

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE

- f /TheRichmondSentinel
- @TheRichmondSentinel





with a sentine

m richmondsentinel.ca Download our app

VOL. 5 ISSUE 15

NOT-FOR-PROFIT

AUG. 17 - 30, 2021

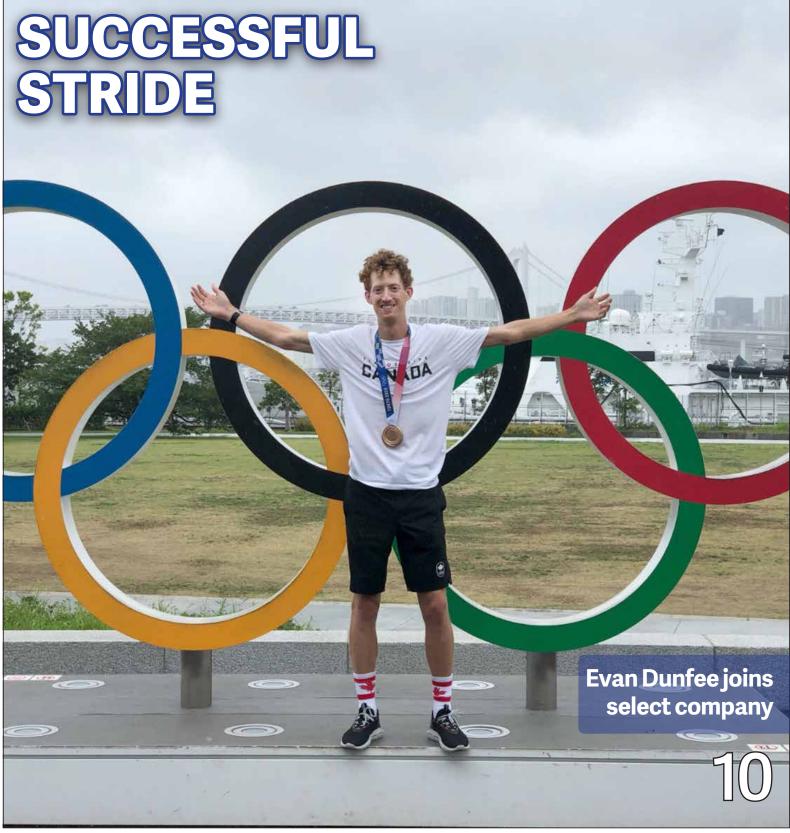


Photo submitted

Annual street banner contest accepting submissions

The city is calling on all creative people to submit a range of designs that highlight their daily Richmond experiences for the 29th annual street banner contest.

Photography, graphic design, collage, watercolour and oil paintings are a few of the mediums that have been successful in the past, and they are all welcome again this year.

Participants are encouraged to consider the following 10 themes when submitting their entries:

- Innovation
- Community
- Connection
- Wildlife
- Active Living
- Urban Landscape
- Nature
- Island City
- The Arts
- Sustainability

Artists of all ages and abilities are invited to share their vision of Richmond's places, experiences and activities. Submissions that fit the banner contest criteria will be accepted until Sept. 17 at 5 p.m.

A judging panel consisting of community volunteers will shortlist 20 submis-

sions, which will be posted on the city of Richmond street banner website. The community can then vote for their favourite designs on the city's Let's Talk Richmond engagement platform (www. LetsTalkRichmond.ca) and 10 winners will be selected. The winning designs will be showcased on 1,000 street banners throughout Richmond. Contest winners will be awarded a \$300 honorarium along with a full-sized banner featuring their winning submission.

To acknowledge and appreciate the dedication and hard work put in by participants, all of the submissions will be posted on the street banner website for public viewing after the 10 winning designs have been announced.

For complete contest rules and guidelines, and to submit entries, visit www.richmond.ca/banners

Richmond's street banner contest is part of the broader Partners for Beautification program, which invites community members to become actively involved in the beautification of their city. For more information on Partners for Beautification, visit www.richmond.ca/parks/about/beautification



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

Submit your designs to the Richmond street banner contest through Sept. 17.



Hamilton HIGH STREET RESIDENCE

The Lower Mainland's Newest Resort-Style Retirement Community

We invite you to experience our cruise-inspired amenities, dining menu that is prepared by our Red Seal Chef and five-star level service.

All suites are open plan and have radiant in-floor heating, independent fresh air intake, modern control systems and a private balcony. Choose from several different options - from fully serviced one and two bedroom premium condos to affordable studio suites, we have a wide range that is sure to fit your needs.



Move in Today!



23100 Garripie Avenue, Richmond, BC V6V 0B9 604-214-5700 | www.hamiltonhighstreet.ca

richmondsentinel.ca Aug. 17 - 30, 2021 CITY | 3

Maritime festival re-imagined

Popular salute to the sea returning to Steveston Aug. 21 and 22

By **DON FENNELL**@rmdsentinel

A hoy matey, the time has come to again set sail on a seafaring adventure.

After being a fully online celebration last year, the 18th annual Richmond Maritime Festival on Aug. 21 and 22 will include limited in-person access. But with the COVID-19 pandemic still ongoing, the "re-imagined" version can again also be enjoyed remotely.

"We have been working with the City of Richmond and Britannia Shipyards to ensure that this event is safe and exciting," explains Andrew Wade, executive director of the Richmond Arts Coalition, whose group is overseeing the significant artistic part of the program. "To have a safe and fun in-person festival this year, and one that fits with provincial COVID-19 safety procedures, we are asking all festival-goers to sign up for an hour-long time slot online. This way, we can manage the crowd size and keep everyone healthy and happy."

There will also be an interactive online map of the Britannia site with local performances in different digital locations, Wade continues, noting virtual performances will include the popular Norine Braun and up-and-coming Allie McDonald.

Those able to attend in-person at the Britannia Shipyards will be treated to a variety of live performances ranging from music to storytelling to caricature art. Acts will include Lulu the Mermaid, The Seabillys, Serenata, and GO Taiko.

And what salute to all things nautical would be complete without boats?

A bounty of wooden creations will be on dis-

We have been
working with the
City of Richmond
and Britannia
Shipyards to ensure
that this event is
safe and exciting.

