

RICHMOND SENTINEL

OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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OUR COMMUNITY, OUR NEWS, OUR PAPER February 2017



GIVING BACK HIGHLIGHTS NEEDED

Throughout their careers in medicine, Tony and Nancy Yurkovich dedicated their lives to serving others. Even now, in retirement, that hasn't changed.

photo courtesy Richmond Hospital Foundation

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Lynn Sakai-Boden

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CONGRATULATIONS ON THE LAUNCH OF THE RICHMOND SENTINEL.

We welcome back your veteran writers and look forward to this fine addition to our local news.

Congratulations to
THE RICHMOND SENTINEL
on its launch in our community!



*from Richmond MLA
Linda Reid & family*

**Happy
LUNAR
NEW
YEAR**





\$25M POWERS TOWER OF HOPE

By **DON FENNELL**

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Throughout their careers in medicine, Tony and Nancy Yurkovich dedicated their lives to serving others. Even now, in retirement, that hasn't changed.

The long-time Richmond doctor and nurse recently made the single largest gift in the history of the Richmond Hospital Foundation in support of a new acute care tower. Notably modest and humble, the couple preferred details of the size of their gift not be shared but are thrilled that more than 10 families and organizations have made commitments totalling \$25 million toward the proposed new building.

In recognition of the Yurkovich's generosity, the original tower (the longtime Richmond couple was present for its official opening in 1966) will be named the Yurkovich Family Pavilion. In the future, when a new tower is approved by the provincial government, the naming will transfer to it.

"I love this community. I feel great joy in giving," Dr. Yurkovich said in a press release.

Added Nancy: "Back then we wanted the very best health care for the people of Richmond. We still want the same thing today, and that's what a new acute care tower will mean for us."

Dr. Yurkovich was dedicated to caring for Richmond residents for more than four decades. The first generation Canadian, whose

determined mother spoke only Croatian for much of her life, he worked in the shingle mills and canneries to pay for his medical education at the University of British Columbia.

Nancy, born in Toronto, met her future husband working in the same hospital. The couple settled in Richmond where they raised a family.

"Tony and Nancy have always been great advocates of having the best health care possible in this community," said Natalie Meixner, president and chief executive officer of the Richmond Hospital Foundation. "They have a deep understanding of what the needs are, having been a part of health care in this city but also in the country for many years. In fact it was 60 years ago this month Tony opened his family practice in Richmond."

Retired for 20 years, the couple continues to champion for the best health care possible in all aspects—mental health to palliative care to home care, "making sure the right kinds of services are there for people," Meixner said.

"When they decided to make this gift it was about wanting to help bring this need (for a new acute care tower) to fruition," she said. "(They thought) if people saw they chose to support this perhaps others would be inspired by their act and do the same."

Meixner said the need for a new tower is urgent, and she hopes that with each donation the community awareness and support increases.

"Our MLAs have been championing this need but clearly it takes a lot of loud voices,

- ▶ Richmond doctor and nurse lead \$25 million contribution
- ▶ Record donation illuminates need for new acute care tower
- ▶ New tower could cost \$200M to \$400M

it takes a whole community to let government know this is the single, most important infrastructure to people in Richmond," she said.

When the original—and current—tower was constructed in 1966, Richmond's population was 50,000. Today the population is 218,000 and projected to grow to 250,000 by 2030. While the delivery of health care services has changed, there still remains only "a couple hundred beds," Meixner said.

The limited space means up to four people typically share a patient room, each equipped with only one washroom. Today, to prevent infection, facilitate faster recovery and offer the best standard of care, the common practice in health care is one patient per room, Meixner said.

"The building is also seismically unstable and in case of a moderate earthquake subject to liquefaction," she said. "Back when it was built, seismic standards were different and there was no preloading of the site."

Since the provincial government approved the first phase of planning in June 2016, the initial concept plan was completed. Now in the hands of the Health Ministry for review and possible recommendations, Meixner said. "Our hope is it will be approved and can then go to the business plan stage. We're told that (business plan stage) normally takes two years. It's pretty in-depth work."

Meixner said the cost of replacing the existing tower is wide-ranging, with estimates from \$200 million to \$400 million depending on the scope of the project.

Richmond residents have the longest average lifespan at 85 years of age compared to the national average of 81, pressing Richmond Hospital to provide acute care services for patients and families who need it.

