

# The Garden Park Journal



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January 2016



## New Year's Resolutions

In looking back, I think I began making New Year's resolutions when I was a teenager. At age thirteen, I resolved to stop biting my nails, and for three or four weeks I actually developed an enviable set of fingernails. They were so long that I decided to file them to a sharp point, and paint them bright red. What powerful weapons! My friends at school – who were mostly tomboys like me – thought that I had “flipped out” and did everything they could to help me break those fine nails. Playing basketball took care of three nails; the rest were destroyed the day I lost control of my sled and went downhill head first.



Lilli Kehler

At age fifteen, my New Year's resolution was to become the best trumpet player in Morris, Manitoba. I had been in the school band for several years and quite enjoyed playing alto horn, but the best-looking guy in the band played trumpet. So, I changed instruments, and practiced the trumpet endlessly. By the time I was ready to move into the trumpet section – right next to Dreamboat Charlie – his family got transferred to Winnipeg, and I never saw him again. I was beginning to see that New Year's resolutions were a luxury I couldn't afford. That trumpet cost my parents \$75 (second-hand).

After I got married, I made a New Year's Resolution that I would never raise my voice to my husband. The young couple across the street sometimes yelled so loudly at each other that on a quiet, summer night they could be heard all over town. Disgraceful! Something I would never do! My self-imposed, quiet dignity worked – until the day my husband criticized my over-cooked pork chops. How was I supposed to know that it wasn't necessary to bake pork chops for three

*Continued on page 2*



## Never Give Up

While Winston Churchill was prime minister of Great Britain he was asked to speak at Harrow High School, his alma mater. Sir Winston stood to his feet giving the following address: “Young men, never give up. Never give up! Never give up!! Never, never, never-never-never-never!” Do we give up

Dan Goldsmith easily?

My friend Albert was serving as a missionary in Western Australia when an aborigine told him, “You could be with my people in four days. Go bring them out!” Bringing these relatives out into civilization was easier said than done. However, a seed was planted in young Albert's heart. When a jeep and trailer were given to Albert, that seed took root. With help the jeep was dismantled with every part checked, cleaned, reassembled or replaced. After much prayer and preparation, Albert, joined by a fellow missionary and two aborigine brothers, set off on their mission. Four and a half miles down the road they made a U-turn retrieving two spare tires. On their way again, they encountered a heavy downpour. Rounding a bend in the road, the weight of the trailer forced them off of the road striking the one lone tree in the area.

Having returned to repair their jeep and trailer they set out for the third time. Two hundred sixty miles from home, they picked up two drums of gasoline and one drum of fresh water, these having been sent on ahead by train. From this point on directions were given by the two aborigines, recognizing land-

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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

#### Holiday Hours

January 1 - Closed

and a half hours. I had always been told that undercooked pork could make you sick, and I couldn't chance that. He complained bitterly – and I lost it! I hope the people in town thought it was the young couple across the street who were yelling.

I think you're beginning to get my drift. After continually breaking my New Year's resolutions within three or four weeks of making them, I discontinued making them. No sense in flogging a dead horse, and wasting precious energy. For years I laughed at other people who made New Year's resolutions; I had resolved never to make them again . . . until I turned seventy last year.

After many years of being so busy – working, raising a family, being involved in church – I felt I deserved a nice, relaxing hobby in my retirement years. I had always enjoyed thrift store shopping, but never had much time for it. Now I had time – and it was so much fun. I turned into a thrift store “junkie” overnight. I compared myself to people who golfed two or three times a week, and felt justified in doing more or less the same. Of course they didn't need extra closet space for their golf clubs, but that was only a minor difference. I compared myself to women who knitted or crocheted almost every day, but I couldn't donate my second-hand “finds” to missions. I compared myself to elderly artists who painted with great regularity, but unfortunately, I couldn't frame my thrift store “treasures” and sell them. My closets were bulging -- and I knew it was time; time to make a New Year's resolution again.

I figured this time I had a fighting chance. I was definitely older than the last time I had made a New Year's resolution, and with age comes maturity, wisdom, and self-control. Right! Guess what? I quickly found out that failure can also come with age. Nevertheless, I kept working at it and thought I was winning -- until I discovered that MCC was having its 50% Off Sale. They were practically giving their product away; it would be impolite to refuse. I admitted defeat – and went back to my thrice a week hobby. But, that's not the end of the story.

With my closets getting more and more crowded, and my inability to stick to my New Year's resolution, even at my mature age, I decided that this matter was important enough to discuss with God. At age seventy, I've had my “three-score and ten”, and the last thing I want to do is waste valuable time. Strangely enough, since I've had that discussion with God, I have become so busy with my Ladies Bible Study, my singing group, and my church visitation, that I rarely have time to visit thrift stores more than once a week. This next year, I'm thinking of taking on one more volunteer job – which would likely reduce my shopping to twice a month. By 2017, I should be “thrift store free.” Good luck Value Village, MCC, and Bibles for Missions. Hope you can survive without me!

*Lilli Kehler*

**Teacher:** Clyde , your composition on “My Dog” is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?

**Clyde:** No sir, It's the same dog.

marks from their boyhood. When the odometer registered 400 miles, they set up camp, making short day trips. Seeing no one after several days of searching, they agreed to spend one more night before returning home.

The next morning they saw smoke in the distance. They spent another night, followed by another morning sighting more smoke. Leaving their jeep, they walked in the direction of the smoke. Would they meet men with spears? Ninety minutes into their walk, they came face to face with a few friendly aborigines. An older man spoke. “Years ago I had a dream. In my dream I was told to come to this spot at this time of year, and I would meet someone who would tell me about a loving God. I have come every year for thirty years. This was to be my last trip.”

Albert's last night, this man's last trip and they met. The good news about our loving God was shared. They received the news with gladness, reaching out in faith, accepting the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. And yes, Albert and party brought these aborigines out into the civilized world!

Albert's goal and passionate heart was not deterred by the many frustrating delays. What's your goal for this New Year? Are you easily stopped or do you persevere? In the words of Winston Churchill, “Never give up! Never give up! Never give up! Never, never, never-never-never-never!”

*Dan Goldsmith*

*Dan Goldsmith is a retired pastor who has lived in Abbotsford for over 25 years. He retired from Sevenoaks Alliance Church in 2000, has had two senior pastoral interim ministries since and published two books. He has been married to his wife Leona for over 56 years, has three children and five grandsons.*

**New Year's Wishes for You (edited)**

- Enough happiness to keep you pleasant.
- Enough trials to keep you strong.
- Enough sorrow to keep you human.
- Enough hope to keep you happy.
- Enough failure to keep you humble.
- Enough success to keep you eager.
- Enough friends to give you comfort.
- Enough income to meet your needs.
- Enough additional income to give generously to worthy causes.
- Enough enthusiasm to look forward.
- Enough determination to make each day better.

**Treasure State News**

*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.*



## From the Editor's Desk ...

### Towards an honest assessment of Muslim activity

Over the years I have had numerous opportunities to interact with Muslims. My first significant involvement occurred decades ago in Tunisia, Libya and Egypt. Although my friend and I knew no Arabic and very few of the Muslims could speak any English or German, we developed some fine relationships. Whether having tea with Bedouins in the Sahara or bartering with some pretty astute Muslim salespersons in the towns, we found the Muslims to be consistently friendly, courteous and helpful. They were not a threat to anyone.

Today we repeatedly hear that almost all of the world's 1.6 billion Muslims are peaceful. I agree. But that fact is largely irrelevant. It's the extremist minority that shapes events, not the peaceful and inactive majority. For example, only a tiny percentage of Russians, not the masses, turned Russia into a brutal Soviet dictatorship. Only a tiny percentage of Chinese remade China into a totalitarian state that slaughtered millions. Only a small coterie of military officers transformed Cambodia into "The Killing Fields".

