

Sensor to be installed at lookout

Weather 'station' to monitor summit micro-climate

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Just how different is Westmount's weather system up the hill from that down on the flat?

While it's long been held that the hill and the mountain can be one or two degrees cooler in both winter and summer, a weather meter to be installed at the Summit lookout will soon provide accurate comparisons with data from one on the roof of Westmount Public Library.

"We're looking forward to seeing the variations," explains Engineering director Elisa Gaetano.

The new sensor, or meter, will measure

temperature, wind speeds and precipitation, all aimed at providing Public Works employees with important information especially when it comes to snow removal and timing to start the salting of hills, she explained.

Veteran workers have come to anticipate when rain on the lower levels may have already starting falling as freezing precipitation on higher terrain, but now they'll have an accurate gage of the conditions.

The purchase of the new meter for the lookout was enabled by city council's approval October 2 of a permit for the installation of a

continued on p. 13

Councillor candidates field tough questions from a disgruntled citizenry



Photo: Martin C. Barry

Sixteen candidates running in six of Westmount's eight city council districts are seen on stage in Victoria Hall October 18 during the Westmount Municipal Association's first of two meet-the-candidates events. See p. 6.

November 5 municipal election

Acclaimed candidates sworn in privately

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Acclaimed District 3 councillor Jeff Shamie was sworn in privately October 17 at city hall, as was District 2 incumbent Philip Cutler on October 20, returning officer Martin St-Jean confirmed last week.

Both had to take their oaths of office within 30 days after being elected by acclamation October 6, St-Jean said. It had been difficult, however, to coordinate a time when this could take place at the

same time in public, he explained. It had been common practice during recent elections for all acclaimed candidates to be sworn in in public, shortly after their acclamation was confirmed.

Both Cutler and Shamie are to be sworn in again ceremonially after the November 5 elections along with the other successful candidates.

A tentative date of November 9 has been set though this could be affected by re-counts in tight races, St-Jean said.

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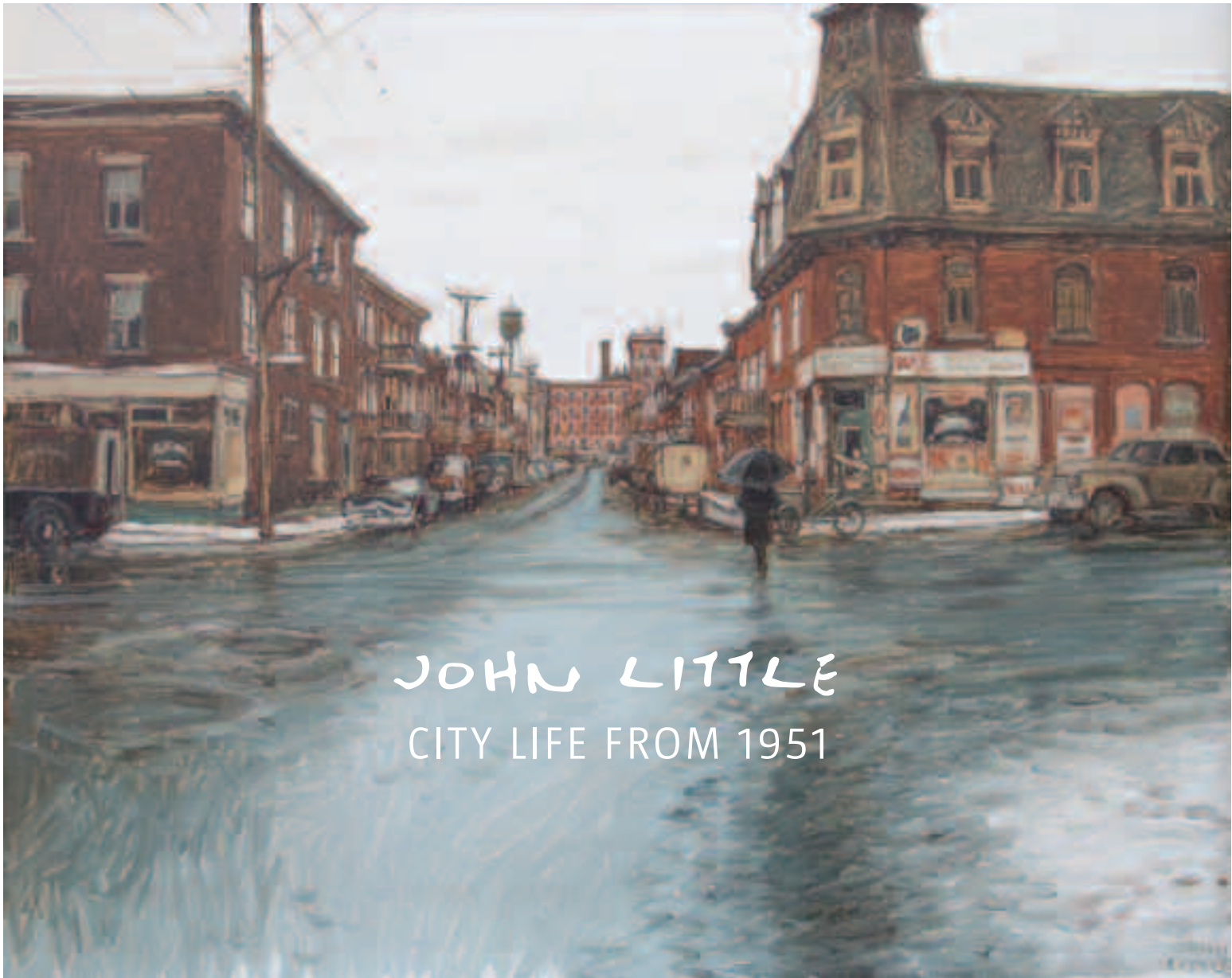
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Commercial areas, emergencies targeted

Snow removal changes involve earlier times, modified equipment

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Changes in Westmount snow removal procedures this winter include outfitting a sidewalk plow and a small tractor with blowers for emergency use in heavy snowfalls and introducing earlier start times for snow loading operations in commercial areas.

"This is what we're starting with this year as part of a general review of how to improve the way we pick up snow in the city," Public Works director Robert Talarico said last week.

The earlier times for starting snow loading operations in commercial districts will be fully explained in a booklet to merchants and residents living in the areas, he said.

"We'll be starting preparations for the loading at 3 am, rather than 5 am in the past, to be ready to load at 5 am rather than 7 am."

The plan to equip one Bombardier side-walk plow and one John Deere tractor with front-end blowers will help in situations when the depth of snow exceeds the capacity of the small Bombardier plows, Talarico explained.

This will provide the city with three blowers for sidewalk use since it already has one for use on the skating rinks that has been pressed into service for sidewalks on a couple of occasions.

Only for emergencies

Talarico said these would not be used except for emergencies since they require someone to walk ahead of them as a safety precaution.

