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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2020

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PHOTO BY JUSTIN MASSAM

Voices carry

Très-Saint-Rédempteur resident Katherine Massam is part of a group of 170 citizens from across the two regional MRCs of Vaudreuil-Soulanges and Beauharnois-Sala-

berry who have put the pandemic isolation period to good use by drafting a series of proposals to various levels of government to improve our quality of life. The propos-

als were delivered October 13 to area mayors, MRC Prefects, MNAs, and Members of Parliament including the office of MP Peter Schiefke (above). See story on page 5.

"The greatest danger to our future is apathy." - Jane Goodall

Inside

- Pincourt residents at odds over forest price tag **3**
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- Legal queries in Saint-Lazare **7**



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Pincourt Vert says saving Rousseau Forest will benefit entire city

John Jantak

The Journal

Members of the environmental group Pincourt Vert have expressed their concerns about the city's plans to hold a mail-in and online public consultation process regarding the fate of Rousseau Forest saying that the preservation of the wetlands will benefit the entire city – not just those who live adjacent to or

near the forest.

Residents who live on the streets that border the forest received special notices in their mailboxes about two weeks ago informing them of the consultation process. All other residents were informed through the city's two electronic billboards, Info-P app and website.

Property owners who live on the streets directly behind the forest in

Pool 1 will have to pay a special tax of \$283.10 annually. The tax share rate for property owners in Pool 2 directly across the street from the forest will be \$215.10 annually. All other property owners in Pincourt will be required to pay an additional \$36.61 annually to preserve the woodlands.

'Very unfair'

Resident Denise Goudreau who lives across the street from the forest and resides in Pool 2 feels the tax burden should be shared equally by all Pincourt property owners because all residents will benefit from the forest's preservation.

"I think it's very unfair. It doesn't make any sense to me that about 80 people will have to pay an exorbitant amount of money for the forest when everyone else is going to benefit from it as well. Why don't they just make it across the board and raise taxes \$40 a year for everyone?" asked Goudreau.

Creating polarization

"What I'm really upset about as well is that the town has created such polarization between my neighbour and me. There's so much fighting going on in the Pincourt Peeps group on Facebook. It's just created a lot of anger. It shouldn't be that way. We're better than that," Goudreau added.

Pincourt Vert spokesperson Shelagh McNally said she is perplexed by the way city is handling the issue. "The informal poll we did revealed that everyone is quite happy to pay \$36 a year to save the forest. We don't understand why there's a differentiation between Pool 1 and Pool 2. To ask 80 families to carry nine per cent of the burden just doesn't make any logical sense," McNally told *The Journal*.

The city noted that the special tax rate for people who live near the forest is because they get special value for their money by living close to the wetlands.

Offsetting future environmental problems

But for McNally, the benefits extend beyond the immediate neighbourhood. "The reason we're saving this forest is to reduce the urban heat problem, provide clean air and offset the environmental problems we have with cars, asphalt and all these things. It's a space where everyone can go for a walk. It's for everyone - the whole city," said McNally.

"We want to recognize that the city has been working to save it and we're appreciative of that. We just don't understand why there are two pools. They're trying to buy the land back and we're very grateful for that. We're just perplexed that it was rolled out in a way that has people at loggerheads," she added.

District 1 Councillor Alexandre Wolford and District 5 Councillor Claudine Girouard-Morel voted against the resolution. Rousseau Forest is located in District 5.



PHOTO BY JOHN JANTAK

(Left to right): Ash Lowenthal, Denise Goudreau, Carole Reed and Shelagh McNally maintain that preservation of the wooded area will benefit all Pincourt residents and the burden of its purchase shouldn't be disproportionately delegated to a small segment of the population.

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2. Wait until you are called to schedule an appointment.
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Everyone's backyard

The population of Pincourt is slugging it out on social media following the news that if a parcel of wooded land – the subject of continued preservation efforts over the years – is to be saved, it will cost a small portion of the residents over \$8000 in increased taxes spread out over a 30-year-period.

Understandably, while nobody wants to see the woods developed, very few people are able to easily absorb the hefty price tag and many have expressed their frustration that the by-law was passed at a September council meeting that was inaccessible to the public due to the COVID-19 virus.

The ensuing debate has pit neighbour against neighbour with some attempting to justify how, with continued global warming, preservation of green spaces is of paramount importance while others simply don't want to foot the bill.

The Town of Pincourt is part of the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM), a city with a current administration which touts its 'Master Plan' in ensuring the promotion and protection of green spaces. The CAQ leader François Legault has gone on record promising to double spending to fight against climate change starting in 2021. And the federal government has recently announced a ban on single-use plastics by the end of next year.

The easiest way to preserve this tiny plot of hope in Pincourt is to have all the residents in the immediate vicinity cough up the purchase price. The fact that that's not going to happen should not absolve the city from exploring other financial avenues at different levels of government to find a solution to the problem.

Likewise, the people who have spent so many years advocating for the forest's preservation ought not to consider this a done deal. Your message has made it this far – don't stop now.

Whether literally or symbolically, this wooded lot is in everyone's backyard.



PHOTO BY MARTIN HOFTON

Hudson's Saint-James Anglican Church Cemetery captured by resident Martin Hofton. 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

'An enjoyable paper, as usual'

Dear Editor,

It was a beautiful front page photo on last week's copy of *The Journal* and an enjoyable newspaper, as usual.

Cheers,
**Ian Grant
Hudson**

Proud of work done by APPELE-Quebec and its allies

Dear Editor,

In the October 8 edition of *The Journal*, letter writer Chris Eustace accused me of hypocrisy. His claim is completely unfounded and I feel compelled to reply to his letter.

Mr. Eustace is not a fan of school boards. He is entitled to his opinion. But I am entitled to mine as well. When the Liberal government of Premier Philippe Couillard introduced Bill 86, designed to abolish school boards, I was a member of Cabinet and of the Liberal caucus. I took an oath not to reveal the nature of those discussions. However, I would like to inform your readers that the principles I am now defending as part of APPELE-Quebec, a broad coalition of organizations representing the English-speaking minority in Quebec, are the same ones I defended as a Liberal MNA. I believe that the English-speaking community has a right to exercise some control over its educational system.

It must be pointed out that Bill 86 was not adopted by the National Assembly. The debate was abandoned after public consultations were heard.

Mr. Eustace does not appear to be concerned about the defence of minority rights as regards to Bill 40. However, in a recent court ruling, the Quebec Court of Appeal stated, "The replacement of English school boards by the school service centres forms part of what... constitutes (a) significant

transfer of the power of management and control over the English language minority's educational system to the Minister and to the employees of the future school service centres."

As a parent and a grandparent and a graduate of an English public school in Quebec, I believe that our constitution protects my right to have a say over the English school system in Quebec.

I am proud of the work being done by APPELE-Quebec and its allies to defend our rights.

Sincerely,
**Geoffrey Kelley
Beaconsfield**

Objections from the 'locals'

Dear Editor,

Along with the huge population growth in Vaudreuil-Dorion, one of the highest in Canada, comes an increase in members of diverse communities such as the Islamic one. Seeking a larger place to worship they are looking at the long defunct Sunny's Resto Bar on Chemin Saint-Antoine. Again, as was the case when there was the plan to add a Muslim section to the nearby Catholic cemetery, there are strong objections from the 'locals.'

I know that semi-rural area well. It was along my commute-to-work route for decades. There are, in fact, few residences nearby; none within a stone's throw for certain. Heck, perhaps only a half dozen houses are within a rifle shoot. Looking up 2400 Saint-Antoine on Google maps will reveal that. And yet there are 500 or more signatories on a petition objecting to that move citing issues of traffic and noise. I suspect one of the names might be of the woman who lives directly across the road from that cemetery, the one that I would see using a leaf blower at 7 a.m. on a Sunday to clean the dust off her driveway in preparation of the day's visitors.

Continued on page 7

The Journal

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Reimagining society post-pandemic

Nick Zacharias

The Journal

The global pandemic has given us daily bad news – from deaths, to increased case counts, to seemingly never-ending shifts in what activities are and aren't allowed as we struggle to balance minimizing risk for the most vulnerable while not newly endangering others through isolation or economic hardship. If there is a silver lining to all of the upheaval, it is that the overburdened planet got a chance to breathe, and a group of citizens from Vaudreuil-Soulanges took notice.

Thinking forward

The group of about 170 people, which spontaneously formed over Facebook, is made up of citizens from all sectors including former politicians, students, policy experts and non-experts, and parents who want to see a safer and more sustainable world for the future at large. Their goal was to take the time given by six months of confinement to reflect, and to come up with concrete solutions for social and environmental problems in a post-COVID world.

They're calling it a social project worthy of the 21st Century.

"We were struck by the impact of the

containment on air quality and nature," said Très-Saint-Rédempteur resident Katherine Massam, one of the project's participants. "At the same time, the pandemic reminded us of the fragility of our system. So we began to imagine a world with less pollution, where our food would not travel thousands of kilometres before ending up on our plate."

Anne Minh-Thu Quach, who served for eight years as NDP Member of Parliament for Salaberry-Suroît, is another member of the group. Said Quach, "We wanted to offer concrete and positive proposals to help our elected officials to take courageous decisions favourable to the common good."

