

Mayor



PETER TRENT

District 1



PATRICK MARTIN

District 3



VICTOR DRURY

## Acclaimed: mayor, 2 councillors

### Other election news

- Philip Cutler, Claire Kruyt join Tim Price in District 2 race.
- Nicholas Smith moves to District 4 against Kathleen Duncan.
- Michael Osterland challenges Nicole Forbes in District 6.
- More candidate profiles: Young, Samiotis and Cutler, p. 8 and 9.

Nominations have closed, see full election summary, p. 11.

# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 3 No. 10a

We are Westmount

October 6-7, 2009

### INSIDE



Westmount Page p. 10

Civic Alert BY DON WEDGE p. 5

Bought and Sold p. 20

Parenting BY SOPHIE TAROWSKA p. 22

Social Notes BY VERONICA REDGRAVE p. 30

Underdog p. 32

*First council of 'the new city of Westmount' wraps up*

## Swansong meeting packed with business

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Council's mandate wound down October 1 with a last hurrah. The unusual Thursday night meeting became a mix of outstanding business items and tributes to Westmount's outgoing mayor, Karin Marks, and the three retiring councillors: George Bowser, Guy Charette and Tom Thompson.

But it took the city's retired director general to put into perspective the unique role the council had played in reconstituting the city after the "dark years" of merger with Montreal.

"This council should take great pride in being the first of the new city of Westmount," said Bruce St. Louis, speaking as one of many who took to the microphone at the start of the meeting.

He went on to say that most Westmounters had never witnessed their mayor at her best – leading 15 demerged

cities at meetings of the agglomeration council. "That is where you shone," he told Marks.

Council's own swansong included its adoption of the sustainable development plan (p. 3) – one of its priorities – and initial adoption of a parks master plan (p. 8). Both came so late in the game, they were submitted as "guidelines" for the new council.

Another parting "gift" included apparent labour peace with the announcement of a last-minute settlement of a new white-collar 7 ½-year labour contract approved under a strike threat and accepted in principle by the union.

And council also approved not one, but two long lists of building permits so that construction projects would not be held up over the election period and the new council's first meeting November 16.

Other business included certain financial statements and year-end forecasts re-

quired to be deposited by law at this time of year showing a potential surplus of some \$900,000 for 2009.

There was also the long ..... outstanding appointment *continued on p. 6* of Marianne Zalzal as director of Public Works, the city's largest department. She

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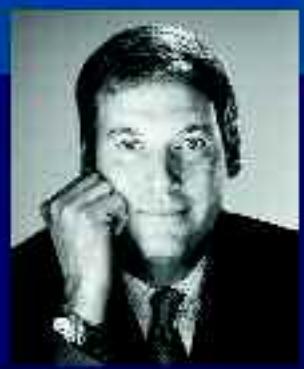
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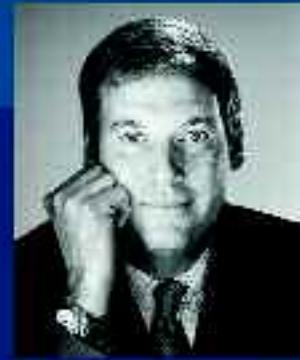


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224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 717, 718, 719, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 725, 726, 727, 727, 728, 729, 729, 730, 731, 731, 732, 732, 733, 733, 734, 734, 735, 735, 736, 736, 737, 737, 738, 738, 739, 739, 740, 740, 741, 741, 742, 742, 743, 743, 744, 744, 745, 745, 746, 746, 747, 747, 748, 748, 749, 749, 750, 750, 751, 751, 752, 752, 753, 753, 754, 754, 755, 755, 756, 756, 757, 757, 758, 758, 759, 759, 760, 760, 761, 761, 762, 762, 763, 763, 764, 764, 765, 765, 766, 766, 767, 767, 768, 768, 769, 769, 770, 770, 771, 771, 772, 772, 773, 773, 774, 774, 775, 775, 776, 776, 777, 777, 778, 778, 779, 779, 780, 780, 781, 781, 782, 782, 783, 783, 784, 784, 785, 785, 786, 786, 787, 787, 788, 788, 789, 789, 790, 790, 791, 791, 792, 792, 793, 793, 794, 794, 795, 795, 796, 796, 797, 797, 798, 798, 799, 799, 800, 800, 801, 801, 802, 802, 803, 803, 804, 804, 805, 805, 806, 806, 807, 807, 808, 808, 809, 809, 810, 810, 811, 811, 812, 812, 813, 813, 814, 814, 815, 815, 816, 816, 817, 817, 818, 818, 819, 819, 820, 820, 821, 821, 822, 822, 823, 823, 824, 824, 825, 825, 826, 826, 827, 827, 828, 828, 829, 829, 830, 830, 831, 831, 832, 832, 833, 833, 834, 834, 835, 835, 836, 836, 837, 837, 838, 838, 839, 839, 840, 840, 841, 841, 842, 842, 843, 843, 844, 844, 845, 845, 846, 846, 847, 847, 848, 848, 849, 849, 850, 850, 851, 851, 852, 852, 853, 853, 854, 854, 855, 855, 856, 856, 857, 857, 858, 858, 859, 859, 860, 860, 861, 861, 862, 862, 863, 863, 864, 864, 865, 865, 866, 866, 867, 867, 868, 868, 869, 869, 870, 870, 871, 871, 872, 872, 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973, 973, 974, 974, 975, 975, 976, 976, 977, 977, 978, 978, 979, 979, 980, 980, 981, 981, 982, 982, 983, 983, 984, 984, 985, 985, 986, 986, 987, 987, 988, 988, 989, 989, 990, 990, 991, 991, 992, 992, 993, 993, 994, 994, 995, 995, 996, 996, 997, 997, 998, 998, 999, 999, 1000, 1000, 1001, 1001, 1002, 1002, 1003, 1003, 1004, 1004, 1005, 1005, 1006, 1006, 1007, 1007, 1008, 1008, 1009, 1009, 1010, 1010, 1011, 1011, 1012, 1012, 1013, 1013, 1014, 1014, 1015, 1015, 1016, 1016, 1017, 1017, 1018, 1018, 1019, 1019, 1020, 1020, 1021, 1021, 1022, 1022, 1023, 1023, 1024, 1024, 1025, 1025, 1026, 1026, 1027, 1027, 1028, 1028, 1029, 1029, 1030, 1030, 1031, 1031, 1032, 1032, 1033, 1033, 1034, 1034, 1035, 1035, 1036, 1036, 1037, 1037, 1038, 1038, 1039, 1039, 1040, 1040, 1041, 1041, 1042, 1042, 1043, 1043, 1044, 1044, 1045, 1045, 1046, 1046, 1047, 1047, 1048, 1048, 1049, 1049, 1050, 1050, 1051, 1051, 1052, 1052, 1053, 1053, 1054, 1054, 1055, 1055, 1056, 1056, 1057, 1057, 1058, 1058, 1059, 1059, 1060, 1060, 1061, 1061, 1062, 1062, 1063, 1063, 1064, 1064, 1065, 1065, 106

## Council appoints 22-year veteran to key post

# Zalzal named Public Works chief

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

She's now official. After serving more than a year in an interim capacity, Marianne Zalzal was appointed as Westmount's director of Public Works and city engineer at the city council meeting October 1.

She has fulfilled many of the managerial responsibilities since the retirement in 2006 of Fred Caluori and his eventual replacement by Jacques Lahaie, who came from outside the city and stayed less than two years. Zalzal also heads the city's administrative traffic committee.

In introducing her at the council meeting, Marks said that while many residents had spoken with Zalzal by phone, they now had the opportunity to meet her in person.

"[She] works to solve problems with an open mind, a positive outlook and an eye to correct procedures at all times," Marks said in reading a message from absent councillor George Bowser, the Public Works commissioner.

Zalzal's knowledge of local traffic issues and various networks and operations will be invaluable, he stated.

A civil engineer, Zalzal graduated from Concordia in 1984. She was hired by Caluori in 1987 while she was working for a small contractor involved with the pulp and paper industry. "I was looking for a stable job I could build on," she told the *Independent*. "That's the type of person I am."

Within two years, she was appointed to senior engineer and built a career while raising two daughters.

Interestingly, she explains, she started out at university in business, but found herself among too many students. "I wanted to be in a profession where there were fewer people – and even fewer women so I could feel I was making a dif-

ference rather than being lost in a large number. I needed more of a challenge."

And that is exactly what Westmount's Public Works has provided. "It's a great place to work because you touch on every aspect, large and small, from garbage to road work, sewers, parks, public relations, traffic and a variety of other areas. It's never the same thing twice."

In her career, Zalzal has earned a reputation for attending to detail and responding to citizen concerns.



Marianne Zalzal thanks council.

Among future challenges facing her department, she says, is playing catch-up after the merger years with major street work and repairs as the budget and various infrastructure grants permit. "We're also paying attention to smaller things like the maintenance of parks, the painting of poles and replacement of railings – things that show pride of place. Small things do make a difference."

In terms of the city's focus on sustainability, she explains that at Public Works, "we've always been sustainable in that we're careful to make choices based on durability and that, in itself, is sustainable."

## Sustainability plan for 2010 submitted

# Residents' priorities added after public consultation

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city's action plan for sustainable development was modified to include several citizen priorities for 2010 before being submitted by the outgoing council at its meeting October 1.

The additions arose from a public meeting September 10 at which council's priorities had been short-listed for action next year from among some 200 suggestions in a comprehensive plan prepared by Joshua Wolfe, the city's sustainable development coordinator.

The additional citizen priorities included those dealing with alternative energy pilot projects, discouraging the use of diesel and gas-powered equipment, pilot projects for kitchen waste collection in apartment buildings, and providing ample bicycle parking.

"I'm very excited by this," said Mayor Karin Marks, pointing out that participation by residents had been increasing with every consultation meeting on sustainability. "It's not our plan, but your plan."

Councillor John de Castell, environment commissioner, presented a council resolution stating that the 2010 priority actions be implemented, subject to the availability of resources and that progress in implementing the entire plan be reviewed periodically and reported on publicly.

For a full list of the original priorities, see the *Independent*, September 1, p. 8.



**Brian Gans**  
Notary  
Title Attorney

briangans@briangans.com

4060 St. Catherine West  
Suite 620  
Westmount, QC H3Z 2Z3

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## Library triumphs



At the October 1 prize-giving ceremony at the library, from left: Wendy Wayling, Catherine Swift, Gayle White and Helen Jay – the library team, with Mayor Karin Marks.

The Westmount Public Library's lawn bowling team won the Mayor's Cup this year. The city's employees' intramural event was scheduled to take place over two days, but the second half of the tourna-

ment was cancelled. As a result, the tourney ended up being decided by September 17's prelims. As the only team to win both its games, the library foursome was declared the winner.

## Municipal election summary, p. 11

# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

*We are Westmount.*

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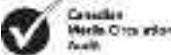
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## Editor's notes

# From Wilson to Wedge

It has been several decades since Westmount had a chief of *Westmount police*, but station 12 commander Michel Wilson is going to give local historians pause when they come to describe his role. He is not just a Montreal policeman stationed in Westmount.

Wilson's precinct extends from Westmount to Côte des Neiges and Guy, but he is often seen at municipal events and city council meetings. Wilson is a former commanding officer of Montreal's SWAT team. Many people with his experience and in his position would ignore the quieter part of their new territory and certainly its semi-ceremonial events.

Here's a concrete example of how Wilson doesn't.

Early on October 1, Wilson was heard to say that he wouldn't be attending city council that evening. He had a prior family obligation. Then he heard that it would be Mayor Karin Marks' final council. Was he in fact at council to extend his best

wishes in person? Yes.

By the way, do you know that the police chief sends the mayor an email describing every serious offence in Westmount? (Previous city administrations and local-station police chiefs have had similar arrangements.) Are crime and policing municipal responsibilities? No, but Marks feels that she should be aware of events in case residents mention it in conversation with her, "It is about a sense of security."

I am on record as a Don Wedge fan, but I am hardly unbiased. I thought former director general Bruce St. Louis gave Don a wonderful tribute in the midst of his October 1 remarks praising Mayor Marks. He pointed out that some of Marks' best work was at the agglom meetings, which were mostly "seen by no one in the room, except Don."

Don Wedge: working in the background, no last name required.

DP

## Agreement in principle reached with white collar union

BY KRISTIN MCNEILL

An agreement in principle was reached between the city and its white collar workers September 28 for a seven and a half year collective agreement, it was announced at the city council meeting October 1.

Council authorized the signing of the agreement, conditional on its acceptance by the union at its general assembly October 7. The city's global offer had been agreed to in principle by the union September 28 following more than two years of negotiations. It is retroactive to July 1, 2006.

