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Bishop's Athletes of the Week

Sports - Page 7

THE RECORD

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016

Lennoxville curling star sweeping local community off its feet

By Gordon Lambie

Seventeen year old Meaghan Rivett of Huntingville is soaring to new heights in the curling world. While still actively playing at the Lennoxville club where she got her start, Rivett is getting ready to join the rest of her Laval-sur-le-Lac-based team in representing the province of Quebec at the 2016 Canadian Junior Curling Championships in Stratford Ontario on January 23.

"It's amazing," Rivett said. "Three years ago I never would have thought that I would be playing at this level and doing so well."

The provincial champion said that she first got her feet in the hack at age seven, inspired by older brothers who had already taken to the ice. It was not until after two trips to the Jeux du Quebec that the teen felt a need to step beyond the game she had been playing to something more.

"Normally I started (junior curlers) at ten," said Nancy Rowell, who coordinated junior curling in Lennoxville when Rivett was younger, "but she's just built for it."

So how does someone from Lennoxville end up joining a competitive team in Laval? According to Rowell, it all comes down to the desire to compete.

"She was really the only girl her age in Lennoxville who was dedicated to that level of competition," the former coach recalled, explaining that she encouraged Rivett to try out as an individual player for Canada-Games-based competitions.

Cont'd on page 7

Lennoxville landslide raises highway safety concerns



GORDON LAMBIE

Chris Turner and his dogs standing in front of what should be the bike path to North Hatley. The path is now buried under a massive pile of loose and muddy earth.

By Gordon Lambie

Though the bicycle path between Lennoxville and North-Hatley is technically closed during the winter, it is often used by people year round as quick and accessible location for cross-country skiing and dog-walking, among other activities. When Wendy Patrick went out for her morning walk on Monday, however, she discovered that a massive landslide has completely blocked off the path roughly a kilometer from its intersection with Massawippi Street.

"I didn't know what I was seeing at first," Patrick said, "and the town didn't know about it when I called.

Asked if she had a sense of when the slide took place, Patrick guessed at Sunday.

"I didn't come yesterday in the rain but I was here the day before and there was nothing," she said.

On Monday morning the aftermath of the slide was visible along the bike path just before the bridge that allows route 108 to span the Massawippi river. From the highway itself, one needs to go looking, but viewed from below the

damage is more than obvious as it blocks the path off completely for more than 100 feet with a massive mound of semi-congealed muck.

"There goes the ski season," said Chris Turner, out for a walk with his two dogs. "I wouldn't try to walk across that."

Though it was unclear mid morning just how long ago the landslide had happened, the ground was not solid and would easily give way underfoot, particularly around the rough upper edges.

Cont'd on page 3

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Weather



TODAY:
SNOW

HIGH OF -5
LOW OF -9



WEDNESDAY:
SNOW

HIGH OF -9
LOW OF -20



THURSDAY:
MIX OF SUN
AND CLOUDS

HIGH OF -9
LOW OF -9



FRIDAY:
60% CHANCE
OF FLURRIES

HIGH OF -1
LOW OF -12



SATURDAY:
CLOUDY

HIGH OF -6
LOW OF -12

Goodbye Blue Jean



DISHPAN HANDS

SHEILA QUINN

Early morning, January 11th, 2016. The previous day (a Sunday) involved strange weather – a rain storm that made our seven-foot snowman’s nose fall...errrr, melt...off, winds that blew the power out and stopped my cupcake-making for my son’s birthday party with the family, but that meant that the kids had fun playing Bingo for party prizes, and the family visited. We were grateful that our new kitchen window let in so much light.

After a great deal of hullabaloo, weeks of it with the holidays and kid stuff and now the birthday, the Sunday party had marked the day that our house was finally mostly back in (new) order after the kitchen revamp and we could have people over with 90% of the “stuff” cleaned up...except for the downstairs bathroom, a stronghold for the tools and a whole new mess...and definitely the next revamp story in the household, I finally felt like I could relax a little, or recover, or whatever it is that we do post-stuff.

I sat down for a coffee with my guy before his early-morning departure for work, and he said, “You’re probably going to see something in your feed.” He was referring to the social media stream of information, and being rather cryptic. “Something happened?” I queried. “Oui.” He replied.

One of the top social media posts by a friend gave it away. I was slack-jawed.

“David Bowie died?!”

“Ça a d’l’air...” (ie. It would appear that is the case.)

“But, he just released *Black Star*...his latest album...on FRIDAY.” I thought to myself. On his 69th birthday. Following suit to his last release on his 66th birthday.

I am a reader. Always have been. As a kid, I read with the light that beamed diagonally across the hall, from my parents’ bedroom (because my father was

up late reading, so I could use his light and I was supposed to be asleep). To this day, I read until I fall asleep. This fall I picked up one of the biographies of David Bowie at the BU Bookstore – one of my favourite spots to shop, and soooo easy from my office just around the corner in the SUB building, especially on paydays – so the month of December was spent with David Bowie’s childhood unfolding in the evening, and in stolen moments while something was cooking, or while I was bored with what everyone else was watching on television. I think my guy was a little jealous that I would he would conk out and I’d hang out with David Bowie until I fell asleep.

I’ve never been to Brixton, England (and the various other places David Bowie lived), but somehow I was there, as usual, lost in the book in a place I’ve never been. I guess this is why I feel well-traveled even if I’ve hardly physically been anywhere.

I could see him. This little boy, then named David Robert Jones was born on Elvis Presley’s 12th birthday, January 8th, 1947. That was just a few months before my parents were born. I could picture his rather cold mother and his very supportive father, the man David Bowie developed his first sense of business and promotion from. He grew to be flamboyant and unusual; he had tremendous sex appeal and was polite and charming.

David Bowie entered my life long before this biography bedtime reading though. In September of 1984, after a long series of personalities and incarnations musically, Bowie released a single on hit parade radio that was called *Blue Jean*. Featured on his album “*Tonight*”, it was one of only two songs on that album that he himself wrote in its entirety. It’s not tremendously poetic, it’s not particularly brilliant, but it is the song that will go down as the one that would anchor itself deeply in my top favourite songs of all time. *Jean* was one of my middle names. *Blue* was my favourite colour. David Bowie was singing about both. There was a tremendous beat, there was a ruthless saxophone (as there often was in his songs) and there was great back-up singing (something I think we’re sorely missing these days).

This was the era of music videos. I was never into video games or television shows all that much per se, but music videos...I could watch and listen to music videos constantly. As the *Dire Straits* hit goes, “I want my MTV”, although as a little Quebecker, I never got it – I had

Musique Plus, a Québécois cousin to MTV and *Much Music*, where I could indulge in music videos while the children I babysat slept; or with my best friends at their homes mostly, as we didn’t have cable at home.

As the *Blue Jean* music video opens, David Bowie’s face comes into focus, his eyes are closed, but snap open as the music begins and the focus intensifies. The first thing we see is make-up contouring one side of his face, until his eyes open, and then we see one of the most, if not the most, distinguishing features of David Bowie, his mismatched eyes. A childhood accident at the age of thirteen caused him to suffer from anisocoria, near-blindness in his left eye leaving his pupil tremendously dilated.

In the video, David played two characters. This colourful creature on stage, and a rather straight-laced, awkward and rather creepy smart-dressed man on a date in the front row at the end of the stage’s catwalk – a fun contrast, and even at the age of 10 and 11/12 I could see that David Bowie was very capable of laughing at himself. I liked that.