- Andrew Wade



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

The nautical splendour of the oldest shipyard in British Columbia will come to life with a flotilla of wooden boats, maritime-themed performances and exhibits telling the stories of our maritime history at the 18th annual Richmond Maritime Festival Re-Imagined.

play, with an opportunity to walk the 190-metre (600-foot) dock to admire wooden boats and ships of all kinds. The dock will be accessible only through the Seine Net Loft from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on both days. But due to the capacity of the heritage buildings, and current health and safety regulations, space in the loft and the dock will be significantly limited.

Strollers, dogs and large backpacks will not be permitted for safety reasons.

Boats include the historic *SS Master*, an 85-foot vessel that is just a year away from its 100th birthday. Built in 1922, the Steveston-based craft is one of the few remaining steam-powered tugboats and still operates with its original First World War surplus steam engine. During its working life, the *SS Master* plied the waters of the Pacific Northwest towing logs and barges throughout the region.

Built in Denmark in 1903, the 80-foot *Providence* also calls Steveston its home port. As a North Sea anchor seiner, it served several decades among that region's fishing fleet.

Also anchored in Richmond, the Pacific Yel-

lowfin is 113 feet in length and was originally built in 1943 as a U.S. military vessel. Today, it travels as an exclusive private charter yacht.

In addition to the performances and boats, there will be a number of food trucks on-site serving up fish and chips, poke, and icy desserts, among other things.

Throughout the festival hours, the entire historic site will be open to the public and visitors will be able to discover surprises around every corner. But adhering to health and safety regulations, only a limited number of walk-up spots will be available.

Visitors are encouraged to book a time-based entry slot in advance to visit the Seine Net Loft, boat docks and Britannia Shipyards building.

Those unable to attend in person can enjoy a full virtual experience by referring to the festival's new interactive map at richmond-maritimefestival.ca which is available on Aug. 21 and 22. The map will include videos and content about the history of Steveston, stories about Britannia Shipyards, and more.

•dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca

Steveston harbour to receive federal funding

Small craft dock gets \$17 million

By HANNAH SCOTT

Local Journalism Initiative reporter

The Steveston small craft harbour is receiving \$17 million as part of a federal commitment to the fishing industry.

Federal Minister of National Defence Harjit Sajjan made the announcement last week, emphasizing the importance of small craft harbours and their benefit to local communities.

"Investing in this local harbour helps not just the commercial fishing industry, but Steveston as a whole," said Sajjan. "Investing in people, promoting inclusive growth, and building stronger communities is a key part of our government's commitment to helping our neighbourhoods grow from coast to coast to coast. The work carried out will not only renew and maintain infrastructure that is essential

Investing in this local harbour helps not just the commercial fishing industry, but Steveston as a whole.

- Harjit Sajjan



Photo by Hannah Scott

Federal Minister of National Defence Harjit Sajjan announced \$17 million will go to renewing the Steveston small craft harbour over the next two years.

to the region, but also stimulate job opportunities that will benefit fish harvesters and support our local communities across British Columbia."

Sajjan said the funding will go towards repairs, electrical improvements and capital improve-

Jaime Gusto, the general manager at Steveston Harbour Authority, highlighted major projects undertaken locally in the last few years: the ice plant that opened in 2019, Cantrawl nets, Organic Ocean and, most recently, the Ocean Legacy Foundation's plastic recycling facility.

About 45,000 Canadians are employed in the fishing sector, and in total \$50 million is being invested federally over the next two years to help renew 26 small craft harbours. Fisheries and Oceans Canada supports 973 harbours across the country with more than 5,000 volunteers from harbour authorities.

•hannahs@richmondsentinel.ca

City gets \$3.3 million to tackle homelessness

The City of Richmond is one of 48 communities throughout B.C. that is receiving funding to help take action against homelessness.

In total, the city will get \$3,348,947 towards its homelessness action plan in response to COVID-19. The funding comes through the Strengthening Communities' Services Program, which is equally funded by the provincial and federal governments.

"Local governments have been on the front lines of the pandemic, supporting communities and continuing to provide critical services when people need them most," said Municipal Affairs Minister Josie Osborne. "These grants will provide local governments with a much-needed boost to continue vital services that were strained because of the pandemic. This is another StrongerBC program focused on making life better for people and ensuring communities emerge from the pandemic even stronger

The Strengthening Communities' Services Program is part of the Safe Restart Agreement, which provides \$540 million in total to municipalities, regional districts and modern Treaty Nations in B.C. It is administered by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities on behalf of the province.



Published by RICHMOND SENTINEL NEWS INC. 200-3071 No. 5 Road, Richmond, B.C., V6X 2T4

Advertising & Sponsorship

marketing@richmondsentinel.ca 778-325-1297

Newsroom

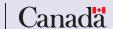
newsroom@richmondsentinel.ca 778-297-5005

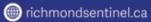
Editor - Don Fennell dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca



Download our app from the App Store or Google Play Store.

Funded in part by the Government of Canada













richmondsentinel.ca Aug. 17 - 30, 2021 COMMUNITY | 5

Summer raffle to support Richmond Christmas Fund

By **DON FENNELL**@rmdsentinel

The 2021 Richmond Christmas Fund has started counting down to its annual signature fundraising event—A Not So Silent Night—planned for Dec. 1.

That's when everyone expects to be returning this year to the Richmond Auto Mall for a spectacular evening fundraiser to ensure many of our neighbours who are less fortunate are able to celebrate the season.

The fundraising campaign begins with a 50/50 online raffle (christmasfund. rafflenexus.com).

The new initiative enables you to purchase a ticket and be entered in a draw to potentially win more than \$10,000. The remaining proceeds will support the Christmas Fund, an annual fundraiser organized by Richmond Cares, Rich-



Photo via christmasfund.rafflenexus.com

A new online raffle has launched in support of the Richmond Christmas Fund.

mond Gives. The funds raised will help increase the value of grocery vouchers issued to those in need to \$45 from \$40. The final day to purchase tickets is Aug. 31, with the draw set for 3 p.m. on Sept. 2.

Business award nominations open

Do you know of a Richmond business that goes above and beyond? Now's the time to recognize great local businesses, with nominations now open for the Richmond Chamber of Commerce's 44th annual Business Excellence Awards.

