

FREE

The Garden Park Journal

Volume 2, Number 11

Abbotsford, British Columbia

April 2016



Understanding Dementia

Lucy sat on the edge of the narrow bed and helplessly watched as her mother tried to button up her cardigan for the third time. The results were becoming increasingly disastrous. Finally, losing patience with her arduous task, the elderly woman pulled herself out of her rocking chair and wandered aimlessly around the small, neat room she called home. It was a bright, sunny room, and on a dresser by the window stood an assortment of keepsakes and family pictures. Wandering over to the dresser, her mother pointed to the pictures. "Who are those people," she said petulantly. "I don't know who those people are; why are they here?" Lucy sighed, and a tear slipped down her cheek as she – for the third time that afternoon – identified the family members in the pictures.

Lucy was appalled by how much her mother had regressed since her last visit four months ago. It was hard living so far away from her mother, but she tried to see her as often as family and work responsibilities would allow. The combination of jet lag and her mother's deteriorating condition suddenly made her want to weep. She sighed again wearily. Was there anything coherent still going on behind those bewildered blue eyes? Her mother was well into the final stages of Alzheimer's disease, and Lucy found it increasingly difficult to associate this pathetic, confused creature with the strong, loving woman who had once juggled a variety of roles with great efficiency.

The tears began to flow, and Lucy wiped them away – angrily. Her mother did not deserve this! She had been faithful to God through thick and through thin. Was this His idea of "blessing her in her old age, and making her fruitful" as the

Lilli Kehler



Lilli Kehler

Continued on page 2

China – A Christian Country?

John H. Redekop

One of the most under-reported global stories is the religious transformation of China. "In 1980 it was estimated that there were about 10 million Christians in China." What is particularly striking is that "Despite the recent campaigns to take down crosses atop many Chinese churches, Christianity is gaining ground, especially among the well-educated." (www.christianheadlines.com/blog/christianity-growing-among-chinas-well-educated.html)

The Centre for the Global Study of Christianity (CGSC) put the total at 106 million in 2010. (www.christianitytoday.com/ct/channel/utilities/print.html?&type=article&id=132759) The late 2015 estimate of the United Bible Societies (UBS), an organization with major operations in China, is that "7.5 million new believers were added this year to the 150 million Christians in China." (www.billionbibles.org/china/ubs-china.html) That is probably the most reliable number. In any event, the number of Christians in China today greatly exceeds the number of Communist Party members which the Party states is 86.7 million. Significantly, there seems to be general agreement that given the present rate of increase, there should be "more than 330 million by 2050". (CSGC) A special report in the *Financial Times* states that "many experts believe China will have the world's biggest Christian population within the next fifteen years" (by 2031). (www.ft.com/cms/s/0/e1195c78-6599-11e4-a454-00144feabdc0.html) Could any pioneer missionaries to China have envisioned such phenomenal growth?

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CLEARBROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE

AT GARDEN PARK TOWER

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Clearbrook Golden Age Society

Regular Office

Hours: 8:30 am-4:00 pm

Bible promised? Did He really care about her mother, or was He discarding her, like an old, useless shoe?

Immersed in her rebellious thoughts, Lucy had temporarily taken her eyes off her mother, but suddenly she felt a soft hand brushing the tears from her cheeks. Looking up into her mother's eyes, she was certain she saw a glimmer of recognition. The vacant expression had temporarily given way to one of gentle concern. For a moment, time reversed itself: Lucy was the little girl who had fallen and skinned her knee and only Mom could kiss it and make it better. Throwing her arms around her mother, Lucy immediately felt a responsive squeeze. Whatever else her mother had lost to this debilitating disease, she had not entirely lost the ability to feel compassion for her beloved child. One day – in her eternal home – her body and mind would be fully restored, but for now, God was reminding both of them that her mother was safe and secure in His loving hands. When they were weak, He was strong! The territory they were travelling through was unfamiliar, but the God who was leading them was wonderfully familiar – and He knew the way!

Lilli was born in a refugee camp in Poland while her parents were fleeing from Ukraine to Germany. The family migrated to Canada in 1952, when Lilli was 8 years old. She grew up in Morris, Manitoba. Lilli studied at North American Baptist College in Edmonton and later at Trinity Western University. She and Erv have two children, Jay and Holly. Their son, Jay, a graduate of TWU, was killed in a motorcycle accident in 1993.

A life-long learner, Lilli took courses at TWU and the University of the Fraser Valley to earn the ESL diploma. Lilli taught ESL for six summers at Lithuania Christian College. Now retired in Abbotsford, Lilli and Erv still lead a very active life which includes participation in Bond of Love, a musical group. They attend Abbotsford Baptist Church.

"The church of Christ owes its very existence to the fact that in...the world there is one gaping tomb...."

John S. White

Purpose Statement

The Garden Park Journal has been established to serve and advance the interests of the Clearbrook Golden Age Society and its members. It also promotes the interest of seniors generally. It provides a forum for seniors and informs the larger community about seniors' issues and concerns! It seeks to provide interesting and helpful information, to announce events, to describe resources, to build community, and to be a Christian voice for seniors.

Mission Statement

The Clearbrook Golden Age Society provides a variety of meaningful social services for the community of retired and semi-retired persons in the Central Fraser Valley. The community's needs are serviced by providing a facility which includes residential units, commercial space and a Community Centre for public recreational, educational and spiritual activities. The focus is to promote a sense of well-being in mind, body and spirit. The Society looks beyond the ranks of its membership to facilitate participation by the wider community through specialized programs or projects. The dignity and self-respect of each member, staff and participant are to be recognized and respected.

The Clearbrook Golden Age Society is managed in harmony with the practices and faith perspectives of the Judeo-Christian tradition.

Equally startling is the printing of Bibles in officially atheist China. The Amity Printing Company (APC) in Nanjing, the capital of China's Jiangsu Province, is the only legal printer of Bibles in China but it has become the world's largest Bible printer. The APC "has just published its 125 millionth copy of the good book". (*Christianity Today, cited above.*) Founded in 1985 and printing its first Bible in 1987, the APC now prints 18 million Bibles a year. It publishes Bibles "in 10 Chinese languages...and 90 other languages that have been exported to 70 different countries." (*Financial Times cited above.*) Recently Mark Bertrand, an official of Bible Design Blog, wrote that "Chances are good that your favorite Bible was printed in China. The overwhelming majority of Bibles sold at Christian bookstores or Barnes & Noble were printed there." (*Christianity Today, cited above.*) About 75% of APC's Bibles are printed for export.

The APC is itself an amazing phenomenon. The Amity Foundation was established in 1985, with governmental permission, as a private Christian charitable agency "to promote education, social services, health and rural development". In 1986 the Communist government, having given up its attempt to eradicate Christianity and having decided rather to control the church, allowed APC to form a joint company with the global United Bible Society, an association of 145 national Bible Societies, to print Bibles. The APC's printing profits are still used for Amity Foundation's original secular but praiseworthy services.

Bible distribution in China remains problematic. No regular stores are allowed to sell Bibles. They are for sale only in the more than 55,000 registered Three Self (Patriotic) Churches. It is not legal for any Christian in an underground church to own a Bible and it is illegal for anyone in China to own a Bible other than an APC Bible. Fortunately, the selling price is low. The basic Bible sells for about US\$1.50 (9.50 Yuan). (www.billionbibles.com cited above) Who could have anticipated that a Communist-controlled company would become the world's largest supplier of Bibles?

A third component of surging Christianity in China is its very recent missionary movement. In the fall of 2015 "about 850 Chinese leaders gathered for their own missions conference" in Hong Kong. There "They announced...a long-discussed goal: to send 20,000 missionaries from China by the year 2030". The official Three Self (Patriotic) Churches are not allowed to send any missionaries or do out-of-church evangelism; all the missionaries thus far have come from the illegal underground churches (www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2016january-february/made-n-china-next-mass-missionary-movement.html) Given that the Chinese churches have thus far been allowed to send only a few hundred missionaries, often officially described as consultants or other professionals, this may seem unrealistic. But given what is happening to church membership and Bible-printing, the improbable may yet become reality.

"If the Lord loves a cheerful giver he must hate the taxpayer." Quoted



From the Editor's Desk

Focusing on Christian politicians

A few years ago I underwent two brain surgeries. It seems that not too much mental capacity was lost – but others are better judges on this grey matter than I am. Some months later our car suffered a serious breakdown. After the auto experts finished their diagnosis and therapy, and we reluctantly parted with about \$500, our car also was restored to its normal but age-challenged well-being.

When I faced the first crisis, perhaps life-threatening, I was, quite understandably, determined to be operated on by a truly competent surgeon. It didn't really matter to me, at that point, whether the needed expert was a Buddhist, a humanist or a Christian. It was not important to me whether the physician who would open my skull was a post-millennialist, a pre-millennialist, or an amillennialist. Nor did it occur to me to ask, as I was placed on the gurney, whether my semi-scalper was Protestant, Catholic, or Jewish. Religious questions of ultimate importance could be addressed later. All I cared about was that he was fully competent. He was. My cranial competence was preserved.

Similarly, when our car breathed what could have been its last, I did not scout about for a mechanic who agreed with me on all theological matters, both major and minor. It mattered not to me whether he, or she, could recite the Ten Commandments or had even heard of them. What I needed was a highly trained and experienced technician. I was fortunate to engage one.

That brings me to Christian politicians. Some folks I know rank politicians according to the degree that they are Christian, preferably evangelical Christian. Maybe they also rank physicians and auto mechanics according to religious orthodoxy. But I doubt it. A different calculus sets in.

