

Sherbrooke's fall boil water advisory a false alarm

Record Staff

Yesterday afternoon the City of Sherbrooke announced that it had completed its research on the presence of e. coli bacteria in a routine test at the J.-M. -Jeanson plant in September.

The test resulted in a 48-hour boil water advisory following discovery, but two subsequent series of tests of samples taken on the territory were able to immediately affirm that the drinking water supplies, as well as the water distributed to the population, had never been contaminated by the bacteria.

According to Daniel Picard, General Manager of the City of Sherbrooke, a review of the sampling and analysis processes, and the hiring of an external firm that met with existing staff and those responsible for access to our facilities failed to determine the exact cause of the sample's contamination.

The City pointed out that that experts have concurred that the tainted test was not related to a wrongful act or negligence.

"We had no doubt about the competence and professionalism of our teams, but we had to take the necessary measures to ensure that all potential scenarios had been thoroughly verified," explained Picard.

The City of Sherbrooke took advantage of the incident to review its methodology for sampling and analyzing drinking water. Some practices carried out over decades have been reviewed and corrected, although no direct link to the events that occurred could be established.

According to Mayor Steve Lussier, the incident allowed city officials to assess reaction time and a plan of action to reach the population quickly. "We are very satisfied with it," the mayor said. "All we can do in the future is continue to be vigilant and rigorous to ensure that the tests are conducted according to established standards, in complete safety," concluded Lussier.

Doctors urge people to home as flu season looms



GORDON LAMBIE

By Gordon Lambie

The holiday season isn't the only season on the horizon. Looking ahead to the coming of this year's flu, the CIUSSS de L'Estrie-CHUS is encouraging the public to adopt healthy habits and stay out of emergency rooms as much as possible.

"There are many options before turn-

ing to the emergency room," said Lyne Cardinale, Director of General Services for the regional healthcare establishment. "Stay home, get advice from your pharmacist or the Info-santé nurses, consult your family doctor or a drop-in clinic. In the majority of cases it is not necessary to go to the emergency room."

The director encouraged people con-

cerned about symptoms to turn first to the Info-santé help line by dialing 811, as that will allow them to speak with a health professional without the risk of spreading contagion to others by leaving the house.

Cardinale said that at this point in time the flu has yet to hit its stride for

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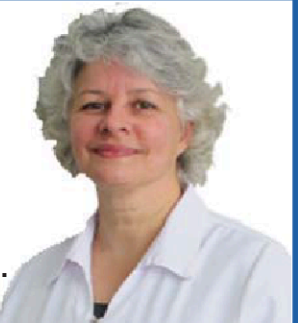
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Weather



TODAY: FLURRIES

HIGH -14
LOW -16



FRIDAY: MIX OF SUN AND CLOUD

HIGH -11
LOW -16



SATURDAY: MIX OF SUN AND CLOUD

HIGH -8
LOW -19



SUNDAY: SUNNY

HIGH 0
LOW -4



MONDAY: MIX OF SUN AND CLOUD

HIGH 1
LOW -7

Your Christmas Gift Guide



ROSS MURRAY

Deb and I agreed a long time ago that we would only do stockings for each other at Christmas. But, lo and behold, every Christmas morning, there's a present for me under the tree marked from the dog or the cats. The only problem is: the pets do a lousy job shopping for my wife.

So if you're like our household beasts, you're probably running around looking for last-minute gifts and dragging your rear across the carpet floor. I can't help you with the latter, but I can offer some gift suggestions so you don't end up in the doghouse.

Infinite Pot

Hot on the heels of last year's Instant Pot craze, the Infinite Pot creates perfect meals every single time - somewhere among an infinite number of alternate timelines. Will it be the timeline you're currently in with your guests impatiently waiting as your partner kills time explaining the intricacies of crop rotation? Or will it be the timeline in which you convince Paul McCartney not to write "Wonderful Christmastime" and are hailed an international hero? And in which timeline will your meatballs be succulent? What about Paul McCart-

ney's? Only time and space will tell.

Electric Hangers

Tired of peering into your closet on these drab winter mornings unable to tell your navies from your browns from your charcoals and your greens, and you end up just grabbing something and throwing it on, and then you get outside and look at yourself in the grey light of another dreary morning and say to yourself, "This outfit doesn't go together at all!" but you go to work anyway and feel self-conscious all day, so much so that you blow that important presentation on crop rotations, thereby jeopardizing not just your career but your family life as you spiral deeper and deeper into depression and substance abuse? No? Just me then? Either way, illuminated hangers are wicked cool!

Modern-design loveseat located in the Winners department store showroom, Sherbrooke, Quebec, with refined medium-grey linen-like fabric, low-profile armrests and high-density foam cushions containing pocket coil springs and one accidental fart.

Sorry.

All-Vegan Himalayan Pink Salt Crystal Air Purifying Musical Meditation Nightlight

Based on ancient Tibetan folk wisdom that someone really should have written down, this crystal meditation nightlight takes negative ions, transforms them into sarcastically judgemental ions and finally into ions with contrary opinions they wisely keep to themselves. An all-natural product with the proven healing properties of driveway gravel. Plays "The

Hills Are Alive With the Sound of Loofahs" and the Dixie Chicks' "Goodbye Earl."

Perennials for Millennials

An assortment of plants in starter kits that never leave their starter kits or produce offshoots. Also available: Germination X, plants that will only grow if they can do so ironically; and OK Bloomer: plants that take up all the nutrients and oxygen and do everything in their power to make the garden like it was in the good old days, which really weren't that good in the first place.

International Santa Figurine

Delight your family, friends and crop rotation specialists as they hear how Santa Claus laughs around the world:

- USA: Ho Ho Ho
- Greece: HQ HQ HQ
- Wales: Hglghauchgh Hglghauchgh Hglghauchgh
- Germany: [...]
- UK and obstinate parts of Canada: Hou Hou Hou
- France: Je ho, tu ho, il ho, nous ho-ons, vous hoez, ils hoent
- China: "Ho Ho Ho." "Yes?"
- Australia: oH oH oH
- Russia: I will laugh: Ho. You will be merry now.

Hilarious humour collection by beloved local author featuring, sure, essays you could probably find online, but without having to weed through the weird, lame ones, like this, plus the author is really hoping to make some money on the venture so the cats can buy his wife a decent Christmas present for once.
Hey, it was worth a shot.

Former École du Tremplin to be demolished

Record Staff

The Education ministry has awarded \$958,560 to the Commission scolaire des Sommets for the demolition of Pavilions 1 and 2 of the former École du Tremplin located at 329 Adams Street East and 450 Gouin Street in Rich-

mond.

According to Jean-Philippe Bachand, Chairman of the des Sommets school board, the two buildings had been generating recurring costs even though they have been vacant for years.

Richmond Mayor Bertrand Ménard said the City has long been calling for

the demolition or upgrade of the buildings, located in the heart of a residential area.

Once the demolition is complete and the land sold, Ménard said new residential projects will be explored on the prime site.

Ben by Daniel Shelton



LOCAL NEWS

Labrie added that a government that is serious about environmental protection needs to build that thinking into all aspects of its development plans.

Labrie sponsors environment petition

By Gordon Lambie

Christine Labrie, the Member of the National Assembly for Sherbrooke, announced on Wednesday that she is sponsoring a citizen-led petition on municipal environmental responsibility at the National Assembly. For the occasion, Labrie joined Pierre Des Rochers, Denis Demers, and Martin Gagnon, who served as spokespeople for the petition, at a presentation of its main points on at the Centre Multi-Loisirs in Sherbrooke.

According to Gagnon, the advocacy group was originally born out of the concern voiced by residents in the Mont-Bellevue area at the construction of a service station on the corner of Thibault and Dunant Streets, but has since come to embody concerns, more generally, about the ways in which municipal governments pay lip service to environmental causes while supporting development projects that have signifi-

cant negative impacts

“What we are basically asking for in this petition is that the percentage of green spaces protected in developments goes from a minimum of 10 per cent to 17 per cent, that promoters can no longer destroy natural environments of ecological value by paying a fee, and that all natural environments of ecological value can be protected, not just wetlands,” said Des Rochers, explaining that although the group is inspired by the actions of the city of Sherbrooke, they want the petition to apply to municipalities across the province. “We also want to be really involved as citizens in decisions that affect our quality of life and the future of our children.”

Labrie, in speaking to her reasons for supporting the petition, pointed out that none of the decisions that the group takes issue with in the city of Sherbrooke were in any way illegal.

“The city councilors did not break the law; it is just that the law is not suffi-

cient,” the MNA said.

Labrie added that a government that is serious about environmental protection needs to build that thinking into all aspects of its development plans.

