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JFK-Voices voice competition... **Page 2**



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JFK-Voices fundraiser-voice competition

Brianna Fasoli of Saint -Eustache student wins JFK-Voices second place



Chroma Musika vocal studios (Boisbriand) came first with its members fundraising \$4,155.00

MARIA DIAMANTIS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

It was a night to remember! After lockdowns and restrictions to be able to enjoy once more a concert with so much young talent was such a breath of fresh air. Filtered through a mask of course since the audience complied with the current health measures.

On April 10th at John Rennie High School's Louise Chalmers ultra-modern theatre, 48 singers aged 12-17 from 6 high schools and a vocal studio took the stage in solos, duos and ensemble numbers to raise awareness and funds for mental health at the Children's. 20 solos were featured during the performance. At the

end of the competition after a rousing *Don't stop believing* sung by all the participants, Brianna Fasoli from Saint-Eustache representing Chroma Musika team won second place.

The event was hosted by a panel of music industry professionals including Mark Bergman and Catherine Verdon-Diamond (The Beat 92.5) and Jason Rockman (The Rockman, CHOM 97.7). This year's theme was Songs of Hope and it was the first live event since the pandemic. Last year the fundraiser-song competition was held virtually. Before the show, Dr. Polymnia Galiatsatos a gastroenterologist from the Jewish General Hospital addressed the audience. Herself a major supporter and volunteer of the event, Dr. Galiatsatos, emphasized the importance of the fundraiser not just as a physician but as a parent of 4 children.

Raising funds for mental health

Cory Garfinkle, the concert's organizer said that the Just for Kids Foundation raises funds to purchase high-priority medical equipment for the Montreal Children's Hospital, and to support initiatives that improve the quality of care for its patients. Hospitals rely on foundations such as Just for Kids to help close the gap between basic government funding and much needed medical equipment and programs.

One of their funding projects this year continues to be Mental Health. Just for Kids is funding a social worker specializing in mental health for the ER. Faced with waiting lists of more than 180 days for follow-up, young people and their families are increasingly turning to hospital emergency departments in a cry for help to deal with issues ranging from anxiety to depression to suicidal ideation. According to the Children's, from 2020 to 2021, there was a 40% increase in mental health related hospitalizations for children ages 12 to 17.

Brianna wins second place



Brianna Fasoli is a vocal student at Chroma Musika studios which specialize in youth vocal training in Boisbriand and Ville Saint-Laurent. At the night of the performance, she

interpreted a 90 second segment of *Warrior* by Demi Lovato.

"In all honesty I was a little shocked to have won in JFK Voices, let alone second place; not because I doubted my abilities, but because I had witnessed the unbelievable talent amongst whom I was being judged. Yet I am so honored and overjoyed to have been tied for second place as it showed me that I can stand out in a crowd; even an ultra-talented one. Despite being in competition with one another, all the performers were so supportive of each other. There was just such a positive atmosphere backstage, it was so awesome to be in a room of artists cheering each other on. That's why though I am so happy that I won, I am even happier that I got to be part of this experience as a whole. The fact that it was a fundraising event for a subject close to my heart, made it all the more worthwhile. Making sure mental health resources are available to vulnerable children and teens in need, is a very important issue for me. I have seen many of my friends deal with mental health issues and sometimes not have any true outlet to turn to. In the world that we are currently living in, I find that more and more kids of my generation need to have proper mental health resources available to them. That is why fundraisers like this one are critical and I am just really delighted that I was able to contribute to this worthy cause in some way," said Brianna in an interview with North Shore News.

\$38,603 raised so far

Up to now, via a very intuitive online fundraising platform where people can support the different teams with their donations, 367 donations have been made totaling \$38,603. Chroma Musika vocal studios came first with its members fundraising \$4,155.00 followed by Vincent Massey Clef Notes from John Rennie High School, Kuper Academy, ECS, Bialik High School and Collège Pasteur. On the individual level Alexis Côté, a young rapper who performed a French rap composed by him and his mom, raised \$2,600.

1st place winner was Veronica Setiadi, 2nd place was shared by Alya Khalid & Brianna Fasoli and the 3rd place winner was Caleb Johnston. The event organizers rewarded all the participants and their teachers with a multitude of prizes. It was an added bonus from the sponsors of the event, making for an unforgettable experience for those young performers.

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The City of Blainville launches its 2022 construction program

MARIA DIAMANTIS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

On the 13th of April 2022 the City of Blainville launched its infrastructure work program for 2022. With “It’s worth the detour” as their theme, this program totals \$19.6 million, but the cost has been reduced to \$13.5 million due to government subsidies. The most imposing project will be carried out in the sector of exit no. 24 of Highway 640 to improve traffic flow and user safety, particularly that of young people who attend surrounding educational institutions.

“Our administration invests significant sums in the quality of life of the citizens of Blainville. We are in action to maintain the quality of our water supply and sewer system, to ensure safety in our travels, to improve the condition of our streets and our municipal buildings and to improve certain parks,” said Mayor Liza Poulin.

