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Sherbrooke Daily Record.

**Britain Declares War On Germany**  
Canadian Parliament Is Called

Brilliant Naval Victories:  
British in North Sea.  
French in Mediterranean.



LAND OPERATIONS:  
GERMAN AGGRESSION

Parents raising  
a stink at city  
council

Page 3

THE  
**RECORD**

THE VOICE OF THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SINCE 1897

Oh fudge!

Ross Murray - Page 7

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2014

STS sets its  
holiday  
schedule

By Record Staff  
SHERBROOKE

The Sherbrooke Transit Society announced its holiday schedule yesterday, and added that it is offering a few days of free public transportation to customers during the 2014 - 2015 holiday season.

In addition, the STS is reminding the public that for the urban transport network, the holiday period is in affect from Monday, December 22, 2014 to Sunday 4 January 2015.

With respect to public holidays, the service is as follows, from Dec. 22, 2014 to Jan. 4, 2015:

Regular Service:  
Dec. 24 - Saturday schedule, ending at 7 p.m. - free all day  
Dec. 25 - No service  
Dec. 26 - Sunday schedule  
Dec. 31 - Tuesday schedule, ending at 7 p.m. - free  
Jan. 1 - no service  
Jan. 2 - Sunday schedule

Adapted Service:  
Dec. 24 - 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. - free  
Dec. 25 - 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. - free  
Dec. 26 - 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.  
Dec. 31 - 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. - free  
Jan. 1 - 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.  
Jan. 2 - 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Fortin delivers positive report

Rookie MNA unfazed by protesters



GORDON LAMBIE

Sherbrooke MNA Luc Fortin spoke to reporters yesterday to give his views on the just-finished legislative session.

Sherbrooke's representative in the National Assembly, Luc Fortin, says that people are welcome to protest outside of his offices as much as they like, as long as they do it in a reasonable and legal manner.

"We do not control the movements of demonstrations," the Liberal MNA explained. "We live in a free and democratic society and people have the right to protest. It just needs to be done with respect; respect for laws and for individuals."

Answering questions as a part of a report on work done over the eight months since the Liberals came to power in April,

CONT'D ON PAGE 5

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## Weather

 TODAY:  
SNOW, 2-4  
CM  
HIGH -2  
SUNRISE: 7:23  
SUNSET: 4:06

 FRIDAY:  
MIX OF SUN  
AND CLOUD  
HIGH -4  
LOW -8

 SATURDAY:  
SUNNY  
HIGH -3  
LOW -17

 SUNDAY:  
60% CHANCE  
OF FLURRIES  
HIGH -3  
LOW -7

 MONDAY:  
60% CHANCE  
OF FLURRIES  
HIGH -2  
LOW -6

# Celebrating the season with the Boys and Girls group in Potton



### THE SCOOP

#### MABLE HASTINGS

Last Friday, the Missisquoi North Youth Centre Boys and Girls Groups celebrated in the spirit of the season by joining together for the annual Christmas party held at the Youth Centre in Mansonville.

Boys and girls groups are weekly afterschool programs offered by the Volunteer Centre for youth aged 5 to 12. The boys group meets Thursdays after school until 4:30 p.m. and the girls group meets Fridays after school until 4:30 p.m.

The annual Christmas party brings the youngsters from the two groups together for an afternoon of holiday fun.

The afternoon began as the children arrived at the centre from school where

they were treated to a horse drawn sleigh ride provided by Roger and Adam Cote from the Cote Meadows Farm.

Following the sleigh ride the youth let their creative juices flow as they made reindeer bird feeders and mason jar candles as gifts to take home to their parents. Candy cane limbo, freeze dance and fun followed as those gathered danced up a storm. Shortly after that, Santa made a visit with presents that included a lime green T-shirt for each youth with the youth program logo.

The joyous spirit of the season rang through the air as the youth enjoyed healthy snacks and delicious punch while sharing their excitement with friends.

Staff and volunteers were pleased with the turnout and enjoyed watching the smiles on the kids' faces as Santa handed them their gifts.

"I've had the pleasure of filling in at the Youth Centre in the position of Assistant to the Youth Director, a position normally filled by Sarah Jersey who is on maternity leave until January," explained Eleanor Cote.

"Sarah will return in January and I am proud to say that I have been hired to continue on at the Youth Centre as an Animator for the older youth Drop-in



group," she added.

Eleanor along with temporary youth animator Julia Hastings and volunteers Norma Clifford and Melissa Paige kept the children busy and at the party's end, the children and their parents were wished the very best of health and happiness for the holiday season and the coming New Year.

One of the younger youth summed up the day perfectly when he said, "I had a great time and I loved the sleigh ride but, I find it really hard to believe that Santa wears pink running shoes!"

To find out more about the Volunteer Centre's Boys and Girls Groups, visit the website at [www.cabmn.org](http://www.cabmn.org) or call the Youth Centre at 450-292-0307.



## Ben by Daniel Shelton



# LOCAL NEWS

Evelyne Beaudin of the Jacques Cartier borough said she was "flabbergasted" by the cut

## Sherbrooke Residents make a stink over diaper subsidy loss

By Gordon Lambie  
SHERBROOKE

Among the cost-saving measures mentioned in passing as a part of Monday's municipal budget announcement in Sherbrooke was the cancellation of the city's subsidy for the purchase of cloth diapers.

In the past, the city offered a contribution of \$100 to the first 150 parents to provide proof of purchase of cloth diapers, for a total cost of \$15,000 per year.

The subsidy was offered on a first-come, first-served basis and was limited to one purchase per family per year.

"It was a very popular program," said Mayor Bernard Sévigny during the Monday afternoon technical briefing on the budget, stating that cutting the environmental, family-centered incentive was just one of many difficult choices the councillors made in trying to assemble a budget that no one considers to be anything more than an acceptable compromise.

Though mentioned in passing during the mayor's half-hour presentation of the broad points of the budget, the subsidy cut raised a great deal of concern during the question period that followed the vote.

Evelyne Beaudin of the Jacques Cartier borough said she was "flabbergasted" by the cut, stating that it loads a greater economic burden on a part of the population that is already hit hard but other government cuts.

"It's not the baby boomers who will lose their jobs when things get tough in the job market; it's not my parents who will have a hard time finding a home when the housing market gets tough here in Sherbrooke, it's my generation" Beaudin said, "and now on top of that you're taking away the diaper subsidy?"

The concerned citizen

pointed out that there are few on the council who might be of a "diaper changing age" and asked that the council clarify its reasoning.

In response, Council President Serge Paquin highlighted the \$15,000 cost of the program and explained that it was judged to be having a neutral impact, as it was not believed that many families were making the choice to use cloth diapers based on the possibility of saving \$100.

Beaudin was later joined in her criticism by individuals who had taken advantage of the subsidy in the past including Karine Godbout, who urged the

councillors to consider the environmental impact and cost difference to families between cloth and disposable diapers.

Christine Ouellet, councillor for the Beckett district who sits as president of the city's environmental committee, took the "green" argument to heart and eventually pointed out that just because the program has been cancelled for this year, that does not mean that it is gone forever.

Brompton Borough President Nicole Bergeron similarly conceded that it was possible that the diaper program was one situation in which the council had "made a mistake."

According to Environment Canada, more than four million disposable diapers are discarded in Canada each day, with a child going through roughly 8000 between birth and potty training.

## Peladeau visits Sherbrooke



GORDON LAMBIE

Pierre-Karl Peladeau visited the Carrefour de l'Estrie yesterday to meet and greet potential voters. The media magnate and rookie MNA for St-Jerome went on the pre-Christmas walkabout as his campaign for the leadership of the Parti Quebecois shifts into a higher gear.

## Granby ERM arrests two in Waterloo coke raid

Record Staff

The Granby Mixed Regional Squad (ERM) carried out a drug operation in Waterloo yesterday, leading to the arrest of two suspects so far.

According to Granby ERM spokesperson Aurélie Guindon, "The two subjects under investigation, men aged 61 and 72, were arrested when they were located in downtown Waterloo."

Two raids were subsequently conducted in their homes, with the involvement of 15 police officers participating in the operation aimed primarily at cocaine trafficking.

During the operation, police seized a few packets of cocaine, a quantity of hashish, \$13,500 in cash, and two vehicles determined to be property used in the commission of a crime.

The two suspects appeared this at the Granby courthouse

Thursday afternoon to be charged, with cocaine trafficking, among other things.

The investigation suggests that the 72-year-old man sold the cocaine from his vehicle and that the 61-year-old provided him with the drugs.

In addition to investigators from the Granby ERM Granby and officers from the MRC Haute-Yamaska, two SQ dog handlers also took part in the operation.

