

Gas mowers on the way out, too

Gas blowers banned, but 'blowing season' extended

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

For Westmounters who have complained about particularly loud sounds generated by gas-fired leaf blowers and lawn mowers, relief is on the way.

City council tabled changes to the noise by-law February 5 that would ban the use at all times of gas-operated leaf blowers starting when the by-law goes into effect. On the other hand, the fall leaf-blowing season would be extended by two weeks to December 1.

Should the draft by-law be approved in March, it is expected the prohibited use could kick in for the start of the spring clean-up period starting April 1.

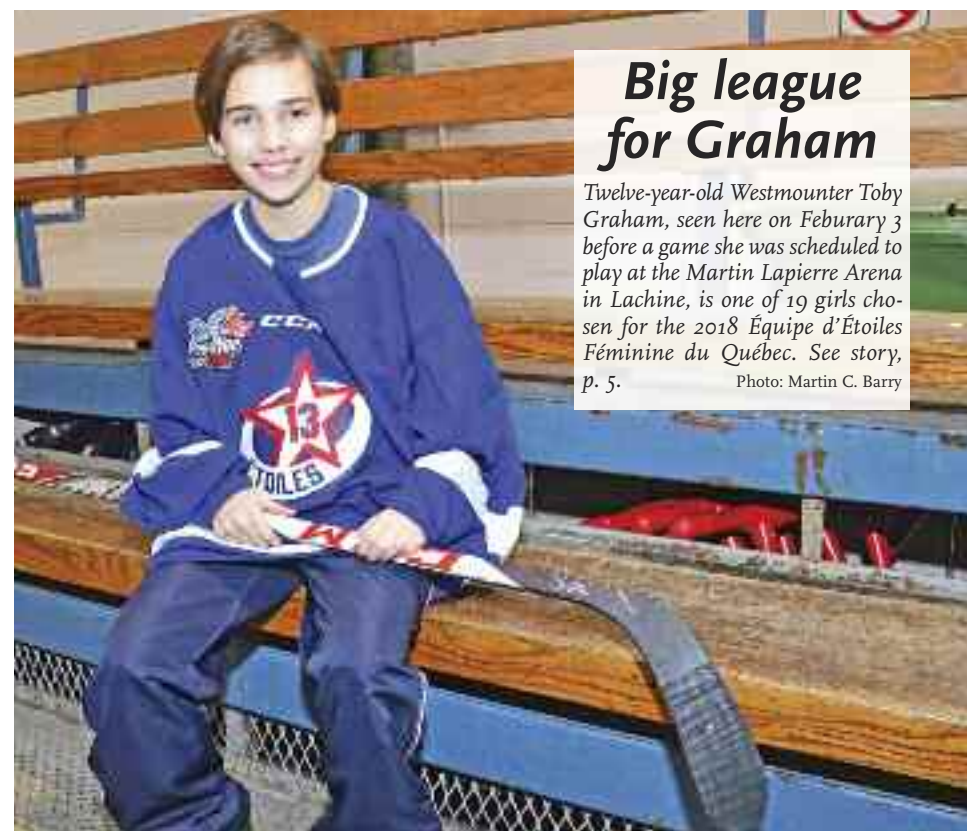
Another by-law amendment prohibits the use of gas-operated lawn mowers on all properties of 20,000 square feet or less.

This would go into effect a year later, April 1, 2019.

The two permitted leaf-blower seasons are to be April 1 to May 1 – unchanged – and October 1 to December 1. In recent years, because of an apparent lengthening period of falling leaves, Public Security officials have been tolerating short extensions in the autumn use of leaf blowers (see story 2015, p. 3).

One resident of 4300 de Maisonneuve attending the council meeting suggested that people be encouraged to adjust their leaf blowers to a suction mode to act as a vacuum.

It would be more efficient to suck up the leaves through an attached hose, he said, rather than blow them into piles which, in turn, have to be bagged or collected for disposal.



Big league for Graham

Twelve-year-old Westmounter Toby Graham, seen here on February 3 before a game she was scheduled to play at the Martin Lapierre Arena in Lachine, is one of 19 girls chosen for the 2018 Équipe d'Étoiles Féminine du Québec. See story, p. 5.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

City's 'Turcot' sound barrier case set to start in court Feb. 12

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Mayor Christina Smith announced February 5 she had written to the "ever-changing [provincial] minister of Transport," now André Fortin, asking him to intervene personally in helping find a solution to the city's sound barrier case against the ministry and construction consortium KPH-Turcot.

Proceedings were to start in Quebec

Superior Court February 12 but no reply had been received to the mayor's letter dated January 29, city officials confirmed Friday.

The city launched the legal action for an injunction last May seeking a sound barrier at the government's expense along the westbound portion of the new highway 136 in Westmount. This will replace the Ville Marie expressway, now under demolition *continued on p. 17*

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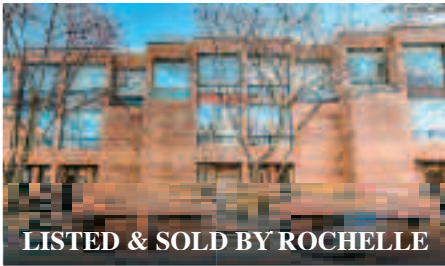


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500 Claremont becomes trailblazer City looks to 'improve' referendum process

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Two people living near the newly-approved 500 Claremont development at Windsor voiced concerns to city council February 5 over how the city had applied the most restrictive timeline required by law before holding a registry.

While this is a minimum of eight days after notification of a registry, it could extend to some 45 days (see story, January 16, p. 8).

While the referendum process had been "legally correct," stated Lawrence Kryzanowski of Prince Albert, he called it "very unbalanced" and "unfair" since the proponents of the project were the developer and the city – and the city, he emphasized, controlled the implementation of the referendum process.

The registry had failed to carry enough signatures at 85 to force a referendum, for which 127 were required.

Both he and Judith Le Gallais of Claremont claimed this number had been inflated by the participation of two apartment buildings in contiguous zones. These, they suggested, were "associated" with the same corporate entity.

Renters were "allowed to participate," however, and the inclusion of these buildings was set out by provincial law, Mayor Christina Smith explained. So was the requirement that the registry take place on only one day and between specific times.

Nevertheless, both she and Urban Planning commissioner Conrad Peart agreed that the short timing of the registry process

needed to be improved. "It didn't serve anyone well," she said.

Timing could be longer

Peart explained that while the city had indeed respected the letter of the law, "We failed to respect the spirit of effective democracy and communication." Since this was the first project to make it through the city's new SCAOPI by-law for non-conforming projects, he pointed out, it had demonstrated a need for some changes.

This, noted Smith, was underlined by the fact that some who had signed the registry had not been against the project, but wanted to send a message to the city regarding its strict interpretation of the government-prescribed regulations.

Peart, an architect by profession, said that while he shared some of the concerns that have been expressed by some residents over the months of discussion, he had studied the Claremont proposal and found it "on balance to be a positive thing for the neighbourhood."

Now that it has the city's go-ahead, pending the approval and issuing of permits, he said the city would be "paying close attention to mitigating" potential construction risks.

One that has been raised by nearby residents is possible damage to their older homes by vibrations. They had asked to be included in insurance policies, which the city had not required among conditions in its resolution approving the project.



Judith Le Gallais (left) addresses council February 5 on the registry for 500 Claremont. Lawrence Kryzanowski (right) raises concerns February 5 about the referendum process.



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Droning on



On a beautiful but cold February 8 in Westmount Park, Nikola Ragusa was spotted landing his tiny DJI Spark drone on his right hand. He works in the film industry but was flying his drone just for fun.

Photo: Ralph Thompson.



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Waiting to open at Westmount Park Church

Fun Academy daycare caught in red tape by Bill 143

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Garderie Fun Academy was all set to undertake renovations at Westmount Park Church for accepting up to 60 pre-schoolers in time for the summer. But then retroactive amendments to Quebec Bill 143 regulating childcare were approved December 8.

This left the new daycare's timeline in limbo, according to Jacinthe Deschenes, its educator-operator.