According to the city's chief negotiator, Alan Kulaga, Human Resources director, several items have been ironed out, paving the way for the union to present the offer to its white-collar members at its general assembly meeting.

In terms of the details of the offer "At the request of the union, they have asked

us to keep this confidential until such time as they have had the chance to meet with [and present it to] the white collar employees."

This is Westmount's first post-merger agreement with the white collars, explained Kulaga. "... At the time the city of Westmount was re-born as a new municipality in January 2006, the demerger legislation and the provincial laws provided that for any contract that expired more than six months after that date, the expiry becomes June 30, 2006."

Detailed negotiations with Westmount's white collar workers have taken place over the last few weeks and "there were other, what I could call pretty intensive meetings, which took place in May and June 2009," Kulaga said.

The labour group includes administrative support staff, library workers and public safety officers. They belong to the island-wide CUPE local 429 of white-collar workers.

**Letters to the Editor on the arena, p. 24-25;  
on non-arena subjects, p. 26.**

## Civic Alert

# The Lulham Report: Other arenas cost less

By DON WEDGE



A survey by a Westmount councillor of arena-pool projects built in Canada showed our \$36-million renewal proposal is almost twice as costly as similar schemes elsewhere.

It "alarmed" its author, Councillor Cynthia Lulham, who has since voted against the local plan, and now intends to present her finished report to the new council.

While acknowledging the "wonderful" achievement of Mayor Karin Marks in obtaining \$20 million in government grants, she feels that Westmount should still attempt to reduce the cost. "What is making our project so expensive is the underground parking and all the pilings that have to be sunk in the soil base of the present site."

Lulham was convinced by her survey to question the existing plans, to join councillors Patrick Martin and Kathleen Duncan in voting against them and also to investigate Martin's Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG) proposals or other alternatives.

### **Reported to council**

At the August 4 council meeting, Lulham mentioned her research findings (*Independent* August 11, p. 15). She had sent a written report to Mayor Marks and the other council members on July 29.

She highlighted six arena examples, although her research covered more than 60 projects. In addition to the cost difference, those designs often include features that many Westmounters crave. For example, in several locations, seniors are specifically catered to.

For about \$20 million, LaSalle, a suburb of Windsor, Ontario, built the Volmer

complex, consisting of two NHL rinks, an indoor 2,000 sq. m. leisure pool, seniors' centre and an exercise room.

Not all are big-spending projects. The Meredith Sports Centre in Chelsea, Quebec, will cost less than \$10 million. It includes one NHL rink plus a double gym and a community centre.

Most of the projects are substantially funded by government grants. An exception is the \$34-million Lakeshore Lions complex in Etobicoke, Ontario, which is

used by Hockey Canada to train the national team. It opened on September 16, on schedule, 18 months after ground-breaking.

The importance of preparation was stressed by Terry Fink, director of Culture and Recreation for LaSalle. In a letter to Lulham, he recommended going to see facilities and "not be afraid to travel beyond your province to see the best."

LaSalle officials went to western provinces to collect information on "facil-

pride for locals," he claimed. "It has had a major economic impact."

Hockey, skating and seniors groups had been supportive throughout, but opposition to the cost surfaced, he reported. "We spent a lot of time consulting with user groups, and a strong council stuck with the vision." It replaced a "very tired facility built in 1967."

Now in its second year, the director admitted that the Volmer fitness centre should be larger, and more community meeting space and a gymnasium are needed. Also, the seniors' centre should have been on the main floor, rather than the second. The design envisaged that, ultimately, a 250-metre pool, a third rink and a gym would be added.

### **Fractured populace**

Lulham's survey strengthens the case for those who want to cut back on the cost and the \$18-million ceiling voted by council as Westmount's maximum. The new council may face a big dilemma in meeting the deadline necessary to qualify for the grant, while doing the due diligence and public consultations required to get close to community consensus on what is currently a very fractured populace.

"I don't want to endanger the grant, but I understand the concern of people who want a lot more studies – an engineering evaluation, the demographic forecast and traffic impacts. We must build for the next 50 years, not the next five."

*Citizen activist Don Wedge's email address is dwedge@sympatico.ca*

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## Six new arenas

Name	Location	Cost (M)	Facilities
Volmer Complex	Lasalle, Ont.	\$20	2 NHL rinks + indoor leisure pool, fitness centre, seniors' centre, concession area
Appleby Ice Centre	Burlington, Ont.	\$8.6	2 NHL rinks – originally budgeted at \$14.8 million.
McKinney Centre	Whitby, Ont.	\$12.5	2 NHL rinks + 1 boardless (figure skating) with sound room, youth activity room, playground, tennis courts, skate board park.
Paris Twin Pad	Paris, Ont.	\$22.5	2 NHL rinks, 12 dressing rooms.
Meredith Centre	Chelsea, QC	\$9.8	1 NHL rink + double gym, community centre.
Lakeshore Lions Arena	Etobicoke, Ont.	\$33.6	1 Olympic, 3 NHL rinks, 1,000 seats + restaurant, meeting rooms.

on a different scale. Comparable in cost to Westmount's latest design, it includes one Olympic and three NHL-size rinks, plus other facilities (including community meeting rooms).

### **NHL and schools**

However, the Lions service club has support from both the Toronto Maple Leafs, whose NHL and American Hockey League teams practise there, and the local schools authority.

Also, the Etobicoke Dolphins women's hockey team has found a permanent home there. The Olympic-size rink will be

ity development and energy technology," he said. "Please come and see the Volmer Complex."

In addition to the arena and associated facilities, the LaSalle complex stands on a 189-acre site that also has 26 soccer pitches. It is described as a place where "arts, culture and sports intersect along the concourse, in meeting areas and along the trails and park areas."

In April, Fink went to Lakeshore, another Windsor suburb envisaging replacing its aging arena, to discuss the lessons learned in LaSalle. "It is a strong attraction for new residents, as well as a source of

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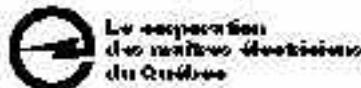
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# Busy final council

*continued from p. 1*

had been serving for more than a year as the interim head.

In addition, Ann Renaud was named as the mayor's executive assistant.

### **Marks feted for milestones**

During the tributes that preceded agenda items, former mayors May Cutler and Peter Trent (now mayor-elect) both spoke of Marks' achievements.

Trent singled out her "legacy" as bringing home the \$20-million infrastructure grant for the arena project. "I don't think anyone could have done that – and with my ego, that's hard to admit," he said laughing. Marks effusively credited the government grant to the "inside" efforts of Westmount's MNA Jacques Chagnon "and others."

Several ex-councillors who had served with Marks expressed their recollections and appreciation of her 18 years of service as a councillor and mayor.

"I've done it for one reason only," said Marks, in her own personal summary: "the Westmount community that I really do care for." She considered it "an honour

and a treat" to serve.

Other citizens, including Jean-Pierre Picard (the new president of the Westmount Municipal Association), and Barbara Moore and Jenny Patton of the Healthy City Project added their gratitude.

A surprise gift to Marks came from Victoria Leblanc of the Visual Arts Centre, who acts as curator of the Gallery at Victoria Hall. She presented Marks with a gift certificate for one of the centre's courses. She noted with humour that Marks should hurry up to get started in order to catch up with Councillor Thompson who is already plying his creative talents at the centre.

Local police commander Michel Wilson thanked all of council for his first experience with politicians in that role. He singled out their "sensitivity to citizens."

When Marks brought down the gavel for the last time after the two-hour meeting, residents who still remained in the council chamber were invited to celebrate the last session with a taste of wine and cheese. The talk inevitably turned to the upcoming elections.



*Mayor Karin Marks occupies the mayor's chair for the last meeting of the council. The chair was symbolically put into storage during the merger years.*



*Mayor Karin Marks receives a round of applause from councilors, from left: Kathleen Duncan, Nicole Forbes, Cynthia Lulham and John de Castell. (Patrick Martin and Tom Thompson, not shown.)*



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## Council adopts master plan

# Parks need \$2.2 million of work

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A year-long study of Westmount's parks and green spaces concludes they are in "satisfactory condition" but require improvements estimated at \$2,248,200.

The master plan prepared by landscape architects Marc Fauteux and Associates, was adopted by the outgoing city council at its meeting October 1 "as a guide for future administrations" when planning park changes.

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## District 2: Philip Cutler – athlete, political newcomer

# Familiar name, new ideas

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The plan was submitted for review by the next council, said Councillor Cynthia Lulham in presenting the motion.

While it would not be available publicly until tabled by the new council, an executive summary was available for scrutiny at the meeting.

Interestingly, one of the observations was that most of the parks had reached the saturation point "so that new facilities cannot be added without seriously harming the integrity of the parks and the character of their landscape."

It was not known what implications this might have on plans for arena renewal. But Mayor Karin Marks later told the *Independent* that what to do with the report's recommendations would be up to the new council. That was one reason its tabling had been left in their hands.

Tracing the historical evolution, landscaping and heritage value of the various green spaces, the \$60,000 study was undertaken to provide an overall framework for restoring and improving the park network.

The 250 pages are written in French but the executive summary was translated into English.

Observations highlight how "Westmount's parks have always contributed substantially to the sporting culture that characterizes the Westmount community." They also mention the continuing horticultural culture.

Improvements suggested include changes to correct "flaws in the design and organization of several parks that don't seem to be part of an overall integrated plan." A variety of styles and plants can sometimes make it difficult to identify "what we like to showcase."

Among the objectives is to promote sustainable landscaping best practices, including reduction of the impact from maintenance and fostering biodiversity.

Cutler: It's a name synonymous in Westmount with entering election races late in the game. But when Philip Cutler filed his nomination papers for District 2 a day before the deadline, it was with a passion and vigor reminiscent of Westmount's first woman mayor – his grandmother, May Cutler.

Philip, 20, a McGill student and avid athlete, knew he was forcing an election in the ward against Tim Price. But he appeared fired up by the challenge and potential for the responsibilities it could entail.

"My decision may come as a surprise to many people," he said. "But I love this community. I've lived in Westmount my entire life. I assume I will continue to be here for the rest of it. I've been thinking about running for council for a while, and I decided if I were going to do it, it would be because I was taking it seriously."

Was his grandmother an inspiration? "Absolutely," he said. "I don't remember her being mayor because I was born in October 1988 when she was in office, but she's always been an example for me as a politically-oriented person. I thought, 'Why couldn't I be like her?'

"She's very passionate about politics, and it entices you to get involved. I spoke to her today about my decision and she said: 'Great idea.' And that's good enough for me."

And while Philip Cutler shares the passion, he says he has new ideas he hopes to bring to the community and solutions for some of the concerns in District 2, where he lives on Westmount Ave.

One, he says, is the need for BIXI bicycle stands in Westmount, especially at Marianopolis to reduce parking and traffic congestion around the CEGEP. "There should be stands at Marianopolis like there are outside all the universities. They would be very beneficial and offer an alternative means of transportation for students and staff."

Living across the street from the college, he says, "I know there is no parking on Westmount Ave. because it's all taken up by students who don't have parking stickers. The regulations are enforced but there needs to be much more enforcement. It seems we should be trying to find other solutions."

Cutler also has insider insight into the

arena project. Having grown up playing soccer, football and hockey, he is now in his fourth year in Westmount's Senior A hockey league, which he would like to see expanded to inter-city play.

"As an athlete, I've been following the issue of the artificial turf in Westmount



Philip Cutler

Park and now the arena renewal project. I bring to the issue the point of view of residents who use the arena every day rather than those who have an opinion on it but are not active users."

He says that "what was built before was great for the time but is no longer sufficient. I've never heard a complaint about the quality of the ice. But the locker rooms are too small and the one full-size rink does not

provide enough ice time.

"I believe that a new arena could be a good source of revenue for the city."

Cutler, who attended Roslyn School and Selwyn House, went to John Abbott College in St. Anne de Bellevue because of its football and played on the CEGEP's team. He went on to study in the human environment program at Concordia University where he played on the Stingers football team. This fall, he switched into education at McGill.

Cutler's family has an interesting history in Westmount where his great grandfather, William Henry Ebbitt, began a police career before joining the Montreal force. Ebbitt's daughter May, book publisher and future mayor, moved to Westmount after marrying activist and labour lawyer Philip Cutler. They raised their four sons on The Boulevard, and it is in Westmount where May founded and ran the award-winning Tundra Books before selling the business.

Phil Cutler's father, Adam, is a semi-retired real estate developer. His mother, Marina, owns Avenue Art. And through their own businesses, he says, he has come to appreciate the needs of Westmount's commercial population.

As a university student, Cutler explains, he has the time to devote to being a councillor. "I've been playing on football and hockey teams while studying and have learned the value of time management. I was always good at that."

He also has a group of enthusiastic workers, he says, "who are just as passionate as I am. We've starting to go door-to-door." Cutler is acting as his own official agent.

