

# THE NORTH SHORE

Blainville, Boisbriand, Bois-des-Filion, Deux-Montagnes, Lorraine, Rosemère,

Pointe-Calumet, Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac, Sainte-Thérèse, Saint-Eustache



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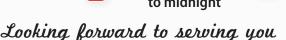
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# Be there for yourself the way you're there for others

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Québec.ca/gettingbetter

Info-Social 811





# Quarantines, isolations and additions



DIMITRIS ILIAS

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

Technology has thankfully solved a lot of problems during this difficult period especially given the nature of the virus. Ancient Greeks would say Ουδέν κακόν αμιγές καλού which translates roughly to Every cloud has a silver lining! The opposite can be true about technology. Misinformation during the pandemic is rampant and a lot of people are confused about quarantines, transmission, duration of isolation etc. Thankfully our paper has a collaboration with Dr. Christos Karatzios Assistant Professor of Paediatrics/Infectious Diseases at the Montréal Children's Hospital. Dr. Karatzios has a strong online presence and is always willing to dispel myths and inform for the good of all.

According to Dr. Karatzios, either people are being misinformed by Public Health authorities when they call/text you to tell you that you are a COVID-19 case or you are a contact of one or public health authorities are giving out the right information but people are not understanding it.

#### **Incubation and transmission**

SARS-2-CoV has a 14 day incubation period from infection to infectivity/disease. Most people start shedding virus/get symptoms about 5-8 days after infection.

COVID-19 (the disease caused by SARS-2-CoV) can last for weeks but transmission of the virus happens for:

10 days after symptoms begin for most people out there.

10 - 21 days for someone who needs ICU care due to bad COVID-19.

28 days for immune suppressed people (chemotherapy or transplant patients, people with immunity problems, people on immunosuppressive medications/injections, people with advanced AIDS) because they can't clear the virus within 10 days.

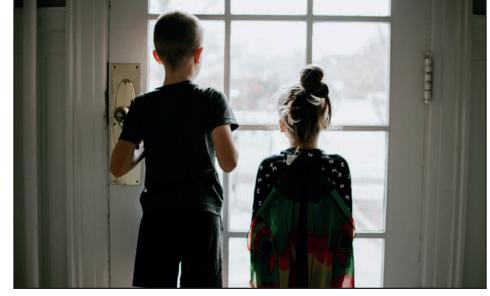
#### What should you do?

Dr. Karatzios would pose this question: you came into contact with an infected and infectious person? Your incubation and thus your quarantine is for 14 days AFTER your last KNOWN contact with the person...or from the time you get called by Public Health. If you have symptoms then you immediately start after your test. If you become infected then your quarantine is for 10 days only unless you are immune suppressed - then it is 28 days. For now, this recommendation has not changed - ever.

The right information is the only way we can stop the spread in the community!

Dr. Christos Karatzios

If you live with others (partner and let's say 2 children) and you then get infected: then THEIR quarantine is YOUR 10 days PLUS THEIR 14 days. Stay away from others in your family bubble (basement or room with food delivered to you at your door and the use of own towels and own bathroom when feasible - close



toilet lid and clean toilet surfaces with a bleach spray if there is a single bathroom). If you are a single caregiver though this is impossible. So, the rule is 10+14= minimum 24 days of family quarantine unless you are immune suppressed then it's 28+14.

That is: X + 14 days after the LAST possible infectious day of a close household member!

If suddenly one of the two kids in your house gets infected from you on day 7 and gets sick and tests positive for SARS-CoV-2, then EVERYONE ELSE in your house RESTARTS 10 + 14 days ALL OVER. And the formula repeats itself with each new case at home.

If someone has to go to hospital because of COVID-19 (or unfortunately passes away), then all others start 14 days after the last time they

were in contact with the sick person (the day that person left for the hospital or passed away if at home)

Obviously if someone who is immune suppressed gets ill but stays home because of mild illness then quarantine for others at home is 28 + 14 days.

What happens when we don't test well people at home around a sick person? How do we know they didn't get infected and are asymptomatic? A very good question to which the doctor answers that his suggestion is to retest family members or people in your bubble after the tenth day of their quarantine with you to see if they are carriers.

The right information is the only way we can stop the spread in the community!

# New dynamism in Thérèse-De Blainville PD



**DIMITRIS ILIAS**Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
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The RIPTB in order to upgrade and improve its services in the region proceeded with the hiring of two specialists.

Me Mélanie Dinel, notary, joined the department as their new legal advisor.

In addition to having a diploma in paralegal techniques, she has a bachelor's degree in law as well as a diploma in notarial law from the University of Montreal and has 14 years of relevant experience in the legal field, mainly in the public sector. Her expertise will certainly be an asset for the Corporate Affairs department.

Ms. Sandra De Cicco, Director of Corporate Affairs, welcoming him this morning.

New temporary telecoms attendant at the RIPTB

The staff at the RIPTD also welcomed Ms. Priscilla Boileau who joined the Telecommunications team.

She was welcomed for her swearing-in by the members of the management committee and Ms. Audrey-Anne Lessard, SCAU / 911 coordinator



**Temporary telecoms attendant** 



Legal Advisor: Ms. Sandra De Cicco, Director of Corporate Affairs, welcoming him this morning.



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# OPINION Editorial

# **Skepticism over Covid-19 response growing**

Science is messy, and its bewilderment as to how to respond to Covid-19 is beginning to wear on people

News that not one but two COVID-19 vaccines have tested 95 per cent effective casts a welcome burst of light into Canada's gloomy COVID-19 narrative, amid signs the pandemic is ripping into the nation's social fabric.

Moderna announced that its vaccine candidate proved 94.5 per cent effective in trials. Meanwhile, Pfizer and its partner BioNTech followed up their earlier announcement by confirming final results are five per cent higher than the 90 per cent originally announced.

Further review and regulatory approvals still await, including here in Canada. But the companies say first doses could ship as early as the end of November. But hold the rooftop cheering.

According to Angus Reid polling, only 39 per cent of Canadians say they would get an approved vaccine injection right away if one became available. And 23 per cent believe the threat of COVID-19 has been exaggerated, assumedly by distrusted media and public officials.