"Now we have to re-apply to Quebec through a committee that has not yet been formed," she revealed last week.

The daycare had already started the government application process last June,

she said, and had already obtained approval by Westmount of three permits aimed at meeting criteria set by the Quebec government and the city, including an occupation permit (see story December 5, 2017, p. 1).

'At a stand-still'

The new conditions retroactively affect her plans to open a full daycare of the intended size, she said. "We're at a stand-still. We're back at square one. We had already signed contracts to start the work.

"The new conditions for opening daycares are affecting the whole industry, which is waiting for new spaces to accommodate long waiting lists, which keep

growing." The industry includes specialized architects and other professionals.

Delay costing money

In the meantime, Deschenes said, "it's costing us a lot of money." She said her website is ready to go and contracts have been signed with the church and contractors.

The basement of the church previously housed the Rainbow pre-school which operated for many years before closing in June 2016 (see story April 1, 2016, p. 1).

When Deschenes discovered the venue with easy access to Westmount Park was available, it was exactly what she had been looking for. To conform to Quebec law for a full daycare facility, however, she need-

ed to make additional renovations.

These include a secondary basement exit in the east façade of the Category I heritage-rated building.

Deschenes says she still hopes the new government timelines will enable her to open the facility in the summer.



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Graham chosen to play on all-star girls hockey team

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Twelve-year-old Westmounter Toby Graham is one of 19 girls from across the province chosen for the 2018 "Équipe d'Étoiles Féminine du Québec," a select AAA all-star team put together by four-time Olympic gold-medalist Caroline Ouellette.

This month, the team is travelling to Quebec City to compete in Quebec's famous International Pee-Wee Hockey Tournament against boys' AA teams from all over the world. The team was presented during a pre-game ceremony at a Canadiennes game in late January.

Three teams

During the regular season, Toby, a 5'1" centre, plays on three different teams: Quebec's provincial AAA Huskies, Lower Canada College's senior girls team, and she is captain of the Lac St. Louis AA Warriors. Toby has been playing hockey since

the age of three.

She got her start in hockey in Westmount, playing for the Novice and Atom A Wings before switching to girls' hockey. She still enjoys volunteering with Westmount's girls' hockey program when time permits.

On her school team, she scored 20 goals in 13 games.

Toby's mother, Joanne Kay, describes her daughter as quiet. "She's not a flashy player," she says. "She's intense... She gets them in. You often don't notice her on the ice until the puck goes in the net. She does her thing very smoothly and quietly."

The Étoiles played their first game of the tournament on the afternoon of February 10. In this opening game, the Quebec Étoiles played an American all-girls team led by retired Olympic silver medal-winning goaltender Manon Rhéaume in the first all-female game in the tournament's 59-year-history. They won 2-0.

As well, the team will be presented next

November 30 at the Canadiennes game.

See photo, p. 1.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THANKS FOR THE QUIET, AND CLEANLINESS

I would like to applaud the efforts of the mayor and council for recognizing the negative impact gas-powered leaf blowers and mowers have had on the community quality of life for years.

Instead of the deafening noise levels, extreme pollution and swirling clouds of dust, hopefully we can now start to enjoy our city the way many did years ago, and maybe we'll be able to wash our windows less often! This is fine leadership we all deserve for Westmount.

DAVID BLACK, SYDENHAM AVE.

PARKING KEY TO RETAIL SURVIVAL

The long-term survival of so many wonderful and unique merchants along the Greene and Victoria corridors is vital to our community spirit and the financial well-being of the city. With this in mind, the previous city council began a process with a private consulting firm aimed at finding ways to stimulate economic activity on Westmount's commercial arteries, no doubt an expensive undertaking that included several surveys of both merchants and Westmount citizens.

The results, reported in this publication after a September 13 public meeting, reflect that 48 percent of merchants are seeing fewer commercial activities coupled with parking being the single most common complaint. Results that track the on-the-ground realities of both large and small empty commercial locations at major corners.

It is extremely disappointing to read that the new council has seemingly forgotten this study and will proceed to increase parking costs in Victoria village this month. How is this in the best interest of area merchants? In addition, car-sharing customers, specifically Car2Go and Communauto, will occupy valuable pay-by-plate spaces all across the city at zero cost in up to four-hour blocks. Is there data to suggest that car-sharing clients are the clients of Westmount merchants? Why should Car2Go, a division of a public corporation with 2016 profits of €8 billion get free parking in Westmount, while citizens get an increase (and are frequently nailed by yet another parking ticket from our always watching Public Security)?

Not a single council member campaigned on the idea of increasing parking costs. Council is sitting on a report that says parking is an issue for merchants. Yet three months into their terms, here we sit with a council that is out of touch with the needs of merchants. I hate to think what Vic village might look like in four years at this rate.

COUNCIL SHOULD WEIGH IN ON RELEVANT MONTREAL DECISIONS

Any decisions pertaining to Mount Royal should have substantial input from Outremont, Côte des Neiges, Westmount, Ville Marie and the Plateau.

Westmount city council should have a voice on this [closing of Camillien Houde to all but buses] issue, as with this deviation of traffic, there will be an increase on

The Boulevard and other commuting arteries as drivers are forced to go around.

Westmount council should be more present on Montreal decisions that affect Westmount directly and indirectly.

KIRK POLYMENAKOS, CLAREMONT AVE.

PARKING SYSTEM CHALLENGING, EXPENSIVE

So it was Councillor Philip Cutler who is responsible for initiating our costly and unnecessary pay-by-plate system. I am healthy and I have tried to insert all the required information in the parking meters during this frigidly cold weather, without success. I cannot help but sympathize with disabled citizens who must struggle with this unforgiving challenge. Now the cost of metered parking is being increased, demonstrating that their installation was motivated by financial gain for Westmount and not for any consideration for its citizens.

THANKS FOR THE SNOW REMOVAL

I congratulate the city on the great job of clearing the snow on the sidewalks this winter. It has been excellent in our neighbourhood, especially.

As one who finds it difficult to walk

PHOTO TO THE EDITOR: COOPER'S HAWK



Thursday January 18, in the backyard of 356 Lansdowne. We have several bird-feeders on the upstairs deck — perhaps this was the attraction? Not surprisingly perhaps, the feeders were neglected at this time!

RICHARD LOCK, LANSDOWNE AVE.

through snow, I greatly appreciate the city's quick and efficient job!

It's the best since I started living here 33 years ago.

CLAIRE SALZBERG, CLAREMONT AVE.

THANKS FOR THE WESTERN/MCH MEMORIES

Perhaps you already know this, but the former Children's Hospital site was previously "The Western" for many years. It was the Western division of the Montreal General Hospital (MGH). I volunteered there as a nurses' aide quite happily one summer – in 1950, I think.

I can fill you in on a few other things too. It was called the Western division because the very old Montreal General was in what we now call Old Montreal, so the new division was in the west end (so to speak!). Both hospitals continued to function as full teaching hospitals for med students and medical residents. (My husband did surgical rotations at both.)

The Western was built in 1924, and amalgamated with the new MGH on Cedar and Pine Ave. in 1955. I believe it was then that the Children's Hospital on Pine Ave. gradually moved from its awkward three-plus buildings on the mountainside to a modern, convenient location at Dorchester and Atwater.

I wonder if a memorial plaque will be put somewhere, as this is an important building in Montreal's medical history.

On a personal note, I have a long history with Westmount. My grandfather built a lovely house beside Murray Park (331 Côte St Antoine), I grew up on Upper Lansdowne and lived for 65 years in our remarkable city.

Your newspaper reminds me how much I miss living there, and – who knows? – I may return soon. It is a pleasure to read the *Independent* every week!

HELEN (AYER) GOODALL, KINGSTON (ONTARIO)

PROCESS CONCERNS REMAIN ON SCAOPI

The ongoing debate regarding the 500 Claremont project, including that at last week's council meeting, has recently focused on the mechanics of the specific construction, alteration or occupancy (SCAOPI) consultation and referendum process, particularly the timelines, numbers required for a referendum and unusual zoning areas.

