

NOVEMBER 11



Remembrance DAY

pages 10-11

THE LAVAL NEWS

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Vol. 32-21

November 6, 2024

450-978-9999

www.lavalnews.ca

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Launch of the LPD's 2025 dog handlers calendar

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Laval Police Dept.'s 2025 dog-handler calendars now on sale for \$5 each

Photos: Martin C. Barry, Laval News

All proceeds will go to Fondation Martin-Matte for head trauma victims



Members of the Laval Police Dept. and its K9 dog unit, as well as representatives from the Fondation Martin-Matte, are seen here with an enlarged version of the calendar cover during a recent launch event.

\$612,569 for the foundation. The money pays for respite and leisure activities for persons who've been diagnosed with head trauma resulting from accidents or other causes.

The LPD has been promoting the calendar since the untimely death of Constable Éric Lavoie, who was a dog handler with the police force. He died of a head trauma following a road accident which happened when he was on duty and responding to an emergency call.

During a recent 2025 dog calendar launch at LPD headquarters, a cheque for \$37,237 was handed over to officials with the Fondation Martin-Matte, representing the proceeds from the sale of the 2024 calendar.

Improving quality of life

"For the past 16 years, our police service has had the honor to be able to contribute to the quality of life of the numerous victims," Julien Kicinski, assistant-director of the Laval Police, said at LPD headquarters on Chomedey Blvd.



"Each year in Quebec, close to 2,000 people are victims of a moderate to severe traumatic brain injury (TBI)," he added. "It's a shock that can sometimes leave behind severe long-term consequences. Offered at the reasonable price of \$5, each calendar sold makes a real difference for persons in need and their families. We encourage everyone to buy a large number."

Where to buy them?

The Laval Police Dept.'s 2025 Dog Calendar is available for \$5 at the LPD's Duvernay district station (Édifice Valérie-Gignac) at 3225 Saint-Martin Blvd. East, at the central Laval station (2785 avenue Francis-Hughes), at LPD headquarters at 2911 Chomedey Blvd. in Chomedey, as well as The Laval News office at 3860 Notre-Dame Blvd.

They can also be purchased online at the Fondation Martin-Matte's website, using the following browser address: <https://bit.ly/CalendrierMC2025>. The calendars can be delivered to your home address for an additional fee of \$3 per calendar.



A member of the LPD's K9 unit handles one of the dogs featured in the 2025 calendar.

MARTIN C. BARRY

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In Laval, it's that time of year again – when members of the Laval Police Dept. channel their strengths and energies behind a cause they've embraced for the past 16 years: the annual K9 unit calendar for the benefit of the Fondation Martin-Matte.

Cute dogs turn heads

While some police and fire departments in Canada and the U.S. have raised money for causes through calendars – often featuring provocative "cheesecake" photos of police and firemen – the LPD has always taken the high road, in the belief that in Laval a picture of a cute dog will always turn more heads.

The proceeds of the sale of the 2025 calendars, all going to the foundation, will help persons who've suffered head traumas.

It has been 15 years since the LPD first published the first calendar, which features photos for all the months with police dogs posing with their human handlers.

More than \$600K raised

Since 2009, sales of the calendars have managed to raise

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Deadline for commercial advertising by Friday at 3 p.m.
Deadline for classified advertising by Friday at 3 p.m.
ISSN number : 1923-0605
Annual subscription : \$89.⁹⁵ • Per copy : \$1

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Layout: Media Trek

Distribution: TC. Transcontinental/
DIFFUMAG

Printing: TC. TRANSCONTINENTAL

Project funded in part by

Canada

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OPINION & Editorial



We will remember them in thankful gratitude

Remembrance Day, an annual sacred moment in Our Home and Native Land, is graciously and respectfully observed from Sea to Shining Sea.

Born as Armistice Day, Canadians now pause every November 11th at 11:00 a.m. in memory of those who have given us gifts of freedom and liberty, too often paying with their lives.

First instituted to mark the end of hostilities of World War 1 in 1918, more than 106 years later, millions gather in hundreds, if not thousands, throughout the land to prayerfully and solemnly remember all who served in wars that have plagued the world for over a century.

In defense of freedom and liberty

Decades of yearly commemorations of peace won through personal sacrifice have not diminished the priceless contributions made by our veterans to freedom and liberty the world-over. In just three of the despicable armed conflicts of the 20th and 21st Centuries - the two world wars and Afghanistan - 110,000 Canadians paid the ultimate price, touch us deep enough to ensure that their legacy lives on.

History tries to explain wars, but the effort rarely leads to understanding of these vile acts of aggression between factions of the same country, between countries or between alliances.

Canadians, it seems, have a hard time understanding why people shed one another's blood. Any war is sickening and hateful. Does the quiet, simmering resentment in our souls have anything to do with the fact that we have often fought the wars of other people, as in WW 1, WW2, Korea, and, more recently, Afghanistan. Arguably, the Second World War is an exception for its indisputable moral clarity, if anything about war can be called moral. In the eyes of many, it truly was the good war.

Sgt. Christos Karigiannis, in memoriam

In Afghanistan, one of our own, 31-year-old Sgt. Christos Karigiannis, lost his life in a roadside attack June 20th, 2007. Montreal-born, Laval-raised, Chris served with the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry in Edmonton. He will certainly be remembered by members of Chomedey Polyvalent High School's Class of '91.

Families of Canadian veterans who have lost loved ones to the atrocities of war are often more-than-willing to express their feelings to their community. Peter Karigiannis, one of Chris's

two brothers, was candid about the family's grief over their loss, even now, after 17 years.

"Chris wanted to continue pilot's lessons when he returned from Afghanistan," Peter shared in a heart-felt telephone conversation. "A pilot of single-engine-planes, he loved skydiving, and open-cage-shark-diving. An adventurous world-citizen, he travelled solo by train to Sweden, Germany, Bulgaria, South Africa."

Showing closeness shared with his brother, Peter recounted that on one occasion, Chris called him from a payphone to tell him that he was in Johannesburg. A true blue-and-red Canadian young man who liked to date, Chris had a girlfriend in Canada. "The family still keeps in touch with her," Peter was glad to say.

