We are Westmount Weekly. Vol. 12 No. 6b June 12, 2018

Deadline for 'complicated' decision June 14

Intercity hockey faces choices on inter-municipal teams

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Just how changes in Quebec youth hockey will affect some of the city's players is under review following a meeting of parents April 30 at Victoria Hall, according to Sports and Recreation officials.

At stake under new rules is whether the city's 30 double-letter and 150 single-letter players will both have to be combined under an inter-city association such as the Cobras - in which only the fewer doubleletter players at all age levels now play on teams that include those from LaSalle and

Don't Miss It

Victoria Village Street Festival. Thursday, June 14 to Sunday, June 17.

Verdun. This enables stronger teams to be formed among the three municipalities, which do not have as many players as

some in the Lac St. Louis region such as

Westmount has had enough singleletter players to form 10 teams under the stand-alone Westmount Hockey Associa-

"Under the new rules, no combinations of municipalities will be allowed for only double-letter teams," explained Andrew Maislin, operations manager for Sports and Recreation. "So starting with this season, either we join for everything (double and single letters), or nothing at all," by which he means both single and double letter players would each play for the stand-alone continued on p. 8

Water main break at Lansdowne/de Mais.



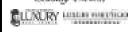
On June 9 at around 10:30 am, city workers and Gaz Met were busy closing off Lansdowne, corner de Maisonneuve, due to a large water main break. Water was gushing out of a large hole in the asphalt. Cars, cyclists and pedestrians were wading through the torrent. A city worker said he didn't know the cause, "but at least it's not -30°C." Photo: Ralph Thompson, inset courtesy of July Yelon from 6 am.



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'We asked for it and got it': Smith

Consultation on Mt. Royal road closure to be hosted at Vic Hall

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Two days after Mount Royal was closed to through traffic came news at the Westmount council meeting June 4 that the Office de consultation publique de Montréal (OCPM) will host a "round table," tentatively scheduled for September 12 at Victoria Hall. Since the event is being organized by Montreal, the date and details are to be confirmed.

"We asked for this public consultation and we got it," said Mayor Christina Smith in announcing the news. She had made the request in April to Montreal mayor Valérie Plante (see story May 8, p. 8).

"I'm glad it's not happening this week," she continued on p. 18





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Temporary water supply disconnects

Water sprays into three Burton homes from hose joint

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

At least three houses were reported to have sustained water damage June 3 when a hose joint disconnected in the temporary water supply to Burton as part of rehabilitation of the water main, city officials said.

The joints are used to connect various lengths of the blue hoses that feed the water from a hydrant to the smaller white



Water spurts out of temporary water line on Burton June 3 as photographed by resident Ivana Djordjevic.

Photo courtesy of Denis Biro.

Chickens on the loose! p. 4Roslyn permit skirmish p. 6

McEntyre writing competition awards *p.* 20-21

Classifieds p. 23

Comin' Up *p.* 26

Social Notes (Vie des Arts) p. 25

ones connected to house outlets, explained engineer Cristian Sipos, the city's project manager for this phase of Burton's street reconstruction work.

The incident occurred shortly before 6 am on the Sunday, he said. It was at the time that nearby residents were reported to have been awakened by a loud bang from the force of the water shooting out from the joint. Residents reported calling Public Security and the emergency number for the city's contractor, Aquarehab, which responded in about 45 minutes, Sipos said.

"The wait was disconcerting," said a woman. "Another time, I would call the fire department."

"By the time the water was closed, it was almost an hour," said David Hensley. He and his partner, Ivana Djordjevic, took a video and photos at 6:30 am before the arrival of the contractor. Hensley compiled "a witness account" for residents at one of the houses, who were away at the time and experienced serious damage in the basement, he said.

In his statement, Hensley writes that they had been awakened about 5:50 "by the loud noise of suddenly rushing water. We could hear the water gushing violently in Burton Ave., so we went to the window and saw jets of water powerfully spouting like an uncontrolled geyser near the intersection with Prince Albert Ave."

Residents of houses at 2 and 4 Burton at Prince Albert were given forms for filing damage claims to the city, said Engineering director Elisa Gaetano.

A third house was later reported to have sustained damage.

"It's not the first time that a hose disconnects at the joint," Sipos said. "It can happen," though he did not know the exact reason in this case.

Brokers' Appreciation Day

It takes guts, determination and a dose of naivety to succeed in real estate. In honour of National Brokers' Appreciation Day on Friday June 15, may I express my gratitude to all the real estate brokers I have had the chance to meet and work with over the past 34 years. Although we come from different walks of life, we are all driven by the same goal: the dedication to serve our clients to the best of our ability. There is no question that real estate brokers are the most dedicated salespersons of any industry. They help support and build local communities. And in today's digital age, they are serving clients day and night, on weekends, and even on holidays. Please take a couple of minutes to call, text, or email your favorite broker and let them know that you appreciate them. I just did.

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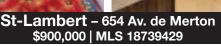
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Living in

Chickens on the loose in Vic village



These chickens were photographed near Victoria and Chesterfield on June 6. The Independent's source contacted Public Security, "in case they were tempted to cross the road." Photo courtesy of a reader.

Finally. In Westmount.