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# School Page

## New Horizons Adult Ed Centre

### School spirit at New Horizons



Science lab with Alexis Reymbaut from University of Sherbrooke



Boo! The New Horizons staff at Halloween

SHERBROOKE

The first semester of the school year has been very busy. In an effort to expose students to new opportunities, to develop a sense of belonging, and to enhance school spirit, the staff members and students at New Horizons organize a wide variety of activities every Wednesday morning for an hour or two. These activities are called "CreActivities."

Fall offered the students an opportunity to participate in many activities including: a walk to raise money for Terry Fox, softball in the park, a corn roast, a costume contest for Halloween, a guest speaker who was invited to commemorate Remembrance Day, a yoga instructor who shared some basic poses, a team of CreArtists which was formed to add colour and flair to the hallways in order to highlight the various seasonal celebrations, and basketball which continues to be a favourite in our gym.

Science is also in the air at New Horizons! Building and launching rockets more than 50 feet into the sky and connecting with electrons using a Van de Graff were just the beginning.

Alexis Reymbaut, a doctorate student from the University of Sherbrooke, came to our centre with a very impressive demonstration on superconductivity and its uses. The students were very engaged in the presentation and were happy to see what they had learned in their science courses demonstrated at a

higher level. Alexis Reymbaut invited us to follow up on this presentation by visiting the physics department of the University of Sherbrooke.

There, students were able to visit a unique superconductivity laboratory and be introduced to the 2nd greatest super computer in the world called the "Mammouth." The students then were able to tour the Expo-Méga-Géni-Ale, an exposition of the projects accomplished by engineering graduate students. Students were impressed at the many different applications of science, some right in our area.

Another important activity that involves everyone at the centre is contributing to our annual Food Basket program. Starting at the end of November, staff and students alike are encouraged to donate nonperishable goods to help feed those students who struggle to meet the demands of the holiday season. By providing food, we help ease some of their pressures and make their holidays a bit happier. This year's goal is to distribute four baskets by Dec. 19.

Other activities for the month of December include, decorating holiday cookies, a potluck lunch, a movie morning, knitting, bingo, and family day.

In January, thanks to the generosity of Bishop's University, a group of New Horizon students will get the chance to go to Centennial Theatre to hear renowned Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield speak about his experiences in space. Hadfield will be in town as part of the Donald Lecture series. It is such a great learning opportunity for local students, and we thank Elizabeth Mazurek and Sarah Haddon from Bishop's for supplying the tickets.

We would also like to highlight various community members who are involved and contribute their time within our school. Melanie Cutting and Pamela Westgate have actively served on the Governing Board for many years. Their participation is vital to the operation of our centre. We also have tutors who support our students academically. We are fortunate to have Jill Catchpaw, Bill Crooks and Cathy Little working with a number of students to help them achieve their educational goals. Staff and students wish to extend a special thank you to our volunteers who have a great impact on student success. We are looking forward to a new semester after the holiday season with additional initiatives that will bring our students to "New Horizons."



Rocket-launching during CreActivites



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- Advanced 3-D MRI-guided neurosurgery
- Gamma knife neurosurgery
- Colorectal cancer screening
- Cyclotron production of radioisotopes

The expertise of neurosurgeon and neuro-oncologist David Fortin and researcher Maxime Descoteaux was recognized in an article entitled "Secrets of the Brain" published in the February edition of *National Geographic*.



Photo Credit: National Geographic

Innovating and pushing the limits of technology to benefit patients and the public are challenges addressed by the experts at the CHUS and its research centre on a daily basis.



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## 2015 budget a breeze in Cleveland

By Gordon Lambie

Though budget crafting for Quebec's larger municipalities was a much greater trial this year than in years past, Herman Herbers, Mayor of Cleveland Township, says that the reality in his rural municipality is quite different.

"We're lucky to have a municipality that doesn't really have any debt," Herbers explained. "We've been affected slightly, only about 1 or 1.8 per cent, by the government cuts. What we did is just cut back on our road budget for

2015."

Cleveland is presenting a balanced budget of \$1,662,689 with no increase in property taxes for 2015. According to the Mayor, the municipal council was able to rely on longterm financial stability and a general sense that cuts would be coming to act in a financially responsible manner, reducing spending to be ready when the time came. As a result, he said, the cuts that have caused serious headaches elsewhere in the province will have a very small impact in the small municipality.

"No one will even notice the cuts to road funding," Herbers said. "Our roads are in good condition, and we're still going to invest quite a bit of money in 2015, but a bit less than normal."

The municipality expects to invest \$283,000 in its roads over the coming year, mostly in the form of miscellaneous road repairs.

"As a society, we sometimes have to make tough decisions. That is exactly what the government is doing now," the Mayor said.

"Despite the cuts, which we must ac-

cept, we will continue to prioritize aid for local non-profit organizations, which are in great need of support in order to continue their missions."

Herbers added the clarification that despite the government cuts, the township's support for local non-profit organizations will actually see a slight increase this year. As a result, the mayor said he was very pleased with the budgetary exercise as a whole.

For more details on the township's budget you can visit the municipal website at [www.municipalitecleveland.ca](http://www.municipalitecleveland.ca).

## Central Maine & Quebec railroad set to go

Record Staff

The Central Maine and Quebec railway has received the highly anticipated approval from Transport Canada to develop of its rail operations. On Dec. 5, CMQ received notice of the official revocation of a series of notices and orders it inherited when it purchased the old Montreal Maine & Atlantic railroad.

The MM&A went bankrupt in 2013, in the wake of the Lac-Mégantic disaster that killed 47 people.

The revocation of these notices confirms that Transport Canada sees no immediate threat from the company, a press release says.

Getting to this point has not come without cost and

effort on the part of the new owner and comes after months of work, numerous inspections, and an additional investment of \$10 million, the company says.

"CMQ has installed more than 32,000 new switches, 33,528 metres (110,000 feet) of linear rail, and 25,000 metric tonnes of ballast over four months, improved bridges, culverts, and crossings, and removed welding defects on more than 300 rails on its main and secondary lines.

"We had to make this investment. The line was covered in snow last February and March when we were finally able to begin our diligence, but we made a commitment to Lac-Mégantic Mayor Laroche and citizens, as well as many regulators, that we would address the years of neglect," said CMQ president and

CEO John Giles in the company's statement.

"This is one of the most challenging construction seasons I've ever been involved in," said Ron Marshall, the company's general manager of engineering. "This investment demonstrates our team's commitment to operating the railway in a safe and responsible fashion."

The company indicated that while physical work is still ongoing, their focus will now shift to sales and marketing, with an emphasis on the Quebec and Vermont markets.

The Sherbrooke section, which stretches some 200 km (125 mi) from Lac-Mégantic to Brookport, just east of Farnham, represents the backbone of the CMQ railway network in Quebec.

## The Fortin report

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

Fortin said that the government is working to make the right decisions for the future of Quebec and do so quickly in order to get things back on track in the province.

He acknowledged the right of the public to demonstrate, and welcomed engagement in the democratic process, but said that cases like that of the five CEGEP students who had to be escorted out of his riding office by the police are unacceptable.

"This is not the norm, these were isolated incidents and we hope it stays that way," the MNA stated.

He went on to say that although the various protests going on right now are getting a lot of visibility, they don't match up with what he is hearing from people he speaks to in the general public. "What I hear a lot is, 'finally we have a government that wants to live within our means.'"

This "silent majority" backs the decisions of the Liberal government, he said.

Fortin's overview of 2014 was positive, as is typically the case with such reports, and focused largely on the projects on which he worked that relate to the Sherbrooke area directly.

"We've spoken a lot about national concerns over the last few weeks, but I want to also speak with you about local projects because of the many accomplishments in major projects."

Clarifying the "major projects", Fortin began his list by mentioning interventions he and some of the other local Liberals made regarding Hydro-Quebec's rates for the city of Sherbrooke. He recalled the fact that addressing the issue had been one of his campaign promises and said that

his interventions with the Energy Minister Pierre Arcand, have had a serious but understated impact on the city's pocketbook.

"Yes, Sherbrooke will have to pay \$2 million more for electricity purchasing from Hydro Quebec this year, but if we hadn't intervened it would have been \$4.2 million," the MNA explained, stating that the value of that has gone unappreciated in the context of the remaining increase.

Also mentioned among local projects were the expeditation of the process to get approval for the extension of Portland Boulevard, and Fortin's personal involvement in recreating links between the government and Sherbrooke's Residence Monchenou.

Looking to the future, Fortin briefly reminded those gathered of his recently announced intent to put forward a private bill regarding Sherbrooke's stalled reforms to municipal governance before turning his attention to the government's primary mission.

"The matter of returning to a balanced budget preoccupies us greatly," the Liberal representative said. "Notably, this coming spring we will look to the debate on the future of school boards."

Fortin pointed out that the news about mergers that has the province's school boards in a furor is "just a working scenario" and has not been set in stone.

He said that the government is open to discussion and fresh ideas on the matter, and pointed out that he recently met with the heads of the local French school boards to hear their proposals.