Nicky, a Silver Cross Mother

Nicky, the matriarch of the Karigiannis family, is invited yearly to be part of ceremonies held in Ottawa and in Laval. Proud of her recognition as a Silver Cross Mother, she will be attending 2024's Remembrance Day ceremony this coming Saturday, November 9, at city hall. She is grateful to Royal Canadian Legion 251 (Chomedey) for organizing the event at the cenotaph erected in honour of her son. The family is glad that the cenotaph is reasonably well-maintained and is proud that Chris is honored for his sacrifice, never to be forgotten.

Proud Lavalier, Peter expressed appreciation for Laval Liberty High School's Leadership program in keeping Sgt. Christos Karigiannis's memory alive. Under the motivation of spiritual animator Daniel Johnson, and guidance from principal Eric Ruggi, the school community rallied hundreds of students, families, staff and guests to a ceremony on the school grounds, November 11, 2008, at 11:00 a.m. The gathering of so many hearts, many of whom were moved to tears, witnessed the unveiling of a commemorative plaque and stone dedicated to the heroism of Sgt. Christos. The modest but genuinely inspirational monument still stands vigilant to the human weakness of war and the desire for peace.

Yearning for peace

Later, under the guidance of Johnson and principal Ruggi, students established a partnership with the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry, awarding \$1000 scholarships for community service. Since many years have passed, Peter isn't aware if the student involvement with the Infantry is still active at Laval Senior Academy, which now stands on the grounds formerly occupied by Laval Liberty High School.

"It's not easy to fight someone else's war," Peter told TLN. "However, although we have differences, we have a universal sense of community." He was clear on the concept of involvement in foreign wars, affirming that "you don't want to get involved until you see the necessity of preventing the risk from reaching your shores. Not everyone has the ability to face a life-death situation. War is evil, but we don't live in fantasyland. We can't stop it. It's a fact of life, a fight that's never over."

Peter believes that enough is done at Remembrance Day ceremonies. "I'm satisfied with what I see and with what I've experienced. I value what the Legions are doing. They are important for Veterans. They should get more funding. It's a place for veterans to be in environments that only they understand. They feel they are brothers of special bond, it's astronomical. In many ways, they were more brothers to Chris than I was.

"Remembrance Day is for honoring soldiers giving up home and family for the betterment of everybody else. We remember what other people sacrificed for our own good, for the nation, for the world," Peter eloquently summed up.

Sensitizing young people

Peter thinks that World History should be compulsory in high school. "We need to know where we've been, how we got here. Social media spreads conspiracies, fabricating history for entertainment. There's evil in the world - dictatorship, genocide, murder - it's all wrong."

He was emphatic about wanting young people to know what happened, to be encouraged to learn of the causes of wars, without being judgmental. "There are values and challenges; why did it happen, what were the outcomes? Students need personal understanding and more knowledge, to form proper and intelligent opinions."

Remembering is easy. Forgetting is difficult in personal relationships as in a nation's collective response to the world. The task is not to ignore past events but to view them in proportion, to find some compromise between present and past. Throughout history, societies that manage to "let the dead bury their dead," have succeeded, moving forward. Those that cannot forget the past and drink at the rancid well of grievance, decay from within.

On Remembrance Day, let's honor the memory of the fallen, those who are still sacrificing, and promise to care for the living. We will always remember them with thanks and gratitude.

Renata Isopo

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Laval shines a spotlight on the exceptional contributions of its volunteers

In order to pay homage to the commitment and devotion of the thousands of volunteers who live in Laval, the City of Laval has launched a special campaign that will be taking place throughout the month of November, up to December 5.

International Volunteer Day, which takes place on December 5, was mandated by the United Nations General Assembly in 1985.

The city's campaign, leading up to the UN's volunteer recognition day, celebrates the valuable contributions of all persons who donate their time and energy to support hundreds of local organizations.

On Wednesday November 6, the City of Laval will be presenting its latest volunteer-recognition evening at the Salle André-Mathieu. The event will include musical entertainment, as well as dancing and humor.

Some facts about volunteerism in Laval:

- The city works in partnership with more

than 450 organizations. More than 5,000 volunteers contribute their time and efforts on the territory.

- Every hour of volunteer work given by volunteers helps make Laval a better place to live.
- In Laval, an average 9.3 hours per month is donated by individual volunteers.

Audrey Charpentier: leadership and commitment

Last October 25, Audrey Charpentier, a devoted supporter of the sport of ringuette, was honored at the Quebec National Assembly for her exemplary commitment to ringuette.

Involved on several levels with the Association régionale de Ringuette Laval, Charpentier is vice-president of the organization's board. She is also a coach, a manager for recruitment, and is involved in organizing ringuette tournaments.

This year, the City of Laval cited Charpentier as a perfect example of the values of volunteerism, serving as she does as a source of inspiration for the community.

"Her enthusiasm, her devotion and her vision to promote the sport while enriching the lives of young athletes in Laval contribute to her being an exemplary winner," the city said in a statement.

"Ms. Charpentier is dedicated to the development of her players, while advocating for ethical values and leadership which encourage an atmosphere of confidence and progress," said Mayor Stéphane Boyer.

"She is passionate about the determination to succeed of the young athletes, by the leadership of her organization and the growth of her sport," he added. I would like to congratulate her warmly for this honor. She is an inspiring volunteer."



Audrey Charpentier, who received the Dollard-Morin Award, is seen here with Quebec Minister responsible for Sport, Leisure and Outdoors Isabelle Charest. (Photo: Amélie Caron)

Festival NUM 2024: Not your usual family event

Until November 10, the City of Laval's public library branches are inviting families to drop by and have fun with the art of digital technologies as part of the sixth Festival NUM.

The series of free events is taking place at the city's nine local library branches, culminating on Saturday and Sunday November 9 and 10 at the Multicultural Library.

The events offer an opportunity to explore digital technologies, including virtual reality, musical creation, coding, art projection,

robot-building and similar activities for children ages 6 and older, as well as adolescent and their parents.

"This festival offers a unique chance for families from Laval to dive into the digital universe while learning more about the technologies shaping our future," says Laval city councillor for Sainte-Rose Flavia Alexandra Novac who is responsible for cultural dossiers on council.

