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THE VOXAIR

Our Military Community Newspaper, 17 Wing Winnipeg

April 24, 2013

VOLUME 62, ISSUE 08

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Nijmegen Training Kicks off for 2013



Capt Brandon Dix (far right on grass) and the 17 Wing Winnipeg 2013 Nijmegen team were out for a morning march on Friday, April 19th. The route took them through Assiniboine Park all the way to Sterling Lyon Parkway and then, seen here, heading back to the base along the Moray Parkway. For more on this years team, see page 3. Photo: Alison Boates

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Associate Minister of National Defence Visits 17 Wing



The Honourable Kerry-Lynne Findlay, Associate Minister of National Defence, asking questions about the refuelling drogue for the CC-130 Hercules to 17 Wing/AFTC Commander Colonel Blaise Frawley and Cpl Maurice Gervais, a technician at 435 Squadron. Photo: Sgt Bill McLeod.

Sgt Bill McLeod 17 Wing Photojournalist

17 Wing Winnipeg, Man-The Honourable Kerry-Lynne Findlay, Associate Minister of National Defence, visited Royal Canadian Air Force units in Winnipeg on 17 April 21, 2013.

Since her appointment in February of this year the AMND has visited several Canadian Armed Forces units across the country.

The AMND began her visit in the morning when she was met by Major-General St-Amand, Commander 1 Canadian Air Division (1 CAD), Brigadier-General Galvin, Commander 2 CAD, Lieutenant-Colonel van Diepen, 1 CAD Headquarters Commanding Officer, and Chief Warrant Officers St-Jean, Tremblay, and Stewart.

Following an office visit with the Air Divisions Command Teams, the Hon. Kerry-Lynne Findlay toured the Air Op-

erations Centre before leaving for 17 Wing Headquarters.

At 17 Wing, the AMND was met by 17 Wing/Air Force Training Centre Commander Colonel Blaise Frawley. After an office visit with Col Frawley the tour moved to the flight line where she was met by the Deputy Commanding Officer of 435 (Transport and Rescue) Squadron, Major Fascione, and toured the maintenance area where she got a close up view of a CC-130 Hercules configured with refuelling drogues.

In a statement released the week before her visit the AMND said, "I am proud of the successes we have had in positioning the Canadian Armed Forces as a world class military force today and well into the future."

"I also look forward to continuing to travel across the country visiting bases and wings to see, first hand, the impact of our efforts on the Canadian Armed Forces members on the ground."



17 Wing/AFTC Commander Colonel Blaise Frawley and the Associate Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Kerry-Lynne Findlay pose for a photo with members of 435 Squadron. Photo: Sgt Bill McLeod.

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Vladimir Kopecky as he goes
through Kevin's training regimen.

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(London Olympics
Archery Alternate) will also
be there to demonstrate
competitive archery as
Kevin and Rob show their
archery prowess.



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Printed By
Derksen Printers
204-326-3421

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VOXAIR is the unofficial Service newspaper of 17 Wing Winnipeg and is published every two weeks under the authority of the Wing Commander, Col Frawley. Opinions and views expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor, the Wing Commander or the Department of National Defence. The Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any editorial or advertising material. We will not be responsible for any loss or damage to any advertiser or third party resulting from the failure of an advertisement to appear in any of our editions or from any error or omission in any advertisement which is published.

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The Voxair
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PO Box 17000 Stn forces
Winnipeg, MB R3J 3Y5
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Publications Mail Agreement No. 1482823

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17 Wing's Nijmegen Team Prepares for 2013 March

By: Mike Sherby
Voxair Manager

The 17 Wing Nijmegen March team is up and running this year, getting in shape for the big July event. This year's team, led by Capt Brandon Dix, an instructor with the Cadet Corps, has already marched an average of about 200 kms in preparation for the grueling event.

The march started in 1909 and was moved to Nijmegen in 1919. The 4-day march was originally a mostly military event, but the march now includes a good mix of both civilian and military participants. The 17 Wing Team will walk 40 kms a day for four straight days while wearing their uniforms and a 10 kg back pack.

Capt Dix, who marched with the last 17 Wing Nijmegen Team in 2011, is one of only two returning participants to the team this year. He says he wanted to pass on his experience to the new team.

"It was such a positive experience for me, and the other person who said they would go back, that I wanted to give the next team the experience through my eyes," he says.

Capt Dix says that the 17 Wing Team started with about 46 people signing up to try out, and that they're down to 26 people who are actively marching. The final team will have 11 members, includ-



17 Wing's Nijmegen team marches across the Moray Parkway bridge on Friday, April 19th in order to get ready for this year's march that takes place from the 16th-19th of July. Photo: Alison Boates.

ing Capt Dix.

The base minimum requirement for military members to make the team is to have done 500 kms of marching as a team, including two back to back 40 km marches. Capt Dix says there are other factors that come into play after that.

"If you do that you're eligible, and anything over and about that, it's a combination of attitude, secondary duties, personal suitability, and fair and equitable representation of the CF in terms of gender, and specific traits," such as having a mix of Army, Navy, and Air Force members, and a mix of different ranks.

The team is up bright and early at 6 a.m. 3 days a week to march. While Capt Dix says he's eager to pass his knowledge on, he also admits that there's a little bit of professional pride in his decision to lead this year's team.

"Very much my trade, and the end of the forces that I'm in, doesn't get a lot of notoriety, being a cadet instructor, and working with the cadet program. So having a cadet instructor by trade who leads a team full of reg force and reservist people is kind of a bragging point for us."

This year's team, which leaves for Nijmegen on July 12th, is dedicated to the memory of one of 17 Wing's most illustrious members, former HCol Ben van Ruiten, who passed away in 2012. The team has designed a patch and once they have final approval they will be making a presentation to HCol van Ruiten's wife.

RCAF Launches New Online Learning System

By: Capt David Lavallée

The ability of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) to train and develop its people has taken a leap into the 21st Century.

In fact, the use of online training is fast becoming the mainstay of professional learning within the RCAF, and is also contributing greatly to individual training and education (IT&E) modernization. In fact, the RCAF is leading the way in IT&E modernization within the Canadian Armed Forces.

Due to our geographic realities in Canada and a wide spectrum of technology within the RCAF, there are both opportunities and challenges for force generation.

