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**Laval will receive \$18,2 million  
for social housing**

See page 8

Federal Minister of Families, Children and Social Development Jean-Yves Duclos (at table seated on right) and Quebec Minister of Municipal Affairs Martin Coiteux (left) are seen here surrounded by federal, provincial and municipal officials from the Laval region at Habitation Raymond-Goyer in Chomedey last week following the announcement.

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## 2016 Deka Awards Winners

President's Award (Greg Rokos), Entrepreneur of the Year (Papagiannis-Bablekis Group), Professional of the Year (Steve Tselios),  
Business Woman of the Year (Me Evangelia Tsotsis), Young Entrepreneur of the Year (Mike Kakogiannakis), Young Professional of the Year  
(Dr. Apostolos Christopoulos), Community Services Award (V.Rev.Fr. Demetrios Antonopoulos), Hellenic Award (Chris Adamopoulos)

RICHTER



DENTONS



BELDEN



# Police unionists stage noisy protest outside Laval city council

## Council hears snow removal, parking and Harley dealership complaints

PHOTOS: Martin C. Barry - Newsfirst

MARTIN C. BARRY

It was with a considerable amount of difficulty that those attending the first session of Laval city council in 2017 were able to hear each other given the amount of noise being made by demonstrators from the Laval Police Brotherhood outside city hall that evening.

The protest on Jan. 17 concerned complaints from the police union that the city has been dragging its heels in hiring more staff officers since the current city administration swept into city hall in the 2013 election, according to André Potvin, president of the police brotherhood, who got up to question Mayor Marc Demers during the council meeting.

### Police Brotherhood protest

Among other things, Potvin claimed the police department has been maintaining a bare minimum of patrollers on night duty. "Mr. Demers, how can you be at ease leaving 24 police officers to assure the security of 440,000 people on a territory as vast as the City of Laval's," he said.

He also claimed that each year more than a hundred investigation files have to be closed before they are resolved because the Laval Police Department hasn't enough investigators. The mayor responded that the number of patrollers was determined by negotiators for the city before he was elected mayor.

Sylvain Tardif, vice-president of the police brotherhood, asked the mayor to confirm or



At the beginning of the meeting, the mayor and councillors paid homage to the three main organizers of a popular annual hockey tournament, the Tournoi de hockey pee-wee Yvon Chartrand from the district of Saint-Vincent-de-Paul: Denis Desjardins, Adriano Masella and Arsène Moreau. Councillor Paolo Galati was the honorary president for the 45th annual edition of the tournament, which first began in 1972.

deny that the city went half a million over budget when it purchased a new Motorola P-25 police and public safety radio communications systems. "Mr. Demers, you promised us a clean administration that would be different from the former administration," Tardif said.

While admitting that the new radio system did go over budget, Demers said it was done at the request of the police and fire departments who had asked for a system with more rigid specifications. "Following recommendations from the chief of police and the general administration, we acceded to the request," he said.

### Place Bell parking problems

The mayor told one homeowner from a residential street near Place Bell which opens this autumn that the city is aware of a looming problem concerning parking in the area. According to Demers, the previous administration had originally planned a maximum of 200 parking spaces, although at least 1,400 would be needed.

Chomedey councillor Aglaia Revelakis introduced a motion suggesting that open access WiFi be installed and made available at all buildings, including residential facilities, owned or administered by the City of Laval. Revelakis maintains that free WiFi would facilitate communications between people living

at the residences with their families and save money for those who are needy. The proposal is expected to be debated at the February council meeting.

Saying that he was speaking on behalf of 600 citizens and property owners from the Bergerac area, Emilio Migliozi said they learned recently that the Harley Davidson motorcycle dealership currently located on Autoroute 440 has plans to move to Jules-Brillant St. in their neighbourhood. While maintaining that the residents in question pay about \$2 million in taxes annually to the city, Migliozi added "we don't a Harley Davidson dealership in our yard.

### Snow removal complaints

This being the middle of winter, there were a few complaints during the council meeting about snow removal. A few residents of Daniel-Johnson Blvd. in Laval-des-Rapides as well as near the Résidence Soleil senior citizens' retirement complex spoke up during question period.

While admitting that "everything is not perfect," the mayor maintained to one citizens that "I have never had as much thanks as this year for the changes we made" to snow removal. "But snow removal will always be a challenge, because everybody wants their snow picked up

as soon as possible." If there are problems, he suggested calling the 3-1-1 public works line and the city will send a crew as soon as possible.

One resident, Léo Savard, appeared to agree that snow removal had improved. "I would like to point out the improvement in snow removal compared to last year," he said, noting that he found the snow operations for the season's first storm in November were much better. Savard also found that more salt and sand is being spread on the city's sidewalks than in previous years.

### Harley dealership move

While pointing out that he himself is a fan of motorcycles, Migliozi played a recording through a Bluetooth speaker of a typical Harley engine for the mayor and council members to hear. "The customers of this dealership will be passing through our community morning, noon and evening as well as on weekends," he said. He also deposited a petition signed by hundreds of people from the area. The mayor noted that there are municipal regulations about noise in residential areas and said he would look into the matter.



Representing residents from the Bergerac neighbourhood, Emilio Migliozi deposited a petition from residents opposed to Harley Davidson moving its dealership near their homes.



Laval Police Brotherhood vice-president Sylvain Tardif addressed the mayor during the Jan. 17 city council meeting.



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## Trudeau's challenges: Trump, taxes and energy

*Canada's tax and energy advantages are coming to a sudden end, and we should expect businesses will move more investment to the U.S.*

When Justin Trudeau shuffled his federal cabinet last week, it signaled he's taking the next United States president seriously. Finding the right mix of people to work with White House officials is important. But government policies also matter. Our prime minister will need to do more to keep Canada competitive and protect Canadian jobs.

Donald Trump is ready to upend U.S. policy on everything from trade to defence treaties to immigration. But the president-elect's domestic proposals on taxes and energy are Canada's greater challenges.

The Trump administration intends to move quickly to cut the business tax rate from 35 to 15 per cent. Add the four per cent average corporate tax applied by state and local governments

and the new U.S. tax rate could soon effectively be a cool 19 per cent, about eight points lower than Canada's 27 per cent average when federal and provincial rates are combined.

Our country's tax advantage is coming to a sudden end. As a result, we should expect businesses will invest more in the United States and less in Canada, where higher costs exist.

This brings us to energy. Trudeau wants all provinces to put a price on carbon, directly with a carbon tax or indirectly with cap-and-trade regulations. If the provinces don't, Trudeau will impose a carbon tax. The impact of either strategy is the same: more expensive for Canadians to get around, heat their homes and keep the lights on. Pricing carbon will increase the cost of almost everything, including food.

A typical Canadian family will likely pay more than \$1,200 a year in new energy taxes by 2022 - and twice that if Ottawa decides to apply its new tax aggressively.

Carbon pricing isn't the only way Trudeau's policies will raise electricity rates. His order to provincial governments to shutter coal-fired stations by 2030 will eliminate a source of cheap and reliable power from Canada's energy mix. Here's what that means for one small province: New Brunswick has a single coal-burning power plant and NB Power officials have said closing it would increase provincial electricity rates by a staggering 38 per cent.

Meanwhile, U.S. ratepayers face no carbon tax. And American energy costs will likely fall as Trump repeals President Barack Obama's

executive orders restricting the extraction and use of fossil fuels.