"This will be a great learning opportunity, as well as for creativity and for intergenerational

sharing that will allow our youths and those not as young to be initiated to the innovations that are transforming our daily lives, and all 100 per cent free."

In all, there'll be about 30 unique activities. They will include:

- Escape games | Try to escape in real-time, within a virtual reality universe. (For 8 year and older.)
- Robot building | Use LEGO blocks to assemble working mechanical creations, using

motors, batteries and electrical wiring. (For 6 to 14 years, depending on the workshop.)

- Chromatic echoes | Move blocks to compose tunes, while admiring visual projections. (All ages.)
- Buzz Wall | Have fun with the illuminated Buzz Wall, behind which lurks the intelligent force of AI. (Six years and more.)

Some of the activities may require advance registration at: <https://www.laval.ca/Pages/Fr/Activites/festival-num.aspx#programmation>.

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After dark

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LAVAL

Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board (SWLSB) elections

James Di Sano elected new chairman



October 27, 2024, allowing voters who could not participate on the main election day to cast their ballots early¹. The main election day on November 3 saw a significant turnout, reflecting the community's engagement and interest in the governance of their schools.

Election Day and Results

On November 3, 2024, voters headed to the polls to cast their votes for the remaining contested positions. The election day was marked by a well-organized process, with polling stations set up across the regions served by the SWLSB. Voters were required to be registered on the SWLSB list of electors to participate.

The results of the election were eagerly awaited, with the community keen to see who would lead the school board. The elected chairperson and commissioners will play a crucial role in shaping the policies and direction of the SWLSB over the next term. The election results were announced shortly after the polls closed, with the successful candidates being congratulated by the community and their peers.

The SWLSB elections on November 3, 2024, were a testament to the community's commitment to democratic governance and the importance of education. The elected officials now have the responsibility to lead the school board with integrity and vision, addressing the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Their success will depend on their ability to work collaboratively with all stakeholders and to make decisions that prioritize the well-being and success of the students they serve.

The community will be watching closely as the new leadership begins its term, hopeful that their elected representatives will fulfill their promises and drive positive change within the SWLSB. The next few years will be critical in shaping the future of education in the region, and the outcomes of this election will undoubtedly have a lasting impact.

The polling results for the November 3, 2024 school elections have been announced for the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board's new Council of Commissioners. These results have been confirmed in Rosemère, by Ms. Lorraine Sperano Gauthier, Returning Officer for the 2024 school elections at the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board.

(NEWSFIRST) The Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board (SWLSB) elections held on November 3, 2024, were a significant event for the community, marking a pivotal moment in the governance of the English-language school board in Quebec. This election was part of a broader initiative to ensure that the voices of parents, students, and community members are heard in the decision-making processes that affect their educational environment.

Background and Importance

The SWLSB is one of the nine English-language school boards in Quebec, serving a diverse population across several regions. The school board elections are crucial as they determine the leadership that will guide the board's policies and initiatives for the coming years. These elections are governed by the Act respecting school elections, which ensures a democratic process for selecting commissioners and the chairperson.

Election Process

The election period officially began on September 20, 2024, with the submission of candidacies taking place from September 24 to September 29. The advance poll was held on

The election results are as follows:

Chairperson elected

Chairperson	% votes	Recognized Team/Independent
James Di Sano	62%	United for Success

Elected

Ward	Candidate	% votes	Recognized Team/Independent
2	Desiree Ramacieri	53%	United for Success
4	Heather Appleby	57%	Independent

Acclaimed

Ward	Candidate	Recognized Team/ Independent
1	Donna Anber	United for Success
3	Melissa Wall	United for Success
5	Bob Pellerin	United for Success
6	Barbara Barrasso	United for Success
7	Benny Catania	United for Success
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9	Anick Brunet	United for Success



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One million Canadians have received care thanks to The Canadian Dental Care Plan

(NEWSFIRST) - The Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) has reached a significant milestone, with over one million Canadians having received dental care through the program. This achievement marks a major step forward in improving access to oral health care across the country, particularly for those who previously faced barriers to receiving necessary treatments.

Background of the Canadian Dental Care Plan

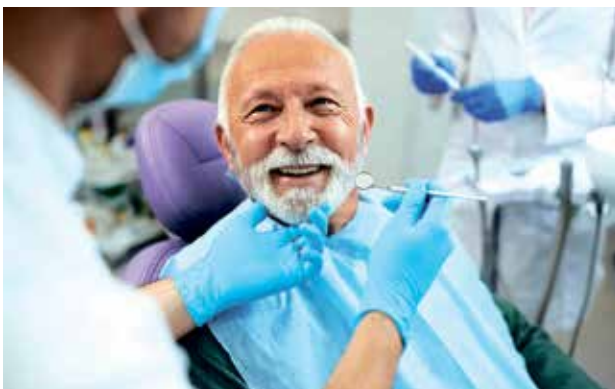
The CDCP was introduced as part of the federal government's efforts to make dental care more accessible and affordable for Canadians. The plan aims to provide comprehensive dental coverage to individuals who do not have access to private dental insurance. This includes seniors, children, and adults with disabilities, among others. The program covers a wide range of dental services, from routine cleanings and check-ups to more complex procedures like fillings, crowns, and even life-saving screenings for oral cancers.

Milestone Achievement

"As of November 2024, more than one million Canadians have benefited from the CDCP. This milestone is a testament to the program's success in addressing the oral health needs of Canadians" said The Honourable Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, highlighting the significance of this achievement during a recent announcement at a dental clinic. He emphasized that the program has not only improved access to dental care but also contributed to the overall health and well-being of Canadians.

Impact on Canadians

The CDCP has had a profound impact on the lives of many Canadians. For instance, the program has saved individuals an average of \$730 on dental care costs. This financial relief is particularly significant for low-income families and individuals who might otherwise forgo necessary dental treatments due to cost concerns.



By reducing the financial burden of dental care, the CDCP is helping to ensure that more Canadians can maintain good oral health, which is closely linked to overall health.

