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Vol. 33-02

January 22, 2025

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Boyer remains silent on whether he'll run in Laval's November elections

LPD union decries slowness of labour agreement talks at January council

MARTIN C. BARRY

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For the second time, Laval mayor Stéphane Boyer declined during the January city council meeting to state whether he intends to seek a second term in the municipal elections set to take place on November 2.

In fact, one of the only allusions made by the mayor to the upcoming elections came during his opening remarks – which were unusually brief.



Mayor Stéphane Boyer answers questions during the January 14 Laval city council meeting. (Photo: Martin C. Barry, Laval News)

Mayor had little to say

As has been the custom for decades, the mayor usually speaks for at least a few minutes around the start of each public council meeting, delivering a summary of recent events as well as issues which may be on the radar in the weeks and months ahead.

"I wish a happy new year to all our citizens," was almost all Mayor Boyer said. "And I take the opportunity to wish you in this municipal election year that you have exchanges which are constructive and calm for the best interests of the residents of Laval."

During question period, former city councillor for Laval-des-Rapides Pierre Anthian noted that it was the second time in as many months that he'd asked Mayor Boyer to state whether he intended to run.

"After all, we are eight months from the elections and I think the citizens have a right to know if he [the mayor] is going to stand for election," Anthian said.

No answer on his candidacy

While observing that Anthian himself had been a candidate for council and the mayoralty over the past three to four elections, Mayor Boyer stated plainly that he would once again not say whether he'll be running again.

During a period reserved for the presentation of petitions, Chomedey councillor Aglaia Revelakis tabled one which was signed by more

than 70 residents of Jacques Plante St. and Eliot Ave. in Chomedey. They were complaining of not being consulted prior to the implementation of bicycle paths near their homes.

"As is always the case when we don't consult the citizens before making decisions that directly impact them, this makes them unhappy," said Revelakis, while adding that the signers are demanding that the bike paths be withdrawn from their streets.

No police contract for a year

Sylvain Tardif, president of the Fraternité des Policiers de Laval which represents the city's more than 700 unionized police officers, complained to the mayor and council that the police have been without a contract since January last year.

"Negotiations with the city, although they got off to a good start, have slowed down significantly since the middle of 2024," he said. He said negotiations are now taking place in a context "where the workload of the police is growing heavier and becoming more complex."

Citing a recent report in the Montreal daily La Presse, that up to last December gunfire incidents had increased by 100 per cent on Laval's territory over the previous year, while other indicators also suggested increased crime, Tardif said the trend was an indicator of more serious underlying issues, and that the LPD finds itself on the front line to deal with them.

LPD union losing patience

"To assure quality service to the population, the city must offer working conditions adapted to the evolution of the responsibilities of its police," Tardif continued. "These working conditions, matched to an approach close to the population, will allow us to improve the quality of life of citizens."

He said measures taken by the city which have proven to be counterproductive in reaching an agreement with the police included the closing of police and municipal services offices in eastern and western Laval, "which unfortunately is adding to scepticism towards the municipal administration."

Reacting, Fabreville city councillor Claude Larochelle, who leads the Parti Laval official opposition party, said he felt disappointed last November when the city inaugurated the new Espace citoyen building in Saint-François, when he saw that a neighbourhood police station which was supposed to be included wasn't yet up and running because of municipal budget cuts that had been made.

Mayor Boyer explains

Mayor Boyer acknowledged that since 2019, as part of an overall plan to reform the LPD, the city had been closing some local police stations so as to have more officers out on the terrain.

But while noting that several smaller stations were closed because few residents were going there and they were doing so mostly for routine things, Boyer said the number of available police

officers has remained the same.

"We preferred to invest money in various measures, various squadrons, which were

created and are well known, rather than to have an officer at a counter where people fill out forms a few times per day," said Boyer.





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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

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Good fences, better neighbours: Rethinking the Canada-U.S. relationship

How Canada can preserve its sovereignty while deepening cross-border co-operation

Robert Frost famously said, "Good fences make good neighbours." While this adage underscores the importance of respecting boundaries, it also invites reflection on the purpose of those fences and how they shape relationships. For Canada and the United States, the border symbolizes both division and a shared history—a line of sovereignty and a bridge of interdependence. At a time of significant global challenges, it's essential to re-examine this relationship, address its strengths and vulnerabilities, and lay the groundwork for a stronger partnership.

As someone deeply connected to both nations, this topic is profoundly personal. Born and raised in the U.S., I moved to Canada as a young man and eventually became a Canadian citizen. This choice reflected years of experience and admiration for Canada's distinct identity and values. It also mirrored a recognition of the deep, sometimes fraught, interdependence between the two nations—a relationship rooted in history and shared interests yet continually tested by evolving challenges.

Canada and the United States share the longest undefended border in the world, a testament to a partnership built on trust and mutual benefit. Economically, culturally, and politically, the ties run deep. Alberta's energy exports to the U.S., for example, fuel both economies but also reveal the risks of overdependence on a single market. Similarly, the U.S. reliance on Canadian resources—from oil and gas to timber and wheat—highlights a reciprocal need that must be carefully managed.

Yet this interdependence is not without tension. Divergent values and policy approaches often create friction. Canada takes pride in its emphasis on social welfare, multiculturalism, and collective well-being. The U.S., on the other hand, is known for its individualism, market-driven dynamism, and global assertiveness. While sometimes a source of misunderstanding, these differences also offer valuable lessons for each nation.

In an increasingly interconnected world, the challenges facing Canada and the U.S. transcend borders. Environmental and economic transitions, technological disruptions, and geopolitical uncertainty demand a unified approach. For instance, given the cross-border nature of environmental impacts, the shift toward renew-

able energy and climate adaptation requires co-ordinated policies. Similarly, addressing technological changes, such as the regulation of artificial intelligence and securing supply chains, necessitates collaboration.

However, this partnership must not come at the expense of Canada's unique identity and sovereignty. Troubling rhetoric, like Donald Trump's suggestion to annex Canada into a "United States of North America," highlights the need for vigilance. While such remarks may lack immediate credibility, they remind us of the importance of preserving Canadian independence while fostering a respectful relationship.

To maintain a strong partnership, both nations must tackle key challenges together. Addressing these issues collaboratively will build trust and mutual prosperity. Here are some critical areas that demand attention:

- **Supply chain management:** Reform is needed to prevent inflated consumer prices and ensure industries adapt to market changes, promoting competition, innovation, and affordability.
- **NATO responsibilities:** Canada must be a committed funder, active partner, and strong defender within the alliance to uphold democracy and collective security.
- **Restoring merit:** The focus on "woke" ideologies has overshadowed the importance of qualifications, ability, and achievement. Merit must return as the primary standard for decision-making.
- **Corruption:** Corruption in Canadian government, particularly in procurement, must be eliminated. It requires zero tolerance at all levels and across all political parties to restore accountability.
- **China's influence:** Undue interference in Canadian politics and elections threatens sovereignty and democracy. Immediate action is needed to eliminate this influence and protect political integrity.
- **Sovereignty:** Secure, well-protected borders are essential to maintaining Canada's sovereignty and safety, fostering mutual respect and clear boundaries in international relations.
- **Corporate subsidies:** Subsidies and incentives should only be used in urgent situations,

addressing critical needs without fostering dependency or creating unfair advantages.

