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Back to school rules
for teachers & students

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interview
with
Minister
Mélanie Joly

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Thérèse-De Blainville PD welcomes a new member

(NSN-Dimitri Ilias) The RIPTB (Régie intermunicipale de police Thérèse-De Blainville) welcomed officer Chantal Larrivée who is joining the team of neighborhood agents. With 25 years of experience in the police environment, Chantal Larrivée therefore becomes the first woman to join this unit.

"It is so positive to work with people and to be able to contribute to the community approach in the police environment"

Agent Larrivée is keen to offer a compassionate and adapted service approach to the population. She is recognized as a police officer who is attentive, courteous, rigorous and proud of the work she does.

Neighborhood officers are called upon to strategically patrol the various sectors; they participate in interventions linked to the objectives of rapprochement, partnership, problem solving and prevention.

The ABCs of going back to school safely

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RULES ON WEARING A MASK AT SCHOOL



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GRAPHIC *newsfirst*

*VOCATIONAL TRAINING / GENERAL ADULT TRAINING

Quebec sets new rules for COVID-19 back-to-school

Masks to be mandatory for grade five up, but not in classrooms



MARTIN C. BARRY
marty@newsfirst.ca

Elementary school students in Quebec from the fifth grade up will be required to wear protective face masks, although they will be allowed to take them off in classrooms, Education Minister Jean-François Roberge announced on Monday.



In addition to the senior elementary school students, the mask requirement will also apply to high-schoolers, as well as older students enrolled in vocational or adult training programs, in hallways and while walking around commons areas in schools.

The announcement came after parents, teachers and others questioned the CAQ government

for what many complained was a lack of clarity on COVID-19 and back-to-school, as well as concerns that the initial guidelines for protection against the virus didn't go far enough.

Schools must reopen

"Leaving the school closed would not be protecting children," Roberge said during a joint news conference held on Monday with Health Minister Christian Dubé and public health director Dr. Horacio Arruda.

"It's crucial to reopen our schools not only for our children, but also for our adolescents. They need to get back to learning and seeing their teachers."

Under the new guidelines, all parents and school staff will have to be notified as soon as a student tests positive for COVID-19. An infected student will then have to be isolated at home before being readmitted at the school. Students in isolation will be expected to continue working from home.

The role of parents

As well, any student who has symptoms while in school will be removed by a member of the staff who will be wearing protective gear. Parents will be required to ensure that children at home who show symptoms remain isolated and that public health officials are contacted for followup.

"I know there are many parents who are looking upon the back-to-school with a certain amount of apprehension," said Roberge, who is himself a parent, while maintaining that new measures should provide some reassurance.



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OPINION & Editorial



Why are we still trusting Social Media for our daily news?

Especially in times like these, the right news source is one of the most important things to find.

Perhaps no one understood where social media would end up, or rather what kind of influence it would end up having on the world when it was first unleashed onto society. At first, it became a place where you could share family photos and rekindle with old friends ... even share an image of a meal that looked so good on the dish you just had to snap a photo of it. But over time, it became a place that made it easy for bullies to attack their prey, and a source of news that bordered on bad fiction, and at a startling daily rate.

But what was worse: people would share these news reports as fact, believing in them, hook line and sinker.

News sources of the past

Of course someone who spends his life writing about the news would certainly have a biased approach. (I knew you'd say that.) But it's true, I do this full-time, and it matters to me because it mattered to those that came before me ... a sentiment that can sometimes seem lost when looking at younger generations I'm afraid. What came before was meant to instruct and light the way through that proverbial tunnel of life.

In his day, Mordecai Richler had the referendum to write about ... the war between the Quebecers and the Park Extension and Villeray Jews of the past. But unlike today, back then, you trusted a piece by this late, great writer because you knew he did his research; you knew he would bring you what he had pored over for hours on end, checking his facts and re-checking them once more.

Equal to him was of course Hunter S. Thompson, who had the Nixon presidential campaign, Vietnam, the Black Panthers, the Hell's Angels and so many more topics to write about in his day, there wasn't time for fake news ... just honest, Gonzo Journalism at its finest.

And is that the problem? Do people have too much time on their hands these days, forever bent forward, noses dipping into their cellular phones? Perhaps.

My experience with fake news

Myself, I've been freelancing for quite some time, and like a pirate, I go from gig to gig, looking to leave behind a legitimate body of work. It was the case for me when Covid-19 hit. I needed a new place to peddle

my work, my writing, and I looked everywhere online ... many of which were fake ads, but I'd already been introduced to these long ago, so I knew who and what to watch out for.

Perhaps what was the most disheartening though, were the ads that requested writers for Covid-19 related articles exclusively, always and astonishingly with the tag stating "Must be willing to embellish." To me, that meant that most of what was seen online was being embellished and it seemed so awful to me as a journalist and as a human being for that matter. Here were people out there, looking to these social media sources for updates on something terrible that was affecting the whole world, and they were being lied to. It could mean death rates for the virus, what to do and what not to do, etc.

Here I was, a journalist that wanted to be like the aforementioned Thompson, Richler and the other greats and tell the truth about what was happening in my time. I felt it was my responsibility to bring the truth to paper and here were a bunch of online jokers trying to lie to the public; to try and make matters worse or better than they actually were and are. I didn't want any part of it, so I stayed away.

I concentrated on other writing work, and finally I started sending out for more opportunities, as I missed the game of putting story to page, journalism-wise. I finally got a call from a local paper ... one that has had a history of bringing the truth as I called it, to its community since the early nineties; not lying to its readership, but telling them honestly what was happening with this virus and how it affected its community and readership, and that's the paper you hold and are reading now.

I was and am honored to write for a paper that prints weekly and brings the news as it happens to your doorstep ... something you can't find online at many magazines these days, I'm afraid.

Beware the purple elephant

So next time, if you're scrolling down your wall on whatever Social Media platform and you see a report stating that they found a four-armed chimpanzee in Zaire, or a purple elephant surfing off the Coast of Australia, please don't fall for it folks, and look for a legitimate source for your news.