This focus, while important, does not address the critical problem, which is council's aversion to transparency.

It is clear that residents who opposed the 500

continued on p. 10

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

We are Westmount

Editor

David Price: 514.935.4537
indie@westmountindependent.com

Chief reporter

Laureen Sweeney

Graphics

Ted Sancton

Advertising sales

Arleen Candiotti: 514.223.3567
advertising@westmountindependent.com

Classified ads

www.westendclassifieds.com

Accounting

Beth Hudson: 514.223.6138
office@westmountindependent.com

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Thank you.

DAVID PRICE, EDITOR

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I have never lived in Westmount, though I have demonstrated there many a time.

I look forward to checking out the *Independent* for many decades to come! Great paper. Great ads!

MURRAY LEVINE

PROFESSIONAL REPORTING

Happy New Year to you all at the *Indie*!

Ever since the first edition, my late husband and I knew it was a winner, appreciating it more and more as it grew. Where else can we read about what is going on locally, with reporting at a high level with professional reporters such as

Laureen Sweeney?

If I am looking for a service, I first scan the ads in the *Indie* to see if there is a local person or company that I could use.

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Please accept my kudos for your interesting, informative, good-gossipy news and reviews.

Although I don't live in Westmount, I always enjoy reading about your town, often recognizing the citizens highlighted and taking advantage of the publicized events.

Bonus, of course, is that it is offered free.

I hope it will be status quo for 2018, so please keep up the good work.

JENNIFER SHUGAR, SNOWDON

AVID READER

Every week I receive and read the *Independent*. I have been an avid reader since it arrived. Laureen Sweeney has always been the hub that keeps it together. My only complaint: blurry, fuzzy, distorted and unclear pictures. In this day and age, there is no excuse.

JOHN EVERATT

WE NEED YOU

As a former Westmounter, I am writing

to tell you how much I enjoy catching up with the news and the advertisers in the *Westmount Independent*.

I am in Montreal and Westmount often, and it is important to me to be kept informed about your city. Westmount is my shopping area!

I also would like to say how generous and supportive your paper is to charities in your community. It is much appreciated by many of us.

Keep up the good work – we need you.

MARNI BLUNDELL, KNOWLTON

CREATES FEELING OF COMMUNITY

I do look forward to reading your publication every week. It creates a great feeling of community. [It's] interesting and informative. Thanks for that.

HELEN KOGAN, ROSLYN AVE.

HIRED PEOPLE FROM ADS

Although I have not lived in Westmount for nearly 30 years (after living there for some 20), I am still a "Westmount citizen" as I carry out all my domestic transactions in the Greene and Victoria areas and pick up the *Independent* religiously!

I find the articles very informative and have regularly hired workmen and painters (e.g. Stuart Dearlove) from adver-

tisements in your pages.

My very best wishes for a long life to the *Independent* as we grow older together!

With best wishes.

MANON VENNAT

KEEP IT UP

Today I am writing to tell you that I am delighted every time I get your *Westmount Independent*.

There is always something interesting, be it ads, interesting articles, photos, etc. Many thanks to you and your staff! Keep up the good work!

CAROLA KOCH MORTON

Overheard on the streets of Westmount

January 28, lower Westmount. Food delivery man hands portable credit card scanner to client with \$533,000 as the amount to be okayed.

Delivery man, jokingly: "Will that work?"

Client: "Do you think it's within my credit card limit?"

* * *

February 1, young woman walking east on St. Catherine near Greene at 8:55 pm and talking to someone on her cell phone, seemingly about a third person:

"Don't call me ugly. ... Don't pull a gun on me unless you're going to use it."

* * *

February 1 at 10 pm, at the bar of a restaurant in the Greene and St. Catherine area.

Patron 1: "Would you like some of these onion rings?"

Patron 2: "No. Not enough onions."

'Inebriated' driver arrested in joint action by city workers

In a combined effort by Public Security and Public Works personnel, the driver of a car was arrested by police January 22 on suspicion of being intoxicated.

In relating the incident, Public Security officials said they had been alerted by Public Works at 2:22 am about a man asleep at the wheel of a car at Glen Rd. and St. Catherine. Responding patrollers found the man with his head down, his foot on the brake and the car's transmission in drive.

They positioned the Public Works truck in front of the car to prevent it being driven away when they woke the man. He was subsequently asked to remove the keys from the ignition while awaiting police and then to spit out the gum he had just popped in his mouth.

Police arrived in about 10 minutes and the driver was taken into custody for being in control of a motor vehicle while showing signs of intoxication. He was described as gray-haired and aged 60 to 70. No other details were available.

Contractor caught in the act

A snow removal contractor who dumped snow from private property onto the street outside 536 Roslyn January 20 was ordered to remove it and put it back on private property. The street and sidewalk had already been cleaned by the city when the offender was caught in action at 8:15 am. Public Security director Greg McBain said this has been major problem experienced by the city in clearing streets and sidewalks.

The contractor complied and no tickets were issued.

Contractor parks illegally, gets ticket for \$1,286

A ticket for \$1,286 was issued to a contractor January 29 for parking several construction trucks and placing a pile of material on the street and in front of a bus zone at 119 Sunnyside. No permit had been obtained for occupying the street. Public Security officials said a 45-foot truck with trailer was one of the vehicles found there at 10:40 am.

They were allowed to stay on the street since concrete work on floors of the home would be ruined if it were stopped.

Ice falls from bank building

Public Works crews were contacted January 20 to barricade the area around the Royal Bank at Sherbrooke and Victoria when ice was reported falling on the sidewalk, Public Security officials said.

When patrollers informed the bank at 2:13 pm, they were told help had already been summoned to remove ice from the building.



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IMPORTANT NOTICE

By-law 1515 entitled *By-law modifying the by-law on paid parking* and **By-law 1516** entitled *By-law to establish the conditions for the publication of certain public notices* were adopted by the Municipal Council.

Legal notices were published in *Le Devoir's* edition of February 9, 2018. They were posted on the bulletin board located at City Hall and are available on the City's website.

Me Martin St-Jean, City Clerk

www.westmount.org



**Me Arthur Younanian
&
Me Marianne Bedrossian**
Notaires – Notaries

4635 Sherbrooke West
Westmount, QC H3Z 1G2
Tel.: (514) 931-2531
info@aynotary.ca



A Pee wee classic

Members of the Westmount Wings Pee wee A and B teams with coaches Pierre Arsenault, Christian Matossian and Charles Martin.

Photo courtesy of C. Matossian.

Prince Albert Park's ice rink was in fine condition on February 11 when the Westmount Pee wee B team hosted an outdoor winter classic hockey game. Members of the A team joined in the festivities, "and a great time was had by all," coach Christian

Matossian told the *Independent*. "Thanks to the dedication and hard work of Westmount's Public Works and Sports and Rec. departments, players, coaches and parents will cherish this Canadian experience forever."



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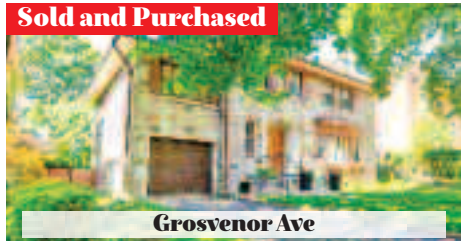
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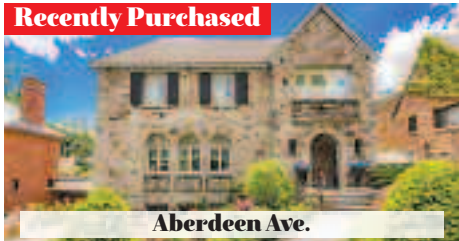
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Snow-sculpting victor



Five-year-old Samantha Rose Saba won the Westmount Winter Carnival's snowman-building contest over the February 5-6 weekend. "She decided to approach the contest by making an inuksuk design, since the snow was not sticky at -15°C," father Sebastian Saba told the Independent.

Photo courtesy of S. Saba.