I also liked another thing that video brought into my life. The on-stage Bowie wore a colourful turban and was heavily made up. His long, lanky frame pounced, swayed and strutted the stage in knickerbockers and shoes worthy of *Ali Baba* with turned-up toes. David Bowie introduced me to androgyny. I didn’t know that I needed that gender-fluidity in my life until that very moment, and yet, there he was, confident and fun, playful and this was something I wouldn’t experience anywhere else in my life. Bowie helped me to develop the beginnings of an openness that would help me further explore and accept such differences in others.

Part of me fell in love with that character, one of many on-stage personalities with the original David Bowie shining through them all. I was almost eleven years old, and I was enamoured of golden-faced Bowie.

Years passed, and the grunge era hit. I always had to troll to find new music, because most of what I was surrounded by was hit parade. I still loved the hits, but I needed the b-sides, the garage bands and the fringe to feed the hungriest part of my musical beast. Grunge and I were an awkward fit. I needed to reach beyond for something else.

Cont’d on page 6

Ben by Daniel Shelton



LOCAL NEWS

Primarily, however, the group is outraged that the City is willing to risk losing the charm of attractive tourist area.

Sherbrooke single-detached homes construction hits ten-year low

Record Staff
Sherbrooke

Housing starts in the Sherbrooke census metropolitan area (CMA) were trending at 1,147 units in December, down from 1,335 in November, according to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). The trend is a six-month moving average of the monthly seasonally adjusted annual rates (SAAR) of housing starts.

"The housing starts trend was lower in December in the Sherbrooke CMA for almost all housing types, especially apartments," said Marie-Claude Guillette, Senior Market Analyst at CMHC. "In 2015, the number of housing starts rebounded after reaching a 10-year low in 2014. The construction of condominium and rental housing projects mainly contributed to the strength in activity in 2015. For their part, starts of

semi-detached and row homes climbed slightly compared to 2014, while the construction of single-detached homes reached an historical low. The slowdown in household formation and the large supply on the existing home market are among the factors that are dampening demand for single-detached homes."

CMHC uses the trend measure as a complement to the monthly SAAR of housing starts to account for consider-

able swings in monthly estimates and obtain a more complete picture of the state of the housing market. In some situations, analyzing only SAAR data can be misleading in some markets, as they are largely driven by the multiples segment of the markets, which can be quite variable from one month to the next.

The stand-alone monthly SAAR was 1,381 units in December, down from 2,392 in November.

Tourigny House protesters not giving up

Record Staff
Sherbrooke

About sixty people took to the streets Saturday afternoon to express their strong opposition to the demolition of the Tourigny House, located at the corner of Principale and St. Patrick streets in Magog.

Led by citizens' group Sauvons l'îlot Tourigny, the protesters claim they have no objection to the arrival of companies linked to ICT, protesters want them to be located elsewhere in the city so that a tourist vocation can be found for the heritage building.

On January 5, the City posted notices on the Tourigny House and the neighbouring Sutton building announcing their impending demolition, which would allow developer Gilles Bélanger and partners to construct a four-story office building on the site. The new building would primarily house Information and Communications Technology companies. The group hopes to present other possible solutions at the next City Council meeting on January 18.

Locals opposed to the development plans for Magog's l'îlot Tourigny recently

held meeting at the Memphremagog Library, where the citizen group Sauvons l'îlot Tourigny reiterated its determination to protect the heritage Touring residence and the large green space on which it is situated. "These places are of rare value due to the architecture of the house, its location on a promontory at the entrance to the city, and because this house is one of the few to have housed members of the same family for nearly a hundred years since the era of the first establishment of a French-Canadian bourgeoisie in Magog at the end of the nineteenth century.

On Tuesday, January 5, 2016, the City of Magog attached notice on the Tourigny house and on its neighbor, the Sutton building, a "public notice" announcing the demolition of the two buildings, which it owns. This notice means that any person wishing to show their opposition to the demolition must do so in writing to the Clerk of the City within 10 days. Objections received will be presented to the Meeting of City Council on January 18.

In a communiqué released last week, Sauvons l'îlot Tourigny said "It is unacceptable that the City of Magog would

sell to a developer, for a sum of \$350,000, buildings purchased for \$668,000 in 2003 and 2004 and valued at the last role of assessment at almost \$ million. This scandalous situation has also been submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs."

"It is also unacceptable," it continues, "that the City bought a beautiful house with a large plot and has left it abandoned for over twelve years. What private owner would allow such negligence?"

The group is also approaching the Memphremagog MRC to question that an area designated for recreation and tourism and tourism can be transformed into one for ICT companies when there are a number of other locations available Magog to create such a neighborhood.

Primarily, however, the group is outraged that the City is willing to risk losing the charm of attractive tourist area, which, according to data provided by Statistics Canada tourism analyst Rejean Beaudoin, brought \$180.8 million to the MRC for the single year 2013. Tourists coming to Magog for its magnificent location on the lake and its old char-

acter, will be greeted by modern buildings, blocking the view and having a parking area instead a beautiful green island.

The group also chastises the City for the way it convinced the public to agree to the zoning change request published on October 14, in which the City maintains the maximum allowable height for every new building at 15 meters, while removing the limit on the number of floors, and dangled before the media, new jobs and significant economic spin-offs for the city center from the area's development.



COURTESY SAUVONS L'ÎLOT TOURIGNY

Lennoxville Landslide

Cont'd from page 1

"It goes pretty close to the highway," said Rod McIver, who returned with Patrick to the site after her original discovery. "You can see the cars right there."

Arguing that one landslide will often lead to another, McIver questioned the safety of the highway above and wondered why it was that Quebec's Ministry of Transport (MTQ) was not on the scene diverting traffic and investigating the situation. Turner echoed those concerns and speculated that the landslide might be linked to the work that has been done in the area over the last few years to extend Highway 410 to the south end of Lennoxville.

When reached for comment on these concerns both the City of Sherbrooke, which owns and oversees the bike path,

and the Eastern-Townships division of the MTQ, which is responsible for the highway, said that The Record's Call was the first they'd heard of the event. Given time to investigate, the city later informed The Record that whatever responsibilities might come up later with regard to the path, the first steps are in the hands of the MTQ.

By mid-afternoon, MTQ Spokesperson Nadège Tessier could say that the situation was being evaluated, but could provide no clear idea of how long the process would take or of whether there was any perceived danger to using the road in the mean time.

The city of Sherbrooke carried out an extensive re-evaluation of the areas subject to landslides within its limits in 2014. The area where this landslide took place is not marked as being at risk on the city's map.



GORDON LAMBIE

The view of the landslide as seen from above, looking towards the river

Winter winds bring power outages

By Matthew McCully

The heavy winds on Sunday and Monday led to a number of power outages in the Townships.

With temperatures below freezing, winter power outages are more than just an inconvenience for households with small children or seniors struggling to stay warm.

Hydro Quebec representative Mathieu Rouy could not comment on specific outages, but he did recommend a resource to help keep members of the public prepared and informed about power interruptions in the area.

On the Hydro Quebec website is a section called power outages (info-pannes on the French version) which has maps

and statistics, updated hourly, regarding power interruptions.

Customers can search by region to see how extreme the situation is, and click on specific districts on an interactive map to see when the power went out, and when Hydro expects service to return.

As of 3 p.m. on Monday, the website was tracking 14 separate power interruptions affecting 1,115 out of its 88, 293 customers.

Across Quebec, a total of 164 power outages were recorded by mid-afternoon, affecting 5,875 customers.

While the catch is that anyone without a smartphone would require electricity in order to access the website, Rouy pointed out that in addition to in-

formation about outages, the site also explains what should be included in a home emergency kit, and what measures to take during a power outage to avoid short circuiting electrical devices in the home.

According to the website, homes should have an emergency kit with the following items handy; pocket flashlights, spare batteries, first-aid supplies, supplies/medications for people with special needs, a battery-powered radio, warm blankets, non-perishable food, a list of telephone numbers, and games, books or other pastimes to keep occupied.