If policy differences don't dictate marginalization or even rejection, then religious beliefs and commitments certainly do matter to me. They matter greatly when I vote for candidates or parties. They are important but not of prime importance. All other matters being roughly equal, I will generally opt for a fellow Christian when a choice needs to be made in supporting and voting for political candidates or

"Don't steal. The government does not like competition." Quoted



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parties, but I do not let Christian conviction trump competence.

A Christian commitment is relevant in another sense. It would be logical to assume that a Christian physician, mechanic, or politician would practice honesty, integrity, reliability and diligence. These virtues and values are important. Fortunately, many other people also practice these virtues but with a Christian I would be more sure. That's why, if I need to choose among persons of generally equal ability and qualifications, I will, quite logically, choose a fellow believer.

In sum, for me Christian commitment is a very important factor whether I am deciding on a surgeon, a mechanic, a tradesman, a tax accountant, a realtor, a gardener, a fellow tourist or a politician. I have, however, over many decades, learned that it is not wise, when selecting employees, service people, business associates, educational colleagues, or politicians, to let religious beliefs trump competence. *JHR*

The opinions expressed in The Garden Park Journal are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Clearbrook Golden Age Society.

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The Garden Park Journal, April 2016

Coming Events

Community (Abbotsford)

- ◆ *Fraser Valley Symphony*, April 3, 3:00 pm, Matsqui Centennial Auditorium, 32315 South Fraser Way. Tickets: King's Music. More info: 604-744-9110.
- ◆ *Come to the Table*, An inter-faith Community Musical Evening to support incoming refugees, April 3, 7:00 pm, St Mathew's Anglican Church, 2010 Guilford Drive. Featuring: Joy Vox Community Choir, Cathy AJ Hardy, Persian and Celtic Music and other groups. Tickets: \$20.00 available at King's Music or at the door.
- ◆ *Bradner Flower Show*, April 8 to 10, Daily 10.00 am to 5:00 pm, Bradner Hall, 5305 Bradner Road. Admission \$2.00.
- ◆ *Let's Celebrate*, 40th Anniversary of the Valley Festival Singers. April 8 and 9, 7:00 pm, Calvin Presbyterian Church, 33911 Hazelwood Street. Music by Mozart and Handel. Tickets: Adults, \$20.00, Seniors \$15.00. House of James, online or at the door.
- ◆ *Journey of Reconciliation: Listening to Indigenous Elders* is a response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission by collaborating Mennonite/Anabaptist organizations and denominations. April 9, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, Columbia Bible College. Register at www.columbiabc.edu/ConEd Cost: \$30.00, includes lunch.
- ◆ *Gallery 7 Theatre, Schoolhouse*, a Drama by Leanna Brodie, April 8, 9 and 13 to 16, 7:00 pm. Matinees, April 9 and 16, 2:00 pm. Abbotsford Arts Centre, 2329 Crescent Way.
- ◆ *Trinity Western University's Concert Band and Orchestra* presents a variety of music including Beethoven's eighth symphony. April 9, 7:30 pm, Peace Lutheran Church, 2029 Ware Street. More info: twu.ca/samc
- ◆ *Hope for Women Dessert Concert*, April 15, 7:30 pm, Hill City Church, 3970 Gladwin Road. Tickets: \$15.00, call 604-853-0303 or info@hopeforwomen.ca or \$18.00 at the door.
- ◆ *The Canadian MK Network, Benefit Concert/Dessert Evening*, April 16, 7:00 pm. Featuring Carolyn Arends, Emmanuel Fellowship Baptist Church, 2950 Blue Jay Street. Tickets: \$25.00, Available at House of James or at the door.
- ◆ *Heritage Celebration of Gifts, Art Show and Concert*, Heritage Alliance Church, 2440 Mt. Lehman Road. April 16, 6:00 to 7:00 pm, Display of Heritage Artists and Artisans. Refreshments served. Concert, 7:00 to 9:00 pm, Featuring: Fraser valley Quartet, Heritage Choir and Heritage Singers. More info: Mary Kruk 604-852-2787.
- ◆ *Hymn Sing*, Apr 17, 7:00 pm, Clearbrook MB Church, 2719 Clearbrook Road.
- ◆ *Music on a Wednesday*, Apr 20, Refreshments 11:30 am (\$3.00), Concert 12:15, Bakerview Church, 2285 Clearbrook Road. Cello Ensemble, featuring Joel Stobbe and the Langley Music School cellists.
- ◆ *Steve Bell Concert*, April 22, 7:00 pm, King Road MB Church. Free Admission. Freewill offering will be taken in support of education for children in poverty in Latin America.
- ◆ *Columbia Bible College Commencement Ceremony*, April 23, 2:00 pm, Abbotsford Pentecostal Church, 3145, Gladwin Road.
- ◆ Abbotsford Christian Leaders Network presents: *Together*, City Church Worship and Prayer Gathering, April 24, 4:30 to 6:00 pm and 7:00 to 8:30 pm. Gateway Church, Abbotsford Mission Highway. Join Churches from around Abbotsford for an evening of worship and prayer. More info: office@heritagealliance.ca
- ◆ *Storytelling Seminar*, April 26, 10:00 to 11:00 am, Coffee at 9:30 am, Clearbrook MB Church, 2719 Clearbrook Road. More info: 604-850-6607.

- ◆ *Gideons Banquet*, April 29, 6:00 pm, Garden Park Tower, 2825 Clearbrook Road. Tickets: \$25.00. Contact: Don Scott 604-755-0528 or Abe Krahn 604-855-6883.
- ◆ *MEI Annual Legacy Fundraising Dinner*, Apr 30, 6:00 pm, Creekside Centre, 35131 Straiton Road. Tickets: \$25.00, Contact MEI Schools Development Department, 604-959-3700 ext 326, or development@meischools.com, RSVP by April 22.
- ◆ *Health and Wellness Classes, Bones and Balance*, every Monday, 9:45; Health in Motion, every Thursday, 9:45. All classes in the Dogwood Room of Garden Park Tower, 2825 Clearbrook Road.
- ◆ *55+ Seniors' Contract Bridge*, at the Fellowship House Society, Abbotsford Recreation Centre, 2499 McMillan Road, Tuesdays at 6:45 pm; Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays at 12:45 pm. Cost: \$2.00 for Bridge, Coffee, Tea and Snacks. More info: Myrtle 604-626-4746.
- ◆ *GriefShare Seminar Support Group*, Tuesdays, 7:00 to 9:00 pm, Central Heights Church, 1661 McCallum Road. More info: www.griefshare.org or 604-852-1001.
- ◆ *The Reach, Culture, Coffee and Cookies*, C3 is a program dedicated to providing learning opportunities for people of retirement age. Every Wednesday, 10:30 am. Free Admission, Pre-registration required. Register at The Reach, 32388 Veterans Way or phone 604-864-8087.
- ◆ *Valley Echoes Chorus*, every Thursday, 7:00 pm, Azalea Room, Garden Park Tower. Director, Sean Huston. More info: 778-896-3496.
- ◆ *Living Room Drop-in Support Group*, first and third Friday of the month, 12:30 to 2:30 pm. For those struggling with anxiety, bipolar, and depression. New life Church, 35270 Delair Road. Contact: Jenny 604-852-3662.
- ◆ *Mosaic Church*, meets every Saturday, 6:30 pm at Columbia Bible College, 2940 Clearbrook Road. More info: David 604-897-4224.

Community (Region)

- ◆ Faith Freedom and Liberty Tour, April 4, 7:00 pm, Church in the Valley, 23589, Old Yale Road, Langley. Featuring: Freedom Singers, Keepers of the Faith and Liberty, Tickets: \$20.00, www.tourffl.com
- ◆ *The Collingsworth Family and the Young Street Vocal Band*, April 12, 7:00 pm, Chilliwack Alliance Church, 8700 Young Road, Chilliwack. Tickets: House of James, Advance \$20.00, At the Door, \$25.00, Online at itickets.com
- ◆ Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, *Beethoven's Ninth Symphony*, Conductor, Bramwell Tovey, April 9, 8:00 pm, Orpheum Theatre, Vancouver. Tickets: Online or 604-876-3434.
- ◆ *Spring Break 55+*, April 19 to 21, Harrison Hot Springs Resort and Spa. Enjoy a good time of fellowship and relaxation. Singing led by Russ and Carolyn Bayley, Inspiring Talks by Pastor Ron Berg.

Future Events

- ◆ *MB Mission Fundraising Banquet*, May 18, 6:00 pm, Northview Church, Stories of Transformation from Panama, Southeast Asia, and global work among refugees. RSVP: rsvp@mbmissions.org More info: 604-859-6267.
- ◆ *Annual Columbia Fundraising Golf Tournament*, June 2, 11:00 am, Lunch and Registration; 12:30 pm, Shotgun Start; 5:30 pm, Dinner and Awards Presentations. Redwoods Golf Course, 22011 88 Avenue, Langley. Cost: \$200.00. More info: 604-853-3567 ext 528 or columbia.edu/open

Notices about events may be sent to:
Jake and Kathy Hintz at: hintz@live.ca

Puzzles

In April many of our trees bring forth their leaves. What an amazing display of nature's beauty. Today we focus on trees. The puzzles all deal with names of trees but not fruit trees. All the scrambled words and all the missing words in the sentences are tree names. The first puzzle is easy. The second may require more time. The third will likely be still more challenging. This month I have added a fourth puzzle; it also deals with tree names. It is not easy. In fact, I have intentionally made it difficult. Here is my challenge. The first reader who contacts me by April 10 with the right answers to all four puzzles, solved without any help and without checking the answer page, will receive a \$10 gift certificate which can be used in the Rose Room. The winner will also get autographed copies of two of my books: **Politics Under God** and **The Tory Book**. The total value is \$45. These books will be presented to the winner while enjoying the \$10 prize in the Rose Room. There will be a little ceremony. The second prize consists of copies of the two autographed books. The third prize consists of a choice of one of the autographed books. Now it's up to you puzzle junkies! The winners, if there be any, will be announced in the May 1 issue of *The Journal*. JHR

ako 

mel 

sah 

nipe 

The _ _ _ _ _ thrives in many regions of the country.

chebe  lowliw 

delar  syrpecs 

The bark of the _ _ _ _ _ tree has many uses.

kochlem 

nanaby 

cursep 

dinnel 

The _ _ _ _ _ tree grows widely in temperate regions.

