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## Public art competition in Rock-Forest

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# THE RECORD

THE VOICE OF THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SINCE 1897

## Tim Belford: Political back-slapping

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PM#0040007682

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023

## The issue of expanding assisted dying eligibility 'has already been decided': senator

By David Fraser  
The Canadian Press

The senator who pushed for Canada's assisted dying regime to include people whose only condition is a mental disorder says the debate about that policy is now over.

"The issue of expansion has already been decided upon," said Stan Kutcher, who sits with the Independent Senators Group.

As far as Kutcher is concerned, the what was determined two years ago, when his arguments in the Senate

CONT'D ON PAGE 3

## Census from 1931 will help fill the gaps of Townships history

By Bird Bouchard

A census legislated 92 years in the vault may soon be able to help fill in some of the blanks in the Eastern Townships history books.

Collected during the Great Depression and at a time of significant immigration, the 1931 census provides a glimpse of how more than 10 million people were living.

However, by law, the personal information in a census cannot be made public until 92 years after the census was completed. As a result, the data remains sealed until June 1, 2023.

"Part of the reason the government of Canada is able to collect personal information like that as part of the Census is we promised not make it available until much further down the line," said Alexandra Clemence, Chief of Orientation and Genealogy with Library and Archives Canada.

Clemence said Library and Archives have received the 1931 Census from Statistics Canada in the form of 187 microfilm reels. Team members have then assigned reel numbers and locations, created archival descriptions, and added the records to Collection



BIRD BOUCHARD

Jasmine Aldrich, Head Archivist at the Eastern Townships Resource Centre, said the upcoming release of the 1931 Canada Census can help fill in some of the blanks in Eastern Townships history books.

Search.

She said the process to digitize the microfilm reels and verify each census page image by image—234,678 images

in total, which includes 10,376,786 people, has been lengthy.

CONT'D ON PAGE 3

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## Weather



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CLOUDY

HIGH 0  
LOW -4



FRIDAY:  
SNOW

HIGH 3  
LOW 1



SATURDAY:  
RAIN

HIGH 3  
LOW -7



SUNDAY:  
A MIX OF SUN  
AND CLOUD

HIGH -2  
LOW -10



MONDAY:  
A MIX OF SUN  
AND CLOUD

HIGH 4  
LOW -8

# Farming can be a sticky situation



LINDA KNIGHT SECCASPINA

Maple syrup was just more than a sappy incident in Canada. It marks one of the most distinct eras in seasonable cuisine, and it was the first of the new and home-grown Canadian products. It has a tang of the woods and the open country, and somehow makes you think of spring flowers and the soft rain which rejuvenates the earth. It also paves the way for the rhubarb pie era which follows soon after. The rhubarb season in turn is succeeded by strawberries and cream, but that is another story altogether.

Early settlers in Canada learned about sugar maples from our First Nations. Various legends have existed through the ages to explain how maple syrup was discovered. One is that the head of a tribe threw a tomahawk at a tree, sap ran out and his wife boiled venison in the liquid. Another version holds that our First Nations stumbled on sap running from a broken maple branch.

Those from the past have been known to declare that the best syrup was made in the "old days". It was when the sap was boiled in iron kettles, over open fires, the product retained a furtive flavour of sugary bliss and charred wood. Today the

syrup is made in patent contraptions with syphons and spigots, often boiled over coal fires, and protected from smoke in the process. The business may be less romantic than in the past, but the quality of the syrup is even higher.

My great grandfather Arthur Crittenden had some fine maples on his West Brome farm and being told about the value of the maple for the making of sugar, he decided to try sugar making. Unfortunately, he had never studied the effects of evaporation and thought the boiling process would be helped by keeping the kettles closely covered.

Day after day he boiled away and expected the sugar to boil at the bottom of the kettles. Evaporation was partially secured by the steam raising the covers of the kettles and then the contents grew gradually sweeter. Fresh sap was constantly supplied and though the sugar was hoped for - none ever appeared. As they say, "sugar makers don't die- they just evaporate". It never dawned on him that to get the sugary results he must stop putting in sap and boil it all down to a certain consistency. He was about to give up until someone saved the day. Some business brought a member of the family forty miles to visit from home. When he witnessed the operation he solved my great grandfather's mystery almost immediately. Maple sugar was soon produced and my ancestors finally feasted on the delicious product. He told anyone who would listen that he was thankful for a tree so useful in the wilderness.

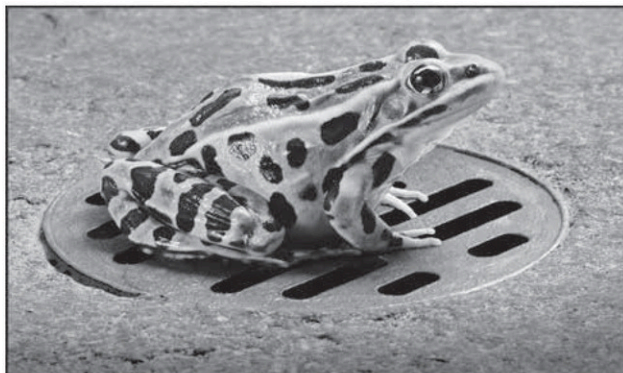
However, this giant crop of maple trees became a sticky situation and grew where he intended to clear the land for his crops. All other kinds of trees were removed and the corn and potatoes were planted beneath the sturdy sugar maples. However, the ample foliage of their broad limbs

was so shaded and it actually dwarfed the growing crops beneath. My great grandfather became convinced the same ground could not yield at the same time two such crops. With feelings lacerated in a two-fold sense his beloved maples were cut down and in their falling so smashed the corn and potatoes. In the end little of either was harvested and thus his first season was almost a loss.

The next season Arthur did well with a new crop on the fully cleared land, but once again he did not have much luck. At the far side of the newly planted field was a thick bush. He looked at that bush for protection for his crop and did not put any fence on that side. He failed to realize that a bush will keep out much of the sun but won't keep out wandering animals.

In the heat of the summer a large flock of neighbours' cattle charged through the bush and invaded the unfenced clearing. The final result was painful. As he viewed the damage to his crops he wondered if he should still be a farmer. That summer a fence was built and the following year a crop was grown with success without interference from maple trees or cattle.

I had no idea that forty gallons of sap are needed to make one gallon of syrup, and one barrel of maple syrup is worth more than 30 times of a barrel of crude oil. I often wonder if my great grandfather ever grew back those maple trees. You have to admit the early farmers were outstanding in their field, and I have always been proud to have had farmers in my lineage. I would smile each time my father told me to close the door properly as I wasn't raised in a barn. I always told him he had had it wrong, as I've never judged anyone by their relatives, and what goes on in the barn stays in the barn!

