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OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

VOL. 2 ISSUE 4

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Richmond's Gaylene Woods
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Photo by Chung Chow

Gaylene Woods, mother of Mackenzie, 11, Jordan, 7 and Xander, 2, and wife of Tony Robinson, first learned she had breast cancer in November.



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Rose's Angels carry on gift of giving

By **DON FENNELL**
@DFSentinel

Rose Lewin had an affect on everyone she met, but no one more than her granddaughter Courtney Cohen.

With Passover only a few weeks away, this is a time of great reflection.

To Courtney, Grandma Rose, a Holocaust survivor, was truly an angel. The guiding light for how to live one's life, and the inspiration for Rose's Angels, a Richmond-based charity that aims to brighten the lives of those most vulnerable in our community.

The charity also honours Courtney's other grandmother Babs Cohen, who at the time of her passing in 2016 was "the matriarch of our family."

"They both exuded such love and compassion for friends and family, and instilled in me the importance of tzedakah, which is the Hebrew word for giving money or time to worthwhile causes," explains Courtney.

Rose's Angels, which recently marked its fifth year with an event to celebrate Valentine's Day, was borne out of respect and admiration. Lynne Fader, a family friend, approached Courtney shortly after Rose passed away in 2012. They decided to collaborate on a project that would pay homage to Grandma Rose, and her ever-present gift of giving.

"Whenever I would bring an old or new friend over to my Grandma Rose's home she would immediately offer them something to eat. This was the lightbulb moment for me to incorporate non-perishable food items into our care packages," Courtney says.

On Dec. 25, 2013 Courtney, Lynne and 15 volunteers delivered 250 care packages (including sandwiches and gloves) to residents of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. Its population suffers from very high rates of mental health and substance



Photo by Lianne Cohen Photography

Inspired by her grandmother Rose Lewin, Courtney Cohen (front, right) and family friend Lynne Fader started Rose's Angels to assist those in need in Richmond.

use issues. Since Rose's Angels joined forces with the Kehila Society of Richmond in February 2015, it now operates under the latter's umbrella. And since both Courtney and Lynne are very connected in Richmond, "We chose to make it our main focus for care packages," says Courtney, who is the outreach co-ordinator for Kehila.

"Our incredible volunteer team has grown since 2012," she adds proudly. "This year, over 70 amazing volunteers took time out of their busy lives to come out on Feb. 11 to assist with preparing 1,000 care packages."

Items included toiletries, non-perishable food, new slippers, socks, gloves and hats, and such children's items as books, crayons, games and toys.

"We contacted each individual program and discussed with their staff what their clients' wish-list items were for the care packages. Our goal is to make the items in the packages specific to individuals receiving them," Courtney says. "I am hoping to surpass the amount of donations every year. I also want to allow new volunteers and community members to become involved in this outreach project and to also help spread the word about the incredible programs serving individuals living in poverty in Richmond."

After Babs' passing, Courtney was also motivated to incorporate Beauty for Babs into the project

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Richmond High

By LORRAINE GRAVES

@LGSentinel

Our city's oldest high school, Richmond Secondary, celebrates its 90th anniversary on Saturday, April 21 from noon until 6 p.m.

John Montgomery, from the school's graduating class of '58, has a long history with the school.

"My mom, Amy Edwards, was in the first graduating class in 1928 when it was still called Bridgeport."

It was then on the old site, approximately kitty corner from today's Costco.

Richmond Secondary later moved to a new location, near today's Cambie Senior Secondary. That building became Cambie Junior High when, one last time, in 1952, the school site moved to its current location on Minoru Boulevard.

Montgomery recalls one of his mother's teachers, Roy McNeill, was Montgomery's principal when he graduated from the school's third iteration, now torn down but on the same grounds as today's modern building. recalls her days, in the old building on Minoru,

"That school has a spirit that is second to none. I'm probably going to get emotional here," Richmond High alumni president Beth McKenzie says of the old building on Minoru. "It's a combination of the dynamics of the building, the staff, the students and the camaraderie."

That spirit encouraged students to taste all the opportunities the school offered.

"For me it made me become involved with different subjects and aspects of thing I never would have done. I became involved with acting. I was social but shy," she says.

The school was different then, she says.

"It was only Grade 11 and 12 when

I went there. It was only in the late 90s when the school changed to Grades 8 to 12."

McKenzie, who grew up on Jones Road between St. Albans and Garden City Roads, said those were simpler times.

"When I went there in 1971 and 1972 all the kids walked to school. Nobody got dropped off."

Montgomery grew up in Steveston.

"It was the only high school in Richmond so everybody in Richmond went to it."

Later in 1956, Steveston Junior High School opened up, eventually becoming the high school for that edge of Richmond.

Steveston's teams and logo referred to the village's fishing past while Richmond High's was a horse theme. Grad time and the annual football game between the two schools often occasioned some high-spirited hijinks.

"Rivalry with Steveston? I didn't ever get involved but I heard the stories of loads of horse dung left on steps of Steveston High and loads of fish guts on steps of Richmond High," McKenzie laughs.

McKenzie remembers the previous incarnation of Richmond High that opened in 1957.

"The floors creaked especially the ones in our snack shop. The old school was so small that it had 15 to 20 portable classrooms out the back. A lot of them didn't have a washroom: how do you manage all of that, not only for the kids, but for the teachers?"

She says the playing fields were so full of portable classrooms in those days that "the Phys-Ed department had to go over to Minoru to do activities."

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celebrating 90th anniversary

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The new school was finished ahead of schedule and the move accomplished over the Christmas holidays.

"They tried to bring parts of the school they were going to tear down and bring it into the new one. All the wooden seats, top of the bleachers, removed and milled for something else, part of gym floor and framed it, on wall of current school. Mar-nie Maitland took the time to make sure there was a place for every graduate composite photo from 1927," says McKenzie.

Montgomery says of the April 21 event that runs from noon until 6 p.m.: "It will be a fun, friendly open house."

For the event, open to all former Richmond High students and staff, the alumni association is hoping to have vintage cars in the parking lot along with some food trucks.

