursday, February 2, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., followed by the funeral at 2:00 p.m. Rev. Tami Spires officiating. Interment in the Eaton Cemetery at a later date.

Donations to the Eaton Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 934, Cookshire-Eaton, QC, J0B 1M0, would be appreciated by the family.

Datebook

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2017

Today is the 31st day of 2017 and the 42nd day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1606, Guy Fawkes was executed for his role in the Gunpowder Plot in Britain.

In 1958, Explorer 1 was launched, marking the first successful launch of an American satellite into orbit.

In 1968, the North Vietnamese Tet Offensive began in South Vietnam.

In 2010, James Cameron's "Avatar" became the first film to reach a worldwide gross of \$2 billion.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Franz Schubert (1797-1828), composer; John O'Hara (1905-1970), author; Jackie Robinson (1919-1972), baseball player; Carol Channing (1921-), actress; Norman Mailer (1923-2007), author/journalist; Ernie Banks (1931-2015), baseball player; Jonathan Banks (1947-), actor; Nolan Ryan (1947-), baseball player; Minnie Driver (1970-), actress; Portia de Rossi (1973-), actress; Justin Timberlake (1981-), singer-songwriter.

TODAY'S FACT: The first Social Security check, issued on this day in 1940,

was for \$22.54 and went to Ida May Fuller, who lived on a Vermont farm. Having worked less than three years under Social Security, she paid only \$24.75 into the system, but she had collected \$22,888.92 by the time of her death in 1975.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1999, Hall of Fame quarterback John Elway won his second consecutive Super Bowl and the final game of his NFL playing career, leading the Denver Broncos to a 34-19 victory over the Atlanta Falcons in Super Bowl XXXIII. Elway was also selected as the game's MVP.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "There is no greater impotence in all the world like knowing you are right and that the wave of the world is wrong, yet the wave crashes upon you." — Norman Mailer, "Armies of the Night"

TODAY'S NUMBER: \$2.8 billion — total worldwide gross of "Avatar," making it the highest-grossing film of all time.

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (Jan. 27) and first quarter moon (Feb. 3).

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Year-round sun exposure vital to vitamin D production

ASK THE DOCTORS

By Robert Ashley, M.D.

Dear Doctor: How much sunshine do I need to get my daily dose of vitamin D? And does wearing sunscreen interfere with my body's production of vitamin D?

Dear Reader: These are good questions. The major source of our body's vitamin D comes from our own production in the skin. This requires the ultraviolet rays from sunlight to form vitamin D3; both the liver and the kidneys are needed to then create the active form of vitamin D.

Those with inadequate sun exposure — including disabled people, infants, the elderly, dark-skinned people, and those who live at northern latitudes during the winter — are at risk of low vitamin D3 production, which can lead to a loss of bone density and an increased risk of fractures. Disabled people and infants

are often less likely to go outdoors, and people over the age of 70 don't produce vitamin D3 from their skin as effectively. As for people with darker skin, they have more melanin, so less UV light gets absorbed to create vitamin D3. They need more sun exposure to produce vitamin D3 than those with lighter skin.

So to begin to answer your question, we have to look at all the variables that affect vitamin D3 production: your skin pigmentation, your general age, your latitude, the time of day when you go out in the sun and the season of the year.

A study done in Valencia, Spain, measured the amount of sunlight necessary to produce a sufficient amount of vitamin D in those with lighter skin. (Valencia is about the same latitude as Kansas City, Missouri.) The researchers took into account the amount of clothing and the season of the year. In spring and summer, 25 percent of the body (the hands, face, neck and arms) is exposed to the

sun, and in these seasons, about 8 to 10 minutes of sun exposure at noon produces the recommended amount of vitamin D. In the winter, only 10 percent of the body is exposed, and nearly 2 hours of sun exposure at noon is needed to produce a sufficient amount of vitamin D.