“It is my pleasure to sponsor this petition and I am proud that it was initi-

ated by people from Sherbrooke,” she said.

The full text of the petition is available, in French, on the National Assembly website, www.assnat.qc.ca/en, under the “voice your opinion” tab.



GORDON LAMBIE

Flu season

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

the 2019-2020 season, meaning that health professionals are putting an added effort to ensure that people are aware of their options and best preventative practices in advance to help prevent the system from being overwhelmed during the holidays.

“Our emergency services teams are present to treat people whose state of health requires immediate intervention,” said Dr. Nicholas Elazhary. “As an emergency room doctor, I have notice that several emergency visits could be made elsewhere.”

Elazhary underlined the importance of simple preventative steps like hand washing and cleaning frequently touched surfaces. If someone in a household does become sick, he added, it is important to redouble these efforts in order to limit further infection.

“There are no miracle cures” Elazhary said, explaining that once one has one of the big seasonal sicknesses, the only thing to do is to rest and try to avoid spreading it around. He also highlighted the fact that while some people are hesitant about the idea, there is no problem with taking both acetaminophen (like Tylenol) and ibuprofen (like Advil) at the same time, provided proper dosage of

each drug is respected.

As in the past, the healthcare professionals reminded the public that influenza, commonly known as “the flu”, and gastroenteritis, often called the “stomach flu” or “gastro” are different illnesses with different treatments.

Cardinale also shared that it is not too late for a flu vaccination, as appointments are given until March

“The CLSC nurses would be happy to make you an appointment,” she said, stressing the fact that an annual flu shot helps not just with individual immunity but also protects more vulnerable populations like the chronically ill or elderly by building group resistance to the virus.

More information on services available including tools to find local clinics or check in on wait times at local emergency rooms is available at <https://www.santeestrie.qc.ca/en> under the blue “grippe et gastro” banner at the top of the page. Although the banner and many of the headings on the page appear in French, the information provided on the flu and stomach flu, including a “decision assistant” meant to help people manage their response to illness and know when to go to the hospital, is available in English.

Sunnyside students reverse Advent calendar

Submitted by Tammy Mosher

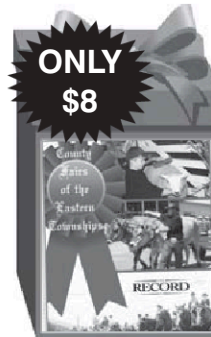
This year students in Grade 6 at Sunnyside decided to take part in a reverse Advent calendar.

Rather than opening a day on the calendar and receiving something,

they opened the days on the calendar and brought in a donation for the food basket in our class that is going to be donated to the CAB Rediker. Hopefully someone will have a little more happiness this year thanks to the generosity of these students.



Looking for an original gift?



In 2016, The Record published a commemorative book entitled “County Fairs of the Eastern Townships”. This book includes pictures taken over the past century from all the fairs in the region. Available at \$8 each if picked up (\$12 if mailed).



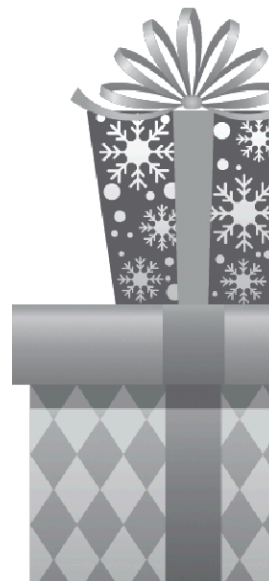
We will also have a limited number of the “50th anniversary Memorial Book of Massey Vanier High School” which includes photos, stories and anecdotes from the school’s humble beginnings. The books will be available for \$10 each if picked up (\$14 if mailed).



We also have a limited number of Book 2 of “Decades of Headlines” compiled into one book. This book covers some of the most important headlines and stories from the front pages of the newspaper – wars, depression, floods, crime and punishment – from 1921 to 1930. Available at \$8 each if picked up (\$12 if mailed).

THE RECORD

For more information, call 819-569-9528 or email us at billing@sherbrookerecord.com or drop by our offices at 6 Mallory, Sherbrooke (Lennoxville).



2019 Audi Q7



PHOTO: V. AUBÉ

2019 Audi Q7: We drive a sedan that's practical, refined and fun to drive, but discreet almost to a fault



By Vincent Aubé

Auto 123 reviews the stylish, surprising 2019 Audi A7 coupe-style sedan. German automaker Audi did not invent the idea of the coupe-sedan – that was the brainchild of Mercedes-Benz with its CLS – but the Ingolstadt-based manufacturer does get credit for the creation of the Sportback designation, which adds a rear hatch to the equation in the category of super-sleek sedans.

In fact the Audi A7, redesigned for 2019, picks up where it left off with its last iteration and comes with a purified silhouette, refined interior and, I exaggerate barely at all, performance that could make the Audi A8 blush.

And while the love affair between consumers and utility models continues to grow in intensity, this practical sedan option demonstrates that it is still possible to get around in total comfort in a vehicle that hugs the ground much more than do the brand's range of Q models (Q3, Q5, Q7 and Q8). I say practical because I happened to use the A7 on an errand to a certain Swedish-owned large-surface furniture store to pick up some pretty big and odd-shaped boxes. This is a five-door sedan that gives little ground to SUVs when it comes to every-day practicality!

More mature
True to form, Audi Canada provided me with a suitable discreet Audi A7 decked in Daytona grey, all the better to melt into the urban jungle. Unlike the Q8, which I happened to drive just a week earlier, the A7 didn't attract all that much attention on the road, maybe because this elegant grand dame has been around on our market for several years already; the ghost-like exterior colour only reinforced its relative anonymity. And yet, to my eye the optional 21-inch alloy wheels really helped give it a je-ne-sais-quoi charm. 'Look at my car', I kept thinking but not saying out loud because who wants to admit they like that?

I would be derelict in my duty if I didn't mention the superb position lights at the car's four corners, which are notable for the dynamic animation of the LED turn signals - pure show-off material vis-à-vis other cars on the road. For the rest, the new A7 stays true to the first model's philosophy with its sharp edges and fenestration that ends in a point as it reaches the back.

A supercharged V6 - it's all you need! In contrast with the bigger and heavier Q8 I drove just before this, the Audi A7 delivers a much more pleasant drive on the strength of the exact same powertrain as the big SUV. The unit had some trouble properly propelling that big lug, but that's not the case with this five-door sedan.

The 3.0L supercharged V6 provides adequate power - 335 hp to be precise - and torque (369 lb-ft) that's better adapted to this vehicle. Audi's trusted and near-omnipresent 8-speed automatic transmission is in service here as well, along with the Quattro all-wheel-drive system that is so useful in a big sedan like the A7.

Fitted with an adaptive suspension (available as a \$2,400 option) that can be set to the preference of the driver and the \$2,550 Dynamic package that brings to the Quattro system a sport differential as well as four directional wheels, the A7 may be lacking the prestige of the S7 or RS 7 versions, but it's no slouch in terms of road handling. This less-sporty variant is made to offer fantastic road grip, twelve months out of the year.

Pleasant inside

You would expect nothing less from Audi, and the Audi A7 Sportback delivers on the expectation of a superior interior environment. This is a cabin designed to be a pleasant place to spend even several hours. The first-row seats get heating and ventilation but also a massage function - oh and they're extremely comfortable to begin with, offering enough support to overcome the bumpier moments on the road.

You can say the same for the second row of seats, where legroom is decent but headroom a little short of that - the lot of a Sportback. Taller rear-row passengers won't enjoy longer rides too much, I would wager.

As for the bench seats, they can be folded down for fitting in longer objects, but they won't form a totally flat floor together with that of the trunk. The latter is nice and big however, so much so in fact that I still fail to see the advantage provided by SUVs when it comes to meeting most people's daily needs. When it comes to fitting in the piles of supplies from your Costco run, a versatile sedan like the A7 is up to the task. Maybe it comes down to the higher ride...

As welcoming as the interior environment is in general, what about the driver's seat specifically? The sedan's design is more streamlined than in the outgoing version of the model, with the three screens hovering up many of the commands that used to be physical buttons arrayed here and there.

One of those screens sits in front the driver and the other two are placed one on top of the others on the centre of the dashboard. I have to admit that the more I use those screens (and those of

other manufacturers), I find that the infotainment system offered by the Volkswagen Group is one of the best in the business.

The ideal driver position is easy enough to find thanks to the many ways you can power-adjust the seat and the steering column and wheel.

At the wheel

It's clear from driving the Audi A7 for week, family often in tow, is that it is a formidable grand tourer. Super-comfortable, nimble like an A4 and gentle on acceleration, the five-door Audi adheres strictly to the standards of what a German limousine should be. Steering is light but still manages to give the driver decent feedback from the road, and the braking is perfectly calibrated, offering just enough bite to be reassuring but not so much that it's jarring for occupants.

