

**LAKESHORE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION**  
**5065 Sherbrooke Street,**  
**Lachine, QC. H8T 1H9**  
**514 - 637- 6974**



## **MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER**

### **LIVING OUR UU PRINCIPLES AND VALUES and LEARNING FROM FIRST NATIONS**

#### **SPRINGING FORTH....**

In her 1962 book, "Silent Spring", Rachel Carson wrote, "Those who contemplate the beauty of the Earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. There is symbolic as well as actual beauty in the migration of birds, the ebb and flow of tides, the folded bud ready for spring. There is something infinitely healing in the repeated refrain of nature - the assurance that dawn comes after the night and spring after the winter."

After 3 years of living with, and surviving, the Covid pandemic, I think we are all eager to "spring forth, and forward" - not back to who we were before, or back to our "old" lives - but wiser, more thoughtful and resilient. We have become more aware and appreciative of ourselves, our loved ones, and what an important role we share to keep our planet healthy for our children, and children's children....

Rachel Carson also reflected "Most of us walk unseeing through the world, unaware alike of its beauties, its wonders, and the strange and sometimes terrible intensity of the lives that are being lived about us.....We in this generation, must come to terms with nature, and I think we're challenged as mankind has never been challenged before to prove our maturity and our mastery, not of nature, but of ourselves."

The UUA Worship themes for May are ***Creativity, Reconciliation and Mercy***

The Sunday Services Committee hopes that this intriguing range of service presentations in May will help you, on your own and our collective, path forwards...

**~ Sheila Laursen**

**May 7, 2023 - 10:30 a.m.**

**Hybrid service**

**My Life as an Artist  
Jessica Poirier-Chang**

I was kindly invited by my dear friend **Kerry-Anne Kutz** to speak about my career as a costume designer. I have been working professionally for the last 17 years in both film and theatre and have kept busy with other artistic endeavours over the years.

I look forward to sharing my journey as a visual artist on May 7th and hopefully inspire those who feel a little wary about pursuing a career in the arts.

**Service Leader - Irene Hausknost**

**Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz**

**Zoom Host and Technician - Oddbjorn Taraldsvik**

**Zoom Greeter - Michael Rooker**

**Refreshments and Greeters - Chris Bassett & Nancy Schmidt**

**May 14, 2023**

**Hybrid service**

**Celebrating Diversity on Mother's Day**

As Unitarian Universalist parents, we celebrate diversity, and while we feel it is important for mothers to be honored for all that they do, we also recognize that in celebrating this holiday, we can possibly marginalize others. That gives us the awesome responsibility of helping the next generation understand that in celebrating motherhood, all who "mother" deserve to be celebrated.

Our service will focus on intergenerational and intercultural approaches to motherhood. Participants from different cultures will reflect on the approaches they have used as mothers and how Mother's Day is celebrated around the world.

**\*\*\*The service will be followed by a luncheon catered by the LUUC Men's Group along with activities for children including a scavenger hunt.\*\*\***

**Service Leader - Gary Spiller**

**Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz**

**Zoom Host and Technician - Oddbjorn Taraldsvik**

**Zoom Greeter - Michael Rooker**

**Refreshments and Greeters - Rachel Parsons & Sheila Laursen**

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL YOU MUMS**

**May 21, 2023 - 10:30 a.m.**

**Hybrid service**

**Speaking Truth to Power**

**Rev. Carole Martignacco**

Carole will be in Montreal as she is now on the board of Haiku Canada and this year their AGM and conference is at McGill over the Victoria Day weekend where Carole's 5th book, "Teasing the Tides" will be launched.

So we will have the joy of Carole's physical presence at our service this Sunday. She will read poetry from three different collections about finding and claiming a voice, with commentary between.