Redevelopment of Chemin du Bas-de-Sainte-Thérèse, at the intersection of Autoroute 640 East

Carried out in collaboration with the Ministère des Transports du Québec, this project led by the City consists of improving traffic safety and fluidity at the intersection of exit no. 24 – Montée Lesage – Chemin du Bas-de-Sainte-Thérèse of Highway 640, eastbound, and Chemin du Bas-de-Sainte-Thérèse. The work will be carried out between the beginning of May and the end of December 2022. It consists of:

Widening Chemin du Bas-de-Sainte-Thérèse to two lanes in each direction for approximately 400 meters;

Widening of the ramp from exit no. 24 of



Mayor Liza Poulin surrounded by councilors Michèle Murray (Renaissance district) and Marie-Claude Perron (Fontainebleau district)

Autoroute 640, eastbound, and add a right-turn lane with a diverter island, at the intersection of Chemin du Bas-de-Sainte-Thérèse;

Extending the multipurpose trail located south of Chemin du Bas-de-Sainte-Thérèse;

Redeveloping the ramp leading from Chemin du Bas-de-Sainte-Thérèse to Highway 640, eastbound;

Adding two traffic lights on chemin du Bas-de-Sainte-Thérèse;

Redesigning the access to the Montessori International school leading to chemin du Bas-de-Sainte-Thérèse, which will be aligned with the redesigned entrance ramp to Highway 640, eastbound;

Building a sanitary pumping station;

And extending the water and sewer networks.

“These works will make the intersection safer and will improve fluidity in a key sector. In addition, the multipurpose path will promote our active mobility and facilitate travel,” said

Renaissance District Councillor Michèle Murray.

“The completion of this work will have a definite impact on traffic, on each side of the 640, depending on the different phases of construction. The work will be carried out partly during the summer season in order to limit the negative effects. I thank drivers in advance for their patience,” added Fontainebleau District Councillor Marie-Claude Perron.

The City is the prime contractor for this project and is paying for most of the work to the tune of \$8.9 million. The Ministère des Transports du Québec, for its part, is responsible for drawing up the plans and specifications, installing the lighting system and paying for the paving and maintenance of the highway access ramps. 640.

Water supply and sewer network

Several works in the 2022 program will

concern the sewer and water supply network. The City is investing \$11 million to maintain the network, make occasional repairs, inspect the sewers and upgrade the pumping station on rue du Castillo.

Work in certain parks

Various redevelopments will take place at Dubreuil and des As parks this summer.

In Parc Dubreuil, the game modules will be replaced as well as the street furniture. The paving of the multipurpose surface and its access will also be redone in certain places.

At the Parc des As, two spring modules will be added for children aged 0-5. The borders will be redone and the entrance to the park on rue des Écus will be more visible.

In the Fontainebleau district, a path with wooden footbridges will be laid out in the ravines after the revegetation phase which will follow the work to stabilize the embankments in the ravines.

The city will also carry out repair work on bike paths and pedestrian crossings near Maurice-Tessier park (repair of the bike path), on rue Arthur-Buies (repair of the passage to boulevard du Curé-Labelle) and on rue de Caplan (repair of the passage to the Sainte-Thérèse high school).

Road repairs

Finally, several streets or thoroughfares will be subject to repair work during the summer season including Boulevard Céloron, Boulevard de Fontainebleau, Rue Maurice-Cullen, Chemin du Bas-de-Sainte-Thérèse, 54e Avenue Ouest, Rue de Gatineau and Boulevard de Chambéry. Speed moderation measures will also be installed on certain streets according to the recommendations of the traffic committee.

Fixing problems in the municipal wastewater network of Sainte-Thérèse

Smoke tests may set off alarms in certain homes

MARIA DIAMANTIS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

NSN-MARIA DIAMANTIS- As instituted by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Regions (MAMH), the City of Sainte-Thérèse has the obligation to detect and eliminate reversed connections in the municipal wastewater collection network. A reverse connection is defined as a connection or defect in equipment that allows sanitary wastewater to flow away from a domestic sewer system, either into a storm sewer system, on the ground, in a ditch or in a watercourse, while the building concerned is served by a domestic sewer system.

Smoke testing

Thus, the City of Sainte-Thérèse commissioned the firm Simo Management inc. in order to detect reversed connections on its territory. To do this, the firm will inject smoke into the sewer pipes in certain sectors of the city. As the sector identified is limited, the citizens concerned will receive a communication delivered directly to their homes to inform them. The tests will take place during the month of April and at the beginning of May 2022, weather permitting. The tests are of short duration, approximately 30 minutes.

The smoke cartridges give a non-toxic white smoke that does not leave any residue or debris. However, people with respiratory problems may still be bothered by inhaling the smoke. The injected smoke is not likely to enter homes, except in certain cases. If necessary, the introduction of smoke into a residence is generally done through the basement, from a drain or a foundation drain collection well. If this smoke enters residences, it can set off the smoke alarm. The city notifies the residents that if the smoke enters their house or basement, they should

immediately notify the representative of the firm or the municipality who will be present outside.