- **Standard of living:** Economic productivity must translate into tangible improvements in citizens' standard of living, ensuring growth benefits everyone.
- **Energy transition:** Canada must balance its global responsibilities in the energy transition while addressing the world's ongoing demand for reliable energy resources.
- **Border security:** Strengthen measures to stop the flow of illegal guns into Canada and fentanyl into the U.S., ensuring the safety of both nations.

While these issues present significant challenges, they also offer opportunities for Canada and the U.S. to strengthen their partnership through focused, collaborative policies. Moving forward, both nations must formalize and deepen their dialogue, drawing on their shared history to confront modern challenges effectively.

A bilateral climate and energy council could align policies and accelerate the transition to sustainable practices. Similarly, joint task forces on emerging technologies, like artificial intelligence and cybersecurity, would foster innovation while protecting national interests. Modernizing trade agreements, like the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), could address economic vulnerabilities and reflect current realities. Finally, expanding cultural exchange programs—including student exchanges and cross-border internships—would deepen grassroots connections and mutual understanding.

Canada and the U.S. have always been more than neighbours—they are partners bound by geography, history, and shared destiny. However, this partnership must evolve to meet the demands of the future. By prioritizing collaboration on critical issues and respecting each other's sovereignty, both nations can chart a course toward greater prosperity and stability.

The challenges we face—environmental, technological, and geopolitical—demand co-operation, not isolation. Let's work together not to erase our differences but to build a shared future rooted in mutual respect and purpose.

Good fences may make good neighbours, but great partnerships make better futures.

Dr. Perry Kinkaide

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Construction going ahead on Laval's new municipal courthouse



The City of Laval says a new municipal courthouse building, set to go up on Place du Souvenir east of city hall, should be completed by April 2027, although its official public opening has yet to be confirmed.

According to the city, the new courthouse is being constructed in an area regarded as strategic, and it will be equipped with some of the most up-to-date amenities.

The new building will contain six legal

proceedings rooms, compatible with Quebec Ministry of Justice protocols, compared to only three such rooms at the municipal courthouse's current location at 55 des Laurentides Blvd. in Pont-Viau.

Some of the other rooms in the new building will be judges' offices, a legal aid section, prosecutors' offices, a detention area for suspects in police custody, secure interior parking for employees, and comfortable public spaces for

visitors.

The city is currently seeking to have the building certified as LEED-compliant (for environmentally-sustainable design).

It has been designed with some wood incorporated into its structure, with reduced energy consumption, while oriented towards natural light sources to minimize energy needs and to maximize winter heating and cooling during the summer.

STL reaches one-million debit payment target for bus fares

Some good news for once from the Société de transport de Laval.

The region's public transit agency, which has been struggling with budget constraints these past few years, says it recently reached an important milestone: the first one-million fares paid by Interac debit transaction.

Launched in June 2023, debit payment on

STL buses was a first among transit agencies in Quebec. STL management maintains they made the right decision in going ahead with debit payment on buses, arguing that ridership would be increased by making it easier to take the bus.

"The STL is proud to be the province's first transit agency to introduce this payment system

which enhances the experience of our clientele," said STL general manager Josée Roy.

"Reaching a million trips paid by debit card bears witness to our commitment to offer modern and practical solutions for the benefit of the people of Laval," she added.

According to the STL, Interac debit payment was used an average of 2,500 times per week-

day since last fall to facilitate bus travel on the transit agency's bus routes. The agency says debit card payment now accounts for 31 per cent of single on-board payments on its buses.



Laval is prepared for snow removal and cold snaps

After undertaking their second major snow removal operation of the current winter season, City of Laval public works crews remain prepared for whatever lies ahead weather-wise, including a cold snap expected around the middle of this week.

The crews have been out spreading salt on the roads and streets, following a thaw that left sheets of water on street surfaces, which quickly froze over when the temperature dropped.

The city is reminding Laval residents that

when snow removal crews get to work after a storm, parking restrictions come into effect.

Information on the parking restrictions can be found on the City of Laval's web page, through its smartphone app (Info-Stationnement), or on street signs where snow removal is scheduled.

Laval Unveils

The municipal budget in action



Understanding the budget process



Doing more despite rising costs

With inflation, municipal finances are under pressure. Like you, the city of Laval has to adjust. First and foremost, it is focusing on greater efficiency in providing services, in order to achieve savings. In 2025, the city of Laval is also going to maintain the same number of employees, limit the increase in its expenses to 4% and optimize its services to save money. In this way, it has succeeded in holding tax increases below the inflation threshold, in an effort to keep within residents' ability to pay.

By carefully managing every dollar, the city of Laval is building a dynamic and prosperous community—just like a family that methodically plans to provide the best for its members.

A key to ensuring quality services and building Laval's future

Every year, the city of Laval draws up its budget—an essential step in providing quality services and building a promising future for the community. This process deserves to be better understood: how does it work and why is it so important?

A municipal budget is a bit like your own household budget. You estimate your income, you organize your expenses. The city of Laval does the same, but on a much larger scale, with the goal of meeting the needs of its residents, while remaining financially responsible.

How is the budget drawn up?

The process begins with a needs assessment, where the population's expectations and essential priorities are identified. The city then estimates its revenues for the year, the main source being property tax.

Since not everything can be financed, the city must make choices, prioritize basic services and provide a cushion for unforeseen costs, such as storms or repairs.

Where does the money go?

1. **Day-to-day expenses** such as waste collection, road maintenance, libraries and recreational activities.
2. **Long-term investments** such as developing new parks or improving water infrastructure. These projects ensure sustainable growth for Laval.

For full details of the city of Laval's 2025 budget:



Councillors Galati, Warnet cleared of expenses wrongdoing by CMQ

City of Laval to clarify elected officials' spending regulations after allegations

MARTIN C. BARRY

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After being cleared of misspending allegations by a provincial commission overseeing municipalities, Saint-Vincent-de-Paul city councillor Paolo Galati says he is waiting to learn whether he will be reinstated into the Action Laval opposition party's caucus.

In a recent ruling, the Commission municipale du Québec said the vast majority of personal expenses claimed by Galati comply with the law and regulations in place.

Report raised questions

The issue of his spending had been raised following an investigative piece published in the tabloid Montreal daily *Journal de Montréal*, which had focused on Galati's claimed expenses while overlooking those of any other Laval city councillor.

Among other things, the Journal's report found that Galati had submitted invoices for expenses that included computer equipment as well as refreshments and food items.

He later said the computer gear was work-related, while the other purchases were used during meetings he organized to touch base with residents of his district. The tabloid characterized the purchases as being potentially for household use – something Galati denied.