**Service Leader - Sheila Laursen**

**Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz**

**Zoom Host and Technician - Oddbjorn Taraldsvik**

**Zoom Greeter - Michael Rooker**

**Refreshments and Greeters - Jose Van Amerongen & Gary Spiller**



**FOLLOWED BY A GARDEN PARTY AND AUCTION (see page 7)**

**May 28, 2023 - 10:30 a.m.**

**Hybrid service**

**Mental Aerobics**

**Carlos Ochoa**

Carlos Ochoa, who has become a regular participant in our celebrations in recent months, is our speaker for this Sunday. With a Masters in organic chemistry obtained in Mexico, Carlos has been in Canada for over twenty years. He is the proud father of three University-educated sons. Education is a key value for Carlos.

Today, he will talk to us about stimulating the brain's untapped resources with easy-to-do exercises which can improve brain functioning among people of all ages: young, old and in-between.

**Service Leader - Christopher Thomson**

**Musician - Kerry-Anne Kutz**

**Zoom Host and Technician - Oddbjorn Taraldsvik**

**Zoom Greeter - Michael Rooker**

**Refreshments and Greeters - Sari Kelen & Susan Czarnocki**

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dare we hope that Spring has well and truly arrived? The last few weeks it seems like a trickster has been “playing” with us - and not nicely, as the ‘mini’ ice storm just before Easter demonstrated! While the temperature has been less temperamental lately, the piles of branches on almost every front lawn are testament to the devastation that resulted. For those whose homes were damaged by toppling trees or flooding basements, who lost fridge or freezer loads of food, it was a major tragedy. For all of us affected by the loss of Hydro power, it was yet another challenge of our support systems, our resiliency and our overall health. And with Covid still on the prowl, it can be disheartening. I find myself deliberately seeking “good news” to help maintain a balance, and will share some that have helped me lately:

Small spring “miracles” have nourished me, when spotting clumps of Scillas blooming in my lawn (planted by the squirrels perhaps?) and watching the crocuses, daffodils and tulips grow - reaching for the sun, grateful for the rain. One day, when I looked out my back door, I was greeted with a chipmunk scampering across my deck while two squirrels, several birds and a rabbit scoured the ground beneath my bird feeder as other birds took turns at the perch for seed. And then two Canada geese flew low overhead, on their way to a landing in Terra Cotta’s soccer field it seemed. It made my day!

That reminded me of this beautiful poem by Rev. Francis C. Anderson Jr. that I think is worth sharing here:

The day was made for me...  
 I knew it immediately  
 When a chickadee sang  
 Right where he knew  
 I'd be....  
 And the fragrance of the dogwood tree  
 Called the wind  
 To deliver  
 Loveliness of scent  
 Everywhere I went.....  
 How can I repay  
 This day  
 The way I should?  
 By feeling  
 Smelling  
 Listening  
 To every soft suggestion  
 That life  
 Believes I'm good.

~ **Sheila**

## **PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION AT LUUC**

**Hello Dear All,**

**LUUC is looking to fill an administrative support position of approximately 5 hours per week for a combination of in-person and online duties as we go forward in the hybrid format. Duties include coordinating the Zoom, preparation of documents and chaplaincy support. For a more detailed description, please contact Milda Graham, Board Secretary at [sanskritsoccermom@gmail.com](mailto:sanskritsoccermom@gmail.com) or (514)296-9369.**

**Best wishes,  
Milda**

## **WITH DEEP GRATITUDE**

**to Nancy Schmidt** - who has agreed to join the LUUC Board for 2023-2024 as Director A. We are thrilled to have you "on board" Nancy!

**to Margaret Godbeer** - In her will, Margaret specified a bequest to the Lakeshore Unitarian Universalist Congregation. Her brother Ken wrote us that the current estimate is that it will be just over \$32,000.

What would be the best way to honour Margaret's memory and generosity with this bequest when it comes? If you have any suggestions, please send them by email to me ([sheila.laursen@bell.net](mailto:sheila.laursen@bell.net)).