**District 7: Mavis Young – researcher, co-founder of Save the Park!**

# Running on transparency

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Transparency and responsiveness are two key pillars of Mavis Young's election campaign in District 7, where Cynthia Lulham is seeking a fifth term.

Young, who was motivated by her fight against artificial turf for the playing fields in Westmount Park two years ago, says she wants to change what she calls a "cavalier attitude in which residents are consulted by council after basic decisions are made."

She also feels the city has paid only lip-service to complaints concerning district issues such as increased traffic, parking and the bike path.

"I want a seat on council because I want to change the way the council works," she explains. "It has to change because we all pay the price."

Young, who has forged a career as a medical researcher with the World Health Organization (WHO), the Jewish General Hospital and the MUHC, is a regulatory affairs project manager with Health Canada.

She holds a master's degree in immunology and an MBA in finance. She lives on Melville Ave., where she raised three young children after the loss of her husband.

Young says she has "a vested interest" in protecting Westmount Park from further encroachment. It's where she used to coach soccer for her daughter, "and we were a winning team," she adds proudly.

As a co-founder of Save the Park!, it was the plastic grass issue that brought her to this point. "That's when my idea of possibly running for council began germinating. It had a positive outcome in bringing people together in the neighbourhood. We need consultation before decisions are taken rather than the other way around."

Tracing her own penchant for "free-thinking" to her Scottish genes, she's calling for a council environment in which councillors "are not afraid to voice an opinion in public," she says. "Speaking with one voice has a cost to it."

Young also advocates fiscal responsibility by preventing the hiring of expensive consultants until residents are heard. She also wants public access to in-camera votes, and evidence-based decision making. "I want to read a spreadsheet to see why there is not enough space at the cur-



Mavis Young

rent arena."

Her position on the arena project, she says, is to "consider refurbishing the space we have because the present site is limited in scope." She's not against looking at the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG) and

says that regardless of conditions attached to the infrastructure grant, "we've all been around long enough to know these things can be negotiated."

Swimming and tennis are important activities to Westmounters, she says, and she believes they should be given greater priority.

"There's never been a proper needs assessment. How many people would use an indoor pool? This is

the kind of planning the municipality should be doing."

Young was born in the Scottish town of Arbroath, near Carnoustie and St. Andrew's – both of golfing fame. She spent early schooling in various parts of England as her engineer father took on various projects.

The family settled in Montreal where Young graduated from Trafalgar School and, in turn, sent her own daughter.

She taught lab and immunology techniques with the WHO in Lausanne and Sao Paulo before obtaining her master's degree at the University of Montreal in 1973.

She then pursued arthritis research at the Lady Davis Research Institute of the Jewish General, where she worked while raising her children.

Elected to the JGH board of directors as a representative of all staff excluding doctors and nurses, "that was the most wonderful training I could have had," she says. "The directors were all people who ran very efficient, calm meetings where everyone had their say, made decisions and moved on."

In 1997, Young worked in HIV clinical trials at the Montreal Chest Hospital – "a very dynamic, positive atmosphere driven by a team approach."

Eight years later, she moved into regulatory affairs at Health Canada in the area of blood supply and control.

While Young's office is in Ottawa, she conducts much of her work from home and "I can adjust my work week to meet commitments here."

Her official agent is Patrick Barnard.

**District 8: Theodora Samiotis – communicator, volunteer**

# Presenting a new voice

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

She's presenting herself as a new voice on city council for District 8, where John de Castell is seeking a fourth mandate.

But the world of politics is nothing new to communications professional Theodora Samiotis, an eight-year resident of Westmount. Her 18-year career includes work on Parliament Hill, a Quebec referendum and three federal campaigns.

"With the experience of corporate models, an understanding of public policy and civic engagement, I'm ready to hit the ground running," she says.

A varied background in communications enables her to appreciate the need for transparency on council, she explains. "We need to be more communicative and provide greater engagement at the front end of the process. The stakeholders need to be informed."

As well, she adds, "I bring values of integrity and inclusiveness and a different perspective as the mother of a young child. I feel I represent families who choose to live here. I also have older parents, and am cognizant of the challenges facing people as they live longer."

Among the most compelling issues of District 8, Samiotis identifies noise reduction, trains, health and safety and protection of heritage and parks, including the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG). With regard to the arena project and the possible consideration of the WAG as a site, she says: "For me, what we have in the WAG is a wonderful green space in an otherwise dense area, and it is important for us to preserve it."

A resident of Dorchester Blvd. at Bruce Ave., Samiotis and her husband – Bombardier executive Michael McAdoo – chose to move to Westmount eight years ago when they acquired their category 1 heritage home built in 1895. They spent five years restoring the house for which they won a Montreal heritage award in 2006.

Samiotis is planning to teach a communications course at Concordia's School of Community and Public Affairs in January. This is where, as a student, her passion for civic engagement was born.

Latterly, as a board member of the Shield of Athena, she has devoted a large amount of volunteer time to the organization that is dedicated to helping victims of domestic violence. "We have just launched a major campaign on sexual assault in 15

languages that is geared to women of various cultural backgrounds."

Of Greek origin herself, Samiotis was raised in Park Extension and St. Laurent. She attended Vanier College before graduating from Concordia in 1990 with an arts degree in communications.

This launched her into starter jobs with the Jazz Festival and the Hellenic Congress of Quebec until she landed her first career position with Communications MECA. She worked successively on federal campaigns for former federal Montreal-area MP Eleni Bakopanos.

In Ottawa, she worked as a legislative assistant on the Hill from 1994 to 1998 during the referendum, "when every vote counted," she recalls. "This strengthened my belief in civic engagement."

One incident at that time stood out, she says. "A whole group of Westmounters came over to our Yes riding in the East End to take the No message door-to-door. That was my first interaction with Westmount volunteers."

Starting in 1998, Samiotis worked as Quebec regional assistant to then Defence minister Art Eggleton. In 2000 came an opportunity for her to experience the corporate world as director of communications and public affairs for Wyeth pharmaceuticals in Toronto and Montreal.

Two years ago, Samiotis spent 16 months in Mexico while her husband was working in Queretaro, a UNESCO heritage site north of Mexico City.

Her official agent is Karl Moore, a resident of Greene Ave.

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##### Action de grâce

Veuillez noter que tous les bureaux administratifs de la Ville de Westmount seront fermés le lundi 12 octobre en raison de la fête de l'Action de grâce. De plus, la bibliothèque publique de Westmount sera fermée les dimanches 11 octobre et lundi 12 septembre. Veuillez noter qu'il n'y a aucun changement quant à la collecte des matières alimentaires et du jardrage qui s'effectue selon l'horaire normal.



### TRAVAUX PUBLICS

#### Reconstruction de la conduite d'eau principale - rue Ste-Catherine

Les travaux de remplacement de la conduite d'eau principale entrepris par la Ville de Montréal se poursuivent jusqu'en début de mois de décembre. Un texte présentant les étapes du projet, les impacts pour la circulation et le stationnement, l'assainissement d'un cours d'eau voisin d'eau, et le remplacement des services d'eau est disponible à [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org). Info : 514 873-3777.

### Collecte des résidus domestiques dangereux

Le vendredi 17 octobre, déposez vos vieux produits de nettoyage de sols, de peinture et de solvant, de vos piles usagées, de vos particules et autres substances dangereuses au dépôt dans la stationnement de la Bibliothèque de Westmount entre 9 h et 17 h. Une collecte de vêtements et d'équipements électroménagers usagés sera également tenue. Info : 514 989-5200.



### BIBLIOTHÈQUE

#### Grande fête de l'Halloween

Décorez votre citrouille à la maison (sans décapage) et venez plaisir et apprendre à la Bibliothèque entre le 2 et le 30 octobre. Ensuite, déguisez-vous et prenez part à la 12<sup>e</sup> édition de la grande fête de l'Halloween le vendredi 30 octobre à 19 h où nous dévoilons les citrouilles gagnantes. Vous pourrez aussi participer à la danse aux potirons. Info : 514 989-3329.

### Conférences d'automne

Invitez-vous à une pour une visite au musée de l'Artiste Bill Devine le mardi 13 octobre à 19 h. M. Devine lire des poèmes de ses œuvres lors

### DATES À RETENIR

#### Le 9 octobre - 14 h

Club d'habitat et de mobilier  
Bibliothèque

#### Le 13 octobre - 10 h 15

Club de lecture *Friends & Readers*  
Bibliothèque

#### Le 14 octobre - 18 h 30

Club de lectures francophones  
Bibliothèque

#### Le 15 octobre - 19 h

Association historique de Westmount  
La famille James K. Ward et leur album photographique  
Conférencier : Gary Atkins et Denis Longchamps  
Bibliothèque

#### Les 18 et 19 octobre

Marché international du livre du Québec  
Le 18 oct. (14 h) - Moving Tales: African Shape-Shifting Stories avec Jan Blasz (8 ans et plus)  
Le 19 oct. (17 h) - Moving that Frog: Disability Myth avec Alan Shatz/Kim Kilpatrick (14 ans et plus)  
Bibliothèque

Montreal 24 : Sixty-four Hours in the Life of a City.  
Info : 514 989-5585.

#### Petit-déjeuner - Guess the Giver

Nous vous invitons à un petit-déjeuner spécial le vendredi 17 octobre à 10 h 30 ; venez poser vos questions à Shelley Powness et le personnel de la Bibliothèque afin de dévoiler des noms de auteurs canadiens préférés pour le prix Giller, le prix Scotiabank le plus prestigieux au Canada. Info : 514 989-5590.

#### Semaine des bibliothèques publiques

De 17 au 24 octobre, participez à des événements et des concours, et découvrez les nombreuses manières que la Bibliothèque a à vous offrir. Pour de plus amples renseignements, prenez-vous notre brochure.

### SPORTS ET LOISIRS

#### Patinage à l'aréna

Veuillez noter que les patinoires de l'Aréna sont en opération pour la saison 2009-10. Il existe plusieurs patinoires libres sur dispo sur la ligne. Une carte d'accès - inscription sportive est requise. Le port du masque est obligatoire et fortement recommandé.



### CITY HALL

#### Holiday Hours and Services

##### Thanksgiving

Veuillez noter que tous les bureaux administratifs de la Ville de Westmount seront fermés le lundi 12 octobre en raison de la fête de l'Action de grâce. De plus, la bibliothèque publique de Westmount sera fermée les dimanches 11 octobre et lundi 12 septembre. Veuillez noter qu'il n'y a aucun changement quant à la collecte des matières alimentaires et du jardrage qui s'effectue selon l'horaire normal.



### PUBLIC WORKS

#### Water Main Reconstruction on St. Catherine Street

The City of Montreal has begun a major reconstruction of the principal water main under St. Catherine Street between Greene and Clark Streets. This work will continue until early December. Information outlining the project phases, the impact on traffic and parking, the installation of a temporary water main, and the replacement of the water mainline is available at [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org). Info : 514 873-3777.

#### Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Mark your calendar – Saturday, October 17 is Household Hazardous Waste Collection day in Westmount. Safely dispose of your leftover paint, solvents, used batteries, particulates, etc. in the parking lot of Westmount Library between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Used clothing and used electronics will be collected the same day. Info : 514 989-5590.



### LIBRARY

#### Halloween Pumpkin Gala

Decorate a pumpkin at home (no carving please) and bring it to the Library between October 2 and October 31. Then, dress up in your Halloween costume and join in the fun as we reveal the award-winning pumpkins and go on a spookily scavenger hunt at our 12<sup>e</sup> annual family Halloween Extravaganza on Saturday, October 31 at 7 p.m. Info : 514 989-5590.

#### Author Lecture Series

Join author Bill Devine on Wednesday, October 14 at 7 p.m. to hear from his new book, Montreal 24: Sixty-four Hours in the Life of a City. Info : 514 989-5585.

### Vol. 5/19

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### DATEBOOK

#### October 9 - 3 p.m.

Chess and Scrabble Club  
Library

#### October 13 - 10:15 a.m.

Review to Readers Book Club  
Library

#### October 14 - 8:30 p.m.

Book Club  
Library

#### October 15 - 7 p.m.

Westmount Historical Association  
The James K. Ward Family and Photographic Album  
Speakers: Gary Atkins and Denis Longchamps  
Library

#### October 16 and 19

Quebec International Poetry Writing Festival  
Oct. 18 (2 p.m.) - Moving Tales: African Shape-Shifting Stories with Jan Blasz (Ages 6-11)  
Oct. 19 (7 p.m.) - Moving that Frog: Disability Myth with Alan Shatz and Kim Kilpatrick (Ages 14+)  
Library

#### Who will win the Giller Prize? special breakfast

Join us for a special breakfast on Saturday, October 17 at 10:30 a.m. with Shelley Powness and the Library staff to discuss the five Canadian novels shortlisted for Canada's largest literary prize!