Targeted solutions

On October 13, members of the group hand delivered copies of their recommendations to all levels of government, including area mayors, members of federal and provincial parliament, and the offices of the Municipalité régionale de comté (MRC) for Beauharnois-Salaberry and Vaudreuil-Soulanges.

The recommendations focused on agriculture, gardening, energy, family and more, and the packages were put together to target officials specifically on areas over which they have jurisdictional



PHOTO BY KATHERINE MASSAM

Beauharnois-Salaberry MRC Prefect Maude Laberge is one of the recipients of the collective proposal from citizens across the region outlining changes that can be made by every level of government for the betterment of the environment and our quality of life.

control.

Of the many pages of recommendations, from the local to the national level, some highlights include:

- That municipalities allow the raising of chickens and the cultivation of vegetables in front of houses
- That municipalities reserve green spaces for community gardens, and that day camps teach children how to cultivate them
- That municipalities favour contractors who demonstrate energy efficiency
- That Quebec adopts policies favouring family farms, and promotes the availability of communal greenhouses

heated with hydroelectricity

- That Quebec refuses the LNG terminal project in the Saguenay Fjord for the liquefaction of shale gas
- That Canada adopts a strategy to decarbonize the economy and replace fossil fuels with more sustainable alternatives
- That Canada adopts a policy of buying local food
- That Canada and Quebec analyze the work and the value of unpaid work by women and caregivers, and that a way be established to remunerate this work.

Continued on page 9

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THE JOURNAL

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Too much of a green thing



My middle son has become quite the adept gardener and while I'm good with houseplants, I don't really bother with stuff outdoors that comes with weeds, bugs, slugs, etc. But he's keen on experimenting with growing food so every spring he'll pick up an array of seeds and/or established plants and each fall we're either treated to a bumper crop or he laments what went wrong. But nothing

ventured, nothing gained, right?

While this year was not the best tomato crop ever, it was still pretty good and I was able to make a few batches of homemade pasta sauce. But our real bumper crop was green tomatoes. Like, lots of them. And while the fairly large ones will eventually turn red, the small, rock-hard, emerald-toned bullets are frozen in time, never to ripen.

Years ago I made a batch of Green Tomato Salsa that tasted great so I dug up the recipe, gathered all the other ingredients and pulled out the cauldron. Hey, go big or go home.

Now, it's already been proven that presentation will enhance the flavour of any food and sustenance that isn't... 'pretty,' shall we say, just won't taste as good. The Heinz people discovered that in early 2000 with their short-lived bottles of purple and green ketchup. So, despite the fact that my salsa checks all the sweet, spicy, and umami boxes, when my eldest made labels for my first batch, he used names like 'Mint & Spit,' 'Frog Skin Purée,' and, my favourite, 'Ogre Phlegm' which may have entertained his brothers but made me kind of lose my taste for the stuff. The current batch remains in my freezer, untouched.

At this point, I still had a fair bit of green tomatoes left. Actually, I had more small green tomatoes than ripe red ones the entire summer. But I remembered another recipe from the archives – green tomato bread. Chopped up in small cubes, and mixed with enough sugar and spices, the two loaves were a hit with the whole family and reduced the overflowing tomato supply by almost half.

"Have some green tomato bread," I told my health-conscious son.

"That's not bread," he replied. "I read the ingredients." Indeed, each loaf contained half a cup of oil and a cup of sugar along with toasted pecans and a good dash of cinnamon. Despite the health nut's protestations, he managed to consume about seven slices, thickly smeared with butter.

Figuring I was on a winning streak, I next opted to improvise by making a green tomato quiche. Now, I'm a night-owl and have been known to start cooking projects at midnight and sometimes they work out, but sometimes, actually often, they don't.

And while the green tomato, sage, rosemary, butternut squash, goat cheese, garlic combo *sounds* good in theory, late night bad judgment fueled by a couple of glasses of white wine had me frantically trying to remove some of the excess garlic whist trying to neutralize the excessive fresh herb overtones. I thought it was horrible but bless my guys, they ate it.

Determined to succeed, I resorted to dusting off the deep fryer. We've all heard of Fried Green Tomatoes thanks to the famous novel and Hollywood movie but how many of you have ever tasted them? Here's a tip – don't.

Despite following the Southern Cooking recipe to a 'T' and even purchasing buttermilk for the batter, these tasted just like they sound – Fried. Green. Tomatoes. No amount of salt, ketchup, or highfalutin dipping sauce could rescue these little disks of disappointment.

I'm left with about two cups of the little green jerks and by the time deadline has passed, I'm making another batch of 'bread.'



PHOTO COURTESY RICHARD DUBOIS

The return of the Desjardins Vaudreuil-Soulanges Student Grants Contest

Every year, the arrival of fall coincides with the return of the Student Grants Contest sponsored by Desjardins Vaudreuil-Soulanges. From October 15 to November 30 inclusive, post-secondary students who are members of Caisse Desjardins de Vaudreuil-Soulanges are invited to compete simply by registering on caissevaudreilsoulanges.com.

Following the registration period, a random draw will be held in December to determine the names of the 50 win-

ners of one of the 50 grants of between \$500 and \$5,000, totalling \$60,000 in all. Note that the Contest is open to full members of Caisse Desjardins de Vaudreuil-Soulanges as of October 1, 2020, who are also full-time post-secondary students (vocational, CEGEP or university) in the fall of 2020 or winter of 2021, in one of the institutions recognized by the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur.

Continued on page 17

Vaudreuil-Dorion will hold referendum regarding new mosque



THE JOURNAL FILE PHOTO/JOHN JANTAK

Following a register in which residents voted against allowing a new mosque to be built at the former Sunny's Resto Bar & Grill location in Vaudreuil-Dorion, the matter will now be decided by referendum.

John Jantak

The Journal

Vaudreuil-Dorion residents who live in an area where a new mosque is planned will be able to officially vote for or against the project in a referendum that will be held by the city to determine whether the project will proceed or be scrapped. The register to hold a referendum was held last Thursday and garnered 157 signatures.

Democratic process

"I'm not surprised but like I told a lot of people it's part of the democratic process," Mayor Guy Pilon told *The Journal*. "We're now going to the next step which is to hold the referendum."

"Right now the people who voted to be in the actual referendum voted against the project. What you don't hear about is from people who support it.

Continued on page 17

Questions asked about legal actions against Saint-Lazare and director salaries

John Jantak

The Journal

Saint-Lazare resident Richard Meades asked pointed questions about whether there are any legal claims against the city and whether Director General Serge Tremblay – who has been on sick leave since the spring – has taken legal action against the city. He also asked whether council is under investigation by the Ministry of Provincial Affairs.

The questions were posed during the first question period of the monthly council meeting which was closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic but live streamed on YouTube on Tuesday evening, October 13. The meeting was presided by District 5 Councillor and Pro-Mayor Richard Chartrand. Mayor Robert Grimaudo was absent.

Legal claims

District 6 Councillor Brian Trainor replied to Meades' questions confirming there are three legal claims against the city, two from developers and one is a follow-up regarding the construction of the fire station.

The Journal made a recent request under the provincial Access to Information Act to the town to obtain docu-

ments related to payments made to the legal firm Municonseil Avocats totalling \$6,925.67. The documents were heavily redacted with all names blacked out citing 'confidentiality.'

"As to whether the Director General has taken legal action against the city – no. As to whether the city is under investigation, the answer is investigations are not public and therefore I will comment no further," said Trainor in response.

Director's salaries

Meades also inquired about the salaries of the city's directors in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. "Are all the dozen or so directors still earning \$2,500 to \$3,000 per week while many of our tax-paying peasants – his word – lose jobs and businesses are struggling to survive both financially and mentally," said Trainor as he read Meades' question aloud.

"The answer is the directors are making the same salary they have always been making and are still working as hard as they always have been and therefore are warranted to be paid the same. I find it demeaning that Mr. Meades used the term 'tax-paying peasants.' I don't believe the residents of Saint-Lazare should be referred to as



THE JOURNAL FILE PHOTO/JOHN JANTAK

Saint-Lazare council was questioned as to whether Director General Serge Tremblay (pictured), who has been off work on sick leave since last spring, has launched legal action to which the response was a firm 'no.'

peasants," replied Trainor.

COVID-19 zones

The town has also sent a request to the provincial Ministry of Health and Social Services to not have Saint-Lazare lumped in as part of the Montérégie or with the Communauté Métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM) when it comes to designating COVID-19 red zones throughout the region.

Saint-Lazare is following the lead that was adopted by Vaudreuil-Dorion last

month when Mayor Guy Pilon also contacted the ministry by letter requesting that a special zone be created exclusively for the MRC de Vaudreuil-Soulanges.

District 1 Councillor Geneviève Lachance said having Saint-Lazare grouped in with either the CMM or the Montérégie does not accurately reflect of the number of cases that are occurring with the MRC.

Continued on page 8

Letters

Continued from page 4

In Sunny's heyday, when the Quane family heart was still into running it properly, the parking lot would be full with mostly tradesman's vehicles every Thursday (the traditional payday) afternoon. Late in the afternoon, when there came the realization that they had to get home to their families with what was left of their pay, all those trucks would be roaring out of there looking like the start of a race at Le Mans.

