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The Journal

Local Matters

www.yourlocaljournal.ca Via Canada Post HUDSON, ST. LAZARE // VAUDREUIL-DORION, RIGAUD, PINCOURT, ÎLE-PERROT, N.D.I.P. & SAINTE-ANNE-DE-BELLEVUE



PHOTO BY CARMEN MARIE FABIO

Changes at the Chat

Hudson's historic Château du Lac bar will soon be changing ownership under the banner of 'Ye Olde Orchard Pub' leaving some existing staffers worried less

about employment issues than losing the atmosphere of a special place they describe as the centre of the community. (Left to right): Véronique Landry, Codey

Daly, Bobby Guilbault, Shane Halfyard, Shannon Conway, Chelsea Farrow, Rob Gale, James Randall. See story on page 9.

Inside

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"The people who are crazy enough to think they can change the world are the ones who do." - Steve Jobs

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How to continue protecting yourself and protecting others

Information and advice inside.

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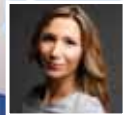
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2220 PLACE DU RELAIS, SAINT-LAZARE. Welcome to 2220 Place du Relais, this spacious all brick home has been lovingly maintained over the years by the original owners. Located on an oversized lot on a quiet crescent featuring paving stone driveway & walkways, impeccable lawn and many flower beds all watered by the sprinkler system connected to a private well. **\$779,000. MLS #26342066**



27 RUE DE CAMBRIDGE, HUDSON. Executive custom-built 4 bedrooms home nestled on 39400 SF in the prestigious Hudson Valley's dev. and backing onto the stunning Falcon Golf Course. It offers very spacious rooms with a high-quality finish. Master suite flaunts a cute Romeo and Juliet balcony. The private lot is fenced, backyard accommodates a large heated in-ground pool and hot tub. **\$799,350. MLS #10316268**

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37 RUE ROYAL-OAK, HUDSON. Prestigious open concept house custom built in 2017 located on a very large private lot. Master suite located on the ground floor, walk-in closet and attractive adjoining bathroom. Magnificent kitchen with large island, quartz counters, apron sink, cabinets to the ceiling and high-end appliances. **\$669,000. MLS #27256151**

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HUDSON. 14 McMartin **Centris #22621356**



HUDSON. 260 Main Road SOLD! Listed and Sold by Lee Thompson & Lucie Thifault

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St-Lazare. Spacious executive home, very well maintained, 4 + 1 bedrooms 3 full baths + 2 powder rooms, features include cathedral ceilings, oak floors, 2 fireplaces 3 finished levels, Main floor master bedroom, main floor laundry room, basement bedroom with ensuite bath, walk-out basement wine cellar, screened-in veranda, inground pool, Sunny backyard! **\$729,000**

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HUDSON - CENTRIS #20167364. Spacious family with character on a quiet crescent.



SAINT-LAZARE - CENTRIS #16646756. 3 bdrm, renovated kitchen open to fmr, fin. Bsmnt.



HUDSON - CENTRIS #18181266. Spacious updated 4 bedroom home.



SAINT-LAZARE - CENTRIS #11194835. Spacious 4 bdrm, 80,000 sf lot, 5 stall stable.



THE JOURNAL FILE PHOTO/JACOB ROLOFF
Hudson town council has given final approval to make a zoning change which would allow the Hudson/Oka Ferry operator to expand the number of holding lanes at the Hudson entrance, in hopes of alleviating the frequent disruption of traffic caused by vehicle backlogs spilling onto adjacent roads.

Hudson plans for the summer heat

Nick Zacharias

The Journal

The June meeting of the Hudson town council saw members get together via remote camera to move forward on allowing increased parking at the Hudson/Oka Ferry for summer traffic and permitting recreational use of sprinklers for kids to cool off – a heat relief measure for residents who have lost access to swimming at Sandy Beach. The beach is to remain closed for now but council is considering opening the community pool with new provincial approval.

Solution for long-standing ferry issue

Council has given final approval to the creation of a new zone at the site of the Hudson/Oka Ferry which will mean finally recognizing in law the acquired right of a ferry operation that has been in place for over 100 years, and allowing the property owner the right to construct additional lane space to reduce the overflow of vehicle traffic onto Main Road and Belview while motorists wait for ferries.

“Before this they couldn’t expand, but now the owner will be able to build lanes to allow more traffic,” said Councillor Helen Kurgansky, in charge of District 1, which includes the section that has long suffered from ferry traffic clogging roads at peak times. Notice was given for this change back in February and it has now had final approval. Kurgansky said there wasn’t a single resident objection brought to council over the proposed change so it would seem that residents are, so to speak, on board. She confirmed that ferry owner Claude Desjardins is willing to add a lane, so traffic relief should be in sight.

Relief from the heat?

Hudson council took swift action to shut down public access to swimming at Sandy Beach following a brief opening over the May long weekend and a wave of local complaints after the area was overwhelmed by visitors. The crowds of people, who reportedly numbered in the hundreds and were mostly from outside the region, caused council to reconsider the open-

ing and hastily close it back down with concerns over respect for social distancing, as well as garbage and basic sanitation. For now, the beach and the surrounding trails remain open for pedestrians to walk through, but no loitering on site is allowed.

Asked if the town would consider negotiating ownership of the beach (rather than the current agreement of a servitude for access between the

town and the land’s private owner), Mayor Jamie Nicholls said that council would discuss the idea. It has been suggested that this would allow the town to better restrict access to local residents only, though Councillor Kurgansky said later this would be complicated to achieve, since it would require the creation of a citizen’s card similar to those in other municipalities and the installation of a kiosk with staff to monitor entry. “There’s a lot to consider,” she said.

Let them have sprinklers

In the meantime, with a new well connected to the municipal water system, council has moved to loosen restrictions on the recreational use of household water. While underscoring that activities such as washing driveways are still not allowed, council tabled a draft to allow the use of lawn sprinklers for children to run through on hot days.

Said District 5 Councillor Jim Duff with a chuckle, “We don’t want people watering their lawns, but we don’t mind them watering their kids.”

For the wider public, according to Kurgansky, council is taking a look at reversing the decision to close the community pool this summer. Word came down on May 30 from the province giving municipalities the green light to open outdoor public pools with proper precautions in place, and council is examining how (or if) they could achieve this safely.

Lingering back pain?
Activity-related pain?
“home-office”-itis?
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SERVE!**

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we have taken to provide you a **SAFE**
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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given by the undersigned to all citizens of the municipalities of the MRC de Vaudreuil-Soulanges, that the “**Règlement de contrôle intérimaire numéro 229-2 modifiant le Règlement de contrôle intérimaire 229 - Mont Rigaud**” came into effect on May 21st, 2020 following the approval of Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Regions and Land Occupancy/ ministère des Affaires municipales et de l’Occupation du territoire and in accordance with Act respecting land use planning and development/Loi sur l’aménagement et l’urbanisme.

You may consult it at the offices of the MRC de Vaudreuil-Soulanges located at 280 Harwood Boulevard in Vaudreuil-Dorion, as well as on the MRC website.

GIVEN AT VAUDREUIL-DORION, this 28th day of May in the year two-thousand twenty (2020).

.....
GUY-LIN BEAUDOIN
Executive Director and Secretary/Treasurer

Trying times

There's been a certain uncomfortable air that's been hanging over our heads that doesn't have anything to do with the weather. Rather, we're gradually coming back from a first in our lifetime – a shutdown of our entire social and economic system due to the global pandemic – and trying to navigate this unknown that's become our new normal.

Information changes almost on a daily basis from instructions on proper protective health measures (Mask? No mask?) to guidelines for the resumption of pool/camp/restaurant/movies/ life.

We've become experts on things like alcohol ratios in hand sanitizers, where to find a good deal on disposable gloves, and how to care for our home-made masks. But trying to re-establish an emotional equilibrium at a time when we're restricted on seeing family, friends, and colleagues has been harder than expected for many of us.

It doesn't help that while in the midst of a fugue of emotional fragility, we're witnessing a regression of basic human rights in our neighbours to the south. And while racism is not limited to the United States, it's being fueled by a president whose views are tacit approval for erasing any progress in racial equality that had been previously attained. These are not comfortable times.

Ironically, it's during this period when we've been mandated to remain in our own little bubbles that we could all really use a hug.