In response, the RCAF developed and launched a new online learning system called the Air Force Integrated Information and Learning Environment (AFIILE). Under the leadership of 2 Canadian Air Division, the formation responsible for RCAF training and professional development, located in Winnipeg, Man. AFIILE is the final stage of an implementation strategy that began in 2008.

AFIILE will provide RCAF personnel with online training to enhance and support their classroom learning, and continue to allow them to train at a distance.

AFIILE is now an important learning tool outside the Air Force as well.

As of May 2, 2013, DNDLearn, the existing DND distance learning website, will no longer be accessible as a learning platform. The Division has ensured that 100 per cent of RCAF courses that resided in DNDLearn will be transferred into AFIILE before the May 2 change-over.

The Royal Canadian Navy and the Canadian Army are adopting the AFIILE sys-

tem, which will eventually become the new pan-Canadian Armed Forces system called the Defence Learning Network (DLN).

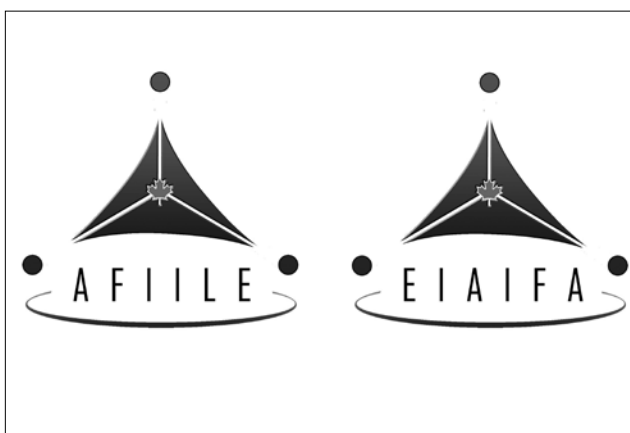
AFIILE supports 1,000 RCAF qualifications

Whether deployed in a theatre of operations or on a ship, RCAF members will have access to educational opportunities that either support their current employment with such items as job aids, or build their professional capabilities for future leadership opportunities. This new capacity will be used to train both officers and non-commissioned members at all levels in the RCAF.

AFIILE is the single online environment in which RCAF individuals, units, schools and support organizations will conduct training activities in an integrated, cost-effective manner.

Currently, the RCAF has 55 geographically-dispersed units that train personnel and grant qualifications, in support of approximately 1,000 unique qualifications. AFIILE will take the course content of these training programs and make them centrally available to all personnel, meaning that the programs will be accessible at anytime from anywhere.

"Whether personnel are formally on course, or just learning on their own time, they'll be able to get the same training materials and information that they would receive in a classroom," says Brigadier-General Martin Galvin, commander of 2 Canadian Air Division, the formation responsible for RCAF training and professional development, located in Winnipeg, Man. "This system is truly the next step in training and professional development for our people."



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Cameron Army Cadets Renew Right to the Freedom of the City



The celebration began in the court yard at City Hall with the raising of the Cadets Camp Flag where it flew for the remainder of the day. Photo: Brian Koshul



City Councillor Grant Nordman represented the city of Winnipeg and acknowledged the Cadet Corps' right to exercise its Freedom of the City that was bestowed on them in 1995. Photo: Brian Koshul

Submitted by: Brian Koshul
Director of the Army Cadet League of Canada (Manitoba)

Saturday, April 20 was a day of celebration and military tradition for the young members of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders Army Cadet Corps as they commemorated the 100th Anniversary of the formation of their unit with a parade to Winnipeg's City Hall where they renewed their Corps right to the Freedom of the City.

The ceremony at the City Hall court yard was preceded with the Cadet's hoisting their Camp Flag on the City Hall's flag staff where it flew for the day.

Then, following a centuries old military tradition, the Cadets formed up in the court yard of the City Hall and their Commanding Officer, Captain Andrew Flook approached the main door of the City Hall, knocked on the door with the hilt of his sword and was met by City Council member Grant Nordman representing the City of Winnipeg, who acknowledge the Cadet Corps' right to exercise its Freedom of the City bestowed on them in 1995.

The tradition of granting Freedom of the City to a military unit goes back more than three centuries after the restoration of King Charles II of England in 1660. Throughout history, there has been a strong aversion to the war-like appearance of large bodies of troops in city streets and considered by the city fathers to be a threat to

their rule of the city, so Military troops would camp outside the walls of the city they were charged to protect.

As the soldiers gained the trust of the city residents they then might be granted the Freedom of the City, particularly if they had defended the city from an attacking enemy or performed some other worthy deed.

The Freedom of the City means, in the physical sense, the granting of the privilege for all time for a specific military unit to march through the city with "drums beating, colours flying, and bayonets fixed."

This is a most prized honour, for it recognizes over time, the honourable record of the military unit, and demonstrates the affection and esteem with which it is held by the community and the trust the citizenry has in the military to protect its democratic institution.

The Army Cadet Corps and its supporters were joined at a dinner Saturday evening, by the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, the Honourable Philip S. Lee and by Brigadier - General Martin Galvin, Commander of 2 Canadian Air Division.

Brigadier-General Galvin was the Presiding Officer of a Change of Command Ceremony after the dinner, that saw Captain Kerry Walker assume Command of the Queen's Own Highlanders Army Cadet Corps from outgoing Commanding Officer Captain Andrew Flook.

The Tradition of Granting the Freedom of the City

The tradition of granting Freedom of the City to a military unit goes back more than three centuries. Throughout history, there has been a strong aversion to the war-like appearance of large bodies of troops in city streets disturbing the peace and appearing to be a threat to the ancient civic rights of the city fathers. The custom first took hold after the restoration of King Charles II of England in 1660.

During the winter months, military troops would camp outside the walls of the city. While the soldiers might visit the city's taverns during the day, they would return to their camp at sunset. Over the winter, the soldiers would gain the trust of their city neighbours, as the citizens became more familiar with them. They might then be conferred with Freedom of the City, particularly if they had defended the city from an attacking enemy or performed some other worthy deed.

The Freedom of the City means, in the physical sense, the granting of the privilege for all time for a specific military unit to march through the city with "drums beating, colours flying, and bayonets fixed." This is a most prized honour, for it recognizes over

time, the honourable record of the military unit, and demonstrates the affection and esteem with which it is held by the community and the trust the citizenry has in the military to protect its democratic institution.

The ceremony starts as the unit to be granted the Freedom of the City marches towards city hall, colour cased and rifles carried without bayonets fixed.

