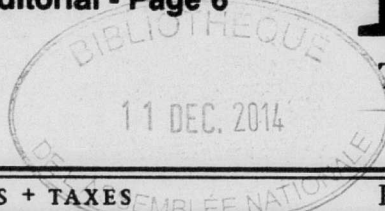


Defining school success

Editorial - Page 6



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Downtown meters ripping off customers

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

There's something wrong with the parking meters in downtown Sherbrooke, according to a motorist who was the victim of a "complete aberration" in how the electronic terminal system for municipal parking works.

According to a report in Sherbrooke's La Tribune, motorist Jean-Marc Allard and two others received a ticket for exceeding their parking time limit despite his claims that this was not the case.

"There were three of us heading to our vehicles on Wellington Street when we saw our friends from Garda blithely handing out traffic tickets," Allard says.

"We have all got the same treatment, a ticket stating that we had exceeded our time limit. But with supporting evidence, we showed the opposite. I paid \$4 at 6:03 p.m. for four hours of parking and got the \$26 ticket at 6:55," he wrote in an email that included a copy of the ticket and the clock receipt.

According to Allard, the parking attendants made excuses, "each more outlandish than the other" to justify the tickets. For example, the agents have a computer that warns that there is infringement just by passing near the vehicle.

"On the other hand, if you had left your parking statement on the windshield we would have seen it and you would not have been in any contravention," they said. "We know for a fact that we have to bring these receipts with us to remember the time remaining on the terminal," says Allard.

"Someone may have used the wrong terminal number and when he inserted his dollar the meter could have gone back to zero," a parking agent supposedly told him. Allard wondered how the same thing could have happened to all three.

CONT'D ON PAGE 3

Fortin's support for municipal reform stirs the pot in Brompton



GORDON LAMBIE / FILE PHOTO

Bromptonville borough president Nicole Bergeron was unhappy to learn via the media of the plans to implement municipal reform.

By Gordon Lambie
SHERBROOKE

Almost a year after first being presented to Sherbrooke's City Council, word finally came this past weekend from the office of Luc Fortin that the city's municipal governance reform will be carried to the National Assembly in the form of a private bill.

Based on the plan outlined by the Sherbrooke MNA, the City could see approval for the reforms by next spring, provided that the bill is worded and ready by the time the assembly sits again on Feb. 10. Long awaited by those on all different sides of the issue, the news of action on the municipal re-

forms has riled up a variety of mixed responses.

"It's a little bit different than we were expecting," said Sherbrooke Mayor Bernard Sévigny. "We would like to have seen a bill presented in the session of [the national assembly] that just ended."

Sévigny expressed disappointment at the amount of time it has taken to move forward with the governance reform and service management centralization plan that he first proposed as an election campaign issue in 2013.

Despite that disappointment, however, the mayor shared that he is encouraged by the declaration on the part of both Fortin and Municipal Af-

fairs Minister Pierre Moreau that the city's autonomy will be respected. He said that he has faith, now that the project is actually going to be addressed, that business will move forward smoothly.

The project is being supported on its legal ground within the framework of maintaining municipal autonomy. Essentially, because city council approved the reforms, it is Fortin's responsibility to bring a bill forward to see the matter addressed at the provincial level. The City of Sherbrooke must prepare a bill outlining the structure of the governance reform by Feb. 10 of next year, for consideration in the next parliamentary session.

CONT'D ON PAGE 5

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TASTES LIKE CHICKEN: YOUR WEEKLY LOOK AT THE WORLD OF FOOD

One pot wonder: Entertain with fondue for a fun and festive party

By Lois Abraham
The Canadian Press
TORONTO

When company comes calling unexpectedly, pull out the fondue pot, melt together a few ingredients and you can put together an impromptu and festive dinner with little effort.

Chef Corbin Tomaszewski calls the communal-style dining “easy and uncomplicated and inexpensive. You can put whatever you want on a fork and dip it in fondue.”

It's also nostalgic.

“From 1970 straight through to the late '80s every couple that got married got a fondue pot, so they're out there. So you've got to bring them back. I tell people go into that storage room when you go into your basement — when you open it up things fall on you, you know, the Santa Claus, the Halloween decorations. The fondue pot's in the back corner that you've forgotten about or it's in the box because you've never opened it because you think it's complicated,” he says.

“Bring it out, scrub it up, melt some cheese, throw it in and get your favourite dippers.”

Along with savoury fondues featuring cheese or morsels of various types of protein or vegetables cooked in broth or oil, there's nothing more decadent than toasting the season with some sparkling Merlot and indulgent chocolate and raspberry fondue, as Tomaszewski demonstrated in Savoury, his new private chef's table dining room at Toronto's Westin Harbour Castle.

“Six ounces of chocolate, your favourite fruit, one bottle of wine and you're entertaining an entire group of people. It can be done on a low budget. It's got that wow factor and it also brings back that sense of nostalgia and comfort based around food,” says Tomaszewski, who partnered with Jackson-Triggs Estate Winery to create retro fondue recipes with a modern twist.

“Any time you put food on a fork and dip it people love it.”

For chocolate fondue, simply melt your favourite chocolate in a pot on the stove over low heat, stirring with a rubber spatula so it doesn't stick and burn. Or melt it in the microwave.

Then stir in full-fat cream. “Chocolate loves whipping cream. Don't use milk. This will not work,” he cautions. “The fat

helps keep the smoothness and the velviness of the chocolate, helps prevent it from sticking together.”

Blend in raspberry liqueur or substitute your favourite, such as Grand Marnier, says Tomaszewski, who in addition to his positions as executive chef, has been on such Food Network Canada shows as “Dinner Party Wars,” “Restaurant Makeover” and “Restaurant Takeover.”

“You could do this in the fondue pot directly, but I find you have a little more control when you do it at stovetop because you have the spatula and you can determine if it's going to burn or not. It's easy to take it from the stove to the fondue pot right at the table.”

Once at the table, fold in mascarpone cheese and let guests swirl it around, repeating if the mixture begins to bind. You can substitute cream cheese or leave the cheese out, but it adds to the marbling effect in the fondue, almost like a chocolate-style cheesecake.

The consistency should be thick enough that the mixture sticks to items dipped in it. The choices are limited only by your imagination. Strawberries and pineapple chunks pair well with chocolate. Pretzels dipped in chocolate are a sweet-salty combination. Cookies such as shortbread and macaroons also work well. For a double hit of chocolate, dip brownies.

For “Santa Claus on a fork,” as he calls it, crush candy canes, place on a plate and have guests roll items in that after dipping in the chocolate.

A savoury main-course fondue could range from beef or chicken to lobster, shrimp, cheese or vegetables.

“One of my favourite easy healthy ones is just do your favourite vegetable or chicken broth and cook in the broth. If you want to do a little more French, then do the classic red wine — you can use your favourite Burgundy red wine — put in some shallots, Dijon mustard, a little bit of garlic, put some mushrooms in there. That's kind of a riff on coq au vin, which really means chicken in wine, and you can cook things in there as well.”

With beef, Tomaszewski suggests using a neutral-flavoured vegetable stock because the meat is already flavourful. Drop in vegetables such as cauliflower, broccoli, carrots, mushrooms and potatoes into the pot and diners can skewer them once they're cooked.

To accompany cheese fondue, prepare a selection of fresh vegetables — anything that will fit on a fork that you can eat raw — and breads that are crusty like ciabatta and baguette.

Fondue is a great way to accommodate guests who follow a dairy-free or gluten-free diet. With a larger group, have two pots — one for each end of the table — and keep one vegetarian.

Get creative with dips too. Chimichurri, pestos or aiolis are a few to try. For an Asian fusion twist, dip items into a hoisin-style teriyaki sauce and then roll in sesame seeds.

For safety, never leave a fondue pot unattended and monitor children if they're in the vicinity. “I suggest putting your fondue pot on a solid wooden surface — not your table but a board on your table — because you don't want to damage your dining room table or your favourite linens.”

If you don't have a fondue pot and matching skewers, there's nothing wrong with putting the actual saucepan on the table and giving guests dinner forks, Tomaszewski says.

