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Mid-December 2019



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Christmas with the Brodies

By **DON FENNELL OPP OPP**

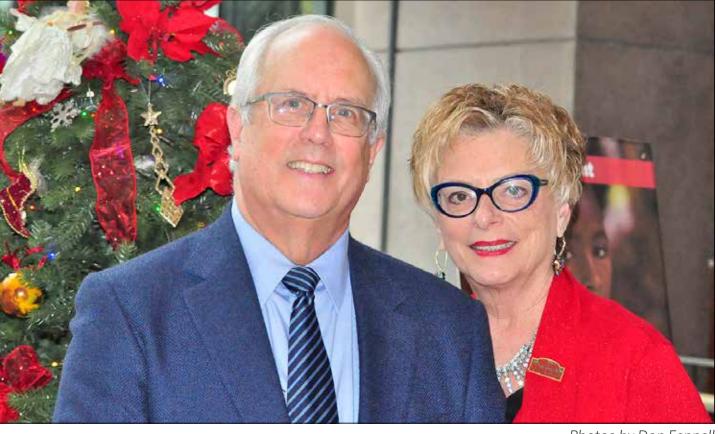
t's long been said that home is where the heart is, an ancient proverb that Malcolm and Christine Brodie embrace.

Amidst their busy lives, centered around serving others, the holiday season holds special meaning.

"The greatest gifts of all are the experiences we have together ever year-whenever and wherever we are at Christmas. These memories will last over many lifetimes, and have built our strong family relationships," they say.

Since 2009, when their first grandchild was born, the popular and highly-respected Richmond couple's fondest Christmas memories have been spending the holidays with their family that includes son Garrett, daughter Stephanie, and three grandchildren Kayla, Matthew and Brodie. But as the family resides both locally, in California (where Christine grew up) and Lloydminster, Sask., the location and timing of celebrating and being together has often varied.

When they are able to get togeth-



Photos by Don Fennell

Malcolm and Christine Brodie look forward to spending Christmas with family and friends.

er, they enjoy many holiday traditions that extend from Malcolm and Christine's own childhoods. They include

Mayor Malcolm Brodie tickles the ivories at the opening of Winter Wonderland.

grandkids on Christmas Eve, reading Christmas books, and watching holiday movies together. A Christmas tree—sometimes more than one—is standard fare, with lots of food, cooking together and plenty of laughing plays the piano.

Christmas Eve also sees the family gather to make cinnamon buns from scratch, let them rise overnight, and then bake them on Christmas morning while the kids open their stockings. The family then enjoys the cinnamon buns with freshly-squeezed orange juice and coffee for breakfast.

"Celebrating with friends and family is the best gift we can give and receive," says Christine. "We are very thankful for all the memories past too, and miss those friends and family who have passed away."

Tireless contributors to their com-

new pajamas for the kids and now munity, the Brodies have resided in Richmond since 1977. Christine has been a dedicated supporter of kids at risk as a educator in the Richmond School District, while Malcolm, a lawyer by profession, is the second-longest serving mayor of BC's fourth-largand singing of carols as Malcolm est city since winning a by-election in 2001. He was first elected to council in

> The Brodies also enjoy taking in local plays, Christmas concerts and sharing many meals together, says Christine. Steadfast in their belief that giving to others and spending time volunteering is important, they enthusiastically support non-profits throughout the year who strive to make everyday life better for so many families.

> "We also attend so many wonderful Richmond holiday parties and charity events for the support of others. This is the spirit of Christmas for us."

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Richmond-raised Ajaye Jardine rising

By **DON FENNELL** @DFSentinel

hen Ajaye Jardine broke up with ${f V}$ a longtime boyfriend and headed to Nashville, it had all the makings of a traditional country song.

Only the BC Country Music Association's reigning Female Artist of the Year isn't your conventional country artist; her style better described as modern country-pop.

Rapidly building a reputation as an outstanding vocalist, songwriter and entertainer both in Canada and the United States, she has developed an engaging sound influenced by Sheryl Crow, Brandi Carlile, and Emmylou Harris. But she uses her unique and personal creative vision to remain authentically original.

Growing up on Canada's West Coast, in the farming and fishing village-turned-urban-metropolis of Richmond, she enjoyed an eclectic taste in music largely influenced by that of her parents.

"I listened to a wide range of music growing up-pop, classic rock, country," she says."My direction as an artist, especially my upcoming work, integrates all the genres I've listened to over the years, to create a sound and style that's uniquely mine."

Also nominated for Record of the Year by the Tennessee Songwriters Association International, and featured on "Today in Nashville", Jardine's single"Fill it up Again" (from the album Midnight & Bourbon) has received more than 100,000 streams on Spotify. And as part of her new project The Demo Files, she is releasing new songs each month exclusively through her online community "Team Jardine" at https://mailchi.mp/609822f8ef8a/ teamiardine.

"I'm a huge fan of artists like Brandi Carlile and Kacey Musgraves," she volunteers."I've followed their careers for years and I'm continuously inspired by

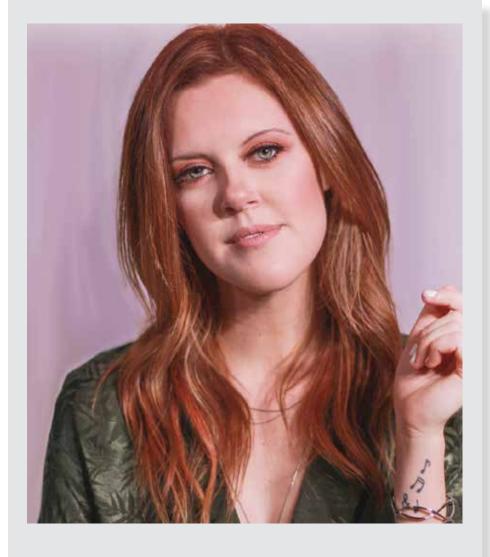


Photo by Georgia Dominelli

Having been compared to Sheryl Crow, Richmond singer-songwriter Ajaye Jardine, the reigning BC Country Music Association Female Artist of the Year, is making a name for herself in country music.

their authenticity."

to, reflect a similar mindset.

"Each song I write, whether on my own or with co-writers, comes from a truly emotional place," explains Jardine, a graduate of McNair Secondary's mini school program, and holder of a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Simon Fraser University.

How long the songwriting takes

depends on several factors, she says. Her songs, all of which she relates Sometimes it's 30 months, other times it's three months.

> "I think the first step is coming from a place of honest emotion," Jardine says. "We all experience heartbreak. We all love the feeling of joy and success. We all face disappointment. As an artist, it's my responsibility to be vulnerable through songwriting to create a safe space where others can

come to the realization that no one is alone; we're all in this together. I relate to all of my songs, because each song I write, whether on my own or with co-writers, comes from a true emotional place."

Jardine made her first trip to Nashville six years ago knowing she would

Each song I write, whether on my own or with co-writers, comes from a truly emotional place.

- Ajaye Jardine

eventually return. Last year, she took the leap of faith and moved to the country music capital.

"I live by the words my dad has always told me: You never want to look back on your life and wonder, What

Jardine says being an artist is to be vulnerable, honest, and an inspiration to others through her actions.

"I take my work seriously, I love what I do and I love who I am because of my commitment to my art," she says, glancing in the direction of her BC Country Music Association award. "I use it as a reminder that I'm doing what I'm meant to be doing. It inspires me to keep writing songs and digging to the core of my artistry. It reminds me on both the challenging and successful days that my path as an artist is bigger than myself."

Jardine has received multiple BC Country Music Award nominations over the years, and performed at both the 2017 and 2018 award shows. She's also collaborated with Aaron Grain of the award-winning Canadian country trio The Washboard Union (2017), and was a finalist for Canadian

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up the country charts in Nashville









publishing company Anthem Enter- turn at the mic, as young as six-yearstainment (previously Ole Publishing) in 2016. Additional highlights include performing alongside the legendary Steve Earle (Sixthman's Cayamo) at such iconic venues as The Listening Room and The Bluebird Cafe in Nashville. Currently, she hosts and performs at her weekly writer's night The NashUp 615 (Alley Taps) and at Blake Shelton's Ole Red.

"Ajaye (has) always (been) around music," notes her mom Cherelle. "Her dad and I used to have some awesome house parties with all our musician friends and we would play music all night long. Ajaye would take her

old. I knew music was in her blood. I made her take piano lessons (Royal Conservatory) at five, knowing that it would give her a good base knowledge of music and playing an instrument. Fast forward to post-secondary, I gave her my Ovation guitar to take to SFU which she picked up and taught herself to play."

Ajaye was in her late teens when she joined her mom in the alternative country mother-daughter group known as The Jardines. In their years together, Cherelle delighted in watching her daughter's confidence grow. It was also a time when Ajaye was introduced to performing on large stages from the Merritt Mountain Music Festival to the opening ceremonies of the 2010 Olympics.

"When we were recording the second album Someone's Stolen Tuesday in 2011, Ajaye was hitting her stride," Cherelle says. "For her graduation, I took Ajaye to Nashville and that's when the bug really hit her. We were on our way to a gig in Louisiana and on the drive there she told me that she wanted to be a solo artist and explore Nashville. As much as it broke my heart, I saw the fire in her eyes when she talked about it and I knew that has taught me so much about myself." she had to follow her dreams. I know

I'm her mom, but honestly she's an extraordinary songwriter and an outstanding performer. I have no doubt she will accomplish anything she puts her mind to."

"My mom is an incredible woman and creative influence," Jardine says. "She helped me build a foundation including our time with The Jardines, and from there has been an incredible support and confidant on my path. (Coming to Nashville) has been the greatest decision I've made for myself. Any path that is unknown comes with highs and lows, but every experience

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Planning to give the gift of life

By LORRAINE GRAVES @LGSentinel

hristmas takes on a special mean-✓ing when the best gift you ever received was the gift of health and a normal life.

Eleven years ago, Rob Hammerschmidt received a kidney from his

He remembers the holidays in 2008. His kidney function was failing. They had been killed off by a congenital condition. Born with the problem, after many surgeries there was nothing more they could do. Things were shutting down and Hammerschmidt did not feel well.

"I was off for that Christmas," he says." I spent the time with my family and my dad. I had my transplant right after Christmas."

What was it like when he woke up?

"It was fantastic. I noticed a difference immediately and I would say within five days I could feel my body healthier than it had been before. It was just a matter of recovering from the surgery. I was back to work within eight or 10 weeks," he says.

Hammerschmidt was lucky. His dad was a good donor match and healthy enough to give his son one of his kidneys.

Most people are not so lucky. Hearts, lungs and many other organs cannot come from a living donor. Then there are those for whom a matched living donor does not exist.

That's where you come in. There are two things you can do this holiday season. One is to go to TakeTwoMinutes. ca and literally spend the two minutes it takes to see if you are registered as a donor and to sign up if you're not.