Inside, the group plans skits from the drama club, music from the band, as well as lots of old photos and memorabilia arranged by different eras.

If you would like to lend a hand or have anything from your era to add to the celebration, see the ad in *The Sentinel's* classified section.

"It will be a very laid back day for people to come and celebrate the school being 90 years old," says McKenzie.

Asked why she is doing it all, McKenzie replies: "It was probably one of the best times of my life."

•lgraves@richmondsentinel.ca



Photo by Chung Chow

Richmond Senior Secondary will be holding its 90th anniversary celebrations at the school on Minoru Boulevard.



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The medical approach to illegal drugs

By LORRAINE GRAVES
@LGsentinel

December of 2017 saw 11 cases of meningitis and one death in B.C.

Public health, schools, and families all mobilized to make sure the sick were treated promptly. Prompt harm reduction prevented more deaths. Many people were immunized. Those exposed got antibiotics.

Saving lives, keeping people safe, was the only priority. No one was asked how they got the meningitis infection—had they kissed someone? Or perhaps shared a bottle of pop, or worse. It didn't matter when lives were at stake.

There's an epidemic ravaging our community. Richmond's public health officer Dr. Meena Dawar calls it "quite shocking." The main cause of death for young men used to be accidents and suicide. Now, it's unintentional drug overdoses.

Dawar says last year 24 Richmodites died from overdoses.

"We have an astounding increase and that's what's troubling. It's roughly one overdose death every other week in Richmond. The overdose deaths are the tip of the iceberg."

She says opioids can stop someone's breathing so that, even if they are revived, the young person is left brain damaged or brain dead.

Overdoses kill and damage habitual



Photo by Chung Chow

Richmond medical health office Dr. Meena Dawar, spoke at a recent forum.

drug users and recreational drug users alike.

"Essentially, people cannot be sure what they are using. I think there's a real problem out there because people are using illicit drugs to manage their pain and their trauma. If we are going to save them in the long run so they can heal, we do need to offer them a safe supply of drugs."

But doesn't it just encourage people to become and stay addicts?

"Absolutely not," Dawar answers emphatically. "It does not encourage people to become drug addicts. They need a different dose and perhaps injection therapy. We need to expand injection opioid therapy."

The general consensus amongst health professionals, school councilors and a host of community members gathered at a recent forum at the main Richmond Public Library was that harm reduction is the way to keep

our young people alive. It does not condone the behaviour anymore than vaccinating against meningitis encourages or condones the behaviours that transmit it. Harm reduction does keep people alive and healthier until they can address why they use drugs.

"Compare this to being in a pub or tavern watching sports, consuming your drug (alcohol), a waitress will bring you a black coffee, call you a cab home—that's harm reduction," says Guy Felicella, a former injection drug user profiled previously in *The Sentinel*.

Just as a drunk driver may take innocent people with him, leaving many lives destroyed in the process, so too a drug death. And, it's not always the families you'd suspect.

Paramedic James Fang describes how this opiate overdose crisis affects him personally.

"There was a 17-year-old male found at home in bed in a really affluent neighbourhood. He was not breathing. We treated him. He came to."

Yet when Fang told the parents he needed to use Naloxone to temporarily reverse the effects of an opioid: "They got angry with us saying, 'How dare you suggest my son used drugs!'"

On a normal shift Fang sees up to seven overdoses.

"The worst part is seeing the families—the pain, the anguish and there is

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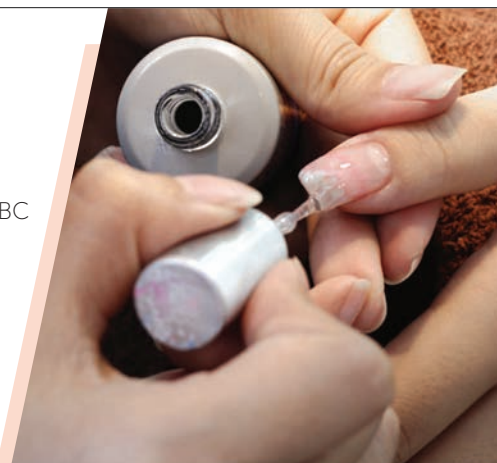
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MEDICAL

From Page 6

nothing I can do to help.”

Naloxone kits and training are provided free through many Richmond pharmacies. So far, 14,000 kits have been used to save lives.

“People don’t want to be using,” says Dawar. “They are using because of this chronic illness and they want to meet that need.” She encourages people to treat drug use as a medical matter.

“I would rather have somebody on opioid assistive therapy. It’s about keeping the people alive long enough, so they can heal.”

According to Dawar, people are dying of embarrassment. They are afraid someone will find out they use illicit drugs.

“We’re losing young men. It speaks to the stigma of drug use—88 percent of those deaths were inside a residence.

“What’s important is that there were

no deaths at supervised injection sites.”

Dawar says, “If people could be encouraged to take home that message—Don’t use alone. Have someone with you who is not using. An overdose can occur at any time with any substance.”

The majority of all illegal drugs now have Fentanyl in them.

The Richmond forum, which Dawar lauded for “Bringing the dialogue right into the open,” concluded with a list of actions: Access to safe injection sites, being able to talk to your kids, and refusing to let stigma dictate what we do and don’t do.

Parents tell children not to share straws, to prevent the spread of infections like meningitis. When they get sick, medical treatment is all we care about.

Dawar says, because of “the magnitude of this problem we need to make this a health issue not a moral one.”

“How many more people have to die before we look at this as a disease?”

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Senior dies after found in river

By MARTIN VAN DEN HEMEL
@MartinvandenH

A Richmond man in his early 70s who was found early Saturday morning in the water near Shady Island in South Richmond near Steveston, was pronounced dead after he was rushed to hospital.

Local Mounties have deemed the death suspicious and are trying to piece together what happened to the man and his whereabouts in the hours before he was found in the Fraser River on Dyke Road, midway between No. 2 Road and Gilbert.

