

MIKE NICHOLS (1931 — 2014)

# A true master of stage, screen

*Auteur a legend for his endless versatility*

SHELLEY ACOCA  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Mike Nichols, the director of matchless versatility who brought fierce wit, caustic social commentary and wicked absurdity to such film, TV and stage hits as *The Graduate*, *Angels in America* and *Monty Python's Spamalot*, died on Wednesday. He was 83.

ABC News president James Goldston confirmed his death Thursday, praising Nichols for his "sparkling wit and a brilliant mind."

The family will hold a private service this week, Goldston said. A memorial will be held later.

During a career spanning more than 50 years, Nichols, who was married to ABC News anchor Diane Sawyer, managed to be both an insider and outsider. An occasional White House guest and friend to many celebrities, he was as likely to satirize the elite as he was to mingle with them.

A former standup performer who began his career in a groundbreaking comedy duo with Elaine May and whose work brought him an Academy Award, a Grammy and multiple Tony and Emmy honours, Nichols had a remarkable gift for mixing edgy humour and dark drama.

Nichols is one of only a handful of those known as EGOT winners — with Emmy, Grammy, Oscar and Tony awards to their names.



Legendary director and producer Mike Nichols was married to news anchor Diane Sawyer.

Over his first two decades, Nichols directed about a dozen Broadway hits. Half were plays by Neil Simon, starting with *Barefoot in the Park* (1963). He won a Tony Award for *Death of a Salesman* in a 2012 Broadway revival starring Philip Seymour Hoffman.

His 1966 film directing debut *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* unforgettably captured the vicious yet sparkling and sly dialogue of Edward Albee's play, as a couple (Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor) torment each other over deep-seated guilt and resentment.

*Angels in America*, the 2003 TV miniseries adapted from the stage sensation, blended rich pathos and whimsy in its portrait of people coping with AIDS and looking to the heavens for compassion they found lacking in Ronald Reagan's 1980s America.

Similarly, Nichols' 2001 TV adaptation of the play *Wit* packed biting levity within the stark story of a college professor dying of ovarian cancer. Nichols fearlessly switched from genre to genre.

Onstage, he tackled comedy (*The Odd Couple*), classics (*Uncle Vanya*) and musicals (*The Apple Tree* and *Spamalot*, the latter winning him his sixth Tony for directing).

On Broadway, he won nine Tonys, for directing the plays *Barefoot in the Park* (1964), *Luv and The Odd Couple* (1965), *Plaza Suite* (1968), *The Prisoner of Second Avenue* (1972), *The Real Thing* (1984), and Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* (2012).

He has also won in other categories, for directing the musical *Monty Python's Spamalot* (2005), and for producing *Annie* (1977) and *The Real Thing* (1984).

"I think a director can make a play happen before your eyes so that you are part of it and it is part of you," he said. "If you can get it right, there's no mystery. It's not about mystery. It's not even mysterious. It's about our lives."

Though known for films with a comic edge, Nichols branched into thrillers with *Day of the Dolphin*, horror with *Wolf* and real-life drama with *Silkwood*.

Along with directing for television, he was an executive producer for the 1970s TV series *Family*.

Nichols married his fourth wife, Sawyer, in 1988. He had a daughter, Daisy, with his second wife, Margo Callas, as well as a son, Max, and a daughter Jenny, from his marriage to Annabel Davis-Goff.

With files from  
*The Washington Post*

# Laurie to join cast on Veep

Postmedia News

Hugh Laurie is bound for the White House.

The British actor, best known for his role as the title character on *House*, is joining Julia Louis-Dreyfus in *Veep*, Entertainment Weekly reports. The HBO political comedy left off with U.S. Vice-President Selina Meyer (Louis-Dreyfus) ascending to the oval office when the president resigned to take care of his wife. The show is heading into its fourth season. Details



Hugh Laurie

are unknown about Laurie's role, but with Meyer in charge, someone would have to fill the role of vice-president.