To reduce the risk of introducing smoke into their residence, owners must ensure that the floor drain in the basement contains water and, if necessary, pour water into it. If smoke enters the house or basement, simply close the drain opening with a damp cloth pad. Smoke can also enter the house through the washer outlet pipe.

It is therefore recommended to close the opening with a damp cloth whenever possible and to ventilate the house by opening the windows.

Taking exterior photos

Considering that the places through which the smoke escapes are often numerous and that these tests are of short duration, each of the sources of smoke must be photographed for

report and compilation purposes. The city must therefore go to the back of a residence to obtain a favorable angle for taking photographs and asks for the resident’s cooperation so as not to interfere with the progress of the work.

Before, during and after the study, residents can obtain all relevant information at the following telephone numbers: 450 646-1903, ext. 2238 or 438 364-6775.

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OPINION & Editorial



Allowing government to parent our children is a serious mistake

Tax burdens and living costs prevent most intact parental couples from raising their children at home

What would be better – children conceived by random intercourse and raised by the state, or children raised by their parents in the same household? Plato, the Greek philosopher from ancient times, said the former; and whether we realize it or not, his philosophy has dragged public policy for decades.

“Our men and women,” Plato wrote in *The Republic*, “should be forbidden by law to live together in separate households, and all the women should be common to all the men; similarly, children should be held in common, and no parent should know his child, or child its parent.”

Plato thought that family teachings could compete with loyalty to the state and its ideology. No families means no competition. Government knows best, especially when they are philosophers ... said the philosopher.

“There will be no end to the troubles of states, or of humanity itself, until philosophers become kings in this world, or until those we now call kings and rulers really and truly become philosophers, and political power and philosophy thus come into the same hands,” Plato wrote.

Some misguided elites still believe this and have used their influence to prevail in popular, academic and public institutions. An anecdote by the late filmmaker Aaron Russo puts this on stark display. In an interview, now 15 years old, he recalled a conversation with Nick Rockefeller.

When Russo told Rockefeller what he thought feminism was about, Rockefeller laughed and called him “an idiot.”

“We funded women’s lib and we’re the ones who got it all over the newspapers and television [through] the Rockefeller Foundation,” Rockefeller reportedly told Russo.

“One reason was, we couldn’t tax half the population before women’s lib. And the second reason was, now we get the kids in school at an early age, we can indoctrinate the kids how to think, which breaks up their family. The kids start looking at the state as their family, as the school, as the officials as their family, not as the parents teaching them.”

By now, that project is in advanced stages with a momentum all its own. Most children are in daycare at a year old, funded by the government in passive or active ways. This usually means women, encouraged for decades

to abandon homemaking for the workforce, are paid to raise the government’s children — their income paid and taxed by the same government.

Tax burdens and living costs prevent most intact parental couples from raising their children at home even if they want to. Government-run, politically correct, mediocre education takes a significant portion of provincial tax dollars. Parents who want homeschooling or private schools for their children have an uphill battle.

Perverse incentives in welfare programs also aid Plato’s vision. At a restaurant years ago, a 20-something waitress told me a story that peeved her. Her friend was advised by her own father, “Get knocked up; you’ll get money from the government.” So her boyfriend impregnated her. She kept his name off the birth certificate and later called him her landlord – thereby qualifying for even more handouts.

At budget time, governments brag about their investments in childcare, education and social assistance programs. The problem is that when Plato wins, parents lose. And the price is their children, their tax dollars and their society.

Lee Harding



#NewsMatters:

The National
Assembly Report

By Raquel Fletcher

After by-election defeat, amendment fiasco, Anglade insists Liberals can turn things around

anglophones, historically loyal to the Liberal party, came after a major gaffe many have qualified as amateur and tone-deaf.

Earlier this session, the opposition proposed an amendment to the government’s French language reform Bill 96, which would require English CEGEP students complete three courses in French to receive their diplomas.

The amendment was accepted by all four parties represented at the National Assembly without any consultation of the community. CEGEP directors, parents and students were quick to denounce the modification to the bill, saying such a strict requirement could lead to students failing classes or getting poor grades that could affect their chances of getting into the university of their choice.

Another humiliating defeat

Anglade apologized and the Liberal Party tried to convince the committee to walk it back, but to no avail. Then, after being mocked by the media and other parties, the Liberals endured another humiliating defeat last Thursday.

The committee voted against a new Liberal amendment, which would have required students to complete three classes of French instead of three classes in French. That would have meant that students who are not as proficient in the language of Molière would have been permitted to take three French as a second language courses.

“It was incumbent on everybody to find a solution,” says André Fortin, Liberal MNA for Pontiac, who said “it was a shocking turn of events” that French Language) Minister Jolin-Barrette voted against the new amendment.

Fortin insists there is still a possibility to make changes to the bill, although that seems less and less likely with the end of the session just around the corner. The Liberal Party will vote against Bill 96, what it calls “a deeply-flawed bill,” but it will require more than that to appease frustrated Quebec anglophones and win back indifferent francophones. Anglade is well aware of this.

“I think I need to be a lot more vocal about a number of (positions) that we’ve taken,” she says.