"You literally put in your care card number and you can check. If you're not registered to be an organ donor, you can put in that info right there and you're registered," he says.

As of this month, 1.5 million people



Photo by Kathleen Earl Photography **East Richmond** resident, Rob Hammerschmidt, has a personal reason to encourage people to sign up to be organ donors.

in B.C. have registered. That's well over one third of the province's adult population.

The second thing you can do is to speak that one sentence when you are gathered with friends and family this year: "I signed up to be an organ donor."

"The holidays are a great time to do that," says Hammerschmidt, though he recognizes that it's not the most comfortable subject to talk about. If something down the road does happen, you've been able to have that conversation with your family."

So far this year, there have been 443 transplants in B.C. but there are 759 patients still waiting on the transplant list. Were there enough suitable organs, not only would that waiting list disappear, but more people could receive their transplants before they were so acutely ill. That increases the chances that things will go well.

Because Hammerschmidt had a living donor, he never had to go onto dialysis, the life-saving treatment that is also life-altering, zapping energy tying most patients to a locale and a routine. no one wants to think about what will

If kidney transplant is not an option, happen when they pass away. the average life span of someone on dialysis, according to the National Kidnev Foundation, is five to 10 years—far less that the 11 and counting Hammerschmidt has received.

Today, Hammerschmidt enjoys travelling.

"I've been to every continent," he says, going on to list the other big things that he wouldn't have today without the transplant "I've done some pretty awesome stuff. I've gotten married, that's a really big thing. The ability the biggest thing for me."

"I ski in the winter and in the summer Lride bike."

A resident of Richmond, Hammerschmidt works as a manager at Sport-Check in Park Royal.

Today, with a family, a job and a significant commute Hammerschmidt doesn't run competitively anymore but he says,"After my transplant I was really into running. I did a bunch of races. Before the transplant, I couldn't."

Hammerschmidt understands that

But, he says, "When I'm not here, if I can change someone's life and give then a second lease on life and let them experience life fully, I would make that happen without a thought."

He says, "With my transplant, and for everyone who's gotten a transplant, it really is a second lease on life."

He says it gives the recipients, like him the ability,"To go out and do what you want to do with your life, without any restrictions."

Today, there are 5,154 alive in BC to travel and see the world has been because they received an organ trans-

> And what does he look forward to this Christmas?

Hammerschmidt says, "It means a lot to be able to spend it with my family. My dad was a teacher at Richmond High. He taught Geography and PE when he retired but had taught Socials and German and all sorts of stuff."

It sounds like, he also taught his son the meaning of giving.

Go to transplant.bc.ca for more information.

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Richmond schools filled with holiday spirit

By **DON FENNELL**

I oliday spirit fills the air at Richmond secondary schools, thanks in large part to the creativity and enthusiastic efforts of student council members.

From Bring Your Own Mug for a free hot chocolate Dec. 16 at Hugh McRoberts to partnering with Global Network to send candy grams to every student at RC Palmer, there's good cheer for all to share.

At McRoberts, this is the last Spirit Week of the decade and chock full of themes each day—including Ugly Christmas Sweater Day on Tuesday and Holiday Attire on Friday. The graduating class of 2020 is also hosting Breakfast with Santa on the last day before students enjoy a break from classes for the annual winter break. And there's also Candygrams, a McRoberts' tradition in which candy canes are bought for friends and teachers, hand-wrapped and delivered by student council elves. Every year, more than a thousand are sold.

At Palmer, the Holiday Hope Campaign and Christmas Door Decoration Competition are top of mind.

The decorating competition sees teachers decorating their classroom doors for bragging rights and a six pack of Christmas cards—featuring the winner's decorated door on the cover. Contestants will be narrowed down to the top three by student council and then voted on by the school population. The winner will be announced Dec. 19.

Hugh Boyd's festive lineup is also filled to rafters, with activities ranging from holiday karaoke to



Photo submitted

Donations are made every other day to the Holiday Hope Donation Corner at RC Palmer.

dreidel spinning and Naughty or Nice to S'winter. calendar. The music department is also presenting There'll also a Breakfast with Santa, complete with student performances and an eggnog chugging competition.

Kris Kringle, aka Santa, will also be dropping by AR MacNeill for its Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 20 at at 7:30 a.m. It's a bit early in the day, but student council notes it's the biggest holiday event on the

its annual winter concert.

At Richmond High, students will enjoy a free pancake Breakfast with Santa Dec. 20, where they can also have their picture taken with the popular personality and take in performances by peers and alumni alike.

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Christmas spirit magnified in Richmond

By **DON FENNELL**©DFSentinel

t was a cloudy November morning, the first of four registration and toy pick-up days for the Richmond Christmas Fund.

We have working

poor, we don't have a

Downtown Eastside,

so our poverty is really

spread out and we

don't see it magnified.

- Ed Gavsie

At the front of the line stood a teenaged girl, who had been waiting in line since 1:30 a.m. Her dad had dropped her off before heading off to work the night shift, before returning to join her in line to receive food gift cards and toys.

By the time Ed Gavsie and others overseeing the program arrived around 8 a.m. to prepare for distribution an hour later, the line had grown substantially longer.

"To me, it demonstrates the need for the service (which provides assistance to low-income individuals and families in Rich-

mond lacking the financial means to celebrate the holiday)," says Gavsie, president and CEO of Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives which oversees the Christmas Fund.

It also spoke to both the girl's determination to assure her two younger brothers will have a Merry Christmas, as the fund provides toys (all donated by the community) for children 11 and under as well as grocery gift certificates.

In another scenario, three siblings in foster care will enjoy a happier holiday after a Richmond school

principal notified Richmond Christmas Fund officials of their children's plight. The elementary principal visited to toy room, chose toys for each of the siblings, will wrap them and present them to the children.

Gavsie says while Richmond is an incredibly gen-

erous community, it's also clear that poverty is well hidden.

Reflecting the age-old motto that it takes a village to raise a child, it's the community as a whole that makes the Richmond Christmas Fund a success. But while contributions and volunteer to help continue to increase year over year, sadly so too apparently does the need.

Organizers are quick to note that many of those accessing the program have simply fallen on hard times, or finding it increasingly difficult to make ends meet.

"We have working poor, we don't have a Downtown Eastside, so our poverty is really spread out and we don't see it magnified," Gavsie explains.

While there is a tendency to emphasize the corporate donations, the support of individuals and toy drives by the likes of girls' soccer and boys' hockey teams are equally important and appreciated.

"To see an athlete getting a million-dollar-a-game pay cheque or to look at the face of a child getting two \$15 toys, there is no comparison," Gavsie says.

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Photos courtesy Richmond Christmas Fund

It's been a record-breaking year for the Richmond Christmas Fund. Thanks to the generosity of the community, and the success of fundraisers such as A Not So Silent Night, donations topped more than \$125,000. More people than ever sought help this year from the Christmas Fund, the final number likely to top 2,700.

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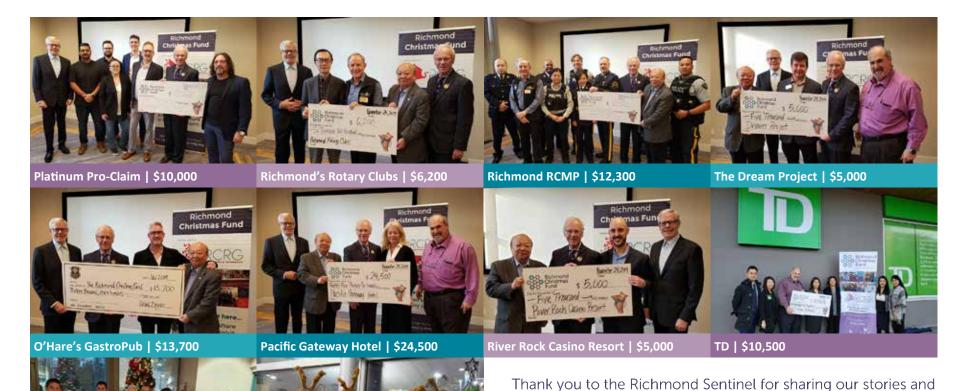
Celebrating Our Angel Donors

The Richmond Christmas Fund is a community effort, with hundreds of donors and volunteers making valuable contributions, all so our neighbours in need can celebrate the holidays. Each year, certain groups go above and beyond, embodying the giving spirit that makes the Christmas Fund possible. We call them our **Angel Donors**, and it's with sincere thanks that we recognize their support and generosity.

Richmond Auto Mall | \$37,275

Richmond Realtors | \$11,600







contributing to another successful Christmas Fund season

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2020 budget focuses on safety

By **DON FENNELL** @DFSentinel

Ith safety top of mind, Richmond Vcity council has approved a 2020 operating budget that will see the average household pay an extra \$87 in taxes.

A 4.98 per cent budget increase will provide for 12 additional fire-rescue positions and 12 police officers and five support staff for the local RCMP. Increasing the number of community safety positions is part of a three-year Safe Community Priority Program endorsed last year, and will result in the total addition of 36 fire-rescue positions, 51 police officers and 20 municipal employees to support the RCMP detachment to Richmond by 2021. Seventy-one per cent of the 2020 operating budget increase is to enhance community safety.

"We're providing the services people have come to expect, and we're able to fund the capital projects that we need to have," says Mayor Malcolm Brodie.

pleased the budget enables the city to



Photo by Chung Chow

The average household will pay an extra \$87 in taxes in 2020.

support police with additional staff, as librarian positions specializing in youth well as increase the number of fire-rescue positions. Coun. Kelly Greene adds, "Staff has done a very good job pinpointing where we need to make investments and where we can trim."

The proposed budget also recognizes evolving social issues, says Coun. Linda McPhail, noting the inclusion Coun. Michael Wolfe says he's of a new regular full-time homeless co-ordinator and two regular full-time

services.

"Our community expects support for our vulnerable population," she

of \$157 million, including \$27.5 million for Capstan Station construction funded through developer contributions. It will also provide a number of uary 2020. infrastructure improvements to Rich-

mond's dike system as well as prepare for expansion of the city's cycling network, land acquisition, additional support for child care programming and affordable housing, as well as road, drainage and pump station improve-

Among the one-time expenditures are two temporary full-time bylaw officers dedicated to short-term rental licensing, and a temporary full-time licensing clerk specific to short-term boarding and lodging. A new automated material handling system and redesigned book return wall for Brighouse library, along with development of a Steveston Harbour Authority archway sign to recognize the community's rich fishing heritage, were also included.

Richmond had the fourth lowest tax rate amongst Metro Vancouver's 21 municipalities last year, and was the fifth lowest in 2018.