The nomination process is completely online this year, and is designed to be quick and easy.

Businesses do not need to be members of the Richmond chamber to receive an award, but they must hold a valid City of Richmond business license. People can nominate their own business if they wish. Nominations can be anonymous if people prefer.

Award finalists and recipients are chosen by a task force of independent judges,

which includes experienced professionals and business owners. A previous winner can win again provided it has been at least two years since receiving their last award. Finalists from last year are eligible to be nominated this year.

The deadline for nominations is 5 p.m. on Aug. 31.



Popularity of horse racing gave Minoru its name

In the first of a series on the many features of Minoru Park, we share the story of an Irish-bred horse that became a legendary champion.

By **DON FENNELL** @rmdsentinel

olden Gate Park in San Francisco, Jardin 🕽 du Luxembourg in Paris. Centennial Park

These are but three of the top city parks in the world, to which Richmondites would proudly add Minoru Park.

The green heart of the City Centre neighbourhood, the 18-hectare (45-acre) site is a sanctuary for locals—whether it's refuge from the hustle and bustle of urban life or an opportunity to challenge themselves in an athletic pursuit.

Deriving its name from a race horse owned by King Edward VII, Minoru Park's history is as colourful as the foliage that greets residents on a pleasant walk through its boundaries.

Richmond Archives, which has an extensive historical collection relating to the park, notes that the story of Minoru—the horse—begins in 1906 when Col. William Hal Walker, a wealthy Scotsman, decided to have a Japanese garden built at his Tully Stud estate near Kildare in Ireland. Walker called upon master horticulturalist Tassa Eida to design and build the gardens, which remain a popular tourist attraction to this day.

In appreciation of Eida's superior work, Walker, a successful breeder of horses, named one of his colts Minoru after the youngest of Eida's sons. In 1907 he leased six yearlings to King Edward VII, including Minoru, who enjoyed a winning career as a race horse capped by his victory at the 1909

Epsom Derby. In addition to his victory at Ep-

som Downs, the Irish-bred and British-trained horse Minoru enjoyed considerable overall success before retiring to stud in 1910. He was exported to Russia and disappeared during the 1917 revolution.

Coinciding with the enormous popularity of horse racing at the time, Richmond businessmen Springer, Suckling, Lewis and Marpole were in the midst of building this township's first thoroughbred in 1909 on land they had purchased from Samuel Brighouse. In just three months, a mile-long oval, grandstand, clubhouse and barns were completed at a cost of \$75,000 (\$2.2 million in 2021 dollars). And when it came time to choose a name for the new track,

Opening day at Minoru Racetrack and Clubhouse was Aug. 21, 1909 and

Soon, the dirt track earned a reputation as one of the finest race tracks in North America—if not the best. Closed from 1914 through 1920 during the

> house Park Racetrack and operated until 1941 when it closed permanently. It continued to be used for many more years as a training and boarding facility however.

In 1945 the land was purchased by the British Columbia Turf and Country Club, and in 1958 was sold to the City of Richmond re-adopting its original Minoru moniker in 1960.

In 1962, the city purchased the Brighouse Estate properties which enabled the footprint of the park to expand considerably to its present-day

2009, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the opening of Minoru Park, a life-sized bronze

> statue of the legendary race horse was unveiled near the Richmond Cultural Centre on the southeast side of the park. Created by

donated to the city by the Milan and Maureen Ilich Foundation, the statue is dedicated to the spirit of Richmond's early pioneers as well as to the men and women of the early thoroughbred racing industry.

•dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca

artist Sergei Traschenko and

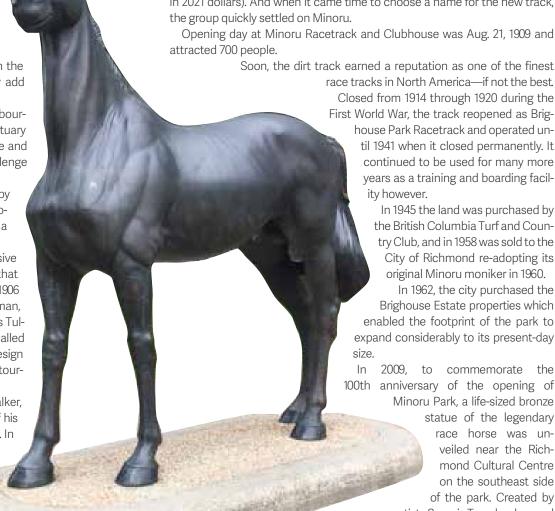


Photo by Don Fennell A statue of the race horse Minoru for which Richmond's City Centre park is named.



richmondsentinel.ca Aug. 17 - 30, 2021 COMMUNITY | 7

Med student inspired by volunteering

Li Qing Wang gives back through Youth Now program

By **HANNAH SCOTT**Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Volunteering in her community means a lot to Li Qing Wang. And through the Youth Now leadership program, run each year by Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives (RCRG), 24-year-old Wang is able to give back while building community leadership skills for the future.

"I wanted to volunteer in the community, and I wanted to have a bit more of a leadership role in my volunteering," she explains. "Prior to this I volunteered at various non-profit organizations where I was playing more of a supporting role."

Wang has been volunteering since she was a teenager attending Mac-Neill secondary. After moving to Canada from China at age 13, she is grateful to her teachers for the help and support they provided, as well as the community to whom she wants to give back.

"When I was in Grade 10 is when I started volunteering as a first aider at my school, as well as in the community," she remembers. "I just got certified to become a first aid instructor, because this is something I'm really passionate about. Since then, volunteering has brought me to various events like hockey tournaments, community events, sports events that otherwise I wouldn't go to. It's really exposed me to a lot of new experiences and new people."

Believing volunteering is as much about giving as receiving, Wang says she gets a lot of support and warmth back from others when she volunteers. She's also been able to learn a lot about life from other people.

After being admitted to medical school at UBC, Wang paused her volunteer work temporarily. But when the pandemic hit, she wanted to start giving back again. By that time, she had figured out her medical school schedule and had more free time.

After being a first aider for years, it's perhaps fitting that Wang is in training to become a doctor—something she's aspired to since she was 12. She's especially interested in maternal fetal health.