Note: For readers who may have found my puzzles not very difficult, here is one that's more challenging. Have fun with it but don't stay up too late. My puzzles are intended to cure, not cause, insomnia!

oscaryme 

huncestt 

alignamo 

unripej 

A beautiful _ _ _ _ _ tree would enhance any _ _ _ _ _ , especially a _ _ _ _ _ garden owned by a prize winner.

The answers are given on page 15.

JHR

A Pastoral Word *I Remember It Well*

Maurice Chevalier and Hermione Gingold sang a song years ago in which Maurice is recalling a romantic evening they had together. Everything he remembers she corrects. "We met at nine," he sang. "We met at eight," she says. "We dined with friends," he goes on. "We dined alone". "A tenor sang," he remembers. "A baritone", she responds. Unshaken, he adds, "Ah, yes, I remember it well." And so the song goes on. At one point he agrees with her, "That's right. That's right". And she answers, "It warms my heart to know that you remember it still the way you do."



Pastor Ron Berg

Family and friends have at times had huge arguments over how they remember events differently. Sometimes those arguments go on for years and have even destroyed relationships. And it's often over the least little different recall, like who paid the bill, or what was said, or even over who was there.

Maurice and Hermione don't seem to mind the other person remembering the romantic evening differently. They remembered what is important - they loved each other.

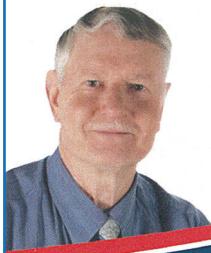
The Apostle Paul more than once addressed the same problem. Church people distracted and divided over their opinions of food, holidays, and missing out on what was most important: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And love your neighbour as yourself." (Matthew 22:37 – 40)

I must admit, I have argued over some very minor issues, even gotten upset. Why do we do that? Pride! I have argued over what I was sure someone said. I have argued over which colour was best. I might have been right, but I need to ask myself, or listen to God, "Does it really matter?" Has my ego become more important than obeying God's command to love?

Did the tenor sing or the baritone? It doesn't matter. What matters is that it was a treasured memory of enjoying each other.

For some of us, that song might have turned into a fight. Maybe we need to go back to those disagreement memories and say, "I'm sorry. It really isn't that important. What matters is that evidence of God's love flows from me."

Ron Berg



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Your Health

Recently I received promotion for a book making amazing claims for olive oil as a health product. Maybe some – or all - of the incredible claims are true. Maybe not. This month's column conveys two messages. First, there may be some value in various uses of olive oil and they can be checked out. Doubtless the book has some answers. Second, beware of outlandish claims made for any food or medicine. One must not be taken in by every health claim. Some are fraudulent. Be informed but also beware! Here is the promotional material which arrived on my computer. At the very least it makes for some very interesting reading. JHR

Discover The Amazing Powers of Olive Oil!

Lose weight ... Lower cholesterol and blood pressure ... Prevent heart disease and cancer ... and much, much more.

In Italy olive oil always has been an integral part of the culture. But Italians also have long known of its health benefits and healing properties. Whether the problem is a case of sunburn, persistent earaches, or dry hair, Italians traditionally have turned to olive oil.

Now, new research highlighting the healing qualities of extra virgin olive oil not only confirms these uses but also reveals even more beneficial effects from its use.

Whether a malady is heart disease, diabetes, digestion, or age-related deterioration, olive oil has been shown to be beneficial in its prevention and treatment.

In this book, **The Healing Powers of Olive Oil**, author Cal Orey has consulted top doctors, nutritionists, olive oil producers, and chefs, bringing together all you'll ever need to know about the healing powers of this liquid gold and showing you how to start improving your health right away!

- Lower your risk of heart disease and cancer
- Enhance your immune system
- Prevent cancer
- Stave off diabetes
- Fight fat
- Help turn back the clock on aging
- Add years to your life
- Fight infections
- Soothe inflammation
- Ward off arthritis
- Stop pain
- Deter memory loss
- Help beat osteoporosis

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

Helpful Hints

A couple had their car broken into while they were at a hockey game. Their car was parked on the green which was adjacent to the arena and specially allotted to hockey fans. Potential thieves thus knew why the car was parked where it was. Things stolen from the car included a garage door remote control, some money and a GPS which had been prominently mounted on the dashboard. When the victims got home, they found that their house had been ransacked and just about everything worth anything had been stolen. The thieves had used the GPS to guide them to the house. They then used the garage remote control to open the garage door and gain entry to the house. The thieves knew the owners were at the hockey game, they knew what time the game was scheduled to finish and so they knew how much time they had to clean out the house. It would appear that they had brought a truck to empty the house of its contents. Here is something to consider if you have a GPS - don't put your home address in it. Put a nearby address (like a store or gas station) so you can still find your way home if you need to, but no one else would know where you live if your GPS were stolen.

Thieves today are resourceful and clever. The rest of us also need to be resourceful and clever. JHR

Punctuation makes a difference.

Sign in a Safari Park
Elephants please stay in your car.

New Seniors Organization Formed

A new regional association of organizations that service seniors in the Fraser Valley was formed in March during a meeting at Garden Park Tower. Based on similar organizations existing in White Rock, Langley and elsewhere, the "MAC Senior Service Providers Association" meets monthly to network and coordinate opportunities benefiting seniors in Mission, Abbotsford and Chilliwack, hence MAC. Some suggestions have been made for joint events, health fairs, educational days to provide helpful resources to seniors and others of this region. The chair of this new organization is Renee Lodge (reneelodge@shaw.ca) and while membership is selected under very specific criteria, it is expected that a very positive impact will soon be made to provide additional support to services already available to seniors.

As part of the meeting at Garden Park Tower, Maintenance Manager Kevin Ozga provided a tour of the facilities. None of this group had previously been in the building; they commented on the high level of volunteerism evident in all activities. The SSPA meets monthly in various locations throughout the region.

Menno Froese

"No matter how difficult our circumstances may be, we always retain the freedom to choose how we respond to them."

Selwyn Hughes

Letters to the Editor

Editor, *The Journal*:

Last month there was a warning about microwave cooking. Since then I have thought of threatening you with a lawsuit. Here is why. I had put my home-made pea soup (which is a green mush I put through the blender) into my untimed microwave. Then I sat down in my favourite chair and picked up *The Journal*. I got so engrossed in the interesting articles in *The Journal* that I lost track of the time and completely forgot about my soup.

Then I got up, hurried to the microwave. The soup was merrily bubbling in my favourite china mug. Grabbing a towel, I hastily opened the door and reached in for the soup. It exploded in my face. Luckily it missed my eyes.

Thankfully the cup did not break. But there was soup everywhere that soup should not be. I got a burn spot on my cheek. I thought, Oh my! another brown spot on my face with all the wrinkles I did not want.

So I rushed over to my aloe vera plant, broke off a juicy piece and put it on my burn. Then I turned to my green mush-spotted kitchen. I muttered to myself, "I should sue that man for putting out such an interesting paper".

Well, my face healed up and I decided that Mr. Redekop seems to be such a nice man. I decided not to sue and instead I would count my blessings. Besides, who would put out this nice paper if he's sitting in jail?

The moral of the story: Do enjoy *The Journal* but heed their warnings as well!

Blessings to you all.

Katie Brandt
Abbotsford, BC

Editor, *The Journal*:

We always enjoy reading *The Garden Park Journal*. Not only is it entertaining, but instructive and motivating. I appreciated the factual and objective editorial "Are the terrorists Muslim?" by John Redekop. This kind of information is not often seen in secular publications. Many of us share Len Remple's concern as he referred to the Arabian fable about a camel in the tent. The Christian content is always a blessing; even the reminder of the many names of the Godhead in the puzzle.

Mervin Driedger
Abbotsford, BC

Letters should be sent to: jredekops@shaw.ca
Published letters may be edited for length and clarity.

"Our pastor, an avid golfer, was once taking part in a local tournament. As he was preparing to tee off, the organizer of the tournament approached him and pointed to the dark, threatening clouds which were gathering. "Preacher", the organizer said, "I trust you'll see to it that the weather won't turn bad on us." Our pastor shook his head. "Sorry", he replied. "I'm in sales not management."

Correct writing does matter.

This sign was posted during a conference.
"For anyone who has children and doesn't know it,
there's a day care on the 1st floor." Quoted



Simon Gibson

MLA Abbotsford-Mission

It was great to be in Victoria as our government tabled its fourth consecutive balanced budget recently. Our province continues to be the leader of economic growth and prosperity.

Budget 2016 – which was presented by local MLA and Finance Minister Michael de Jong – is a result of sound fiscal management. By promoting and guiding economic growth in our province, we are able to invest \$1.6 billion of new and increased spending over the next three years.

Some of the significant investments highlighted in Budget 2016 include expanded services to help families and individuals with their cost of living, as well as measures to bolster communities across the province.