RECIPE

Chocolate and Raspberry Ripple Fondue

A mix of dark chocolate, cheese and raspberry liqueur make this dessert fondue a sweet finale when paired with sparkling Merlot.

Wine Pairing: 2010 Jackson-Triggs Niagara Entourage Grand Reserve Sparkling Merlot

- 340 g (12 oz) dark chocolate, chopped
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) 35 per cent cream
- 30 ml (1 oz) raspberry liqueur
- 30 g (1 oz) mascarpone cheese

In a small saucepan, melt dark chocolate pieces with heavy cream.

Add raspberry liqueur and mascarpone. Stir until smooth and incorporated.

Pour melted chocolate fondue into fondue pot and serve with fresh berries and pound cake.

Makes 6 servings.

Source: Chef Corbin Tomaszewski and Jackson-Triggs Estate Wines partnered to create this recipe.

Ben by Daniel Shelton



LOCAL NEWS

The three are scheduled to return to court on Dec. 23 to set a date for sentencing.

Three found guilty in 'sweatlodge' death

Record Staff

Three people charged in the death of Chantal Lavigne on July 28, 2011 at the Reine de la paix farm in South Durham have been convicted of criminal negligence causing death and injury.

Gabrielle Fréchette, Ginette Duclos, and Gerald Fontaine heard the verdict in a Sherbrooke court Monday morning from Court of Quebec Judge Hélène

Fabi. The defense had argued unsuccessfully that the consent of the victim to the treatment that killed her rendered the accused blameless.

The three are scheduled to return to court on Dec. 23 to set a date for sentencing. Duclos' attorney, René Duval, says he will appeal the verdict.

Fréchette, Duclos, and Fontaine were charged with criminal negligence causing the death of Chantal Lavigne and injury to Julie Théberge in a sweat lodge

on their farm.

On July 28, 2011, the temperature was over 30 degrees Celsius and the sweat-cleansing activity lasted nearly seven hours. During this time, participants could not eat or drink anything.

Lavigne, 35, from Saint-Albert-de-Warwick, was killed while participating in an alleged personal growth seminar on Gabrielle Fréchette's farm in South Durham. During the fatal session, participants were plastered with mud,

wrapped in a plastic sheet and a blanket, with their heads covered with a cardboard box, and had remained that way for nine hours. Lavigne died and several other participants became ill, under conditions described by a coroner as equivalent to being baked.

Patrick Naud, Lavigne's spouse, welcomed the verdict and praised the work of the Crown, recognizing, however that it wouldn't bring their mother back to his three children.

Memphremagog MRC unveils new website

Record Staff

The Memphremagog regional county municipality launched its new website over the weekend, the launch of implementing "a communications strategy aiming to increase awareness of the municipal organization, its involvement and its jurisdiction," according municipal reeve Jacques Demers.

"The redesign of the website will be the central element of this strategy, providing the ability to communicate directly and quickly with the citizens of the municipality."

The new site can be found at www.mrcmemphremagog.com.

The new website provides more room for public information, and has added new sections — "News" and "Calendar," accessible from the home page.

This allows visitors to get the latest news about the municipality and find out about upcoming events. Special attention has also been paid to simplify navigation so that visitors can quickly find the information they are looking for, while clearly highlighting the various jurisdictions.

The new site allows more interaction with citizens, particularly by offering

them the opportunity to comment on articles posted. A newsletter will also be launched in early 2015.

In addition, to meet the reality of Internet users, the site is accessible through various mobile platforms such as tablets and smartphones, allowing easy access to content wherever they are and regardless of the platform they use.

The 17 component municipalities of the county are also highlighted on the home page using an interactive map. Internet users can get an idea of the municipality with just a few clicks.

The food options section, which is popular with visitors, is still accessible

from the site at www.mrcmemphremagog.com/repertoire. Launched in 2013, this search engine offers details for more than 60 producers in the county, thus promoting local food purchase and regional dynamism, according to the municipality's press release.

"I encourage people to visit our site regularly," Demers says.

"Citizens will be able to see for themselves the dynamism of the [county] and the municipalities in its territory. We are also interested to hear from citizens through the various platforms available to them. It is an invitation to speak on topics of interest."

STS brightens bus station washrooms

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

The old saying says, "If you can't beat 'em, join 'em," and the Sherbrooke Transit Society has taken up this philosophy by unveiling the work of 18 young artists decorating the walls and doors of the washrooms at the CEGEP and Depot stations, as part of its "Case déPART" project.

For years, the STS has had to deal with incessant spraying of graffiti and tags on the walls of the station wash-

rooms. STS management had to mobilize personnel, material and financial resources on a regular basis to clean then, says chairman Bruno Vachon, explaining that in order to solve the problem, the STS, in collaboration with Nicolas Lareau, came up with the idea in October to set up a pilot project calling on the participation of young painters. An invitation was extended to submit an outline of proposed projects. Subsequently, a selection committee accepted 19 projects to make up the two

murals.

The "Case déPART" collective mural project has offered young artists a creative space to produce a fresco. In addition, the project aims to encourage respect for public property and encourage young people through a constructive cultural project.

In unveiling the project, Vachon invited the public to vote for their favourite work in each station. To do this, people need to visit the STS website and click on the "Case déPART" tab,

which will redirect them to the voting site. Those artists who receive the most votes will receive a prize.

Voting began yesterday at 6 p.m. and continues until midnight Sunday.

City employees angered by councillor's remarks

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

The union representing municipal officials and professionals in Sherbrooke is not very happy with comments made by Councillor Diane Delisle regarding a letter sent to the Mayor and councillors by union president Carl Veilleux suggesting that they subject themselves to the same terms as municipal employees under Bill 3, the law on municipal pensions.

The Deauville district councillor responded to Veilleux by email saying, "With regard to the suggestion (that councilors should assume equitable contributions), I would find the idea interesting if, also in the name of equity, unionized employees would agree to put their jobs in play every four years."

In a letter sent to the media, the union says "the sarcasm shown by Delisle demonstrates how little regard she has for city employees. Asking them to put their employment on the line

every four years shows an arrogance that goes beyond good judgment."

"Nobody forced her to serve the public, because it is a service to the citizen, a civic duty. One would think that the politicians didn't work before (their election) and won't work afterwards. They do their job at a salary of about \$32,000 per year plus an expense account of \$15,000, tax-free. As a bonus, almost all currently work elsewhere and hold a second job," the union harumphed.

Park this


CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

"One of us called the police. Upon their arrival, our dear friends Garda finally saw fit seen fit to admit that there really was a problem, but they could not do anything other than suggest we challenge the ticket in municipi-

pal court. The police fully realized that this made no sense. A patrol officer contacted a service supervisor to learn that even he couldn't do anything. He did, however, tell his team to stop issuing tickets on Wellington Street for the rest of the evening."

Allard assumes that other down-

town customers have received a similar ticket recent weeks. "How many of us have already received this kind of treatment? If for whatever reason, you no longer have the receipt in your possession, how can you challenge them?" he asks. "It does nothing to improve downtown business attendance."



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School Page

Alexander Galt Regional High School

Strike up the band at Galt!

LENNOXVILLE

Being the only secondary school band program left in the Eastern Townships School Board, Alexander Galt's Band Program is a great way for students to learn a talent that they can keep for a lifetime. Secondary V (Grade 11) student Anthony Duguay expressed his gratitude towards the band pro-

gram in an interview by saying, "because of the band program, I was able to learn how to play the clarinet, piano and saxophone and that's really awesome because just learning one instrument is great but when you're able to learn more than one, it's really an incredible achievement."

Starting in 1969, Galt's band program has inspired many stu-

dents to continue to further their education in the music world.

Mr. Obermeier, a Galt graduate himself who has been working as Alexander Galt's band teacher for 20 years states that, "Being in band gives students a chance to learn a skill that many people do not even dream of getting the chance to do." Every year, the Galt Band goes

to around 10 elementary schools to perform concerts. Galt will be performing Christmas concerts in the coming days, including concerts at Sawyerville Elementary School on Dec. 12 and at Sunnyside Elementary School on Dec. 18. This allows students to share their passion for music with younger children and to inspire them to join the Galt Band once

they start high school. This is a great way for the band students to get out and play the instruments they work so hard to learn and, at the same time, teach younger children the joys of music.