These reflections came to mind as I heard politicians and commentators discuss the December 2 shooting of 14 innocent social service employees in San Bernardino, California. Most politicians and pundits are falling all over themselves assuring us that Islam is not to blame, that most Muslims are peaceful. In part they are right. Most Muslims are peaceful. But that is not the issue. The fundamental issue is whether the killers, in this instance and other similar mass killings in New York, Boston, Paris, London, etc., are motivated by Islamist teachings.

This latest rampage occurred on December 2. Within a day or two the world learned that Syed Rizwan Farook and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, had become fundamentalist Muslims, that Syed had developed a passionate hatred for Israel, that they had had online contact with at least two Muslim terrorist organizations, that at his workplace Syed had defended militant Islamic activity, that at 11:00 AM on the day of the mass slaughter, Tashfeen had put out a Facebook statement pledging allegiance to the Islamic State and its leader, and that after the slaughter an Islamic State news agency declared Farook and Malik to be "ISIL supporters".

So what did all this evidence mean for various authorities? Apparently not much. FBI Director James Comey stated that "there is no indication yet that the plot was directed by ISIL or any other foreign terror group." As if foreign direction was the central issue. In a December 4 news story Douglas Quan, former Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, said that the probable explanation for the mass killing in California was that "These people are looking for something to belong to". "You have an individual who has a life experience that may involve a dysfunctional family.... They may feel disconnected... There may also be some underlying mental-health issues possibly or involvement in criminal activity." The December 6 *CBS Evening News* reported that "investigators search for answers.... Investigators still have no clear motive for the attack."

David Bowdich, Assistant Director of the FBI's Los Angeles Office, added his comment to the apparent bewilderment: "There was obviously a mission here. We know that.

## The Editorial Committee



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We do not know why." And President Barak Obama again affirmed his standard line: "We don't know the motivation." "Islam is a religion of peace." These comments remind me of the old adage, "None are so blind as those who do not want to see."

I can help these authorities understand the motivation. Farook and Malik have taken literally the following statements from the Qur'an: "Those who believe fight in the cause of Allah..." (*Surah 4: 75*) About those who "reject faith....if they turn renegades, seize them and slay them wherever ye find them;..." (*Surah 4: 89*) "Rouse the Believers to fight." (*Suraah 8:65*) "O ye who believe! Fight the Unbelievers...." (*Surah 9: 123*) Also numerous other passages.

In sum, when these Muslim killers shout "allahu akbar", as they typically do when they kill, and when they assert that they are Muslims killing for Allah, they may be misinterpreting the Qur'an – I'll leave that judgment to others – but we had better believe them. Anything else is naive, dishonest, and self-deceiving.

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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## Coming Events

### Evening Classes at Columbia Bible College 2940 Clearbrook Road

- ◆ *World Religions* (ANTH 232), Instructor: Kara Bergstrom, Tuesdays, 6:00 to 8:45, Jan 12 to Apr 13.
- ◆ *Psalms* (RELS 130), Instructor: Gareth Brandt, Wednesdays, 6:00 to 8:45 pm, Jan 13 to Apr 13.
- ◆ *Evangelism* (CHRM), Instructor: Ian Martens, Wednesdays, 6:00 to 8:45 pm, Jan 13 to Apr 13. This course will also address the question: "How do I connect with my Sikh neighbors"? Cost of each course, \$150.00. More info: Columbia.edu/ConEd or 604-853-3567 ext 425.

### Community (Abbotsford)

- ◆ *Hymn Sing*, Jan 17, 7:00 pm, Clearbrook MB Church, 2719 Clearbrook Road.
- ◆ *Free Seminar: Travel Tips and Deals for 55+*, Sponsored by MEI Schools featuring Claire Newell, Jan 26, 1:00 to 2:00 pm, Garden Park Tower. RSVP at MEI 604-859-3700 ext 326, or development@meischools.com
- ◆ *Valley Concert Society, St. Lawrence String Quartet*, Jan 30, 7:30, Matsqui Centennial Auditorium, 32315 South Fraser Way. More info: www.valleyconcertsociety.com
- ◆ *Mennonite Heritage Museum Now Open*, Seasonal exhibits throughout the year highlight various aspects of Mennonite history and faith. Display panels, digital slide shows, and video interviews, covering 500 years of Anabaptist Mennonite history. Open Mon to Fri, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. 1818 Clearbrook Road. More info: 604-758-5667 or info@mennonitemuseum.org
- ◆ *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, 1:00 to 3:00 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.

After a five-day blizzard, a Red Cross rescue team was carried by helicopter to a mountain cabin nearly covered with snow drifts. After knocking on the door, one rescuer stepped in and said, "We're from the Red Cross."

"Well," said the mountaineer, scratching his head, "it's been a tough winter and I don't see how we can give away anything this year."

### Community (Region)

- ◆ *Covenant of Life Ministries, Presents: Go Conference*, Jan 28 to 31, 6:00 pm, at Malick Media Studios, 20280 97 Avenue, #9, Langley. A Prophetic Conference to Set Your Course for 2016. Free Admission, Registration required. More info: events@covenantoflife.org
- ◆ *The Daniel Plan, God's Prescription for Your Health*, Speakers: Rick Warren, Dr. Daniel Amen, Dr. Mark Hyman, Jan 23, 2:00 to 6:00 pm. Church in the Valley, 23589 Old Yale Road, Langley. More info: 604-879-1124.
- ◆ *Missions Fest Vancouver 2016*, Jan 29 to 31 at 999 Canada Place. Speakers: Danielle Strickland, Jamie Taylor and Richard Cunningham, Seminars, Exhibits, Film Festival and Youth/Children's Programs. Admission Free. More info: missionsfestvancouver.ca

### Future Events

- ◆ *Music on a Wednesday*, Feb 17, Refreshments 11:30 (\$3.00), Concert 12:15 Davidsbundler Duo – Reg Quiring, viola and Rosemary O'Conner, piano. Bakerview Church 2285 Clearbrook Road.
- ◆ TWU's School of Arts, Media and Culture, presents "New Generations", one of Shakespeare's most popular comedies, Feb 2 to 6. Trinity Western University, 7600 Glover Road, Langley. Tickets: TWU.ca/theatre or 604-888-7511 ext 3872.
- ◆ *Mennonite Heritage Society Genealogy Workshop*, March 5, at Mennonite Heritage Museum, 1818 Clearbrook Road. Presenters: Tim Janzen and Glenn Penner. More info: archives@mbsbc.com or 604-853-6177.

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

### Evangelism Done By Big Guns?

*Leighton Ford*

I was speaking at an open-air crusade in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Billy Graham was to speak the next night and had arrived a day early. He came incognito and sat on the grass at the rear of the crowd. Because he was wearing a hat and dark glasses, no one recognized him.

Directly in front of him sat an elderly gentleman who seemed to be listening intently to my presentation. When I invited people to come forward as an open sign of commitment, Billy decided to do a little personal evangelism. He tapped the man on the shoulder and asked, "Would you like to accept Christ? I'll be glad to walk down with you if you want to." The old man looked him up and down, thought it over for a moment, and then said, "Naw, I think I'll just wait till the big gun comes tomorrow night."

Billy and I have had several good chuckles over that incident. Unfortunately, it underlines how, in the minds of many people, evangelism is the task of the "Big Guns," not the "little shots."

### How Christian was your Christmas?

Teacher: Glenn, how do you spell crocodile?

Glen: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L'

Teacher: No, that's wrong

Glen: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

## Puzzles

As we begin the new year we focus on God who has blessed us in the concluded year and now guides us into the year ahead. This month all three puzzles focus on God. They may seem to be a little more difficult than usual but given that all words relate to God, the scrambled words, all familiar to readers, should come to mind without too much frustration. The first puzzle consists of adjectives describing God. The second puzzle consists of verbs describing what God does. The third puzzle consists of nouns which list some qualities of God. Good puzzling!

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debells

agoricus

Our God is, indeed, our \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ heavenly Father.

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pidroves

tinecreeds

drawers

Or God is, indeed, to be \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .

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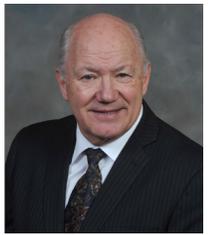
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Our God is, indeed, a God of great \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ .  
The answers are given on page 15. JHR

## A Pastoral Word

### What Is Around The Corner



Pastor Ron Berg

Ruth and I have a favourite lake in northern Alberta. It is an isolated area with a series of trap-line trails and a few trappers' cabins. Most of the trails in other areas of northern Alberta are actually cut-lines where you can see a long way straight down the trail. The trap-line trails, on the other hand, twist and turn through the woods. Often when it is time to turn back, you just want to see what is around the next bend. Usually it is just another bend and another one after that. Sometimes you come around a bend and there is a moose, or another log cabin, or a spectacular view of the valley or the lake.

I think it is like that going into the new year. You have an idea of where you are going, but you never know what is around the next bend. You would, however, really like to know where God is leading you.

Job had the same thought when he said, "When He is at work in the north, I do not see Him; when He turns to the south, I catch no glimpse of him. But He knows the way that I take; when He has tested me, I will come forth as gold. My feet have closely followed His steps; I have kept to His way without turning aside. Yet I am not silenced by the darkness, by the thick darkness that covers my face." (Job 23:10 – 17)

We would like to see a long way down the trail, like a cutline. But that is not the trail of life. It twists and turns. Sometimes we come upon a glorious golden sight. At other times there is darkness. But God knows the way and knows where we are on the trail. We follow his instructions. We are tempted at times to take a short cut through the bush, but that gets us into trouble. Stay on the trail. It leads you to God's purpose for your life.

Actually winding trails are much more interesting than long straight cut-lines. You may be surprised when you see what is around the next corner. Ron Berg

"One resolution I have made, and always try to keep, is this: To rise above the little things."  
John Burroughs



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"Life is not a matter of counting the years but of making the years count."

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## Your Health

*Editor's Note: A certain gentleman has sent us an article making claims concerning peroxide. Some claims deal with health issues, some are household hints. Given that some of these claims are also made by other sources, it has been decided to publish some of them. This column therefore is only a report about claims, not a set of actual claims. The longer article was written by Becky Ramsey, a physician's wife.*

### Peroxide versus Bleach

The most basic point to remember is that the peroxide must be only 3%. Mrs. Ramsey writes, "I would like to tell you of the benefits of that plain bottle of 3% peroxide....My husband has been in the medical field for over 36 years" and is well-informed. She adds, "Did you know bleach was invented in the late '40s? It's chlorine, folks! And was used [by the enemy] to kill our troops." "Peroxide was invented during WW I. It was used to save and help cleanse the needs of our troops and hospitals."

Here, then, are five health claims presented by Mrs. Becky Ramsey.

1. "Let your toothbrushes soak in a cup of peroxide to keep them free of germs."
2. "I had a fungus on my feet for years until I sprayed a 50/50 mixture of peroxide and water on them, especially the toes, every night and let dry."
3. "Soak any infections or cuts in 3% peroxide for five to ten minutes several times a day." This is very beneficial.
4. "Tilt your head back and spray a 50/50 mixture into your nostrils whenever you have a cold or a plugged sinus. It will bubble and help to kill the bacteria. Hold for a few minutes and then blow into a tissue."
5. "Put half a bottle of 3% peroxide in your bath to help get ride of boils, fungus, or other skin infections."

What the New Year brings will depend  
a great deal on what you bring to it.

Henry Moore

### God and the Super Bowl

Last January the Public Opinion Research Institute reported some interesting findings.

Americans were asked if God played any part in the outcome of the Super Bowl football game. "26% of Americans and 27% of self-described sports fans say that God plays a role in determining which team wins...." 32% of Evangelical Protestants and 31% of Catholics "believe that God plays a role in determining which team wins." Only 9% of mainline Protestants "believe God has a hand in the outcome of sporting events."

[www.crosswalk.com/print/11725727/](http://www.crosswalk.com/print/11725727/)

Maybe sports teams should hire more chaplains and fewer coaches!

JHR

God is looking for people through whom  
he can do the impossible. A. W. Tozer

## Helpful Hints

### Uses of 3% peroxide.

*Editor's comment: As stated in this issue's **Your Health** column, **The Journal** has received an article written by Becky Ramsey, a physician's wife. That article makes some household claims for peroxide. Some of them are presented here as her assertions.*

1. "Clean your counters and table tops with peroxide to kill germs and have a fresh smell. Simply put a little on your dishcloth when you wipe the surface, or spray it on the counters."
2. "After rinsing off your wooden cutting board, pour peroxide on to kill salmonella and other bacteria."
3. "Fill a spray bottle with a 50/50 mixture of 3% peroxide and water and keep it in every bathroom to disinfect [surfaces] without harming" any sewage disposal system.
4. "You can add a cup of 3% peroxide instead of bleach to a load of whites in your laundry to whiten them. If there is blood on clothing, pour the peroxide directly on the soiled spot. Let it sit for a few minutes, then rub it and rinse with cold water."
5. "I use peroxide to clean my mirrors. There is no smearing which is why I love it so much."

Mrs. Ramsey adds, "I could go on and on. It is a little brown bottle no home should be without!"

### Questions asked in some US National Parks

#### Mesa Verde National Park

"Why did they build the ruins so close to the road?"

"Do you know of any undiscovered ruins?"

"Why did the Indians decide to live in Colorado?"

#### Carlsbad Caverns National Park

"How much of the cave is underground?"

"So what's in the unexplored part of the cave?"

"Does it ever rain in here?"

#### Yosemite National Park

"What time of year do you turn on Yosemite Falls?"

"What happened to the other half of Half Dome?"

"Where are the cages for the animals?"

### 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.



Ed Fast

## The Honourable Ed Fast, Member of Parliament, Abbotsford

A belated “Happy New Year” to everyone! With another blessed Christmas behind us, I look back one last time to the year that has been. For me, 2015 was filled with change and “mixed blessings”. I am grateful to our commu-

nity for again re-electing me to represent you as Abbotsford’s Member of Parliament. At the same time, the outcome was bittersweet. Many of us were disappointed that, after almost 10 years of strong, principled leadership under Stephen Harper, Canadians chose someone else to govern them. I accept that outcome as being part of a peaceful democracy like ours, the greatest and most admired country in the world!

So what is the way forward for me? Well, my role has changed. I can assure you that, as a member of the Official Opposition, I will hold the new Liberal government to account for its policies and actions, while providing constructive criticism and support when appropriate. I am very pleased that interim Conservative leader Rona Ambrose has asked me to take on the role of environment critic. This is a role which will be very challenging in the days ahead, following the Paris climate change conference which I attended last month. At that conference, the countries of the world worked to negotiate a climate change agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Only weeks earlier, that same city of Paris had come face to face with terrorism again. Those attacks on innocent civilians strengthen my resolve to challenge our new government not to flinch in the face of such adversity. We must remain engaged with our allies to confront and eliminate terrorist threats around the world and provide our security agencies with the 21st century tools they need to identify emerging threats. We will ensure that the new Prime Minister makes the safety and security of Canadians his top priority as we demonstrate our compassion by welcoming refugees from the war-torn regions of the Middle East and elsewhere around the world.

I look forward to the coming four years. Since I am no longer Canada’s Minister of International Trade, I will be able to spend more time in our community, serving the needs of our residents and interacting with you. Please feel free to contact my office at 604-557-7888 should there be issues you wish to discuss with me.

Again, I wish all of you a prosperous, safe, healthy and happy New Year!

“A baby has a way of making a man of his father and a boy of his grandfather.”

“With modern medicine doing so well at increasing our life expectancy, we’d better be careful about adding to the national debt - we might have to pay it off ourselves, instead of passing it on.”



Simon Gibson

## The Honourable Simon Gibson MLA Abbotsford-Mission

It has been a busy year, and I feel privileged to be able to serve as an MLA representing constituents in Abbotsford and Mission.