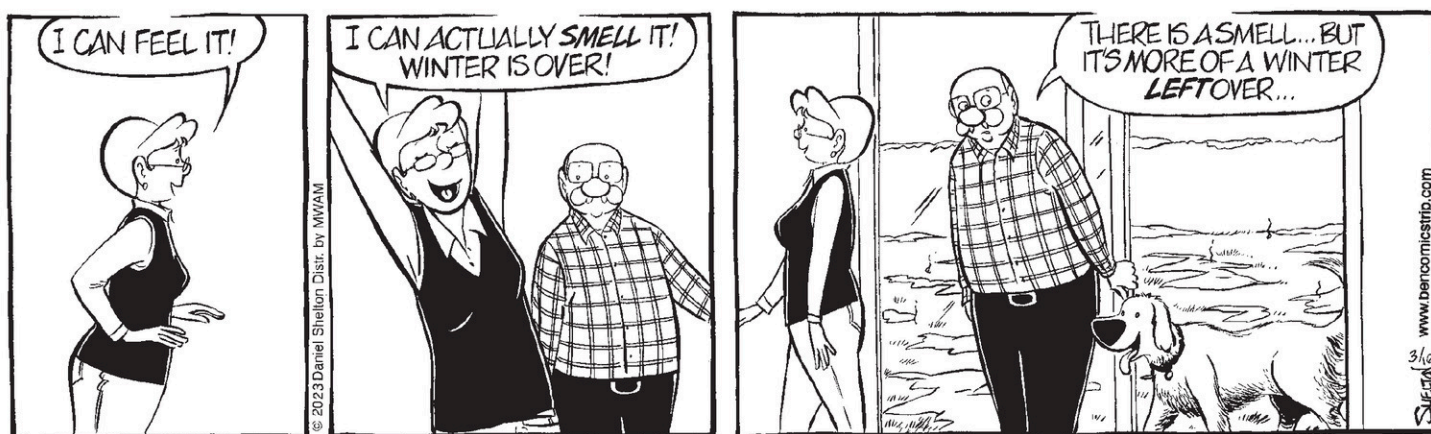


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## Ben by Daniel Shelton



# Local News

*Clemence said Library and Archives have received the 1931 Census from Statistics Canada in the form of 187 microfilm reels.*

## Census from 1931

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

"We load up the reel and it spins through and digitizes. There are a lot of changing of reels and images that are doubles," said Clemence. "It takes a while from when we actually get the information from Stats Canada to make it consumable and available for people to be able to actually go through it in a user-friendly way."

Clemence said the 1931 census is the most complete census yet as the last one released in 1926 did not include all provinces.

With the 1931 census including each province except for Newfoundland, more than 40 fields of personal information were recorded. These include typical questions found on previous census returns, such as family names and relationships, age, gender, and racial origin. Also included in the census are questions for each individual person which touch on where their parents were born, what their mother tongue is and more.

New in the 1931 census are five questions, touching on matters such as unemployment and radio ownership.

"It gives us a more complete picture of the depression as a whole," she said. "It's an in-depth picture of the unemployment situation, not just whether someone was working or not, but perhaps the reasons why. Maybe they had an accident, went on strike, etc."

With so much information to unpack, Clemence said only the images will become available on June 1. While users will be able to browse by district and sub-district, they will not be able to search by name just yet.

"What becomes available are the images themselves and people can browse through them by district and subdistrict, but they can't search by name yet. On June 1, we're handing it over to the partners," said Clemence, referring to Ancestry, which will then apply its state-of-the-art handwriting recognition technology to the digital images to create a full index of the entire census.

According to Jazmine Aldrich, Head Archivist at the Eastern Townships Resource Centre, a recognized

organization for the study of the Eastern Townships of Quebec for more than 30 years, the upcoming census can be a useful tool to help fill in the blanks of Townships history.

"The history of this area is made up of individuals, families and businesses. We can begin to understand how people were living in a particular time based on the information that's provided in the census," said Aldrich.

She said the census can be a starting point, showing a person was living in a particular area at a specific time, allowing you to then trace them through other means.

As an example, she said if in 1921 someone lived in Stanstead but that person was living in Ayer's Cliff in 1931, the information discovered can start to rebuild people's stories and history.

Aldrich said the ETRC receives lots of emails and phone calls from residents who are looking to build their family trees. She said with a name and a rough time period of the person they're searching for and a general idea of where they lived, they can often narrow

down specific information while using the census.

Recently, Aldrich said she utilized the data in a census and was ultimately able to cross reference with other records, such as registers from churches, to narrow down information a citizen was looking for.

She added the ETRC is currently utilizing census data to understand some records that were donated to them of the Baldwin family, particularly about individuals who lived three or four generations ago.

Knowing some of the Baldwin family members had military service careers, Aldrich said the upcoming census might be able to fill the gap between 1921 and 1931, to see where veterans of the family ended up.

"Having access to these genealogical records helps us build those stories and understand the context around the things that people donate to us. A diary is interesting, but it's not as meaningful if you don't know how that person connects to the greater story of the township," she said.

## Expanding assisted dying eligibility

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

convinced the Liberal government to move forward with an expansion of eligibility.

It's just the when that recently came into question.

Last week, Parliament hastily passed a Liberal bill that has further delayed the expansion of assisted dying eligibility to people whose sole condition is a mental disorder.

In an interview, Kutcher said he supported the delay until March 2024 because it will allow proper training and practice standards to be made available to provincial regulatory bodies and practitioners.

Conservatives supported it, too. But they argue that the expansion should not happen in the first place, with Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre saying he would repeal it if he became prime minister. In the meantime, British Columbia MP Ed Fast has proposed a private member's bill to do the same.

Fast told reporters last week that he was concerned the Liberal government was "moving from a culture of life to a culture of death." Those suffering from mental disorders deserve mental health and social support and counselling, he said. "They need to find some joy and some meaning in life."

But Kutcher, who was a leading psychiatrist before joining the Senate, urged Canadians to stop thinking about patients in this category as lacking agency.

"Just because an individual might belong to a group that is considered

to be vulnerable, doesn't mean that individual is vulnerable," he said.

And he invited those who think it is wrong to offer assisted dying to such patients to challenge the law at the Supreme Court: "I don't know why they're not, if they have such strong feelings."

When the Liberal government was getting ready to pass its first major update to assisted dying law in 2021, it was initially reluctant to expand eligibility to people whose only condition is a mental disorder.

The legislation came in response to a 2019 Quebec Superior Court decision that struck down part of the original framework passed in 2016. The court found it was unconstitutional to only allow people whose death was "reasonably foreseeable" to apply for assisted dying.

The new law expanded eligibility to those who have a serious and incurable disease, illness or disability, were in an advanced state of decline and were suffering intolerably, even if their death was not imminently foreseeable.

Passing the bill was already going to put the federal government in better alignment with the criteria set out in the 2015 Supreme Court decision that had originally challenged the prohibition on assisted death as counter to the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

But Kutcher recalled thinking that the government should go a step further to truly respect Charter rights.

"If you had Lou Gehrig's disease,

or if you had severe Parkinson's, you would be eligible to apply for and be treated humanely and thoughtfully, and critically, you would have an opportunity to apply for relief of your suffering," he said.

"But if you had a mental illness, you would be excluded from such. ... I thought that that was a flagrant example of stigma and discrimination."

Kutcher convinced senators to amend the bill in the Senate and send it back to the House of Commons, writing an 18-month delay into the law so that practitioners could get ready for what would be a major change.

The government added another six months to the clock— and, last week, another year— but was otherwise persuaded. The Liberals are not expected to further delay the expansion. It will happen automatically on March 17, 2024, unless there is a change in government before then.

That's a good thing, says Helen Long, chief executive officer of advocacy group Dying with Dignity Canada.

Long said that some mental disorders are treatment resistant, just as some people cannot be cured of all their physical illnesses. The expansion, she said, is an equalizer, and will still require people who only have a mental disorder to meet all of the other eligibility criteria.

She added that the ongoing political debate about the policy "continues to stigmatize those individuals," saying: "Just because you have a mental

disorder does not mean you won't have capacity."

Without the Senate's intervention, Long said it is likely a legal challenge would have been launched arguing that the regime discriminated against people whose only condition is a mental disorder.

That legal challenge is a sure thing if the government doesn't go forward with the expansion next year, she said.

University of Waterloo political science professor Emmett Macfarlane says the exclusion of people who only have a mental illness was "ripe" for a Charter challenge based on equality rights.

"On its face, an exclusion would be discrimination on the basis of a disability," he said. "It's difficult to justify an absolute prohibition of people who are suffering from a mental illness."

He said determining what counts as an irremediable condition should be left to the medical profession, adding that broader societal concerns about the availability of mental health resources, palliative care and material supports such as housing need to be addressed.

But the Supreme Court has made it clear that access to assisted dying is in line with the Charter, and that isn't going to change, he said.