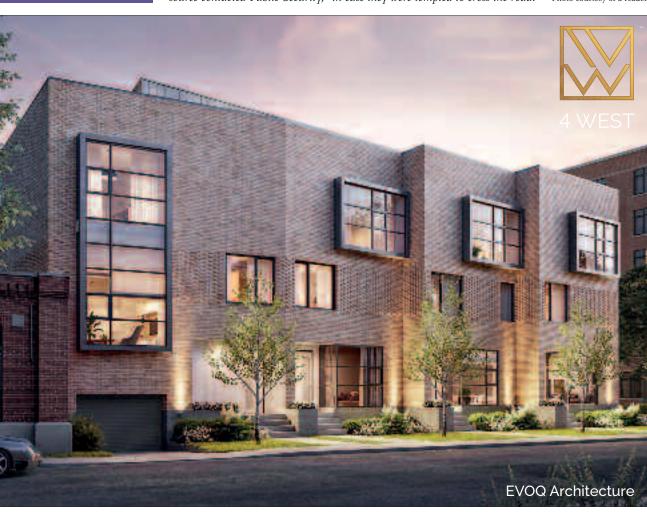
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Council modifies 3 contracts – so far

Big snow winter adds 70% to carting, Butler chute costs



Remember snow? It looks like this (sometimes). This photo was taken on February 15 on Côte St. Antoine.

Photo: Ralph Thompson.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

While the total tally of last winter's snow operations from November through April has not yet been reported, according to Councillor Philip Cutler, the toll caused by removing the heavier than usual snowfall caused city council to modify contracts June 4. The cost of using Montreal's snow dumps alone rose 70 percent.

"We had eight storms last winter requiring snow loading, double what was anticipated," explained Cutler, commissioner of infrastructure and innovation. He estimated each storm cost about \$500.000.

Under an inter-municipal agreement with the city of Montreal to use its Butler snow chute and other nearby sites at \$1.50 per cubic meter dumped, the total cost increased by \$191,005 to \$274,362 over an estimate.

As well, the amount that had been

awarded to Transvrac Montreal-Laval for rental of 32 12-wheel trucks for snow removal ballooned \$230,693 to \$760,450 over the original amount of \$529,758.

Even towing services during snow removal had to be increased by \$8,732 to cover a total of \$59,781 for Dave's Towing.

An annual snow debriefing session by the council has yet to take place," Mayor Christina Smith said.

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Homeowner alleges 'bad faith'

Permit revision denied over porch unbuilt after 10 years





680 Roslyn in 2010, left, and on June 8, right.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The request of a homeowner at 680 Roslyn to not complete reconstruction of a large verandah based on plans from 2010 and an approved permit was denied by city council June 4. It was the latest in a string of construction issues related to the house going back a decade.

The porch work had been approved "in coherence" with other alterations, explained Councillor Conrad Peart, Urban Planning commissioner for permits and architecture. These included a projected vestibule, garages and terraces that have been

"The city's lack of continuous and vig-

orous enforcement notwithstanding, the non-compliance of the built works in relation to the approved drawings is as valid today as it was five years ago," he said.

The file had been reviewed over the years, he said, and the recommendation of the city's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) upheld by council that the porch be completed had been consistent.

Councillor Jeff Shamie, commissioner of administra-

tion, was the lone dissenter in the vote. Made without comment, he later told the



Erik Melka at the mic.

Independent, that after reviewing the file and considering the length of time that has lapsed, he felt the resident deserved closure (see separate

The Category II heritagerated house is now for sale at just under \$5 million, billed as "a luxury home."

Homeowner speaks up

The council decision led homeowner Erik Melka, who attended the meeting, to take

to the mic to allege his rights and access to information had been denied, emails and calls unanswered, and that the city had not followed "the rules" and had acted in "bad faith."

"We've spoken many times," District 2 councillor Philip Cutler told him. The council's decision "is something we thought was very important and I don't think many of us were happy with how this was handled over (the) years."

Mayor Christina Smith also said the matter had gone on "too long."

The large turretted house dating back to 1908 was defined to passers-by in the 1970s, at least, by its wrap-around verandah on the front and side as well as a large side garden.

By 2010, it had already undergone recent interior and exterior work. This had included a new roof and a major twostorey rear extension, built without a permit but for which the city finally issued one "as built" (see story October 26, 2010, p. 13).

Built without permit

"It's the biggest addition I've ever seen

to be built without a permit," stated then Urban Planning director Joanne Poirier at the time, noting the unapproved work had taken place at the same time as approved interior changes, for which a permit had been displayed in the window.

When the extension was discovered and stopped by the city, architect Adam Borowczyk was hired to provide plans for more work, including an extension at basement level for use as a garage, the relocation of the driveway and other work all wrapped into a new permit approved October 18, 2010.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham, then Urban Plan- continued on p. 7

Dissenting vote 'healthy' in democracy

In casting the lone dissenting vote against approving the recommendation of the city's Planning Advisory Committee concerning 680 Roslyn, Councillor Jeff Shamie said he had reviewed the file back to 2010, felt he did not have enough information on the case and that too much time had lapsed since then.

"I clearly felt differently from my colleagues but dissent is healthy in a democracy. I respect the process and now that the vote is taken, I support the council decision," he said.

While the PAC had recommended against the homeowner's request to revise approved plans for the house that involved reconstruction of a verandah, Shamie said that "we appreciate their recommendations but we're not obliged to approve them. We're a renewal council, the resident had asked for closure and I felt strongly about it."

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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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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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LET'S GET RID OF PLASTIC BAGS IN WESTMOUNT, TOO

Now that thin plastic bags have been banned by Montreal, I am dismayed to hear from Metro that this doesn't apply to Westmount. I would have expected Westmount to show some environmental leadership and address at least the same environmental concerns as Montreal. In the meantime, I shall move my \$1,500 annual grocery spend to other, more enlightened grocery stores. Perhaps others could do likewise?