Richmond RCMP Cpl. Dennis Hwang said police responded to a call

of a man in the water shortly before 8 a.m. Saturday.

The victim, who is not known to police, received first aid at the scene and was taken by ambulance to hospital where he was pronounced dead.

"The circumstances surrounding his death are deemed suspicious and the Richmond RCMP is investigating along with assistance from the B.C. Coroner's Service," Hwang said.

"Anyone with information about the incident is asked to call RCMP Cpl. Will Howard at 604-278-1212, email a tip to Richmond_Tips@rcmp-grc.gc.ca or leave an anonymous tip to Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

•martinv@richmondsentinel.ca

ROSE'S ANGELS

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This meant collecting donations of feminine hygiene products and make-up for recipients at women's shelters.

"My Grandma Babs was a lifetime member of the Hadassah Wizo Organization which supports programs and services for children, and health-care and women in Israel and Canada. Every year they hold an annual event in Vancouver called the Hadassah Bazaar, of which my grandmother was very involved. This past year I was a recipient of an award from Hadassah for my community work with Rose's Angels."

Both grandmothers' legacies live on through the love and care that goes into every package donated, Courtney says.

"I hope the recipients feel extra special."

Courtney notes the number of individuals who receive care packages increased to more than 1,000 this year. Donated to 21 different organizations within Richmond that assist individuals living in poverty, these include Richmond Food Bank, Richmond Family Place, Light of Shabbat Program,

Heart of Richmond AIDS Society, Jewish Food Bank, and Touchstone Family Association.

While volunteers make up the heart of Rose's Angels, the projects also requires the generosity of the community at large to succeed. The support from The Kehila Society of Richmond, donors and community members has been exemplary, enabling Rose's Angels to run smoothly and successfully year after year.

Donations are collected through the year, but the main planning process begins in September. Letters are sent out to family, friends and community groups and both Courtney and Lynne attend various board meetings to share the Rose's Angels program with potential donors. Securing the event location, recruiting volunteers and coordinating the delivery of care packages all happens prior to the event date.

"Our fifth Rose's Angels event (Feb. 11) was a massive success," Courtney says, reflecting the generous, unconditional love, and community spirit her grandmothers so embodied.

•Volunteers are always needed. To learn more, email rosesangelsevent@gmail.com or call the Kehila Society of Richmond at 604-241-9270 or visit <http://www.kehilasociety.org/>

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Photo by David Cooper

Meghan Gardiner stars as Evelyn in Ruby Slippers and Gateway Theatre's production of *I Lost My Husband* March 15 through 24.

Betting on a sure thing at Gateway Theatre

By LORRAINE GRAVES
@LGSentinel

What would you do if you lost your husband...in a bar bet and then had doubts that you wanted him back? That's exactly what happens in the upcoming Ruby Slippers world premiere of *I Lost My Husband* in English. Produced in association with Gateway Theatre, the play runs March 15 through March 24 and is the penultimate show in Gateway's 2017-18 season.

With Ruby Slippers' award winner Diane Brown directing, following on her 2017 success with *You Will Remember Me* at Gateway, the evening promises to be top quality. If Ruby Slippers' past examples offer any indication, the writing the acting and the stage craft promise to show both finesse and evoke emotion running the gamut from tears of laughter to those of self-realization.

Already a hit in Quebec, as *J'ai perdu mon mari*, Brown says she commissioned Leanna Brodie to translate the piece because, "I have a particular penchant for smart social satire that has some relevance to the audience."

"I'm bringing Catherine Léger to Richmond and a West Coast audience, not

just because she's a good writer, because she has something to say," says Brown.

When asked about her multi-award winning company, Brown says: "Ruby Slippers Theatre is committed to furthering women's voices in the theatre. This vision includes the French Canadian cannon in English translation."

She adds: "Our overall creative inspiration is putting underrepresented voices on stage. Women are one of the most underrepresented groups in theatre. Catherine Léger is a fantastic Quebecoise playwright that no one has heard of in the west."

Brown says she chose this particular play this year because, "It's very funny. The script is very smart and represents the zeitgeist right now: women finding their own voices and believing in themselves."

Tickets are available through the Gateway Theatre's box office. Sales have been strong. According to Brown, "Opening night sold out weeks ago. So that's exciting."

"The tickets are selling like hotcakes so you might want to tell your readers to hurry up because they're running out," Brown says.

•lgraves@richmondsentinel.ca

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Tourism Richmond head Bruce Okabe retires

By MARTIN VAN DEN HEMEL
@MartinvandenH

Less than a year after taking the reins at Tourism Richmond, Bruce Okabe is stepping down as chief executive officer.

"If I was 45, I would not be leaving" Okabe told The Richmond Sentinel.

As it happens, Okabe spent 40 years helping build his family's small-to-medium-sized business, and when that was recently sold, the opportunity surfaced to start the next chapter in his life.

Although he hadn't planned to retire, he's now 62, and hopes to spend more time with his family.

Looking back on the past 12 months, Okabe believes he's accomplished the three main goals he set out for the organization:

- put Tourism Richmond on a solid strategic path
- build the Richmond destination brand
- assemble the right team

"I think I've done all that," Okabe said. Okabe credited the team that was already in place when he arrived for making his job much easier.

"It wasn't difficult to take the organization from where we were to where we needed to be," he said.

Tourism Richmond's vision was shaped during a two-day session with board members, where the group looked at where the organization was heading among other things, he said.

Earlier this month, Tourism Richmond launched its new identity: Pacific. Authentic. Richmond BC

That new identity stresses who Richmond is versus what Richmond is, Okabe said.

Central Richmond is vibrant, Steveston is historic, there's a working harbour, and people from all over the world helped build Richmond, Okabe said.

And that remains the case, he said, with people from all parts of the world now calling Richmond home.

•martinv@richmondsentinel.ca

Sockeyes forced to sit and wait

By DON FENNELL
@DFSentinel

Richmond Sockeyes will have almost a month to reflect before resuming their hockey season.

They can use the time between now and the start of the Cyclone Taylor Cup tournament (the provincial Junior B championship which they'll host April 13 to 15), to rest up, but also to strategize.