What's Ottawa's response to all this?

Trudeau says Canada could win if the incoming president rejects plans to make U.S. energy more expensive. He told a Calgary business audience last month, "We know that this is the way the world is going and if the United States wants to take a step back from it, quite frankly, I think we should look at that as an extraordinary opportunity for Canada and for Canadians."

It's a brave face - but does it make sense?

Trump's energy policies twinned with deep tax cuts will reduce Canada's competitiveness.

Canadian policy-makers, and the prime minister, don't have to like this change and may privately curse it. But our federal and provincial governments can't pretend Trump's policy agenda won't have any impact on the economy when Canadian jobs are at risk.

Canada's energy sector is already concerned that government policy will soon put our country at a competitive disadvantage, and that investment and jobs will move to the U.S.

In Ontario, some businesses are already eyeing nearby U.S. states with more affordable energy prices. Ontario electricity prices have skyrocketed thanks to costly provincial regulations. Carbon pricing means bills for natural gas, gasoline and diesel are going up next. The Coalition of Concerned Manufacturers of Ontario, a group of small- and medium-sized businesses, has raised the alarm and is urging the government to reverse course or risk job losses.

Canada's long-term growth depends on its businesses remaining competitive. Affordable energy is part of the mix, along with reasonable tax rates. Likewise, the prosperity of Canadian families is impacted by the price of home heating fuels, power and gas. Dramatic price increases leave households poorer, while inexpensive energy would mean households have more income for other things.

With Canadian energy prices set to increase relative to U.S. prices, there will soon be an additional cost to Canada's carbon policy. That price is less investment and lost jobs. Lower U.S. taxes will only compound the problem.

Canadian workers and businesses can't afford such a shift.

The Trudeau government's next move should be to overhaul its carbon pricing plan to account for the policy shift south of the border. Canada needs a strategy that doesn't penalize businesses and ordinary Canadians.

John Williamson

The opinions on THIS PAGE reflect the consensus of Editorial Board.

## It's time for feds to show real leadership on autism

*Adding another level of bureaucracy is no answer for too many families left for too long without support*

As a parent of a child diagnosed with autism more than a decade ago, I've watched the provincial and federal policy debates about autism with great interest - and even greater disappointment.

Although I used to believe that one of the things that made Canada a great country was its publicly-funded health-care system, my son's diagnosis opened my eyes to discrimination under medicare. There's no cure for autism. But solid peer-reviewed evidence has shown for decades that intensive behaviour intervention (IBI), based on the principles of applied behaviour analysis (ABA), can have a dramatic impact on the development of kids with autism.

Unfortunately, the treatment is not covered by medicare across the country.

In most provinces, IBI/ABA is not offered by ministries of health to those who need it, when they need and for as long as they need it. When programs are available, they're typically offered by ministries of social services and are extremely limited. They're also plagued by unconscionable wait lists - often years long.

My family spent more than \$40,000 on such therapy in the private sector in the first year while waiting for government-provided treatment for our son. This wasn't sustainable for us, nor is it for most Canadians.

More recently, when I inquired about placing our son in a group home in Ontario, I was told he couldn't be placed on a list until he's 18 - and the average waiting period is a decade long. Such dramatic waits for care facilities for adults

with autism is replicated across the country.

So what kind of leadership has the federal government demonstrated on this file? Not much.

But recently, they've been invited to embrace a new proposal.

In November, an expert working group on autism created by the previous federal government presented their final report to Health Minister Jane Philpott. A proposed business plan for a Canadian Autism Partnership (CAP) and a request for support, at \$19 million over five years, was put forth. Philpott now must determine whether to proceed with this autism partnership model.

Unfortunately, CAP doesn't offer autism families relief.

CAP gives an overview of its proposed structure (board of directors, national director, 11 employees, advisory council), a mission (address issues related to autism using a shared leadership approach), and a process (consultations, issue identification, agenda setting, problem-solving, mobilization, evaluation, measurement, monitoring) - but that's about it.

In other words, the proposal involves the creation of another bureaucracy.

Those involved with the working group and supporters may be excited about a new bureaucracy, but many in the autism community - myself included - shake their heads in disbelief.

The last thing autism families need is more bureaucracy. What we need from the federal government is real leadership on autism - now.

The CAP proposal raises numerous concerns

and risks.

First, the plan doesn't mention specific gaps in policy or priority issues, and it doesn't give concrete examples of how such issues could be resolved with the new model or when.

Second, we already have a public health agency and a federal Department of Health. Are these institutions and their provincial counterparts not adequate to conduct consultations, collaboration, problem-identification and decision-making? A new bureaucracy will likely render the possibility of concrete action to resolve policy and program gaps across the country even more remote.

Third, the CAP model doesn't actually provide the partnership with any authority to make changes to public policy. And it certainly won't have the resources or legislative power to make meaningful decisions.

Instead of a new bureaucratic structure, Philpott should consider how the federal government can demonstrate leadership, exercise influence and put some money on the table to negotiate an accord with the provinces that would address three recurring issues as priorities for autism families:

- the lack of health-care (medicare) coverage for autism treatment (ABA/IBI);
- the lack of ABI/IBI in the school systems;
- the lack of appropriate housing accommodation for autistic adults.

Where there is a political will to do something, there is a way. Too many families have been left without support for too long.

Andrew Kavchak

# THE LAVAL news

3860, boul. Notre-Dame, # 304,  
Laval, QC H7V 1S1  
Tel: 450-978-9999 • Fax: 450-687-6330  
E-mail: editor@newsfirst.ca

### Publishers:

George Bakoyannis  
George S. Guzman

### General Director:

George Bakoyannis

### VP Sales & Marketing:

George S. Guzman  
sales@newsfirst.ca

### Graphic Design:

Elena Molter  
Thomas Bakoyannis

### Sales Manager:

Peter Stavropoulos  
peter@newsfirst.ca

### Advertising Consultants:

Jean Paul Chamberland

### Editorial Staff:

Martin C. Barry  
Savas Fortis  
Fabienne Mercier  
Kavul Sheikh  
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James Ryan  
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## Laval unveils plans for future Aquatic Complex Construction of \$61.1 million facility expected to be completed by 2020

(TLN) Last week the City of Laval announced the winner of a competition held to produce a design for the future Laval Aquatic Complex.

### A successful competition

The NFOE-HCMA consortium was chosen for the building to be located on Terry Fox Ave. near the Cosmodôme. The corporation will now be responsible for all planning and specifications for the building itself, as well as supervision of construction which is expected to be completed by 2020.

"This is the first time that the City of Laval held an architecture competition and I am delighted with the results," said Mayor Marc Demers. "Citizens will be able to take advantage of a building of very high quality that will raise the value of Laval's building heritage. The audacity, the refinement, the architectural quality and the beauty of the site will add value and contribute to the quality of life of all those who will go there."

### The jury was impressed

"We were very impressed by the great quality of the elements and the enormous interest of the public towards the design concepts," said Matthew C. Lella, president of the jury. "The finalists demonstrated great understanding of the project before proposing their ideas with passion. I thank them all for sharing their talents publicly. This contributes to the quality of the built environment in Laval. I offer my congratulations to the NFOE-HCMA team and to the city

which is building the future for its residents."

