

Townships ski hills making do until they can make snow

By Gordon Lambie

With next to no snow left on the ground in many parts of the Eastern Townships following a wave of unseasonably warm weather that came alongside the new year, things have not looked particularly wintery in the region so far in 2023. Asked about how the thaw has affected their operations, representatives of the regions' ski centres told The Record that they are making the best of what they have available.

"I would not say we're having a rough start to the season, but definitely a rough few days," said Nadya Baron, Marketing Director at Mont Sutton, who was quick to point out that although people might not be seeing the snow in their own back yards, the conditions improve as one moves to higher elevations.

Baron said that her mountain did experience some good snowfall in the weeks after its Dec. 10 opening date and was on a par with last year's attendance numbers until the Dec 22 storm knocked out power to the site for three days. The after-effect of that storm ended up being positive of the hill though, as the precipitation fell largely as snow.

"We were able to open up a few more than 40 runs between Christmas and New Years" she said, pointing out that it was really only this week that things

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Table top games no longer niche, OQLF rules beg question: are they toys or art?



LAWRENCE BELANGER

Ryan Leavitt (left) and Julien LaChapelle (right) in front of one of the walls covered in board games at The Griffon in Sherbrooke.

By Lawrence Belanger
Local Journalism Initiative

As Townshippers bundle up and hunker down for the rest of winter, an ever-increasing amount of them will be doing so gathered around the table. Buffeted by the embrace of nerd culture as

pop culture, and by the COVID-19 pandemic, board games, known more broadly as tabletop games, once thought to be displaced by newer forms of entertainment such as video games and even movies & TV, have made a resurgence. Local gaming stores, and long-time fans of the hobby, have taken notice.

"I think it's making a big comeback," says Oliver, Imaginaire's board game specialist at their Sherbrooke location in Carrefour de l'Estrie. "It was a big way to socialize during the pandemic," explains Oliver over the phone. Since gatherings were restricted and people

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TODAY:
SNOW

HIGH 0
LOW -1



FRIDAY:
SNOW

HIGH 1
LOW -1



SATURDAY:
CLOUDY

HIGH 1
LOW -13



SUNDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH -4
LOW -9



MONDAY:
CLOUDY

HIGH -1
LOW -6

Sand in the trunk and other winter things



LINDA KNIGHT SECCASPINA

Two months ago I got my winter tires on my car. As I listened to the roar of the heavier tires, and watched them throw my tire sensor system out of whack, I had to laugh at some old memories.

My late husband Angelo used to argue that winter tires were “for people from Toronto who have to call in the army to shovel the sidewalks when it snows.” That was until one day he backed down my father’s snowy Miltimore driveway in Bromont and removed part of his fence. Not content with believing his Delta 88 could do such a thing he attempted to reverse again, only this time he hit the mailbox.

Through the years, as he got older, he began to realize living in a rural area needed snow tires. One day I overheard Angelo tell my oldest son Sky to get his head out of the sand and put some winter tires on his car. I just smiled and realized things just

take time to sink in. It was similar to that proudest moment of being a parent when my child agreed it was finally cold enough to wear a hat.

Arthur Knight, my late Dad, always insisted that you kept bags of sand in the trunk for traction in case you got stuck in the winter. His 70s Ford Pinto was loaded to the brim with bags of sand, and when I went to visit him he always insisted on tossing some in my trunk too.

It was supposed to add weight, and if I ever got stuck, the sand could be used for traction, he said. I never actually got stuck, so I never had to use the sand. He said he learned the hard way hitting every ditch on the Brome Pond road one winter with no sand or salt in the trunk and a bunch of lightweights riding in his car with him. I doubt that a couple of sandbags add or subtract anything meaningful to the traction of a vehicle today that already weighs a few tons when empty, plus a few hundred pounds with a driver and passenger. But, weight was significant in the days of rear wheel drive, because most of the weight was in the front. I can well remember in my youth, the only way I got up an icy hill (not having heeded my father’s advice about the sand) was to have a couple of my friends climb into the trunk to put some weight over the back wheels.

Every year AAA publishes advice for winter driving and putting sand or litter in the back of a car is always on the list. I personally prefer cat litter because it’s relatively inexpensive (non clumping, non scented) and

provides decent traction.

I decided to look this traction myth up on Snopes.com and the page was completely blank. Had Arthur Knight had it all wrong? I found a few discussions on a few automotive boards and one man had this to say.

“So while extra weight generally improves traction, the only safe place to put it is in between the wheels. That’s why, for traction, we suggest car-pooling. In fact, when recruiting car-poolers, you could start by putting up a sign at Weight-Watchers.”

After more research I decided to go back to Snopes where I found another link about the topic. Again the page was blank and the lone entry was about a woman called “The Human Couch”.

Word on the street goes that a very large woman had to be brought to the ER after she had experienced shortness of breath. While they attempted to undress her an asthma inhaler fell out of one of the folds of her arm. A shiny new dime was under her breast and a TV remote control was found somewhere else on her body. Her family was extremely grateful that she was okay, and that they found the remote.

It’s easy to see I don’t care for Winter one bit, and if there is one good thing that comes out of snow, cold and ice is the fact I haven’t seen a mosquito in a really long time.

*(Brown, Mark. Emergency! True Stories from the Nation’s ERs. -New York: Villard Books, 1997. ISBN 0-312-96265-7 (pp. 32-33).



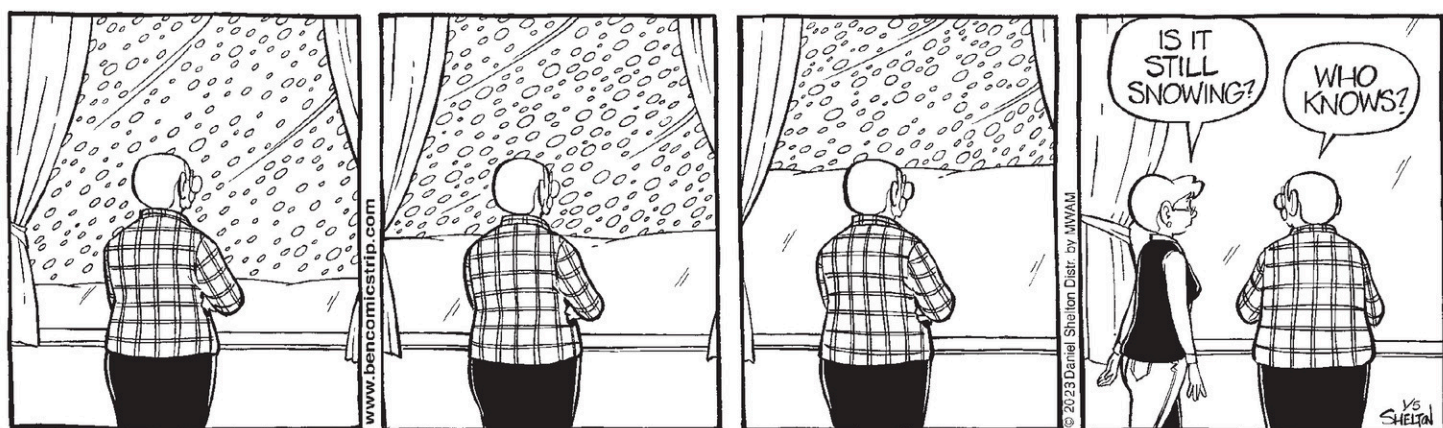
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Quebec's social services under pressure by influx of asylum seekers

By Marisela Amador
The Canadian Press

An increasing number of asylum seekers to Quebec is putting pressure on the province's social services network, with homeless shelters in Montreal bearing the brunt of the influx of people.

France Labelle, executive director of a downtown Montreal homeless shelter for youth, says a rising number of requests for beds is coming from asylum seekers, who she says compose about 10 per cent of her clientele.