The Journal

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Photo of the week

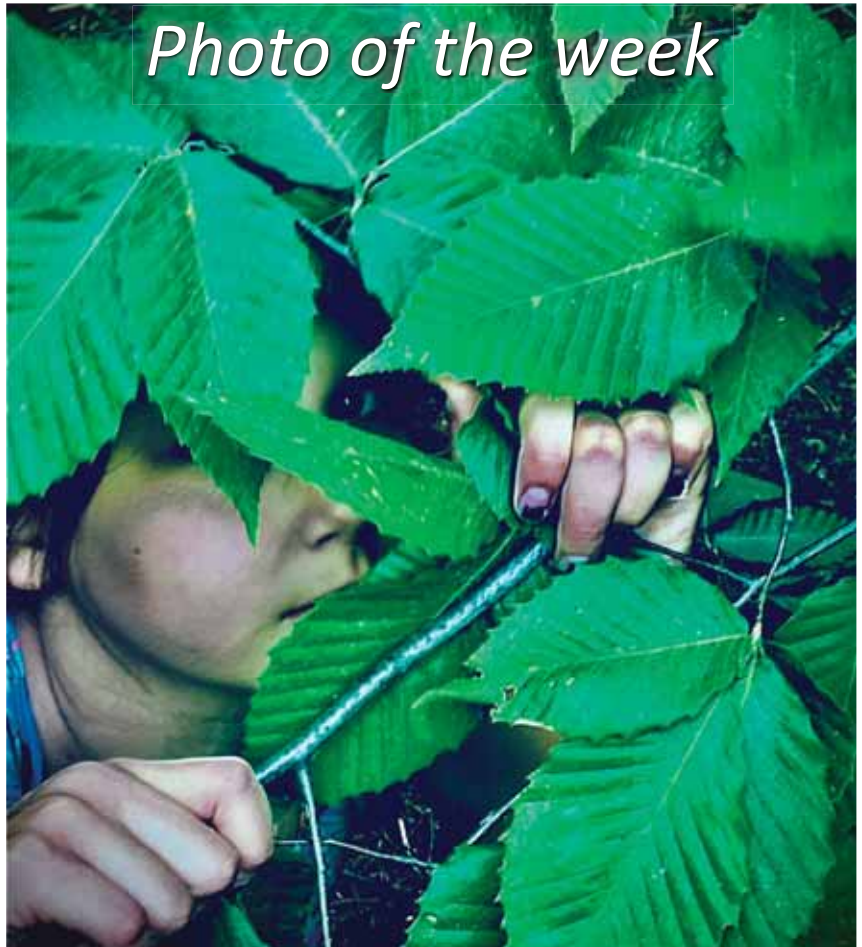


PHOTO BY RAE SOMMERFORD

Eleven-year-old Hudson resident Rae Sommerford snapped this image when she and a friend were having a socially distanced playdate, separated by a hedge. We're switching up our *Photo of the Week* contest this year. Photos will not be limited to the Vaudreuil-Soulanges region and we will be offering three prizes at the end of the year - \$200 for first place, \$100 for second, and \$50 for third. Interested? Send your entries to editor@yourlocaljournal.ca. We will showcase all submissions on our website at www.yourlocaljournal.ca/photo-of-the-week.

Dear Editor: editor@yourlocaljournal.ca

Give peace a chance

Dear Editor,

The death of George Floyd was brutal and tragic and the reaction of many Minnesotans is understandable. It's normal to want to strike back when innocent lives are destroyed, injustice is tolerated and encouraged and peaceful demonstrations are greeted with aggression and violence but normal doesn't always equate to right.

How many black and white innocent lives have to be sacrificed on the altar of retribution before people will open their eyes to truth? Does becoming a monster defeat a monster or do you just end up having two monsters in the room?

Racism is the enabler of the ignorant. If you want to defeat racism you don't become a racist. You organize peaceful demonstrations, you attack economic targets by holding back your purchasing power, you vote, you educate, and you use the powers of the internet and the social media to inform, not intimidate.

The blood of one innocent man, woman, or child is impossible to wash off your hands. A murderer is not only the man or woman who commits the brutal act but also the one who encouraged it, incited it, and enabled the perpetrator.

Respectable, honest, and sincere people are doing the right thing by demonstrating for justice and their quest, at times, is being hijacked by opportunists trying to create a mob mentality where no one's life or property is respected.

Agitators with their own agendas are out there fanning the flames of hatred and discord and some believe their actions to be righteous. They are not.

Putting your knee on the throat of a handcuffed man lying on the ground and choking the life out of him is not only wrong and barbaric, it is criminal.

Putting your knee on the throat of a small businessman and choking the life out of his dream is not only wrong, it is criminal.

Putting your knee on the throat of a police officer whose only crime was doing his job and trying to serve and protect all the citizens in his district is not only wrong, it is criminal.

Standing by and watching a man murdered, a business destroyed, or an innocent officer of the law viciously attacked is not only wrong, it is criminal.

Continued on page 10

The Journal - Democratically serving the public interest.

Collection conflict curbed

Nick Zacharias

The Journal

At a time when the Town of Hudson is making the transition to bi-weekly waste collection, coming in line with many other municipalities in an effort to reduce garbage and focus on streaming recyclables and organic material, homeowner James Martin has had a standoff with his recycling truck driver.

Tensions escalated

The conflict started with the driver, in line with policy, refusing to pick up materials that were enclosed in a plastic bag and thus not identifiable as recyclable. When Martin and his family attempted to comply with the regulations, placing appropriate items loosely in the bin the following week, pick-up was again refused, leading to a standoff and ultimately a letter sent by a lawyer to the town demanding that collection be resumed immediately.

“There were misunderstandings, but now everyone knows where their responsibilities lie.”

— Hudson Director General Philip Toone

The letter from lawyer François Beauvais, copied to *The Journal*, stated, “In early April 2020, the attendant responsible for collecting recyclable waste ... began to rummage through the bin and then dumped it completely in the driveway of our client to check the contents. This attendant then warned the spouse of our client that certain items contained in the bin were not recyclable.”

The letter then goes on to relate a “surreal” turn.

“On May 5, 2020, the same attendant came to our client’s home, then immediately emptied the entire contents of the recycling bin into the driveway and street ... saying that there

were still non-recyclable items, in addition to insulting our client in the presence of neighbours.” Martin says he checked with an independent recycling firm, and they confirmed that, “... 98 per cent of what was in the bin was actually recyclable.”



PHOTO BY NICK ZACHARIAS

Hudson resident James Martin said he hopes he has seen the end of a strange standoff over blue bin recycling collection.

According to the letter, the same attendant returned on May 12, took one look in the bin and declared to Martin’s spouse Katia Laurin, who was outside at the time, that he wouldn’t take it. He reportedly added, in comments peppered with insulting language, that they need not bother putting the bin out for collection in future because it will no longer be emptied.

Town responds

The letter went out on Thursday, May 28, and the town of Hudson responded the following Tuesday to remedy the situation.

“I got a call from the town saying

they would send a truck, but I already had the backlog taken care of by an outside company. They say they’ll be coming back to do normal pickup starting next week,” said Martin.

According to Hudson Director General Philip Toone, the situation has been resolved. “There were misunderstandings, but now everyone knows where their responsibilities lie,” he said, confident that the matter has been put to rest.

For a guide of what can and cannot be placed in the recycling bin consult tricycle-mrcvs.ca/en.

Vaudreuil-Soulanges municipal court reopens – with restrictions



THE JOURNAL FILE PHOTO/JOHN JANTAK

The Municipalité régionale de comté Vaudreuil-Soulanges (MRC-VS) released a communiqué this week confirming sessions of the regional municipal court of Vaudreuil-Soulanges have gradually resumed beginning June 1. In order to comply with the various health standards in place, court sessions will be held in camera and only Persons of interest will be allowed to enter the courtroom. Sessions will also be scheduled to limit the number of attendees in the courtroom, and people will have to wait outside for the roll call.

In addition, the regional municipal court and the MRC-VS have introduced other measures, including the presence of a security guard to enforce the various rules, compulsory hand-washing at the entrance, creation of a single direction in the civic centre of the MRC to

facilitate movement, disinfection of all equipment, as well as a room layout that promotes physical distancing.

The offices remain closed to the general public and only those summoned to the courtroom will have access. Due to the closure of regional municipal court counters, the Express Checks online payment service is now free of charge until further notice.

Access to this platform is available through the MRC-VS website at www.mrcvs.ca.

The regional municipal court of Vaudreuil-Soulanges is a court of first instance having jurisdiction in criminal matters in Vaudreuil-Soulanges. The municipal court thus serves a population of almost 160,000 citizens spread across the 23 municipalities in the Vaudreuil-Soulanges territory.

Celebrate your child’s graduation in



With the COVID-19 pandemic changing virtually everything in our lives so far, many students will not get to enjoy the rite of passage that is graduation, the culmination of so much hard work.