Here's another discovery I made: the first curve I took at speed left me near-speechless. I stopped a little further along in a parking lot and made a point of checking the rear wheels... which were pointed in a different direction than the front ones. That all-wheels directional steering helps explain why the sensation at the wheel of the A7 is of driving a car with Velcro on its wheels.

On the down side, I feel like the thickness of the side windows is not sufficient to block out external noise or even the sound of the tires - especially when the A7 is shod in winter boots. I mention this in comparison with that Q8 I had the week prior, the double-paned windows of which transform the cabin into a silent cocoon.

This is pale criticism indeed, because the A7 delivers quite a quiet ride to begin with. But these external noises mean the V6 is sometimes hard to hear. Personally I'd enjoy getting more of a conversation going with the engine, but to be fair that's more the job of the model's sportier variants.

The last word

Sporting with a very modern silhouette, the 2019 Audi A7 is not the most extraverted car on the road. At the risk of repeating myself, that grey colour really erases the model from public attention on the road. And yet, it's one of the German automaker's finest creations, and not just in terms of its design. The drive it offers is just sporty enough to charm motorists who can't quite treat themselves to an S or an RS. Then there's the cavernous trunk that's able to swallow up small furniture (though only when the kids are at daycare or school!). The 2019 Audi A7 is just as practical as an SUV 90% of the time, and it's far more enjoyable to drive. Another chapter is thus added to my futile quest to understand the widespread appeal of utility models for so many.

The competition
BMW 6 Series Gran Coupe
Mercedes-Benz CLS Coupe

My Take: Taylor McClure

I'm probably not the first person to speak out about this, but what is with the situation regarding the state of our roads here in Lennoxville?

Every day I am forced to drive on Winder Street, which, if you have not been in the area recently, is pretty much impossible to drive on. New lines were put down on the road this summer but nothing has been done to fill in the unprecedented amount of potholes, bumps, and dips in the road, which I am still struggling to understand. As a taxpayer, I find this situation unacceptable and we should not be served with a \$1,000 garage bill every few months because the roads are not done properly. While I am not familiar with the process of building a road, it is time to get it together.

Sincerely, a new car owner, who is about to lose her wheel bearing.

Minimum wage to increase in May

Record Staff

In response to the announcement by Jean Boulet, Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity, the Table d'action contre l'impauvrissement de l'Estrie (TCI) released a statement pointing out that the minimum wage increase announced today is far from responding to the call of the many groups in collective defence of rights and unions who have been calling for an increase to \$15 an hour for several years now to lift workers in the Estrie region out of poverty.

This 4.8 per cent increase is clearly insufficient, the group said.

Considering a 2 per cent increase in hydroelectricity rates per year starting next year (adopted at the beginning of December), the exponential increase in rental costs, the 12 per cent increase in vegetable costs observed this year and an anticipated 6 per cent increase in meat costs, TCI said the government should recalculate so that the Estrie population can hope for a way out of poverty and not just an air bubble before falling back into the cycle of poverty. The increase in the cost of living is accelerating at a rate well above the time it takes for the government to adjust.

Last year, there were about 730,000 people earning less than \$15 an hour in Quebec. Of these, 228,700 were paid at the general minimum wage rate and of these, 61 per cent were not in school, 41 per cent were 25 years of age or older and 63 per cent earned their family's only income from work.

Because working at the minimum wage still means poverty, the government must raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour as soon as possible, TCI said.

A Christmas among friends

Record Staff

As in previous years, the Sherbrooke organization Les Petits Frères is preparing for a special holiday celebration bringing together seniors who live alone.

Since 1986, the organization has been offering home visits, meals, holiday activities, and accompanying seniors to hospital visits and support at end-of life for seniors 75 and over who are alone.

The goal of Les Petits Frères is to break isolation for seniors without family.

On Dec. 24 and 25, close to 130 'old friends' unable to travel will receive a visit from Les Petits Frères volunteers, who will travel to CHSLDs, local hospitals or homes bearing gifts, the most precious of which being company on a special day.

On Christmas Day all 'old friends' able to travel are invited to a special mass and musical performance followed by a meal.

The event will take place at the Centre Multi Loisirs Sherbrooke (1010 rue Fairmount) starting at 11 a.m.

The holiday season is especially difficult for those who suffer from loneliness.

Les Petits Frères try to make sure that no one is forgotten.

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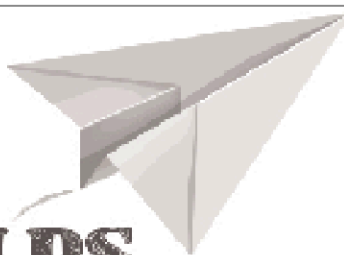
www.silencieuxsherlenn.com

The Border Report

The Compass program is offered year-round for ages 14-30 to support their return to education, the transition to postsecondary, or finding a job.

Happy Holidays from the Phelps Helps team!

**PHELPS AIDE
PHELPS HELPS**



To close 2019, we wanted to share a quick recap of the past, very busy, 4 months at Phelps Helps. This school year, Phelps has welcomed over 165 local community members in one or more of our six programs. Phelps offers three weekly programs: Spark for grades 3/4 at the French and English elementary schools, Elementary Tutoring for grades 5/6 at the two elementary schools and High School Tutoring for all local high

school students. The Compass program is offered year-round for ages 14-30 to support their return to education, the transition to postsecondary, or finding a job. Since the beginning of September, 36 community members have taken advantage of this service; 18 of which were through one-on-one support with our coordinator. Our Mentoring program is also well underway with 14 participants from both English and French high

schools. More than 30 families and many more community members attended special events at Phelps Helps, like Phelps' Family day in November that hosted characters from the popular children's series Paw Patrol and PJ Mask.

A big thank you to the 30+ dedicated volunteers, our hardworking staff, and countless supporters this school year is off to a great start and we hope to see even more students, community members, and volunteers at our programs in the new year!

From all of us at Phelps Helps, we wish you a happy and safe holiday season! Please take note that our offices will be closed from December 23rd to January 2nd, inclusively. All of our weekly elementary and high school sessions will start up again on January 14th.

Phelps Aide Phelps Helps was founded in 2012 and has grown organically from a single high school tutoring program to six unique programs, providing the Stanstead area with free educational and career support. For more information or



to volunteer, please email us at info@phelpshelps.ca, visit our website www.phelpshelps.ca or call our offices at 819-704-0799.



FRONTIER ANIMAL SOCIETY

Featured pet: Eddie

Eddie is all dressed up in his fancy Christmas sweater but he has nowhere to go.

Eddie has been with us for awhile now. Still a kitten upon arrival, initially he did ok in a shelter setting but the ever shifting dynamic of cats began to erode his ability to cope. Stressed and unable to seek solitude, Eddie began to lash out at the other cats. To maintain peace, we've had to remove him from the main colony.

What Eddie needs is an opportunity to decompress and live a more peaceful life. He could be ok in a home with another cat, especially one who is laid back and not territorial, but probably the best scenario is that Eddie be the only cat in the household. He does get along with our beautiful boy Blue who is also currently for adoption.

Despite living in isolation, Eddie remains a playful and curious young cat and when we spend time with him he is

happy for the attention and loves to play. He especially enjoys every opportunity to get some one-on-one time with one of our volunteers on our "catio." Eddie is fun and engaged and he can't resist anything that dangles and will bat around his toy mouse or ball for ages.

Eddie was recently groomed and was an absolute star. We thought the experience would be hard on him but he was so well behaved and very accepting of the groomer's attention and affection towards him. So while he may not be the cuddliest cat you'll ever meet and while he does tend to live his life on his own very "cat-like" terms, he's a true entertainer and a lot of fun to watch. Eddie isn't shy or reserved or skittish, he is actually quite outgoing and likes being around people, he just isn't a lap cat.

Eddie doesn't need a Christmas miracle, he just needs someone to give him the chance to leave shelter living behind and start a new life as a cherished, albeit

sometimes slightly aloof, companion. Eddie is a good cat and once he settles into his new routine and can relax and let down his guard, he may well learn to appreciate the joys of being a pampered pet. Eddie's the kind of cat who, years from now when he is old and grey, you'll look back at your life together and you'll wonder why you ever chose him in the first place, but you'll be glad you did!

If you are looking for a fun and playful cat with a lot of personality and don't care if he won't insist on late night cuddles, please consider Eddie.