A subsequent investigation revealed that Galati wasn't the only Laval councillor with research funding spending issues.

Councillor Warnet's expenses

Mouvement lavallois councillor for Laval-des-Rapides Alexandre Warnet was also found to be potentially straying from existing protocols for how expenses funding from the city was supposed to be spent. It was revealed he submitted invoices for life coach training, which Warnet maintained was work-related.

The City of Laval has since then made a commitment to clarify in a more detailed way how councillors' expenses are supposed to be accounted for and refunded.

In a statement Galati read out during the January 14 meeting of Laval city council, he said, "Today marks the conclusion of a thorough and rigorous investigation by the Commission municipale du Québec, which has unequivocally cleared me of any wrongdoing regarding the recent allegations about my spending."

Galati's statement to council

"From the beginning, I maintained my integrity and my belief in the truth, and this outcome confirms what I have always known: that my actions were honest, transparent, and aligned with the trust the people have placed in me."

"These past few months have been challenging, not just for me, but for my family, my team, and the citizens I proudly serve," he continued. "I want to express my deepest gratitude to those who stood by me, believing in my commitment to ethical leadership and public service."

"This experience has only strengthened my resolve. I will continue to fight for the values we share, to serve with accountability and transparency, and to ensure our community thrives. The trust of the people is sacred to me, and I will do everything in my power to honor that trust."



Saint-Vincent-de-Paul city councillor Paolo Galati, currently sitting as an independent after stepping away from the Action Laval caucus, read out a statement at the January 14 city council meeting after he was absolved of spending irregularities by the Commission municipale du Québec. (Photo: Martin C. Barry, Laval News)

"Let this serve as a reminder: truth and justice prevail. I look forward to moving beyond this chapter and refocusing my energy on the important work ahead. Together, we will build an even stronger, united community."

No wrongdoing, CMQ said

The CMQ's findings concluded there was no wrongdoing by the councillors, although it emphasized that the City of Laval's current regulations provide council members with too much discretion in assessing whether their expenses are admissible or not.

The report included recommendations for updating the regulations regarding reimbursement from the research and support expenses fund, while suggesting the city provide more precise guidelines for certain categories of admissible expenses, including computer supplies and meeting costs.

May run again for council

Given the uncertainty generated by the *Journal de Montréal's* initial reporting, Galati (who was also chairman of the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board) decided not to run for another term in last fall's EMSB elections. As well, he decided to remove himself from the Action Laval caucus until the allegations were cleared up.

While saying that he still hasn't made up his mind about his future in municipal politics, he is leaning towards running as councillor for Saint-Vincent-de-Paul again, even though the elections are more than nine months from now. In the meantime, he's waiting to find out whether he'll be reintegrated back into the Action Laval caucus.



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YEAR IN REVIEW 2024

By Martin C. Barry



The Laval News continues its look back at the year 2024

Record floods after Storm Debby caused widespread turmoil last year

see previous edition for part 1

As part of *The Laval News's* ongoing look back at news and events that took place in 2024, we continue with the second installment, a summary of outstanding stories from the newspaper's issues from July through December. Without a doubt, there was a lot happening last year.

JULY



On July 1, the picturesque Centre de la nature de Laval was transformed into a hub of excitement, colors and community spirit.

Families gathered under the bright sun to celebrate Canada Day – a day that resonated with pride, unity and the rich tapestry of the nation.

But last year, there was an extra layer of significance: a swearing-in ceremony for new Canadians, symbolizing their official entry into the Canadian family. From noon until 7 p.m., the park buzzed with activity.

Agape appeals for funds

As reported in our July 10 issue, the Youth and Parents Agape Association announced a \$93,809 deficit for 2024 during the Chomedey-based charity's annual general meeting.

In light of this, they were calling on the City of Laval to provide financial support for the Agape Senior Wellness Centre, which was drawing on more of Agape's financial resources than had previously been expected.

"It's going to get better," said Kevin McLeod. "A lot of that money was due to our Senior Wellness Centre, a lack of funding that we're having there. But we need more money for the Senior Wellness Centre."

Pablo Rodriguez said he stood by Trudeau

Scarcely weeks before announcing his departure from the Trudeau cabinet to seek the leadership of the Quebec Liberal Party, Pablo

Rodriguez said in an exclusive interview with *The Laval News* that he still stood behind Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

"I will follow him," said the Honoré-Mercier MP and Quebec Lieutenant for the Liberal government, insisting he'd already made up his mind to run in the next federal election.



Mother Nature smiled during Laval Hellenic Summer Festival



Mother Nature smiled warmly for the 2024 Laval Hellenic Summer Festival a week before Canada Day, in contrast to past years when the weather wasn't very cooperative.

The four-day gathering outside Holy Cross Church on Souvenir Blvd. in Chomedey brought together thousands of Montrealers and Laval residents with Hellenic roots. It was an occasion to celebrate the country's origins and multinational diversity – although primarily a celebration of Hellenic culture and values.

AUGUST

Laval offered flood assistance after Hurricane Debby



Following the record-setting rainfall that dropped 170 millimetres of water on Laval over a 12-hour period, the City of Laval said its teams were hard at work cleaning up debris and securing damaged municipal installations, while also answering calls from residents facing ongoing emergency situations.

A staggering amount of precipitation, in conjunction with numerous electric power failures, caused an as yet undetermined number of sewer system overflows and floodings at Laval homes and businesses. The city was also offering social and psychological assistance to residents who felt they were emotionally impacted.

Winds give way to sun at Symposium de Ste-Rose



In spite of a weather-related snafu that got the 2024 Symposium de Ste-Rose off to a somewhat shaky start, patrons attending the four-day artists' gathering last summer enjoyed some splendid weather – in sharp contrast to rainstorms that impacted attendance at symposiums in the past.

According to Oprina-Felicia Dolea, president of the Corporation Rose-Art which organizes the event, high winds on opening day made things a little chaotic. "We had at least one tent fly off," she said in an interview with *The Laval News*.

More than 20,000 visitors spent time at the 2024 Symposium de Ste-Rose. The event's honorary president was Christopher Skeete, the Member of the Quebec National Assembly for Sainte-Rose.

LPD ticketed electric scooter drivers who violated traffic code

As residents of Laval were growing accustomed to seeing electric scooters on the city's many boulevards, avenues and streets, the Laval Police were handing out more traffic tickets to

scooter drivers who burned red lights, drove on the sidewalk or didn't wear a helmet.

The LPD handed out 37 traffic tickets to electric scooter operators last year between the beginning of January and July 2.

According to current Quebec Highway Code rules, drivers of Motorized Personal Transport Devices (MPTD) such as scooters must be at least 14 years of age and wearing a helmet. Among other things, scooter drivers are not allowed to carry passengers and the fine for breaking that and other regulations is a \$200 fine.

Tropical Storm Debby aftermath

After gathering up 82 per cent of the debris left behind in Laval following Tropical Storm Debby, the city was keeping cleanup crews on hand to make sure the job was done properly.