Despite a solid regular season in which they compiled the second-best record (33-8-1-2) in the Pacific Junior Hockey League, the Sockeyes ran into another juggernaut in the Delta Ice Hawks in the Tom Shaw Conference playoffs. The Ice Hawks, tops in the regular season with a jaw-drop-

ping 37-4-0-3 record, were worthy winners of the semifinal series in which they defeated Richmond four games to one.

A pair of Richmondites put the Ice Hawks over the top in the series-clinching 2-1 win in Game 5 Sunday at the Ladner Leisure Centre. Captain Gary Dhaliwal opened the scoring for Delta 1:29 into the first period, while Daniel Rubin netted the winning goal with just over four minutes to play in the opening frame. Jordan Funk cut the margin to 2-1, scoring the Sockeyes' lone goal midway through the second period.

Playoff runners-up a year ago, Delta will face the Ridge Meadows Flames in the 2018 final.

•dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca

Family seeks help after breast cancer diagnosis

By **MARTIN VAN DEN HEMEL**
@MartinvandenH

Even when she was diagnosed with breast cancer on Nov. 27 and the cancer had spread to her lymph nodes, Richmond mother-of-four Gaylene Woods put her family first.

She continued to go to work to help her family make ends meet only to learn just before Christmas that the cancer had spread to both of her hips.

But the news was about to get

worse.

After she was admitted to hospital in January because of pain, doctors discovered the cancer had spread into her bones, and that Gaylene had an aggressive form of breast cancer that had reached the most advanced stage, known as Stage 4.

Now, with all of the unknowns that lie ahead, her family is seeking financial help from the Richmond community during this especially challenging time.

Gaylene's sister, Corey Lewis, set up a GoFundMe page (tinyurl.com/Gaylene2018) that aims to raise \$9,000 to help the family deal with the financial implications of Gaylene's inability to work while she fights for her life.

"My sister has started chemo/radiation therapy and is in the fight for her life now," Lewis wrote on the GoFundMe page. "We kindly ask everyone to say a prayer for my sister...while she is determined to fight and beat aggressive Stage 4 breast cancer. We are

fundraising money for Gaylene and family in their time of need and any donations will be greatly appreciated."

Gaylene's husband, Tony Robinson, reached out to *The Richmond Sentinel* for help in letting the rest of the community know about the fundraising initiative.

The couple have four boys: James, 20, Mackenzie, 11, Jordan, 7, and Xander, 2.

•martinv@richmondsentinel.ca

Henry Beh to newcomers: You have to learn English

By **DON FENNELL**
@DFSentinel

Resting comfortably at home following heart surgery just days ago, Henry Beh happily reminisces.

His thoughts are immediately drawn to a game he's enjoyed since he began playing as a young boy: Badminton.

Yearning to get back on the courts—he still played at least once a week prior to surgery—Beh was first introduced to the racquet sport at the age of six or seven.

"It's the national game in Malaysia. It's played everywhere, even in the street," he says of the sport's popularity in the country in which he grew up. "When it's on TV, nobody sleeps."

Born in Thailand, Beh was still a small child when his family moved to Malaysia, which afforded him not just a home but a quality education.

When he finally settled in Richmond 30-plus years ago, where he and his wife raised two now-adult sons, Beh was keen to pass on his love of both sports and academics. That's now being passed on to his two young granddaughters who also reside locally.

"They're already in musical dance, and I enjoy that when I see them performing and following the instruction," he says. "But I still want to see them in soccer also (following the footsteps of

their dad). In soccer you don't play by yourself, so you need to become a team player. I think that's important."

Recently retiring from his post as executive director at Richmond Chinese Community Society, where he led for the last 29 years, Beh, who founded the organization, is looking forward to spending more time with his family and their various activities.

But after "relaxing for a few months," rest assured he'll find his way back to another of his favourite pastimes: giving back to his community.

"I'm sure I will be helping out in the community a lot," he acknowledges, while reflecting back fondly on his varied contributions in service of the Richmond community.

Besides his role at Richmond Chinese Community Society—a non-profit charitable organization established in 1989 to promote the spirit of community—Beh also sat for eight years on the library board and served four years as a board director and treasurer at the Richmond Foundation.

In every capacity, he has been un-



Weidong Tan via flickr.com

Henry Beh recently retired from RCCS.

waveringly dedicated to helping build "community harmony."

One of his favourite events while at the Richmond Chinese Community Society was celebrating Chinese New Year with the greater community—through an annual festival at Lansdowne Centre.

"This year, my last, was really great to see," he says of the 20th gathering. "We had Chinese Folk Dancers, Korean dancers, even Filipino and a Polish dance group that was very colourful. This is culture. I was quite touched when a parent told me she had bring-

ing her daughter in all the way from Langley for the last 15 years to enjoy this multi-culture show."

As far as Beh is concerned, there's never been a bridge too far—especially when it comes to bringing people from different cultures together. But, he cautions, there are always challenges.

"When I came in 1974, we were all working people and building families," he says. "Now, I think a lot of new immigrants have to learn our culture. If you learn only one language, the older mother tongue, it's not going to work. You have to learn English. I've always believed education will help."

Any time Beh can offer a hand, he's always willing. Helping has always been a part of who he is.

"Because I know so many languages, if I have a chance to help someone who needs translation on the street, I will always stop and help. I have met so many good friends in Richmond though networking. Helping is in my blood."

Once his new heart valve is working at 100 per cent, Beh will also be back playing badminton every Sunday with even more energy. And leading by example, on the court and off.

"I enjoy playing with my group of friends, and then going for dim sum afterwards."

•dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca

Big screen having big impact in Richmond

By **DON FENNELL**
@DFSentinel

The big screen is a big deal in Richmond.

Enjoying strong growth, B.C.'s film sector is pumping millions of dollars annually into the Richmond economy, according to a panel of industry heavyweights who spoke to a sold-out audience of local business people late last year at the Richmond Olympic Oval.