Though stating that he had not met with representatives of the Eastern Townships school board, the MNA re-

ported that their proposal for the future had been received well, and would be a part of the conversation. At the same time, however, he argued that the positions of the school boards is not the only one being heard.

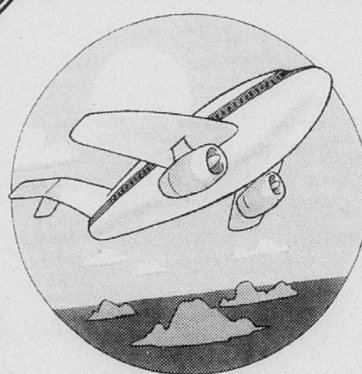
"There are lots of parents for whom the idea of abolishing school boards is gaining ground," Fortin said, adding that he is committed to listening to all voices speaking to the party on the matter so that the government can make, "the best decision for all the students."

Asked about his position on the daycare centre workers who are protesting outside his office daily between 4 p.m.

and 6 p.m. this week, Fortin said that he had met with the protest leaders but found their requests to be outside of the realm of possibility.

"We are listening to what people have to say, but when I met with the representatives of the daycare centres, what they said to me was 'don't touch the rates, don't touch our surplus, and don't touch our operating budget.'"

When I asked them for an alternative, there was no answer other than to suggest that everyone's taxes be raised to pay for daycare in Quebec," Fortin said, adding, "I'm sorry, but that's not the way we're going to do things."



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# EDITORIAL

Today's editor has a mind-numbing choice of what will be the "news" of the day and... the tendency to make something out of nothing is increasingly evident.

## Newspaper leads



TIM BELFORD

Many years ago I was given a bit of advice from a newspaper editor on what to feature on any given day as a lead story. He called it the "closer to home theory."

It was simplicity itself. If someone was killed in your own town or city it was front page. If a disaster hit another part of the province it had to have multiple victims and a local connection. For a different province, the number of people involved must have grown exponentially and if it happened on the far side of the planet it would make the front page only if an entire city or small nation had disappeared.

It was a crude rule of thumb and some would say callous at best but it was also before this age of instant connection when twenty seconds after a disaster there is already sound, video and eye-witness accounts available right around the globe.

Let's face it, today's editor has a mind-numbing choice of what will be the "news" of the day and, faced with 24-hour televised competition, the tendency to make something out of nothing is increasingly evident.

Take, for example, a story that was featured this week in at least three major daily newspapers. Apparently the House of Commons released a report - we are told in bold headlines - that showed MPs from the New Democratic Party spend the most money on hospitality. In the six-month period ending this September, the party loving socialists forked out an average of \$939 on food and drink easily outstripping the Tories at \$488 and the obviously abstemious Liberals at \$403. An outrageous example of entitlement! Pigs at the

trough! One more example of politicians making free with our hard-earned tax dollars and a double blow, coming as it were, from the NDP! But wait a second.

Even using the old math that I was taught way back when, it's easy to see that the NDP members in question spent, on average, \$156.50 a month. That rounds off to \$5.22 a day, scarcely the cost of a double double and a doughnut.

Even the most free-spending member of the NDP, Elaine Michaud from Portneuf-Jacques-Cartier only managed to spend \$4,994. That's about \$833 a month or a little short of \$28 a day. I should note here that \$1,408 of this was actually spent on one event when the obvious gregarious Michaud met with 150 of her constituents to listen to their concerns and buy them a \$3.50 lunch. Whoa, if that doesn't buy their votes nothing will.

If you're wondering where other MPs spread the cash, the most popular spot for expensing meals, according to the report, is the Parliamentary Restaurant, a taxpayer-subsidized eatery open only to MPs, Senators and their guests. But don't think it's all prime rib and Dover sole, the second most frequently visited hot spot is Tim Horton's.

Liberal MP, Mauril Belanger, is a pretty good example of how the required reporting of MPs' expense habits has changed things. Sure he took a guest to the fancy, shmancy Le Café at the National Arts Centre but to even things out he also reported treating five guests with items bought from some place called Ayoub's Mini Market for a total of \$9.75.

All in all, now that they are being more closely monitored, it appears that our elected representative are doing a pretty good job of keeping their expense account wallets and purses tightly snapped.

The story here shouldn't be that they spend five bucks a day buying a coffee for a voter or two but that they can't seem to deal with multi-billion dollar procurements for fighter planes, ships, national infrastructure projects or northern development.

In hind sight, the old "closer to home theory" doesn't look so bad.



## Letters

DEAR EDITOR:

The Eastern Townships School Board has been aware of the possible mergers with South Shore Riverside and New Frontiers since 2010. The commissioners have had four years to consult parents, taxpayers and staff and yet there appears to be a lack of public knowledge or input.

The commissioner for Ward 6, a former ETSB principal, who worked for the French school board for four years made the statement, "It's like a small family our board, it's a different mentality." A different mentality, in my view indicated identity, our identity, not better - just different.

Election turnout was meagre with more representation from senior than parents. Was this apathy or defeat from doors closed to them? The election process was unclear, adding to the confusion and frustration of voting with a reality of many who arrived to vote but were not permitted.

Talking with the parties is imperative to making a final recommendation; taking into consideration children's needs and challenges. Many questions exist: will small elementary schools survive, will more bussing be required, will there be loss of jobs, and will two administrative system function well and actually save money? School boards are divided linguistically and most likely the ETSB will show you schools with shared buildings that is felt to function well, however, is this reality or a nice picture for our enjoyment?

Don't adopt the "sky is falling" mentality and base decisions on emotions; the results may not be as expected. The ETSB dedicated a lot of money and energy into the laptop initiative which, in my view, was based on emotion

rather than a process, in pursuit of being first.

I do not believe the effort gave the results intended. I do support computers and bilingual education; however do not repeat history as success might be measured by the effort exerted.

It is a difficult decision so go to the communities, the people who elected you and entrusted the commissioners with good education of the youth.

BARBARA HEATH  
STANSTEAD

DEAR EDITOR:

The members of St. George's Anglican Church, Lennoxville, held their Christmas Bazaar and Tea on Saturday, Nov. 29, 2014. It was a bright and pleasant day.

The many different tables such as candy, food, jewellery, knitting, delightful muddle and silent auction provided many articles for people to purchase or bid on.

We would especially like to thank the local town merchants who donated, so generously, articles for our silent auction. It was truly appreciated.

Many thanks, also, to all the volunteers who helped in any way prior to and on the day of the bazaar, and to the people who provided articles for the silent auction and sales tables. Your time and effort was greatly appreciated. We were fortunate to have four students from BCS who offered their help the day of the bazaar. It was nice to have them join us.

And to you, the people of the community and surrounding areas who had tea with us or supported us in any way, we say a huge "thank you" and we hope to see you again next year!

MARGIE WOOLLERTON  
LENNOXVILLE

**THE RECORD**

1195 Galt East, Sherbrooke, Quebec J1G 1Y7  
 FAX: 819-821-3179  
 E-MAIL: newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com  
 WEBSITE: www.sherbrookerecord.com

SHARON McCULLY PUBLISHER ..... (819) 569-9511  
 JOHN EDWARDS NEWS EDITOR ..... (819) 569-6345  
 STEPHEN BLAKE CORRESP. EDITOR ..... (819) 569-6345  
 SERGE GAGNON CHIEF PRESSMAN ..... (819) 569-9931

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## COLUMNIST

Normally, there's not a lot of snacking in church, outside of communion.



ROSS MURRAY

Dear stewards of Centenary United Church,

Last Sunday morning, it's possible a member of your congregation may have found a small piece of fudge wrapped in a napkin in the back of one of the pews. If that's the case, then you probably already know about it. I know if I found someone's discarded dessert in a hymnbook holder, I would be all, "Hey, stewards! Some schmuck left sugar in the sanctuary." And the stewards would be like, "Say it, don't spray it," because stewards are funny – in a good way, of course.

There is the slim chance that more than one piece of fudge was found Sunday morning. These things happen. One person finds a piece of fudge. Then another person finds another piece of

## I left my fudge in church

fudge. Next thing you know people are talking about the Miracle of the Fudge, and everyone and his stepgrandmother is undertaking a pilgrimage – or a "fudge-grimage" – to see the sweetly sacred place. By the way, asking someone "Would you like to see my sweetly sacred place?" can be highly misconstrued.

(Also: my Bible studies are a bit rusty but I don't recall desserts figuring heavily in the New Testament. I suspect, though, that immediately after the Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes, there were more than a few people hankering for a Miracle of the Pies and Brownies. Just imagine: if that had happened, then today we'd all be singing, *What a Flan We Have in Jesus*.)