Weeks after the storm, intervention teams were going around a second time on streets most impacted by flooding in order to collect any materials which may have been placed out on the curb since a first pickup.

"Since August 12, our teams have accomplished a gigantic task, collecting more than 1,350 tons of debris over 82 per cent of Laval's territory," said Mayor Stéphane Boyer. And indeed, the task was enormous.

Hundreds celebrate at Chomedey Neighbourhood Party

Hundreds of residents of Chomedey and adjoining districts got a chance to meet their neighbors while enjoying a day of games and fun on August 17 during the Chomedey Neighbourhood Party.

SEPTEMBER

Vimy Liberal MP Annie Koutrakis' summer BBQ

More than 800 guests – most of them constituents in Vimy MP Annie Koutrakis's riding – chowed down on hot dogs, salad and other outdoor BBQ delights on the afternoon of Sunday Sept. 1



in Laval-des-Rapides' Bernard Landry Park.

▶ Continued on page 9

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YEAR IN REVIEW 2024

By Martin C. Barry



◀ Continued from page 8

Although it was Koutrakis's first annual BBQ since first being elected in 2019, she pledged it would be far from the last. "We plan to have this event every year," she said in an interview with *The Laval News*.

Burglars snatch high-end clothing at kidswear store

The Laval Police were trying to identify several suspects who took part in a brazen early morning burglary at a designer children's wear boutique near the Carrefour Laval mall.

According to initial reports, the perpetrators were able to get into the outlet through a commercial address next to the Kid Biz store.

They apparently broke through a wall between the two businesses, through which they managed to get into the high-end children's clothing retailer around 1:40 am. The store is known for selling designer kids' apparel and accessories, retailing in some cases for more than \$1,000.

Quebec backs Laval's bid for Carré Laval mixed use project

With a little seed money from Quebec Premier François Legault's government, the City of Laval was set to transform another expanse of its vast but still largely underused downtown core into a new and sustainably-planned neighborhood, where residential, commercial and light industry are expected to flourish.



The Carré Laval project will be taking place over a span of 20 years on a more than 40-hectare site that is probably familiar to many if not most Laval residents – the large mostly vacant square of land at the southwest-side intersection of Autoroute 15 and Saint-Martin Blvd.

"The vision for the development of Carré Laval prioritizes quality of life, innovation and sustainability," Mayor Boyer said during an official launch. He said "Carré Laval will become the nerve centre that establishes the identity of Laval residents and that attracts people from everywhere."

FILIA Association for Seniors holds Walk a Thon in Chomedey

Smart-looking caps and t-shirts bearing the distinctive 'FILIA' logo breathed an air of hope and renewal into last year's FILIA Walk a Thon, an increasingly popular autumn ritual and tradition in Laval's Chomedey neighborhood.

The 18th annual Walk a Thon on Sept. 16 drew a loyal following of FILIA supporters, as well as

local elected officials who have provided help to the organization over the years.



OCTOBER

Trudeau on Russia/Ukraine 'unthinking' and 'dangerous,' said Mulcair



Former Chomedey MNA Tom Mulcair told a gathering of lawyers and law students at Concordia University that Justin Trudeau's suggestion to world leaders – that they arm Ukraine with missiles to penetrate deep into Russia – was "as unthinking as it is dangerous."

"I don't take it seriously when Mr. Trudeau says he doesn't see any problem with Ukraine using NATO weapons to fire deep into Russia. I just find it so incredibly irresponsible," said Mulcair, also a former leader of the New Democratic Party.

Indo-Canadians celebrated their country's 78th year of independence

As reported in the Laval News's October 9 issue, a good number of Laval and Montreal residents of Indian-Canadian heritage were joined by elected officials from the City of Montreal for a celebration in Laval of the 78th anniversary of the Republic of India's independence.



The gathering, sponsored by the India-Canada Association of Montreal (ICAM), was a mostly apolitical salute to India's cultural strength.

A trio of elected officials from the City of Montreal (Park Extension city councillor Mary Deros, St. Laurent Borough Mayor Alan DeSousa and St. Laurent councillor Aref Salem, who is interim-leader of the Montreal city council opposition Ensemble Montréal party) were among the evening's guests.

▶ Continued on page 10

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YEAR IN REVIEW 2024

By Martin C. Barry



◀ Continued from page 9

Pink in the City's 'Magic of Hope' raised \$325,000 for breast cancer

How do you keep hope alive? For 600 supporters of the Pink in the City breast cancer foundation, last year's Magic of Hope gala was all about creating and maintaining hope – even in the face of cancer.

Nearly 600 guests turned out at the Château Royal in Chomedey to have a little fun, enjoy a gourmet meal, listen and dance to some exciting music, and answer the call to help raise an anticipated \$325,000 for the benefit of patients at the McGill University Health Centre's Breast Center.



Three out of four Laval Liberal MPs running in next election

Saying they had every intention of running in the next federal election, two of the Laval region's four Liberal Members of Parliament said in an interview with The Laval News that Canadians could actually be heading back to the polls much sooner – as early as January possibly.

"For me, my answer is it's possible," Laval-Les Îles Liberal MP Fayçal El-Khoury replied when the question of an early election was put to him. "I think so, too," Vimy Liberal MP Annie Koutrakis responded, although she was more nuanced in her response. A third Liberal MP, Angelo Iacono of the Alfred-Pellan riding, confirmed to *The Laval News* that he would also be running in the next election.



LPD arrests jewellery store robber wanted for six heists

The Laval Police confirmed that an appeal to members of the public to help identify a suspect being sought following a Chomedey jewellery store robbery over the summer of 2024 led finally to his arrest.

The suspect, Alain Bernecky Jr., age 45, faced two charges of theft over \$5,000. In the robbery committed in Laval, he made off with a rack of

20 gold chains with a value of \$800 - \$1,000 each.

NOVEMBER

Trudeau 'buying votes,' Laval's Conservatives claimed

As reported in our November 6 issue, Conservative Party organizers claimed the Trudeau government had been "buying votes" in recent years through an extensive program of subsidies – including Covid-era CERB payments.

Quebec Conservative Senator Leo Housakos said he agreed the Trudeau government has effectively been purchasing votes. He said that around the same time as the Covid crisis, the government also "went on a spending spree," giving away millions to non-profit organizations "that didn't need it."



'Eva the Louse' a hit with kids and parents

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

As reported in our pages, development of the massive, multi-level, educational and artistic project culminated in style 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 project, led by Dimitris Ilias and his wife Maria Diamantis, brought together the talents of 175 young choristers from 13 English Montreal School Board schools.

Laval shone a spotlight on contributions of its volunteers

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

Leadership torch passed to James Di Sano at Laurier School Board

Former Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board commissioner James Di Sano launched the SWLSB on a new path of renewal, resurgence, reform and change in his new role of Board Chairman, after being elected on November 3 and sworn in a few weeks later.



Russell Copeman, SWLSB Director-General, officiated for Chairman Di Sano and the 12 commissioners, seven of whom were acclaimed, while two were elected, and three were designated as parent-representatives.