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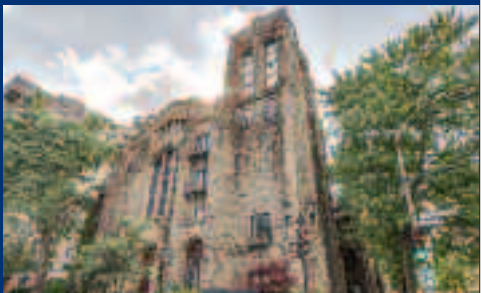
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Antigone in Westmount



Antigone is brought before King Creon where a soldier describes her crime. Photo: Ralph Thompson.

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Letters, cont'd. from p. 6

Claremont project did not garner the registry numbers required for the referendum to proceed. Mayor Smith acclaimed this as a testament to "democracy in action."

However, while most residents would concur that the revised development is an improvement over what was first proposed, many have been left angry and frustrated because they remain completely unconvinced of the integrity and impartiality of the SCAOPI process. Although six issues of significant concern to residents had been resolved earlier with the developer, council summarily dismissed these for inclusion as additional SCAOPI conditions, its prerogative. We have no idea why.

glass windows provided a backdrop to the story of Antigone, who wants to give her slain brother Polyneices a respectful burial against the orders of King Creon. The play continues until February 17.

Council never gave reasons why, for instance, it maintained that current standard procedures regarding construction supervision and resident insurance were preferable to the updated and enhanced procedures offered by the developer. Council may have believed that it had a solid foundation for its decision. But we don't know that.

Democracy at its best mandates that residents fully understand the reasons underlying any decision that will have an impact on their lives. In this case, they clearly do not. It just reinforces the current and widespread mistrust of elected officials at all levels of government.

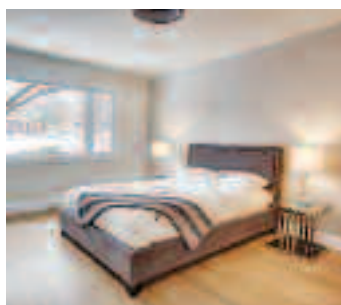
If council is truly striving to create a model urban heritage community, it has to do more to regain the trust of its residents.

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Mr. Magoo soldiers on



Mr. Magoo, a 9-year-old German shepherd mix seen here on February 9, needs a little help these days for his walk along de Maisonneuve, near Roslyn. He has degenerative myelopathy, which is a progressive disease seen most frequently in German shepherds, boxers and corgis leading to paralysis of the rear end.

Photo: Ralph Thompson

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Just in time for Valentine's Council members appointed to conduct civil marriages

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Seven of the nine members of the new city council were appointed by resolution February 5 to conduct civil marriages as an option provided by provincial law.

Those agreeing to undertake the additional responsibility are listed as Mayor Christina Smith, Anitra Bostock, Philip Cutler, Jeff Shamie, Mary Gallery, Cynthia Lulham and Kathleen Kez.

"This comes just in time for Valentine's Day," Smith stated. The annual day marking romance takes place Wednesday, February 14.

It was 10 years ago that Westmount introduced the new civil marriage service that enabled couples to marry in a familiar envi-

ronment at city hall and within the community rather than at the Montreal courthouse.

Then-mayor Karin Marks and then-councillors John de Castell, Nicole Forbes, Cynthia Lulham and Tom Thompson "received the blessing of the minister of Justice February 21 after a request by city council in December," the *Independent* reported on March 19, 2008.

The preparation of policies and procedures followed.

Trailblazing the process

Interestingly, however, having a civil marriage in Westmount was an experience that one bride – who had grown up in Westmount, and her husband to be, trailblazed when they were married at a local home December 22, 2007 by longtime family friend Patrick Martin (see photo March 19, 2008, p. 3).

Coincidentally, Martin was a city councillor but had obtained the little-known authorization for a citizen to perform a marriage (for one time only) after being assisted in filling out the required forms by the city clerk of the time. He suggested this had made the civil wedding a historic precursor to those that were to follow soon after by some other council members.

"I believe I'm the first person on council to have done this," he was quoted as saying at the council meeting February 25, 2008 when it was announced Quebec had granted the right of designated council members



Gino Ricci and André Major leaving their wedding ceremony at city hall August 25, 2007. This was the first wedding ever held physically at city hall, although it was performed by a notary friend of the couple unconnected to city council and staff. See our August 26-27, 2008 issue for full coverage.

Photo courtesy of public.

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Estelle Petit (right) and Jasmin Pilon (centre) were the first couple ever to be married by a city of Westmount council member, in this case then mayor Karin Marks. The event took place at city hall on September 14, 2008.

Photo: Independent

to solemnize marriages.

Martin, however, did not ask to be designated in the city council resolution but said

his pioneering experience had had a profound effect. His daughter had grown up with the bride.



Then councillor Patrick Martin officiates, in a private capacity, at the Westmount wedding of Lucas Smalley and Gillian Murray December 22, 2007.

Photo courtesy of Patrick Martin.

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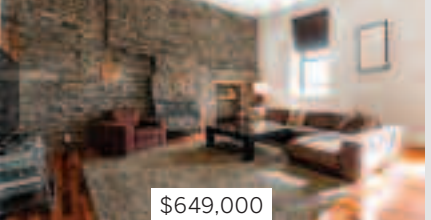
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Art Scene

HEATHER BLACK

Intervention: 31 Women Painters exhibition on at the Visual Arts Centre



"The Healers," by Eliza Griffiths.



"Red Circles 33," by Natasha Martel.

works by Doris McCarthy, Joyce Wieland, Wanda Koop and Annie Pootoogook.

Explored surrounds

Intervention: 31 Women Painters celebrates the diversity of subject, technique and materials within contemporary art. A 1953 stylized watercolour by Doris McCarthy, "Asters in the Fields at Fool's Paradise," conveys the landscape's bright airiness. The 1991 acrylic painting "Waterfall" by Dorothy Knowles portrays an intricate pattern of water and forest foliage. Goats are the subject of Joyce Wieland's delicate but lively 1976 colour-pencil drawing, while a squirrel set in an urban neighbourhood dominates Christiane Pflug's 1968 black-and-white lithograph "For Tobias."

The exhibition's mix of representative and abstract paintings creates a dialogue between styles. Wanda Koop's linear composition of muted cyan and orange against purple-grey evokes rain against a window pane. Emerging artist Natasha Martel's

2017 lively acrylic and oil abstract, "Red Circles 33," conveys busy city streets, red lights and stop signs. Yet as abstracts, both draw attention to colour, design, and compositional balance.

Reconsidered traditions

The exhibited work also explores Canadian figurative painting. Marion Wagschal's 2001 bleary-eyed, self-portrait, "Dawn," is both reflective and intimate. Eliza Griffiths' 2018 painting of three women, "The Healers," speaks to communication and cooperation. A common morning ritual of a man and woman at a kitchen table, "Having Some Tea," is the subject of Annie Pootoogook's 2016 colour pencil and ink drawing.

Ann Beam explores a similar theme in the attention-grabbing watercolour "Go into the Kitchen of Your Heart and Cook Some Love." In this composition, a small kitchen scene of a woman and stove centred within a large red heart is dotted with the title's large stenciled letters. Although

Painted with various media, each of these paintings presents and, at times, challenges conventional feminine roles.

The juxtaposition of work from different decades also creates commentary. Some, like Medrie MacPhee's 2016 "Corpus," with ambiguous black shapes and grey lines, are modern graphics. Others, once revolutionary in style, like Rita Le-tendre's colourful oil "Solitude," are still

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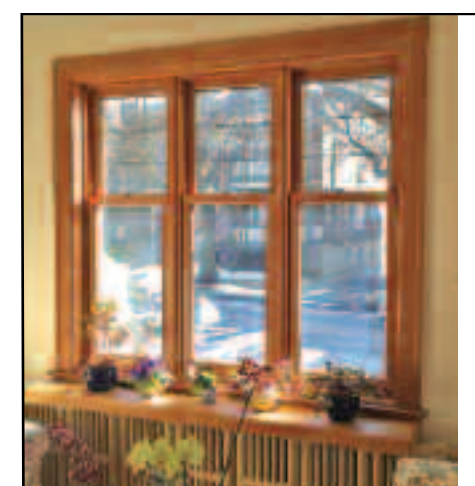
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strong with the passage of time. The exhibition's variety of vision and voice is a testament to each artist's creative interpretation of subject matter and reinterpretation of visual form.