"That's my passion because personally I have experienced some difficult times throughout my life where the medical profession was there for me and (it) changed my life for the better," she explains. "So I really want to be able to not only give back, but also really dig into this field and hopefully bring something that would change the way things are now, that will change people's lives for the better.



Photo submitted

Li Qing Wang is part of Richmond Cares, Richmond Gives' Youth Now volunteer program.

In the community I want to empower women to achieve their fullest potential.

—Li Qing Wang

"I'm very passionate about empowering women, and through the medical field I hope to be there and support them when they're most vulnerable. In the community I want to empower women to achieve their fullest potential."

The Youth Now program has several components, all of which have had to move online during the pandemic. During the monthly conferences, members discuss broad topics including board governance, strategic planning, fundraising and social media.

Each Youth Now member is also matched to a non-profit organization, and serves on its board to learn about the process. Wang is matched with the Richmond Women's Resource Centre, and plans to continue working with that group next year.

"With the board, the biggest part is you get to carry out your own community projects," she says. "There's the freedom of coming up with project ideas by ourselves, with the full support of the board in terms of providing funding and resources to carry out the activity, social media and intellectual input into the planning of the project."

Wang's community project focuses on empowering female-identifying youth to pursue professional careers

"As a female-identifying immigrant in this country pursuing a degree, I've gone through a lot of struggles myself and I just hope to help people through this community project, help youth through an early stage of their lives and careers to have the tools to help themselves when they

encounter challenges further down the road," she says.

The Youth Now team also works together on a video project, which this year has involved interviewing people from various non-profit organizations about their experiences during the pandemic. Their goal is "to highlight resilience in the community during the pandemic," Wang explains.

"Social distancing and the initial closure of businesses created a lot of physical separation between people. We wanted to do a project that showcased the various ways people stayed connected or created new connections in the community," she says. "This year the youth leaders are all really supportive and understanding of each other, even though we only worked together online. It's a friendship that can continue into the future."

Applications for the 2021-22 Youth Now program, open to high school graduates under age 28, are due Sept. 1. For more information, visit rcrg.org/WhatWeDo/RCRGPrograms/leadership-richmond

•hannahs@richmondsentinel.ca

Nature school celebrates the great outdoors

Flexibility is key to program's continued success

By HANNAH SCOTT

Local Journalism Initiative reporter

he brainchild of two early childhood educators, Terra Nova Nature School was literally a

Kate Dawson had a dream about the concept, and Emily Vera had a daytime vision of the same thing. The two women had only met a few times at that point, but when they sat next to each other at a gardening workshop and shared their idea, it was

"At the end (of the workshop) I said I want(ed) to open a school in that little building at Terra Nova, and Emily jumped up and said 'me too, I want to do that too'," says Dawson.

Vera adds that they were fortunate to have the support, from very early on, of the City of Richmond and the Thompson Community Association. Those two bodies continue to be instrumental to the school's success today, ten years after the idea was initially pitched.

"We both came from community-based programs," says Vera. "It was important that it remained committed to developing a strong community of people, (being) affordable for families and inclusive for all children."

Going into its eighth year of operation, Dawson says Terra Nova Nature School's model continues to be unique as a licensed preschool with a focus on outdoor education. Initially, people wondered if it would succeed in Richmond. But after being set up quickly, including licensing and construction of the building, it began to grow, and now encompasses programs for kids aged three months to 15 years

"The people who started with us haven't wanted to leave," says Dawson. "Every year we've had to increase (our) programs. Now the initial children are going to be able to volunteer."

There are 20 preschoolers each in the morning and afternoon sessions, as well as school-aged kids who come in for other programs, including after school. And despite the initial uncertainty, almost every program for this fall is full, totalling over 200 children.

For Vera and Dawson, it's important to maintain a connection to the land on which they learn. Their staff take Truth and Reconciliation training, and they share with kids and families about Indigenous plants and transportation down the river, as well as the cottage's history as part of a thriving Japanese fishing community.

A framework has developed, including a morning gathering circle and daily outdoor play. Storytelling, literacy and singing are always areas of focus,



Students at Terra Nova Nature School learn about the world around them every day through outdoor play.

as well as responding to the season, weather and surroundings. But despite the framework, there is no"typical day."

"If you can't blow in the wind out here, this is not the place for you," says Dawson.

Vera says the outdoor play includes items brought to spark curiosity, as well as what they call "forest school materials." And Dawson adds that

If you can't blow in the wind out here, this is not the place for you.

- Kate Dawson

some regular lessons, like teaching the alphabet or counting, come up naturally by counting crows in trees, or wondering why a puddle has dried up.

Part of outdoor learning is having appropriate clothing, including wool socks and waterproof foot-

"We always say there's no bad weather, just bad clothing," says Vera.

A rented construction pod outside acts as the cubby room, where kids can take off their wet or dirty outdoor gear for families to clean.

"It's a small space, there's no running around in there," says Dawson."The little three-year-olds learn

to help each other get changed in and out of their

Although kids are well prepared, there are still moments of resistance or frustration. But from those moments they learn resilience and indepen-

"We might be at one end of the park land and they're tired and cold and ready to have nutrition break," says Vera. "We are showering them all the time with love—we are very loving as a team, and affectionate. We also believe that they are capable of being part of a group and toughing things out sometimes. We snuggle them and we say 'we've got to get back to it'."

Although some are not yet three years old when they start the school year, kids build listening skills, and always stop at benches, intersections and bridges. As they walk, they also learn about the things around them through activities like journalling and nature awareness games. They like playing with the mud kitchen, mixing things and noticing worms, snails and caterpillars.

"They pretty much all love horsetail," says Vera. "It's plentiful and invasive, so we're not very particular about how much they pick. It's turned into magic brooms (and) stirring sticks."

Above all, Dawson and Vera along with their staff know to respond to their surroundings and anticipate changes.