To meet Eddie, consider stopping by at our weekly cat adoption open house which takes place every Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon at 2405 Griffin in Ogden. To schedule a visit, please give our adoption coordinator Linda a call at 819.868.2684 or by email at peacock-linda@rocketmail.com



EDITORIAL

Even the recent election campaign came into play with a request to drop the poem from Twitter and Facebook until after the vote.

Jack and Jill went up the hill . . . oops



TIM BELFORD

Health Canada, the folks that recently brought you a new guide to preferred Canadian eating habits, has apparently taken a shot at lightening up on their advice to young people about safe sex. Gone are the stern and sometimes graphic depictions of what can happen if you don't take proper precautions replaced by what was supposed to be some light hearted poetry.

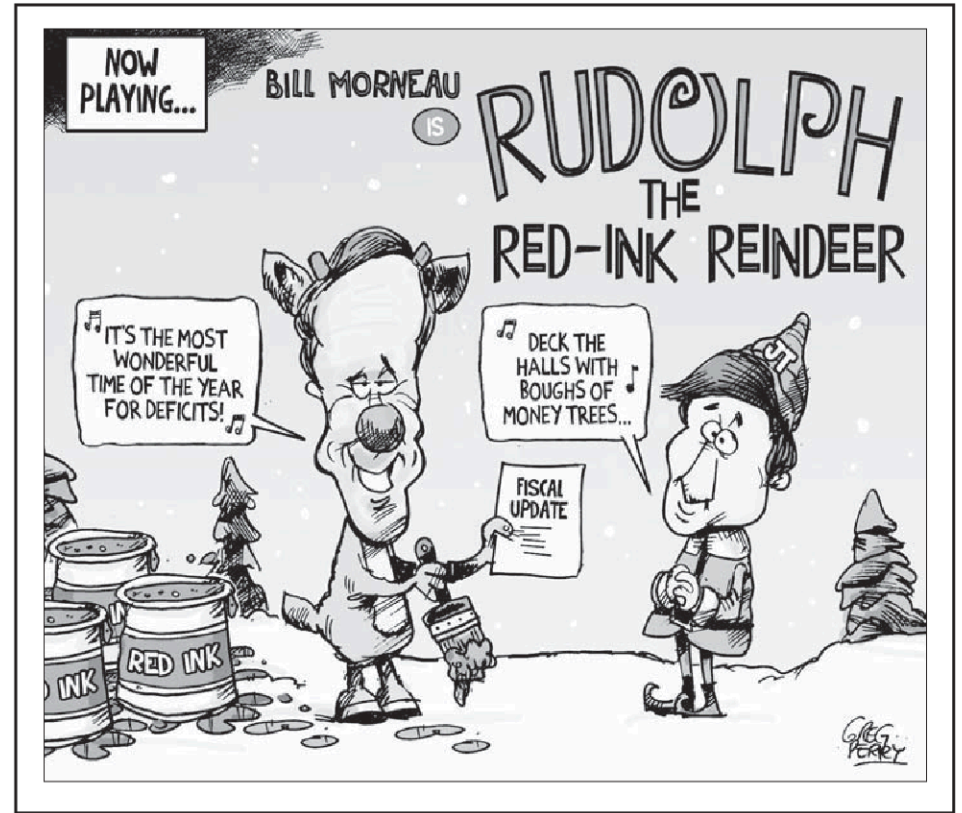
What they came up with, among others, was a new twist on that old standard Jack and Jill. With apologies to Lord Byron, this is how it read.

*"Jack and Jill did the deed,
But they forgot something they need,
Should have wrapped it up - oh my!
Now both have an STI."*

It was followed up by a link that directed the youngsters to information on condoms. Well, as you might imagine in this day of Facebook, Twitter and the like, reaction was instantaneous and, no pun intended, viral. So excited and agog were the intended recipients, and departmental staff, that the original was apparently deleted within an hour. What were they thinking?

According to an article in the National Post, Health Canada, as any department would, proceeded to fall all over itself in an attempt to explain the process. When the first draft was in the approval stage there was concern raised that the original ending was to read "Now Jill has an STI." This, it was pointed out, suggested that only Jill got the disease which would never do. On top of that, worry warts in the department were not happy that Jack and Jill were a heterosexual couple which would leave the LGBTQ community unrecognized. Unfortunately, changing the names would lose the cute reference to the nursery rhyme.

There was also considerable discussion on how the warning would translate into French since the Jack and Jill ditty was not commonly part of francophone culture and the rhyming scheme wouldn't hold. Another alarm



was sounded when someone reported that people are pointing out that Jack and Jill are actually brother and sister!

Even the recent election campaign came into play with a request to drop the poem from Twitter and Facebook until after the vote. To be honest, I'm not sure how Jack, Jill and a socially transmitted disease could have affected the outcome since there was no suggestion that any of the party leaders had ever gone up the hill with anyone.

Personally, I'm with Catriona Wright,

an English teacher who was asked to comment on the poetry by the Ottawa Citizen. Never mind the names, the gender bias or the possible incest, the poetry is really bad. Nobody at Health Canada has apparently ever read Jack and Jill or they would know that the end of line two should rhyme with line four. In this case the first two lines rhyme as do the last two. As my grade ten English teacher would have said, "There's no meter" No rhythm." And in this case no common sense.

Union of Quebec Municipalities reacts to Green Paper on police organization

Record Staff

Following the tabling today of a Green Paper on police organization in Quebec,

The Union des municipalités du Québec (UMQ) released a statement offering its full support the government in the upcoming process to evaluate the situation.

The report, entitled Police Reality in Québec: Modernity, Confidence and Efficiency in Police Organization in Québec was tabled by the Minister of

Public Safety, Geneviève Guilbault.

According to the UMQ, social changes and the transformation of crime required in-depth reflection on the reorganization required in police organization in Quebec. In recent years, there has been a change in the issues facing police services. For example, in addition to the socio-demographic changes observed (aging population, increase in the immigrant population, etc.), there has been a shift from crime-related to non-crime-related interventions (mental health problems, psychological distress, cybercrime,

etc.). This situation is of great concern and directly affects the level of service of police forces, as well as their ability to respond in the field.

"The UMQ has been working for more than a year to identify solutions to the many issues related to police organization. The tabling of the Green Paper is a unique opportunity to share our thoughts. The impact of crime transformation on police costs, both at the Sûreté du Québec and in municipalities with their own police forces, will certainly be at the heart of our thinking. This cost growth creates an additional budgetary challenge and forces municipal elected officials to make difficult decisions. We know that the Minister of Public Safety is sensitive to the situation and that is why we are offering her our expertise to make the consultations a success for the municipal world," commented Suzanne Roy, Acting President of the UMQ and Mayor of Sainte-Julie.

A committee of experts was appointed to consult with the various partners to present an analysis of the multiple issues surrounding police services.

Bernard Sévigny, former president of the UMQ and former mayor of Sherbrooke will serve as coordinator and spokesperson for the committee.

"Municipalities know very well what we are talking about when it comes to police services in Quebec. Whether it is the challenges related to the new issues facing police services or demographic changes that are changing the needs of clients, municipal elected officials have expertise to share. The committee of experts that will lead the consultations will therefore benefit from this privileged point of view," concluded Ms. Roy.

The UMQ intends to submit a brief as part of the consultations to be conducted by the committee of experts. Starting in early 2020, each of the UMQ's five affinity caucuses will be consulted and invited to discuss the issue of police services in order to identify the avenues to be prioritized. Thereafter, the members of the UMQ Public Safety Commission, on which each caucus is represented, will be responsible for identifying the Union's priorities.

In addition to police service costs, UMQ's interventions on police reality will focus on a variety of issues, including: the possibility of offering police services by the SQ to other municipalities; the review of mandatory service levels; new issues facing police services, such as the increase in interventions related to mental health problems.

THE RECORD

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Local Sports

Before I go off and offend my beloved fish, allow me to make the following disclaimer: it's not you, it's me.

Are some lures designed to catch fishermen?



ON THE HOOK
ANDREW HOWARTH

There's no reason to assume that some of the same marketing and advertising techniques used in Old Spice and Victoria's Secret ads aren't also used to sell anglers on the next unnecessary gadget that companies like Berkley or Loon conjure up. Upon closer inspection, it's obvious—some lures and flies are intended to catch fishermen. That being said, there are good reasons to fish a lure or fly with aesthetic qualities that both angler and fish can agree on.

I'm aware that the previous point about marketing isn't shocking or controversial, but allow me to explain what lead me to my second conclusion. Winter fishing requires enough drudgery and delusional enthusiasm without adding abnormally long periods without any success, like in what I'm now referring to as my 'Great Drought' of 2019. I simply haven't enjoyed the amount of action that I've come to expect in return for so many hours spent fishing for steelhead in the months of November and December. Before I go off and offend my beloved fish, allow me to make the following disclaimer: it's not you, it's me.