Another study compared the geographic extremes of Miami and Boston. Researchers studied people who tanned well, but who still burned when exposed to sun. In the summer in Miami — with 25 percent of the body exposed to the sun — a person would need only 3 minutes of sun exposure to make a sufficient amount of vitamin D. That same person — when placed in Boston in the winter — would need 23 minutes at noon to produce enough vitamin D.

Then again, Boston in the winter is really cold, so you would probably have only 5 percent or less of your body exposed to the sun. Thus, 23 minutes in the sun in Boston would need to be

stretched to more than 2 hours in order to ensure sufficient sun exposure. In addition, if you have darker skin pigmentation, the time needed to produce sufficient vitamin D would be even longer.

As for sunscreen, it can decrease the formation of vitamin D3 by the skin, but again there are many variables, such as how much of your body has sunscreen, how thick the layer of sunscreen and the level of SPF. There is a balance — a Goldilocks zone — between sufficient sun exposure to make vitamin D3 and the risk of getting skin cancer.

Lastly, because our fat cells can store vitamin D for months, you don't need to worry if there are days when you don't get enough sun exposure. You'll still be safe from the detrimental bone effects of low vitamin D if you get enough sun other days. So take some time to be outside.

Robert Ashley, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles.

RATES and DEADLINES: ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

BIRTH NOTICES, CARDS OF THANKS, IN MEMORIAMS, BRIEFLETS:
Text only: 40¢ per word. Minimum charge \$10.00 (\$11.50 taxes included)
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With photo: additional \$18.50. **DEADLINE:** 11 a.m., day before publication.
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Your Birthday

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2017

Stay centered and focused on behaving with integrity and honor. Living life your way and doing things for the benefit of humanity will bring you the most satisfaction. Jump into action and show everyone how to make a contribution and a difference.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — You can create a safe zone if you distance yourself from users and abusers. Focus on taking care of your needs and the needs of those you love.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Emotions can be helpful if you speak from the heart and let your true feelings and intentions be known. It's hidden matters and secrets that will get in your way.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Not everyone will approve of the changes you want to make, but you have to do what's best for you and proceed without hesitation. Actions speak louder than words.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Let your creativity help you find solutions. Don't dismiss your feelings. Your intuitive awareness will guide you in a direction that will encourage honesty from yourself and others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Stay focused on your end goal. Do your best to get ahead by working hard and being responsible. You can bring about change if you are willing to go the distance.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Share your thoughts and look for solutions. Sticking to what's realistic and using common

sense will make life easier. Self-awareness will lead to enlightenment and encourage creativity.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Making travel plans or domestic alterations that will encourage you to spend more time working on personal goals is encouraged. Added discipline will help you bring about positive change.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Keep your money and possessions locked up. Don't be tempted to gamble or to pay for someone else's mistakes. Use your intelligence to safeguard against someone taking advantage of you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Emotional energy will surface, giving you the drive you need to make things happen. Choose to engage in positive, progressive action and avoid disputes with stubborn individuals.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Get out and have some fun. Try something new or engage in activities that will motivate you to try new things. Make a commitment to yourself or someone you love.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — It's a good day to stay active. More action and less talk will help you avoid being taken for granted. Don't limit what you can do just because someone is emotionally toying with you. Do what's best for yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Rely on past acquaintances and experience to help you make wise choices. Don't get swept into someone else's plans when you have good ideas that should be implemented.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2017

Christmas competition answers 3 to 6

By Phillip Alder

3. How would you bid the North-South hands with South the dealer and East-West passing throughout? I firmly believe that North should respond two no-trump to show a balanced hand with 8 or more points. Then, over three spades, North's four-club control-bid promises spade support, the club ace and a good hand. Blackwood does the rest. But I accepted any sensible sequences for questions 2 and 3.

4. If West were the dealer with both sides vulnerable, what should he open? Five clubs — sock it to 'em, baby!

5. Look at the North hand. a. South opens one spade; with the opponents silent, how should North plan the auction? He should invite game, either (in two-over-one) by responding one forcing no-trump and rebidding three spades, or (in Standard) by responding two clubs and rebidding a minimum number of spades. b. West opens one no-trump, and East raises to three no-trump. What should North lead? Diamond three. This needs the least from partner (with luck, only the diamond king) to defeat the contract.