Over 30 years, Richmond Hospital Foundation has raised nearly \$75 million to help purchase vital medical equipment, improve patient care services and upgrade facilities at Richmond Hospital.

arts & community



Time + Tragedy = Humour

"I'll Remember You" — Bewilderment and frustration as a family corrects the mistakes of their forgetful professor while answering the same question repeatedly

By **LORRAINE GRAVES** | lgraves@richmondsentinel.ca | @LGSentinel

The evening started with embarrassment because the paucity of volunteers meant we sat in the wrong seats. We missed the usual friendly retinue of Richmond retirees manning the stairs and entrances.

Once everyone was settled in the correct seats, things went swimmingly. This kerfuffle perhaps gave us more compassion for a man living with dementia in a world that has become far too confusing for him.

Tragedy plus time is humour, they say, and when the topic is dementia that can be true, but there are few laughs when you're in the thick of it.

Mounted by the Ruby Slippers troop—with Gateway Theatre—this production of "You

Will Remember Me" written by Francois Archambault and translated by Bobby Theodore shows the reality that it's a whole family who lives with dementia when one person's memory starts to go.

While it was difficult to hear the dialogue for the first few minutes of the play when the characters spoke cross stage to each other, that soon resolved and everything was clear and absorbing.

The emotions were clear too because of the quality of the acting under Diane Brown's direction.

Kevin McNulty as Edouard, the retired philandering university professor who is bewildered by the world, repeatedly claims he has



a very good memory as dementia alters all the lives in the story.

As his wife, Madeleine, Patti Allan sharply portrays the love, frustration and utter fatigue of caring for her husband.

Marci T. House as Isabelle, the adult daughter trying to forge a career and life, copes with the imposition of her father's presence in her life as well as possible.

It is an imperfect arrangement when mom drops off dad, permanently, with her daughter. In the end, it's the daughter's partner and eventually his teenaged daughter, wonderfully played by Sereana Malani, who bonds and cares for the professor as his sentence fades.

They learn to stop re-orienting the professor, instead working with the images and reality he knows.

The set, the sound scape and the direction all worked together to make this a strong production. The shame is that it will not run longer so more Richmondtites can see it. When we asked about enticing a younger audience, the student discount price of \$29 per ticket still leaves it too costly—being three hours' wages—to hope for a younger demographic when they can buy a coupon for movie admissions, sodas and popcorn for two at the same cost.

So, as we learned that everyone has to cope, from the person losing their cognitive functions to the spouse, the daughter and the people in their lives, the audience laughed but there were also many knowing nods. A solid evening of pathos and humour.



MARTIN VAN DEN HEMEL

Managing Editor

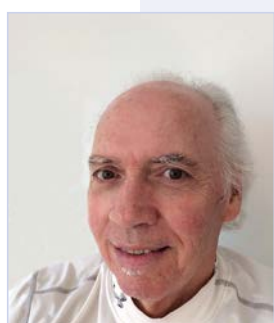
A crime and investigative reporter since 1994, Martin has proudly called Richmond home for more than four decades.



JAANA BJORK

Production Manager

Jaana is a Richmond resident who has been in the newspaper industry for more than 34 years.



DON GRANT

Advertising Sales

A Steveston resident, Don has been helping Richmond businesses and organizations effectively connect with local customers for more than 15 years.



LORRAINE GRAVES

Reporter

An award-winning broadcast journalist, Lorraine lives in Steveston and is particularly passionate about education, science and the arts.



DON FENNEL

Reporter

An award-winning writer and Richmond resident, Don has helped to champion local sports for more than two decades, 25-plus of those as sports editor at *The Richmond Review*.



CHUNG CHOW

Photographer

An award-winning photographer, Chung has been capturing images of Richmond people, places and events for more than 25 years.

your voice

What you have to say doesn't just matter. Your input is valued and important to your community and its growth.

The Richmond Sentinel wants to hear your views on local issues, and will serve as a platform for the public to share their experiences, advice and opinions.

Got a story idea? Is there an issue that concerns you? Have a problem we (or the community) might be able to help out with?

Let us know. There's the traditional way by writing us (e-mail and snail mail), but we're also optimized for communicating with our readers through social media, which is convenient, brief, and sometimes the quickest and only way of doing so when the impulse strikes.

Whether it's Facebook (facebook.com/TheRichmondSentinel) or Twitter (@RmdSentinel), we want to hear from you.