NIGEL PENNEY, NDG

DUCKLINGS!

Andthe Murray Hill Park pond has a new family this week: baby duckies!!

Susan Stromberg, Wood Ave.



Permit, cont'd. from p. 6

ning commissioner, also pointed out at the time that homeowners who build without a permit run the risk of having to demolish non-conforming structures.

In this case, the extension conformed to code and the PAC was working with the homeowner and architect "to ensure approval of the new work," it was reported.

Also required was reconstruction of the verandah, which had been torn down but which was not part of the home's original construction.

Nevertheless, it was judged by the PAC to be "a character-defining feature consistent with the area," Peart told the council meeting.

At the end of the council meeting,

Bruce Anderson, an architect and PAC member from 1995-2000 told the *Independent* "the process leaves a lot to be desired. I feel that in a case like this, the project in question should be posted on an easel so people can see what is being refused. In this case, everybody was in the dark. That's what we used to do when a project was refused."

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Hockey, cont'd. from p. 1

Westmount association.

The deadline for a decision on the two options is fast approaching, June 14.

Different views

After explaining the two options at the parents' meeting, Maislin said, "there were different points of view, but no consensus." Parents of the 250 players in all Westmount's Sports and Recreation hockey programs at all levels and skills were invited to the meeting but only 38 attended, he said.

"I am disappointed. I would like to have



The Westmount recreation centre, site of the city's home ice, on June 8.

Photo: Independent.

had a fuller range of views."

The decision is not an easy one, Maislin said. "It gets very complicated."



In general, however, the main effect of including the single-letter teams in a combined association such as the Cobras is that the single-letter Westmount players, who have typically practised on home ice, would now have to travel to rinks in Verdun or LaSalle to practise. The fewer double-letter players are already accustomed to this.

On the other hand, the decision to go it alone for double-letter teams - if the city decided to form its own teams at reduced strength - would likely mean the Cobras association would cease to exist since the three cities are interdependent at the double-letter category, he explained.

The new rules emanate from Hockey Quebec, which governs youth hockey, but are applied in Westmount's case by the regional Lac St. Louis league.

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Samples tested from two parks

Dog run sand found insect-free, will watering cut dust?

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Samples of surface material from dog runs at King George (Murray) Park and Westmount Park were found free of foreign bodies, insects and worms, Councillor Cynthia Lulham told concerned dog owners at the city council meeting June 4.

Public Works personnel have also spoken with other demerged municipalities and found five using the same sand/granite material and others using other materials, she said. "All had the same problem: no matter what they tried putting in, people complained."

Westmount would start experimenting with watering the sand in an effort to reduce dust, she said at the opening of the meeting before the issue was raised for the third consecutive month. Lulham, whose commissionership includes dogs, takes her own small dog to the Westmount Park run.

"I appreciate the feedback," said dog owner Claudia Baruch of The Boulevard.

'Sticky' sand

She said the sand becomes sticky when wet, however, and doubts watering will help since water dries very quickly because of good drainage at the runs, which leads to the dust being kicked up by the playing dogs.

She also questioned a potential health risk to humans and dogs from inhaling the silica (sand), saying she had sought expert advice including that of Dr. Joe Schwarcz, director of McGill's Office for Science and Society.

Lulham asked Baruch to share the communication from him and said the city would continue with the watering plan. The surface silica mix includes granite,



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The Murray dog run on June 8.

she pointed out.

Ongoing issue

"We do take your concerns seriously," stated Mayor Christina Smith. "It's an ongoing issue."

Baruch also proposed small pebbles or grass as possible solutions but Lulham said the gravel hurts some dogs' paws. The grass had been tried at the former Lansdowne run but did not stand up to the dog activity. She also said there were "quite a lot of dog owners who like" the current mix.

Another dog owner said she was not going to take her puppy to the run for concerns over it inhaling the dust.

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Police Report

Guard at Metro grocery slashed with knife

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

A security guard on duty around 3:45 pm on June 6 at the Metro supermarket on Sherbrooke St. at the corner of Victoria Ave. had to be taken to hospital after a shoplifter he tried to detain slashed him with a hunting knife.

"The perpetrator was running to get away," Pimentel said of the incident. "He attacked the plaintiff with a knife." According to a report filed by police who rushed to the scene, the shoplifter was seen eating some of the stolen merchandise while still in the store.

He started to flee when the security guard warned him he hadn't paid and that the police were being called to intervene. The suspect responded to the guard in a language the latter didn't understand. The suspect is alleged to have lunged at the guard with a hunting knife with a fourinch blade, slashing him.

"The victim had a laceration on his arm," said Pimentel. "Not life-threatening, but nevertheless he had to be hospitalized." While the suspect managed to get away, evidence against him includes video surveillance of the theft and possibly also of the armed assault.

Break-in on Anwoth

Some burglars used a modus operandi that's become all too familiar to police lately to enter a house on Westmount's Anwoth Rd. – they got in through an unsecured entrance on the second-storey.

According to Montreal Police community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel, officers from Station 12 were summoned to the residence on the evening of June 7 after the break-in.

Using an exterior stairway, the suspects were able to climb from outside the house to a second-storey terrace, where they found an unlocked rear door leading into the residence.

After getting in, they proceeded to search at least one upstairs room, before leaving through the same door. "They stole jewellery," Pimentel noted.

Police identification experts who were summoned were unable to find usable traces of the suspects' fingerprints, nor did any surveillance video cameras capture images of the burglary, Pimentel added.