That never seemed to bother anyone living around there. On Saturday nights the parking lot would be full of Purple Honda Civics and lime green Integras with exhaust pipes that looked more suitable for 18-wheelers.

At closing time the well lubricated, (the drivers for certain, the cars maybe) would head out to practice their drag racing and/or drifting skills on Saint- Antoine or the section of Chicoin Street just west of it. In the following mornings the long black lines on the pavement were evidence of a busy night. That also seemed never to bother the locals.

I suspect what is bothering them is the skeleton that Premier François Legault denies existing in Quebec's closet. Well, if you use only the exact wording 'Systemic Racism' he may be partially correct. If you changed it to 'Systemic Bigotry' he would have to concede. Prejudice towards *Des Autres* transcends race. Any non-white, French (mother tongue please) speaking non-Catholic is subject to it.

To allay the worst objections the town's administration made certain that

the mosque would be barred from having outside loudspeakers or religious flags, something the mosque's organizers never even had planned to do. And I think I read that they also promised not to do any wife stoning or ritual human sacrifices there as well... at least not outside. So it all should be good, no?

By the way – I suspect the installation of the new school on Chicione will be adding considerably more noise and traffic closer to the residences, yet there is nary a peep of objection to be heard.

Alfred Epstein
Les Cèdres

Negative message
Dear Editor,

Most of us, the inhabitants of Pincourt, want to keep our quality of life and our green spaces. We do not agree with how the city administration presents the situation with the Rousseau Forest. It is certainly necessary to increase the taxes to be able to pay for the land to the developers who had already bought it, but the city predicts things in very negative ways in its message. It is just pushing the tax increase to make people back down and reject it. The City of Pincourt should say, "We are going to recover this forest, enhance it, make wooden trails to protect wetlands and we are going to offer Pincourt a beautiful municipal natural park. It will cost money, but it's worth it." A lot of people would join, but the city doesn't present it like that. This forest, at present, is a little hidden secret.

Karine Ladieux
Pincourt

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KELLY MIYAMOTO

This too shall pass



We are already coming up on the end of 2020. Since the year started it seems like we haven't had a moment to think – never mind to relax - between one dire headline and the next.

As a 20-something, I'm used to hearing depressing and scary things about what lies ahead. Financial strife this, planet on the brink of destruction that, we know the drill. It's a dark and heavy cloud to have hanging over our heads while building lives for ourselves, but we have been doing what we can. Unfortunately, none of us could have predicted the events of this year to unfold the way they have.

Early on in lockdown, many of us held onto the idea of it as an opportunity to be productive, to reassess our priorities, and to have a reset of sorts before things go back to normal. We learned quickly that the pandemic and everything that has happened since it started weren't just a long-term break from life as it was. Before long we knew that we might never get back to quite the same version of 'normal' that we had before.

And now, we're heading back into familiar territory as we try to get ahead of spiking case numbers since lockdown measures softened. Some businesses are closing again. Rules around gatherings are getting stricter or more streamlined.

Other recent developments are a bit more intense. And ironic. American President Donald Trump and a significant number of those who work either closely with him personally or in the White House have tested positive for COVID-19. With this historic presidential election mere weeks away, an outbreak among such powerful people is sure to affect the trajectory of the campaign.

As a dual-citizen with loved ones on either side of the border, I have a fair share of concerns over what happens in both Canada and the United States. And of course it isn't only American citizens paying attention. The potential ramifications of this election go beyond America's borders. Canadian audiences and people from all over the world are tuning in to see what happens.

This upcoming American election has the makings of one of the most momentous political events of our time. That sounds like 2020 in a nutshell. I don't think it's a stretch to say that this will be among the most eventful and dramatic years that I will ever live through.

The way this year has gone has been scary and shocking to varying degrees. Sometimes I'm doing well, sometimes I'm confused and angry, and sometimes I'm anxious and sad. Other times I feel overwhelmed almost to the point of numbness by the constant stream of tragic or sensationalized news on every channel, radio station, and social media feed. 2020 has been exhausting.

I don't know what 2021 and beyond will hold, but I have to push on believing that most of the years ahead will be better, more stable, and more easily navigable. Until then, as always, be safe and be well.

A message from Marie-Claude Nichols MNA for Vaudreuil

The CAQ must explain how it will accelerate the Vaudreuil-Soulanges Hospital project

On September 26, the CAQ member for the riding of Soulanges, Marilyne Picard, announced in a press release that several projects in the Vaudreuil-Soulanges region would be completed faster than expected thanks to Bill 66 introduced by her government. Among the projects cited was the Vaudreuil-Soulanges hospital, an infrastructure announced by the Liberal government of Philippe Couillard and which should see the light of day in 2026. The deputy for Vaudreuil, Marie-Claude Nichols, working on the file since 2009, first as mayor then as Prefect of the MRC and finally as deputy, wanted to know how the deputy for Soulanges plans to carry out the construction of the hospital more quickly.

"The Vaudreuil-Soulanges hospital file is extremely important and awaited by the population," said MNA Nichols. "I have been actively working for several years on this major project. I was surprised to learn that according to the MNA for Soulanges the project could be carried out more quickly. With the ground having already been identified by our government, when it was in power, all the following steps were established according to a compressed and precise timetable. In my opinion, the steps that could have been accelerated under the bill have already been taken. I am looking for explanations as to which stages of the project will be sped up by its inclusion in Bill 66."

Bill 66 on the acceleration of certain infrastructure projects aims, according to the Legault government, to streamline certain procedures, including environmental processes in order to get projects started more quickly. In the case of the hospital, the land having already been chosen and assessed, the environmental assessments are behind us. All the preliminary steps having been taken and the first shovelful of soil will be done after the winter period. So what could speed up the



PHOTO COURTESY THE OFFICE OF MARIE-CLAUDE NICHOLS
Liberal MNA Marie-Claude Nichols is questioning how the proposed new Vaudreuil-Soulanges Hospital will reportedly be built more quickly under the claims of the CAQ government.

process?

"I am very skeptical of the statements made by the MNA for Soulanges," reiterated Nichols. "I know the file well and I can even say that the fact of having questioned the choice of land when the CAQ came to power delayed the deadline and it is thanks to the mobilization of elected officials and citizens of the Vaudreuil-Soulanges territory that the choice reverted to the initial decision. All I want is for the hospital to see the light of day and I dare to hope that this is not a simple communication stunt aimed at delaying this project with a population which has expected this hospital for a very long time."

The Vaudreuil-Soulanges hospital is expected to meet the needs of the growing population in the region. Thanks to the 404 beds that the establishment will have in addition to 11 operating theaters and the emergency room which will be able to accommodate 41 stretchers, the population will be better served. The project estimated at \$1.5 billion will be carried out according to a very specific schedule so that the population can benefit from the services of the establishment as quickly as possible.

Saint-Lazare

Continued from page 7

It is also bringing back hardships for restaurants and other businesses that have had to close a second time due to the pandemic.

Different realities

"We're not at all similar to an urban setting like in Montreal. I also don't think

we're facing the same realities as they are in Montreal and the Montérégie which is a large area that includes cities like Longueuil," said Lachance.

"We're not asking to be put out of the red zone or anything like that. If we follow the statistics that are coming out of Montreal, we would always be in the red zone. It's frustrating," Lachance added. "Our restaurants and other businesses are really being affected by this."

Local hauntings – The Pointe-Fortune Werewolf

Jules-Pierre Malartre

Special contributor

Over the next few weeks, in the spirit of Halloween, we will review some of the local supernatural folklore. Anyone with an interest in the occult knows about the most infamous haunted houses in Vaudreuil-Soulanges but local legends tell much more than just ghost stories. The area is also known for its tales of werewolves, sorcerers, pacts with the devil, cursed battle-grounds and other spooky things.

Whenever Halloween rolls around, many people enjoy rereading their favourite horror novels that tell stories of werewolves, vampires, zombies, demons and witches from distant places. However, we don't need to go very far to read tales of supernatural monsters – some of them happened right outside our doors.

While there have been no recent reported sightings of a werewolf in the area, there are stories dating back over a century of such beasts harassing residents of Pointe-Fortune. No one knows why Pointe-Fortune would appear to be an area of predilection for werewolves, but local legends tell of several encounters with lycanthropes which are remembered to this day.

Loup-garou

Unlike the werewolves of popular horror movies, the 'loup-garou' of Quebec folklore is not a ravenous beast intent on killing human beings.

"Werewolves are associated with evil," says Robert Payant, raconteur and author of *Le Légendaire du Haut-Saint-Laurent*. The Quebec oral tradition talks more of human beings turning into wolf-like creatures as punishment for failing in their Christian duties. One of the earliest tales of werewolves in Quebec tells of a mil-

ler from Saint-Antoine-de-Tilly (in the Chaudière-Appalaches region) and of his employee who, on Christmas Eve, failed to attend midnight mass. Both of them were transformed into werewolves. There are many such tales of taboo transgressions in our folklore that lead to people turning into lycanthropes or shapeshifters. In most stories, however, the apparition of a loup-garou is disturbing, even menacing, but not always ferocious like its portrayed in many movies and books, and this would appear to be the case with the Pointe-Fortune werewolf.