Anglade says under her leadership her party would focus on both the economy and fighting climate change, but above all, she says her party is about promoting inclusion. She says Premier François Legault is pitting Quebecers against each other with “politics of division.”

“The premier is saying that there are anglophones and francophones. Immigrants and not-so-good immigrants. People who are making \$56,000 a year and the other ones,” she says.

“The future of Quebec needs to be outward focused. We have to be looking at opportunities for every single person. We have to be thinking about an economy that is modern and progressive. And we have to stop dividing Quebecers and look at how Quebec can be a beacon for the rest of the world.”

She admits she’s running out of time to get her message across but is not deterred.

“I’m extremely motivated. If anything, this week proves to me that we need to work harder. There’s no question about that.”

Raquel Fletcher is QCNA’s News Matters columnist on provincial affairs

Canada will be doing its bit for space exploration on 'Lunar Gateway' project

Moon could soon be revealing its secrets, says Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen



MARTIN C. BARRY
marty@newsfirst.ca

Canadian Space Agency astronaut Jeremy Hansen joined students from across Canada last week for 'Let's Talk Lunar: Exploring the Moon,' a virtual event organized by Let's Talk Science.

Canada's space mission

Hansen was selected to join the CSA in the 2009 CSA selection of future Canadian astronauts. Let's Talk Science, a non-profit educational venture, focuses on education and skills development for children and youth in Canada through science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) based programs.

During the 90-minute event on April 2, done in conjunction with the CSA, Hansen talked to more than 1,000 students from grades 9 to 12 about lunar exploration, including Canada's role in the Artemis program, the Lunar Gateway and how astronauts are preparing for missions to the Moon.

Lunar Gateway project

Just as Canada has been participating for decades along with other countries in supporting the International Space Station (ISS) which is in low Earth orbit, Canada is also participating in the planned Lunar Gateway, another space station that will be placed in lunar orbit.

The current goal is to land humans on the Moon by 2024. The last time we were on the Moon was in December 1972, when the U.S.-sponsored National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) led the final mission of its Moon exploration program with Apollo 17.

Moon secrets revealed

"We learned a lot about the Moon in the late '60s and early '70s, but we have a lot more to learn," said Hansen, adding that when the Moon was explored that last time, it was only around

the equatorial region. However, now because of improvements in technology, astronauts will be able to reach other locations, including shadowed craters and the Moon's south pole because trapped water-ice is believed to be located there.

"We need to go back," he said. "We want to learn more about the Moon to figure out where we can build bases in the future, where we can get resources to help us explore. We want to learn more about the geology of the Moon and how we can leverage that geology."

Tech advances in space

So, even though humans are returning to the Moon, Hansen said the technical advances made over the past 50 years are such that robotics will be playing an immensely more important role in the coming Moon mission.

"This human/robotic collaboration is super-important," he said, noting the important contribution Canada made in the past to space exploration programs with development of the Canadarm1 robotic arm deployed on the Space Shuttle beginning in the early 1980s, followed by Canadarm2 in 2001 on the ISS, and Canadarm3 which will be fitted to the Lunar Gateway.

Goals important

Hansen said that if there was one thing he hoped the web conference's participants would take away, it would be the importance of setting goals. "I don't necessarily want you to desire being a space explorer, but I want you to set goals. Short-term goals, long-term goals, to understand that if you set goals and share those goals with others, people will enable you to accomplish amazing things."

Hansen said that as a youth, he wanted to be a space explorer. "But I didn't get here because I was special or better than others. I got here because I was surrounded by people who lifted me up. And that's exactly what's happening with our program today: we set big goals and the team is coming together and we are accomplishing incredible things."



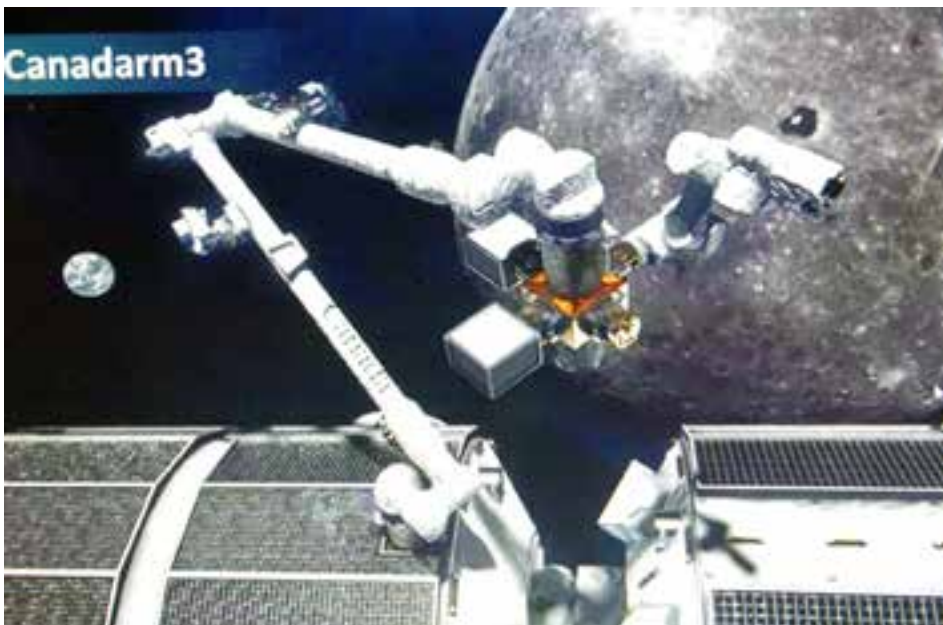
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After Canadarm 1 and 2, Canadarm 3 will be fitted to the future Lunar Gateway which will be in orbit around the Moon.