Citing this incident as an example, he noted that an error many home owners make when setting up an alarm system is in not securing windows or doors on the



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

Hola, can you be an amigo?

This sweet grey-and-white domestic short hair is Hola. She is unique, as nature's artist has added a few finishing touches of caramel to her colouring. Hola is five years old, very healthy, spayed and up to date with her inoculations. She is very affectionate and playful, happy to nap and cuddle as well. As she is at the SPCA Montreal shelter, Hola is in need of a home and a loving family in our neighsecond storey.

"The alarm system only covers the main floor," he said. "It is a weak spot when they continued on p. 18



bourhood as soon as possible. You can find out more about her by dropping by the SPCA Montreal adoption shelter located at 5215 Jean Talon West. Their telephone number is 514.735.2711. The SPCA website is www.spca.com and you can refer to Hola's identification number A35505656 for more details about her.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Demolition Application for 51 de Lavigne Road

Please be advised that the public sitting of the Demolition Committee regarding the demolition application for 51 de Lavigne Road that was adjourned on May 7, 2018 at 7:04 p.m. will continue on June 18, 2018 at 5:35 p.m. in the Council Chamber of City Hall, located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West, in Westmount.

Me Nicole Dobbie, Assistant City Clerk

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Street-line painting finishes June 22

Improved signage sought outside 200 Lansdowne

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Street line painting of all types should be completed by June 22, Councillor Philip Cutler told the city council meeting June 4. The bike path is to be done this



The road surface in front of 200 Lansdowne on June 8.

week

Andrew Liebmann, a condo board member at 200 Lansdowne, corner of St. Catherine, told Cutler, commissioner of infrastructure and innovation, he had come to the meeting to ask for the re-

> painting of the cross hatch lines in front of the building's vehicle access on Lansdowne. As well, a more visible explanatory sign was needed.

> "Most drivers are ignorant of what these lines mean or ignore them," he explained. The lines disappear every winter, and he wondered whether the quality of paint is different from what is used for centre or stop lines and others on the street.

"We on council have been very disappointed with the line painting," said Mayor Christina Smith.

Liebmann also said that since the bike path has been added on Lansdowne, cyclists speed down the hill screaming at people trying to access the building.

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Marianopolis College	13 students	Dawson College	3
John Abbott College	2	Neuchâtel Junior College	2
Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf	1	Lower Canada College (grade 12)	1
Deerfield Academy	1	Phillips Exeter Academy	1
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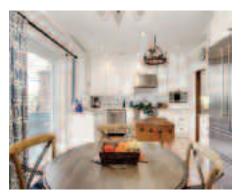
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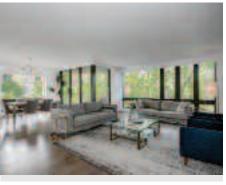
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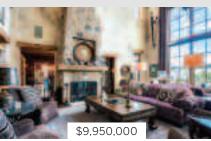
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LeMay exhibits solo for first time in her native Quebec

BY HEATHER BLACK

Photographer Ysabel LeMay greeted gallery goers at the opening of her floral exhibition, Flourish, on June 2.

The artist, originally from Quebec but now living in Texas, photographs nature - flowers, birds, and textures - which she recreates in painterly composites of 300 to 600 individual images.

LeMay explained: "I photograph all over the world," and digitally "separate each element for new, intuitively-created work."

The result is detailed and often magical compositions that convey both illusion and reality as well as innovative and classical

A 2017 print, "The Gateway," composed of images of flowers, butterflies and a pagoda taken in Taipei, is particularly noteworthy.

Commissioned by the US Department of State's Art in Embassies program for the American Institute in Taiwan, a smaller print is available for the first time.



Ysabel LeMay with photographic print "Arcadia" on June 2.

Although a frequent international exhibitor, this is LeMay's first solo show at Galerie de Bellefeuille and the first in her native province.



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Mangiuk-Iyaituk, Delaney, Iyaituk speak at McClure



Mattiusi Iyaituk, Qumaq Mangiuk-Iyaituk and Kathryn Delaney in front of drawings by Mangiuk-Iyaituk on June 1.

BY HEATHER BLACK

Guest curators Qumaq Mangiuk-Iyaituk and Kathryn Delaney, together with storyteller and sculptor Mattiusi Iyaituk, spoke June 1 on the current exhibition of Inuit storybooks Illirijavut at the Visual Arts Centre.

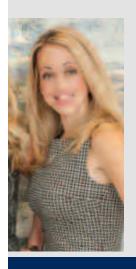
Created by 20 artists during the Inuit storytelling and storybook-making workshops organized by artists Qumaq Mangiuk Iyaituk of Ivujivik, Nunavik, and Kathryn Delaney of Montreal, the accordion-fold booklets illustrate stories as told by an Inuit elder.

Following the success of the first public workshop at the Visual Arts Centre in 2015 and a grant from the Canada Council for the Arts in 2016, the curators and Iyaituk continued to offer workshops in Nunavik as well as to urban Inuit and non-Inuit populations across Canada and in France.

The 10th-anniversary retrospective includes an illustrated storybook, watercolour drawings, and acrylic paintings by Mangiuk-Iyaituk, who articulated the need to "pass our culture on and to keep our culture alive to the young." Her husband, Iyaituk, a 2018 award recipient from the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec (CALQ), also contributed a storybook and spoke of the importance "to keep culture in the form of art."