Résidence l'Oasis honored six former Canadian Armed Forces soldiers

Six Canadian Forces veterans ranging in age from 70 to more than 100 years were the focus of a special homage paid during a Remembrance Day commemoration ceremony held at the Résidence l'Oasis de Laval on November 11.

Veterans Lucien Gravel, age 90, Jean-Jacques Lavergne, 99, Jean-Pierre Bureau, 70, Jean Poirier, 89, Daniel Legault, 73, and Ernest Robert, 100, all served with the Canadian Forces in a variety of capacities – including World War II defence and combat operations.



New library/community centre opened in Saint-Francois

The Espace citoyen des Confluents (ECC), which is located on a soon to be developed green patch in Laval's sprawling but rapidly-expanding district of Saint-François, was officially opened by Mayor Stéphane Boyer. The \$41 million cost was shared by the City of Laval and the provincial government.

DECEMBER

Made in Quebec, produced in Laval

The Laval Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCIL) launched a campaign to encourage consumers to "buy local," in Quebec and in Laval, as they contemplated their purchases for the upcoming Christmas holidays.

According to the CCIL, the goal of the \$1.4 million promotion was to provide a boost to the local economy, while drawing attention to local businesses that cast Laval in a positive light.

Mayor Stéphane Boyer suggested it was no coincidence the campaign was getting underway just as the Christmas season was also about to start. "Our city is filled with entrepreneurs, artisans and business operators who drive the dynamic in Laval," he said.



'Lilac Benefit' brought Shield of Athena closer to \$5 million funding goal

As reported in our December 4 issue, nearly 200 supporters of emergency shelters for women and children fleeing abusive households were guests at Shield of Athena's annual "Lilac" Benefit Gala at the Embassy Plaza, raising as much as \$150,000 for the cause during the non-profit's annual gourmet dinner and art auction.



▶ Continued on page 11



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YEAR IN REVIEW 2024

By Martin C. Barry



“What we hope is that with events like this, as well as the generosity of people and companies and businesses that keep on giving, we’ll be able to keep on providing our services,” said Shield of Athena executive-director Melpa Kamateros.

Marquise VIII: another opportunity for stylish living for empty nesters

The climax of an ambitious chapter in the history of residential development in Laval got underway in early December last year when a ground-breaking ceremony was held to mark the start of construction for the eighth and final tower of the Marquise on Jean-Béraud Ave. in Chomedey.

For Michel Guilbault, executive vice-president

of development at Dév Méta which was a key player in the rental condo project, it was the conclusion of a long journey that began in 2012 when he first guided efforts to raise the first towers of the Marquise project.

Laval’s new Aquatics Complex opened in city centre

Laval mayor Stéphane Boyer was among the very first people to take a high-dive into the waters of the Olympic-size pool at the city’s new Aquatics Complex.

“The opening of this aquatic complex is an important step for our city,” said Mayor Boyer. “Not only does this project answer to the growing needs of our community, but it also is part of our vision of an inclusive and accessible society for all”



Filia founder presented National Assembly Medal

Chomedey Liberal MNA Sona Lakhoyan Olivier paid tribute to Joanna Tsoublekas, founder of the Filia Seniors’ Association, for her outstanding dedication and unwavering commitment to the well-being of the elderly.

During the celebration of the association’s 41st anniversary, Lakhoyan Olivier presented Tsoublekas with a Quebec National Assembly Medal, an honorary distinction that signifies official recognition for the exceptional work done by outstanding and committed citizens.



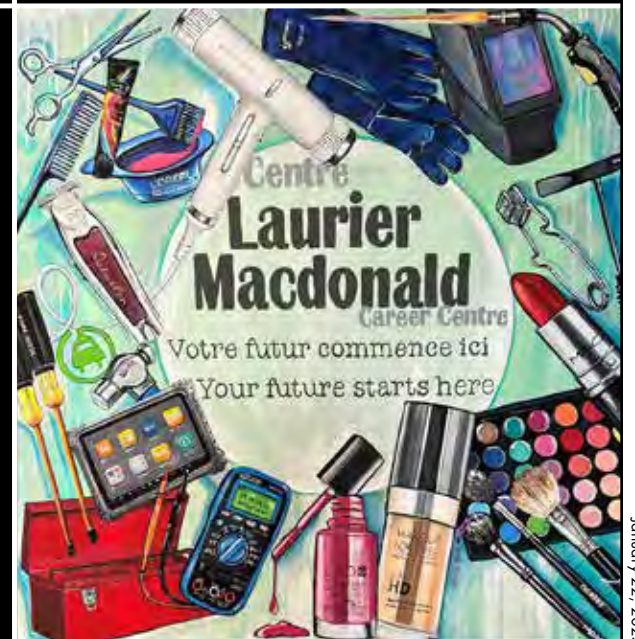
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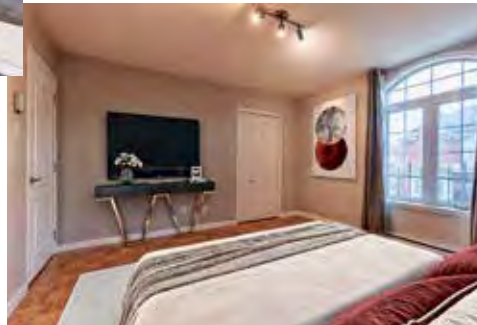


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Happy Tamil Heritage Month

Laval and Montreal region's Tamils mark 'Heritage Month' at lively and fun event

Federal cabinet ministers, local MPs, MNA and city councillors join the celebration

MARTIN C. BARRY

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

For a seventh consecutive year, members of more than 40 Tamil community organizations gathered at the Château Royal in Chomedey to celebrate the contributions of Tamils since their arrival in Canada.

More than 1,000 guests, including representatives from a number of other multicultural communities as well as elected officials from the three levels of government, took part in the admission-free celebration.

A networking event

Lunch and refreshments were provided, along with a great opportunity to learn and network with fellow leaders and organizations within the Tamil community of Quebec. Among the guests were a number of prominent as well as local elected officials.

They included federal Minister of Public Services Jean-Yves Duclos, Immigration Minister Marc Miller, Vimy Liberal MP Annie Koutrakis, Laval-Les Îles Liberal MP



Dancers from Tamil community groups performed during the event at the Château Royal. (Photo: Martin C. Barry, Laval News)

Fayçal El-Khoury, Laval executive-committee members Ray Khalil and Aline Dib, and Chomedey Liberal MNA Sona Lakhoyan Olivier.

Celebrating Tamil heritage

Tamil Heritage Month, which was launched in 2010, aims to celebrate the history of Canada's Tamil community and its contributions to the social, cultural, political and economic strength of Canada.

While recognizing the Tamil community's accomplishments and tracing its roots, Tamil Heritage Month also provides opportunities to celebrate the Tamil community's history in Canada. As well, the month-long observance shines a spotlight on Tamil heritage overall, while helping to rejuvenate Tamil culture in Canada.