Domenic Marinelli

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Canada well-positioned to continue COVID-19 recovery support, says Mélanie Joly

'We still have firepower in terms of fiscal capacity,' federal Economic Development Minister says



MARTIN C. BARRY
marty@newsfirst.ca

While some of Canada's leading economists are suggesting Ottawa won't be able to deal with the second wave of COVID-19 with the same financial largesse it has had up to now, federal Economic Development Minister Melanie Joly says the Liberal government is well positioned to continue along the path it has been on since the beginning of the pandemic.

In a report issued by the C.D. Howe Institute last May shortly after the pandemic started, the Ottawa-based public policy research organization warned that Canada would not be capable of implementing another comprehensive shutdown of the economy if new cases of COVID-19 were to climb, while the federal government, the provinces and Canadian households were also taking on massive new amounts of debt.

More targeted approach

"Placing the economy in a partial coma made sense during the first wave of the pandemic," stated the report. "But if there is a second wave, a second economy wide shutdown should be avoided in favour of more targeted approaches that are effective and avoid further erosion of public finances and the risk of hitting debt walls and loss of borrowing capacity."

During an interview with *Newsfirst Multimedia* last week at her Ahuntsic-Cartierville riding office, we asked Joly whether concerns have arisen within the Liberal government that at some point there may be a limit to the amount of financial assistance Ottawa can provide before reaching a cut-off point.

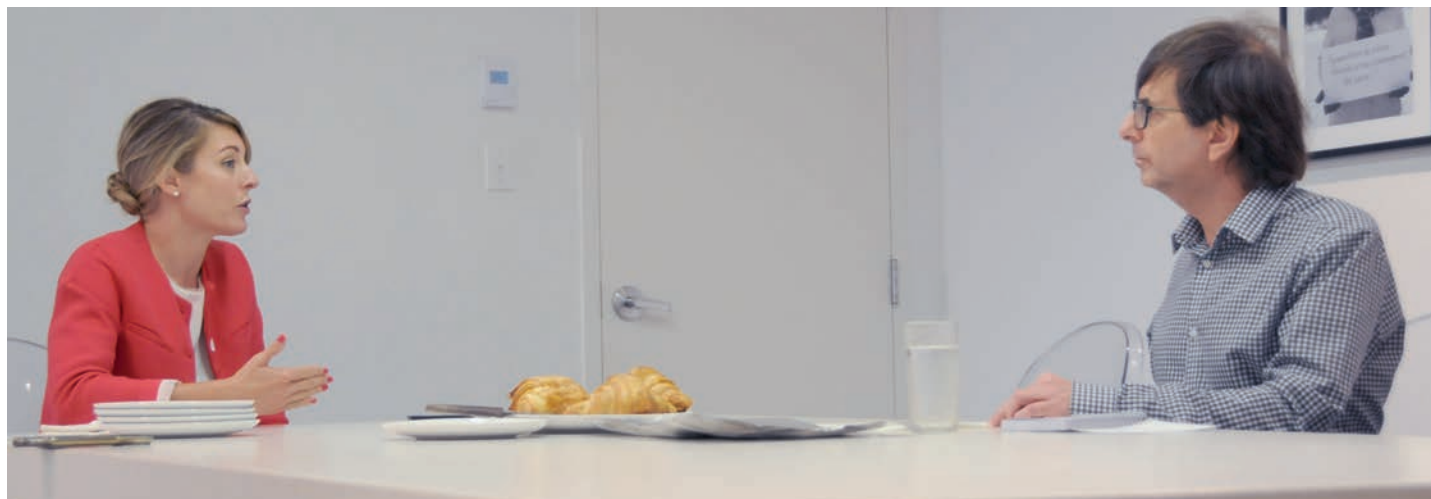
The only way, Joly says

"Well, you know, we've been generous," said Joly, who sits on the Trudeau inner cabinet committee dealing with COVID-19. "It is the only way to deal with this pandemic. Because if people lose their jobs, they go usually on unemployment. But who pays for unemployment but the federal government?"

"So, for us the most important thing is to make sure that businesses can keep their employees, and that's why we have a wage subsidy. But in some cases, like the hospitality sector, tourism and entertainment sectors, where it's not possible now to have large gatherings and not possible to travel, we are there for these people who have lost their jobs. And that's why we're providing the help that is required."

'We still have firepower,' she says

Joly noted that Canada is the only country along with Germany that has been able to rela-



'Economic development in times of pandemic is a challenge,' Mélanie Joly says to Newsfirst journalist Martin C. Barry. Photo: NEWSFIRST-

tively maintain its pre-COVID-19 credit rating, even though it was dropped from AAA to AA+ by Fitch Ratings in late June. "We're in the best position and we still have firepower in terms of fiscal capacity," she said.

"We've been really following what our experts have been saying," continued Joly. "We want to make sure to develop a vaccine soon and fast. We also want to make sure that we are prepared for the next wave, the second one."

"And so meanwhile, while we are dealing with everything that is related to health, well that uncertainty is creating a lot of disruption within the economy. So my job is to be there to support people in keeping their jobs and help businesses to survive."

As part of her ministerial role and as a member of the COVID-19 cabinet response team, Mélanie Joly has partial responsibility for overseeing Ottawa's highly-publicized Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) program.

Challenge during pandemic

At the same time, she oversees a \$2 billion fund (\$500 million of which is allotted for Quebec), whose purpose is to make targeted investments in businesses, including those in the tourism sector, to keep them afloat through access to money until the end of the pandemic.

In one of the most notable COVID-19 recovery program developments, the CERB subsidy (which was established in early April and which pays \$2,000 per month to persons who became unemployed because of COVID-19). Businesses are also being offered additional support during the continuing crisis.

While emphasizing that in normal times her job as Economic Development Minister consists primarily of creating jobs as well as protecting them, Joly acknowledged that "economic development in times of pandemic is a chal-

lenge. Which is why we are doing everything we can right now to help people and businesses just to survive."

Tourism sector impacted

Oversight of the federal tourism ministry is also one of Melanie Joly's mandates. Asked whether her department has been able to make a preliminary assessment of the damage done to the tourism sector by COVID-19, she responded:

"We're still in the midst of doing that evaluation. But one thing that's sure is that last year we had 22.1 million international visitors and that's clearly not the case this year. Based on that, obviously we know that billions of dollars have been lost. And that's why we have come up with support such as the wage subsidy and the CERB."