The website also mentioned that homes have next-generation meters no longer need to report power outages. For

those who don't have a new meter, or their power outage is not listed on the map, the number to call is 1 800 790-2424.

Any time a person sees broken power lines, power lines within reaching distance, a transformer or pole shooting sparks or on fire, or traffic accidents, they should call 911 immediately.

The most common causes for losing power, according to the site, are weather conditions (high winds or heavy snow weighing down tree limbs), and the proximity of vegetation to active lines.

Rouy said the website is updated hourly in an effort to keep customers informed about when problems are expected to be fixed.

David Bowie changed styles and fashions relentlessly throughout his career, and it defined him

By David Bauder
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It was hardly a coincidence that David Bowie named his greatest hits collection "Changes."

Bowie changed musical styles, fashion, even his name — he was born David Jones — in a relentless exploration of the artistic muse. More than any one sound or song, that shark-like ability to keep moving forward defined him.

Even his exit was an artistic statement. He released a striking video last week for his new song, "Lazarus," that depicts him in an institutional bed, his eyes covered in gauze.

"Look up here, I'm in heaven," he sings in the song's opening. A thin Bowie also appears dressed in a bodysuit that

seems left over from the "Ziggy Stardust" years, retreating to a closet at the song's end. The song, like the elegaic "Where Are We Now?" from 2013, has him confronting issues of mortality in haunting fashion.

We just never knew how close the end was. When it came on Sunday, Bowie had long since retreated from public view after a reported heart attack in the mid-2000s. He'd released no new music for a decade before 2013 and the subsequent "Blackstar," released Friday. He gave no interviews in his last decade, and kept his 18-month cancer fight private.

Bowie quite literally seemed from another world in his early years. "The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars" was a concept album about an alien bisexual rock star. With

his makeup and orange hair, Bowie participated fully in an era of excess. The splendid songs poured out in the 1970s: "Changes," "Starman," "Suffragette City," "Jean Genie," "Rebel Rebel," "Young Americans." He wrote Mott the Hoople's best-known song, "All the Young Dudes."

The bodysuit ultimately proved confining. Bowie wasn't the first artist to make stylistic shifts, but few did it with such aplomb. He delved into blue-eyed soul with his John Lennon collaboration, "Fame." He moved to Berlin to explore a minimal, industrial sound with collaborator Brian Eno. And in the mid-1980s era of Big Albums, Bowie appeared in a smart suit with the invitation, "Let's Dance."

That album, which also included the

hits "Modern Love" and "China Girl," really marked the end of his mainstream success. Bowie kept moving, even if not all his explorations were rewarding; his 1990s band Tin Machine produced some unlistenable noise. The restlessness left him with a conflicted relationship with his old hits. He vowed to retire them after the 1990 "Sound and Vision" tour but didn't stick to that and performed them with grace and enthusiasm on tour a decade later.

He was soft-spoken with a very British politeness in our only meeting, a 2002 interview where he allowed himself a brief flash of pride.

"What I'm most proud of is that I can't help but notice that I've affected the vocabulary of pop music," he said then. "For me, frankly, as an artist, that's the most satisfying thing for the ego."

Everyone touched by Bowie's music takes their own moment of inspiration. Kurt Cobain covered "The Man Who Sold the World" with Nirvana. Vanilla Ice repurposed Bowie's collaboration with Queen, "Under Pressure," into his biggest hit.

Personally, two recordings from 1977 will always stick out. One was Bowie's duet with Bing Crosby, made for a television special filmed just five weeks before Crosby's death. Crosby sang "The Little Drummer Boy," while Bowie sang "Peace on Earth" in counterpoint.

The culture clash made it an immediate classic — the World War II era crooner with one of rock's wildest personalities. It was hard to imagine them in the same room, let alone standing around a piano. Yet neither man looked down upon the other. Its beauty made the collaboration last, and it is heard every December.

That same fall, Bowie released "Heroes" from his sessions with Eno. The song starts quietly, Bowie singing over a droning, repetitive guitar figure, building gradually in intensity as his voice rises and he sings of a memorable but brief love affair. It's a moment of majesty that never fails provoke chills.

"We can be heroes," he sings, "just for one day."

David Bowie had more than a day.

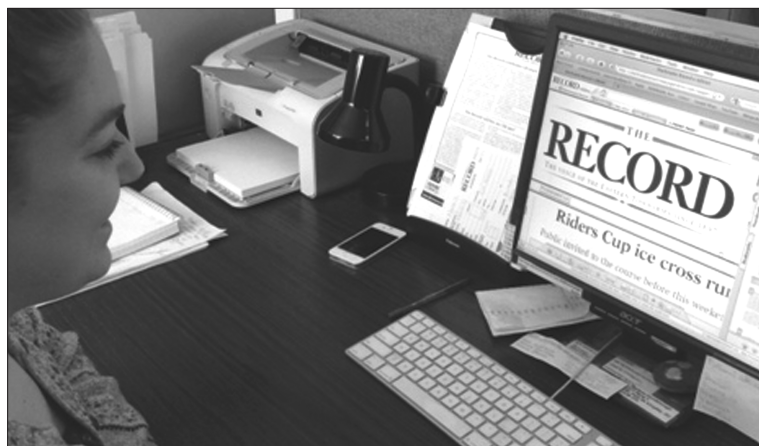
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Cowansville UMF moving to new premises

Record Staff
Sherbrooke

The family medicine unit (UMF) of La Pommerai in Cowansville is moving to new premises that are better suited to accommodate patients receiving medical services from the Integrated University Center for Health and Social Services Estrie - Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke (CIUSSS de l'Estrie - CHUS).

As of January 18, the UMF will be lo-

cated at 1599 rue du Sud, Street, Suite 110.

The site, which once housed a Canadian Tire franchise provides easy access to patients and offers a large number of parking spaces. The new premises are also more spacious than the old ones and will allow the UMF to reach its full capacity of 12 residents to provide maximum medical services to the public, in addition to contributing to the training of young doctors likely to remain in the region.

Since opening in 2012, La Pommerai UMF had resided in temporary trailers adjacent to the Brome-Missisquoi-Perkins Hospital to provide medical consultations with or without appointments, follow-ups with a clinical nurse, pregnancy monitoring, and minor surgery. These services will be offered at the same place until January 13, inclusive, before a closing January 14 and 15 for the move to the new premises. The clinic will reopen in its new address on January 18, offering the

same services and with the same phone number (450 266-4342, option 5, ext 5740). Medical service without appointment will continue on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

A family medicine unit is an educational environment where resident doctors acquire two years of experience under the supervision of a general practitioner or specialist, so as to obtain their right to practice.

Granby Zoo welcomes newborn Giraffe

Record Staff
Sherbrooke

The Granby Zoo has announced the arrival of its newest resident - a healthy baby giraffe, born Monday, January 11.

One of three female giraffes at the zoo, Masai, who was also born at the Granby Zoo on April 26, 1990, gave birth

to her tenth baby around 9:30 a.m. Less than 25 minutes later, after a few unsuccessful attempts, he managed to stand on its four legs to take its first steps. The adorable little fellow will be available for viewing as early as next weekend with his mother in the Pavilion of large mammals.

With a declining population of just

over 100,000 animals, the Giraffe is a protected species in several African countries. According to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), its status is considered low risk, that is to say that the species is dependent on conservation programs and that an assessment of these efforts could change the status of the species in

the medium term. Two of the main factors threatening giraffes are poaching and habitat degradation generated by human activity.*

During the winter, the Zoo is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every weekend from January 9 to March 28. It will be open daily for spring from February 27 to March 6.