In all, 17 proposals were received and were analyzed. The jury, led by Lella, an architect with the firm Diamong & Schmitt, was appointed by the city. Other members of the jury were Olympic champion diver Alexandre Despatie, well-known journalist and author Lise Bissonette, Benoit Lamarre, an urban planner with the city, building engineer Lucien Viel, as well as architects Daniel Pearl, Stéphane Chevalier, Manon Asselin and Anne Vallières.

### An emphasis on comfort

Comfort, refinement, innovative functionality and daring are all words the jury used when describing the project put forward by NFOE-MCMA. According to the city, the concept itself is strongly rooted in the notion of the comfort of users, with elements such as family locker rooms and a beckoning snack bar/café which opens on to a public gathering space.

In terms of urban planning, the jury particularly appreciated the circular shape of the building and the way it fits easily into the site. The winning design follows a current trend in the architecture of aquatic centres. The designers are hoping to achieve a Gold LEED certification for environmental friendliness and also will be including some of the latest high-tech innovations.

### Will have three pools

The building will have three pools, including one for swimming, another for diving and a

third for recreational use. Permanently-installed bleachers will accommodate 700 people, while an additional 500 temporary seating spaces will be made available for major events.

The start of construction is scheduled for sometime in 2018 so that the aquatic complex

is ready in time for the Jeux du Québec Finals which Laval hopes to host in July 2020. The winning design respected an estimated price tag of \$61.1 million that the City of Laval stated in its triennial capital works budget for 2017-2019

## MNA Saul Polo supports Student Forum 2017

Laval-des-Rapides MNA, Saul Polo, highlighted recently the participation of five students from Montmorency College in the Student Forum. This year the parliamentary simulation, took place at the National Assembly from January 9 to 13, 2017. Among the participants were Justine Chabot, Maria Andrada Pavel, Olivier Rooney, Emmanuel Roy-Allain and Sébastien White. The parliamentary simulation, allows young people to get acquainted with the work of MNAs while giving them the opportunity to debate on issues that affect them.

"I have always encouraged young people in my riding through different initiatives to get more involved in politics to get their voices and ideas. I am therefore very proud for these students from Collège Montmorency who participated in this democratic exercise represented by the Student Forum," said Polo.


The approximately 145 participants in the

2017 Student Forum debated on three bills they have previously written and selected:

- The Law for Increasing the Birth Rate and Enhancing Family Values.
- The Act to improve the integration of immigrants in Québec.
- The Universal Organ and Tissue Donation Act.


Over the past 25 years, the Student Forum has enabled more than 3,000 college students to improve their knowledge of the parliamentary system and the workings of Québec democracy. On this occasion, young people debate in the National Assembly Hall, work in caucuses and study bills in parliamentary committees. This simulation is made possible, among others, thanks to the collaboration of the Jean-Charles-Bonenfant Foundation.





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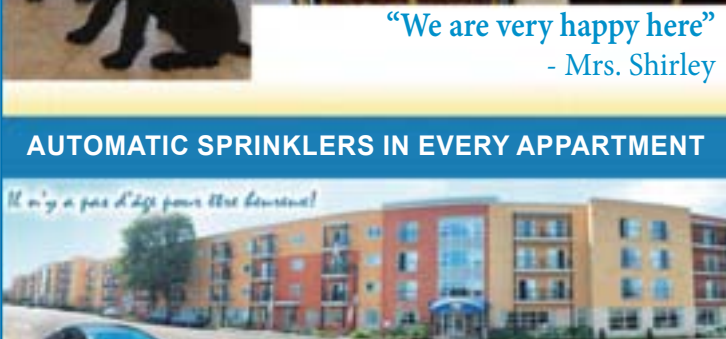
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## Developing a Parking Strategy and Public Policy

The City of Laval published a public call for tenders for a professional consulting services mandate to help the administration develop a coherent parking policy. The mandate involves diagnosing and describing a portrait of the existing parking realities of Laval and the drafting of a coherent residential and commercial policy and plan of action to better adapt the availability of parking.

This principle objectives of this exercise includes the harmonization and simplification of municipal practices to ensure greater consistency in parking management. Also, the administration recognizes the importance of modulating the availability of public parking based on transit supply. As Laval's economy is dependent on local commerce efforts will be made to ensure that the parking offer meets the needs of businesses. Also, especially true during the winter months, strategies will be developed to facilitate the parking of residents in densely populated areas.

## Free Wi-Fi access on LAVAL's public wireless network

The City of Laval offers free Wi-Fi access to through its LAVAL Public wireless network in several municipal locations. Free high-speed internet connections can be accessed simply by accepting the terms of use and then users are automatically logged in as no

password is required. The municipal locations that provide access to the Internet include; the nine city arenas, all city libraries, local recreational and sports offices BML, the Saint-Louis-de-Montfort Community Center (in multi-purpose halls only), the Laval-des-Rapides Community Center, the Pavillon du Bois-Papineau, Laval Centre de la Nature, Maison des Arts, city hall assembly and the multiservice counter.

## Laval vies to host The 2020 Quebec Summer Games

The city of Laval has presented a bid to host of the Quebec Games Final in the summer of 2020. Citing its advantages as a city of scale full of resources, high-level infrastructures and above all committed and engaged citizens the administration is calling on public support to help the city win its bid. The mayor himself is asking all Lavaliers to talk up this occasion on social media using 2020.laval.ca #GOLAV2020. Online support can also be registered on Laval's web page <https://promo.laval.ca/jeux-du-quebec-2020/index.html>

## Deadline for municipal environmental grants for 2016 is Jan.31st

Laval residents have access to municipal grants for the implementation of certain ecological measures they may have adopted during the course of 2016. There are four grants available to residents for 2016 that have also been renewed for 2017. It is not too late to

apply for the 2016 grant.

The purchase of rainwater barrels allows for the recovery of chlorine free temperate water that is perfect for watering the garden and flowerbeds. A grant up to a maximum of \$ 70 is available. The purchase of a domestic composter eliminates tons of waste and results in the creation of a natural fertilizer. This purchase is subsidized up to a maximum of \$ 50.

Washable cloth diapers are reusable and result in significant financial savings for families as well as a major reduction of the amount of waste sent to landfills. This grant can reach \$ 200 for the purchase of a set of 20 units. Eco-friendly toilets commonly known as the low flow toilets save more than 10 liters of water per flush. The subsidy for their purchase and installation varies from \$ 60 to \$ 75 depending on the type of toilet purchased.

Citizens wishing to apply for a grant for a purchase made between January 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> 2016 must send the duly completed form, purchase invoice and required documents to Laval's Environment service no later than January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. All forms, the list of required documents, and the address to send them are available online at Laval's website. For more information Laval residents can call 311.

## Charging terminal for hybrid drives

In an effort to make Laval's public transportation greener, the Executive Committee has tabled a recommendation for the approval of

the City Council to provide the regions local transport agency (STL) a \$ 1,100,000 loan for the acquisition and installation of a charging station for hybrid engines. This will allow the public transportation agency more flexibility in future purchases to renew its public transport fleet with greener hybrid options.

## Geotechnical study of the banks of the Milles-Iles River

In the fall of 2016, the City proceeded with a call for tenders to carry out a geotechnical study to assess the stability of the banks of the Milles-Iles River. It should be noted that the banks of the sector concerned, a stretch of approximately 7 kilometers long on the eastern end of Île Jésus between Paré and Buisson streets, are composed of a relatively steep embankment.