But you can commemorate your child’s achievement by submitting a photo and short write-up to *The Journal* for the low cost of \$9.50.

We will run a full-colour graduation keepsake section later in June. Please submit a photo with the following information:

- Student’s name
- Which town they live in
- Which school they would be graduating from
- A few notes from the family, not exceeding 100 words please! Payable by PayPal or credit card. Please submit on our website at:

www.yourlocaljournal.ca.

Anyone graduating is eligible, whether from elementary school, secondary school, Cegep, or university. And wearing the grad hat is completely optional.



Winging it



It was roughly two decades ago as my neighbours were heading out on a European vacation that I agreed to watch their property and feed their cats. And, just as they were about to leave, their youngest daughter showed up at my door with a baby bird that she'd found on her front lawn following a sudden downpour accompanied

by high winds.

Perhaps it was because I was a new mom myself that my maternal instincts kicked into high gear and rather than put the fledgling back on the grass to give mom a chance to intervene, I prepared a batch of Pablum to try and nurse it back to health. For the record, this is not the right thing to do.

Upon realizing that unless I was willing to predigest and regurgitate a worm for the little critter, it was apt to die so I opted to drive it out to Le Nichoir Wild Bird Rehabilitation Centre and hand him (or her) over to the experts.

Strapping my then six-month-old firstborn into the car with our feathered friend on a tea-towel in a shoe box, we headed out on the meandering drive along the L'Anse Vaudreuil to that then far off enclave known as Hudson.

I explained what little information I had on the baby bird to the tall British woman who greeted us and finished by asking her, "Do you know what kind of bird it is?"

She glanced at me and asked, "Do I look like its muh-thah?"

With nimble and adept manipulation, she quickly ascertained that it was not badly injured and that with some quiet rest and recuperation, it would be just fine. And, it was determined to be a Cedar wax wing.

Despite being nearly closing time, I was given a quick tour and a brief synopsis on the work the organization did. I learned that Pablum, or any milk-based product, was not good for young birds and that, in a pinch, canned cat food was preferable. I thanked them, made a donation, and was on my way.

Over a decade later, I came to realize just how important birds are to the area residents. Not only has Le Nichoir expanded its operations and continues its important education and rehabilitation work in the avian community, I've come to appreciate just how much the area residents adore their fine feathered friends.

There is an annual Christmas Bird Count in the Vaudreuil-Soulanges region in which people leave the confines of their fireplace, eggnog, and leftover stuffing and cranberry sandwiches (the best) to head out on a cold winter's day to count and catalogue birds at backyard feeders for the National Audubon Society.

We have a regular contributor, Donald Attwood, who graces us with his detailed avian observations in his 'For the Birds' column and our Photo of the Week section featuring readers' snapshots nets us more bird submissions than anything else.

If ever an article is without an accompanying photo, I rely on both Shutterstock and the *Peterson Field Guide to Birds of North America* to provide a photographic sample and Lord help me if I get it wrong.

I have been gently and duly chastised for my past errors and though I'm tempted to blurt, "Do I look like its muh-thah?" I refrain.

In the process, I continue to learn about the birds in our region and have a newfound respect for those who hold their welfare so dear and Le Nichoir whose mission in caring for our fine feathered friends is built on compassion.

A note from Vaudreuil MNA Marie-Claude Nichols

Physical or social distancing?

The public health authorities and the government continue to urge us to practice what they have thoughtfully decided to call 'social distancing,' which refers to measures to reduce physical contact (two metres between people) and collective gatherings (the closure of many public places). By now we all understand that 'social distancing' is **THE** main way to take part in the fight against the spread of the virus.

Although this approach is favoured and recommended by public health, the term has bothered me from the beginning because it implies that we have to distance ourselves socially, when really we need only do it physically. The terminology is so confusing that the government sought help from several personalities from the artistic community to remind us not to forget our loved ones, to contact them once a day, to get outside, etc.

Indeed, people need support and social connections more than anything – they are essential to our mental health. Even the World Health Organization (WHO), which is at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19, has identified these protective factors as being essential to our mental wellbeing and agrees that loneliness is harmful to our overall health! I am also of the opinion that 'social distancing' is a misnomer. The numerous directives are aimed at physical contact only. People **NEED** to be together, and despite the space between us, 'physical distancing' is a much more appropriate term.

So, as de-confinement has begun



PHOTO COURTESY OFFICE OF MARIE-CLAUDE NICHOLS

and safety measures continue, I invite you to keep practicing simple basic virus prevention rules – hand washing with soap (20 seconds), staying two metres physically from others and, when possible, wear a face mask.

UPDATE - Day camps

The provincial government has recently announced the opening of day camps starting June 22.

Given the circumstances of the current pandemic, specific measures will have to be put into place such as monitoring ratios per child and hygiene measures. These guidelines are necessary and will entail additional costs for organizations to safely set up these dedicated services for users and their parents.

Funding in the amount of \$11 million has been announced for private day camps and it's expected the government will soon announce assistance to our municipalities for them to offer day camp services as well.

POLICE REPORT



PHOTO COURTESY SHUTTERSTOCK

Sûreté du Québec spokesperson Sgt. Ingrid Asselin reports that last Friday evening, May 29, SQ officers from the MRC Vaudreuil-Soulanges station carried out an operation targeting modified vehicles in a public parking lot located on Boulevard de la Gare in Vaudreuil-Dorion.

Roughly 100 vehicles were there and since this same type of rally had led to several requests from citizens regarding

noise last year, the police carried out various inspections of these modified vehicles.

Thirty reports of infractions were issued, the vast majority for non-compliant mufflers as well as for non-compliant tires, missing mufflers and fenders. Some notices of mechanical checks were also issued.

Other similar operations are planned throughout the summer period.



Even during a pandemic,
**you can consult
a professional.**

If you need a medical consultation and have no symptoms of the flu, gastroenteritis or COVID-19, contact:

- your family doctor
- your medical clinic
- your family medicine group
- or Info-Santé 811 if you don't have a doctor

to get a consultation over the phone or, if needed, in person.



Cough into
your sleeve



Wash
your hands



Keep your
distance



Wear
a mask
(if less than 2 metres)

**Let's keep at it.
Let's continue to protect ourselves.**

[Québec.ca/coronavirus](https://quebec.ca/coronavirus)

 **1 877 644-4545**

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BRIAN GALLAGHER

Older, not wiser



So I'm definitely proud of all the work we have done here in Shangri-la to pretty up the place. Neighbours say it looks lovely, even had a couple pass by and compliment the front garden and the side patio. How nice.

Not that I am spending any time enjoying it. Because all that work on the property left me with a pinched nerve in my back that runs down my right leg to

my foot. Oh boy does that hurt. Like, really bad. It's my own doing – no one to blame but stubborn old me. Sure I can rip up that old walkway and place it on the other side of the garage! Build a retaining wall so we can make a nice garden? Absolutely! Pitter patter let's get at 'er!

Um, wrong. Seems that the old adage, "The mind is willing but the flesh is weak" applies here. Yes the old flesh and bones seemed to have disagreed with me about the workload I put on them and they mutinied. They put a work stoppage on me by hobbling me like an old mare put out to pasture or, in my case, back to bed. I seem to keep forgetting that I had surgery in February following surgeries the year previous on my legs to try and take the pain away from my old pal Osteochondroma. I think the words that the doctors, my bestie, my friends and the nice lady who delivers the mail keep telling me – "take it easy" just don't seem to penetrate past my large earlobes and into my obviously thick skull. So my body has decided to take matters into its own hands, err legs.

Well at least there's physiotherapy. That will help, right? Make me feel less pain and suffering, right? So I thought. Enter 'Annie' my petite physiotherapist. Highly recommended as she is highly qualified for medical cases such as myself. I have seen her before and she was very kind to take my appointment as an 'emergency' case. She is a very nice human being and a caring practitioner.

So how in the name of Aunt Margaret's corset can one small person inflict so much pain on a body in 60 minutes? Sweet baby Jesus I never cried so much since the last time I watched 'The Notebook.' Her tiny Benjamin Button-like hands seemed to be able to reach right through my skin down into the muscle and yank the bones right out through my body. And with each dying banshee scream of pain she would just smile sweetly and say "OK, only one more." Then there would be "one more" and then "one more" and then... you get the idea beautiful people. She wasn't stopping no matter how many times I tapped the mat three times or cried "Uncle!" I hope she's happy making grown men cry. I'll bet you she mops up all the tears to water her gardens at home and probably whistles while she does it too...