In my capacity as Parliamentary Secretary for Independent Schools, I was especially pleased to see our Government move expeditiously with approval of Bill 29. The Property Taxation Statutes (Exemptions) Amendment Act.

This act, which ensures that independent schools are treated the same as public schools across our province, received unanimous support from both sides of the House, including the two independent MLAs.

Bill 29 does not create a new exemption but, rather, it acknowledges land that is required for educational purposes, such as playgrounds, playing fields and parking lots.

Local government has a long-standing policy of providing tax exemptions to independent schools. However, recently several municipalities had begun changing their policies and were moving to deprive independent schools of the permissive portion of the exemption.

Bill 29, in short, will ensure that independent schools can function successfully under the same municipal tax model as public schools.

Abbotsford Christian, and Valley Christian, among others – in my riding of Abbotsford-Mission - will benefit from this legislation.

It is worth noting that approximately 80,000 students are enrolled at 360 independent schools, province-wide. This represents 13 per cent of the overall student population.

In closing, my wife, Joy, and I would like to take this opportunity to wish all *Journal* readers the very best for the New Year. May 2016 be filled with hope and peace for you and your family.

It is reassuring to know that we can have faith in God through the Lord Jesus Christ, whatever circumstances we may face. “God is good; a refuge in time of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him.”

### 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!

*I'm beginning to wonder if someone, somehow, is spying on me. Ever since I have been publishing the regular Beware of Scams! column, the number of scams I receive has increased markedly. It continues to increase. Maybe some victims of scams are sending items to me anonymously. Who knows?*

*In any event, right now, after already deleting some, I have 64 scam emails in my Junk File, all of which have arrived since August 14, 2015. In addition to the 64, I have received warnings about others. Here is an example of a rather subtle and smooth deceiver. Clearly, this promotion, which is too good to be true, has the intent of getting your bank data. JHR*

### A GOOD JOB OFFER

While we may have high expectations of our associates, we also give them high rewards. Imagine being part of a stable organization with a sterling reputation - a place where the Sydney Car Centre is an integral part of all that we do. With our car centre personality, you'll not just succeed - you'll thrive. And, with our strong commitment to promoting from within, you'll definitely enjoy your rise to the top. Today the Sydney Car Centre is looking for an industrious regional assistant to hasten the process of the delivery of cus-

tomers payments to the suppliers. The position offered is a part-time job, and will only require from you to be available for 1-2 hours a day. As a regional assistant, you will be supposed to operate with the payments from those customers, based in your country.

You will be expected to accept 2-3 transactions to your bank account every week, make certain calculations about every transaction (you will be precisely instructed about it), & transfer the funds to the suppliers. You will be continuously communicating with the manager from the head office, who will instruct you & give advice regarding every new payment. The ideal candidate will be industrious, goal-oriented person, with the availability of a personal/business bank account suitable to be used for the company needs.

Knowledge of English, computer literacy and sociability are appreciated. The company guarantees to pay NET 10% fee out of the amount of every payment you dealt with and to provide you with the regular income & flexible schedule. All the related expenses you might have are covered by the company. You can fill in the on-line application form for this position. We would be glad to welcome you in our team! We are looking forward to hearing from you as soon as possible!

Bill, CO

### CURFEW

The word "curfew" comes from the French phrase "couvre-feu", which means "cover the fire". It was used to describe the time of blowing out all lamps and candles. It was later adopted into Middle English as "curfeu", which later became the modern "curfew". In the early American colonies homes had no real fireplaces so a fire was built in the center of the room. In order to make sure a fire did not get out of control during the night it was required that, by an agreed upon time, all fires would be extinguished.

### Garden Park Bookbinding



Restoration of old books is the specialty of the dedicated volunteers in the bindery. All types of books are accepted and rates are very reasonable.

Place your order in the office during regular business hours

### Did you know?

1. Since 1968 there have been 1,486,346 deaths "from guns" in the United States. That is a greater number of deaths than the total number of US military deaths in all the wars in which the United States was involved since 1812; that number is 1,172,837. (*ctvnews.ca National News December 4, 2015*) As someone put it, "The love of guns exacts a high price."
2. A recent report by **The Fraser Health Authority** states that on July 1, 2013 there were 5,379,600 residents in Canada over 65 years of age. Of these seniors, "about one-third will be hospitalized in any given year". No wonder our hospitals are crowded.
3. While seniors in Canada receive much financial and other assistance from provincial governments, they also receive much financial assistance from the federal government. *The Vancouver Sun* reports that the "Feds shell out \$21,000 a year to [the] average senior; \$4,349 to the average Canadian under 45." (*The Vancouver Sun, October 6, 2015, p. A3*) Seniors should be, and fortunately are, very grateful!
4. Douglas Todd, religion columnist for *The Vancouver Sun*, reports that the United Church of Canada continues to have an atheist as one of its pastors. "Rev. Gretta Vosper is a Toronto United Church minister and author of two best-selling books on atheism." It seems that the United Church slogan, "We Welcome Everyone" means exactly that. Apparently the United Church, notes Todd, "has lost its boundaries". Note these two additional statements by Todd. "Why on earth, outsiders ask, would a Christian church allow someone who has long been an outspoken atheist to remain in the clergy?" And again, "Even though Vosper has been proudly declaring for 14 years, on all media platforms, she is atheist, it looks as if her dubious employment will drag on, at least in the short term." (*The Vancouver Sun, July 4, 2015, p. 15*)



Henry Braun

## Henry Braun Mayor of Abbotsford

### A Step in the Right Direction

On the morning of November 27, I was able to announce funding for a temporary winter response shelter here in Abbotsford. My first words at the announcement were “Good morning,” but I found I had to adjust my statement. For me, it wasn’t a good morning—it was a great morning.

The shelter is an investment in the lives of our most vulnerable people. Run by the Lookout Society, the shelter will be a warm, dry place that meets the basic daily needs of 40 people—32 men and 8 women—24/7. But more than that, it’s a step in finding long-term housing and connecting people to the resources they need to change their lives. In the words of Shayne Williams from the Lookout Society, “This project will save lives.”

The shelter is created from 6 trailer units that have been revamped to include sleeping quarters, laundry and shower facilities, a kitchen and medical examination room. Operational costs for the shelter are being covered by the BC Government. The City has covered the cost of the refurbished trailers, provided the land, and paid for site preparation. In the future, the trailers can be reused for City purposes,

es, leased, or sold—which will minimize the overall costs. Also, the land is now fully serviced and much more profitable should the City wish to sell it in the future.

It’s expected that the shelter will be running until April and that it will need to be set up for one more winter while we wait for the permanent housing on Gladys Avenue to be built. I strongly believe that this is a step in the right direction as we strive to address homelessness in our community. It’s healthy for the individuals who need the support and healthy for our community at large. Along with our partners, we are working hard to get people off the streets and into housing where their needs can be met.



### Rose Room Coffee Shop

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

“Jesus never lost his taste for bad company.”  
G. K. Chesterton

# avenue

B O D Y S H O P



#### 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**

### 10 Questions for Christians at the Beginning of a New Year

1. What’s the greatest thing you will ask God to do this year?
2. What’s the most important way you will try to make this year better than last year?
3. What one thing will you try to do to improve your prayer life this year?
4. What single thing do you plan to do this year that will matter most ten years from now?
5. What area of your life needs simplifying and what will you do about it?
6. What habit do you plan to establish this year?
7. What is your most important, God-honouring, financial goal this year?
8. What one thing do you plan to do this year to enrich the spiritual legacy you will leave for your children and grandchildren?
9. What one biblical teaching do you most want to understand better this year and how do you plan to achieve that goal?
10. In what area of your life do you most need change and what will you do about it this year?

*Professor Don Whitney, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary*

“Today’s teenagers will have a hard time telling their children what they did without.”