So just in case there was a sudden surfeit of abandoned fudge products in church, I would like to identify my specific fudge. It was beige, measuring about 8 cubic centimetres and had bits of butterscotch in it, kind of like Skor Bar but you could tell they weren't the real deal. More like faux-Skor. It's possible too they were more than a bit old, like Gettysburg old – faux-Skor from seven years ago.

Come to think of it, I'm not even sure it was fudge. It might technically have been a square. It was definitely sweet, I can assure you that, having already

eaten two during supper in the school cafeteria across the street and having picked this third piece off a tray that had been returned to the kitchen along with the other uneaten food. This is not at all the same as picking something out of the garbage, merely en route to the garbage.

I immediately realized I didn't want said fudge/square right then, having preceded the two previous fudges/squares with a cookie. There is probably an appropriate Bible reference at this point: "Suffer the chubby children to come unto me..." I think it goes.

Instead, I wrapped the sweet in a napkin and stuck it in my blazer pocket and walked across the street to the church with the rest of the students, teachers and parents.

Normally, there's not a lot of snacking in church, outside of communion. There's coffee and dessert after a service, of course, because sermons can sure build up an appetite. But mid-preach, nothing. It's just a thought, but don't you think opening a concession stand would tempt people back to church? Here's a suggestion: marshmallows and melted chocolate between two holy wafers – "Psalmores."

You're welcome.

So I don't think I ever truly intended

to eat my fudge during the carol service. But I didn't rule it out entirely. I was going to see where the service took me. Sometimes *The Little Drummer Boy* makes my blood sugar plummet, so it's good to be prepared. But I knew for certain I didn't want my sweet crumbling in my pocket, so I took it out and slid it into the hymnbook holder for safekeeping/ later snacking.

And then I forgot it.

I apologize for abandoning my dessert in your church, but I'm guessing it's probably not the weirdest thing you've found. How does the verse go? "For where two or three have gathered together in my name, someone's going to leave behind a denture."

But I like to think that perhaps my forsaken fudge serves as some kind of metaphor. Perhaps we all are the fudge, created out of love and then lost, waiting to be found. And eaten.

Maybe the fudge is a metaphor for careless waste that, at Christmastime more than any other, we may be forgiven for, especially by stewards.

Maybe it's the promise of the sweet hereafter.

Whatever it is, I'm writing to you to tell you that, about the fudge? You can keep it.

Merry Christmas.

## Four resolutions to be in business in 2015

By Yves-Thomas Dorval

As an especially busy year is about to end and the usual easing of parliamentary and governmental activities provides most of us with the opportunity to enjoy a few days of well-deserved rest over the holiday period, this is an appropriate time to offer some New Year's resolutions. Here are three resolutions we submit to the political class, along with a resolution for the business community.

• Resolution 1: Tell the truth (or give us the straight talk) to break from the climate of uncertainty.

It's possible to maintain a realistic and honest dialogue and appeal to a sense of responsibility. But some of the people involved need to stop deluding the population by leading it to believe the Quebec model can do everything. Over the years, Quebec has adopted programs that are frequently more generous than the other provinces, even though it doesn't have the financial wherewithal. The sobering reality is that if we are unable to pay for public expenses now – hence our structural deficit situation – future generations will have to do so.

More and more people realize the government can't do it all – and in fact, it does too much – considering its

means. The persistent deficits and the government's high debt level attest to this fact. And the population is under no illusion. There is a majority of people smothered by the heavy tax burden who are calling for change, but they are unable to make their voice as resounding as that of others in the public forum.

• Resolution 2: Announce an economic game plan geared to the long term

Certain people involved in the process need to stop evoking the word "austerity." While the tough decisions are a matter of exercising rigor, using the word *austerity ad nauseam* undermines people's confidence; it provokes anxiety and that drives people away, and, in the process, you frequently forget to talk about vision, accomplishments and projects. You have to inspire confidence again and provide a sure-fire vision of long-term stability to better stimulate investment.

Remember, while it's true the business tax rates are quite favourable compared to our neighbours, employers' contributions, which are used to fund some of the programs (CSST, QPIP, QPP, etc.), are still 30 per cent higher than in Ontario and 45 per cent higher than the Canadian average. When you factor in the overall tax burden borne by Quebec companies, business taxation is almost

two times higher than that of the other provinces.

This tax burden is also prevalent from an individual taxpayer's standpoint. And we aren't the ones saying this; it's documented by the Quebec Minister of Finance. When you have such little room to maneuver, confidence becomes threadbare if you add in a climate of uncertainty. The key to our appeal is based around the predictability and stability of our business environment (regulation, taxation, etc.).

• Resolution 3: Yes, discuss and negotiate, but finish the job!

Saying what you're going to do is fine, but actually doing it is even better. Take the plans to restructure the health-care, education or daycare systems, for example.

All too often in the province's history these reforms have been short-circuited, even before they were able to achieve the hoped-for results, with structural debates being a notable stumbling block. It is imperative that these efforts be sustained to completion and be based on concrete and measurable results, in the interest of children, parents, students, patients and taxpayers.

The social fabric of a society is founded on an important value: social solidarity. So that this solidarity doesn't erode and citizens continue to willingly

accept paying taxes, income tax and fees to fund public programs, one needs to ensure the efficacy of these programs.

The government must ascertain the programs it runs continue to be relevant, are efficiently administrated by preventing abuses in the use of public services, making sure they are delivered in the most economical manner, their funding is adequate and is in line with taxpayers' ability to pay, and are subject to an ongoing evaluation.

• Business community resolution: Articulate a vision of prosperity by, for, and with all

While Quebec may still lag a bit behind its neighbours in some respects, all is not doom and gloom because the province can tap into an increasingly educated population, steeped in culture and creativity, in its natural resources, and may we say, with a very palpable awareness – which needs to be fostered – of the issues revolving around maintaining and enhancing our prosperity. Based on what distinguishes us, we have the ability to create a culture of entrepreneurship and economic development in Quebec.

Yves-Thomas Dorval is the CEO of the Quebec Employers Council. This is one of a series of pieces the council will produce in anticipation of the next provincial budget.



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# The Border Report

Stratton said the town has drilled in other locations but was not satisfied with the flow of water.

## Follow the money: Stanstead hires new treasurer

By Matthew McCully  
Special to The Record

During a special meeting held on Tuesday evening, Stanstead town council hired Katherine Beaudoin as new town treasurer, replacing Véronique Blouin, who will retire in February.

Also on the agenda was a call for tenders for work and upgrades to the town sewer plant.

A three-month extension was granted regarding an offer to purchase Lot 111 in Rock Island. The property in question is the prospective location of a

new hotel. This is the second extension requested from an investors group considering purchasing the lot from the town for the project.

An agreement was signed between the town and Jean-Paul Roy, to allow test drilling on his property in search of a location for a new town well.

Councillor Wayne Stratton said a new well is a necessity because a filtration system would be too expensive.

The water supply in Beebe currently has arsenic levels above acceptable norms.

Stratton said the town has drilled in other locations but

was not satisfied with the flow of water. Because the well will service Beebe, Que., Beebe, Vt., Derby Line, Vt., and Rock Island, Stratton said the new well must have adequate pressure.

The special meeting was not related to the recent oil spill, according to Stratton.

He reiterated that town drinking water had not been affected, and that the spill was discovered and contained quickly. He went on to say that the situation is still being monitored, adding that the Tomifobia River flows into Lake Massawippi, which is a water source for other towns.

### FRONTIER ANIMAL SOCIETY

## Zipper is open to a new home

Sweet little Zipper found himself without a permanent home when he lost his guardian to cancer. Since that time, he has been living with a family member but it is a temporary solution only as her travel schedule makes it impossible to keep him long-term.

Our goal is to find him a home quickly so that he does not have to move into the shelter.

He has endured a terrible loss and we want this next transition to be as stress-free as possible.

Zipper is seven years young and is a wonderful and easy little dog to have around. He is affectionate and loves to cuddle and is happiest when he is around people.

Although Zipper is a little older and not a large dog that doesn't mean you're off the hook in terms of his exercise requirements.

For Zipper, age is just a state of mind and as far as he is concerned he is still in the prime of his life. He is in good health and remains active and fit.

Zipper is always up for a nice long walk and while it

doesn't have to be a fast paced walk he does like to explore and indulge in the outing. He also loves playing with his ball.

Zipper is smart and very well-behaved and was trained by a professional trainer. He is calm and non-destructive in the house although he will bark when someone comes to the door. That's not necessarily a bad thing though. Nothing like a 40 pound spaniel to ward off unwanted visitors!

Although he is not hypo-allergenic, Zipper is not a big shedder and his coat is easy to maintain.

Zipper is very social and gets along fine with other dogs but is not good with cats.

We hope someone can open their home to this sweet and loving little dog. He is healthy and vibrant and will bring so much love into your life.

If you are interested in finding out more or would like to meet Zipper, please send an email to frontieranimalsociety@gmail.com and we will be happy to put you in touch with Zipper's current guardian.