Tamil Heritage Month goals

According to organizers of the event, the objectives of Tamil Heritage Month are five-fold:

► Continued on page 13

LAVAL

Happy Heritage Month to the Tamil Community

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Happy Tamil Heritage Month

◀ Continued from page 12

1. To celebrate the richness of the Tamil language and literature;
2. To celebrate the traditions, arts and culture of Tamils around the world;
3. To educate Canadians of all backgrounds about the language, traditions and history of the Tamil people;
4. To highlight the achievements of Tamils in various fields both in the past and the present;
5. To advance the growth and prosperity of

Tamils. They say the month of January was chosen as Tamil Heritage Month for a number of reasons. The Pongal festival, the most important and widely-celebrated festival amongst Tamils around the world, falls in the middle of the month.

Pongal and a New Year

Pongal is both a time of thanksgiving for the blessings of a past year and a time to look forward to the start of a new year. As well, the first month of Tamil calendar, Thai, begins in the middle of January.



Photo: Martin C. Barry, Laval News



Around 1,000 people mostly of Tamil origin turned up for the Tamil Heritage Month event last Sunday afternoon. (Photo: Martin C. Barry, Laval News)

According to tradition, the Pongal festival marks the end of winter solstice, as well as the start of the sun's six-month-long journey northwards when it enters the Capricorn, also known as Uttarayana. Pongal is regarded as one of the most important festivals celebrated by Tamil people.

Tamil diaspora celebrates

Pongal is observed by the Tamil diaspora worldwide, including Tamils in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Malaysia,

Mauritius, South Africa, Singapore and the Gulf countries.

Canada's Tamil population is among the largest in the western world. From a population of fewer than 150 in 1983, Tamils form an increasing share of the overall Canadian population.

According to Statistics Canada figures, there were 237,890 Tamils living in Canada up to five years ago, a more than 25 per cent increase since 2016. As well, Quebec is home to more than 20,000 people of Tamil origin.

*Wishing the Tamil Canadian community
a very happy Tamil Heritage Month*

*Let us celebrate the rich Tamil history
and culture*



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Action Laval asks for seniors' shuttle bus service to be reinstated

'The STL is not a for-profit business,' says Councillor David De Cotis

MARTIN C. BARRY

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

An opportunity for shut-ins to be able to get out has been axed by the city's public transit agency.

Action Laval city councillor for Saint-Bruno David De Cotis tabled a motion during the January council meeting, asking the Société

de transport de Laval to reinstate a special shuttle bus service for senior citizens which was terminated in September last year.

Permanent service cuts

The STL announced at that time that some temporary service cuts it had implemented would in fact become permanent. As a result, a bus route which had been established to provide service specifically for seniors at retirement

residences was stopped.

"The decision to cut this service is entirely based on the reasoning that it has to be feasible, but the STL is not a for-profit business – it's a public service," said De Cotis. "A public service must also answer to community, social and human needs."

Not quite as planned

As De Cotis sees it, the STL's shuttle service



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for seniors, many of whom can be considered vulnerable, offered a rare opportunity for shut-ins to be able to get out and break free of their isolation. Mayor Stéphane Boyer had initially expected that a new \$100 charge added to provincial car registration fees would help pay for the STL's additional expenses, although things didn't work out that way.

"Today, we find that we are paying more for our registrations, but we are getting fewer services," said De Cotis. "It's a perfect picture of the break that exists between what we pay and the services that we receive from the city since this administration is in place."

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Things to do

UPCOMING

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

LAVAL EN BLANC

Outdoor activities



January 24 - January 26

Centre de la nature

901, Parc Avenue, H7E 2T7

Come have fun at this must-see winter festival! Features outdoor and sports activities, entertainment and much more.

Free

LAURENT PAQUIN

Humour



January 29

8 PM

Salle André-Mathieu

475 Boul. de l'Avenir, H7N 5H9

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PHILIPPE LAPRISE

Humour



January 31

8 PM

Théâtre Marcellin-Champagnat

475 Boul. de l'Avenir, H7N 5H9

Inspired as ever, comedian Philippe Laprise launches a brand new show, "Pourquoi pas", his 4th in his career.

Starting at \$47.50

FESTIVAL CLASSIQUE HIVERNAL

Symphony Orchestra



January 31 - February 2

Salle André-Mathieu

475 Boul. de l'Avenir, H7N 5H9

The Orchestre symphonique de Laval warm hearts and minds during the cold season with three-day musical marathon.

Visit osl.ca for tickets

EVE CÔTÉ

Humour



February 11

8 PM

Salle André-Mathieu

475 Boul. de l'Avenir, H7N 5H9

After a triumphant run with Les Grandes Crues, Eve Côté presents her first solo show.

Starting at \$47.50

JÉRÉMY DEMAY

Humour



February 13 / May 2

8 PM

Salle André-Mathieu / Théâtre Marcellin-Champagnat

475 Boul. de l'Avenir, H7N 5H9

Jérémy Demay launches his brand new show, "Nature!".

Starting at \$50.50

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Over \$36,000 Raised by School is Loud Thanks to Community Support



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(NEWSFIRST) - School is Loud is thrilled to announce the success of its social funding campaign with La Ruche, having raised over \$36,000 thanks to the exceptional generosity of our community. This achievement surpasses our initial goal and highlights the collective commitment to social economy.

The campaign received \$18,570 from generous donors and \$17,725 from the Fonds Mille et Un, enhancing our ability to empower youth through journalism and radio broadcasting. These funds will be essential in expanding our services to more schools and community organizations in Quebec.

Kostas Eleftheriou, founder of School is Loud, expresses deep gratitude to all supporters, particularly their partner Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi Laval, and the organizations in the city of Laval, such as the Pôle Régional Économie Sociale and Laval Économique. "Their unwavering support from the beginning has been fundamental to our journey," shares Eleftheriou.

About School is Loud

School is Loud is a non-profit organization dedicated to educational innovation and communication. Through immersive and creative experiences, we inspire and connect communities using live radio experiences and podcasts.





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DIRECT ANSWERS

FROM WAYNE & TAMARA

DRAGONSLIPPERS

Q *I need you to help me because I feel like I'm going insane. It has to do with my sister and her boyfriend. She's been with him for nine years and living a lie ever since. He's been unfaithful to her since the beginning of the relationship and continues to do her wrong. When times get hard, he runs out on her.*

She has a daughter from a previous marriage and one with him. He plays in a rock band and never has time for them. He stays out every weekend and says he has a show, when in actuality he is with another woman. He has girls text messaging him and she's seen what they say to him, yet she covers for him and says it's nothing.

Her children are suffering because she doesn't pay attention to their needs. Just a few weeks ago, he tells her he's leaving her again and moves in with another woman. Then he texts how miserable he is without her and how much he loves her.

I know she will take him back, and I think it will be the last straw for me. I love her with all my heart, but I worry more about what she is doing to the children. She acts as if she can't live without him and will put up with anything--lying, cheating, disrespect--just so he won't leave her. What can I do to help her see the light?