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20 ways to fight climate change in 2022

On April 22, 2022, more than a billion people around the world will celebrate Earth Day. This year's theme is *Climate Action*, and it calls on governments, corporations and individuals alike to strengthen their response to climate change. Here are 20 ways you can take action in your daily life.

AT HOME

1. Install a programmable thermostat
2. Unplug electronics when you're not using them
3. Switch to energy-efficient light-bulbs and appliances
4. Wash clothes in cold water and hang them to dry when possible
5. Install double-pane windows and seal cracks with caulking
6. Eat local and organic foods
7. Opt for meat-free dishes
8. Grow your own fruits and vegetables
9. Cook with seasonal ingredients
10. Reduce food waste and compost organic materials

ON THE GO

11. Live near your workplace
12. Walk or bike when possible
13. Take public transit or carpool
14. Buy a hybrid or electric car
15. Reduce air travel and purchase carbon offsets when you fly

IN YOUR COMMUNITY

16. Vote for politicians with strong platforms on the environment
17. Tell your government representative that you prioritize green policies
18. Support environmental movements
19. Volunteer for a non-profit organization
20. Encourage your family and friends to reduce their carbon footprint

Though it may seem that your individual actions won't amount to much in the fight against climate change, the truth is that forward momentum is only possible when enough individuals decide to take action.



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Launch of the public consultation on urban mobility in Saint-Eustache

MARIA DIAMANTIS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

The Saint-Eustache population is invited to participate in the second part of the public consultation in connection with the City's Urban Mobility Plan. In this new exercise, citizens and business people are invited to share their priorities with respect to the road, pedestrian and cycling network, public transportation and travel safety. The survey will be available until April 24, 2022 at imaginons.saint-eustache.ca/mobilite.

With the Urban Mobility Plan, the City aims to adopt improved transport planning by following the best planning practices, to achieve a better balance of transport modes, and to identify the problems of connections on the territory as well as the gaps active mobility.

The first part of the project, carried out in the spring of 2021, looked at all the habits and concerns of the population on the issue, and aimed to understand what motivates mobility choices. The results, obtained using a survey and an interactive map, made it possible to establish the characteristics of mobility in the city. "Following the preliminary consultation last spring, we assessed the needs and requests that you expressed to us, which allowed us to identify the main issues regarding urban mobility and to establish the parameters of an action plan. We are therefore asking you one last time to find out your priorities and possible solutions in relation to this preliminary action plan. Your answers will allow us to build a mobility plan adapted to needs and able to meet them over the long term," said the mayor of Saint-Eustache, Pierre Charron.



In the photo from left to right: Mr. Yves Roy, municipal councillor, Mr. Pierre Charron, mayor, Mr. Patrice Paquette, municipal councillor

Essential participation

In addition to the survey, it will be possible to get involved by contributing to the Ideas Box, available in the Mobility of the Imaginons Saint-Eustache platform. "We created this platform in order to know the opinion, the motivations and the concerns of our population. When it comes to mobility on the territory, your opinion is essential in order to draw a portrait that comes as close as possible to reality. This consultation is a golden opportunity to make your voice heard and to contribute to the improvement of our city", underlined Patrice Paquette, municipal councillor, president of the Commission on land use planning and housing.

Can you cut down your tree in Rosemere?

Environmental concerns, permits and conservation

MARIA DIAMANTIS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

Many property owners have come across this situation: A dead tree in their yard needs felling. In Rosemere however, which is a very environmentally-conscious city, you have to go about cutting down a tree properly in order to minimize the effect on the environment.

A free permit is required.

To obtain a Certificate of Authorization for tree cutting, the form duly completed by the owner must be sent to the Permits and Inspections Department. The trees to be cut or inspected must be clearly identified with tape, a detailed sketch or by attaching a photo to the form. After transmission to the Permits and Inspections Department, the inspection of the tree(s) will take place within 2 weeks. If the application is accepted, the permit (free of charge) will be left on site. When the planting of a replacement tree is required, proof of replacement (photos, invoices) must also be submitted before the scheduled date. Before ordering work on trees, residents must check the liability insurance of the company that will carry it out and ask for references. You can find certified contractors through the SIAQ at the following website : www.siaq.org

Trees and your neighbors

Trees are considered immovable property under civil law. Therefore, a tree belongs to the owner of the property on which it stands. On the other hand, a tree is also an integral part of the community landscape. If a tree is a serious nuisance to a neighbour, the owner may be required to remedy the situation. Serious nuisance refers to a real and relatively significant problem.