Administrative delays within the federal asylum application process and the lack of resources at organizations mandated to help would-be refugees are forcing the vulnerable group to turn to homeless shelters, Labelle, from Le Refuge des

jeunes de Montreal, said in a recent interview.

"It is not that we don't want to welcome these people, because shelters are there to welcome people in need, but the problem is that the network is already overwhelmed," she said. "On top of that, it is winter, so our capacity is very limited."

The federal government says that between January and November 2022, 45,250 asylum seekers arrived in Quebec, compared to 7,290 would-be refugees who entered the country through the province for all of 2021.

Labelle said the majority of the asylum seekers looking for shelter at her organization are coming by plane from countries like the Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi or Senegal. "We have noticed an increase in youth coming from Mexico recently; we have youth from Haiti.

"And the stories are different. Some are here fleeing war, others are fleeing drug traffickers. For some, it has to do with their sexual orientation. Out of about 50 youth, we found that 15 were dealing with mental health issues that require intervention by health professionals."

Sam Watts, head of homeless shelters with the Welcome Hall Mission, says he has also seen a rise over the last few months in asylum seekers looking for a place to stay within his organization. Homelessness in the asylum seeker population in Montreal is a relatively new phenomenon, he said in a recent interview.

Since August, his various homeless shelters have welcomed about 37 asylum seekers every month, he said. "It goes as high as 46 in some months, and they stay between 12 and 19 days typically."

Quebec's Regional Program for the Settlement and Integration of Asylum Seekers is responsible to deliver services to would-be refugees such as temporary housing, health care and information on the immigration process. Spokespeople for that program declined an interview request and referred questions to the federal Immigration Department.

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada said in an email that housing for asylum seekers remains a provincial responsibility, adding that the federal government is committed to working with the provinces to help alleviate the pressure.

Quebec Premier Francois Legault said last month that the province needed help from Ottawa to house, educate and integrate the rising number of asylum seekers in the province.

Table top games

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

preferred smaller, familiar social groups, demand increased for novel forms of entertainment. Oliver says tabletop games represented to many a chance to do "new activities with the people you [already] know."

Employees at the Griffon, another local tabletop game store on Wellington in Sherbrooke, echoed those at Imaginaire. "One of the interesting things is the popularity of board games actually started going up before [the pandemic]," says Ryan Leavitt. He estimates that business really picked up in 2015-16, around the same time that many other historically nerdy interests found more mainstream popularity and acceptance. When he first started at the Griffon in 2012, Leavitt says they "used to easily get away with having one employee working on Monday or Tuesday," but due to the hobby's growing popularity, they've had to start staffing the store with at least three employees every day.

Vivian Wilson, a first-year student at Bishop's University, has been playing board games all her life and says that she has recently come back to the hobby. "When I was little, me and my family would play board games pretty often," explains Wilson. A member of the University's student-run Games Club, she goes every week during the semester and especially likes various card games, although she says she usually joins whatever game is going on.

Part of what's driving the popularity is the sheer number and variety of games available that appeal to a variety of people, according to both stores. There are party games, such as 'Cards Against Humanity', or games for the family like 'Ticket to Ride', that are simple and easy to pick up. "You're getting a lot of people who didn't play board games before

playing board games," says Leavitt.

"There's 'lots of variety and something for everyone,' and despite what the popular image of board gaming can be, simple to get into 'at your own pace,'" says Oliver. "It's no longer just Monopoly and Life and Payday," explains Leavitt. One of the most recent trends are what Leavitt calls "escape games," which have surged in popularity in the last four years.

(That said, Leavitt adds that the stereotypical "3-hour board game with rule books written like law books" also sells throughout the year.)

The Office québécois de la langue française (OQLF) has also taken notice of the hobby's explosive growth, as first reported in La Presse. Despite many tabletop enthusiasts viewing them as works of art, these games are classified as toys under Bill 101, making them subject to the province's French language laws. This means that games that require English to play, and that don't have comparable French editions, cannot legally be sold in the province. Furthermore, editions of games in French cannot be sold at a higher price than their English counterparts. So far, the OQLF hasn't intervened broadly, but it might decide to start fining stores that don't adhere to the law. According to many, following the law as written would put game stores out of business.

Oliver says that "some games will never get translated," because a game needs to sell well in order to justify the cost of translating the materials into another language. Larger publishers, such as Days of Wonder, which produces the popular 'Ticket to Ride', tend to release editions in both English and French concurrently, but many smaller companies will release

the English edition first. According to Oliver, most dedicated hobbyists want to play games as they come out, and don't want to wait months, or even years for a French translation to come out. This is echoed by Leavitt's experience. Leavitt explains that at the Griffon, even though they're able to stock most of their games in both languages, "there seems to be a preference for having games in English."

Oliver says that most stores stock at least some games only in English because otherwise, they would lose customers who care more about playing the game.

"We cannot force companies to sell us French games or to sell them for cheaper," says Oliver. Even though translation can delay the release of a game, it isn't what inherently makes them cost more. "They cost more because we have to pay for transport," says Leavitt, as the French editions tend to get shipped first to France, then to North America for distribution in Quebec.

For retailers to sell both editions at the same price, they'd have to raise the cost of the English one.

Alexandre Racine, president of the Games Club at Université de Sherbrooke, is sympathetic to the need for people to be able to play a game and understand its rules. According to Racine, "most of us in the Club can speak English," but he acknowledges that this may be in part due to demographics. He does say, however, that games only being available in English does cause some difficulty, and that not every student can play in English.

"I'm not against games being available in French, since a large portion of the population won't understand the complex English rules," says Racine of some games.

He says that it's been a problem in the past for the club when it tries to purchase new games. They have limited resources, and they want to make sure everyone can understand the games they play. Racine feels that "we at least need to have a way to have the rules in French."

However, forcing the game to be published in French isn't always necessary. According to Racine, there are many online groups dedicated to sharing resources to help francophones (and other non-English speakers) play many games.

He believes the OQLF could benefit tabletop gaming if it pushed publishers to prioritize the Quebec market but says it would be counterproductive to the hobby to prevent games from being sold that aren't in French. "Not having these games could create a gap with the rest of the world vs Quebec," since tabletop gaming is a worldwide community with conventions and competitive tournaments.

This is less of a concern for casual gamers, who might only want to play occasionally or play party games, and tend to prefer the game in their first language. Additionally, families getting into roleplaying games may find it easier to act in the language spoken at home.

"It's more of a preference," says Leavitt. "Sometimes, with board games, people just want to play. They want to sit down, they want to have fun, so they don't want to play in a second language." Conversely, some people might even learn a language by playing a tabletop game.

"I actually learned French playing D&D," says Leavitt. His coworker, Julien LaChapelle, adds that he learned English the same way.

Townships ski hills

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

began to slow down.

The report was similar from both Owl's Head and Bromont, both of which were reporting "spring-like conditions" on the slopes.

Owl's head's Katrine Scott said that the mountain has had a "limited opening" for the first week of January, with the "family zone" accessible, but the rest of the trails closed to try to maintain quality of the current snow base.

"We are looking to protect snow coverage," Scott said, noting that the freezing rain warning for the area over Wednesday night and Thursday means it is unlikely that normal snowmaking operations will get back on track before the weekend.

Owls Head opened for the season Dec 17 and like in Sutton, Scott said that there was a, "strangely great week," from Dec. 26 to the 30.

In Bromont, Marketing and Communications Agent Evelyne Déry said that the season got started much earlier for those who purchased memberships, with the first skiers hitting the slopes on Dec. 2.

"The first two weekends were reserved for members," Déry said, explaining that this approach serves both as an early-access benefit for those who invest in a membership and as a way for the centre's staff to warm up operations before the holiday rush.