Promoted with the assistance of the Westmount office of the Avatag Cultural Institute, the exhibition continues to June 23 at the McClure Gallery, 350 Victoria

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Blame it on Yanny (or Laurel, or the human brain)



Humour

Ingrid Kovitch-Dannenbaum

A profoundly divisive debate has been raging across the nation for the past several weeks. It has polarized and isolated; rending friendships and tearing families asunder.

I refer, of course, to the "Yanny" vs "Laurel" controversy.

This is the short audio clip of a robotic voice CLEARLY AND UNAMBIGUOUS-LY saying the name "Laurel." For reasons that are mystifying (and just plain wrong), certain less-evolved persons seem to mulishly maintain that the voice is saying "Yanny." As if!

Indeed, our own family has not escaped the rift. The kids and I are soundly – and I mean that literally –"Laurels." My husband David, on the other hand, is a resolute "Yanny." And he isn't even kidding! (Though it took a mighty effort to convince Jamie that he wasn't).

Alas! Might alternate facts be facts after

2112

If all these "Yannys" are Yannying in good faith, then it would appear the external world is a whole lot less objective than we would like to believe. If each of our individual three pounds of voltaic tissue can perceive and interpret identical sensory input in such radically different fashion, then the entire notion of absolute truth, of demonstrable reality, is rendered meaningless.

Far from spurring an existential crisis or driving me to surrender to nihilism, this paradox has only confirmed what I have known all along: what I say, and what my family hears, frequently bear no relation whatsoever to one another.

"Kids," I caution regularly, cringing at the ceramic symphony as they empty the dishwasher, "Please be careful!"

"Aaaaaaand... Juggle!" They hear.

"Curfew is at eleven," I establish, ever so clearly.

"Midnight will do just fine," report their brains.

"Please wash your hands when you come in," I call out to them in the back-yard.

"Try to get really filthy, and as sticky as humanly possible, and please touch *abso-*

lutely everything on your way to the table," I allegedly holler.

When I address Josh, he hears "Eli." When I address Eli, he hears "Gabby." "Gabby" is apparently indistinguishable from "Jamie," and Jamie thinks I am talking to the dog.

My husband fares poorer still. (He is, after all, the lone family "Yanny".)

"Don't forget the brunch on Sunday," I remind him

"Play golf!" I supposedly command. "Can you take out the garbage?" I ask.

"See if you can trip over the bag in front of the door, cuss loudly, then kick it aside so you can get out," rings the purported challenge.

Lectures are pointless. Regardless of what I say my family only hears – truly *hears* – the cartoonish "wah wah wah "

Their go-to "But you never told me!" excuse was never meant to be oppositional or defiant after all. Turns out, I never did! Team Amazing Neurological Phenomenon 1: Team Mom 0.

Is it any wonder I leave written instructions?

Nor do robots have much better luck hearing continued on p. 21

Public information evening

In the context of construction of the new Vendôme intermodal hub entrance building, we invite you to attend a public information evening. Come check out our booths, attend a presentation and take part in a discussion workshop. Following the evening, a liaison committee will be created.

When?

Monday, June 18, from 6 to 9 p.m.

Where?

Atrium, Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) 1001 Décarie Boulevard



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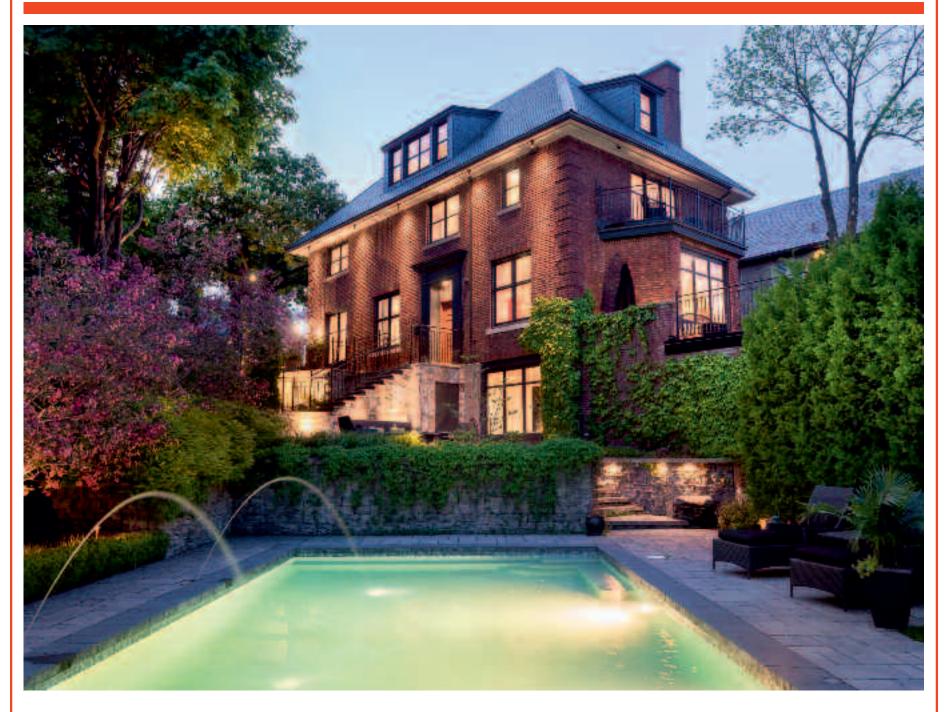
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Consultation, cont'd. from p. 1

said. The later date will allow a better understanding of the impact on Westmount over the summer and back-to-school period

The pilot project to close Remembrance Rd./Camillien Houde Way is expected to increase traffic and add to more congestion from road closures due to reconstruction projects throughout the area.