Teachers will vote on Thursday regarding collective agreement

By Matthew McCully

The Appalachian Teachers' Association, the union representing the teachers of the Eastern Townships School Board, will hold a vote on Thursday at Princess Elizabeth Elementary School in Magog, deciding on whether or not to accept the agreement made in principle in December between the Common Front and the government.

ATA president Megan Seline said a presentation will be given explain the details of the agreement, and Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers President Richard Goldfinch will be on hand to answer questions.

Teachers will be able to vote between 5 and 7 p.m. Seline said.

The vote will encompass the sectorial and intersectorial issues, she added, weighing in on bigger issues like public

sector salary increases and pensions, and not simply work demands related exclusive to teachers.

While nothing is set in stone until the votes are tabulated, Seline said that, unofficially, work action is now done. Teachers are no longer obligated to adhere to the strict work-to-rule guidelines in place before the holidays.

Seline said QPAT teachers across the province have until Jan. 20 to hold as-

semblies and vote.

Julie Dubois, president of the Townships Regional Union of support staff said an agreement in principle was reached at the end of November for support staff unions. TRUSS has no official date set, but hopes to hold a vote to ratify its agreement by the first week of February.

Communauto to expand reach in Ottawa with acquisition of car sharing firm

By Ross Marowits
THE CANADIAN PRESS

A company that describes itself as North America's oldest car-sharing service is looking to give customers in Ottawa an incentive to park their vehicles by expanding its presence in the national capital region.

Communauto announced Monday that it has acquired Vrtucar for an undisclosed price and says it plans to double the company's fleet of about 120 cars in the area over the next few years.

The acquisition is the third since Quebec-based Communauto was founded in

1994. The company has already expanded into Halifax and Paris, France.

Communauto, which currently has just one of its own cars in Ottawa, has had a partnership with Vrtucar since 2010 that has given customers access to the other firm's vehicles.

After the takeover the company will continue to operate the two brand names under a common corporate logo, but the union will simplify billing for customers and help Communauto grow its presence in Ottawa, CEO Benoit Robert said Monday.

Communauto and Vrtucar have a

combined fleet of 1,800 cars that serve nearly 50,000 subscribers in Halifax, the Quebec municipalities of Gatineau, Sherbrooke, Montreal and Quebec City, as well as Ottawa, Kingston, Ont., and Paris.

"What Communauto is doing right now is to position itself as a consolidator player so in the future you might hear about us in other markets too," Robert said in an interview.

The company is expanding its presence in Paris and is reviewing options to expand to other European cities, he added. It may also eye other deals in

Canada.

Communauto faces some competition from Car2Go, which operates in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver.

But Robert said other car-sharing services and taxi-alternative Uber only help to increase overall demand for alternatives to car ownership.

Uber says it plans to launch its car-pooling service in Toronto on Wednesday. Uberpool will allow people to share their journey with another rider heading in the same direction, reducing the number of cars on the road and alleviating congestion.



20 years. 10,000 wishes. 100% Canadian.

"Only 2 more
needles 'til
my wish!"



20 years 10,000 wishes

EDITORIAL

If we want to heal this world we have so badly damaged, we must do all we can.

Our voices and actions bring hope for the year ahead

By David Suzuki

Like any year, 2015 had its share of good and bad, tragedy and beauty, hope and despair. It's difficult not to get discouraged by events like the Syrian war and refugee crisis, violent outbreaks in Beirut, Paris, Burundi, the U.S. and so many other places, and the ongoing climate catastrophe.

But responses to these tragedies and disasters offer hope. It became clear during 2015 that when those who believe in protecting people and the planet, treating each other with fairness, respect and kindness and seeking solutions stand up, speak out and act for what is right and just, we will be heard.

As Syria descended deeper into chaos during 2015, people in many wealthy nations called for blocking refugees. But many more opened their hearts, homes and wallets and showed compassion. Governments responded by opening doors to people who have lost everything, including family and friends, to flee death and destruction.

Shootings and the inevitable absurd arguments against gun control continued south of the border, but many people, including the president, rallied for an end to the insanity. And while the U.S. presidential race remains mired in bigotry, ignorance and a dumbfounding rejection of climate science, many U.S. citizens, including political candidates, are speaking out for a positive approach more aligned with America's professed values. And in 2015, voters here and elsewhere rejected fear-based election campaigns that promoted continued reliance on climate-altering coal, oil and gas.

The fossil fuel industry and its supporters continued to sow doubt and confusion about the overwhelming evidence for human-caused climate change and to

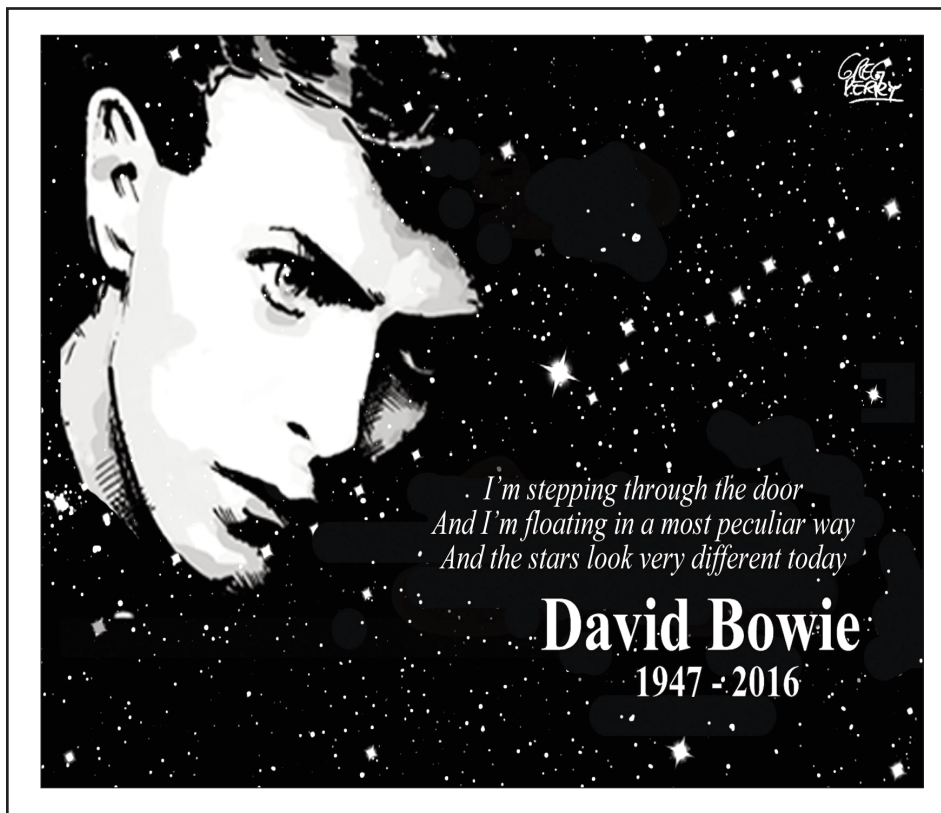
rail against solutions, but many more people marched, signed petitions, sent letters, talked to friends and family, demanded action from political, religious and business leaders, and got on with innovating and implementing solutions.

The public appetite for a constructive approach to global warming led Canada to shift course in 2015, taking global warming seriously enough to make positive contributions at the Paris climate conference in December. The resulting agreement won't lower emissions enough to prevent catastrophic warming, but it's a significant leap from previous attempts, and it includes commitments to improve targets.

If we want to heal this world we have so badly damaged, we must do all we can. Although many necessary and profound changes must come from governments, industry and other institutions, we can all do our part. For the climate, we can conserve energy, eat less meat, drive less, improve energy efficiency in our homes and businesses and continue to stand up and speak out.