When you consider that 66 per cent of the population must be vaccinated for the virus to be successfully suppressed, that's a problem.

Such skepticism is growing globally, according to Timothy Caulfield of the University of Alberta. He's a professor of law, research director of its Health Law Institute, and Canada Research Chair in Health Law and Policy.

"We knew that the spread of misinformation was going to be bad, but I was naively optimistic that people would recognize the value of science and the harm of misinformation and it wouldn't deteriorate as badly as it has," Caulfield told CBC.

"People are now watching science unfold ... so they're seeing the uncertainty. They're seeing how studies don't always go in the same direction. That's how science normally happens but people are watching this sausage being made and they don't like what they see."

Nor do they like the idea that — even in a good cause — the state's power over them is being expanded. Rallies by anti-maskers continue to pop up across the country. An alarming number of otherwise sensible people seem convinced Prime Minister Justin Trudeau plans to place thousands of us in COVID-19 concentration camps. The PM's apparent conviction that it's up to him whether Christmas occurs doesn't help.

Tom Sampson, the head of the Calgary Emergency Management Agency, compared the pandemic to a tsunami. He described on Twitter how while some people will stand and watch as the wave approaches, "the enlightened" head for the hills at the first warning.

No doubt well-intended, Sampson seemed oblivious to the fact that bankruptcies  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left($ 

in Canada grew by 20 per cent in September. Many of those on the beach may be among the 700,000 who have lost their jobs this year. They need to pay the rent and have no place else to go.

Then there's Alberta Senator Paula Simons, who recently let the Twitterverse know she isolated herself for the past eight months. A self-described model COVID-19 citizen, she too appeared blind to the reality that her circumstances are profoundly different from those afforded the privilege of delivering her groceries.

How did we – the most highly educated cohort in the history of humanity – get here?

It's worth considering whether it's not so much the message but the messengers who are struggling here.

Maybe it's because the same experts and media who are shouting at us to wear our masks were telling us as recently as April that wearing a mask is not the way to go and might actually increase the risk of transmission.

Or that the very voices who reported it was safe to go back to work are now telling us to work from home again.

Or that while it's not safe to be in groups of more than 15, it's just fine for 30 or more people to gather for several hours every day in classrooms.

Or that well-spaced, well-ventilated church services and little kids' hockey are life-threatening when kindergarten and daycare aren't.

Whatever little wedges of mistrust were placed by these and similar events, it's increasingly clear that while, yes, we're all supposed to be in this together, we're actually not. At all.

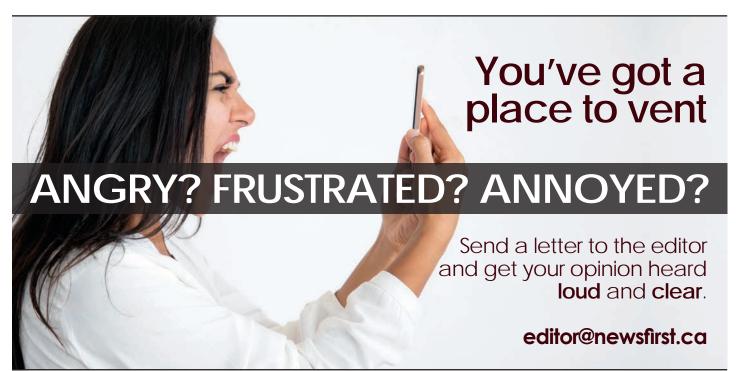
As the voices of those who will never miss a paycheque or rent payment grow ever louder and more empathetic in demanding that others (but not them) sacrifice their livelihoods, and blame them for rising COVID-19 deaths, the schism of anger and distrust risks widening.

This is an incredibly difficult challenge for public health authorities, who need our support as they work to up their messaging game or suffer an increasing number of people tuning them out.

More and more, after all, are making fun of them. Commenting on restricted alcohol serving hours, one social media wit noted "last call is now at 10 p.m. because that's what time the COVID comes out." A father, responding to the suspension of team sports, tweeted: "Hockey is cancelled so this afternoon I'm taking my son's U9 team to the bar."

Mockery is a poor foundation for stability, which we need to truly absorb even great news. Surely even the enlightened will see that.

Peter Menzies



# New support programs are available for those who need them

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- Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit
- Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit

Learn more at canada.ca/coronavirus

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# Rosemère, winner of the Mayors' Challenge!





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

Rosemerites and elected officials were all full of pride last week as the Town of Rosemère was the winner of the Mayors' Challenge!

Over the past month, Rosemère participants completed a total of 102,802 minutes of activities (11 minutes / resident) compared to 82,401

minutes of activities (8.8 minutes / resident) for the Town of Lorraine.

The city announced: We would like to thank all the participants who moved and filled out the form! Regardless of the winning town, we can all say that our goal has been achieved. We succeeded in getting a lot of citizens moving! Keep up the good work, there is no better way to take your mind off things in this time of

Mr. Ronald Bédard is the lucky Rosemèrois who wins the \$400 grocery store prize.

# Christmas in Blainville



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#### Contest

As part of World Children's Day on November 20, the City wishes to celebrate the little Blainvilloises and Blainvillois aged 0 to 5 years old. Thus, by participating in the contest, parents have the chance to win one of 10 sets of books by Quebec authors (personalized according to the child's age) worth \$ 50!

Giving reading as a gift also means giving yourself quality time with your child!

Residents can participate by filling out the registration form between 20 and 29 November 2020 From December 1st a door of the Advent calendar opens each morning to bring some Christmas spirit in the Blainville houses! Several

surprises await toddlers, young people and parents alike: Crafts, Draws, Family quiz, Online games and Capsules for family activity

### Calendar

Naturally, an Advent calendar, also must include Christmas characters! The naughty elves and Santa Claus have many surprises in store for the little Blainvilloises and the little Blainvillois!

The calendar will be available, as of December 1 st 7 am. Blainville citizen cards are required

### **Disposing of Christmas trees**

There are two options for disposing of the Christmas trees: via targeted collection or via the ecocentre.