Bernadette

A Bernadette, there are only three things you can do. First, you can be the best aunt to your sister's children that you can be.

Second, accept that your sister is in an abusive relationship. For some reason, she is willing to put up with this behavior. You don't understand that reason, but it has great power over her. So to gain more understanding, and possibly be of help, start reading about abuse and contact organizations for abused women.

One question outsiders always have is, How can an otherwise smart, capable woman put up with abuse? "Dragonslippers," a book by Rosalind Penfold, provides an answer. Roz Penfold was in such a relationship for 10 years. She kept a diary, and when words failed her, she drew pictures. The book is a graphic portrait of abuse.

Many women like Roz ease into abuse one small step at a time and use common ideas in our culture to justify what they are doing--turning the other cheek, forgiving the other, accepting bad behavior as a disease.

It is a truism that a woman with an abusive man will not leave that situation until she sees things in the particular light which will make her change. For one woman, it might be consideration of the children--their suffering, their future, their well-being. For another woman, it might be understanding that she seeks abuse because she feels unworthy of anything better. For a third woman, it might be a vision of her own future.

In dealing with your sister and her family you must be totally honest. If your sister praises her boyfriend, let her know everyone knows exactly what he is like and how he fails as a man. Don't go along with any imaginary or delusional way she presents his behavior. Let her children know that a good man does not treat a woman this way, and that a woman should never put up with this sort of treatment. In short, educate them to your way--the proper way--to view their home life.

Finally, realize she may never change, and there may be nothing you can do to cause her to change. An accident of birth has linked the two of you as sisters. Just as you cannot allow alcoholic and drug-based behavior, or criminal behavior, or abusive behavior to dominate your life, so you cannot allow her self-demeaning life to ruin your own.

Wayne & Tamara

WAYNE & TAMARA MITCHELL are the authors of YOUR OTHER HALF (www.yourotherhalf.com)

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One from Laval among four charged with cocaine trafficking

A 59-year-old man from Laval and three other suspects from Montreal and the North Shore



The RCMP issued this photo alleged to be of incriminating materials seized in Laval from the suspects. (Photo: Courtesy of RCMP)

are facing charges they conspired to import and produce cocaine using an ingenious scheme to try and deceive the Canada Border Services Agency.

In a statement issued by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's Federal Policing Eastern Region division, the force says an investigation by the Airport and Federal Investigations Detachment began in December 2022, after the CBSA intercepted a package from Colombia containing 39 cardboard boxes soaked in cocaine.

"Laboratory analysis revealed that each box contained approximately 29 grams of the illicit substance, for a total of almost 1.3 kg," according to the RCMP.

During the investigation, police dismantled a clandestine laboratory in a commercial building in Laval, presumably used for cocaine extraction purposes.

Two other commercial buildings were also searched.

Investigators seized several electronic devices, laboratory equipment and notes on how to

extract the cocaine from the cardboard.

The suspects were identified by the RCMP as:

- Jean Bergeron, 59, from Laval
- Jonathan Gallotta, 41, from Mirabel
- Laurent-Alexandre Riverin, 31, from Montreal
- and Aéala Bizien, 30, from Boisbriand

They are scheduled to appear on January 29 at the Palais de Justice de Laval.

The charges they face include cocaine importation, possession for the purpose of trafficking and conspiracy.

Man critically injured in Vimont rear-end crash

A 22-year-old man was taken to hospital in critical condition after a collision after which his vehicle got wedged under a parked truck early last Friday morning in eastern Laval.

According to the Laval Police Dept., the incident occurred around 3:15 a.m. on Dagenais Blvd. East, in the Vimont sector. For reasons police investigators have yet to determine, the driver hit a cube truck that was parked on the side of the boulevard.

As the victim's vehicle was stuck under the rear end of the truck, firefighters had to free the driver who was alone in his car. Tow trucks were also called in to allow rescuers to access the vehicle.

The driver was taken to the hospital, and the police said the victim was out of danger later in the day following the crash. The Laval police force is continuing its investigation to try to shed light on the circumstances surrounding this accident.

Notre-Dame Blvd. blaze renders six homeless

Six people living in a triplex on Notre-Dame Boulevard in Chomedey are temporarily homeless following a January 6 fire in the building near the intersection of 100th Avenue.

It was just after 3:15 pm when the firefighters arrived on the scene, needing only around 45 minutes to declare the blaze under control.

Damages to the building were estimated at \$150,000, with a further \$40,000 for damage to furnishings and interior property.



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Have you ever heard of light pollution? While you may already know about pollution caused by cars and factories, light can also have a harmful impact.

THE REASON

Light pollution occurs when an excessive amount of light is created by streetlamps, stores, houses, factories and buildings, especially when their lights are pointed at the sky. This is why you might notice fewer stars in the night sky in the city compared to the country.

THE PROBLEMS

What's wrong with living in a brightly lit area? For a start, it affects birds. Birds rely on the stars to navigate at night. In a city full of lights, birds can get lost or fly

What is light pollution?

into structures and die.

Light pollution is also deadly for some insects. When they fly around lampposts, they may forget to feed and reproduce. Many end up dying of exhaustion or burning themselves on the light.

Light pollution is also dangerous to fish. Fish fear brightly lit areas. This forces them to move away from riverbanks towards environments that are less suited to their needs. This puts their survival at risk.

Light pollution has several other negative effects. For instance, it can disrupt the life cycle of plants and cause headaches and prevent deep sleep in humans. Fortunately, more and more towns and cities are working hard to combat this problem. Don't hesitate to spread the word!

Create a shadow puppet theatre

Shadow puppet theatre was invented in Asia thousands of years ago. This type of theatre is traditionally accompanied by music and songs. Paper or leather marionettes are worked behind an illuminated screen of light-coloured fabric to tell a captivating story. Here's how you can make your own shadow puppet theatre.



the scissors to cut them out. With the adhesive tape, attach a stick to the back of each character. Use decorations of your choice to adorn your creations, like pom-pom hair or a ribbon skirt. Use your imagination!

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Construction paper or cardboard, ideally black
- Wooden sticks, such as skewers or popsicles sticks
- A cardboard box, shoebox-sized or larger
- A lamp
- Adhesive tape
- A piece of white cloth
- Scissors
- Decorations, such as ribbons and pom-poms

CREATE THE MARIONETTES

Draw silhouettes of several characters on the construction paper, then use

DESIGN THE THEATRE

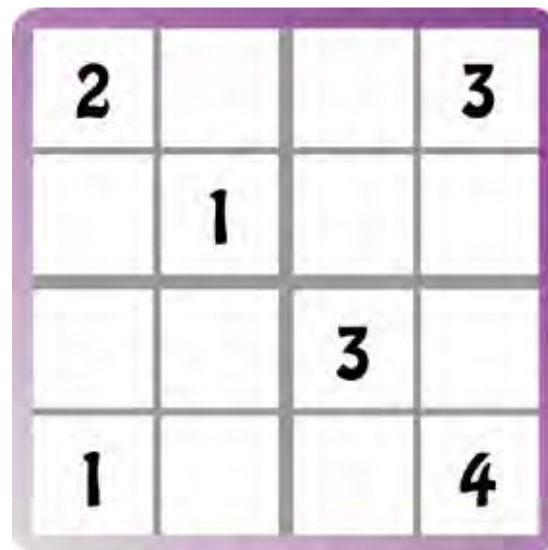
Cut a large rectangle out of the bottom of the cardboard box to create a "window." Cover it with the white cloth and use the tape to hold it in place. Decorate the box to make your little theatre more attractive. Then, place the lamp behind the opening of the box to illuminate the fabric screen. Turn off the lights and make your characters move in front of the lamp so their shadows are cast onto the fabric.