In accordance with the community Council approved a capital budget charter, the city will undertake a process of public consultation on the proposed consolidated five-year financial plan (2020-2024) commencing in Jan-

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Richmond Public Library continuing along novel path

By **DON FENNELL**

ar more than just an outlet for books, today's libraries provide access to an ever-changing digital world. And the Richmond Public Library is on the leading edge.

"I believe the library is essential now more than ever," says Richmond city Coun. Linda MacPhail. "It's no longer just about walking in and checking out a book. They also have computer and Internet access, access to 3d printers and audio books, offer computer classes and special activities for children. They are important community hubs that serve as centres of learning."

Council last week approved a library operating budget of \$9,862,500 for 2020. It includes an increase of 2.20 per cent or \$212,000 over 2019. The increase will include the funding of two librarian po-

ed materials handling system to expand services and programs.

These positions support the library's efforts to "inspire curiosity, transform lives and empower everyone in our community," said chief librarian Susan Walters. "We are committed to reaching out to vulnerable populations, ensuring ever child has a library card, responding to community needs and engaging with our volunteers."

In her annual report, Walters noted that many strategic priorities were achieved in 2019—the first year of the library's new Strategic Plan 2019-2021. These included enhanced spaces, improved lighting and better distinction between quiet and active use. The purchase of additional copies of popular titles and changes to the loan period helped to boost the use of popular collections. And to better serve vulnerable residents, the Home Services mobile de-

sitions specializing in youth as well as an automat- livery program was expanded to include volunteer drivers.

> Year two of the strategic plan will focus on improving customer experiences and continuing to build civic and community connections.

> In the report, Walters said the creation of a human resources strategy will assist the library to invest in staff through a variety of programs and development opportunities, and support staff to provide the best possible library experience.

> Also in 2020, the Inspire Curiosity campaign with the Richmond School District will include Grade 4 students and expand to include private and non-traditional school students. Community service librarians will continue to move beyond library branches to connect with youth, seniors and newcomers; taking the library to where community gathers.

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Celebrating light and hope in the darkness of winter

By LORRAINE GRAVES

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As darkness descends on us this time of year, seemingly earlier and earlier, later in December, around the winter solstice, comes a variety of celebrations of light. With Christmas, symbolizing Christ as the light of the world, trees and candles are lit. For ancient (and modern) Britons, Dec. 21 sees Morris Men don different costumes to symbolize the coming of the light as the days begin to lengthen again.

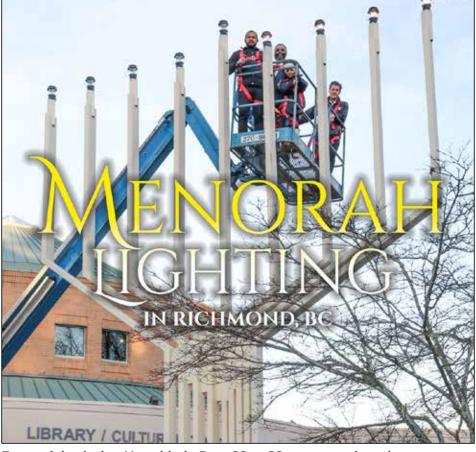
In Judaism, Hanukkah, is the Festival of Lights. Also spelled Chanukah, each night of the eight-day festival, an increasing number of candles are lit on a menorah to symbolize the oil that lit the temple for eight days. In the Jewish faith, a great miracle happened there because there had been only enough oil for one day of light.

While many Jewish holidays are celebrated at home and in a synagogue, Richmond welcomes all to gather round the 25 foot (7.62 metre) tall menorah each night of Hanukkah.

"The menorah is so tall they have to go up in a cherry picker to actually access it," says Kate Adams, the Richmond Public Library's head of children and family services.

The festivities take place on Monday, Dec. 23, on the Cultural Centre plaza in front of Brighouse branch, located at 7700 Minoru Gate.

There will be family activities begin-



Every night during Hanukkah, Dec. 22 to 30, everyone is welcome menorah lighting outside the Richmond Cultural Centre.

ning at 5 p.m. followed by the lighting of the Menorah at 6 p.m. Then, all are welcome to stay and celebrate with traditional Jewish refreshments.

"But people are welcome every night of Hanukkah to witness the lighting of the Menorah at 6 p.m., with the exception of Friday night when the lighting will be at 3 p.m. so that it finishes be-

fore sundown," Adams says.

The event is jointly sponsored by the Bayit and Chabad Richmond Synagogues as well as the Richmond Public Library and the Richmond Cultural Centre. The event is funded by the Ebco Group and Lightspeed Inc.

Keith Liedtke, president of the Bayit Richmond, says"(We are) honoured to

sponsor this year's Jewish Festival of Lights, symbolized by the Arthur Erickson-designed Hanukkah Menorah, one of the largest in the world."

Speaking of the library's reason for sponsoring this event, Adams says,

People are welcome every night of Hanukkah to witness the lighting of the Menorah at 6 p.m.

- Kate Adams

"Part of it is to help learn about other cultures and faiths."

Not Jewish herself, Adams is looking forward to the menorah lighting again.

"Everyone is welcome to come. It's amazing. It's very exciting. There are lots of families The energy is really high. It's very celebratory."

While portions of the Monday celebrations are indoors at the cultural centre, the lighting is outside.

"Dress for the weather because it will happen rain or shine," says Adams.

Liedtke says, "The Bayit welcomes all to witness the warmth and spirit of the Menorah lighting ceremony."

This year, Hanukkah runs from Sunday, Dec. 22 and ends in the evening of Monday Dec. 30.

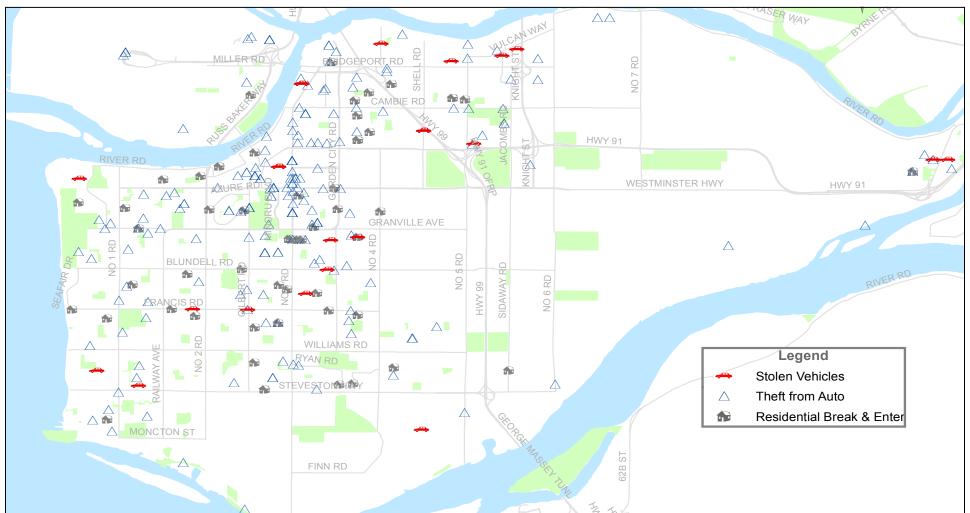
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Richmond RCMP presents festive safety tips

The Richmond RCMP would like to wish the community a safe, joyous, and festive season. While there are many fine folks enjoying this time of year, there are also some naughty folks with the opposite intentions in mind. Our officers will be very watchful for them. And once we arrest them, they can enjoy a stay at our Buffalo B & B. Nicely appointed and tastefully decorated with contractor gray concrete walls, fully stocked (security) bars, pillow soft single ply TP, and luxurious stainless steel toilets. We digress. The season is about sharing and we have some important safety tips to share with you.

Home:

around. We would recommend auto- thing else. matic lighting or lighting on a timer.

Yard upkeep is recommended as is keeping the front porch clear of newspapers, flyers, or mail.

Keep some sort of music playing or even the radio. It will make it sound like someone is home.

Secure all windows and doors, even on levels beyond the first floor.

Store keys to vehicles away from the any entrance. Store them elsewhere. If they are easy to get to, thieves can find them too.

Vehicle:

Leave nothing in plain sight. That means shopping bags, backpacks, Make your home appeared lived in purses, loose change, non-perma-

all year round even if when you are not nently installed dash cams, and any-

Thieves will target vehicles anywhere including underground parkades, in front of your house, shopping mall parking lots, on the street, at the airport, and so on.

Lock your doors. It sounds simple the road. but it happens.

Remove or keep garage door openers hidden. That garage door opener can be used by thieves to enter an underground parkade or even your own garage.

Keep vehicle registration and insurance documents hidden.

When temperatures drop, avoid starting your vehicle and leaving it unoccupied.

Personal:

Wear brightly coloured clothing or something with reflective materials when walking running or cycling especially in inclement weather or at night.

Make eye contact with the drivers of vehicles whenever you are crossing

Cross the roadway in designated ar-

Look 360 degrees before crossing. A fraction of time it takes to do so can save you from serious harm or even death.

Avoid anything distracting when crossing. This includes staring or using your smart phone. Wait the few moments it takes to cross before using your device.

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Check out the many ways to be active this holiday season. For more details about the events below, visit www.richmond.ca/ winterbreak



One day activities Ongoing activities

Saturday, December 21

Watch or join in the 'Songs in the Snow' community concert

Steveston Museum, 4:00-6:00pm

Take in the trees and music at the Rotary Club's Winter Wonderland

City Hall, 1:00-3:30pm

Tuesday, December 24

Bundle up for the Steveston Santa Claus Parade Steveston Village, 6:00-8:00pm

Watch the Christmas Eve Movie Matinee for those 55+ years

Seniors Centre at Minoru Centre for Active Living, 1:00-3:30pm

Wednesday, December 25

Spend time at City Centre Community Centre on Christmas Day

Family Movie

1:00pm start

Creative Play—Drop-in 9:30-11:00am

Fitness Centre open

10:00am-3:00pm City Centre Community Centre

Saturday, January 4

Take a new year's Resolution Walk with the Walk Richmond group

King George Park, 10:00am start

Find all the Drop-in Open Gyms family, youth, parent and tot schedules:

www.richmond.ca/winterbreak

From arts to sports, science to baking and swimming to youth camps, check out the great programs offered while school's out. Find out more:

www.richmond.ca/camps

- Take in the festive lighting around the city
- Write a letter to Santa at the Steveston Museum—daily noon-4:00pm until Dec 24
- View the Heritage Building Light Display at night at Britannia Shipyards
- Watch the Dancing Trees Interactive Winter Lights at Town Square Park (Steveston Museum)—daily 3:00-9:00pm
- Stroll through the Christmas at the Cannery "Festival of Trees" at the Gulf of Georgia Cannery—10:00am-5:00pm
- Enjoy a break from the holiday hustle and bustle and visit the library
- Visit the Richmond Art Gallery's "ArtRich **2019**" exhibition—daily 10:00am-5:00pm
- · Discover public art in your neighbourhood
- Get a jump start on a 'healthier you' resolution with a workout in any of the City's 8 fitness centres
- · Decorate a wooden ornament at Britannia **Shipyards**—*daily noon-5pm*
- Walk off those holiday meals and treats with a picturesque stroll through Richmond Nature Park
- Lace up your skates and glide through the holidays at the Minoru Arenas' Winter Wonderland
- Be a Steveston History Hunter on a Scavenger Hunt at the Steveston Museumdaily noon-5:00pm
- Drop-in to Family Storytime at all Richmond Public Library branches
- Enjoy winter themed crafts at the Steveston **Tram**—*daily noon-5pm*
- Bring the whole family to the live musical of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, presented by Gateway Theatre until Dec 31
- Make waves, be active and have fun this holiday season at Watermania
- Take in the "City at Work" exhibit at the Richmond Museum
- Walk, run or cycle along any of the city's trails and take in the scenic beauty

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Food recovery network shows leadership

In the first initiative of its kind in can use it. Metro Vancouver, the City of Richmond is launching a Food Recov- in council's strategic plan to create ery Network to help address food waste and food insecurity.