So all that to say I am going back there today for another 'treatment' ('torture' also starts with 'T'). I've made my preparations – brought Kleenex, emptied the bladder, wrote up my last will and testament. They say, "no pain, no gain" don't they? Well the only gain I'm getting is losing weight through water loss coming out from my eyeballs. But I know that it is helping me get back on my feet and the grass is going to have to be cut eventually right? So off I go again to receive my penance for thinking I was still 30. I won't make that mistake again, at least until the fall.



PHOTO BY JOHN JANTAK

Finishing touches are being put on the new chalet at the Pincourt swimming pool in Olympic Park which is scheduled to reopen sometime in early July – with restrictions.

Area summer recreation updates

John Jantak

The Journal

Saint-Lazare announced it will go ahead with the reopening of its summer day camp at Parc nature les Forestiers on Chemin Lotbinière although the number of available places will be reduced this year because of COVID-19 distancing guidelines according to Mayor Robert Grimaudo.

"We have a privileged environment – an outdoor day camp. All our counsellors will be very well trained in the measures that need to be taken to operate the day camp," Grimaudo told *The Journal*. "It's not going to be business as usual considering the number of participants will be reduced. The task will definitely be more difficult but it will be manageable. We should open on time."

Some libraries reopen

A semblance of normalcy is returning to some Vaudreuil-Soulanges municipalities amid the COVID-19 outbreak as libraries slowly begin to reopen their facilities, albeit with reduced services.

The Saint-Lazare library reopened June 2. Books and other materials can be reserved by sending an email or calling the library ahead of time. The reservation desk is open only to pick up the requested items.

Appointments necessary

"We then make an appointment to allow people to come and pick them up the materials because only one person at a time is allowed to come into the library. We check the requests every day to collect and prepare them," said librarian Melanie Therrien.

Materials can be returned strictly through the book drop located outside the entrance to the library. The items are then collected, placed into a box and quarantined for 72 hours before they are returned to the stacks.

Grimaudo said he welcomed the library's reopening. "It's a service that people need. We want to make sure everyone remains well protected but the library is definitely open for business," he told *The Journal*.

Returning materials borrowed before COVID-19

The reopening also means that people who have been holding onto library materials since mid-March, when a prov-

ince-wide shutdown of businesses and other facilities such as libraries due to COVID-19 stay-at-home requirements, will be able to return their materials to the drop-off box located outside the library without incurring any fees.

"We're not going to charge people late fees while the library was closed," said Grimaudo. Residents are reminded they will not be able to roam through a library or use any of the in-house services that are normally available.

Pincourt reopening library and swimming pool

The Town of Pincourt will also partially reopen its library June 3 using the same safety protocol that is in place in Saint-Lazare meaning users will be able to reserve their materials on-line or by telephone. "After they make their reservations, they will receive a phone call from the library for when they can pick up their books," said Mayor Yvan Cardinal.

The town also announced its swimming pool will reopen this summer in early July – however all swimming courses and activities of the Pincourt Aquatic Club are cancelled. Finishing touches are currently being completed to the new pool chalet. Town Council has decided to offer all Pincourt residents free access to the pool for the 2020 summer season.

Pincourt summer camp cancelled

Pincourt has decided to cancel its day camp, as well as the Chêne-Bleu camp. A statement of the town's website said that, "Cancelling the camp was the wisest decision in the current context given the many human, health, financial and logistical constraints, the most important of which is the safety of children and staff."

"The decision was a tough one we didn't relish making, especially in my case, since I'm a retired physical education teacher. However, we couldn't guarantee that the children and instructors would benefit from optimal health and safety conditions, nor could we offer quality activities for all on an equitable basis," said Cardinal.

"Our Recreation and Community Services team is setting up a new program to offset the cancellation of the camps, details of which will be announced shortly."

Turning a page on Hudson's history

Carmen Marie Fabio

editor@yourlocaljournal.ca

Just six years shy of celebrating its sesquicentennial (150th) anniversary, Hudson's landmark Château du Lac bar and hotel on Main Road is changing ownership leaving its current staff wondering how their jobs and work atmosphere will be affected.

"We had been looking for a place in Hudson and the deal with the old Cunninghams Pub fell through," said Ye Olde Orchard owner Darryl Grant. "Rob (Gale) from the Château reached out to us." Grant said the previous purchase of Pointe-Claire's Kelly's Bar, now named Kelly's Orchard, showed that the charm and ambience were preserved under the new banner and it would be a similar scenario at the 'Chat.'

Current Assistant Manager James Randall told his employees via Zoom that the new owners, the 'Ye Olde Orchard Pub' banner that also has seven other outlets, including Saint-Sauveur, Pointe-Claire, and Châteauguay, would be conducting interviews of the current staff while also accepting CVs for potential new hires.

Regardless of having an existing roster of almost 15 full and part-time employees, a Facebook posting dated May 29 by the 'Château Orchard' page – also the projected name of the new establishment – advertised that they're looking to hire.

Grant told *The Journal* that when Kelly's was bought, all the staff members stayed on and the plan is the same for the Château.

"We'll meet and interview them all," he said. "It's never a bad idea to get resumes from other people in case some of the staffers don't want to come back. There's no plan to get rid of anybody."

Some staff members see it differently.

"I was not offered my current position back," said Randall who's been with the establishment for 10 years, the last three as assistant manager. "They offered me what I feel is just a glorified waiter position. I feel it was more of just a way of giving me something rather than nothing."

Though Randall was hoping to break the news to the staff members himself, the news was pre-empted by the Facebook posting and, predictably, had an emotional impact on the current Château staffers.

"It was unexpected," said Randall who plans to stay on long enough to clear out bookkeeping and vacation pay issues.

Though the sale had been rumored, many staff members said they didn't know the sale would involve changing both the name and business model as in its current form, the hotel is not equipped with a kitchen and has traditionally been a venue to have a few drinks and take in local musical acts.

History

The Château du Lac bar and rooming house is presently owned by Hudsonite Rob Gale whose dad, Phil Gale purchased it in 1987 and in the last 50 years, it has only belonged to one other family – the Séguins, as Gale told *The Journal* June 2.

The popular watering hole has always housed a bar on the main floor with eight rooms per rent – all sharing a single

bathroom – on the second and third floors. In 1987, the charge for a room was \$25 a week. Replete with creaky wooden siding and historical charm, the Chat has a loyal following which the staff, without exception, refer to as a community akin to a family. A small portion of the interviews conducted outdoors for this story saw repeated waves, honks, and even an offer of, "cigars, Scotch, and Bloody Ceasars" for all the current staffers from passing motorists.

Changing demographic

This year's unfortunate timing of the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic coinciding with the Château du Lac's busiest day of the year – the annual St. Patrick's Day parade – saw a sharp decline in revenue on what would have typically made up for the winter sales doldrums and accumulated GST and heating bills.

"I'm close to 62 and up to here with my credit line," said Gale, adding that not knowing even a projected opening date influenced his decision to sell. "How much longer is it going to be? It's an unknown."

Gale said his hopes were to keep a semblance of the original Château alive and is confident the new owners will respect the establishment's history.

"I know a lot of people are upset," he said, "but this is the only alternative to the building being torn down and developed into condos."

Gale also cited a changing customer



PHOTO BY CARMEN MARIE FABIO

Though the new owner says it will mostly be business as usual when the Château du Lac bar becomes the Château Orchard, current staffers (left to right) Shannon Conway, Shane Halfyard, and Lindsay Lubell-Smith took the news hard with emotion overriding any thought of social distancing.

base, saying the traditional working class blue-collar crowd of regulars can no longer afford Hudson's real estate prices and the smoking bans have further diminished business.

"The young crowd used to come to the bar for happy hour after work," he said. "Now they're more likely to go to the gym."

Minimal changes

Apart from adding a kitchen and possibly a terrace out back, Grant said much of the Château's interior will be preserved. The front portion will remain a bar and the room off to the side will serve food and welcome families.

"We've added a coat of paint and refreshed the bathrooms but we loved the way it looked the day we walked into it."

Employee reactions

Staff member Shannon Conway said finding out the Chat was being sold was similar to the feeling she got when her childhood home was put on the market. "It's a place you feel an attachment to and where you've created so many of your best memories. The Chat has always been more than a bar to this community. It's sentimental to many of us; it's a little piece of home."

Continued on page 10



Pets of Vaudreuil-Soulanges



PHOTO COURTESY LAUREN MITCHELL

Welcome to our new feature showcasing and celebrating the many companion animals we have in our region.