While noting that tourism this summer to destinations within Canada, such as Quebec's Gaspé region, has flourished in spite of the pandemic, she also pointed out that Montreal is undergoing an exceptionally drastic drop in tourism, largely because of the forced shutdown of normally-scheduled sporting events, public gatherings and entertainment festivals.

Tourism spreading the virus

Newsfirst Multimedia asked Joly whether her ministry is concerned that encouraging tourists this summer to visit regional attractions like Gaspésie may inadvertently cause COVID-19 to be spread by people from densely-populated cities into rural areas that were relatively unimpacted up to now by the pandemic.

"That's something that we are really, really focused on and that we are working with the Quebec government on," she said. "At the end of the day, what we're trying to do is to protect the capacity of our public health system. And

in certain regions, the health system is not as developed as Montreal. So that's why we are being extremely vigilant. And, yes we are very much aware."

Official languages in Quebec

Another of Mélanie Joly's responsibilities is oversight of Canada's official languages policies. In recent years, successive Quebec governments have broached the possibility of amending Bill 101 so as to override the federal government's standing pledge to provide services at all times in English and French at federal government offices. Joly was asked how the Liberal government would respond to such a development.

"We'll always defend the constitutional rights of people," she said. "It's a bilingual country and so are our federal institutions. There has been jurisprudence from the Supreme Court of Canada regarding these issues. And it is now well established that official bilingualism is part of our constitution and a province cannot go against it."

On Gov.-Gen. Julie Payette

Finally, Melanie Joly waded into the recent controversy involving allegations of abusive conduct by Governor-General Julie Payette against employees at Rideau Hall in Ottawa. "I believe in the work that the Governor General is doing, that's not the question," she said.

"The issue is much more that we need to make sure that everybody has a right to be working in a place that is harassment-free. This is something that I take very, very seriously. And so therefore there needs to be work done. Because obviously these allegations are unacceptable."

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Mayor Denis Martin worried about hole in public transit revenue



DIMITRIS ILIAS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
For The North-Shore News
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The town of Two Mountains held its monthly council meeting on Thursday the 6th of August. Under the leadership of mayor Denis Martin, the meeting proceeded with only a handful of journalists in the hall always socially distanced. The agenda and the minutes of the July 9th meeting were adopted

Organizations get support

Various organizations received financial assistance following the recommendations of Assistant director General Mrs Francine Thibodeau. Three organizations were supported with grants ranging from \$600 to \$2500. Two of the organizations receiving grants were The concours fleurir Deux-Montagnes and the Sercan Foundation. The concours fleurir Deux-Montagnes crisscrosses the city this summer in search of the most beautiful landscaping. Each residence is automatically rated in order to get more contest participants and encourage people to beautify their district. Three residences were selected for each of the six districts of the City while other winners win the categories Prize for environmental effort and the Coup de cœur des horticultrices prize. The Sercan Foundation's mission is to collect, administer and allocate the funds necessary to provide quality care free of charge at the Sercan Palliative Care Home. It also supports Sercan by offering support services to people with cancer and the bereaved. The Foundation's objective is to create and maintain strong links with its



community through its donors, volunteers and sponsors. There was also a request for a %15 contribution of the "Train pour la vie" housing cooperative project which was approved. Also, a by law was adopted establishing a municipal financial assistance program complementary to the AccèsLogis Québec program

Firepits targeted

NSN recently covered the dangers of open air firepits. The city of Two Mountains also amended a by-law concerning the use of firepits, and permit requisition. A special clause was added to ban the use of an outdoor firepit if its emissions cause a fire alert for the MRC of Deux Montagnes.

Leisure and community services

The Ringette Association of Deux Montagnes

also got an hour of ice time at the arena Olympia in order to hold their open house "Come and try ringette". The open house will take place on the 12th of September 2020 from 11am to 12pm

For the sport of soccer and considering the special circumstances with COVID-19 the City council voted to sign an agreement with the Association du sport et du plein air (ASPA) of Saint-Eustache inc. , Ville de Boisbriand and FC de la Seigneurie in order to take over the payment of the sports equipment.

Deux Montagnes financial situation

Mayor Denis Martin went in detail concerning the city's financial situation during the pandemic assisted by the city's director general. The mayor said that the Quebec government had asked the municipality to open a special account in which all expenses for Covid-19 are paid from. However, the mayor noted that the biggest worry right now is not the expense for Covid related materials such as masks or sanitizers but rather the lower income of the city as a result of the pandemic. The biggest worry according to the mayor is the municipal transport which carries a price tag of 3 million dollars shared by 3 between the city, the Quebec government and the people who use those services. Now that the residents are not using these services

the city is losing close to a million dollars in revenue earmarked for the continuation of the public transport services. The city is in talks with the government to ascertain who will cover these expenses. Quebec has guaranteed to cover some expenses but the city is still in talks in order to finalize for how long and the exact amounts. The city is also in the process of calculating the loss from the welcome taxes vital to its survival. The mayor was not very worried about that however. The DG added that financial management of the city during these trying times was extremely tight and prudent. Expenses incurred by covid-19 were balanced with tighter control, project delays and savings from other areas of the city budget.

Day camps

As far as the day camps that the city organizes there were good news and bad news. The bad news was that there were less registrations due to covid fears. Since these camps are paid mainly by registration money, this created an additional loss of revenue for the city. The good news however was that there was not a single case of COVID-19 among the campers and the staff which is fantastic! Apparently, the kids took to heart all the protection measures and followed the social distancing and disinfection rules to the letter.

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QESBA applauds major win on Bill 40

CNW/ - The Quebec English School Boards Association (QESBA) is very pleased with the Québec Superior Court judgment in our favour on a stay of Bill 40: An Act to amend mainly the Education Act with regard to school organization and governance rendered by Justice Lussier today.

QESBA and its co-applicants filed for an interlocutory injunction or a stay in May of this year to suspend the application of Bill 40 to English school boards, arguing that the new governance model does not respect section 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms to manage and control our minority language educational institutions. The Québec Superior Court found that the applicants had raised "very serious questions" pertaining to the Bill's constitutionality. Moreover, it found that the disappearance of English-language school boards (and their transformation into English-language school service centres) constituted irreparable harm.