Expansion of Services

In addition to reaching this milestone, the CDCP is also expanding its services to include more comprehensive coverage. On November 1, 2024, the program began accepting requests for services that require preauthorization. This includes procedures such as the initial placement of partial dentures or crowns, as well as treatments for patients with particularly high needs or complex conditions. The expansion of services is expected to further enhance the accessibility and affordability of dental care for Canadians.

Provider Participation

The success of the CDCP can be attributed in part to the high level of participation from oral health providers across the country. As of now, 89% of active oral health providers in Canada are delivering care through the program. This widespread participation has been crucial in ensuring that Canadians have access to a broad network

of dental professionals who can provide the necessary treatments.

Government Support and Future Plans

The federal government has been instrumental in the implementation and expansion of the CDCP. Ministers from various departments have expressed their support for the program and its impact on Canadians. The Honourable Mark Holland, Minister of Health, noted that the CDCP is making a significant difference in the lives of Canadians by providing them with the dental care they need for a healthier life. Similarly, the Honourable Kamal Khera, Minister of Diversity, Inclusion and Persons with Disabilities, highlighted the program's role in helping families access affordable dental care.

Looking ahead, the government plans to continue expanding the CDCP to reach even more Canadians. By 2025, the program aims to provide coverage to up to nine million Canadian residents who currently do not have access to dental insurance. This ambitious goal underscores the government's commitment to improving oral health care for all Canadians.

Personal Stories

The impact of the CDCP is best illustrated through the personal stories of those who have benefited from the program. For many Canadians, the CDCP has been a lifeline, providing them with access to essential dental care that they might not have been able to afford otherwise. These stories highlight the transformative power of the program in improving not only oral health but also the overall quality of life for individuals and families across the country.

The milestone of one million Canadians receiving care through the Canadian Dental Care Plan is a significant achievement that reflects the program's success in making dental care more accessible and affordable. This milestone is not just a number; it represents one million stories of improved health, financial relief, and enhanced quality of life. As the program continues to grow, it will undoubtedly play a crucial role in shaping the future of oral health care in Canada.



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Laval's Conservatives place their bets on Konstantinos Merakos in upcoming election

CERB payments were 'vote buying before the 2021 election,' says Senator Leo Housakos



Conservative Senator Leo Housakos (right), seen here with Toronto-area Conservative MP Anna Roberts and Laval-les-Îles Conservative candidate Konstantinos Merakos, believes the Conservatives are well-positioned to win in Laval. (Photo: Martin C. Barry, Laval News)

MARTIN C. BARRY

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During the first of what is almost certain to become a series of electoral pitches in Laval before the next federal election, Conservative Party organizers claimed last week that the Trudeau government has been "buying votes" in recent years through an extensive program of subsidies – including Covid-era CERB payments.

Purchasing votes

"A hundred percent," Quebec Conservative Senator Leo Housakos said while answering journalists' questions during a Sunday-morning press conference in Laval organized by the Conservatives. He said he agreed the Trudeau government has effectively been purchasing votes.

"What's the first thing that many corporations do when taxes go up?" Conservative MP for King-Vaughan Anna Roberts, who was also in Laval to take part, asked while making a point about subsidies provided by the government to create employment.

No revenue, no jobs, MP says

"They lower their costs," added Roberts, who worked for more than 30 years in the banking industry before first being elected in 2021. "And where does that come from? The biggest cost of any company is HR, right? Human resources."

"If you look at a balance sheet, how can we add more employment when the revenue's not there? We don't have the revenue to pay for it... Would you hire more staff if the company wasn't making money? You couldn't."

So, why is the Liberal government providing subsidies to hire individuals, she asked. "They're buying votes. That's what they're doing," she said, answering her own question.

'Vote buying,' says Housakos

When asked whether he felt the Trudeau government's Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) – doled out by Ottawa to millions of Canadians in \$2,000 per month payments during the Covid crisis – also amounted to an attempt by the government to buy votes, Housakos again said he agreed "a

hundred per cent."

"They're going to say CERB was necessary – we went through an existential crisis – but they went overboard," he maintained. He suggested that in the heat of the moment, the Liberal government gave every student \$2,000 a month, regardless of whether they needed it or not.

"I know students in my neighborhood who were working for \$1,200 a month, \$1,400 a

month, living at home with their parents. And all of a sudden Trudeau is sending them \$2,000 cheques. So that wasn't aid to compensate for lack of work: that was vote buying before the 2021 election."

'Compensation' over CERB

Asked how a Conservative government would have dealt with the Covid crisis, which came close to shutting the Canadian economy for more than two years, Housakos said, "When you give out CERB and aid you make sure it's compensatory. You make sure if somebody lost a job at \$1,100, then they're getting \$1,100."

He said that around the same time as the crisis, the government also "went on a spending spree," giving away millions to non-profit organizations "that didn't need it." He said hard evidence also emerged after the crisis "that we had a lot of fraud because of mismanagement during the Covid crisis. People receiving three and four payments of CERB every month. And Revenue Canada's still having difficulty getting this money back."

Merakos in Laval-les-Îles

Konstantinos Merakos, who is running for the Conservatives in the riding of Laval-les-Îles, said that as a constitutional lawyer and as the son of a Greek immigrant, he decided to run because he felt it was his duty "to give back to Canadian society and do my part for democracy," while also helping enact legislation "to build homes, to stop crime, fix the budget and axe the taxes."

Housakos, noting that Anna Roberts managed to win her riding – a former Liberal stronghold

– after losing in her first attempt in 2019, maintained, "We think we can win here" with "young brilliant candidates like Konstantinos Merakos that we have here carrying our torch."



Konstantinos Merakos is running for the Conservatives in Laval-les-Îles in the next federal election, whose date has not yet been announced. (Photo: Martin C. Barry, Laval News)



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Pick up your calendar until December 19, 2024 or after January 7, 2025

First World War Veteran Ralph Hodgson Inspired a Generation of War Amputees

Ralph Hodgson (1895-1948) lived by the motto inscribed on his tombstone: "It's not what you have lost that counts but what you have." These words defined his life's work, as he dedicated himself to ensuring that his fellow war amputee veterans could thrive despite their injuries.