Those who fear and reject change have always been and always will be with us. They've argued ending slavery would destroy the economy; they've claimed putting people on the moon would be impossible; they've rejected ending South Africa's apartheid system; they've said the Berlin wall wouldn't come down.

With today's technological and communications advances, everyone with access to the Internet can be heard. That's good, but people who fear they have something to lose often speak loudest, and in the greatest numbers. I tell people at the David Suzuki Foundation, "Don't read the comments!" It's often disheartening to see online discourse sink to such irrational and often idiotic depths.



But many comments and efforts to stall or block necessary progress arise from fear. People who are afraid that change might remove or diminish their privilege — real or imagined — often do or say anything to block it. Unfortunately, those who benefit most from privilege or the status quo, even if only in the short term, often stoke those fears and uncertainties, taking advantage of and manipulating the frightened and ignorant for political or economic gain.

That's not to say people must always agree. But racism, sexism, homophobia, religious prejudice, the denial of climate science and solutions, and blindness to the need for gun control are all irrational.

We can and must speak louder than those who would keep us on a destructive path despite the overwhelming evidence that it's past time to shift course. Events in 2015 taught us that when those of us who care about humanity and the planet's future stand up and speak out, we can make this small, blue world and its miraculous life and natural systems a better place for all.

David Suzuki is a scientist, broadcaster, author and co-founder of the David Suzuki Foundation. Written with contributions from David Suzuki Foundation Senior Editor Ian Hanington.

Dishpan Hands

Cont'd from page 2

I am riding shotgun in Goldbug, a little gold Pontiac Acadian, with one of my best friends, Elinor. It is 1994. She has emerald green hair and more piercings that I can count. While today this is pretty much mainstream, over twenty years ago it was not. Everywhere we went; people were taken with her, intimidated by her, probably even a little wary of her, this wonderful creature with a powerful heart and a tremendous mind, and the clearest voice in the world. She has virtually all of David Bowie's catalog on audio cassette, but she indulges me, and we listen to Blue Jean on repeat, a hit parade pearl that moves me (and makes me move) to this day.

So, early on Monday morning, January 10th of 2016, just a few sips down on my morning coffee, shaking off what felt like a two months of construction,

a month of celebrations and busy-ness and half-way through David Bowie's biography, I learn that he has died of cancer, surrounded by his family. He kept his sickness a private affair, and now his death is a surprise.

I am ten and eleven-twelfths years old. I am hypnotised by mismatched eyes and a gold make-up contoured face, and I am twenty years old, in a small gold car, ripping through the Townships hills defying what is supposed to be our contemporary music, the grunge era, with a green-haired glory and David Bowie as company.

Thank you for letting us be something else; be somewhere else, with confidence and swagger, David Bowie. Thank you for boldness that exposed us to otherness that we deeply needed. You will be remembered, and you will be missed.

THE RECORD

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	3 MONTHS	36.16	1.81	3.60	\$41.57

ON-LINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

QUEBEC:	1 YEAR	71.50	3.58	7.13	\$82.21
	1 MONTH	6.49	0.32	0.65	\$7.46

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Local Sports

Kamane, the Montreal native put up a double-double in both contests with UQAM over the past weekend.

Milhomme and Kamane Named Provigo Robert Lafond Athletes of the Week

Clare Webb
Sports Information Intern

The Bishop's University Department of Athletics and Recreation is pleased to announce that guard Ashley Milhomme of the women's basketball team and forward Abdul Kamane of the men's basketball team have been named the Provigo Robert Lafond Athletes of the Week.

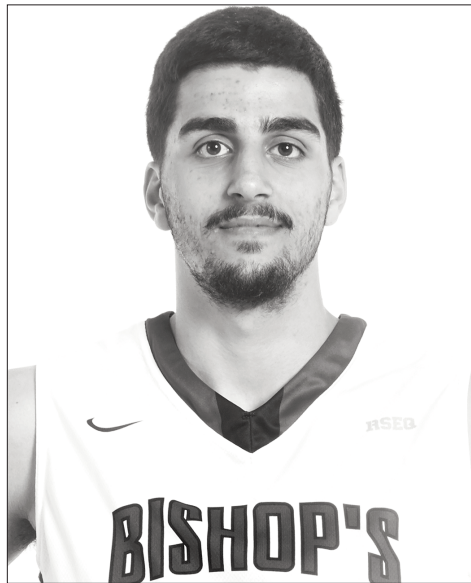
Milhomme, from Repentigny, Que., played a key role for the Gaiters in their 81-52 loss on Thursday night in Montreal and their 71-47 loss on Saturday night at home, both against the UQAM Citadins. The first year sociology student led the Gaiters in scoring with 19 points. She grabbed four rebounds and three assists to round out her stat line. In the second game of the home-and-home series with the Citadins she had 16 points and was a

perfect 2-2 from both the charity stripe and the three-point line.

Kamane, the Montreal native put up a double-double in both contests with UQAM over the past weekend. The sociology student scored 18 points and grabbed 10 rebounds in Thursday night's 70-44 loss to UQAM. He followed up that performance, on Saturday night at home, with 12 points and 12 rebounds. The Gaiters fell 83-72 to UQAM. The 6-foot-5, 220-pound freshman was 5-11 shooting in 36 minutes on the floor.

Bishop's is next in action at home on Jan. 22 against Laval at 6 and 8 p.m. and on Jan. 23 in Quebec City at 5 and 7 p.m.

For everything Gaiters athletics visit www.gaiters.ca and follow @BishopsGaiters on social media.



BISHOPS UNIVERSITY
Abdul Kamane of the Bishop's men's basketball team



BISHOPS UNIVERSITY
Ashley Milhomme of the Bishop's women's basketball team

Stanstead College Invitational Varsity Boys Hockey Tournament

By Mike Hickey
Special to the Record

Vermont Academy capped an exciting weekend of hockey when they edged Upper Canada College 2-1 in the gold medal game to capture the 2016 Stanstead College Invitational Varsity Boys Hockey Tournament held at Pat Burns Arena.

The host Spartans played well in the three-day event as they defeated Hoosac School 8-0 and St. Francis School 5-3 on Friday and then dropped a 5-1 decision to Appleby College Saturday afternoon.

They finished the preliminary round action in a three-way tie for first place in the Red Division but the tie-0 breaking rules dropped them to third place. In a consolation game Sunday, they lost 3-2 in overtime to Ulysse School.

Vermont started the tourney on a losing note as they were blanketed 4-0 by Upper Canada College and they dropped a 2-1 decision to Rice Memorial before bouncing back with a solid 7-3 victory over Ulysse. They finished second in the White Division and they reached the championship game with a 5-2 semi-final win over St. Francis.

Upper Canada College advanced to the title match by virtue of a 3-1 semi-final victory over Appleby College.

Vermont's Josh Bolding was named the tournament Most Valuable Player-Goalie while teammate John Kondub was selected as the tournament's Unsung Hero. Upper Canada College players took home the other two major awards as Cameron Sheehy received the Tournament Most Valuable Player - Defenceman award while Zack Jackson was named the Most Valuable Player-Forward.

The all-star team included Stanstead's

Will Lawrence, Jeremy Nadeau-Fortin from Vermont Academy, Rice Memorial's Konsta Jaakola, William Picotain Mazet from Ulysse School, Appleby College's Tommy Hoogaars, Colby Muisse from Upper Canada College, Hoosac School's Benjamin Viens and Bryan Zurowski of St. Francis School.

The Spartans will have little time to rest, they are back on the road this Saturday when they travel to Washington, Connecticut to play Gunnery School. Their next home game is January 20th when they play host to the Bishop's College School Bears.