We anglers tend to overspeculate about the reasons for a lack of caught fish. Conditions, fly, and presentation are common subjects when it comes to attributing blame, but probability and chance are equally, if not more reliable culprits. Even when I'm certain that the solution to my current drought is to keep hammering, I enjoy finding ways to inspire and fuel a little more persistence.

Some developments in lure and fly design are easily explained by economic factors, and many others are attributable to angler innovation. Although I enjoy toying with new fly tying materials, techniques, and concepts, I'm also a major proponent of keeping things relatively simple. It often pays to give a fish fewer things to potentially refuse. Like any great film, album, or visual artwork, a good lure or fly is characterized by a logical combination of different elements that balance and complement one another. The very long list of great fish attractors contains, and is made up of a seemingly endless variety of different colour and constituent material combinations, but lures and flies like the Little Cleo and Muddler Minnow marry just two or three complementary elements of colour, material, and design. For these reasons, a good lure will typically have a niche that is neither too broad or narrow, within which its general look and function make it an optimal choice for anglers. The following proverb applies equally to painters, lure makers, and fly tyers: it takes two people to make a masterpiece, one person to create it, and a friend to slap them in the head when they're finished. The rough translation of this saying to layman's terms is 'don't overdo it.' If you're like me, you'd probably also prefer to play both roles, and avoid any unnecessary physical abuse.

Gear, lure, and fly changes generally

come as a response to poor results or changing conditions. However, I've recently found myself changing things up in order to brighten the long, dull periods of inaction that are inevitable when pursuing a prized fish. Something as simple as a new fly pattern can offer a lot in terms of encouragement and motivation to anglers who have depleted their supplies of either thing. As a college ball player, I heard a lot of coaches and former players talk about 'shooting out of a slump,' or use phrases like 'shooters keep shooting' when prolific three-point shooters found themselves in what we might call a 'drought.' It takes a minimum level of delusion and manufactured confidence to enjoy feast and famine activities like fishing, but an aesthetically-pleasing fly pattern or lure can make the grind slightly more enjoyable, just like a new pair of sneakers can turn a 'trudge' to the gym into a 'trip' to the gym. If just one lesson should be taken from all of this, it's that it pays to find small games and opportunities for fun in otherwise-laborious tasks.

It's always nice when a great fish lends credibility to a particular idea or theory, and although I'm susceptible to confirmation bias, I'm quite confident that experimentation with new fly pat-



ANDREW HOWARTH

Evidently, angler and fish saw eye to eye on at least one thing: the visual appeal of this fly.

terns played some role in my ending the Great Drought that I mentioned earlier. A happy fish is liable to be fooled by any number of well-tied flies, but aesthetics and variety are, in some sense, the spice of angling. It's worth remembering that good art is, among other things, pretty to look at.

Montreal Impact sign Canadian midfielder Samuel Piette to three year contract

The Canadian Press

The Montreal Impact signed Canadian midfielder Samuel Piette to a three-year contract on Wednesday. The deal includes an option for the 2023 season.

"We are very happy, as he is, to have found an agreement that shows mutual respect, as there was interest from both sides to reach this conclusion," said Impact sporting director Olivier Renard. "We wanted Samuel to stay with the club and I want to thank him to have

trust in our project.

"He will be able to continue his contribution on and off the field."

Over the last three seasons with the Impact, the 25-year-old from Repentigny, Que., has started 70 regular-season games for the Major League Soccer club and recorded four assists.

At the international level, Piette has four assists in 46 games, including 32 starts, with the Canadian national team.

Piette has previously played in Spain, Germany and France.

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for the Holidays

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THE RECORD



Datebook

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2019

Today is the 353rd day of 2019 and the 88th day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1777, the Continental Army under George Washington set up winter quarters in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

In 1932, the first BBC World Service radio broadcast aired, as "Empire Service."

In 1998, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to impeach President Bill Clinton.

In 2011, North Korea announced that dictator Kim Jong Il had died two days earlier.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Carter G. Woodson (1875-

1950), historian; Leonid Brezhnev (1906-1982), Soviet leader; Jean Genet (1910-1986), author; Edith Piaf (1915-1963), singer/actress; Al Kaline (1934-), baseball player; Richard Leakey (1944-), paleoanthropologist; Robert Urich (1946-2002), actor; Reggie White (1961-2004), football player; Criss Angel (1967-), magician; Tyson Beckford (1970-), model; Alyssa Milano (1972-), actress; Warren Sapp (1972-), football player; Jake Gyllenhaal (1980-), actor.

TODAY'S FACT: The first American president to be impeached by the House of Representatives was Andrew Johnson in 1868.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1980, Brigham Young University's football team, down 20 points with three min-

utes to play, staged an improbable comeback to defeat Southern Methodist University in the Holiday Bowl, 46-45.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "If we behave like those on the other side, then we are the other side. Instead of changing the world, all we'll achieve is a reflection of the one we want to destroy." — Jean Genet, "The Balcony"

TODAY'S NUMBER: 12 — astronauts in the Apollo program who set foot on the moon's surface. The last manned lunar flight, Apollo 17, returned to Earth on this day in 1972.

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter moon (Dec. 18) and new moon (Dec. 25).

An Open Night



Overcast skies and temperatures above freezing were the conditions for the third meeting of the season for members of the Sherbrooke Snow Shoe Club as they met on the 27th of November for their usual Wednesday night gathering of the week.

The temperate weather enabled a select number of club members to tackle a repair job on the clubhouse roof earlier in the day. Despite a previous concerted effort in September to address a leaky section of hallway, one small area continued to allow rainwater to seep through the roofing material. While the previous effort was intended as a permanent undertaking, the more recent one was essentially a stopgap measure to prevent water infiltration until spring when a more, longer lasting solution can be found for the isolated section in question. Alas, the ongoing maintenance required when dealing with a wooden building 130 years old.

As daylight turned to darkness in late afternoon, members began to congregate at the clubhouse. Hot coffee and

snacks awaited them as members socialized in advance of the formal proceedings that normally start at 6:30 sharp.

Right on cue, President Harry Brown forcefully wielded the wooden gavel, garnering the attention of all those in attendance. After the singing of the national anthem, President Harry asked the blessing. This latter task was for many years shared with fellow member of The Cloth, Rev. Deane Moffat. Deane's untimely death this past summer, has left President Harry the sole functionary for this all, important necessity.

At this juncture, the club's White Knights were requested to begin serving the evening meal. The initial offering was a full-bodied vegetable soup with lots of healthful ingredients. The main course consisted of turkey 'a la king' followed up with decadent butterscotch squares with ice cream.

During the course of the meal, Assistant Purveyor Doug Beattie presented Chef Carole Lacroix with a small gift for her efforts beyond the call of duty. On the day of the winter storm two weeks previous, Carole found herself in the position of having to shovel a way through the roadside snow pile in order to gain access to the property.

Drawings for the evening's door prizes enlightened the mood of Lawrie Sakamoto, his second win in three weeks, as well as senior member Bill

Lyon. The drawings preceded the sing-along led by chorister Phil Kerwin, assisted by some of his fellow club members. Janis Graham provided the musical accompaniment. This latter activity has been facilitated this season with the acquisition of a new PA amplifier, which enables better mixing of different input sources than the previously employed unit.

With club jokester Dave Moore still somewhat incapacitated, President Harry read a current email making the rounds in cyberspace, namely a critique about the subject of politically incorrect names of various sports teams, that offered a rather amusing antidote to the problem.

The president then convened a business meeting, the first since the AGM back in October. In addition to the usual run of business, the topic of a revised constitution was raised and preparations made to address recent proposed revisions.

With the necessities of meeting protocols met, the membership was released to enjoy an 'Open Night' whereby they were free to socialize and/or pursue whatever activities they preferred.

*Submitted by Steve Moore
SSSC Secretary*

Do Just One Thing



By Danny Seo

Using cloth dish towels is an economical and ecological way to quickly clean up spills and keep your kitchen tidy. But over time, they can get smelly and dirty, and actually spread germs and bacteria in the kitchen. The solution is not to bleach the towels. Instead, soak the towels in the sink in a mixture of hot water and white vinegar for 20 minutes. When the towels cool, ring out the excess water and wash in the washing machine. The towels will be deodorized, disinfected and ready to use in the kitchen again.

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If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, we can help. Call Alcoholics Anonymous 1-888-424-2975, www.aa.org

SOUTH DURHAM

Annual Carol Service at South Durham United Church on Monday, December 23 at 7 p.m. Worship led by Tracey Badger. Everyone welcome. Social hour to follow.