Hodgson, a law student when the First World War began, quickly enlisted with Toronto's 24th Battalion. In April 1917, he was wounded during the Battle of Vimy Ridge, resulting in the amputation of his right leg below the knee.

Hodgson became a founding member of The War Amps, an organization established over a century ago by amputee veterans of the First

World War. Their mission was to unite, support and advocate for the rights of amputee veterans.

These First World War veterans played a pivotal role in welcoming and mentoring a new generation of amputees returning from the Second World War, helping them adapt and sharing their hard-earned wisdom.

Hodgson was perhaps best remembered for greeting hospital ships as they returned with injured soldiers from the Second World War. His presence offered encouragement to these young men, helping them come to terms with their amputations and motivating them to move forward.

Cliff Chadderton (1919-2013), a Second



World War veteran who lost part of his right leg in Belgium in 1944, vividly recalled Hodgson's unforgettable impact. "Our joy at being home was mingled with a bit of apprehension," said Chadderton. "Then a strange and wonderful thing happened. Into the ward bounced Ralph Hodgson. Swinging between a thumb and a forefinger was a miniature artificial leg. Not only did Ralph walk, spin and dance, but he finished up by jumping off a waist-high table."

As The War Amps first Dominion Placement Officer, Hodgson travelled across Canada, tackling the challenge of unemployment for amputees from both world wars. "He kept plugging away until all amputees from the wars had found jobs, which Ralph thought should be rightfully theirs," Chadderton noted.

For his remarkable efforts, Hodgson was awarded the Order of the British Empire, a distinction given to civilians who contributed to the war effort by supporting veterans and their families.

"Mr. Hodgson showed other war amputee veterans that their amputations wouldn't hold them back from succeeding in life," says Rachel Quilty, a graduate of The War Amps Child Amputee (CHAMP) Program. "He's remembered not just for securing jobs for amputees, but for giving them the confidence and strength to persevere."

Today, Ralph Hodgson Memorial Park in Port Hope, Ontario, stands as a lasting tribute to his extraordinary commitment to Canada's war amputee veterans.

The War Amps
Protect your keys and support amputees with a War Amps key tag.

Order free key tags at waramps.ca

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LAVAL

On this Remembrance Day, we commemorate the brave men and women who died in the line of duty, as well as those who currently serve in the armed forces.

Aglaiia Revelakis
Municipal councillor - Chomedey
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Remembrance DAY

November 11

A day to honour those who defended peace

November 11 marks Remembrance Day in Canada. Every year, Canadians come together to honour the courage and sacrifices of the men and women who serve or have served in the country's armed forces, and particularly those who have lost their lives in the line of duty. Here's a look at this day of gathering and remembrance.

EVOCATIVE NUMBERS

It's important to remember the sacrifices made by the more than 2,300,000 individuals who have joined the armed forces in Canada's national history. Over 118,000 brave servicemen and women have given their lives to defend freedom. Remembrance Day honours the Canadian effort

in the First and Second World Wars, the Korean War, the war in Afghanistan and all peacekeeping missions.

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

On November 11, Canadians wear a poppy to pay tribute to veterans. The national ceremony in Ottawa, broadcast across the country, is held in the presence of government representatives. It includes a two-minute silence at 11 a.m., readings, songs and symbolic cannon shots.

As a Canadian citizen, join the veterans in your area in this collective duty of remembrance. Contact your local municipality to find out about Remembrance Day activities near you.



Forever grateful

In honour of those who saved the world

*In life one man can seldom see
His impact in society
Our soldiers fight to blinded eyes
To allow us all to live our lives
Taking up arms against a foe
To save us from the pain they know
To give us all out liberty
They bear the brunt of misery
No greater duty can one bear
An act of courage few would dare
Endless sacrifices for 4 years
Keeping back our greatest fears
November 11th is a day of love
To remember those now up above
Men and women far too great
To be remembered upon one date
No words bring justice to their fight
But I will try with all my might
To bring them honour for the days
They fought to alay such evil ways
No act of love could be so grand
As one brave soldier's final stand
So now I will say at last
We must remember what has past
Those who have died and those who live
And all the thanks to them we give
They are all those who meet the call
Preserving good for one and all
So on this day I ask you pray
For heroes of our memory
Thank for your sacrifice
It was this act that gave us life.*

A poem by Mike, remembranceday.com

November 11

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Forever etched on our hearts

*We salute those who
fought for our freedom*



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MP FOR LAVAL-LES ÎLES

faycal.el-khoury.c1@parl.gc.ca



ANNIE

KOUTRAKIS

MP FOR VIMY

annie.koutrakis@parl.gc.ca

New musical 'The Adventures of Eva the Louse' enchants children as well as parents

Red carpet launch in Laval starred 175 students from English Montreal School Board

MARTIN C. BARRY

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter for The Laval News
marty@newsfirst.ca



"Our ultimate goal is to inspire these young participants to fall in love with singing and music," said Dimitris Ilias, the project's co-artistic director.

Since most parents and school-age children these days can easily relate to something like an annoying infestation of head lice, it was only a matter of time before someone developed the idea into a musical production, with a symphony orchestra and an enchanting chorus of children's voices.

After eighteen months of auditions, rehearsals, recording and production, *The Adventures of Eva Louse* is the culmination of those efforts.

Unique musical journey

"It has been a unique educational journey, showing how literature and music can inspire and educate our children in remarkable ways," said Dimitris Ilias, who, along with his wife, Maria Diamantis, led the project from beginning to end as artistic directors.

"Our ultimate goal is to inspire these young participants to fall in love with singing and music," he said.

Under their guidance (their previous credits on the Chroma Musika label include *The Golden Touch* and *Time for Flowers Time for Snow*), *The Adventures of Eva Louse* is a labour of love, involving international orchestral recording sessions with the Sofia Session Orchestra in Bulgaria.

Red carpet treatment

Development of the massive, multi-level, educational and artistic project culminated in style on Oct. 30 at The Palace convention centre

in Laval with a performance of highlights, as well as the official release of a children's picture/ audio book.

The evening wasn't just a chance to see a performance – it was the culmination of a year and a half of dedication, teamwork and learning, highlighting the power of creativity in conjunction with community. The red-carpet affair was an event the young participants are sure to remember all their lives.