"We are very pleased with the decision today which has the effect of suspending the application of Bill 40 to English school boards pending a decision on the merits of the case. Given the very limited amount of time our boards have to organize school elections, scheduled for November 1st, we are hopeful that the govern-

ment will not appeal this decision," said QESBA President Dan Lamoureux.



COVID-19 cases increasing at Saint-Eustache Hospital



(NSN-Dimitri Ilias) Covid-19 virus has hit the Saint-Eustache Hospital hard with a rising number of cases. At least 33 patients and 47 staff for a total of 80 people, have tested positive for COVID-19 following an outbreak of the coronavirus in four of the 13 hospital units of the Saint-Eustache Hospital.

These figures, dated July 31, were delivered by the Integrated Health and Social Services Center (CISSS) des Laurentides last Monday afternoon.

As of July 30, the CISSS revealed, in a press release, that the Saint-Eustache Hospital was then facing, since the previous Monday, COVID-19 outbreaks in three of its 13 hospitalization units. At that time, 14 patients and 11 employees, total 25 people, had already been affected by COVID-19. To this figure, 55 more must now be added.

The affected patients were all transferred to the Saint-Jérôme Regional Hospital, this being the designated establishment in the Laurentians to receive patients affected by COVID-19. The employees concerned were taken off work and replaced while they isolated.

"We take the situation very seriously and are working hard to stop these outbreaks as quickly as possible. The health and safety of our patients and staff is at stake. Additional protective measures have been put in place in the care units concerned in order to eliminate the presence of the virus. Massive screening of all staff and physicians at the Saint-Eustache Hospital is still underway in order to have an accurate picture of the situation and to prevent further contamination," was announced from the CISSS des Laurentides communications and public relations team.

Obviously, the CISSS des Laurentides has suspended visits to units affected by these outbreaks for the moment. However, exceptional measures may apply for visitors from humanitarian causes, including users in palliative care or children.

In the press release issued on July 30, the President and CEO of the CISSS des Laurentides, Rosemonde Landry, also asked for the collaboration of the population to prevent the spread of the virus.

Some 700 children's drawings, letters and cards offered to seniors



(NSN-Dimitri Ilias) Children of employees of Integrated Health and the Laurentian Social Services Center (CISSS) and young people in their twenties as well as elementary schools in the region have voluntarily responded to a call inviting them to express on paper words of encouragement to share with seniors in different residences in the current context of the pandemic COVID-19.

Seniors received loving drawings, letters and cards as gifts some 700 children. Their enthusiasm and appreciation were great.

The initiative was born from the direction of the CISSS which, last May, as it invited all its staff to involve their children in the creation of drawings which would then be given to senior residents in the CISSS territory.

"We were also happy to request the collaboration of school boards and schools, open to this intergenerational project," said Rosemonde

Landry, president and CEO of the CISSS des Laurentides.

"Such a project is first and foremost an activity of sharing, empathy and generosity, which involves the little ones and thereby develops their sensitivity towards the elderly who were very isolated at certain times of the pandemic."

Thus, each of the 765 inhabitants of 24 residences was given a drawing (plasticized for reasons of infection prevention and control). Each of the moments of sharing generated a lot of happiness, both for the residents and for the staff members of the various facilities.

"This distribution has been a balm on heavy hearts and a glimmer of hope in this difficult period for the elders, showing them solidarity and a presence in thought on the part of the community. A sincere thank you is offered to all those who took part in this unifying project," concluded Ms. Landry.

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See the FAQs

[Québec.ca/back-to-school](https://quebec.ca/back-to-school)



Changing Sleds

Last night my boyfriend of three years dropped a bombshell on me. He is concerned about how comfortable we have become. He expressed doubts about our relationship and where it is going.

I'm only 29 and he is 31. We have been living together for a year, and recently our sex life slowed down to maybe once a week. I too noticed this. Lately I have been the one to initiate lovemaking, which I chalked up to his busy schedule.

I've also gained some weight and was not feeling comfortable in my own body. I do not walk around the house or sleep in the most flattering clothes. My boyfriend basically said he has not been attracted to me lately, which is why he stopped initiating.

He said he is afraid it's only going to get worse. He wondered if he should have dated more before he settled down, which crushed me.

I am well aware that we have come to a plateau in our relationship, but I saw this as a minor issue. I can honestly say I was happy and saw us moving into the future. Lately, I've been getting to the gym more often to feel more attractive, and I thought things could change.

I thought he was happy and comfortable too. That doesn't seem to be the case.

Although he agreed to work on the relationship and possibly get some counseling, it's for his own emotional issues and about letting his guard down after his last relationship.

I appreciate his honesty in not letting this go on any longer, but like I said, I am crushed. I want to work on the relationship, but I don't know if I can get over his revelations and my hurt feelings.

I thought he was attracted to my whole person, not just my body.

Harper

Harper, it sounds like your boyfriend is saying it's him, not you. He regrets not dating more and he feels the need for therapy to get over a past relationship.

You'd like to make the issue about a few pounds, because that is something you can work on. It also allows you to blame him. "He's shallow, and it is all about looks." But you don't mention anything he said directly about weight.

Two-person bobsledding is a dangerous sport. The sport requires teamwork all the way down. It's all physics and Newton's laws of motion. Once the run starts, the sled keeps going until it either crashes or passes the finish line. If it crashes, people get hurt.

The safest way to stop the bobsled is at the top of the run, and that is where the two of you are.

Your boyfriend has pulled back, trying to create a little space to make it less painful. It appears he's a nice guy, though maybe a little weak. He should probably be more direct because what he's trying to say is, "I am not going down the hill with you."

Though he conceded to your idea of working on the relationship, he said counseling would serve a different purpose for him. And at 31, saying he hasn't dated enough sounds lame. It sounds more like, "I've now come to the knowledge I'm not in love."

In a way, counseling in dating can be an interference with the dating process. Often it is used as a tool by the one who wants to continue against the one who wants to stop.

He's not a mean guy and he doesn't want to hurt you, but he is saying this is not for me. You are almost all the way there, too. The idea of a future together has been spoiled. So spoiled you don't think you can get over it.

As we said, two-person bobsledding is a dangerous sport. It takes teamwork all the way down.