#### Public Library Week

Come and see what we're all about during Public Library Week (October 17-24) and discover the many resources the Library has to offer. Pick up the brochure for more details on our special events and contests!



### SPORTS & RECREATION

#### Skating at the Aréna

Skates take note! The rinks at the Westmount Aréna are now open to the public for the 2009-10 season. The complete general skating schedule is available on our Web site. A valid Facility Membership Card is required, and helmets are strongly recommended.

## *At Second Glance*

# The arena-pool design: a question of sustainability

BY HEATHER BLACK



On October 1, city council adopted a "Sustainable Development Action Plan". The question is: Does the new arena-pool design reflect these recommendations?

### **Green technologies**

In the document's "Nature and Biodiversity" section, council plans to "look into installing beehives and/or vegetation on the roofs of public buildings" (point B). But the new design's roofs are a rust-brown metal. Although Lemay architects Robert Hamilton and Michel Lauzon suggest greenery on the flat areas, the result would be an odd, two-tone roof.

A flat-roof design with vegetation could be combined with the lighter wall and window treatment of the new design. The irregular shape windows – conceived by the architects to reflect branched forest trees – work if cedar or birch are planted to reinforce the visual association.

Another alternative would be to replace the top-heavy roof with a lighter-looking design and solar tiles – also suggested in the report ("Energy," point C). That solution would reflect the Olmsted park philosophy.

And it would also complement the existing buildings and Westmount Park Church in particular. Unfortunately, the architect's white 3-D projections, illustrating the neighbourhood, did not indicate the mix of colours and materials.

### **Pedestrian-safe park**

In the plan's section "Public Health", council intends to "make sure streets and parks are safe for pedestrians" (point B). However the layout has two arenas separated by a narrow walk/stairway to Lansdowne Ave. And on Academy Rd., the tennis courts are replaced by a pool building.

At the September unveiling, residents noted that safety is compromised as both areas are hidden from the neighbouring residents' view. As many already avoid this corner – and teenage taunts – those concerns are justified.

A compromise, T-shape solution of two rinks in one building was proposed by residents Peter Weldon and John Fretz. This design reflects an earlier Lemay solution that left the tennis courts intact and is

safer for residents, bike riders and park/arena users.

### **Citizen health**

Also explained in the plan's "Public Health" section, the city intends to: "work with responsible agencies to install a sound barrier along the expressway and rail line" (point E). If – as Councillor Patrick Martin suggests – the arena is built on the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG), the facility could serve as a sound barrier, according to Councillor Cynthia Lulham.

And if constructed elsewhere at a reduced cost, the arena could be greener or larger. Fredericton is now constructing an Olympic- and NHL-size facility for \$20.6 million.

The existing facility could then be refurbished as an exercise-pool area as requested by some seniors. In the document, council plans to "evaluate long-term recreation and health-promotion needs in light of demographic trends" (point A).

### **Need for review**

After Mayor Karin Marks' impressive feat of securing \$20 million in government funds – Fredericton was initially promised \$2 million – it would be unthinkable to block the project. Yet the new design does not reflect the environmental recommendations.

The priority for the next council is to increase the environmental friendliness of the building. Another is to establish an advisory committee of local architects to shepherd the project to a "wow" conclusion. Westmount citizens – and perhaps council – demand no less.

*Heather Black is a Westmount communications designer. Contact her at blackheajea@gmail.com.*

## **Electronic Independents available**

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Sign up by writing us:  
indie@westmountindependent.com.

# Nomination results announced October 1

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

**District 2:** Philip Cutler, Claire Mullins Kruyt and Timothy Price.

**District 4:** Kathleen Warner Duncan (incumbent) and Nicholas Smith.

**District 5:** Georges Hébert, Gary Ikeman, Douglas Leahey and René Pelletier.

**District 6:** Nicole Forbes (incumbent) and Michael Osterland.

**District 7:** Cynthia Lulham (incumbent) and Mavis Young.

**District 8:** John de Castell (incumbent) and Theodora Samiotis.



*City clerk Mario Gerbeau, returning officer, reads nomination results.*

## **From the archives, in the pipeline**

The following is a list of profiles done or planned by the *Independent* of sitting councillors and challengers. They can all

District	Candidate	Status	Profile
Mayor	Peter Trent	Acclaimed	August 11, p. 1 (news story)
1	Patrick Martin	Acclaimed	March 17, p. 14
2	Tim Price	Challenger	September 15, p. 6
	Philip Cutler	Challenger	This issue, p. 8
	Claire Mullins Kruyt	Challenger	Planned
3	Victor Drury	Acclaimed	September 15, p. 6
4	Kathleen Duncan	Incumbent	March 31, p. 18
	Nicholas Smith	Challenger	September 29, p. 6
5	Gary Ikeman	Challenger	September 1, p. 1
	Georges Hébert	Challenger	September 15, p. 7
	Douglas Leahey	Challenger	September 15, p. 7
	René Pelletier	Challenger	September 26, p. 6
6	Nicole Forbes	Incumbent	October 14, 2008, p. 18
	Michael Osterland	Challenger	Planned
7	Cynthia Lulham	Incumbent	February 16, p. 14
	Mavis Young	Challenger	This issue, p. 9
8	John de Castell	Incumbent	Declined by subject
	Theodora Samiotis	Challenger	This issue, p. 9

Retiring council members are Karin Marks (mayor), Tom Thompson (District 2), Guy Charette (District 3) and George Bowser (District 5).

## Living Sustainably

# Cycling safely, Part 1

BY EVE ASPINALL,  
MEMBER OF THE HEALTHY CITY PROJECT

One of the goals for Westmount's sustainable development is the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Cycling produces none, provides good exercise and promotes a healthy life style. However cycling can be dangerous, even deadly.

The headline of an editorial in a recent newspaper screamed "People are going to die" and focused on scofflaw cyclists, the tragedies they have caused and the recommended closure of bike paths in downtown Montreal. It did not take into account the numerous responsible cyclists who do not cause accidents but nevertheless risk becoming victims.

In Europe and Asia, where cycling has been a principal mode of transportation for generations, cycling is much safer for many reasons – rules of the road are understood and observed by cars, cyclists and pedestrians. For the last century in North America the automobile has been the king of the road. Cars have been promoted for their power, speed and image of superiority. Pedestrians beware!

The emergence of a large cohort of bicycles sharing the road has created enormous problems. The car culture has to adapt to this change. Pedestrians, already wary of cars must now watch out also for cyclists, and in turn, the cyclists must watch out for cars and pedestrians.

People resist change, particularly entrenched habits and feelings of entitlement, but change is imperative. It will not be easy and will take time. Right now, a war is raging, with drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians blaming one another. What is totally lacking is respect for the rights of others, common courtesy and patience.

## Busy place doesn't faze ducks

Three ducks were out for a stroll on October 4 where the bike path passes near the northeast corner of Westmount Park's junior tennis courts. The area is an epicentre of several Westmount controversies: the busy bike path crosses a pedestrian path at that point, the city's fenced-in soccer fields are located to the southeast – and the rejuvenated pool is now proposed to replace the courts. The ducks had no comment on any of these matters.



## Opinion

# Change attitudes, curb cyclists' speed with gates

BY STAN GROSSMAN

I am a cyclist, automobile driver and pedestrian. Conflicts and confrontations arise between these groups for several reasons.

Self-centrism, absence of civility, ignorance generally and of regulations, impatience and anti-social misbehaviour lead to mishaps and conflicts.

Regardless of who possesses the right-of-way, motorists must give way to cyclists and pedestrians, who should be wary of the bigger autos. Cyclists should give way to pedestrians.

Attitudes of drivers and walkers are often skewed. Most cyclists are decent, courteous and law-abiding.

Our politicos and public employees are not blameless because they enact rules and provide services that lack logical judgement. In Dickens' *Oliver Twist*, Mr. Bumble proclaims that the law is an ass. In Montreal:

- Bicycles are regulated in similar manner to autos;
- Technically, cyclists must come to a total stop at stop signs (ridiculous!);
- Along the de Maisonneuve bike path in Westmount and at many corners, the traffic light system provides nothing for bike safety.

Insofar as pedestrians are concerned, they should stay on walking paths through Westmount Park.

Most of all, many cyclists must change their attitudes. They must stay on the bike paths and roads; they must slow down at

stop signs and stop at red lights.

Bike paths should not be speedways; potential harm can befall wheelchair users and small children by errant bikers. How much time can be saved going to a destination if prudence is not employed? Very little.

On many occasions I have advocated at city council meetings to have slow-down gates or roundabouts installed in Westmount Park. There are children and other strollers who wander about, especially in summer. So far, all that has been accomplished is the erecting of posts, stop and info signs at two crossings.

Many cyclists still race through at full speed. Why are our elected officials and city employees so unwilling to implement the only solution to slow down the violators who forever disregard signs and traffic lights?

One proposed solution for park safety is to close the de Maisonneuve path through the park by circumvention. How illogical. This would just take away road width space from Melville Ave., St. Catherine St. and other routes.

Bicycling is here to stay and is growing in popularity. It benefits personal health and the environment. There is much room for social accommodation for all: auto drivers, cyclists, walkers and wheelchair users.

*Stan Grossman is a de Maisonneuve Blvd. resident.*

## October at the Art Galleries

**Galerie de Bellefeuille** – Jim Dine: Exhibit continues to Oct. 7. James Lahey, vernissage: Oct. 8 at 5:30 pm. Exhibit continues to Oct. 19. 1367 Greene Ave., 514.933.4406.

**Galerie D'Este** – Women artists: Exhibit continues to Oct. 11. Ángel Mateo Charrys, vernissage: Oct. 31 at 2 pm. Exhibit continues to Nov. 29. 1329 Greene Ave., 514.846.1515.

**Galerie V. Trimont** – Rita Briansky: Exhibit continues to Oct. 18. 4259 St. Catherine St., 514.658.7214.

**Gallery at Victoria Hall** – Laura Santini: Exhibit from Oct. 15 to Nov. 7. 4626 Sher-

brooke St., 514.989.5226.

**Han Art** – Alice Burton: Exhibit continues to Oct. 17. 4209 St. Catherine St., 514.876.9278.

**McClure Gallery - Visual Arts Centre** – Lise-Hélène Larin, vernissage: Oct. 8 at 6 pm. Exhibit continues to Oct. 31. 350 Victoria Ave., 514.488.9558.

**Parisian Laundry** – BCL: Exhibit continues to Nov. 21. 3550 St. Antoine, 514.989.1056.

**West End Gallery** – Upcoming exhibit: Jewish painters 1935-1980. 1358 Greene Ave., 514.933.4314.



Ville de Westmount

City of Westmount

## AVIS PUBLIC DE LA RÉVISION DE LA LISTE ÉLECTORALE MUNICIPALE

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné aux électeurs de la ville de Westmount :

- 1<sup>re</sup> que la liste électorale de la ville a été déposée au bureau de la ville le 30 septembre 2009;
- 2<sup>me</sup> qu'elle fera maintenant l'objet d'une révision;
- 3<sup>me</sup> que les conditions requises pour être électeur et avoir le droit d'être inscrit sur la liste électorale de la ville sont les suivantes :

- Être un personne physique;
- Être majeur le 1<sup>er</sup> novembre 2009;
- Être de citoyenneté canadienne le 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2009;
- ne pas être en curatelle le 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2009;
- ne pas avoir été déclaré coupable, en date du 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2009, d'une infraction constituant une manœuvre électorale frauduleuse au cours des cinq dernières années;

et être :

- soit domicilié sur le territoire de la ville de Westmount le 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2009 et au Québec depuis au moins le 1<sup>er</sup> mars 2009;
- soit propriétaire unique d'un immeuble situé sur le territoire de la ville depuis au moins le 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2008, à la condition de ne pas avoir déjà le droit d'être inscrit sur la liste électorale à titre de personne domiciliée ou de propriétaire unique d'un immeuble et d'avoir transmis au soussigné une demande d'inscription sur la liste électorale;
- soit occupant unique d'un établissement d'entreprise situé sur le territoire de la ville depuis au moins le 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2008, à la condition de ne pas avoir déjà le droit d'être inscrit sur la liste électorale à titre de personne domiciliée, de propriétaire unique d'un immeuble ou d'occupant unique d'un établissement d'entreprise et d'avoir été désigné au moyen d'une procuration signée par la majorité des copropriétaires qui sont des électeurs le 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2009 qui doit être transmise au soussigné;
- soit cooccupant d'un établissement d'entreprise situé sur le territoire de la ville depuis au moins le 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2008, à la condition de ne pas avoir déjà le droit d'être inscrit sur la liste électorale à titre de personne domiciliée, de propriétaire unique d'un immeuble ou d'occupant unique d'un établissement d'entreprise et d'avoir été désigné au moyen d'une procuration signée par la majorité des cooccupants qui sont des électeurs le 1<sup>er</sup> septembre 2009 qui doit être transmise au soussigné;

- 4<sup>me</sup> que dans le cas d'une demande d'inscription concernant une personne domiciliée sur le territoire de la ville, le demandeur doit indiquer l'adresse précédente du domicile de la personne dont l'inscription est demandée et doit présenter deux documents indiquant mentionne le nom et la date de naissance et l'autre, le nom et l'adresse du domicile de la personne dont l'inscription est demandée;

- 5<sup>me</sup> que la liste électorale peut être consultée et les demandes d'inscription (électeurs domiciliés uniquement), la radiation ou la correction doivent être présentées devant la commission de révision à l'Hôtel de ville de Westmount situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest aux dates et heures suivantes :

- du 14 au 16 octobre de 13 h à 22 h;
- les 17 et 18 octobre de 10 h à 17 h 30.