How can you support The Richmond Sentinel?

Support comes in all shapes and sizes. It can be as simple as clicking a mouse and visiting our website, or subscribing to the newspaper, or supporting one of our advertisers.

But every little bit counts...

Those who visit our website in order to learn about their world, or read each new edition of their local newspaper, or chat about The Richmond Sentinel's unique content at the water cooler or participate in website discussion forums, are all engaging in their community which helps generate buzz. That's especially crucial with a start-up enterprise like The Richmond Sentinel.

As our audience grows, and our reputation strengthens as a trusted source for reliable and unbiased news, The Richmond Sentinel becomes a more effective vehicle for local businesses, institutions and organizations to reach their audience through advertisements.

Those ads help pay the bills, everything from wages (reporters, graphic designers, sales specialists, receptionists, computer technicians and administrative staff) and office rent to electricity, equipment and taxes.

As a non-profit media organization, locals can also make a donation in support of community journalism. Or you can spread the word through your social media circles, such as Facebook and Twitter, which will help The Richmond Sentinel grow.

Want to buy an advertisement?

We appreciate your support.

Contact our advertising sales consultant, Don Grant (dgrant@richmondsentinel.ca), who will gladly provide you with numerous options to grow your business, or spread the word about your firm, event or initiative.

The Richmond Sentinel: This is Us

The Richmond Sentinel is a non-profit media organization that provides balanced and relevant news and information to the community of Richmond, B.C., Canada.

Launched out of a steadfast belief that community news media should be a civic resource and a public trust, the Richmond Sentinel is committed to serving the public good and furthering community interests. The Sentinel will strive to celebrate the community's accomplishments while addressing its challenges.

Its mandate will be to :

- *bring the community together by strengthening cultural connections;*
- *broaden the community's understanding of social, cultural, political, educational and economic issues;*
- *foster healthy discussion and debate;*
- *facilitate Canadian literacy, especially among youth and immigrants;*
- *serve as a knowledge bridge between seniors and youth;*
- *provide a communication platform where the public and government can express themselves;*
- *and provide a safe and secure environment in which people can share their ideas, stories and perspectives*

- ▶ Non-profit media organization
- ▶ Canadian literacy tool serving public good
- ▶ Hub for community knowledge sharing



With the newspaper industry across North America in a state of transition, many community and daily newspapers have closed because of declining advertising revenues, an increasing concentration of media ownership and mostly

unsuccessful bids by news organizations to monetize the internet.

Fewer newspapers mean dwindling points of view for an increasing number of communities; most cities in B.C. are now served solely by one newspaper. To address this paucity of perspectives, the Richmond Sentinel will diversify the local media landscape in a fashion that is economically sustainable.

As a non-profit, the Richmond Sentinel will rely on community, business, organizational and government support to fulfill its civic responsibilities and obligations, with any profits re-invested in the organization or the community.

Locals are invited to stay up-to-date on issues which affect their community by visiting The Sentinel's website (www.richmondsentinel.ca)—which will launch soon—or reading the printed version of the newspaper, which has been designed with the readers and environment in mind.

Printed on recycled newsprint, the Richmond Sentinel features UV ink, which means no more messy newspaper ink stains. And the pages are stapled together for ease of reading and recycling, as part of our commitment to being a responsible, reliable and committed community partner.

And out of respect for local seniors, our stories will be printed in a minimum 11-point font.