Meet Ichabod the rabbit, age unknown as Ryan Lisi (pictured) is his second owner. Ichabod will show his affection by rubbing his chin on his owners' fingers and licking their faces. He also crunches his teeth when he's happy which sounds like a cat purring. He couldn't care less about the couple's dog but gets annoyed (thumping his hind leg) when the gerbils make too much noise. If Ichabod is happy, his ears are down but if he's mad, expect to see him turn his back and sulk.

If you'd like us to feature your pet in our new weekly section – dog, cat, rabbit, horse, lizard, possum (possum?) etc., send us a photo of you and your pet together, along with a short description, to editor@yourlocaljournal.ca.

DAMON ROLOFF

Composition



Composition is a major part of photography. Technical aspects make the photo recognizable and composition makes the actual content of the photo. Our eyes are led around the photograph as the structure of the photo creates a visual guideline. Appealing composition can be challenging but can be streamlined by understanding the basic elements of a well-composed

photo. These two elements would be the rule of thirds and leading lines.

The rule of thirds is a principle of photography. Essentially, a photo can be divided into a 3x3 grid. Each intersecting point of this grid is considered a point of interest. Ideally, the main subject of your photo should be shifted so it aligns with one of the four intersections of the grid. This rule is typically only used in cluttered photos such as landscapes with a main focal point, or busy cityscapes, and does not typically apply to portrait photos. The rule of thirds is meant to catch your eye initially, as you have the main focus positioned on an intersecting point, and your eye is led through the rest of the image. In essence, it adds a sense of guidance and flow to your picture.



Rule of thirds

Leading lines are more of an offshoot of the rule of thirds. Leading lines are geometric patterns and lines that guide your eyes throughout an image. However, they do not need to be distinct, emboldened lines. They can be more subtle, ingrained parts of the image

that do not typically stand out. They are integral to the composition of an image and are harmonious with the rule of thirds. These lines are typically present in images with repeating patterns, and with the rule of thirds, but are not restricted to the four points of said rule's grid. These guiding lines simply have to be a major part of the image – they utilize the converging points of the grid and guide your line of sight throughout the photo. The synergy of these two compositional techniques makes the content visually stimulating and engaging.

This is all complicated to explain in an article but the general gist is to lead you throughout an image. You should strive to have a flow when shooting a picture. Ideally, your main focus of the image should start on one of the four points of the rule of third's grid, and the leading lines starting (or crossing) one of the points should escort your view throughout the photo. This is the road-map you should follow and attempt to put into play when creating an interesting composition. I've included some examples to help visualize this more complicated concept, and if this article has helped you or piqued your interest, be sure to follow me on Instagram @youdontneedlegstodrive!



Leading lines

Letters

Continued from page 4

As Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela, and John Lennon all proclaimed, "Demonstrate, yes; feel righteous anger, yes; seek positive change, yes; but give peace a chance."

Frank Hicks
Hudson

Water worries
Dear Editor,

Once again, Saint-Lazare has water restrictions, plus the threat of tighter restrictions if usage is not reduced. Fines for not following restrictions have increased. However financial penalties will not alleviate the water shortages, but might deter others from abusing town water. The past 15 years of annual precipitation in our area have been one metre and above, so we cannot blame drought for water shortages. Recently, we had a heat wave. People watered their gardens and filled up their pools to make self-isolation more enjoyable. More water was used during the self-isolation period because whole families were at home for two months but if watering of lawns is the problem, a drone could easily identify offenders. Saint-Lazare's Infolettre stated that, "The level of some water tables is, at this time in May, comparable to what it was at the end of last summer." This statement indicates that the water resources of Saint-Lazare are 'borderline' as they cannot support a brief demand for higher usage, due to heat waves and a short term increase of 'stay at home' population. Water usage is approximately 300 litres per person per day. With a population of 21,000 that means 6.3 million litres of water per day is used by Saint-Lazare. Some of the same aquifers used by Saint-Lazare supply 20 per cent of Vaudreuil-Dorion's water. Hudson gets some water from an aquifer which starts in the same 'zone de recharge' where the majority of Saint-Lazare's water comes from.

Environmentalists predict a future with hotter summers and less precipitation so the local water supply may not improve. The population of St. Lazare is expected to increase to more than 24,000 people by 2024, and the town continues to issue building permits even though we do not know what sustainable water resources are available. Vaudreuil-Dorion will soon have a 404-bed hospital which will get its water from Saint-Lazare so the demand for water will increase even more. Saint-Lazare must push the MRC to conduct a comprehensive regional water study to determine the total water resources, and what level of population those resources will sustainably support, for the next 50 years. A comprehensive regional water study needs to be done *before* Saint-Lazare reaches a population of 24,000 and the hospital is built, or we could finish up with permanent water shortages.

Alan Nicol
Saint-Lazare

Quality medical care
Dear Editor,

As we watch our local hospitals descend into chaos – underfunded, understaffed, and overworked – we are facing a crisis

Located just across the border, the Hawkesbury General Hospital remains a place we all receive quality bilingual care.

Drawing on staff and patients from both Quebec and Ontario it is a beacon of calm and great quality medical care.

I consider us to be quite privileged to have access to their services.

The Vaudreuil-Soulanges hospital promised for over three years remains nothing but a sign in the field and I believe I will never see it in my lifetime.

May I strongly suggest you consider donating to the Hawkesbury General Hospital Foundation as I have done? It remains, and must continue, as a source for our healthcare.

They have been forced to cancel many fundraising projects recently and need our support.

John Denney
Saint-Lazare

Château

Continued from page 9

"It's been awesome," said bartender Bobby Guilbault, "a lot of good times." And while he expects to keep his job, he echoes his colleagues' melancholy at the piece of local history lost while trying to balance realistic expectations. "It's easy to get sentimental but if the new owners have the right mentality, it could be similar."

Guilbault, along with barmaid Lindsay Lubell-Smith, said they're both hoping certain traditions will be preserved, like 'Loser Night' when they were opened on Christmas (to a reported full house) the Pepsi Challenge (which counted the number of Francophone versus Anglophone patrons) and the many fundraisers for staffers and community members facing health chal-

lenges as well as stray dog rescues in the Dominican Republic.

Lubell-Smith's emotional reaction didn't come from the name or ownership change as much as – like many in our uncertain pandemic times – not being able to find closure by working a final shift and having that personal connection with the regular patrons. Over her roughly 15 years working behind the bar, she's been witness to how much money was raised for various causes by the bar staff and patrons.

"It was so cool to see everyone in the community come together," she said. "I would hope those traditions would continue. This isn't just the centre of the town – it's the centre of the community. When you walked in that door, you had that sense of comfort and belonging. Will people have that again? That's the scary part of the change."



(Left to right, front row): Chris Merulla, Dolores Meade, Donna Munro, Glenna Vipond, Debbie Woodhead, Fay Powers. (Left to right, second row): Helen Murray, Linda Eames, Carmela Portelance, Penny McCaig, Joyce Pardo, Nancy Patterson, Yvonne Vogel.

Grannies going the extra mile

Jules-Pierre Malartre

Special contributor

Many charitable organizations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic are finding creative ways to engage communities and continue their outreach and fundraising activities in great part thanks to online resources.

The Hudson charity group Grannies Aid for Africa had to cancel their Annual Soup Contest and other fundraising activities this year. However, they will participate in the Virtual Stride Walk, a march to increase awareness and raise funds to combat AIDS in Africa, that takes place throughout the month of June.

"Grannies Aid for Africa stand in solidarity with grandmothers in sub-Saharan Africa," says Dolores Meade, Director of Grannies Aid for Africa. "We will continue to raise funds and awareness to support the organizations responding to the COVID-19 and AIDS pandemics. Consequently, we are changing our fundraising efforts by participating in the Virtual Stride to Turn the Tide. This is an annual national campaign when Canadians walk in support of the grandmothers who walk with purpose every day as they turn the tide of HIV

and AIDS and care for their orphaned grandchildren," Dolores explained.

"This event is something that the Stephen Lewis Foundation has done for years," Dolores added of the foundation named after the former Canadian NDP politician and diplomat. "Usually, people organize a walk in their towns. Now, we can't do those things together, so this year, people are walking individually, recording their kilometres, as opposed to doing it collectively as we've done in the past."

Participants can march in their own communities anytime during the month of June and add up their kilometres. People can make donations online by visiting the foundation's website at slf.akaraisin.com/ui/stride-to-turn-the-tide/team/288789 where they can also join the team and access other tools to help them record and tally up kilometres during the month. People also have the option of doing other activities in support of the fundraiser. "We have a chart that converts activities like swimming and bicycling to steps," Dolores added. "We can then calculate kilometres that way."