6. Look at the East hand. North opens one no-trump, and South raises to three no-trump. a. What should East lead?

North		01-31-17	
♠	J 5 4		
♥	5 4		
♦	A J 6 3		
♣	A 7 5 4		
West		East	
♠	—	♠ 10 9 8 7 6	
♥	J 10 9 8	♥ 7 6	
♦	2	♦ 10 9 8 7 5 4	
♣	K Q J 10 9 8 6 3	♣ —	
South			
♠	A K Q 3 2		
♥	A K Q 3 2		
♦	K Q		
♣	2		
Dealer: South Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
2♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣!	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
7♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: ♣ K			

Probably the heart seven. b. What should he lead if West doubles three no-trump? Definitely the heart seven. c. West opens two spades, a weak two-bid. After North passes, what should East bid? Four no-trump would be my choice! But almost anything except pass.

The winner will be announced in the Saturday, March 11, column.

CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Greek sandwich
- 5 Happy gatherings
- 10 Baby cow
- 14 Control for an equestrian
- 15 In full view
- 16 Buckeye State
- 17 Horse feed
- 18 TV's "The Practice," e.g.
- 20 "Bummer!"
- 22 Ford fiasco
- 23 Provides staff for
- 24 "That makes sense"
- 26 Champagne stopper or popper
- 27 Genius Bar pro
- 29 JFK's successor
- 32 High-card-wins game
- 33 Enjoy
- 35 Submitted tax returns with a click
- 38 Door holder's witticism

- 41 Part of Congress
- 42 Somali-born supermodel
- 43 Wide shoe size
- 44 Frat. counterpart
- 45 Aid in a felony
- 47 Traps in an attic?
- 49 Deborah of "The King and I"
- 51 Fictional Hawaiian police nickname
- 52 Rage
- 55 Procter & Gamble laundry detergent
- 60 Australia's "Sunshine State" ... or where you might find the ends of 18-, 20-, 38- and 55-Across?
- 62 "Go back" computer command
- 63 Sch. near the U.S.-Mexico border
- 64 Tweak, say
- 65 Raise a big stink?
- 66 Pops a question
- 67 Outlaw chasers
- 68 Hours next to flight nos.

- 19 Lousy grade
- 21 Sock that covers the joint it's named for
- 25 Biblical queendom
- 26 Pet store enclosures
- 27 Ref's ring decision
- 28 Spine-tingling
- 30 Margarine that shares its name with Texas' state flower
- 31 Ballet leaps
- 32 "Now, where __ I?"
- 34 "Sadly ..."
- 36 Red Sox ballpark
- 37 Hair coloring

- 39 Cocktail makers
- 40 Ambulance fig.
- 46 S.O.S shelfmate
- 48 Make certain of
- 50 Fish-eating eagle
- 51 Rapper with a title
- 52 Poolside shade
- 53 Pecans and cashews
- 54 Nerdy type
- 56 37-Down containers
- 57 Singles
- 58 Binged (on), as snacks
- 59 Pans for potstickers
- 61 Maple extract

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

Down

- 1 Branch out
- 2 "Okey-dokey"
- 3 Second actress to win an Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony
- 4 GM system with an AtYourService app
- 5 Helps with the laundry
- 6 Happily __ after
- 7 Maker of the Genesis game system
- 8 Like many Shakespeare plays
- 9 MLB Cardinal's cap letters
- 10 Lear's youngest daughter
- 11 "I get it" cries
- 12 Green citrus fruit
- 13 Baby horse

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13			
14					15						16						
17					18						19						
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52	53	54						55	56	57					58	59	
60								61						62			
63								64						65			
66								67						68			