Like her counterparts at the other two mountains, Déry described the intense pre-Christmas storm as a blessing in disguise, noting that even though the high winds closed all of the region's mountains temporarily, the resulting snowfall more than made up the difference... until it melted

"We had very nice conditions until the thaw, and people responded, but there have been fewer skiers on the slopes the last few days."

As of Wednesday afternoon, Bromont had 38 out of its 110 trails open, but its numbers were exceptional among local centres. Orford reported six out of 44 open, Owl's Head had 6 out of a possible 50, and Sutton had 6 out of 60. Mont Bellevue, in Sherbrooke, reported only four of its 10 trails operational, but Mont Gleason, near Tingwick, boasted 13 of 20 trails open despite the warmer temperatures.

In Sutton, Baron said that the thaw is making this an ideal time for younger skiers or beginners to give the sport a try because things are not as busy.

"It is quieter right now, so we have little families coming by. It's good weather for that," she said, pointing out that some of the ski hill's



PHOTOS BY MONT SUTTON

Local ski hills are suggesting that the warmer weather this week is perfect for beginners

other services like lessons, rentals, and après-ski entertainment have also been performing well during the thaw.

"They bar is doing really well," Baron noted, linking the boost in business to the return of visitors from out of province and the United States, but also to the return of special programming that was cancelled during the first two winters of the COVID-19 pandemic. "People were looking forward to getting together again," she added.

Quebec's association of ski centres is trying to promote the idea of downhill skiing as a good way of getting people out and moving during the winter months with a "my first time" promotion package sponsored by Sports Experts. The deal includes a ski or snowboard lesson, a complete equipment rental, and access to a participating hill's "learning zone" for \$29.95. The association also provides up-to-date information on conditions at ski centres across the province on their website: <https://maneige.ski/en/>



This photo of Mount Sutton, taken on Tuesday of this week, shows the distinct line where temperatures are low enough to maintain snow cover partway up the mountain.

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The Border Report

The tradition of making resolutions at the beginning of a new year has a long history.

Looking forward!



The year 2022 is now behind us and it is the beginning of a fresh new year, 2023. It is at this juncture, saying good-bye to the past year and ushering in a new year, that many of us make resolutions for the new year.

The tradition of making resolutions at the beginning of a new year has a long history. It is said to have begun with the ancient Babylonians whose new year began in March, at the time the crops were planted. At this time, the Babylonians would promise the gods that they would return borrowed items and repay their debts.

This tradition continued with the Romans who would make sacrifices to the gods and promise to behave themselves in the year to come. It was the Roman, Julius Caesar, who changed the calendar to the one we recognize today, making January the first month of the Roman calendar year. January is in part based on the word Janus; Janus was a god with two faces whose spirit lived in doorways and other passages. Janus was believed to have the ability to look back on the past while also looking forward to the future – the perfect god for the first month of the year.

Here in Stanstead, we are certainly not deities, but we the humans of Phelps Helps are in the midst of something similar. And we are doing more than inhabiting doorways, gazing into the past and future; we are in movement: evaluating, planning, redesigning, and restructuring. We are taking what we learned from our successes and our challenges from the 2022 fall term and revamping in preparation for the 2023 winter and spring terms.

In the fall term of 2022, the Phelps Helps team welcomed a major increase in the number of students coming through our doors for our help, a noticeable increase from the previous couple of years in which the Covid pandemic and restrictions dampened our numbers. With the new year, we are without a doubt looking forward to seeing all these students return and invite anyone in need of tutoring or a space to do their homework to join us. Accordingly, to ensure we meet these needs and continue to offer the highest level of support to our participants, we have listened to each other and to everyone involved with Phelps Helps. We have discussed strategies. We have increased



COURTESY

staffing. And we continue to rely on our amazing volunteers who help us to maintain our tutoring standards as the numbers of students grow. We are also redesigning our space to better accommodate the increased number of Phelps Helps participants.

So, in honour of the tradition of making resolutions for the new year and in the spirit of the ancient god Janus, we at Phelps Helps resolve to continue the enjoyable work of helping our much-loved youth by learning from the past and building

an even better Phelps Helps for the future. We look forward to it!

Happy New Year to everyone from the team at Phelps Helps.

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

Pet of the week: Bruce

Bruce is in urgent need of an adoptive or foster home.

With us now since late November, Bruce is not doing well in the shelter environment. He is a sweet and sensitive dog who needs the love, reassurance and consistency that can only be provided in a home environment. At the shelter, he is alone far too much, and he is becoming more anxious.

Although timid when meeting new people, once he knows you and feels secure, Bruce is affectionate and loving and wants to stay close by your side. Because he is insecure, Bruce will do best with an experienced and confident

adopter who can help him build his own confidence in a safe and nurturing environment. He needs a leader who can continue his socialization and help him navigate our human world. He also needs a home where he is not left alone for long periods. This will be of particular importance as he settles into his new routine and learns to feel safe.

Bruce seems to be ok with cats, and we think he'd do well with another happy, well-adjusted dog to help him through his insecurities. He seems to prefer female dogs; he does not like unneutered males.

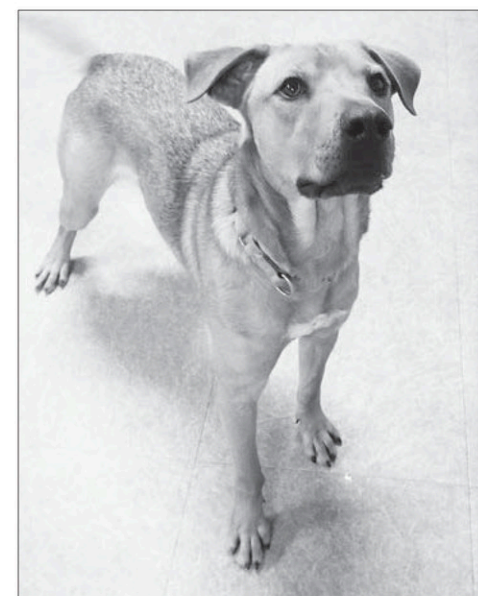
He loves to play fetch and

mostly brings the ball right back to you! When he's happy, he likes to do zoomies in our securely fenced yard. He has medium energy needs.

Bruce comes to us from Texas and is a Black Mouth Cur/Lab mix. He is 1 1/2 years old. He currently weighs 27 kilos (60 pounds) and should probably mature at about 65 lbs.

If you can open your home and your heart to this sensitive boy either as an adopter or a foster, we'd love to hear from you. He's a great dog who could really use a friend.

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EDITORIAL

Workplace violence is an ever-present issue in Canadian society, impacting nearly three-quarters of Canada's workers.

What's taking Canada's Armed Forces so long to tackle sexual misconduct?

By Jason Walker

Associate Professor, Graduate Studies, Leadership & People Management, University Canada West

Sexual violence in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) is a common, dominant and serious issue that has severe consequences for victims — not to mention its impact on unit cohesion and morale.

Workplace violence is an ever-present issue in Canadian society, impacting nearly three-quarters of Canada's workers. Measures must be taken to treat any workplace violence as a public health issue.

But the impenetrable closed culture of the CAF in particular is prime real estate for predators and those who seek to abuse authority.

For perspective, a quarter of the women serving in the CAF say they'd reported sexual assault at least once during their military careers. The true extent is likely under-reported given a recent study that indicates 80 per cent of sexual assaults go unreported.

Canada set aside close to \$800 million in 2019 to settle class-action lawsuits by current and former military members involving sexual misconduct. What's lacking, however, is a coherent national strategy to prevent, address and reset the culture of sexualized violence within the CAF.

Anand's first move

In November 2021, Defence Minister Anita Anand's first act was to announce the transfer of the investigation and prosecution of sexual misconduct cases from within the Canadian Forces to the civilian justice system.