The website features a map showing the number of kilometres between various towns in African countries im-

pacted by AIDS.

Grannies Aid for Africa aims to walk the equivalent of the distance between two cities on the map, namely Lusaka in Zambia, and Harare in Zimbabwe, which is about 400 km.

"If we go more, great! This is about as much as we think we can do for a small group," Dolores said. "It depends

on your capacity and ability to do it. We're all grandmothers, after all."

The total distance between the various towns on the map (a little over 10,000 km) serves as a soft target for the Virtual Stride Walk this year. They are aiming to raise \$3,500. Supporters can also mail in their donations to 166 Fairhaven, Hudson, Quebec, J0P 1H0.

The event is open to everyone. "What we want from people, in addition to walking, is that they contact their friends and families, and send them our information so that they can become supporters," Dolores said.

Dolores feels there is a need for increased awareness regarding AIDS both here and abroad. "As it gets to be less and less of a problem here, people put it to the back of their minds. It's ongoing, and if we let it go, it will get worse, again," she warned. Groups aiming to raise awareness of the AIDS pandemic are therefore just as critical as ever, as is support for the cause.

Dolores and Grannies Aid for Africa understand there are many causes asking for donations and that the COVID-19 pandemic has made it harder for most people to donate. "All of these causes are worthwhile, and I personally wouldn't fault anybody who chose a cause other than ours at this point, because there are so many competing ones, but ours is important," Dolores said.



The Grannies are aiming to raise \$3500 in their accumulated distance traveled representative of the number of kilometres between various towns in African countries impacted by AIDS.



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ESSENTIAL WORKERS

The Journal
www.journaljournal.ca

How to continue protecting yourself and protecting others

While the activities of life have gradually begun to resume in Québec, abiding by health instructions remains essential to keeping the virus from spreading. This requires changes to everyone's daily habits.

HERE IS WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO:

- ✓ **Remain at home if you have symptoms of COVID-19.**
- ✓ **Remain at home whenever possible through telework and online ordering.**
- ✓ **Restrict the number of people with whom you have live contact** (no more than 10 people from a maximum of three different addresses for outdoor gatherings).
- ✓ **Always keep a distance of two metres from between yourself and other people, except those who live in your home.**
- ✓ **Always wear a mask or face covering when you are unable to meet the two-metre rule in public settings.**
- ✓ **Wash your hands often with soap or a sanitizer.**
- ✓ **Abide by the breathing etiquette by coughing into your mask or the crook of your elbow.**
- ✓ **Clean and disinfect all frequently touched surfaces.**
- ✓ **If possible, avoid unnecessarily touching surfaces and objects.**
- ✓ **Do not share objects such as balloons, papers, dishware, etc.**



Keep a distance of two metres between yourself and others, because:

- The virus spreads from one person to other by contact with infected droplets projected into the air when an infected person breathes, speaks, coughs or sneezes.
- The infected droplets **can be projected up to a distance of two metres** and therefore reach anyone who is close by.
- Some people with no symptoms or symptoms that have not yet developed can unknowingly transmit the virus to others.



Why is it so important to wear a mask or face covering?

- It can protect you when you are unable to follow the two-metre rule, and the virus can be transmitted between people by contact with droplets from an infected person that are projected into the air at up to that distance.



Why are only outdoor gatherings of no more than 10 people (ideally from at most three households) permitted?

- Because the probability that an individual will become infected depends on the number of people with whom they are in contact; the probability that any one of those people is already infected and contagious; the degree of their intimacy; the duration of contact and the protective measures taken to limit the transmission of the infection.
- For example, if a person meets five times with nine different people, they will have been in contact with 45 people in total. It is therefore important to limit our contacts, and ideally to favor gatherings with the same people.
- The fewer the number of people in the same location, the lower the risk of being in contact with an infected person, whether that person is symptomatic or not.
- The risk of transmission out of doors is considered low compared to an indoor environment.



Why is regular hand washing so important?

- Even if the principal mode of transmission is from infected droplets projected into the air through talking or coughing in proximity to others, the virus can also spread by touching contaminated surfaces or objects.
- The unwashed or non-sanitized hands of an infected person (whether or not that person is aware of their situation) can contaminate objects and surfaces nearby by touching them.
- Anyone can catch the virus by touching a contaminated surface then touching their eyes, mouth or nose.

[Québec.ca/coronavirus](https://quebec.ca/coronavirus)

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Québec 

MOVIE REVIEW

MATT MILLER

Movies You Might Have Missed



Title: *Paddington (1&2)* (2014 & 2017)

Directed: Paul King

Genre: Family/Comedy

Available on: Netflix

Brief Synopsis: An inquisitive and marmalade loving bear travels from the jungles of Peru to the busy streets of London, where he is taken in by the Brown family.

Scores: 97 & 100% Rotten Tomatoes

Review:

Good news is getting harder and harder to come by these days. That may have been true for a while now, but ever since our world came to a screeching halt mid-March, it has become more pronounced. Whatever thrill there was from new experiences (the home-haircuts, the bread baking, the ridiculously overcrowded Zoom Calls) have worn off by now. We are not even close to the midway point of this pandemic, yet we are already in a mid-life pandemic crisis, each looking for our COVID-19 version of buying a convertible. For many of us, our isolation-induced despair is synchronous with our Netflix viewing: We are spiraling deeper and deeper down, grasping at anything new in hopes it entertains us. This leads us to find pleasure in the most unusual of places, and for me, it was two of the most surprisingly enjoyable films I have seen in a while: *Paddington 1 & 2*.

Having not grown up with the children's books, nor having children myself, I felt no inkling to watch the films. Yet due to an ever-windling supply of unwatched Netflix content, in addition to some high critical praise, *Paddington* got a chance. Having (literally, I have a list) watched over 2000 movies, I have realized nothing brings me more joy than to realize I have completely misjudged a film by its (electronic) cover, and with *Paddington*, I luckily made the most wonderful mistake.

Through the two films, we follow the adventures of the titular *Paddington Bear*; a sweet, clumsy, marmalade addict who has made his way to London and finds a new home with the Brown family. The film works as a touching allegory for migrants, particularly refugees. While the young bear is clearly different, he quickly brightens and betters everyone around him with his talents and charm. It is impossible not to love this little bear yet, unsurprisingly, many still do and call for him to be deported, detained, or even imprisoned. If it seems unrealistic, remember that there are children separated from their families in cages on the America-Mexico border. The late *Paddington Bear* author Michael Bond specifically stated *Paddington* was to represent all the refugee children he saw during WWII, many cast away and mistreated. It is heartbreaking that we can't improve on Bond's story almost a century later.

Paddington succeeds in conveying a whimsical, playful style – something that is very difficult to do without becoming saccharine – and is bolstered by having some excellent performances, particularly from Nicole Kidman and Hugh Grant, with the latter giving his

best work in almost 15 years.

The greatest character, though, is the beautiful portrayal of London in the film, which is so steeped in Anglophilia that you can basically taste the tea. So, as we all clamor for good news while being anchored to our homes, and our urge to travel and explore may feel overwhelming, live vicariously through a small bear in a film that feels like a handwritten, heart-felt postcard.



PHOTO COURTESY IMDB

Saint-Lazare reminds residents to limit water consumption

Situation stabilizes in Vaudreuil-Dorion

John Jantak

The Journal



PHOTO COURTESY SHUTTERSTOCK

The recent heat wave saw many residents looking to cool off in with increased water consumption leading to a dip in reserves.

The Town of Saint-Lazare is asking residents to be mindful of their water usage habits after the record-setting heat wave in the Vaudreuil-Soulanges region last week resulted in a significant amount of water consumption that decreased the volume in its reserves.

"The amount of water consumed last week was enormous," Mayor Robert Grimaudo told *The Journal*. "We were witnessing consumption rates during the heat wave that we normally see in during the hot periods in July. We needed to pull back a little bit."

Firefighting difficulties

The town's appeal to reduce water usage helped to stabilize levels in its reserve. The major problem Saint-Lazare faces from increased usage is that it reduces the water pressure in the city's fire hydrant system which would make it harder for the town's fire department to adequately respond to an emergency situation, said Grimaudo.

"The danger is always for fire protection. When it comes to reserves, we always have to make sure we have an adequate water supply. This has to be a priority. The problem is we've never seen a heat wave like this in May," said Grimaudo.

Swimming pools and lawns

"People were filling their pools and watering newly planted lawns. This usually isn't an issue under normal circumstances. But the heat wave we had last week was in no way a normal circumstance. It resulted in an unprecedented increase in water consumption for this time of the year," said Grimaudo.