"We are never (as) a country going back to an absolute prohibition on medical aid in dying," he said. "That debate is closed."

# Competition for public art at Rock-Forest recreational center

Record Staff

The city of Sherbrooke is holding a competition for the creation of a public art installation at the Rock-Forest recreation center (CRRF), in preparation for the 58th Finale des Jeux du Québec, to be held in the winter of 2024 at the site. Prospective professional visual artists or craftspeople from the Eastern Townships region are invited to submit an

application for the public art integration contest until April 17.

In a press release announcing the competition, Sherbrooke mayor Évelyne Beaudin expressed excitement at the competition and the prospect of new public art in the region. "It is important to beautify our public spaces," reads the statement, "this future work will be a beautiful addition to the Rock Forest Recreation Centre."

After the end of the call for candidates in mid-April, "a jury will analyze the submissions and invite three artists to participate in the second stage of the competition, which will lead to the selection of a winning project," explains the press release.

According to the competition's webpage, the work must be a "low relief (2D) wall sculpture," "have a

figurative character," and include citizen participation in the creation process. Clarifying what that means for prospective candidates, Olivia Dutil of the city's communication department explains in a text that public participation can come in many forms during the creative process, such as "consultations or participatory workshops."

In the press release calling for candidates, Beaudin specifically praises this part of the competition, stating: "that [since] the work must include citizen participation in its creation process," the piece will be "even more symbolic for the community."

"We hope that this future figurative work of art will be a legacy of the 2024 Quebec Games in our community," comments Nancy Robichaud, president of the Commission de la culture, des loisirs, des sports et du plein air, in the release. "The amount granted for the renovation of the CRRF will benefit not only the athletes during the Games, but the entire population for years to come."

The winning project will need to be delivered no later than January 2024, where it will be integrated into the interior entrance or on the exterior façade of the CRRF. The



LAWRENCE BELANGER

budget allocated for the realization of the work is \$63,000. According to the Sherbrooke website page about the project, prospective candidates are not being asked for specific proposals yet,

and are instead told to submit a letter of intent, a resume, and a portfolio. To learn more about the competition and how to prepare an application, visit [sherbrooke.ca/concours-art-public](http://sherbrooke.ca/concours-art-public).

## Public comment regarding housing crisis sought by Sherbrooke

Record Staff

The Sherbrooke ad hoc commission on housing is inviting the public to participate in its work. As housing costs rise across the country, the municipal government of Sherbrooke established an ad-hoc commission to investigate the housing situation in the city in November of last year. Part of its mandate is to give recommendations to address the housing crisis to the city council, so the commission is seeking public comment on the different aspects of the housing situation to "take the pulse" of citizens' views, according to a press release.

The first component is a survey, available online, which asks questions about Sherbrooke citizens' satisfaction with their housing in the city, and gathers opinions and ideas about possible solutions to improve the housing situation. Olivia Dutil of the Sherbrooke communications department says the survey should take around 5-10 minutes to complete.

Questions include inquiries about the cost of housing over the last 5 years, the condition of respondents' homes, and the difficulty in finding housing. Other questions include background information, such as if the respondent is a landlord or tenant, a longtime resident or newcomer, and the size of their household. The survey is available until April 13.

The second component will be a series of public hearings to be held on April 4, 5, and 6. According to the

city's press release, registration for attending is required before March 31. The public hearings of the Ad Hoc commission on housing will be held in four time slots on each day. The press release invites the public to "come and express their views, ideas, comments and suggestions concerning housing in Sherbrooke," at these meetings.

The Ad Hoc Commission on Housing was created in the context of the growing difficulties experienced by households in finding housing in Sherbrooke.

According to the municipal website, from 2016 to 2021, the population of Sherbrooke grew over 7 per cent, compared to approximately 4 per cent for Quebec as a whole. Regionally, the Eastern Townships has one of the highest interregional migration balances (that is, more people are moving into the region than leaving). The ad-hoc commission's website also says there are more people aged 20-34 in the region than elsewhere in the province.

The survey is available in French, but Catherine Gravel of the Lennoxville borough office says Lennoxville residents can contact the borough office on Queen Street for help completing the survey, where she and/or her colleague Stephanie Leblanc can assist.

Aside from the survey, submissions of written opinions and briefs via email are ongoing until March 27, 2023.

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# The Border Report

While providing a comfortable space for the students to visit and play games, the club also creates the ideal opportunity for Phelps Helps to see how the students of the Stanstead region are doing.

## Phelps Helps at Alexander Galt



Every Wednesday, our energetic and engaging High School Coordinator at Phelps Helps, Clea Corman, can be seen crossing the threshold of Alexander Galt Regional High School to keep company with the students from the Stanstead region during their lunch hour. She is joined by two committed volunteers, psychology students from Bishop's University, and together the three create a comfortable and safe place for the students to talk, relax, connect with their peers, and play games with the Phelps Helps Club.

High school, no matter the size of the school, and no matter how remarkable the administration and teachers, is not always an easy place for our youth to navigate and feel at home in, especially for the first-year students transitioning from elementary school. They can feel overwhelmed by the sheer number of students, the unfamiliar faces, and the entirely new system. This is in part why Phelps Helps developed a plan to hold a weekly lunch-time club with the Stanstead area students at Alexander Galt. The Phelps Helps Club recreates the closeness and sense of community of a small elementary school within the space of the larger high school. Here, students from the same local elementary schools can reconnect and seek comfort from their former schoolmates.

Here too, the Phelps Helps team offers games and activities which vary from week to week. Depending on how

they feel, students can choose between quieter activities (such as playing board games) and higher energy activities. For the latter, we've played dodgeball and "pacman" in the gym. We've also offered ninja warrior training, a fun challenge with obstacles to test speed, dexterity and strength. For the quieter activities, students have relaxed and had fun braiding bracelets, playing dominoes, chess, and various card games.

While providing a comfortable space for the students to visit and play games, the club also creates the ideal opportunity for Phelps Helps to see how the students of the Stanstead region are doing. We're there to listen, provide support, and to see if they need extra help with their schoolwork, and if so, we encourage them to attend our Phelps Helps High School tutoring sessions. When Clea first started visiting Galt, she would roam through the school seeking out students from the region to encourage them to join in, but now the students she sought out have adopted the Phelps Helps Club as part of their weekly routine.

In addition to the time Phelps Helps spends with the students, the weekly Galt visits are also an occasion to collaborate with the people who work closely with the students, the dedicated vice-principals, social aid technicians and teachers of Alexander Galt. In our conversations with the staff, we have learned more about the students' well-being and progress in school. With their in-depth knowledge



of the students and their advice, we have been strategizing ways we at Phelps Helps can better support these students, and in return we trust the students will do much better at school.

In collaboration with schools and other organizations in our community, Phelps Helps aims to create and fortify a network of support for the youth in our community, helping them to succeed at school and to ultimately graduate and become active members of their community. The Phelps Helps Club at Alexander Galt High School is one facet of a multi-faceted approach with this goal in mind. To date, the Phelps Helps Club has had meaningful weekly interactions with well over

twenty Phelps Helps students, and approximately fifty percent of these students are now attending the high school tutoring sessions on a more regular basis. This is good news! And we're looking forward to continuing this trend in partnership with Alexander Galt!

*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](mailto:info@phelpshelps.ca), visit our website [www.phelpshelps.ca](http://www.phelpshelps.ca) or call our offices at 819-704-0799.*

### FRONTIER ANIMAL SOCIETY

## Featured pet: Willy

Oh Willy! You certainly know how to work the room... and the neighbourhood!

Willy was rescued in the municipality of Beebe after he was spotted going house to house in search of food. His rescuer, a local police officer, was concerned for his well-being so she decided the right thing to do was to bring him to our shelter.