One year later, on Dec. 13, 2022, Anand stepped in front of the cameras to apologize to former and

current members of the CAF for the culture of violence and to those who have survived sexual misconduct and assault. The apology was likely meant as a meaningful step towards reconciliation.

Her comment, however, that "this time is different," raises concerns. The question becomes: "How so, and why should we believe the government this time?"

Organizational culture is often so firmly entrenched that changes in strategy have little impact. So Anand is sounding like a broken record because the CAF's traditions, culture and much of its toxic leadership haven't changed.

In 2015 — almost a decade ago — the CAF released an external report detailing the results of a survey on sexual misconduct in the organization conducted by Marie Deschamps, a former Supreme Court justice.

The survey found that women in the CAF endure a toxic work environment and are often the target of vulgar name-calling, sexual innuendo and jokes, harassment and assault — much of it condoned or ignored by senior military leaders. The track record of the CAF's leadership in dealing with the issue of sexual misconduct, as well as ministerial oversight, is abysmal.

The CAF's response

In response to the 2015 survey, the CAF implemented several initiatives aimed at addressing sexual misconduct in the organization, including creating a Sexual Misconduct Response Centre (SMRC) and appointing a Special Advisor on Sexual Misconduct.

The Special Advisor works with the CAF to identify and address the root causes of sexual misconduct and to develop and implement strategies to

SPEAKING OF INFLATION...



prevent it. Clearly this arrangement hasn't been working.

The CAF also implemented a policy called Operation HONOUR, referred to as an enduring mission with no end date by Lt.-Gen. Mike Rouleau, with a plan to eliminate sexual misconduct in the military and support survivors. At this point, that mission has also been a failure.

Since Operation HONOUR was launched in 2015, several of Canada's top military officers have been accused of sexual harassment.

Former top commander Jonathan Vance pleaded guilty in 2022 to criminal charges related to accusations that he committed sexual misconduct when leading the Armed Forces, despite stating that sexual misconduct was "a threat to this institution."

In 2018, the CAF released a report on the progress made in addressing sexual misconduct in the organization.

It found that the number of reported sexual assaults had increased, in some ways a positive development because it indicated more survivors were coming forward and seeking support. The findings suggest the CAF has made some progress in increasing awareness of sexual misconduct and improving support for victims, but the organization's culture is clearly not changing at all.

The enemy is in the same uniform
So now what?

As someone who specializes in workplace violence, it occurred to me that if I were a parent of a child who was contemplating a career in the CAF, I would need to have a difficult

conversation about the likelihood of sexual assault.

Sit with that for a minute. When we think about the CAF, we acknowledge the duty, honour and courage of most of those who serve. However, the clear and present danger is not just in distant battlefields — but also from those serving in the same uniform as you.

The likelihood of adverse mental health outcomes — including anxiety, depression and PTSD — may not just come from what is experienced in battle but what is inflicted by a brother or sister in arms, severely impacting the trust, credibility and honour of the CAF.

The CAF has created a restricted culture with a leadership team lacking in diversity, inclusion and the considerations of equity. These leaders have learned from others who have perpetrated sexual misconduct.

Prevention, intervention and post-intervention measures for dealing with sexualized violence in the CAF are not considered mission-critical by the organization — but they need to be.

So is this time different? Is genuine culture change truly on the near horizon at the CAF? I hope so, but unfortunately hope is not a strategy.

Disclosure statement:

Jason Walker is affiliated with Liberal Party of Canada, holding a general membership.

This article originally appeared on theconversation.com

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The Record is published daily Monday to Friday. Back copies of The Record are available.

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Local Sports

Local businessman Daniel Larouche and his son, Jérémie Dumas-Larouche, will be the honorary presidents of the 41st edition of the Novice-O-Rama.

Novice-O-Rama starts this Thursday

Record Staff

The 41st edition of the Novice-O-Rama hockey tournament will begin this Thursday at the Centre Julien-Ducharme.

Event organizers, who had cancelled the two previous editions due to the pandemic health directives, will be happy to see the young participants hit the ice again.

Novik, the Novice-O-Rama mascot, will welcome 88 teams for the upcoming tournament, under the direction of Steve Grimard, this year's president.

"I can't wait for it to start," Grimard said in a press release about the upcoming tournament, "we are ready and we are all going to work very hard to make sure the kids remember their time with us. Our goal is simple. We want to become the biggest novice tournament and festival in Quebec."

This year's Novice-O-Rama will take place Jan. 5 to 8 and Jan. 12 to 15 at the Centre Julien-Ducharme Centre.

"By having only one site, we don't need to have two groups of volunteers, which will be more efficient," Grimard added.

The festival portion of the event will involve teams from the M7-1 and

2 levels in friendly matches.

The tournament portion is for M9-1 to 4 teams. The first weekend will involve the M9-2 and 4 teams, and the second weekend will be for M9-1 and 3 teams.

All-star games and finals

The all-star games, which are always among the most popular events of the two weekends, will be held on Saturday, Jan. 7 and 14 at 6 p.m. at the Centre Julien-Ducharme.

Prior to the all-star games, players will be invited to eat at Stanley's Restobar and will be transported to the arena by limousine thanks to Limo-Prestige, a treatment worthy of the pros!

The youngsters selected for these games will be coached by players from the Magog Cantonniers, from the U18 AAA Quebec Hockey League.

The finals will be held on Sunday afternoon, Jan. 8 and 15, with the presentation of the Thomas Cameron trophy, presented to the tournament's most outstanding volunteer on Jan. 15.

Father-son duo as honorary presidents

Local businessman Daniel Larouche and his son, Jérémie Dumas-Larouche, will be the honorary presidents of the 41st edition of the Novice-O-Rama.



COURTESY

Novice-O-Rama president Steve Grimard and friends, ready for the arrival of players and spectators At Centre Julien-Ducharme.

Member of the Blainville-Boisbriand Armada in the QMJHL, Jérémie played his developmental hockey in the region, including the Harfangs in Triolet and the Magog Cantonniers. In fact, he made it to the TELUS Cup finals in the spring of 2022 before making the Armada team this season.

As for his father, Daniel, he is the owner of Provigo Daniel Larouche located on 13th Avenue North near

the Galeries Quatre Saisons. His business is well established and he graciously accepted the invitation to serve as honorary president with his son, despite a hectic work schedule.

Novik and the volunteers of Novice-O-Rama are ready to greet players and spectators from Jan. 5 to 15 for our 41st edition of the popular local hockey tournament.

Action resumes this Friday for Desjardins – Windsor Wild

Record Staff

The Desjardins-Windsor Wild will resume play in the Regional Hockey League this Friday at 8:30 p.m. at the Centre J.-A.-Lemay.

The Wild will begin the new year and the final stretch of the 2022-2023 regular season by hosting the East Angus Lumberjacks.

The two teams battled it out before the holiday break and it was the Desjardins-Wild that came out on top with a score of 14-1 in East Angus.

But they are a team that should not be taken lightly! The Lumberjacks have only four wins in 14 games so far this season, but anything is still possible between now and the end of the season.

As for the Desjardins - Wild, it's always that race for the top spot in the LRH standings that gets the attention.

The Daveluyville JB has 25 points in 15 games compared to 24 points in 14 games for Windsor.

Coaticook and Warwick follow with 21 points in 15 games. The last word is yet to be spoken in this end of season sprint.

Bring the whole family to the Centre J.-A.-Lemay this Friday at 8:30 p.m. to cheer on the Desjardins-Wild against the East Angus Lumberjacks.

The team would also like to take this opportunity to offer supporters, on behalf of the entire organization, best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year.