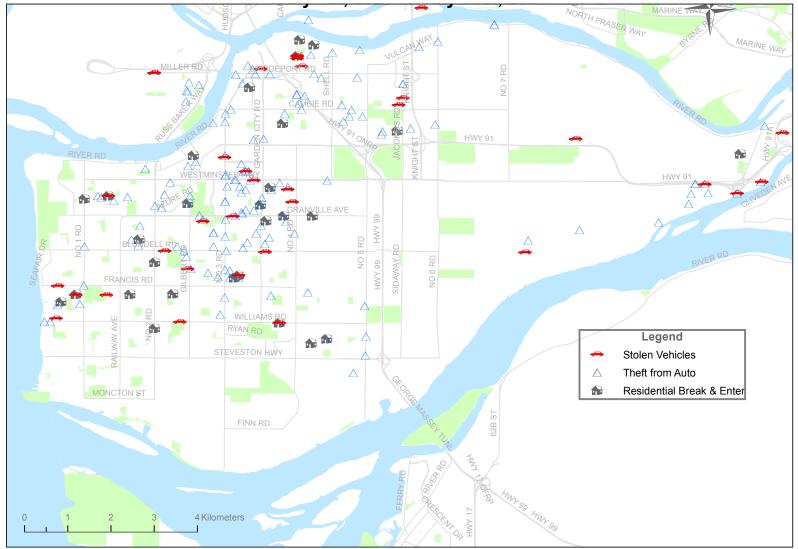
"We generally know when the grass is dying down and when it's starting to sprout," says Vera. "As educators, we look for some clues and respond to that. That's the beauty of this type of work."

•hannahs@richmondsentinel.ca

richmondsentinel.ca Aug. 17 - 30, 2021 RCMP | S



Crime Map July 1 - 31, 2021



Airport wins another award

Vancouver International Airport has added to its list of accolades, winning the Skytrax Best Airport in North America award for the 12th consecutive year.

The airport has also received Skytrax's COVID-19 Airport Excellence award, which recognizes airports selected by passengers for their health, hygiene and safety protocols. It is the only Canadian airport to receive this award.

"It's an honour for (the airport) to be recognized as the best airport in North America for 12 years in a row. To also be recognized in the new award category of COVID-19 Airport Excellence, as one of the cleanest, safest and healthiest airports in the world, is a true testament to the expertise, hard work and dedication of our entire airport community," said Vancouver Airport Authority president and chief executive officer Tamara Vrooman. "Thank you to everyone who has contributed—from quickly implementing the ever-changing travel measures to operating the airport safely and with the highest levels of service delivery in our industry, this is something we can all be proud of."

More than 21.65 million passengers voluntarily vote on the Skytrax awards, making it the largest annual global airport customer satisfaction survey. It measures 39 elements in the airport travel experience including check-in, security, comfort, efficiency, signage, guest service, transportation, passenger amenities and friendliness.



Photo by Hannah Scott

Vancouver International Airport has again been honoured with the Skytrax Best Airport in North America award.

Finishing kick nets Dunfee bronze

Richmond race walker an Olympic medallist



Instead of pounding the pavement, Evan Dunfee is ready to put his feet up for a bit.

He's earned it

By somehow finding a last-minute burst of energy over the final leg of the men's 50 kilometre race walk, the 30-year-old athlete from Richmond returned home from the Tokyo Olympics a bronze medallist.

In one of the most grueling events of the Games, a taxing exercise demanding both determination and endurance, Dunfee discovered he had even more to give. In fifth place at that point, he drew inspiration from within, thinking of family and friends who had supported his journey. And when he crossed the finish line in three hours, 50 minutes, 59 seconds, he had realized a childhood dream.

It was a just result for Dunfee, who five years earlier had narrowly missed reaching the podium when he was edged out for third place at the Rio Olympics. He might have had a medal in those Games too, had it not been for his steadfast insistence that the results stand—despite the possibility of interference that may have thrown off his stride.

But this is Dunfee to the core. A champion who lets his actions speak for themselves, and whose principles define him.

Sure, he would have loved to have won gold in Sapporo. But finishing the race under extreme conditions, heat and humidity challenging him each step of the way, and doing so while upholding the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect—along with fair play—are what matters most.

Never comfortable celebrating his own achievements, Dunfee would much rather be cheering others to realize their potential than basking in his success. But he's honoured to be able to share the moment—especially if it inspires others to pursue their dreams, athletic or otherwise.

"It's nice to be home surrounded by friends and family who I can share the medal and the moment with," he says. "I wanted gold, but I gave everything my body allowed me to give on that race course and I can't ask for any more than that I think what I'll remember most is just sitting in my hotel room in Sapporo FaceTiming my girlfriend Sara while we watched the Games. It's so nice to have someone that shares my passion for sport and makes it so much more enjoyable than watching it on my own."

During the Games, Dunfee also felt the closeness of his family—his older brother Adam, who first introduced and taught him the basics of race walking; his ever-supportive and cheering parents, Don and Karen; and his grandpar-



Photo submitted

Richmond race walker Evan Dunfee (right) is greeted by longtime friend Jordan Smith after arriving home with a bronze medal following his third-place finish in the grueling 50k at the Olympic Summer Games.

ents, notably his late Nana, who was unequivocally one of his biggest fans and who used to say he had wings on his feet.

Short-term, he'll soon re-focus on training for the world race walking championships scheduled for next summer in nearby Eugene, Oregon, and trying to win the first-ever 35k race there. Beyond that he just wants "to be a positive force here in Richmond," dedicated to making a difference in his community. Perhaps that will include a run for council in next year's municipal election.

But above all, Evan Dunfee's ultimate goal is simple but potentially far-reaching and lasting—"trying to use this medal to get more kids active, setting goals and chasing them."

"That is more than enough for me," he says.

•dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca

Rogers fifth at Olympics with record throw

By DON FENNELL

@rmdsentinel

As usual, Camryn Rogers gave it her all in what added up to her best throw ever—and a Canadian record.

And while in the end the Richmond athlete's throw of 74.35 metres at the Olympic Summer Games in Tokyo was surpassed by four others in a remarkably strong field of athletes in the women's hammer throw final, it confirmed that Rogers is in select company.

Poland's Anita Wlodarczyk won gold with a win-

ning distance of 78.48 metres, becoming the only woman ever to win the Olympic title three times in a row. China's Zheng Wang took silver with a throw of 77.03, and Malwina Kopron of Poland bronze with a throw of 75.49. Alexandra Tavernier of France placed fourth with a throw of 74.41.