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The City of Edmonton is proposing to annex approximately 16 hectares (40 acres) of land and road right-of-way adjacent to 66 Street, north of Anthony Henday Drive. The open house will be an opportunity for you to learn more about the annexation proposal, provide your feedback, and speak with project team representatives from both municipalities.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014**  
6:00 - 8:00 PM  
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**EDMONTON NORTH PROPOSED LAND TO BE ANNEXED**

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- Urban Municipality
- Edmonton

Edmonton is working collaboratively with Sturgeon County to process this boundary adjustment; it will include 66 Street and its right-of-way within the City of Edmonton's boundary.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
Call 780.442.2294  
Email [annexation@edmonton.ca](mailto:annexation@edmonton.ca)  
Visit [edmonton.ca/annexation](http://edmonton.ca/annexation)

Sturgeon County

Edmonton

# Alberta First Nation takes lead on strays

CALGARY An Alberta First Nation that brought in laws to deal with packs of feral dogs says the strategy could be used on other reserves struggling with their canine populations.

Josh Littlechild, the Tribal Law Officer of Ermineskin Cree Nation south of Edmonton, outlined the steps the reserve took two years ago at the National Animal Welfare Conference on Monday.

"We were having a few issues where dogs were getting aggressive toward our members," Littlechild said.

Now, the reserve requires registrations and owners to meet a standard of animal care.

"We also have a dangerous dog provision," he said. "It kind of addresses the whole gamut and the needs of dogs in our nation."

Dogs running loose are common on reserves, particularly in northern areas.

Last May, Donnelly Rose Eaglestick of Little Grand Rapids First

Nation in Manitoba was found dead after an animal attack at a construction site. Her body was surrounded by dozens of dogs.

In 2007, a five-year-old child was killed by a dog on Cumberland House First Nation north of Saskatoon.

Leah Arcand, who teaches at Thunderchild First Nation northwest of North Battleford, Sask., said she cares for 14 dogs. Two are hers permanently and the others she is fostering and finding new homes.

She said animal welfare organizations can be helpful.

"Like all animals, there are a lot of stray dogs guaranteed in every First Nations community that need your help. Just by donating food or getting the dogs spayed or neutered certainly helps a lot," she told delegates.

Littlechild said there isn't an easy answer for every First Nation but has shared his story with other chiefs.

"For First Nations, I think it

would be a great approach to employ a law in each band's constitution that addresses the need for animal welfare and dog welfare in particular," he said.

Littlechild encouraged animal groups to reach out to leadership in each reserve before venturing onto traditional property and to not come with preconceived notions.

"Free-roaming dogs don't necessarily mean that our dogs are not cared for. We have dogs that belong to households that free roam during the day and come home at night and sleep and eat and others belong to one family or multiple families," said Littlechild.

"That's part of the reason why our law was so important. We were finding a lot of rez dogs were ending up on homes off the reserve being scooped up because they're seen as strays."

*The Canadian Press*

## Jewelry chain opening stores in Edmonton

Regina-based jewelry company Hillberg & Berk is holding the grand opening Saturday of its Edmonton flagship location at Southgate Centre.

The 80-square-metre store will feature the firm's Sparkle Collection, and includes space to host special events and do one-on-one styling, the company said in a release.

Saskatchewan Lt.-Gov. Vaughn Solomon Schofield gave the Queen a tourmaline, diamond and freshwater pearl brooch from Hillberg & Berk in 2013, while then governor general David Johnston presented her with a sapphire brooch from the company last year.

The company has stores in Regina, Saskatoon and Calgary, as well as kiosks in Regina and West Edmonton Mall. An outlet in Kingsway Mall opens Monday.

*Postmedia News*

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## Let's talk about annexation.

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**MAY 09 2018** | 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
Fairfield Inn & Suites  
by Marriott Edmonton North  
581 Griesbach Parade NW, Edmonton

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# ROAD RACE RESULTS

## 10 km race

Garrett Gerke of the Running Room Athletic Club crossed the finish line in first place in the Tech Shop 10-kilometre event at the Landrex St. Albert Road Race.

The winning time for the Edmonton runner in the 20 to 29 division was 36 minutes and 45 seconds.

The runner-up in Sunday's race was Shane Andersen of Edmonton in the 50 to 59 division at 37:46.

The top female was Sarah McMaster of Edmonton in the 20 to 29 division at 42:20 for fourth place out of 59 finishers (34 males and 25 females) in the fourth annual 10 km.