Near escape

These events happened long ago when resident Jean-Baptiste Séguin and his wife were on their way to visit friends in Ontario. They had left Pointe-Fortune in their carriage under the full moon. They crossed the frozen Outaouais River and their horse was walking at a brisk pace as the couple entered the woods near Sault. Suddenly, a strange shadow appeared at the edge of the road, close to the trees. The couple quickly realized the apparition was not a trick of the moonlight when the shadow suddenly bounded after their carriage.

Jean-Baptiste whipped his horse into a frenzy to escape the beast while his wife prayed to the Virgin Mary to save them. The horse had difficulty finding a firm footing in the loose snow, but the beast did not seem to be hampered by the road's condition as it quickly gained ground on the carriage. The monster eventually caught up to the frightened couple. It grabbed onto the carriage with one hand and placed its other hand on Jean-Baptiste. The beast then said, "You can't get away from me, can you?" And it then disappeared back into the woods. This story is a far cry from tales of voracious werewolves gorging them-

"Above all, we hope that this work will be the catalyst for the implementation of public policies and initiatives that will promote environmentally friendly and economically responsible behavior changes. We have to wake up and make a 180-degree turn to avoid heading straight into a wall. There are solutions, and that's what we have offered to our decision makers. The ball is in their court."

To see the full list of the recommendations, in French, to the municipal, provincial, and federal governments, see this story on our website at www.yourlocaljournal.ca



PHOTO COURTESY SHUTTERSTOCK

Stories dating back over a century document claims of a werewolf-like creature harassing residents of Pointe-Fortune.

selves on human flesh, but the alleged encounter left such a mark on the old couple that it is still told among their descendants to this day.

The pack still wanders...

There are other accounts of werewolves being encountered in Pointe-Fortune and elsewhere in the region. During his research through the Vaudreuil-Soulanges Archives when he was writing *Le Légendaire du Haut-Saint-Laurent*, Payant found the account of a lady in Saint-Clet who said she saw a werewolf while knitting in a rocking chair on her front porch. There is also the story of a child being born

with the mark of a wolf's paw after a werewolf is said to have touched his mother while she was pregnant. "In 1870, the July 14 edition of the *Gazette de Québec* mentions that werewolves run along the banks of the Outaouais River," says Payant.

So, local stories of werewolves have been around for a long time and, to this day, the legend persists that a pack of werewolves still wanders the protected wilds of Ontario where they can blend in among the natural wildlife and fall upon any hapless human beings foolish enough to enter their domain.

Society

Continued from page 5

A lot to think about

The highlights above (and others) are presented in the documents in greater detail, including substantial supporting evidence and specific strategies.

"We sincerely hope that elected officials appreciate this work, that they enter into a dialogue with citizens and that they listen to proposals," said Marianne Renaud Robitaille, who helped draft the recommendations.

Halloween in full view

Register now: ville.saint-lazare.qc.ca/en/halloween

DECORATION CONTEST

1ST PRIZE: \$300
2ND PRIZE: \$200
3RD PRIZE: \$100

HOUSE WITHOUT TREATS

Saint-Lazare

The health of others is in our hands COVID Alert app



The COVID Alert app is a complementary tool that you can use to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus. It lets you know if you have been in contact with a person who has contracted COVID-19. You will receive a notification and recommendations if you have spent more than 15 minutes less than two metres away from someone who has tested positive in the past 14 days. The app is free, easily accessible and keeps your personal information safe.

The app does not replace health measures such as handwashing, social distancing and wearing a mask.



COVID Alert does the following three things:

- 1 Notifies you if you might have been in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- 2 Directs you to relevant information concerning the steps to follow after you receive the exposure notification.
- 3 If you test positive, informs other users, anonymously and without sharing personal information, that they were in contact with someone who reported a positive COVID-19 test through the app.

COVID Alert does not do the following:

- 1 Access, collect or archive your personal information or information on your health status;
- 2 Use the GPS on your device to determine your location or any other personal information.

Use of the COVID Alert app is completely voluntary. You are free to download it, use it or delete it. **The more people use the app, the more effective it will be in curbing transmission of the virus.**

Votre
gouvernement



To download the app:
Quebec.ca/CovidAlert

How does it work?

The COVID Alert app runs in the background on your device, without hampering or interrupting your activities. The app uses Bluetooth on smartphones to determine how far away you are from other people using the app.

Every five minutes, it exchanges random codes with app users nearby. The random codes cannot be used to identify you or determine your location. It stores the codes on your phone for 14 days.

Every day, when your device connects to the Internet, the COVID Alert app will match your random codes and those of individuals who have indicated through the app that they have tested positive. Even if the app finds matching codes, it is impossible to link them to individuals. **Your identity and the identities of other app users remain confidential.**

If the app finds matching codes, this means that within the past two weeks, for a period of more than 15 minutes, you were less than two metres from another user of the app who has since tested positive and agreed to share that information with other users.

You will therefore receive an alert notification:

- that you may have been exposed to COVID-19;
- that informs you of the next steps to follow.

No personal information or location data is shared. It is, therefore, impossible to know when and where you were in contact with an infected individual.

How do you indicate in the app that you have tested positive?

If you have tested positive and public health authorities have contacted you, you can request a one-time key. To do so:

- Promptly call the telephone number indicated in the app.
- Make note of the key that you receive once your identity and test result have been verified.
- Enter the key in the app within 24 hours, after which it will expire.

If you choose to share your positive result with other users of the app, COVID Alert will not share any information that might identify you. The decision to share your diagnosis is up to you. **Your anonymity will always be maintained.**

Your privacy is protected.

COVID Alert does not use your smartphone's GPS and does not obtain your name, telephone number, personal details or any other health-related information.

Using the COVID Alert app protects you and your loved ones.

Quebec.ca/coronavirus

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Québec 

BRIAN GALLAGHER

What's in your (virtual) wallet?



Earlier this week was Amazon Prime day(s). Now I'm not a big online shopper, I still like to go to the store and try things on (oh, wait, can't do that anymore) or see, touch and feel the product (as long as I stand in line outside the store to sanitize, give my name, number, social insurance number and favourite colour). So it looks like the easiest way to shop now (and safest) is in the comfort of my own home.

Point, click, swipe. Wash, rinse, repeat. When finally I come out of my online shopping-spree fugue hours later and see the plethora of items piled high in my virtual cart I then have to sit with a cold compress on my forehead and sift through said 'cart' triaging the many unnecessary items that I greedily grabbed because they were a good deal with free shipping and 90 day return policies. And through it all, beautiful people, I had to try to drink my martini with my left hand because my right was permanently frozen in a U-shape the exact size of a mouse (computer, not Mickey) whilst my pointing finger unwittingly continued, oblivious to the rest of my hand, to tap out some obscure Morse code to an unknown recipient in a distribution centre in a land far, far away. And given that they are in the best shape of their lives, my enlarged thumb and pointing finger are now ready to take on other challenges such as making grotesque finger shadow animals or perhaps hitchhiking. Strange times, indeed.

Remember my promise last week to ensure that Crooked Tree Corner remained pristine this fall? Well I guess our old pine tree out front trolls The Facebook when I'm not looking (or peeks through the window) and took issue with last week's column. And in typical pine tree protest it decided over the last week or so to shed 16,789,431 needles over my lawn and all up the street. Obviously I have pissed it off (sorry for the bad language benevolent editor) because it keeps on throwing them down faster than my poor scraped, poked and pinched hands can pick them up! I have mowed the yard twice in the past week; not to pick up grass or weeds but to simply vacuum up those stubborn little brown pesky needles. But even though I have filled 10 of those large yard waste bags I think I have barely made a dent. Because like any good boxer, the majority of these tiny buggers bob, weave, and duck under the mower blades hanging onto the grass stalks for dear life. They might be winning the battle but not the war dear readers – they have yet to meet the fearsome force and awesome might of my rake. To be continued.

Speaking of Shangri-la, there is a new piece of 'urban art' that has popped up at Bellevue Park this past week in the form of a beautiful wood and Plexiglas bench. Created by Tina Struthers and Jacques Grenier among others, including contributions from a host of young artists, it is titled 'On s'aime ensemble.' The bench itself is visually striking and contains several panels that contain a beautifully colourful message of love, peace, and hope. It is right on the walking path facing the water inviting everyone to stop by, have a seat, smile and embrace the good vibes that this park bench emanates. A great addition to the beauty of Bellevue Park – Bravo to everyone involved.

Stay well, stay safe and keep up-to-date on everything you need to know with *The Journal* each Thursday and everyday online (www.yourlocaljournal.ca) for all the news on event cancellations and events that are still happening here and there, in and around the Vaudreuil-Soulanges area.

Sociable!