The Adventures of Eva the Louse follows the humorous and heartwarming journey of Eva, a tiny louse living on nine-year-old protagonist Paul's head. When Paul's aversion to soap and scissors reaches a crisis stage, Eva and her louse village must face reality: dreaded soap and a terrifying haircut.

A formula for success

The project, developed using a winning formula that contributed to Chroma Musika's previous successes, brought together the talents of 175 young choristers from 13 English Montreal School Board schools, as well as the imagination of illustrator Philippe Béha, and the musical brilliance of composer Giannis Georgantelis (both of whom collaborated on the earlier projects).

The EMSB Chorale, under the direction of Pat Abbott and Marie-Eve Arsenaault, made a stunning contribution in their recording of *Sanctuary*, the finale of *Eva the Louse*, which guests had the chance to enjoy during the première.

A real group effort

Helping teach the choral parts was associate music director Kerry Roebuck, who was not only the rehearsal director of a Tuesday night group at the EMSB's Royal Vale Elementary School in Montreal, but was also the orchestra conductor at the première.

Also providing musical direction were Veronica Graniero, a music teacher at Honoré Mercier School (she had a starring role as Paul's mother, Mrs. Goober), as well as Maria Alongi who teaches music at Pierre de Coubertin Elementary, and Yee Kit Lo, a music teacher at Elizabeth Ballantyne Elementary.

EMSB director-general Nick Katalifos, one of several dignitaries present as guests, called *The Adventures of Eva the Louse* "not just a musical performance; it represents a harmonious blend of our community's values –creativity, education, and resilience."

A shared musical vision

"I'd like to extend my deepest thanks to Dimitris Ilias and Maria Diamantis, whose dedication and artistry have transformed a simple idea into this magnificent celebration," said Katalifos. "Dimitri and Maria, we have journeyed through many musical endeavors together, and each time, I am reminded of the power of collaborative spirit and shared vision."

▶ Continued on page 13



Volunteers who helped make The Adventures of Eva Louse a reality.



The school principals were presented with copies of the published book.



Photography
by
Harry

Tel.514-808-4866
harrybphoto@gmail.com
Facebook: Harry Barba
www.Harry-Photo.com





◀ Continued from page 12

The evening was marked by the dramatic arrival of the 175 young choristers, making a grand entrance while arriving in stretch limou-

sines. They walked the red carpet alongside Philippe Béha and Giannis Georgantelis.

After the performance, the young stars signed

copies of the book, again alongside the illustrator and composer, bringing the magic of Eva's world to life.

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Things to do **THIS MONTH**

Looking for something to do? Here are some upcoming events happening in the Laval area.

SAMEDIS HYDRO-QUÉBEC

Science



Saturday, November 2 - 30
9:00 - 10:00 AM

Cosmodome

2150 Autoroute des Laurentides, H7T 2T8

Cosmodome is proud to offer 5 free workshops for 7 to 13-year-olds, with new activities each week.

Free

SPOTLIGHT GAME NIGHT

Games



Friday, November 8
8:00 PM - 1:00 AM

Nexevent Space

400 Boulevard du Curé-Labelle, H7V 2S6

Get ready for a night of fun and friendly competition, with a variety of board and card games, food, drinks and music.

\$24.89

LOOK DE FRIPE

Thrifting



Sunday, November 10
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Le Tiers Lieu, coop. de Solidarité
1200 Saint-Martin O, Suite 130, H7S 2E4

Exchange clothes and accessories you no longer wear for items of similar quality.

General Admission \$13.77

PIERRE-LUC POMERLEAU

Comedy



Friday, November 15
8:00 PM

Salle André-Mathieu
475 boul. de l'Avenir, H7N 5H9

Polyglot Mockingbird: A rare bird with an uncanny ability to mimic voices and facial expressions.

Starting at \$41

BOUCAR DIOUF

Comedy



Saturday, November 16
8:00 PM

Salle André-Mathieu
475 boul. de l'Avenir, H7N 5H9

Nomo Sapiens is a humorous journey to the heart of the strengths and weaknesses of our great intelligence.

Starting at \$55

CLAUDE DUBOIS

Concert



Saturday, November 23
8:00 PM

Salle André-Mathieu
475 boul. de l'Avenir, H7N 5H9

A show that revisits the most popular songs from the artist's immense repertoire.

Starting at \$70

FROM CRASH TO CLARITY

Seminar



Tuesday, November 26
5:30 PM - 9:30 PM

3 Brasseurs - Centropolis Laval
2900 Avenue Pierre-Péladeau, H7T 3B3

Understanding Helicopter Accidents: Insights from Canada's Transportation Safety Board and Bell Textron Canada.

General Admission \$16.50

ÉMOTIONS, COMMUNICATION, LÂCHER-PRISE

Conférence



Friday, November 29
7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Salle de spectacle (porte #21)
1000 Boulevard de l'Avenir, H7N 6J6

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Pedestrian dies after being hit by car on Autoroute 13

A man in his 80s died late last week after being hit head-on by a car as he was trying to cross Autoroute 13.

For reasons not understood by the Sûreté du Québec, the 82-year-old was walking along the A-13 near the 9-kilometre mark, when a car travelling south struck him.

Taken by ambulance to hospital, he was declared dead there later in the evening, according to a Sûreté du Québec spokesperson.

While drivers involved in collisions with persons frequently require treatment for shock, an ambulance wasn't necessary

for the driver in this case, according to the SQ.

Accident forensics experts were sent to the scene to try to shed light on the circumstances leading to the collision. The investigators especially want to know why the victim was walking on the A-13.

SQ and LPD warn of sextortion fraud attempts

The Sûreté du Québec and the Laval Police Dept. are warning about a new type of e-mail fraud in which victims are threatened with being publicly exposed after alleged visits to explicit websites.

Victims receive messages containing personal information, including names, phone numbers, and addresses, along with claims that a compromising video will be shared unless payment is made.

Police say fraudsters often send along images of the victim's home, found online or through social media.

The scammers then tell victims they will send a compromising video to their personal contacts.