And there's no signs of a slow down any time soon.

"The industry's extensive economic impact in Richmond and B.C. is staggering," said Richmond chamber president Matt Pitcairn. "From the people employed in the industry, to the locations and services our community provides, there are so many opportunities for business owners to reap its benefits."

A city news release indicated the film industry generates \$2.7 billion in annual spending province-wide. In Richmond, that includes \$27 million in wages paid to local residents, and \$500,000 in fees and charges collected by the city in 2016. Richmond enjoyed successive record-breaking years for filming activity in 2015 and 2016.

Commercial filming took place three out of every four days in Richmond in 2016. During that span, eight feature films (two major motion pictures) were shot, 12 TV shows, and 18 commercials.

Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie says the city is committed to being a film-friendly community.

"We're working closely with our government and industry partners to leverage our collaborative approach and outstanding location inventory to bring even more spending and jobs to our city," he says.

Speaking as part of Big Screen, Big Impact, a panel discussion co-hosted by the city and chamber last year, four



Film industry leaders speak at Big Screen, Big Impact event at the Richmond Olympic Oval.

industry leaders indicated a bright future. Panelists included Kathy Gilroy, producer of the popular TV series *Once Upon a Time*; Peter Leitch, chair of the Motion Pictures Production Industry Association of B.C., and president of North Shore Studios; Sandi Cooper, BC Film commissioner; and Kendrie Upton, director of the Directors Guild of Canada, British Columbia. The focus of this event was to explore the positive economic impact of the film industry, with a focus on the economic impact to Richmond.

"We were fortunate to be able to bring in four heavy-hitters in the local film industry, who were able to talk about the ins and outs of the industry and provide some valuable information to the event attendees on the spin-off effects of the filming sector as well as how they can engage with filming if desired," says Richmond Film Office co-ordinator Jodie Shebib.

Richmond has been a desirable film location for many years, but has followed the provincial trends in recent years which have seen dramatic growth, says Shebib.

"Tax incentives, a low Canadian dollar, proximity to Vancouver International Airport and Los Angeles, make Richmond a very desirable location,"

she explains. "The increase in content has also been dramatic with streaming services providing substantially more shows than network television ever has. All of those issues aside, Richmond continues to be a popular film location because of the unique landscapes such as the small-town village feel of Steveston as well as a generally film-friendly business/public community and a highly-skilled workforce."

The Richmond Film Office is a one-stop shop for productions looking to film in the city. It provides access to all city services, locations and other resources such as the RCMP. This eliminates the need for productions to have multiple calls to different departments in order to have a successful film shoot.

"This method benefits the film industry, but also the general public, as staff can ensure that all departments needing to review a film application are consulted and that safety matters and public relations issues are dealt with," says Shebib. "The complexity of film shoots has dramatically increased in recent years with the use of unmanned aerial devices (drones), special effects, stunts and traffic control. It is very important to have over-

sight from one point of contact (the film office) to ensure proper management of filming in the community."

The longest-running, recurring television show to film in Richmond, specifically Steveston, *Once Upon a Time* helped to raise the profile of filming locally. Shebib says the show brought a lot of attention to Steveston Village, with fans making regular visits to see The Real Storybrooke. But, she says, it was certainly not the first high-profile show to film in Richmond.

"Due to its longevity (a full six seasons of regular filming), it is often the first show that comes to mind," she says. "(However), prior to *Once Upon a Time* there were other feature films that were set partially in Richmond, including *Twilight*, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid 2*, and *Fifty Fifty* and television shows going back as far as the original *X Files*, *Smallville* and *Supernatural* (currently in its 13th season). Now that *Once Upon a Time* is no longer filming regularly in Richmond, there are a number of other television shows attempting to work in the area. Recently, two new shows—*Siren* and *The Crossing*—filmed here and both will air in 2018 and feature prominent views of Steveston Village."

Shebib says Richmond is a strong location resource for the industry, and moving forward anticipates more filming in urban areas.

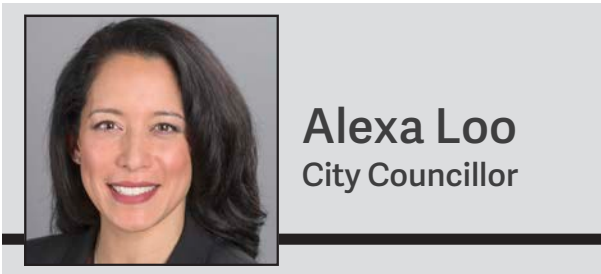
The Richmond Film office is working to expand its locations database with Creative BC and is currently conducting a photographic inventory of under-filmed, city-owned locations. Shebib says any residents and merchants interested in having their property filmed in, are encouraged to upload photos to the Creative BC website at www.creativebc.ca. She says location scouts use this library as a starting point when selecting film locations.

Above all, Shebib says it is crucial that the industry have a good experience in Richmond.

•dfennell@richmondsentinel.ca

In their own words...

Richmond sports support community and individual development



The Olympics have wrapped up and the Paralympics are underway. These events are an opportunity to celebrate athletes’ top performances efforts, while also reminiscing about the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games that we so proudly hosted eight years ago. As well, diplomatic tensions were put on hold while athletes competed, artists delighted us with the opening and closing ceremonies and Korea shared its culture and history with the world.

As a two time Olympian, I look back on my sports experiences that contributed to my success as an athlete and a leader. Many of my experiences happened right here in Richmond: learning basic movement patterns at ballet classes at Richmond Cultural Centre; developing a strong body and a great work ethic while swimming with the Kigoos Swim Club early mornings at Steveston outdoor pool; lifting weights in my community centre gym; and most importantly, developing speed and learning humility while sprinting with the Kajaks Masters at the Clement Track. Crossing the finish line of a 100 metre sprint well behind a

70 year old Masters athlete has a way of teaching humility to oneself — even if she was the reigning World Champion.