A variable height between two to nine meters has been described showing signs of instability in several places. Thus, the members of the Executive Committee awarded Groupe ABS a contract of \$ 91,635.08 (taxes included) for the geotechnical study and the formulation of a plan of action to stabilize and support the riverbanks in this area, all in accordance with the conditions of its submission and its specifications.

## Measuring traffic safety

Citizens of Laval are often concerned about the speed of vehicles as they roll on the public

► Continued on page 7

**Sir Wilfrid Laurier Foundation  
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◀ **Continued from page 6**

streets of the city. Often there is a large gap between perceived dangers and actual safety concerns. In order to better assess safety and risk the administration has decided to procure mobile speed displays, traffic analyzers and radar trailers. These systems will be used to determine if a pre-identified area presents a traffic problem as well as to contributing to the City's open data base whose compilation will aid engineers and experts formulate appropriate traffic flow strategies that are both safe and efficient.

The members of the Executive Committee have therefore agreed to seek public tenders for the procurement of these systems and related services, as well as for the rehabilitation of existing systems. The expected duration of the contract for each of the lots is three years without a renewal option.

**Agreement with the Quad Laval ATV club**

The Executive Committee has authorized the Quad Laval MTB Club to operate in Laval for the 2016-2017 season, in accordance with By-law L-10620 concerning the use of recreational vehicles and the agreement between the Club and the city. Laval's legal service also requires that the association holds all necessary

legal authorizations allowing club members the right to; circulate on private property or on the property of public bodies (Hydro-Québec, Ministère des Transports du Québec, etc.) concerned, use a bridge crossing a river or a bridge over a highway as well as authorization to allow for the passage of private railway crossings of the various railway companies. They also approved in principle the site plan 16-S1 / 332 prepared by the Engineering Department and showing the route established by the Quad Laval MTB Club on Montée Rouville and part of the Haut-Saint-François range. The agreement also authorizes the Club to arrange and install appropriate traffic signage delineating its routes, particularly as they intersect with public streets and traffic arteries that cross the off road network of trails.

**City to introduce new code of ethics for employees**

*New code for suppliers also being prepared*

(TLN) During the Jan. 17 meeting of Laval city council, council passed a resolution calling for a new code of ethics for employees. Revised and added to, the proposed ethics code would include the following changes:

The introduction of a rule forbidding employees from accepting gifts, regardless of the value; new commitments by employees after they no longer work for the city, including clauses pertaining to lobbying, loyalty and protection of the public interest; new rules enshrining the sorts of remunerate or volunteer activities an employee can take part in.

**A major change for Laval**

"The city underwent a major transformation

over the last few years, and as regards ethics this change was marked by numerous fields of improvement for which Laval received recognition," said Mayor Marc Demers. "The updating of the employees' code of ethics, which was done with their cooperation, is yet another demonstration of renewal in Laval."

Serge Lamontagne, director-general of the city, said Laval is also working on the preparation of a code that will apply to Laval's many suppliers in order to assure the most transparency possible in the way things are done. "This document will be echoing the ethical responsibilities of employees," Lamontagne said.

# Come see what downtown Laval has to offer with the free 360 bus route!

To encourage connectivity between the various points of interest of downtown Laval, the Société de transport de Laval (STL), in collaboration with the City of Laval, is offering free travel on the 360 bus route.



*"Our priority is providing efficient and accessible service."*

David De Cotis  
President of the STL's Board of Directors

2016 has been a remarkable year in several respects. Our nearly 900 employees have worked with ardour and conviction to complete many major projects for the transit agency. Preferential bus measures have been implemented and new bus routes and accessible routes have been added. It is in this same spirit that 2017 will see us redoubling our efforts to provide you with the best quality service.

## TRAVEL TO DOWNTOWN LAVAL FOR FREE!

To encourage active travel across all of Laval, the STL, in partnership with the City of Laval, is offering free travel on the 360 bus route. This route serves the Montmorency Metro station and the downtown section north of boulevard Saint-Martin, including the Centropolis and its many tourist attractions.

We should also add that the City of Laval remains a major player in the development of Laval's public transit system. In addition to supporting the STL financially, it also actively participates in the implementation of large-scale projects throughout the city.



### A YEAR OF INNOVATION

In addition to stepping up research on the electrification of the transit system, the STL is also relaunching its Quality Guarantee to ensure the continued loyalty of its riders and to entice new clients to consider public transit. Other surprises are also in store on our buses! Stay tuned!

### PREFERENTIAL BUS MEASURES (PBM)

Laval is a growing city that is on track for a 20% increase in population by 2030. To improve speed, reliability and accessibility on the bus network, the STL recently implemented preferential bus measures including 227 smart traffic lights that communicate with buses.

In the long term, these large-scale projects will be beneficial to public transit in Laval. These preferential bus measures will ensure improvement to the network's performance, save time for riders and encourage current and future urban development.



- For more information, visit [stl.laval.qc.ca](http://stl.laval.qc.ca) or call
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# Laval receives \$18.2 million to help restore Val-Martin social housing

MARTIN C. BARRY

Although the City of Laval got the go-ahead last week to build 124 new units at the long-neglected Val-Martin social housing project thanks to \$18.2 million from Quebec and Ottawa, the number still falls far short of a 1,000-unit goal to match Laval's needs, according to Mayor Marc Demers.

Federal Minister of Families, Children and Social Development Jean-Yves Duclos and Quebec Minister of Municipal Affairs Martin Coiteux were at the Habitation Raymond-Goyer in Chomedey on Jan. 16 to announce more than \$407 million in funding over two years for the creation of additional affordable and social housing across the province.

## Needed: 1,000 units social housing

Questioned by the Laval News about the city's projected requirements in social housing, Demers cited a report issued by Laval a few months ago. "The needs are about 1,000," he said, while pointing out that Ottawa, Quebec and the city agree this is only the first installment of several over the next few years which should bring the number of completed social housing units in Laval much closer to the target.

Nonetheless, Demers was visibly pleased with the commitment made by Quebec and Ottawa, following years of buck-passing and foot-dragging over which government bore more responsibility for social housing. All the while, the Val-Martin housing project deteriorated to the point a large number of its units became mould-infested and uninhabitable and had to be boarded over.

"What's happening today is strongly symbolic of the willingness of the three levels of government to take on a problem that unfortunately afflicts society all across the country, in the province and in Laval," said Demers. "Laval will stand out as a symbol showing there is willingness to solve the problem of affordable social housing."

## \$407 million for the province

The two governments maintain that their investments will help improve access to affordable and social housing for households in need, particularly by supporting seniors and victims of family violence while addressing repairs of existing social housing. The

work, which will begin in the summer of 2017, will be carried out over a two-year period.

Under the agreement, \$286 million is being committed by Ottawa and \$121 million by Quebec. The announcement was made near the site of Immeubles Val-Martin. Also on hand were Vimy MP Eva Nassif, as well as Francine Charbonneau, Minister responsible for Seniors and Anti-Bullying and Minister responsible for the Laval region and many other elected officials.

"Our government is committed to investing in affordable housing, strengthening our communities and helping to create jobs and grow the middle class and those working hard to join it," Duclos said, adding that the federal government hoped to provide better lodging for families, seniors and individuals while laying a strong foundation for a sustainable economic future.