Breanna Patrick
Secondary V (Grade 11) student at
Alexander Galt

Sherbrooke Symphony Choir offers 'Christmas Stories'

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

Members of the Sherbrooke Symphony Choir are inviting music lovers to remember the magic surrounding Christmas with a

unique Eastern Townships musical experience this coming Sunday at 3 p.m. at Notre-Dame-du-Perpétuel-Secours Church, 905 Ontario Street in Sherbrooke.

This concert features organ and brass under the theme

"Christmas Stories," with the accompaniment. Accompanied by nine musicians (trombones, trumpets, tuba and tympani), including Daniel Laplante at the organ, soloist Guillaume Poulin, and narrator Anne Dansereau, the Sherbrooke

Symphony Choir will perform "The Christmas Story" by Ron Nelson and "Fantasia on Christmas Carols" by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Traditional Christmas music will also be part of the concert.

Since September 2013, the choir has been under the musical direction of Jean-Philippe Dutil, who has a Masters degree in Choral

Conducting from the University of Sherbrooke.

The 70 singers hope Eastern Townships music lovers will come to hear these beautiful pieces.

Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$20 for students, and are available from choir members or at the Caron Chaussures des Promenades boutique at 2273 King Street West in Sherbrooke.

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Nature and Science Museum looks up at the night sky

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

pollution surrounding the city of Sherbrooke.

The Sherbrooke Museum of Nature and Science is offering an exhibition of astrophotography taken by three amateur astronomers from the Sherbrooke region.

The exhibition offers diversified themes brought together through the observation of the night sky: the moon, and the planets by Daniel Brousseau, the Northern Lights by Sylvain Serre, and Deep Sky by Jean-Bruno Desrosiers.

The originality of this exhibition lies in the fact that the majority of these pictures have been taken under the local night sky, made possible by efforts to control the light

With their cameras and telescopes, the authors reveal some of the nocturnal splendor that can be observed even under an urban sky.

Their approach is part of a desire to raise awareness of and to protect the first International Dark Sky Reserve, of which Sherbrooke is an integral part, as well as to stimulate the urge to look up to the often overlooked beauty of the night sky.

From Dec. 23 to Jan. 5, the Museum will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the exception of Christmas Day and Jan. 1. The exhibition is free of charge. For a detailed program, visit www.naturesciences.qc.ca.

Nez-Rouge has great opening weekend

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

son's opening weekend, beating Quebec City by 60 ride requests.

This year's regional Nez-Rouge campaign has gotten off to a roaring start with 642 rides provided over its first weekend, 405 of which were in Sherbrooke.

The Sherbrooke campaign now ranks first after the sea-

On Saturday, the 13 volunteer teams provided an average of 13 rides each during the night.

Throughout the province of Quebec, the drive-home service provided 7,845 rides over the weekend.

Ex-LG Lise Thibault pleads guilty to fraud related charges

By Alexandre Robillard
The Canadian Press
QUEBEC

More than five years after her first court appearance in September 2009, former Quebec lieutenant-governor Lise Thibault pleaded guilty on Monday to charges of fraud and breach of trust.

Thibault switched pleas because, according to her lawyer, she came to a better understanding of the evidence and the law.

It was Thibault's first appearance in court since August when she suffered an epileptic seizure that interrupted her cross-examination.

The charges were laid after a joint report filed by former provincial auditor general Renaud Lachance and his federal counterpart at the time, Sheila Fraser.

The document suggested more than \$700,000 in alleged improper expenses had been claimed.

Her trial heard the money was allegedly spent on gifts, trips, parties, meals and skiing and golf lessons.

Thibault held the provincial vice-regal post between 1997 and 2007.

Quebec court Judge Carol St-

Cyr will hear sentencing arguments as well as the results of negotiations on a reimbursement plan next May 1.

Thibault, 75, left the courthouse on Monday without responding to reporters' questions.

Her lawyer, Marc Labelle, said the former lieutenant-governor came to a new understanding of the evidence and the law.

"If you think you didn't commit a crime, but then you see through the interventions in court, you see how things are presented, the questions from your own lawyer, at a certain point you are able to say that, maybe there are things I did that were not acceptable, legally speaking," he explained to reporters.

Labelle said his client acknowledged she unjustly claimed an amount of \$310,000, while the Crown estimates the amount at \$430,000.

"We will discuss... to see if we can meet somewhere between \$310,000 and \$430,000 and we will then make a representation to the court," he said.

But Labelle would not say if his client had the financial means to make the reimbursement.

During her testimony, Thibault said she had little to

show financially for her time as vice-regal — a divorce ate into her savings and she now lives on a \$30,000 pension.

Her lawyer also did not indicate Monday what sentence he wanted to negotiate with the Crown in order to avoid Thibault being imprisoned.

"We will discuss that with the judge," he said. "I don't want to start talking about a sentence in the corridor."

"Regardless of what I think about jurisprudence, it's Judge St-Cyr who will have the last word."

Last summer, St-Cyr ruled against a pair of motions filed by Labelle, who argued the case should be dismissed because the accused benefited from royal immunity.

He contended that meant she was not a civil servant and therefore could not face criminal charges.

The judge wrote that, according to constitutional law, the lieutenant-governor does not enjoy the same benefits as the Queen.

St-Cyr also noted that under the Constitution, the lieutenant-governor is a civil servant, adding such an affirmation is even posted on the lieutenant-governor's website.

Bill bugs Bromptonians

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

News of the plan's progress has been more or less nonexistent since the project was approved by a 17-3 vote last March. At the time, only councillors Nicole Bergeron, David Price and Chantal L'Esperance voted against the project, citing concerns over the impact centralization will have on services and fears of a loss of community spirit should Brompton be fused with the Borough of Rock Forest-St-Elie-Deauville.

In recent weeks, Bergeron, who is Brompton's borough president, had taken to publicly asking the mayor for clarification on what was happening with the plan, given the overall lack of information on a decision that stands to drastically alter her sector of the city.

On Monday, Bergeron said that she considered it "cavalier" for the news to have been announced in a press release when it finally came.

"To have learned this by reading it in the newspaper on Saturday is deplorable and disrespectful to the members of the council," the Brompton councillor said, "but that's how (the mayor) decided we should

find out."

Though clearly upset by the lack of communication on the issue, Bergeron said that she is glad that this course of action will open up a parliamentary commission on the matter.

"If there's an opportunity to speak on this issue, you can be sure that we will go and make ourselves heard," the borough president said, adding that she intends to take the matter directly to Minister Moreau and the commission, rather than trying to intervene with Fortin. "Mr. Fortin is nothing but a means of communication in this. The parliamentary commission is where we will be heard."

Similarly encouraged by the development, Pierre Meese, representative of the group against the disappearance of Brompton, said that Friday's announcement came as a new hope for him.

"The government is opening up the decision again," Meese said.

"I think there is a good chance to change things, because most of the time in a parliamentary commission the bill is adopted but with amendments. It's fairly rare for it to be adopted as-is or completely re-

jected."

Running on a plan of inspiring amendments to the project, Meese said that the citizens' group plans to argue for the preservation of Brompton and the retention of the rest of the bill to the MNAs at the National Assembly.

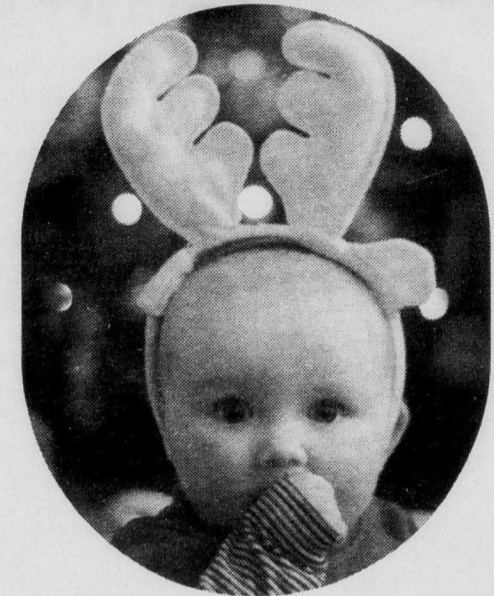
"The plan was adopted by the municipal council, so we can't very well ask them to reject it outright," Meese concluded. "It's not over yet; we still have a chance to change things."