This had been Westmount's main argument for asking Montreal to delay the pilot until after the Turcot project, according to Smith (see story February 27, p. 1).

Maureen Kiely of The Boulevard urged Westmount to start now to collect traffic impact data and to influence other affected "partners" including the two cemeteries on Mount Royal as well as Outremont, the University of Montreal and Les Amis de la Montagne.



The view east from Belvedere Rd. in Westmount towards Remembrance Rd. and Camillien Houde Way on June 8.

Photo: Independent.

Police, cont'd. from p. 10

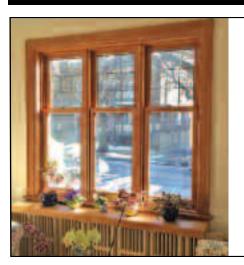
have open access to the second floor. It means an intruder can enter there without an alarm being triggered."

Suspects rob acquaintance

Police from Station 12 are investigating a June 2 robbery incident in which two suspects allegedly accosted a male victim behind a Dorchester Blvd. church where they robbed him of several hundred dollars

According to Pimentel, the victim was assaulted by one male and one female suspect who pinned him to the ground and proceeded to take money from his pockets. As the victim screamed, the two assailants ran off and the police were summoned.

"The plaintiff had a lot of money – he had a few hundred dollars on him," said Pimentel. The suspects were also known to the victim, who provided information on their identities to the police. An investigation is under way.



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Planters: new style, old style

The city has purchased 150 self-watering planters (see "Many contracts given out...," March 28, p. 6). They are made of plastic

and replace concrete ones. Here are some of them, and their older colleagues, at work and at rest.













1,812 entries – a record

City, judges hand out McEntyre writing competition awards

BY RALPH THOMPSON

The McEntyre writing competition awards were presented June 6 at Victoria Hall in front of an enthusiastic audience of over 200 parents, children and scrip-

"This is one of Westmount's biggest events," said chief judge Angela Murphy "We had a record number of entries from 1,812 students attending 21 schools." According to Murphy, the competition is unique; nothing like it exists in or around Montreal. The theme for this year was "An Unexpected Kindness," but was also judged for creativity and connection to com-

Interestingly, grammar and spelling are not considered "because those things can be checked on computers," said Murphy. "It's about creativity and community," Students continued on p. 21

(above) Prize winners with their awards were eagerly photographed by parents after the ceremony.

(right) Mayor Christina Smith and chief judge Angela Murphy address a reception for the volunteer judges in The Gallery at Victoria Hall.

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2018 McEntyre writing competition winners

Bianca Luger

Henri Stack-Lévesque

HM Corinne Pirici

Massimo Lorenzetti

Grade 5

Leon Li

Grade 6

Leah Sasson

The winners of the city's McEntyre writing competition for Westmount students were:

Grade 1

Kirit Hardman

Julian Beauregard

Noah Quigley Lower Canada College Quentins Wang Selwyn House School Selwyn House School Charlie Zhou **HM Olive Surkis** Akiva School Grade 2 Akiva School Noam Perez Akiva School Micah Borsuk Westmount Park School Minjae Cho **HM Zakary Fernandes** Akiva School Grade 3 Bianca Martella Akiva School Callie Gelber Akiva School Mila Freiheit Akiva School Akiva School HM Audra Yaphe Grade 4 **Xavier Court** Selwyn House School

Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School

École Saint-Léon

Emily Yu HM Luca Ferri Grade 7 Olivia Tussman Westmount High School

Emma Boucher St. George's School Chiara Del Carpo Villa Sainte-Marcelline 3. Ryan Clark Westmount High School HM Aral Tune Westmount High School Grade 8

Dania Alsenosy Westmount High School Dylan Lee Selwyn House School Tobyn Breier-Low Collège de Montréal HM Gloria Paraschivoiu The Study

Grade 9

Selwyn House

Rolsyn School

St. George's School

Selwyn House School

Villa Sainte-Marcelline

Selwyn House School

Selwyn House School

École Saint-Léon

Hannah Hamelin

Westmount High School The Study Léa Monty Tara Seirafi The Study

Grade 10

Jacob Campbell Westmount High School Jennifer LeMoyne

Westmount High School Akshay Swaminathan

Westmount High School HM Julia Hentschel

Westmount High School

Grade 11

Kyra-Maya Hedley-Cain

Westmount High School Oliver Woodall Westmount High School Marika Soroczan

Westmount High School HM Emily Da Cunha

Westmount High School

McEntyre, cont'd. from p. 20

from elementary and secondary grades 1 to 11 who attend a Westmount school, have a Westmount address or are registered at the Westmount Public Library were eligible.

Submissions were accepted in English or French and the allowable format was broad, including prose, poetry, rap and even haiku. It could be handwritten or typed but could not exceed 1,000 words.

"In some grades, one school won all the prizes and an honourable mention but the judges did not know the name of the student or school. This result was a coincidence," said Murphy. Prizes included a small amount of money, depending on the grade, or a token and books donated to the library inscribed with winner's names. At the end of the evening, some students and parents read extracts from winning entries.

A reception was held in The Gallery before the awards ceremony to honour all the 89 volunteer judges. After the awards were handed out, Mayor Christina Smith thanked chief judge Angela Murphy and the judges

"This is my favourite thing," said Smith.
"I am so proud of this. It will continue."
Angela Murphy also thanked the judges and children's librarian Wendy Wayling, who works on this event throughout the

year. A request was made for anyone interested in judging the next competition to raise their hands or contact the library. Several young winners raised their hands.