Garden Park Tower

## Thinking of moving in 2016? Consider a 55+ Life Lease Unit!

- Generous size from 1280 SF
- Professional services on site
- 1 & 2 Bedroom, 2 Bathroom
- Restaurant & Meals to go
- In-suite laundry
- Great views

For Appointment call (604) 853-5532 info@gardenparktower.ca  
2825 Clearbrook Road, Abbotsford, BC www.gardenparktower.ca

## 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

### CRA Volunteer Income Tax Program



**Needed:** volunteer secretaries to assist the tax preparers at the community volunteer income tax program sponsored by the Clearbrook Golden Age Society. The clinics operate from March 1, 2016 to April 30, 2016 for the 2015

tax year at the Garden Park Tower. Interested parties can contact the society at 604-853-5532.



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

## What the Volunteers have to say about working in the Food Services at Garden Park Tower.

“Garden Park: A good place to volunteer and meet ‘old’ friends and make new ones, plus very good exercise. Try it sometime!”  
*Helen Klassen*

“I feel like I am doing something useful for the community. Doing the dishes feels good for my health, it’s better than just walking.”  
*Nellie (Cornelia Pauls)*

“I volunteer here because I want to serve the Lord and my neighbor. I like to socialize, have good food and enjoy being among people.”  
*Hugo Wall*

“Volunteering is great fun. Lots of cool people here.”  
*Marlane*

“Lots of fun. Interesting people, good coffee and treats. Love the ladies in the Coffee Shop.”  
*Joyce & Sue*

“Volunteering in the kitchen over the years has enriched my life socially and also given me opportunity to keep me physically in better shape. A lot of prayers have been answered in regard to working relationships with happy outcomes.”  
*Helen Ottom*

“When you work here it is more fun. I like to meet new people. When I take my holidays I always think about my work. Washing dishes is the best because I like to be clean.”  
*Victor Epp*

“Volunteering in the kitchen has given me an opportunity to meet people as I just moved to Abbotsford. It has also filled a huge void in my life after retirement.”

*Linda Lord*

The statements given by these volunteers are a reflection of what more than 80 volunteers could say of their experience. This unique food service operation can only be successful as a Community Centre with a large volunteer base. We are always looking for more volunteers to work in the following positions: Rose Room Coffee Shop Cashiers, Dining Room Servers, Dining Room Coffee Servers, Cooks Helpers, Dishwashers, Bun Bakers and Meat De-boners. Various times are available. Call Kathy Klassen if you would like to know more. **604-850-4552**



## Garden Park Tower Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

The Clearbrook Golden Age Society  
Board of Directors  
invites

ALL Volunteers of the Society  
at Garden Park Tower for  
Breakfast on Thursday, January 28, 2016  
at 8:00 AM in the Magnolia Room.

Please RSVP by calling 604-853-5532  
or sign up in the kitchen or office.

# JANUARY 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
<p>Happy New Years! Keep warm this winter with our warm soups and stews to be enjoyed in the Dining Room, Coffee Shop or take a few home for later. Check out the new Friday lunch meals such as Salisbury Steak with Mushroom Gravy as well as other favorites. Enjoy here and at home!</p>					<p><b>1 New Years Day</b>  <b>Dining Room Closed</b></p>	2
					<p><b>Coffee Shop Closed</b></p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods</p>
3	4	<p>5 Chili            Chicken Noodle Soup            Apple Crisp with Ice Cream</p>	<p>6 Chicken Borscht            Farmer Sausage Soup            Chicken Pot Pie            Plum Platz</p>	7	<p>8 BBQ Ribs on Sauerkraut, Roast Potatoes, Steamed Vegetables, Cucumber and Tomato with Dill            Cheesecake with Strawberry Sauce</p>	9
	<p>Breakfast            Fresh Buns            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches            Lunch Special</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches            Lunch Special</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods</p>
10	11	<p>12 Beef Stew            White Bean Soup            Bread Pudding with Whipping Cream</p>	<p>13 Turkey Noodle Soup            Seafood Chowder            Reuben Sandwich            Cherry Platz</p>	14	<p>15 Shake 'n Bake Chicken Legs, Baked Mashed Potatoes, Green Bean Bake, Tossed Salad            Lemon Meringue Pie</p>	16
	<p>Breakfast            Fresh Buns            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches            Lunch Special</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches            Lunch Special</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods</p>
17	18	<p>19 Hamburger Soup            Split Pea Soup            Blueberry Cobbler with Ice Cream</p>	<p>20 Beef Borscht            Chicken Noodle Soup            Empanadas            Rhubarb Platz</p>	21	<p>22 Salisbury Steak with Mushroom Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Peas and Carrots, Coleslaw, Rice Pudding with Maraschino Cherry</p>	23
	<p>Breakfast            Fresh Buns            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches            Lunch Special</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches            Lunch Special</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches            Lunch Special</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods</p>
24	25	<p>26 Green Bean Soup            Chicken'n Dumpling            Carrot Cake with Cream Cheese Icing</p>	<p>27 Beet Borscht            Potato Bacon Chowder            Grilled Ham'n Cheese            Apple Platz</p>	28	<p>29 Perogies with White Sauce and Fried Onions, Farmer Sausage on Sauerkraut, Corn, Pickled Beets, Cherry Mooss</p>	30
	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches            Lunch Special</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches            Lunch Special</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods            Chili, Soups            Sandwiches            Lunch Special</p>	<p>Breakfast            Baked Goods</p>
31						

## Looking ahead to 2016

Nobody on this earth knows what 2016 will bring but here are some developments seen through a glass darkly.

### Canadian Politics

Given that reporters and media anchors love Prime Minister Trudeau, he will get good press coverage. Successes will be attributed to “the timely change”. Failures will be minimized because “he’s only been in office a short time”. Until at least July Prime Minister Trudeau will get along famously with all the groups that voted for him.

House of Commons behaviour will be improved. Conservative Leader Rona Ambrose is a sensible, thoughtful, and self-controlled lady. Prime Minister Trudeau, thus far an impressive gentleman in the House, will be pleased to survive each Question Period unscathed. Importantly, the 197 new MPs have not yet succumbed to the juvenile and mindless custom of jeering and cat-calling.

With not a single Conservative government in office anywhere in Canada, Tory bureaucrats will be busy trying to raise funds and rouse “the faithful”. The Liberal government, meanwhile, will try to explain how a developing \$15 billion shortfall is really only a \$10 billion shortfall writ large. I do expect some very sensible policies and practices to be introduced. Also some others.

### The Canadian Economy

The oil companies will continue to forget to lower gas prices in line with the low oil prices. Pipeline controversies will recede. Students will have increasing difficulty getting jobs. With exports benefitting from the low Canadian dollar, job growth will shift considerably from the West to Ontario and even Quebec. Overall, the economy will not change much. Seniors won’t notice any significant change. Many unemployed won’t either!

### US Politics

This election year American politics will provide even more than the usual entertainment. The Donald Trump show will trump all else! Unless she steps in front of a big truck, Hillary Clinton will be the Democratic nominee. If it isn’t New Jersey Governor Chris Christie who becomes the Republican nominee, and it may not be, then all one can say is that it will surely be one of the other 14 aspirants. That’s

my one dependable prediction! I wonder if God knows!

### The US Economy

The amazing US economy will continue to do well and will leave the Canadian economy almost in the dust. With the Chinese economy slowing, and continued heavy Canadian dependence on resource industries, the Canadian economy will do well if it merely holds its own. Almost all Canadians will continue to live well. Hopefully the others will be helped.

### The Refugee Invasion of Europe

The Medieval Crusades are now happening in reverse, only with much larger numbers and much greater consequences. Never before have perhaps 2 million people – the projection – simply marched into another continent. The question is this: Can the traditional Europe survive?

### Muslim Extremist Terror Strikes

These will continue, perhaps with greater frequency. Some elites will continue to deny what they are. Destruction of property in many lands will be serious. Even more serious will be the understandable backlash and the resulting challenge to freedom and toleration in free countries.