The city is partnering with Food-Mesh, a local organization with a proven history of fighting food waste and using it to match supply with de-

The unique program is designed to prevent 225,000 kg of food from going to waste over the next year and using it to create approximately 300,000 meals for Richmond residents experiencing food insecurity.

The web and app-based exchange platform creates an online network where Richmond-based food businesses and farmers with surplus food can either donate or sell it to charities, farmers or businesses that thetically-imperfect food by choos-

"This partnership supports goals a sustainable and environmentally conscious city that demonstrates leadership by exploring and implementing innovative new ideas" said Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie. "The implementation of a food recovery network continues Richmond's commitment to promote a circular economy."

With council's approved one-time contribution of \$25,000, this initiative stands to generate approximately \$1.25 million in savings to local food brands and charities. Registering is free and Richmond businesses who join the network can securely find a home for their overstock, mislabeled, close to expiry, distressed and aes-



A Richmond Food Bank Volunteer.

Photos submitted



Richmond Food Bank recovers 10 times more perishable food compared to the months prior to its partnership with FoodMesh.

ing to either sell it to another busi-recover 10 times more perishable ness and recover some of the cost, food compared to the months prior or donate it to charities to support to the partnership. Not only are we those in most need.

Crisis of Food Waste: Technical Report, 58 per cent of all food produced in Canada is never consumed. Over half of that waste is avoidable, but the food is discarded because it is easier and cheaper to waste it than to redistribute it. Meanwhile, the need for food is at an all-time high. Almost 3,500 people accessed the Richmond Food Bank over 27.000 times in 2018, and more than 100,000 banks every month.

"We are very pleased with the re-Mesh" said Hajira Hussein, executive director of the Richmond Food Bank. "Since beginning our perishable food recovery with the help of FoodMesh this past July, we have been able to

able to provide an increased quantity According to The Avoidable Food of perishable food such as produce, meat and deli to our clients, we are also able to share more food with our community partners".

"We are thrilled to be partnering with the City of Richmond, to support them in reducing the food waste within the city," says Jessica Regan, chief executive officer of FoodMesh. "We are hopeful that other municipalities will follow suit once they see what a significant impact this netpeople across Canada visit food work can have on their own sustainability and environmental efforts."

FoodMesh is actively working to sults of our partnership with Food- engage Richmond businesses and non-profits to complete the free online registration and become either a food provider or recipient. For more information and to register, visit foodmesh.ca

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Photo screen grab from Google maps

An archway is to be installed by the end of February at the corner of Sixth Avenue and Chatham Street in Steveston.

Archway will serve as shrine to fishing industry

By **DON FENNELL**

n archway at the entrance to An archivay at the Steveston Harbour Authority will serve as a shrine to commercial fishing in the community.

The City of Richmond will contribute \$50,000 (the remaining two-thirds of the \$150,000 cost to be shared by the Steveston Harbour Authority and Musqueam) to the proposed sign expected to be hub of commercial fishing activity installed by the end of February at in Steveston since the turn of the Sixth Avenue.

Steveston Harbour Authority board of directors Robert Kiesman and Cheryl Muir first presented the concept to the city at Richmond's cultural services meeting.

The harbour authority expects the sign to also help promote the

fishing industry; stamp the site for fishing-related development (as reguired by its mandate); produce a collaborative; positive project that reflects the interlocking relationships between governments, industry, public and First Nations in Steveston; and act as a catalyst for the additional fishing-based capital projects at the Gulf of Georgia site.

The largest fishing harbour on the West Coast, it has been the century. Tall ships from around the world could be found in the harbour to load salmon for international

Today, the harbour is home to Sept. 25, 2018 parks, recreation and more than 500 commercial fishing vessels and encompasses over 17.5

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Christmas traditions vary by culture

By **DON FENNELL**

Canta Claus. Father Christmas. Or OKris Kringle. By whatever name you grew up knowing the portly, jolly, white-bearded figure, the legend of Saint Nicholas continues to be passed down from generation to generation.

Saint Nicholas of Myra, also known as Nicholas of Bari, was an early Christian bishop who resided in the ancient Greek maritime city during the Roman Empire. While the earliest accounts of his life were written long after his death, he was much admired for his piety and kindness and said to routinely give gifts in secret giving rise to the traditional model of Saint Nick.

Reflective of the lyrics from Santa Claus is Coming to Town, children everywhere are reminded to be good in hopes that Santa will visit their home and leave gifts. Somehow, he manages to accomplish all of this on the night of Dec. 24 with the help of his elves, who make toys in his workshop at the North Pole and his flying reindeer who, led by Rudolph and his bright red nose which provides light through the night, pull his sleigh on his global journey.



Girl guides sing Christmas carols during Santa's arrival in Steveston.

Father Christmas dates back to as Joulupukki. 16th century England, a large man in green or scarlet robes lined with fur and typifying the spirit of good cheer and bringing peace, joy, good fortune, food and wine and revelry.

The children in the Netherlands and Belgium recognize Sinterklaas as the prominent gift giver, while in Finland the kids know Santa better

of Christmas since my childhood in India, and he's the same character for dinner, she says. (as the traditional patron of Christmas many North American children items are traditionally associated grew up with)," says Ashok Rattan, settlement program co-ordinator at Richmond Multi-Cultural Communi- on is popular along with Christmas tv Services.

But like India, Richmond is a very multi-cultural community—one of the most diverse in Canada, with over 60 per cent of its population born outside the country. As such, Rattan says while the majority of Richmond residents celebrate the holidays, how they observe it varies.

"Most people who belong to faith definitely go to church, have a tree at home and all the settings, but other cultures celebrate a little differently," she says, noting that some don't one of the biggest absences is the traditional Christmas turkey dinner.

planned a family dinner with tofu turkey, but quickly abandoned the plan.

"My daughter said 'Mom, what's "Santa has been an important part the use? We are vegetarian people.""

Some families also prefer to go out

Throughout the world, many food with the Christmas season. In Finland, for example, fresh salted salmham. And in Japan, where turkey is virtually unknown, fried chicken is the choice of many. Christmas cabbage soup is commonly served in both the Czech Republic and Slovakia.

Aside from the main course, a selection of desserts are typically served. They too vary.

In Albania, pumpkin and walnut pie are usually cooked on Christmas eve, while in Argentina panettone, a type of sweet Italian bread, is a longtime favourite. Ginger bread is a prefered dessert in Hong Kong, while in the Philippines a traditional dessert called bibingka (made with rice flour, A strict vegetarian, Rattan once sugar, clarified butter and coconut



Photo from pixabay.com

The Nativity scene represents the birth of Jesus.

TRADITIONS

From Page 16

milk) is standard fare.

The origin of Christmas is to remember the birth of Jesus Christ, who Christians believe is the Son of God.

Translated from the Mass of Christ. Christmas is an annual festival, observed primarily on Dec. 25 as a religious and cultural celebration among billions of people around the world.

The traditional Christmas narrative says Jesus was born in Bethlehem, in according with messianic prophecies. When Joseph and Mary arrived in the city, the inn had no room and so they were offered a stable where the Christ Child was born, with angels proclaiming this to shepherds who further shared the news.

Although the month and date of Jesus' birth are unkonwn, the church

in the early fourth century fixed the date as Dec. 25, which corresponds to the date of solstice on the Roman calendar.

In many nations, it's tradition at Christmas time to place and light trees in homes, hang Advent wreaths and stockings, distribute candy canes and set out cookies and milk for Santa. Creating Nativity scenes depicting the birth of Jesus Christ, caroling and exchanging gifts are also common practices.

Children in Richmond with a special holiday wish for Santa are invited to send him a letter through Dec. 24 by stopping in at the Steveston Museum (3811 Moncton St.) weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. They can also catch a glimpse of him, and Mrs. Claus, during the annual Steveston Santa Claus Parade starting at 6 p.m. at Regent Street and Sixth Avenue in Steveston.

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The community's generosity is evident in the annual toy drives.

Photos by Chung Chow



Jolly ol' Saint Nick enjoys a stroll in the village.



The Classic Car Cruise has become an annual event in Steveston.



Photo submitted

Christmas concerts such as this one featuring the Richmond Delta Youth Orchestra are a tradition during the holiday season.

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RECYCLING DEPOT

will be collected as follows:

REMINDER

The Recycling Depot is closed on December 25-26, 2019 and January 1, 2020.

CURBSIDE COLLECTION

(City Blue Box, Green Cart and biweekly Garbage Cart collection)
Curbside collection from December 23, 2019 to January 3, 2020

REGULAR COLLECTION DAY	PICK-UP DURING THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 23 TO JANUARY 3
Monday, December 23, 2019	Monday, December 23, 2019
Tuesday, December 24, 2019	Tuesday, December 24, 2019
Wednesday, December 25, 2019	Friday, December 27, 2019
Thursday, December 26, 2019	Saturday, December 28, 2019
Monday, December 30, 2019	Monday, December 30, 2019
Tuesday, December 31, 2019	Tuesday, December 31, 2019
Wednesday, January 1, 2020	Thursday, January 2, 2020
Thursday, January 2, 2020	Friday, January 3, 2020



CENTRALIZED BLUE CART COLLECTION

Collection will be delayed one day from December 25 - 27 due to the Christmas Day holiday. Regular collection resumes the week of December 30, 2019.

Richmond Environmental Programs: 604-276-4010 garbageandrecycling@richmond.ca www.richmond.ca/recycle



Victor Ghirra mountain of toys





Photos by Don Fennell

An overflowing mountain of toys at the annual grand toy count Saturday at Riverside Banquet Hall reflected people's generosity and support of the 13th annual Victor Ghirra Toy Drive.