Sévigny acknowledged the intention expressed by the stalwart Brompton defender, but said that he was nonetheless unconcerned about the plan getting approval.

"I have no concerns," the mayor said. "Even if there is a parliamentary commission, Minister Moreau has said that he will respect the decision made by Sherbrooke's city council."

Regarding Bergeron's statement that the treatment of the information was disrespectful, Sévigny said that he was aware of the news on Thursday evening, but that the announcement was Fortin's to make and that the MNA chose to direct the information to the media in the form of a press release.

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EDITORIAL

Teaching is not the exclusive role of educational institutions.

What is success in school?



SUSAN MASTINE

Statistics on the dropout rate in Quebec high schools are shocking. According to the data released last month by the Education ministry, the dropout rate in the Eastern Townships School Board in 2011-2012 was a whopping 25.8 per cent. The average for the province is 16.2 per cent, but there is a wide variation in the numbers, with the lowest rate at 7.7 per cent (Commission Scolaire De La Jonquière) and the highest at 35.8 per cent (Western Quebec School Board) – an alarming divergence.

How significant is this situation? Should we be worried?

According to Employment and Social Development Canada, obtaining a high school diploma is vital to success in the labour force, and leaving school before graduation can lead to fewer opportunities for employment and earnings.

What is success in school? It means getting through the five levels of high school with a passing grade and thus earning that piece of paper certifying that the student has acquired the basic skills required to make a living. Why do some young people not succeed?

The answers are many. Most people immediately suspect the reason to be a learning disability. But there are a host of other factors that may motivate a student to abandon high school.

These include social and personal problems, the lure of an income, an unpleasant experience at school, and feelings of boredom and of being unchallenged with the regular curriculum.

What do kids need to learn to be successful in life? Of course, reading, writing, and math plus some history, geography, and science are vital, but what about basic life skills and approaches?

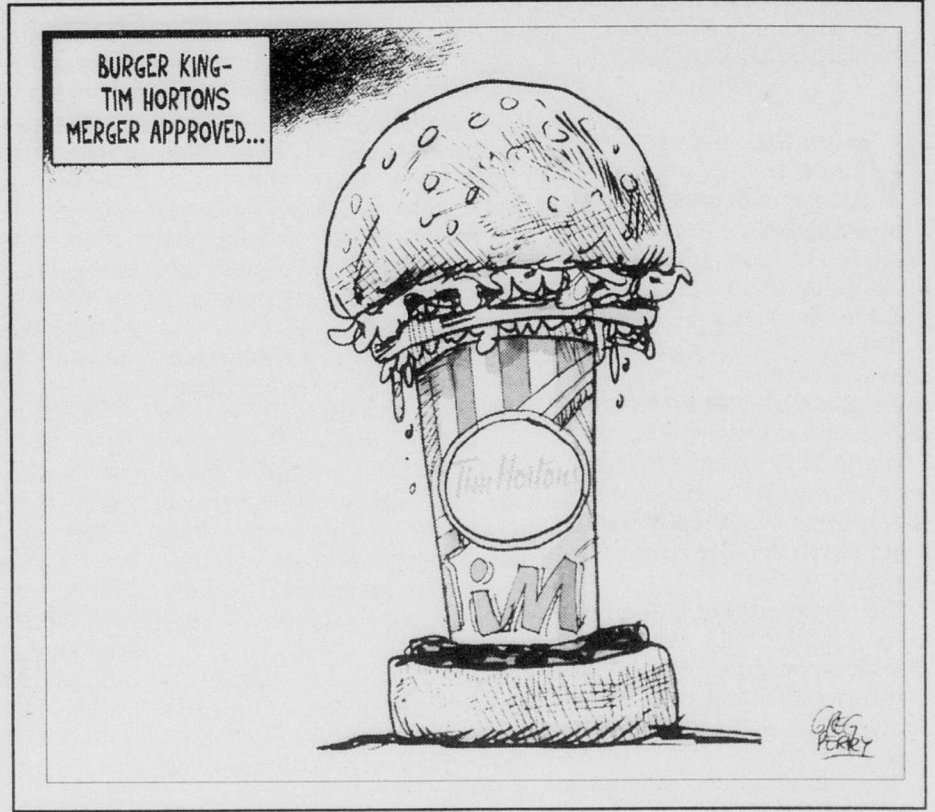
Somewhere along the way, our young people also need to learn: how to listen to others, respect one another, care for others, share with others – and the importance of doing so; how to be generous, honest, dedicated, persistent, punctual; how to focus, study, analyze, question, critique, create, invent, develop their thoughts, express themselves coherently, think for themselves, cooperate; to adopt a healthy lifestyle; that there are two sides, at least, to every story; the importance of exercise and of spending time in and protecting nature and the environment; how to take care of themselves; how to prepare and manage a budget; how to manage a household – plan, shop, cook, clean; how to repair things; how to manage their time; how to entertain themselves without devices; the value of culture, self-expression, volunteerism, and heritage.

These should be taught through the combined efforts of parents, the school, and the community. Teaching is not the exclusive role of educational institutions.

Quebec has a guide designed to keep students in school until they graduate. Officially known as Reducing the Dropout Rate at the End of Secondary School (by which is meant Grades 10 and 11 or Secondary IV and V) and published in 2013, it points to research that recommends, among other things, greater teacher/parent collaboration, flexible school organization, lower student-teacher ratios, innovation, and accountability.

This guide places much of the onus for improving student success rates on teachers. And yet we all know that government cutbacks have resulted in more students per classroom, and thus less attention to individual needs, and fewer resources. The document also urges greater parental involvement and parent-teacher interactions.

The Commission Scolaire De La Jonquière appears to have an effective approach. Hopefully, the powers-that-be at the Eastern Townships School Board are studying its practices. Above all, the Ministry of Education should be investigating the reasons behind such a discrepancy in dropout rates across the province.



It should also be providing school boards with more support – in terms of budgets, human resources, and expertise – not less.

Teaching is not the exclusive role of educational institutions. It is often said

that it takes a community to raise a child. It takes parents, the school, and the community to ensure the greatest success in school by the highest number of young people. The province would do well to show us all how we can play a more active role.

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SHARON McCULLY PUBLISHER (819) 569-9511
 JOHN EDWARDS NEWS EDITOR (819) 569-6345
 STEPHEN BLAKE CORRESP. EDITOR (819) 569-6345
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Strong Townships flavour to Vanier Cup champs

By Mike Hickey
Special to the Record

There was a strong Townships connection to the recently crowned national champion Montreal Carabins. Former Champlain and Bishop's head football coach and athletic director Tony Addona is the team's offensive line coach while Montreal's lineup included eight former Champlain Cougars. Addona has several provincial titles to his credit but he said winning the Vanier Cup was something spe-

cial. Monday, he explained that the calibre of the players made the Vanier Cup special.

"It's very different in that the magnitude of the competition was much higher (than the Bol d'Or)," Addona said. "Playing against teams from across the country and at such a high level is significant. The calibre of play and the preparation is completely different."

The Carabins' road to the championship was not easy. They needed overtime to eliminate the defending champion Rouge et Or, edged Manitoba by

three points and then scored 10 unanswered points to down McMaster by a single point, 20-19, to win its first national title.

"Our players never stopped believing and in all three games we knew that we were as good as the other teams and that our preparation heading into each game was solid. We knew going into those games that there was never going to be any blowouts that it would probably come down to the end. We never beat ourselves, there were no turnovers that hurt us, we protected the ball and our defence

gave us the ball at crucial times. The old adage that defence wins championships certainly came through. Our defence was outstanding, the offence was effective, and our special teams made big plays when they had to."