The city will also be asking residents to do their part in facilitating snow removal by moving their cars out of tow zones and ensuring their private contractors place snow from their property on existing snow banks and not across sidewalks and into

the street.

The changes result, in part, from some of the challenges encountered last winter in coping with excessive amounts of snow that fell in back-to-back storms, Councillor Patrick Martin told the council meeting as commissioner of Public Works.

He also said the city's contracts for rent-

ing snow removal trucks specify that all 32 supplied to the city have sideguards to help provide pedestrian safety. The city's own trucks are also equipped with blind-spot cameras as well (see story December 4, 2012, p. 8).

The tender was awarded at the September 5 meeting for a total of \$529,758.

City's use of Montreal snow dumps cost almost triple budgetted amount

The amount of snow dumped last winter by Westmount at Montreal disposal sites turned out to cost the city almost three times what had been budgetted based on other years.

The difference was revealed at the council meeting October 2 when a resolution was approved to pay the invoice from Montreal in the unexpected amount of \$200,510, compared with the budget of \$72,500 for the winter, 2016-2017.

As a result, the resolution also provided for \$210,000 to be set aside for the upcoming 2017-2018 season.

The large increase in last season's dumping costs for use of the Butler snow chute and other dump sites resulted mainly from the quantity of snow being dumped, it was explained by Councillor Patrick Martin who moved the resolution as commissioner of Public Works.

— L.S.



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Interior – Have cracks been repaired? Are paint touch-ups necessary? Have leaky faucets been repaired? Are there any burned-out bulbs? Do doors need a drop of oil? Are certain rooms overly cluttered or personalized? Are bathrooms shiny? Has the bathtub been re-caulked?

Kitchen: Is a thorough cleaning required? Are the sink and faucet clean? Are cabinets impeccable both inside and out?

Ambiance: Are the floors clean? Have lights been turned on? Are curtains open during the day? Do your plants and flowers look healthy? Have animals been removed or locked up for the visit? Is ventilation adequate?

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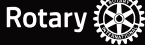
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McGarrigles perform at Victoria Hall



The Westmount Public Library hosted a special evening of stories and songs, October 11, with Anna and Jane McGarrigle, two of the three sisters known for their folk music. It was part of the library's author lecture series. They read some stories from their recent book, *Mountain City Girls*, and sang a few songs with some surprise guests. It is their first book and is a family memoir by Anna and Jane, sisters to the late Kate McGarrigle, and aunts of Rufus and Martha Wainwright. The presentation was followed by an informal chat with filmmaker, author and Westmount resident Kevin Tierney. More than 200 people who attended the evening were the first to hear a performance on a newly acquired baby grand piano that was purchased by the city for Victoria Hall through fundraising efforts. Seen from the left are Westmounter Jane McGarrigle, Anna McGarrigle Lanken, Lily Lanken, Kathleen Weldon, Sylvan Lanken and Westmounter Peter Weldon (father of Kathleen). He used to perform with the McGarrigle sisters in the *Mountain City Four*.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

Comin' Up

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

Westmount Public Library's "Halloween extravaganza" for six years and older. 7 to 9 pm. Bring a decorated (not carved) pumpkin to the library by Friday, October 27 to obtain a ticket for the costume event on October 28. Info: 514.989.5229.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

Advance poll for upcoming municipal election: 12 noon to 8 pm. Info: www.westmount.org/en/vote-en.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31,

City of Westmount's haunted Halloween house, 5 to 8 pm at the lawn bowling clubhouse, 401 Kensington Ave. See story, p. 5.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Municipal election, 10 am to 8 pm. Info: www.westmount.org/en/vote-en.

NOVEMBER 13

City council meeting, 8 pm at city hall.



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City's Halloween theme this year: 'Nightmare Before Winter'

Haunted house, 'Loons' show being prepared for Oct. 31

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

This year's theme of the city of Westmount's Halloween haunted house – "Nightmare Before Winter" – may conjure up horror to some trick-or-treaters.

It's a spin, however, on the Disney film "Nightmare Before Christmas" so people visiting the attraction "just might see Santa early but not as his usual jolly self," said Kimberley Colquhoun, assistant director of Public Security, which has produced the haunted house ever since 2007.

"After 11 years, it's a challenge to come up with an original theme," she explained. But this year, Public Safety Officer Matthew Talarico came up with the suggestion for another novel one during a brainstorming session.

The event takes place at the Lawn Bowling Clubhouse at Sherbrooke and Kensington on Halloween, October 31, from 5 to 8 pm.

New this year is participation by "The Loons" lighting show that will be presented on the front lawn unless cancelled by rain.

"There will be four of the giant balloons in orange and purple along with a lighting bolt," Colquhoun said. "The Loons" were first presented for Westmount's Canada Day celebration, where giant balloon-type structures, tethered to the ground, were illuminated in red and white and moved in reaction to surrounding activity.

PSO Sabrina Tremblay and Talarico are organizing the haunted house this year

with the assistance of volunteers. Any older teens or young adults interested in acting and who might like to participate in the haunted house should contact Colquhoun at 514.989.5367.

Verandah display for younger kids

Westmount High students, coordinated by the city's Community Events department, will decorate pumpkins for display on the verandah of the clubhouse. The

decorations are designed for younger children who may not want to enter the haunted house.

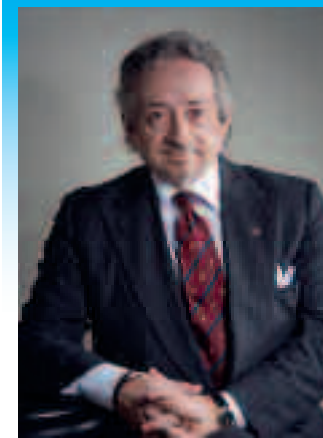
Refreshments for adults and children will also be available, along with special treats for kids unable to eat candy.

Reflective strips will also be given out for use not only on Halloween costumes but year-round to highlight the visibility of children at night.

.....
continued on p. 13



"Santa" sets up October 20 to make an early appearance at the city's Halloween haunted house October 31 on the theme of "Nightmare Before Winter", a spin-off from Nightmare Before Christmas. Public safety officers starting the preparations are Matthew Talarico, left, and Sabrina Tremblay.



"Thanks Beryl for your great drive to lead Westmount. I fully endorse your candidacy and your program. Good luck, and please call on me for anything that you might require."

~ Herschel Segal

"I know that Beryl would make a wonderful Mayor. He would tackle both the moral and practical issues of the day with his customary wisdom, courage and logic. He has been heard and thoroughly appreciated by all estates in Quebec. All Westmounters would benefit by electing Beryl Wajzman and I support his campaign wholeheartedly."

~ John F. Angus

"My friend Beryl Wajzman has been the one person to call on any issue arising in our communities. His response is always characterized by effective action and inspired leadership. We need Beryl now more than ever. I ask you to support him in his campaign for Mayor."