You might be surprised to hear that my biggest role models from sport are not the athletes; they are the volunteers — parents and others — who spent countless hours working to create positive sport experiences for my teammates and me. I fondly recall my father being chief timer at swim meets, timing races all weekend, every weekend throughout the summer, gleefully comparing his stopwatch to the electronic touchpad times to determine his own accuracy. From track meets to swim meets to bingo nights, in good weather and bad, these many volunteers would get together as a sport community to fund, organize, set up, run and take down sport events where we, the athletes, had the opportunity to win, lose, learn, and develop our life and sport skills.

The track, the pool, the community centre – these were where we trained, competed and watched our community come together. We all owe thanks to the visions of community builders who dreamed big and convinced the Council of the day to invest in upgrading infrastructure, because we had great facilities to participate in sport.

Richmond continues to invest in our facilities; South Arm Community Centre’s fitness area just reopened after significant upgrades. We are all looking forward to the new Minoru Centre for Active Living to open later this year. This new

centre will replace the Minoru Aquatic Centre, Minoru Seniors Centre and Minoru Pavilion with substantially expanded amenities, space and programming. Upcoming projects include improving and upgrading the lawn bowling club, and replacing the Steveston Community Centre. Future projects that are being considered include building a multiuse field house at Hugh Boyd where a new generation will be able to grow and develop their skills alongside their elders.

We all have our favourite memory from the 2010 Olympics. My biggest thrill was to finally meet my hero, Rick Hansen. I had seen him take off on his “Man in Motion Tour” when I was in elementary school at Thomas Kidd. I followed Rick’s journey around the world as he changed the way we view people with physical disabilities while raising funds for spinal cord research. Rick taught us to look at the person’s ability, not their disability, and build our world to be accessible. By encouraging people to participate and be engaged as much as they are able, we are honouring Rick’s legacy. Richmond is proud to be continuously improving its accessibility in facilities and providing inclusive programs.

As we see in Olympic and Paralympic sport, language and cultural barriers are bridged when we come together with a common goal. As we build our facilities and develop our programs to be accessible and inclusive, sport and recreation in Richmond continues to build community and develop our future leaders.

City of Richmond Council Meetings Calendar

Community Safety Committee
4:00 p.m., Tuesday March 13
Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall

Development Permit Panel
3:30 p.m., Wednesday March 14
Council Chambers
Richmond City Hall

Planning Committee
4:00 p.m., Tuesday March 20
Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall

Public Works and Transportation Committee
4:00 p.m., Wednesday March 21
Anderson Room
Richmond City Hall

Council Meeting
7:00 p.m., Monday March 26
Council Chambers
Richmond City Hall

Council Meeting Live Streaming

Watch City Council meetings live or on demand, Visit www.richmond.ca to link to live streaming or watch archived video.

www.richmond.ca

2018 HIGH SCHOOL

GRAD CHALLENGE

VIDEO 30-SECOND CONTEST

FOR RICHMOND BRAGGING RIGHTS AND MORE. OH SNAP!



GRAND PRIZE

Full-page photo in The Richmond Sentinel

Winning school gets **\$250** from RDPA*



HOW TO ENTER

Submit 30 to 45 second video about: a) hazards of impaired driving OR b) perils of drug abuse.

Entry Deadline: Video must be submitted to The Richmond Sentinel by noon, Tuesday, April 1, 2018

Criteria: Video with most Facebook likes by Friday, June 1, 2018 will be declared winner

Limit: A maximum of three videos will be accepted per high school.

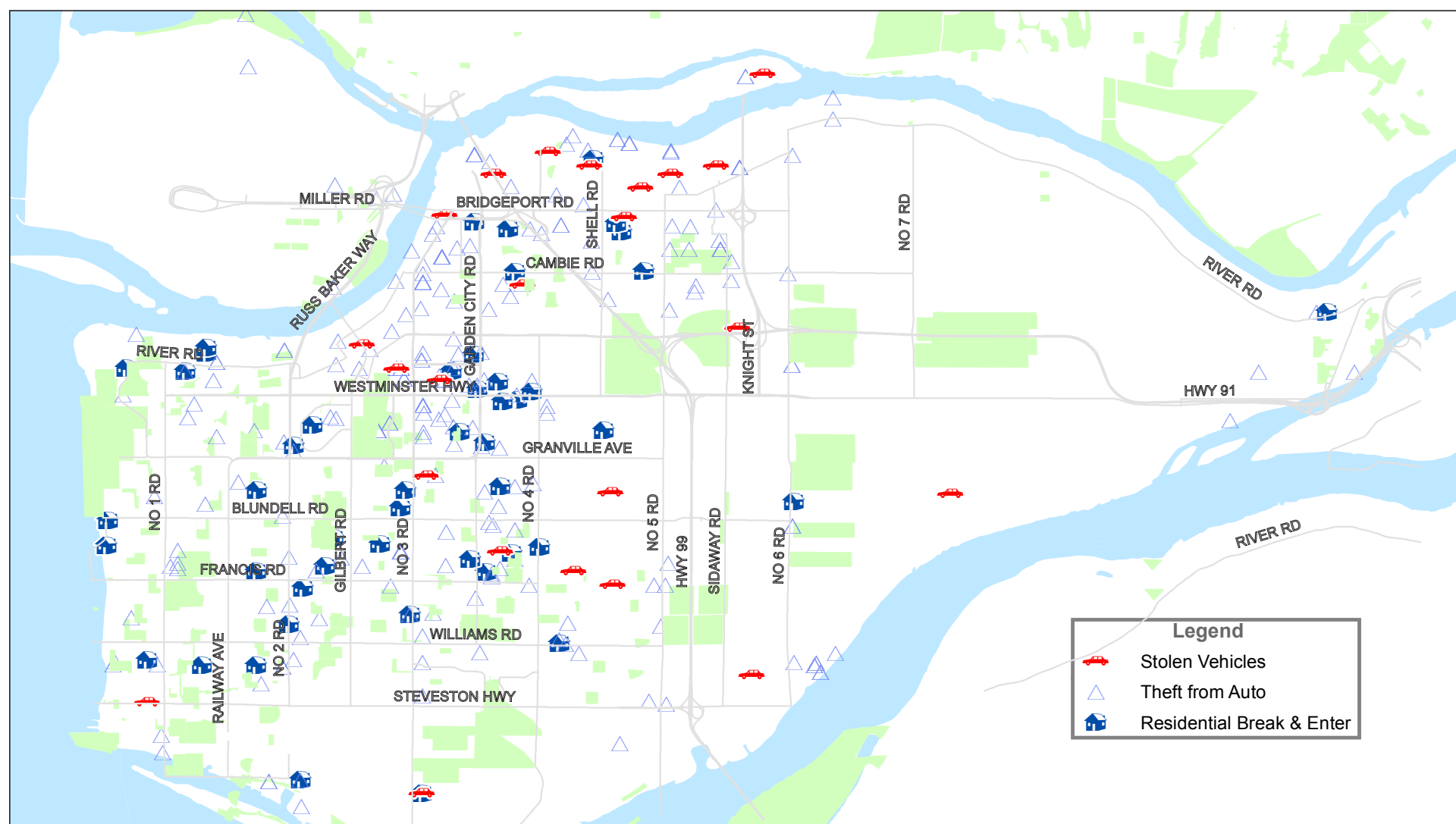
- Entries must be emailed to The Richmond Sentinel at martinv@richmondsentinel.ca by midnight April 1.
- The Richmond Sentinel reserves the right to reject any video submission based on inappropriate content, such as foul language or suggestive scenes.