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Kalshoven fights through polio affliction

By LORRAINE GRAVES

©LGSentinel

This Christmas, city hall is bedecked with rows of gloriously decorated trees for this year's Winter Wonderland. Sponsored by the Richmond Sunset Rotary, the display raises money for the Richmond Food Bank and Rotary International's End Polio Now campaign.

For many, polio seems like something from the history books. But not for Eileen Kalshoven.

Born perfectly healthy a year-and-a-half before the vaccine was released in 1955, polio is something the Richmond woman knows personally. When she was 18 months old, she contracted the virus. Polio paralyzed her body, even her breathing muscles.

"I was in an iron lung. It was the only way I could breath. It affected me from head to toe," Kalshoven says.

While she has no recollection of those days, Kalshoven says, "It was obviously a tremendous blow to my parents. It was pretty devastating for them when your only child has come down with this crazy, debilitating virus."

And she was luckier than some. Polio kills 10 to 15 per cent of the people who get it. Even today, the numbers are higher for adults who catch it. Up to 30 per cent of them die.

In Canada, in 1953 around the time Kalshoven was born, there were nearly 9,000 cases of polio and 500 deaths. (That percentage of polio deaths in Canada is greater than the rate of HIV-caused death at the height of the AIDS epidemic.)

Kalshoven regained some of her lost muscle function through the passage of time, lots of hard work and medical interventions.

"Obviously I got a lot better over a certain period. I got a lot of my mobility back but not enough to be able to walk without crutches or calipers (leg braces)," she says.

She also had to have surgeries, starting when she was a pre-schooler. One



Photo by Chung Chow

Eileen Kalshoven was born before the polio vaccine was available, the other after.

was to cut constricted muscles in her leg to allow her to straighten it so she could walk better with crutches and leg braces.

Another operation fused her hip and a later one fused her spine that, without all the muscles holding it in alignment, had started to curve.

Still, she got on with life, living it to the fullest, traveling internationally and becoming a high-level athlete representing her native Zimbabwe.

"I used a wheelchair for sports in the 1972 (Paralympics) when I was still in school and again in the 1980 Paralympics," she says.

While she used a wheelchair for sports and events, "I used it more permanently once I had my own home to run. It was a lot easier to maneuver," she says.

Kalshoven and her husband emigrated from Zimbabwe to South Africa and then, in 1999, to Canada. She now works as the executive administrator at the Richmond Centre for Disability.

Kalshoven cites her African upbringing for her can do attitude. She says she's done many things that able-bodied people haven't even done. When asked what her life would have been like without polio, she says, "I've got

nothing to compare it to. How would I know how my life would be different? This is my life."

She continues, "People with disabilities, not just polio, they do have a purpose in the community. They are citizens just like everybody else. They do have the ability to contribute to society."

"Look, in your eyes polio has cost me. In my eyes, it doesn't make any difference to me because I don't know anything else," she says.

"I have done a ton of things that you will never do. Please don't portray me as a poor or downtrodden because I am not," Kalshoven says.

She values her life, "I'm breathing. I have a great job. I have a great husband. What more do I want?"

Yet when it comes to the topic of the polio vaccine and Rotary International's program to eradicate it through vaccination, Kalshoven says, "You need to be cognisant of what's going on in the world and how not being vaccinated is going to affect your life or your kid's."

She says that for many, polio doesn't seem like the threat it is

"It doesn't seem like a reality (for tary. them)."

Rotary's efforts this Christmas in Richmond and around the world, to End Polio Now, are having an effect. But still in the over a half a century that an effective preventative vaccine has been available, there are new cases. And, with modern travel, the disease can revisit us again, right here at home, much like measles has.

Rotary International says, "Today, polio remains endemic only in Afghanistan, Nigeria, and Pakistan. But it's crucial to continue working to keep other countries polio-free. If all eradication efforts (vaccinations) stopped today, within 10 years, polio could paralyze as many as 200,000 children each year." That's roughly the population of Richmond.

"Surely to goodness, you would have thought by this time polio would have been eradicated," Kalshoven says of the importance to support the End Polio Now vaccination program.

The money Richmondites donate at Winter Wonderland will join the \$130 million Rotary International has already raised. This money joins the worldwide, multi-agency effort the Global Polio Eradication Initiative polioeradication. org/

Standing beside Kalshoven, one can see the difference the polio vaccine has made. Yet she is utterly clear that she's having a great life. Once the vaccine was introduced into Canada, it took another 15 years to have the country declared polio free.

Polio can only pass between humans.

And though she's living life vigorously, when asked if she were a parent would she have her kids vaccinated against polio, Kalshoven doesn't hesitate,"Of course, for sure definitely."

To donate to Rotary International's End Polio Now campaign email magrleung@gmail.com or go to richmondsunsetrotary.org for more information on the Richmond Sunset Rotary.

LGraves@richmondsentinel.ca

RAPS COMMUNITY REPORT Caring for the animals who care for us



World expert in vet therapy visits



Eyal Lichtmann

r. Diane Levitan, a renowned expert—perhaps the world-leading expert—in veterinary applications of hyperbaric oxygen therapy, was in Vancouver earlier this month.

The Regional Animal Protection Society brought Dr. Levitan from New York City to address a sold-out evening for veterinarians and veterinary technicians throughout Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley.

It was important for us, as an organization, to expose veterinary professionals in the area to her expertise and the vast range of applications for this innovative therapy. Earlier this year, the community-owned RAPS Animal Hospital opened Canada's only veterinary hyperbaric oxygen therapy facility. Used for decades in human medicine, and with centuries of history and research behind it, hyperbaric oxygen therapy is a noninvasive treatment that can have dramatic impacts on an enormous number of pet ailments.

At the event, which took place at Science World, Dr. Levitan explained the history of the therapy, which rose



A renowned expert in veterinary applications of hyperbaric oxygen therapy visited the Lower Mainland this month.

to prominence primarily in the 1960s, with the use of 100 per cent oxygen in pressurized chambers. She outlined the types of conditions that it is most commonly recommended for, including edema, increasing the efficacy of antibiotics, to work as an antifungal, to help bone healing to increase new blood vessel growth and repair of damaged capillaries, and increasing the mobilization of stem cells in a patient's circulatory system. The therapy is especially good for tissue repair, gastrointestinal diseases, inflammation and infections, as well as toxic snake and spider bites.

"Cancer hates oxygen," Dr. Levitan said. Used in combination with chemotherapy and other medical management approaches, it is showing great potential. Dr. Levitan talked about how the fire department brings her animals that have been in house fires and the impact that hyperbaric oxygen therapy has in ameliorating carbon monoxide poisoning and burns. In short, she explained, it works by increasing the level of oxygen in the blood system, which thereby reduces dependence on red blood cells and allows oxygen to reach the parts of an injury, burn or other condition that requires oxygen for healing.

While sedation is sometimes recom-It is also used in the treatment of mended prior to the treatments, she said, most animals just curl up and go to sleep in the facility. Procedures generally take about an hour and vet-

erinarians recommend a series of five or more treatments for most applications.

At the RAPS Animal Hospital, we have seen dramatic improvements in injuries and recovery after surgery when care is accompanied with hyperbaric therapy. Dr. Levitan stresses that the therapy is not a standalone panacea. It works in conjunction with more conventional methods.

In the few months that our hyperbaric facility has been operating in the RAPS Animal Hospital, we have seen some dramatic improvements in animals with serious skin conditions, including burns, as well as limb injuries and internal conditions.

We have been extremely fortunate to be able to offer this innovative modality to companion animals in British Columbia. Already available in about 70 of the most advanced veterinary practices in the United States, hyperbaric oxygen therapy seems destined to expand dramatically in Canada, Dr. Levitan said. Until then, if you want to discuss how this procedure could help your companion animal, talk to one of our veterinarians.

May this season be warm and bright and may 2020 bring joy to all the people and animals in your life.

Eyal Lichtmann is CEO & Executive Director of the Regional Animal Protection Society.

MYNAMEIS

This domestic short-hair adult male is house trained, up-to-date vaccinations and he's neutered. If you family is considering adopting a new family member, consider Hickery!



REGIONAL ANIMAL PROTECTION SOCIETY (RAPS)

rapsbc.com | City Shelter: 604-275-2036 Head Office: 604-285-7724





RAPS ANIMAL HOSPITAL

rapsanimalhospital.com 604-242-1666 The RAPS Animal Hospital and Animal Ambulance are supported by Applewood Nissan



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In their own words...

Make memories, not waste



Michael Wolfe City Councillor

We are into the holiday season, where Richmond residents celebrate the full diversity of cultural festivities. Before we turn the calendar over and enter into a new decade, I wish to offer insights regarding how we can all help our region be more sustainable. As the Metro Vancouver slogan goes: "Create Memories, not Garbage."

This year has been the most memorable for me so far. With our new baby, Clementine, my wife and I moved into the Hamilton neighbourhood and I've balanced my work both as a science teacher and an elected city councillor. As time is tight, I've learned to value it that much more. We never really know when it might be the last season with our loved ones and that alone is a reason to have more experiences together, to show kindness, make amends for our past wrongs, and prioritize love.

In Richmond (along with most of the continent) we have a waste problem. In the past month I've had the pleasure of visiting our local liquid and solid waste facilities with my students. To see the look on their faces when touring the Lulu Island Wastewater Treatment Facility on Gilbert Road and the Waste to Energy Plant just north of the Fraser River. Hearing their transformative afterthoughts



Councillor Michael Wolfe with wife Tiffany and baby Clementine.

has been humbling. When we can contextualize the garbage (or sadly the recyclables too), and seeing the 1100°C degrees incinerator burn it into our air, we are forced to confront the fact that we need a better way forward.

As the City of Richmond strives to reach 80% waste diversion by 2020, soon it will be time to ramp up that goal! Statistics from Metro Vancouver's recent Solid Waste Composition Study have reported that paper is still making up about 18% of the waste stream. Even with our amazing City Recycling Depot, with expanded service days and hours, it is always better to reduce and reuse.

In an effort to reduce paper waste and increase waste diversion, my family and I are taking steps to make memories and not waste this Christmas:

- We are not buying each other material gifts.
- We are not buying any new items for our darling Clementine.
- We are staying out of the mall lineups, and spending more time together.
- We are giving the gifts of nice meals out to family
- We are using old family decorations and fresh green tree clippings.

We wish you the most joyful season with your loved ones.

City of Richmond Holiday Hours

Richmond City Hall will be closed from Wed, Dec 25, 2019 to Wed, Jan 1, 2020 and will re-open on Thu, Jan 2, 2020 at 8:15am.

City parks, recreation and cultural facilities and the Works Yard will continue to operate during most of the holidays.

Contact the City of Richmond

For emergencies such as broken water mains, sewer problems, downed trees, traffic lights out, icy roads or other problems of this nature, call the City's 24-hour Emergency Line at 604-270-8721.