In fact, new capital spending will benefit us right here in Abbotsford and Mission: a significant portion of the \$55 million allocated will increase our emergency preparedness. We can upgrade our dikes and other flood-protection infrastructure to avoid a natural disaster.

Agriculture is a key economic driver and provides a rewarding livelihood for thousands in our community. There is a new Farmers' Food Donation Tax Credit - now in effect - that is worth 25 per cent of qualifying agricultural products donated to a registered charity providing food to those in need or to help support a school meal plan.

We are also taking steps to support British Columbia's families. Many children will be exempt from Medical Service Plan (MSP) premiums, directly benefiting about 70,000 single-parent families. Premium assistance will be expanded, reducing payments for 335,000 people across the province, helping seniors, families and individuals.

To help families save for their children's education, we are expanding the eligibility for the BC Training and Education Savings Grant program to children born on or after Jan. 1, 2006. This program provides a one-time \$1,200 grant to the Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) that families can set up for their children. This expansion will give 40,000 additional children the opportunity to save for their future education.

B.C. remains in a good position with steady economic growth despite a fragile global economy. We are able to provide increased funding for services and help ease the cost of living for British Columbians.

Abbotsford's Members of the British Columbia Legislative Assembly

The people of Abbotsford elected three MLAs. They are:

Michael de Jong, Q.C. Minister of Finance

MLA Abbotsford West

Constituency Office: 103 – 32660 George Ferguson Way,
Abbotsford, BC V2T 4V6 Ph. 604-870-5486
Email: mike.dejong.mla@leg.bc.ca

Simon Gibson

MLA Abbotsford-Mission

Constituency Office: 33058 First Ave.,
Mission, BC V2V 1G3 Ph. 604-820-6203
Email: simon.gibson.mla@leg.bc.ca

Darryl Plecas

MLA Abbotsford South

Constituency Office: 33553 Marshall Road,
Abbotsford, BC V2S 1K8 Ph. 604-744-0700
Email: darryl.plecas.mla@leg.bc.ca

Beware of Scams!

Editor's Note: Here is a scam artist posing as someone fighting fraud! The many mistakes and the sheer illogic of the whole mailing are immediately evident!

From: F I C

Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 11:40 PM

Subject: Urgent Information Alert

F.I.C (Anti-Fraud Unit) we fight against fraud, funds delay and impersonation.

Head Office: 10th Floor, Cedi House

Accra, Ghana.

Attn: Dear Beneficiary

This letter will definitely be amazing to you because of it's a realistic value.

Sorry for the inconveniences that was rendered to you in your line of Inheritance Payment transaction with some impersonators some while ago.

I know that this letter will hit you by surprise, but firstly I will like to introduce myself; I am (Samuel Thompson Essel) the Chief Executive Officer "FIC", (Ghana's Anti-Fraud Unit).

On the 1st of October 2000, the President of The Federal Republic of Ghana (President John Fifi Atta-Mills) introduced a Commission named the "F I C", (Ghana's Anti-Fraud Unit) which is duly registered under the United Nations (U.N.O). This particular Commission was initiated to detect fraud/funds delay/impersonation of Government Officials. Secondly, we are mandated by the US Government to settle foreign debts/fraud victims/UN-paid beneficiaries to satisfactory in other to maintain peace in the world at large and also to create a good relationship with the international bodies.

Presently, we are being paid by the American government in other to avert beneficiary funds delays/fraud here in Ghana/Nigeria/Kenya/South Africa/United Kingdom/Malaysia and many more countries and So far, we have settled the likes of (Mrs. Debbie Hargrove, Mr. Michael Wagner, Dr. Rodney Kolb, Abena Ofei, Jeff

Diomi etc).

You are being contacted by this office today because your Case File (A) is the very first File on our Settlement Files Cabinet. From our intelligent investigations and Probing processes we discovered that you are a victim of fraud/funds delay.

The "FIC", is faithfully under my governance as the Legal Chief Executive Officer of

the great Commission and to this Authority I took an oath of allegiance to settle all fraud victims peacefully.

This Memorandum is to notify you that you will be settled by the Ghana Government from our initial Deposit Account with SNS Finance Bank. You will be settled with the actual amount which you lost in your previous transaction, including your Inheritance Funds.

Your settlement will be actualized within 3 working days after your response to this Official Letter.

For further clarifications/investigation kindly send the below information to us immediately:

1. Full Name
2. Your residential address.
3. Mobile and fax number (for regular official contact).
4. Your inheritance funds value.
5. Amount, which you have lost previously.

This above-mentioned information will officially enable us to carry out our verification processes and after that your compensation sum/Inheritance Funds will be Electronically wired into your designated Bank account.

Your immediate compliance to this will expedite actions on your Payment because here in this office, we have a lot of listed victims to be settled.

We await your urgent response.

Officially Signed,

Samuel Thompson Essel, Chief Executive Office
Financial Intelligence Center, Accra, Ghana

JHR

Did you know?

1. In the United States 90 people are killed by guns each day; 33,000 a year. (*CNN News, March 13, 2016*) This includes about 700 children. The Canadian figures are about 1 gun death every other day; 172 a year (2013 figures; the latest available) Over many years, the annual rate of gun deaths per 100,000 population is as follows: in the United States 10.54; in Canada 1.97. Interestingly, the lowest rates are 0.08 in South Korea; 0.14 in Rumania; 0.16 in Singapore and 0.23 in the United Kingdom. The highest rates are found in Latin America: 26.77 in El Salvador; 30.72 in Jamaica; 59.13 in Venezuela and 67.18 in Honduras. (*Wikipedia*)

2. Much is made of the sinking of the *Titanic* as, indeed, it should be. On April 15, 1912, of the 3,327 on board, 1,530 drowned. The movie about that tragedy vividly depicts that horrible event. But an almost equally monumental maritime disaster in Canadian waters is widely

ignored. On May 29, 2014, the Canadian Pacific liner *Empress of Ireland* was struck by a coal ship in the St. Lawrence River, near Rimouski, Quebec. Of the 1,477 people on board, 1,012 drowned. How quickly society forgets, or almost forgets, such a great national tragedy. Fortunately an exhibition about this momentous maritime tragedy is now on display in the Canadian Museum of History in Gatineau, Quebec.

3. **Christian Headlines** reports that "A recent national survey has revealed that 76 percent of Americans ages 18 to 31 believe that living together before marriage is not morally wrong." Also, "Sixty-five percent of young couples now live together before marriage. Some of these couples also identify as Christians." (www.christianheadlines.com/blog/survey-finds-76-percent-of-americans-believe-living-together-before-marriage-is-ok.html)

JHR



Henry Braun

Henry Braun Mayor of Abbotsford

The BC Summer Games Torch Comes to Abbotsford

Excitement is building as the BC Summer Games are coming to Abbotsford! Wednesday, April 13, will mark the official arrival of the Games to our community with a public torchlighting ceremony at 8:30 at Thunderbird Plaza. I invite you all to come out and catch the excitement!

The BC Summer Games will bring over 3,500 participants to our community – including 2,700 young athletes, their coaches and officials. The Games allow these talented athletes to gain valuable experience and develop their skills at a multi-sport competition. Many of them will move on to compete at national and international levels. Some past BC Games alumni are now sport icons: Ryder Hesjedal (cycling), Brent Hayden (swimming), Carol Huynh (wrestling), Denny Morrison (speed skating), and Maelle Ricker (snowboard).

As residents, you have the opportunity to be a part of these athletes' journey. You can cheer them on as they compete in 18 different sports at various venues throughout Abbotsford and the surrounding communities, including the

Cowardice asks the question, "Is it safe?"
 Expediency asks the question, "Is it good politics?"
 Vanity asks the question, "Is it popular?"
 Conscience asks the question, "Is it right?"

Quoted



Avenue BODY SHOP



LOCATION
33805 George Ferguson Way
Abbotsford, BC V2S 2M7

CONTACT INFO
Phone: 604-852-2222
Email: info@avenuebodyshop.ca

If you've been involved in a car accident, door ding or fender bender, there are 2 important things you need to do:

1. Call Avenue Body Shop at 604.852.2222, and
2. RELAX...we'll do the rest.

FREE ESTIMATES

newly built synthetic turf fields at the MRC Sports Complex which will be home to both boys and girls soccer. You can also help to support these athletes by volunteering and ensuring that each participant is well-taken care of and will have an excellent experience. For Abbotsford to be able to successfully host the games, we need over 3,000 volunteers, especially in the areas of food services (preparing and distributing box lunches and serving breakfasts and dinners) and security (at sport venues, special events and for traffic control). If you'd like to help, please visit bcgames.org and click on the "Volunteer Now" tab or you can also pick up volunteer registration forms at ARC, MRC or at City Hall on the 3rd Floor.

These Games are sure to leave a strong legacy in our community. Not only do they help to develop excellent athletes, coaches and officials, inspire other young athletes, promote active living, inject as much as \$2 million into the community, and grow our volunteer base; they also foster community pride and spirit.

I hope to see you at the BC Summer Games!