~ The Hon. Gerry Wiener, PC

"Beryl Wajzman is the best person to represent and lead our city. Westmount needs to move forward in a manner which respects its past, but also the desire of its residents to live in a unique, modern environment. Our roads need repair, we need a new attitude towards a smart city reality and our service procedures are badly in need of modernization. I believe Beryl is the candidate best suited to help Westmount progress."

~ Sass Peress

"Over the years, I have had the opportunity of working with Beryl Wajzman on many civil rights and social justice issues. Beryl has shown that he is man of conviction, of courage and of experience. The City of Westmount will greatly benefit from having Beryl at the helm, because he will be a Mayor for all people, no matter where they're from, what they do, whom they love, and which faith they adhere to."

~ Fo Niemi

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continued on p. 7

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questioned at councillor candidate debate

budget meetings – at any of them.”

District 1 resident Michael Schwartz asked how city council can expect to deal with big problems when they are unable to deal with a problem as simple, he said, as speeding on Edgemoor Rd. One of the district's candidate Antonio D'Amico, who lives on Edgemoor, said, “I understand exactly what you're going through.”



Michael Schwartz of District 1 was concerned about the future city council being able to deal with big problems.

Noting that the problem appears to be at its worst during school hours when parents are rushing their children to school, D'Amico said the problem needed to be addressed directly to the schools in conjunction with the parents.

District 5 resident Julian Lebensold, who gets around in a motorized wheelchair, asked what the candidates planned to do to help Westmounters with reduced mobility. District 5 candidate Marina Brzeski said that part of her campaign platform is to have universal accessibility standards raised in Westmount so that there is conformity across the city. “Right now, it's piecemeal,” she said.

Christian Matossian, running in the same district, said an independent audit of accessibility issues needs to be conducted. “I think we need an action plan,” he added. “I think we should convene workshops with folks like yourself who feel threatened by the current state of the community and define those priorities with your help, and then set a three-year timeframe and just get it done.”

Malcolm Craig asked the District 1 candidates what they would do to improve safety for Westmounters who use bicycles. Anitra Bostock, running in that district, said Westmount needs more bike paths going north/south, or a way needs to be found to add a bike path on Sherbrooke St.

D'Amico said, “Obviously I am for bike paths. It's a question of safety, so we have to make sure the bike paths are safe.” Kirk Polymenakos, the third candidate in District 1, replied, “We have to re-brand the bike paths in Westmount to call them



Malcolm Craig of District 1 asked his district's candidates about their ideas on the safety of cyclists in Westmount.

Westmount paths. They have to be painted green. Physically they are part of Montreal, but Westmount has to take a new approach.”

Addressing Lulham, District 7 resident Andy Gural took issue with the size of the hedge in front of her home. “He's making a personal attack on my hedge,” Lulham responded. “My hedge, you'll be pleased to know, should be cut back shortly.”

“I cut it back regularly,” she continued. “It is the barrier between St. Catherine St. and my house.” She then told Gural, “But by the same token, my neighbours always complain because you park on our street and you don't live on it. So, you know, it goes both ways.”

Car gets hung up

A car driving west on The Boulevard jumped the acute turn to go northeast on Edgemoor October 10 and became “hung up” on it, Public Security officials said. The single-car accident occurred just before 10 am.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SHOULDN'T MATTER WHERE CANDIDATES LIVE

Reading the letters to the editor in the October 17 edition, I was surprised by the opinion that a councillor who did not live right in their district could not provide effective leadership ("Candidates should really be from their own district," p. 9.).

I want my representative to be interested in not just what affects them personally (issues that they may in fact be too close to, lacking perspective) but to be a well-informed, community-minded individual, who will work to promote the well-being of the whole of Westmount and all its residents.

We are all part of one community. We all live, walk, drive, bike, shop and have friends and family all over Westmount, not just in what has been delineated as our electoral district. Business and property owners can even choose to vote in either their home or business district. And I like to think most of us are open-minded enough to care about more than [just] what is happening on our street.

Thank goodness we have a lot more to go on when deciding whom to vote for than their street address.

I intend to vote for the person I believe has his or her heart in the right place;

someone who is present and engaged, eager to listen, committed to collaboration, has a strong grasp of the issues, good communication and negotiation skills, and a command of public process. And who lives... somewhere in Westmount.

PAULA ENGELS, VICTORIA AVE.

WHAT IS FUTURE MAYOR CONCERNED ABOUT?

In the guide to candidates for mayor (October 17, p. 15-18), I noticed that only one candidate mentioned some political issues among his priorities. That brings me to raise one question: is it important for the future mayor of Westmount to have any political-related concerns among their priorities? If yes, should other candidates also communicate theirs (I suppose they must have some but just don't consider them as proprietary or relevant for the circumstance?).

As the letter of Wilfrid de Freitas reminded us ("Advance polls should not be on weekend," October 17, p. 13), Westmount would still be part of Montreal without [former mayor] Peter Trent. Though Trent would not have succeeded in that political fight without the Liberal party of Jean Charest and without our participation as citizens in all kinds of activities,

both before and after the forced fusion, the political concerns and experience of our long-time mayor must have helped greatly in his complicated and difficult dealings with both Montreal and Quebec.

Westmount is not an isolated city; many political issues discussed and decided at different political levels unavoidably affect our daily life. Our concerns for roads, permits, taxation, etc. could not be dealt with without our being brought to consider laws and regulations governing environment, languages, multiculturalism, social justice, individual rights and duties, just to name a few.

If people don't want to face politics and political issues, then political correctness will fill the vacuum as a political choice, though not always the best one. So, should we be concerned about our future mayor's main political concerns? Or is it an irrelevant point, or even a taboo, for municipal election?

JIAN YANG, PRINCE ALBERT AVE.

CARS ARE FACT OF LIFE

I had intended to vote for Christina Smith, the acting mayor, until I saw an interview with her on TV, where she seemed to exhibit contempt for anyone who dislikes or has trouble with the new parking meters, and for drivers in general.

Being one of the people who cannot figure out the new meters, and who occasionally has to drive, even in Westmount, I feel she is out of touch with many of her constituents.

In the interview, she said the city is hoping to encourage more green forms of transport, such as bicycling and walking. That's a great idea but not possible for many seniors or other citizens with disabilities.

Adequate parking is also a necessity for many people from Westmount and elsewhere who want to shop here, and I believe we all want to see our local merchants thrive.

However, much as one may deplore cars and drivers, they are a fact of life at present and a realistic politician needs to recognize this fact.

MARGARET PITON,
DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

Clarification

In the *Indie's* guide to candidates (October 17, p. 17), the Facebook account for Cynthia Lulham should have been included (CynthiaLulham@ElectionsWestmount) but not the Twitter account which she uses for other purposes.