DONNÉ à Westmount, le 1<sup>er</sup> octobre 2009.

Mario GERBEAU  
Président d'élections

## PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE REVISION OF THE MUNICIPAL LIST OF ELECTORS

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the electors of the City of Westmount:

1. That the list of electors of the city was filed at the office of the city on September 30, 2009;
2. That it will now be revised;
3. That the requirements to be an elector and to be entitled to be entered on the list of electors of the city are as follows:
  - to be a natural person;
  - to be of full age on November 1, 2009;
  - to be a Canadian citizen on September 1, 2009;
  - not to be under curatorship on September 1, 2009;
  - on September 1, 2009, not having been convicted in the last five years of an offence that is a corrupt electoral practice;
 and to be :
  - either domiciled in the territory of the city on September 1, 2009 and since at least March 1, 2009 in Quebec;
  - either the sole owner of an immovable in the territory of the city since at least September 1, 2008, provided he or she is not already entitled to be entered on the list of electors in his or her capacity as a domiciled person, and that an application for entry on the list of electors has been submitted to the undersigned;
  - either the sole occupant of a business establishment in the territory of the city since at least September 1, 2008, provided he or she is not already entitled to be entered on the list of electors in his or her capacity as a domiciled person or as the sole owner of an immovable, and that an application for entry on the list of electors has been submitted to the undersigned;
  - Note : The sole owner of several immovables or the sole occupant of several business establishments must register at the address of the immovable or the business establishment having the greatest property or rental value.
  - either an undivided co-owner of an immovable in the territory of the city since at least September 1, 2008, provided he or she is not already entitled to be entered on the list of electors in his or her capacity as a domiciled person, as the sole owner of an immovable, as the sole occupant of a business establishment, he or she is designated by means of a power of attorney signed by the majority of co-owners who are electors of the city on September 1, 2009, and that the power of attorney has been sent to the undersigned;
  - either an undivided co-occupant of a business establishment in the territory of the city since at least September 1, 2008, provided he or she is not already entitled to be entered on the list of electors in his or her capacity as a domiciled person, as the sole owner of an immovable, as the sole occupant of a business establishment, as an undivided co-owner of an immovable, he or she is designated by means of a power of attorney signed by the majority of the co-occupants who are electors of the city on September 1, 2009, and that the power of attorney has been sent to the undersigned;
4. That in the case of an application concerning a person domiciled in the territory of the city, the applicant must indicate the former address of the domicile of the person whose entry is requested and must present two documents, one of which indicates the name and date of birth, and the other the name and address of the domicile of the person whose entry is requested;
5. That the list of electors may be consulted and the applications for entry (domiciled electors only), striking off, and correction must be submitted to the board of revisors at Westmount City Hall located at 4333 Sherbrooke St. West at the following dates and hours:
  - from October 14 to 16, 2009 from 1:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.;
  - on October 17 and 18, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

ISSUED in Westmount, on October 1, 2009.

Mario GERBEAU  
Returning Officer

**Patricia Forbes**

# Curling club appoints first woman president

BY KRISTIN MCNEILL

The oldest active athletic club in North America, the Royal Montreal Curling Club, starts its season under a new tradition. For the first time in the club's 202 years, it has a woman president. Meet Patricia Forbes of Westmount.

Forbes, a pediatrician at the Montreal Children's Hospital, accepted a leadership role at the curling club last year, when she began a three-year stint, starting out as vice president. Her current role as president, which lasts for one year, started this May and is in full swing with the start of



*Out-going president of Royal Mount Royal Curling Club (RMCC) Louis Gascon presents the RMCC President Pin to the first woman to hold that office in the club's history, Patricia Forbes.*

Photo: RMCC

the curling season. In the third year, she will act as past president, as is custom.

"I think it's a bit special," Forbes said. "I don't feel that I've had a barrier to overcome. In my professional life, I have always been accepted, and my competence has been the thing that has put me in positions." In terms of the curling club, she said "I don't think they looked specifically at a woman, but who they thought might do a good job. My name happened to be up there, and I happened to be a woman, so the time was right."

In 1997, Forbes became a member of the club and started curling. It was also the year that the club's board decided to invite women to join the men's league – which has ice time in the evening – and also opened up the option of participating in other competitive events. Forbes and Westmounter Joan McCrimmon were the first two women to curl with the men in the evening.

Busy at her day job, Forbes said she wanted to be able to play in the evenings, and as she had never curled before, she practised hard.

Forbes, who has lived in Westmount since 1965,curls twice a week in the evenings and weekends. She walks everywhere. How does she make the time for everything? "I have given up skiing," she replied.

A ladies branch, a separate organization with its own board, continues to exist today, with ice time available during the day. The club is also a haven for social activities such as bridge, Wednesday lunches with speakers and social evenings.

**Two 'girls' join evening league**

Joining the club in 1994, Colin Spencer is one of the oldest active members of the club at age 88. Of Forbes, Spencer said "She is a delightful person. Ten years ago, there were two girls who wanted to join the club. As the times changed, there were

## ON THE SHELVES

Among the new arrivals at the Westmount Public Library:

**Adults – Body parts...**

*Bits of Me are Falling Apart: Dark Thoughts from the Middle Years* by William Leith – A hilarious and moving memoir of Leith's mid-life meltdown and the ensuing investigation into the aging process.

*Carrying the Hear: Exploring the Worlds Within Us* by F. González-Crussi – For fans of medical discoveries and curiosities, González – Crussi blends interesting stories about misconceptions about the body throughout history with his own views.

**Adult French – Best-selling novels, in translation**

*Le cercle littéraire des amateurs d'épluchures de patates* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows – Set in 1946, and presented as an exchange of letters between a London-based writer and residents of the Island of Guernsey who send war stories, this book is about daily life during the German occupation. There is a host of quirky characters and many references to literature in this novel.

*Le jeu de l'ange* by Carlos Ruiz Zafon – The much anticipated follow up to *L'ombre du vent* is having a huge success in Spain. Like Zafon's previous novel, this one is set in Barcelona; it features an unsuccessful writer who is offered a great deal of money by a mysterious editor and is soon engulfed in a murderous intrigue.

**DVDs**

*Cassandra's Dream* – When gambling debts and an expensive courtship place working-class brothers in a financial bind, a rich uncle offers to help them out in exchange for committing murder.

*Waltz with Bashir* – Over 20 years ago, Ari served in the chaotic war in Lebanon. Now he and his fellow Israeli veterans suf-

fer from lost memories and strange, surreal dreams. What hidden truths do their nightmares mask? Ari's quest for the truth leads to his most troubling secret.

**Picture books for children**

*Splat le Chat* by Rob Scotton – It's Splat's first day of school and he is very worried that he won't fit in. When he decides to bring his friend Harry the mouse to school, all of the other cats start to chase him! Will Splat ever make any new friends?

*Seabiscuit the Wonder Horse* by Meghan McCarthy – Seabiscuit was the grandson of one of the greatest racehorses of all time, but he didn't like running, only sleeping and eating. Still, his new owner took a chance and let him run against the top rated horse for the race of the century!

**Magazines**

"Sex and the married man: How Helen Gurley Brown inspired a generation of home-wreckers, and brought down John Edwards" by Caitlin Flanagan in *The Atlantic*, September 2009, p. 79.

"Who needs Harvard? Free online courses, wiki universities, facebook-style tutoring networks – American higher education is being transformed by a cadre of web-savvy edupunks" by Anya Kamenetz in *Fast Company*, September 2009, p. 84.

"Qui nourrira les Québécois? Les terres agricoles québécoises sont déjà dévorées par des autoroutes, des mégacentres commerciaux, des développements immobiliers et des terrains de golf... Maintenant, ce sont les Chinois qui veulent les acheter!" by Nicolas Mesly in *Commerce*, September 2009, p. 29.

**Reference**

*Ocean An Illustrated Atlas* by Sylvia A. Earle.

*2010 Poets' Market*.

good governance – make sure the club is running smoothly, that we increase our membership, and that our membership is happy with the curling and other activities we have planned."

"The club has to evolve with custom, so we may have to rethink separating the ladies' branch from the main branch."

Between 40 to 50 Westmounters are active curling members in the regular league, plus others members of the ladies branch. The Mount Royal Curling Club is located on de Maisonneuve, just west of Guy.

women who were working and couldn't curl during the daytime. Pat Forbes and Joan McCrimmon were the first ones, and I have often thought who could be better representatives to persuade the membership that this was the right thing to do?" He said the two women "fit in" and were welcomed to the group.

On the naming of a woman as president, Spencer remarked "It's very positive. There is no reason anybody should not be president of the club. Of course, there are some people who didn't like it. But we're all delighted we have Pat Forbes."

Forbes' vision for the year is to "have

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**12 Burton**  
Asking \$629,000  
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**4660 Bonavista**  
Asking \$539,000  
Extra large apartment flooded w/natural light & spectacular views. Large master bedroom w/en-suite, spacious eat-in kitchen with stainless steel appliances. Garage & pool.



**616 Sydenham**  
Asking \$3,350,000  
Family home in mint condition. Beautifully renovated kitchen, 4+1 bedrooms, amazing solarium, finished basement & garage.

SOLD



**4105 Highland**  
Asking \$729,000  
Country living in the city. Gem of a house on a quiet cul-de-sac minutes from Mount Royal + the hub of downtown. Stylish 3+1 bdrms, 2 bths home with nice extension all in excellent condition.



**22 Sherbrooke East**  
Asking \$320,000  
Completely renovated top floor apartment with 2 bedrooms. Contemporary kitchen, wood burning fireplace and central air conditioning.



*The three founding members of the Stand Up, Stand Out committee, from left, Lyndsay Mann, Eden Glickman, Cathy Hughes, and their first recruit Ayssa D'Allmen.*

The logo for Westmount Dental Care features a large, detailed green leaf in the background. Overlaid on the leaf are the words "Westmount Dental Care" in a serif font, with "Westmount" on top and "Dental Care" on the bottom line. Below that, "Dr. Douglas E. Hamilton" is written in a smaller serif font. At the bottom of the leaf, there is a small circular emblem containing a stylized tooth or dental symbol.

## *Standing up and out*

# Westmount's Vanguard is raising social issues and its own image

By Kristin McNeill

At Vanguard School, a new committee has been formed by students to combat misconceptions about their school and to engage in community activism. In fact, it was during a history exam last June that students started to talk about a social issues committee. A debate about whether water is a human right was the catalyst.

"Stand Up, Stand Out", started by Linda Mann, Cathy Hughes, Eden Glickman and with now with first recruit Alyssa D'Allmen, numbers about 10 students from grades 10 and 11, and is what history teacher Linda Handiak describes as "a social justice committee in the hope of promoting a more positive presence in the community."

The impetus to start the group came from what members perceived as a lack of understanding about Vanguard. "They discovered either people didn't know Vanguard or they only knew it as the 'school that helps kids with learning disabilities.' They want to be able to show they are not disabled, [and] they are able in many ways and can give help, too."

"The reason we started this is because we wanted to change our image," explained grade 11 student Mann. "For example, a lot of people don't know our school or put us down, or [think] that learning disabilities mean we can't do anything. This committee should give our school a better image, help the community and show leadership."

According to Glickman, grade 11, "the three main areas we want to target are the environment, human rights, especially for children who are defenceless, and animal rights."

So far the group, has attended Concordia University's "Apathy is Boring" work-

shop that teaches young people about democracy, the political process and community involvement. Participation in the TD Great Canadian Shoreline Clean Up is scheduled for the spring. In the meantime, the Vanguard committee is also organizing volunteer missions to a select list of organizations, as well as hosting awareness-raising campaigns at their school.

Currently, they are collecting books for the KidzSafe Foundation, preparing WaterCan petitions for the right to access clean drinking water, and are planning one volunteer day per semester when groups will be sent out to soup kitchens and animal shelters, or to work with kids.