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# Ayer's Cliff does Christmas right

By Matthew McCully  
Special to The Record  
AYER'S CLIFF

Ayer's Cliff held a Christmas Market over the weekend, a first for the town, along with a number of activities for children and adults.

The event was a success, according to vendors and residents, who expressed the hope the market will become an annual tradition.

Maitée Cantin, involved in organizing the weekend, said a total of 31 artisans set up shop in town.

"There were more than we had expected," Cantin said, adding that she was impressed with the quality and diversity of the products.

Part of the goal was to make residents and tourists discover the town, Cantin said. Rather than host all of the vendors in one location, they were spread out through town, some working from their homes, others invited to set up on terraces or in garages or homes of locals.

"There was a real magic in the air," Cantin said. "It was like the town was transported 50-75 years back in time."

One of the magical moments during the weekend was on Saturday night, when upwards of 60 residents gathered in the centre of town for a candlelit caroling service.

The elf hunt through town was a big hit with kids, according to Cantin.

"We already have lots of ideas for next year," said Cantin, insisting a similar event will be organized. "We'll start planning in January," she said.

"It takes a good team," said Jeanne Sainte-Marie, owner of a bed and breakfast in town who, with the help of neighbours and friends, opened up her property inside and out to host artisans. She also built a fire in her yard for people to gather around to warm up, or roast sausages.

"People were happy to discover the town," Sainte Marie said, adding that a number of curious locals appreciated having a peek inside her B&B. "They wouldn't just walk in for no reason," she explained.

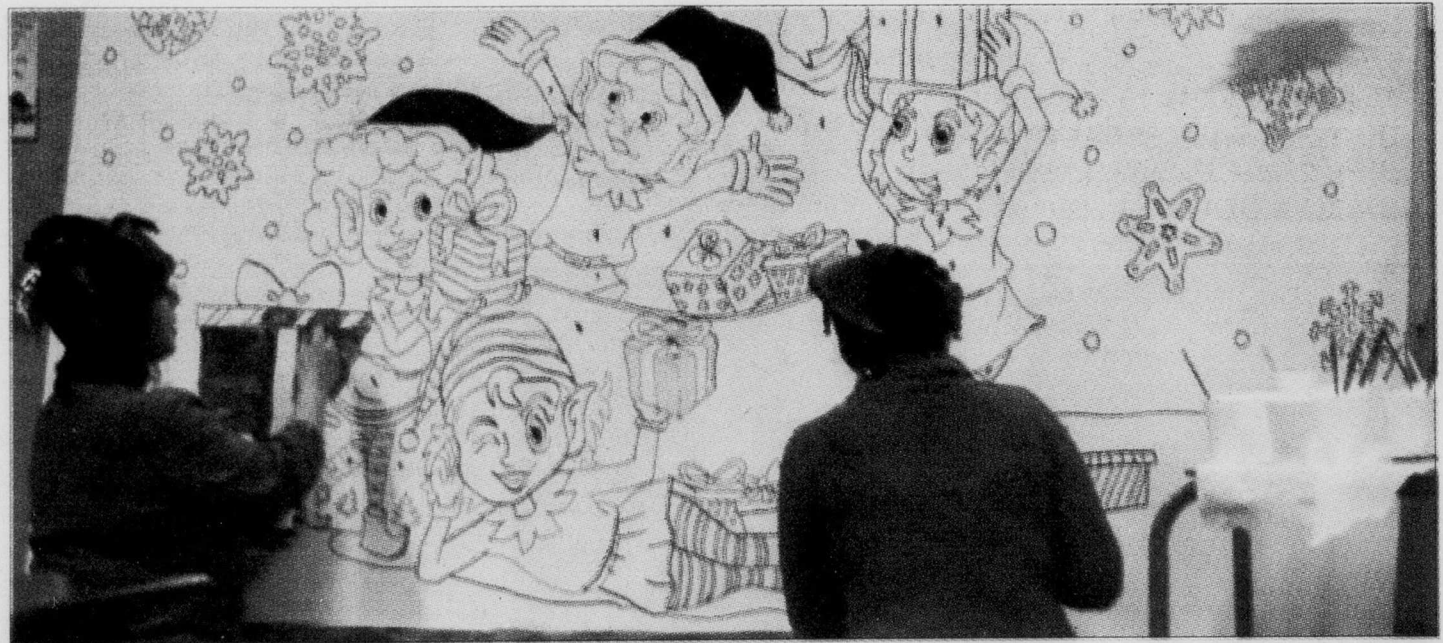
"I thought it was a great weekend," said Christine Hodge, who was selling honey products in the Beulah United Church Hall.



"Saturday was the big day," she said. One of the big highlights was Santa arriving via horse drawn sleigh.

"It was really well organized," Hodge said. "People could collect stamps at each location, encouraging people to

visit everything." With enough stamps, shoppers and tourists could enter a draw to win prizes.



ALL PHOTOS ON THIS PAGE COURTESY SUZAN NORRIE

Ayer's Cliff held its first-ever Christmas Market last weekend.

# Local Sports

The Alexander Galt Christmas Basket Fund is something that is close to us."

## Gaiter cagers give back

By Mike Hickey  
Special to the Record

The Bishop's Gaiters men's and women's basketball teams are continuing a tradition of giving back to the community during the holiday season.

The men got things started last Saturday when they bagged groceries at the Provigo, Robert Lafond in Lennoxville with proceeds going to the Alexander Galt Christmas Basket Fund. This year marked the seventh consecutive year that the cagers have donated their time to help the less fortunate.

Head coach Rod Gilpin stated that the initiative, which was started by former Gaiters assistant coach Charles Kobelt, is a way for the Bishop's Gaiters to say thank you to the community that gives them so much positive support.

"The Alexander Galt Christmas Basket Fund is something that is close to

us," said Gilpin. "Our assistant coach Steve Dunn is a teacher at the local high school and understands the importance of it. The community has always been so good to us. The guys really get into this initiative, they take it upon themselves to organize and execute this event."

Not to be outdone, women's head coach Alex Perno and his team was in Magog yesterday giving a basketball clinic to high school players while gathering food items for a local charity.

They headed to La Ruche High School in Magog on Wednesday to give a clinic and practice in front of the school.

In exchange, the La Ruche players and coaches will each donate a canned food item that will given to a local charity.

The initiative was led by Perno, who has a long-standing relationship with the school that produced current Gaiter rookie Noemie Hamel-Petit.

The afternoon was divided into two

parts, an interactive clinic between the Gaiters and La Ruche players followed by

a Gaiter practice that was open to the public.

### LOCAL SPORTS BRIEFS

#### Roy to play in Top Prospect game

Sherbrooke Phoenix defenceman Jeremy Roy was named to Team Orr for the 2015 Canadian Hockey League Top Prospects Game.

Roy is the second Phoenix to play in the game, following Daniel Audette last year. The 17-year-old has 26 points in 28 games this year.

The game, which will take place on Jan. 22, 2015 in St. Catharines, Ont., will be shown on Sportsnet and TVA Sports.

#### Phoenix to host Cataractes

The Sherbrooke Phoenix will host the Shawinigan Cataractes tonight at the Sports Palace in their last game before

the Christmas break.

Two-for-one tickets are available for students under 25 years of age. Faceoff is set for 7 p.m.

#### Bromont resident on Canadian U-18 football team

Cheikhe Sidy Sow of Bromont was named to the Canadian Under-18 national football team yesterday. The defensive lineman, who plays at J.H. Leclerc high school in Granby, will play for Team Canada at the International Bowl series in Arlington, Texas. Team Canada U-18 will take on Team USA on Friday, Jan. 30 at AT&T Stadium.

## Runners can have their Christmas cake and eat it too... in moderation!



A RUNNER'S MIND  
CHRISTINE BLANCHETTE

This is the season to be indulging at holiday parties or family gatherings, which can be challenging for runners to follow healthy eating habits and keep working out during this festive period. When the choice is a couple of carrot sticks or a glass of eggnog, you get a vivid word picture of the temptations all around you. So go for it; have the egg nog as long as it's served in a shot glass or a thimble because "everything in moderation" is the key to keeping adding inches off your waistline.

In a recent interview with John Stan-

ton, the founder of Running Room and Order of Canada recipient shared his five keys to holiday running and discussed some top tech gadgets to keep you motivated and safe while out there on the road.

"It is always a fun time of year because there are a lot of festive activities," Stanton began, "and runners need to know that it is important to remember your calorie intake. Number 1 tip: don't go to the party hungry. Take a moment to have a salad before going and that way when you do arrive you won't be as hungry.

"Also, chewing sugarless gum while standing around where the food is will help you. Having a glass of wine and sipping it will help you not to over indulge. Avoid the egg nog - it is a killer! It is full of calories and hard liquor is dangerous too. Don't deprive yourself but be intelligent about it."