### Christian Churches

The Church of Jesus Christ will be increasingly challenged in both free and oppressive lands. Churches that have left Biblical teaching will continue to decline; those that continue to affirm it, will continue to grow. The true Church will prevail!

*John H. Redekop*

### **Unhelpful lessons from the past**

A newly-wed housewife served baked ham. It was excellent. Her husband asked why she cut off both ends. “That’s the way my mother always did it”, she answered.

Some days later the husband asked his mother-in-law the same question. “That’s the way my mother always did it”, was her reply.

Soon the young wife’s grandmother came for a visit. The husband asked her the same question. Her answer, “That’s the only way I could get it into my small pan”.



**St. John Ambulance**

**Therapy Dog** 

**Dogs of the Month - January 2016**

Griff is a 3 year old border terrier X griffon - that’s what gives him his wiry coat, messy look and unique face! Griff proved to be a gentle obedient dog. After taking some classes together Judie & Griff applied and graduated from St. John’s Ambulance as a therapy dog team. Presently they enjoy weekly visits to the special needs floor at Menno Place and hope to schedule visits to BC Cancer Agency and the Abbotsford Hospice. Judie is delighted she can volunteer with Griff at her side.



Tyree is a 3 1/2 year old Tibetan Spaniel. Tyree (Ty) has long beautiful silky hair and a sweet and gentle disposition. Carole and Ty visit weekly at Menno Place and hope to schedule monthly visits with the SJA—Correctional facility program.

Carole and Ty have also participated in the University visits with students at Exam time (stress relief) as well as other community events such as the SPCA ‘Paws for a Cause’ fund raising. Great team wherever they go!



**Meet GRIFF and handler, Judie AND TYREE and Carole in the Azalea Room, Jan. 12th at 10:00 a.m.**

## Question of the Month

The question for January is this: "Do Christianity and Islam both teach violence?" Please send your comments to [jredkops@shaw.ca](mailto:jredkops@shaw.ca). You may also phone 604-855-5086.

In the December issue of *The Journal* we asked, "Is it inappropriate or even wrong for Christian parents to teach their children that there really is a physical Santa Claus?" Readers and others take markedly differing stands on this question. I suppose that now, with Christmas beginning to recede into the background, passions have cooled sufficiently so that we can have a reasoned discussion of the question. Let me summarize the main arguments.

Reasons why Christian parents should teach their children that there is a physical Santa Claus.

1. There was once an actual living Santa Claus, a St. Nicholas. So there's nothing wrong in letting children think he is still alive and doing good deeds.
2. "My parents told me that there was an actual Santa Claus. I believed them until I was about seven years old. It had no bad effect on me."
3. "Why rob children of the fun of believing in Santa Claus? They will soon enough have to face all the problems in their society."
4. "My small children's friends believe in Santa Claus. If I tell them that there is no Santa Claus, they will just end up arguing with their friends and will become confused."
5. "In the malls and schools Santa Claus is presented as if actually alive. If we parents say that he does not exist, what will our little children think?"

Reasons why Christian parents should not teach their children that there is a physical Santa Claus.

(Basically these arguments answer the five positive assertions presented above – with one major addition.)

1. Yes, there once was a living St. Nicholas but he is no longer alive. This argument is very weak. It is no more valid than telling your children that your dead grandparents are still alive.
2. Yes, many Christian parents told their children that there is an actual living Santa Claus but that does not in itself make it right. The fact of the matter is that to tell little children a lie is still a lie. And the wrong deed gets even worse when it is perpetuated for several years! Nowhere

in the Judeo-Christian ethic is lying sanctioned. The fact that many parents tell this lie does not mean that it ceases to be a lie!

3. Yes, children will need to face challenging situations but they will be better prepared to deal with them if they have been taught always to be truthful than if their parents have deceived them. Further, the enjoyment of the Santa Claus story can be very real and very fulfilling for children even if they know the whole thing about the reindeer and a sleigh and sailing through the air is only a story. As one parent put it, "I never believed in a real Santa Claus but I really enjoyed hearing and then reading the story, drawing pictures, singing Santa songs, and sitting on a make-believe Santa's lap. You don't have to believe in Santa to enjoy Santa."
4. It could be problematic if small children who have been told the truth about Santa Claus spend time with other small children who are fully convinced that the man in red really comes down their chimney. It may be best to tell them not to challenge the beliefs of their friends. That may not work but maybe it will. It may then be the others who will have to explain the many Santas, the sleigh in the sky, etc.
5. It should be no problem allowing or even encouraging little children to enjoy being with men who play the role of Santa Claus. Children love to play "make believe".
6. This brings us to the sixth argument. Why would any parents, especially Christian parents, want their children to think that Santa will bring them gifts (if they are "good") rather than use Christmas to show their love for their children by giving them gifts? Christmas gift-giving should be expressions of affection and love, especially for Christians.

My own view is solidly on the side of those who do not favour perpetrating a deception. As a child I greatly enjoyed the Santa Claus aspect but never as something true or of central significance. Some years ago a young Christian mother I knew involved her young children in setting out milk and cookies for Santa when he came down their very narrow chimney. I saw the display and was saddened to observe the deception. I considered the mother's action to be both inappropriate and wrong.

JHR

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## Negotiations By Adam

Adam was walking around the Garden of Eden feeling very lonely, so God asked him, "What is wrong with you?" Adam said he didn't have anyone to talk to.

God said he was going to give him a companion and it would be a woman.

God said, "This person will cook for you and wash your clothes, she will always agree with every decision you make. She will bear you children and never ask you to get up in the middle of the night to take care of them.

She will not nag you, and will always be the first to admit she was wrong when you've had a disagreement. She will

never have a headache, and will freely give you love and compassion whenever needed. She will be perfect."

Adam then asked God, "What will a woman like that cost?"

God said, "An arm and a leg."

Adam considered the price and responded with, "What can I get for just a rib?"

The rest is history.

"Anyone who thinks old age is golden must not have had a very happy childhood."

# Recipes

## New Year's Fritters (Russian = Portzelky)

### Ingredients:

- 2 packages of traditional yeast
- 1 3/4 cups water
- 2 tsp. sugar
- 5 eggs
- 2 cups of milk
- 2 tbsp butter
- 1 tsp. salt
- 5 1/4 cups flour (1st amount)
- almost 2 cups of flour (2nd amount)
- 3 cups of raisins; 2 if you want less  
(soften in warm water if needed)



Photo by John H. Redekop

- Add the sugar to the lukewarm water. Then add the yeast and let it rise for 10 to 15 minutes.
- Heat milk to lukewarm and add the butter to the milk. Beat the eggs. Add the milk-butter mixture to the eggs.
- Add the salt, flour and yeast to the mix in a large mixing bowl. Add the 1st amount of the flour, then add the raisins. Then add the the 2nd amount of flour to make a stiff-drop batter.
- Mix well. Let rise in a warm place until double in bulk, about 1 hour. The batter starts going down if it is left to rise too long.
- As soon as the batter gets bubbly, and double in size, start baking the fritters in hot oil.

Makes about 4 dozen fritters. *Doris Redekop*

**"A pessimist is someone who looks at the land of milk and honey and sees only calories and cholesterol."**

## Picture of the Month

### Sunset seen from Evergreen Village



Photo by Mary Lue Braun

## Vegetarian Chilli with Cashews

### Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons olive oil or cooking oil
- 1 1/2 cups chopped celery
- 1 1/2 cups chopped green sweet pepper
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 28-ounce cans tomatoes, undrained, cut up
- 3 15-ounce cans beans (such as kidney, black, Great Northern, and/or pinto) and/or chickpeas (garbanzo beans), rinsed and drained
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- 3 teaspoons chilli powder
- 1 1/2 teaspoons dried basil, crushed
- 1 1/2 teaspoons dried oregano, crushed
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon bottled hot pepper sauce
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 12-ounce can beer or non-alcoholic beer
- 3/4 cup cashews
- 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack, mozzarella, or cheddar cheese (4 ounces)

### Directions

1. In a 4- or 6-quart Dutch Oven, heat oil over medium heat. Add celery, sweet pepper, onion, and garlic. Cook, covered, about 10 minutes or until the vegetables are tender, stirring occasionally.
2. Stir in undrained tomatoes, drained beans and/or chickpeas, hot pepper sauce, and bay leaf. Bring to boiling, reduce heat. Simmer, covered, for 1 1/2 hours. Stir in the beer. Return to boiling; reduce heat. Simmer, uncovered, about 30 minutes more or until desired consistency. Discard bay leaf. Stir in cashews. Sprinkle cheese over each serving.