*courtesy Richmond District Parents Association



RCMP

Crime Map February 1-28, 2018



Ode to the mighty and magical garage door remote

By Cpl. **DENNIS HWANG**
Richmond RCMP

The lowly garage door remote is a simple device and has been around for as long as I can remember.

It usually consists of a nondescript piece of rectangular plastic with one or more buttons. When I was much, much younger, I marvelled at this little box as if it were performing magic.

Click. The whirring began and slowly the garage door lifted. Click.

Down it went, whirring without hesitation. It was simple and steadfast.

Most of all, it provided a luxurious convenience. No more getting out of the car, in rain, wind, or snow to lift that garage door up—higher and higher till it edged over the retraction point.

Many new cars have garage door openers integrated into the vehicles themselves. Homelink is a name that is popular in this space. Now, WiFi modules can adapt existing garage door openers and give you the ability to open and close your garage door using a

smart phone app.

Even with all the new shiny toys, the lowly garage door remote still exists. It's a reliable, cost effective piece of gear that just works.

In terms of safety, that marvelous little garage door remote is falling into the wrong hands.

Falling is perhaps not an accurate term, but criminals are specifically breaking into cars to steal them.

Why? With it, they can enter your garage, rummage about, and then proceed to enter your home via an adjoining door. If that adjoining

door is unlocked, the task is made even easier. The garage door remote is the path of least resistance.

You can do something to better protect yourself—make sure your vehicle is locked, remove your valuables, place the garage door remote out of sight, and make a photocopy of your registration documents but block off the address portion before photocopying.

A few precautions can go a long way in keeping that garage door remote from the wrong hands and preventing crime.

Classifieds

FREE Richmond classifieds to advertise your lost & found items, volunteer opportunities, pets, sale items, events and free stuff!

To post your FREE classified please email us at classifieds@richmondsentinel.ca. Deadline: Thursday, March 22 for the April issue (25 words max.)

Reunion

RICHMOND SECONDARY SCHOOL would like to invite all former students and staff to celebrate the 90th RHS reunion Sat. Apr. 21 from 12 to 6 p.m. If you would like to share time or mementos, contact Beth McKenzie ('74) at bethgibson54@gmail.com or rss.alumniassoc@gmail.com

Donations

IF YOU HAVE SPARE NON-PERISHABLE FOOD, cash, or time, then look no further than our Richmond Food Bank. Hungry people in our community need your donations. For more information or to donate, phone 604-271-5609 or email info@richmondfoodbank.org

Info

SPACE AVAILABLE. Steveston United Church, 3720 Broadway Street, Richmond, BC, Call: 604-277-0508 Email: office@stevestonunitedchurch.ca

Event

AFFORDABLE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT Join the BC Registered Music Teachers Association for their Richmond Branch recital on Sunday, April 15 at 1:30 p.m. at South Arm United Church. Scholarships to be presented. Tickets, priced at \$2 per person or \$5 for a family, can be purchased at the door. Free parking in the church's No. 3 Road and Steveston Highway lot. For more information, call (604) 268-9559 or go to bcmrta.com

Book Sale

FRIENDS OF THE RICHMOND LIBRARY is hosting its huge book sale at Thompson Community Centre, Saturday, March 24 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 25 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Over 25,000 quality English and Chinese books with many topics and genres. All proceeds benefit Richmond Libraries.

Study

RICHMOND'S ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CANADA (ARC) is recruiting patients for a scientific study. Contact Johnathan Tam at 604-207-4027 or email supra.activity@arthritisresearch.ca.

Pick up a copy of The Richmond Sentinel from the following locations:

- Richmond City Hall
- Richmond Public Libraries
- Richmond School District Office
- Minoru Aquatic Centre
- Richmond Hospital
- Lansdowne Centre
- IGA • Save-On-Foods

And at these community centres:

- Cambie • City Centre • Hamilton • South Arm
- Steveston • Thompson • West Richmond



CROSSWORD

Across

- ecole
- preschool
- aviation
- kindergarten
- tutor
- tutelage
- richmondseniorsecondary
- phd
- toteach
- ignorance
- cramming

MARCH ANSWERS

Down

- learning
- elementaryschool
- university
- kwantlenpolytechnic
- seaislandelementary
- stevestonlondon
- thirtyeight
- trinitywestern
- principal