Targeted collection - Mandatory online request Citizens must make an online request to have their tree picked up. Only requests made by January 10, 2021, will be processed. The collec-



tion begins the second week of January and extends over two weeks throughout the territory. However, it is impossible to determine the precise day of the collection given the quantity of trees and the variable climatic conditions from one year to another.

The trees must be dropped off at the curb before 7 a.m. on January 11, 2021 (collection start date), otherwise they may not be picked up. Trees should be stripped of all decorations (hooks, icicles, etc.). The tree should not be placed in a plastic bag. In bad weather or to facilitate snow removal and snow loading operations, the tree must be removed momentarily, then, as soon as possible, replace it so that it is easily accessible when collecting it.

Écocentre: Residents trees can drop off their tree free of charge at the ecocentre, located at 302 rue Omer-DeSerres (open Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.).



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# Assessment of the mobile COVID-19 screening unit in the Laurentians

# Mobile COVID-19 screening unit ceases its activities in the Laurentians



**DIMITRIS ILIAS** ırnalism Initiative Reporter For The North-Shore News dimitri@newsfirst.ca

The Public Health Department of Integrated Health and Social Services Center (CISSS) confirms the cessation of activities of the mobile COVID-19 screening unit due to the arrival of the winter season and shares the results of the operations of this initiative put in place since the first wave of the pandemic.

The mobile unit is a bus that has been transformed into a vaccination clinic. It crisscrossed the municipalities of the Laurentians by temporarily settling in different places, thus allowing the car screening of citizens wishing to obtain a test to find out if they were infected with COVID-19.

The mobile screening unit will therefore have traveled from May 25 to October 29. A total of 29 municipalities were visited and some were visited several times. This represents 107 outings that will have enabled more than 9,500 screenings among the population of the Laurentians.

The project not only made it possible to significantly increase the number of tests for COVID-19 in the region, but it also improved the accessibility of the screening service to the population in different sectors of the region.

"All these screenings were carried out thanks to the charity of people from here and elsewhere



who reached out to us. I would like to thank all the people and teams who, through their mobilization and solidarity, have contributed to the success of this service," declared the director of public health for the Laurentians, Dr. Éric Gover.

The partners involved are as follows: Mr. Pierre Lavoie, the City of Saguenay; the Société de transport du Saguenay; the CISSS of Center-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal; the Rivière-du-Nord School Services Center; the Saint-Jérôme Road Transport Training Center and their team of drivers assigned to the mobile unit, and above all, the staff of the CISSS des Laurentides.

The Laurentian Public Health Department is evaluating the feasibility of different scenarios in order to continue improving its service offering for COVID-19 screening in the region.

#### Compilation of mobile screening unit activities for the period May 25 to October 29, 2020

MRC	Cities	Number of visits/city	Number of tests/city	Number of positive results	
MRC Lac-des-Deux-Montagnes	Kanesatake	11	717	1	
	Oka	3	147	2	
	Pointe-Calumet	1	21	0	
	St-Eustache	6	768	3	
	Ste-Marthe	3	315	13	
		24	1968	19	
MRC Thérèse-de-Blainville	Blainville	6	549	9	
	Boisbriand (District 7)*	1	3	0	
	Bois-des-Filion	4	505	4	
	Ste-Anne-des-Plaines	4	232	1	
	Ste-Thérèse	8	1010	19	
		23	2299	33	
Mirabel	Sector St-Janvier	6	848	7	
		6	848	7	
MRC Rivière-du-Nord	St-Colomban	3	266	1	
	St-Jérôme	10	907	20	
	Ste-Sophie	3	279	1	
		16	1452	22	
MRC d'Argenteuil	Brownsburg-Chatam	2	65	0	
	Grenville	1	61	1	
	Lachute	9	807	8	
	Wenworth	2	127	0	
		14	1060	9	
MRC Pays-d'En-Haut	St-Adolphe d'Howard	1	96	0	
	St-Sauveur	1	46	0	
	Ste-Adèle	7	630	9	
	Ste-Anne-des-Lacs	2	230	3	
		11	1002	12	
MRC des Laurentides	Amherst	2	87	0	
	La Conception	1	71	0	
	Lanthier	1	24	0	
	Mont-Tremblant	3	275	0	
	St-Rémi	1	51	0	
	Val David	2	184	6	
		10	692	6	
MRC Antoine-Labelle	Rivière-Rouge	1	18	0	
		1	18	0	
TOTAL		105	9339	108	
Added PAB Lachute screenings v	vith the bus	2	179	0	
GRAND TOTAL		107	9518	108	
*Only the visit with the bus is co	unted for District 7				

# A tribute to three Lorraine athletes





**DIMITRIS ILIAS** For The North-Shore News dimitri@newsfirst.ca

On November 16, the Lorraine municipal council paid tribute to three citizens who distinguished themselves in sports in 2020. As gatherings are still prohibited by the Public Health Department, Mayor Jean Comtois and municipal councilors went directly to the recipients to give them their scholarship. In total, \$ 1,250 was distributed in support of these young

The scholarship recipients are: Gabrielle Deslauriers (gymnastics), Laurie-Ann Desormes (athletics) and Édouard Theriault (freestyle skiing - slopestyle).

"The fact that we only received three scholarship applications for 2020 shows how difficult it has been for the fields of sport and culture. I want to congratulate our three recipients, and I invite the athletes, musicians, chess players and others to stay positive. We hope that activities can resume normally as soon as possible so that you can live your passion again. Rest assured that the City will be there and that it will continue to support you," promised Mayor Jean Comtois.

Any scholarship application must be sent to Recreation and culture between January 1st and October 31st of the current year. For more information, visit ville.lorraine.qc.ca/loisirset-culture/partenaires--organismes-et-reconnaissance or contact the Recreation and Culture Department at 450 621-8550, extension 275.



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- Ear Piercing
- Lay away plan (3 months)



# Be there for yourself the way you're there for others

You are always there when your loved ones are going through difficult times. But don't forget about yourself—solutions exist to help you feel better.