The LPD say they received multiple reports of this type of fraud recently, and they are urging residents to not be taken in.

Anyone with information about the scheme is urged to call the LPD's Info Line at 450 622-INFO (4636) or 9-1-1.

Convicted armed robber on the run is known to stay in Laval

A convicted armed robber who is on the run after breaching his statutory release conditions in Ontario is known to hang around Laval and several Ontario communities.

According to a release from the Ontario Provincial Police Repeat Offender Parole Enforcement or "ROPE" Squad, Kevin Okrah, 26, is unlawfully at large.

Okrah was in the midst of serving a nearly six-year sentence for a variety of offences when he was reported as missing.

His offences include:

- Two counts of armed robbery
- Aggravated assault
- Committing an offence while disguised
- Possession of a restricted firearm
- Possession of a firearm against a court order
- Two counts of failure to comply with

release orders

- Attempting indictable offences and
- Robbery

Okrah was eventually granted statutory release, a transition process wherein a convict is released back into the community, but remains closely monitored to serve the end of their sentence.

On Oct. 28, the ROPE Squad announced Okrah was missing. He is described as a Black male, 6' 1" in height, weighing 186 pounds, with black hair and brown eyes.

He has been known to dwell in Laval, as well as in Ontario in the Durham Region, Orillia, Ottawa and Toronto.

Anyone with information about Okrah's whereabouts can call the ROPE Squad at 1-866-870-7673, Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or 9-1-1.



Police arrest 13-year-old for school threats

The Laval Police arrested a 13-year-old boy last week after he allegedly made threatening comments against a school.

On Oct. 21, the LPD received calls about comments that were circulating on social media about threatening remarks towards

a school.

"The immediate care and mobilization between different squads allowed for a quick identification and consequently the arrest of a suspect within hours of the complaint being received," the LPD said in a press

release.

This came after a 14-year-old was arrested Oct. 17 in connection to threatening calls that led to several Laval schools going into lockdown.

Anyone who calls 9-1-1 or triggers a false

police investigation is subject to criminal charges, starting at the age of 12.

Anyone with information regarding these or other similar incidents can contact the LPD at 450 662-INFO (4636) or at 9-1-1. The file number is LVL-241021-090.



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5 surprising facts about the Sun

Without the Sun's heat and light, life on Earth wouldn't exist. Here are five amazing facts about this spectacular star.

1. THE SUN ISN'T YELLOW

During space missions, astronauts discovered the Sun is actually white. As you may already know, white is a mixture of every colour. During the day, the Earth's atmosphere scatters blue light more efficiently than red light. This causes the human eye to perceive the colour of the Sun as yellow.

2. THE SUN'S RAYS TAKE TIME TO GET HERE

Sunlight takes about eight minutes to travel to Earth. If the Sun suddenly went out, you'd have time to play two or three songs

before everything went dark.

3. THE SUN IS VERY OLD

The Sun is over 4.5 billion years old. Scientists have established that this star is about halfway through its lifespan.

4. THE SUN MAKES A SOUND

The Sun emits a low buzzing noise that sounds like a fan. The closer you get, the more clearly you can hear it.

5. THE SUN IS TOO FAR TO DRIVE TO IN A LIFETIME

If there was a road that went straight to the Sun, it would take more than 170 years to reach it by car, provided you were travelling at 100 kilometres per hour.

Incredible, isn't it?

Sudoku 6 x 6

		2			
			3	5	
3		1	5		
		5	1		4
	6	3			
			6		

COMPLETE EACH GRID WITH NUMBERS FROM 1 TO 6, KEEPING IN MIND THAT:

- a number can only appear once per row
- a number can only appear once per column
- a number can only appear once in each box of 6 squares

3	1	9	4	5	2
5	4	2	3	9	1
4	3	5	2	9	
6	2	1	5	4	3
2	5	3	6	1	4
4	6	1	2	3	5



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DIRECT ANSWERS

FROM WAYNE & TAMARA

LIAR, LIAR

Q I am wondering if this is fair? I work and my employment benefits include life insurance. My husband came to watch me sign him as beneficiary. He then took out family insurance through his bank and showed me a page of the insurance form stating if he dies I am his beneficiary.

Later I heard him on the phone with his daughter telling her she and her brother were his beneficiaries. They are grown and married, with well-paying jobs. Is this fair? When I asked him about this, he said it was not true. He said I heard wrong, which I did not.

He claims he lost all the paperwork, though he has not lost so much as an old hunting license in his life. I wonder if he mailed the papers to his daughter. When I asked to see the forms, he said he would just cancel the insurance, which is fine. But he did not cancel.

I do not care if he has insurance or not. I am not a taker. It is the principle of feeling loved,

cared for, and equal. His bank account is with his daughter also, not with me. I've bought him many things, make the truck and car payments, and pay the rent. I love him but wonder if he loves me or considers me an outsider.

Freda

A Freda, your husband hasn't lost so much as an old hunting license. Is he lying to you? Does a wild bear poop in the woods? Heck yes. You are sharing a bed with a man you don't share a bank account with. You must know where you stand if he dies. Will his children inherit everything, even the two vehicles you are making payments on?

If he doesn't come up with the information you need, at the very least change the beneficiary on your life insurance policy to someone else, even a second cousin twice removed. Forcing his hand will dictate your next move.

Wayne & Tamara

GETAWAY

Q I am a 30-year-old single mother of one. I've been dating a man, 40, for two years. He is a wonderful person, takes exceptional care of me, and is attentive to my needs. He is the best man I have ever dated, but I am in conflict about my feelings for this man for as long as we've dated.

Our problem lies with communication. I don't feel he understands how important communication is to our relationship. Often I feel left out of the loop because he doesn't communicate simple things I feel are important. Sometimes I feel it is because I am younger, and he views me as a child. Other times I feel he just doesn't get it.

Sometimes I don't know why I love him, or if I love him. Recently I wonder if I want to get married just because it is what you do after two years of dating, or if I really want to be married to this man.

Erin

A Erin, the car he drives, the clothes he wears, the way he folds his arms—all that expresses who he is. The way he communicates with you is who he is. He is who he is, and after two years you haven't fallen in love with who he is.