Rogers, just 22, will surely have many more opportunities to reach the Olympic podium given her throws career is only starting. The McMath Secondary grad and current University of California-Berkeley student is the two-time reigning NCAA college champion.



Photo submitted Richmond's Camryn Rogers placed fifth in the Olympic women's hammer throw in Tokyo.

richmondsentinel.ca Aug. 17 - 30, 2021 ARTS & CULTURE | 11

Grand Prix of Art returning to Steveston



Photo by Don Fennell

After participating virtually last year, artists will be back in Steveston this September for the annual Grand Prix of Art.

By HANNAH SCOTT

Local Journalism Initiative reporter

The annual Grand Prix of Art is returning to Steveston this year, following last year's virtual event.

But the beloved community event, taking place Sept. 4, will have a few changes to account for a still-changing pandemic situation. Instead of 120 artists, organizer Mark Glavina says there will be no more than 80. And artists will get a bagged prepared lunch instead of the large meal that's usually provided.

There will be 30 locations instead of the usual 40, concentrated along the waterfront rather than within Steveston village where pedestrian traffic could be impeded.

There remain three categories—masters, adult and youth—and the location lottery will still happen, although in advance via a virtual draw.

"People can walk the length of the waterfront, (but) this year it'll probably be a smaller wingspan," says Glavina.

Artists will begin with staggered time windows, the first group starting at 9:30 a.m. followed by two more 30 minutes apart. Glavina says it will still have the feel of a sporting event, with artists required to return their completed works before the four-hour deadline. Pieces will then be displayed for members of the public and judges, who will award prizes. Pieces are sold, with the majority of the profits going directly back to the artists. In 2019, over \$20,000 went back into the artists' hands.

"My original idea in the first place (was) to celebrate artists like we do athletes, and slowly we're coming around," says Glavina." I think recognition of artists is the first step, and the recognition and mentorship of top artists is also really important and something young people or other artists that are developing can look up to. There are some pretty amazing artists that participate, (and) we should hold up their work as rockstars, because they are at the top of their field."

Many artists come back to the event year after year, while the intensity of the format doesn't work for others. Glavina says it takes a lot of courage to participate, particularly in the masters category where some artists might be used to working from a photograph, projecting images onto canvas or spending a long time on each piece.

"The truth is that there's no faking it in my opinion," says Glavina. "The mas-

ters that can paint in this environment can paint in any environment"

He adds that it's a great learning tool to be able to create from what's in front of you, and learning from observation can help artists in training. Judging is based on technical aspects, creativity and uniqueness, as well as how successful the representation of location is.

"Sometimes we get really great technical painters, but there's no mood or feeling in their work. They might score well for handling their medium well, but they score low on capturing the mood of the day. On the other side, there are people who knock it out of the park with that (mood), but their painting lacks the technical finesse."

And although this year's event is yet to happen, plans are already afoot for next year's 10th anniversary celebration—originally scheduled for 2020, and now twice delayed.

"We have guest instructors coming from all over the world to teach the art of plein air painting" says Glavina. "It'll be a week-long

festival with multiple types of activities leading towards the Grand Prix, (including) workshops and panel discussions."

To learn more about the Grand Prix of Art, visit grandprixofart.ca





AVAILABLE SEPT 1ST, 2021

5th FLOOR 2 BDRM, 1 BATH + DEN SUITE

942 sq.ft. • South facing • 9' ceilings • Walk out deck Walk in shower • Emergency call button in suite

Call for more information **604-277-4519** or email **eileen@themapleresidences.com** 4071 Chatham Street • themapleresidences.com

Connecting through community concerts

Weekly music group brings people together in neighbourhood park

By HANNAH SCOTT

Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Stroll by Kozier Park on a Monday evening and you'll be treated to an hour-long outdoor concert.

Music, explains conductor Brenda Khoo, is a way to bring people together. After a long period of disconnection, this is particularly welcome.

"Music is a universal language," says Khoo."Often, when words cannot be found to build connection, music and other fine arts can bridge that gap. I believe the opportunity to hear music helps create a shared experience, even when socially distant, that helps foster community."

About 30 participants show up each week, ranging in age from nine to 70something with a wide variety of musical backgrounds. Some attend Richmond elementary or secondary schools and some are members of one of Khoo's three bands: Brass Wind and Wire, the Delta Music Makers and Marcato.

35[™] ANNIVERSARY SALE

In previous years Khoo has run a single summer concert in the Steveston-area park, bringing together members of various groups during a season when many community bands take a break. But this year's weekly



Musicians of all ages gather for a concert each Monday in Kozier Park.

Photo submitted

concerts began as a solo effort, when Khoo played *O Canada* on her doorstep each Monday as a tribute to healthcare workers.

One week, a member of the youth band she conducts was walking by and said she'd like to join. So the following Monday, they met nearby at Kozier Park.

"That first night it was my two daughters, myself and Vera, one of the trumpet players," says Khoo. "The following week Erica, a clarinetist, joined us. Gradually word spread, and youth and adult musicians started asking to join."

Khoo sends out a list of songs each week—providing a variety of styles and eras—so musicians can prepare in advance if they prefer.

"The songs are picked at the beginning of the season to be ones that anyone with even limited experience could participate in," she says. "For the first few Mondays I did not have a set playlist order, as I was still getting a sense of the ensemble's strengths."

Fortunately, those who live in the neighbourhood don't seem to mind the music. Khoo says while she was concerned that residents might complain there were too many people, or that musicians were gathered too closely together, feedback has been positive.

"So far everyone seems happy with the activity, and people have started letting others know. We are having people from other neighbourhoods come to watch and listen," she says.

Khoo adds that musicians of any age are welcome to join the Monday group, and interested musicians can contact her at bkhoo@shaw.ca.

•hannahs@richmondsentinel.ca

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION SALE AUG 19- AUG 22 **Huge Distributor Inventory Reduction Savings!** ■ We have a special selection of products from our many distributors on display for your hobby needs at huge savings Come on in to the Lower Mainland's largest selection of Games, Comics & Models all in one store! **COVID ALERT:** to keep you safe and happy in-store. · Recommended face mask wearing and social 6080 Russ Baker Way, Richmond GAMES (near McDonalds) 604.273.4427 ORDERS@IMPERIALHOBBIES.CA WWW.IMPERIALHOBBIES.CA MODELS

I believe the opportunity to hear music helps create a shared experience, even when socially distant, that helps foster community.