That's it! All that remains is to find your audience. Gather your family and friends to tell your story.

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Sudoku 4 x 4

COMPLETE EACH GRID WITH NUMBERS FROM 1 TO 4, 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 4 squares



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HOROSCOPE

Week of JANUARY 26 TO FEBRUARY 1

The luckiest signs this week:
ARIES, TAURUS AND GEMINI

ARIES
You may be offered a big promotion at work. Before making a decision, however, you should talk to your partner and loved ones to prevent any misunderstandings.

TAURUS
The winter blues are starting to get you down. This may prompt you to seriously consider planning a sunny vacation. Just thinking about it fills you with joy and enthusiasm!

GEMINI
Your senses will be on high alert, and your emotions could play tricks on you. You'll untangle the threads of a scandalous affair, be it in your workplace or within your family circle. The chaos will soon fade away.

CANCER
Get ready to sharpen your negotiation skills, whether at work or in your personal life. You've got what it takes to secure solid agreements that will pave the way for career success.

LEO
You'll be in the spotlight this week, which will make you happy. You may also be rewarded. A celebration for your career advancement could be on the horizon.

VIRGO
If you're not feeling your best physically, take it easy. Every hour of rest will work wonders, giving you the energy boost you need to accomplish amazing things.

LIBRA
After the festivities, your home may still be a bit of a mess. You'll be in a hurry to put everything back in order. This is the perfect opportunity to declutter and refresh your space to help you feel lighter and more energized.

SCORPIO
You'll speak freely, saying aloud what others keep to themselves. You may even write a poem or a powerful phrase that earns you global recognition.

SAGITTARIUS
Your finances will be top of mind this week. A small mistake like receiving a bill in the wrong name could create some worry. However, once the mix-up has been resolved, you'll feel much more at ease.

CAPRICORN
Adventure awaits! Those around you will be eager to include you in all sorts of activities, pulling you out of your slump. You'll be encouraged to join group training, at least with your close friends by your side.

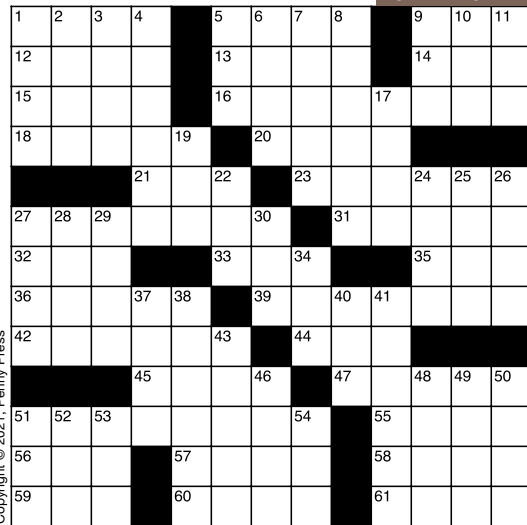
AQUARIUS
You'll need a second cup of coffee to clear your head and stop procrastinating. Boosting your efficiency will be the key to completing new projects and reaching your goals.

PISCES
It's not always easy to find your way in a crowd. At work, juggling the demands of your boss, customers and colleagues may feel like an uphill battle.

Coffee Break

CROSSWORDS

PUZZLE NO. 272



ACROSS

- 1. Tableland
- 5. Flows back
- 9. Handful
- 12. Arena shape
- 13. Invalid
- 14. Historic epoch
- 15. Monk's quarters
- 16. Romantic ones
- 18. Leg joints
- 20. Evaluate
- 21. Shaggy ox
- 23. Brewing vessel
- 27. Slip
- 31. Capture
- 32. Get an "A" on
- 33. Clear liquor
- 35. Aggravate
- 36. Comes together
- 39. Least messy
- 42. Allows to enter
- 44. Goopy liquid
- 45. Require
- 47. Stadiums

DOWN

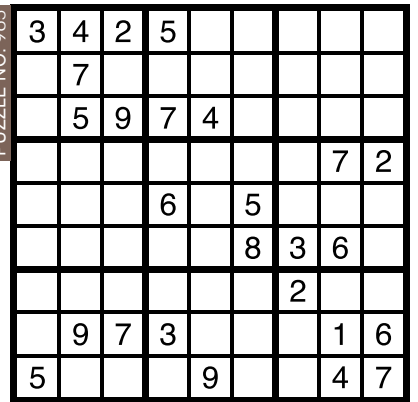
- 1. Mimic
- 2. Fifty-fifty
- 3. Bargain offering
- 4. Side streets
- 5. Come to a close
- 6. "Perry Mason" star
- 7. Lamb's comment
- 8. Blackboards
- 9. Attorney's charge
- 10. Botch
- 11. Had being
- 17. Nasty

DOWN

- 19. Posed for a picture
- 22. Barrel
- 24. ___ the way
- 25. Mineral resources
- 26. Printed matter part
- 27. ___ Cass
- 28. Frozen
- 29. Appear
- 30. Cherry seed
- 34. Young bug
- 37. Dye
- 38. Robs
- 40. Small quantity
- 41. Pressed
- 43. Raise: 2 wds.
- 46. ___ on (love excessively)
- 48. Put on, as clothes
- 49. Liquid rock
- 50. Flower support
- 51. Tread the boards
- 52. Muck
- 53. Electrified particle
- 54. Ruby-hued

Sudoku

PUZZLE NO. 965



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.

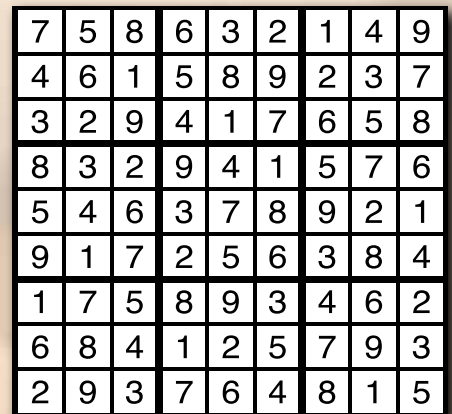
Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: You must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column, or 3x3 box.

Last Issue's Answers

CROSSWORDS



Sudoku



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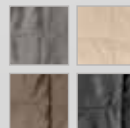
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