The current situation may cause you distress. Experiencing various levels of anxiety in some spheres of life is normal. When this happens, you may find it more challenging to deal with your thoughts, emotions, behaviour and relationships with others. Most people succeed in adapting, but listening to your needs is vital. Don't hesitate to do whatever is necessary to help yourself.

# Take care of yourself

- Rely on your personal strengths and have confidence in your abilities.
- Remind yourself of the winning strategies you used in the past to overcome difficulties. There is no one-size-fits-all solution! Each and every one of us must take steps to foster our own well-being.
- Enjoy life's little pleasures, such as listening to music, taking a warm bath, reading, exercising, etc.
- If you live close to nature, make the most of it. Breathe deeply and slowly as you walk.
- Learn to delegate, and allow others to help you.
- Ask for help when you feel overwhelmed. It is not a sign of weakness, but rather a sign of strength when you are strong enough to do what is necessary to help yourself.

- Lend a hand in your community in a way that respects your personal limits and public health directives. By helping others, you can improve their wellness and your own as well.
- Think about what has meaning and value for you. Reflect on the important things in your life that you can hold onto in hard times.
- Reduce the stressors in your life.
- While it is important to stay informed, limit the amount of time spent reading about COVID-19. Information overload can increase stress and anxiety, and even cause depression.



# The Getting Better My Way digital tool

Getting Better My Way is a digital self-management tool for emotional health. If you are experiencing stress, anxiety or distress, this tool can help improve your well-being by identifying practical things you can do to feel better. Learn more at Québec.ca/Gettingbetter



# Give voice to your feelings

- Keep in mind that having a range of emotions is normal. Feelings play an important role in life, and it is essential to experience them without passing judgment.
- Use words to express what you are going through. Do you feel alone? Are you worried?
- Allow yourself to share your feelings with a trusted friend or family member. It might also be helpful to write down how you're feeling or call a helpline. Find what works for you!
- Those closest to you may not necessarily be able to "read" you. Express your feelings.
- Leave space in your life for your feelings and those of your loved ones.



# Choose healthy living habits

- Try to keep to a routine for eating, resting, sleeping and other daily activities.
- Take time to eat well.
- Go to bed at an hour that lets you get enough sleep.
- Be physically active on a regular basis, while complying with public health directives.
- Reduce your consumption of stimulants like coffee, tea, soft drinks, energy beverages, chocolate, etc.
- Drink lots of water.
- Lower your alcohol, drug and tobacco consumption, or simply say no to them entirely. The same goes for gambling.

# **Help and resources**

We are all going through unprecedented times that can intensify our emotional reactions. For example, you might feel greater fatigue or have fears that you can't shake, or even have trouble just dealing with the day-to-day. Focus on these signs of a problem and, as soon as you can, contact resources that can help you to better manage your feelings and develop new coping strategies.

- Info-Social 811
   Info-Social 811 is a free and confidential telephone consultation service available 24/7
- Regroupement des services d'intervention de crise du Québec Provides 24/7 referral services for people in distress (French): centredecrise.ca/listecentres
- Suicide prevention crisis helpline
   Crisis helpline that provides suicide prevention services 24/7:

   1866 APPELLE (277-3553)

For a host of other helpful resources, visit Québec.ca/gettingtbetter



# Make judicious use of social media

- Use critical thinking before sharing something on social media.
   Ill-advised information can have harmful effects and be detrimental to everyone's efforts in these times.
- Use social media to share positive actions.
- Watch videos that make you smile.

**Québec.ca/Gettingbetter** 

**⚠** Info-Social 811





# Sword and Shield

When I was in high school, I was bullied (although that hardly seems to describe what happened to me). A few of the mean kids would see me in the hall and yell, "Hey, ugly! You're so ugly you should kill yourself!"

This happened daily for over a year. Some of these people have reappeared on Facebook (friends of friends), and the feelings came rushing back. I occasionally see one of them in church and make very sure to slip away before they see me—just like high school, becoming invisible.

I'm 69. I've had a great career and lovely family.

But why does it still hurt? **Iessica** 

**Jessica**, Bit-O-Honey is the candy bar with six pieces of taffy individually wrapped one after the other.

The people who harm, who have that in their nature—whether it's physical, verbal, or psychological—think it is just a bit of fun, like the candy. They don't understand it from your point of view. They popped a piece of cruelty into their mouth, sucked on it, and enjoyed it.

If you confronted them today, they would probably deny it. It was only one of thousands of their bitso-fun. And of course they would pull out the "that was then, I'm a different person now" routine. But the vestige of what they did is still in them

There are more people without empathy than you realize, like the young men who steal cars for a joy ride. They don't think about the owner and that she might not be able to get to work. They only keep track of their own pleasure. Remember the car we dumped in the lake? Remember the car we set on fire?

If you could force an apology from them, it would not be genuine, and an apology would not fix the kick to your sense of self.

if you think there is accounting to a higher power, there will be an accounting for this. But trying to understand them is like trying to understand what your hamster thinks when you pick it up.

There are many cliches that cover this situation.

"What doesn't kill us makes us stronger." "Sticks and stones will break my bones, but names will never hurt me." "You need to grow a thicker skin." "Forgive."

But these cliches are either false, or they put the burden back on the victim.

There is another saying which is actually meaningful. "Justice delayed is justice denied." That is what you are the victim of. That's why justice must be timely.

Today there are widespread anti-bullying campaigns, which work only on people who don't

bully. The campaign should be: Here is exactly what we do to anyone who bullies.

Anti-bullying campaigns often address the problem without dealing with it. And how does such a campaign work on a kid who is being shown and taught something else at home?

Jessica, the only fix is within you. It has nothing to do with other people.

Imagine you were savaged by a dog as a child. You can't rid the world of dogs. So how do you handle it. You have to decide how to handle it.

A parent loses a child. What is the fix for that? There is no fix. The parent must find a way to deal with it in their own mind.

The standard advice for getting over trauma is to remove yourself from the source of the trauma. But that won't work in your case. The sources of the trauma have reappeared.

You could cordon this off in your mind, perhaps with a mantra, meditation, or yoga. In your off hours, you could redirect your attention to a fidget spinner, a complicated puzzle, or an advanced embroidery pattern. You could put this somewhere so that you don't live with it every second of the day.