The commanding officer is met by the chief constable. The commanding officer, accompanied by the chief constable, then marches to the door to city hall where the commanding officer knocks on the door three times with the pommel of his sword. The mayor opens the door, and the commanding officer declares his name and that of the unit.

The mayor then reads a proclamation proclaiming that Freedom of the City is bestowed on the specific unit. The commanding officer accepts the freedom and returns to the unit. The unit fixes bayonets, and the colour is unfurled. The unit marches past, with the mayor taking the salute.



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Toastmasters Club to Hold Anniversary Open House

By Cpl Alex Greer
Westwinners Toastmasters Club

Suppose that you got a call from a close relative or friend that he wanted YOU to be the Master of Ceremonies at his/her wedding! Would that proposition scare you? Or perhaps you report to work one day and your boss has handed you the ball to give a verbal report to the section in an hour. Maybe, and this is not uncommon in the Canadian Forces, you have been told that YOU will have to brief a General! Does the idea make you itch? Or perhaps you are a naturally good speaker, but you want to make improvements and pass on your knowledge and skills to others. If any of these hit close to home, you should be interested in Toastmasters International, and in 17 Wing's very own Westwinners Toastmasters Club.

Westwinners Toastmasters is about to celebrate its 20th anniversary as a club here at 17 Wing. Regular meetings are at the Westwin Community Center on Thursdays from 1215 hrs to 1315 hrs. On 02 May 2013, from 1200-1315 hrs, West Winners will be holding an Open House with a guest speaker, Mrs. Diane Brine, at the Chapel Annex off of Whytefold Road. Diane will be speaking about the CF Health and Wellness Challenge. For more information about West Winners, Toastmasters and about the Open House feel free to contact the club President Cpl Alex Greer, 204-833-2500, ext. 2063.

I have been involved with the Westwinners Toastmasters Club for nearly two years now since being posted to 1 CAD. One day I came across an advertisement on the bulletin board in Bldg 90 and I phoned the contact person who I had known from a previous posting. She invited me to a meeting as a guest... I liked the constructive and friendly atmosphere, so I decided to join. They ended up liking

me so much that they asked me to be the club President for two years in a row. The structured Toastmasters program also really helped in my new posting, as I had to brief Generals.

In some ways the Toastmasters are similar to service clubs like Lions or Rotary. While Toastmasters clubs may have guest speakers at their meetings, it is expected every member of the club says something in the course of a meeting. As an educational organization Toastmasters has a dual mandate, improve the speaking and communication skills of its members and also improve the leadership skills of its members. This is done at both club meetings and through self-study by way of the manuals that are provided. As a speaker you will start with your "ice breaker" speech and then move onto nine more prepared speeches, each with a new objective. These speeches are always given an expert evaluation by more experienced Toastmasters. Throughout the process you will learn your strengths as well as areas that require improvement.

On the leadership side, you may be asked to be the timer, grammarian, the chairman of the meeting or even THE Toastmaster for the meeting. Toastmaster meetings are always structured and proactive, and each club has their own traditions. Everyone from members to guests, take part in the deliberations. There are also the club officer positions, like Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President for Education and yes, Club President. Above the club level there are positions such as Area Governor, Division and District Governor.

While Toastmasters is a learning experience, it is also a fun program. You meet people from other walks of life at your club and at district events such as speech competitions and conventions. Within the Winnipeg area there are some 77 clubs that include advanced clubs, which specialize in literature and comedy.



Health Promotion Manager, Diane Brine is the guest speaker for the Toastmasters open house on May 2nd. Photo: Mike Sherby.

A Celebration of Volunteers

Do you know someone who volunteers at 17 Wing Winnipeg?
Are YOU a volunteer at 17 Wing Winnipeg?

It's time for the Annual SISIP Volunteer Appreciation, and we would like to celebrate ALL volunteers here at 17 Wing!

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435 Sqn Members Judge Science Projects



Strathmillan Public School had ten members from 435 Squadron judge this year's Science Project Fair. Photo: Submitted.

By: Sgt Al Bugden
435 Squadron

Am I smarter than a fifth-grader? On March 13, ten members of 435 Squadron found themselves pondering this very question while judging Strathmillan School's annual Science Project Fair. When Sherri Steuart, teacher of the intermediate multi-age extended the invitation to judge at this event several Squadron members rose to the challenge. On our arrival at the school gym, it rapidly became apparent that this was not going to be an elementary school show and tell session. These fourth and fifth grade students were to be judged on their ability to define and solve problems using structured methods of inquiry.

The Squadron volunteers were asked to assess a variety of projects based on six criteria. These criteria included: task definition, information seeking strategies, location and access, information use, synthesis, and evaluation. As evaluators we judged the effectiveness or result of the presentation in conjunction with its problem-solving process or efficiency. Mrs Steuart provided guidance in the form of a grading rubric for scoring specific elements of each project. She informed us that some projects may be eligible for entry in the Winnipeg Heritage Fair.

Some of the projects were informational, others experimental in nature. On the experimental side, one pair of fifth-grade students documented their experiences with growing different types of crystals. Another pair of fifth grade students demonstrated their research skills during a confident presentation on albinism. Other presentation topics included discussions of the solar system, guppy behaviour, along with the results of a fourth-grade experiment on water density. On the historic and scientific side, one student designed a visually compelling study of the Avro Arrow project. Overall, it was impressive to see these students demonstrate the courage to take on challenging projects and follow through to completion. The student's willingness to self-critique and offer suggestions for improvement demonstrated maturity beyond their years. In conclusion, we would like to thank the students and staff of Strathmillan School for the opportunity to be a part of your project fair.

17 Wing's Very Own Comedienne

By: Mike Sherby
Voxair Manager

You may not know it to look at her, but Heather Witherden, the Winnipeg MFRC's Marketing Assistant, leads a dual life. A self-described 'suburban hockey mom' by day, Heather spends her nights as one of the most established women in Winnipeg's dynamic comedy scene.

And this year, Heather's worlds are getting ready to collide as she once again takes part in the annual MFRC Stand Up For Families Comedy Night. Happening May 3rd at the Jr Ranks Mess Red River Lounge, this year's comedy night will feature performances from Heather, as well as local comedians Ronald George Moore and Paul Rabliauskas. As the MFRC's resident comedy expert, Heather has hand picked the lineup this year.