If you loved him, he would feel right. You wouldn't feel he is treating you like a child, you wouldn't feel out of the loop, and you wouldn't feel you are marrying him just to get married.

All signs suggest you should step away from this relationship. Have we communicated this clearly enough? Picture a police officer with a bullhorn. He brings the bullhorn to his mouth, the microphone crackles with static, and he roars, "Keep your hands to yourself, and step away from this relationship!"

Erin, you need to be available for a relationship you feel passionate about.

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

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HOROSCOPE

Week of NOVEMBER 10 TO 16, 2024

The luckiest signs this week:
TAURUS, GEMINI AND CANCER



ARIES

All the pieces will fall into place to solve various problems. At work, you'll be motivated to achieve your goals. You're on the road to success and have a clear direction for your projects.



TAURUS

It's time to recharge your batteries! Transforming different areas of your life will improve your well-being. Inspiration guides you towards healthy changes, which will open the door to spirituality.



GEMINI

You'll plan a memorable activity for your group of friends. Your involvement will determine the results. You'll overcome your shyness with some effort. Perseverance will lead to success!



CANCER

You need a plan of action to manage your responsibilities. Get your priorities straight with the help of your loved ones. Family cooperation will be crucial to your success.



LEO

Going back to school will be hard. However, it's a rewarding decision that aligns with your values and goals. Perseverance is key. The support of your loved ones will help you succeed as you learn.



VIRGO

You must carefully analyze the situation before deciding. Joining a spiritual group can expand your horizons and enhance your quality of life. Pay attention to all aspects before committing.



LIBRA

You'll have an important decision to make that requires thoughtful consideration. Don't be swayed by outside pressure. Trust your intuition to find the right answer. Patience will be your friend as you come up with appropriate solutions.



SCORPIO

You must carefully prepare a negotiation to achieve a good outcome. You'll find solutions to your financial and professional problems by landing your dream job.



SAGITTARIUS

Treat yourself to a shopping spree in a high-end boutique. Taking care of your outward appearance will help you climb the ranks at work. Invest in your image to reap the rewards of success.



CAPRICORN

You'll enjoy the comforts of home and improve your efficiency by working remotely. You'll deep clean your home to create an environment that boosts productivity.



AQUARIUS

If there's a misunderstanding amongst your family members, don't prolong the situation. Clarify roles and decisions to clear up any vagueness. Open and direct communication is necessary to resolve misunderstandings.



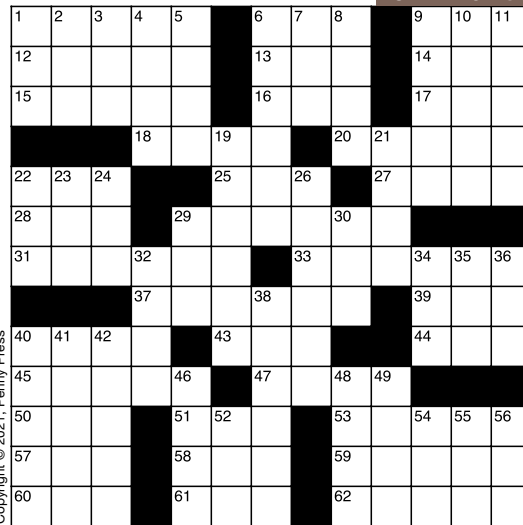
PISCES

An unexpected promotion or opportunity for advancement will present itself when a colleague quits. You'll be chosen to act as the interim manager during your boss's vacation. This will earn you a raise. Your hard work will be rewarded.

Coffee Break

CROSSWORDS

PUZZLE NO. 184



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ACROSS

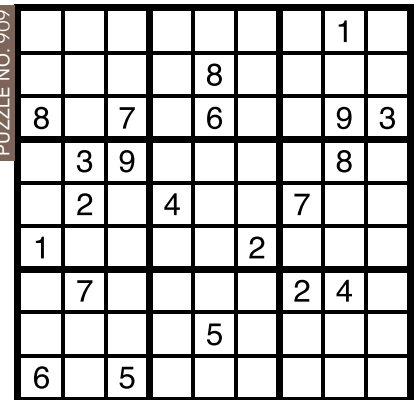
- Multitude
- Society gal
- Many
- Person receiving money
- Bird that gives a hoot
- Wilder's "___ Town"
- Locales
- Honolulu garland
- Type of antelope
- Beatle McCartney
- Cost
- Carrier for groceries
- Flock leader
- Cake decorator
- "Look ___ ye leap"
- Came to terms
- First-class
- Pact
- Tenant
- Bee's follower
- Secluded valley
- ___ close for comfort

DOWN

- Beach shade
- Kind of beef
- Make ready
- Inning ender
- Stereo component
- Canvas covers
- Employ
- Playmate
- Oaf
- Animal's cage
- Gawk
- Muscular
- Nearer the facts
- Crucial
- Ferris wheel, e.g.
- Slumber spot
- "Car 54, Where ___ You?"
- Hair spray alternative
- Shooting star
- Chopping tool
- Blunder
- Jars
- Drama division
- Beverage for two
- Yearning
- Overthrow
- Bunch
- ___ up (botch)
- Corroded
- Gather crops
- Tableland
- Buck
- Meadow mother
- Radar screen image
- Reason
- Part of a pound
- TKO caller
- "___ Sematary"
- Undercover agent

Sudoku

PUZZLE NO. 909



HOW TO PLAY:

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

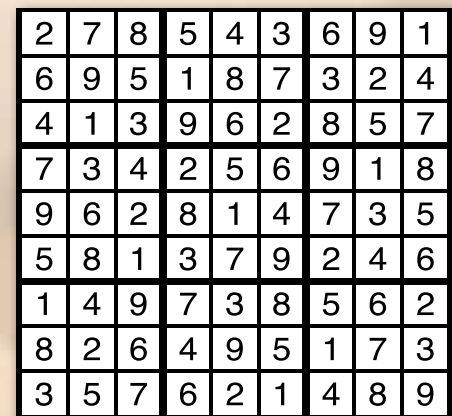
Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: You must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column, or 3x3 box.

Last Issue's Answers

CROSSWORDS



Sudoku



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