Servings: makes 8 servings

Preparation: 20 minutes

Cook: 2 hours



### Nutrition Facts

Per serving: 404 kcal cal., 15 g. fat (4 g sat. fat), 12 mg chol., 1177 mg sodium, 53 g carb., 15 g fiber, 17 g protein  
Percent Daily Values are based on a 2,000 calorie diet.

*Janet Friesen*

**Do something, otherwise you will grow tired doing nothing. Selwyn Hughes**

**What you are is God's gift to you;  
what you make of yourself is your gift to God."**  
Quoted by Carly Fiorina



## 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

### **Inadequate medical advice**

One day a well-dressed man entered a psychiatrist's office. He asked for help to overcome a crippling fear made worse by deep depression. After discussing various options, the distinguished physician gave the following counsel. "Do something lively, see some amusement. That will take your thoughts off yourself."

The patient was willing to do that but wondered what he should do. The psychiatrist smiled, pleased with himself. He continued, "Go to the circus, it's in town now. Don't pay too much attention to the trapeze artists and other performers; you just watch the clown".

The patient seemed a bit dejected, even sad. Then he said, "I am the clown".



"As a rule, man is a fool;  
when it's hot, he wants it cool;  
when it's cool, he wants it hot;  
always wanting what it's not."

## 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**

"Freedom is the right to tell people what they do not want to hear." George Orwell

"Politics is not a bad profession. If you succeed, there are many rewards. If you disgrace yourself, you can always write a book." Ronald Reagan

Answers: worthy, infinite, blessed, gracious, eternal;  
forgives, provides, intercedes, rewards, praised;  
kindness, goodness, compassion, might, patience



## Free Will & Estate Planning Seminar

# FOOTPRINTS ON THE FUTURE

Saturday, January 16, 2016  
10:00 - 11:30 am

At Garden Park Tower  
2825 Clearbrook Rd., Abbotsford

### Guest Presenters



Arnie Friesen



Daniel Lichty

To register, call 604.850.9613 or  
email [mfcabbot@mennofoundation.ca](mailto:mfcabbot@mennofoundation.ca)



**MennoFoundation.ca**  
**888.212.8608**

"Army food is the spoils of war."



## Garden Park Tower 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](mailto:rentals@gardenparktower.ca)

### Miscommunication

A wife sent her husband an emergency text message on a cold winter day: "Windows frozen". The husband hurried his response: "Pour some warm water over them". In a short while the husband received another text message: "The computer is completely ruined now".

## allcare DENTURE CLINIC

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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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:infobc@diabetes.ca)  
Informational meetings are held at Central Heights Church the 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:info.fraservalley@mssociety.ca) Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at Trinity Memorial United Church, 33737 George Ferguson Way, Abbotsford, 1:00-3:00 pm.

"I bet some of you feel sorry for me. Well, don't. Having an artificial leg has its advantages. I've broken my right knee many times and it doesn't hurt." Terry Fox

#### **Seniors Healthy Aging Resource Environment Society**

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

#### **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](mailto: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

#### **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

#### **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](mailto:office@gardenparktower.ca)*

### **A Child's Stages With Dad**

According to the Conflict Resolution Center, children go through four life stages with dads:

1. They call you da-da.
2. They call you daddy.
3. They call you dad.
4. They call you collect.

"For people who want peace and quiet  
I recommend a phoneless cord."

Quoted by Ann Landers

# Memories & Happenings

## Anti-Christian Bigotry



Ezra Levant

*Editor's Comment: This report was submitted as a news item. We publish it for your enlightenment and consideration. JHR*

A Toronto bureaucrat has banned a Christian choir from performing in a public square, because their songs include the words “praise the Lord” and “there’s no God like Jehovah.”

I wish I were kidding.

Voices of the Nations is a choir that has performed for five years in a row in Yonge & Dundas Square, in downtown Toronto. It’s a little bit like New York City’s Times Square, with concerts, buskers, demonstrations and events — everything from Hare Krishna chants to marijuana rallies to a permanent kiosk where Muslim men hand out Korans.

But when Voices of the Nations applied for a permit to sing Christian songs, they were turned down flat. And when they phoned Natalie Belman, the bureaucrat in charge of the city-owned property, the reason she gave them was shocking: they were banned because they were Christian.

Well, here we go again.

Just last year, a Christian pastor named Rev. David Lynn was charged by police with illegal “busking”, for singing Christian songs at Yonge & Dundas Square — not 50 feet from the Muslim Koran kiosk. We helped recruit a civil liberties lawyer to fight Rev. Lynn’s case, and we won.

Well, the anti-Christian censors are back. They’re not just going after Rev. Lynn — but a whole choir. Even though that choir has performed there for five years in a row.

Click here to watch my video on this outrageous censorship — also listen to an audio recording of the phone call with Natalie Belman. You will be shocked.

We’ve got to do three things.

1. We’ve got to let people know that anti-Christian bigotry is alive and kicking in Toronto — and that it’s completely unashamed. Seriously — can you believe that bureaucrat didn’t even hesitate to say exactly why she was banning the choir? So, step one is: spread the word, by forwarding this e-mail, or asking people to visit our website at [www.AntiChristian.ca](http://www.AntiChristian.ca).

2. We’ve got to get thousands of people to sign our petition to Natalie Belman, to tell her that anti-Christian bigotry is no better than anti-Jewish or anti-Black bigotry. Please click here to sign our petition.

3. And Voices of the Nations has hired a great civil liberties lawyer — our friend John Carpay, from the Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms. I spoke with John today about his legal strategy. Click here to watch that video.

If we roll over and let the bureaucracy crush this choir, it will confirm in the minds of Toronto politicians and bureaucrats that they can discriminate against Christians with impunity.

*Ezra Levant*

*Ezra Levant is a Jewish-Canadian lawyer and media personality. A broadcaster, commentator and columnist, he has raised many controversial issues. He has written for numerous magazines and newspapers. He is the founder of The Rebel Media website.*

*Mr. Levant lives in Toronto.*

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## Mentoring

A half-century ago the current Canadian flag was first hoisted on poles. Many school kids remember it fondly as they were allowed to step out of class for this auspicious event. The war in Vietnam was escalating, the race to explore space was in full swing. NASA’s Mariner 4 flew by Mars. The Rolling Stones were touring the world. Malcolm X (black nationalist leader) was assassinated. The United States occupied the Dominican Republic. Race riots erupted in Watts, California. Muhammad Ali defeated Sonny Liston. Peaceful civil rights marches to Selma led to the passing of the Voting Rights Acts. France withdrew its Atlantic fleet from NATO, etc.

While attention grabbing news was going on; God was birthing a vision, in the hearts of a few men and women, to reach into prisons to share His hope, love and forgiveness with inmates. Now almost 50 years later we at M2/W2 still remain true to that purpose. Although this did not make the headlines, it marked the beginning of a ministry that empowers God’s people to be salt and light within the walls of institutions.

We are thankful for all who have faithfully labored to afford inmates another opportunity at a better life and to be treated with respect through friendship. We praise God that

we are continuing to extend our reach through dedicated volunteers serving in institutions across the Fraser Valley and in Kamloops. Every volunteer is committed and passionately serves so that inmates can grow and change. At M2/W2 we continue to grow as we serve others.