"I try to pick who I think is deserving, and somebody that I've seen and been like 'yeah, people are going to like this,'" she says. "Ron's a little bit different, which is why I thought it'd be fun to watch him perform, and Paul's doing tons of comedy right now. He's a very funny guy, and he's got a unique take on things since he grew up on the Poplar River First Nation."

Heather took a different path to stand up comedy than most comedians. In 2006, at 35 years-old and with 3 young children at home, a friend convinced her to volunteer for the Manitoba Comedy Festival.



The MFRC's Heather Witherden poses in front of the poster for this year's Stand Up for Families Comedy Night which will take place on May 3rd. Photo: Mike Sherby

"It was my first audition, and I found that people don't laugh. They determine whether they think you're funny, but they won't give you dignity of laughing at your jokes."

At around the same time Café 100, a defunct local radio station, was having a contest in conjunction with Rumours Comedy Club to find Winnipeg's funniest female. On the urging of the same friend, Heather entered, prepared five minutes of stand-up and got ready to perform. She didn't end up winning, but the staff at Rumours encouraged her to keep performing.

"At that time there weren't a lot of women doing stand up regularly, and so after that I started doing more contests, and performing at different nights. After that the scene kind of exploded in Winnipeg."

Now Heather is a fixture of stand-up in Winnipeg, and has also appeared on CBC Radio's Definitely Not The Opera, XM Satellite Radio, and several Winnipeg Fringe plays. When asked why she waited so long to get into the

comedy business, Heather says that she wasn't mad enough.

"To do stand-up you've got to be angry, and kids will make you angry," she said with a laugh.

She also says that she gets a kick out of being, as she says "not the oldest, I don't want that distinction, but I am one of the older ones" doing stand-up in the city.

"People always think women of my age, they always think we're very innocuous, like 'ah, what a nice lady', and I am a nice lady, but us nice ladies have lots of thoughts going on," she says.

You can catch Heather, along with 2 other local comedians at the MFRC Stand Up For Comedy Night, May 3rd. Tickets are \$15.00 each and available at the MFRC Front Desk. Call 204-833-2500 ext 4500 for more information.

The job to go around promoting the festival in public places, and to her surprise she had to audition for the job.

"It was kind of funny and bizarre," she says.



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Manitoba Rangers Train with 424 SAR Squadron



Churchill Rangers, Florence Hamilton and Denis Funk wait to climb aboard a CC-130 aircraft from 424 Squadron at 8 Wing Trenton in order to begin a training exercise in the Churchill and Rankin Inlet areas. Photo: Rgr Stephen Palmer



Ranger Richard Fredlund lends a hand to splint a leg with a SAR Tech from 424 Squadron. Photo by Rgr Claude Daudet

By: Ranger Marc-André Belcourt
Churchill Patrol

"What a great opportunity for the Churchill Rangers" I thought when I found out we were tasked to train with 424 Search and Rescue Squadron (SQN) from Trenton Ontario. It was a relatively simple task. Provide some assistance to a Recce party in Churchill and a simulated causality somewhere on the barrens. PC Kelly Turcotte conducted the coordination with the Herc crew and Search and Rescue Technicians Sgt Rob Coates and MCpl Mark Robar. They selected an area about 70 km south of Churchill, locally referred to as "Lamprey", as the location from where a distress call would be initiated and set the wheels in motion for CF SAR exercise.

Ranger Dixon Hunter, Richard Fredlund, Claude Daudet and I (Marc-André Belcourt) would represent the stranded party on the barrens and I volunteered to be the causality with a broken femur. The three of us travelled to the exercise site the day before and moved into a local cabin about 15 km from the exercise area.

Back in Churchill the Sqn was conducting some flight training and Rangers Florence Hamilton, Stephen Palmer, Denis Funk and Janice Schultz went for flights as far away as Rankin Inlet. When the crew got the rescue task they watched the crew go through their drills and got some great pictures of the whole thing from the back of the Herc.

It was mid day, 7 March, before we heard the low roar of the Herc as it approached the signal fire we had set. After the Herc circled us many times, checking what

ever they check, a smoke flare was launched. Then their gear and finally the SAR Techs were out and parachuted very close to our location, shortly after the Herc disappeared to the north.

Dropping onto the frozen treeless barrens in their bright orange uniforms and parachutes was a site to behold. Within moments of the 2 orange suited NCOs landing they were met by Rangers Richard Fredlund, Dixon Hunter. Once they gathered their equipment, the SAR Techs went to work providing medical treatment. They hooked up lines, check my vitals, splinted my leg, put me into a causality bag, kept me warm and got me into a tent they had with them. Their expertise was very obvious and they went about their business as a matter of routine. It wasn't long before they had done everything they could and I would have been prepared for evacuation, I felt proud that we have such a great SAR response available. However it was end exercise and now it was the Rangers turn to look after them for the night

and get them the 70 km back to Churchill.

All 6 members of the CF made their way to a cabin on the banks of Deer River about 15 KM away, a river that is well known and flows directly to the Churchill River and Churchill our route the following day. That night moose meat was on the menu, along with all the stories that will go along with a day on the barrens. It was then early to bed as we were heading back to Churchill by snowmobile before the crack of dawn. The SAR Techs would be heading back to CFB Trenton via Hercules early that day. With a safe return we said our farewells until next time. Thanks for the training opportunity.


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Fort Garry Horse and 38 CER Change of Command Parades



Colonel Dan Whittaker (Center), outgoing Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel David Atwell (R) and incoming CO Lieutenant Colonel Paul Davies (L) complete the signing of change of command papers for the 38th Combat Engineer Regiment. Photo: MCpl Cameron Skrypnyk.

By Capt Donna Riguidel
38 CBG Public Affairs Officer

On Saturday, April 6th 2013, the Fort Garry Horse welcomed their new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel David Koltun. LCol Koltun came up through the ranks of the unit, starting as a private.

"Who would have thought in 1978 when I joined as a private that I'd be here today. So there is proof that any soldier, if they work hard and apply themselves, can become the CO of their unit," said LCol Koltun.

Outgoing commanding officer LCol David Atwell said, "I was very humbled and



Colonel Dan Whittaker (Center), outgoing Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel David Atwell (R) and incoming CO LCol David Koltun (L) complete the signing of change of command papers for Fort Garry Horse. Photo: MCpl Cameron Skrypnyk.

very honoured that I went through the Centennial (last year), and led the regiment through the Centennial, it was one of the highlights of my life."