Hughes, a grade 11 student, said "We want to do a fair trade coffee house... We need to be aware of what we buy and whether some kid somewhere is slaving over it or is getting hurt making it."

Though Vanguard's mandate is to serve children who have learning disabilities or who have up to a two-year learning delay in key subjects, the students write the same ministry exams and use the same textbooks as other students.

Handiak explained some of their frustration comes from the misconception that kids with learning disabilities will end up in less interesting, lower-functioning vocational jobs or "that they are aiming very low at what they want to do later on."

The other frustration is the misconception the school is for kids with behavioural issues. Handiak said the start of this committee and the volunteering objectives are one way to show that in fact “their behaviour is very good.”

Officially called Vanguard Intercultural High School, Vanguard is located on Metcalfe Ave. below St. Catherine and is one of three schools in the Vanguard Quebec



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*continued on p. 28*

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## Westmount Parenting

# Motherhood, autumn and the need for information

BY SOPHIE TARNOWSKA



I'm the first to admit that I've always been bored by what I call "Mummy Chats."

I can only discuss my child's sleeping patterns, soccer schedule or latest tantrum in the aisles at Metro so long before my eyes glaze over and I start looking across the intersection towards the SAQ.

I think this means I am either an excellent mother who doesn't need any advice and knows it all (please stop laughing) or that I am lacking some basic motherly information-gathering instinct.

The point is that I've been humbled. I'm a working mother who was blessed by the CPE (Centres de la Petite Enfance) gods to have earned my daughter a place at daycare, which allowed me to work full days without having to worry about where she was. Enter the phenomenon known as Back To School.

This fall, my daughter started kindergarten at a French private school (the same one I attended for nine years and have

only recently recovered from), and the ensuing upheaval has given me new compassion for the hunted, exhausted look I used to notice in many of my friends' eyes every September.

I wish I'd listened more closely, so that I might have anticipated the toll that sending my child to "real" school has taken on me. All of a sudden, I'm faced with shorter school hours that require daycare that costs more than the school itself; weird vacation schedules that mean I may never again benefit from an Air Canada seat sale; packing healthy lunches every day at an hour when I am barely able to speak; and signing up for endless afterschool activities. Oh. The. Pressure.

So I am now one of them – the women who wander our neighbourhood exchanging what I now know to be essential advice for Staying Sane Despite September. You'll know us by our chipped fingernails, worn away under calluses caused by sewing, sticking and ironing labels onto every pencil and Kleenex that might make their way to our children's schools.

You'll know us by the Machiavellian strategy sessions you might have over-

heard in August, during which mothers plot out their plan of attack on the Westmount arena to sign their kids up for after-school activities. Westmount registration days are like a cross between religious pilgrimage – requiring fervent devotion, sensible footwear, and yes, praying – and the kind of desire and slightly rabid focus I've only witnessed at a 70-percent off designer shoe sale at Holt Renfrew.

I've heard of women sending their nannies six hours ahead of sign-up time just to stake their claim in line, and it's common knowledge that having a boy who wants to play hockey means a much more competitive line-up than having a girl who wants to do hip hop. You'll know us also by the pained look on our faces at the supermarket, as we consider buying those overly-packaged snacks marketed to kids.

### Treating Mum

And finally, after all this is achieved, you'll know us by the resulting impulse to treat ourselves to something fabulous, just for the endorphin rush. This splurge will reflect not only a brain addled by sleeplessness, but also a desire to return to a

time when we were not yet responsible adults – like silver leggings from American Apparel that were clearly designed with a 12-year-old transvestite in mind, or yet another leather jacket that we'll have exactly two opportunities to wear before the deep freeze sets in.

So please, if you spot a silver legging-wearing, leather-jacket sporting, unhealthy snack-buying 30-something wandering down the street mumbling to herself, be kind. That's me – the enlightened version.

## Dr. Ian Bradley

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# New consignment store opens for pre-owned ‘home couture’

BY ERIN STROPES

Westmount resident Marcy Katz has a passion for décor and, when she noticed that Montreal's home decorating scene was missing the kind of luxury consignment model she had seen in Europe and the US during her retail travels, she stepped in to fill the void.

Galerie M (8160 Devonshire Rd.) is a consignment store that mixes new, pre-owned and antique pieces in its 5,000-sq. ft. showroom in the Town of Mount Royal. The space opened to the public on August 31 and has already attracted a clientele from all over the city. The stock changes continually, coming in from boutique hotels and showroom overstock as well as private homes.

Homeowners who are moving or re-decorating can send pictures of pieces for



Marcy Katz

sumers to look for pre-owned items instead of buying new ones, Galerie M may be an idea whose time has come.

sale to the gallery, or make an appointment for a home visit. If a piece is accepted for consignment, the store works with the seller to decide on a price, which is divided 50/50 upon sale of the item. The consignment period is 90 days, and the seller and store agree in advance on a discounting plan to encourage sales during that period. Sellers are responsible for moving their items into the showroom.

“Our focus is affordable luxury,” said Katz, “and there’s something for everyone, from a mahogany dining table to antique serving pieces.” In a time when getting a good deal is great news, and environmental consciousness is leading

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR — ARENA

### MONEY SHOULD GO TO ROADS AND PSOs

In Larry Klepper's "back-words" letter to the editor (September 22), he says it the way it is in regards to the proposed arena/pool development plan and wasteful past expenditures on poorly thought-out projects (e.g. the artificial turf plan in Westmount Park). He should, in fact, be credited with exposing the outrage and then abandonment of the artificial turf plan.

Currently, it appears to many that Mayor Karin Marks wants to leave a monument to herself. Between herself and the city of Westmount, they have their priorities backwards. What appears to most is that council and Marks are bent on squandering enormous sums of government funding and taxpayers' money to replace existing recreational facilities that currently satisfy community needs (other than required refurbishment) instead of better budgeting and using their available monies to pay for needed road work (e.g. Summit Circle) and better compensate our civil servants (including the Public Security agents) with whom they have recently been disputing salary increases and well-deserved pay hikes.

The existing pool, fountain wading and rink facilities are not overcrowded and leave a minor environmental imprint on the last remaining natural green space available in lower Westmount. Council should follow the principles laid out and managed by its own building council to preserve and maintain the image of our "green" city and dismiss this project in favour of one supported by existing demographics and more responsible accounting, governance for taxpayers' needs and dollars.

MICHAEL BESNER, OAKLAND AVE.

### TWO SITES FOR ARENA/POOL

The following is the basis of an alternative concept for proceeding with the arena/pool renewal project, subject to a favourable outcome of its cost/benefit analysis by the newly elected city council: Refurbish, but do not replace, the existing arena facility. Surely, the cost of refurbishment can only be a fraction of the cost for demolishing the facility and replacing its two existing skating rinks.

If supported by a re-examination of the community's present and future needs, proceed with the construction of an NHL-sized hockey rink and/or an indoor swimming pool located on the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG), south of Westmount High.

This concept offers the following salient advantages over the architectural project presented at Victoria Hall on September 26:

- Westmount's hockey teams, skaters and swimmers would not lose a year's use of the arena/pool facilities while they were being demolished and replaced;
- The end result could be significantly less costly with three skating rinks rather than two, and possibly both indoor and outdoor swimming pools, depending on whether the present outdoor pool continued to remain in use;
- Having two facilities in different areas of the city would reduce traffic density and parking problems.

The architectural plan presented at Victoria Hall showed three separate structures, so the alternative concept of operating two more widely separated facilities should not significantly impact costs of operation, maintenance and staffing.

The presentation also highlighted the difficulties of locating the planned new facility on backfilled land; including the need for many support piles that contribute significantly to the cost of construction and to vibration problems that could possibly damage neighbouring buildings when the piles are being driven. The level surface at the WAG seems better suited to support the weight of construction.

JOHN DOREY, VICTORIA AVE.

### BURY THE RINKS

At the September 26 meeting at Victoria Hall, I asked if the architects had considered the possibility and the advantages of burying the two skating rinks underground. There are an enormous number of advantages in pursuing the concept of burying the buildings.

1. Having lived nearby and used the park for more than 30 years, I am impressed by the extent to which it has gotten over-utilized and even crowded, especially on weekends. Extending the natural portion of the park in the southwest corner would be beneficial in that regard. It would also help satisfy those who feel the original Olmsted concept of a natural rather than a man-made environment should prevail in a park.

2. Despite all the jargon that was used by the architects to explain how the buildings were to be integrated into the immediate environment, the elevations proved otherwise. There is absolutely no tradition in Westmount for a metal roof that was shown on the elevated portions. Even if a

green roof were to be considered in its place, is it not preferable to allow the park to continue over the top of the buildings to maintain the environmental integrity of the park?

Sufficient natural lighting could be provided to the rinks with skylights.

3. Everyone is willing to consider sustainability and conservation of energy. It is much in fashion, yet there is little evidence of it in the proposal. Burying the two rinks would go a long way in that direction. The area where these buildings are to be located is known to contain landfill, and piling will be necessary. Excavating landfill is fairly straightforward and not that great an expense as was suggested in the flippant answer that I was given. If anything, there will be less depth to pile. Underground buildings are known to be the most economic in terms of conserving energy. Less energy would be needed to heat or cool the building and geothermal sources could be more easily harnessed to do that.

4. Finally, I would not suggest that we look a gift horse in the mouth. If \$20 million (about half the cost) is available from the federal and provincial governments, then it would be worthwhile to reconsider the basics as soon as possible so as to not lose out on that subsidy. Still, there are many who will find that even an expenditure of this amount is high. Given the depth of landfill in the area, it would be feasible to stack one rink over the other and achieve significant levels of economy.

MORRIS CHARNEY, ARCHITECT,  
MELBOURNE AVE.

### LANSDOWNE EXIT 'A DISASTER'

The revised plan for the arena/pool project revealed at the September 26 meeting at Victoria Hall has several serious flaws, as voiced by many attendees.

By far, the most serious is the proposed location for the main pedestrian entrance and drop-off, combined with the parking garage entrance/exit at the curve on Lansdowne Ave., which is already clogged with cars stopping for the dog run. Also, parking is presently permitted on the same side from St. Catherine up to de Maisonneuve — absolutely essential for tenants and guests of the large apartments on the west side.

This plan is horribly ill-conceived and surely a recipe for disaster! St. Catherine just south of this point is the widest in its entire 32-km length. Cars speed heading north from the Glen tunnel to catch the green light and the same heading south, often with near misses. Additionally, there

is an existing traffic light at de Maisonneuve and Lansdowne.

Is a third traffic light planned for the garage access which could make things a lot safer but that would result in THREE traffic lights within one block? Just imagine the resulting gridlock...hardly an ideal solution.

Surely the only safe solution is to have all entrances and exits elsewhere and avoid the heavy traffic and dangers that are all too present already on lower Lansdowne.

DAVID ASCH, LANSDOWNE AVE.

### \$35M FOR HOCKEY PLAYERS?

On September 26, quite a number of people met at Victoria Hall to watch a slide presentation of our proposed new arena. What we learned was that for about \$35 million, hockey players would be able to skate 12 months a year. Visitors would have a 90-car garage, which would exit directly onto an already very busy Lansdowne Ave. The dog run would be maintained. The junior tennis courts would disappear.

The rest of us would have access to an outdoor pool available for about three months a year.

Is this really what we want to spend so much money on?

ROSLYN WALKER, LANSDOWNE AVE.

### MORE IMAGINATION NEEDED TO FIND ARENA LOCATION

The consultation on the arena complex was enlightening for me. As I listened to the hockey enthusiasts — young and old — I became persuaded that they may indeed need two rinks, and that I will not mind paying some additional taxes to accommodate them. As I listened to the objections to the current design, I became more sure than ever that constructing those rinks in Westmount Park is completely inappropriate.

Very striking at the meeting were questions about the mandate that the city gave itself (and the architects) for this project. For example, was the sustainability of the adjacent neighbourhoods given as much priority as athletic services? It seems not.

Recently, the city took the liberty of expanding the project mandate to allow building on the tennis courts, a major encroachment on the park. A member of the National Association for Olmsted Parks voiced disbelief at the industrial incursions into the pastoral space. The depth of the city's investigations was also called into question. As the project grew in scale, were other locations ..... such as the West- *continued on next page*

*continued from previous page*

mount end of the Glen Yards really probed? It seems not.

I was struck by something else: that there was no three-dimensional model. Architects' renderings and elevations hide as much as they reveal to individuals who are not accustomed to interpreting them. As it is now, my eye does not "read" the pool as a structure, and the arena is just beyond the edge of my peripheral vision. The new project design places a long building with a dark angled roof where the pool is now, completely altering the character of the park.