Murphy has headed up the McEntyre writing competition for eight years, but will now be stepping down and passing the reins to former city councillor Rosalind Davis, a long time volunteer.

The competition dates back to the former Westmount mayor Peter McEntyre (1969-1971), who established a trust fund to support a writing competition that would encourage young people to think about the idea of community.

The first competition garnered one submission.

Humour, cont'd. from p. 16

us humans. Yesterday in the car I directed my Bluetooth to "Call home".

"Would you like to call Filomena Vandermeulen?" it asked.

"No." I replied, enunciating more carefully. "Call home".

"Would you like to call Giovanni Fitzsimmons?"

"No! CALL. HOME."

"Would you like to call Bronwyn Papanicolopoulos?"

"Aww, to heck with it!" I shouted. "Just call Yanny!"

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3710 The Boulevard was built for Sam Reitman



History by the House

ANDY DODGE

The Long Depression of 1873-1896 struck Westmount (then called Notre Dame de Grâce and later Côte St. Antoine) as much as the rest of Montreal and Canada, just as the newly-independent city was gaining its footing and expanding beyond the settlements along Côte St. Antoine Rd. and Greene Ave.

A pair of railway supply agents, William J. M. Jones and John Burland, apparently had purchased a strip of land in the northern part of the fledgling community, in the forests north of Côte St. Antoine Rd., from an auctioneer named Gregor McGregor.

The pair had established a partnership, "Jones & Burman," presumably to handle their real estate efforts, but by 1884 their fortunes faded and the land was picked up, at public auction, by a group led by photographer William Notman and including Alexander Ramsay (paint manufacturer) and John Macfarlane (paper manufacturer). Notman had also worked with various other Montreal dignitaries to buy up other pieces of land in Notre Dame de Grâce/Côte St. Antoine, and in 1887 they combined all of the land into a major land company named Westmount Homestead Company Ltd., adopting the name of the mansion built by William Murray

Beloeil, Montarville proposed as street names

Whether by their design or that of the city, the entire strip was subdivided into neat little development lots along Argyle and Montarville avenues extending into the forest, with proposed cross-streets of Beloeil and Montrose avenues. (Beloeil appears to be roughly where Westmount Ave. is now: Montarville became Aberdeen

While there had been efforts in the 1850s to build a "round the mountain" toll road and many of Montreal's most powerful citizens chimed in, nothing came of those plans and Hopkin's 1879 map of Notre Dame de Grâce shows only a tiny strip of what is now The Boulevard, just west of (what is now) Mount Pleasant Ave.

The first time The Boulevard appears on a map comes in Goad's Atlas of 1890, but the only emplacement on the street (according to the map) was St. George's Snowshoe Club, one of the first winter sports organizations in Montreal, which was located where St. George's elementary school is now, on the northeast corner of Montarville (Aberdeen) Ave.

With the plan now laid out and Montreal slowly recovering from the Long Depression, another powerful Montreal executive, Anson McKim, who started a wellknown advertising agency of the same name, bought up the entire southeast corner of The Boulevard and Montarville, 112,546.25 square feet, for which he paid exactly \$16,881.95, or 15 cents per square foot, in 1892.

By 1912 Goad's Atlas shows three detached houses and three pairs of semi-detached houses along what was then Aberdeen Ave. on the McKim property, but nothing fronting (or even close to) The Boulevard. Tragically, McKim was killed by a train in the winter of 1917. His widow, Bessie True, held onto the land fronting on The Boulevard until she finally sold it to Maurice Gross, a resident of 578 Côte St. Antoine Rd., in 1937.

Gross was able to re-divide the lots for houses fronting on The Boulevard and built his own large house at 124 Aberdeen, selling the rest of the land for \$5,500 to Sam Reitman, co-founder of the vast Reitman's store chain, in December 1942, in

the name of Cyril Investments Ltd.

House built for Reitman

The house at 3710 The Boulevard was finally built in 1948 and by 1949 Sam Reitman moved into the lovely stone detached

The Reitmans lived there for a generation and finally sold it in June 1971, to a man named Adolf Silberstein, though he claimed two aliases - Jean Silver and Jean Sylvère - and appears to have been involved in various real estate projects, in-



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3710 The Boulevard on June 7.

cluding La Cité in downtown Montreal. During his time as owner, Sylvère (the name the family seemed to prefer around town) used the house as a financing tool for his companies; the property was sold to J&H Silver management Co. in June, 1974, sold back to Sylvère in November that year, then to Enterprises Madikap Ltée. in June, 1977, back to Sylvère the following February and into the name of Sylean Investments Ltd. a month later.

The last ownership lasted four years

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until finally, in February 1986, Sylvère's company sold to Anna Rouimy, wife of Charles Cohen, for \$1. The deed mentions the value for transfer tax purposes at \$160,000, only slightly more than the value applied in the three previous transactions, at \$153.000.

The couple did extensive renovations to the kitchen, bathrooms and to the downstairs floor, then sold the property four years later to Neil Sutcliffe and his wife, Judith Eileen Ranger. A year later Sutcliffe formed a company called Acadia Shipbrokers Ltd. In the deed of sale, he lists himself as a shipbroker; other companies of which he was a director include Interdev Realties Ltd. and Pentagon Shipping Company Ltd.

LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS

Estate Sale

Saturday, June 16 9:00 am - 1:00 p.m. at The Regency, apt. #2014. 3555 Ch de la Cote-des-Neiges. China, crystal, silver, collectibles, furniture, art, books, etc.