RICHMOND

The Daniel Ménard RCM Library will be closed for the Christmas break starting December 22. It will reopen on Wednesday, January 8, 2020.

LENNOXVILLE

Don't be alone on Christmas Day. Join us for singing, fellowship and Christmas Dinner on Wednesday, December 25 at Hope Community Church, corner of Queen and College, Lennoxville. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. and the meal and celebrations take place from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For transportation/information call Paul McLean 819-820-5932, Don and Jackie Loughheed 819-563-7750 or e-mail the church office at info@hcclennoxville.ca.

NORTH HATLEY

BHUTAN: Cultivating the Dream of a Sustainable Humanity in the Kingdom of Happiness, with Bhutan filmmaker Loday Chopel. Mr. Chopel will discuss diverse aspects of Bhutan: the history of the Kingdom, its government and social structures, its Gross National Happiness (GNH), education and travel. And how Bhutan became the only carbon negative country in the world. A 90-minute presentation with videos/photos, questions & answers. Thursday, December 19, at 2 p.m., UUEstrie (downstairs), 201 Main Street, North Hatley. Info: 819-842-4146, www.uuestrie.ca, Facebook UU Estrie. Free admission. All are welcome.

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THE RECORD

Stop the ruckus!

Dear Annie

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2019

Dear Annie: I just got back from a trip visiting my family across the country and something followed me from sea to shining sea — people watching videos, listening to music and playing video games loudly and without headphones for the most part, too. What is with this?

I first noticed it when a young boy next to me at the airport was playing on his iPad with the video game noises on high. His parents seemed oblivious to the obvious disturbance. Next, someone was video conferencing their partner, without headphones or even moving to a less crowded space, as we were boarding. Yet another person was blasting her music on the plane; I could hear it from two rows back! Finally, after landing, I got on the train to head home and this elderly couple kept passing their phones back and forth, sharing videos while a guy down the train car played his music through his speakerphone.

This rude phenomenon spans generations and gender, seemingly, but I can't be the only one who is disturbed by this trend. Annie, what's the best way to approach people who can't seem to keep their music to themselves? — Thanks for Not Sharing

Dear Thanks for Not Sharing: Your letter provides a wonderful description of what all of us are putting up with

these days. Trying to block the noise out and going into a mental bubble can be challenging. It is amazing how a few rude people can ruin your day — if you let them. Maybe the best solution is to keep headphones with you and put them on for two reasons: one, to show them your good example, and, two, to block out the inconsiderate people. Let's hope some enlightened legislators will pass a law addressing this issue.

Dear Annie: Today I read in the news about the fuss over a Starbucks employee misunderstanding someone's name and writing ISIS instead of AZIZ. This would not have been a problem if businesses would quit insisting on getting your first name when you order. I am perfectly happy being a number and resent how some places insist on asking my name. I am not your new best friend; I am your customer and deserve the respect that comes with that. Also, I feel it puts women and young teens at risk when their name is announced to a room full of strangers. Yes, you could always give a fake name, but most people don't. I do get a kick out of saying my name is Wendy at Wendy's. To all businesses, please stop this practice and go back to numbers. Maybe I will try telling them my name is No. 32. — Protect My Privacy

Dear Protect My Privacy: Your letter brings up a great point about safety.

While it is not as personal, numbers seem like a better option.

Dear Annie: In response to the lady whose brother and sister-in-law fight in front of the kids about whether to invest money or pay off the mortgage earlier, there is an easy solution. It is true that there are benefits to both sides of the argument, so why not compromise?

They can mutually decide on an amount they are comfortable with. The first month they can invest it, and the second month it goes toward the principle on their mortgage. It should make both of them happy and everyone wins, especially the kids when peace is restored in the family. — A Retired Financial Planner

Dear Retired Financial Planner: I always love hearing from professionals in their field. Compromising is a healthy solution in most relationships, and your suggestion is a good one.

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

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

Bulwer Golden Age

December 10: 98 members and guests gathered at the Bulwer Community Center. Nine tables of 500 played, as well as 2 teams of carpet bowling and a table of Cribbage.

Several door prizes were drawn before supper. Keith organized a few games of "The Price is Right." A spotlight dance was also held, followed by the drawing of more door prizes.

Diane Grenier from the CAB was present and brought along Santa, who proceeded to hand out goodies. Diane drew prizes of Poinsettias, thank you Diane and the CAB.

The club presented beautiful Poinsettias to Margaret and Keith and Peggy and Leigh for their support and dedication to the club.

Everyone assembled for supper, grace was said by Mary Lou Burns. Another wonderful meal prepared by Peggy Grapes and helpers, roast turkey and all the fixings. All you could eat pies for desert, five different kinds! Delicious.

Results of 500 were: Ladies 1st place Pat Decouteau, 2nd place Ilah Batley and low score Greta Jones. Men's 1st place Clayton Lackie, 2nd place Stan Brown and low score Delmar Fiusher.

Results of carpet bowling were: Red team (Sheila, James, MaryLou and Doris) beat by the black team (Allan, Alberta C., Carol and Ken).

Cribbage: Keith, Grace, Lynda and



Richard played for fun.

Door prizes were won by Janet Cas-teur, Stan Brown, June Morrison, Helen Hodge, Hazel Kerr, Elaine Royer and Al Doherty.

Instead of her regular drawing, Peggy handed out chocolate balls to each table. The lucky person who had their table number on the ball won a choice of a pie. The results were as follows: Table 1 - Diane Learned, table 2 - George Peasley, table 3 - Audrey Caron, table 4 - Carol Rodgers, table 5 - Helen Cox, table 6 -

Stan Brown, table 7 - Bob Halsall, table 8 - Everet Boyton and table 9 - Linda MacLeod.

A special thank you to Darlene Rogers for generously donating the turkeys.

Thank you to everyone who helped set up and clean up, it is always much appreciated.

Merry Christmas to all and a Happy New Year. See you in January!

Submitted by
Colleen Matthews

Send your social notes to: classad@sherbrookerecord.com

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.

"CTR MHWXKRS ZLCT ZLYCRH NMWHCN
LN CTBC - IWKKWZ SR PKWNRKO
TRHR - CTRO JRYRHBKKO CBFH
MKBPR LY ZLYCRH." - VBGR XBHHO

Previous Solution: "A bank is a place where they lend you an umbrella in fair weather and ask for it back when it begins to rain." — Robert Frost

TODAY'S CLUE: *1980s*

REALITY CHECK

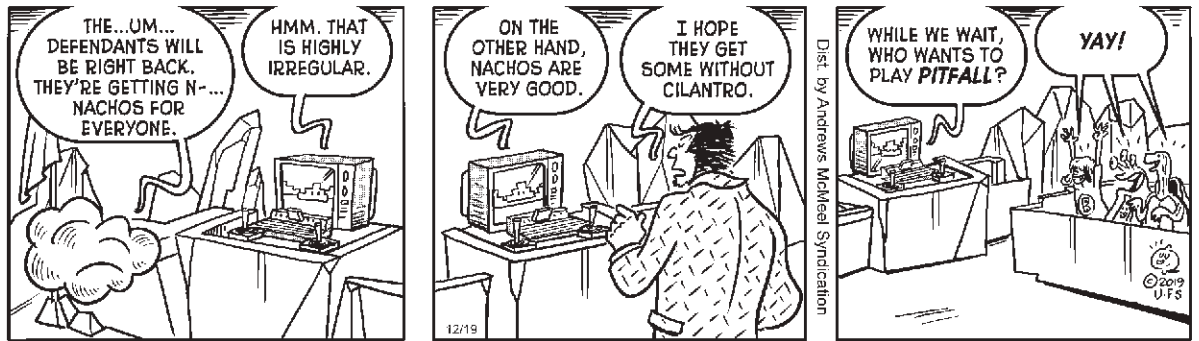


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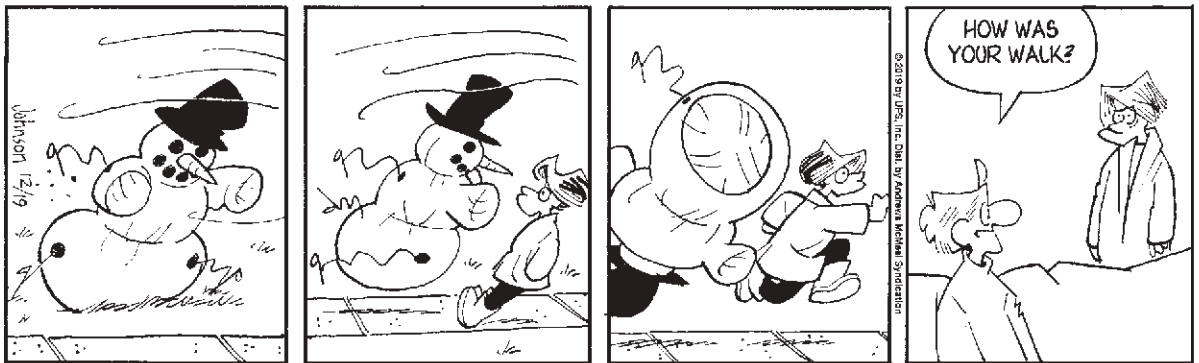


"Mother sent us each a Christmas card."