He added that a regular season win over previously undefeated Laval gave the Carabins much-needed confidence. "We had to beat them once just so that we knew we could," he said. "Our first game up there (a 40-13 Laval win) was our worst game of the year so we didn't

judge how good we were from that game. We knew if we kept it close we could beat them."

Addona, who grew up in Montreal, said the transition back after three decades in Lennoxville has been smooth.

"The move was good, we were happy as a family to be back and be together. We loved our time in the Townships and we miss it at times but the opportunity to return to Montreal was too good to pass up. We will always cherish the time we have spent there and the people we have met."

Your Pet Supply Headquarters

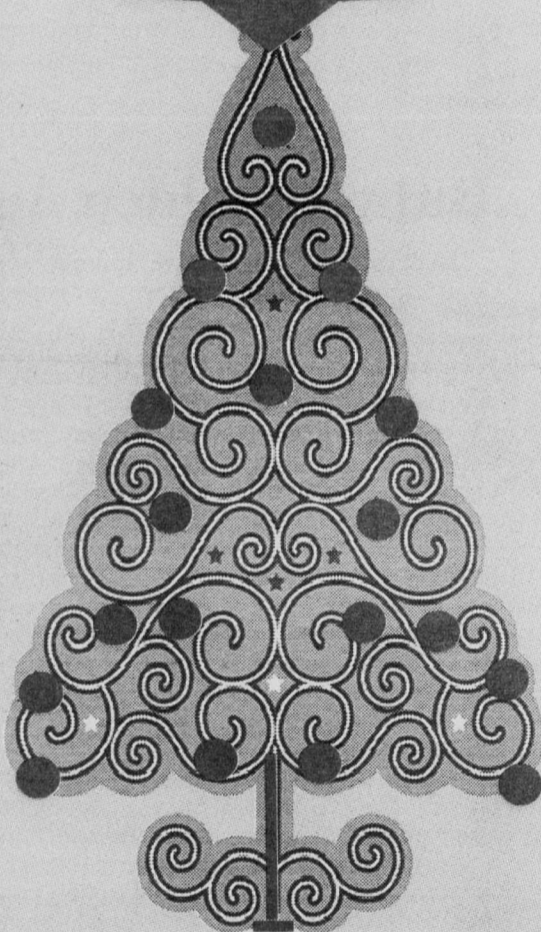
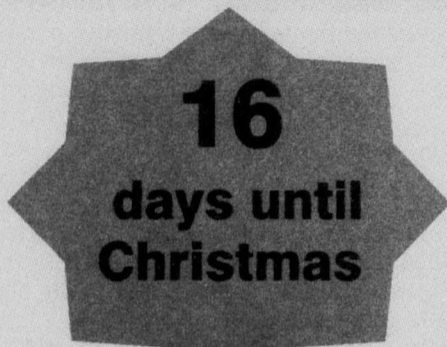
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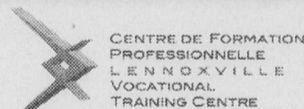
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Iron deficiency in teenage girls is easily treated

ASK DOCTOR K

By Anthony L. Komaroff, M.D.

DEAR DOCTOR K: My teenage daughter recently learned that she has iron deficiency and anemia. Why would her iron be low? What is the treatment?

DEAR READER: Anemia means that the blood does not have enough red blood cells. These cells carry oxygen from the lungs to the rest of the body. There are many kinds of anemia. In the United States, iron-deficiency anemia is the most common; it occurs when the body does not have enough iron to make red blood cells.

What's the connection between iron and red blood cells? Inside every red blood cell is the protein called hemoglobin, which carries oxygen to every cell in your body. Oxygen is an essential source of energy to every cell.

Iron is a part of hemoglobin. Most of the iron in the body is in the hemoglobin (and a similar protein in muscle called myoglobin).

Iron enters our body in food and leaves the body primarily when we bleed. Bleeding causes the loss of red blood cells and a lot of iron. That's why teenage girls are particularly susceptible to iron-deficiency anemia: They have begun to have monthly menstrual bleeding. Each month they lose blood and iron. If your daughter doesn't eat enough iron-rich foods, she will gradually develop iron deficiency.

Symptoms of iron-deficiency anemia are not usually obvious unless the problem is severe or long-lasting. If that's the case, symptoms may include pale skin, tiredness, dizziness, lightheadedness, headaches or ringing in the ears. The condition is diagnosed with a blood test.

Iron-deficiency anemia is usually treated with iron supplements, taken by mouth for several months. The doctor

will do follow-up blood tests to make sure the anemia has gone away or at least is improving.

Iron is best absorbed when given between meals. Encourage your daughter to take her iron supplement mid-morning, between breakfast and lunch, or mid-afternoon, between lunch and dinner.

Vitamin C makes it easier for the body to absorb iron. But calcium makes it harder, so your daughter should not take her supplement with milk. It may work best taken with foods or drinks that are high in vitamin C such as fruits, vegetables and orange juice.

Warn your daughter not to take more than the recommended dose of iron, as higher doses can be dangerous. Some people are vulnerable to developing iron overload.

You should also try to increase the amount of iron-rich foods in your daughter's diet. These include:

- lean meats, poultry and fish
- iron-fortified cereals, breads and pasta
- dried fruits (apricots, raisins, prunes)
- leafy green vegetables (spinach, collard greens, kale)
- whole grains (brown rice, wheat germ, bran muffins)
- beans, peas and nuts
- eggs

Teenage girls who have begun to have menstrual periods can help prevent iron-deficiency anemia by taking a multivitamin with iron. The Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) for iron is 8 milligrams (mg) per day for females ages 9 to 13 years, and 15 mg per day for females ages 14 to 18 years.

Iron deficiency in teenage girls is common, easily diagnosed and easily treated. Your daughter should be fine.

Dr. Komaroff is a physician and professor at Harvard Medical School.

Datebook

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2014

Today is the 343rd day of 2014 and the 79th day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1867, the capital of the Colorado Territory was moved from Golden to Denver.

In 1872, Pinkney Benton Stewart Pinchback became the first serving U.S. governor of African-American descent when he was named acting governor of Louisiana.

In 1968, engineer Douglas Engelbart demonstrated the first computer system to use hypertext links and a mouse.

In 1979, the World Health Organization certified that smallpox had been eradicated.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Emmett Kelly (1898-1979), clown; Jean de Brunhoff (1899-1937), author; Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill (1912-1994), politician; Kirk Douglas (1916-), actor; Redd Foxx (1922-1991), comedian; Dick Van Patten (1928-), actor; Judi Dench (1934-), actress; Deacon Jones (1938-2013), football player; Beau Bridges (1941-), actor; Dick Butkus (1942-), football player; John Malkovich (1953-), actor; Donny Osmond (1957-), singer; Felicity Huffman (1962-), actress; Kurt Angle (1968-), wrestler/actor; Simon Helberg (1980-), actor.

TODAY'S FACT: After Pinkney Benton Stewart Pinchback was appointed acting governor of Louisiana, it would be more than 100 years before the first African-American elected governor, Lawrence Douglas Wilder of Virginia, took office, in 1990.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1934, the New York Giants exchanged their cleats for sneakers during the third quarter, then outmaneuvered the Chicago Bears on a frozen field to turn a 13-3 deficit into a 30-13 victory.

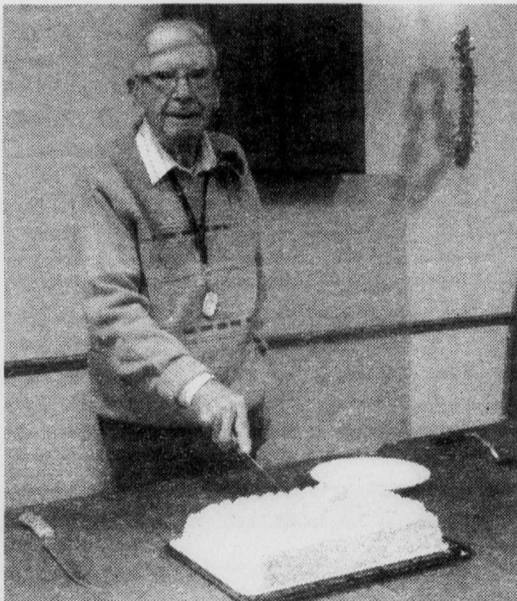
TODAY'S QUOTE: "You hear all this stuff about inner peace. Hey, there's nothing wrong with it, but I say, hit that line hard. Crack that book ... Do your very best all the time and inner peace will take care of itself. The Deacon guarantees it." — Deacon Jones

TODAY'S NUMBER: 7 — number of classic children's books about Babar the elephant written and illustrated by Jean de Brunhoff. He died of tuberculosis at age 37, and his son Laurent continued the series.