For example, a large dead branch overhanging the neighbour's house could damage the roof of that home. On the other hand, leaves or fruit falling from a tree into the neighbour's pool may be annoying, but are not considered serious. The reason is that a pool requires regular maintenance and its owner can remedy the situation by installing a protective cover.



According to the Québec Civil Code, no one can take the law into his own hands. You cannot cut down, in whole or in part, a tree that is not on your property. It is recommended that you speak with the neighbour involved in order to settle the problem. Should discussion be difficult or even impossible however, "Mesures alternatives des Basses-Laurentides" provides a mediation service that could be of help.

Tips on controlling the LDD moth population

The LDD moth (previously referred to as the "gypsy moth") is a leaf-eating insect that has been wreaking havoc across Quebec in recent years. There are four different stages in its lifecycle: egg, larva, pupa and adult. LDD moths tend to prefer oaks, poplars and maples, but they can also be found on other deciduous or evergreen trees. LDD moth eggs are laid in masses and remain dormant between July and May. You can find these egg masses on trees, picnic tables, garden furniture, walls of buildings and other flat surfaces. To prevent them from hatching, scrape off the mass with a knife into a bucket of warm soapy water. During the larval stage, between May and July, you can wrap your tree trunks with duct tape (sticky side out) or tie a piece of burlap cloth around each trunk to stop the caterpillars from making their way up the tree and eating the leaves. As a last resort, you may choose to apply BTK, a low-impact insecticide. Spray affected trees

in the early morning or late evening. Note, however, that BTK attacks all butterflies, so it should be used with great caution.

In the case of ice, should you intervene on trees?

In fact, a tree's resistance to ice varies considerably from one variety to another, as well as one tree to the next. Certain characteristics can make a tree more vulnerable (ex: weak junctions between branches, bark included, cankers, existing injuries, etc.). The build-up of ice or wet snow combined with high winds can cause considerable damage, which can sometimes be prevented with good maintenance. One should know, however, that once the ice has taken, shaking the branches to try to dislodge it could be highly damageable to the bark and buds. Frozen trees are highly fragile and it is preferable to wait for them to thaw before repairing the damage. It's better to let nature do its job.

Still, if residents must plant a new tree, they would do well to choose a variety that better withstands harsh weather conditions, like the bur oak, the ginkgo biloba, deerberry, white spruce, Norway spruce, blue spruce, bitternut hickory, crab apple, black walnut, American hophornbeam, balsam fir, etc. These trees have stronger branches or flexible side branches that better resist the ice. Special attention must be paid as well to the variety's vulnerability to pests and environmental stresses.

Why inspect trees in winter?

In summer, leaves conceal defects on the branches or trunk that could affect the tree's strength or structure. This makes winter the ideal period for examining it closely, especially if: you have seen animals nest in a cavity in the trunk or on a branch (like a family of raccoons)

or your tree suffered significant breakage in previous years (large branches broken off)

you regularly find pieces of bark or wood on the ground
you have seen woodpecker holes
mushrooms (other than lichens) appear sporadically on the trunk.

Do not hesitate to call on the services of an expert if you feel that the tree could present a danger or requires preventive pruning.

Police deploys measures to counter vehicle theft

MARIA DIAMANTIS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

The RIPTB (Régie intermunicipale de police Thérèse-De Blainville) launched on April 12th a project to counter vehicle theft. The territory covered by the Régie de police, as everywhere in Quebec, has experienced a significant increase in vehicle thefts over the past year. Since January 1, 2022, the RIPTB has counted several dozen vehicle theft files. This phenomenon is not local and targets the entire Quebec territory.

Thus, several collaboration and partnership initiatives between police forces are underway. Nevertheless, the RIPTB wished to put forward local actions in order to prevent thefts on its territory.

Proactive strategies: actions put in place

"Among these actions, the neighborhood agents will go directly to the citizens who own the targeted vehicles and a personalized awareness document will be given to them. A prevention kiosk was held at Place Rosemère on April 14 from noon to 4 p.m., additional police presence will be deployed in shopping center parking lots, a rigorous proactive strategy analysis is carried out daily and finally, several actions and investigative steps will be carried out during this project" explained Chief Inspector Serge Harvey.

The RIPTB therefore encourages citizens to be vigilant and to put in place preventive measures by reducing the opportunities and risks of theft.



Prevention tips directly related to this theft phenomenon:

- Be sure to keep your vehicle key away from the front door;
- Purchase a special anti-radiation case for your car key or place your keys in a metal box;
- Equip your vehicle with an alarm system;
- Install an anti-theft bar to block the steering wheel;
- Equip your vehicle with a tracking system;
- Park your vehicle in a garage or in a well-lit area;
- Leave a vehicle behind your vehicle, to make escape harder;

The simultaneous application of several of these tips makes the crime more difficult to commit and thus helps to deter thieves. The RIPTB therefore requests everyone's cooperation in order to prevent vehicle theft.

Thank you

The Town of Rosemère would like to thank all the volunteers who, through their kindness and warm welcome, provide support and comfort to many people on the territory. Thank you for your generous contribution to our community.