The top St. Albertans were Daniel Chaisson (43:49) and Marc Bilodeau (44:52) of the 40 to 49 division as the fourth and fifth finishers, respectively, in the male category and Michelle Suda (48:34) of the 30 to 39 division was fourth in the female category.

Last year 45 runners completed the 10 km.

## Five km race

Aidan Comeau of St. Albert continued the trend of U19 hometown winners in the Sturgeon Valley Athletic Club five-kilometre race Sunday.

Comeau was first out of 44 finishers in 17 minutes and eight seconds in the fourth annual five km at the Landrex St. Albert Road Race.

Paul Kane High School alumnus Luke Hanson was the fastest

runner in the last three five-km events.

This year's podium finishers were Logan Arthur (17:30) of Stony Plain and James Thomson (17:48) of St. Albert and both are U19 competitors.

Jasmine Feddema (eighth at 19:51) of Edmonton and Abby Wilson (ninth at 19:54) of St. Albert in the U19 division and Shannon Maisano (10th at 21:16) of St. Albert in the 40 to 49 division were the leading females.

Overall, 17 males and 27 females went the distance in the five km.

Last year 61 runners went from start to finish.

## Fun run for kids

Easton Herman was faster than a speeding bullet in the Panago one-kilometre kids' fun run.

The Grade 3 Keenooshayo School student was timed in a lightning-quick three minutes and 23 seconds in the second annual fun run at the Landrex St. Albert Road Race on Sunday.

Roan Fulford of Parkland County was second at 3:34 and Zachary Dean of St. Albert placed third at 3:35.

Jillian Arthurs of St. Albert was the fastest female at 4:14 for fourth overall.

A pair of St. Albert runners, Isla Mitchell (4:18) and Peyton Herman (4:32) were fifth and sixth, respectively, as 24 females and 22 males finished the fun run.

Last year 73 runners completed the one km.

[jbansen@stalbert.greatwest.ca](mailto:jbansen@stalbert.greatwest.ca)



DAN RIEDLHUBER/St. Albert Gazette

**TOGETHERNESS** – The mother and son combination of Celine Gannon-Dean and Zachary Dean of St. Albert approach the finish line in the Sturgeon Valley Athletic Club fourth annual five-kilometre event at the Landrex St. Albert Road Race on Sunday. Their race times were an identical 26 minutes and six seconds. Gannon-Dean was listed 23rd out of 44 finishers for second spot in the 40 to 49 female division and Dean was 24th for 10th place in the U19 male division.

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# Okotoks rancher's firearms case adjourned again

Police say father of two shot a man after catching people trespassing on his land

RYAN RUMBOLT

CALGARY Community support for a local rancher facing firearms charges hasn't dwindled despite what his lawyer says are continued delays by the Crown.

Eddie Maurice appeared in court for the fourth time in Okotoks on Friday, and his case was adjourned for another two weeks.

Maurice's lawyer, Tonii Roulston, said the defence can't move forward until she can review evidence gathered by the RCMP — documents the Crown has yet to provide.

Roulston wouldn't go so far as to call the delays unreasonable, but

did say frustrations are mounting and the family is feeling the emotional and financial toll of a lengthy court process.

"This family just wants to move on, that's it," she said outside the Okotoks courthouse. "They're not asking for the attention."

The Maurice family has found themselves at the centre of a debate around rural crime in Alberta, after gunfire rang out while intruders were trespassing on their land in February.

Police say the young father and property owner shot at two people "rummaging" through a vehicle on his rural property near Okotoks in the early morning hours of Feb. 24.

Maurice was charged with aggravated assault, pointing a firearm and careless use of a firearm.

Ryan Watson was shot in the arm in the incident and taken to hospital. Watson has been charged with trespassing at night, mischief to property, theft, drug and probation charges.

Stephanie Ann Martens of Okotoks was also arrested and faces charges of trespassing at night, theft and mischief.

Because Maurice could face more jail time than the accused trespassers, Roulston said she will be pushing for the charges to be dismissed.

"So we take these charges very seriously — so do we want them to be withdrawn or stayed? Yes, of course, we do," she said, adding her client's "mistake, I suppose, is calling 911 and expecting help in-

stead of getting arrested."

George Clark, who has been helping organize support for the family, says the Crown would be "crazy" to take the case to trial, saying he doesn't believe a jury would convict Maurice.