But we think of it this way.

Soldiers instinctively flinch when a bullet whizzes by. You flinch when you see or think of these people. But once the bullet has passed, the danger has passed. The harm from these people has also passed. You went on to lead a successful life.

Stand proud on your achievements. Carry yourself like a woman who had a great career and parented children who found strength in her values.

With this person at church, stand your ground. Do not avoid them.

Think what you might do if this person came up to you after church and hugged you, as if you are long-lost friends. Be prepared for that. What are you going to do?

Don't trust yourself in the moment to do something which preserves your dignity. Think of possible scenarios and prepare for them. "If they do this, I will do that." What you decide to do may range from looking right through them to a simple nod of acknowledgement.

Or pick a white lie and tuck it away ready for use. The simplest and best one is saying, "I don't remember you." And if they admit to teasing and torturing you, be astonished. "You did that to child! What's wrong with you?"

But don't live in fear of confrontation...what if it happens this Sunday...what if it happens next Sunday.

We think of it this way. The bullet whizzed past. The danger is over. You triumphed. The power is in your hands.

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@WayneAndTamara.com



# A Rosemère take on Christmas





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

The Town of Rosemère is offering residents an array of innovative and diverse activities in the lead-up to the holidays. First and foremost, the Mayor would like to reassure Santa's fans, young and old alike, that he will still find his way to Rosemère this year, despite the current circumstances.

#### **Raindeer with GPS!**

"In the past year, our team has shown extraordinary ingenuity in coming up with a virtual lineup of programs and support services for residents," said Mayor Eric Westram. "For the holidays, they have outdone themselves. This year, instead of you going to Santa, he'll be coming to you! He will be travelling through the streets of Rosemère, tracked by GPS so you can follow him as he goes. We will also take advantage of Santa's time with us to collect non-perishable food items and donations for our traditional Guignolée food drive. This small gesture makes all the difference for lower-income families in the area. I encourage you to give generously."

# Visit from Santa Claus and food drive – December 5 and 6

Santa will make his way through the streets of Rosemère on December 5 and 6. Children

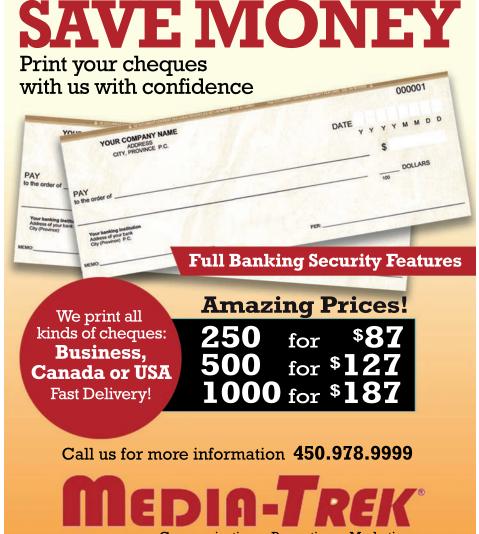
are invited to come out and cheer him on, and residents are asked to leave a bag of food drive donations at the curb for the mayor and councillors to pick up while they walk alongside his sleigh. If the procession route doesn't go directly pasta residents house, the city is asking for a nearby street to be chosen to watch from in order to comply with physical distancing rules and avoid having too many people gather in one spot. The Town's website will track the sleigh in real time: www.ville.rosemere.qc.ca.

# Family visits with Santa online — December 12 and 13

On December 12 and 13, families can meet Santa virtually over Zoom. Children will be able to tell him what they want for Christmas without leaving the comfort of their own home. To sign up for a virtual visit, email loisirs@ville.rosemere.qc.ca Also Pioneers Park will be turned into a winter wonderland as of November 27.

#### In the library

For every Rosemerite's enjoyment, a short light show will be projected onto the front of the municipal library from December 14 to 21 between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. Also, residents are invited to visit the town library's website for the latest on all the various seasonal activities. There will be storytimes, activity sheets for kids to take home, DVDs to borrow (popcorn included!), holiday craft suggestions and much more.



# What's up in Sainte-Thérèse



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

The city of Sainte-Thérèse seems vibrant despite covid. A slew of activities is organized through its public library, its website and via its elected officials.

#### Tax freeze for 2021

The Teresians will be happy to learn that the mayoress of Sainte-Thérèse, Mrs. Sylvie Surprenant, announced a real estate tax freeze for next year. The city's 2021 budget will be officially tabled at the special meeting of the city council scheduled for December 7 but the tax freeze represents a welcome respite from extra financial obligations during these difficult times.

"The two levels of government have announced the granting of financial assistance to the City which will allow us to give taxpayers a break in 2021, the latter being already shaken by the difficult economic context surrounding COVID-19. In a period of budget preparation, one of our concerns is not to increase the tax burden on the population and this announcement is concrete proof of this," said the mayor.

At this time, public meetings of the municipal council take place behind closed doors in accordance with the instructions issued by Public Health.

# Free online computer workshops for Teresians

One could say the public libraries of the different municipalities have become hubs of much desired activities for residents. Through their online programs and children-oriented activities libraries take the edge off of anxiety related to lockdowns and the cancellations of after-school programs. Learning how to use technology to keep people close to each other and give them the opportunity to take advantage of online activities is also crucial. For that reason, this fall, subscribers to the Sainte-Thérèse library will be able to attend computer workshops completely free of charge thanks to AlphaNumérique . In the comfort of their own home, they will be able to connect to the Zoom platform and follow these workshops which will allow them to perfect their computer knowledge.

For residents using tablets the city has workshops as well. For iPad tablet users it will take place on Thursday, November 26, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. For Android tablet users: Friday, December 4, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. This workshop will teach residents how to navigate and use their tablet's settings for an experience tailored to their needs. They will learn to: Identify the most used parameters, understand the structure of the drop-down menus, use the search bar and use the control center.