Rose Room Coffee Shop

Open Monday thru Friday
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Open on Saturday
8:30 AM - 11:00 AM



An invitation to Lunch
with Isobel Mackenzie
British Columbia's
Seniors Advocate



Join us on
Friday, April 8, 2015 at 11:30 am

Magnolia Dining Room, Garden Park Tower

Regular ticket price: \$10 for sale at the Office or at the Door
Call (604) 853-5532

*

Clearbrook Community Centre Professional Services

P1	Helping Hands	604-217-8513
101	CGAS Management Office	604-853-5532
102	Mennonite Foundation of Canada	604-850-9613
103	Robertson Hearing Centre	604-855-8722
104A	Siora Dental Clinic	604-755-3366
104B	Valley Periodontics & Dental Implants	604-755-3354
105	New Hope Christian Centre	604-852-8076
202	Garden Park Haircare	604-853-4843
203	OFFICE FOR LEASE	
204	Dr. D. Ross & Dr. N. Moodley	604-853-8641
205	Ed Fast, MP	604-557-7888
206 A	Abbotsford Community Church	
206C	LOGOS Canada	604-504-7055
206D	Multi-Nation Missions Foundation	778-549-8031
207	LifeLabs Medical Lab	604-852-9026
208	M2/W2 Association	604-859-3215
211	OFFICE FOR LEASE	
212	Garden Park Pharmacy	604-859-3300
214	Alzheimer Society	604-859-3889
216	Weight Watchers	
217	Helen Fadden DC	604-852-4480
218	Community Futures / FV Self Employment Program	604-864-5770

Sagir Patel
sagir@sptechologies.net



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35539 Zanatta Lane, Abbotsford, BC,
Canada, V3G0B1
Tel.: +1 778 242 4103

India
Ganga Village, Handewadi Road,
Hadapsar, Pune - 411028, INDIA
Tel.: +91 90113 34449

www.sptechologies.net



Many people buy
frozen soups,
sandwiches, muffins,
fresh baked goods,
meals, buns, etc. in
the Rose Room.

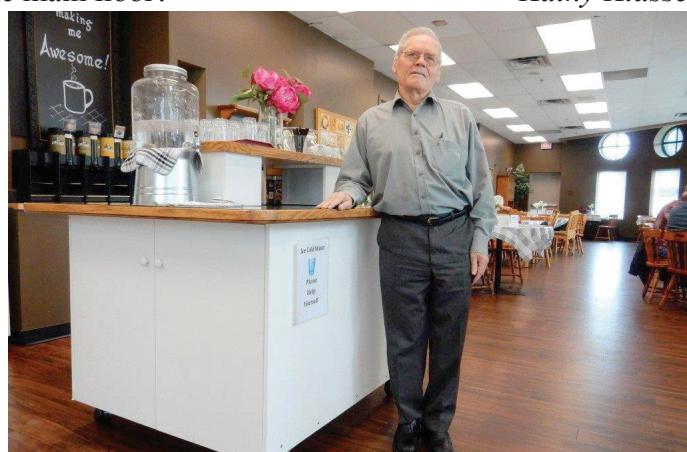
A New Addition to the Rose Room Coffee Shop

Have you been to the Rose Room Coffee Shop in the last few weeks? If so, you could not have missed the New Condiment Island located by the Coffee Bar. This Island was designed by Kathy Klassen, the Food Service Manager. It was built by John Klassen, a resident in Garden Park Tower, in the carpentry shop located in the basement of the building.

The Island features plenty of space for numerous customers to add their favorite creams and sugars to their hot beverage. Inside the Island are shelves to hold supplies, garbage and even the dirty dish cart. The wheels on the Island are a handy feature for cleaning the floor or relocating the Island for special events.

We thank John Klassen for volunteering his professional service in building this useful addition. If you have skills to offer Clearbrook Golden Age Society, why not fill out a Volunteer Form located in the main office, Room #101, on the main floor?

Kathy Klassen



You're invited

6th Annual Legacy Fundraising Dinner

... press toward the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.
~ Philippians 3:14

SATURDAY APRIL 30
Starting at 6:00 PM

CREEKSIDE CENTRE
35131 Straiton Road
Abbotsford, BC

Featuring MEI Alumnus Brian Doerksen & The SHIYR Poets

[\$25 per ticket] Please RSVP by Friday, April 22
To RSVP and purchase tickets, contact the MEI Development Department
E: development@meischools.com | P: 604.859.3700 ext. 326
www.meischools.com/legacydinner

**APRIL
2016
MENUS**

**Magnolia Dining Room, Open Tues, Wed, Fri 11:30-12:30
Tues & Wed \$8.00, Friday \$10.00 Take outs add \$0.50**

Rose Room Coffee Shop Open Mon-Fri 8:30-4:00 Sat 8:30-11:00 a.m.
Frozen Soups & Meals availability according to Garden Park Restaurant Menu

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		New this month: Value added to the Tuesday's Magnolia Dining Room menu is 1/2 Cold Sandwich to go with your Soup, Dessert and Coffee. In the Rose Room Coffee Shop—Soup and Sandwich for \$6.00.			1 Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Mushy Peas & Baby Carrots, Tossed Salad, Jello with Fruit	2
		Make sure to pick up a fresh baked whole loaf on Thursdays for \$6.00. They freeze well and are great to have on hand for company or for yourself.			Breakfast Baked Goods Chili, Soups Sandwiches Lunch Special	Breakfast Baked Goods
3	4	5 Chicken Noodle Soup Green Bean Soup Egg Salad Sandwich Bienenstich	6 Chicken Borsht Butternut Squash Soup Empanadas Cherry Platz	7	8 Braised Pork Tenderloin with Herb and Garlic Rice, Roast Zucchini, Corn, Waldorf Salad Apple Crisp with Ice Cream	9
		Breakfast Fresh Buns Baked Goods Chili, Soups Sandwiches	Breakfast Baked Goods Chili, Soups, Sandwiches	Breakfast Baked Goods Chili, Soups Sandwiches Lunch Special	Breakfast Baked Goods Chili, Soups Sandwiches Lunch Special	Breakfast Baked Goods
10	11	12 Split Pea Soup Sweet Potato Chili Chicken Salad Sandwich Banana Cream Pie	13 Beef Borscht Potato Chowder Quiche Lorraine Plum Platz	14	15 Meatloaf with Roasted Potatoes, Stewed Red Cabbage, Pecan Green Beans, Cucumber Tomato and Dill Salad Rice Pudding	16
		Breakfast Fresh Buns Baked Goods Chili, Soups Sandwiches	Breakfast Baked Goods Chili, Soups Sandwiches	Breakfast, Baked Goods, Chili, Soups, Sandwiches Cran/Organge Loaf	Breakfast Baked Goods Chili, Soups Sandwiches NO Lunch Special	Breakfast Baked Goods
17	18	19 Chicken Noodle Soup Beef Stew Tuna Salad Sandwich Carrot Cake	20 Beet Borscht Chicken Curry Coconut Soup Clubhouse Sandwich Rhubarb Platz	21	22 Shake n Bake Chicken Legs, Macaroni 'n Cheese, Steamed Broccoli, Cauliflower & Carrots, Asian Cole Slaw Cheesecake with Strawberries	23
		Breakfast Fresh Buns Baked Goods Chili, Soups Sandwiches	Breakfast Baked Goods Chili, Soups Sandwiches	Breakfast, Baked Goods, Chili, Soups, Sandwiches Banana Bread	Breakfast Baked Goods Chili, Soups Sandwiches Lunch Special	Breakfast Baked Goods
24	25	26 Chili Corn Chowder Ham Salad Sandwich Lemon Meringue Pie	27 Farmer Sausage Soup Minestrone Soup Pulled Pork Sand Blueberry Platz	28	29 Wienerschnitzel, Mashed Potatoes with Mushroom Gravy, Beets & Lima Beans, Coleslaw, Bread Pudding with Carmel	30
		Breakfast Fresh Buns Baked Goods Chili, Soups Sandwiches	Breakfast Baked Goods Chili, Soups Sandwiches	Breakfast, Baked Goods, Chili, Soups, Sandwiches Date Nut Loaf		Breakfast Baked Goods

Two Brain Tests

Brain Test I

Here's another dementia test to check your skills. This test combines letters and numbers. If you can read this you have a strong mind. And better than that, Alzheimer's is a long, long, way down the road before it ever gets anywhere near you.

7H15 M3554G3 53RV35 70 PROV3 H0W OUR
M1ND5 C4N D0 4M4Z1NG 7H1NG5! 1MPR3551V3
7H1NG5!
1N 7H3 B3G1NN1NG 17 WA5 H4RD BU7 N0W,
0N 7H15 LIN3 Y0UR M1ND 1S R34D1NG 17
4U70M471C4LLY W17H0U7 3V3N 7H1NK1NG
4B0U7 17. B3 GR8T3FUL!
ONLY C3R741N P30PL3 C4N R3AD 7H15.

Brain Test II

Also, if you can read the following paragraph, share it with your friends as well. This is weird, but interesting! If you can read this second paragraph, then your brain is still working very well.

If you can raed this, you have a sgtron mnid, too. Can you raed this? Olny 55 people out of 100 can. I cdnuolt blveiee that I cluod aulaclty uesdnatnrd what I was rdanieg. The phaonmneal pweor of the hmuau mnid, aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uin-ervtisy, it dseno't mtaetr in what oerdr the ltteres in a word are, the olny iproamtnt tihng is that the frsit and last ltteer be in the rghit pclae. The rset can be a taotl mses and you can still raed it whotuit a pboerlm. This is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the word as a wlohe. Azanmig huh? Yaeh and I awlyas tghuhot slpelng was ipmorant!

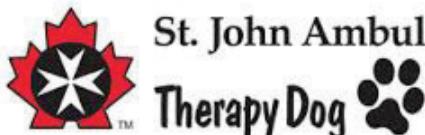


Garden Park Tower Hall Rentals

Do you need a place for business meetings, a wedding or other gathering? Our rooms can accommodate from 12 to 450 people.

Prices are very competitive.

For more information, call 605-853-5532 or email: rentals@gardenparktower.ca



Harley is a four-year-old Maltese and has just recently been certified as a SJA Therapy Dog. **Harley's** first official Therapy dog assignment will be visiting the students in the Library at the University of the Fraser Valley. This event doubles as a meet and greet for some of the SJA therapy dog teams, so **Harley** will be meeting some of his 'work-mates' at this event as well.