TIME FOR COUNCILLORS TO EMBRACE NEW TECHNOLOGY

Sometimes to characterize the performance of a mechanism, a single sample is used. This might not be the case when characterizing the performance of a public servant; however they tend to behave in the same way even in different scenarios.

[Now mayoral candidate] Patrick Martin once described how the few Westmount seniors living in a building with an indoor swimming pool would probably refuse to let part of their municipal taxes be used in the construction of a public indoor swimming pool. This was for him an indisputable reason to completely avoid the construction of an indoor public swimming pool in Westmount; obviously forgetting the meaning of the word "public" and "public servant."

Most households in Westmount own at least one vehicle, and all of them pay taxes. However, not a single one has ever questioned why a percentage of their taxes is used for public transportation. Everybody realizes we live in a society. It is difficult to guess for whom he will be working if he is elected.

When Christina Smith was councillor for District 5, she became aware of the perpetual danger at the intersection of St. Catherine St. and Victoria Ave. and the unquestionable need for a pedestrian crossing light. However, there was not a proper consultation/study process, not even the assignation of a reference number for future enquiries or a proper follow-up to determine its success. In other words, she just swept it under the carpet. It is difficult to guess for whom she will be working if she is elected.

It is extremely disgraceful that in 2017 the technological advances have not reached the council, and easy tasks like replying to their email and keeping an indexed database of the enquiries are still very advanced chores for them. It's not just their close friends who are Westmount residents.

It is time for a change to make sure the benefits of the new technology facilitates the accountability of our representatives.

DIANA HERNANDEZ, ST. CATHERINE ST.

CONTINUE TRADITION OF EXCELLENT MAYORS

Pursuant to a letter to the editor from former mayor Peter Trent (October 3, p. 25), the contents with which I strongly agree, I would like to add that this election is [about] integrity, continuity, competence and

continued on p. 9

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

PUBLISHER: David Price

EDITOR: Kristin McNeill

CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney

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preserving the wonderful way of life we enjoy in Westmount versus a non-progressive candidate, who has yet to disassociate himself from his climbing on the merger bandwagon.

Mr. Beryl Wajzman's tenure as a editor at *The Suburban* also does not inspire any confidence in him as a mayor. His editorials [have been] more about confrontation than collaboration.

If I were him, I would just go away.

We have a city with a long tradition of excellent mayors; we have been gifted to have leaders who have shaped our culture that we are proud off.

I have been a Westmouter for over 44 years. While we have seen political storms, corruption, mismanagement and other crises come and go around us in other municipalities and the city of Montreal, we have seen none of that. We need to maintain this level of excellence by voting for Christina Smith as our next mayor.

NAJEEB KHALID, SUMMIT CIRCLE

PROFESSIONAL, POLITE BEATS FARCICAL

For more than one year, I thought I was the only citizen who would comment on the character of a city council that would group-sign a letter (see "More staff, \$ for infrastructure spending," February 23, 2016, p. 6), which marginalized one of

their own, namely city councillor Patrick Martin. The reason for their group-signed letter was that Patrick Martin had the audacity to express his own thoughts about the decrepit physical state of the greenhouse, which obviously disturbed the council's pompous group-think mindset.

Now, more than one year later, [retiring] councillor Nicole Forbes wrote her own denigrating letter about Patrick Martin over his desire to run for mayor. She enunciated many reasons why Martin is not suitable for the position, but the one that stood out was that he submitted the required candidacy forms at the end of the legal time requirement to do so. This comment is farcical and, on its own, negates anything else said about Patrick Martin.

Every citizen should be informed that although Councillor Martin, whom I have never met or spoken to, but regularly disagreed with in our public letters regarding the construction of the arena/pool project, has always behaved and expressed himself in a polite and professional manner.

My letter in the March 15, 2016, p. 8) ended with the following paragraph.

"Sadly, it appears as if the letter-signing group has forgotten they are temporary employees working for the citizens whose hard-earned tax dollars pay their salaries to govern independently and
transparently. A municipi- continued on p. 14



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Kristen Wood,
CEO + Creator,
THE TEN SPOT
Beauty Bars.

Interview with Kristen Wood, CEO and Creator of THE TEN SPOT® Beauty Bars, one of Canada's fastest growing companies, and recently inducted into Canada's Top 40 Under 40.

Tell us about THE TEN SPOT® Beauty Bar!

THE TEN SPOT® beauty bars offer laser and waxing hair removal services, manicures, pedicures, and facials in a very clean and modern environment. THE TEN SPOT® came about because I saw a real gap in the beauty business. Before us there were either cheap and dirty nail places, or day spas in expensive hotels that were high quality, but with slow services and a lazy vibe.

What's special about your concept?

For one, we exist to make everyone feel like a TEN, so service is top notch. Also clinical cleanliness. Most cheap nail places make you vulnerable to infections and fungus, so people prefer to come to us instead. Lastly, our vibe is current, on point, and fun!

Beyond nails, the brand is also well-know for hair removal?

We are really famous for our hair removal. Our brazilly® waxing service is for sure a favourite. This September we also introduced the best laser hair removal in the market so our guests have two excellent options. I love the thought that we can help our guests get freedom from daily concerns about unwanted hair.

Why Québec? Why Westmount?

I love Québec and lived in Montréal for a time when I was younger. It's amazing, world-class city, and Westmount is so classy and feels like home. I was very excited when Navaid Mansuri our franchise partner here approached me about doing 10 locations in Québec.

Why do you think the brand has been so popular across Canada?

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Any advice for other aspiring entrepreneurs?

The best advice I can offer to anyone is you owe it to yourself to give your plan A a shot, and if it doesn't go well you can return to plan B. I hope everyone bets on themselves and takes the leap to what gives them fulfillment.

Book now at THE TEN SPOT's first Québec location at 1368 Greene Avenue in Westmount. By phone: 514-846-8010 or Online: www.thetenspot.com/westmount Walk-ins welcome!

Man finally arrested for being drunk and disorderly

A man, described as “drunk and disorderly,” was finally tracked down by Public Security October 13, a Friday, at Metcalfe and de Maisonneuve. He had been sought earlier in the day after several complaints but had managed to move around from the west-end commercial district, department officials said.

He was eventually found after a caller at 4:53 pm said an inebriated man was in the playground at Westmount Park. A park patroller subsequently spotted him yelling at passers-by, flagged down a police car and asked for assistance.

During his arrest on the spot, an open container of beer fell out of one pocket. Officers were eventually able to get him into the back seat of the squad car, and he was taken to the police operations centre on Guy for processing. He was scheduled to have a court appearance on the Monday.

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Trespasser swings and smokes

A woman living on St. Catherine near Victoria called Public Security October 14 to say a man was using the swing in her yard while smoking a cigarette, department officials said. The man began walking away as patrollers responded to the call at 12:20 pm. He was informed he was trespassing on private property and was asked to identify himself. He said he just decided to take a walk. It turned out from a check of a Google map that he lived 1 hour and 40 minutes away by foot. He was described as appearing very nervous, and although his story did not “make much sense,” officers gave him the benefit of the doubt, noting the yard “looked a little like a park.” He left the area.