Curling

Cont'd from page 1

Upon being accepted, Rivett was put together with other solo players from across the country to form a team that ended up placing in the top six nationally. Having found success at that level and in that way, it was not so bizarre to join up with the Laval-sur-le-Lac team.

"It can be hard, because I have to drive two hours every week to go up there and practice," Rivett said, "but every minute with this team is worth it."

The young curler said that even though she only sees them once per week, her team mates are like a second family to her.

Now in her last year of high school at Alexander Galt, Rivett said that although her competitions and long-distance practices also into the time she has for schoolwork, she is managing to keep her grades up and stay involved with the

local community.

The Lennoxville Curling Club, She added, has been an outstanding support in her journey to the national championship.

"My club is very supportive of me," Rivett said. "Almost every single one of them was following the progression from the provincials last week. I grew up with them and we are very close."

Looking ahead to next week in Stratford, the curler said that she is quite nervous, but also excited.

"It's a really, really big opportunity for me," Rivett said, explaining that she will be keeping practices close to home in the lead up to the national competition.

According to Rowell, Rivett is the first junior curler from the Lennoxville curling club to reach the national level, and the first in the region in a number of years.



COURTESY OF MEAGHAN RIVETT

Coach Michel St-Georges, Skip Laurie St. Georges, Third Cynthia St. Georges, Second Meaghan Rivett and Lead Emily Riley after having won the Quebec Provincial Junior Curling Championship in Montreal West last week.

Death

Death

In Memoriam

Datebook

**Graydon MAJURY
(September 30, 1926 - December 23, 2015)**

Graydon Majury passed away at the Claresholm Hospital, in Claresholm, Alberta on December 23, 2015 at the age of 89. He is survived by his brother Howard (Mary Bown). He was the beloved son of the late Thomas Brown Majury and late Elizabeth Seale Cromwell Munn, and brother of the late Norman (late Mary Robinson). He was the beloved uncle of Janet (Murray Lloyd), Sandy (Roger Davis), Cyndi (Dan Eldridge), Richard, (Jenny Mooney), the late Lindsay (Judy Woods) and several great nieces and nephews.

Having been born in Sawyerville, Quebec, Graydon spent the first 88 years of his life in the Lennoxville area. He knew many folks from his early days working with dairy cattle, and later through working at Bishop's University. He was active in the Farmer's Association and enjoyed many travels and fair activities with that group. He was an active member of the Lennoxville United Church. In December of 2014 he decided to move to Nanton, Alberta and spent the final year of his life enjoying frequent visits and outings with family. He was admitted to hospital on November 30, 2015, and passed away on December 23, 2015. Graydon made friends with everyone he met in life, and will be missed by many.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the charity of your choice would be appreciated. A visitation will be held at 1 p.m. at the Lennoxville United Church on Thursday, May 26, 2016. The Funeral Service will follow at 1:30 p.m. Friends are welcome to join the family at the Cookshire Cemetery directly following the service. The family invites all friends to stay for a light lunch to be served in the church hall, upon return from the cemetery.

CASS FUNERAL HOMES
3006 College St., Sherbrooke QC
cass@casshomes.ca

PHONE: 819-564-1750
FAX: 819-564-4423
www.casshomes.ca

DECOTEAU, Gerald R. - Who passed away 10 years ago on January 12, 2006.

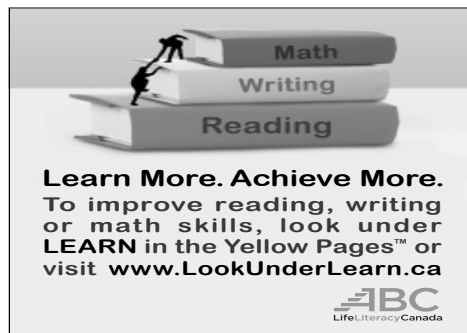
*Time passes too quickly,
Life playing cards without you
Doesn't seem the same.*

**Miss you, love you,
your wife IRENE
CHILDREN
GRANDCHILDREN and
GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN**

Card of Thanks

SCHOOLCRAFT - To all my customers, I would like to thank you all for the cards and gifts I received at Christmas. It was very thoughtful. I wish you all a very happy 2016.

TOM SCHOOLCRAFT



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TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016

Today is the 12th day of 2016 and the 22nd day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1915, the U.S. House of Representatives rejected a constitutional amendment to give women the right to vote.

In 1932, Hattie Wyatt Caraway of Arkansas became the first woman elected to the Senate.

In 1991, Congress authorized President George H.W. Bush to use force in expelling Iraq from Kuwait.

In 2010, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake in Haiti destroyed a majority of the buildings in Port-au-Prince and left more than 100,000 dead.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Jack London (1876-1916), author; Tex Ritter (1905-1974), singer/actor; Joe Frazier (1944-2011), boxer; Tom Dempsey (1947-), football player; Kirstie Alley (1951-), actress; Rush Limbaugh (1951-), radio personality; Howard Stern (1954-), radio personality; Christiane Amanpour (1958-), TV journalist; Dominique Wilkins (1960-), basketball player; Jeff Bezos (1964-), Amazon.com founder; Rob Zombie (1965-), singer-songwriter/director; Jason and Randy Sklar (1972-), comedians/sportscasters; Naya Rivera (1987-), actress.

TODAY'S FACT: Amazon.com opened for business online in 1995, but it didn't make a profit until 2002.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1969, the New York Jets fulfilled quarterback Joe Namath's guarantee of a win with a 16-7 victory over the heavily favored Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl III.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "There are things greater than our wisdom, beyond our justice. The right and wrong of this we cannot say, and it is not for us to judge." - Jack London, "An Odyssey of the North"

TODAY'S NUMBER: 20 - women in the U.S. Senate at the start of the 114th Congress in 2015.

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (Jan. 9) and first quarter moon (Jan. 16).

Avoid aortic aneurysm by following healthy heart advice

ASK DOCTOR K

By **Anthony L. Komaroff, M.D.**

DEAR DOCTOR K: I had pain in my abdomen, so my doctor did an ultrasound to check for gallstones. It turns out I have an abdominal aortic aneurysm. What is that?

DEAR READER: The aorta is the body's largest artery. It carries oxygen-rich blood from the heart to every part of the body. The aorta curves out of the heart and through the chest, then passes down the center of the body before dividing into the arteries that serve the legs.

An aneurysm is an abnormal swelling and weakening in an artery. An aneurysm that occurs in the aorta as it passes through the middle of the body is called an abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA).

Like other blood vessels, the aorta can develop atherosclerosis. Harmful cholesterol-filled plaques form, damaging and weakening the artery wall. The constant pressure of blood flowing through the aorta - which is worse in people with high blood pressure - can cause the artery's wall to bulge where there is a weak spot. (I've put an illustration on my website, AskDoctorK.com.)

The majority of AAAs grow very slowly and don't cause any symptoms. Most AAAs are found by chance during an imaging test performed for another reason, as yours was. Rarely, AAAs cause symptoms such as a deep pain or a throbbing sensation in the back or the side of the abdomen. An imaging test - an ultrasound, CT or MRI scan - then is ordered, which reveals the AAA.

Because AAAs are quite unusual except in high-risk groups, routine imaging studies are not recommended. However, in

high-risk groups, screening with ultrasound is recommended. People at high risk for an AAA are men ages 65 to 75 who have ever smoked, or who have a first-degree (parent or sibling) relative who has had an AAA repair (or died from a ruptured AAA).

Smaller AAAs are monitored with regular ultrasound tests. The larger the AAA is, and the faster it grows, the greater the risk that it will rupture. When an AAA ruptures, it causes massive bleeding inside the abdomen. The odds of survival are pretty low. So when an AAA reaches a size that is likely to rupture, it should be repaired.