- Brenda Khoo

richmondsentinel.ca Aug. 17 - 30, 2021 BUSINESS | 13

Q+A: new boutique hotel opens in Richmond

Versante Hotel has recently opened in Richmond—the city's only independent boutique hotel.

Boutique hotels typically have a smaller number of rooms and are known for their theming and style. Rates for each of the 100 rooms start at \$249 per night. All rooms have a rainforest shower, and many also have a separate freestanding soaking tub.

The hotel is located near Bridgeport Canada Line station, and also offers a restaurant, a lounge and a bar, as well as bookable meeting and event rooms.

General manager David Curell answered some questions about what people can expect.

How long have planning and construction been going on?

Planning for Versante Hotel has been years in the making, but the hotel's construction began in 2018.

What were the challenges of opening a new hotel during the pandemic?

Shipping delays and supply shortages have been our greatest challenge. Hospitality has suffered immensely and several hotels have been forced to close, restructure, and make changes to operating procedures; we feel fortunate to be opening during a time when recreational travel is safely starting to resume, and to have safety, cleanliness and flexibility built into our DNA.

What inspired the hotel's design?

Versante Hotel's interior design evokes the excitement of a Chinese night market with vibrant colours and bold, iconic furnishings. Designed by Vancouver-based CHIL Interior Design, Versante provides a visceral experience for guests from the



Versante Hotel is now open in Richmond.

Photo courtesy Versante Hotel

moment they arrive. Striking shades of cardinal red, electric blue and emerald capture your attention, while iconic furnishings—like a handcrafted Chinoiserie rug by Andy Dixon, a charcoal sculpture of local topography by Marie Khouri, and a custom pink reception pod—invite guests in for deeper contemplation.

What sets Versante apart from other local hotels?

Opening as Richmond's first and only indepen-

dent luxury boutique hotel means that guests will experience all the services that can be enjoyed at a big-brand hotel within a stylish and intimate environment. The property's vibrant design, luxury amenities, rooftop saltwater pool and jacuzzi, world-class dining venues and more will attract those in search of a personalized experience, while providing the convenience of being just moments from the airport.

For more information, visit versantehotel.com

Skills training to help Richmondites move forward

Access to new training and job opportunities will help Richmondites find their place as the economy looks to bounce back from COVID-19.

"For many people who were already grappling with barriers to employment, the pandemic was devastating," said Aman Singh, MLA for Richmond-Queensborough. "That's why we're investing in folks who need extra support. Our recovery must lift up everyone, not just those at the top."

Many programs are already underway and additional training opportunities will start in the next few months thanks to provincial funding. The following are some examples of the over 20 programs available:

- Back in Motion will deliver the WarehouseAbilities program to 60 participants with disabilities in Richmond and across the province. The program prepares people for employment in the warehousing industry through training which includes soft skills, job placements, and hands-on work experience. This program is supported by an investment of \$800,970.
- Progressive Intercultural Community Services (PICS) will deliver the SAFE program, which enables survivors of domestic violence to prepare for



Photo submitted Richmond-Queensborough MLA Aman Singh says access to new training and job opportunities will assist many.

work as medical office assistants, dental receptionists, or early childhood educator assistants. The program will provide 36 participants across the Lower Mainland with multilingual pre-employment, occupational training, work experience, and support services. This program is supported by an investment of \$396,216.

• The Immigrant Services Society of BC will deliver the Blaze program to 30 young entrepreneurs across the Lower Mainland. The program provides young people with skills training, business experience, and peer-to-peer support as they develop business connections. This program is supported by an investment of \$286,832.

Richmond-Steveston MLA Kelly Greene says "These skills training programs are designed to meet people where they're at and give them what they need to thrive in their career, whether that's a new set of skills, job experience, or a mentor. No matter your education or work history, there is an opportunity out there for you."

Adds Richmond South Centre MLA Henry Yao: "By giv-

ing people the skills and opportunities they need to return to work or start a new career, we're also boosting Richmond's economy and providing more skilled workers for our local businesses."

Hospital food getting a local flavour

Menu good for patients and local growers, producers



Often described as bland, boring and tasteless, hospital food doesn't have the best reputation. But thankfully that's changing.

With an emphasis on putting locally-grown and produced B.C. foods on the menu, Lower Mainland health authorities—including Richmond Hospital—are feeding two desires: serving patients a more appealing fare and helping support local farmers, fishers, ranchers and food producers.

"Having our loved ones able to enjoy more local and seasonal food while in hospital or living in long-term care is an important part of healing and staying connected," said Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries. "What started as a simple idea has now grown into an important and successful program, as Feed BC is helping institutions to bring in more local culinary options that benefit patients and clients."

Henry Yao, MLA for Richmond South Centre, says eating fresh, culturally appropriate food while staying in the hospital can help patients heal and regain their strength.

"By offering more local food in Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) facilities, we're improving outcomes for people who are receiving care, while also supporting our local farmers and producers," he says.

Asphalt Paving Advisory

The City of Richmond has contracted All Road Construction to grind and pave the following locations in Richmond from **March 8 to October 15, 2021:**

PROPOSED 2020 PAVING LOC	CATION DETAILS				
Garden City and Alderbridge Way	Intersection only				
8000 Block Westminster Hwy	Eastbound lanes only				
Bridgeport Road and Viking Way	Intersection only				
6000 Block Cooney Road	Granville Avenue to Westminster Highway				
11000 Block No. 3 Road	Intermittent spot repairs for vibrations				
8000 Block Lansdowne Road	No. 3 Road to Garden City Road				
10000 Block No. 4 Road	Williams Road to Steveston Highway				
11000 Block Railway Avenue	Steveston Highway to Moncton Street				
Colbeck Road					
Palmberg Road					
Kozier Drive	Vibration complaint				
8117 No. 1 Road	Vibration complaint				
6651 Blundell Road	Westbound lane – vibration complaint				
13000 Block Cambie Road	Jacombs Road to No. 6 Road				
Gilbert Road	Northbound lanes (River Road to Elmbridge Way)				

Work hours will be 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on weekdays, and 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on weekends. Night time work hours will be from 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. (typically).