MONIA LARAMÉE

📍 PALAIS DES SPORTS

SPA DE L'ESTRIE NIGHT

Kruger
Produits

JANUARY 7 6PM

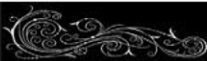
BILLETSPHOENIX.CA

HOCKEYPHOENIX.CA

Death

Betty Priscilla BELFORD
February 1926 – December 2022

Beloved wife of the late Franklin R.G. Belford. Mother of the late Terrence, Timothy, Shane and Susan. She will be missed by her children, her eight grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. Betty was a fighter having survived the Great Depression, World War 11 and the COVID pandemic. She was a feminist – who would have never used the term – long before feminism became popular. She simply believed that a woman could do anything that a man could do and usually better. She loved her family and took pride in their accomplishments. She also taught them, by example, what it meant to be a good, hard-working and caring person.



Card of Thanks

BROWN, Irene (June 1916 - December 2022). The family of Irene Brown wish to thank our friends and family for your outpouring of love and kindness after the loss of our beloved Mother. We are profoundly grateful for all the cards, phone calls, food and the flowers. Our thanks to Reverend Angelika Piche for the beautiful service and to Sue & Dean Young for their support and compassion. We would like to express our thanks to Stephane Elkas at Elkas Funeral Home for his professionalism and sensitivity during our difficult time. Sincerely with love,

BARRY & BARBARA BROWN
(son & daughter)
MARCELLA VICKERS- BROWN
(daughter-in-law)
GRANDCHILDREN and
GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN



Death

Mary FORAND
(nee McLellan)

August 9, 1924 – December 29, 2022

Mary passed away peacefully at St. Joseph's Home in Saskatoon.

She will be lovingly remembered by her brother Henry McLellan, daughter Valerie (Jack), sons Lawson (Michelle) and Lee (Maxine), grandchildren Nichola Matthews (Karim), Hugh Badger-Forand (Lauren), Erika Matthews and Alexandra Forand and her great-grandchildren Aya and Alina Mohamed. She was predeceased by her loving husband Jean-Paul (Hammer) Forand, and her brother Edward McLellan.

Mary will be remembered for her love for Hammer, her devotion to her children and family, her many social interests, sharp wit and love for animals.

In lieu of other tributes, donations may be made to Ukrainian sisters of St. Joseph of Saskatoon.

Arrangements in care of Mandi Wasylkowski of Acadia-McKague's Funeral Centre 306-955-1600.

Acadia-McKague's Funeral Centre
915 Acadia Drive
Saskatoon, SK S7H 5N4
306.955.1600
acadiamckaguesfuneralcentre.com

Date Book

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2023

Today is the fifth day of 2023 and the 16th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1781, British naval forces led by Brig. Gen. Benedict Arnold captured and burned Richmond, Virginia.

In 1914, Ford Motor Co. raised basic wages from \$2.40 for a nine-hour day to \$5 for an eight-hour day.

In 1933, construction began on the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco Bay.

In 1957, President Dwight D. Eisenhower announced that the U.S. would intervene militarily and economically at the request of any Middle Eastern nation in response to the spread of communism.

In 2005, the dwarf planet Eris was discovered.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: King Camp Gillette (1855-1932), safety razor inventor; George Reeves (1914-1959), actor; Jane Wyman (1917-2007), actress; Walter Mondale (1928-2021), former U.S. vice president; Alvin Ailey (1931-1989), dancer/choreographer; Robert Duvall (1931-), actor; Umberto Eco (1932-2016), author/philosopher; Juan Carlos (1938-), former king of

Spain; Diane Keaton (1946-), actress; Clancy Brown (1959-), actor; Bradley Cooper (1975-), actor; January Jones (1978-), actress.

TODAY'S FACT: The safety razor was one of the first disposable products ever made.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 2004, Pete Rose admitted to gambling on baseball games while serving as manager of the Cincinnati Reds.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Entering a novel is like going on a climb in the mountains: You have to learn the rhythm of respiration, acquire the pace; otherwise you stop right away." – Umberto Eco

TODAY'S NUMBER: 1,672 – performances in the original run of "The Wiz," an adaptation of "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz," at the Majestic Theatre and the Broadway Theatre in New York City, after premiering on this day in 1975.

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter moon (Dec. 29) and full moon (Jan. 6).

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1-800-268-7582 www.mssociety.ca

RATES and DEADLINES: ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

BIRTH NOTICES, CARDS OF THANKS, IN MEMORIAMS, BRIEFLETS:
Text only: 40¢ per word. Minimum charge \$10.00 (\$11.50 taxes included)
Discounts: 2 insertions or more: 15% off

With photo: additional \$18.50. **DEADLINE:** 11 a.m., day before publication.

BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY & GET-WELL WISHES, ENGAGEMENT NOTICES:

Text only: \$16.00 (includes taxes)

With photo: \$26.00 (\$29.90 taxes included) **DEADLINE:** 3 days before publication.

WEDDING WRITE-UPS:

\$26.00 (\$29.90 taxes included) **WITH PHOTO:** \$36.00 (\$41.40 taxes included)

Please Note: All of the aforementioned (except death notices) must be submitted typewritten or neatly printed, and must include the signature and daytime telephone number of the contact person. Can be e-mailed to: classad@sherbrookerecord.com - They will not be taken by phone.

DEADLINES FOR DEATH NOTICES:

For Monday's paper, email production@sherbrookerecord.com or call 819-569-4856 between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday. For Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday's edition, email production@sherbrookerecord.com, call 819-569-4856 or fax 819-569-1187 (please call to confirm transmission) between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. the day prior to the day of publication. The Record cannot guarantee publication if another Record number is called. Rates: Please call for costs.

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

"The Club" will hold its first meeting of the year at the Amédée-Beaudoin Community Centre in Lennoxville on Tuesday, January 10 at 1:30 p.m. It will then continue every second Tuesday. Card players are welcome! However, anyone wishing to join us for a different type of activity for a lively afternoon should simply give us a call at ext. 303 for more information! As well as Technology troubleshooting sessions are also available with Samuel on Friday afternoons from 1:30-3:00 p.m. If you have a laptop or mobile device problem that you need help with, call to make an appointment with Samuel! Lennoxville and District Community Aid 819-821-4779.

LENNOXVILLE/NORTH HATLEY/ HATLEY/WATERVILLE

Tablet/smart phone training sessions continue to be available through Community Aid, free of charge! Training is available in French and in English, and sessions can be available in Lennoxville, North Hatley, Canton de Hatley, or Waterville, depending on interest. This training takes place in groups of 6-8 people, for a series of five sessions. You may repeat the sessions if you wish to get more practice! Next groups starting as soon as January 10. If you are interested, please give us a call at 819-821-4779 ext. 308 to register!



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Still struggling after hurricane

Dear Annie

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2023

Dear Annie: I moved to Florida from Oklahoma to be near my son and sister after my husband passed away from cancer. It did not work out with my son, so I moved to a place near my sister – a small, one-bedroom mobile home in an RV retirement park for seniors over 65.

Hurricane Ian destroyed my home, and I have been unable to find a new place to live, either buying or renting here in Florida. I have been at this since September, and I am worn out and tired of searching. I am currently staying with my sister and her husband. So I am going to relocate back to Oklahoma, where hopefully I can find a place to live.

My sister is terribly upset because I'm leaving. She does not seem to understand that I cannot rent an apartment or buy another trailer or another house either. My sister doesn't think I've tried hard enough, but she has not been with me when I've made all these attempts and phone calls and searches and trying and trying and trying. I feel depressed and sad. I've lost everything – my home, my husband, my son, my belongings and my ability to stay in Florida. My question is, am I doing the right thing moving back to Oklahoma? I feel like I have no other options. Thank you. – Searching

Dear Searching: I can't imagine how difficult this must be for you. Staying in Florida, near your family, would surely boost your spirits, and there might be a way to make it happen.