Until recent years, repair of an AAA involved major surgery. Surgeons opened the abdomen, cut out the diseased section of the aorta, and replaced it with a synthetic tube (typically made of polyester). Today, most AAAs are treated with a minimally invasive procedure known as endovascular repair. The surgeon passes a catheter through a small incision in the leg and threads it into the aorta to reach the AAA. A fabric-coated stent is then put in place to reinforce the bulging aorta, which seals around it.

To avoid an AAA, the same advice for preventing heart disease applies:

- Don't smoke;
- Eat a healthy diet;
- Exercise regularly;
- Keep your blood pressure and cholesterol in a healthy range.

These habits are also vital if you already have an AAA, because you'll want to be as healthy as possible if you end up needing surgery.

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

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: clas-sad@sherbrookerecord.com - They will not be taken by phone.

DEADLINES FOR DEATH NOTICES:

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

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

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LENNOXVILLE//WATERVILLE

The Lennoxville and District Community Aid will be holding a Blood Pressure clinic on Tuesday, January 12 at 164 Queen Street, Suite #104, from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

LENNOXVILLE

Military Whist will be played at "The Hut", A.N.A.F. Unit #318, 300 St. Francis Street, Lennoxville, on Wednesday, January 13 at 1:30 p.m. To reserve a place for yourself or a table for 4, please contact Judy Williams at 837-2973.

LENNOXVILLE

Ladies Auxiliary meeting and elections at "The Hut", A.N.A.F. Unit #318, 300 St. Francis Street, Lennoxville, on Saturday, January 16th. General meeting at 1 p.m., followed by elections at 2 p.m. Note: Memberships must be paid in order to vote.

RICHMOND

The Richmond Legion Branch #15, 235 College N., Richmond will hold their Brunch on Sunday, January 17 from 9 a.m. to noon. Menu: eggs, sausages, ham, home made beans, fried potatoes, pancakes, toast, coffee, tea, juice and much more. Everyone welcome.

SHERBROOKE (LENNOXVILLE)

Friday, February 5 at 3 p.m.: Free conference-concert and afternoon tea for seniors at the Uplands Cultural and Heritage Centre (9 Speid St.). The Genius of Florent Schmitt, with French speaker Dr. Federico Lazzaro and

musicians Étienne de Médicis (oboe), Pauline Farrugia (clarinet), Erich Kory (cello) and Tristan Longval-Gagné (piano). This concert-talk is part of the "Autumn Genius" series being presented by the Estria Quintet, in collaboration with Uplands. The series pays tribute to composers and performers who have made significant artistic contributions at a later age. Space is limited and anyone who wishes to attend, must reserve well in advance or admission may be refused. To reserve, please contact Pauline Farrugia at 819-842-1072 or at estria@cgocable.ca This wonderful series is made possible thanks to the financial support of the Conférence Régionale des Élus de l'Estrie and the Secrétariat aux aînés. More information on the series at <http://pages.globetrotter.net/estria>

NORTH HATLEY

Friday, February 5 at 11 a.m.: Free conference-concert and a light lunch for seniors at UU Estrie Church (201 Main St.). The Genius of Florent Schmitt, with French speaker Dr. Federico Lazzaro and musicians Étienne de Médicis (oboe), Pauline Farrugia (clarinet), Erich Kory (cello) and Tristan Longval-Gagné (piano). This talk is part of the "Autumn Genius" series being presented by the Estria Quintet, in collaboration with UU Estrie Church. The series pays tribute to composers and performers who have made significant artistic contributions at a later age. Anyone who wishes to attend, must reserve in advance as places are limited. To make a reservation, please contact Pauline Farrugia at 819-842-1072 or at estria@cgocable.ca This wonderful series is made possible thanks to the financial support of the Conférence Régionale des Élus de l'Estrie and the Secrétariat aux aînés. More information on the series at <http://pages.globetrotter.net/estria>

STANSTEAD

14th annual Shoot for a Cure Dart Tournament, proceeds for Breast Cancer Research, on Saturday, January 23 at the Stanstead Legion. Registration starting at 1 p.m. Games start at 2 p.m. 401 double in/double out. Mixed Doubles. Bring your own partner. Door prizes. Raffle. Admission charged. All welcome. Info: Marilyn

McComb 819-838-4770.

SAWYERVILLE

"Where We Call Home," an original play about the history of Eaton Corner, will be presented on Saturday, February 13 at the Sawyerville Community Centre by a troupe of more than 20 local actors playing the roles of real people who lived in the area between 1847 and 1945. This will be the third year that the Eaton Corner Museum has sponsored a play which brings local history to life. Tickets are available from Pat at 819-875-3182, or by leaving a message at 819-875-5256. Performances are at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Get your tickets early as previous years' plays have sold out quickly.

LENNOXVILLE

Cribbage tournament to be held at the A.N.A.F. Unit #318 "The Hut" 300 St. Francis Street, Lennoxville on Saturday, January 23 to benefit the Relay for Life team "The Bravehearts." Registration is at 1 p.m. Everyone is welcome, come and support this worthwhile cause. Bring your own partner. Contact Colleen 819-835-9922 for further information.

STANSTEAD

Slightly Haggard will be at the Stanstead Legion, 15 Maple St., on Saturday, January 16 from 8 p.m. until closing. Light lunch. Admission charged. Also, a surprise birthday party for Vicky Lapointe will be held at the same time. Everyone welcome, both members and non-members.

• • •

This column accepts items announcing events organized by churches, service clubs and recognized charitable institutions for a \$7.00 fee, \$10.00 for 2 insertions of same notice, \$13.00 for 3 publications. Maximum 35 words. If you have more than 35 words the charge will be \$10.00 per insertion. Requests should be mailed, well in advance, to The Record, 1195 Galt St. East, Sherbrooke, Quebec, J1G 1Y7, be signed and include a telephone number and payment. Telephone requests will not be accepted. Admission charges and trade names will be deleted. No dances.

Three weeks after I returned home, the terrorist attacks occurred

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: In October, I visited my family in France. Three weeks after I returned home, the terrorist attacks occurred. My husband was out of town and I was all alone. My family in France, thankfully, was safe.

I consider myself a loyal friend. However, only one person called to ask about my family and about me. That person was actually a business acquaintance. I am deeply grateful for that call, but truly surprised and disappointed that there were no others. A family member phoned two days later, saying he had been so busy with work that he didn't hear about the attacks until later. I was polite, but seriously, people would have to be living under a rock not to have heard the news immediately.

It was an extremely difficult time for me, and I am terribly hurt and angry that no one else took a few seconds to ask whether my family was OK or to find out how I was handling things. I received a Christmas card from one friend who wrote only to brag about her job promotion.

Annie, all of these so-called friends are well aware that much of my family lives in France. I no longer wish to associate with these people. What can I say if any of them call and want to get together with me? — Still Hurting

Dear Hurting: People tend to be self-absorbed and sometimes don't think of another person's specific situation when they hear about a tragedy far away. Please give your friends a chance to make it up to you. If they call, tell them that you were hurt and disappointed that you didn't hear from them at the time. Give them the opportunity to apologize. You will be much less angry and upset if you can grant forgiveness and start fresh. Of course, if they offer feeble excuses and make

no attempt to say they are sorry, feel free to stop responding to their calls.

Dear Annie: As my mother got older, she used to worry about her faraway friends when she didn't hear from them at Christmas. She thought maybe they had gone into a nursing home or were homebound and unable to correspond. Or maybe they had died.