Inventive interventions

For *Intervention: 31 Women Painters*, Klunder – the invited 2018 guest curator

and workshop instructor at the Visual Arts Centre – asked artists he admired to submit a small, theme-related work of their own choice. The result is an exhibition of diverse self-expression that is important, not only for historical context, but also as an exposé of artistic ingenuity.

The exhibition continues until February 24 at the McClure Gallery, 350 Victoria Ave.

Comin' Up

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Westmount Horticultural Society presents "Terrariums" with Sheena Swirlz, coordinator of homesteading and urban agriculture workshops at Concordia University. Guests \$5. Westmount Public Library.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Antigone by Raise the Stakes. \$20. Westmount Park United Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve. 8 pm. Also February 15, 16 and 17.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Repurposing Churches by David Hanna, associate professor of Urban Studies at UQAM and member of Westmount Local Heritage Council. Guests \$5. Westmount Public Library. 7 pm.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Climate Café: "Citizens' Eco-Urban Planning" with Mathieu Madison of College Rosemont. Westmount Park United

Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd. 7 pm.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Demolition hearing, 4014-4022 St. Catherine, City hall. 5 pm.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Women's Canadian Club of Montreal presents Professor Alain Tapp of the University of Montreal on "The Revolution of Artificial Intelligence." Guests \$10. Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St W. 12:30 pm. (11:15 am lunch).

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Demolition meeting, 2307 Dorchester (MCH), Westmount city hall, 5:05 pm.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

Westmount Horticultural Society, Westmount Public Library, 7 pm. Guests \$5.

MONDAY, MARCH 19

City council meeting, Westmount city hall, 7:30 pm.

To BE LISTED IN Comin' Up

Please send your Westmount event, in the following format, to: CU@WESTMOUNTINDEPENDENT.COM

FORMAT:

Day, Date, Event. Price. Place, address. Time of day.

EXAMPLE:

Sunday, February 31

Some Awesome Event featuring John Smith, CA. \$5. Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke. 4:30 pm.

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Comité consultatif d'urbanisme : appel de candidatures

Tout candidat doit être un résident de Westmount et membre en règle de l'Ordre des architectes du Québec ou de l'Ordre des urbanistes du Québec. Pour en savoir plus, veuillez visiter le site **westmount.org**.

Taxes foncières 2018 : premier versement exigible le 26 février

Le paiement peut être effectué en deux versements, exigibles le 26 février et le 25 mai. **westmount.org**.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

La troupe Teen Tour Theatre présente *Totally Red!*

Le dimanche 18 février, 14 h - 16 h, Victoria Hall. Une adaptation humoristique du conte classique *Le petit chaperon rouge* réalisé par Aviva Wolman-Wener. 4 à 12 ans. Inscription requise. 514 989-5229.

Série Récits de voyage

Les vendredis du 26 janvier au 2 mars, 13 h à 15 h, Bibliothèque. Une activité hebdomadaire pour les individus atteints de la maladie d'Alzheimer ou d'une autre forme de démence. Inscription requise. Le nombre de places est limité. 514 989-5530 ou dmiguez@westmount.org.

Club de lecture en français

Le mardi 19 février, 13 h, Bibliothèque. Russell Banks. Animé par Gisèle Magny. 514 989-5299.

Atelier de poésie avec Ann Lloyd

Le mercredi 21 février, 10 h 15, Bibliothèque. Le Groupe de poésie de Westmount compose des poèmes à partir de thèmes proposés par les membres. Bienvenue à tous. 514 989-5299.

Cercle de lecture *Finnegans Wake* de Joyce : *The Boaters and Sifters of ALP*

Le mercredi 21 février, 19 h, Victoria Hall. Joignez-vous au groupe de lecture et plongez tête première dans une discussion passionnée sur l'œuvre magistrale de James Joyce, *Finnegans Wake*. Apportez votre exemplaire du livre. 514 989-5299.

Bibliothèque de semences : lancement du printemps

Le lundi 26 février, Bibliothèque. Semences gratuites pour les membres de la Bibliothèque.

Prochaine séance du conseil le lundi 5 mars

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Ciné-club

Le mardi 27 février, 14 h, Victoria Hall. *Loving Vincent*. Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

Club de lecture en anglais

Le mardi 27 février, 19 h, Bibliothèque. *Commonwealth* par Anne Patchett. Animé par Carly Vandergrindt. 514 989-5299.

Conférences de 14 heures :

Gregory B. Gallagher
Le mercredi 28 février, 14 h, Bibliothèque. Film : *Legends of Magdalen*. Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

Relâche scolaire : films en après-midi

Les 5 et 6 mars, 14h, Bibliothèque. Inscriptions requises; projections en anglais. 514 989-5229.
Le lundi 5 mars : *Coco* (2017) - 5 ans et plus
Le mardi 6 mars : *Wonder* (2017) - 7 ans et plus

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Galerie du Victoria Hall : exposition

Du 25 janvier au 23 février. La galerie du Victoria Hall est fière de présenter des œuvres de Mona Agia et Rasa Pavilanis. Horaire : lundi au vendredi 10 h à 21 h, samedi et dimanche 10 h à 17 h. 514 989-5521.

Conférences-midi

Le mardi 20 février, 12 h 30, Victoria Hall. *The Revolution of Artificial Intelligence* avec Alain Tapp, Ph.D. En collaboration avec Le Cercle canadien des femmes de Montréal. 10\$/conférence. 514 989-5226.

SPORTS ET LOISIRS

Inscriptions : activités printemps et été

À compter du 13 février. Consultez le répertoire des activités à **westmount.org** ou procurez-vous un exemplaire à l'hôtel de Ville, au Victoria Hall ou au Centre des loisirs. Assurez-vous de réactiver votre compte électronique en présentant deux preuves de résidence au bureau des sports et loisirs du CLW.

SÉCURITÉ PUBLIQUE

Rappel : opérations de déneigement

SVP, portez une attention particulière aux feux clignotants et aux panneaux oranges temporaires qui annoncent les interdictions temporaires de stationnement pendant les opérations de chargement de neige. Évitez des contraventions et assurez l'efficacité des opérations de déneigement.

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CITY HALL

Planning Advisory Committee: call for candidates

Eligible candidates must be Westmount residents and members in good standing with the *Ordre des architectes du Québec* or the *Ordre des urbanistes du Québec*. To find out more, go to **westmount.org**.

2018 Property taxes: first installment due February 26

Payments can be made in two installments, due on February 26 and on May 25. **westmount.org**.

LIBRARY

Teen Tour Theatre Group presents *Totally Red!*

Sunday, February 18, 2-4 p.m., Victoria Hall. A fun retelling of the classic fairy tale *Little Red Riding Hood*, directed by Aviva Wolman-Wener. Ages 4 to 12. Registration required. 514 989-5229.

Tales and Travels Series

Fridays, from January 26 to March 2, 1-3 p.m., Library. A weekly activity for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. Registration is required and spaces are limited. 514 989-5530 or dmiguez@westmount.org.

French Book Club

Monday, February 19, 1 p.m., Library. Russell Banks. Led by Gisèle Magny. 514 989-5299.

Poetry Workshop with Ann Lloyd

Wednesday, February 21, 10:15 a.m., Library. The Westmount Poetry Group meets to compose poetry together working with themes proposed by members. Welcome to all. 514 989-5299.

Reading group for Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*: The Boaters and Sifters of ALP

Wednesday, February 21, 7 p.m., Library. Join the circle skimming the surface or sifting through the layers of Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*. Bring an open mind and a copy of the book. 514 989-5299.