Contractor blocks driveway, fire hydrant

A contractor was issued a ticket for \$1,284 October 11 after placing pallets of bricks in front of a fire hydrant and a driveway on Argyle, Public Security officials said. He was reported to have incurred “multiple” prior violations of municipal regulations. A resident called to complain about the blocked driveway.

Cycling bollard cycles



A pedestrian was seen October 19 at 4 pm going west on de Maisonneuve at Redfern with a cycling path bollard in his backpack. Another loose bollard was on the lawn of the 4300 de Maisonneuve apartment building, implying that he took an already loose one and did not loosen it himself.

Photo: Westmount Independent



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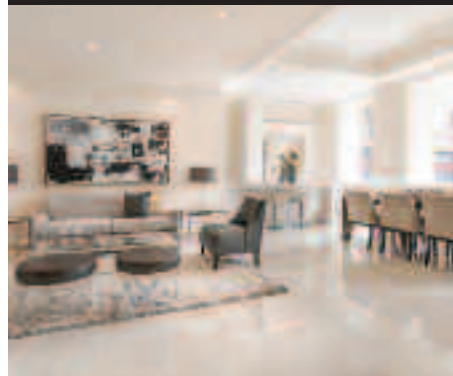
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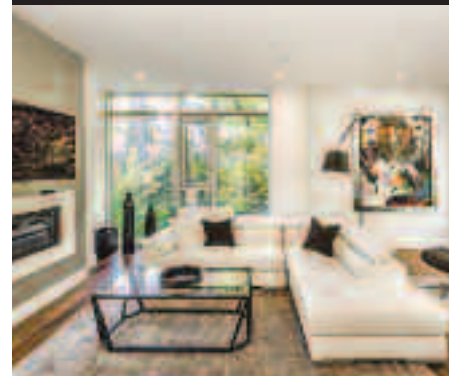


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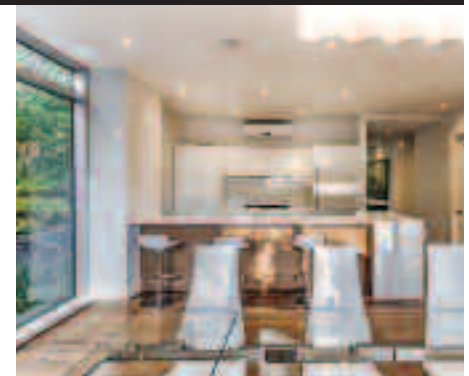


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Other issues: rats, vibrations, traffic, cycling lights, truck safety

Turcot half completed, but major demolition coming to Westmount’s southern border

By David Price

Westmount’s citizen-members of the Turcot Good Neighbourhood Committee NDG-Westmount quizzed Quebec Transport ministry (MTQ) and KPH-Turcot employees on a raft of local issues to do with the Turcot/route 720/136 rebuild at an October 16 meeting, although it was Montreal West and Lachine residents who asked most of the questions once the mic was opened to the audience. The meeting was held at city hall.

Approximately 28 people, including Westmount city councillors Cynthia Lulham and Theodora Samiotis, and city council candidates Marina Brzeski and Johanna Stosik, attended. Côte des Neiges-NDG borough mayor Russell Copeman and Sauvons la falaise’s Lisa Mintz were also present.

Mossop clarifies demolition start

Citizen-member for Westmount Michael Mossop asked about the schedule for the demolition of the 720 westbound and vibrations during that operation. Work is to begin around December 11, he was told by Sebastien Marcoux of KPH-Turcot, and vibration measurement would be as it has been to date. He was

also told that the relevant vibration thresholds have rarely been exceeded and then only by minor amounts. During the demolition, the completed portion of the new 136 will operate in two directions and will sometimes be closed on weekends. As well, the Fort and Lucien L’Allier entrances to, and the St. Jacques exit from, the 720 westbound will be closed, with a new access being set up where Rose de Lima intersects St. Antoine.

Lulham and Samiotis seized on these developments during the open question period, noting that traffic in Westmount “from Clarke to Claremont” is already packed.

Sylvie Gervais of KPH-Turcot said that it was impossible to forbid people from using residential roads, and managers could only work to “fluidify” arterial routes to the working parts of the highway network.

Mossop also asked if a parked train could be used as makeshift sound barrier on weekends when one train track was free. Lulham asked if the lane at the foot of Irvine and nearby streets could host a temporary sound barrier.

Lambert targets safety

Westmounter Dan Lambert, citizen-member representing the associations of

Pedestrians and Cyclists of Westmount and of NDG, began by thanking panelists for work on the Glen bike path and went on to question them closely regarding cyclist and pedestrian safety, his usual area of interest.

Specifically, he reiterated his desire for a cyclist traffic light at Glen Rd. and St. Jacques giving protection to cyclists from right-turning vehicles, and took issue with the rationale of Gervais when she said that the lack of a physically separated bike lane there kept planners from endorsing it. When Brzeski returned to the topic later in the meeting, he said again that he was unhappy with this answer and would treat it as he had other issues: continue to apply pressure until something is done.

He also continued to push for anti-right-blindspot measures on dump trucks, which are now being studied by the MTQ in conjunction with the city of Montreal, the Société de l’assurance automobile du Québec and the École Polytechnique, meaning that any regulations will only come into effect after the end of the Turcot project. Calling this approach “a monster of a process” and supported by Lulham from the audience, he asked for pilot projects, or using the MTQ’s power at the time of contract drafting, to get something

done sooner, before full-fledged regulations can be written.

Sandra Sultana, assistant director of the Turcot project, held firm that regulations and contract terms need careful study and cannot be written on the fly, although she agreed to look at the data used by the city of Westmount in its decision to implement safety equipment requirements.

Lambert also asked for work to be done, including new and higher quality paint, on the de Courcelle bike path.

Stock vs. rats

Citizen-member Brigitte Stock expressed concerns over rats in southern Westmount and for attenuation or elimination measures. The city of Westmount has mailed residents about the issue, she said, and “we see them running.” She expressed skepticism regarding Sultana’s claim that, especially given that the Turcot has already gone on for years, other large construction projects might be to blame.

New council candidates weigh in

Brzeski, running for the council seat in District 5, asked that if the French parts of the Turcot website continue to have more information than the English ones, explanatory

continued on p. 13



The calm before the storm: photo at left, Westmounter Dan Lambert, left, talks to Pierre Guillot-Hurtubise of Octane Stratégies before the meeting. Westmounter Brigitte Stock is to his right. Photo at right, Sylvie Gervais of KPH-Turcot takes her seat as the MTQ’s Sandra Sultana consults her laptop.

texts be added to the English site, so people know to look.