I will compile all the suggestions received so we can decide at our Annual Meeting in June.  
**~ Sheila**

## **NORWEGIAN 'DUGNAD'**

The Norwegian Dugnad, or semi-annual clean-up day was a great success. The Norwegian volunteers did a great job cleaning up the grounds around the church building and giving a good spring cleaning to the indoors. Unfortunately, no Unitarians were around to help for various reasons, but you can atone for your sins, myself included, by taking the initiative to do yourself some Dugnad chores that need looking into.

The **church office** needs a good **reorganizing** and a clean-up after the last few years of neglect due to the pandemic.

Our **memorial gardens** always need a **freshening up**, so feel free to stop by with gloves and your favourite trowel and go to it.  
**~ Paul**

## OUR CHILDREN



We are thrilled to share with you some upcoming events that we believe will enrich our spiritual exploration program and offer opportunities for growth, connection, and learning.

One of the events that we are planning is an outing to the famous Montreal Biodome. This will be an incredible experience that will allow us to immerse ourselves in the wonders of nature and discover the diversity of life on our planet. We will get to see and learn about a variety of ecosystems, including tropical rainforests, polar environments, and marine habitats. The Biodome outing will provide a unique opportunity to explore the beauty and complexity of nature and reflect on our place in it.

Additionally, we are excited to host a science show for kids at the church. This event will be a fun and interactive way for children to learn about science and nature, experiment, and ask questions. We believe that fostering a curiosity for science and encouraging children to explore and understand the world around them is an important part of our spiritual growth and development.

We are still working on finalizing the details for these events, including the dates and times. However, we will keep you informed as soon as we have more information. We hope that you will join us for these exciting activities and help us build a stronger and more connected community. If your children would be interested in participating don't hesitate to reach out to us! Contact: [emilia.arambide7@gmail.com](mailto:emilia.arambide7@gmail.com) ~ **Emilia**

## WE GOT ALL TIED UP



You just never know what is going to happen at a Unitarian Service – here **Sheila** was demonstrating how we are all interconnected. So, she tied us all up to prove it on Earth Day.

~ **ed**






## **SPRING IN FULL SWING**

Time to beautify our church gardens and to celebrate a beautiful LUUCer, **Margaret Godbeer**.

There will be great conversation amid restorative gardening as we prepare LUUC's new Pollinators' Garden corner to receive the first of its flowering plants!

**Peg Wooley's** and **Jean Merrifield's** garden boxes will also be refreshed, renourished, and replanted.

What favourite flowering perennials would you like to bring to plant in honour of these three LUUC ladies?   

Remember to bring a personal lunch and beverage to enjoy outdoors. Coffee & tea will be available in the hall. Baked goods for the coffee table welcomed.

**Save the date: Sunday, May 21st, from 11:45 am - 2:15 pm**

**\* We will have a special charity auction & memorial garden dedication for Margaret Godbeer at 2pm \***

Kindly RSVP by email to Selina Ann: [selrook@gmail.com](mailto:selrook@gmail.com) by Thursday, May 18th, if you would like to come to the dedication ceremony and gardening gathering.

**Secret:** A family heirloom of the Godbeer family, generously given by Ken Godbeer, will be auctioned off for the benefit of one of Margaret's favourite causes, the VOBOD Foundation.

Questions about what plants to bring that day? Contact **Paul Sullivan** or **Gary Spiller** (see LUUC Directory). See you in your gardening gear on Sunday, May 21st! 😊

**Selina Ann**

P. S. – Learn more about the best perennials for pollinators in this short video:

<https://www.leevalley.com/en-ca/discover/the-gardening-journal-with-niki-jabbour/the-gardening-journal-episode-19-best-perennials-for-pollinators>



## PREPARING THE GROUND



**Milda, Usha and Paul – Peg’s garden in the background.**  
It was cold and wet, but the intrepids prepared the ground anyway



**Milda, Selina Gary and Paul – the four intrepids**

### **Heard recently in church circles:**

A mother yells up to her son on a Sunday morning.