Finally, I was convinced by the arguments about noise in the park: the mechanical noise generated by the building and, even more important, the noise that a relocated pool would create for individuals and gatherings using the now peaceful Serpentine. These are crucial questions raised by this expanded design.

I left the meeting believing that two arenas is a reasonable idea, and that we must immediately apply our efforts and imaginations to finding the right location for them.

AUDREY BEAN, SOMERVILLE AVE.

## SWIMMING IS MORE INCLUSIVE

After the clear cutting below Summit Park and the expensive attempt to install artificial turf in Westmount Park, I find this "on-the-way-out-the-door" administration leaving the city with a Jean Drapeau "fait accompli" type of incursion into Westmount Park with the "rabbit out of the hat" unveiling of their latest hockey arenas and swimming pavilion plans.

This outgoing administration is promoting new facilities that would have footprints two-and-a-half times the existing facilities and would require the present hard surface tennis courts to be placed in another part of Westmount Park. Imagine what the future state of Westmount Park would be like if this 250-percent increase in recreational building mass goes ahead, if the tennis courts find a new location such as next to the wading pool at Melville and Sherbrooke, and if the artificial turf surfaces had actually been installed from the new location of the pool to Melville. This stewardship of Westmount Park verges on being environmentally criminal.

Consider one design aspect this administration handed the architects: an access road and 90 underground parking spaces. How does this fit into the sustainable community idea for Westmount? It is commonly accepted that each underground parking stall costs \$50,000. Do we need to spend \$4.5 million dollars on hockey players, on healthy athletes, so they

can park underground?

Westmount hockey programs are predominantly male and the Westmount population is about 50 percent female. This part of our population has been locked out of any consideration in this "the greatest development expenditure in the history of Westmount." Over the last year, it came up over and over again at the Victoria Hall round table discussions that what is truly needed is not a second hockey rink for senior hockey but a year-round swimming facility for the entire Westmount community. Somehow this administration has shown a great deafness to that request. And how can young swimmers in Westmount not be given the facility they need

to the rule of one hockey arena for a population of its size, why not build the two required hockey rinks, one stacked on top of the other, in the footprint of the present hockey arena? One rink would be completely below ground taking the place of the underground parking. If two rinks are required, then this solution makes more sense than wasting money on underground parking.

ROGER JOCHYM, LEWIS AVE.

## LANSDOWNE NEEDS A BREAK

No to entrances and exits on Lansdowne Ave. Excessive and fast traffic is already a danger to residents. No to trading tennis courts for more hockey space. No



*At the arena project meeting, September 26, Victoria Hall.*

for early training, in the hopes of making a Canadian international swim or diving team?

I think the solution to an over-sized, ill-conceived project is to build a year-round swimming facility in the present location of the swimming pool. It should also be required that this new facility attain a LEED Gold rating, as is required for all new construction in the city of Montreal. Aiming for Silver is not acceptable. We should also consider the possibility of being able to open its roof to the sky during the summer months.

The existing hockey arena is structurally sound. There is no reason to have a second NHL-size rink. We do not have an NHL franchise. Instead renovate the existing hockey arena to a LEED Silver rating to at least match what is now required of such renovations for the city of Montreal.

If after an independent study of needs, it is found that Westmount is an exception

to losing green space as the noisy and smelly dog run is moved closer to Lansdowne residences.

Yes to moving the arena/pool project to a location where residents are not affected, i.e. behind Westmount High. Yes to using the existing footprint to build new arena/pool complex – often more is less.

We already endure the negative effects of Westmount municipal garage traffic and Royal Montreal Regiment traffic. Enough.

TRUDY ASCH, LANSDOWNE AVE.

## STILL UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

The overline of September 29's p. 1 story "Arena meeting reveals many unanswered questions" points to the dilemma facing Westmount in the wake of the promised financing for the outgoing administration's arena/pool project. Two options now face this city: one bad, and the other reasonably good.

The bad choice would be to blindly continue with an ill-conceived plan that will damage a whole neighbourhood, compromise Westmount Park, and greatly weaken this city financially. Those who have followed the evolution of this exercise have seen a steady rise in estimates: \$20 million, \$25 million, \$35 million plus. The \$35.9-million figure now presented excludes extremely high costs intrinsic to the project – such as management fees – and hence is deeply misleading. The best estimate is that this present project will escalate to at least \$50 million. But even with the strictest discipline – utterly lacking so far – the city will find it impossible to meet its projected 150 percent increase of the current arena/pool footprint for only \$18 million of its own money that Westmount says is its spending limit.

Let's face the truth: the arena/pool project has been distorted from the beginning, partly because no genuine attempt was ever made to respond to the need for ice surfaces without building an ugly superplex.

The good choice is to start with the basics and use the \$20 million as a way to do this job properly. There are many engineers and architects in Westmount who have an intimate understanding and appreciation of the park and the neighbourhood. Their opinions should be listened to. A back-to-basics approach need not imitate the confused rush to the money, which has coloured the project so far. With better planning and foresight we can envisage a solution more suitable to the scale and character of the surroundings. And, above all, we can achieve, not a monstrosity, but a project that meets with widespread approval, rather than alienating a large number of citizens.

PATRICK BARNARD, MELVILLE AVE.



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR — NON-ARENA

### CLEANER STREETS ONCE UPON A TIME

Mr. Trent:

There was a time when Westmount's streets were cleaner than those of Montreal. Alas, no longer!

Give us cause to be proud once more. Thank you for coming back.

*Nota bene:* Yes, small details do matter.

CHRIS FEISE, CHESTERFIELD AVE.

### AT ELECTION TIME, ONLY CANADIANS ARE WESTMOUNTERS

I follow with interest your reports on the municipal elections, and I believe voting is important.

What many may not realize is that according to Quebec law, not every adult Westmounter has the right to vote in municipal elections. Section 47 of the act respecting elections and referendums in

municipalities (R.S.Q., E-2.2 47) gives the right to vote in municipal elections only to adult Canadian citizens who satisfy one of two conditions: (1) having been domiciled in the territory of the municipality and, for at least six months, in Quebec; or (2) having been, for at least 12 months, the owner of an immovable or the occupant of a business establishment in the municipality and liable to tax.

The municipal list of electors does not extend that right to landed immigrants or long-term residents. Those who are not in possession of Canadian citizenship are excluded from voting (and, presumably) standing as candidates in municipal elections, even if they have been domiciled, owned property, resided, had businesses and paid taxes in the city for many years.

By comparison, if you have Canadian citizenship, according to the public notice concerning the revision of the municipal list of electors, a 13-month right of ownership of an immovable suffices.

NANETTE NEUWAHL, PRINCE ALBERT AVE.

### Things that make you go hmmmm....

When: Friday, September 25, noon.

Where: Grassy area between Tupper and Dorchester.

What: This green space on the south side of Tupper St. just west of Atwater has a sign saying it is private property. Is this Westmount's only private park?

If you see, hear or witness something interesting, bizarre, humorous, sad, maddening or outrageous, send us your story. All persons involved will remain anonymous, but places and times should be clearly stated.



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## Retail Watch BY ERIN STROPES

### Copoli's renovations complete

Copoli's Restaurant (4458 St. Catherine St.) is back in the pizza and burger business after being closed for renovations in June and July. The restaurant has undergone a full renovation.



Copoli's Restaurant

vegetarian-friendly and features everything from roast beef and chicken to salmon and Portobello mushrooms.

Sac Wich prides itself on being student-friendly, with a 15 percent student discount that lets students pick up many of the trios (drink and soup or salad) for under \$10.



Proxim-Murielle Cadieux

Hungry Westmounters who find themselves near Alexis Nihon might want to check out a new European-concept restaurant that has popped up on Atwater.

Sac Wich (1500 Atwater) straddles the line between a takeout place and restaurant. Orders are assembled on the spot, passed through a brick oven, and ready in minutes. But the inviting bistro chairs, screened terrace, wi-fi, and three flatscreen TVs (yes, you can watch Habs games here) definitely encourage lingering. The restaurant also has a liquor license and sells imported beer and cute little mini-bottles of wine.

Sandwiches are made with all fresh ingredients on ciabatta rolls. The menu is



Sac Wich

Dominic Morabito

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*continued from p. 20*

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please see the paper copy.

## Travaux de réfection

### Reconstruction de la conduite d'eau principale Rue Sainte-Catherine, entre les avenues Greene et Clarke

Veuillez noter que les travaux de remplacement de la conduite d'eau principale sous la rue Sainte-Catherine se poursuivront jusqu'au début du mois de décembre. Ce projet est géré par le Service des infrastructures, transport et environnement de la Ville de Montréal.

Un texte précisant les étapes du projet, les impacts pour la circulation et le stationnement, l'installation d'un réseau temporaire d'eau, et le remplacement des services d'eau est disponible à [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org).

Pour toute information supplémentaire, veuillez communiquer avec la Ville de Montréal au 514 872-3777 (8 h à 17 h). Pour connaître l'avancement du projet, consultez le site Internet : [villamontreal.qc.ca/chenfers](http://villamontreal.qc.ca/chenfers).



## Infrastructure Renewal

### Reconstruction of the Water Main St. Catherine Street, from Greene Avenue to Clarke Avenue

Work is currently underway to reconstruct the water main on St. Catherine Street, and will continue until early December. This project is managed by the Service des infrastructures, transport et environnement of the City of Montreal.

Information outlining the project phases, the impact on traffic and parking, the installation of a temporary water main, and the replacement of the water services is available at [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org).

For additional information on this project, please contact the City of Montreal at 514 872-3777 (8 am to 5 pm). For project updates, consult the Web site at [villamontreal.qc.ca/chenfers](http://villamontreal.qc.ca/chenfers).

Info : 514 989-5257  
[www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)

## Please write to us!

For consideration, letters to the editor must identify them as "for publication" and have authors' customary first and last names, and street names, all of which will be published. Please also include contact information (for follow-up purposes only). We do not publish letters regarding consumer complaints or inter-neighbour disputes. Letters will be edited for length, content and style. Please check your letter carefully. We may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. If you do make amendments, please "redline" them instead of resending the whole letter.

*Colourfully Yours*

# Greta says freshen up for the fall season

BY GRETA VON SCHMEDLAPP,  
MUSE TO AURÉLIEN GUILLORY



I do hope that you enjoyed a lovely start to the autumn, my design dears. The last weeks of September almost compensated for the lost weeks of summer in June and July.

Despite the rainy months, one pleasant and uplifting surprise that happened in July was the repainting of Aurel's design studio with the new AURA by Benjamin Moore. He had used this new latex-based formulation for several clients recently. Several of the professional painters who work for his clients were skeptical about latex paint in general as they always believed that oil-based or alkyd paint was more durable. In time, some of them came around.

Now, my dears, you must know that domestic paint production in oil base with VOCs is ceasing this year. (These are the Volatile Organic Compounds – those smelly toxic odours that give people headaches.) Aurel discovered, using AURA, that he could cover the previous colour of pale grey-mauve in *one* coat of their colour "Dijon" (a rich ochre French mustard – not the hot dog shade!) with touch-ups and no primer between the two colours! The studio is 12 by 16 ft., and used only one gallon – instead of two. Unsure at the beginning, he ended up pleased that it resulted in a perfect background for his antique French day bed and English burled desk.

#### Aurel's experience

I must comment on Aurel's experience. I am a home renovator myself, both here and back in my lovely Vienna, and I think the painters based their prices on the time required for a job, and were not really interested in a speedy finish. If quality and richness of colour is more important than speed, this new formula wins easily. When you have speed and no odour, as well as rich colour that covers in maximum two coats, the new generation of painters will have to quote a firm price for the job. The only variable will be the condition of the walls, rather than the coverage of the different colours and other types of paint quality. The labour for painting is always

more costly than the paint, so always use the best you can find. Aurel has seen many substitutes when he specifies a specific colour and the painter has created it with a cheaper brand.

Remember my dears, colour and light are the fastest and cheapest ways to change your décor. More trends: grey is the new beige. I believe that we need the cooler neutral now, and Aurel often uses a warm, organic type of grey. We see so many people who have moved into the new place, and plan to paint "soon," and Aurel is called in to create a colour scheme for them several years later! How can you live in a place with unpleasant colours when now that painting trauma is practically painless with water clean-up and no odour?

#### Westmounters' secret

I must now tell all of you readers about the secret that many Westmounters who shop at Hogg Hardware may not know: paint specialist Wilder Wall. What a perfect name! He is very knowledgeable and personable and is writing a secret history of colour horror tales he has seen in his years of service to Westmounters. Are you in one of the chapters?

Enough for now, my design fiends. Next time, I will tell you about Aurel's experience with chromotherapy at the Bain-ultra Conference in Quebec City. The Château Bonne Entente has now the von Schmedlapp Golden Seal of Approval for their martinis! Big hugs from your design sleuth, Greta.