While the amount of water in the town's reserves is stabilizing, Grimaudo said residents still have to pay close attention to their usage habits in order to avoid having the town issue additional restriction advisories as the weather gets warmer.

The town also issued an advisory

May 28 stating that if consumption was not reduced, a complete watering ban throughout Saint-Lazare would be implemented.

Vaudreuil-Dorion water restrictions

The unprecedented heat wave also caused an overconsumption of water in Vaudreuil-Dorion last week which prompted the city to issue its own water restrictions. The situation became so critical that the city was also concerned about its ability to provide adequate firefighting services because of low pressure.

"We just want people to respect the rules. It's for their own good," Mayor Guy Pilon told *The Journal*. "It wouldn't be a good situation if we couldn't provide our fire protection service in a certain district because people are consuming too much water."

Residents should remain vigilant

The city's water supply has returned to normal since the weather has stabilized but Pilon wants residents to remain vigilant about their consumption habits. He noted that at the height of the heat wave, the amount of water consumed in Vaudreuil-Dorion which has about 40,000 residents, was equivalent to a city of 125,000 residents.

The city's municipal patrol and inspectors from the planning department are continuing their surveillance throughout the city to make sure residents are complying with lawn watering regulations. Failure to comply will result in a fine ranging from \$150 to \$2,000 for an individual and from \$300 to \$4,000 for a business, excluding court fees.

Up for adoption

Brownie, a 4-year-old male Labrador mix, spent his first four years up north in Waskaganish before he made the journey to Animatch. We don't have much history on him, but we do know that once he finds the right human, that person will be his one true love. He needs basic obedience training and lots of exercise every day. He gets along with other dogs but must be properly introduced. He has to take a pass on cats. If you have 10 to 15 years to dedicate to this lovely boy, fill out the form and ask



PHOTO COURTESY ANIMATCH

for Brownie.

For more information on Brownie or any of the other dogs available for adoption, go to www.animatch.ca.



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Home and Estate Feature



Amelia Robinson & Dylan White
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PHOTO COURTESY AMELIA ROBINSON

This beautiful home surrounded by greenery, just steps away from the Alstonvale Golf Course, offers all the peace and tranquility one could desire. In summer, your view of the surroundings is soothing and enveloping. In winter, it is a magical wonderland! The property is an oasis of serenity located in the heart of the prestigious Hudson Alstonvale development. Each element of the house has been designed with the finest attention to detail.

Continued on page 16



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Home and Estate



Featured home

Continued from page 15

Moreover, this practical residence can adapt to the needs of a young family as well as to those of retirees. It offers the benefits of single-storey living with an office with private access from the main entrance, a large laundry room, and a luxurious, hotel-style master suite.

This sprawling bungalow features top-quality materials and furnishings throughout. The gourmet kitchen is equipped with high-end appliances, granite counters, wood cabinets, a walk-in pantry and dinette. From the kitchen, one accesses the three-season veranda and a terrace - a space with a friendly and warm atmosphere, suitable for both big parties and intimate breakfasts. The master suite, with direct access to the screened veranda for morning coffees, features high, tray ceilings, a large walk-in closet and an incredible soaker tub.

Two large bedrooms with an adjoining Jack-and Jill bathroom are positioned on the opposite side of the house, offering privacy for out-of-town guests and family. The home offers a fully-finished basement, with room for a gym, game room, home theatre and substantial storage area. This manicured property

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is private, with no rear neighbours, and is kept lush all summer long with an integrated sprinkler system.

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PHOTO BY DAMON ROLOFF

Carrot fries

C.J. Maxwell

Special contributor

There are two types of carrots that grace the grocery stores this time of year - the sweet crunchy Nantes heirloom carrots that are equivalent to Mother Nature's candy or the large, ungainly crop we refer to as warehouse carrots. Use these for this recipe and save the Nantes for savouring raw.

Fries

Wash and peel two carrots per serving - more if you're feeding big eaters. Pat the carrots dry - excess moisture will stop them from becoming crisp - and cut them into sticks.

Preheat oven to 425° F. If using a convection setting, 400° F.

Toss carrot sticks with enough olive oil to coat and add ½ tsp. each of salt, pepper, paprika and onion powder.

Place fries in a single layer on a parchment paper-lined tray and bake for about 20 minutes, flipping halfway through until golden brown around the edges.

Dip

- ½ cup mayonnaise
- ¼ cup Sriracha or other hot sauce
- Juice of half a lime
- 2 tbs maple syrup

Combine ingredients and allow to sit a few minutes for flavours to meld. Serve with the fries. Enjoy!

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Home and Estate

The Weekend gardener

Stubborn roses

T.M. O'Shaughnessy

Special contributor

My mother said I was very, very stubborn. Actually that's not completely accurate. In fact, she often attached the phrase, "as a mule" to it. But it's only now as I claim more reflective space in my days by semi-retiring that I see how true her assessment of me could be. Currently it's the beautiful rosebush sitting on my balcony that illustrates her point most clearly.

Yes, I've acquired a rosebush to grow on a 10th floor apartment balcony. After isolating under COVID-19, and watching apocalyptic scenes of pandemic and political unrest on television – not to mention the fact that it snowed a little more than week before the hottest day

ever in the history of May – I decided to throw logic to the winds and completely indulge myself with the luxury of a rosebush even though I live in an apartment.

What can go wrong?

And so, a beautiful shrub rose called *Les Impatiens* now sits on my balcony, poor thing. It's in a big pot about two feet deep and about a foot and a half across, and has been expertly planted by professionals, which bodes well.

As for its care, I'm ready to feed it more than if it had been planted in a garden bed. I'm also ready for all the other usual rose care things that apply. Like making sure the rose's root ball is always covered by earth. By making sure there's good drainage – and yet not forgetting that enough moisture must always be present in the container. Remembering



PHOTO BY T.M. O'SHAUGHNESSY

The rose called Morden always makes a lovely show.

to water into the base rather than watering over the complete plant to avoid dampy, moldy conditions is also on my list. And last but not least, making sure it sits in at least six hours of sun every day.

These are the things that I can con-

trol. With the coronavirus still upon us, and having to stay close to home for the foreseeable future, my rose is probably at risk of too much care rather than too little.

Continued on page 18

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PHOTO BY T.M. O'SHAUGHNESSY

The Canadian Explorer rose Jens Munk would also be a possible choice for a balcony rose arbour.

Gardener

Continued from page 17

As my almost 16-year old dog will tell you, it's just best to pretend to be asleep unless you want to be walked all day.

And of course, further care must also be taken to transplant *Les Impatiens* into a less stubborn gardener's yard in enough time so that it can settle in before the winter. Planning ahead, its destiny lies in my sister's garden in August with other orphan perennials from my balcony: a *dianthus* called Raspberry

Swirl, scented like some wild fruity-cinnamon jam, some winter savoury, and various kinds of lavender.

How it will all come out is anyone's guess. But there are already 21 buds on *Les Impatiens* who is living up to her name, clearly wanting to just explode into the 'bright pink, very fragrant, continuous bloom' promised on her tag.

So I think I have chosen well.

If I'd found a rose called *Stubborn Mule*, I clearly would've bought that one. But since there wasn't one, *Les Impatiens* seems like a very good, rather apt, stand-in, doesn't it?



PHOTO BY PETER ZEEMAN

Legion News



Rod L. Hodgson – President

Special contributor

Well the tulips at Place Vimy were in full bloom but why not drop by anyway and reflect for a few moments on why they were there. Read the names on the cenotaph and the plaques on the posts that surround Place Vimy that are dedicated to the various conflicts and our friends and family members who fought and died to make Canada what it is today; Great.

Twelve new memorial plaques for the posts surrounding Place Vimy have been ordered and should be installed within the next week or so. Thank you for supporting our cause. Currently we have no more room for any more plaques until we get these 12 installed first. Also, at the moment,

we are looking into purchasing a memorial bench for the Place Vimy park area. More on that at a later date as we are looking for an appropriate design.

On June 6 the Canadian flag outside our Branch #115 will be lowered to half staff in memory of those who lost their lives 76 years ago on D-Day, June 6, 1944 or as it was officially called – Operation Overlord. Many young men from Hudson were there that day storming the beaches of Normandy in the initial phase of the Liberation of Europe from Nazi Germany. Luckily all those from Hudson survived the day but sadly some not the war. Lest we forget.

If you know of a fellow Legionnaire or even just a friend or neighbour who is confined to his/her home and not able to get out for supplies; medications, groceries etc... please give them a call and try to help them out or drop us a line and we will do our best to arrange something. Our e-mail is rcl115@videotron.ca.