“Get up son, is time to go to church”

Reply: “I don’t want to go to church Mom”

“Yes son, but you have to go to church”

“Mom, I’ll give you two good reasons why I don’t want to go to church, and they are....  
I don’t like them, and they don’t like me”

“Well son, I’ll give you two good reasons why you have to go.

“First, your 47 years old, and secondly, you’re the minister!

**~ Suggested by Paul S.**



## CAITLIN

In the previous newsletter, it was stated that **Caitlin** resigned from the Board – this was NOT the case.

**Caitlin writes:** *I think it should be clarified that I did not “resign” from the board. I joined in May 2021 and was told that it was a two-year term at the time. Therefore, my term is up at the end of April this year. I would like to have continued but I’ve been feeling very overwhelmed the last 6-8 months between work, travel and sports and feel I need to give this up to lol ok after myself.*

**Christopher writes:** *Hi, Caitlin, My apologies. I got confused looking at various documents about the start and end of the terms of both Directors and, initially, couldn't find the 2021 AGM report. **Now found**, this confirms exactly what you have written that you were elected in 2021 for a two-year term.*

*Many thanks for your two years of service on the Lakeshore Board. And again my apologies for gumming up the dates.*

**Sheila adds:** *I add my apologies to the confusion about your term on the LUUC Board - and my deep thanks for managing the SE portfolio through all its downs....and now hopefully, "ups". I understand your need for work\life balance. We will miss your wise counsel on the Board but hope you will continue to be an active member as much as you are able.*



Many individuals and families in our West Island community are suffering even more than before the pandemic. They have been hit hard by the shocking rise in costs for food, housing, and just about everything else. There is currently a great demand for pasta sauce, fruit juice, cereals, canned tomatoes and white rice. Those, or other items such as tinned fish would be happily received to add to local Food Bank shelves. Can you help? There will be a basket for donations in the LUUC lobby each Sunday.

~ **Sheila**

## No Mow May

## OUR CAREGIVERS

**Constance Belanger** is our care giver for May and June – you can contact her at 438-786-6694 ~~for each other....~~

~ **Dori Abbott** is healing well following her fall - no breaks, thank goodness!

~ **Maud Bonnier** recently had 2 falls and is now being treated in the Lakeshore General Hospital with a rehabilitation program to follow.

~ **Paul Sullivan and Oddbjorn Taraldsvik** have recovered from their bouts of Covid.

~ It has been wonderful to welcome **Nancy Schmidt** back to our LUUC in-church Sunday services!

~ **Christopher Thomson** is now fighting Covid. Éirí go maith go luath!

~ **Linda Kneeland** moves into her new home in Manoir Kirkland on May 5. **Linda's** new address will be #306 - 2 Rue Canvin, Kirkland H9H 4B5 and her new phone number will be 514-695-2728.

~ **Toni Smith** has moved into "our old" Lakeshore Unitarian Church building - now called "Cedar House"! **Toni's new address is 14 Cedar Avenue, Pointe Claire, H9S 4Y1. Toni's phone number remains 514-441-5601**  
~ **Sheila**

**A Knight in Shining Armour:** As mentioned above, **Dori Abbott** fell, hitting her head and straining her leg – right outside the Epicure Market in old Pointe Claire Village. The shop owner rushed out to assist her – while **Peter** went to get the car. However, it was not easy for Dori to walk to the car once it had arrived - and Peter was sure he couldn't lift her...what to do?? This is where the chivalrous knight comes into it – in the form of one strapping great Australian. He simply swooped her into his arm and gently deposited her into the car. That is the only part of the mishap that Dori enjoyed – and Pete has decided to take weight-lifting sessions in case it happens again!



We are thinking of our dear **Irene** walking on the picket lines in all weathers.

She says, "The picketing is a bit gruelling, but it's also a great way to get to meet people."