## Val-Martin serves as example

"This agreement will help Quebec build and renovate more social and affordable housing units, while keeping all the flexibility needed to prioritize and develop major projects," said Coiteux. "The case of Immeubles Val-Martin is a great example of what we can do with this funding. The funding announced today is in addition to the hundreds of millions of dollars invested every year by the Government of Quebec in support of Quebec households in need of affordable housing."

"Our government is working alongside the Quebec government in order to give people living in Quebec greater access to affordable housing, and to make improvements to social housing. We are committed to grow the economy while strengthening our communities, including Vimy," said Eva Nassif, MP for the riding of Vimy where the Val-Martin housing project is located.

## Was hard work for Ouellette

Chomedey MNA Guy Ouellette said he felt it was an especially important moment. "In the 10 years I've been in politics, it's 10 years we've been talking about Val-Martin and 10 years we've been pushing this file," he said, while adding that he found it meaningful that the federal and provincial officials chose Laval to announce the funding envelope for the entire province.

The province wide funding includes \$48.4 million to support the construction, repair and adaptation of affordable housing for

seniors; \$22.2 million to support the construction and renovation of shelters and transition houses for victims of family violence; \$94.5 million to help address the demand for repairs as social housing units age and to improve efficiency and reduce energy and water use; and \$242.4 million as part of the commitment to double current funding levels under the IAH Agreement to increase the supply of affordable housing in Quebec.

# Canada Summer Jobs application period has been extended until February 3, 2017

To get a greater number of Canadian youth working this summer, the deadline for the Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) employer application period has been extended. All not-for-profit organizations, public-sector employers and small businesses with up to 50 employees will have another two-weeks to apply for funding from the Government of Canada.

The Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) program creates summer job opportunities and valuable work experience for full-time students aged 15 to 30 years old.

For information contact your local MPs office.

- Angelo Iacono, M.P. for Alfred Pellan: 450 661-4117
- Fayçal El-Khoury, M.P. for Laval-Les-Iles : 450 689-4594
- Eva Nassif M.P. for Vimy: 450 967 3641
- Yves Robillard, MP for Marc-Aurèle-Fortin: 450 622-2992



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# Demers supports Federation of Canadian Municipalities' efforts



*Says Ottawa needs to spend more on mass transit and social housing*

(TLN) "In 2016, the government of Canada demonstrated that it knew how to listen to cities. For 2017, we are asking it to seize the occasion to propel us definitively into the future with massive investments in affordable housing as well as mass transit."

tics, it's a question of children, women and men who we must support so that the country can consolidate its resources and establish itself on a solid base for the 21<sup>st</sup> century," continued Demers.

## One voiced needed

It was with these words that Laval mayor Marc Demers stated his reasons for being present at the recent meeting of the big cities caucus of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

"It is important that we speak with one voice and clearly, and that is the case with our caucus as regards affordable social housing, mass transit and climate change," added Demers, while referring to an FCM policy document containing their budget recommendations for 2017.

Addressed to the federal government, the recommendations were based on observations made by cities all over the country. They were taken to Ottawa by the mayors. "Beyond statis-

## Met Justin Trudeau

The FCM meeting was also a privileged opportunity for the mayors to meet Prime Minister Justin Trudeau as well as key players from the federal government who are partners with the country's cities, noted Demers. Regarding mass transit, Demers joined his colleagues in demanding that the federal government make the most of phase two of a long-term infrastructure agreement with the cities.

He pointed out that more than \$10 billion annually is lost because of traffic problems that are gradually choking the cities. "Facilitating traffic is a strategic goal for the coherent and structured development of all the cities," said Demers, adding that the government should be encouraged to invest even more in mass transit.

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# Agape gets \$450 donation from Abord-à-Plouffe councillor

## 'Agape is at the top of my list,' says Vasilios Karidogiannis

MARTIN C. BARRY

While the month of January can be a dull and depressing time of the year, a hopeful ray of light shone for the staff and clients at Agape in Chomedey last week when city councillor Vasilios Karidogiannis dropped by with a \$450 donation to the charitable services group.

### First time for everything

Although it was the first time Karidogiannis, who represents the district of l'Abord-à-Plouffe, made a donation to Agape, he said it's something that will probably be an annual tradition from now on.

"We're allocated a certain amount of money every year to help support our community organizations, and it's up to us to find which ones need support," he said. "Agape is at the top of my list. This is the first year, but hopefully not the last. And hopefully we can make this donation grow somehow."

### A friend to Agape

"I'm always offering a helping hand whenever Betty needs something," Karidogiannis continued, referring to the organization's secretary-treasurer Elizabeth McLeod. "It's not always easy, but I try to help as much as I can. They're also my neighbours because I live just down the street. The people that Agape helps are also my neighbours. And you never know when you may also be in a position to needs Agape's help."

Agape was just one on a list of eight or nine



charitable organizations that benefited from donations from Councillor Karidogiannis. They included local community supermarket Au Panier de Chomedey on Lévesque Blvd. West. "I had four-and-half thousand dollars at my disposal this year and it was partitioned to as many groups and organizations as possible," he said. "And hopefully next year it'll be for even more."

### Praises anglo services group

He praised Agape for being the only group of its kind in Chomedey to stand up for the rights of its principal clients. "It's the only anglo services community organization in the neighbourhood, which is very important since the anglophone community is growing," said

Karidogiannis.

In an interview with the Laval News, McLeod said the money "will help us feed more people. We have more refugees and immigrants coming in. We have people who arrived in this country last year who are no longer receiving support and they're starting to come to us now. So every penny that we receive now really helps us to feed everyone who comes in to us."

### Ongoing refugee crisis

While maintaining that the refugee situation hasn't changed much since last year at this time when it was being treated as a crisis, she added, "we sort of got used to dealing with it. We've kept most of the families who arrived. The bigger crisis happens when they've been

here a year and their support runs out. They're learning French, but they can't find a job. That's when they become eligible to apply for welfare which is not a large enough amount of money to survive.

"So we have to continue seeing to their needs, feeding and clothing them. I don't see an improvement over last year, but I do see a regular flow continuing of what started for us last year. We have to bear in mind through this that we still have our regulars. Some of our people can't work because they have severe handicaps and restrictions for work. Others suffer from mental health issues. We have to take care of all of them. These are some of the biggest challenges we face."

### A tight financial situation

All this being said, Agape is not anticipating any major increases in subsidies or donations in the near future, McLeod continued. "I would love to say yes, that all kinds of money is coming in and we can all be happy about it, but this is not the movies."

"Our biggest concern is to make sure that we can keep our heads above water," she said. "Being the secretary-treasurer, of course, I always feel the big responsibility of seeing that our financial affairs stay proper. But the money just doesn't come in. We've been operating at loss for a few years. We promised our chartered accountant that this year we would break even, but I don't know if that's going to happen."



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## Police Seek Potential Victims of Extortionist Trio

Jan 17 – Laval police are looking for other potential victims of three moneylenders turned extortionists.

According to police, Christopher Morales-Atkinson, 29, Michael John Gordon, 33, and Avadis Minassian, 42, would threaten, harass and assault people for reimbursement of money they had been loaned at illegal interest rates. When customers could not repay the loan sharks, they would be pressed to commit criminal acts, such as fraud or arson, to erase the debt. The incidents took place between 2011

and 2016. Police believe there may be other extortion victims from the Laval and Montreal regions.