It sounds like you are eligible for federal disaster assistance. You should call FEMA to apply at 800-621-3362. The line is open every day from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Eastern Time. You can also visit a Disaster Recovery Center, or DRC, to learn more about disaster assistance programs. If you visit <https://egateway.fema.gov/ESF6/DRCLocator>, you can locate a DRC near you.

Good luck!

Dear Annie: I am writing in response to "Confused in Kansas," the woman whose sister shunned her for 15 years and whose family has designated her as the scapegoat for all of their problems.

Very troubled, dysfunctional families often choose one person to pin all the blame on for their own dysfunctions, thereby removing any spotlights on their own hurtful behavior. Please tell "Confused" to read up on "scapegoating" and see if the description fits her situation. She and her husband are very smart to be wary of trusting anyone in her family. I applaud them. – Been There

Dear Been There: Thank you for this perspective and these words of encouragement. I agree that scapegoating sounds like a possibility to explain her family's behavior.

Dear Readers: Wishing you all a very happy new year. I hope it is filled with lots of joy and love. Below are some quotes that I put together in hopes that they inspire you to live your best life. With an open mind, an open heart and a sense of wonder, each year is a new beginning to start fresh. Remind

yourself that the best is yet to come.

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." – CS Lewis

"There are far better things ahead than any we leave behind." – CS Lewis

"We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day." – Edith Lovejoy Pierce

"It is never too late to be what you might have been." – George Eliot

"Ring out the old, ring in the new, / Ring, happy bells, across the snow: / The year is going, let him go; / Ring out the false, ring in the true." – Alfred Lord Tennyson

"Every moment is a fresh beginning." – TS Eliot

"I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past." – Thomas Jefferson

"It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are." – EE Cummings

"Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year." – Ralph Waldo Emerson

"The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide you're not going to stay where you are." – JP Morgan

"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new." – Socrates

"Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties." – Helen Keller

"With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts." – Eleanor Roosevelt

"Last year's words belong to last year's language. And next year's words await another voice." – TS Elliot, "Little Gidding"

"Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, whispering, 'it will be happier.'" – Alfred Lord Tennyson

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." – Eleanor Roosevelt

"Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each year find you a better man." – Benjamin Franklin

"What a wonderful thought it is that some of the best days of our lives haven't even happened yet." – Anne Frank

"Don't be afraid to give up the good to go for the great." – John D. Rockefeller

"An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves." – William E. Vaughan

"Strength shows not only in the ability to persist, but the ability to start over." – F. Scott Fitzgerald

"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams." – Henry David Thoreau

"It always seems impossible until it's done." – Nelson Mandela

Dear Annie: My grandson, "Billie" is 5 years old and still not potty trained. We have tried everything to get him to use the toilet – rewards, bribes, "gentle threats," etc. We suspect he has encopresis – the repeated, involuntary passing of stool into the clothing. This can happen when impacted stool

collects in the colon and rectum, while the more liquid stool involuntarily leaks out around the impacted stool.

In our grandson's case, he has to wear a Pull-Up so that he doesn't soil his clothing with the liquid stool. He rarely has a regular bowel movement. And because he's wearing a Pull-Up, he also rarely pees in the toilet. We give him fiber gummies so that he's not constipated and try to encourage him to eat good food and drink plenty of water. But he's a 5-year-old boy, and he isn't too interested in what's good for him.

Of course, the other kids tease him about this. He knows he should be using the toilet and is ashamed of himself. He says the problem is him, that there is something wrong with him. And of course, the more we try to help him, the more pressure is put on him.

Is there anyone out there who has faced this problem and can give me some advice? It breaks our hearts to see him so ashamed. He's a very sweet kid, and no child should feel bad about themselves. – Pooped Out and Sad in the South

Dear Pooped Out and Sad in the South: Before you suspect that your grandson has encopresis, I would seek the help of his pediatrician and get a firm diagnosis. The sooner you all seek the help of a trained professional pediatrician, the sooner you can get Billie treatment. You are correct that sometimes it's not the behavior itself but the social pressure or self-consciousness that your grandson feels different from his peers. If he does seem really embarrassed about it, while it is probably purely physical, there is a slight possibility that it is psychological. If that is the case, then it is important to find a good family therapist to get to the root of what is going on in Billie's life that might be causing him stress.

Dear Annie: If you are invited to a wedding shower, should you always be invited to the wedding?

I was invited to a good friend's shower for her daughter. I gave a generous gift. No wedding invitation ever came.

I've now found myself questioning this friendship in silence. No mention was ever made by either of us regarding what I consider a tacky insult.

What are your thoughts? – Questioning

Dear Questioning: My thoughts are with you. On the surface, it sure seems tacky, and it is certainly understandable that your feelings are hurt. That being said, maybe she just had a very small family wedding. Maybe it was the shower that was her big celebration. But until you find out the reason, you will remain hurt and angry. Communication with your friend will help clarify a great deal.

"How Can I Forgive My Cheating Partner?" is out now! Annie Lane's second anthology – featuring favorite columns on marriage, infidelity, communication and reconciliation – 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.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

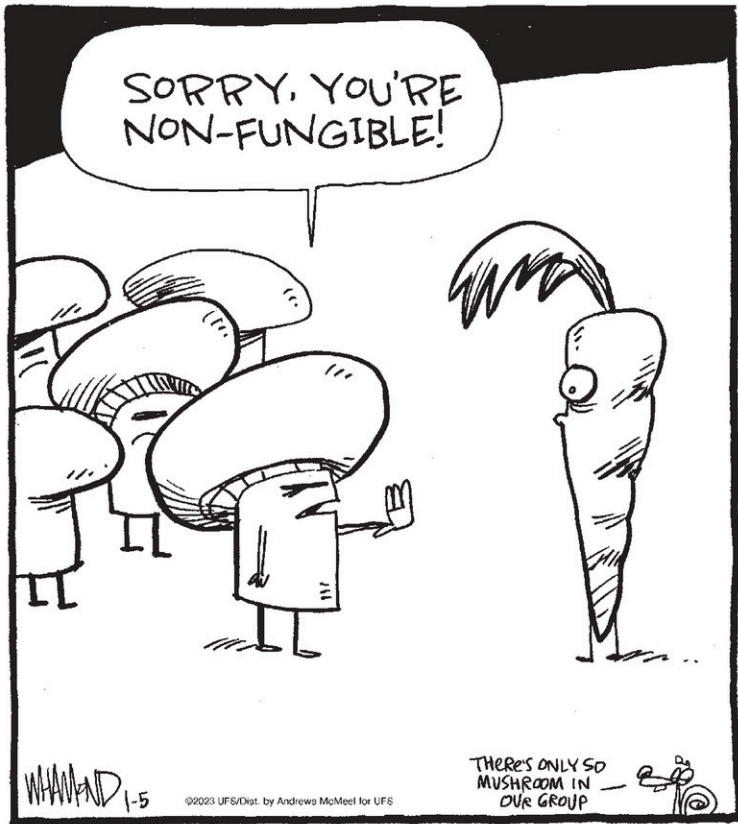
Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"J O E H W J R W L B K W O J G T X R W M X Y I
B O X B H W E H R W S J R R W G V E I . K C B
S O X B W P W U B O W I S X G B B E N X I , J
Y X G ' B H U W T J Y B ." — U E K W U B T C P X R R

Previous Solution: "No matter what responses you get from your work, you have to be determined not to give up on your dreams!" — Coco Jones

TODAY'S CLUE: r s j n b e A

REALITY CHECK



HERMAN

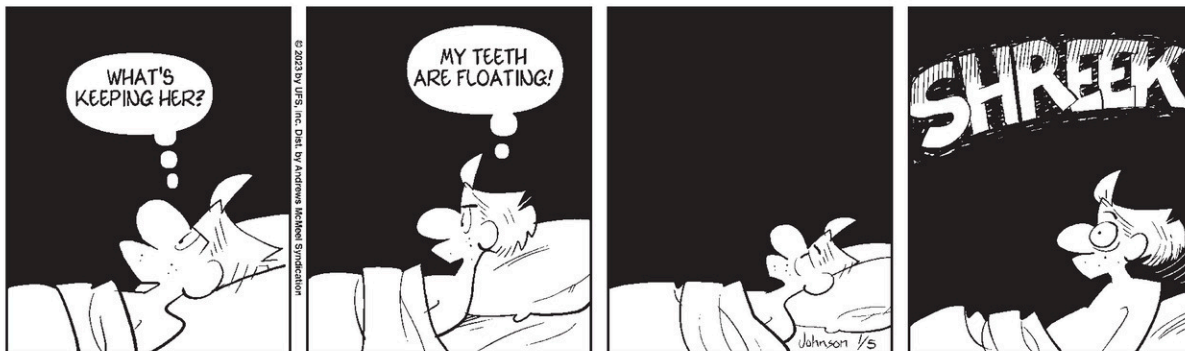


"I hear you won the lottery."