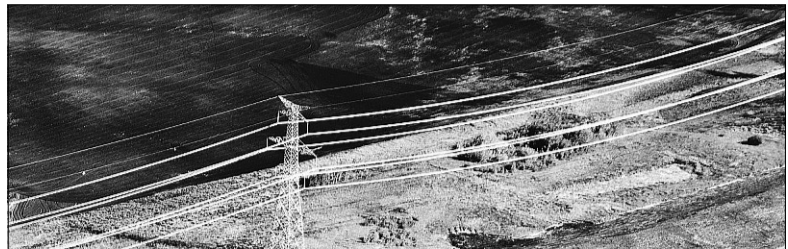
Maurice's wife, Jessica, said she was not home the night of the shooting, and Clark said Eddie was

"the last line of defence" between the trespassers and his two children.

With RCMP response times reaching more than 45 minutes in many rural areas, Roulston said she wants to avoid her client becoming a "test case" for the Crown. [RRumbolt@postmedia.com](mailto:RRumbolt@postmedia.com)  
Twitter: @RCRumbolt



Edouard Maurice and his wife, Jessica, speak to media outside the Okotoks Provincial Court Building. The local rancher is facing charges of aggravated assault, pointing a firearm and careless use of a firearm. AL CHAREST



City of Edmonton Regional Development

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# Build that wall, residents say

BY APRIL HUDSON  
Staff Writer

Terry Lynn LaFleur was on the phone with a friend one day when her friend stopped her and asked, "Terry Lynn, are you at a truck stop?"

LaFleur was not. In fact, she was standing in her Deer Ridge backyard, on a property that butts up against a city wall meant to reduce traffic noise from St. Albert Trail and create a visual barrier for residents whose homes bridge the gap between Villeneuve Road and Giroux Road.

Since development began heating up on the north end of town, LaFleur and her husband Graham have noticed an uptick in the level of noise from the Trail. "We've become kind of used to it," she said.

LaFleur takes the noise level with good humour, but is nevertheless looking forward to reconstruction of the wall running behind her property. Originally erected between 1983 and 1992, the wall is currently deteriorating and will be replaced this summer with a newer version.

The city has an information session planned for Wednesday to update residents on the project's progress.

"The wall needs to be built, so it will be built – we have no resistance to that, for sure," LaFleur said.

"We're looking forward to relief from the noise."

One cul-de-sac over from the LaFleurs, Deer Ridge resident Paul Middleton agrees his property can be a noisy place when sounds from St. Albert Trail spill over the wall.

He, too, is in favour of the rebuild – "If it's going to do (the job)," he said.

"I've seen what they plan to put in there, and it looks a lot better."

The city held an initial information session on the project in November. Since then, project manager Garry Dang-Vuu says the city has come very close to selecting a design, texture and colour for the wall.

The city has also lined up contractors TAL Stone Fence to manufacture the wall and Wilco Contractors Northwest Inc. as the prime contractor overseeing the wall's installation.

LaFleur, who attended the first information session in November, said she is happy with the designs she saw for the wall and found November's information session took a "conscientious" approach to the project.

On Wednesday, St. Albertans will receive an update on the project as well as a schedule for construction as city staff host a second information session.

Dang-Vuu said residents will be able to get an idea of what they should expect over the summer months.

"We actually encourage everyone to attend, whether they're from Deer Ridge or any neighbourhood," Dang-Vuu said.

A high-level overview of the construction schedule has the contractor mobilizing in mid-June. In early July, crews will begin demolishing the wall, followed by installing piles and finally rebuilding the wall itself.

The city is targeting the end of July for the complete rebuild, he said.

For residents who can't attend Wednesday's session, Dang-Vuu said the city will put up all the information on its website.

"We like to keep that up to date as much as possible," he said.

Wednesday's information session will take place in the Douglas Cardinal Boardroom at St. Albert Place from 6 to 8 p.m.

ahudson@stalbert.greatwest.ca



FILE PHOTO/St. Albert Gazette

**BARRIER WALL** – City of St. Albert employee and project manager for the Barrier Wall Study and Replacement Project, Garry Dang-Vuu, walks along the barrier wall on the St. Albert Trail between Giroux and Villeneuve roads late last year. The plan is to remove the failing barrier wall and replace it with a new one this summer.

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