Concurrently, 38 Combat Engineer Regiment (38 CER) gained their first dedicated commanding officer, formerly sharing a commanding officer with the FGH.

"I'm looking forward to the challenge. I'm looking forward to getting to know all the soldiers of the 38 Combat Engineer Regiment a little bit better and living up to our expectations within 38th CBG," said incoming CER CO LCol Paul Davies.

38 CER also appointed a dedicated Regimental Sergeant-Major Fernand Desjardins.

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17 Wing's Wild Side



The Canada Geese have begun to arrive and are setting up nests around the base. Please exercise caution and try to avoid the birds when at all possible. Photo by: Mike Sherby



As we're all eagerly awaiting those spring temperatures, so are the wildlife spotted around the base. The deer were happy to see the grass peek through the snow over at the 17 Wing Golf Course. Photo: Alison Boates

Spring Cleaning Time for Ceramics Club



Ceramics Club president, MCpl Rita McNeil shows off the work of one of the members of the club in the newly organized and cleaned up space they use over at the Westwin Community Centre. Photo: Alison Boates

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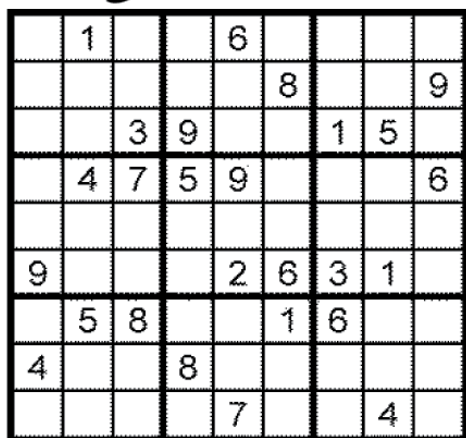


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Sudoku

My Sudoku

Rated: Beginner



Using the numbers from 1 to 9 please fill in the blank cells. Each number can be used only once in each row, column, and 3 X 3 block. Each puzzle is rated for degree of difficulty as : Beginner * Advanced * Master

Philatelist's Corner with Alf Brooks

Chinatown Gates



On May 1 Canada Post issues eight stamps picturing gates in Chinatown sections of cities across Canada. To create these stamps, eight illustrators across the country took to their communities to create watercolour paintings of the gates. Stamp designer H el ene L'Heureux then used these images to create unique stamps that work together as a set. "The watercolour technique unified the stamps," explains L'Heureux. "Differences in tones added diversity and richness to the project, making each stamp stand on its own." Wooden or stone gates,

known as paifang in Mandarin, were originally used to separate subdivisions in Chinese cities. Eventually, these gates lost that role, and their doors, remaining but as monuments.

One of the gates, built in 1987 in Winnipeg, is in one of Canada's older Chinese communities. It is a pedestrian overpass that connects and complements the Dynasty and Mandarin buildings.

The other gates pictured are in Victoria, Vancouver, Edmonton, Mississauga, Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal.

The PSP Community Recreation Spring guide is now available.

Visit www.cfcommunitygateway.com for more information.

Crossword

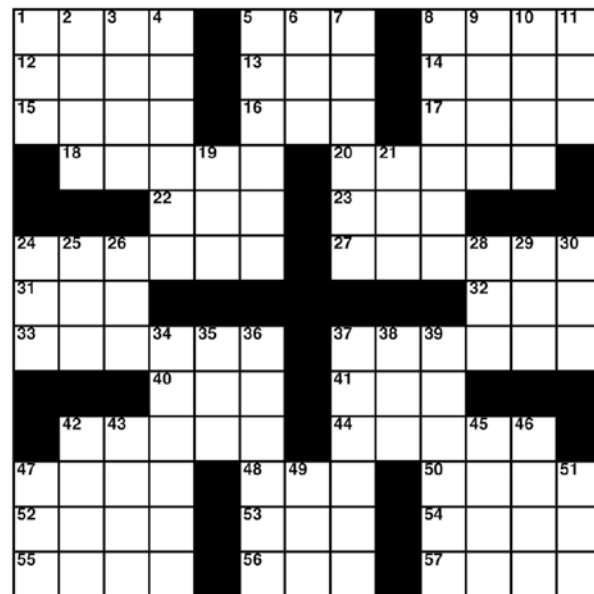
Canadiana Crossword

Slang City

By Bernice Rosella and James Kilner

ACROSS

- 1 Pearson or Myers, familiarly
- 5 The ____ (Northern Ontario city to some)
- 8 Plant part
- 12 The ____ (Southern Alberta city to some)
- 13 Term of endearment
- 14 Lymphoid tissue
- 15 Balkans dweller
- 16 Gambler's promise
- 17 Decorated a cake
- 18 The ____ (Central Saskatchewan city to some)
- 20 The Big ____ (Ontario metropolis to some)
- 22 PC net
- 23 Supernatural being
- 24 Sameness
- 27 Nun
- 31 Bambi's aunt
- 32 Pogo preceder
- 33 Wallboard ingredient
- 37 Come out
- 40 Fruit salt
- 41 Facsimile, slangily
- 42 Popular poplar
- 44 Inundation
- 47 Word before moss
- 48 Prop
- 50 Lean
- 52 The E in ESG
- 53 The ____ (Southern Alberta city to some)
- 54 South American race
- 55 Rhymer
- 56 RC honouree
- 57 Ubiquitous beverage



DOWN

- 1 OR frequenters

- 2 Enrages
- 3 Novelist Vonnegut, for one
- 4 Clot
- 5 Clamber
- 6 Thousands symbol
- 7 Duties
- 8 Negatively charged particles
- 9 The ____ (Newfoundland to some)
- 10 Notion, to Normand
- 11 Past participle of lead
- 19 Cereal grain
- 21 Me, to Marie
- 24 The ____ (Manitoba city to some)
- 25 Some
- 26 Blame
- 28 Hillock
- 29 Incite
- 30 Caviar
- 34 Heptad
- 35 One, in Verdun
- 36 Year parts
- 37 Decadent
- 38 ____ de mer
- 39 Strange
- 42 Plane or dynamic prefix
- 43 Retail event
- 45 Words before "not again"
- 46 Detective, slangily
- 47 Vim
- 49 Gnaw
- 51 Naim no

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RCAF History

By: Maj W.A. March



Shades of Things to Come



As the risk of confirming that I am indeed a “nerd”, I have to say that one of the more delightful things about historical research is the interesting “nuggets” that you find when combing through old records and files. Often the nuggets that I uncover have nothing to do with the primary focus of my research (much to the chagrin of my Boss), but often they do tend to generate a great story. As a case in point, a few years ago I came across an approved unit crest for 115 Air Transport Unit (ATU) and, given the rather obvious Egyptian image within the crest, I was curious to find out more about this particular unit of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). In truth, I found many “stories”, but one of the best ones was that 115 ATU became the first, and to my knowledge, only RCAF unit to operate fixed-winged aircraft of the deck of one of Her Majesty’s Canadian Ships (HMCS).