You are truly inspiring!

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New partnership for Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac



MARIA DIAMANTIS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

The City of Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac announced its partnership with the organization Au Grenier populaire for the collection of used furniture and household appliances. This new agreement will therefore allow citizens to get rid of certain furniture free of charge thanks to the door-to-door collection service, while supporting a non-profit organization in the region.

Au Grenier populaire will collect furniture in good condition (not stained, torn or broken) as well as the following household appliances (functional or not): Refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, stove, washers, dryer, dehumidifier and water machines. Citizens wishing to dispose of certain items are invited to contact the organization directly by email in order to make an appointment. Please note that only requests sent by email to transport@grenier-populaire.com will be processed.

Bell for clothing donations

A bell to collect material donations will also be installed at the municipal garage over the next few weeks. Citizens will therefore be able to drop off used clothing, shoes and accessories that they wish to dispose of. These second-hand items will then be sold at a low price at the popular Grenier store located in Saint-Eustache.

An ever-greener city

Thanks to this association, the City hopes to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill sites each year, while encouraging the recovery of furniture in good condition. The mayor, François Robillard, was delighted with this partnership: "We hope to encourage our citizens to give a second life to their furniture, by offering them a simple and accessible alternative, rather than simply throwing them away. This will allow us not only to reduce our ecological footprint, but also to become a greener city".

Spring cleaning in Sainte-Thérèse

MARIA DIAMANTIS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
For The North-Shore News • info@newsfirst.ca

It is that time of the year. Snow has melted leaving behind a wintery mess. For the Theresians of Sainte-Thérèse it means that the City has undertaken its spring cleaning. This operation led by the Public Works, Parks and Buildings Department allows will work so that the residents find a clean, pleasant and safe environment in order to make the most of the summer season.



The teams carry out, among other things, the sweeping of streets, medians and cycle paths, as well as the cleaning of the Village. Mechanical sweepers remove rocks and debris that have accumulated on the ground during the winter. This operation can be repeated several times in order to obtain the desired cleanliness. In addition, swings have been installed in the parks to the delight of the young Theresians. The skating rink strips will be removed as soon as the ground conditions allow it. A little later

in the season, the marking of cycle paths and the installation of bollards will follow.

"I salute the work of our employees in the field. Thanks to them, we find the joy of playing in the park, cycling and walking on well-maintained roads. We are all excited to take advantage of the good weather that is setting in, thank you to all the teams who make these moments even more pleasant," said the mayor of Sainte-Thérèse, Mr. Christian Charron.

Damage caused by snow removal

With snowmelt, it is possible to see damage to property or land caused by snow removal operations. If this happens, citizens must notify the Public Works, Parks and Buildings Department before May 1, so that it can proceed with the repairs: By email at travauxpublics@sainte-therese.ca and by phone at 450 434-1440, ext. 2100. The necessary verifications will be carried out to confirm that the damage was caused by municipal equipment or by that of the company hired by the City in the northern sector of Sainte-Thérèse, and not by a private snow remover, in which case they would not be not covered.

Potholes

The pothole repair operation is also underway in Sainte-Thérèse. Teams fill with cold asphalt the holes that have formed in the roadway over the spring freeze and thaw. Potholes are a direct result of the Quebec climate and they resurface every spring. The most convenient way to report a pothole is to use the Voilà!

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Method Of Operation

Q I am having a problem in paradise. First of all, I am 22, he is 31. We have known each other for a little over a month.

At first, he was more affectionate than I was. He felt a little upset I wasn't moving as fast as he was affectionately. Not that he was trying to be sexual, he just wanted cuddling, hugging, and kissing.

For some reason he thought we were "two different people." He was unsure whether we should even talk anymore. I didn't see that! We had a long debate, and everything was good after that.

Last Thursday he came to my birthday party, and everyone thought he was very attentive. I sat on his lap, we held hands and hugged a lot. He brought me a bottle of merlot wine, burned a CD with my favorite songs on it, and gave me a card.

In the past he told me I am special, and it would be a loss if I wasn't in his life. After the party I emailed him a thank you. I called Saturday afternoon to see if he wanted to go dancing and left a message on his answering machine. He didn't call back, so I assumed he was busy. No big deal.

Next day I called again. He said he had plans all day. I asked if he wanted to do something later, but he said he was starting a new job on Monday. I've called or emailed four times since.

Maybe I'm being paranoid, but I've gotten no return call, no email, no nothing. My friends and I can't figure out what's going on in his head.

I'm trying to think of the best way humanly possible to handle this situation delicately. I don't want to lose him, and I sure don't want to give up easily.

Elise

A Elise, you want a delicate solution. I can give you the solution, but it lacks delicacy.

In your mind your boyfriend wasn't trying to be sexual, but cuddling, hugging, and kissing are the prelude to something more. He didn't get what he wanted. Then he withdrew, perhaps as a way of moving you along. Along the way he decided he was done with you.

Bill Clinton gave Walt Whitman's "Leaves of Grass" to Hillary while they were courting. He also gave the same book to Monica Lewinsky. Who knows how many other women received the same treatment. It was just his method of operation.