Wayne & Tamara

Wayne & Tamara Mitchell are the authors of **YOUR OTHER HALF** (www.yourotherhalf.com) • Send letters to: Direct Answers, PO 964 Springfield, MO 65801-0964 or email: DirectAnswers@echowork.com

War on Covid-19: Attack of the vaccines!

An update with Dr. Christos Karatzios Assistant Professor of Paediatrics/Infectious Diseases at the Montréal Children's Hospital



DIMITRIS ILIAS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
For The North-Shore News
dimitri@newsfirst.ca

While we are constantly bombarded by a continuous stream of bad news concerning COVID-19, children being transmitters among the latest, a massive effort from the global scientific community is underway to finalize the vaccine that will end this nightmare.

The motives, when giant pharmaceutical corporations are involved, are not always humanitarian. Even if the all mighty dollar is the engine that is pushing vaccine research for some, the end justifies the means... unfortunately.

And it looks like a plethora of vaccines are being developed with some reaching the final stages very soon. NSN enlisted once more the help of Dr. Christos Karatzios Assistant Professor of Paediatrics/Infectious Diseases at the Montréal Children's Hospital for an update.

He informed us that there are literally dozens of vaccines being studied right now. The chart that accompanies this article, shows how many are at Phase 3 testing already (human trials).

Doctors and researchers are examining vaccine response and safety...and wondering how long immunity will last. While things are progressing fast, the scientific rigor remains strong.

We know that antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 wane fairly quickly over months.

We know that after SARS-1 and MERS-CoV infections antibody levels in infected people lasted for at least 1-2 years.

We know that people infected with COVID-19 who have mild to no symptoms may not mount good and lasting antibody responses.

"But perhaps antibody level measurements



are not indicative of long-lasting immunity" reassured Dr. Karatzios.

At this moment, doctors and researchers are looking at the adaptive T cell memory immunity that will be active for life. There is good evidence that despite little to no antibody response in many people with COVID-19, cellular memory is strong and this should persist for life. A T cell is a type of lymphocyte, which develops in the thymus gland (hence the name) and plays a central role in the immune response. Because memory T cells have been trained to recognize specific antigens, they will trigger a faster and stronger immune response after encountering the same antigen.

We now hope that vaccination can safely mimic COVID-19 infection with long lasting cellular immunity. If we see that immunity post vaccine is temporary though, then no fretting! This is why we get booster influenza vaccines every year. Perhaps we may need boosting every so often with this vaccine as well.

Boisbriand man arrested for allegedly trying to recruit a 13year old into prostitution

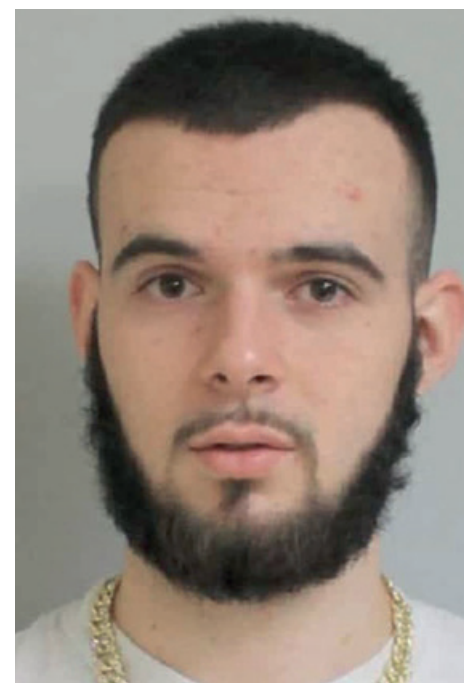
(NSN-Dimitri Ilias) An 18-year-old young man who allegedly tried to force a teenage girl of only 13 years old into prostitution was pinned down by the Sûreté du Québec police officers on Wednesday in Boisbriand.

Simon Fortin, 18, appeared at the Saint-Jérôme courthouse on Thursday on charges of carrying a weapon for a dangerous purpose and for trying to recruit the alleged victim to induce her to offer sexual services for money.

A search was also carried out in his home in Boisbriand in order to seize materials which could flesh out the evidence against him in the file.

"It should be noted that this type of intervention aims to come to the aid of victims under the yoke of pimps and to target the latter with a view to bringing them to justice", indicated Sergeant Éloïse Cossette, spokesperson for the Sûreté du Québec.

Simon Fortin could have had other victims, according to the authorities. Anyone who could have been a victim of this individual is invited to contact 911 or the local police station in order to file an official complaint.



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City of Saint-Eustache Sewer backup prevention



DIMITRIS ILIAS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
For The North-Shore News
dimitri@newsfirst.ca

What is a sewer backup?

Sewer backups cause property damage and can not only be a source of stress, but also have significant financial impacts for owners. Backflow occurs when the flow of wastewater from a residence reverses and, instead of flowing to the sewer system, it backs up to the interior of the residence.

This can happen when the water drainage network can no longer absorb the water runoff, usually during sudden or long torrential rains, creating an overload, when the quantity of water greatly exceeds the catchment capacity. When the sanitary sewer of your residence is blocked, because the wastewater coming from inside it can then back up. This can be caused by the accumulation of grease, debris, household waste or other objects, by tree roots that can infiltrate, or by defects or broken pipes or pipes.

Saint-Eustache to the rescue

The City of Saint-Eustache is mobilizing to assist residents in case of a sewer backup. A team from the Public Works Department will visit the site and first check the municipal sewer system. If it is damaged, they will then proceed with the necessary interventions.

The Public Works Department of the City of Saint-Eustache offers a free camera inspection service in the event that the problem is in the city. Otherwise, when the problem is on the private side, the costs of unblocking a sewer line vary between \$ 123.50 for services Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and \$ 257.30 outside, during opening hours of the service and on statutory holidays, all as stipulated in By-law 1830 decreeing the pricing of certain municipal services. Citizens therefore have the obligation to minimize damage by contacting

the Public Works Department beforehand in the event of a sewer backup, because this service offers a camera inspection service that is much cheaper than an ordinary plumber when the problem is on the private side.

Under the Cities and Towns Act, when a person wishes to claim damages to his property from the Town, he must send the latter a notice of claim within fifteen (15) days of the date of the claim. event. This requirement constitutes an essential condition of opening to the right of action of any person who wishes to be compensated for damages for which it attributes the responsibility to the City.