St. John Ambulance Dogs of the Month - April 2016

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"If you could kick the person responsible for most of your troubles in the backside, you wouldn't be able to sit down for two weeks." - Bits and Pieces

"God made mouths that can close but ears that always stay open."

Bonnie is an eight year old Golden Retriever who came to Canada from Taiwan when she was 1.5 years old. **Bonnie** is very happy when she gets her special collar and leash on with her uniform scarf because she knows she is going to work. She feels very important and knows she has a job to do and loves to visit with all her new friends.



Meet Harley & Anne and Bonnie & Barbara in the Azalea Room, April 12th at 10:00 a.m.

Question of the Month

The question for April is this: "Should homosexual rights be seen as civil rights?" Please send your comments to jredekops@shaw.ca or phone 604-855-5086.

In the March issue of *The Journal* we asked, "Should public colleges and universities be tuition-free?" This question is presently being hotly debated by candidates in the US presidential nominating campaign. It has already spilled over into Canada. Let's review the arguments. Those who favour the abolition of all tuition fees at public post-secondary schools make the following arguments.

1. Generations ago high schools and even elementary schools charged tuition fees. This practice came to be seen as wrong. Basic education should be free to pupils and students. Public taxation should cover the cost. Abolishing tuition at post-secondary schools is simply an extension of the same logic.

2. The poor should not be excluded from post-secondary education. High tuition costs keep them out.

3. Good employment opportunities require post-secondary education. Society fights unemployment by educating its young people.

4. It is not fair to have students graduate with huge debts, often \$40,000 or more. Fear of huge debt keeps many good students out of school.

5. Society will benefit in the long run. Young people with better-paying jobs pay more taxes and will generally contribute more to society. We also know, statistically, that the more educated young people are less inclined to get involved in crime.

Those who do not favour abolishing all tuition fees at public post-secondary schools counter these arguments as follows:

A four-year-old girl was learning the Lord's Prayer. Reciting it she said, "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from email. Amen"

1. Elementary school and most of high school are compulsory; higher education is not compulsory. The arguments for free education at the lower levels is different.

2. The way to enable low income, poor young people to acquire higher education is to expand the grant and no-interest loan programs. There is a need here but the solution is not to provide support for people who do not need support.

3. Not all good jobs require post-secondary education. Many high-paying trades do not. They may, however, require years of apprenticesing.

4. As stated, the way to avoid burdening students with huge debts is to provide major grants and no-interest loans to those who need financial aid. Speaking of fairness, it is certainly not fair to put additional taxes on seniors and other tax-payers to provide free tuition for the large number of students who don't need it. Also, it is not fair to waive all tuition fees at public post-secondary schools but to keep the fees in place for young people training in the trades or preparing for other careers.

5. It is true that society benefits when its young people are well-educated but complete elimination of tuition fees at post-secondary schools is not needed to achieve that goal.

So where do I stand? I do not favour the complete elimination of tuition fees. Many students and their families are well off and do not need help. I do not favour raising taxes for seniors, for the middle class, and even for the poor, to help those who do not need help. I do, however, favour increasing student grants and no-cost loans. *JHR*

Garden Park Haircare



* Tammy * Cheryl * Gertrudes *

are willing to serve you

Open - Tuesday thru Saturday

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Call 604-853-4843

Emergency Preparedness Week Events at Garden Park Tower

Join us on Friday, May 6

10:00 AM - Workshop with Susan Rai, Emergency Advisor with City of Abbotsford

11:30 AM - Regular Friday Lunch - Tickets at the office or at the door; Everyone welcome!

12:30 PM - City of Abbotsford will be selling Emergency Kits and answering questions

Morning and Afternoon events in the Azalea Room. Registration is **not** required.



Recipes

Easter Paska Buns

3 tbsp. of yeast or three packages of yeast
 1 cup warm water
 2 tsp. sugar
 1 cup scalded milk
 1 cup of cold milk
 6 eggs
 1 grated lemon or orange
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup soft butter
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt
 1 cup sugar or more



Photo by Erika Klassen

Scald 1 cup of milk and pour over $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of flour while the machine is going. Continue to blend in the sugar, the eggs, the lemon, the butter and the salt. To this add 1 cup of flour and the yeast mixture. Now pour in the rest of milk, alternating the milk with enough flour to make a soft dough. Let rise until light. Pinch off little buns and let rise again. Bake at 350 for about 20 minutes or until golden brown. If I will use them right away, I ice them while they are warm with a mixture of icing sugar, lemon juice and butter.

Erika Klassen

A customer in a bakery was observed carefully examining all the rich-looking pastries displayed on trays in the glass cases.

When a clerk approached him and asked, "What would you like?" he answered, "I'd like that chocolate-covered, cream-filled doughnut, that jelly-filled doughnut and that cheese Danish."

Then with a sigh he added, "But I'll take an oat-bran muffin."

Picture of the Month



God's Design in Pink

Submitted to *The Journal*. The photographer is unknown.

Hot Cross Buns

4 cups flour
 1 yeast
 2 tsp cinnamon
 1/2 tsp allspice
 1/2 tsp cloves
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup raisins
 1 tsp salt
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar
 2 tbsp margarine
 1 egg beaten

Peel or glazed fruit optional
 $1\frac{1}{4}$ cup water

Measure dry ingredients into a bowl; add the spices, raisins and peel. Heat the water.

Pour 1/4 cup water in measuring cup, add 2 tbsps sugar and the yeast.

To the remaining 1 cup of water add salt, sugar, margarine and the beaten egg.

Mix the yeast and water mixture with the flour. Mix well, let rise and shape the buns.

Mary Durksen



Community Volunteer
Income Tax Program

Need a hand to prepare your tax return?

Location: Garden Park Tower
 2825 Clearbrook Road
 Dates: March and April
 Contact: Drop by the office to book an appointment or call 604-744-0109
 Cost: No Charge (Donations to the Society will be greatly accepted)



NOTE: This Community Volunteer Income Tax Program serves eligible seniors (singles up to \$30,000 income; couples up to \$40,000 income)

Volunteers do not prepare complex returns.

www.cra.gc.ca/volunteer
 1-800-959-8281

Canada Revenue Agency Agence du revenu du Canada

Canada



Government of British Columbia Services & Offerings

Independent Living BC

This program helps seniors and persons with disabilities live independently in affordable, self-contained housing.

Contact Information * Toll-Free: 1-866-465-6873

Fair Pharmacare

This program provides financial assistance to British Columbia residents for eligible prescription drugs and medical supplies.

Contact Information * Toll-Free: 1-800-663-7100

Senior's Supplement

This program provides a monthly payment to seniors receiving the federal Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement or Federal Allowance.

Contact Information * Toll-Free: 1-866-866-0800

Assisted Living

These residences provide housing, hospitality services and personalized assistance services for adults who can live independently but require regular assistance with daily activities, usually because of age, illness or disabilities.

Contact Information * Toll-Free: 1-800-663-7867

Shelter Aid For Elderly Renters (SAFER)

This program offers financial assistance to seniors (aged 60 and over) whose rent exceeds a certain percentage of their monthly income.

Contact Information * Toll-Free: 1-800-257-7756

Property Tax Deferment – 55 & older, Surviving Spouse,

Person with a Disability

This program is a low-interest loan program that allows you to defer all, or part, of your current annual property taxes on your principal residence.

Contact Information *Toll-Free: 1-800-663-7867

Bus Pass

This program provides an annual pass for public transit systems to low-income seniors and persons with disabilities.

Contact Information *Toll-Free: 1-866-866-0800

"Only people who do things get criticized."

An Unobservant Professor

"Let's go camping," said Professor Holmes to Professor Watson. "Jolly good!" replied Watson. They both needed a break from their academic grind. So the two pack up their gear, head into the woods, set up their tent and by nightfall are sound asleep. Hours later, Watson, the philosopher, is wakened by a nudge from Holmes, the history prof.

"Watson!" says Homes, "look up! What do you see?" "I see the sky, full of stars," says Watson, a little annoyed. "And what do you deduce from that?" Holmes asks the philosophy professor. Watson thinks for a moment, and replies, "Well, given the thousands of stars, it's improbable that ours is the only planet capable of sustaining life. Therefore, other beings like ourselves are likely out there somewhere, looking back at us. Is that what it means? I could check next week with my astronomy colleague."

"No, you dimwit," replies Holmes. "It means someone has stolen our tent!"

City Services & Offerings

Activities	Location	Contact
Active & Ageless	Matsqui Rec Center	604-855-0500
Carpet Bowling	MRC	604-852-2645
Joint Efforts	MRC	604-855-0500
Shuffle Board	MRC	604-746-9017
Bones & Balance	ARC/MRC	604-853-4221
Active & Ageless	Abbotsford Rec Center	604-853-4221
Adult & Senior Skate	ARC	604-853-4221
Adult Swim	ARC	604-853-4221
Art in the ARC	ARC Seniors Centre	604-854-3668
Cardiac Rehab	ARC	604-853-4221
Get up & Go	ARC	604-853-4221
Learning Plus Sept.-April	ARC Seniors Centre	604-853-7757
Senior Bus Trips	Lower Mainland	604-853-4221
Seniors' Track Time	ARC	604-853-4221
Stroke Recovery	ARC Seniors Centre	604-850-0011
"TIME"- Together in Movement and Exercise	ARC	604-853-4221

Community Centre Services & Activities

Picture Framing

Mondays—Fridays
8:30 to 11:30 am
By appointment only
Contact the office

Bookbinding

Mondays—Fridays
8:30 to 11:30 am
Drop off at office

Bones and Balance

Date: Mondays
Time: 9:45 am
Where: Dogwood Room
Instructor: Dee Van Meer
Cost: \$2.25 (GST included)

Carpet Bowling - P1

Tuesdays and Thursdays
in the Rec. Room
2:00 to 4:00 pm
Cost: \$1.25 (GST included)

Health in Motion

Date: Thursdays
Time: 9:45 am
Where: Dogwood Room
Instructor: Colleen Moore
Cost: \$2.25 (GST included)



**Garden
Park Tower**

A gentleman entered a busy florist shop that displayed a large sign that read, "Say It With Flowers."