Also, in a workshop called To click or not to click? Teresians will be able to recognize and protect themselves from phishing on Monday,



the Sainte-Thérèse library will be able to attend computer workshops completely free of charge thanks to AlphaNumérique

December 14, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. No one is safe from fraudulent emails and this workshop will help them identify phishing and counterfeits in order to protect themselves on the web. Residents will learn to understand the objectives of phishing, know the legal remedies, identify fraudulent emails and identify counterfeit websites.

All the details and the Zoom connection procedure are available at biblio.sainte-therese.ca.

# Turgeon Street open to traffic from November 20, 7 p.m.

The City of Sainte-Thérèse is pleased to announce that after several months of major work, Turgeon Street will be reopened to traffic as of Friday, 20 November 19h. It will thus be possible to cross the railway line. Saint-Alphonse and Napoléon streets, which were also blocked by the construction site, will be accessible.

Some finishing work will be done during the week of November 23, but it will not affect traffic. As of November 20th, citizens and visitors will be able to resume their habits. The buses of the Exo transport network will also resume their usual routes.

The reopening of rue Turgeon allows easy and direct access to the Village of Sainte-Thérèse, where many shops are located. The city asks everyone to take the opportunity to visit them!

# Grant program for the renovation of heritage buildings

The City of Sainte-Thérèse is proud to award Maude Brunet-Morand and Jean-Philippe Varin, the owners of 21, rue Morris, an amount of \$ 2,250 for the repair of the brick parapet of their heritage home built in 1920. The grant is just in time to mark the house's 100th anniversary this year! They are the second to take advantage

of the new heritage building renovation grant program.

As the upper part of their house deteriorated over the years, they used this grant to make the necessary repairs and thus refresh the image of their residence. It is important to mention that this financial assistance covers part of the excess costs related to work carried out on a heritage building, which are higher than those of work carried out on a contemporary building.

"It is a source of pride to have many heritage buildings in Sainte-Thérèse. These are the witnesses of our history; it is therefore essential for the City to contribute to their preservation and to the enhancement of their architecture.

Like Ms. Brunet-Morand and Mr. Varin, I strongly urge owners of heritage buildings to take advantage of this incentive," said the mayor of Sainte-Thérèse, Ms. Sylvie Surprenant.

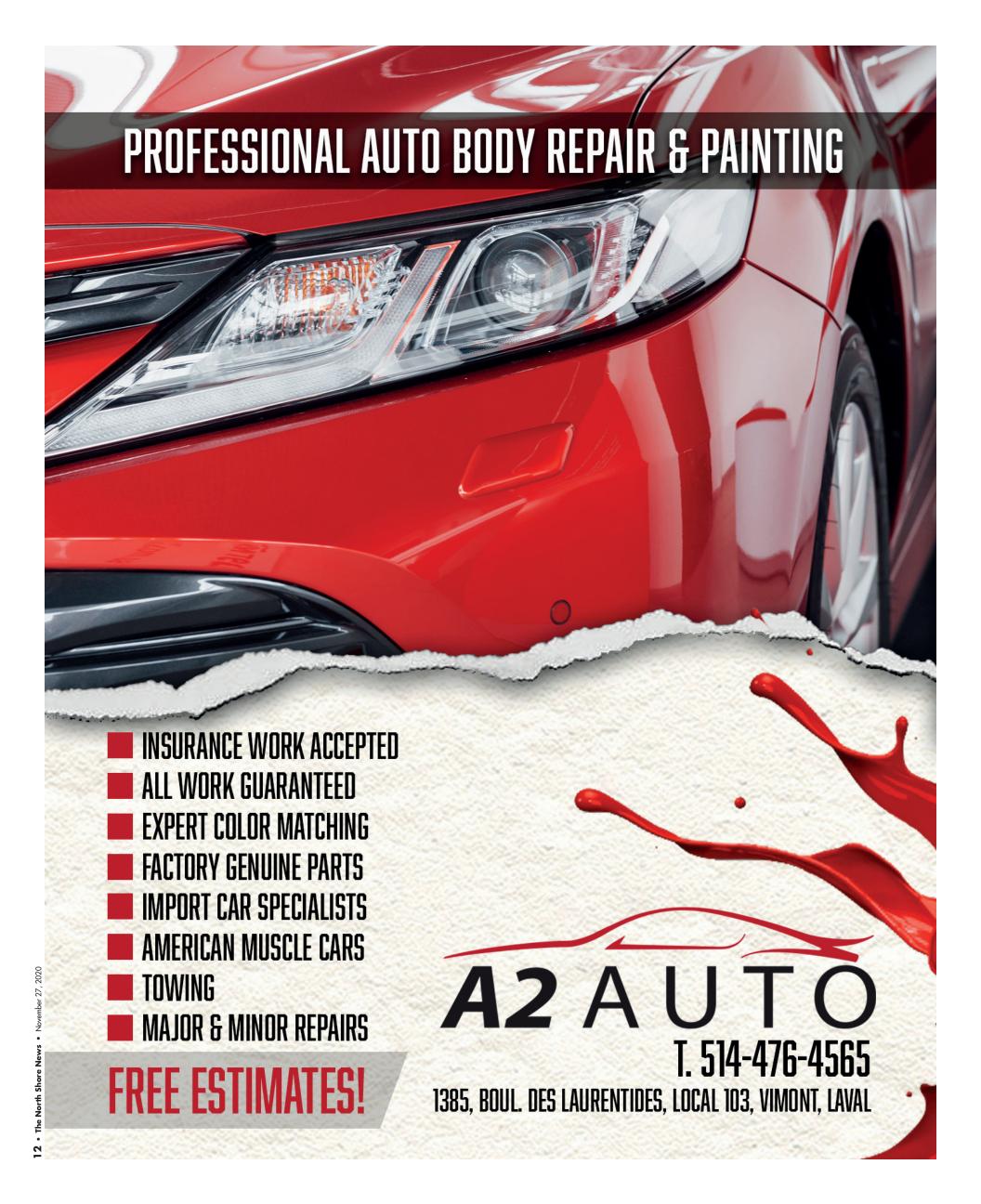
Last February, the City of Sainte-Thérèse identified the eligible buildings and launched this grant program totaling \$ 300,000, aimed at the preservation and enhancement of heritage buildings and their original characteristics. To date, owners of buildings meeting the criteria can receive between 25% and 50% of the value of the renovations carried out, up to a maximum of \$ 20,000, for work on walls, roofs, doors and windows, and architectural details and projections of their residence.