**RICHMOND
SENTINEL** 
OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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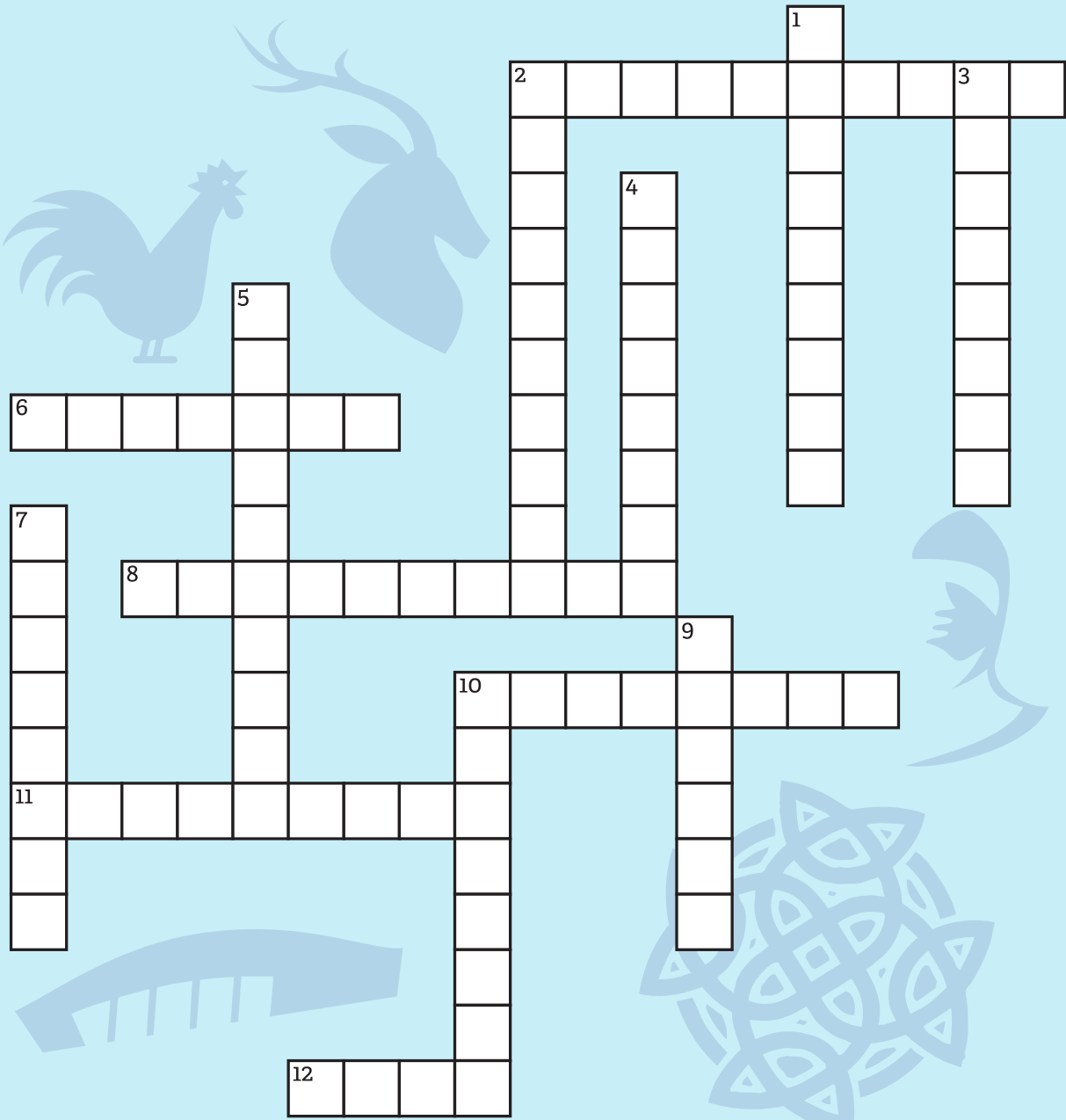
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Fun & Games ?

ALL ABOUT RICHMOND CROSSWORD

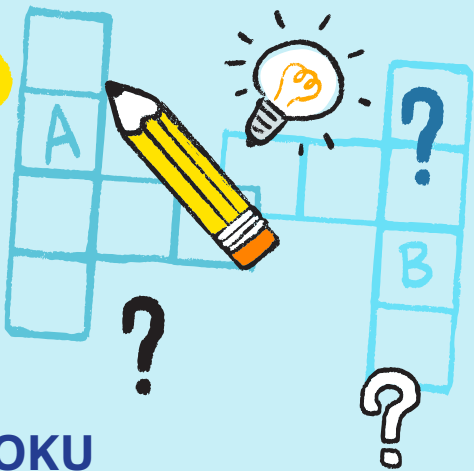


ACROSS

- 2 Skytrain connecting Richmond to Vancouver
- 6 Chinese Year 2017
- 8 Bird for Richmond
- 10 Southern part of Richmond
- 11 Shore of Richmond
- 12 Winter Olympics host

DOWN

- 1 Sea planes land here
- 2 Pub in Steveston
- 3 City name
- 4 Something about Hamilton
- 5 Centre of the City
- 7 Far east side
- 9 Pub in Richmond
- 10 The one who guards



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 digit between 1 and 9.

Game 1

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

Game 2

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



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