The three men appeared at the Laval courthouse facing various charges including extortion, incitement to commit a criminal act and possession of fraudulent documents. They are scheduled to return to court on March 1 and 14.

Anyone with information is urged to call 450-662-INFO (4636) or 911 and mention the file LVL 161214 033. All calls are confidential.



### Thrown Beer Bottle Leads to Assault Charges

Jan 23 – Four people were arrested on assault charges early Monday morning after assaulting a man on the street for having thrown a beer bottle at their car. According to police, the incident happened around 3:40 a.m. on Boul. Ste-Rose as two men were walking along the road and were almost struck by a car. One man threw a beer bottle at the car, and the driver then turned the car around and began to follow the pedestrians. Three men emerged from the vehicle and assaulted the man who had thrown the glass projectile, leaving him with bruises, lacerations, and head injuries, before fleeing in their vehicle.

Witnesses called 911 and police were able to easily track the car's tire prints to a house a few streets away because of the newly fallen snow. Four individuals were arrested: 3 men, and the driver, a woman in her 40s. The driver faces charges of impaired driving and armed assault. Charges against the other three were not yet determined.

### Two Cars Set on Fire in Laval-Ouest

Jan 22 – Firefighters and police were called to the site of yet another criminally set fire, this time aimed at the two cars parked in a residential driveway at 7580 André-Breton St. in Laval-Ouest. At about 2:30 a.m. firefighters arrived at the scene to discover to vehicles, an Audi Q5 and a Dodge Ram, on fire in front of the single-family dwelling. The car shelter was also ablaze. Firefighters quickly subdued the flames and discovered a gas can that had been left near the cars. The case was promptly transferred to LPD's arson investigators.

### Man Falls to Death from 12th Floor

Jan 19 – Police are investigating the suspicious circumstances surrounding the death of a

26-year-old man in Chomedey. The man fell from a 12th-floor balcony of a building on du Havre Ave. in the wee hours last Thursday morning. 911 received a call from a neighbour who had heard the fall at 4:16 a.m.

First responders found the man in cardio-respiratory arrest and transported him to hospital. He died of his injuries.

### Romcafé Targeted in Mafia-Related Fires

Jan 17 – The arson squad were called in to investigate another firebombing at a Laval restaurant. RomCafé, located on Boul. des Laurentides, also hit with a Molotov cocktail back in June 2015, was once again set alight by an incendiary device early Tuesday morning. A passer-by noticed flames inside the Romcafé restaurant and alerted 911. Upon arrival, police officers noted the restaurant's front window had been smashed. Firefighters extinguished the blaze within 20 minutes. Sprinklers inside Romcafé apparently prevented the fire from getting out of control.

According to police sources, many known members of the Montreal Mafia frequented the restaurant.

### 3-Car Pile-Up Causes 1 Fatality

Jan 15 – Police are investigating a fatal crash that took place on Highway 335 that claimed the life of a 60-year-old man and sent two others to hospital. The 3-vehicle crash happened around 5:30 p.m. on Saturday. Two vehicles collided head-on before crashing into a third car. All five occupants of the third car walked away from the crash without injuries. The cause of the crash is still unknown.



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# Community UPCOMING EVENTS

## NEW ACTIVITIES AT THE CENTRE DU SABLON

In the new year, explore your "inner-artist" and drop by the Drop-In Painting/Creative Workshop, which begins on Friday, January 20, at the Centre du Sablon, 755 du Sablon, Chomedey, from 10 a.m. to noon, for those using the acrylic medium, water colors, drawing/sketching. No instructor - artists-helping-artists. Participants must supply their own material. No charge membership to the Centre du Sablon is required. All welcome. For

further information, contact Joannie Ouellet, 450-688-8961

## FLYING SOLO: WIDOW/WIDOWERS GROUP, TUESDAYS, 1-3 P.M.

A self-help social discussion group for widows and widowers. Participants will set the pace of the discussions and plan meetings, which take place on Tuesday from 1-3 p.m..

Participants must be members of the Centre du Sablon. Contact Joannie Ouellet, 450-688-8961 for further information

# City seeks 75,000 signatures for Jeux du Québec petition

## Laval hopes to play host for provincial games in 2020



(TLN) Mayor Marc Demers launched an appeal to all residents as well as elected officials during the January city council meeting that they support Laval's bid to host the 55th Jeux du Québec Finals during the summer of 2020.

"All Laval residents are invited to sign the online petition at [www.2020.laval.ca](http://www.2020.laval.ca) to demonstrate to Sports Québec that Laval is the region that can organize from beginning to end an event of this scope," Demers declared proudly.

For Laval's candidacy, Olympic diver Roseline Filion, who won two medals at the 2016 Rio Games, agreed to join other supporters in backing the city's bid.

### Motivating the athletes

Having been a participant from Laval in the Jeux du Québec Finals in Chaudière-Appalaches in 1997, Filion said she understands the importance that moments such as those experienced by young athletes at these events can have on their sense of motivation and performance.

The Jeux du Québec Finals is the single largest multisport event held in Quebec, taking in more

than 3,500 athletes from 19 regions in the province. Over the years, regions and cities all over Quebec have hosted the event, which is said to generate more than \$12 million in related economic activity while welcoming more than 135,000 people.

### Show of support needed

From now to next September, the City of Laval will have to show that it has the support for an application to host the event of at least 75,000 local people. The number was set by a candidacy committee put into place last November. At least 20 per cent of Laval's population must express interest so that the city's candidacy can be considered seriously by Sports Québec.

The city says that supporting Laval 2020 online will take just 20 seconds of your time. At the same time, the mayor and other elected officials on city council are inviting everyone to come sign the flag of the region of Laval which will be on display on Feb. 6 during the afternoon at Carrefour Laval along with Roseline Filion.

## THE LAVAL news Celebrations

Steven-Ace

3 years ago you came to our lives and change our world... You may be a kid, but you affected so many lives already. You are our little angel who always turn a bad day to a day full of sunshine. Your laugh is infectious! I hope you will continue spreading good cheers to people around you as you grow old. Happy Birthday Steven Ace Mommy, Daddy and I sabella

Welcome to the double digits buddy-boy! Your such and amazing boy and we love you with all our hearts. As you enter the double digits we wish you all the health and happiness in the world.

All the love Ariana, Mommy and Enzzzzzzzzz.

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## No Leg To Stand On

I have been married to a controlling man for five years. We have two beautiful children. He doesn't want me wearing certain clothes, won't let me go out to the club with my family and doesn't want me to go to college. I finally got him to "let me" go to the gym.

Things have gotten abusive since the nine years we've been together, and it was him physically attacking me. Lately, we have lost chemistry. We don't even walk side by side. We both do our separate thing on our phones and we really don't spend much time together.

So, I play a certain game on my phone that also has open chat and here comes Prince Charming. We have lots in common. He's 13 years older than me, has much more life experience and he's easy on the eyes. He lives 1,000 miles away but plans to come visit one day. He feels there is a bond between us.

I may be having an emotional affair with this guy and I know it's wrong. I keep trying to forget about

him but I can't. I finally got my hubby to agree to me going back to school after a couple of arguments, and I do plan on leaving him once I finish.