This particular RCAF composite unit was part of the Canadian contribution to the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF). In its first iteration (there would be a second UNEF created in 1974), the UNEF was deployed beginning in November 1956 during the Suez Crisis. In a nutshell, the Suez Crisis revolved around Egyptian President, Gamal Abdel Nasser, nationalizing the Anglo-French Suez Canal Company and the waterway from which the company got its name. When Israel and Egypt went to war in October of that year, the British and French governments, who had already worked out a deal with the Israelis, invaded Egypt ostensibly to safe-guard the canal. It being the height of the Cold War, there was a significant danger that the Soviets (supporting Egypt) and the West (supporting Israel, Britain and France) much get drawn in to the conflict, resulting in a major war. The UN brokered a ceasefire and, as a result of the efforts of the Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lester B. Pearson, a peacekeeping force was approved and deployed during the remainder of the year to serve as a buffer between the belligerents permitting a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

In the ten-years of its existence (peaceful resolutions being somewhat hard to come by in the Middle East), 115 ATU provided sterling service. However, for the purposes of this story, it is the very beginning that we must turn our attention to. On 7 November 1956 the Canadian government implemented, the appropriately named, OPERATION RAPID STEP. In recognition of the need to transport large quantities of supplies to support the Canadian contribution to UNEF 1, the Royal Canadian Navy’s (RCN) aircraft carrier HMCS Magnificent, or the Maggie as she was affectionately referred to, was recalled from Belfast, Ireland. On 29 December the Maggie departed Halifax for Port Said, Egypt, carrying 100 tons of supplies, 233 vehicles, one H04S helicopter (the naval version of the Sikorsky S-55), and the mighty aerial armada that would form the backbone of 115 ATU - four single-engine CC-123 Otters!

Laugh not, Oh Reader, at the perceived utility of such an aircraft as the De

Havilland Canada (DHC-3) Otter was well-suited for the surveillance and light-transport duties it had to perform. Its Short Take-Off and Landing (STOL) capabilities and over-all ruggedness permitted it to operate from the less-than-ideal (ie. virtually non-existent) airfields that 115 ATU used throughout its operational area. Furthermore, from the perspective of the RCAF senior officers, whose minds might have been on other issues in 1956 such as commitments to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the soon-to-be-implemented North American Air Defence Command (NORAD) agreement, and a potential new fighter (the CF-105 Arrow), it was plentiful, cheap to operate and maintain, did not come with high personnel bill...and they considered that it would be effective in the kind of missions planned for the UN. The Otter had certainly proven its worth in the Far North.

By the second week of January 1957, the Maggie had arrived at Port Said. On 13 January the RCAF maintainers onboard sprang into action bringing forth the four Otters from where they were stored below decks and began to get them into shape for takeoff. Finally, five days later they were ready to go. With the Maggie at anchor, the aircrew revved their engines and took off down the rapidly dwindling flight deck. One by one they lumbered safely into the air...except for one. Just as it struggled to gain altitude, one of the Otters dropped its starboard wing and “kissed” the Maggie’s flight deck. Fortunately, the damage was minor and the four Otters made their way to their new home at El Arish, Egypt.

The departure of the Otters would be the first, and last time, that RCAF fixed-winged aircraft flew from a Canadian warship. Given that the RCN of the day had its own Fleet Air Arm, the “marriage” of RCAF aircraft and RCN vessels was somewhat unique...or a shade of things to come. With the re-introduction of the RCAF nomenclature on 16 August 2011, RCAF CH-124 Sea King helicopters are an integral part of RNC fleets on both coasts.

Eventually, 115 ATU would add to RCAF CC-129 (DC-3) Dakotas to the fleet and would operate primarily out of El Arish for the next decade. Of the four RCAF Otters, Number (No.) 3675 crashed near Rafah, Egypt, on 15 April 1957 and No. 3744 crashed at an airfield in Gaza 19 September 1958; both were written-off, fortunately with no serious casualties. The other two Otters, Nos. 3743 and 3745 were withdrawn from Egypt and replaced in due course. In the ten years of operations in the Middle East, 115 ATU would have many adventures, but I’ll save those stories for future telling.

As a closing note, if anyone out there has a colour image of 115 ATU’s crest, I would love to get a copy (william.march@forces.gc.ca) so that I can incorporate the colours in my records. And if you wish to learn more about 115 ATU, I recommend you check out www.115atu.ca which is a site dedicated to the Air Force and peacekeeping.

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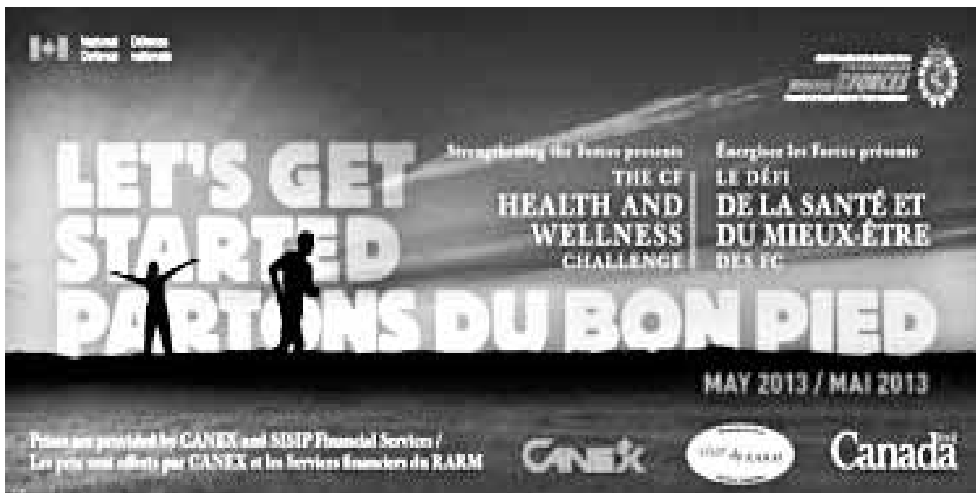


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De Grands honneurs pour le Groupe de femmes francophones du CRFM de Winnipeg!