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

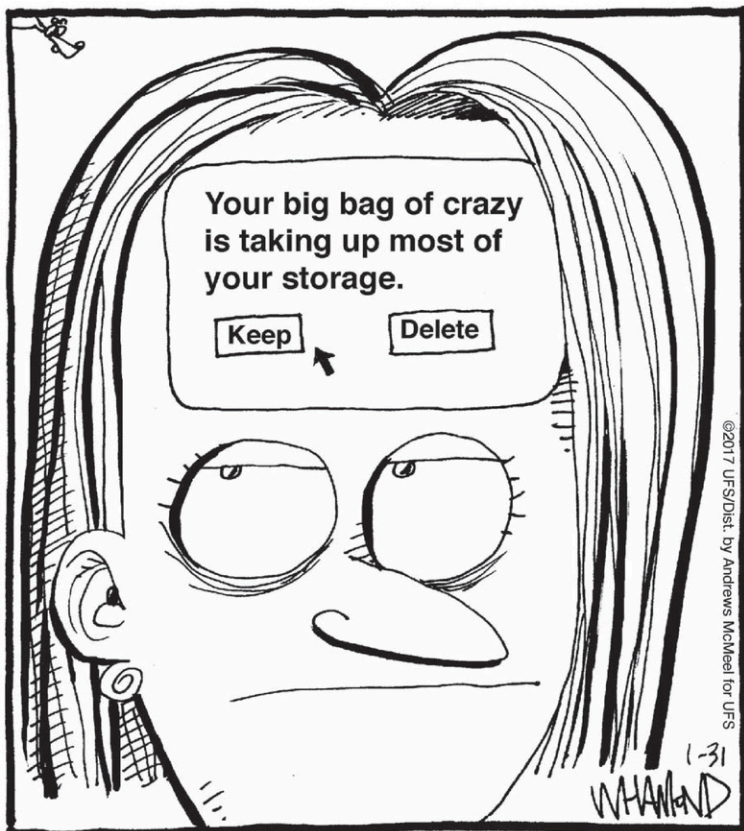
Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

" DW FBW AK F BACJN OXCAKWCC ,
FKM DW YRTW VYFV AU FKNVYAKL
YFTTWKC VR XC , AV DAZZ KRV MWZFN
VYW TBRLBFH . " — LXC LBACCRH

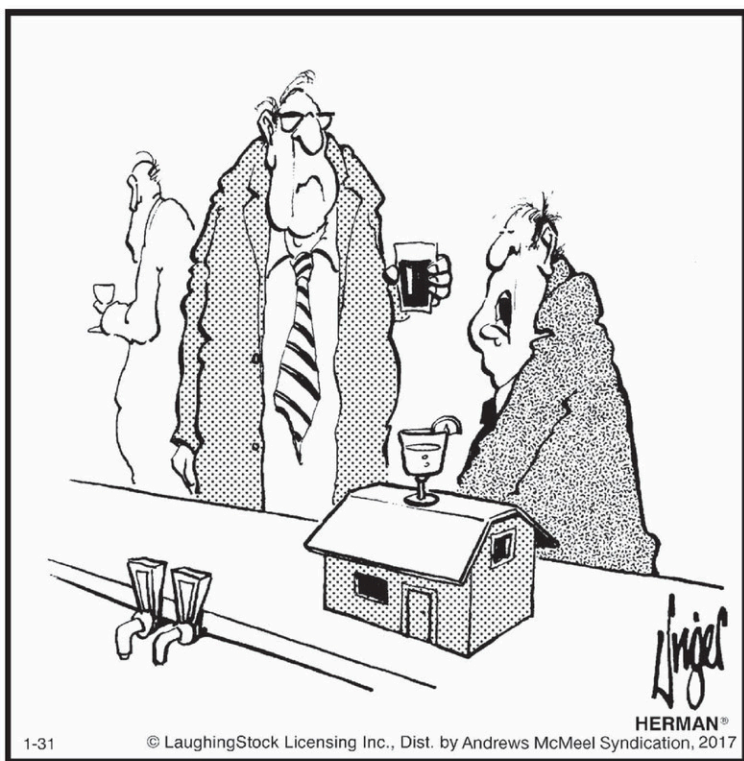
Previous Solution: "It takes sixty-five thousand errors before you are qualified to make a rocket." — Wernher von Braun