Online access

Many City services are always available online at www.richmond.ca/myrichmond:

- Access property tax account information
- Access utility account information
- Obtain or renew a dog licence
- View garbage and recycling collection schedule
- Search Calendar of Events based on your interests and location
- Request a service or report a problem

www.richmond.ca:

· Subscribe to emergency notifications

Looking for things to do in Richmond during the holidays?

- The holidays are an ideal time to visit arts, cultural and heritage venues or spend time outside at one of Richmond's many parks. To search and register for Winter 2020 programs, visit www.richmond.ca/register.
- For a list of things to do in Richmond over the winter break, visit richmond.ca/winterbreak.
- For those looking to work out during the holiday season, there are eight fully-equipped City fitness centres with holiday hours. Contact each facility directly for questions about hours and programming.







Photo by
David Cooper
Oliver Castillo
plays Joseph in
Gateway's holiday
production of
Joseph and
the Amazing
Technicolor
Dreamcoat

Gateway's present-day Joseph is family-friendly holiday fun

By **HANNAH SCOTT**Contributor

In search of a family-friendly musical this holiday season? Gateway Theatre is producing *Joseph and the Amazina Technicolor Dreamcoat*.

The first performed collaboration between composer Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyricist Tim Rice, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is based on the Biblical story of Joseph and his multicoloured coat.

Originally conceived as a shorter piece for a boys' school, present-day productions of the musical often feature women in some of the roles.

Chelsea Rose, an alumna of the Canadian College of Performing Arts and the University of Victoria, plays the narrator. She explains that she was raised listening to the musical and says: "The narrator has been a dream role for a very long time."

As opposed to a plot-based role, the narrator exists outside the story. Rose says: "Playing a narrator

differs from many roles in that I get to break the fourth wall with little asides to the audience and jump in and out of the story."

In addition, Rose also takes the roles of Joseph's father Jacob and Mrs. Potiphar, a beautiful but ill-intentioned woman. When preparing to play different characters within one show, Rose says: "There is definitely a separation physically; I had to find where each character lived in my body and voice."

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is a sung-through musical, which means it has very little spoken dialogue. Rose explains that this aspect of the show is challenging, but that the fast pace makes time fly.

She says: "I feel that I am better able to emote through song, and it brings me joy to be able to sing in multiple musical styles in one show."

Rose praises Gateway's production: "The set is beautifully minimal (no pyramids), and the costumes are colourful and a little rock 'n roll. There's also the addition of The Dreamer, a young boy through

whose eyes the show is seen."

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat is typically set in Ancient Egypt. Director Barbara Tomasic explains that Gateway's production is set in a child's present-day dream world in order to show that "Realizing your dreams takes learning, perseverance, luck and love."

Gateway's reset production, with the present-day lens, aims to be relatable. Audiences can take morals away from the tale. On lessons that can be learned from the show, Rose says: "The road to success isn't always an easy one, but if you have a dream and work hard, anything is possible!"

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoatis on at Gateway from Dec. 12 to 31, with many special performances. VocalEye has described performances on Dec. 26 and 27 for people who are blind or partially sighted. Wheelchair accessible seating is available.

To buy tickets, call 604-270-1812 or visit Gateway's website: https://tickets.gatewaytheatre.com/

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Metro panto rich with Richmond links

By LORRAINE GRAVES **@**LGSentinel

lice may be back in Wonderland at Athe Metro Theatre this season, but for four of the pantomime's crew their lives are based in Richmond.

This year's production, written by Bard on the Beach instructor, Erik Gow, offers something decidedly different for Metro while maintaining most of the traditions Metro fans and families have come to love. Those brought as grandchildren, often return as parents, reliving their memories while seeing the wonder anew through their children's eyes.

This season's panto features all the usual corny conventions, things for the audience to shout and a host of larger than life characters that sing, dance and ham it up.

One of those vibrant characters is local lawyer, Danielle Lemon as the Queen of Hearts.

The Richmond connection continues with Mark 'Sparky' MacDonald who plays Tweedle Dum and Liam Fetigan, well-known to local audiences as a finalist in this year's RichCity Idol, is in the ensemble. And choreographer Suzanne Ouellette's work is often featured at the Richmond Gateway Theatre.

The Metro Theatre Christmas Panto has long been a holiday tradition for Richmond families. It's an affordable, near-by production suitable for

all ages.

The Sentinel interviewed Lemon about her life both on the stage and in the legal profession.

How does a lawyer come to play The Queen of Hearts?

"Pretty much as any actor gets any part—I auditioned. I perform onstage whenever my legal responsibilities permit it. I suppose being a lawyer has allowed me to cultivate some of the confidence and bravado required to play The Queen of Hearts."

Compare and contrast practising law and performing in an audience participation play.

"In the practice of law you have to be ready for anything; be a great listener, be able to think on your feet, expect the unexpected and change direction in a heartbeat. That's exactly what performing improv or interacting with an audience is like. However, law is different than performing in that, to be successful, you need to be logical, rational and precise. Performance is more emotionally driven, more instinctual. It's nice that I get to develop both sides of my brain, practicing law and performing."

What is your background?

I have been acting, singing and dancing my whole life, and always thought my career would be something related to that. My parents warned me that life



Photo by Tracy-Lynn Chernaske

Local lawyer Danielle Lemon, left, is the Queen of Hearts and on the right is Richmondite Mark "Sparky" MacDonald as Tweedle Dum.

as an artist would be difficult, so I had better get a good backup career—so I became a lawyer, which I guess is a in? pretty good backup! I studied theatre arts at Pearson College on Vancouver Island, then obtained a Bachelors' Degree in English Literature at UVic. I didn't quite know what to do with a Bachelors' in English so I went to law school at UVic as well, and then pur-School of Economics. Even during my law school years and in the first years of my career, I performed whenever I could. I don't think I would know who I was if I wasn't singing, acting or dancing in some capacity.

What part of Richmond do you live

"I was born in Richmond, as was my dad, but I was raised in Victoria, although we spent a lot of time in Richmond growing up, visiting family. I moved back to Richmond when I bought my first home, in 2015, and live in the Terra Nova area. There is somesued a Masters' Degree at the London thing really comforting about living in Richmond, where my family has so many roots. It gives me a sense of belonging."

See Page 23



Local author creates art, spreads harmony

By LORRAINE GRAVES @LGSentinel

pening with the traditional greeting "As-Salaam-Alaikum" the audience at the Richmond Cultural Centre responded as one to Faroog Rai with the Arabic form of "And with you, peace."

A long-term Richmond resident, Rai was celebrating the launch of his second book, The Journey Continues... highlighting his life as a worker for cultural harmony as a social worker, an assistant deputy minister in the B.C. government, and as an

Rai came to Canada from Pakistan after the partition of India that created millions of refugees.

"This is an appropriate greeting when we encourage peace and harmony in Canada and in our community," he said.

Rai has worked all of his life towards that goal: intercultural harmony and peace both in his home com- ny. munity and throughout the province.

At the event, sponsored by the Richmond Art Gallery, director Shaun Dacey gave a short biography of Rai that listed many accomplishments including his appointment as the first assistant deputy minister responsible for multiculturalism and immigration in 1994. Also, a writer



Photo by Naveed Waraich Faroog Rai, left, unveils his new book with the help of his wife Rukhsana Rai.

and advocate in the community, he is recognized for his dedicated volunteer work and efforts in promoting harmonious cross cultural relations. His unique collage art work also depicts his cultural and literary heritage with a message of peace and harmo-

"In keeping with my cultural heritage, I thank God for all the blessings," said Rai, referring to his Sufi faith tradition. He then thanked his home city of Richmond.

"The mainstream, they all want peace and harmony. We need to rub shoulders with them. We need to get out into the community."

Rai said one of the contributing factors for positive change is effective education and art also can play a role of facilitating in the process of sharing about ourselves. "With better understanding and interaction, we will overcome prejudices. We all are committed and actively involved in making our country even stronger, out to events, and get more into the safer and prosperous."

A member of the Richmond Tennis Club since 1961, Rai is also passionate about art. His art extends to collage and calligraphy in Arabic, Urdu and English as well as acting and flute playing. His home is filled with works of his art, some stacked

against the wall three deep.

His calligraphy features beautiful Urdu poems one of which, a love poem, begins with, "I am connected in souls with you." Another started with, "Tall buildings, their rich owners even steal the sun."

Rai said that people have to go mainstream.

"We need to get out of our homes and communities and rub elbows with each other."

In so doing, Rai said, "Canada will be more prosperous and safer. I am only a Canadian citizen, period."

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PANTO

From Page 23

Do you find Metro to be very far from home?

"Not at all. It's a hop, skip and a jump over the Arthur Laing bridge! It's really nice to be onstage so close to home, and especially nice to be onstage at such an established theatre that's been around for almost 60 years."

What part would you love to play in future?

"One of my dream roles is to play Roxie Hart in

playing a merry murderess, isn't there?"

How do you feel when you are on the stage?

"I feel at home. It's a place where I can let loose, be silly, and express myself. Time always flies when I'm onstage."

In Metro's 35 year panto history, they never performed Alice in Wonderland. So, more than 150 vears after Alice first went down the rabbit hole Richmond, and Metro Vancouver audiences have the chance to go down the rabbit hole themselves at the Metro Theatre.

Each year Metro chooses a charity to support

Chicago. There's something fun about a lawyer this year, it is Vancouver Orphan Kitten Rescue (www.orphankittenrescue.com) in honour of the Cheshire cat. Patrons can bring items to put under the kitty Christmas tree such as cat food, toys or

> With sing-along, audience participation, and fun for kids from 3 to 300. Metro Theatre's traditional panto runs through Jan. 4 with matinees, special performances and evening performances at 7:30. The play runs 90 minutes so no one is up too late.

> For information or tickets go to metrotheatre. com or call the box office at 604 266 7191 tickets. metrotheatre.com

> > •LGraves@richmondsentinel.ca

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Wildcats' busy schedule continues



Photo courtesy Gary Ahuja, Langley Events Centre McMath's Hope Chan in action at the Tsumura Invitational at the LEC.

By **DON FENNELL** @DFSentinel

The on-the-job training continues for Richmond's RA McMath Wild-

Since tipping off their 2019-20 season Nov. 25 in the Big Ticket Tournament, the local senior high school girls' basketball team hasn't had much time to rest.

And following their 93-62 loss to the Walnut Grove Gators in the fifthplace game at last week's prestigious Tsumura Invitational (an annual tournament paying homage to one of BC's all-time great basketball writers), the Wildcats get right back at it this week. They're at the Riverside Invitational Wednesday through Friday (where they'll play Terry Fox and Walnut Grove, both top five at the 4A level) before breaking to enjoy the Christmas holiday.