Hopefully the strike will be over by the time this newsletter is out.

Despite all, she still maintains her beautiful smile!

~ **ed**

## CELEBRATING EASTER



Here are three of my girls - **Briony**, and granddaughters **Savannah and Chelsea** – celebrating Easter. ~ *ed*



**Sari** plays the recorder at Summerlea



**Carlos Ochoa, Susan and Sari** at Summerlea



**Milda and Nancy Graham** enjoying the sunshine  
(*LUUC photos by Gary*)



## **CHAPLAINS**

### **TWO WEDDINGS AND A DEDICATION**

**Paul** will be performing a wedding ceremony for a lovely couple in Lasalle on May 19, and another, still starry-eyed twosome that will join the happily married after 27 years of making a home together. Their wedding will take place here in our sanctuary.

I will be the proud celebrant for an infant dedication on May 7 as we dedicate young Carlo Abbott here in the church. Carlo is the great grandson of our own long-time members, **Dori and Peter Abbott**.

All of these ceremonies are done in your name, as I am asked by these people in our community to share in their special day as a representative of the members of the Lakeshore Unitarian -Universalist Congregation. ~ **Paul**

### **THE SCHMIDT'S VISIT SAVANNAH**



**John and Nancy Schmidt** visited gorgeous Savannah, Georgia in early March this year. Above is a photo of Nancy in front of Savannah's Unitarian Church. As well, John and Nancy took a photo of a plaque, in front of the church, about the composer of "Jingle Bells." If you have a moment, take a look at this congregation's amazing website: [Unitarian Universalist Church of Savannah \(uusavannah.org\)](http://Unitarian Universalist Church of Savannah (uusavannah.org)) Next time they're in Savannah, John and Nancy hope to go inside the church and maybe even attend a service. ~ **Nancy S.**

"Forgiveness does not change the past, but it does enlarge the future" ~ **Paul Boese**

## THE ICE STORM



This is what **Paul Sullivan's** back garden looked like after the storm. Susan said that the noise of the branches crashing on the roof was terrifying. Mr. Do-It-Yourself Himself, couldn't manage the clear up alone – the devastation was so extensive – he had to call for help. (photo by **Susan Hawker**)

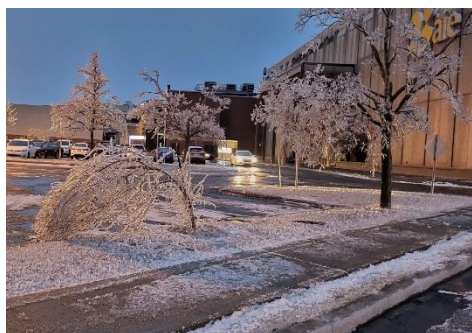
On the other hand, **Sari** escaped the whole thing, as her sister had invited her to Ottawa just before the storm hit, and they had full power in the Capital.

**Dori** says: "The ice storm made us realize how much we are dependent on electricity for heat, light, food and communication. We found people we met so kind and

helpful. We were very grateful that it only lasted a few days. Our thoughts are with those who are suffering for such a long time in our world."

**Nancy Schmidt** says: We were lucky indeed. John and I had purchased a generator, a couple of years ago, that automatically kicks in when the power goes out. Thanks to that, we were able to share our home with the daughter of a dear friend, who has health challenges and was living in a cold house.

**Carol Rowan** writes: Last week's ice storm hit Montreal fast and furiously. On York Road in Beaconsfield our power was off for 103 hours, and throughout the Island, thousands of trees have been damaged or killed. Yesterday, the fifth day after the storm began, I walked on Mont Royal and took some photos of the damaged trees. It was a violent storm- the wind and ice wrecked havoc. Fortunately, fire fighters, Hydro Quebec employees, city workers, emergency response teams, arborists, combined their efforts to help us through.