Certaines conditions s'appliquent\* / Certain conditions apply\*

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November 27, 2020 • The North Shore New





# **Snowy Kourabiedes**

As we are approaching December (baby, it's cold outside, is the current tune looping in my head), I can't help but think of baking cookies! It's Christmas cookie countdown, and my first in my miniseries are Kourabiedes! They are so Christmassy, covered with powdered sugar, giving a snowy look (not that we need any more snow to look at), so irresistible, they melt in your mouth!

Kourabiedes are a kind of shortbread with almonds. Like other shortbreads, other ingredients are butter, flour, sugar, salt, and possibly vanilla or brandy. They are popular in Greece, Cyprus, and Greekcommunities in Anatolia, as well as across the Greek diaspora (in my case, Montreal, we are a big community. I even love how new generations keep up the tradition, taking the recipes from their mothers)

They are also especially popular for special occasions, such as Christmas or baptisms (christenings), though they're seen in Greece year-round, which goes for myself, I crave them all the time, and cannot wait for special holidays!

The most common flavoring is vanilla, but other variants include Greek brandy (Metaxa is the bestknown brand), mastic, or rose water. In some regions of Greece, each Christmas kourabies is topped with a clove. In this recipe, I use my favorite flavoring...Almond! You can even substitute partially the flour with almond flour (fine ground almonds) or completely of you want them gluten free!

Kourabiedes are shaped either into circles, crescents or balls, then baked till slightly golden. Immediately after removing the cookies from the oven, the Kourabiedes are rolled in confectioner's sugar (powdered/ icing sugar) and left to cool. They are typically then rolled in powdered sugar again once cooled.

Something cool to know, is that even though Kourabiedes come in all shapes and sizes, there's a legend that states that during Ottoman rule, kourabiedes had to be made into the crescent shape, and that is the shape that still predominates. In my recipe I used a cookie cutter, just because I haven't mastered the crescent shape just yet!

# **Ingredients**

- 450 grams salted butter (room temperature)
- 7 cups powdered (confectioners) sugar
- 1 tbsp almond extract
- 1 egg yolk (room temperature)
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 cup lightly roasted slivered almonds (or roasted chopped almonds)
- 4 1/2-5 cups all-purpose flour

# Instructions

- 1.Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Line baking sheets with parchment paper
- 2. Add butter and 1 cup powdered sugar to bowl of electric mixer. Beat on medium speed with the paddle attachment until very light and fluffy (about 15-20

Add egg yolk and almond extract. Beat until well incorporated.

- 3.Add roasted almonds beat until mixed in.
- 4. Sift flour and baking powder in a large bowl. Gradually add flour to butter mixture until a dough forms. TIP: When the dough is barely not sticky anymore then it's ready to be shaped. Too much flour will make the cookie tough and dry.
- 5. Roll the dough into 2 tablespoon-size balls, or roll out dough and cut into crescents, stars, or whatever shape you like. You can use a cookie cutter
- 6. Place cookies on prepared baking pan and bake 20-25 minutes until light golden, rotating pan half way.
- 7. Use a sieve to evenly spread about half of the powdered sugar in a large deep baking pan. Once cookies are out of the oven, dust with the powdered sugar. Dip each cookie bottom in the powdered sugar. Dust some more powdered sugar on top of the cookies then Allow to cool before adding the rest of the powdered

Cool completely and transfer to sealable container. Does not require refrigeration







# In Memoriam & Obituaries

## **BROUSSEAU**, Clément 1934 - 2020



In Saint-Eustache, on November 21, 2020, at the dawn of his 86 years, passed away Mr. Clément Brousseau, husband of the late Mrs. Thérèse Lafond. He is survived by his daughters Michelle (François), Nicole (Guy) and Elaine, his grandchildren Steve (Valérie), Mathieu (Isabelle) and Benoit, his great grandchildren Felix, Delphine, Émile, Éloi and Henri, her sisters, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nephews and nieces as well as other relatives and friends.

## **MATHIEU**, Lisette 1956 - 2020



In St-Jérôme, on November 21, at the age of 64, passed away, following a long illness, Mrs. Lisette Mathieu. She is survived by her husband Serge Hamel, her sons Eric and Steve Hamel, her granddaughter Joanie, her brother Pierre and her sister Nicole, her sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, nephews, nieces as well as relatives and friends.

# - THROUGH DISTANCE -

## **ACCESSIBLE**

Our team has adapted to the new reality so you can mourn without added worry. You can now safely interact with your loved ones using the new technology that we've implemented.

We're here to guide you when selecting these new options and we're committed to meeting your needs in a responsible manner.

## **SERVICES**

via telephone

- or virtual meetings
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- Live webcast of the ceremony (funeraweb.tv)



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S LIFE WELL CELEBRATED™ &

## GIRARD, François 1950 - 2020



In Saint-Jérôme, on November 17, 2020, at the age of 70, passed away Mr. François Girard, spouse of Mrs. Johanne Millier. He is now with his son Jean-François, his parents Mr. Roméo Girard and Mrs. Thérèse Filion, his brothers and sisters Laurent, Christine, Jean-Pierre, Sylvie and Suzanne. Besides his wife, he is survived by his children Patrick (Ashlee) and Yannick as well as their mother Manon, his granddaughters Kassandra, Shalika, Amy and Maïka, his brothers and sisters Jérôme, Michel, Ghislain, Agathe, Pauline, Geneviève, Lucie and Yolaine as well as their spouses, her nephews and nieces, her cousins and cousins, as well as other relatives and friends.

### **ROUSSEAU**, Diane 1958 - 2020



The family regret to announce the passing of Mrs. DIANE ROUSSEAU at home, Wednesday November 18, 2020 surrounded by her relatives. Spouse of Michel Brisebois. Besides her husband, she is survived by her mother Marie Vit, her brothers Jean (Mimi), the late André, her son Alex (Isabelle) as well as many other relatives and friends.