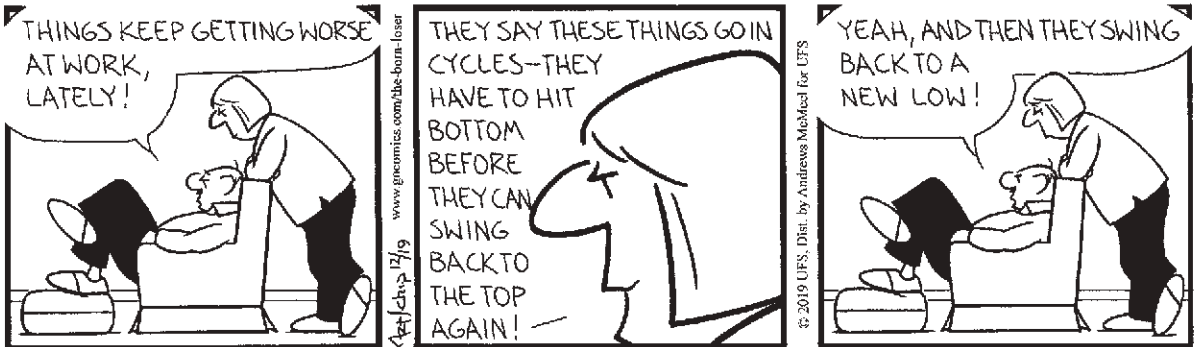
ALLEY OOP



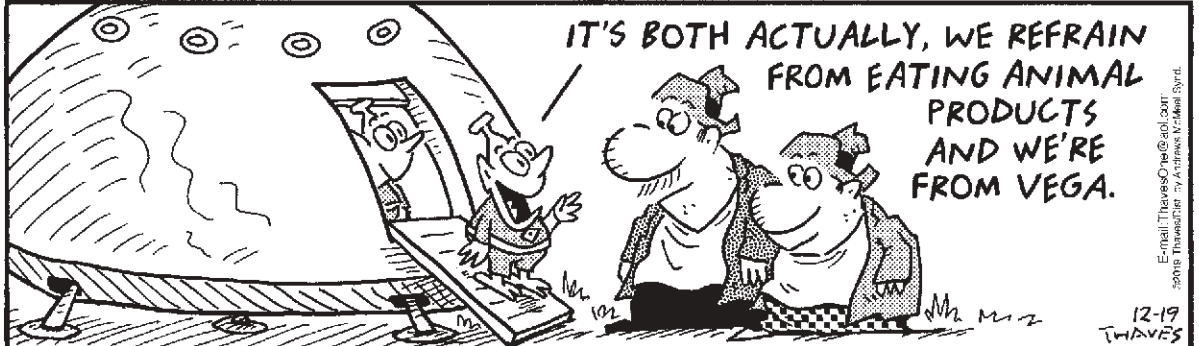
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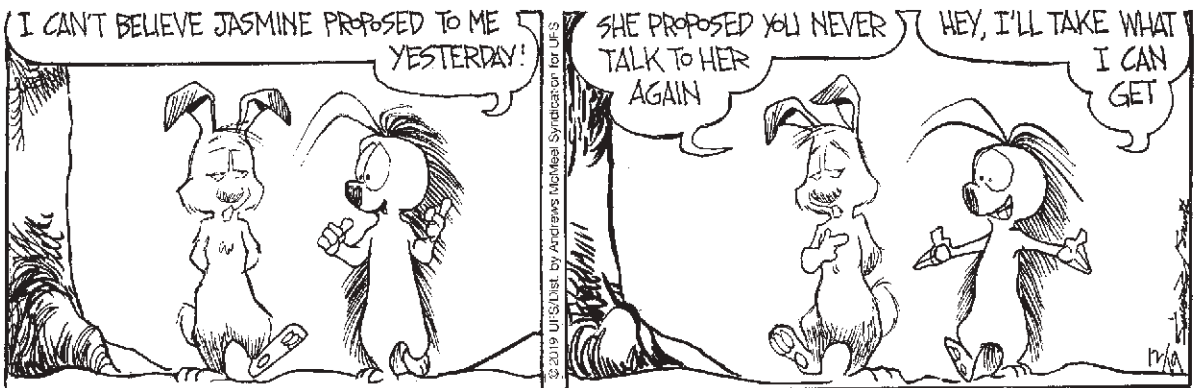
THE BORN LOSER



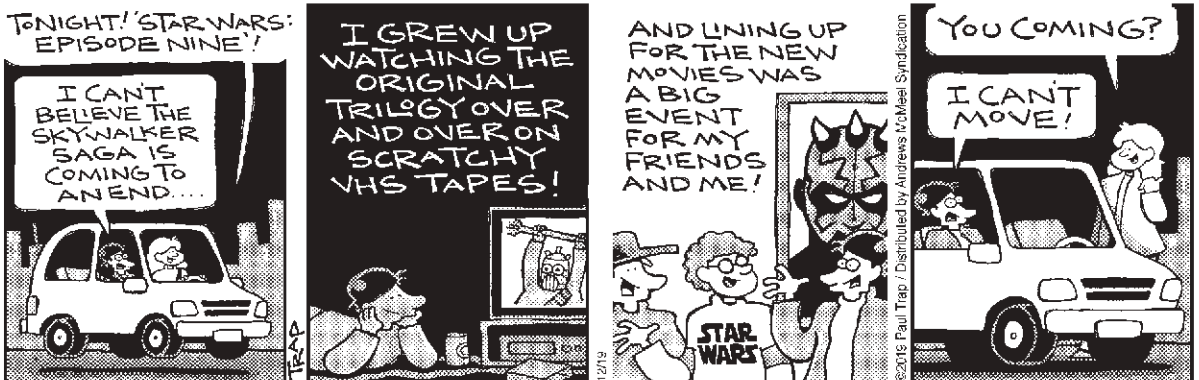
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December with Richmond 50+ Club

Monday, November 2, found fourteen people at the Richmond Melbourne United Church for an afternoon of "500". The recording of the number of flags disappeared but the winner was Ron Jones with Bev Jones the runner-up. And Bev completed another 10 No Trump hand. Guess we'll have to enter her in a tournament. Low score was achieved by Lori Grainger. The scores mysteriously showed up with Ron's score being 4220 points and Bev's was 4130.

On the 9th, fifteen folks came out for Military Whist. With 28 flags, the table of Norma Morin, Freda Coote, Helen Gallup and Sylvia Morin earned high score. Matty Banfill, Shirley Noble, Lori Grainger and Claude Letourneau had the low score honours.

It was a wintry day on the 16th as twenty-four gathered in the Church Hall to enjoy a catered Christmas dinner. So full they were groaning, people finally moved away from the food table over to the card tables where eighteen spent the afternoon playing Military Whist. With 26 flags, the table of Bev & Ron Jones, Donald Hughes & Jeannine Lancaster earned high score while the low score was earned by Nicole Clark, Marie-Paule Pariseau, Shirley Noble and Mrs. Dumbell.

Drawings were held after dinner where winners and losers took home table centerpieces, jars of jam, bags of chocolate bars and other dollar store Christmas articles.

The 50+ Club is taking a short siesta over the holidays but will resume their activities on Monday, January 6, starting at 1:30 pm where all are invited to enjoy an afternoon of "500".

Happy holidays to everyone. See you in 2020.