*"Wrap up one rose," he told the florist.
"Only one?" the florist asked.
"Just one," the customer replied. "I'm a man of few words."*

Answers: oak, ash, elm, pine, aspen
beech, alder, willow, cypress, birch
hemlock, bayan, spruce, linden, hickory
yacca, chestnut, magnolia, juniper, eucalyptus



CGAS Board Report & News

All organizations must have annual meetings. Some people abhor these meetings for being too formal and orchestrated, while others look at them as a time to reflect on the past year, assess the present, and visualize what can be done to achieve the vision and mission of the organization in future.

The Clearbrook Golden Age Society is completing 39 years of service to seniors of our community and has scheduled its AGM (annual general meeting) for Thursday April 28 at 1:00 p.m.

Not only will the usual financial and committee reports be given, and certain people be recognized for exemplary service, we will also celebrate what has been accomplished in another good year. And as we do every year, additional individuals will be elected to the board which will direct Society activities in the year ahead.

Questions should be raised as to how effective we have been in providing support to seniors of our community and which needs have been met. Which needs have still to be addressed?

Membership in CGAS is open to the community, not only to Garden Park Tower residents. You will receive a voting card if your membership is current. So bring your \$5 to Sylvia, in the front lobby office, to renew your membership!

Special thanks is due Reinhard Epp for overseeing the twin laneing of the south entry to the GPT parkade. Being able to both access and exit through another point will ease the traffic congestion we have often seen at the north ramp to the underground parking. Through many volunteer hours, Reinhard and his team have managed to have this project done at a small fraction of the expected cost. Thanks, Reinhard!

A posted Sign:

"Every day thousands of innocent plants are killed by vegetarians.
Help end the violence. Eat bacon."

Thanks are also due to Ron Willms, our executive director, who will be departing mid-May. During his two years with us, Ron has fine-tuned our financial processes, reviewed many policies, and assisted the board to refine our life-lease policies while keeping our administration solid and growing. Thanks, Ron!

Menno Froese

CGAS Executive Director Resigns

After two years as Executive Director at the Clearbrook Golden Age Society, Ron Willms has submitted his resignation effective in mid-May. The Society Board regretfully accepted the resignation with deep gratitude for the new direction, sound fiscal practices and quiet leadership Ron has selflessly contributed with long days and patient understanding. "We wish Ron only the very best in his continued career in administration and leadership. We will long remember him," said Menno Froese, chair of the board at Clearbrook Golden Age Society. "The board is taking this as an opportunity to review staff requirements for the Society going forward, but is actively looking to fill the life-lease position which has been vacant for some time."

Resumes are already being submitted, even before recruitment efforts have begun by a search committee of the board. No one needs to be reminded that the success of the Society, over its 39 years of existence, has been due to the energy and continued dedication of dozens and dozens of volunteers, coordinated by a small paid staff. This has continued until this day, and will be the basis of our continued service and effectiveness for the future.

Clearbrook Golden Age Society Board

A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, she said, "Now, class, if I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it, and I would turn red in the face."

"Yes," the class said.

"Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position the blood doesn't run into my feet?"

A little fellow shouted, "Cause your feet ain't empty."

Advice you can't afford to miss. Join us!

Wills and Will Planning

Wednesday, April 20 2016

6 – 7 p.m.

Sandman Hotel, 32720 Simon Ave., Abbotsford

Includes a Q & A with presenters:

Howard Wiens, LLB, Partner, Linley Welwood Law Firm
Jay Pearson, CFP, PFP, FMA, RBC Financial Planner

Please RSVP by April 14
by contacting Susan Eaton at 604-556-2197
or susan.eaton@rbc.com.



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Community Resources

Health

Abbotsford Mental Health Office

32700 George Ferguson Way, Abbotsford, BC
Ph. 604-870-7800 Fax: 604-870-7801

Abbotsford Parkinson's Support Group

Meetings are held the 1st Monday of the month, September to June. Ph. Gary at 604-308-8691 or Carolyn at 604-853-3772 Email: info@parkinson.bc.ca

Abbotsford - Mission Arthritis Support Group

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at Abbotsford Church of the Nazarene, 2390 McMillan Road, Abbotsford, Ph. Terry Davies 604-853-8138

Email: koipond@telus.net

Alcoholics Anonymous

If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, that's ours. Call our 24-hour hotline at 604-615-2911 Website www.abbotsfordaa.org

Alzheimer Resource Centre – Abbotsford

#214 – 2825 Clearbrook Rd., Abbotsford
Ph. 604-859-3889 Fax: 604-859-8341

All support services by appointment only.

B.C. Schizophrenia Society

Unit 18 – 33655 Essendene Ave.
Abbotsford, BC V2S 2G5 Ph. 604-859-0105
Office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

British Columbia Center for Epilepsy and Seizure Education

#112 – 32868 Ventura Avenue, Abbotsford.
Ph. 604-853-7399 Fax: 604-853-7336
Email: epilepsy.support@telus.net

Canadian Cancer Society, Abbotsford Branch

#128 – 31935 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford
Ph. 604-852-1410 Fax: 604-852-1707

Email: abbotsford@b.c.cancer.ca

Monday to Friday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Canadian Diabetes Association (Abbotsford and District Branch)

Box 345, Abbotsford, BC V2S 4N6
Ph. 1-800-665-6526 (Vancouver Office)

Email: infobc@diabetes.ca

Informational meetings are held at Central Heights Church the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM, January to May. There is no fee to attend.

HIV/AIDS Support Group

Lighthouse Centre

#1 – 2712 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford, BC

Ph. 604-854-1101 Fax: 604-854-1105 Email: tic@plfv.org

MS Society of Canada, Fraser Valley Chapter

P.O. Box 373, Abbotsford, BC Ph. 1-877-303-7122
Email: info.fraservalley@mssociety.ca Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at Trinity Memorial United Church, 33737 George Ferguson Way, Abbotsford, 1:00-3:00 pm.

Seniors Healthy Aging Resource Environment Society

102-2455 W. Railway, Abbotsford. Ph. 604-854-1733

"We need to be in tune with the Master
and in touch with the world;
all too often we reverse these." Quoted

Stroke Recovery Association of BC

Weekly group meetings for stroke survivors of all ages. Caregivers are welcome to sit in for a few meetings to help with transition. The meetings run from 12:30 to 3:30 at the Abbotsford Recreational Centre every Thursday except for July and August. Ph. Laura Wegener 604-798-7530 Email: gilburg_64@hotmail.com

The Blind and Visually Impaired Society

Legacy Sports Centre, Rotary Stadium, Abbotsford. The Society meets at 1:00 PM the second and fourth Wednesday every month. The society assists and offers quality of life in a healthy place. Mae Atkinson Ph. 604-626-0643

Et Cetera

Abbotsford – Canada Pension/Old Age Security

If you have moved, your new address should be given immediately to make sure your pensions arrive on time. To inform about changes and to get information on any programs call 1-800-277-9914.

Abbotsford Community Services

104—32885 Ventura Ave, Abbotsford, Ph. 604-850-7934

Abbotsford Peer Support for Seniors

2499 McMillan Road, Abbotsford, Ph: 604-850-0011

Abbotsford Recreation Centre

2499 McMillan Road, Abbotsford, Ph. 604-853-4221

Abbotsford Social Activity Association

33889 Essendene Ave., Abbotsford, Ph. 604-853-4014

Abbotsford Table Tennis Club

Meets Tuesday and Thursday, 7:00 to 10:00 PM.
Fitness Centre, Matsqui Complex Prison, King Road,
Abbotsford. First evening is free; then \$2 per evening.
www.abbotsfordtabletennis.com

Andy Anderson 604-309-3256

BC Old Age Pensioners and Seniors' Organization

Br. #69 – 3106 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford.

Ph. 604-859-7265

Central Valley Woodcarvers

Meetings are held every Wednesday evening at Yale Secondary School, Yale Road, Abbotsford, during the school year. Ph. 604-853-8049

Communitas Supportive Care Society

#103 – 2776 Bourquin Crescent, West, Abbotsford

Ph. 604-850-6608

Euchre Card Club

Meets Monday 7:00 to 10:00 PM. Upstairs, Parks and Recreation Centre, McMillan and Old Yale, Abbotsford \$10 per evening. Don Butler 604-746-6930

Legal Aid Services

2459 Pauline Ave., Abbotsford, Ph. 604-852-2141

Matsqui Recreation Centre

3106 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford, Ph. 604-855-0500

Additional listings may be sent to office@gardenparktower.ca

"Today, I kissed my dad on the forehead as he passed away in a small hospital bed. About five seconds after he died, I realized it was the first time I had given him a kiss since I was a little boy."

Quoted

Memories & Happenings

People Pleaser no More



Carrie Wachsmann

I was a people pleaser. As a child my friends told me "You're too nice. You want to please everybody." As an adult, I was one of those people the "church" loves; I couldn't say no.

I was excited about the opportunities to serve God. I enjoyed being included in creative endeavors, being part of meaningful projects. Inclusion, recognition, appreciation, all made me feel wanted, needed, useful. My life had meaning. I also liked the fact that people noticed my talents and asked me to use them.