Stosik, running in District 7 against Lulham, was there to make sure that “they are aware of residents,” she told the *Independent* the next day. “[Noise] is the number 1 point in my platform, and we will be putting pressure [on them].” She also mentioned the importance of traffic on St. Catherine.

Lots of changes coming

The longest part of the meeting was a very detailed presentation by Gervais, with 26 maps, explaining how east-, west-, north- and south-bound vehicles will navigate the new and temporary entrances, exits, lanes, detours and curves of the Turcot maze in the next phase of construction. They will often go in one direction before going another, and previous patterns (e.g. left or right turns) will be disrupted by new requirements (e.g. a centre-lane access point). Only three parts of the original Turcot will be standing by that time.

Readers are directed to the Turcot website (www.turcot.transports.gouv.qc.ca), then “Public Information” tab, then “NDG-Westmount Neighbourhood Committee,” then “Work update – October 16, 2017” for the details.

At the end of her delivery, the audience was silent for a moment and then broke into applause, a rare reaction to a panelist’s contribution.

Other news

In answer to a question, Sultana said that the entire Turcot project is scheduled for completion by the end of 2020. “Do you want to put it in your calendar?” she joked good naturedly. Also, the St. Jacques bridge over the Decarie expressway is scheduled for completion at the end of 2018.

No new closures of the Glen Rd. at St. Catherine and Lansdowne are scheduled.

Judging from applause in support of questioners, Montreal West residents were the majority of the attendees. Speakers expressed deep frustration over noise and traffic – commuter and industrial – in southern portions of the town, especially on Avon. They also asked that a Montreal West resident become a citizen-member of the panel, in addition to the public safety officer already representing the town government. (He happened to be absent, the assembly was told, having recently become a father.) Given two resignations of citizen-members from the committee, the request was warmly received by panelists.

No NDG residents took to the mic, and NDG citizen-members were heard from less than usual. They asked about trees being cut in the Decarie expressway trench, which panelists said they would look into, and the timing of a sound barrier

Lookout cont’d. from p. 1

weather “station.”

Gaetano told the *Independent* the device would require about four weeks’ delivery before installation on the tall communications pole at the lookout, hopefully in time for the winter.

While the new device will not be “officially calibrated” by Environment Canada, she said, it is to have the same effect on Westmount’s Public Works operations as far as data collection is concerned.

Regarding snow operations for the winter, council also approved a resolution to increase its budget for dumping snow and announced changes in snow removal schedules (see separate stories, p. 3).

removal on St. Jacques between Girouard and Addington (end of 2018, they were told).

Pierre Guillot-Hurtubise of Octane Stratégies moderated the discussion. The vast majority of the discussion was in French, but he was careful to translate the only material amount of English – an answer of Gervais, a francophone, to an anglophone Montreal West resident, who was himself speaking French. The meeting’s PowerPoint presentation was available as a paper handout in English and is on the Turcot website, but only French meeting agendas and minutes are available there.

The next public meeting of the committee takes place Tuesday, November 28 at 7 pm at Westmount city hall, contrary to earlier plans.

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Halloween cont’d. from p. 5

Donations to Leucan

While entry to the haunted house is free, participants are invited to make donations to a collection for Leucan, the foundation that supports children and their families affected by children’s cancers including leukemia.

Colquhoun and local police constable Stéphan Laperrière will be providing safety talks to students at ECS and The Study as well as any other schools that provide them the opportunity, she said.

New safety tip

A new safety tip for this year, when many children carry smart phones, she said, is for kids to “put their electronic devices down, keep their heads up and their eyes on the road.”

Eight Public Security patrollers are scheduled to be on the road and in major parks during the trick-or-treating period. They will also be handing out reflective strips.

Only 1 in 13 child seats installed correctly

Of 13 child car seats inspected for proper installation October 10, only one was found correctly installed, Public Security officials said. Public safety officers conducted the safety inspection outside St. Andrew’s School on Hillside Ave. between 3:30 and 4:45 pm, as parents were picking up children, and re-installed those that had been deemed unsafe.

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Letters cont'd. from p. 9

pality is not a country club.”
Let’s vote and hope this will change.
LARRY KLEPPER, ST. CATHERINE ST.

MAKING IT EASIER
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Except for Joanne Wallace, not one candidate seeking election mentioned improving facilities for seniors.
Dedicated parking near facilities (banks, medical centres, pharmacies, opticians, auditory centres, hairdressers, restaurants) would make life much easier for us.
Easy-to-access parking meters would also help!
FARROKH KOHIYAR,
DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

VISION IS GREAT FOR ‘500’

The controversy surrounding the revitalization of the abandoned institutional/residence building at 500 Claremont that will come back to life as mid-range or even luxury rentals in Westmount is hardly digestible.
Democracy and popular opinion have gravitated beyond the reasonable voice of the neighbourhood, which is led or complemented with critical review by the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) design

professionals with their experience and consequent credibility.

In fact, the criticism by a vocal minority, mostly of minor details of a significant revival project, casts doubt on its excellence as an architectural and urban planning achievement and one of successful integration.

As a neighbour on Westmount Ave. and as a real estate and design professional, I am grateful of the vision of this private developer to recycle an abandoned and decaying building that no longer serves its intended use – not to mention his investments and obvious commitment to bring excellent architectural design to fruition.

And what effort so far! Positive feedback from PAC leading to fine-tuning with design improvements have led the developer to face (or face off with) those in the neighbourhood, who feel very passionately that all, or maybe only certain aspects, of the proposed building design do not meet their satisfaction. Numerous people had even suggested a variety of other uses for the building, oblivious to the intent of its owner and the neighbourhood.

The developer-owner intends to recycle an existing, empty building! His proposal falls within the permitted norms* for residential occupancy in place on Claremont Ave., albeit somewhat higher; an avenue rich with a variety of detached and semi-detached homes, townhouses of which some are perpendicular to and without street facade, and at each end of the slope, a five/six storey multi-family building with commercial at its base on the lower end, and an imposing CEGEP building on the upper end of the street.

Into this mix, giving re-birth to an existing and prominent structure with new residents who will occupy is a definite plus. No other use could be more suitable. And if in Westmount the prices for rental should be “up-scale,” then those new tenants will fit right in.

Let’s all recognize the value being cre-

Police
5 Saisons on Greene Ave.

By MARTIN C. BARRY

The following news column is based on information from police reports provided by a Station 12 constable in an interview with the reporter.

On October 8 around 7:40 pm, the 5 Saisons grocery store at the corner of de Maisonneuve Blvd. and Greene Ave. was held up by an armed robber who got away with an unspecified amount of cash.

According to Montreal police station 12 community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel, the suspect entered by the main door and went up to one of the check-out cashiers, who was opening her cash drawer. “He pointed a weapon in her direction,” said Pimentel, adding that the perpetrator held a handgun in his right hand. He ordered the cashier to give him the money, and she handed him her cash tray.