PS: Aurelien's email is aurelien@colorsbyaurelien.com

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# Social Notes from Westmount and beyond Westmounters ride for cancer

By VERONICA REDGRAVE



On September 11, Lance Armstrong rode to raise funds for the Cedars Cancer Institute at the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC). The second annual "Cedars Tour de Lance" invited cyclists to raise \$25,000 each to ride along with Lance Armstrong at Mont Tremblant for the 100-km trek. For the second year in a row, Westmounter Dr. David Fleiszer, a surgical oncologist at the MUHC, claimed the yellow jersey as the top fundraiser, raising just under \$80,000 for his participation!

Unlike last year's drizzle, the day was dazzling. Later in the evening, tired but happy pedal-pushers joined 300 casual but chic guests for the inaugural "Cedars Cancer Heroes Night" with Lance Armstrong



André and Louise Courey Nadeau (co-chair) with Westmounters Leonard (co-chair) and Sandy Schlemm. (Co-chair Roger Beauchemin was busy during our photo op!)



Rosemary Hoppenheim with Westmounters Micki Morton and Anna Vineberg.

and Friends", at the new Casino de Mont Tremblant. Westmounter Leonard Schlemm co-chaired the event with Roger Beauchemin and Louise Courey Nadeau.

Hosts were Mutsumi Takahashi, Sophie Grégoire (there with hubby Justin Trudeau), Caroline Rhea, and Tour de France commentators Phil Liggett and Louis Bertrand. The evening featured Star Académie's Marie-Elaine Thibert; a capella sensation Naturally Seven; Rufus and Martha Wainwright and Kate McGarrigle. Guests included Phyllis and John Rae, chairman of the MUHC's The Best Care for Life Campaign; Philippe and Nannette de Gaspé Beaubien (in the best thigh-high boots ever!), Rosemary and Mel Hoppenheim, Claire Anne Stroll, Sean O'Donnell of Hotel Quintessence, Terry Diab Peterfy, Sam Pelc, and Daniel Bissonnette of Mont Tremblant's Casino.

Westmounters included Stephen Bronfman and Claudine Blondin Bronfman, Anna and Michael Vineberg, Chantal and Greg Chamandy, and Daphné and Jeff Shamie, executive director, Cedar's Cancer Institute.

Among those honoured were Jean Béliveau, Kate McGarrigle, Alexia and Anthony Calvillo, Sarah Cook and Saku Koivu, who was absent but was represented by his oncologist Blair Whittemore.

Sponsors were Tremblant, Intrawest, Hotel Quintessence, Casino de Mont Tremblant, Évasion and the Mansfield Athletic Club. Riding for that club were Stéphane Quintal, Sandra and Leonard Schlemm, Jean Pierre Le Gresley, Steve Prud'Homme and Canadian cycling champ Annick Isabelle Marcoux.



Marc Iacovelli, Romero Britto, Lance Armstrong and Westmounter Chantal Chamandy.

As the sun set beautifully over calm waters, all were in awe of the enchanted evening.



Westmounter Stephen Bronfman and Steve Courey.



Westmounters Dr. David Fleiszer and Jeff Shamie, executive director of Cedars Cancer Institute, surround Phil Liggett.

# Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

The Diggers and Weeders Garden Club presents a special lecture by Graham Rankin, director and chief horticulturist of the Aberglasnay restored 15th century garden in Wales. At the Mountainside Church (corner of Westmount Blvd and Lansdowne Ave.) at 7:30 pm. Cost: \$20, incl. coffee. Tickets at door. Info: 514.933.2112.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

Historian Aaron Krishtalka discusses the ways current concepts of time have been transformed by evolutionary biology, 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library. Free; donations

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invited.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13

The Sisterhood of Congregation Shaar Hashomayim starts their first annual Sisterhood Jewish Film Festival, Oct. 13 through Oct. 15. Jewish-content films highlight different themes spanning various countries at 7:30 pm at the Shaar (425 Metcalfe Ave.). Series subscription: \$20, or \$8 per film. Reservations required 514.937.9474, #139.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

- University Women's Club of Montreal presents "Celebrating the "Famous Five" with guest speaker Miriam Tees. Cocktails start at 6 pm at the Atwater Club (3505 Atwater Ave.). Event includes dinner and cash bar. Cost: \$32.65 for non-members who must pay by cheque. Reserve for dinner before Oct. 9: 514.935.2431. Info: [www.uwcm.com](http://www.uwcm.com).
- Revision of electors' list takes place at city

hall (4333 Sherbrooke St.) from Oct. 14 to 16, from 1 to 9 pm; and Oct. 17 and 18, from 10 am to 5:30 pm.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

Laura Santini's sculptures at The Gallery at Victoria Hall until November 7. Gallery hours are Monday to Friday, 10 am to 9 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 10 am to 5 pm.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

- St. Matthias' Church annual fall rum-

mage sale, from 10 am to 1 pm, in the lower hall entrance (131 Côte St. Antoine Rd., corner Metcalfe.) Household goods, clothes, toys, linens, books, appliances. Info: 514.933.4295.

- Household Hazardous Waste Collection, 9 am to 5 pm, Westmount Public Library.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

- Meet the candidates evening at Victoria Hall, 7 pm.

## Always On

**Centre Greene** (1090 Green Ave. Info: 514.931.6202 or [www.centregreene.org](http://www.centregreene.org))

- Ongoing Tuesdays and Thursdays: Tumbling Tots playgroup from 9:30-11:00am. Cost: \$3.50/child per morning.
- Ongoing Wednesdays: Tai Chi-based Movement and Stretch from 11 am to 12 pm.
- After-school program: Spaces remain. Gym and park time, homework hour and snack. Ages 5-12. Cost: \$195 per month (discounts available). Full or part time,

ped. days options.

• Thursdays: Ballroom dance classes for people with stage 1 or 2 Parkinson's, at 2 pm. Must bring an able-bodied partner. For info or to register, phone Ellen Rubin at 514.484.2016. No drop-ins.

**Contactivity Centre for Seniors** (4695 de Maisonneuve, corner Lansdowne)

- The centre is looking for chess players for its Tuesday morning chess group. Info: 514.932.2326.

## Quebec Classifieds

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## Underdog

# Toby, freshly abandoned...at the Underdog Gallery

BY ALEXANDRA BROWN, GRADE 11, ECS



The Underdog Club exists to give hopeless dogs a little hope – to allow them to believe that they will never again be abandoned. For one owner though, it seemed like the perfect place to do the exact opposite.

After eight years of being one of the most faithful companions anyone could ask for, Toby was left at the gallery for someone else to take care of. Gentle as a mouse, it doesn't take much for this old doggy to be happy, but for some reason, its

mere existence was too much for its past caretaker.

This dog was dumped one morning with no explanation and not even a toy – and to make matters worse, there isn't much going for him in terms of looks. People love cute new things but he doesn't really fit into this category.

Though fantastic with kids and others in general, Toby's size and age tend to turn people off. His muzzle might be turning grey, but there are not many dogs who let a four year-old ride them like a horse without so much as a flinch. He's put up with that, and now he is putting up with being

abandoned.

He doesn't require special attention and has one of the kindest personalities you'll ever encounter. There's no reason why he was thrown out like garbage other than the fact that people aren't always so kind.

His owner wasn't coming back. I knew that, the rescue shelter representative knew that, everyone in the gallery knew that. But, the big black dog sitting for six hours staring out the window seemed totally unaware.

The Underdog Club exists with one goal: to help dogs. So stop by this weekend and check out Toby for yourself.

To find out more about Toby and dogs like him visit The Underdog Club Gallery (4922 Sherbrooke St., between Prince Albert and Claremont), open every Saturday and Sunday. Visit [www.underdogclub.org](http://www.underdogclub.org) or call Sophie's Dog Adoptions 514.523.5052.



Toby

### La collecte automnale des feuilles

Pour améliorer la propreté des rues en automne, la Ville de Westmount offre un service de collecte des feuilles par les équipes de la Ville, en bordure des rues.

Pour vous débarrasser de vos feuilles et autres résidus de jardins, utilisez des sacs COKIPOSTABLES ou des sacs en PAPIER destinés à cette fin.

Déposez vos sacs en bordure du trottoir avant 7 h du matin au vendredi.

Les feuilles rassemblées en vac en bordure du trottoir NE SERONT PAS RAMASSEES.

#### Calendrier de collecte

Octobre et novembre

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Sous des conditions de météo et de niveau d'humidité appropriées, nous déposons les feuilles dans les bacs pour éviter de les faire tomber.



### Autumn Leaf Collection

In order to keep streets cleaner throughout autumn, the City of Westmount offers curbside collection of leaves by city crews.

Use either COKIPOSTABLE or PAPER garden waste bags to dispose of leaves and other garden waste.

Place your bags behind the sidewalk by 7:00 a.m., Monday to Friday.

Leaves piled loose behind the sidewalk WILL NOT BE PICKED UP.

#### Collection Schedule

October and November  
Monday to Friday, as needed

If your bags are not prepared  
but are not full (up to 3 consecutive  
working days), please contact  
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#### Tache goudronneuse

En raison d'un nombre élevé de malades affectant les arbres dans notre région, les résineux sont très élevés.  
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## Underdog Club Gallery to stay open weekends

After what was intended to be a one-month gig, the first ever homeless dog gallery is extending its operations and will remain open on weekends as long as it can afford to.

Please visit the dogs, pick up a print or just stop in with your kids if you really want to make their day.

We will be open from 11 am to 7 pm every weekend through October. Any support will be greatly appreciated – as these dogs need nothing more than a chance to be seen, to look good and to prove how worthy they truly are. To everyone who made this first month as amazing as it was, thank you. From us, but mostly from the dogs.

Fern Breslaw, director and founder of the Underdog Club.

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# Bridge for Bright Brains Table feeling & how to use it

By GEORGE RETEK

During the bidding, West hesitated 10 to 15 seconds before passing each time at his turn to bid during the 2009 Canadian Bridge Championships. After the first two tricks, it was obvious that he held seven Clubs.

Would he have passed if he also had the missing King of Diamonds or Queen of Spades? Not likely.

Here is the deal:

**North**  
♠ A K x  
♥ A J xx  
♦ A Q xx  
♣ xx

**East**  
♠ Q 9 xxx  
♥ 10 xxx  
♦ K xx  
♣ K

**West**  
♠ xx  
♥ –  
♦ J xxx  
♣ A Q xxxxx

**South**  
♠ J 10 x  
♥ K Q 9 8 x  
♦ xx  
♣ J 10 x

South played in four Hearts, West led the Ace of Clubs followed by the Queen and one more Club, ruffed by the Ace of Hearts. East discarded two Spades, but was helpless to the coming end play. For the last five cards, had he tried to keep four Spades, his King of Diamonds would fall under the Ace. If he kept three Diamonds, the Queen of Spades would drop. When he kept three Spades and two Diamonds, then the third Spade forced him to play a Diamond to the AQ.

In the actual play, Steve Mackay of Toronto brilliantly discarded his Queen of Spades, hoping that his partner had the Jack, but to no avail.

## Sound barrier lease renewed



Westmount city council voted October 1 to renew the lease of the CP Rail land that it uses for the Abbott Ave. sound barrier. The renewed lease runs until December 2014 and is \$xx per year.

The sound barrier itself has seen better days. At least two of its see-through panels have shattered and one other tagged with graffiti. Council members speculate that the shattering was caused by rocks that

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mischief-makers put on the tracks to be propelled into the barrier by passing trains. In addition, cleaning graffiti from the far side of the barrier is difficult due to safety concerns.

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► Workers tried unsuccessfully on September 24 to remove the Notre Dame de la Garde statue on top of the Dawson College building, but finally succeeded the next day (pictured here). The Madonna-and-child statue needs to be refurbished.



## 556 Lansdowne

Built in 1975, this semi-detached property has only had one owner. Situated in mid-level, it has a side entrance giving a sense of extra space upon entry. Large LR with OFP, sliding door to patio & garden. Bright cross hall, dining room, eat-in kitchen. Pdwrm upstairs. 4 bns (2 large) and 2 bathrooms. Basement rec room has OFP, maid's room, bathroom, storage, door to 2-car garage. Roof under warranty. A wonderful house. \$969,000.

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- I won't.. just stick a "For Sale" sign in front of your door and wait for something to happen.
- I won't.. pass you off to an assistant.
- I won't.. have you wait until I am paged in order to speak with me.
- I won't.. do a brief dull description, nor will I use or neglect to update out of season photos.
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- I won't.. be wondering what to do next.

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<b>RE/MAX Westmount</b>	<b>in Quebec 2008<sup>t</sup></b>	<b>in Canada 2008<sup>t</sup></b>
<b>2008<sup>t</sup></b>	<b>out of 3,409 agents</b>	<b>out of 15,573 agents</b>
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