

Guelph Mercury

Who to call

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Breaking news

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Getting it right

Our accuracy pledge

Nothing is more important to us than accuracy. We always strive to ensure the information we provide is factual and correct. But sometimes we make mistakes, and when we do, we will correct them promptly and prominently. If you see a factual error, please contact the newsroom at 519-823-6060 or by email at editor@guelphmercury.com.

Lottery results

Yesterday's unofficial winning numbers:

Pick 3: 9 2 1
Pick 4: 1 1 7 8.
Poker: 6D, 10D, AC, KD, 8D
Keno: 7, 10, 11, 15, 17, 18, 21, 26, 28, 29, 39, 43, 44, 45, 48, 59, 60, 66, 69, 70
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The council considers specific, unsatisfied complaints about the conduct of the press.

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- The Ontario Press Council
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- info@ontpress.com
- fax 416-340-8724

The gift of saying thank you

'Thank you' is one of the most important phrases in the English language.

To let a favour, hospitality or a gift go unacknowledged is both selfish and crude. But it is not just saying thank you that matters, it is how one does it. Timing is everything and with manners, they cannot be too early or too late.

While today it is perfectly acceptable to send thanks for an informal supper in a text message or email, it is also important to ensure that the message does not get lost in its medium.

One should never resort to abbreviations that require teenage interpretation. A text that says, "thx it woz gr8" is inappropriate. A message saying: "Thank you so much for supper last night — everyone had fun and the dessert was to die for" is far more suitable.

I still consider letters essential in return for a present or a larger gesture. Writing promptly is also important; unlike revenge, appreciation is most certainly not best served cold.

Even wedding presents are often not even acknowledged, let alone recognized important enough to send a thank you card through the post.

Rudeness abounds at every turn. Every



MELODY WREN
community
editorial board

age group is barely tolerable some days. Raised by British parents, I must admit to being a stickler for good manners. When raised with it, they are not seen as an extra step but just how it is. It takes little effort to be polite, in personal and business life. Apparently an opinion of a person is formed within the first 30 seconds of meeting them. So, why not make it a positive and well-mannered one.

Without manners one seems uneducated and disrespectful. Little gestures go a long way.

Is it popular culture or is it entitlement? Do youth need to be more polite or do we need to get with it. It is never too old-fashioned to be courteous. Opening doors for the elderly, giving up a seat on the bus, giving a hand to someone with a heavy load, or when you see a frantic young mom with her hands full, struggling to find a quarter for the grocery cart, a simple

gesture is to hand her one.

We are the instant gratification society and think we have no time for manners. Society in general is in a hurry, hurry, hurry state.

Adolescents have a sense of entitlement and don't feel the need to thank people. If one was brought up after the war, parents were delighted to bestow on their children what they couldn't have. So, we were brought up with strong work ethics and the reminder that we could have more than our parents had. Unfortunately what trickled down to our children is 'you can have anything you want,' even the pony.

Gratitude should always be kept in proportion to the act in question. An invitation to pop over for a cup of tea being followed by your sending a huge bouquet of flowers would seem most odd and perhaps alarming. Your invitation is possibly reciprocated, which could set off a thank you chain.

Expressions of today that weren't formed before 10 years ago are 'who cares' or 'whatever.'

I care and most people do. Lend a hand, open a door, thank a person, pay it forward today.

Melody Wren is a member of the Guelph Mercury Community Editorial Board.

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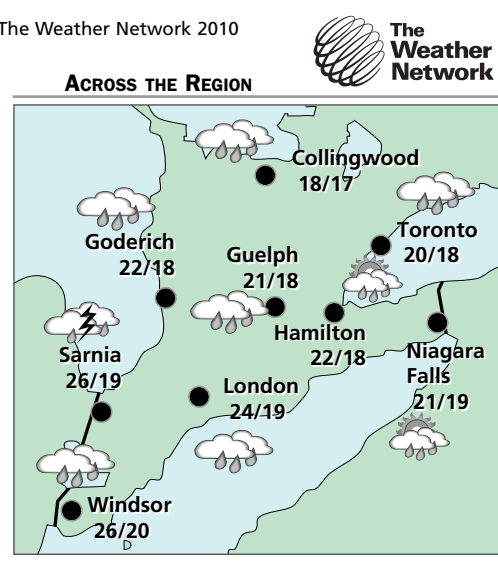
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WEATHER

ALMANAC	TOMORROW	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Normal High 17.8° Normal Low 6.5° Record High 27.2°/1970 Record Low -1.7°/1974 Precipitation Today's Normals 4.9mm	Showers H: 21 L: 18	Showers H: 26 L: 13	Showers H: 18 L: 10	Partly cloudy H: 13 L: 9
CANADA	TODAY	TOMORROW	TODAY	TODAY
Calgary m.sunny 12/0	Toronto tstorms 20/9	Amsterdam cloudy 22/12	Madrid p.sunny 23/17	
Charlottetown showers 20/11	Vancouver sunny 16/11	Beijing sunny 24/14	Mexico tstorms 21/11	
Edmonton sunny 14/4	Victoria sunny 16/10	Berlin p.cloudy 21/10	Miami tstorms 30/26	
Fredericton showers 24/10	Whitehorse p.cloudy 10/0	Brussels cloudy 23/14	Moscow p.cloudy 14/4	
Halifax p.cloudy 24/12	Winnipeg rain 10/4	Hong Kong tstorms 30/27	New Delhi rain 25/24	
Iqaluit p.cloudy 7/2	Yellowknife p.cloudy 4/-2	Honolulu p.cloudy 30/23	Paris cloudy 26/17	
Montreal showers 20/8	RESORTS	Jerusalem p.cloudy 32/17	Rome p.cloudy 25/17	
Ottawa showers 19/7	TOMORROW	Kiev sunny 13/8	Seoul sunny 22/15	
Quebec C. p.cloudy 21/6	Acapulco tstorms 33/25	Las Vegas sunny 32/18	Singapore tstorms 32/27	
Regina showers 9/5	Barbados p.sunny 31/25	Lisbon p.cloudy 23/18	Stockholm cloudy 15/8	
Saskatoon p.cloudy 9/2	Bermuda p.cloudy 26/24	London cloudy 22/14	Sydney cloudy 19/14	
St John's p.cloudy 14/11	Havana tstorms 33/23	Los Angeles p.cloudy 18/15	Tel Aviv p.cloudy 32/24	
	San Juan tshowers 29/27		Tokyo rain 25/20	



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