So when my mother moved to a nursing home near us, I decided to make sure this didn't happen to her. I wrote a newsy letter about how she was doing, and added where she was living, along with the address. I printed it on Christmas stationery and sent it in the first part of December.

Well, Annie, I want to tell you that the response was overwhelming. She received Christmas cards from nearly all of her friends. Some wrote long, newsy letters of their own, and a few of them even wrote letters to me.

It was very rewarding and gratifying, and Mom felt that she was still a part of her friends' lives. I thought you might like to pass this on to others so they will know to do it during the next holiday season. — Grateful Daughter

Dear Daughter: This is a sweet idea and an excellent way to keep others apprised of Mom's situation and encourage them to contact her. Seniors, especially those who move away from familiar surroundings, often feel isolated. Thank you for providing a lovely way to stay connected.

Dear Annie: I wrote to you a couple of years ago, signing my letter, "Unhappy Parents." I said that my husband and I felt my stepson was making a big mistake by marrying much too young and we said so. Instead, my stepson repeated these hurtful words to his

fiance and from that point forward, they would not speak to us. We were not allowed to attend the wedding.

My husband was an amazing father, and we were all very close until this woman wedged herself in and started saying bad things about us. Apparently, she is extremely close to my husband's ex-wife and that woman hates my husband.

You told us to try writing them a letter and apologizing, even though there was no guarantee it would succeed. We immediately did this, but it didn't help much. They have since had my husband's first grandchild. We sent baby gifts, but have not been asked to see the baby. They instead sent us a book of pictures of the baby, including several with the ex-wife holding the child. It's a beautiful book, with quotes about the importance of family, yet there is not one photo of my husband in it.

I am so hurt. They have now alienated my husband's daughter, which in hindsight was likely a relationship only held together for financial reasons. Annie, I helped care for these kids for 22 years. Should I give up? Is there anything else I can try? — Still Unhappy

Dear Still: If the ex-wife is poisoning the relationship and the daughter-in-law still holds a grudge, there isn't much you can do. However, they did send photos of the baby, which is more than you might have received before. Your husband should let his children know that he will always love them, but otherwise, we urge you to focus your energies elsewhere. We're so sorry.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

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

“PHUL H IFHCIL. PHUL H WBRU. OBCT
PFHP AHRBJC HCT WLUBCTZL BP.
OHZZ BC ZJSL HZZ JSLW HDHBC.
BP'R WLHZZG NJWPF BP.” — VWGHC
IWHCRPJ C

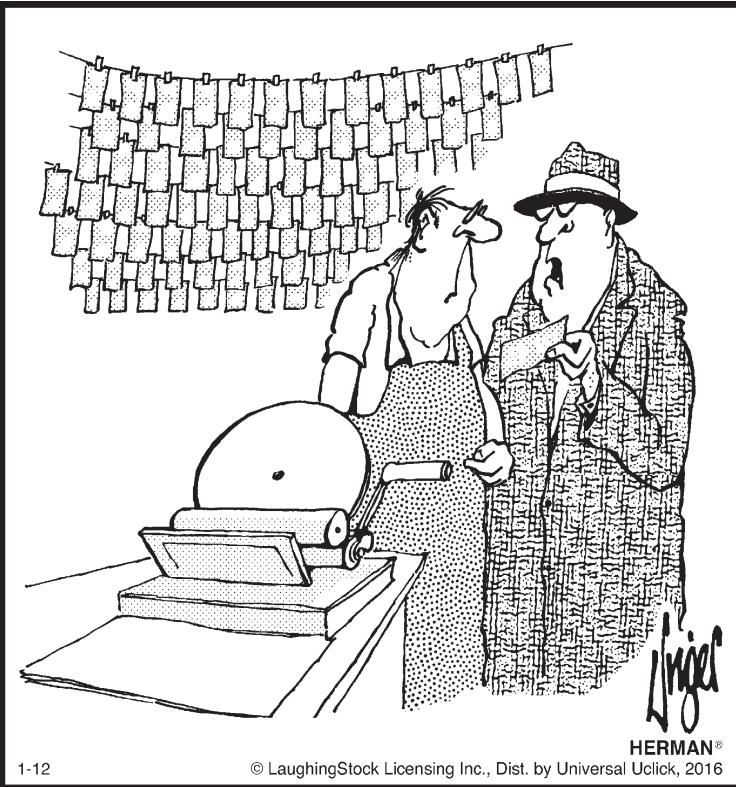
Previous Solution: “If from infancy you treat children as gods, they are liable in adulthood to act as devils.” — P.D. James

TODAY'S CLUE: *g enals d*

REALITY CHECK



HERMAN



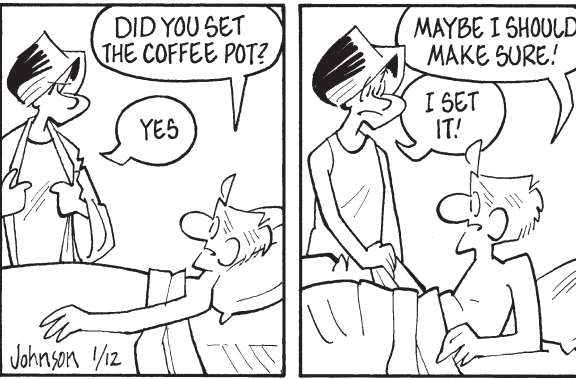
“You left the ‘w’ out of ‘twenty’!”

HERMAN®
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ALLEY OOP



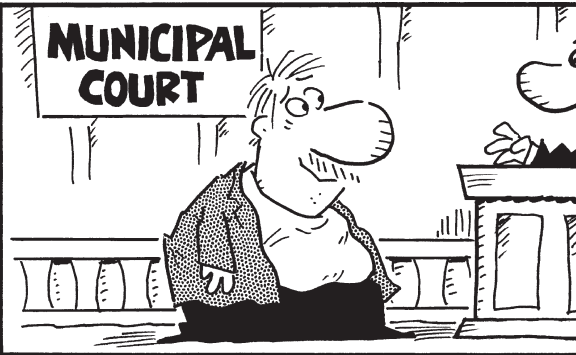
ARLO & JANIS



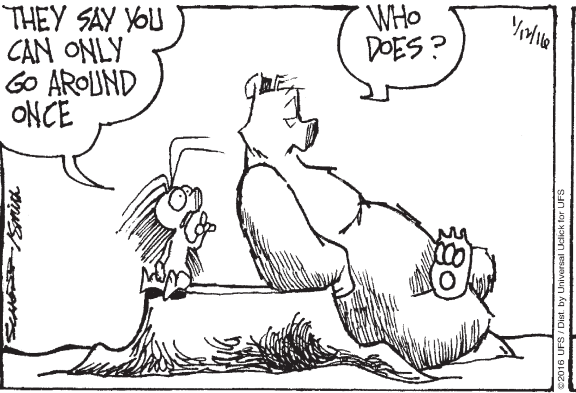
THE BORN LOSER



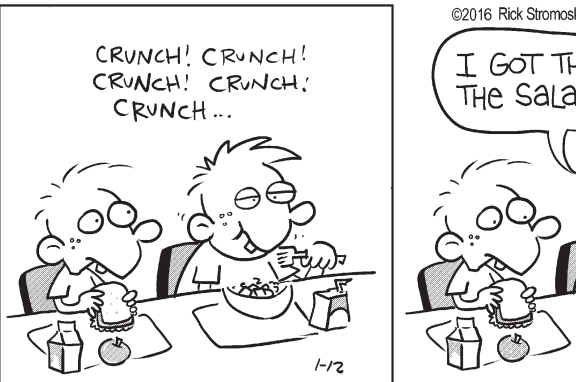
FRANK AND ERNEST



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

1-12-16

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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

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

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