As it turns out, this handsome and friendly cat was well known in the neighborhood where he was found. In fact, many of the local residents had been providing him with food,

water and shelter.

As wonderful as it is that Willy was so well cared for, still, an unneutered male roaming the streets is never a good thing. We certainly don't need lots of "little Willys" come spring!

So it's now official, following his recent visit to our vet, Willy is off the market as Beebe's most eligible bachelor.

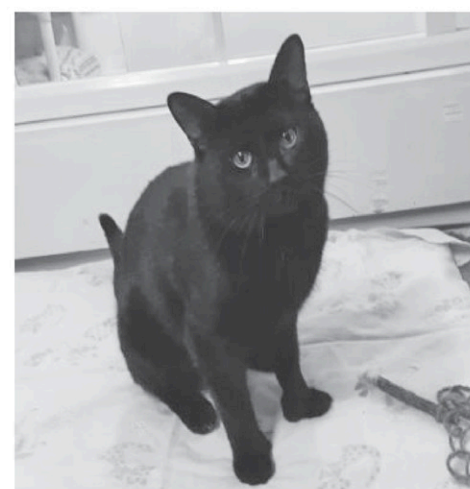
Admittedly, it isn't difficult to understand how this discernibly quirky, playful and fun cat managed to charm an entire neighbourhood. Willy definitely has a way about him. He is calm yet talkative, and he is

proving to be a perfect gentleman especially with all the female cats at our shelter.

Willy thoroughly enjoys human companionship and returns attention with lots of affection and purrs.

At approximately 5 to 6 years of age, Willy is in good health (he just had a dental) and it's time for him to settle down and learn to enjoy life as a pampered pet.

To inquire, please give our cat adoption coordinator Linda a call at 819.868.2684 or send an email to [frontieranimalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:frontieranimalsociety@gmail.com).



# EDITORIAL

The only similar display is likely that which happens after every play during an NFL football game.

## Political back-slapping



TIM BELFORD

The annual orgy of self congratulation and artistic back-slapping that we call the Oscars is over once again. Thank heavens.

There are few industries that spend so much time celebrating their own success than the performing arts. The Oscars, with its seemingly endless categories - best movie, best actor, best actress, best supporting actor and actress, best make-up, best directing, best costumes, best writing, best performance by an animal, best laugh, cough and smile - is only the biggest.

There are also Grammys, Tonys, Emmys, Country Music Awards and yes, our very own Junos, celebrating theatre, television and music. Each event offers the celebrants an unlimited chance to break their own arms patting themselves on

the back.

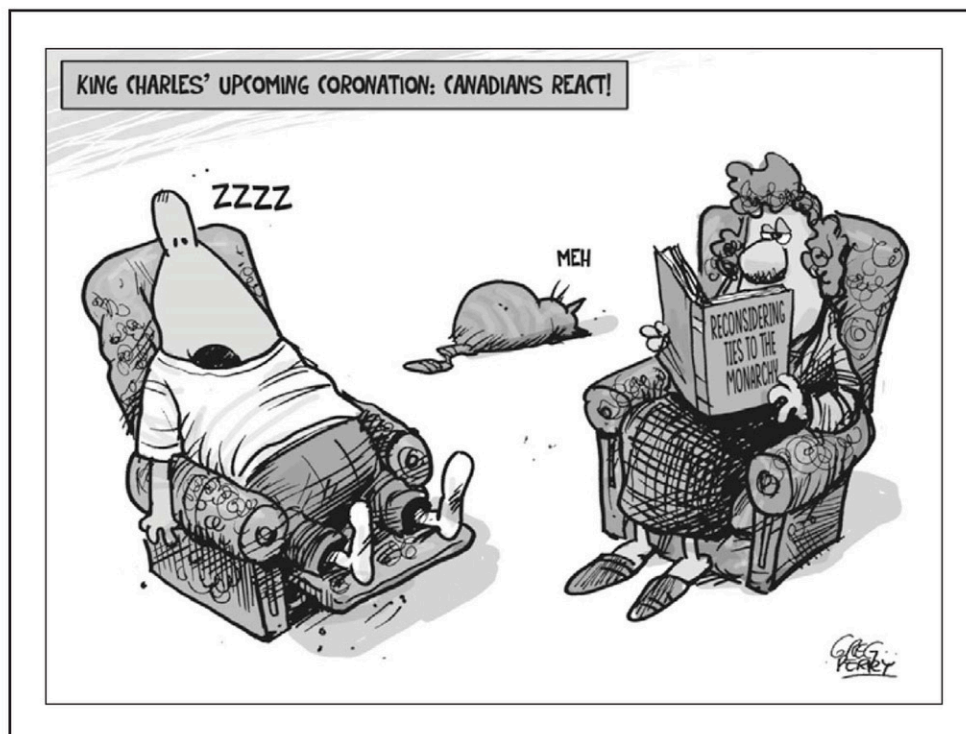
The only similar display is likely that which happens after every play during an NFL football game. The sight of a hulking lineman beating his chest, pumping his fist and head-butting his fellow players after making a tackle or the incredible end-zone dance after someone makes a touchdown has become as much a part of the game as the play itself. But why? After all they were just doing their job for which they are paid incredible sums of money.

Why don't teachers pat their students on the backside and spike their textbook when someone passes an exam? Or maybe grocery clerks should high-five each other if they pack one hundred bags in a single shift behind the counter.

The real worry here is that this type of celebration is becoming increasingly popular with politicians.

Hardly a week goes by, particularly in the period leading up to an election, when we are not treated to a photo op in the local paper or a special television news report featuring municipal representatives, business executives or members of one non-profit organization or another, smiling happily as a minister from the federal or provincial government doles out a cheque in support of their particular cause or business.

For the recipients, getting cash is always a good thing. For the politician



it's a great example to remind us just how much they care and how supportive they can be, with the added implication that the opposition party would never be so generous. Again, congratulations all round but why?

What the government representative in question is really doing, and what he or she expects congratulations and considerable appreciation for, is returning a little bit of the money that they took from us in the first place.

Billions of our tax dollars are sent to the government annually. It's

necessary. Hospitals, social security, roads, bridges, schools all have to be built, maintained and operated, I understand all that and agree that we have to pay. But even if we discount the millions wasted by inefficiency and bad decisions, common to any large institution, that doesn't mean we are supposed to cheer when they give us a tiny bit back.

Giving a little bit back is no reason for a smiling photo op or a political end-zone dance. It's just doing your job.

## Letters

TO THE EDITOR

I just want to say thank you to The Record (my friend Janet and Bird), my fun-loving colleagues, my wonderful family, my bosses, the staff, students at NHES, and my customers, for the surprise retirement send off my last day of work at the North Hatley Post Office, February 16, 2023.

I was overwhelmed by your newspaper article, the Facebook messages, NHES, the number of clients who stopped by to say goodbye, and cards that keep coming. Also, to all my fellow employees (some retirees) who surprised me on February 10 at the Pilsen.

I must admit I am not a Facebook person, but thanks to my children, I have been able to read the many wishes from around the world and across our beautiful country. Thank you all.

I guess it goes to show that my parents were right - treat people the way you want to be treated.

I'm going to miss you all and the energy you gave me. So, I leave you with a smile until our paths cross again.

GOD BLESS,  
JULIA KYDD

Response to the letter by Réal Saint Laurent published Wed. March 15.

DEAR M. SAINT LAURENT,

The LDWC has a very specific mandate, which is to empower and connect English-speaking women and their families in the Estrie region through education, support and advocacy. Traditionally the International Women's Day Celebration has been open to women only.

We do recognize men as our allies, and we welcome them at some of our events, such as the Vigil to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

I know most of our members are very secure in the company of men, greatly enjoy their friendship, and welcome them as allies, but please be aware that some of our members are suffering from the effects of past and present abuse, and part of our mission is to support these women on their healing journey and offer them a safe space. It is a sad reality that some women have been so terribly abused that they cannot feel totally comfortable in the presence of men.