SUDOKU

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

RICHMOND
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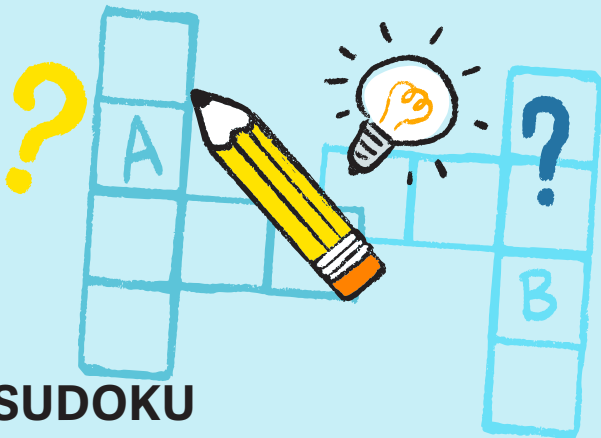
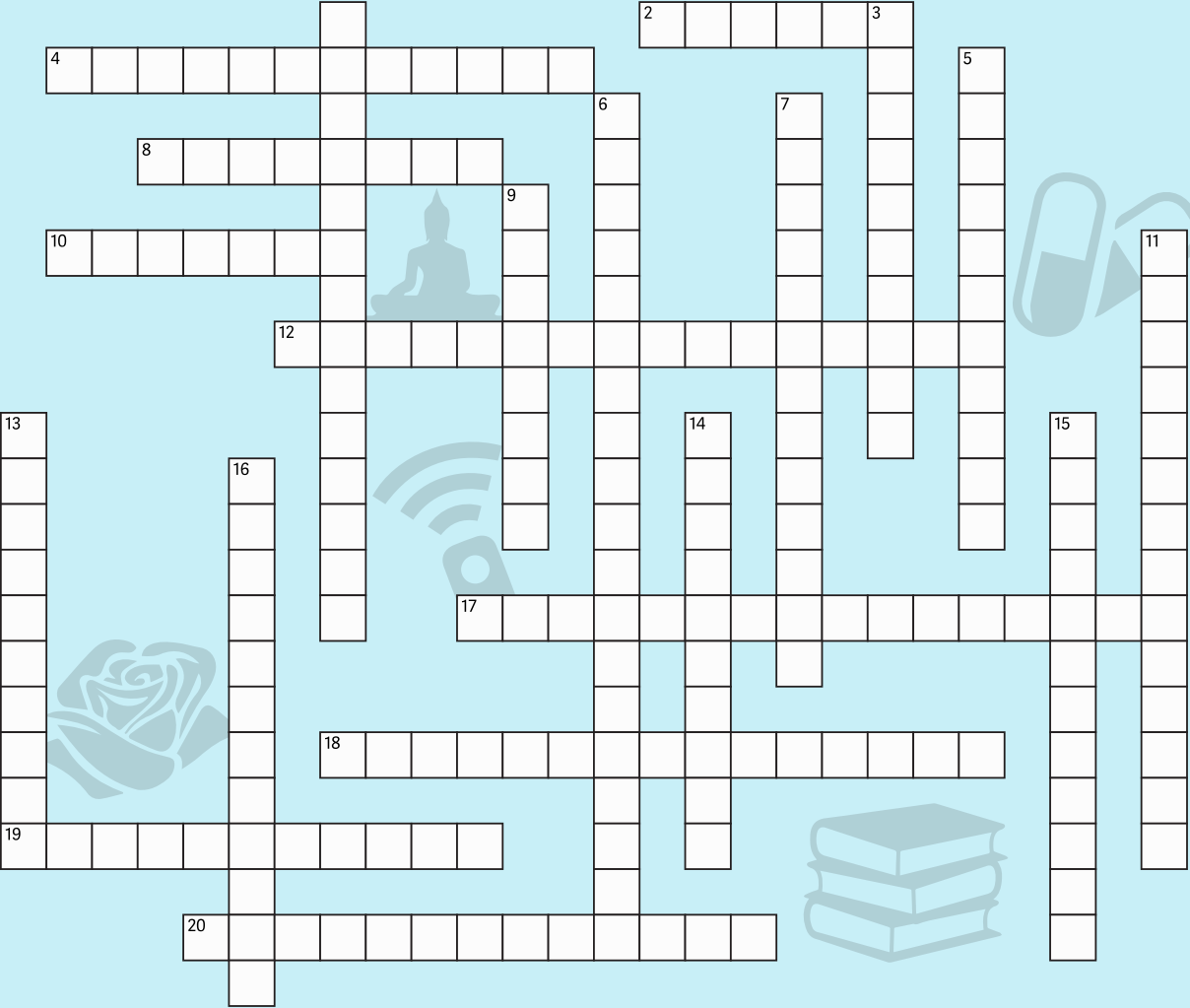


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Visit our website at richmondsentinel.ca

Fun & Games

SENTINEL FACTS



SUDOKU

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

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

ACROSS

- 2 How many TV shows shot here in 2016
- 4 Former Boyd and London student, helping others 8.
How many commercials shot in Richmond 2016
- 10 Age of The Richmond Sentinel
- 12 Tourism Richmond, Visit Richmond, new video
- 17 Easy tool for home break-ins
- 18 Spring break day camps, more than just books
- 19 Volunteer group named for grandmother
- 20 Site of indoor farmers' market

DOWN




- 1 Kwantlen Polytechnic transportation designer

- 3 Which KPU prof said, "Everything has a past?"
- 5 Site of Big Screen, Big Impact event
- 6 Current show at our city hall art gallery
- 7 Name for medical approach to drug use
- 9 Henry Beh's birthplace
- 11 Which university did mom with 12 kids go to?
- 13 Featured Cambie teacher and basketball coach
- 14 Village with early Boeing airplane production plant
- 15 Main cause of death for BC men age 19-59
- 16 Richmond's Public Health Officer

Answers will be posted in the next issue in April

PROTECTING FARMERS RIGHTS



-  The Richmond Farmland Owners Association comprises over 70 Families that own more than 2500 Acres of farmland in Richmond.
-  In May of 2017, Richmond Farmland Owners Association worked extensively with Richmond City Council, Pioneer Farming Families and Local Community Groups to create new evidence-based policies to reduce house sizes on our farmland.
-  After this implementation, the average home being built in Richmond is 32% smaller than before.