Up for adoption

Our gorgeous Kirk is a quiet cat who can be nervous so ideally he is adopted in calm family without young children. He really enjoys his toys such as the fishing rod with a stuffed fish attached. He also likes the ball attached by a string to a stick. He enjoys being on top of his cat tree or on a window ledge while chatting with the birds and squirrels outside. He enjoys his food and loves 'Temptation' treats. He comes to cuddle and purrs and licks us when we are petting him but sometimes he becomes overexcited and can gently bite. He never hurts us and is not aggressive at all. He is a long haired cat and needs to be brushed. He is not overly fond of being brushed but lets us do it as long as it does not last too long. He has hair in between the cushions on his feet and that should be trimmed when his nails are cut to avoid him sliding on the floor



PHOTO COURTESY CASCA

when he is running around. He sleeps at the foot of the bed with his foster mom and would love to be right in her face when she is sleeping but she gently pushes him away and he understands. We do not know how he would be with other animals but we are tempted to say that he would prefer to be the master of his kingdom.

For more information regarding Kirk, please write to us at cascavaudreuil@outlook.com

Up for adoption

This cute little male Lhasa-Apso, about 1 ½ years of age, was an unclaimed stray who was picked up by Animal Control and then transferred to Animatch. He was unsocialized and unpredictable. Tibet has now spent some time at École de Formation Inter-venants canins du Québec, where he found people he could trust and who would spend the time he needed with him. He's looking for an adult family who will commit to him for life, seeing that he gets daily exercise and good food. He is indifferent to other dogs and would probably do better as your one



PHOTO COURTESY ANIMATCH

and only. If you have the patience, time and commitment to devote to him, fill out the form and ask for Tibet.

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



Pets of Vaudreuil-Soulanges



PHOTO COURTESY

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

Meet six-year-old Sophie adopted from the SPCA by Saint-Lazare residents Shirley and Jean Leddas at age one. She was totally untrained with terrible manners but soon figured that Jean (pictured with her) was Papa and never looked back. She follows him to the barn, the mailbox, behind the tractor or the snow blower. She likes to nap with him and sleep close on the bed at night. She loves everybody, especially little kids. Such a kind dog.

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.

New owl



PHOTO COURTESY SHUTTERSTOCK

A small owl, the Northern Saw-Whet owl that hunts at night for mice, is fairly common but seldom seen.

Donald Attwood

Special Contributor

This season I've often walked the Taylor-Bradbury (also known as Dwyer) trail in Hudson. On a recent visit, there were not many birds to see. Among those I saw, few were cooperative: they would not agree to sit somewhere visible. They went darting through the foliage, demonstrating all too well their ability to disappear in a twinkling.

Small birds are difficult. They process visual and aural information twice as fast as humans, their hearts beat ten times faster, they live life in a faster lane. Between thinking "gotta go" and being gone, there's no gap. During the instant it takes to raise my binoculars, most small birds contrive to vanish from their perches. They have no inertia to overcome. Unlike a cartoon Roadrunner, they don't even leave a blur, just empty air.

So I was walking along, peering into thickets, hearing twitters and flutters, seeing shadows in the leaves. Suddenly, through the binoculars, I found myself almost nose to beak with a bigger bird, an owl. Owls are easy to miss because most stay quiet in the daytime. I stared at this bird for many minutes, and I remember waking, so to speak, to the discovery that my mouth was hanging open. I learned that a "jaw-dropping" event is something that actually happens.

The owl was quite still, with its eyes closed, less than three meters away and visible without binoculars, if you knew where to peek through the leaves. After some staring, I thought about learning its name. There are Barred Owls in this area, but this owl was too small to be one of them. Could it be a young Barred Owl? No, because this was fall rather than spring; our birds are all fully grown in the fall. They may look like awkward teens in some respects, but they're as big as their parents.

So who was this owl? My phone has an eBird app produced by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology; that's usually a good

place to start. My version of the app includes only birds in Quebec, and when I start a new checklist of birds I'm seeing, the app suggests only species found at this time of year within a radius of about 10 km. Thus I quickly learned there were five species of owls that might now be seen in Hudson. (No mention of Snowy Owls because they're in the Arctic for the season.) The eBird app conveniently links with the Merlin Bird ID app, offering pictures and info about these species.

One possibility was the Great Horned Owl; but if the Barred Owl (at 53 cm) was too big, the Great Horned was even bigger, so that was out. A Long-eared Owl would be a bit smaller, with a distinctive face and long ear tufts. Not my bird. An Eastern Screech Owl would be smaller yet, with prominent ear tufts, though these are not always raised. My owl (about 20 cm) showed no ear tufts and had a distinctive, pale, V-shaped eyebrow dipping to its beak. It was a Northern Saw-whet Owl – a bird I'd not only never seen but never heard of. It was silent in my presence but was so named because somebody thought its territorial call (heard in spring) resembles the sound of a saw being sharpened.

After a while, a bunch of chickadees noticed the owl's presence and decided to register their objection. The owl paid no heed, but I was impressed by how much noise can be produced by 10 or 12 chickadees, all giving alarm calls in one spot. This demonstration died down, and not long after, a couple of jays showed up to squawk at the owl. A handful of jays can make a big racket, but for some reason, other jays did not join the protest. (In almost the same location, I once saw a dozen jays drive a Barred Owl away with their squawking.) The Saw-whet owl opened its eyes and took careful note of what the nearest jay was doing, but otherwise remained still. The jays gave up after a few minutes, and a bit later the chickadees came back for an encore. The owl paid them no mind at all. He or she gave me a careful look, however. Wow!

MOVIE REVIEW

MATT MILLER

Spooktacular Movies You Might Have Missed



This Halloween, we're living through a pandemic that we've only ever seen before on screen. While it may mean a deficit of tricks and/or treats, there is one silver lining – it's a perfect excuse to cozy up on the couch and watch some of the finest, spookiest films. Get your popcorn ready, because this week we look at the best in the horror-comedy genre.

Horror and comedy. Frights and laughs.

While at first glance they may seem complete opposites, upon closer look they share a similar bond. Both are designed to get us out of our comfort zone and subvert our expectations. At times, the set-up to both scenarios may feel similar, with horror simply missing the comedic punchline. With that in mind, it should be no surprise that these genres have been played off each other for years. If you like your scares equal to your laughs, here are three lesser known films to keep in mind for the Halloween season.

What We Do in the Shadows (2014), available on Hoopla.

Maybe the most famous of horror monsters is the bloodsucking vampire. The infamous Count Dracula is the second-most portrayed fictional character in cinematic history – just after Sherlock Holmes (there are books where they meet, yet somehow no movie!). In *What We Do...*, Kiwi comedians (including Taika Waititi and Jermaine Clement) take the familiar subject matter and add a twist: a mockumentary approach showcasing the vamps as undead roommates. Being immortal, it turns out, can get a little tedious, especially when there are chores to do. The commitment to deadpan and situational humor are pulled off exceptionally by the cast, who make the whole film feel like an improvised version of an MTV reality show. With a comedic style similar to *This is Spinal Tap* and *Best in Show*, this flick is a welcome antidote to the overwhelming amount of melodramatic vamp-centric films that have become popular.

Vampires vs. the Bronx (2020), available on Netflix

Keeping with the vampire theme, one of the latest Netflix flicks offers up some biting (sorry) satire. For such a light comedy, the film dives headfirst into difficult themes, such as gentrification, social injustice and inherited poverty. Our protagonists are three tween boys from the Bronx who, in the process of trying to better their community and avoid the gravity of gang life, uncover the dark plot of a real estate company run by vampires. The shadowy company of 'Murnau Properties' (a nod to director F.W. Murnau who made *Nosferatu*, the first real vampire film) are systematically taking over the bustling Bronx community for cheap real estate – and easier prey. The film slyly styles the vampires as white, upper-middle class investors, willing to overpay for property, Whole Foods and boutiques. As the vampires infiltrate the neighbourhood they force the residents out, sucking the life and spirit from the community the same way gentrification happens in real life. Even more depressing is the notion that multiple bodies can go missing, yet no one of authority bothers to investigate the inner-city disappearances. While the film has some tonal issues, and a relatively weak third act, it is well worth the watch for the precocious young actors who tap into a *Goonies*-esque sense of adventure and give us a sense of hope for the next generation.

Happy Death Day (2017), on Netflix

Since the *Groundhog Day* concept of living the same day repeatedly has been played to death, it might as well include, well, death. Unabashedly over-the-top, the story follows the 'hot blonde university girl' Theresa, aka Tree, on her infinite birthdays where each day she ends up being brutally murdered. But Tree is no 'Scream Queen,' and she is not going to take things lying down. Deciding to viciously fight back, Tree sets out to find her killer and end them before they can end her. Delightfully campy, *Happy Death Day* revels in its slasher roots, akin to the tone that the *Scream* series set 20 years earlier.

Support your local businesses

C.J. Maxwell

Special contributor

Close to you, as funeral directors, from father to son since 1918

Some traditions are lost for lack of continuity. Fortunately, at F. Aubry & Fils Inc., the ancestral knowledge is passed from one generation to another, from father to son, with scrupulous attention to customer requirements, even with the smallest details.

The Aubry family has always sur-

rounded themselves with a team of very caring professionals. It is the concern for the quality of service that has made them renowned.

The team members are selected by their compassion, the quality of their listening skills, their professionalism and their ability to understand the pain and the grieving process the family is going through.

The staff of F. Aubry & Fils Inc. Funeral Homes takes this concept seriously – a funeral is a time to honour the life of the deceased and celebrate the heritage of

their family. They strive to make each funeral a respectful, fulfilling experience that meets the unique needs of each family.