Here are Stanton's top four tips for staying in shape this holiday season:

- Plan and schedule your daily workouts.
- Be ready to run with a friend, pet or running group to stay motivated.
- Do speed work indoors on dry surfaces.
- Run in small loops close to your home base. If you find it's getting unbearable, you (won't) be too far from shelter.

Stanton also shared his five keys to holiday running:

- Wear three layers: a base layer, an insulating layer, and a windproof shell. Some clothing is quite efficient, such as Fit-Wear; if you have this then two layers will suffice.

- Keep your head covered and your hands and feet warm as a significant amount of our heat loss comes from our extremities.

- Warm up properly, start your runs at a comfortable pace running into the wind for the first part and with the wind on the return portion, and slowly build up to a pace slower than your normal training pace.

- Shorten your stride to improve your footing on icy roads. Wear Ice Grips over the soles of your shoes for greater traction.

- On your first few runs on snow or ice, you may experience slight muscle soreness in the legs. That is because your supporting muscles are working harder to control your balance on the slippery surface.

To keep you motivated and on track, the latest technology offers new ways to inspire activity and maintain safety.

Here are the top three electronic gadgets for the holidays:

1) The Garmin Forerunner 920XT HRM packs a fleet of high-end training features into a sleek watch that is wet suit-friendly and about 15 per cent lighter than its predecessor, the Forerunner 910XT. It boasts a high-resolution color display; flexible, hinged bands and a watch mode, so you can wear it all day. The activity tracking feature measures your steps, sleep and calories burned all day, giving you a more complete picture of your daily activity. This model includes a HRM-Run Monitor.

2) Garmin Forerunner 15 with HRM: Take your training to the next level with the simple and stylish Forerunner 15. This GPS running watch adds heart rate monitoring so that you can follow your heart. Pair it with a foot pod to capture distance data on treadmill runs. Activity tracking reminds you when it's time to move and counts steps and calories burned all day. Plus, save, plan and share - or just show off - with Garmin Connect™, our free online community.

3) The Polar M400 HRM is a stylish sport watch with GPS and heart rate sensor for 24/7 activity tracking. It is designed for urban and trail runners who want sporty design with advanced GPS and training features, along with loads of options to keep an eye on activity.

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**Death**



**William David  
DUKE (1935-2014)**

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of William David Duke (Bill) on December 11, 2014. Bill leaves to mourn his loving wife and soul mate Victoria Duke (Sturtevant); his loving children, son William (Bill) Gray Duke (Debbie); his daughters Sherry Duke Premont (Lucien) and Wendy Caroline Cadeddu (John); his stepson Stephen Andrew Dyball (Crystal); his grandchildren Kieran, Andrew, David, Maximilian, Drake, Theodore, Jasmine, Hailey and Liam. He is also mourned by his brother James, and many nieces and nephews. He will be also missed by many friends.

Visitation will be held on Friday, January 16, 2015, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the BROME-MISSISQUOI Funeral Complex, 402 rue Riviere, Cowansville, QC, phone: 450-266-6061. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 17, 2015, at 11:00 a.m., at Knowlton United Church, Knowlton, Quebec, with a reception following at the Brome Missisquoi Funeral Complex.

In lieu of flowers, donations are appreciated to either The Butters Foundation (an organization founded by Bill) at 127 rue Principale, Suite 105, Cowansville, Quebec, J2K 1J3; or the Knowlton United Church at 234 Knowlton Road, Knowlton, PQ, JOE 1V0.

Information will be available at the funeral home on Friday, or at the reception. Condolences may also be expressed via our website at www.complexebm.com

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402 River St., Cowansville, QC FAX: 450-266-6057  
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**Death**



**Roland BRAULT  
(1929-2014)**

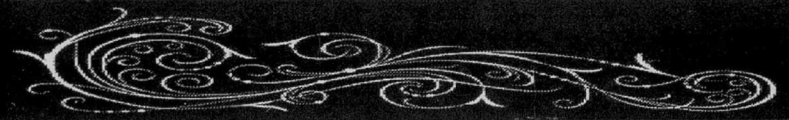
After a long fight, at the CHUS Fleurimont, on December 15, 2015, Roland Brault of Sherbrooke passed away at the age of 85. Son of the late David Brault and Maria Thibeault; husband of the late Rose McElreavy.

He leaves behind is children Nancy (André Lefebvre), Linda (Kevin Hodge), Cynthia (the late Pierre Desaulniers), Natalie (the late Yves Tremblay), Sandra (Jean Vallières) and Joël Brault; siblings Marie-Rose (Maurice Gilbert), the late Alice (the late Gérard Robert), the late David (the late Jeannette Héту), Maurice (Rita Goulet), Jeanne d'Arc (the late Harmel Breton) and Rita (Roger Morin); his grandchildren Sonia, Carine, Nadyne, Lyna, Éric, Katherine, Steven, Éricka, Mya, Lia, Alec, Janick and Gabriella; 25 great-grandchildren, many cousins, Mc Elreavy brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; many other relatives, many friends, and special friend Mr. Noël Fredette.

Visitation on Friday, December 19 at St. Patrick's Church, Gordon St., Sherbrooke starting at 1 p.m., followed by the funeral service at 2 p.m. Interment at St. Michel Cemetery.

A special thanks to Lisette Morin, Louis St-Pierre and Pierre Ruel.

Arrangements entrusted to La Coopérative funéraire de l'Estrie, 485 rue du 24-Juin, Sherbrooke (Québec), J1E 1H1, tél.: 819 565-7646, 1-877-565-7646, fax: 819 565-7844, email: info@coopfuneraire.com, www.coopfuneraire.com.



**Death**



**Lina Lillian  
JENNE (née Billing)**

Passed away peacefully at the Grace Christian Home, on Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at the age of 84. Beloved wife of the late Frank Arlington Jenne. Dear mother of Dale (Kirsten Frost), Dean (Ann Shea) and Heather (Kevin Lessard). Cherished grandmother of Michael, Alison, Isaac, Julia, Olivia, Bradley and Jonathan. Lina leaves to mourn her sister Marion Richards (the late Nelson) and her brother Roy Billing (Shirley) and predeceased by her sister Helen Flynn (Ed) and her brother Barry Billing.

Resting at the Cass Funeral Home, 3006 College St., Sherbrooke (Lennoxville), on Friday, December 19, 2014 from 7 to 9 p.m. and on Saturday, December 20, 2014 from 12 to 2 p.m. followed by the funeral service at 2 p.m. in the funeral home chapel. Rev. Heather Thomson officiating. Interment in the Malvern Cemetery at a later date.

Donations to the Alzheimer Society Estrie, 740 Galt St. West, Suite 112, Sherbrooke, QC J1H 1Z3 or to the charity of your choice would be appreciated.

**CASS FUNERAL HOMES** PHONE: 819-564-1750  
3006 College St., Sherbrooke, QC FAX: 819-564-4423  
E-mail: cass@casshomes.ca www.casshomes.ca

**Death**



**Sylvia Margaret  
GALLAGHER (née Hardy)  
(January 8, 1939-December 16, 2014)**

World traveler, proud physiotherapist, tennis player, and beloved mother, passed peacefully surrounded by loved ones.

Sylvia emigrated from Wales in 1962, joined The Montreal Tennis Club and fell in love with Joseph Francis Gallagher, the love of her life.

Her spirit is carried forward by her five children (Lise, Steven, Donna, Charles, and Philip) six grandchildren (Justin, Jacob, Chelsea, Aidan, Ruby, and Brody) two brothers (Brian and Richard), and countless friends. She loved her extended family deeply, including her sisters-in-law Peggy, Ann, and Barbara, her sons-in-law Walter and Mark, and her daughters-in-law Gina and Stacey. She is predeceased by her parents, Thomas and Dorothy, and her beloved husband Joe. In her later years, she loved to call her children on the phone and speak with incredible affection about all her amazing friends in North Hatley, Montreal, and beyond. You were a second family to her, and for that we are grateful.

We were blessed to have learned many things from Sylvia: Be generous. Never hold a grudge. British Chocolate is the best. Travel the world. Don't waste a single moment feeling sorry for yourself. Cherish your friends. It's possible to reinvent yourself in your fifties. Give back to the community. Skype is the perfect way to keep in touch with your grandchildren. North Hatley is a wonderful place to live. Never give up your British Passport. Love your children.

The family would like to thank the Hôtel-Dieu for the wonderful care given to Sylvia.

Resting at the Cass Funeral Home, 3006 College St., Sherbrooke (Lennoxville), on Friday, December 19, 2014 from 1 to 3 p.m. followed by the service at 3 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Community Aide Meals On Wheels North Hatley, P.O. Box 292 Suc. Lennoxville, Sherbrooke, QC J1M 1Z5.