Dans le cadre de la 23e édition du Prix Réseau de l'organisme Réseau Action Femmes, plusieurs femmes d'action manitobaines ont été honorées pour avoir contribué, de façon remarquable, au développement collectif francophone dans les domaines culturel, éducationnel, communautaire, politique, santé et services sociaux, économique et sportif.

C'est avec de grands honneurs que le Groupe de femmes francophones du Centre des ressources pour les familles de militaires (CRFM) de Winnipeg a reçu un des Prix Réseau lors du brunch annuel du Réseau Action Femmes qui a eu lieu le 10 mars dernier, au Club de golf St-Boniface. Plusieurs représentantes du groupe étaient présentes lors de l'événement; des conjointes de militaires, des femmes militaires, des enfants de militaires et, aussi, des femmes qui sont en apprentissage de la langue française. Toutes se sont levées pour accepter ce prix avec grande joie!

Ces femmes, dynamiques, généreuses et compréhensives, apportent beaucoup les unes aux autres puisqu'elles se sentent comprises dans leur réalité. Vivre au sein d'une famille militaire offre certaine-

ment de beaux défis et de belles aventures, mais ce style de vie apporte parfois des moments où une écoute et un support apportent beaucoup de réconfort. Le Groupe de femmes francophones existe depuis plus d'une dizaine d'années et les femmes se rencontrent environ une fois par mois pour se divertir, créer des liens et des amitiés.

S'adapter au style de vie militaire et aux nombreuses mutations, c'est tout un défi. S'intégrer dans un nouveau milieu où la langue et la culture ne sont pas les nôtres peut s'avérer également un défi de taille. Les familles francophones représentent environ 30% de la communauté militaire de la 17e Escadre. Il est donc important pour le CRFM de favoriser leur intégration et de leur offrir des services et programmes de qualité, répondant à leurs besoins.

Lors de cet événement, le Groupe de femmes francophones a certainement eu une belle opportunité de démontrer que ces femmes sont bien actives au sein de la 17e Escadre et qu'elles font vraiment une différence pour toute la communauté. Félicitations à toutes!

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BACK TO BASICS

Tuesday, May 14 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Registration deadline May 9

Join us as we head Back to Basics and plant some herbs!! We will be planting a few different herbs for you to start your gardening season!! Use these herbs to help flavour your meals with fresh natural ingredients. Registration is required.

OPERATION CONNECTION

Monday, May 6, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Registration deadline: May 1

This group is designed to connect family members who are, or who have recently experienced a deployment. At this session we will be learning about goal setting. What it is, how to accomplish it and tips and tricks to following through. Additional Stress Free Child Care funds are available.

FRENCH LADIES' GROUP- GARDENING WORKSHOP

Sunday, May 5 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Registration deadline May 2

Whether you have a green thumb or not, come over to create your own garden! Nothing is more fun than going in the backyard or garden to pick a few fresh herbs and vegetables to add to your cooking dishes.

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WESTWIN CHILDREN'S CENTRE, 642 WIHURI RD.

Tuesdays May 14 to June 11 from 1:15 to 3:15 p.m.

\$40 per child

Register by May 7

This program is for children ages 2-5 years. Activities will focus on music and movement. Please send a small nut free snack for your child and non slip footwear. For more information or to register, call 204-833-2500 extension 2491.

EVENING CHILDCARE

WESTWIN CHILDREN'S CENTRE, 642 WIHURI RD.

Wednesday, May 15 from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

Children under 2, \$12, over 2, \$10.

Register by May 9

Children ages 1-5 years can receive quality care while you and your spouse/partner/friend go for dinner, a long walk, or simply have some time for yourself! Call 204 833-2500 ext 2491 to register.

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Chaplain's Corner

Wake Up! We Are that Golden Eagle - Unaware of our Beauty or Where we Belong!

A man found an eagle's egg and put it in a nest of a barnyard hen. The eaglet hatched with the brood of chicks and grew up with them.

All his life the eagle did what the barnyard chicks did, thinking he was a barnyard chicken. He scratched the earth for worms and insects. He clucked and cackled. And he would thrash his wings and fly a few feet into the air.

Years passed and the eagle grew very old. One day he saw a magnificent bird above him in the cloudless sky. It glided in graceful majesty among the powerful wind currents, with scarcely a beat of its strong golden wings.

The old eagle looked up in awe. "Who's that?" he asked.

"That's the eagle, the king of the birds," said his neighbor. "He belongs to the sky. We belong to the earth—we're chickens." So the eagle lived and died a chicken, for that's what he thought he was.

I invite you to read a great book: Awareness: a de Mello spirituality conference in his own words, written by Anthony De Mello. This book has transformed me and helped me to wake up to Life. I will warn you, it might be a shocking book to you in the beginning. When I first read this book, I thought - that guy was crazy and I put it back on the shelf. Several years later, I read it again but my heart was now open and ready to hear that message. Now, I can not keep this amazing message to myself. I feel the need to share it with you.

Peace!

Lt (N) Frédéric Lamarre
Chaplain

Réveillez-vous! Nous sommes tous comme cet aigle, ignorant notre beauté et notre véritable nature.

Un homme trouva un œuf d'aigle et le plaça dans un poulailler. L'aiglon vint au monde avec une couvée de poussins et poursuivit sa croissance avec eux.

Se prenant pour un poulet, l'aigle ne cessa d'imiter le comportement des gallinacés qui l'entouraient. Il grattait la terre afin d'y trouver des vers et des insectes. Il gloussait et caquetait. Il battait des ailes ne s'élevant qu'à quelques centimètres du sol.

Les années passèrent et l'aigle devint très vieux. Un jour il aperçut, volant dans le ciel sans nuages, un magnifique oiseau. Avec une grâce majestueuse, ce dernier se laissait porter par les courants, agitant à peine ses puissantes ailes dorées.

Le vieil aigle le regardait, émerveillé :

-Quel est cet oiseau ? demanda-t-il.