International Women's Day is the one day a year when the LDWC invites English-speaking women from across the Estrie region to come together for a joyous celebration of womanhood.

Sometimes we dress up in silly costumes, sometimes we dance, sometimes we share our stories of abuse and struggle. It is an unfortunate fact that some women are freer to speak their truth and be their authentic selves when not under the male gaze. I hope you can understand that we do not mean to be exclusive, but we must keep the comfort and well-being of our members at the forefront.

YOURS TRULY,  
BRENDA HARTWELL,  
ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

The Record welcomes your letters to the editor. Please limit your letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit for length, clarity, legality and taste. Please ensure there is a phone number or email where you can be reached, to confirm authorship and current town/city of residence. Names will not be withheld but the address and phone number of the writer are not published, except by request. Please email your letters to newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com. Preference is given to writers from the Eastern Townships.

### THE RECORD

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# Local Sports

Players from Sherbrooke, Magog, North Hatley, Danville, Sutton and Lennoxville clubs took part in the bonspiel with four Lennoxville teams making the finals

## Lennoxville Curling Club's Pie Bonspiel results



Nichol Trophy curlers: Back L to R: Judy Nichol and Hunter Sarrasin (Nichol family representatives), Andrew Hatch, Vinny Lengacher, Steve McPherson and Martin Rourke (Skip) of North Hatley CC. Front L to R: Jeff Cheal, Marc-André Massé, J.P. Tremblay and Glenn Buck (Skip) of Lennoxville/Sherbrooke CCs



Smith Trophy curlers: Back L to R: Terry Patterson (Skip), Richard Webb, Jason Bowering, Jesse Comeau of Danville CC and Linda Smith representing the Smith Family. Front L to R: Jamie Retchless (Skip), Kyle Gillies, Chad Lavoie and Alex Cunnington of Lennoxville CC

By Allan Rowell

Sixteen rinks began competing on March 5 for the three trophies up for grabs in the annual Lennoxville Curling Club's Men's Bonspiel, which remains one of the Eastern Township's blue-ribbon curling events. The three trophies being the John Nichol Memorial Trophy, the William Smith Memorial Trophy and the J.S. Mooney Memorial Trophy - respectively sponsored by the Nichol, the Smith and the Mooney families who have been stalwart supporters of curling in Lennoxville since the inception of the club in 1923.

Players from Sherbrooke, Magog, North Hatley, Danville, Sutton and Lennoxville clubs took part in the bonspiel with four Lennoxville teams making the finals. After several years of hiatus the annual pie banquet returned with 100 pies for the curlers to enjoy - one pie for each year the Lennoxville Curling Club has been in operation!!

By the end of Saturday March 11, top honours for the 91st annual John Nichol Memorial Trophy final went to Glenn Buck's foursome, made up



Mooney Trophy curlers: Back L to R: Sylvain Milhomme (Skip), Luc Labelle, Charles Sangollo and Pierre Lachance of Lennoxville CC. Front L to R: Jean-François Dionne, Eric Dubreuil, Simon Fredette and David Fredette of Lennoxville CC.

of three Lennoxville players and a Sherbrooke player, who out lasted Marty Rourke's North Hatley squad in a keenly played match. Glenn is no stranger to the bonspiel as this is the third time that he has copped the Nichol Trophy.

In the Smith final, Terry

Patterson's team out of the Danville Curling Club defeated Kyle Gillies' Lennoxville team to take the William Smith Memorial Trophy and in the C final, Sylvain Milhomme's Lennoxville team out lasted JF Dionne's team of Lennoxville to take the J. S.

Mooney Memorial Trophy. When the Lennoxville Curling Club Senior Men's Bonspiel wrapped up last Saturday afternoon, the spoils were taken by curlers from the Cowansville Curling Club, with the Global Excel Trophy going to Yvon Labrecque's Cowansville rink and the Clarke & Sons Trophy going to Daniel Grimard foursome. On ice, there were many keen and competitive matches throughout the week while off-ice, all curlers were in good spirits with much good-natured ribbing going on.

This year 112 players from Lennoxville, Magog, North Hatley, Sherbrooke, Thetford, Drummondville, Cowansville, Danville, Bedford and the Border curling clubs were vying for the two trophies up for grabs - The Global Excel Trophy and The Clarke & Sons Trophy.

In the final matches: In the main event, Yvon Labrecque skipped his Cowansville team to victory over Jean Caron's Bedford team taking the Global Excel Trophy while on sheet two, Daniel Grimard's Cowansville foursome out lasted Owen Schmalenberg's Danville team to cop the Clarke & Sons Trophy.



Clarke & Sons Trophy curlers: Back (left to right) Daniel Grimard (skip), Normand Favreau, Stéphane Girard and Martin Beaudry of Cowansville CC, and John Crease representing Clarke & Sons. Front (left to right) Owen Schmalenberg, Albert Gillim, Allen Baldwin and Réjean Turcotte of Danville CC.



Global Excel Trophy curlers: Back (left to right) Cindy Filion representing Global Excel, Team Yvon Labrecque (skip), Jeff Bromby, Jean-Paul Brillion and Réal Grazaillie of Cowansville CC. Front (left to right) Jean Caron (skip), Daniel Lague, Pierre Marziali and Richard Nolan of Bedford CC.

**In Memoriams**

**FRASER, Malcolm:** August 25, 1941 – March 16, 2020. Special memories of my dear cousin who was granted a well-deserved rest March 16, 2020. *Well done good and faithful servant.* Dearly missed and I often think of you Malcolm (especially doing “forms and figuries!”).

THEDA

**FRASER, Malcolm (Mac)** – We treasure countless memories of our beloved brother and uncle, Malcolm, who left us on March 16, 2020. *He lives forever in our hearts.* Lovingly remembered by  
**THE FRASER FAMILY**



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# Date Book

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023

Today is the 75th day of 2023 and the 86th day of winter.

**TODAY'S HISTORY:** In 1945, U.S. military forces declared the island of Iwo Jima secure after 25 days of fighting.

In 1968, U.S. Army soldiers massacred more than 300 civilians in the My Lai village in South Vietnam.

In 1988, Lt. Col. Oliver North and Vice Adm. John Poindexter were indicted on charges of conspiracy during the Iran-Contra affair.

In 1998, mass trials began in Rwanda for roughly 125,000 suspected perpetrators of the country's 1994 genocide.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS:** James Madison (1751-1836), fourth U.S. president; Henny Youngman (1906-1998), comedian; Pat Nixon (1912-1993), U.S. first lady; Jerry Lewis (1926-2017), comedian; Daniel Patrick Moynihan (1927-2003), U.S. senator; Chuck Woolery (1941- ), game show host; Nancy Wilson (1954- ), singer-songwriter; Ozzie Newsome (1956- ), football player/executive; Patty Griffin (1964- ), singer-songwriter; Gore Verbinski (1964- ), filmmaker; Lauren Graham (1967- ), actress; Joel Embiid (1994- ), basketball player.

**TODAY'S FACT:** James Madison was the shortest U.S. president, at 5 feet 4 inches tall. He is estimated to have weighed 100 lbs.

**TODAY'S SPORTS:** In 1994, figure skater Tonya Harding pleaded guilty to conspiracy to hinder the investigation into the attack on rival Olympic hopeful Nancy Kerrigan.

**TODAY'S QUOTE:** “My respect for Westerns have gone way, way up. It's hard and treacherous work. It's hard to find people these days who can ride horses like that and jump onto trains.” – Gore Verbinski

**TODAY'S NUMBER:** 2,997.1 – largest single-day point drop in the history of the Dow Jones Industrial Average, which occurred on this day in 2020.