Owned and operated by The Aubry Family, they are three locations in the Province of Quebec – Rigaud, Hudson, and Vaudreuil-Dorion Funeral Homes provide comfort and professional services to families in a facility close to home since 1918.

For more information consult aubry-et-fils.ca or call (450) 451-4421

A commitment to service

Finding the right plumber who meets your needs is never easy and most of us have lived through a plumbing nightmare – a bathroom renovation project that went wrong or a service provider who disappeared when you needed after-sale service. You can put all that behind you when you talk to the experts at Plomberie Montpellier-Daoust in Les Cèdres about your next project.

Customer loyalty is the best indication of quality service, both before and after sale, and Plomberie Montpellier-Daoust has been around for over 40 years with a client base that spans generations.

“We’re a family-owned business founded by my father in 1977,” says Karine Montpellier. “We put the emphasis on service. If people have an after-sale problem, they receive the same excellent service they received when they made their original purchase,” Karine says proudly. This focus on customers’

needs is the trademark of Plomberie Montpellier-Daoust.

Area homeowners as well as entrepreneurs have come to rely on Plomberie Montpellier-Daoust for trouble-free plumbing work. Your plumbing shopping experience is facilitated by their very complete showroom offering a wide range of products and brands sure to meet both your needs and your budget.

For more information consult plomberiemontpellierdaoust.com or call (450) 452-4524.

Discover the joys of winemaking

Crafting your own wine and beer is not only an interesting hobby, it can save you significant money in the long run and you get to tailor the end product specifically to your own tastes.

The experts at Les Vins Élegant are there to guide you every step of the way as you make your wine either in your own home or at the convenience of their location on Route Harwood in Vaudreuil-Dorion. In as little as six weeks, you could be enjoying your own batch of white, red, rosé, or even wine coolers not to mention a wide assortment of beers. Les Vins Élegants supplier provides hundreds of grape varietal from all over the world.

Bottles, fermentation equipment, filtered water and real corks are available for sale and a loyalty program allows you to collect points for a rebate on each purchase.

Continued on page 15

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Small Business week

Business

Continued from page 14

You'll save money and help the environment at the same time as the glass bottles are sterilized and reused. Cheers!

Les Vins Élegants is located at 3100 Route Harwood, #25 in the Hudson Shopping Centre. For more info call (450) 424-5222 or consult www.lesvinselegant.ca.

Get back to sleep with Cliniques Somnos

Never underestimate the power of a good night's sleep. At Cliniques Somnos, they specialize in the testing and treatment of patients with sleep apnea, a serious condition in which breathing repeatedly stops and starts overnight, significantly diminishing the overall quality of sleep. Sleep apnea sufferers experience chronic fatigue and difficulties with concentration during the day.

Upon medical referral, the experts at Cliniques Somnos can set patients up for a free home cardiorespiratory sleep polygraph test to determine the appropriate treatment. A follow-up discussion with a respiratory therapist will allow the patient to learn about the available devices and masks to treat apnea including the possible use of a CPAP (continuous positive airway pressure) machine. With or without an appointment, you can speak with a member of the medical team at no cost and finally get back to sleep.

Clinique Somnos is located at 17 Cité-

des-Jeunes Boulevard in Vaudreuil-Dorion. For more info, call (514) 282-2114.

Local designer adapts to changing needs

Hudson designer Sylvie Néron was quick to recognize a need in her community with the arrival of the coronavirus and incorporating her 30 years' experience in the fashion and design industry, she and her team quickly began producing breathable and comfortable non-medical masks for personal use. Made of antibacterial and odour-resistant fabric, the adjustable masks come with a convenient adjustable neck cord (for a limited time) and are offered in a range of stylish colours and whimsical prints for children. Adult masks are offered with an adjustable nose bridge to prevent eyeglasses from fogging up.

Early in the pandemic, Néron's work was recognized by Premier François Legault who commended her entrepreneurial spirit after she mailed him samples of the locally-produced masks.

Sylvie's masks are offered in three sizes and each comes with instructions on their use and care.

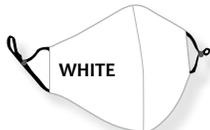
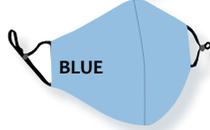
With rules in place making mask-wearing mandatory in all indoor spaces, now is the time to ensure if you and your loved ones must wear them, they should be the most comfortable and breathable option and the fact that they're made locally is an added bonus.

For more info, consult www.sylvienerondesign.com/boutique or call (450) 202-1200.

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Dear readers and advertisers,
 Yes, we're open but our day-to-day operations will reflect our new reality. Our offices will not be open to foot traffic. All communication will be handled by phone, email, or online through our website www.yourlocaljournal.ca.

We will continue to take classified ads and obituaries by phone or via our online platform but for the moment, no cash transactions are possible.

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

The Journal Team

CLASSIFIEDS

View, submit & pay your ad before 4 p.m. on Tuesday,
online at www.yourlocaljournal.ca or e-mail: classifieds@yourlocaljournal.ca

450 510-4007

SECTIONS

100- For Sale	175- Wanted	250- Real Estate Sale	325- Autos for Sale	1 week	\$15
125- For Rent	200- Careers/Employment	275- Garage/Moving Sale	\$24.95 until it sells (max. 3 months)	2 weeks	\$20
150- Services	225- Financial Services	300- Miscellaneous	350- Legal	3 weeks	\$25

100 - FOR SALE

Cage for small rodent(s). Comes with attachable water bottle and plastic food bowl. Not suitable for dwarf rabbits, suitable for rats, gerbils, hamsters, etc. \$50. Contact Lauren at (514)806-9486

Vintage 1940 Louis XV by Birks sterling silver dinner flatware. Set of 12. Total of 100 pieces. 450-455-7319 (201022)

Large assortment of used/new backyard sports equipment. Softball, bacce, badminton, volleyball, horse shoes, & much more. \$150 for everything. Text 514-231-3234. See photo at www.yourlocaljournal.ca/visual-classifieds.

2 twin beds, solid wood, French provincial style. 80"x 32.5" x 72" (height). Very good condition. \$200/each. China cabinet with hutch. Natural oak. Provincial style. 55" x 16" x 83" (height). Illuminated, adjustable, glass shelves. Excellent condition. \$600. Available November 1st. 514-292-6151. See photos at www.yourlocaljournal.ca/visual-classifieds. (201029)

Google Nest Hub, brand new, never opened. View and control connected devices from a single dashboard. Simply use your voice to watch YouTube and play songs from YouTube Music. \$50. Text 438-491-0133. See www.yourlocaljournal.ca/visual-classifieds.

Winter Tires. 4 Michelin X Ice. 225 65 R17 102T. Used Several Winters. Still good for one or two more. Fits Honda CRV and many other SUVs. \$160.00 for the set. Phone : 514 757 4560 (201015)

100 - FOR SALE

Firewood for sale. Mostly maple. Well dried. \$120 per chord. Call 514-758-5700 (201022)

Five large beveled mirrors. Two measuring 19.5" by 40" and three measuring 21" by 45". \$100 for everything. Pick up. Text 514-346-3234.

125 - FOR RENT

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Six spacious offices, reception area, kitchenette and powder room. Offices are on the second floor of the Hudson Shopping Centre. Available November 1, 2020.

\$2,000/month.

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175 - WANTED

Seeking licensed contractor to oversee/complete the renovation of our main floor in Hudson's Valley. Job consists of 2600 sq. ft. of porcelain tile, bathroom, kitchen, and living room re-model. Email hudsonsvalleyreno@gmail.com for more information (201015)

Looking for extra help cleaning 4 hours/week. Reliable and honest person only. References necessary. Valerie 514-575-2585 (201015)

\$ Buy car for scrap. Running or not, 24/7. www.scrapvehicule.com Call 514-951-4203

A Military Collector looking for medals, flags, swords, uniforms, documents, helmets, hats, all related war memorabilia WWI, WWII, Canadian/German or others. Antiques, collectibles, aviation, nautical, coins, badges, maps, signs. Please contact Patrick 450-458-4319, patrick148@ca.inter.net, 2760A Côte St-Charles, St-Lazare, Reni Decors (210211)

200 - CAREERS/EMPLOYMENT

Cleaning company seeking a cleaning person to join her team. Must have your own vehicle and a strong work ethic. Part-time and max 15 hours per week. For more information, please contact Deneise at (514) 865-1973

325 - AUTOS FOR SALE

'73 Lincoln Continental 4 door. Excellent mechanical condition. Call Brendan at 514-241-4635 (201029)

White Nissan Versa 2009. 120,000 km. No accidents, new battery, new brakes. Four winter tires on rims. \$4,500. 514-668-9718 (201210)

Chevrolet HHR 2007. Dark blue, grey interior. 179,255 km. Good condition, 5 speed manual. New battery, new clutch and gears, and brakes. \$2,000, as is. 450-202-0718 (201217)

2005 Hyundai Santa Fe V6 automatic Moka Frost. Runs well, recent brakes, radiator, alternator and battery. Bodywork good. Only 205,300 km. Second car no longer needed. Must be seen. \$1500. Call Brian at 514-453-9001 (201217)

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Offices are on the second floor of the
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Available November 1st - \$2,000/month

Call Marcel Leduc (514)602-4313

Desjardins

Continued from page 6

"In a context where it's important to value education in all its forms, post-secondary students who are members of Caisse Desjardins de Vaudreuil-Soulanges can count on us for tangible encouragement in maintaining their academic perseverance," says Desjardins General Manager, Gilles Brassard, emphasizing how pleased he is that the Caisse provides this important support for students' academic progress.