Without Grade 9 all-star Marina Radocaj for the Tsumura tournament played in Langley (she was invited to the Canada Basketball High Performance Age Group Assessments in Toronto), the Wildcats still managed to play well starting with a 74-46 victory over GW Graham Grizzlies.

In that game, McMath raced out a 22-9 lead after one quarter. Liz Kennedy hit four three-pointers to finish with 21 points and Caitlin Kippan added 17.

Kelowna Owls stopped McMath's title dreams with a 70-39 victory, clamping down defensively in the second quarter allowing just four points.

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Kirk McLean honourary chair of CARHA 2020

Aourary chair for the Molson Canadian CARHA Hockey World Cup 2020 in Richmond.

Kirk McLean, who starred for the Canucks for 10plus years with the team during which he was twice a Vezina Trophy finalist as the NHL's top goaltender, was also named to two NHL all-star games and led the club to a seventh game in the Stanley Cup Final

Drafted by the New Jersey Devils in 1984, before being traded to Vancouver in 1987, he also spent time with the Carolina Hurricanes, Florida Panthers, and New York Rangers before his retirement in 2001.

"Kirk McLean is a fantastic representation of the Richmond and Vancouver area. He has ties to the area given his long and successful career with the Vancouver Canucks and his philanthropic connections to this community. His enthusiasm for the CARHA Hockey World Cup was evident during our first site visit to Richmond in the original bid process. Kirk being involved in the CARHA Hockey World

Vancouver Canucks' favourite will be the hon- Cup is a unique and exciting opportunity for participants to engage with a former NHL great," says Lori Lopez, executive director of the CARHA Hockey World Cup.

> "The game of hockey has always brought people together in Canada, so I am excited to be the honourary chair of the CARHA Hockey World Cup, an event that manages to do so on an international scale," says McLean, current ambassador for the Vancouver Canucks."As someone who has been involved in hockey in this community for a long time, it is easy to imagine the impact it will have on the passionate hockey fans of Richmond and Vancouver, and I look forward to this event capturing the attention and imagination of the community throughout the week of the CARHA Hockey World Cup."

> Since his retirement from the NHL, McLean has been heavily involved in the hockey community, also spending time as a goaltending coach, a broadcaster, and a part-owner of the Burnaby Express in the British Columbia Hockey League.

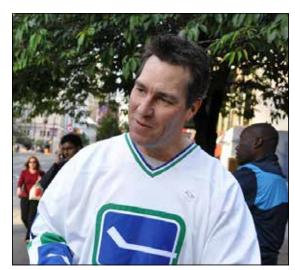


Photo John Bollwitt via Flickr.com Former Vancouver Canucks great Kirk

McLean will be front and centre as honourary chair of the Molson Canadian CARHA Hockey World Cup 2020, March 29 to April 5 in Richmond.

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Sockeyes' Araki-Young playing for the love of the game



I didn't get drafted

very high but it was

still pretty nice to have

all of my time and hard

work recognized.

- Michael Araki-Young

Richmond's Michael Araki-Young is noted for his consistency.

Photos by Don Fennell



fforded the opportunity to turn back to the clock, Michael Araki-Young would tell his 10-year-old self to have fun and not be afraid to try new things.

Wise words from the now 19-year-old Richmond Sockeyes' homegrown talent who is notable for his consistency. Always a reliable scorer, who is averaging 1.4 points per game this season with the local junior hockey club, coaches are equally appreciative of the forward's commitment to defence.

"I would like to think that I'm a decently skilled forward who can help contribute a lot offensively," he says. "I used to try and play a more complete game but I quickly found out that I'm not built to be a power forward. Normally I have pretty good vision of the ice and I like to be a playmaker, but I also like to be a bit selfish sometimes and take the puck to the net myself. I think my greatest strength though comes from my

work ethic. I've always had my coaches tell me that been extremely supportive to boot. I'm one of the hardest workers on the ice, and that I'm one of the best back-checkers on the team."

A full-time student at the University of British to university full time and doing a handful of other

Columbia's Sauder School of Business, hockey is something of a release valve from academic studies for Araki-Young. It's also a chance to come home from the pad he's renting on campus and see his parents.

"I'm currently renting a place at UBC, so playing back home in Richmond is great because I get to come home and see my parents once or twice a week. Last year it was a huge advantage was that I could bring my dirty laundry home on a Thursday, and then pick it back up on Sunday. It's also super great because whenever I'm running low on food, I

> can just restock by raiding my parents pantry. Playing in my hometown is also really nice because it's super easy for my parents and grandparents to come out and watch my games."

> Araki-Young is a big fan of head coach Brett Reusch, who has not only given him the opportunity to continue playing hockey at a high level but also

"Two years ago, I was planning on quitting hockey because I thought that I would be too busy, going things. But Brett talked me into playing for the Sockeves and has been super understanding of other school commitments that have come up. I'm super thankful for this because I couldn't imagine how different my life would be if I had guit playing the sport

Araki-Young's hockey career began at the age of five in Richmond Minor. He grew up a huge fan of legendary Vancouver Canucks' captain Henrik Sedin and followed his career, watching most of the team's games on TV. He even modelled his game after Sedin, but says he may have started passing the puck a bit too much. His talent, though, was enough to get him drafted by the Western Hockey League Kootenay Ice.

"I didn't get drafted very high but it was still pretty nice to have all of my time and hard work recognized," he says.

Another favourite memory was winning the provincial Challenge Cup for the first time back in Bantam, while playing for the Sockeyes affords him the opportunity to play with many childhood friends who he grew up playing hockey with.

"It's kind of neat to see that even after all of the different routes we took in hockey, that we all ended up back in the same place," he says. "My only goal for hockey right now is to help win a championship with the Sockeyes. Outside of hockey, I want to graduate with a dual major in Business Technology Management and Real Estate. But before I do that I want to make the local leaderboards in Clash Royale and reach 500,000 subscribers on YouTube."

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Araki-Young is averaging 1.4 points per per game this season.

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Junior hockey showcase Jan. 3 to 5 at Minoru Arenas

By **DON FENNELL**©DFSentinel

The Winter Classic debuted five years ago as part of the Pacific Junior Hockey League's 50th anniversary celebrations. Since then, the three-days of games has evolved into one of the most anticipated events of the season.

Providing the 12 teams a unique opportunity to show-case the wealth of talented players to coaches and scouts from Junior A, Major Junior and university programs, the games (all counting in the standings) are all played at Richmond's Minoru Arenas from Jan. 3 to 5. Each club will play twice over the period.

Crediting long-time Grandview Steelers' governor Aldo Bruno with the idea, Richmond Sockeyes' owner Doug Paterson says his club is pleased to host the event, which it will do for at least another five years beyond 2020.

"It's good exposure for the team and the community," Paterson says, adding the support of the city through the efforts of community facilities co-ordinator Will Kump has been outstanding.

"It's made it very easy and (consequently) successful, and the volunteers love it," Paterson says. "But we'd love to see more fans. It's a great opportunity that on any given day you see four games for a very economical price."

Single-game admission is \$12, seniors 60-plus \$8, students 13 to 18 is \$8 and children six to 12 is \$5 and under six free. But you can also purchase a day pass for \$12.

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Photo by Chung Chow

Aldergrove Kodiaks and Richmond Sockeyes tangled in the 2019 Winter Classic.

Winter Classic Schedule

Friday, Jan. 3

North Vancouver Wolf Pack vs. Grandivew Steelers, 10 a.m.

White Rock Whalers vs. Surrey Knights, 1 p.m. Langley Trappers vs. Aldergrove Kodiaks, 4 p.m. Abbotsford Pilots vs. Richmond Sockeyes, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 4

Surrey Knights vs. Port Moody Panthers, 10 a.m. Mission City Outlaws vs. White Rock Whalers, 1 p.m.

Grandview Steelers vs. Delta Ice Hawks, 4 p.m. Ridge Meadows Flames vs. Abbotsford Pilots, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 5

Delta Ice Hawks vs. Langley Trappers, 10 a.m. Port Moody Panthers vs. Mission Ice Breakers, 1 p.m.

Aldergrove Kodiaks vs. Ridge Meadows Flames, 4 p.m.

Richmond Sockeyes vs. North Vancouver Wolf Pack, 7 p.m.



UPCOMING HOME GAMES

Thursday, Dec. 19, 7 p.m., vs Port Moody Friday, Jan. 3, 7 p.m., vs Abbotsford

AT MINORU ARENAS

CHRISTMAS

Wrap it up

Wrap up your holiday shopping in style, while supporting the Richmond Christmas Fund. Gift wrapping is available from 12:30 to 6 p.m. daily at Lansdowne Centre where volunteers will give your present the care it deserves and turn it into a gift-wrapped work of art. By donation.

Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Celebrating its 50th anniversary, one of the most well-loved musicals of all time returns to the Gateway Theatre (6500 Gilbert Rd.) Dec. 12 to 31. Performances are 2 and 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$29 to \$55.

Winter in the Village

A season full of free and low-cost family holiday fun awaits you. From the bright lights to toe-tapping music, there's sure to be something for everyone at Winter in the village, through Dec. 31, in Steveston Village.

Santa Claus Parade

Come join Santa, Mrs. Claus and many friends around Steveston village on Christmas Eve. Attendees are asked to bring non-perishable food donations for the Richmond Food Bank to this free, family-friendly event from 6 to 8 p.m.

Caregivers Dinner

Unwind with other caregivers and connect over a shared meal at Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives as part of the Relax, Recharge and Reset Caregiver Workshop Series from 5 to 6:15 p.m. Dec. 20 at Minoru Centre for Active Living, 7191 Granville Ave. Cost of dinner is extra. Register by Dec. 17 at 604-233-6225.

Crafts at the Tram

Until Dec. 31 (with the exception of Dec. 25 and 26), enjoy daily winter-themed crafts from noon to 5 p.m. at the Steveston Interurban Tram, 4011 Moncton St.

What's UP!

Happening in Richmond, Dec. 17 to Jan. 6

Wooden Ornaments

Make a unique keepsake using felt pens on cross sections of locally-sourced tree branches. Through Dec. 31, from noon to 5 p.m., decorating stations in different buildings throughout the Britannia Heritage Shipyards site during December. Closed Dec. 25 and 26.

Christmas Day at the City Centre

Spend time at City Centre Community Centre Dec. 25 working out, letting the kids play and socializing. Work off those heavy holiday meals or treats with a workout in the fitness centre, watch the family movie *Enchanted* starting at 1 p.m., or read and relax in the Community Living Room from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Christmas Eve Movie Matinee

Especially for those 55 plus, but with all ages welcome, enjoy hot apple cider, cookies and the holiday classic *Home Alone* from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Dec. 24 in the music room at Minoru Centre for Active Living, 7191 Granville Ave. Call 604-238-8450 for more information.