**Heather** writes :As soon as it went dark on the second evening of the storm, I sat in my chair, swathed in blankets and shawls and thought: I can't work on my computer, I can't watch TV, I can't do ancient ironing, I can't boil the kettle, I can't bake a cake, or vacuum the floor, I can't even have a cup of tea – I can't do nothing! (I think that's a double negative – but I didn't care – 'cos I was cold ) - so I went to bed – fully clothed. The first time I had gone that early since I

was sent to bed in disgrace as a child!

**PS:** I live in the same town as the Premier's mother, so we in Ste. A de B. were inconvenienced for a mere 24 hours. (Just kidding!) ~ **ed**



**Gary says:** We survived 3 days without power and heat and were able to heat water for coffee in the oven using candles. **Maud Bonnier** endured 2 days with no heat. Let's urge seniors' homes to buy backup generators for future emergencies.

**Sheila says:** Just two days before the ice storm, a new winter jacket I had ordered arrived by post. As the temperature was in the high 20s C that day, I felt rather foolish and VERY warm when I tried it on to be sure it fit. Then I put it away in my closet for the months leading up to next winter...or so I thought.

On Wednesday, the day of the storm, it was quite cool and so I baked peanut butter cookies to take on Friday to my daughter's home near Yarker, Ontario for Easter weekend. My cookies were cooling and my oven still warm when Peter Wilson phoned me to ask if he could bring his bread over to my home to bake as their power had just shut down. About 10 minutes after Peter's bread finished baking, leaving that wonderful odour in my home, then MY power shut down!

Like everyone, I went to bed fairly early that night as there was no TV, or radio and I don't read well by candlelight or flashlight. I brought out my winter blanket for my bed, and was grateful I hadn't yet changed from flannel sheets.

By Thursday morning, outside looked like a fairy land, but inside my home became colder, and colder. By 11 a.m. I was wearing my new winter jacket and my snow boots and my little solar radio informed me that this was going to last.

So, I phoned my daughter (caught her teaching a class...) and informed her that I would come a day earlier than planned. Enough was enough! And so I packed the car, and bundled myself into it wearing my winter cloths and I headed west along the 40 and the 401.

So I escaped the cold - and was greeted by a fire blazing in the wood stove of **Karn & Darryl's** home - and a hot cup of tea to enjoy. Since that region was not affected by the ice, I was able to enjoy an outdoor Easter Egg Hunt that weekend with two of my daughters and four grandchildren....how lucky was I!!

*~ Sheila*

### **AND THEN THE SUN CAME OUT...**



What a difference a few days made! – the ice had melted, the electricity was returned, the flowers popped up, the sun came out and the world got back to normal. And Outside Carol Rowan's house, this spectacular forsythia bush bloomed in all its golden glory.

*~ ed*

## THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE WITH TAROT CARDS

On Sunday April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023 LUUC welcomed **Calogero Cumbo** who introduced us to the use of the Tarot as a way of tapping into our collective unconscious or even our own personal shadow. As a student of both science and religious studies I am interested in their intersection in the human psyche, and found this method an intriguing tool. Biology can explain much, but what of human creativity, intuition, and motivation? Calogero's approach offered an alternative to medical materialist ways to discuss and ponder all this. Tarot, for some, may bring ideas to open conversations about our relationship to self and others, and to reflect on our own place within the fabric of possibilities.

~ **Milda Graham**

**PS:** Several years ago, Peg Wooley and I travelled to the Ottawa congregation with a view to discussing the possibility of sharing a minister. That part didn't work out – but the speaker that Sunday morning was Calogero – and we were so impressed with him that we invited him to speak to us. Since then he has been an annual feature of our Sunday Services.

~ **ed**

## YOGA CONTINUES FOR A 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR!

Mindful gentle yoga practices  
guided by Milda and Usha  
Saturdays 4-5pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor



Gentle yoga with **Milda** and **Usha**.

The next yoga mini session runs 4 Saturdays  
May 20th to June 10th.