ALLEY OOP



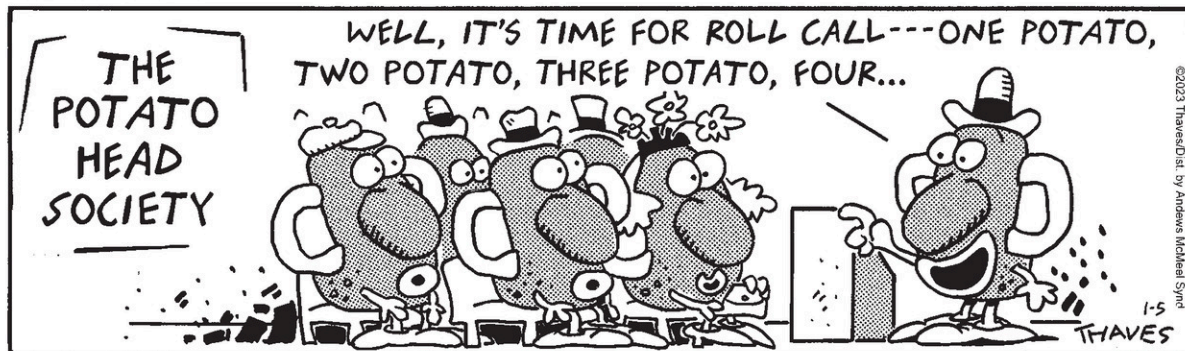
ARLO & JANIS



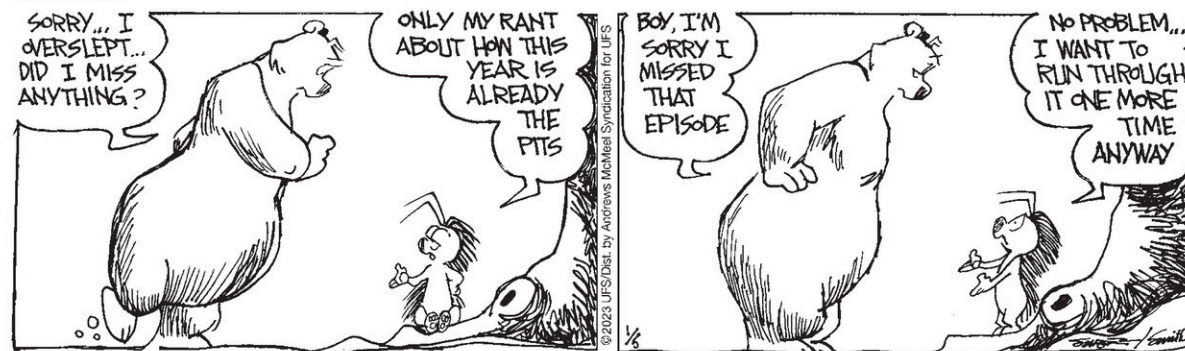
THE BORN LOSER



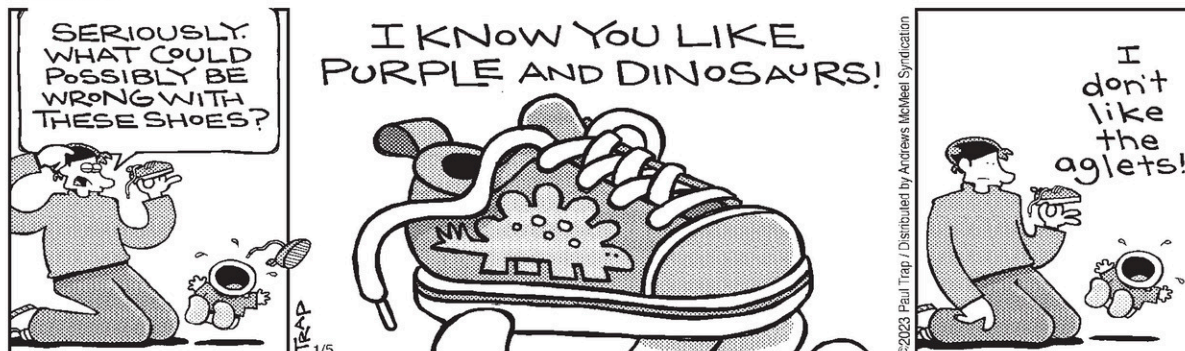
FRANK AND ERNEST



GRIZZWELLS



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Call Sherbrooke: (819) 569-9525 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
 E-mail: classad@sherbrookerecord.com
 or Knowlton: (450) 242-1188 between 9:00 a.m. and noon

CLASSIFIED

Deadline: 12:30 p.m. one day prior to publication
 Or mail your prepaid classified ads to
 The Record, 6 Mallory, Sherbrooke, Quebec J1M 2E2

275 Antiques **290** Articles for Sale **290** Articles for Sale **290** Articles for Sale

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The Record has an **immediate full-time position** in the newspaper's circulation department.

If you would like to be part of the dynamic team that produces and delivers the Townships' only English-language daily newspaper,

email Sharon McCully, Publisher,
 at outletjournal@sympatico.ca
 or call 819-569-9511

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

3		7			9	4		
				6	4			7
6				1		9		3
	9				5	3	7	
4	2			3		1		9
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2		4		5				1
9				2	7			
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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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



EDITORIAL ASSISTANT, YOUTH EDITION

The Record has an exciting new opportunity for a parttime editorial assistant to coordinate an online Youth edition of the newspaper.

Working with the editor, the editorial assistant will recruit young reporters, schedule workshops, assign, edit and upload stories and photos to the web and provide writing tips and feedback to student reporters.

The ideal candidate will have a solid background in journalism with knowledge of writing for the web, and a demonstrated ability to schedule and meet deadlines.

This position, made possible through the *Ministère de Culture et des Communications'* digital transition program, is open to qualified applicants of all ages.

Interested candidates should send a cover letter and resume to
Sharon McCully, Publisher, The Record
 at outletjournal@sympatico.ca
 or by mail to 6 rue Mallory, Sherbrooke, QC, J1M 2E2



SALES REPRESENTATIVES

The Record/Brome County News has an immediate opening for a dynamic, motivated sales representatives to join its sales team.

The ideal candidate will be a client-focused, results-oriented individual seeking to forge a successful career as a sales representative.