Seed Lending Library: spring launch

Monday, February 26, Library. Free seeds for Library members. More than 50 varieties of plants - herbs, flowers, vegetables, fruits, some of them heirloom varieties. 514 989-5530.

Next Council Meeting Monday, March 5

Film Club

Tuesday, February 27, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. *Loving Vincent*. Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

English Book Club

Tuesday, February 27, 7 p.m., Library. Anne Patchett's *Commonwealth*. Led by Carly Vandergrindt. 514 989-5299.

2 O'Clock Conferences:

Gregory B. Gallagher
Wednesday, February 28, 2 p.m., Library. Film: *Legends of Magdalen*. Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

March Break Film Afternoons

March 5 & 6, 2 p.m., Library. Registration required; screenings in English. 514 989-5229.
Monday, March 5: *Coco* (2017) - 5 years and up;
Tuesday, March 6: *Wonder* (2017) - 7 years and up.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Gallery at Victoria Hall: exhibition

January 25 to February 23. The Gallery at Victoria Hall is proud to present the works of Mona Agia and Rasa Pavilanis. Hours: Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., weekends 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 514 989-5521.

Afternoon Lecture Series

Tuesday, February 20, 12:30 p.m., Victoria Hall. *The Revolution of Artificial Intelligence* with Alain Tapp, Ph.D. In collaboration with The Women's Canadian Club of Montreal. \$10/lecture. 514 989-5226.

SPORTS & RECREATION

Registration: spring and summer activities

Begins February 13. Consult the activities guide at **westmount.org** or pick up a paper copy at City hall, Victoria Hall or the Westmount Recreation Centre. Make sure to reactivate your online account by bringing two proofs of residence to the Sports and Recreation office at the WRC.

PUBLIC SECURITY

Reminder: snow operations

Please pay attention to the temporary flashing lights or orange signage that indicate parking restrictions during snow loading operations. Avoid fines and help make the snow removal more efficient.



Turcot's impact felt from east to west



Greene Ave. was closed to vehicles and pedestrians at the railway bridge below Dorchester on February 9. Confusingly, signs on the western sidewalk (right) directed pedestrians to the eastern one, which was closed. The audience had been told three days before at the Turcot NDG-Westmount-Montreal West Neighbourhood Committee meeting (see p. 18-19 for coverage) that Greene was generally open to pedestrians right to St. Antoine St. except for a period to demolish a temporary bridge.



A policeman was manually operating the traffic light at Claremont and de Maisonneuve, just west of Westmount on February 9 at 8 am, likely due to traffic patterns being disrupted by the Turcot/720 work. One was also seen later that morning at Glen Rd., St. Catherine and Lansdowne (not pictured). Photos: Independent.

First finish for Fine at Toastmasters tourney



A public speaking contest held on January 30 in Victoria Hall by the Westmount Toastmasters saw three members of the group finish first, second and third in a field of five competitors. Seen from the left in the photo are Westmount Toastmasters president Eugenia Turculet, Martin Carnegie who finished third, Gregory Fine who finished first, Emmanuel Mancilla who finished second and Westmount Toastmasters vice-president for public relations David Johnston. The club meets every Tuesday at Victoria Hall from 7 pm to 9 pm and welcomes new members.

Photo: Martin C. Barry

Sound barrier, cont'd. from p. 1

(see story May 9, p. 1).

Summarizing the city's case in the letter, Smith explains that sound levels projected on completion of the highway would not only exceed Quebec's environmental limits, but also contravene a government decree in 2010 requiring sound reduction for Westmount residents.

Meanwhile, a sound barrier is to be built at government expense to protect other sectors such as La Vérendrye, Côte St. Paul and Montreal West, Smith writes.

The city, she further explains, had been assured the new highway would be lowered and noise levels decreased even after the ministry knew the elevation would not change sufficiently and was aware of the impact it would have on Westmount.

Premier Philippe Couillard and Westmount's provincial legislator Jacques Chagnon were copied on Smith's letter.

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‘Merde happens’ – citizen-member Mossop

Sparks fly at Turcot meeting as consortium, MTQ admit to breaching noise norms; moderator ejects Krantz

By David Price

Tempers boiled over at the meeting of the Turcot NDG-Westmount-Montreal West Neighbourhood Committee held February 6 at the St. Raymond community centre in southeastern NDG – and Westmounters were front and centre.

The committee deals with issues arising from the reconstruction of the Turcot interchange and the 720/136 autoroute from Greene Ave. to Ville St. Pierre.

Of particular interest to Westmounters in the southeast, present and not present, was the Quebec Transport ministry (MTQ) and KPH-Turcot’s own presentation slides, which showed repeated breaches of their own sound thresholds, marked by plus (+) signs (see www.turcot.transports.gouv.qc.ca/en/Documents/2018-02-06%20-%20CBV%20NDG-Westmount%20ANG.pdf, p. 19 and following).

In an email the next day, Quebec Transport ministry MTQ spokesperson Sarah Bensadoun cautioned, “However, we sometimes authorize contractors to exceed the authorized sound levels. Also, when the sound levels are exceeded, you will find an explanation on the website.”

Krantz ejected

Residents did not need to be told that the work area was noisy and they came primed to grill panelists on the subject.

Before he even asked a question, St. Antoine St. (at Atwater) resident Peter Krantz was ejected from the meeting by moderator Pierre Guillot-Hurtubise of Octane Stratégies. After the employee-panelists’ presentations, citizen-members’ questions and 75 percent of the residents’ question period, Krantz’s agitation in the queue seemed to catch Guillot-Hurtubise’s



Resident Karl Moore, background, leans against a window sill and resident Peter Krantz, left, against a pillar as they wait for their turns to speak.

eye. He asked police panelist Steve Morissette to remove him from the room, which he did.

Soon after, Guillot-Hurtubise allowed Krantz back into the room and into his previous place in the question line-up.

Krantz talks history, present day

When Krantz did take to the mic, he turned his back on the panelists and addressed the audience, saying, “I have more respect for [my fellow] citizens.” This approach had previously been condemned by Guillot-Hurtubise when Westmounter Karl Moore had employed it, but he allowed Krantz to give most of his remarks this way.

Krantz made a number of points.

- He contended that the neighbourhood committee was the result of his class-action lawsuit over construction noise in the 1998-to-2000 era, which settled for \$3.5 million in January. He presented this situation as both a good thing, such as when it led to the setting-up of a telephone number (514.873.1372) for complaints, and as a bad thing, namely an attempt by the MTQ and the KPH-Turcot consortium to “cover its back” should they ever go to court again.

- He criticized the persistent presence of speakers on trucks emitting back-up beeps. The MTQ’s Sandra Sultana replied sharply and right away that most of the vehicles on site are relatively silent now.

Krantz shot back that it only takes one

audible signal to wake him up. “We are treated like animals, but it is not citizens who should suffer,” he said, contrasting this situation with all the work being done on the highways for the benefit of vehicles.

- Krantz said that dust from broken-up concrete was toxic. David Maréchal of the KPH-Turcot construction consortium refuted this point after Krantz had finished his presentation, saying that many tests were done early on and they revealed no levels even close to toxic. Fewer tests are now being done as a result.

- Krantz advocated that the new entrance onto the 20 west should be accessed from St. Antoine westbound via two lanes operating under a perpetual green light, “You are spending [lots of money], but you can’t [figure out a way to allow] drivers to turn right.”

Sultana irritatedly repeated the statement of KPH-Turcot representative Sylvie Gervais from earlier in the meeting that this request had been studied and was not feasible due to the need to clear the intersection with a red light so large trucks could turn on their own green.

- Krantz argued that the whole highway now being demolished and replaced had been neglected during its lifetime or even badly designed, unlike the Bonaventure highway. He singled out the metal sewer pipes and their corrosion by salt as a principal cause.

After quite some time, Guillot-Hurtubise pointed out that Krantz was not asking questions and should wrap up. Krantz shot back that the panelists had spoken for hours and said nothing. Guillot-Hurtubise offered almost facetiously, but politely, to end the meeting and then allow him to educate the whole audience. Krantz sat down soon after.