Bring a friend or neighbor, your body will thank you.

Contact Milda at (514)296-9369 or  
[sanskritsoccermom@gmail.com](mailto:sanskritsoccermom@gmail.com).



**A Happy Birthday to all our May LUUCers – wishing you health and happiness.**

Shelly Bloomer on May 5<sup>th</sup>

Chris Bassett on May 6<sup>th</sup>

Conny Belanger on May 7<sup>th</sup>

Nirupam Silver on May 8<sup>th</sup>

Kathy Matyas on May 18<sup>th</sup>

Traci Williams on May 21<sup>st</sup>

Sheila Laursen on May 23<sup>d</sup>

Dan Amstutz on May 25<sup>th</sup>

Olivia Gavanski on May 27<sup>th</sup>



**A happy photo (by Gary) of Nancy welcoming Spring!**

## **HELPING NEW ARRIVALS**

2 Syrian families that recently arrived in Montreal benefitted from our collective help last month. It indeed takes a village....many thanks go out to all involved!

**Linda Kneeland** who gave 2 bedroom dressers and a coffee table before moving from her long-time home

**Jose Van Amerongen** offered 2 comfy chairs, a coffee maker, microwave, mirror, linens, a side table and a small vacuum

**Jessica Shirley** delivered a metal bed frame for a twin mattress, a lamp, a kettle and a coffee maker

**Bill Humes** (Sheila's neighbour) for 2 flat screen TVs and a lovely rocking chair

**Sinclair Harris** (Summerlea United) who delivered a single bed mattress

**The Bunker** (in Hudson) that sent two large loads of items from laundry baskets of bed and bathroom linens, to curtains, dishes, mugs, cutlery, cooking utensils, pots and pans, coffee makers and other small appliances

**Fay Louch** and the other volunteers of The Bunker who found and packed all of the above

**Nathalie Hainaut** for giving a sewing machine and kitchen essentials

**Heather Falconer and Heather Fraser Fawcett**, who each contributed several useful items, including French dictionaries

**The Dorval mosque** that found a bedroom dresser for one family.

**Special thanks to :**

**Stuart Forbes**, who picked up 4 kitchen chairs and many boxes and bags of kitchen and bedroom items from The Bunker and delivered them to my home.

**Jose Van Amerongen** for organizing her son **Camy** and her friend **Peter** to pick up Linda and Jose's heavy furniture and move them to the two apartments of the Syrians in Ville St-Laurent.

**Obay Ali** of Montreal's Levant Association for his help delivering both of our loads and for being there to help with translation into Arabic!

~ **Sheila**



## UNION-UNITED'S FAMOUS SOUP-POT CINE



Friday, May 12, 2023, 7:00 pm, 24 Maple, we will be showing "**Ensemble, C'est Tout**" :In French, with English subtitles. **Romance/Drama** (1 hour 37 min.) 6.7 stars (Also known as '**Hunting and Gathering**')

Camille (Audrey Tautou) works evenings as an office cleaning woman, and draws in her free time, living in the attic of a Parisian apartment block. Philibert (Laurent Stocker) is a young, aristocratic history buff (and postcard salesman) living - temporarily - in an apartment lower down, part of the estate of his late grandmother. He has let out part of it to up-and-coming cook Franck (Guillaume Canet), a gruff young loner and womaniser with a genuine love for his frail grandmother, Paulette (Francoise Bertin). When Camille falls ill, Philibert insists she stay with the two of them so he can look after her. And even though she and Franck clash, the trio manage to live together and learn from each other. Trailer: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0792965/>

As we are still living with COVID, we will ask you to wear a mask unless seated and eating. When lining up for soup and bread, we ask that you keep a space between each other. We are aiming at limiting it to 30 participants, so please reply if intending to come ([sahawker13@gmail.com](mailto:sahawker13@gmail.com)). First come, first served. Suggested donation \$10. We welcome donations of 5 soup, and 2 individuals for bread (2 loaves each and butter/margarine)