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Dec. 6) and last quarter moon (Dec. 14).

95th Birthday Celebration

Veteran, Jack Hobbs, 2nd Vice of Danville-Windsor #41, celebrating his 95th birthday



On November 26, Jack celebrated his 95th birthday. Upon his arrival at the Legion, some 60 people had gathered to attend this special evening with Jack.

Submitted by
Marlene Goodenough

Bulwer Golden Age Club

December 2 - Eighty-five members gathered at the Community Center on a cold windy day for a fun day of cards and games.

10 tables of 500 were played, 1 table of Skip Bo and 2 tables of Cribbage, plus carpet bowling. Skip Bo, Violet Lister and Beverley Cote being the winners. Cribbage table 1: Harold and Cheryl winning by 70 points against Susan and Ed, table 2: Gail and Ann winning by 6 points against Beulah and Doreen. Carpet Bowling 1st game Red winning 8 to 7 against the Black, 2nd game Black winning by 5 to 2 against Red

A wonderful meal was served consisting of roast beef, potatoes, gravy, mixed vegetables, Caesar salad, rolls, pickles and carrot cake for dessert. Isabelle Nelson said Grace.

December birthdays are 6th - Stan Brown, 15th - Harold Hearn, 16th - Norma Carrier, 20th - Allan Bradley, 29th - Mac Learned, 31st - Doreen Lancaster and Bob Westbroom. Peggy presented a cake and we all sang Happy Birthday. Marion and Dufferin Annesley will be 61 years married on the 22nd of December. Bruce Batley was a guest today with his mother-in-law Verna Westgate. Tami Spires, United Church Minister, was also a guest for supper with Diane and Mac Learned.

Door prizes were won by Norma Carrier, Paulette Painter, Janet Laroche, Trudy Doherty, Al Doherty, Gordon Humphrey. Peggy's goodies: Al Doherty, Mary Simons, Isabel Nelson and Lionel Statton. Thanks to all who brought in non-perishable goods for the Alexander Galt High School food baskets.

Next meeting: December 16, 2014. This will be our Christmas party and final meeting until January 13, 2015.

Submitted by
Al Doherty and Margaret Vintinner

RATES and DEADLINES: ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

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Text only: 40¢ per word. Minimum charge \$10.00 (\$11.50 taxes included)
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Please Note: All of the aforementioned (except death notices) must be submitted typewritten or neatly printed, and must include the signature and daytime telephone number of the contact person. Can be e-mailed to: clas-sad@sherbrookerecord.com - They will not be taken by phone.

DEADLINES FOR DEATH NOTICES:

For Monday's paper, call 819-569-4856 between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday.

For Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday's edition, call 819-569-4856 or

fax 819-569-1187 (please call to confirm transmission) or e-mail: production@sherbrookerecord.com between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. the day prior to the day of publication. The Record cannot guarantee publication if another Record number is called. Rates: Please call for costs.



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SHERBROOKE

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #10, 971 Galt St. East, Sherbrooke hold the following events every week. Wednesday: Bean Bag Toss fun afternoon at 1:30 p.m. Friday: Suppers at 5 p.m., Fun Darts at 7 p.m. Saturday: Music at 8:30 p.m. Sunday: Music at 1:30 p.m. Come out and support the Legion. Info: 819-563-4944.

DANVILLE

The Directors of the Danville Curling Club are pleased to invite everyone to the Club's Brunch to be held on Sunday, December 14 from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Danville Curling Club at 1449 Route 116 in Danville.

LENNOXVILLE

Military Whist will be played at "The Hut", A.N.A.F. Unit #318, 300 St. Francis Street, Lennoxville on Wednesday, December 10 at 1:30 p.m. To reserve a place for yourself or a table for 4, please contact Cheryl Bradley at 819-569-2067. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone, see you after the holidays.

LENNOXVILLE

Ladies Auxiliary meeting at "The Hut", A.N.A.F. Unit #318, 300 St. Francis Street, Lennoxville on Wednesday, December 10 at 7 p.m. Meetings now held downstairs.

LENNOXVILLE

Christmas for you. Join us for singing, fellowship and Christmas Dinner on Thursday, December 25 at Hope Community Church, corner of Queen and College, Lennoxville. 11 a.m. (doors open at 10:30 a.m.) to 1 p.m.

Everyone welcome. No charge - "our gift to you." For transportation or information, call HCC at 819-822-2627 or Paul McLean at 819-820-5932.

NORTH HATLEY

The Estria Woodwind Quintet and their invited guests: Jean-Yves St. Pierre and Maude Frechette Gagné, will be presenting a Christmas concert at St. Elizabeth Church on Saturday December 20th at 3 pm. Repertoire will consist of well known Christmas songs, music from The Nutcracker Ballet, baroque and renaissance works on period instruments and lots of sing-a-long Christmas fun! Tickets are available it is free for children and teens 16 and under, if they bring an adult. Reserve your seats with Pauline Farrugia at 819-842-1072.

DANVILLE

Danville-Windsor Legion #41,136 Grove Street, is having their annual Christmas Potluck Supper on Friday, December 12. Supper at 6 p.m. followed by entertainment from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Everyone welcome.

LENNOXVILLE

The Uplands Cultural and Heritage Centre will be presenting its yearly Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 18 at 7:30 p.m. and on Friday, December 19 at 7:30 p.m. This year, a variety of goodies are in store including Holiday favorites played by the Estria Quintet and Traditional Christmas Carols sung by the vocal octet Eight Misbehavin'. And of course, Uplands' Christmas concert is never complete without the traditional Christmas Carol sing-a-long accompanied by Fannie Gaudette on the piano. The concert will be followed by refreshments including our renowned mulled wine. Come and join us for some warm Christmas cheer! Entrance is by donation but reservations are strongly recommended, call Uplands at 819-564-0409. Uplands is located at 9 Speid St. in the Borough of Lennoxville (Sherbrooke).

AYER'S CLIFF

The Christmas Village Committee, Ayer's Cliff, is preparing for the weekend, Saturday, December 13, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, December 14, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be a Christmas Market on Main Street, receive your passport with a map at the Bandstand, horse

drawn sleigh rides, search for elves' tricks everywhere throughout the village, children's activities, visit of Santa Claus in Tyler Park, and much more. Tell your family and friends. The more the merrier!!

RICHMOND

The Richmond Legion is having a Fun Afternoon on Thursday, December 11. Music with Sam and Gilles begins at 4 p.m. Sandwiches and salads are on the menu (served at 6 p.m.). Come and join us - you don't have to be a Legion member to participate. P.S. We are also celebrating Elsie Kerr's 90th birthday! Hope to see you there! There is no door charge; a donation for the meal would be appreciated.

GRANBY

St. George's Anglican Church in Granby is hosting a 60's concert on Friday, December 12 at 7:30 p.m. This fundraiser will feature Mellow Yellow Band from Burlington, Vermont (www.mellowyellowband.com). Tickets are available at the door or at École de Musique Clastique Granby Haut Yamaska 450-360-9300.

MAGOG

St. Luke's Anglican Church, 120 des Pins, will present their annual Bilingual Candlelight Service on Saturday, December 13 at 4 p.m. This ecumenical service will consist of Christmas Carols and Readings reflecting on the preparation of our hearts for the birth of Jesus Christ. An invitation is extended to the citizens of Magog and region to attend. Children are welcome.

...

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.