Pauline Thauvette-Leroux, Chair of the large regional financial cooperative,

stresses that cooperative solidarity is an important value for the youth community.

"This contest is one of the Caisse's major projects because it enables the student community who are Caisse members to obtain one of the 50 grants from collective member dividends. It's our way of collectively awarding grants to young people preparing for a promising future."

Since the opening of Caisse Desjardins de Vaudreuil-Soulanges in 2009, following the merger of local caisses, 700 students have received grants totalling altogether \$920,000.

See ad on page 19.

Mosque

Continued from page 6

If the promoter decides to continue with it, it will continue. If he decides to stop the project now, we'll stop it. It's really a democratic way for our citizens to be included in the process," said Pilon.

The mayor said it reflects negatively on the city that there are people who are opposed to the mosque project. He added that the same is true whenever a new school is built or other types of community organizations are set up in different parts of the city, such as the residents who opposed the Maison de la Famille when it was first proposed to open in their neighbourhood.

Not in my backyard

"People are told a lot of things and they oppose projects for many reasons. Some people think there will be too much traffic, other people are afraid of the noise. At the end of the day, when we go to the next step which is having the referendum, we'll know which peo-

ple are opposed and those who support the project," Pilon continued.

"At this point it will be very clear. If it's no, it's no and that's it. We'll close the subject regarding this building. At the end of the day it's all about people not wanting something in their backyard. They're not opposed to a project but they don't want it to be built near them. People support new schools as long as they're not built where they live because it will disrupt their lives, tranquility or whatever," said Pilon.

Outdoor flags and loudspeakers banned

The Centre Culturel Islamique de Vaudreuil-Soulanges which is currently located on Harwood Blvd has been hoping to eventually move into the former Sunny's Bar and Grill at 2400 Rue Saint-Antoine at the corner of Rue Chicoine.

In order to minimize negative feedback from residents about the planned mosque, the city adopted resolutions at a recent council meeting which prohibit religious flags and loudspeakers outside the facility which are traditionally used for the call to prayer.

Have an opinion on a current event or situation?

Go to our website, click on Letters to the Editor and tell the community!

In Memoriam

Ralph James Simpson

January 16, 1935 - October 3, 2020

With heavy hearts, we announce the peaceful passing of Ralph Simpson on October 3, 2020, surrounded by his family in the Hudson Palliative Care Residence, Hudson, Quebec, after a year long battle with cancer.

Ralph was born and raised "Up Cote". In 1953, at the age of 18, he left Quebec and joined the Royal Canadian Navy where he proudly served his country for 25 years, while raising his family in the home he built in Cow Bay, Nova Scotia. Upon retirement in 1978 he returned to his family farm on Côte St. Charles Road, Saint-Lazare where he continued to live and work until he retired "for good" at 82 years young. Ralph was an active member of the Côte St. Charles United/Wyman Memorial Church. He was also a member of the Hudson Historical Society where he proudly shared facts and stories of the history of Côte St. Charles, with his family being one of the original settlers of the area.

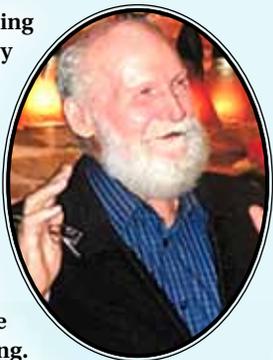
Ralph was part of the greatest generation, enjoying the simple pleasures in life like finding satisfaction in hard work, contributing to his church, his community, and spending time with family and friends across Canada. Ralph was an avid fan of hockey and baseball. In his spare time he loved old movies, collecting vintage tractors, traveling with Barb, and photography... Ralph was never without his camera, and his home movies from 1953 to present day will forever be cherished. Most of all, Ralph loved making memories with his beloved grandsons, Mackenzie and Parker.

Ralph leaves behind his wife of 64 years, Barbara (Morrison), his daughter Karen ("Karney") and her husband Dave Patterson; his son Terry; his son Todd and his wife Debbie Richardson with their sons Mackenzie and Parker.

We will forever be grateful to Nova Hudson and to Hudson Palliative Care (The Vaudreuil-Soulanges Palliative Care Residence) for their exceptional care, kindness and compassion given to Ralph. Should family or friends desire, contributions may be sent to Nova Hudson in Hudson, Quebec or The Vaudreuil-Soulanges Palliative Care Residence in Hudson, Quebec.

Due to current restrictions, a private family service has been planned.

May the songs of the angels welcome him home.



In Memoriam

Lee (Leona) Mitchell

January 2, 1936 - October 6, 2020

Lee (Leona) Mitchell, born Mychalina (nee Drul) On January 2, 1936 - It is with heavy hearts that we announce that Lee/mom passed away peacefully on October 6th, 2020 with family at her side. After a month of dealing with new and multiple health conditions, her prayers were answered to go "home" above to be with her Saviour and Lord.

Beloved wife to Ken Mitchell. Beloved Mother of Michael (Manuela), Stephen (Kathryn) and Lisa (Chris), Gregor (Monique), and Malcolm. Cherished grandmother/"Baba Lee" to Shannon (Jim), David (Laura), Nicholas, Alexander (Kristina), Meghan, Connor, Colton, Joseph, Lauren and great-grandmother of Brooklyn, Lilah, Barrett, Linnea, Wyatt, Aria, Capri, Luna, Callum, Ava and Presley. Predeceased by her brothers Dennis, Victor, and Boris and ex-husband Pat Sowsun, survived by sisters Olecia and Martha and brother Nestor. She will be greatly missed by her many nephews, nieces, cousins, friends and neighbours.



NEW

Crossword and Sudoku

"Multitalented" by Steve Zisser

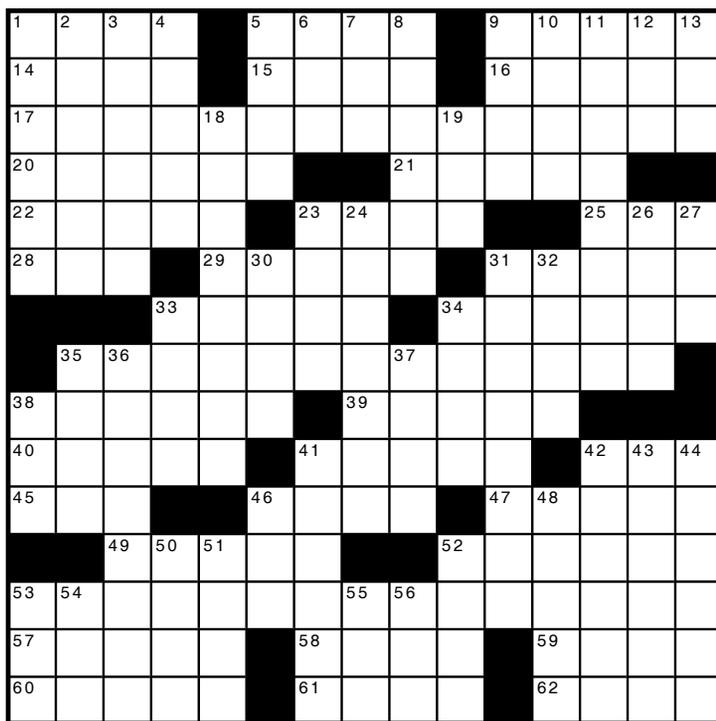
NEW CROSSWORD PROVIDER

Across

- 1. Carry on, as war
- 5. Go at _____ speed (zoom along)
- 9. Colorful talker
- 14. Made a great impression
- 15. Fanboy's fave, perhaps
- 16. Island that is part of 18-D
- 17. Rapper/tapper?
- 20. TV's Mork and ALF, for 2
- 21. Sounding all stuffed up
- 22. Impetuously utter
- 23. Help in the wrong way
- 25. Ready-fire connector
- 28. Siri runs on it
- 29. Dunderhead
- 31. "Muscle"
- 33. 23-D, e.g.
- 34. Veteran sailor
- 35. Filler of many positions
- 38. Don't bring them to gunfights
- 39. Severely injures
- 40. Innovative thoughts
- 41. Jeans and khakis
- 42. Miracle-_____
- 45. One of many to be connected
- 46. Slight car mishap
- 47. Ready for bed
- 49. Fall flower
- 52. House where 100 deliberate
- 53. Handy person to have on call
- 57. Actor Alan or Adam
- 58. Go fast
- 59. Capone's pursuer
- 60. Spritzes lightly
- 61. Trade show
- 62. "Como _____ usted?"