He doesn't know that yet, but my family is making me feel bad by wanting to divorce him because he is a good provider. I am a stay at home mom. Should I leave this other man alone or continue to talk to him as a "friend"?

Brittany

*Brittany, the science fiction writer Jerry Pournelle said, "In any ethical situation, the thing you want least to do is probably the right action."*

*Your letter starts on the ethical high ground. My husband is abusive, controlling and jealous. Then it descends to the low ground. I get to take a new lover, I get to plot behind my husband's back, I get to use my husband until I am ready to leave.*

*The right response to someone jealous or abusive or controlling is, stop this or it's over. Or if you*

*marriage is merely unhappy, the right response is, if we can't get this train back on the rails, in a year or two I will file for divorce.*

*But that's not what you are saying. You are saying things are so much under your control you can execute plans for the future at your leisure. You can't defend yourself from doing wrong by listing what someone else did wrong. That's a child's argument. "Billy started it."*

*We can't tell if your husband is jealous because he is jealous, or if his jealousy is simply an observation. "I know you don't have the scruples I do." If it wasn't in your nature to consider cheating, the last thing you would want to do would be to prove him right.*

*If he is "physically abusive," why would you put your kids and yourself in jeopardy? If that's a fact, why aren't you alarmed and why do you still call him "my hubby?"*

*Be honest with yourself. Who drove this*

*relationship to marriage? We ask because the one who drives a marriage to occur is often the one who will drive it to divorce. That party can so easily disconnect because it is a matter of what they wanted then and what they want now.*

*You paint your husband with an ugly brush, but you don't claim he would cheat. We suppose you think you are the aggrieved party here, but aggrieved parties don't get to respond by committing fraud and adultery.*

*It's time to face the ethical question. Why do you let him continue to think he is in a marriage while you secretly plan your divorce?*

*As Jerry Pournelle might have said, why are you doing the wrong thing? Because it is easy.*

Wayne & Tamara



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**0830 PUBLIC NOTICES**  
**PRENEZ AVIS** que Jacqueline Marangos, dont l'adresse du domicile est le 1720, rue du Portage, Laval, Québec H7Y 2A4, présentera au Directeur de l'état civil, en sa qualité de mère, une demande pour changer les noms de Julian Havitov et de Nathaniel Havitov en ceux de Julian Vasilius Havitov et de Nathaniel Arie Havitov, dont l'adresse du domicile est le 1720, rue du Portage, Laval, Québec H7Y 2A4. Laval, le 25 janvier, 2017

**PRENEZ AVIS** que Harmanjit Singh, dont l'adresse du domicile est le 471, rue des Alismas, Laval, Québec H7X 4G9, présentera au Directeur de l'état civil une demande pour changer son nom en celui de Harmanjit Singh Rakhra. Laval, le 3 décembre 2016

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**LAST ISSUE'S ANSWERS FOR**

**CROSSWORDS**

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

**Sudoku**

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

**IN MEMORIAM & OBITUARIES**

**DI TOMASO, Lina**  
**1929 - 2017**  
Passed suddenly, on Monday, January 9, 2017 at home, a few months before her 88th birthday. Beloved and devoted wife of the late Nicola. She is survived and much loved by her children Maria (Mariano Cianci), Tony (Lisa Di Marco) and Anna (Richard McDonald). Proud Nonna of Nicholas (Sylvia), Eric (Alexandra), Alexandre (Jennifer), Daniel (Amanda), Elizabeth (Jon), Carina (Isa), Catherine, and Great-Grandmother of Mackenzie, Jaxson, Mila and Axel Di Tomaso. She will also be deeply missed by her Sister Selia, sister-in-law, nieces, nephews and friends.

**GANGL, Erwin**  
Erwin Gangl, 88, of Laval, Quebec, passed away peacefully on January 18, 2017 at the l'Hôpital de la Cité-de-la-Santé in Laval. Born in Kapfenberg, Austria to Josef and Elisabeth Gangl, he immigrated to Canada in the early 50's and lived most of his adult life in the Montreal and Laval region. Here, he met and married Lotte Bregler, worked at Cercast, and welcomed two sons. Erwin was loyal and dedicated to his family and friends. As a younger man he loved to ski, play soccer and travel. Later in life he looked forward to his card games and trips up north. He was known for his green thumb, generosity, laughter, and sociability. Erwin was predeceased by his parents, sister Herma, and his wife Lotte (1997). He is survived by sons Norman of Edmonton (Norma-Jean Baber), Manfred of Halifax (Alison DeLory) and grandsons Jackson, Curtis, Eric. The family is deeply indebted to his special friend Vera, who cared for him so dearly in recent years. Erwin also leaves extended family in Austria and Germany including two nephews and in-laws, and many other friends.

**KRIARIS, Nikolaos**  
**1927 - 2017**  
Passed away peacefully on January 3rd, 2017 in his 89th year. Nikolaos Kriaris is survived by his loving wife Anna Kriaris, caring father of Denis (Louise) and Kosta (Cathy). Devoted grandfather of Rosemary, Nicholas (Frederika), Michael (Maria), Nick (Meghan) Christopher, and great-grandfather to Lili and Priscilla.

**OLIVANTI, Maria**  
**1930 - 2017**  
In Laval, January 3, 2017, at the age of 86 years, Maria Tenti, wife of the late Valter Olivanti passed away. She leaves to mourn her children Simonetta (Michele Di Biase) and Cristina (Christian Matz), her grandchildren Laura, Cristina, Olivia, Giulia and Alexander, as well as many relatives and friends in Canada and Italy.

**ROACH, George**  
**1927 - 2016**  
Peacefully on Saturday, December 31, 2016 at the age of eighty-nine. He will be sadly missed by his beloved wife of fifty-seven years, Evana Roach. Proud father of Kathy (Leroy Griffith) and Christopher Vaughn (Farah Francis). Loving grandfather of Cody, Zoey-Starr and Théolo Vaughn. Cousin to Alfred, Gladys and James Duberry. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him. The family wishes to thank the staff of the CHSLD de Laval.

**VARELAS, Athanasios**  
**1922 - 2017**  
Athanasios left us with serenity and courage on January 14 at the age of 94. He was the cherished husband of Besi Veli, beloved father and father-in-law to John and Alexandra, George and Demetra, beloved grandfather to Stefanie, Deana, Tom and Christian. He will be sadly missed by sisters Eftichia and Anastasia, nephews, nieces and friends.

Contact us today to place an obituary or in memoriam  
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## RESIDENT EVIL: THE FINAL CHAPTER 3D

13+ | 1 hr 46 mins | Thriller-Horror |



Picking up immediately after the events in Resident Evil: Retribution, Alice (Milla Jovovich) is the only survivor of what was meant to be humanity's final stand against the undead. Now, she must return to where the nightmare began - The Hive in Raccoon City, where the Umbrella Corporation is gathering its forces for a final strike against the only remaining survivors of the apocalypse.

## SPLIT

13+ | 1 hr 57 mins | Thriller-Horror |



Writer/director/producer M. Night Shyamalan returns to the captivating grip of The Sixth Sense, Unbreakable and Signs with Split, an original thriller that delves into the mysterious recesses of one man's fractured, gifted mind. Following last year's breakout hit The Visit, Shyamalan reunites with producer Jason Blum (The Purge and Insidious series, The Gift) for the film. While the mental divisions of those with dissociative identity disorder have long fascinated and eluded science, it is believed that some can also manifest unique physical attributes for each personality, a cognitive and physiological prism within a single being.