Right now, I have an upset son and a furious husband

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2014

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My husband, "Ricardo," is a naturally curious man. He usually asks questions in a charming manner, showing genuine interest in family and friends.

We have a teenage son. Ricardo often asks him probing questions about his girlfriend, which upsets our son. I totally get that Ricardo is interested and concerned for our son, so often I try to smooth the waves and attempt to let Ricardo know that he is being too pushy. I try to say this in a lighthearted way during the conversation in order to defuse the tension.

This infuriates Ricardo. He says I am undermining his parental authority. Annie, our son is a fine, outstanding young man. He does well in school, has great friends and participates in meaningful activities. It's not as if he is up to something just because he doesn't want to talk about his girlfriend. He just wants some privacy.

I only intervene in these conversations when I see the tension rising and my son getting frustrated or angry. Ricardo has told me that I should mind my own business and tell him in private what I think and not do it in front of our son. Is he right? It makes me feel that I'm not being supportive of our son. Should I just walk away from their conversation and keep my feelings to myself? Right now, I have an upset son and a furious husband. — Stuck in the Middle

Dear Stuck: You both need a new approach. Grilling a teenager about his social life will backfire every time, and Ricardo should know better. And when you intervene, even with good reason, Ricardo thinks it makes him the bad guy in front of your son. Have a private conversation with your husband and tell him that peppering the boy with questions will simply make him clam up and become resentful. It's easier to get information when you aren't trying so hard. (Perhaps he remembers his own teenage years.) The two of you should instead agree upon a silent signal when his questions get out of hand. In return, promise to share what you

learn.

Dear Annie: Do you know why I'm not interested in sex with my husband? It gives me no satisfaction. My husband's idea of sex is 30 seconds of satisfying himself. He is boring, boring, boring.

My husband is a controlling person, so if I initiate sex, he isn't interested. It always has to be his idea. I've read everything I could about having a good sex life and tried for years to please him. But he thinks sexual pleasure is only for him and the rest is a tool to punish me. I've told him how I feel, but he is never wrong and can't handle criticism. He refuses counseling. Sometimes, I wonder whether he is gay.

I had an affair, and the sex was wonderful, but I broke it off. Now I'm considering divorce in the hope that I can find a man who believes that sex ought to be fun and enjoyable for both partners. Boring sex might be a reason some women lose interest. That's my two cents. — Tired of It All

Dear Tired: Dissatisfaction can be a reason to avoid sex, but your real problem is a husband who doesn't care that you are unhappy. His disinterest in your concerns goes beyond the bedroom. Whether or not you divorce, please get counseling on your own so you can better navigate the rocks ahead.

Dear Annie: "Dumfounded Niece" was upset that she hadn't received any acknowledgment of the flowers she sent to her aunt's funeral.

My mother sent flowers to the funeral of her brother in another state. When Mom asked my aunt whether the flowers looked nice, she was told they never arrived. Our local florist discovered that the flowers had never been sent from the florist in the other state. — Arlene in North Dakota

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mail-

box, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. To find out more about Annie's Mailbox and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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7	4	2				9		
9						8	5	

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

CELEBRITY CIPHER by Luis Campos

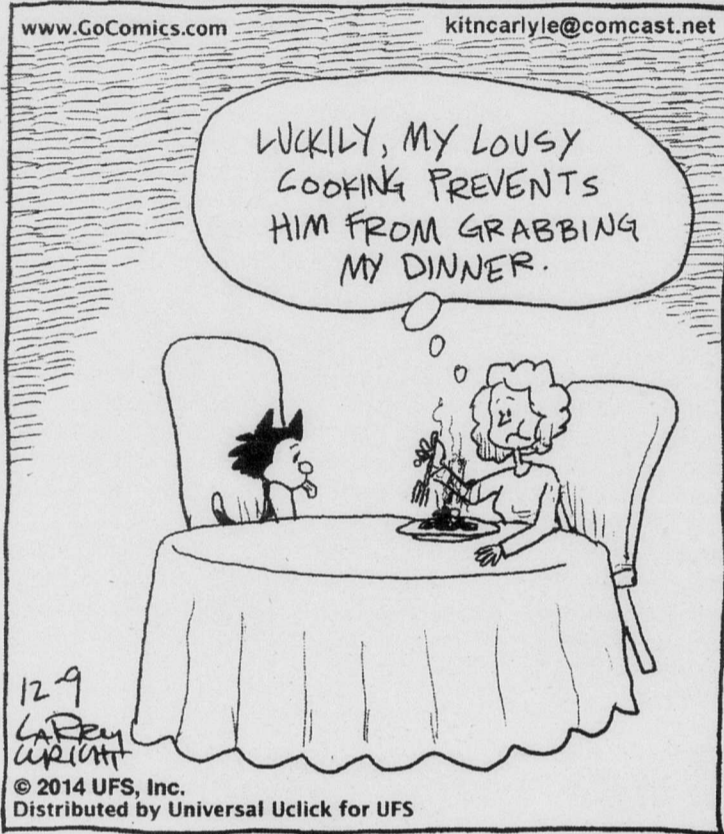
Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"DX, CZRH'A ZRYYPMEM' BRM, HZEA
EA TRLH AEYBAXM; SNAH WEKKEMU,
KXM'H ZRMU NY, HZEA EA MRMOD
ORLHCLEUZH." — MRMOD ORLHCLEUZH

Previous Solution: "I have less to do with 'The Simpsons' every season but I stick my nose in ... making sure the show has a soul." — Matt Groening

TODAY'S CLUE: B equals 1

KIT N' CARLYLE

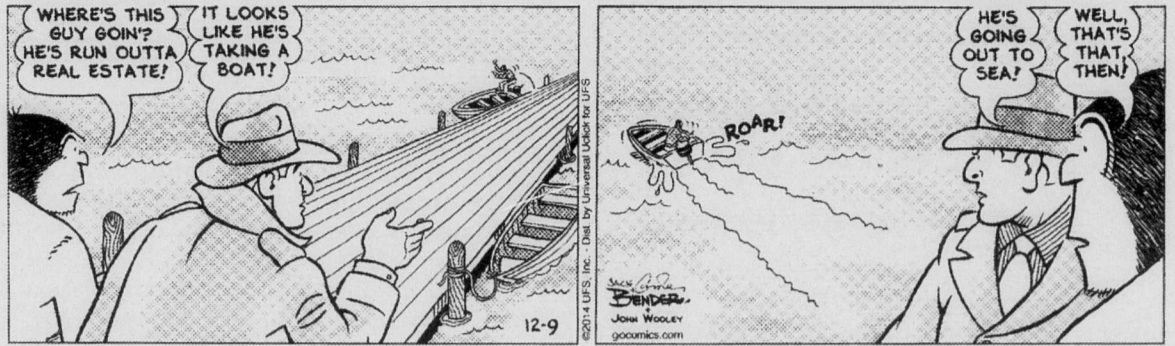


HERMAN

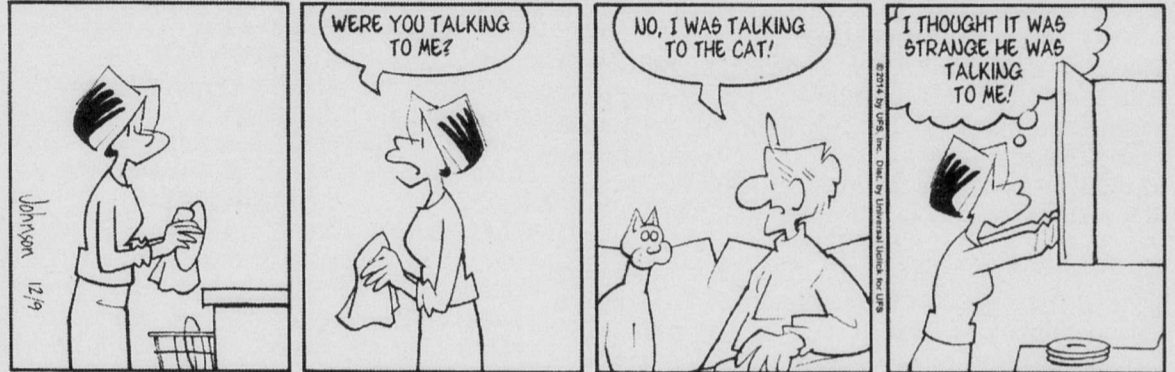


"D'ya like that blue?"