Lest we forget...



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We look forward to continuing to serve the community and are happy, as always, to hear from you.



Crosswords and Sudoku

Across

1. To such an extent
8. Software program
11. "Aladdin" prince
14. Bit
15. Cheer
17. Fine furs
18. Surpass
19. Haul
20. Apple sources
21. Abominable Snowman
24. City in southern Poland
25. Being
28. Conductor Koussevitzky
32. Pick, with "for"
33. Bakery selections
34. Sauce thickener
35. Cambridge sch.

36. Churchyard tree in "Romeo and Juliet"
37. Beauty
40. Little bird
41. Length x width, for a rectangle
43. Bickerer in the "Iliad"
44. Downed a sub, say
45. Having chutumpah
47. Good one
49. European blackbirds (archaic)
51. Chipper
52. Violin playing style
55. "Rocks"
57. A type of engraving
58. Pep talk
62. Put in office

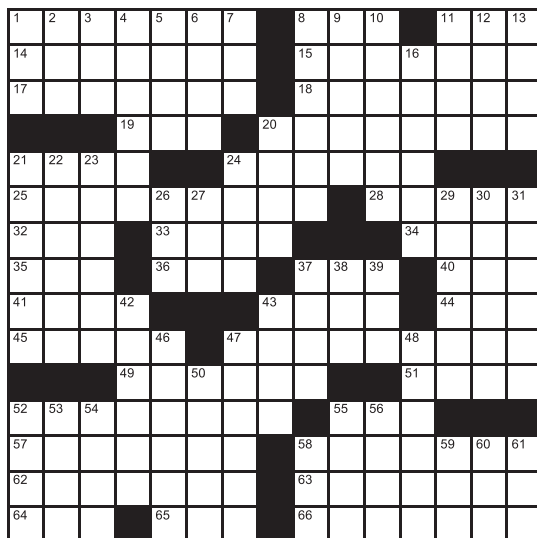
63. Former capital of Kazakhstan
64. Dear
65. "Comprende?"
66. Mooched

Down

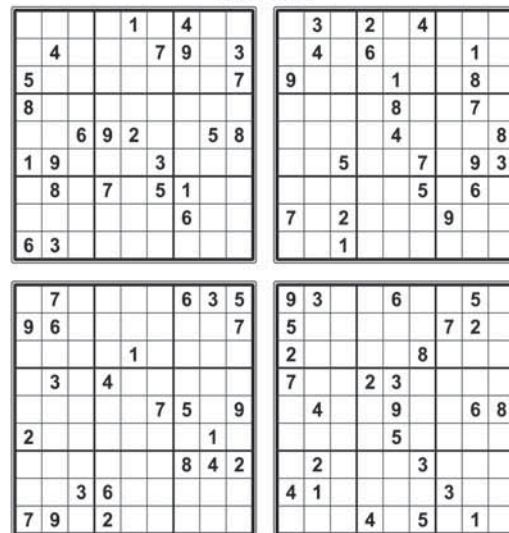
1. Anger
2. "___ any drop to drink": Coleridge
3. Total
4. Inflammation of the ear
5. A very dry sherry
6. Again
7. ___ gestae
8. Ancient meeting places
9. Sculpt eyebrows
10. Compassion

11. Jewish month
12. Do banker's work
13. Signs, as a contract
16. Sock home
20. Tolkien creatures
21. A petty officer in a navy
22. Run out
23. Self-conscious laugh
24. Experienced
26. "Don't give up!"
27. Look at
29. Spin
30. Instrument of choice for Hendrix
31. Scope
37. Beauties
38. Baseball stat

39. Fold, spindle, or mutilate
42. Long-legged bird
43. Angel accessory
46. State flower of New Mexico
47. Couch
48. Medicinal syrup
50. Cook in a little oil
52. Berth place
53. Durable wood
54. Acad.
55. Bermuda, e.g.
56. Botany term
58. Amigo
59. "A likely story!"
60. Adaptable truck, for short
61. Crash site?



SUDOKU



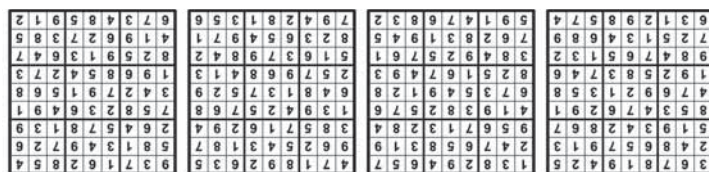
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Our **Photo of the Week** contest culminates every December with our **'Photo of the Year'** winner chosen by one of our sponsors. This year, there are more chances to win! The top prize will be \$200, second place will be \$100 and third place \$50 for photos taken by our readers.

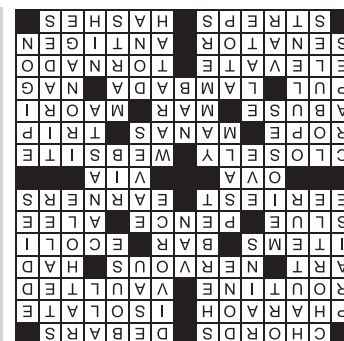
Have your cameras and phones ready to capture flora, fauna, artistry, and architecture. Every photo printed in the paper has a chance at winning the top prize! Send your entries to editor@yourlocaljournal.ca.

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178 Ch. Sauv , Rigaud

SPECTACULAR SITE - Great property for nature lovers, peace & quiet with a breathtaking view on the Ottawa River. Live the dream daily year-round or as a holiday retreat. Near hwy 40, 5 minutes to Rigaud city amenities. A real gem!

Centris #26861823

\$129,900



35, 1er Boulevard, T- Vaudreuil

1st TIME ON THE MARKET - The current owners have taken meticulous care of this charming home. 3 BDR, including MBR on main floor. Large garage, a dream backyard. A rare gem! See interior in 3D!

Centris #28250388

\$349,900



1915 Boul. Perr t, N.D.I.P.

TURN KEY HOME - First time on the market, well maintained. Interior open concept with cathedral ceiling, wood and ceramic floor. Basement with 9'6" ceiling, direct access to garage, ample storage space beneath garage. Home with a lot potential. Visit 3D photos.

Centris #19889941

\$365,000



2811 Ad lard Godbout, Vaudreuil-Dorion

QUIET AREA - Superb property with private lot of 10,000 sq ft, near parks & all amenities. First time on the market, well maintained house. Interior open concept, 4 BDR, solarium. Must see! 3D photos.

Centris #25089605

\$385,000



155, 5e Boulevard, T-Vaudreuil

IMMACULATE PROPERTY - Maintained with a meticulous care, pride & taste. 5 BDR, 2 BTH + 1 LDR. Private basement entrance opens almost limitless possibilities. Prime location, walking distance to commuter train and amenities. A true turn key gem!

Centris #19545646

\$449,900

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5104 Moffat, Vaudreuil-Dorion

INTERGENERATION! Bungalow. On quiet street, easy access to hwy 40 (exit 22), "Builder's home." Large rooms, open concept 9' ceilings, home theater room, bachelor, attached garage + large separated heated garage. No rear neighbor!

Centris #10601768

\$580,000



256 Ch. De l'Anse, Rigaud

EXQUISITE WATERFRONT - Property of 4 BDR, 2+2 BTH, boasting breathtaking views while being perched high & dry on an over 118,494 sq ft lot. The home & landscaping have been completely redone since 2014-2016. Your private oasis awaits you. Visit 3D!

Centris #14724174

\$700,000



5136 Radisson, Vaudreuil-Dorion

INTERGENERATION! Spectacular turnkey house that offers everything you need & have dreamed about. Superb home additions include intergenerational dwelling, oversized garage + a spacious superior level for multitude of uses. Must see! Virtual tour 3D.

Centris #17571136

\$750,000



**RESIDENTIAL/
COMMERCIAL**

1605 Daoust, Vaudreuil-Dorion

SPECTACULAR PROPERTY - Tucked off the road down a long treed driveway, it's a completely private oasis set on a pristinely landscaped lot. Boasting a huge heated 4-car garage, a heated in-ground pool. Inviting interior with a majestic central fireplace. Watch the 3D tour!

Centris #12892926

\$1,250,000



Lot Meloche, Vaudreuil-Dorion

WOODED Lot of 30,349 sq ft - With view of "Des Outaouais river" no front or rear neighbours, access to river, navigable. Residential zone with possibility of bi-generational. Easy access to highway 20,30 & 40. Nice opportunity to build your dream home!

Centris #241621296

\$159,000



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- 3 BEDROOM CONDOS WITH INTERIOR PARKING INCL.
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