Moore English, Moore sleep

Hours before, the meeting had started stormily, when Moore had asked – loudly, from the audience and before the residents’ question period – whether there would be at least some English at the meeting.

When Guillot-Hurtubise explained that, as per MTQ policy, the meeting would take place in French, but that questions, and answers to those questions, could be in English. Moore said, “It is hard to ask questions if I don’t understand [what was presented].”

Moore returned to this linguistic theme later continued on p. 19



Resident Peter Krantz (left) addresses the audience as the MTQ’s Sandra Sultana listens. Krantz and Sultana (centre) have a seemingly calm exchange after the meeting. Westmount city councillor Kathleen Kez (right) begins to speak.



Other Turcot-ish news

Glen Rd. to close February 16 to 19, *dalle parc* back on governments' agendas

Greene Ave. at the railway bridge is currently closed to vehicles (but open to pedestrians) at the request of the city of Westmount, not the Turcot project, and its status is under discussion. It will, however, be open when Glen Rd. is next closed, currently scheduled for February 16 to 19, and be closed completely to destroy a temporary bridge.

Mo' MoWest

Montreal West citizen-member Suzanne Barwick and other residents had pointed questions and comments about noise and traffic in the southern part of that town.

Green band, *dalle parc*

A meeting on the "green band" at the foot of the St. Jacques escarpment is forecast for the end of March at a precise date to be chosen. It will not cover the possible *dalle parc* bike and pedestrian bridge over the 20 from the Cavendish and St. Jacques area to LaSalle, which new Montreal mayor and Projet Montréal leader Valérie Plante has put back on the agen-

da. Questioners contended that the two meetings should be held together for efficiency, but Sultana explained that the *dalle parc* is not in the KPH mandate while the green band is.

Montreal city councillor for eastern NDG and Projet Montréal member Peter McQueen told the *Independent* the next day that he understands that the *dalle parc* might have to wait three years given all the site complexities, but he will "be happy as long as I know it is coming," news he hopes to have by the end of this year and before the provincial election. He also told the *Independent*, "I presume the city of Montreal and the MTQ are playing bluff, saying 'You pay for it.'"

Changes to de Maisonneuve/Decarie?

NDG citizen-member Jill Prescesky thanked the MTQ and the KPH consortium for temporary fences on the Upper Lachine bridge over the Decarie expressway and asked when permanent work would be done in the St. Raymond (Upper Lachine, Girouard, Addington, St. Jacques) area, presumably including

changes to the complex five-way intersection at Decarie Blvd., Upper Lachine and de Maisonneuve.

McQueen told the *Independent* the next day that he is for keeping Upper Lachine open, especially given the bus traffic, but he wants to "get a read" on the relatively new exit from the southbound Decarie expressway to de Maisonneuve, which makes it necessary to have a portion of de Maisonneuve be eastbound from just east of Addington to Decarie Blvd.

"There aren't that many people using it," he said.

Some work at St. Jacques and Decarie is the responsibility of the MTQ, the meeting was told, but city of Montreal employee James Byrns said that there would be a consultation meeting before any work or changes were made to its streets.

When someone expressed dismay at more meetings, he said, "When we arrive with a blank page, people say no work has been done. When we arrive with a plan, we are criticized for not listening first to residents."

CN appears

The meeting marked the first time that a representative attended from CN, whose trains run through southern Montreal West. His name was Olivier Quenneville. When someone criticized the company's long absence, he said, "I've been with CN for six months."

"But CN is older than Canada," someone shot back.

Possible Atwater outlet, Champlain bridge access

One questioner advocated that trucks on Atwater be directed away from St. Antoine westbound (and the new temporary Rose de Lima entrance to the 20 west) and down Atwater to re-join the highway system elsewhere. Gervais said she would look into this possibility.

It was confirmed that the entrance from Girouard southbound at Sherbrooke to the 15 south and the Champlain bridge will generally remain open, although there will be some, currently unscheduled, temporary closures.

when citizen-member Michael Mossop's English questions were answered in French only, although Mossop had declined Guillot-Hurtubise's offer to have English answers. (Moore appeared not to have heard Mossop do so.)

In his substantive remarks, Moore focused on the need for children and teenagers to sleep more than adults and said that 6 am was too early for any work. He also asked that when work went late, it should start later the next morning to allow for a certain amount of sleep time.

Mossop: 'All hell broke loose'

Citizen-member Mossop was less fiery

than his fellow residents, but nevertheless pointed in his criticism. He was especially critical of what had happened on the January 13-14 weekend, when everything had been fine until 8 pm on Sunday, when "all hell broke loose."

Maréchal explained that almost no work could be done on the Saturday due to a snowstorm and it became necessary to add a second crew late on Sunday to get work done so as to have the highway open for the Monday morning commute. If only one sledgehammer crew had worked, he said, it would have gone on until 1 am instead of 11 pm. "Sometimes, we have surprises."

Mossop also wanted to know if the con-

sortium had asked for special permission to work so late and so loudly, and whether all alternatives had been considered, including simply adding another weekend of work to the end of the schedule. Sultana said she would find the relevant request and paperwork. Mossop seemed pleased, but persisted, "I want the proof," although he also said he understood that "merde (shit) happens."

On a positive note, he had earlier praised the complete closure of the 720. "It's paradise." The 720 was the raised, former highway, which Mossop found louder when in use than the new, lower 136. He told the *Independent* afterwards that he has yet to hear what it sounds like when the

old, raised 720 is entirely dismantled, as it may be acting as a sound barrier.

Other Westmounters

Among the approximately 40 attendees were Westmount citizen-members Brigitte Stock and Virginia Elliott, former Westmount Public Security chief David Sedgwick (replacing Westmount Public Works employee Jonathan Auger, who is on paternity leave) and city councillor Kathleen Kez, who asked for fencing on the Greene railroad bridge to deter graffiti.

The majority of the discussion was in French, and Guillot-Hurtubise was careful to translate any English into 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 will take place Wednesday, March 28 at Victoria Hall in Westmount.

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Cruesses honoured with amphitheatre at MUHC



From left, Peter Kruyt, MUHC board chair; John Rae, chair of the Best Care for Life campaign; Lucy Riddell and Claire Trottier, co-chairs of the Cruess campaign; Dr. Bruce Mazer, interim executive director of the MUHC's Research Institute; Martine Alfonso, MUHC interim president; Dr. Sylvia Cruess; Julie Quenneville, president of the MUHC Foundation; and Dr. Richard Cruess.

Photo courtesy of the MUHC.

The McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) honoured two former West-mounters, endocrinologist Dr. Sylvia Cruess and orthopedic surgeon Dr. Richard Cruess, by naming the amphitheatre of its research institute after them on February 7.

The MUHC super-hospital is located just west of Westmount.

This event was part of the MUHC

Broken branch poses hazard on Arlington

A large tree branch threatened to fall on Arlington Ave. Jan. 24, according to Public Security officials. The area was cordoned off until Public Works crews involved in snow removal could be available to remove it.

The owner of a car was given permission to park on the street so it would not be hit if the branch fell on the driveway.

Foundation's ongoing \$10-million research fundraising campaign in the couple's honour. The campaign has raised almost \$7 million to date.

Organizers used the occasion to announce a \$2-million donation to the campaign by the Trottier Family Foundation.

The Cruesses were newlyweds and Columbia University medical school graduates when they came to the Royal Victoria Hospital in the late 1950s. They retired from clinical activities in 1995.

Since retirement, "they have continued to be part of McGill University's Centre for Medical Education, where they have travelled extensively to teach the importance of professionalism in medicine, an important topic that was rarely taught in an academic setting," senior communications officer Kristina Anastasopoulos told the *Independent* in email on February 8.

They moved from Westmount to downtown Montreal in 1997.

Telling cancer to take a hike, supporting Hope & Cope



Supporters of the Kili Chez Nous project are seen here at the Vic Park gym on February 5 during a workout in preparation of their upcoming schedule of monthly fundraising hikes.