However, if this backflow is caused by a defect in a resident's installations inside their residence or on the connection (pipe) between their house and the municipal network, residents will then have to carry out or have repairs carried out at their own expense.

Check your insurance coverage

It is important to read or re-read your home insurance policy to verify if you are covered for damage caused by a sewer backup, water infiltration or flooding in your basement. Some policies cover all of these situations, others only one or the other or none. Do not hesitate to consult your broker or your insurance company to validate everything. You can also get information and advice on home insurance by visiting the Insurance Bureau of Canada website.

How to prevent a sewer backup

1. Install a backwater valve

This is the best protection. These valves must be installed on each of the existing devices in the basement (floor drain, sinks, sinks, laundry tubs, bathrooms, etc.). In the case of heavy rains or when the network does not provide to capture all the water runoff, the flow is reversed and produces a backflow. The non-return valve then closes automatically to prevent this backflow of waste water.



Where are the backwater valves and the clean-out valve located in my house?

Check near basement appliances and near the water inlet. For help with this, you can contact your plumber. Sometimes, if these valves are not accessible or visible a camera inspection is need.

If a floor, floor covering or furniture, etc., covers access to these installations, ensure that you can access them quickly using a trap door or other mechanism. In the event of a backflow, quick access can help limit the damage.

What maintenance do they need?

It is strongly recommended to check the condition of the valves at least once a year. Objects or debris may accumulate over time and block the hatch, preventing it from closing automatically in the event of a backflow. Once the valve is located and opened, it is sufficient to clean it with a little water to ensure that nothing is blocking it and that it is in good working order.

Are you buying a new home?

Check with the seller of the property to find out where the non-return valves and manhole are located in the basement of your residence. Are you selling your property? Provide this information to the new owner. To find out what type of valve is best for your home and for its installation, consult a plumbing contractor who is a member of the CMMTQ or consult the Régie du bâtiment website.

Make sure you know where the inspection manhole is located in your home since in the

event of a sewer backup, when you contact the SEM, you will be asked to check if there is water inside. . If there is no water, you will need to call your plumber.

1. Do not throw anything into the toilet bowl

Avoid throwing diapers, wipes, tampons, sanitary napkins, paper towels, personal hygiene products or grease (eg: bacon fat), grounds, coffee or any other food residue and advise children not to throw toys or other objects down the toilet.

2. Avoid overloading the sewer networks

During long torrential rains (several hours in a row), avoid overloading the networks by using the washer or dishwasher. If you take a bath, wait to empty it.

3. Check your French drain and your sump pump

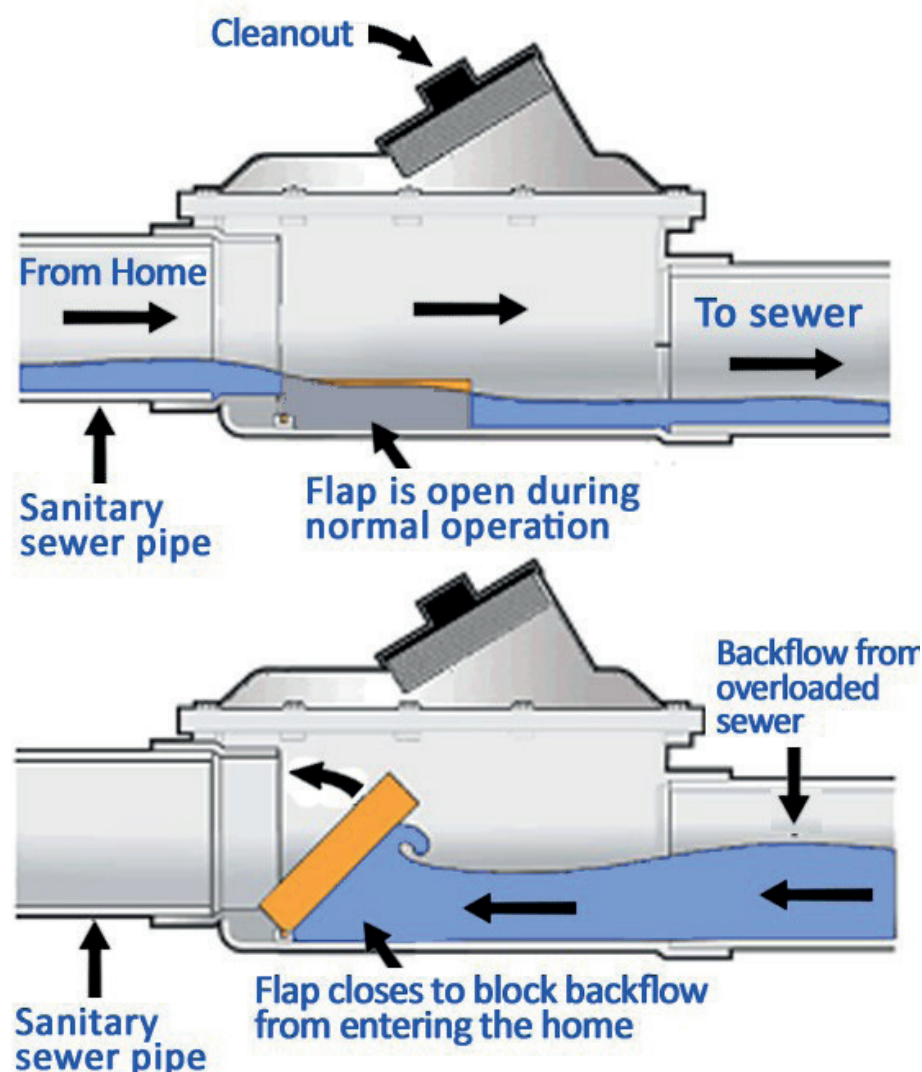
Some have a sump pump to evacuate water from the French drain. Like any mechanical device, it is important to keep the sump pump in good condition and to ensure that it is functioning properly. It is recommended to clean it before the onset of winter and in the spring, after the snow has melted, in order to remove any debris that may have accumulated.

Know your sewer

What is the distinction between sanitary or domestic sewer and storm sewer?