-C'est l'aigle, le roi des oiseaux, lui répondit un de ses compagnons. Il appartient au ciel. Nous, nous appartenons à la terre - nous sommes des poulets.

C'est ainsi que l'aigle, dans la certitude qu'il avait d'appartenir à la basse-cour, vécut et mourut en poulet.

Je vous invite à lire un livre merveilleux : Quand la conscience s'éveille de Anthony de Mello. Ce livre m'a profondément transformé et m'a aidé à éveiller ma conscience afin de poser un regard neuf sur la vie. Je vous mets en garde; ce livre est provocant et dérangeant. Il remet en question nos croyances et notre conditionnement. La première fois que j'ai lu ce livre, je pensais que l'auteur était fou. J'ai simplement remis le livre sur les tablettes, en m'efforçant de l'oublier. Plusieurs années plus tard, j'ai relu le livre et alors mon cœur était prêt à entendre son important message. Je sens le besoin de vous partager cet ouvrage bouleversant.

Paix à vous.

Lt (N) Frédéric Lamarre
Chaplain

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Padre Mark Mawson (Wing Chaplain)

Roman Catholic Office 833-2500 ext 5417

Padre Ray Laudenorio

Roman Catholic Office 833-2500 ext. 5272/6914

Padre Frederic Lamarre

Roman Catholic Office 833-2500 ext. 5956

Ms Catherine Landry

W Chap Admin Assistant

Office: 833-2500 ext 5087

Masses (English only)

Tues, Weds, Thurs 1210 hrs

Sunday 1100 hrs

Religious Education classes are available to all students from Preschool to Grade 6. Please call the office for information.

Confessions The sacrament of reconciliation is offered 20 minutes before mass and by appointment. Contact the chaplain's office.

Baptisms We recommend that you contact the chaplain's office for an appointment prior to the birth of your child.

Marriages Six months' notice is required for marriages, as counselling is necessary to prepare couples for Christian marriage. A marriage preparation course is also required.

Catholic Women's League meets in the Chapel Annex the third Monday of each month at 1830hrs.

PROTESTANT

CHAPLAINS

Padre Will Hubbard

(Anglican) Office 833-2500 ext 5349

Padre Darryl Levy

(Baptist) Office 833-2500 ext 5785

Padre Frank Staples (UCC)

Det. Dundurn. Office 833-2500 ext. 4299

Sunday Services (English Only) 0900 hrs

Sunday School is held during the service for children ages 3 to 12, except on the last Sunday of each month. Childcare is provided on an as-required basis for children under 3 years of age.

Marriages Contact the chaplain at least six months in advance. A marriage preparation course is a requirement.

Baptisms The Sacrament of Holy Baptism is available by contacting a chaplain. Time is required to give sufficient instruction about the meaning of baptism.

Protestant Chapel Guild meets the first Sunday of the month at 1800 hrs in the Chapel Annex. All women are welcome.

FOOD BANK

The Food Bank is a joint undertaking by both Catholic and Protestant congregations. Please help by giving any food you can spare. The donation box is located at the rear of the chapel.

EMERGENCY CHAPLAIN

After normal working hours, the Emergency Chaplain can be reached through WOps Duty Centre, 833-2700.

OTHER PHONE NUMBERS:

For your convenience, a phone number has been set up to provide callers with info on service times and contact with the chaplain of your choice. Phone 833-2500 ext. 6800 and follow the prompts. Those with access to the DIN visit the chaplains' Web Site at <http://17wing.winnipeg.mil.ca/main>, then click on 'Services'.



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Taroscopes

BY NANCY

Aries (March 21 – April 19): Endings are natural. Even though you may feel you're faced with a lot of unknowns, you are urged to embrace life. Don't let anyone else define or limit you. Excuses are a waste of time. Instead just determine what you can do then do it. Take one step at a time and you'll prevail.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20): Change brings more work and more worry but as long as you are still focused on what you are most passionate about then it is worth the extra effort and angst at this time. Things will get easier with time so establish a strong foundation and stay the course.

Gemini (May 21 – June 21): It's hard to experience emotional growth and development if you're also trying to play it safe. Dig a little deeper, even if you discover things that shock and upset you they are best brought out in the open so they can be resolved. It's time to get out and live life on your own terms.

Cancer (June 22 – July 22): Your natural desire for security may have kept you from saying or doing things you feared would "rock the boat." Still you can't thrive when you're living an illusion that "all is well." Speak your mind. Things might not seem so rosy then but they can still be honest, loving and real.

Leo (July 23 – August 22): You're generous and eager to indulge in the finer things in life. However, excess, even when giving to others, isn't a good idea if you are going through a time when being sensible is best. Live within your means. Seek advice from an expert if you're not sure how to do this.

Virgo (August 23 – September 22): Pretend you're young and full of hope when making decisions. This perspective will help you make choices that foster happiness. You can be realistic as well as creative and flexible. Use other people's experiences to motivate you and mimic their methods to stay on track.

Libra (September 23 – October 23): Even if nothing seems to be going well, take heart. Change can be very good when it forces you to review and revise your lifestyle so that it more closely matches your values, instead of what you've learned to accept. Current chaos will evolve into something better for you.

Scorpio (October 24 – November 21): If you want people to look up to you, you'll need to ensure your actions match your ideals and beliefs. Show people that you deserve respect. You can make lasting changes if you do it in a measured way. Focus on what fascinates you. Persevere and you'll see results.

Sagittarius (November 22 – December 21): You're bold, decisive, seek adventure and you're willing to take risks. Up until now, you've been able to stay one step ahead of anyone trying to "fence you in." You're now feeling driven to find a place to settle down and enjoy the comforts of a home.

Capricorn (December 22 – January 19): If you're feeling a bit "out of sorts," consider making peace with some aspect of your past that still nags at you. Trying to maintain the status quo has a cost. If all is not well, confront what is upsetting you. The result of releasing "baggage," will be worth the effort.

Aquarius (January 20 – February 18): When your heart is in what you are doing you shine. Your strengths and talents become easily obvious to others. Visualize yourself succeeding. Honor your deepest desires. Do what inspires you. Tell supportive friends what you really want so they can help you.

Pisces (February 19 – March 20): Consider radical changes. When you reach a dead-end turn around and look back, you'll see options you might have overlooked before. Impose order on your life. Deal with the day-to-day disarray. When you accept limitations it's easier to find ways to work around them.

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