Down

- 1. Condiment at the sushi bar
- 2. Classic Harlem theater



- 3. High IQ type
- 4. Landscaping tool
- 5. They're worth 2 points in the NHL
- 6. Do sums
- 7. Fishing pole
- 8. Mercury or Saturn
- 9. They're big at the Golden Arches
- 10. It's measured in square units
- 11. "With honor," on a diploma
- 12. Attorneys' org.
- 13. Pallid
- 18. Netherlands _____ (island group)
- 19. _____ King Cole
- 23. Isn't wrong?
- 24. Terrifying person
- 26. Marty's role in "Young Frankenstein"
- 27. Where Rangers play in NYC
- 30. Speaker's place
- 31. Truck driver
- 32. Makes bales of grass
- 33. Hindu god of destruction
- 34. Use a letter opener
- 35. Edit menu option
- 36. Men's neckwear pins
- 37. Hungry feeling
- 38. Pull one's leg
- 41. Skull-and-crossbones sort
- 42. A or B, but not AB
- 43. Do-over requested by a failing student
- 44. "The _____ File"
- 46. With 53-D, major hip-hop recording label
- 48. Ludicrous
- 50. SNL staple
- 51. Shipping units
- 52. Houston baseballer, familiarly
- 53. See 46-D
- 54. Flesicher, Gold or Shapiro
- 55. _____ Luthor
- 56. Once around the block

SUDOKU



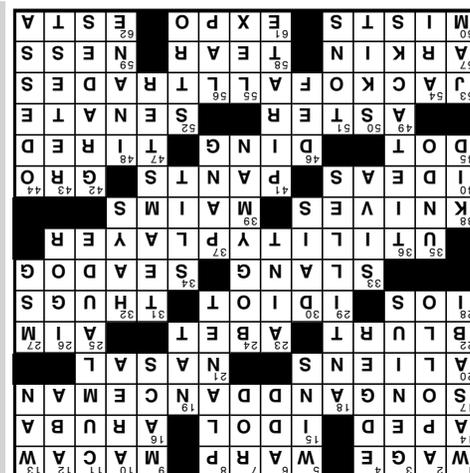
More chances to win!



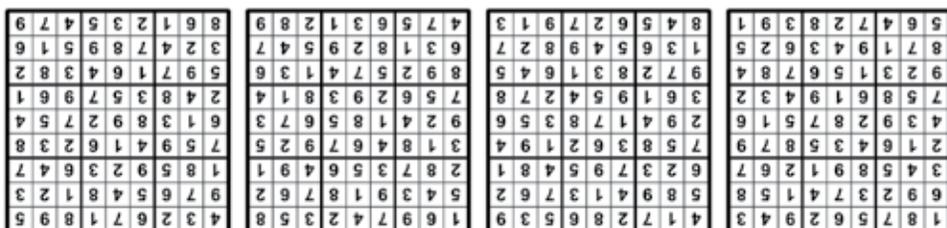
Our **Photo of the Week** contest culminates every December with our **'Photo of the Year'** winner chosen by one of our sponsors. This year, there are more chances to win! The top prize will be \$200, second place will be \$100 and third place \$50 for photos taken by our readers. Have your cameras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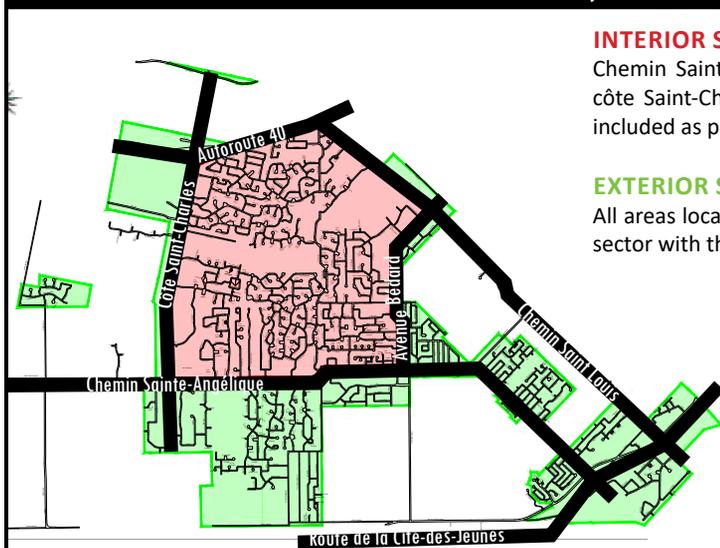
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SUDOKU SOLUTIONS



SAINT-LAZARE LEAVES, NEEDLES AND OTHER GREEN RESIDUES COLLECTION BY SECTOR



INTERIOR SECTOR - STARTING OCTOBER 26 AND NOVEMBER 9

Chemin Saint-Louis, Avenue Bédard, Chemin Sainte-Angélique and Chemin de la côte Saint-Charles make up the interior perimeter. Both sides of the streets are included as part of the interior sector.

EXTERIOR SECTOR - STARTING NOVEMBER 2 AND NOVEMBER 16

All areas located outside the interior perimeter are considered part of the exterior sector with the exception of agricultural zones (where leaves are not collected).

Collections may take several days. Bags at the curb in advance (maximum 7 days) can be picked up in advance. The contractor will go back on those streets after the official start date of the collection.

INSTRUCTIONS? ville.saint-lazare.qc.ca/en/feuilles
QUESTIONS? travauxpublics@ville.saint-lazare.qc.ca
 450-424-8000, ext. 250

Keep your bags healthy!



Infected bag? Will not be collected.



Legion News

Rod L. Hodgson – President

Special contributor

First of all a *very special* Happy Birthday goes out to our dear member Dorothy Blaise who celebrated her 102nd birthday October 8. Dorothy (also known as Doris) makes up part of the Legion Junior Orchestra that also includes Uncle Phil Gale and Mack Grundy. She plays the accordion. All the best Dorothy.

The birdfeeders at the Palliative Care residence continue to give much enjoyment to the patients. A request is going out again to all those who have in the past been dropping off birdseed to fill the feeders and to all who now wish to help out. As the Legion is not open, may we suggest that you drop off any donation to Bill Louch at 56 Oakland in

Hudson, or you can call Gerry at (450) 458-4125 or Bill at (450) 202 2541. They will arrange to pick it up. Please do not drop off any seed at the Palliative Care residence nor at the Legion as we are currently closed until the end of October. Your help and cooperation is appreciated.

Great news curling friends – the ice is now in and it was painted this past week by a great volunteer crew organized by Icemen Alan Jones and Barry Rowland. It is just a matter of time now before the first of many hundreds of rocks will be heading down each sheet. Curlers will be advised in a few days when they can begin their practices. Good luck and stay safe.

Eleven new small plaques were installed on the posts around Place Vimy this week and also two brass plaques on the park bench honouring those who donated it to us. Legion Executive member Jay de La Durantaye installed some

flood lights last week to light it up from behind as well as the cenotaph. They are magnificent. Thank you very much Jay. I believe we have one of the finest looking cenotaphs in Canada. Right at the moment it is absolutely beautiful with the poppies growing up around the red mums and of course the plaques and now the Place Vimy park bench.

Special get well wishes are extended

to the wife of Branch #115 member Moe LaFoley who has had a serious health setback in recent weeks. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you Mrs. LaFoley. Best of health wishes also go out to our dear pal Rollie Normandeau who has had some health problems these past two weeks. Hope you are feeling better. Lest we forget...



PHOTO COURTESY ROD HODGSON

Eleven new small plaques were installed on the posts around Place Vimy this week and the area is looking absolutely beautiful with the poppies growing up around the red mums.

Happy Birthday Doris!



PHOTO COURTESY TAMMY KEATLEY

Long-time Hudson resident Dorothy (Doris) Blaise celebrated her 102nd birthday October 8. This lovely lady maintains her independence living at Manoir Cavagnal and, prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, played accordion once a month at the Hudson Legion Branch 115 suppers. All the best to you Doris!

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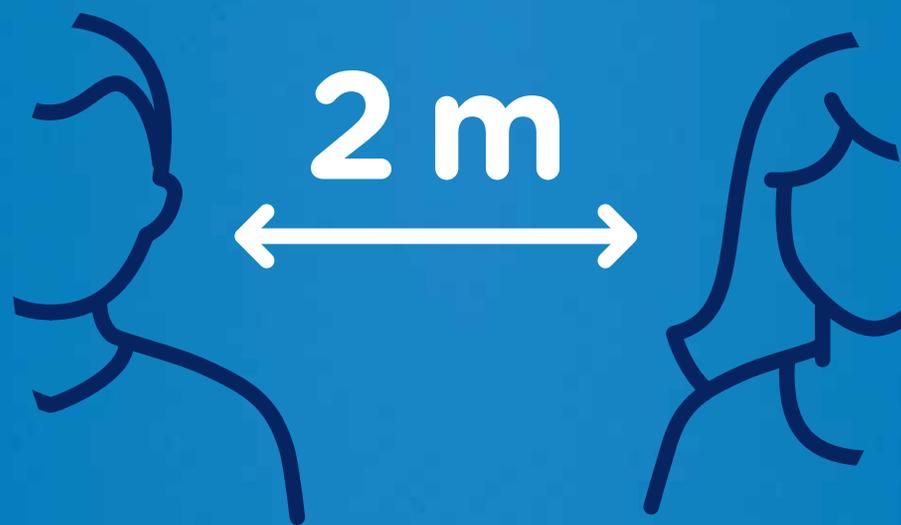
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