EVENTS

Raise the Roof

St Alban's Church, 7260 St Albans Rd., is home to a weekly community meal, serving on average 180 people. Donations are always welcome at

604-278-2770 or at office@stalbans richmond.org.



ArtRich 2019

The third bi-annual juried exhibition presented in partnership with Richmond Arts Coalition and Richmond Art Gallery, ArtRich 2019 is being held from Dec. 6 to 31 at the Richmond Cultural Centre, 7700 Minoru Gate. This free event provides a chance for emerging and established artists to exhibit their work.

Unicorn Tribe Toastmasters Club

Every Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m., this Toastmasters club meets in room 2029B at the Richmond Olympic Oval, 6111 River Rd. Learn the skills and confidence you need to effectively express yourself in any situation.

Drop-in to Family Storytime

Children of all ages and their families are invited to share fun stories and songs at all Richmond Public Library branches. Program dates,

locations and times may vary. Call 604-231-6412 or visit rpl.yourlibrary. ca/events_calendar to view the most current schedule. Children must be accompanied by an adult. No registration required. No charge.

ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS

Holiday Waves

Make waves, be active and have funthis holiday season at Watermania.

Get splashed from the giant tipping bucket, take a whirl on the tot slide or giant water slides and play in the waves bobbing along in the wave pool. Play water basketball or take a plunge from one of the three diving board heights. For those looking for a work out, swim laps in the 57-metre competition pool followed with a visit to the steam room or sauna. On select days, walk on top of the water with the log runner or race a friend or family member down the water slides. Regular admission rates apply. For more information visit www.richmond.ca/watermania or call 604-448-5353.

Walk Richmond—King George Park

Start the new year off on the right foot by discovering King George Park. From 10 to 11 a.m. on Jan. 4, join in this walk through the 30-acre urban park in East Richmond and explore its many amenities including a waterplay area and community gardens. Also, visit Richmond Public Library's popup table after the walk to learn about its resources and free classes. Meet at the main entrance to the Cambie Community Centre, 12800 Cambie Rd. Free.

Post-Holiday Stroll

Walk off those holiday meals and treats with a picturesque stroll through Richmond Nature Park this festive season. The park consists of 200 acres of the raised peat bog habitat that once covered large portions

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WHAT'S UP

From Page 28

of Lulu Island. A free trail guide is available in the Nature House at 11851 Westminster Hwy.

SUCCESS Help Line

Volunteer for this important help line by contacting SUCCESS at 604-270-8611. Among requirements, volunteers must be at least 19 years old, have basic proficiency in English, and be fluent in Mandarin or Cantonese. Interviews will be held in January.

SPORTS

Sockeye Hockey

The Richmond Sockeyes junior hockey club plays its final home game of 2019 on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 7 p.m. versus the Port Moody Panthers. Game is at Minoru Arenas.

In January, the Sockeyes welcome in the new year with a home game Friday, Jan. 3 at 7 p.m. versus the Abbotsford Panthers. Then on Sunday, Jan. 5, the team hosts the North Vancouver Wolf Pack at 7 p.m. Both games are part of the Pacific International Junior Hockey League's annual Winter Classic at Minoru Arenas.

The Sockeyes resume their usual schedule against arch-rival Delta Ice Hawks Thursday, Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. at Minoru.

Richmond Devils Hockey

The Richmond Devils women's hockey team plays its first home game of 2020 on Jan. 11 versus TWU Spartans. The 7:30 p.m. game is set for the Igloo at Richmond Ice Centre.

International Bantam Midget Hockey

Richmond Jets minor hockey hosts its annual Christmas holiday tournament, the International Bantam Midget Hockey classic, Dec. 26 to 30. Having gained a well-earned reputation as one of the best tournaments in Western Canada, the annual event

draws teams from Alaska to Arizona and Vancouver to Saskatchewan and beyond. In previous years, teams from as far as Hungary have competed in the tournament. Free.

Hoop Time

The Young Ummah 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament will be held Jan. 4 starting at 9 a.m. at the Richmond Olympic Oval. 6111 River Rd.

Winter Wonderland Skate

Skate to festive music surrounded by thousands of sparkling lights, real snow banks, decorated holiday trees and more. On until Jan. 5 at Minoru Arenas. Call 604-238-8465 for times.

Healthier You

Get a jump start on your "healthier in 2020" resolution with a workout in any of the city's nine fitness centres. For more information and hours see website or call.

Cambie Community Centre 12800 Cambie Rd., 604-238-8399 www.richmond.ca/cambie

City Centre Community Centre 5900 Minoru Blvd., 604-204-8588 www.richmond.ca/citycentre

Hamilton Community Centre 5140 Smith Dr., 604-718-8055 www.richmond.ca/hamilton

Minoru Centre for Active Living 7191 Granville Ave.—OPENS JAN 1. 604-233-6225

www.minorucentre.ca

South Arm Community Centre 8880 Williams Rd., 604-238-8060 www.richmond.ca/southarm

Steveston Community Centre 4111 Moncton St., 604-238-8080 www.richmond.ca/steveston

Thompson Community Centre 5151 Granville Ave., 604-238-8422 www.richmond.ca/thompson

Watermania

14300 Entertainment Blvd. 604-448-5353

www.richmond.ca/watermania

West Richmond Community Centre 9180 No. 1 Rd., 604-238-8400 www.richmond.ca/westrichmond Regular drop-in rates apply.

KUDOS

King's Auto Lease gives back



Photo submitted

From left: Ben Chou (King's Auto Lease) Spencer Gall (Richmond Hospital Foundation), Simon Cheung (King's Auto Lease), Natalie Meixner (Richmond Hospital Foundation), and Patrick Lee and Jesse Scarf (King's Auto Lease).

With a strong belief in giving back, King's Auto Lease raised \$70,000 from its fourth annual King's Auto Gala–A Night for Richmond. Over 200 clients, friends, staff and family came together to raise money for Richmond Hospital Foundation's ACT NOW Campaign in support of building a new acute care tower for Richmond Hospital. Owner Patrick Lee, born and raised in Richmond, recognizes the importance of supporting local health care and building a healthier future for Richmond.



Helping to make your community a better place

We encourage you to share your Richmond community contributions, events, and photos, at newsroom@richmondsentinel.ca

Pitching in to nourish body and soul

By LORRAINE GRAVES

@LGSentinel

t's what communities do, pitch in when help is needed. And that's just what the Vancouver Airport Authority on Richmond's Sea Island did recently.

The call went out for food donations and it was answered loud and clear, with a multitude of donations from our community.

YVR partnered with Quest, a program to reduce hunger in local communities provides dignified access to affordable food.

Through this joint program, at this time of year, hampers are

We wouldn't have been able to do this without the support and generosity of our community.

– Zöe Webber

donated to those who need them.

Since this tamper Drive program started 8 years ago, 5,000 hampers have been donated to local families. With 1,289 hampers of food donated, this year's YVR/Quest food drive beat last year's record.

Each hamper con-

tains meal essentials, festive favourites, healthy vegetables from Quest, and a turkey donated by YVR

YVR is run by a not-for-profit organization, the airport authority.

"As a community-based organization, YVR supports programs that empower communities in Metro Vancouver and beyond. In 2018, YVR donated more than \$1 million to over 50 organizations that created innovative programs in their communities," says spokesperson Zöe Webber.

The Hamper Drive brings joy twice: once, with the joy of giving when people drop off their items and the second time when the families receive their hampers.

Webber says,"We wouldn't have been able to do this without the support and generosity of our community."

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Photos by Vancouver Airport Authority

Gratitude and good cheer reign as YVR's Santa and elf survey a sea of donated food that will bring Christmas nourishment to those who live with hunger.



As the Jade Canoe surveyed the sea of donations, entertainers kept the spirits bright.



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- 58 Paint container
- 59 Theater award
- Bygone jets 60
- Yale grad

DOWN

- Brazilian rubber
- 2 Actress Cameron
- 3 Worry
- 4 Outerwear
- Ordinal suffix

DECEMBER ANSWERS

Eugene Sheffer's crossword

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

JFK info

6

- 7 Male offspring
- Chest component
- Dawn goddess
- Stately tree 10
- "Treasure Island" 11 monogram
- 17 Roofing goo
- 19 Blunder
- 22 Business abbr.
- Persian bigwigs

S

- 25 Olympian queen
- Mr. Guinness
- 27 Squarish
- Fall into a soft chair 28
- 29 **Employ**
- 30 Pop's sister
- 31 Dross
- 35 The Dutch Masters, 51 e.g.
- Annie with a gun
- Flavor enhancer, for 54

- short
- 42 Meadow
- 45 **Pismires**
- 47 Valentine border
- 48 Spoken
- High-end hotel chain 49
- 50 Bit of butter
- "Yoo-—!"
- Raggedy doll
- 53 Ballot markings
- Tel. number add-on

HOUSEWINE FAWNS AMER WAREHOUSE

×	X	0	X	0	0	X	X	0	0
×	0	0	×	0	×	0	0	×	×
0	0	×	0	×	×	0	0	×	×
×	×	0	0	×	0	×	×	0	0
×	×	0	×	0	×	0	0	×	0
0	0	X	×	0	×	×	0	0	×
0	0	X	0	×	0	×	×	0	×
X	X	0	0	×	0	0	×	×	0
0	0	×	×	0	×	0	0	×	X
0	X	X	0	X	0	X	X	0	0

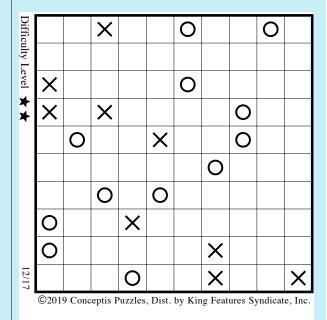
SUDOKU

The goal of Sudoku is to fill a 9x9 grid with numbers so that each row, column and 3x3 section contain all of the digits between 1 and 9.

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

TIC-TAC-LOGIC

A one player game, the object is to place Xs or Os in the squares grid. There cannot be more than two consecutive Xs or Os in a row or column. Each column/row is unique and has five Xs and Os.



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Give gifts that don't need wrapping

- Give an experience: gift cards, tickets to movies or events, or passes to recreational facilities
- **Give a gift that lasts:** pass on a family heirloom, start a new tradition or take someone on a new adventure to create memories that last a lifetime
- Give the gift of time: offer your services or expertise as a present, make dinner, knit a sweater or make your own coupon offering help with a future project
- Share gently-used items with others: through donations or services like Richmond Shares (richmondshares.bc.ca) and MetroVan Reuses (bc.reuses.com). For a comprehensive list of items that can be donated, reused or recycled, visit www.metrovancouverrecycles.org.

Environmental Programs:

604-276-4010 garbageandrecycling@richmond.ca www.richmond.ca/recycle