## THE KNIT CHICKS

**The Knit Chicks** continue on their merry way – meeting via Zoom on Tuesday mornings between 10:30 – 11:30am – and knitting their charity items. ~ **ed**



**It's hard that we still have to fight wars – and Ukraine is fighting for all of us –**

~ **Sean Penn**



## HIS MAJESTY REQUESTS.....



There is no room for us LUUCers in the Abbey – so we will have to watch the Coronation on the telly. The British do **Pomp and Pageantry** very well – so the occasion will be spectacular. As you know, the new King is very climate conscious, loves the countryside, and practices organic farming – all good. He supports many charities, which raise money for good causes, perhaps the best known is the Prince's Trust, which is global in scope. In Canada the Trust works to create opportunities for young people and members of the Military and Veteran community. The King has visited Canada 19 times in his lifetime.

The RCMP recently presented the King with a beautiful black horse, a mare called **Noble**, who was trained for the musical ride. Five RCMP officers will ride at the head of the household cavalry – in front of the fabled golden coach that will carry the newly crowned King and Queen on their route back to the palace.



## **KERRY-ANNE'S CONCERTS**



**Congratulations to Kerry-Anne for her 10<sup>th</sup> succesful Festival de la Voix**



Kerry-Anne organized a wonderful and unique concert at the Beaconsfield High School – Songs That Bring Us Together featuring the wonderful young First Nations and Quebecois artists of the Nikamu Mamuitun. The concert was well attended. Later the artists mingled with the crowd of over 200 people – and here is Jose speaking to Matui.



A photo from Myriam Leblanc and Ensemble Mirabilia's stunning concert at St Joachim, Pointe Claire on Saturday evening.

## **ON THE GO AND NEED TO KNOW**



**CALIFORNIA - Super bloom** – An explosion of oranges, yellows, purples and whites has covered California's hillsides, as a rare "super bloom" burst into life in the wake of a very wet winter. Vast stretches of countryside that spend months of the year as a muted, dry brown have been transformed into a carpet of color that can be seen from space. We have heavenly blue lawns here on the West Island at this time of the year – Just Glorious.



**AMSTERDAM - ingenious** – This city has more bicycles than people – but, where to park all these bikes? Why under the water of course. A bike path leads to a huge, bright and cheerful underground/water parking area which connects directly to the city's metro and railway systems via six escalators. This massive construction effort houses thousands of bikes.



**EDINBURGH – Stone of Scone – Stone of Destiny** – this ancient stone, used by Scottish Kings since time immemorial – was stolen by the English in the late 1200s, and placed under the coronation chair in London – where all British monarchs from that time on were so crowned. But the Scots wanted their sacred stone back – so it was returned 700 years later in 1996 – with the proviso that it be used in all future coronations. Hence – the stone has travelled, under escort, from Edinburgh Castle to Westminster Abbey for King Charles 111's coronation. (NB: The Stone was stolen/liberated from the Abbey in 1950 by some eager Scottish students – caused quite a stir when I was young – but in their haste, they broke it in two.)



**CHINA – returned** – Ya-Ya the giant panda on loan from China to the Memphis Zoo, has been returned to China after 20 years. Ya-Ya developed a skin problem, which caused her fur to look mangy. Le-Le, Ya-Ya's companion died in February – and the Chinese accused the Zoo of mistreating the pandas. A special plane was commission for Ya-Ya's return to Beijing, where she was greeted by thousands of well wishers. ~ **ed**



**FLORIDA – ugh** - A huge blob of sargassum (brown seaweed) 5,000 miles long, is heading for the Florida coast. Visible from space, it has already hit the Caribbean beaches, ruining the holiday season. The mess is massive and the smell atrocious. While the seaweed itself is harmless, it is expensive to clean up and harbours stinging creatures. ~ **ed**



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**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**