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

# Hearing loss and risk of dementia may be related



## ASK THE DOCTORS

by Eve Glazier, M.D., and Elizabeth Ko, M.D.

**Dear Doctors:** Our dad is 77 and is losing his hearing. He was fitted for a hearing aid, but he won't use it. I just read there's a connection between hearing loss and dementia. He's actually worried about dementia, and if that's true, it might get him to use his hearing aid. Can you talk about that?

**Dear Reader:** Hearing loss is a common part of aging. It affects about one-third of all adults between the ages of 65 and 74 and up to half of those over the age of 75. Being in denial can be a common response to hearing loss, particularly among older adults. While hearing aids can do a very good job of compensating for hearing loss, they don't replicate someone's natural hearing. Becoming accustomed to the new device can take time, practice and patience. Some studies suggest it takes six months or more to fully adjust. That's a learning curve that some older adults find to be physically, mentally and even emotionally challenging.

Refusing to compensate for hearing loss presents a range of problems. It can hinder someone's ability to follow or fully participate in conversations and activities with friends and family, which can leave them socially isolated. It also interferes with important aspects of daily life. This includes hearing doorbells or alarms, responding to warnings, interacting with people while shopping and running errands, and understanding doctors and pharmacists when managing medical care.

As you have read, this type

of isolation has been linked to an increased risk of developing dementia. Building on previous studies, researchers at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health analyzed the health data of 2,400 adults over the age of 65. About half of the people in the group were 80 and older. The researchers found a correlation between the severity of someone's hearing loss and their risk of developing dementia. Among individuals with hearing loss that was rated as moderate to severe, the incidence of dementia was 61% higher than in those with good hearing. When the use of a hearing aid was added to the calculations, the prevalence of dementia was reduced by 32%.

The exact connection between hearing loss and dementia isn't fully understood. However, there are clear ties to the adverse effects of social isolation and loneliness. The evidence shows that adults who are socially isolated are at greater risk of serious physical illness and have higher rates of hospitalization than those with strong social networks.

Because your father is concerned about cognitive decline, sharing these study results may get his attention. It could also be helpful for him to see an audiologist who specializes in working with older adults. Like all tech, modern hearing aids are rapidly evolving. This includes digital technologies that help reduce unwanted noise. An audiologist can make sure your dad has the right device for his needs, and that it's properly adjusted. Just as important, they can help your dad to understand the shift to using his hearing aid isn't expected to happen overnight.

(Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health.)

(Send

your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu, or write: Ask the Doctors, c/o UCLA Health Sciences Media Relations, 10960 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1955, Los Angeles, CA, 90024. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.)

## 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.

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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

Community Aid wishes to offer seniors an opportunity to socialize, make new friends from the area! Are you a card player? Do you play 500? Other games? Join us for a fun afternoon. If you don't play cards but would like to join us, please feel free to stop by. Drop-in to have a nice chat with people, we can also offer a range of other activities and games. We simply want to promote friendship. It's always nice to be able to meet people. Come and meet us on Tuesdays, March 21, April 4 and April 18, at 1:30 p.m. at the Amédée Beaudoin Community Center in the Borough of Lennoxville (there is an elevator). You don't have to be a member of Community Aid to attend. Feel free to bring a friend. If you have questions call Samuel or Sylvie at Community Aid 819-821-4779.

## RICHMOND

Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 1 from 8 a.m. to noon at St. Anne's Anglican Church, Main St. South. Small kitchen appliances, records, DVDs, pictures, oil paintings, dishes (some old), Fiesta dinnerware, (Linens, clothes, \$5 bag sale), toys, small furniture, jewellery.

## AYER'S CLIFF

St. Patrick's Day Brunch on Sunday, March 19 at Beulah United Church, 967 Main St., Ayer's Cliff from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Come and enjoy a delicious meal of ham, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, homemade baked beans, pancakes with real maple syrup, toast, fruit salad, coffee, tea and orange juice. All are welcome. Adults \$18, children 5yrs - 12yrs \$5, children under 5 are free.

## LENNOXVILLE

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day at the Hut, A.N.A.F Unit 318, 300 St. Francis, Lennoxville on Saturday, March 18. Irish coffee starting at 11 a.m., music at noon. Canteen will be open. Admission \$10.

## LENNOXVILLE

Creative Expression Workshop on Sunday, March 26: Explore your family history through creative writing and collage with Patti Warnock and Yolanda Weeks. 1-5 p.m. at 5 Connolly, Lennoxville. To sign up, email [connect@lia-estrie.org](mailto:connect@lia-estrie.org). Offered by Literacy in Action and Atwater Library.

## LENNOXVILLE

HCC Senior Luncheon will be held at noon on Thursday, March 30 at Hope Community Church, 102 Queen St., Lennoxville. Everyone welcome. Please call Elaine at 819-563-8700 or [elebourveau@videotron.ca](mailto:elebourveau@videotron.ca) to reserve your place.

# Father playing favorites is destroying my family

Dear Annie

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023

Dear Annie: I am writing because I don't know how I ended up so unhappy. Part of me is angry for letting this go on for decades, while other parts of me keep hoping my husband will see what he has - an amazing family! I have been married for over 30 years and have four beautiful and amazing kids. I was so blessed to grow up in a wonderful family with siblings and parents who loved us beyond measure. It was always a "family first" mentality. That is the plan that I wanted for my life. Had I known the truly unhappy circumstances my husband grew up in, I would not have married him.

Fast-forward to marriage. We had a honeymoon baby, who my husband has hated since conception. This has all but destroyed this child. "Devon" does a good job of hiding it, but I know how much it hurts him. The constant wondering of "what did I do wrong?" and "why does my dad want nothing to do with me?" is hurting him; I can tell.

Next came three more kids over the next 10 years. The second is the golden child to my husband. The third child he tolerates, and the fourth my husband hates as much as the first. I am at a loss

as to what to do. My husband goes out of his way to be as mean as possible to our oldest and youngest kids.

Part of me is ready to walk away. I feel life is passing me by, and I am not sure how much more I can honestly take. We have tried counseling, but my husband has the ability to never take the blame or acknowledge his part in any of this. I want what time I have left to be the best for the "not wanted" children. Any advice is much appreciated. - Sad in the States

Dear Sad in the States: Your husband is not being fair to anyone, and he is in serious need of therapy. If your children were still in the house, I would encourage you to remove them from their father's toxic influence. I'm guessing they are grown, so it is now up to them to decide what kind of relationship they want with their father. Keep telling them you love them. Have conversations with them regarding their father's behavior, and don't make excuses for him. Focus on bonding with them over this incredibly important issue in their lives, so they can see it was their father, and not them, who created so much suffering because he himself is suffering.

You and your husband should

absolutely push through with therapy if you expect to resolve any of these issues. Sometimes it takes a couple of different therapists and a matter of months or years before seeing the progress that you want - but you won't get there if you don't keep trying.

This has clearly been taxing on your children as well, and I'm guessing they are experiencing intense feelings of anger and confusion. Help them find therapists, too. Psychology Today has a great online resource where you can search therapists in your area and filter by insurance, among other factors. You can check it out at <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapists/>.

Healing is hard work, but it is always worth it. If your husband is unwilling to put in the work, then it might be time to walk away.

*"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](mailto:dearannie@creators.com).

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## ALEXANDER GALT EASTER BASKET CAMPAIGN 2023

In 2018, an important initiative was started for the anglophone community of the Eastern Townships. The AGRHS Easter basket campaign is now proudly a part of the local traditions. Since the beginning, we have been fortunate enough to receive generous donations from our community and its members.

This year, your support will be essential in making Easter a positive and hopeful experience for our less fortunate families.

The families of the Alexander Galt Regional High School sector (elementary and High School) will be able to benefit from these baskets.