The suspect then took the tray and approached a second cashier. She was also ordered to surrender her money, as the suspect pointed the weapon at her.

After grabbing several handfuls of \$20 bills, said Pimentel, the thief exited by the store’s main door. He was last seen making

ated for us all, and encourage the development. Moreover, let’s encourage council and the administration to bravely make it legal at the first opportunity.

Congratulations to the talented architect and the inspired developer. May we all be blessed with so much patience and apparent goodwill.

THOMAS REINER, WESTMOUNT AVE.

** Editor’s note: In fact on that site, multi-family use is now not permitted as the current zoning for buildings in this area (R3-16-01) allows only single- and two-family use. See story September 12, p. 1. – KM*

his way quickly westward along de Maisonneuve Blvd.

Witnesses described the suspect as being 6’ 2” tall and weighing around 170 lbs. He wore black pants, black gloves, black boots and a black woolen neck protector.

Pimentel said that in the aftermath of the robbery, Urgences Santé was summoned to assist the cashiers and other store employees who were in a state of shock.

As well, the Crime Victims Assistance Centre, which is a provincial government agency, was called in to provide help to victims if they were in need of longer-term support.

Robbed while sleeping

At around 4 am on October 5, a burglar stood on an upside-down garbage can in an alleyway outside a Greene Ave. house near Prospect St. to reach an unlocked kitchen window through which he broke in while the occupants were asleep.

According to Pimentel, the thief took advantage of the fact an air conditioner was set up in the lower half of the window opening.

However, the window’s space above was only superficially covered with some plastic sheeting, leaving it vulnerable to entry. “So he tore that off,” said Pimentel, adding that the perpetrator left through a back door after committing the robbery.

Pimentel said that while in the house, the thief made his way through the living room, where he took several items, including an iPod, cell phone and a laptop.

Although the owners told investigators afterwards that they heard some unusual noise during the night, it wasn’t enough to stir them from bed.

But when they got up later that morning, they noticed that the sheeting covering part of

continued on p. 15

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Report

held up by armed robber

the window had been tampered with and that some property was missing.

"It's rare that we have break-ins while people are still inside," said Pimentel, suggesting that the burglar may have realized after breaking in that someone was at home and decided to leave without exploring the house further.

Pimentel also pointed out that it's important to properly lock or secure a window with hardware when it's partly filled by an air conditioning unit, since burglars exploit such weaknesses in home security.

Construction worker reports broken window to police

Police investigators say they suspect that a home near the corner of Melville Ave. and de Maisonneuve Blvd. was broken into during the owner's recent month-long absence after an observant construction company worker reported a smashed window.

According to Pimentel, the employee

was doing work at a neighbouring property on October 6, when he noticed the broken ground-floor window and reported it to the police. The owner had been away since September 11.

"Police officers went and determined it could have been a break-in," said Pimentel, while adding that there was little they could do to confirm their suspicions since the owner was out of the country.

Although the investigators were able to determine that someone may indeed have entered the dwelling and exited through a basement window, they couldn't determine if any property was stolen since the owner couldn't be reached.

While the investigators were still on the scene, they spotted two individuals approaching the broken window. Although the two were briefly detained and questioned, Pimentel said they were allowed to leave after they provided a satisfactory explanation as to what they were doing there.

A different perception of fall colours



This infrared (IR) photograph was taken September 29 in Westmount Park. The photographer used an old Nikon D70 digital camera that had been modified to capture only IR images. IR light focuses at a different point than visible light and would slightly blur a normal visible light image, so camera manufacturers block IR light from the sensor. For this image, the camera did not have an IR filter and instead a IR-passing filter. A natural light-blocking filter on the lens was used, which results in an image made up entirely from IR light. The filter prevented the photographer from framing the image so a viewing frame was attached to the camera. It also required manual settings for exposure and focus.

Photo: Ralph Thompson



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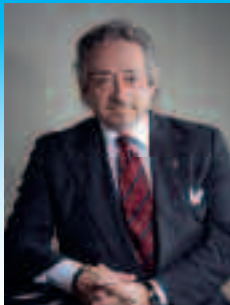
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At the start of my campaign for the Mayorality, I set out in these pages my priorities for Westmount. I am humbled and grateful that they have resonated with so many thousands of you. Vos espoirs et votre foi continuent à me guider. I have not only listened to you in my many visits, but I have heard you. And I am heartened that you understood a lesson I learned at McGill Law that sometimes we must speak truths you need to know not merely words you may want to hear. Aujourd'hui, je veux répéter les promesses que je vous ai faites.


As a recipient of a Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for the Promotion of Human Dignity, I will continue to be a strong and passionate advocate for the protection of our constitutional civil rights particularly as they apply to the equity and equality of our votes and voice in the National Assembly. Having spent a decade as Editor-in-Chief of The Suburban Newspaper Group acquiring experience covering over twenty city and borough councils, I have learnt the most effective practices in making regional and provincial officials more responsive to local budgetary and fiscal needs and I will bring that unique experience to bear for the benefit of all Westmounters.

Nous avons besoin de nous rappeler que nous faisons partie d'une plus grande communauté, celle du grand Montréal, à laquelle nous contribuons et dont nous tirons bénéfice. Working together, we will encourage robust development, tourism and leisure initiatives and increased parking, so that we may reduce taxes for all from new revenues and refill our empty store-fronts. We need urgent road repairs and traffic synchronization particularly on our east-west arteries, and I will make that an immediate priority.

Nous avons besoin d'une approche ferme envers la protection de notre patrimoine urbain tout en tenant contre d'une approche raisonnable pour notre environnement. To that end, I will bring reform and common sense to our building permit process and instill a more reasonable culture at the PAC so that it is in line with what Westmounters need and want.

We must help the many tenants living in older buildings with regard to their relationship to the city administration and to service providers and to accomplish this I will name a tenants' ombudsperson reporting directly to the Office of the Mayor. And I pledge a new transparency in our municipal governance by adopting an Open Data policy on all matters other than those that may compromise individual privacy or jeopardize public security.

I ask for your help in meeting these challenges and accomplishing these goals, and trust that you believe as I do, that through our common commitment we can enrich our lives and our community. Je fais appel à votre soutien pour relever ces défis et j'ai confiance que, tout comme moi, vous croyez qu'à travers notre engagement collectif, nous pouvons enrichir nos vies et notre communauté.



Authorized by Morton Garellek, CPA, Official Agent for Beryl Wajzman.

Art-full night in Westmount



Social Notes
VERONICA REDGRAVE

The Westmount Square food court was the site of an art/reception September 14. “Brush Off” was hosted by Westmounters **Marina Cutler** of Avenue Arts and husband **Adam Cutler**, attending with their daughter **Samantha** and son (city councillor) **Philip**, with **Katelyn Abbey**. The event’s partner was Mountain Lake PBS.