Traffic will be reduced to single-lane and there may be temporary lane closures. Delays may occur. The use of an alternate route is strongly encouraged.

This work is weather dependent and dates are subject to change without notice.

The scope of the advertised work may be adjusted or cancelled in line with available funding.

Questions may be directed to Wasim Memon, Supervisor, Engineering Inspections, at 604-276-4189, or visit the City's paving program webpage at www.richmond.ca (City Services > Roads, Dykes, Water & Sewers > Construction Projects > 2020 Paving Program).

www.richmond.ca **f**









Photo via pixabay.com

With an emphasis on locally grown and produced B.C. foods, Lower Mainland health authorities—including Richmond Hospital—are serving up nutritious and colourful new foods to patients.

In the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA), the B.C. Forensic Psychiatric Hospital in Coquitlam has developed a partnership with Okanagan Select, an Indigenous fishery owned and operated by the Syilx (Okanagan Nation Alliance), to source B.C.-caught and processed sockeye and chinook for patients. Introducing salmon and other menu items helps maintain connection for some Indigenous patients and others with cultural food interests and preferences, and supports B.C. fishers, producers and processors. It also helps the health authority work toward the goal of procuring at least 30 per cent B.C. foods.

"The partnership Okanagan Select has developed with the B.C. Forensic Psychiatric Hospital means more local food is getting to more British Columbians in the care of the health authority," said Cordell Yazzie, operations and sales co-ordinator for Okanagan Select. "This provides nourishing food to help keep those in care connected to their culture, which is important to us. Feed BC is supporting local companies to expand into greater markets, and giving the opportunity to reach more people around B.C."

For National Indigenous Peoples Day, the Forensic Psychiatric Hospital developed a menu featuring traditional B.C. foods and Indigenous recipes. The menu included salmon smoked in-house and candied salmon from the Okanagan Nation Alliance, bannock made using a recipe from one of their Indigenous patients, huckleberry and Saskatoon berry compote and marinated seaweed, all served on traditional cedar planks made by the patients.

In other PHSA facilities, such as the BC Children's and BC Women's hospitals, patient menus offer butter chicken, saag paneer and dahl from Surrey-based processor Spice Mantra, in partnership with food provider Compass Group.

"This partnership is a proud result of hard work behind the scenes to improve access to fresh, locally grown produce and other local food and beverage products," said Health Minister Adrian Dix."We know how important it is to eat well, and this demonstrates our ability to empower the health system to prioritize healthy, local food in hospitals and other facilities. People know they're getting the best of B.C. when they are in our care."

Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) and Providence Health Care (PHC) are working with food service company Sodexo to help bring more B.C. foods to their patients, residents and facilities. Some examples of current B.C.-produced or processed products and suppliers to VCH and PHC are Highline Mushrooms produced in the Lower Mainland and baked goods from Monte Cristo's bakery in Delta

richmondsentinel.ca Aug. 17 - 30, 2021 HEALTH | 15

Bodhi Meditation donates \$400k to hospital

One of three recent contributions to support health care

By **DON FENNELL**@rmdsentinel

In the eyes of JinBodhi, the mind and body work hand-in-hand. And while he believes meditation promotes mental well-being which translates into physical well-being, he also recognizes that the best outcome includes the support of an equally robust health care system.

To that end, and in celebration of JinBodhi's 30-year Dharma teaching anniversary, Bodhi Meditation and Grandmaster JinBodhi have each made donations of \$200,000 to the Richmond Hospital Foundation.

The hope is to create a meaningful impact in Richmond health care.

"As a resident of Richmond, it is my honour and pleasure to be able to contribute to the community," says JinBodhi. "In the face of such a devastating pandemic, it is a brave and remarkable act of all medical workers to serve the public on the frontlines. We admire them and are very moved. Thank you to all the medical workers for their hard work and dedication. This donation is a token of our appreciation, support, and respect."

Bodhi Meditation has been a distinguished devotee to health care in Richmond for years. In 2019, the group made a \$100,000 gift in support of the ACT NOW campaign to help fund the new Yurkovich Family Pavilion at Richmond Hospital.

The donation was one of three made recently to the foundation.

Hayden Diamond Bit Industries, which specializes in made-in-B.C. diamond drill bits and products for the global mining and exploration



Photo courtesy Richmond Hospital Foundation

Grandmaster JinBodhi (third from right) presents a donation cheque to the Richmond Hospital Foundation.

industry, donated \$50,000 to the surgical restart campaign. The funds will help ensure health care teams have access to state-of-the-art surgical equipment, enabling shorter procedures and faster patient recovery times.

Eric Gaunder, founder of the business, is a Richmond resident along with his wife, Kamal, and their four children—all of whom were born at Richmond Hospital.

"The business of diamond bits relies primarily on quality. This is equally true for health care. Not only is passion and expertise imperative, our passionate and expert health care teams also need the proper tools to facilitate the best treatments

possible," says Gaunder.

"Richmond is my home and it is of paramount importance to me that my family and staff, most of whom also live in Richmond, have access to the best, high-quality health care driven by both skill and modern surgical equipment."

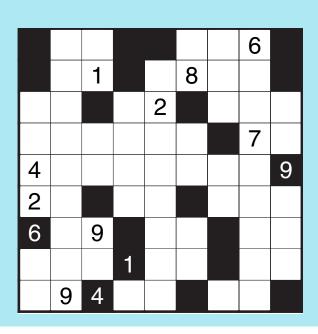
Align BC Properties also recently made a \$10,000 donation to the surgical restart campaign.

"Everyone around the world is suffering from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic," says company director John Liang. "We are all helpless and vulnerable as this disease does not discriminate."

•dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca

STR8TS

No number can be repeated in any row or column. Rows and columns are divided by black squares into compartments. Each compartment must contain a 'straight,' a set of numbers with no gaps in any order, eg. [4,2,3,5]. Numbers in black cells are not part of straights but also cannot be repeated in their row or column.



SUDOKU

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

16 Aug. 17 - 30, 2021 RICHMOND SENTINEL



YOUR VOICE MATTERS