"So, what's the problem?" I can hear you ask. The problem was I couldn't say "no." I was caught in the trap; the one that says if you're asked and you are able, it must be God's will for you. "If it's going to be, it's up to me." Wow. I had bought the Kool-Aid and didn't realize it.

Over time, I took on too much for too long. Slowly, I lost my joy in serving. Many areas of my life seemed to be failing. I was definitely overdue at the repair shop. After one big stress package, my life had come to a crashing halt in the fall of 1989.

My journey back to normality took some time. A lot of things needed fixing.

I spent the next few years working through the concept that it was OK to say "no." Just because it's a good thing, and just because you've been asked, doesn't mean you're the one to do it. With wise counsel I learned to listen to the heart of God in the matters of serving. I learned how to trust Him to direct me, and how to receive His much needed healing in my life.

Although it's been quite some years since I began on this new pathway, I still need my regular checkups with Jesus. We talk all the time about this sort of thing. Only by the grace of God have I once again been able to move joyfully into serving Him.

I am so grateful that God created me the way He did, with the gifts and abilities He chose to give me. I thank Him often. I get to serve Him doing things I love. What a wonderful life. I know now, the only thing that really matters is this - "Am I pleasing Jesus?"

The scripture promise in Matthew 11:30, "My yoke is easy and my burden is light," has become very meaningful to me as I walk this walk of freedom. Saying "no" has never been so easy and when it's a green light - it's a "yes" - I get excited because I know I'm in for an awesome adventure of some kind.

Carrie Wachsmann

Tour Canada Fall 2016

with Henry Esau, Henry Hooge and Eunice Mitchell



For full details contact
Eunice Mitchell, Travel Consultant
with Envoy Travel Ltd.

604.819.7500 - epmitch@gmail.com

Full brochure on the web or at Garden Park Tower
www.eunicemitchell.com/travel.htm



14 day Tour - A Sept 3-16, 2016

Tour Includes:

- Air conditioned motor-coach transportation
- Airfare/Taxes Waterloo to Abbotsford
- 13 nights Hotel accommodation
- Gratuities to Driver, Guides and Meals provided
- Baggage handling
- 13 meals and attractions as outlined in brochure

Price Per Person based on Double:

\$3850.00 Canadian Dollars

Prices include:

- BBQ & Tour of Frontier Town
- Lake Louise Gondola and Meal
- Calgary Tower lunch
- Hutterite Colony Town and lunch
- Rosebud Dinner Theatre

22 day Tour - B Sept 3-24, 2016

Tour Includes:

- All of Tour A
- Motor-coach to Montreal
- Pre- Cruise Accommodation in Montreal
- St Lawrence River Cruise on Holland America + taxes
- See Quebec City, Charlottetown, Sydney, Halifax, Bar Harbour and Boston
- Return Flight Boston Vancouver

Price Per Person based on Double:

\$6204.00 Canadian Dollars - Inside Cabin

- One Hundred Huntley Facility Tour
- World Famous Waterloo Market
- Old Mennonite Country Tour
- Human Rights Museum
- Niagara Falls

Dollars & Sense

The Talk



Sherri Grosz

It's time for "the talk". You know, the one we've been putting off because it's uncomfortable. That end-of-life conversation. There is, after all, a 100% certainty of our death. The Psalms remind us of our frailty: "Show me LORD, my life's end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is." Psalm 39:4 (NIV)

More than half of all deaths are sudden or unexpected, but even then too many don't make plans or discuss their wishes with family and friends. This can cause profound heartache for those left behind. I've heard the stories of families fighting over healthcare decisions and siblings who are estranged because of how the possessions were divided. There can also be confusion over who should make important decisions.

Here's your primer to get the conversations started:

Wills: Do you have an up-to-date will? Are family members capable and willing to handle your estate, or should you hire a professional estate trustee service? Could they find the original copy of your will? Does your estate distribution still make sense? Have you included a charitable gift in your estate? Is there an up-to-date summary of what you own and what you owe? Have you created or updated your charitable giving plan with Mennonite Foundation of Canada?

Incapacity documents for health: There are many reasons that we may not be able to make decisions about our health care or the things we own. Have you prepared legal documents permitting someone to act on your behalf, if needed? Have you notified the people you've named? Are they aware of your preferences for healthcare treatments? Have they met your primary care physician?

Incapacity documents for finances and property: Do the people responsible know which financial institutions you use? Have they met your financial planner, accountant and lawyer? Should you conduct annual reviews together? Have you discussed your wishes about charitable gifts? Some provinces have rules about the amounts that can be donated if an incapacity document is in use.

Is your family able to navigate tough conversations respectfully? Or should you involve an outsider to help?

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head.

She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, "Why are some of your hairs white, Mum?"

Her mother replied, "Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white."

The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, "Mummy, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?"

A few years ago, John (not his real name) shared this: "My Dad died when I was young so it's just been Mom, my sister and me. Mom had a serious health scare in her mid-sixties, and we were keenly aware that we didn't know what Mom wanted. She recovered, but after that, she began conversations about aging, dying and death. Mom wove it into everyday conversations; she was careful not to overwhelm us, but she was quite clear about what she did and did not want. She also began to invite us to join appointments with lawyers, accountants and her physician. Mom lived independently until her late 80s and died just after her 90th birthday. My sister and I knew exactly what Mom wanted, what was important to her. It made a difficult time much easier for both of us. I know Mom did it because she felt strongly that parents should teach and guide their children. Even in my 60s, Mom was still able and willing to teach me about aging well, dying and death. I've continued the tradition and have begun to have conversations with my spouse and children. It's hard sometimes, but it's the least I can do for those whom I love."

Families who have these conversations tend to fare well. There may be disagreements, but when preferences and wishes are clearly communicated, difficult situations are much easier to navigate. Set the example for your family and start the conversation today. Mennonite Foundation of Canada has resources available to help. Go to MennoFoundation.ca or contact the nearest office at 1-800-772-3257.

Before coming to work for MFC, Sherri worked for an agricultural co-operative for 13 years, most recently as their store manager. She has received the Certified Financial Planner designation. Sherri graduated from the University of Waterloo with a B.A. in Sociology. She is a member of the Canadian Association of Gift Planners (CAGP). Sherri Grosz and her husband, Rob, attend Elmira Mennonite Church, in Ontario.

COMPLETE and FINISHED

In a recently held linguistic competition in London and attended by supposedly the best minds in the world, Sam-sundar Balgobin, a Guyanese man, was the clear winner with a standing ovation which lasted over 5 minutes.

The final question was: How do you explain the difference between COMPLETE and FINISHED in a way that is easy to understand? Some people say there is no difference between COMPLETE and FINISHED.

Here is his astute answer. When you marry the right woman, you are COMPLETE. When you marry the wrong woman, you are FINISHED, and when the right one catches you with the wrong one, you are COMPLETELY FINISHED!!

He won a trip to travel the world in style and a case of 25-year-old rum.

"Freedom provides an opportunity to exercise self-control."

Quoted

A Senior's Concern

Culture Clashes in the USA



Len Remple

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is actively hostile to all agencies and people that demonstrate their Christianity. The ACLU initiates lawsuits to stop all expressions of Christianity in public. For example, it opposes Bible Study clubs in schools, public prayer by sports coaches and athletes at games, city councils praying before their meetings, and schools which present the true meaning of Christmas and Easter. Just the threat of a lawsuit by the ACLU against such activities is often enough to have people cancel the supposedly offensive action.

A news article by Michael Youssef in *Charisma Magazine* reveals that a public school in San Diego permits Muslim students to conduct prayer sessions in the high school. Christian students, however, are denied the same privilege. Mr. Youssef writes:

"Over the past 40 years or so, the ACLU has terrified many school boards, school administrators, school children, sports coaches, sporting events, coordinators, [and] city and village councils by threatening to drag them into court if they pray in public."

The ACLU has warned hundreds of these persons and organizations that they will bring the full weight of their false interpretation of the Federal Establishment clause against them. Fear is a powerful factor. Fear devastates logical thinking. Now the ACLU has come up with a surprise. They are providing free legal advice and actively defending the Muslim students prayer sessions in this public high school.

"It's not that my political opponents are ignorant, it's just that they know so much that isn't so." Ronald Reagan

The ACLU knows Christians are forgiving about being denied privileges, but the ACLU also knows and fears [that] criticizing Muslims might very well bring the sword to them."

Mr. Youssef comes from Egypt where he was a Muslim until he converted to Christianity.

Now let's consider another challenge, this time in the area of Muslim employment. Some Muslim employees are demanding a change in company employment rules to accommodate their religious practices.

The Telegraph newspaper of Fort Morgan, Colorado, reports a dispute at the Cargill Meat Processing Plant as follows. Since 2009 Cargill has made available for Muslim employees a "Reflective Room", for prayer. The schedule allowed 2 or 3 employees at a time to leave the assembly line for prayer. If more left at any given time, it would be too disruptive. Recently a group of 15 left for prayer together. They were warned that this practice was disallowed. Then 190 employees left their post in protest and did not return for work the next day. Cargill then fired most of them. Negotiations are still ongoing to resolve this matter. Will Cargill retain its freedom to operate the plant in an orderly way or will the protesting Muslims get their way?

The Muslims argue discrimination and persecution. The employer argues common sense and reasonable requirements. Will common sense and justice prevail? Who can predict the outcome? There are hundreds of such cases of culture-clashes all over the world.

Len Remple

"The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only object of good government."

Thomas Jefferson

Theme Photos

Full Loads: Four Bicycles and Two Trucks