Sanitary or domestic sewer: this underground network carries wastewater from your home through a pipe called a service connection to the city's wastewater treatment plant. This wastewater comes from the toilets, sinks, baths, showers, floor drains, washers and sinks in your home.

Storm sewer: This network, for its part, receives rainwater and, for networks built after 1980, water from French drains.



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PENINSULA

Thriller | 1h56



NOW PLAYING

Jung-seok, a soldier who previously escaped the diseased wasteland, relives the horror when assigned to a covert operation with two simple objectives: retrieve and survive.

FINDING LOVE IN MOUNTAIN VIEW

G | Romance | 1h40



NOW PLAYING

After learning she's been entrusted to take care of her deceased cousin's children, an architect is torn between focusing on her career and honoring her cousin's wish.

PANDAS - THE IMAX EXPERIENCE

G | Documentary



NOW PLAYING

An American biologist embarks on a life-changing journey to China to help scientists breed giant pandas and introduce the cubs into the wild.

A BEAUTIFUL PLANET

G | Documentary



NOW PLAYING

A Beautiful Planet is a breathtaking portrait of Earth from space, providing a unique perspective and increased understanding of our planet and galaxy as never seen before.

GREENLAND

PG-13 | Action | 1h59



COMING SOON

A family struggles for survival in the face of a cataclysmic natural disaster..

A QUIET PLACE PART II

PG-13 | Horror | 1h37



COMING SOON

Following the events at home, the Abbott family now face the terrors of the outside world. Forced to venture into the unknown, they realize the creatures that hunt by sound are not the only threats lurking beyond the sand path.

AFTER WE COLLIDED

PG-13 | Drama



COMING SOON

Tessa has everything to lose. Hardin has nothing to lose. - except her. After We Collided - Life will never be the same.

THE BROKEN HEARTS GALLERY

PG-13 | Comedy | 1h48



COMING SOON

After a break up, a young woman decides to start a gallery where people can leave trinkets from past relationships.

Going back to the movies?

The maximum number of people allowed into a screening room is now 250.



(TLN) It's no secret that the COVID-19 pandemic forced the shutdown of a good number of major film productions since the beginning of the year. As such, the selection of movies in theatres is expected to be much slimmer than it would normally be at this time of year.

However, some films whose screenings were interrupted earlier this year will resume, while some theatre chains say they will be prioritizing family-fare in their selection of movies in order to accommodate those who've been locked down and in need of wholesome entertainment during the upcoming recovery period.

"I prioritize films for the whole family because that's what always works best during the summer," says Vincent Guzzo, president of the Cinémas Guzzo film theatre chain. "We will also be bring back on the screen comedies and action films which were doing well before the lockdown."

Here are some of the rules and protocols that movie-goers will be asked to follow when they start turning up once again at movie theatres across the province.

After tickets have been purchased, an attendant attired in protective gear will greet you at the theatre's main entrance where you will be required to disinfect your hands. All attendants will be wearing protective face masks and visors. They will also have to

regularly disinfect their hands and carry out regular sanitation of contact surfaces throughout the theatres.

Theatre patrons will be required to follow safety protocols, which include maintaining a two-metre distance with other people in common areas. While the wearing of face masks in public places hasn't yet been made mandatory by the provincial government, at least one Montreal-area theatre chain plans to sell face masks at its multiplex theatres for clients who would feel safer that way.

As far as the food and snack concessions go, little is changing. The only rule that will apply in lineups will be the six-metre distancing requirement. Two-metre space markers are being made on the floor in front of snack concession areas to make it easier.

While movie customers will generally be required to sit while observing the two-metre distancing requirement, theatre owners are being allowed to seat small groups of people together as long as they are members of the same family residing in the same household. The maximum number of people allowed into a screening room is now 250.

Screening rooms will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected following each film screening. Customers will also be asked to their part by not leaving behind too much trash, thus making the cleanup job a little easier and safer for employees.

Deadline:
WEDNESDAY before publication at 1 p.m.

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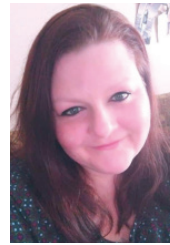
In Memoriam & Obituaries

SIMARD, Jean-Louis **1938 - 2020**



In Montreal, on Monday July 20, 2020, at the age of 82, passed away Mr. Jean-Louis Simard, son of the late Roland Simard and the late Bella Bouchard. Preceded by his two brothers Roland and Gérard and his sister Danielle, he is survived by his children Jean-François, Michel, Brigitte, Dominique and Daniel, his grandchildren Alexandre, Sabrina, Frédéric, Jérémie, Zacharie and Enzo, his brothers and sisters Carole, Denise, Gabriel, Madeleine, Jacques, Richard, Diane, Jean-Claude, Violette and Odette, cousins and cousins, nephews and nieces, as well as many other relatives and friends.

BÉLANGER, Annie **1975 - 2020**



In Laval, on August 4, 2020, passed away at the age of 45, Mrs. Annie Bélanger. She was the daughter of Ms. Gervais Bélanger and Ms. Micheline Lachance. Besides her parents, she will be sadly missed by her children Élodie-Jade Chabot (Mathieu Lagrandeur), Liam Chabot, Élouan Chabot, Étahn Bélanger, her brother Patrick Bélanger (Geneviève Massé), her nephews Tristan Bélanger (Arianne Bélair), Matis Bélanger, his uncles, aunts, other relatives and friends.

BÉLANGER, Donat **1933 - 2020**



At his home, surrounded by his family, on August 7, 2020, passed away at the age of 87, Mr. Donat Bélanger, husband of the late Gisèle Ménard. Predeceased by his children Michel, Pierre and Sylvie, he is survived by his children Danielle (Ronald), Mario, Robin, and Carole (Germain), his eight grandchildren, his ten great-grandchildren, his brothers Roger and Richard, his sisters Huguette, Claire, Denise, Ghislaine, his brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, his nephews and nieces as well as other relatives and many friends.

BLAIS, Denise **1936 - 2020**



At the Maison des Soins Palliatifs de la Rivière du Nord in St-Jérôme, on August 09, 2020 at the age of 84, passed away Mrs. Denise Legault, wife of the late Jean-Lys Blais. Predeceased by her brothers and sisters, she is survived by her nephews and nieces, as well as many friends.