A bottle of merlot, a CD, and a note may well be just part of your ex-boyfriend's modus operandi. He does it by rote. It doesn't mean anything. What has meaning is the way he is treating you.

Pursuing him makes you vulnerable, and opens the possibility he might try to use you for his own ends. He's a player. Don't play unless you want to be hurt.

Wayne & Tamara

No Shortcut

Q My daughter is the single mother of two children. I know this sounds harsh, but it has gotten to the point where her father and I are estranged from her. Basically we want a "divorce" from her and would like visitation with our grandchildren. Is this possible?

Betty

A Betty, focus on your daughter, not on your grandchildren. Your relationship to those kids is through her. If someone tried to circumvent you to get to your children, imagine how you would react.

If there is a way to help your daughter, or even placate her, that is more likely to be productive than legal remedies. Getting between a mother bear and her cubs can raise the amount of discord to a level beyond what you can now imagine.

There's one major problem with giving grandparents legal access to their grandchildren. People who inflicted verbal, physical, and sexual abuse on their children are then given access to inflict trauma on yet another generation.

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

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HOROSCOPE

Week of **APRIL 24 TO 30, 2022**

The luckiest signs this week:
TAURUS, GEMINI AND CANCER



ARIES

You may have to fill in for a colleague who will be away indefinitely. This could cause a lot of stress in your life. Fortunately, you'll be rewarded with a promotion.



TAURUS

When speaking in front of a crowd or on social media, you'll feel slightly embarrassed as you receive applause or likes. However, some people may criticize you.



GEMINI

You may find it difficult to find the perfect work-life balance. You'll have to rearrange your schedule to fulfill your family and professional obligations without disappointing your loved ones.



CANCER

You may go on a spontaneous romantic getaway. You need to take a step back from a difficult decision to clear your mind and move forward.



LEO

You may need to end some of your friendships. You've always been generous with those close to you. Therefore, some people may try to pay you back to keep you from cutting them out of your life.



VIRGO

You'll need to fix an error on one of your bills. You may spend a good part of your week trying to get a refund. Sometimes you must take the law into your own hands.



LIBRA

You'll get the care you need to improve your health or start a new diet that yields quick results. You're moving toward a better quality of life, both physically and mentally.



SCORPIO

You'll be surprised by a sudden surge in popularity with your customers and on social media. If you're single, many people will be vying for your attention.



SAGITTARIUS

Your family is your focus this week. Your loved ones may be more demanding than usual. Plans to move may be on the horizon.



CAPRICORN

You may have a few travel headaches this week or experience a miscommunication. Your outspoken nature will have a powerful impact on your colleagues or social life.



AQUARIUS

Money may be a source of concern. Don't hesitate to take the bull by the horns and confront those involved to solve the problem once and for all. You can finally loosen your belt.



PISCES

Things keep getting postponed at work. At times, you may not know where to start. It's a good idea to slow down before things get out of control. Rely on your strengths to be more efficient.

Coffee Break

CROSSWORDS

PUZZLE NO. 120

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15				16				17			
18				19		20	21				
		22			23		24		25	26	27
28	29	30		31			32		33		
34				35					36		
37				38					39		
40			41			42		43			
		44			45		46		47	48	49
50	51	52			53	54			55		
56					57				58		
59					60				61		

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ACROSS

- Buck
- Supportive
- Nibble
- Kojak's lack
- Captain's record
- Strong cord
- Wheel shaft
- Piercing tool
- Had creditors
- Utter unhappiness
- Generation
- Brief message
- Finished
- Colony insect
- Shy
- Wood cutter
- Plural pronoun
- Alter
- Vegetable drawer
- Chunk of eternity
- Strained
- Pig's place
- Glide

DOWN

- Farce
- Cab
- Feels unwell
- Envy's color
- School recess
- Scrap
- Eye rudely
- Creak
- Here's partner
- Chimpanzee, e.g.

DOWN

- Elope
- Turned
- Most scarlet
- Rectify
- Pats gently
- Depart
- Not accept
- Affirmative votes
- Cozy corner
- Yellowfin or albacore
- Demanded
- Narrow
- African animal, shortly
- Toothed tools
- Pigeon-____
- Clothed
- That woman's
- 100%
- Hitch
- ____-man band
- Pigeon sound

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.**

PUZZLE NO. 845

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

Last Issues' Answers

CROSSWORDS

O	V	A	L		I	T	C	H		L	A	M
L	I	R	E		S	H	O	O		A	X	E
D	A	M	S		L	E	N	T		V	I	E
				S	P	E	E	D		L	A	S
L	A	P	E	L	S		O	D	E			
A	F	I	R	E		O	N	E	T	I	M	E
R	A	P		A	N	D	E	S		R	A	W
D	R	E	S	S	E	D		E	L	I	T	E
				P	E	A		A	R	I	S	E
P	I	T	A		R	A	N	T	S			
A	D	E		B	E	R	G		T	A	T	A
N	O	R		U	S	E	R		E	G	O	S
E	L	M		S	T	A	Y		N	E	W	S

Sudoku

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



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