**CASS FUNERAL HOMES** PHONE: 819-564-1750  
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E-mail: cass@casshomes.ca www.casshomes.ca

**In Memoriams**

**BAILEY** - In memory of Alan Bailey who passed away the 18th of December, 1995. Years have passed, But still on our minds.

Love,  
SHARON, SHELLEY and BRIAN

**HODGE** - In memory of Merrill, Anthony and Mary Frances.

Those we love don't go away,  
They walk beside us every day.  
Always remembered by  
YOUR FAMILY

**In Memoriams**

**MARSH** - In loving memory of our father, Russell Marsh, who passed on December 18, 2004.

Close in our hearts you will always stay,  
Loved and remembered every day.  
Loved and missed by  
ALL YOUR CHILDREN

**MARSH** - In memory of my father, Russell Marsh.

The years may pass but still you stay  
As near and dear as yesterday.  
Miss you and love you,  
KATHY

## TOWNSHIPS' CRIER

### TOWNSHIPS

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

### LENNOXVILLE

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.

### SOUTH DURHAM

Annual Carol Service at South Durham United Church on Tuesday, December 23 at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome.

### 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.

### MOE'S RIVER

The annual Christmas Service at the Moe's River Church will be held on Sunday, December 21 at 7:30 pm at the Moe's River Church. Speaker: Reverend Barbara Wintle. All 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).

### MAGOG

Christmas Eve Service at St. Paul's United Church, 211 rue des Pins, Magog. We will be having our Christmas Eve Service with communion at 8 p.m., December 24. This service is open to everyone, French or English. We will welcome you with open hearts and arms.

### SHERBROOKE

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #10, 971 Galt St. East, Sherbrooke will hold their New Year's Eve Party on Wednesday, December 31 starting at 8 p.m. Music. Light lunch. Everyone welcome. Reservations/info: 819-563-4944.

### WATERVILLE

Waterville-North Hatley United Church's carol service is on Sunday, December 21 at 7 p.m. with guest choir Les Voix De Lactee taking part. The Christmas Eve Service, December 24, will be at 7 p.m.

### MILBY

St. Barnabas Church, Milby. We invite you to join us for our Christmas Eve Service, December 24, at 7 p.m. with the Ven. Edward Simonton OGS officiating. Come enjoy the singing of carols and readings. We also have a new heating system. Hope you can come and support our little church.

### LENNOXVILLE

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 7 p.m. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 256 Queen St. Lennoxville. 819-569-3100,

an inspirational service of carols, candles and the Christmas message. Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m. December 22 and 28.

### TRENHOLM

Trenholm United Church. Worship and song await you at our Christmas Candlelight Service which will take place on Sunday evening, December 21 at 7:00 p.m. Cookies and refreshments will follow the service. Everyone is welcome!

### SAWYERVILLE

A Christmas Eve service will be held at the Sawyerville Baptist Church, 33 Cookshire St., at 7 p.m. on December 24. There will be singing of carols, scripture and other inspirational readings, special music, followed by light refreshments. Everyone welcome. Come and bring a friend - or two!

...

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.

# She thinks we should spend twice as much on her two children because I have four

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2014

## Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My mother is 95 years old and in OK shape. She has been diagnosed with dementia, and her physician recommended a full-time caregiver because Mom is confused most of the time. She still lives in her home, refusing to leave, and my two siblings and I take care of her the best we can.

When we were growing up, Mom was mentally abusive to us and physically abusive to my father. She was not a good mother. When we go to her home to clean and cook, she yells and screams about the same things over and over to the point where I often have to leave. She is not a happy person, always focusing on the negative things in her life. Mom refuses to go to a nursing home, and we cannot force her. Our lives are in a constant state of turmoil and severe stress with no end in sight.

Here's the real problem: Mom's pacemaker is due for replacement. If we don't act relatively soon, the batteries may die and the pacemaker will cease to function. Obviously, that means Mom could die from heart failure. My two siblings don't want to have the maintenance done. They say her mind is deteriorating so quickly, it would be pointless. They are willing to throw caution to the wind. But, Annie, I don't think I can live with myself if we don't replace the batteries. I need your help. - Outvoted

Dear Outvoted: Please don't have regrets when your mother dies. These choices can haunt you forever. Ask to speak to Mom's doctor about the pacemaker and her dementia. Even outpatient surgery may be too much for her to handle. Let the doctor advise you. Then look into pooling your resources and getting a caregiver, at least part time, in order to give the rest of you a break. Eldercare Locator at eldercare.gov (1-800-677-1116) and the Alzheimer's Association (alz.org) can also provide resources and support.

Dear Annie: My second wife and I have been married for four years. She has two sons from her previous marriage, and I have one daughter and three sons from mine. The problem is how much we spend on them at Christmas.

I say we spend an equal amount on all of the kids. She thinks we should spend twice as much on her two children because I have four. I want to be fair and equitable about this, but cannot seem to convince her that her logic could backfire. These children are all adults in their 20s, and two of them are married.

If I am wrong, I will concede. If I am correct, please help me get this across to her. - Lost in Love

Dear Lost: If you and your wife have separate incomes, she can spend what she likes on her kids, and you can spend what you choose on yours. However, assuming you are pooling your money and buying gifts together, we say that you should spend the same on all of the children. This isn't a competition between your kids and hers. They are ALL your children now and should be treated equally.

Dear Annie: In your response to "Actively Confused," the husband of the cancer patient, I wish you had emphasized that the wife might have depression.

I was treated for breast cancer 13 years ago. A year after the surgery and radiation, I suffered from major depression, partly caused by the stress of having a serious illness and the hormonal chemotherapy involved. Although I was at higher risk because of a previous episode of depression, it is also something that can happen to anyone with a life-threatening illness.

Irritability and anger are often overlooked as symptoms of depression. If the woman's oncologist is not helpful, perhaps the patient's primary care physician or a mental health professional would be. - Doing Well in Virginia

Dear Annie: I am an elementary school teacher. This year I have two 7-year-old students with major behavior issues. Both of them have threatened to bring a gun to school and shoot me and their classmates. As shocking as it is to hear this from such young children, the response from the people in charge is worse.

I reported these threats multiple times, and nothing has been done. No one has even spoken to the boys about their behavior. I was told the kids are young and most likely don't have access to guns. Yet these kids

have older siblings who can obtain guns for them.

In light of current events, I take these threats seriously. I've spoken to the principal, vice-principal, school social workers and the boys' parents. They all tell me I need to "focus on the positive things the kids do."

Am I crazy, or are they? What should I do? Quitting my job is not an option. - Worried Teacher

Dear Teacher: While it is not uncommon for young children to make such threats, they normally do not follow through. However, there is a slim possibility that one of these boys will bring a weapon to school and attempt to use it, especially if he hears news reports about other school shootings.

The bigger problem is the "major behavior issues." We realize you are fearful, but an alarmed approach is not productive. Are these boys receiving any kind of ongoing counseling or assistance? Perhaps if you approach this as a way to help the children develop better coping skills, the school will address it more directly and effectively.

Dear Annie: Please let your readers know of an easy way to support our troops. When buying a new cellphone, donate your old one to the nonprofit Cell Phones for Soldiers through cellphonesforsoldiers.com.

Cell Phones for Soldiers was founded in 2004 by Robbie and Brittany Bergquist of Norwell, Mass., when they were 12 and 13 years old. The organization converts proceeds from used cellphones into prepaid phone cards for our troops overseas. They have donated more than 181 million minutes to our troops, many of whom could not otherwise afford to call home. Please support those individuals who support our country. - Bay St. Louis

Dear Bay St. Louis: Thank you for mentioning this very worthwhile organization. We hope our readers will keep it in mind when getting a new cellphone.

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 Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 737 3rd Street, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column.

### 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.

"KL'N JWIXHV W OXNY / WHC  
RKLRIXHV XY YMXRL ... NWHYW  
ROWZN XN RTJXHV YT YTMH." — UTKH  
S. RTTYN/KWALH VXOOLNEXL

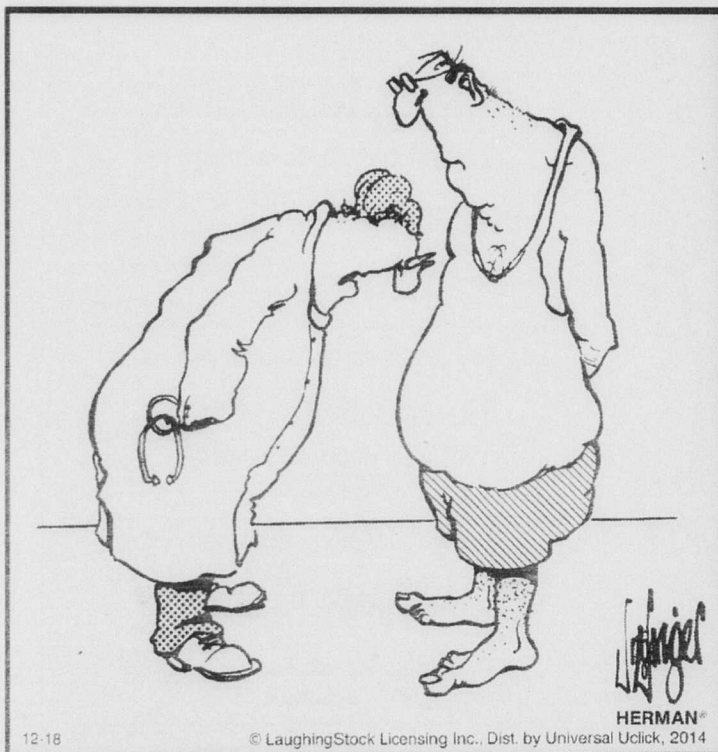
Previous Solution: "Put on your yarmulke ... to celebrate Hanukkah! Instead of one day of presents, we have eight crazy nights." — Adam Sandler

TODAY'S CLUE: *5 equals 5*

### KIT N' CARLYLE



### HERMAN



"How long have you had your feet on the wrong legs?"