It is heart-breaking to read statistics and know that some of our inmates were born into circumstances that led to their incarceration. General family statistics of offenders say that:

- About 50 percent were raised by their mother, a single parent.
- About 25 percent were raised in a foster home, by another relative or in an institution.
- About 15 percent male and 25 female offenders experienced physical and sexual abuse as children.

### CHRIST OUR EXAMPLE

Christ conveyed values and knowledge to his disciples through word and deed: John 8:3-7

Christ displayed the importance of servanthood, a daily personal practice that we need to emulate as His followers: John 13:3-5, 12-15

Christ calls us to practical ministry: Luke 10:1-3, Matthew 28:18-20

*Continued on page 19*

# Dollars & Sense

## Practical advice for seniors in 2016

*Editor's comment: The following items of advice were sent to me by a friend. I have edited them and pass them on to you for your consideration.*

1. Stop worrying about the financial situation of your children and grandchildren, and don't feel bad spending your money on yourself. You've taken care of them for many years, and you've taught them what you could. You gave them an education, food, shelter and support. The responsibility is now theirs to earn their own money.
2. Take pride in yourself. Don't stop going to your hair salon or barber. Keep on having your nails done. Keep on going to the dermatologist and the dentist. Keep your perfumes, cologne and creams well stocked. When you are well-maintained on the outside, it seeps in, making you feel proud and strong. Don't worry about what this costs!
3. Always stay up-to-date. Read newspapers, watch the news, subscribe to extra channels. Go online and read what people are saying. Make sure you have an active email account and try to use some of those social networks. You'll be surprised which old friends you'll meet. Keeping in touch with what is going on and with the people you know is important at any age. It's good to spend money on these

items.

4. If you have the funds for other options, then don't surrender to the temptation of living with your children or grandchildren. Yes, being surrounded by family sounds great, but we all need our privacy. They need theirs and you need yours. If you've lost your partner then you may want to find a person to move in with you and help out with the costs. Even then, do so only if you feel you really need the help or you do not want to live alone. Don't hesitate to spend money on your own accommodation.
5. Don't abandon your hobbies even if they cost considerable money. If you don't have any hobbies, take up new ones. You can travel, hike, cook and take up photography. You can adopt a cat or a dog, grow a garden, play checkers, chess, dominoes, or golf. You can paint, volunteer or just collect certain items. Find something you like and spend some real time and money having fun with it.
6. Remember, you, more than anyone else, are responsible for what you do with your funds and how you spend your retirement years. Remember, this is the future for which you saved!

*Mentoring continued from page 18*

### MENTORS IN THE BIBLE

**Jethro**, acted as a mentor to Moses after observing him trying to solve all the disputes of the Israelites by himself. (Exodus 18)

**Moses** was a mentor to Joshua. Years later, God chose Joshua to be the next leader of the Israelites. He was mentored for the leadership position. (Deuteronomy 31 & 34)

**Elijah** mentored Elisha into his prophetic ministry through their close relationship. When Elijah was taken up into heaven, his mantle fell on Elisha and he received a double portion of his mentor's spirit. (1 Kings 19 and 2 Kings 2)

**Naomi** mentored Ruth, her Moabite daughter-in-law, into a blessed future. Naomi helped Ruth understand the laws and customs of the Israelites. (Ruth 1-4)

**Luke** tells us that Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, mentored Mary. Elizabeth, being filled with the Holy Spirit, reaffirmed the work of God in Mary's life. (Luke 1)

**Barnabas** was a mentor to Paul. They were sent out together on a missionary team into Cyprus. The apostle Paul later became a great spiritual leader and authored 14 books of the New Testament. (Acts 4, 9, & 11)

**Paul** was a mentor to Timothy. Paul referred to it as a father-son relationship. (Acts 16, Philippians 2, and 1 & 2 Timothy)

### TODAY

Our M2/W2 community volunteers are dedicated to establishing supportive community relationships with the incarcerated in our provincial and federal institutions.

Our mentoring program is based on a trusting relationship where an inmate is allowed space to share and process his

past, present and future dreams for himself. We endeavor to come alongside in a positive caring manner to bolster a positive and productive healthy lifestyle. We are blessed to offer hands on training in practical skills and work experience through Hidden Treasure Thrift Store.

The mentoring relationship continues even after the inmates are released, so that they can be successful and become positive contributing members of society. Our NOLA program (No One Leaves Alone) provides an opportunity for community members to become part of a circle of friends to journey with someone who is released.

Every volunteer has amazing testimonies to share of how God uses ordinary people through the power of the Holy Spirit to bring about eternal transformation.

Please consider being a part of this team through volunteering, praying, supporting financially or words of affirmation.

**Together we are making a difference!!!**

*Raymond Robyn*

Executive Director of M2/W2 Association  
– Restorative Christian Ministries

"A lot of people mistake a short memory for a clear conscience."

Doug Larson

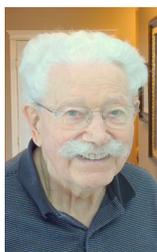
"To make certain that crime does not pay, the government should take it over."

Upton Sinclair

"War does not determine who is right - only who is left." Bertrand Russell

## A Senior's Concern

### Canada Welcomes Immigrants, but....



Len Remple

We Canadians are a generous and welcoming people. Welcoming new immigrants is our common trait. However, inviting new immigrants to settle in Canada without checking their background seems foolhardy.

We would never invite a person or family into our homes without knowing something about them. Yet, our Prime Minister has given the "go ahead" to admit 25,000 refugees to Canada by February 28. All reports indicate that these refugees cannot be "checked out" within that time frame. Therefore, we cannot have any assurance our government has taken steps to protect us from the very few refugees who are terrorists. NOT ALL Muslims are terrorists but almost all terrorists are Muslims. A question that each of us must ask ourselves is this: "Is it selfish and unkind to expect immigrants to be checked out and to abide by our laws and values?"

Below is a letter informing us of the most barbaric of actions by human beings that one can imagine. Who can say such actions will never be duplicated in Canada? Canada, our dear country of freedom, "we must stand on guard for thee".

Here is a translation of a letter sent by Rabbi Stern who winters in Israel.

It is written by Dr Ariele Eldad from the Hadassah Hospital in Israel and has been addressed to the world at large.

It is hard for western society to understand this way of thinking. It is contrary to cultural perception but this is the Muslim mentality....

I set up a skin bank - one of the largest of its type - in the world.

The bank contains skin for day-to-day treatment and treatment in times of war.

The bank is situated in the Hadassah hospital at Ein Kerem in Jerusalem where I was the manager of the plastic surgery department.

One day I was asked to send skin for a Muslim woman from Gaza, that was hospitalised in Beer Sheva after members of her family burnt her. Unbelievable horrors like this happen in Muslim families when they suspect that the woman is having an affair.

We supplied all the donated skin cells that were needed for her treatment. She was successfully treated by the Professor - my colleague and friend - and she was discharged to return home to Gaza.

She was invited to attend regular follow up visits at the outpatients clinic in Beer Sheva.

One day she was caught at the border crossing wearing a suicide belt.

Her task was to blow herself up in the outpatients clinic of the hospital where they saved her life.

It seems that the family had promised her that if she did this she would be forgiven.

This is only one example of the war between Jews and Muslims in Israel.

This is not a territorial conflict. This is a cultural conflict, or to be more precise, a war between civilisation and barbarism.

*Len Remple*

### Boy's Name Will Be "Quits"

When Diane found out she was pregnant, she told the good news to anyone who would listen. But her 4-year-old overheard some of her parents' private conversations. One day when Diane and her 4-year-old were shopping, a woman asked the little girl if she was excited about the new baby.

"Oh, yes!" the 4-year-old said, "and I know what we are going to name it. If it's a girl we're going to call her Christina, and if it's a boy we're going to call it 'quits'."

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

## Wills and Will Planning

Wednesday, January 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 January 14

by contacting Susan Eaton at 604-556-2197

or [susan.eaton@rbc.com](mailto:susan.eaton@rbc.com).



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