TODAY'S CLUE: *Y sjenber*

REALITY CHECK

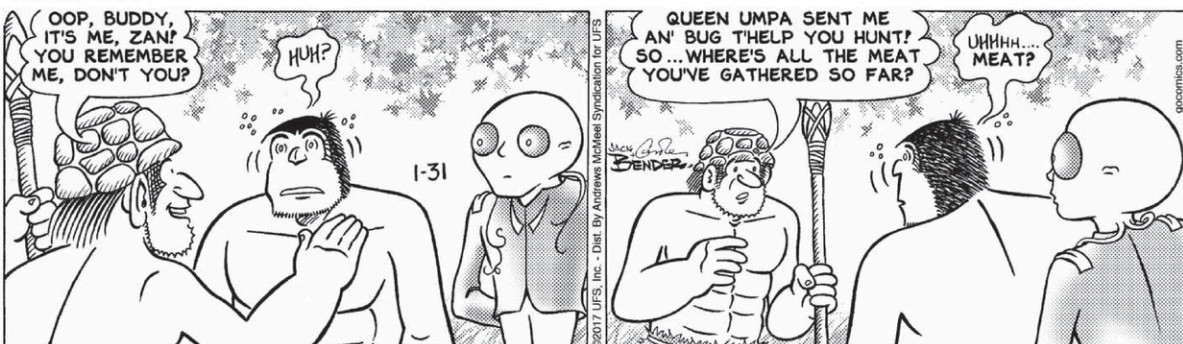


HERMAN



"It's the barman's little joke. First drink's on the house."

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



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TOWNSHIPS

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NORTH HATLEY

Saturday, February 11 at 3 p.m. at St. Elizabeth's Church (3115 Capelton Road): ESTRIA presents a special Valentine's Day production entitled *Ménage à Trois*, a bilingual talk and concert featuring the music of Robert and Clara Schumann and Johannes Brahms. With Estria musicians Étienne de Médicis (oboe), Pauline Farrugia (clarinet), Erich Kory (cello) and Daniella Bernstein (piano). Tickets can be reserved by contacting Pauline Farrugia at 819-842-1072 or at estria@cgocable.ca. This wonderful series is made possible thanks to the financial support of Le Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec. More information at www.sainteelizabeth.ca

LENNOXVILLE

The Lennoxville and District Community Aid will be holding Blood Pressure clinics on Tuesdays, February 14 and March 14, at 164 Queen Street, Suite #104, from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

WATERVILLE

The Lennoxville and District Community Aid will be holding Blood Pressure clinics on Tuesdays, February 14 and March 14, at the Town Hall from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

NORTH HATLEY

The Lennoxville and District Community Aid will be holding Pressure clinics on Fridays, February 3 and March 3, at the Library, 165 Main St. North, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

LENNOXVILLE

Lennoxville and District Community Aid is hosting a FREE information session, OPEN TO ALL in the community and offered by Revenue Québec. This conference; "Seniors and Taxation" is presented in English and is dedicated to retirees for their provincial income tax returns. This will take place Thursday February 9 at 1:30 p.m. at the Amédée Beaudoin Community Center borough of Lennoxville. Please register with us at 819-821-4779.

LENNOXVILLE

There will be 500 cards played at "The Hut", A.N.A.F. Unit #318, 300 St. Francis Street, Lennoxville, on Wednesday, February 1 at 1:30 p.m. Everyone welcome.

LENNOXVILLE

Uplands Cultural and Heritage Centre is thrilled to kick off the 2017 season with a new art exhibition featuring the Aquarellistes du lundi: Colette Bélanger, Aline Bisson, Claire Blais, Jocelyne Brasseur, Hélène Breault, Gloria Couture, Yolande Fortier, Claire Gauthier, Claudelle Gosselin, Carolyn Jones, Lise Labbé, Huguette Lavoie, Denise Lieutenant, Jaya Pavate, Nicole Rainville, Estelle Rodier, Valeir Servant and Monique Trudeau. The public is invited to come meet the artists at the vernissage on Sunday, February 5, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free and the exhibition will continue until March 26. Uplands, 9 Speid Street in Sherbrooke (borough of Lennoxville) will reopen on February 5. Regular opening hours are Wednesday to Sunday, 1 to 4:30 p.m.