We hope that we can continue to rely on your support as it remains an important staple to the success of our Easter basket campaign

Please, make cheques payable to:

**AGRHS Easter Basket Campaign  
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P.O. Box 5002, 1700 rue College, Sherbrooke, J1M 1Z9**

(tax receipts for donations of \$10 and over will be issued)

*Thank you for your generosity!*

### CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

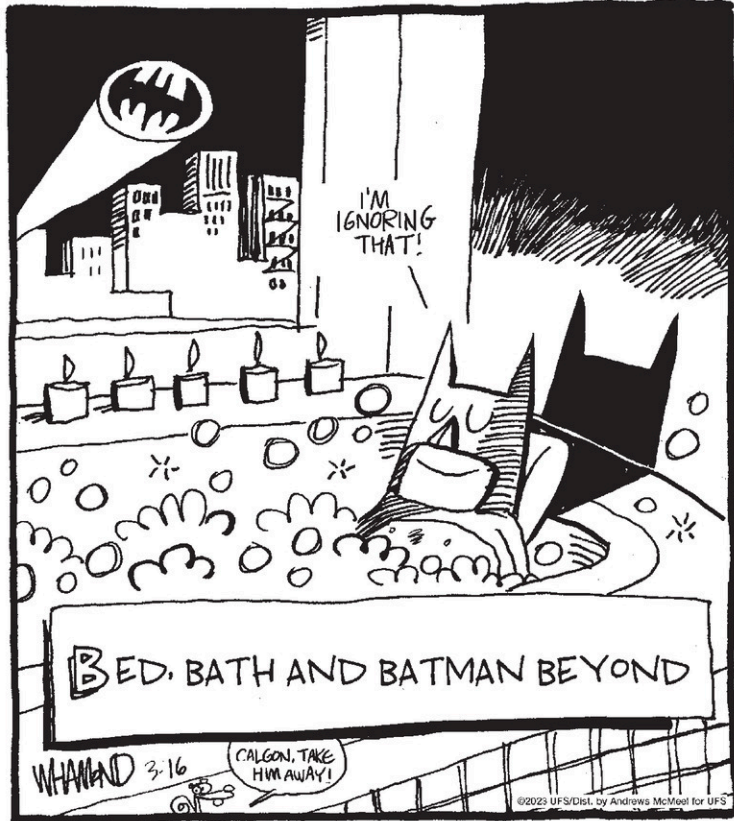
Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"LCXG ODKZ D ZCBL DN BDJF IO C  
WLSYWJ SI TILSWM OIW ZL, IW CS  
KLCNS CJ CSSLZTS SI XWLC SL C  
TILZ." — HLWJCWFI HLWSIKYXXD

Previous Solution: "Whatever you choose to do, leave tracks. ... Leave the world a little better for your having lived." — Ruth Bader Ginsburg

TODAY'S CLUE: A sjenbe W

### REALITY CHECK



### HERMAN

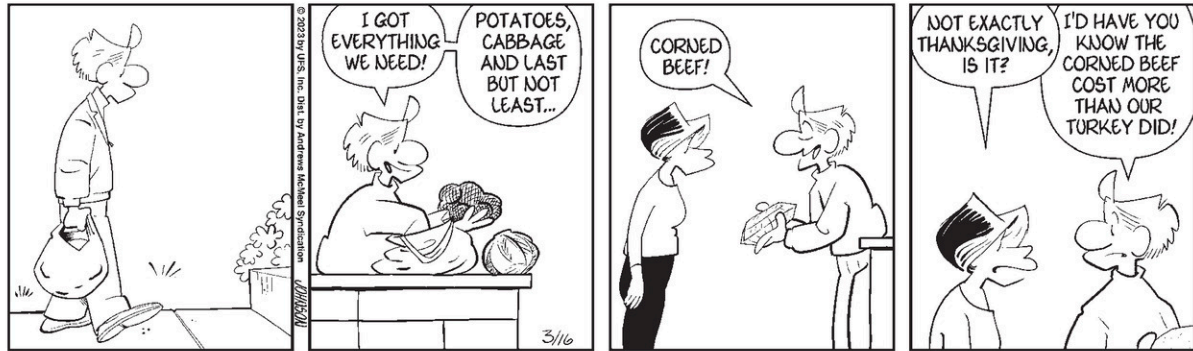


"Never trust a dog that smiles like that."

### ALLEY OOP



### ARLO & JANIS



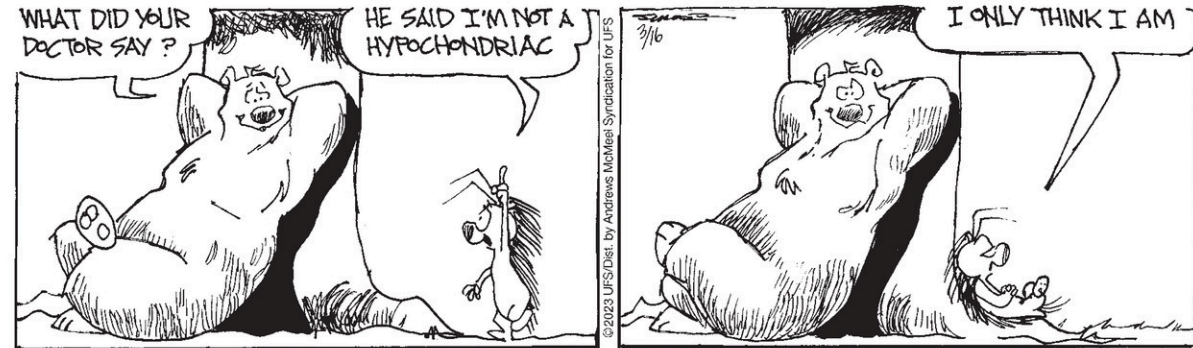
### THE BORN LOSER



### FRANK AND ERNEST



### GRIZZWELLS



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 or Knowlton: (450) 242-1188 between 9:00 a.m. and noon

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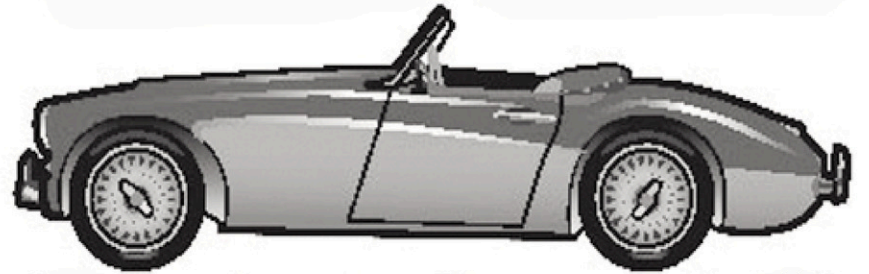
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# SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

	9			2	3	6		
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3/16

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## PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

# THE RECORD

THE VOICE OF THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SINCE 1897

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# NEA Crossword Puzzle

# Your Birthday

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) – Pay attention to changes in your chosen field. Keeping up will be the way to stay on top. Taking a professional approach will help you acquire valuable support.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) – You can have fun without overspending. A change in your disposition will occur if you look after your emotional needs. Take charge and speak up. Be very clear about where your loyalty lies.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) – Take a moment to assess a challenge or change that can influence your future. An opportunity will not be as good as someone wants you to believe. Make adjustments if necessary.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) – Mix things up a bit, and you'll enjoy what transpires. Spend time with someone you love. Plans will fall into place. Invest time and money in your home, and your assets will grow.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) – Engage in activities that promote love and romance. Don't take on too much or make promises that may be difficult to keep. Temptation will lead you astray.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) – Keep your life moderate, affordable and free of clutter. Resist overindulgence and exaggeration. Concentrate on positive change that promises stability and less stress.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) – Leave nothing to chance; take an active role in setting things up to your specifications. Control situations that influence your earning potential. Happiness depends on your decisions.