## **TARDIF, Roland** 1928 - 2020



In Sainte-Thérèse, on November 19, 2020, at the age of 92, passed away Mr. Roland Tardif, husband of Mrs. Rachel Girard. Besides his wife, he will be sadly missed by his children Jean-Guy (Andrée), Johanne (Jean-Pierre), Pierre (Annie), Gaétan (Véronique) and Manon, his grandchildren Marie-Eve, Karine, Jean-François, Joanie, Cindy and Marc-Olivier, her great-grandchildren Megan, Laurie, Antoine, William, Emma, Maëva, Olivier and Evan as well as many relatives and friends.

Contact us today to place an obituary or in memoriam in our next issue NO CHARGE Email: production@newsfirst.ca • Tel.: 450-978-9999

# HOROSCOPE

Week of NOVEMBER 29 TO DECEMBER 5, 2020

The luckiest signs this week: LEO, VIRGO AND LIBRA



ARIES
You'll discover a new gadget that makes it easier for you to communicate. People will find it easier to get a hold of you. You'll need to run a lot of errands, so make sure your GPS is up to date to avoid going in



You'll go all out to impress people this holiday sea-son. You may even decide to replace some of your furniture. You'll also get rid of certain items that are taking up too much space in your home.



You'll take initiative on a new pro-ject. You want to be in charge so that you can ensure that the work gets done right. New beginnings are on the horizon both in your career and your love life.



#### CANCER

After a tiring few weeks, it's important to take time to recharge and set new goals. If you haven't been spending enough time with your family and friends, a reunion might be in order. You'll be surprised by how much they've missed you.



You'll find yourself in a crowded environment, and you'll need to organize a large-scale event. Ac-cept a friend's invitation to go out. You need a night to let loose and relieve some of your stress.



### **VIRGO**

Sometimes you need to take a step back in order to gain the will to move forward. A reprieve will allow you to see things from a new perspective. With more information, you'll be able to analyze the situation and find the best solution.



Luck will be on your side at work and in your love life. People will come into your life at the right time and make things easier. Your ability to empathize will conti-nue to be your superpower, and you'll make good use of it.



#### **SCORPIO**

A major change may bring up a stream of emotions. Nonetheless, you'll benefit greatly from a new experience. Additionally, you'll reconnect with a family member following an argument.



## **SAGITTARIUS**

At work, you'll reach an agreement that has a positive impact on your career. Since you foster a peaceful and collaborative environment, people will blindly trust you to guide them in the right direction.



#### **CAPRICORN**

You won't be taken advantage of this week. At work and in other areas of your life, you'll make changes that improve your efficiency. You'll also become more dexterous after you take on a new creative project.



#### **AQUARIUS**

You'll be sensitive and emotional this week. You might bring clarity to a complicated love affair. At work, you'll be deeply moved by an award or some other form of recognition.

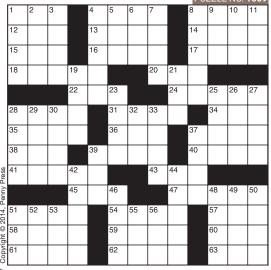


#### **PISCES**

You'll be able to get your work done at home. If you have young children, one of them might re-quire a lot of your attention. You'll need to talk to certain people and get a few things off your chest.

# ee Break

**CROSSWORDS** 



#### **ACROSS**

1. What it takes to tango 4.Prepare for an exam 8.Conform 12.Concealed 13 Not well-done 15."Night 16.Printing fluids 17.Pranks 18.Ouizzes 20. Volcanic residue 22.Increases 24.Tingly 28.Doorway side 31.0ver 34.Shade of color 35.Clarinet's cousin 36.Card-game cry 37.Opposite of

38.High peak 39.Release the pressure on 40.Enfold 41.Poor 43.Descend Mt

Snow 45.Married 47.Put a stop to 51.Teen skin problem 54.Like suntan lotion 57.Amazement 58.In more than one part 59.Shade giver

60.Shirt type 61.Bankruptcy 62.Slippery road mishap 63.Horse's relative

#### **DOWN**

1. "\_\_\_ Old Black Magic" 2.Chablis or Chardonnay, e.g. 3.Not evens 4 Brittle 5.Sought office 6.Noah's ship 7.Flat-topped formation 8.Should 9.Women's undergarment 10.Easter edible 11.Word of approval 19.Duct 21.Small swallow 23 Tale 25.Scorch 26 Maui dance 27.Canine's cry 28.Actress Collins

30.Sulk 32."\_\_\_\_ the season . . 33.Singles 37.Identical sibling 39. Drops or chart 42.Lived 44. up (tense) 46.Periods 48.Facts 49.Fleecy females 50 Below-average 51.Remark further 52.Guiding suggestion

53.Catch

55.Anger

56.Kauai keepsake

29.Skilled

# 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.

AYE

BEE

ELLL

PELT

SAYS

733	8		7			4			
NO.		4			7		3		
PUZZLE NO. <b>733</b>		5	1			8	9	7	4
<u></u>			3	7	9		4		
	1				6	3	8	9	7
	6								
		1		9			2	4	8
				8				6	
						5			1

Last Issues' Answers

SHAD TAPS PUMA E P I C AGED PEER SENATE ODDL RESALE ANTSYMHILLTOP ROOTYAMTTOUR CREEPERRRATTY ARTERY AWOKE A E R I A L T W I G D I N D R Y TONE YENS

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





# Fruits and Vegetables

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# This week's basket:

- Lettuce
- Asparagus
- Broccoli
- Pineapple
- Mushrooms
- Mango
- Turnip
- Sweet Vanilla Persimmons
- Clementines (Maroc)
- Beets (bag)
- Leek
- Peppers
- Limes
- Coriander
- Tomatoes
- CucumberBananas

# Our weekly customers

# Now we deliver at your house!

No Waste.

# 

# Ordering is as easy as 1,2,3

- Place your orders online or by phone before 9pm on Thursday.
- or place your order on Facebook (\$5. for delivery)
- Pick up your baskets on Friday or Saturday

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