### ALLEY OOP



### ARLO & JANIS



### THE BORN LOSER



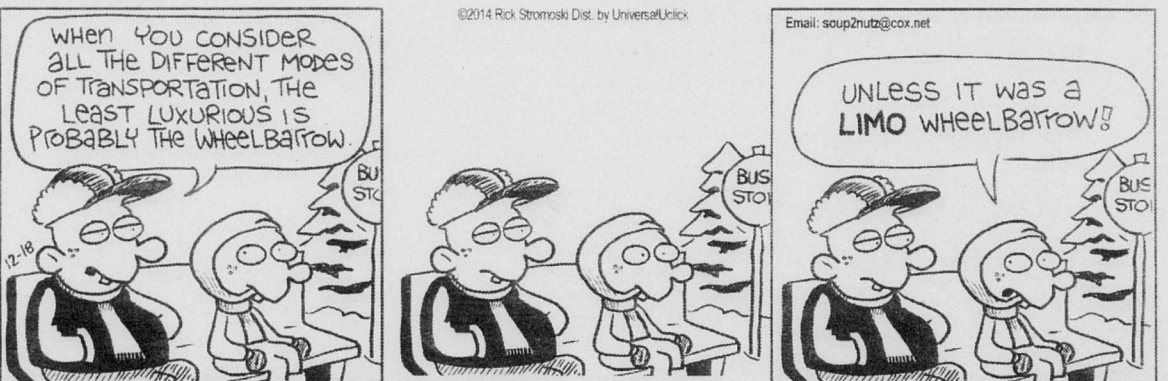
### FRANK AND ERNEST



### GRIZWELLS



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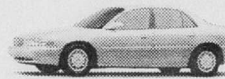
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Difficulty: 4 (of 5)

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

12-18-14

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### PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

## URGENT

THE RECORD

is looking for a carrier in **Sawyerville** for the following streets as of Nov. 10

- Bedard,
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- de la Station,
- High Forest,
- J.A. Lowry,
- Lisée,
- Principale,
- Randboro,
- St-Germain (36)

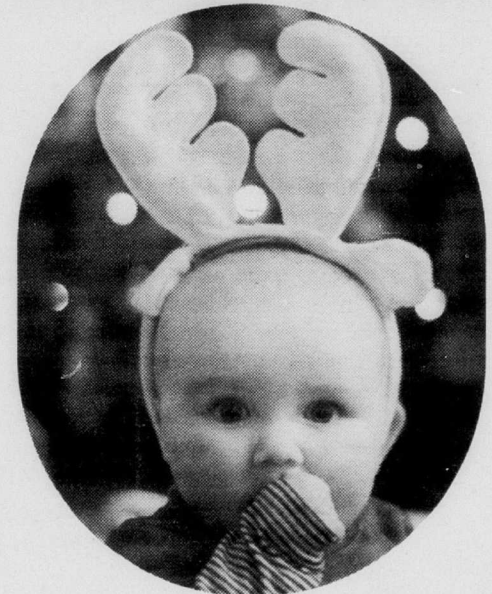
If interested in this route, please call

THE RECORD

819-569-9528

between 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or leave a message after hours or e-mail: billing@sherbrookerecord.com

# 2014 Babies!



Proud parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, show off your pride and joy in our "Babies of 2014" edition of The Record to be published on January 9, 2015.

Mail a photograph of the baby with: baby's name, birthday, 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

The Record at 1195 Galt St. East, Sherbrooke, QC J1G 1Y7

or e-mail:

classad@sherbrookerecord.com with Visa or MasterCard for payment.

Deadline: January 5, 2015.

Published on January 9, 2015

(Winners randomly chosen)

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and three 1 year ONLINE subscriptions to

THE RECORD



# Datebook

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2014

Today is the 352nd day of 2014 and the 88th day of autumn.

**TODAY'S HISTORY:** In 1865, slavery formally ended in the United States with the ratification of the 13th Amendment.

In 1957, the first civilian electricity-generating nuclear facility in the United States opened in Pennsylvania.

In 1958, a U.S. rocket launched SCORE (Signal Communication by Orbiting Relay Equipment), the world's

first communications satellite, into space.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:** H.H. Munro aka Saki (1870-1916), author; Ty Cobb (1886-1961), baseball player; Robert Moses (1888-1981), urban planner; Betty Grable (1916-1973), actress; Ossie Davis (1917-2005), actor; Keith Richards (1943-), musician; Steven Spielberg (1946-), director; Ray Liotta (1954-), actor; Brad Pitt (1963-), actor; Steve Austin (1964-), wrestler/actor; DMX (1970-), rapper/actor; Katie Holmes (1978-),

actress; Christina Aguilera (1980-), singer.

**TODAY'S FACT:** The SCORE satellite launched in 1958 used a tape recorder to save and relay voice messages. It communicated a Christmas message from President Dwight D. Eisenhower to the world via shortwave frequency on Dec. 19.

**TODAY'S SPORTS:** In 1932, a blizzard forced the National Football League to hold its championship game inside Chicago Stadium on an 80-yard field. The Chicago Bears defeated the

**TODAY'S QUOTE:** "I hate posterity — it's so fond of having the last word." — Saki, "Reginald in Russia and the Other Sketches"

**TODAY'S NUMBER:** 100 — commercial nuclear reactors operating in the United States as of 2013. Combined, the plants produce nearly 20 percent of the nation's electricity.

**TODAY'S MOON:** Between last quarter moon (Dec. 14) and new moon (Dec. 21).



**Pamper Your Pet**

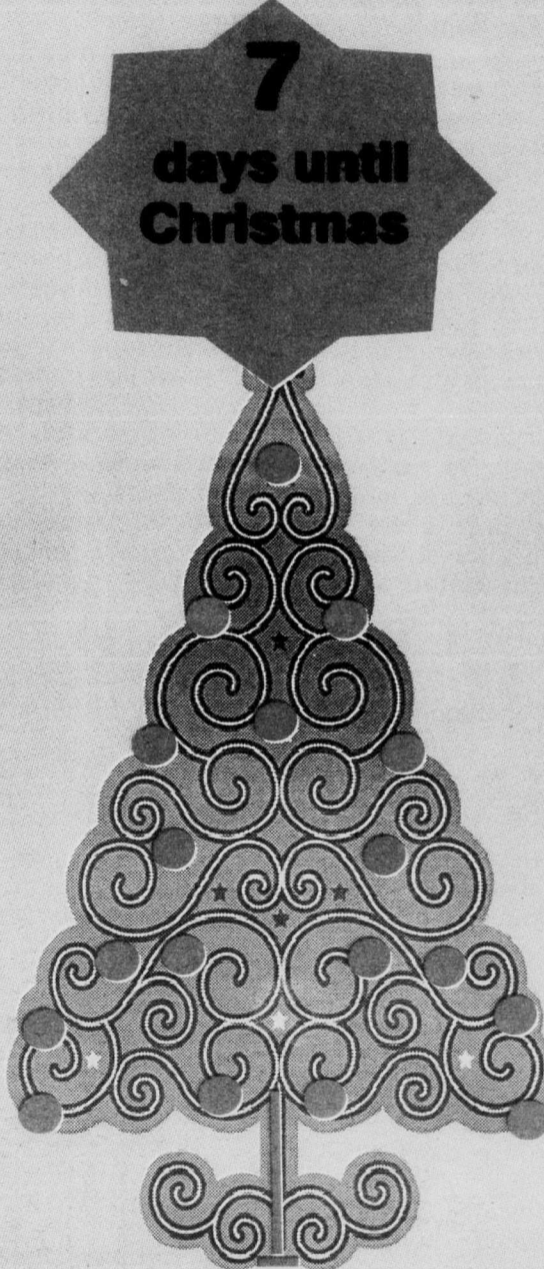

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