## XXX: THE RETURN OF XANDER CAGE

G | 1 hr 47 mins | Action-Thriller |



After coming out of self-imposed exile, daredevil operative Xander Cage (Vin Diesel) must race against time to recover a sinister weapon known as Pandora's Box, a device that controls every military satellite in the world. Recruiting a new group of thrill-seeking cohorts, Xander finds himself entangled in a deadly conspiracy that points to collusion at the highest levels of government.

## THE FOUNDER

G | 1 hr 55 mins | Drama |



The unlikely true story of a 52 year old travelling salesman with withering prospects who stumbled upon a burger stand in the middle of nowhere and turned it into the global empire we know today as McDonald's.

## UNDERWORLD: BLOOD WARS 3D

13+ | 1 hr 31 mins | Horror |



Death dealer Selene (Kate Beckinsale) must fend off brutal attacks from both the Lycan clan and the vampire faction that betrayed her. Joining forces with allies David (Theo James) and Thomas (Charles Dance), she embarks on a quest to end the eternal war between the two races, even if it means making the ultimate sacrifice.

## HIDDEN FIGURES

G | 2 hrs 07 mins | Drama |



HIDDEN FIGURES is the incredible untold story of Katherine Johnson (Taraji P. Henson), Dorothy Vaughn (Octavia Spencer) and Mary Jackson (Janelle Monáe)—brilliant African-American women working at NASA, who served as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: the launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit, a stunning achievement that restored the nation's confidence, turned around the Space Race, and galvanized the world. The visionary trio crossed all gender and race lines to inspire generations to dream big.

## LA LA LAND

G | 2 hrs 08 mins | Romantic-Drama |



The story of Mia, an aspiring actress, and Sebastian, a dedicated jazz musician, struggling to make ends meet while pursuing their dreams in a city known for destroying hopes and breaking hearts. With modern day Los Angeles as the backdrop, this musical about everyday life explores what is more important: a once-in-a-lifetime love or the spotlight.

# YOUR HOROSCOPE

for the week of January 29 to February 4, 2017

The luckiest signs this week: Gemini, Cancer & Leo



### ARIES

You'll need an energy boost to find your wits and to eliminate all forms of procrastination. You'll then become frighteningly efficient, especially when starting new projects.



### TAURUS

A crowd will surround you at all times and you won't always know how to navigate it. At work, your clients will often be confusing and vague in their requests.



### GEMINI

You could be offered a noteworthy promotion at work. Before you accept it you should discuss the pros and cons with your partner and family.



### CANCER

You'll start feeling the winter blues even more this week, which will prompt you to start shopping around for a much-needed vacation to a sunny destination.



### LEO

You'll be particularly sensitive this week and your feelings could play a few tricks on you. You'll shed some light on a fraudulent situation at work — or perhaps even in your family.



### VIRGO

You'll absolutely need to sharpen your negotiating skills, in both your personal and your professional life. You'll have everything you need to seal the deal and make it last.



### LIBRA

You'll be the centre of attention this week. You'll be glad about it and you may even get a few rewards from the situation. You could find yourself celebrating a promotion at work.



### SCORPIO

If your health is even slightly fragile, you should get some rest. Fortunately, the hours you sleep will count for double and you'll quickly bounce back from illness.



### SAGITTARIUS

If you've had company recently, your house is probably a real mess. Plan on lots of cleaning this week. Thorough housekeeping is necessary, but getting it done will free your mind considerably.



### CAPRICORN

You won't mince your words and could say out loud what everyone else is simply thinking. You could also spontaneously write a poem or say something that will be heard around the world.



### AQUARIUS

A financial problem will be cause for concern. It will probably be a simple mistake — a bill that wasn't intended for you, for example — and you'll quickly be feeling joyful again.



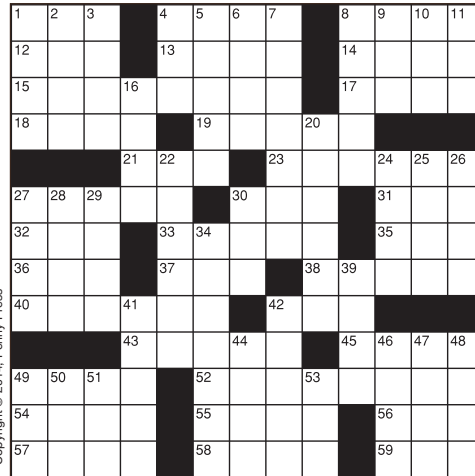
### PISCES

There will be a lot going on this week. Your friends will invite you out and you'll no longer act like a shut-in. Someone will persuade you to sign up for a regular group activity.

# Coffee break

## CROSSWORDS

PUZZLE NO. 855



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### ACROSS

1. Farm animal
4. Taunt
8. Muffet's snack
12. Live
13. Per
14. \_\_\_\_ the last laugh
15. Light purple
17. Service concluder
18. Dog's hounder
19. Proclamation
21. Fishing gear
23. Defeated team
27. Texas dish
30. 100%
31. Twosome
32. Fink
33. Lariat
35. Feeling rotten
36. Umpire's cry
37. Bother
38. Registered
40. Storage space
42. Workout room
43. Essential

### DOWN

45. Snacks
49. Roman garment
52. Daughter's husband: hyph.
54. Stunned
55. Adorn
56. Age
57. Remove from print
58. Trickle
59. Watch secretly

16. British noble
20. Settlement
22. Greasier
24. Make ready to publish
25. Guideline
26. Hawked
27. Gator's kin
28. Drag
29. "Leave \_\_\_\_ Beaver": 2 wds.
30. Request
34. Painters, e.g.
39. Portent
41. Digging tool
42. Lamp spirit
44. In addition
46. Malt drinks
47. Field cover
48. Rock back and forth
49. Small amount
50. Be obliged to pay
51. Toothpaste option
53. Gremlin

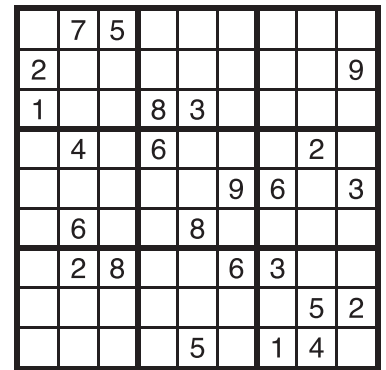
# Sudoku

PUZZLE NO. 591

### 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.**



# JOKES

### REAL PEARLS

Two older women who were rivals in a social circle met at a party.

"My dear," said the first woman "Are those real pearls?"

"They are," replied the second woman.

"Of course the only way I could tell would be for me to bite them," smiled the first woman.

The second responded, "Yes, but for that you would need real teeth."

### THE LOST TALKING BIRD

My father's secretary was visibly distraught one morning when she arrived at the office and explained that her children's parrot had escaped from his cage and flown out an open window. Of all the dangers the tame bird would face outdoors alone, she seemed most concerned about what would happen if the bird started talking.

Confused, my father asked what the parrot could say. "Well," she explained, "he mostly says, 'Here, kitty, kitty, kitty.'"

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