By MARTIN C. BARRY

After holding an official launch on January 23, supporters of Tell Cancer to Take a Hike gathered at the Victoria Park gym on the evening of February 5 for a hiking boot camp for all registered participants in the fundraising initiative.

The fundraiser's chairperson, Howard Stotland, as well Sharyn Katsof and co-chair Alice Lehrer, are Westmount residents. A number of others who've committed to the cause are also Westmounters, including Katsof's 80-year-old parents.

They want to raise money for the Jewish General Hospital's Hope & Cope program, which provides volunteer support to cancer survivors and their families. Katsof and Lehrer co-facilitate a bereavement group called Mourning Walk.

"We've all been involved with Hope & Cope for many years and what it does for cancer patients is just unbelievable," said Stotland. "We're trying to support them so

they can support more cancer patients to give them the kind of care that they need."

A number of years ago, Stotland climbed Mount Kilimanjaro as part of a fundraiser for the Montreal Children's Hospital. This inspired him to propose a similar fundraising venture for Hope & Cope, which so far has attracted eight climbers.

However, a smaller-scale project that the organizers have called "Kili Chez Nous" will consist of 10 monthly hikes in various regions of Quebec. The first hike is on March 17 at Mont Tremblant provincial park near St. Donat. As that also happens to be the same day the Kilimanjaro hikers will be reaching their summit in Africa, there are plans to do a live Facebook video link-up to celebrate.

Each of the participants in Kili Chez Nous has committed to raising at least \$2,000. The Vic Park gym decided to get on board to support the cause by providing a free coached training session in anticipation of the upcoming hikes.

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Cooking Competition for Quebec Breast Cancer Foundation

Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The Culinary Showdown at the Arsenal matched foodies, home cooks and celebrity chefs to raise funds for the Quebec Breast Cancer Foundation (FCSQ). The Jewish General Hospital (JGH) partnered with the FCSQ for the inaugural event. Co-chairs were local res **Etty Bienstock** (there with her husband **Ralph Bienstock**), along with **Irwin Kramer** (with his wife **Rhona**) and **Joan Prévost** (with **Jean Prévost**).

Judicious tasters were judges Westmounter **Mitch Garber**, as well as **Jonathan Garnier**, **Mitsou Gélinas**, **Jean-Philippe Tastet**, **Larry Smith** and **Michele Forgione**.

Hosted by **Brad Smith** and **Sébastien Benoît**, the eve paid tribute to honorary chair **Dr. André Lisbona** (there with his wife **Glenda**) and honoree **Nadia Saputo**.

Chefs were **Kimberly Lallouz**, **Michael Smith**, **Mark McEvan**, **Ivana Raca** and **Tyler Florence**, who won with his team.

Noted amidst food lovers were Westmounters **Heleena** and **Eddy Wiltzer**, chair JGH Foundation; **Alta** and **Harvey Levenson**, co-chair JGH Capital Campaign; **Susan** and **Jonathan Wener**, **Shirley Goldfarb** and **Bernice Brownstein**.

Also seen were doctors **Myer Bick**, president / CEO, JGH Foundation (there with his wife **Carole**); **Allen Rubin**, immediate past president, JGH Corporation (with **Sarah**); **Gerald Batist**, director Segal Cancer Centre (with **Lynn**); and **Howard Dermer**, president JGH corporation (with **Beverly Chaimberg**).

Also seen were **Nathalie Tremblay**,



Ralph and Etty Bienstock



Rhona and Irwin Kramer



Joan and Jean Prévost

CEO, Quebec Breast Cancer Foundation; **Jill Prévost**, **Lynda Stuyck**, **Emmelle** and **Alvin Segal**, **Debbie Sharif** and **Howard Stotland**, **Lillian Vineberg** and **Morris Goodman**, **Barbara** and **Stanley Plotnick** and **Christina Marie Mulchandani**, who raised \$12,000 in memory of her mother.

The amazing eve raised \$1.1 million to support two projects in the field of genomics, one led by **Dr. William Foulkes**, and the second by **Dr. Mark Basik**. Major sponsors were the AVON Foundation for Women Canada, Desjardins, Verley & Lawrence Yanofsky, PearTree, Farinex, Sub Zero – Wolf, MAXI and Pepsi.



Nadia Saputo



Heleena and Eddy Wiltzer



Dr. Andre and Glenda Lisbona

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Dr. Caissie has been a specialist in oral and maxillofacial surgery for over 10 years. He is chief of oral and maxillofacial surgery at Sacré-Coeur Hospital and practices in his downtown Montreal and Westmount clinics.

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Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Hosted by the Canadian Friends of the Israel Museum, the invitation read “business attire” for the private vernissage of the Leonard Cohen exhibit at the Musée d’art contemporain, aka The MAC, however, the cocktail was chicer than chic.

Business men wore, well, business attire, but many Westmount ladies arrived as if styled by *Vogue*.

The BLBDE (Best Little Black Dress Ever) was worn by **Jewel Lowenstein** (there with hubby **Paul**); on-trend palazzo pants were sported by **Gwen Nacos**, there with hubby **Tom**; **Evelyn Schachter** (with husband **Ralph**) was resplendent in a Jacquard print; lawyer **Nancy Cleman** was prescient with her jacket in violet – the Pantone 2018 colour of the year, and **Lenore Harris** shone with on-trend sequins.

Co-presidents were **Marissa Nuss** (classic in black), **Rhoda Pinsky** (who wore cool blooms) and **Sue Carol Isaacson**, who added an edge to her cocktail suit with leather. Young Associates co-chairs were **Lisa Reitman** and **Jonathan Nuss**.

Noted in the packed room was local res **Ziv Nevo Kulman**, then-Israeli consul general, now heading the cultural diplomacy

Leonard Cohen celebration full of charisma



Marissa Nuss, Rhoda Pinsky, Carol Isaacson



Laura Gilinski, Lillian Vineberg, Ziv Nevo Kulman and Morris Goodman

bureau of the Foreign Affairs ministry in Jerusalem. Other Westmounters included **Clarence Epstein**, **Constance** and **Mark Médalsy**, **Joanne Cohen**, **Penny Echenberg**, **Mona Golfman**, **Sarah Riesman**, **Sylvia Vogel**, **Corinne** and **Raymond Télío**, **Dorothy Reitman** and **Sarah Tauben**, as well as **Hanka Hornstein**, **Monette Malewski**, **Janis Brownstein**, **Emmelle Segal** and **Laura Gilinski** of the Israel Museum. Honorary co-chairs were **Lillian Vineberg** and **Morris Goodman**.

The star of the show was, of course, Leonard Cohen, the troubled troubadour whose bitter-sweet tunes resonate with melancholy. The exhibition, *A Crack in Everything*, curated by MAC director **John Zeppetelli** and **Victor Shiffman**, was amazing. Eleven artists were invited to exhibit works inspired by Leonard Cohen. But the show’s stand-out was an immersive multi-screen environment highlight-

ing decades of Cohen’s concerts. At one point, the charismatic singer is accompanied by the choir of his family’s synagogue, Westmount’s Shaar Hashomayim.

But it wasn’t just the sound. It wasn’t just his elegiac lyrics. It was the man. It was he, after all, who said, “I’m Your Man.” Sadly, Leonard Cohen did not see the show. Art is long. Life is short. Entr’Acte is on at the MAC until April 2018.



Monette Malewski, Clarence Epstein, Nancy Cleman



Jewel Lowenstein

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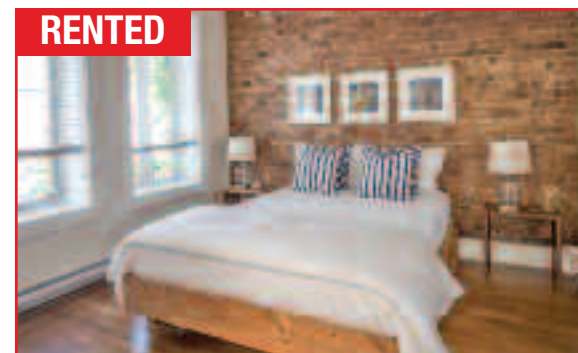
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