Submitted by Shirley Beasley and Jean Storry

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

12/19

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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



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Mail a colour photograph of the baby with: baby's name, birth date, parents' name, hometown and 10 words describing the little tyke, along with \$20. (taxes included), daytime phone number and a stamped, self-addressed envelope to

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 Sherbrooke, QC J1M 2E2**
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Deadline: January 5, 2020.
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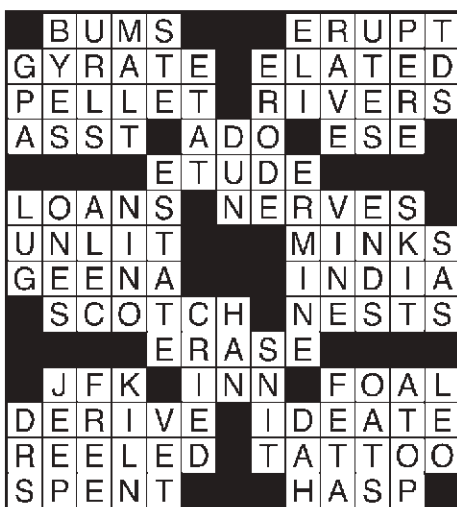
THREE - 1 YEAR ONLINE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO
THE RECORD

NEA Crossword Puzzle

Your Birthday

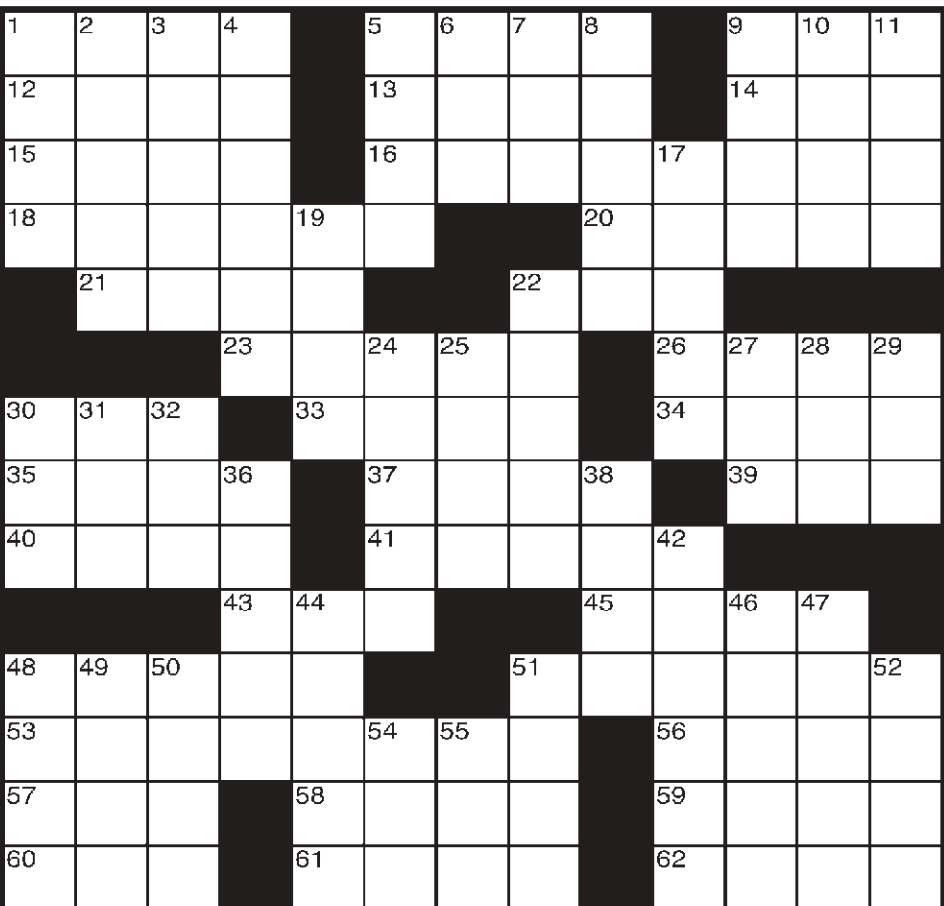
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2019

Answer to Previous Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- 1 Injury result
 - 5 Fissure
 - 9 Go over big
 - 12 Citrus fruit
 - 13 Lahore language
 - 14 Inflated sense of self-worth
 - 15 Classical poet
 - 16 Not too much to take
 - 18 Vat locale
 - 20 Urban transport
 - 21 "Murder by Death" actor
 - 22 Slangy motorcycle
 - 23 Extremely eccentric
 - 26 Ultimatum word
 - 30 House mem.
 - 33 Angled a nail
 - 34 Traipse
 - 35 Latin I verb
 - 37 Goose egg
 - 39 Large antelope
- 40 Showroom model**
- 41 Kudu cousin
 - 43 Football team mems.
 - 45 Impulse
 - 48 Take place
 - 51 Choir selections
 - 53 Besides
 - 56 Statistic
 - 57 Onassis nickname
 - 58 Military cap
 - 59 Trunk possessor
 - 60 CSA defender
 - 61 Quiz
 - 62 Come off as
- DOWN**
- 1 Snaillike
 - 2 Kind of duty
 - 3 Organic acid
 - 4 Adorn
 - 5 July stone
 - 6 Anger
 - 7 Safe-products org.
 - 8 Engine booster

- 9 Duck's feet
- 10 Eye impolitely
- 11 Misfortunes
- 17 Ice fishing tool
- 19 Cheer on
- 22 Serpent Hercules fought
- 24 Percolates
- 25 Faint, with "over"
- 27 Captain's journal
- 28 — Bernardino
- 29 Rhea cousin
- 30 Rainbow band
- 31 Afore
- 32 Tillis or Dawber
- 36 Woman's hat
- 38 Burden of proof
- 42 Breezes
- 44 Cracked
- 46 Dazzling light
- 47 Handler of introductions
- 48 Sharif or Bradley
- 49 Innermost part
- 50 Corn bin
- 51 Stiffly formal
- 52 Flower part
- 54 Rile
- 55 Clean air org.



Observe, tighten your strategy and prepare to make changes that will position you for new beginnings. There is no rush, so don't let anyone push or pressure you to act quickly. Time is on your side, and putting your plan together properly will be what leads to success.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Go about your business. Listen to your heart, not to what someone tries to lead you to believe. Concentrate on your responsibilities and what you have to finish to avoid criticism.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Do what you do best and take the helm. Refuse to get pulled into situations that will slow you down. If someone overreacts, take charge and get the job done.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Take a deep breath, organize your day and prepare to get things done. If someone tries to interfere, give him or her a task and keep moving forward.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — A change of plans can be to your advantage. Being in the right place at the right time will enable you to capitalize on a situation as it unfolds.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Refuse to let setbacks cause emotional mayhem. The opportunities will far exceed any challenges you face as you move toward your goal. Stand tall and give your all.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Take pride in what you know, how you con-

tribute and the difference you can make. An unexpected opportunity will give you something to look forward to and will ease stress.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Don't put pressure on yourself to keep up with someone who has more disposable income than you. Be smart about how much you spend. Offer kindness and affection, not lavish gifts.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Find solutions on your own. If you put the burden on someone else, you will end up doing the work anyway and regretting the complaints you have to endure in the process.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Honesty will pay off when dealing with matters that can damage your reputation. Don't let a change someone makes set you off. Live within your means and do your own thing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Keep moving forward. You have plenty to do to reach a self-imposed deadline. A change at home will surprise the people who live with you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — One step at a time. Choose your words carefully so as not to give away any secrets. Romance is on the rise.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Get your place in order. Whether or not you are entertaining for the holidays, the changes you make will leave you feeling good. A comfortable environment will help ease stress.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2019

Your eye doesn't go easily to the best

By Phillip Alder

P.G. Wodehouse, in "The Code of the Woosters," wrote, "Big chap with a small moustache and the sort of eye that can open an oyster at 60 paces."

In this deal, where are the oysters, the suit that declarer needs to open up? What should South do in six spades after West leads the heart jack to dummy's king?

In the auction, North's jump to three spades was a game-force with three-card support. (A pair using two-over-one game-force would have rebid two spades.) South plunged into Roman Key Card Blackwood, learning that his partner had two key cards without the spade queen (five hearts) and the heart king but no minor-suit king (six hearts). Since the diamond king was missing, South signed off in six spades.

South has 10 top tricks: six spades, two hearts, one diamond and one club. The eye is inexorably drawn to the diamonds. Declarer might hope to establish the suit for the loss of only one trick. But with this layout that plan is doomed to failure. Sooner or later, East will overruff dummy's spade seven with his nine.

Instead, make the eye look at all four

North		12-19-19	
♠	K 7 4	♥	A K 6 3
♦	Q 2	♣	Q J 10 9
West		East	
♠	3	♠	10 9 6
♥	J 10 9 8	♥	Q 5 4 2
♦	10 8 5 3	♦	K J
♣	K 8 5 4	♣	7 6 3 2
South			
♠	A Q J 8 5 2	♥	7
♦	A 9 7 6 4	♣	A
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: East-West			
South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♥	Pass
6♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
Opening lead: ♥ J			

suits. What about clubs? Clubs?

If South can get three club tricks, that will put him up to 12. How can he do it?

At trick two, he cashes the heart ace and discards the club ace!

Then he leads the club queen. Whether East covers with the king or West takes the trick after declarer discards a diamond, South gets those three club winners.