Job Requirements

- As a sales representative, you will:
- Maintain current customer accounts and relationships
 - Grow an established customer base
 - Work as part of a sales team on special projects
 - Be self-directed with the ability to effectively interact with staff and clients
 - Be creative and innovative to ensure client satisfaction
 - Demonstrate an ability to build lasting client relationships
 - Advertising sales experience is a definite asset

Interested candidates should send a letter outlining their interest and prior experience to

Sharon McCully
 outletjournal@sympatico.ca

NEA Crossword Puzzle

Your Birthday

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2023

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) – Keep your money safe. Emotional spending or contributions to questionable organizations should be avoided. Turn your focus to something that benefits you. Strive to be cutting edge.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) – Emotions will surface quickly. Contain how you feel before you do or say something you will regret. Change can be beneficial. Give others a chance to voice their opinions.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) – Consider what's happening and seek ways to benefit. It's up to you to turn a negative into a positive. Take control of your life and adjust to whatever comes your way. Go with the flow.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) – Lending a helping hand will connect you to people who can make a difference in your life. Ask questions and implement suggestions into your daily routine. Use your charm to get ahead.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) – Pay more attention to your health and well-being. Educate yourself about nutrition, fitness and what your body needs to stay strong. Make changes at home. Romance is favored.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) – Set the record straight and be honest about what you want from others. Don't expect everyone to honor your wishes. It's up to you to follow through with your plans and make your dreams come true.

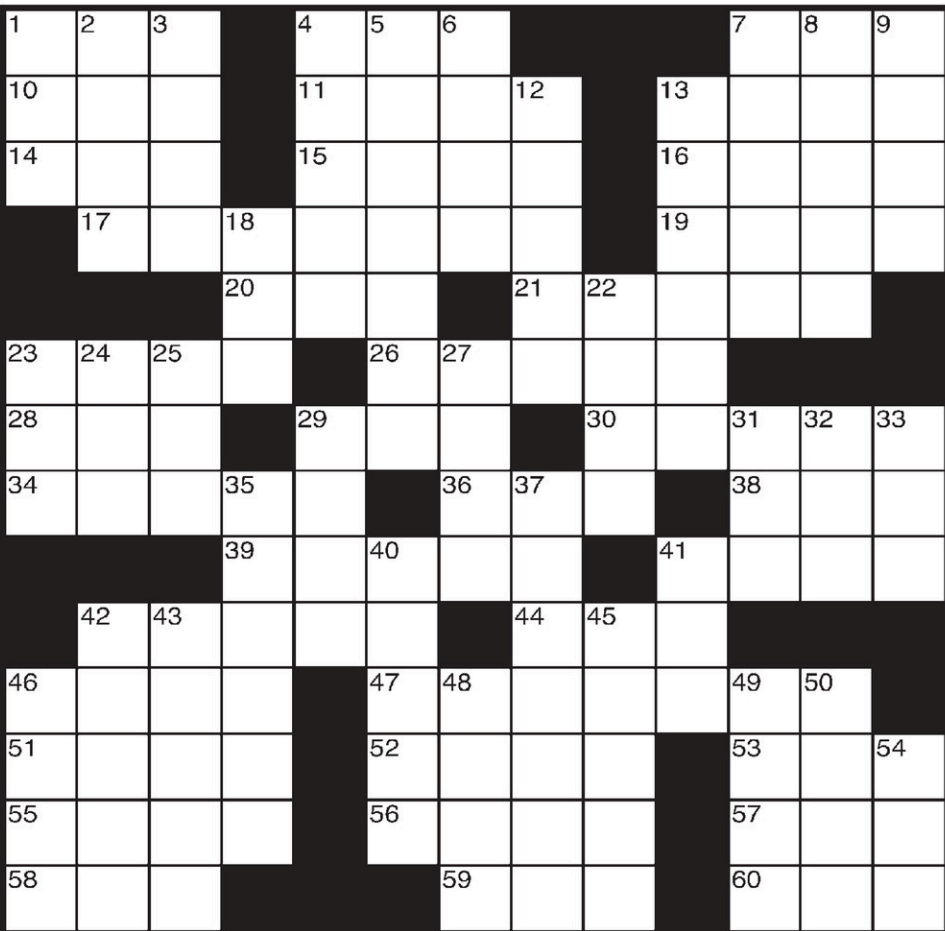
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) – Draw on your emotions, and you'll know what to do next. Evaluate relationships and the give-and-take factor that equality depends on before you agree to something.

Answer to Previous Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- 1 Sitter's handful
 - 4 Race the engine
 - 7 Hi-tech scan
 - 10 Actor's prompt
 - 11 New singles
 - 13 Actress Meg —
 - 14 Author Umberto —
 - 15 Flyleaf
 - 16 Concludes
 - 17 Patella
 - 19 Trot or gallop
 - 20 Diner sandwich
 - 21 Oregon neighbor
 - 23 Union flouter
 - 26 PC message
 - 28 Total
 - 29 Uproar
 - 30 Applies caulk
 - 34 Rocker — John
 - 36 "— -la-la!"
 - 38 Recent (pref.)
- 39 Pitcher's spot**
- 41 Hits the buffet
 - 42 Unwraps
 - 44 Fabric meas.
 - 46 Uttered
 - 47 Beats the incumbent
 - 51 Skilled
 - 52 Fragrant flower
 - 53 Suffered from
 - 55 Incline
 - 56 Social equal
 - 57 Possess
 - 58 City rtes.
 - 59 Caustic substance
- DOWN**
- 1 Treat a sprain
 - 2 Mire
 - 3 Lowly laborer
 - 4 Gross out
 - 5 Demanded
 - 6 First-magnitude star

- 7 Chatty starling
- 8 AM/FM device
- 9 Prof.
- 12 Brownish pigment
- 13 Entertain
- 18 Flow back
- 22 Plate or saucer
- 23 Weather-vane dir.
- 24 — -de-sac
- 25 Qty.
- 27 NASA destination
- 29 Before long
- 31 Actress — de Armas
- 32 Authorize
- 33 Emergency signal
- 35 Brunch fare
- 37 Long journey
- 40 Comman-deer
- 41 That senora
- 42 Circle the earth
- 43 Gets boring
- 45 Steel plow inventor
- 46 Equine fodder
- 48 Carol
- 49 Quaker pronoun
- 50 Like lumber
- 54 Spiral molecule



THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2023

After technique comes flexibility

By Phillip Alder

If all bridge deals featured textbook plays, we would become bored very quickly. Luckily, there are many contracts that call for an abnormal approach. In these, usually it is important to consider the deal as a whole, not just one suit.

On today's deal, West leads the heart king against South's contract of three no-trump. What should be declarer's plan of campaign?

North's negative double showed exactly four spades.

Often, with this heart holding, declarer would hold up the ace until the third round. But is that right here?

South has eight top tricks: four spades, one heart, two diamonds and one club. He can get his ninth winner from the club suit, except that he would be taking the finesse into West, the player with all of the hearts to cash. As the finesse rates to lose, declarer should engineer an endplay.

He wins the second round of hearts with the ace, checking whether East follows once or twice. Then South cashes his diamond and spade winners. This brings West down to five cards. Probably, he will discard one club and three diamonds, retaining three hearts and

North		01-05-23	
♠ A Q J 5			
♥ 8 5 3			
♦ K 7			
♣ 10 9 7 3			
West		East	
♠ 8 3		♠ 10 9 6 4	
♥ K Q J 9 4		♥ 7 6	
♦ Q J 4		♦ 10 9 8 6	
♣ K 6 2		♣ 8 5 4	
		South	
		♠ K 7 2	
		♥ A 10 2	
		♦ A 5 3 2	
		♣ A Q J	
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1♦	1♥	Dbl.	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
Opening lead: ♥ K			

two clubs. If so, declarer leads a heart. West cashes his three winners but then must lead away from the club king at trick 12.

Seems straightforward, but a clever West will put South to a guess. He will discard the diamond four, the diamond queen and two clubs. If he does that, declarer must cash the club ace to drop the now-singleton king. If he gets that right, he has a story to tell his grandchildren. If he gets it wrong, West can relate the tale.