Artists participating in the contest included local res **Barbara Asgary** and **Ann McCall**, as well as a group from Montreal and the Mountain Lake region of upstate New York.

Jury members were Westmounters **Bill Brownstein** (*The Gazette*), **Dorota Kozinska** (*Vie des Arts*) and **Bente Christensen** (there with hubby **Gerry Shadeed**), along with former res **Andrew Carter** (CJAD).

Committee members were **Mary Vanaselja**, **Andrea Bourke**, **Maggie Barakaris**, **Ursula Kobel**, **Claude Lévesque**,

Katie Liberta, **Jean Sebastian** and Westmount Square’s Creccal Investments’ **Alessandra Crecco** (there with her husband **Giancarlo Messercola**) and **Rica Crecco**.

Guests admired the art as they sampled the nibble stations. Sponsors had kindly volunteered amazing food and stellar service. The food was fabulous! Stand-out snacks of the night? Notre-Boeuf-de-Grace’s beet-marinated gravlax; Mouton Vert’s home-made Greek vegetarian offerings; Gentile’s Italian bites (*delizioso!*) and the sweetest (in all senses of the word) desserts by Little Leah’s Kitchen. Her gold-dusted, chocolate-wrapped, almond-stuffed dates were snapped up by one and all, and her cute bite-size cheesecake cupcakes disappeared quickly.

Brush Off winners were Montrealers **Gianni Guiliano** (first prize), **Cathy Benny** (second prize) and **Laura Granata** (third prize).

Artist **Kevin Jenne** entertained the fun crowd with his on-the-spot painting, which took shape as the night progressed.

Westmounters attending included Mayor **Christina Smith**, retiring city councillor **Vic-** *continued on p. 17*



From left: Katelyn Abbey, and Philip, Marina, Adam and Samantha Cutler.



Bill Brownstein, left, and Andrew Carter.



Andrea Bourke, left, and Susan Cooke.

MONTAGNE



Photo credit: AB Anabel Burin

Fashion blogger Lolitta Dandoy of FashionIsEverywhere.com for MONTAGNE

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Tel: 514-482-8560

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andy@andydodgeassociates.com

Social Notes cont'd. from p. 16

tor Drury, and Janine and Jim West of Justin Time Records, Susan Campbell, Mylene Francescon, and former Westmounters Andrea Bourke and Susan Cooke: "we knew each other as children!"

The event raised \$20,000 for Alzheimer art-based programs and the long-term care residence Vigi Reine-Élizabeth.

Meanwhile, just round the corner from Westmount Square on a cool eve after the unseasonal sun-seared day SRO guests (standing room only) spilt onto the street at Han Gallery where artist and gallery

owner Andrew Lui welcomed art-lovers with his wife Chloe.

Westmounters admiring the work of artist Louis-Fernando Suárez included Louis Villeneuve, Jean-Michel Laberge and retiring city councillor Nicole Forbes and former res Georges Remus, as well as Rel Guillory and Carol Simmerman, whose "it" accessory of the moment – the black Gucci cross-body bag – was admired with covetous glances by other glam women attending.



Kevin Jenne.



At Han Gallery, from left, Louis-Fernando Suárez and Andrew Lui.

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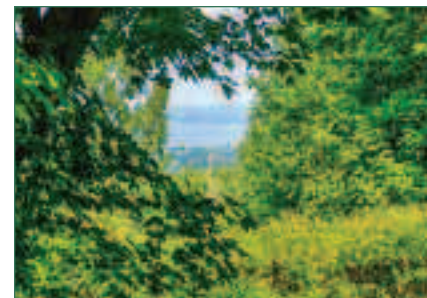
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Campaign posters spring up

PHOTOS: RALPH THOMPSON



Signs for Kathleen Kez and Theodora Samiotis, the two candidates for District 8, were up October 18 at the old Royal Bank building on St Catherine at Greene.



In District 7, Cynthia Lulham and Johanna Stosik have signs on St. Catherine St., close to Lewis looking east, October 18.



Competing for the councillor seat in District 6 are Mary Gallery, George Fourniotis and Joanne Wallace, whose signs were visible October 18 on on de Maisonneuve near Kensington.



Signs from Anitra Bostock and Kirk Polymenakos hang on a lamppost on Lexington Ave. near Sunnyside in District 1.



Looking north on Victoria Ave. were signs, October 18, from Marina Brzeski, Christian Matossian and Gabriel Felcarek for the District 5 contest.



On the corner of Edgehill and the Boulevard is a poster of Antonio D'Amico, running in District 1.



Conrad Peart's and Rosalind Davis' posters can be seen on Sherbrooke near to Roslyn, October 18. They are in race for District 4.



An Elaine Carsley sign can be found on Victoria Ave., in her District 5, October 18.

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Westmount \$4,850,000 | 116 Av. Aberdeen | MLS 12488186 | Westmount top location! Prestigious property, 5 Bdr, fully renovated w/ imposing garden/ double garage.



NEW
Westmount Adj. \$3,750,000 | 3123 Ch. Daulac | MLS 27167744 | Sumptuous property of 4 Bdr w/ amazing garden. Ideal for family!



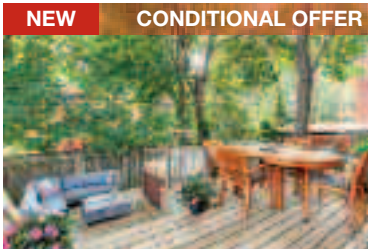
MOUNT-ROYAL \$2,630,000
361 Kenaston Av. MLS: 28413734
Prime location! Magnificent detached residence (5 bdr) on a lot of 10,000 SF



DOWNTOWN \$2,250,000
2 Chelsea Place MLS: 26576267
5 Bdr, rooftop terrace.



NEW
TREMBLANT \$1,795,000
257 Route de Crystal Falls MLS: 21635465
Exceptional domain of 80 acres bordering the Rouge river.



NEW **CONDITIONAL OFFER**
WESTMOUNT \$1,645,000
714 Av. Grosvenor MLS: 28396203
4 bedroom, entirely renovated with garage and beautiful outdoor patio.



CONDITIONAL OFFER
WESTMOUNT \$1,595,000
644 Av. Lansdowne MLS: 11653224
5 bedroom semi-detached with garage and beautiful garden.



NEW
WESTMOUNT \$1,395,000
2 Westmount Square #802 MLS: 23336855
Magnificent 1390 SF, 2 Bdr, fully renovated, open concept L/R



WESTMOUNT \$1,195,000
1 Parkman Place MLS: 13872836
WOW! Fully renovated 3 Bdr in Victoria village.



NEW
QUARTIER DES SPECTACLES \$539,000
1449 rue St-Alexandre MLS: 22111713
Prestigious building, 1 bedroom condo with open concept living room.



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