AYER'S CLIFF

Valentines Day Brunch on Sunday, February 12 at Beulah United Church, 967 Main Street, Ayer's Cliff from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring you special someone to enjoy a home cooked meal of ham, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, baked beans, pancakes with real maple syrup, toast, fruit salad, coffee, tea and juice. All are welcome.

LENNOXVILLE

January 31, 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m., Room 252, Champlain College, 2580 College. Intro to Poetry. Improve your writing or polish your eBook submission at this free workshop from Townshippers' Association's "Our Stories" project. More dates and info at www.Townshippers.org/Canada150 or under events at www.Facebook.com/Townshippers.

LENNOXVILLE

Bibliothèque Lennoxville Library will hold its annual general meeting at the Library, 101 Queen St., Sherbrooke on Wednesday, February 15 at 7 p.m. Proposed amendments of the Constitution will be on the agenda. Please visit our website for more details at www.bibliolennoxville.ca

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This column accepts items announcing events organized by churches, service clubs and recognized charitable institutions for a \$7.00 fee, \$10.00 for 2 insertions of same notice, \$13.00 for 3 publications. Maximum 35 words. If you have more than 35 words the charge will be \$10.00 per insertion. Requests should be mailed, well in advance, to The Record, 1195 Galt St. East, Sherbrooke, Quebec, J1G 1Y7, be signed and include a telephone number and payment. Telephone requests will not be accepted. Admission charges and trade names will be deleted. No dances.

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

Family member won't pay for damage

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2017

Dear Annie

Dear Annie: I am finding myself in a predicament. Currently, my sister-in-law baby-sits my 3- and 5-year-old children two days a week while I am at work. Last week, when I went to pick them up, I parked behind her fiance's truck. Her fiance, "Brad," was getting ready to leave at the same time I was. Instead of waiting for me to move from behind his vehicle, he squeezed around my car between other vehicles in the driveway. When I got home, I noticed that his tire had rubbed against my car and put several scratches in the paint.

Well, I called my sister-in-law, as I don't know Brad very well, and explained to her what had happened. I said I think Brad needs to pay for damages. She said she doesn't want to be in the middle of things and would give him my number.

Several days went by, and I didn't hear from Brad. In the meantime, I got an estimate for repairs. I talked to my sister-in-law again, and she said she would have Brad call me. Well, he finally did that evening, and he gave me about a dozen different scenarios of how he thinks the situation might have happened, but he said that there is no way he did it and that he isn't paying for it. I am sure he hit my car, and I told him that. He told me he had gone to my workplace to look at my vehicle and gone to the body shop and asked to see pictures of the damage. I thought that was disturbing. The conversation ended with him swearing at me and hanging up. The

next day, Brad called my husband and offered no apologies for his behavior toward me.

The problem I now have is how to handle the baby-sitting situation. Brad lives at my sister-in-law's home, and I really don't want to have any more confrontations with him. My sister-in-law loves my children and would be heartbroken if I got a different sitter. But I really don't think I am comfortable taking them to her house with Brad around. Should I follow my gut feeling and stop taking them there and further divide my family's relationship? Or should I try to get past the vehicle damage? I am also worried about how any possible repercussions against me by Brad would affect my children. How do you think I should proceed from here? — Scuffed

Dear Scuffed: The answer to the question "Should I follow my gut?" is always yes. And if you're a mom, the answer is yes with three exclamation points. A mother's intuition is a tool more reliable and precious than any piece of technology. So if you feel uncomfortable leaving your children around this man, then don't. Invite your sister-in-law over for coffee so she can still visit with the kids. Given Brad's lousy attitude, I have a feeling she'll be looking for excuses to get out of the house as often as possible anyway.

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