LAVOIE, Gilles **1926 - 2020**



In Saint-Eustache, on August 4, 2020, at the age of 93, passed away Mr. Gilles Lavoie. He is survived by his wife of the past 69 years, Claire Papin, their 3 children, Éline (Denys Kavanagh), Jean-Pierre (Sheila Laverty) and Guy (Laurie Dunbar), his 8 grandchildren, Raphaëlle, Sara, Emily, Patrick (Laverty-Lavoie), Cloée, Gabrielle, Patrick (Dunbar-Lavoie) and Ellen, 3 great-grandchildren, Sophie, Florence and Lucas.

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HOROSCOPE

Week of **August 16 to August 23, 2020**

The luckiest signs this week:
LIBRA SCORPIO AND SAGITTARIUS



ARIES

It only takes a few small victories to boost your self-esteem. These successes will earn you the credibility you need to kick-start a project that's close to your heart.



TAURUS

You'll set up a workspace at home. Once you let go of your insecurities, your leadership traits will allow you to successfully develop your own business.



GEMINI

Your thoughts will be consumed by affairs of the heart this week. Subtle gestures and words of affection will make you realize the extent of your feelings for your partner.



CANCER

You may consider selling or purchasing a property. You'll find a way to reduce your expenses so you can improve your family's quality of life.



LEO

You'll have the chance to treat yourself, and you might even consider buying a new car. A few people will ask for your help, and you'll do so willingly, even if it requires a lot of running around.



VIRGO

A careful assessment of your budget will reveal that you have the means to pursue your goals. You'll have the money to accomplish one of your wildest dreams, and you'll find the courage to go for it.



LIBRA

You'll find yourself discouraged by all the tasks on your plate. Luckily, you'll realize you have what it takes to be successful. Afterwards, nothing will stand in your way.



SCORPIO

Sometimes you need to take a step back in order to gain a clearer perspective of what lies ahead. You'll set your sights on a career goal that matches your ambitions, but you'll need to climb the ladder one rung at a time.



SAGITTARIUS

Even though your vacation just ended, you'll start planning a trip with a group of friends. At work, you'll organize a meeting that'll turn out to be very important.



CAPRICORN

You're filled with a desire to elevate yourself intellectually and spiritually. You decide to follow a new career path or adopt a more enriching lifestyle. Don't be afraid of change.



AQUARIUS

You won't need much time to reflect before making significant decisions about your personal and professional future. During an important negotiation, you'll need to carefully weight the pros and cons



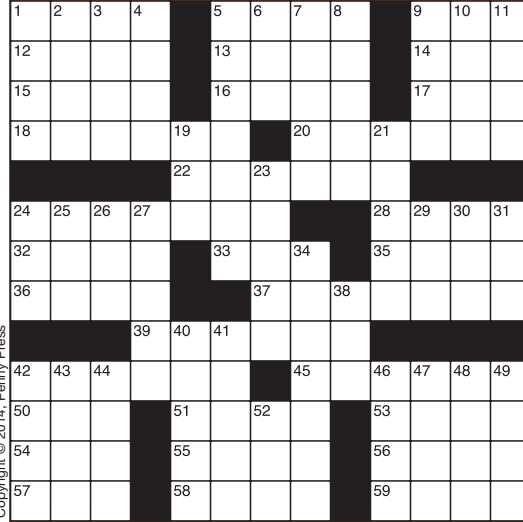
PISCES

The perfect compromise doesn't always exist, especially when a lot of people are involved. You'll need to use your imagination to create harmony and resolve conflicts.

Coffee Break

CROSSWORDS

PUZZLE NO. 993



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ACROSS

1. Take it easy
5. Prepare a salad
9. Health haven
12. Bullets and bombs
13. Toward the center of
14. Chop down
15. Cat call
16. Strip
17. Rowing device
18. Sock type
20. Eagerly
22. Chalice
24. Sway
28. Wrongdoing
32. Ring of light
33. ____ Gawain
35. Unearth
36. World's fair, e.g.
37. Most compact
39. Shear

42. Blackboard cleaner
45. Dozen
50. British saloon
51. Florence's river
53. Ooze
54. Sick
55. Glide high
56. Long hair
57. Bee chaser
58. Work units
59. Moved quickly

DOWN

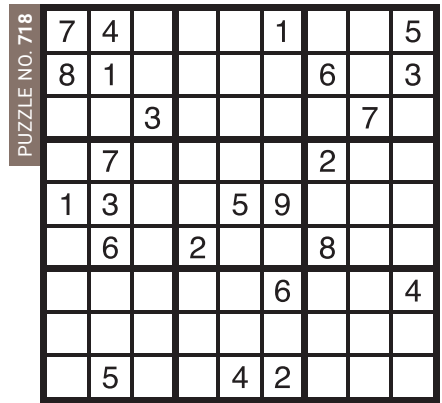
1. Shangri-La official
2. Sign
3. On a rampage
4. Chicken
5. Creeps
6. ____ at a time
7. Swipe
8. Clear up
9. Wearing boots
10. Chime
11. Crooked necessity
21. Details
23. Wedding-cake topper
24. "____ Wore a Yellow Ribbon"
25. Income or sales follower
26. European mountain
27. Blunders
29. Scramble (for)
30. ____ and outs
31. Said yes to
34. Ministers
38. Never used
40. Rental contract
41. Fallacy
42. Monumental story
43. Dominate
44. Adept
46. Graceful trees
47. Vault
48. Windmill blade
49. ____ out (barely earned)
52. Henpeck

Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY:

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.

Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: **You must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column, or 3x3 box.**

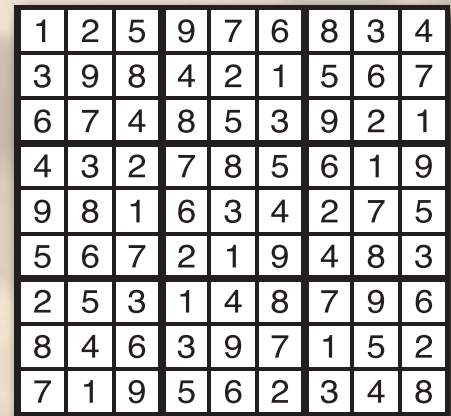


Last Issues' Answers

CROSSWORDS



Sudoku



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