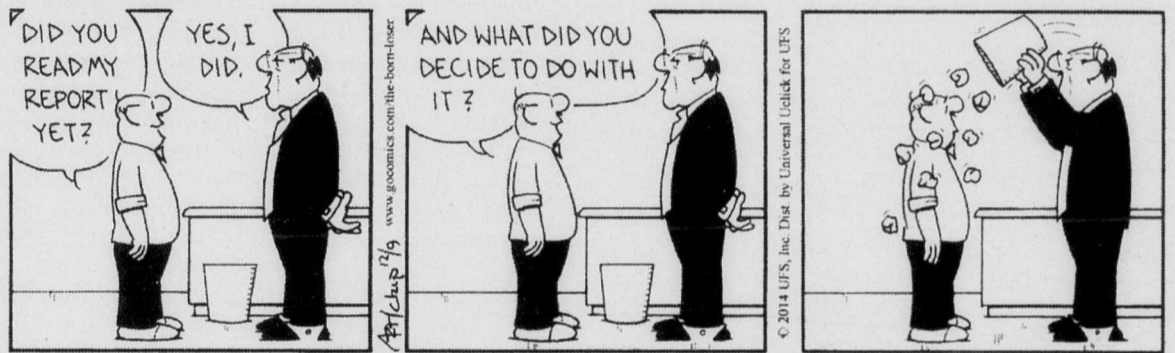
ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



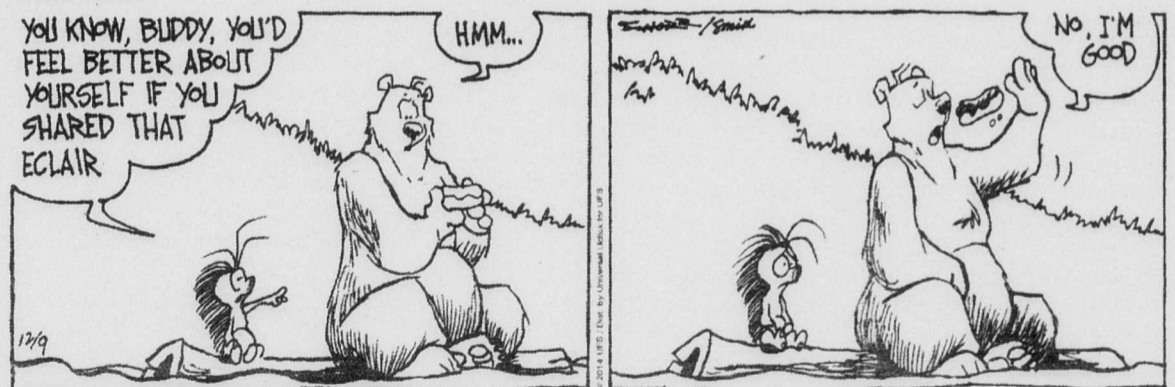
THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



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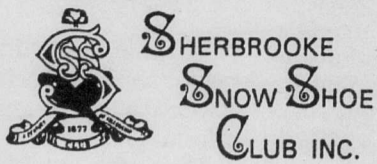
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The members of the Sherbrooke Snow Shoe Club gathered for their second meeting of the season on Wednesday, November 19th. It was a cold, clear night. As snow-walkers made their usual rounds about the neighbourhood, they encountered frozen ground cover along the way.

With the formalities of the first meeting now in the past, it was time for the members to honor their commitment to the club; to pay homage to the treasurer by submitting the annual stipend required for membership. As members entered the clubhouse, they were redirected to a special table where the annual 'tribute' was collected and registered by Ron Bishop, acting in an official capacity on behalf of Honorary Treasurer Jack Noble. With receipt book at the ready, Ron efficiently collected the requisite funds from various individuals, some eager to comply, others hesitant to part with their well-earned money. As members handed over their annual dues, they may have thought of the oft' heard advertising phrase 'membership has its rewards' and simultaneously felt the correlating sentiment that membership also has its obligations - sometimes financial! One can only speculate that the burden of money departed was ameliorated by the warming atmosphere of the old fireplace, the enlightening music of the piano and the acknowledgement that many others had felt the same 'pain of loss' in the past.

At the appointed hour, President Dave Moore called the meeting to order and introduced the head table. Following the singing of the national anthem, member Harry Brown offered the blessing, after which First Vice president Hugh Bowen rose to identify the emergency exits for the benefit of guests. He also nominated (that is, more or less commanded) fellow member Phil Kerwin to tend to an injured compatriot, namely one Blair Donnachie who was somewhat incapacitated by a recent injury to his hand. A

Some deserved tributes

reluctant, though attentive Phil complied as requested with respect to the evening meal that was subsequently served by the White Knights.

The Knights started off with bowls of vegetable soup. They followed up with entrees of tortiere and gravy together with potatoes and beans. Carrot cake topped with ice cream constituted the dessert portion of the meal.

At the conclusion of the meal, Alan Cox took the opportunity to tell a couple of jokes, one dealing with the need for counseling following marital complaints, the other about a failed fishing excursion.

A drawing for the evening's door prizes resulted in triumphant excursions to the head table for members Bud Allanson and Bob R. Davidson. At this point Honorary Chorister Lenny Beland assisted by Past President Bill Lyon conducted a sing-along for the benefit of all.

President Dave then conducted a business meeting that addressed matters of immediate and short term concern with respect to club obligations and activities. At the conclusion of these official proceedings, the meeting was adjourned and more enjoyable undertakings were pursued.

On Wednesday, November 26th, the membership met once again for their weekly gathering. The temperature outside was moderate, barely below freezing. Light snow had begun to fall by late afternoon and forecasts of accumulation varied significantly, prompting many members to question the advisability of attending the meeting. As it turned out, the snowfall amounted to only 3-4 inches, far from the dire totals that some had predicted.

Inside the clubhouse the conditions were far more favourable, with the ambiance of the fireplace emanating throughout the 125-year old building. Light and cheerful music wafted from room to room as pianist Jan Graham toyed with the ivories on the club's upright piano.

Notwithstanding the vagaries associated with the forecasts, more than 50 members appeared before the official start of the proceedings. President Dave Moore called the

meeting to order at the appointed time, asking the membership to stand for the national anthem. Following the blessing delivered by member Don Parsons, the White Knights set about serving the evening meal. Starting off with bowls of steaming chicken vegetable soup, entrees followed consisting of sausages, peas and rice. Dessert completed the meal in the form of chocolate pudding.

Before the meal had been completed, members Don Parsons and Lawrie Sakamoto presented Harry Brown with a couple of prizes from the recent benefit drawing held at St. Paul's Home in Bury. While the first was a ruse, the second one was a finely crafted wooden clock made by Don himself.

The presentation was followed with the club's own drawings, with the evening's door prizes being distributed to Dave Townshend and Stuart Robinson. President Dave then took the opportunity to thank Chef Elaine and her kitchen crew, as well as the White Knights and the musical accompaniment provided by Jan Graham. A lively sing-along ensued, which as always, gave the members of the White Knights the opportunity to dine as well.

With the decision made to forego the formalities of a business meeting, the balance of the evening's activities was handed over to Past President Bill Lyon. Bill proceeded to pay tribute to all of the life members of the club, to those who had served as honorary presidents, as well as its past presidents. He praised them all for their service to the club and thanked them on behalf of the whole membership. He was then joined at the podium by fellow Past President Alan Cox. With Bill dressed in native headdress and his counterpart Alan attired in hunting accoutrements, the two began recounting a number of short stories and anecdotes for the amusement of the membership.

The presentation concluded, members dispersed to socialize, engage in cards or join an invigorating game of volleyball. Still others opted to head for home, given the uncertainty surrounding the weather forecasts.

Steve Moore
SSSC Secretary

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