Call in favors, reconnect with people you lost touch with and take stock of your life and what you want to do next. Refuse to let the little things get to you, and concentrate on what brings you joy. Life is too short to waste on negativity and people you don't like. Declutter your life and embrace the future with enthusiasm.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) – Settle your differences with others. Spend more time on self-improvement and making adjustments to your routine that promote fitness and a healthier lifestyle.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) – Stand back and watch. Gather information, study trends and prepare to make a statement that will set you on the path you desire. Refuse to let someone else decide your fate.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) – Jumping from one thing to another will give you the upper hand when someone tries to compete with you. Don't get involved in joint ventures or let anyone handle your finances.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) – You'll be eager to put things behind you. Don't make a move without mapping out your safest route. A calculated plan executed with precision will help you navigate tricky situations.

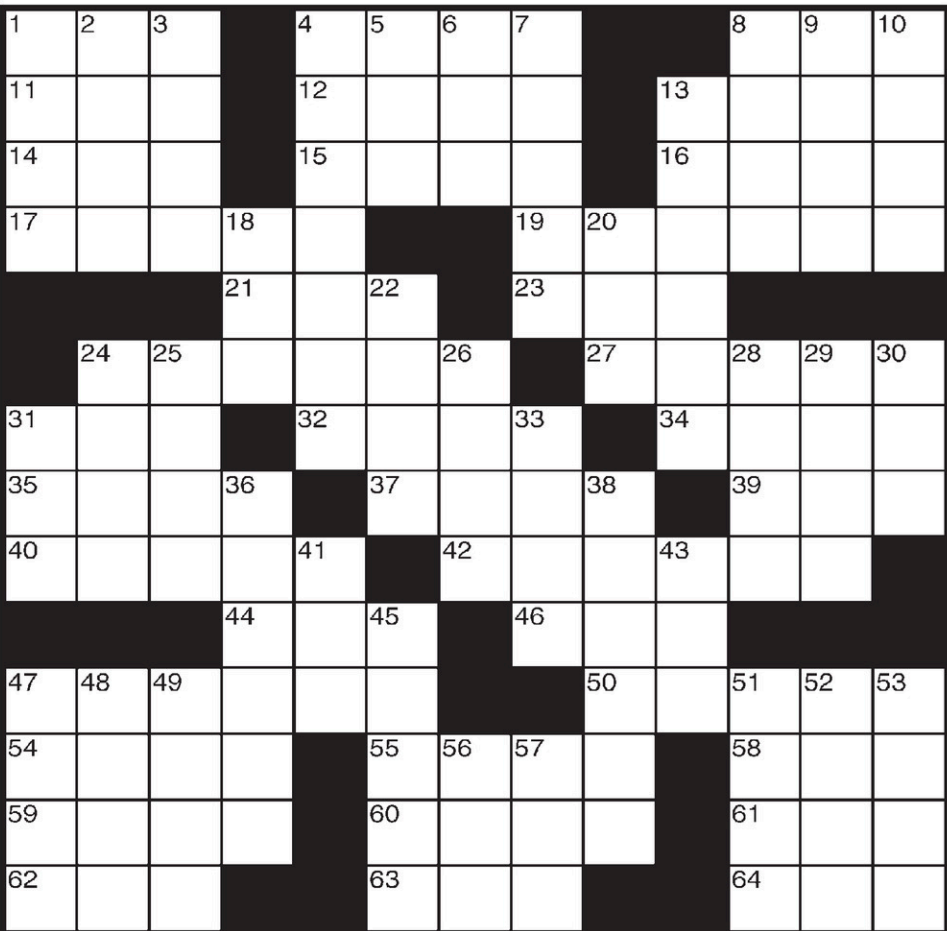
**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) – Do things differently and you'll draw a crowd. Have a bottom line in mind before you negotiate your terms. Be prepared to protect your health and physical well-being should someone put you at risk.

### Answer to Previous Puzzle



- 5 52, for Caesar
- 6 Kind of poem
- 7 Dry out
- 8 No, to Ivan
- 9 Pakistan's language
- 10 Consumer advocate — Myerson
- 13 Moderated
- 18 Lose — — whisker
- 20 Call in sick
- 22 Party extras
- 24 Lures a sweetheart
- 25 Med. plans
- 26 Knocks
- 28 Jason's ship
- 29 Jury member
- 30 Noncom
- 31 Ernesto Guevara
- 33 Rendezvous
- 36 Temper
- 38 Toused
- 41 "Future-world" name
- 43 Snow boot
- 45 Kind of jacket
- 47 Weighty book
- 48 Bassoon cousin
- 49 Name in fashion
- 51 Client mtg.
- 52 Shy creature
- 53 Don't go
- 56 Sweet potato
- 57 Immerse briefly

- ACROSS**
- 1 Beret cousin
- 4 Hoof-on-pavement sound
- 8 Worn-down pencil
- 11 All-purpose truck
- 12 Verdi's princess
- 13 Bronte heroine Jane —
- 14 Neighbor of Bulg.
- 15 Fishing place
- 16 Some T-shirts
- 17 Drawer handles
- 19 Desert bloomer
- 21 Loud, hearty laugh
- 23 Go quickly
- 24 Ahab's vessel
- 27 Springs
- 31 End of some URLs
- 32 Major Hoople's word
- 34 Remnant
- 35 Oregon's Mount —
- 37 Hormel product
- 39 Hear clearly
- 40 Dreaded assignment
- 42 Lethargy
- 44 She has a habit
- 46 That, in Acapulco
- 47 Start walking
- 50 Gazillions
- 54 Theater award
- 55 Jekyll's alter ego
- 58 Favored
- 59 Boggy wasteland
- 60 Maraud
- 61 Edible seed
- 62 Poetic contraction
- 63 Ref's cousin
- 64 Have a go at
- DOWN**
- 1 Istanbul native
- 2 Like — — of bricks
- 3 Short note
- 4 Tablet alternative



THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023

## The silence was deafening

By Phillip Alder

At the bridge table, talk is informative, but at times silence is even more revealing. Where is the key quiet on today's deal?

In the auction, South's one-spade response guaranteed at least five spades. With only four, he would have made a negative double.

Against four spades, West leads the heart seven: two, queen, six. East cashes the heart king and continues with the heart ace. After declarer follows suit with the four, how should West defend?

East-West have three tricks in. Might the fourth trick be the diamond ace in East's hand? No, because East passed as dealer – the key quiet – and has produced 9 points in hearts.

Should South signal for a diamond switch? He should know that won't work, as declarer has 10 top tricks: five spades, one diamond and four clubs.

West might be tempted to ruff the heart ace and try to give his partner a diamond ruff. If so, he is insulting his partner. With a diamond void, East would have given a suit-preference signal by playing his hearts in descending order: ace, king, queen. (No, with a diamond void he shouldn't lead a low heart on the third round. What if West is void in trumps and holds the

North				03-16-23
♠ A K Q 7				
♥ 10 3 2				
♦ 4 2				
♣ A K Q J				
West		East		
♠ J		♠ 10 6 5		
♥ 7 5		♥ A K Q 9 8		
♦ K 8 7 6 5 3		♦ 9		
♣ 9 8 3 2		♣ 10 7 6 4		
South				
♠ 9 8 4 3 2				
♥ J 6 4				
♦ A Q J 10				
♣ 5				
Dealer: East				
Vulnerable: Neither				
South	West	North	East	
			Pass	
Pass	Pass	1♣	1♥	
1♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass	
Opening lead: ♥ 7				

diamond ace?)  
West should discard a discouraging diamond three. Hopefully East will get the message and lead a fourth heart. West ruffs with the spade jack, forcing dummy to overruff. If it is his lucky day, this will effect an uppercut, promoting partner's spade 10 as the setting trick.

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