Special Event

Mingyur Rinpoche, an accomplished Tibetan Buddhist meditation teacher. His first book, 'The Joy of Living: Unlocking the Secret and Science of Happiness', debuted on the New York Times best seller list and has been translated into over 20 languages. Teaching in English with French and Chinese translation, Villa Maria College, June 18th, 2018. Website tergarca.org or Email: mimilag21@gmail.com.

In 2000, after 14 years in a property for which they had paid \$400,000, the Sutcliffes sold to Theresa Motta Igrejas Lopes, wife of Robert Martins Costa, for \$1,050,000. The couple was moving into Westmount from Brazil, setting up the Montreal branch of TRX Consultants Ltd., a "boutique investment firm" dealing with the infrastructure job market. They spent nine years at 3710 The Boulevard before he moved on to Serbia and Portugal, all the while working for TRX.

The next buyers included an ophthalmologist, Dr. Cong Luong Nguyen, and his wife, Dr. Diem Thuy Bui, an optometrist, who form a team at a medical centre in Ville Emard. They moved from 69 Summit Crescent and paid \$1,739,000 in October, 2009. They sold the property in July 2016, to Jiandong Gu, who paid \$2,600,000 for the home. Its 2017 municipal assessment is \$2,338,800.

HISTORY OF 3710 THE BOULEVARD

(since construction)

(Since construction)				
Date	Buyer	Price		
June 10, 1971	Adolf Silberstein (or Je Silver or Jean Sylvère)	ean \$90,000		
June 19, 1974	J&H Silver			
	Management Co.	\$115,000		
Nov. 13, 1974	Adolf Silberstein	\$115,000		
June 15, 1977	Entreprises			
	Madikap Ltee	\$153,000		
Feb. 23, 1978	Jean Sylvère	\$153,000		
March 14, 1978	Sylean			
	Investments Ltd.	\$153,000*		
Feb. 12, 1982	Anna Rouimy, wife of Charles Cohen	\$160,000*		
July 2, 1986	Neil Sutcliffe & Judith Eileen Ranger	\$400,000*		
April 17, 2000	Theresa Motta			
	Igrejas Lopes	\$1,050,000		
Oct. 30, 2009	Cong Luong Nguyen & Diem Thuy Bui	\$1,739,000		

*Price was "\$1 and other considerations;" the quoted price is the declared price for municipal transfer tax purposes.

Jiandong Gu

July 15, 2016

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3223 The Boulevard, Westmount H3Y 1S4 \$3,280,000



12460 Rue Jasmin, Ahuntsic H4K 1W2 \$4,990,000



3705 Rue de Lisbonne, Brossard J4Y 3G2 \$3,689,000



405 Rue de la Concorde #3103, Ville-Marie H3A 0H1 \$1,122,00



4998 Rue Bayview, Pierrefonds H8Y 2E3 \$1,980,000



9277 Boul. Gouin O., Ahuntsic H4K 1C3



11 Place Braeside, Westmount H3Y 3E8



4715 the Boulevard, Westmount H3Y 1T3



4287 Rue Sherbrooke O., Westmount H3Z 1C8

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Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Prominent designer (Bixi etc.) Michel **Dallaire** was president of honour for the tribute held for admired art critic Bernard **Levv** who has led *Vie des Arts* as editor in chief for almost 26 years. He has written for the prestigious bilingual arts publication since 1970.

Renowned for his unbridled enthusiasm about art, Levy's passion is proof of



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Einstein's famed comment: "Creativity is contagious. Pass it on."

The dinner held to honour Levy was at the Rialto Theatre on Park Ave. Built almost 100 years ago, the former movie palace is a national historic site. Its Louis XVI neo-Baroque style was inspired by the Paris Opera House.

While sipping Champagne, guests craned their heads to admire the amazing stained-glass ceiling, and intricate wall moldings.

Highlighting the ever-smiling editor's accomplishments, Louise D'Anjou, board president continued on p. 26



Dorota Kozinska and Nathalie Roy.



Andras Csaszar and Jennifer Hornyak.



Roger Lupien, Isabelle de Mévius and François Morelli.



Bernard Levy.



Louise Roy.



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Social notes, cont'd. from p. 25

Vie des Arts along with Dallaire and Vie des Arts journalist Marine van Hoof brought the audience to an appreciative standing ovation.

The reception featured a silent auction with works by Westmount artists Jean-Michel Laberge, Gabor Szilasi, Eva Lapka and Jennifer Hornyak as well as Evelyne Allaire, Nathalie Ampleman, Françoise Belu, Louis-Pierre Bougie, Wah Wing Chan, Éric Daudelin, Georges Dussau, André Fournelle, Marc Garneau (the artist, not the MP), Hélène Goulet, Julianna Joos, Peter Krausz, Darcia Labrosse, Laurent Lamarche, Pierre Lamarche, Jean-Pierre Larocque, Marc Leduc, François Morelli, Joelle Morosoli, Marc-Antoine Nadeau, Mirabelle Ricard, Roumanes,

Linda Rutenberg, Francine Simonin, Luis Fernando Suàrez, and Ariane Thézé.

Arriving in the packed room were local res Louis Villeneuve, RBC Wealth Fund manager; Dorota Kozinska, English editor of Vie des Arts, and Isabelle de Mévius founder and executive director 1700 La Poste Gallery, celebrating 5 years in 2018.

Also seen were Suzanne Sauvage, CEO McCord Museum; Nathalie Roy, Louise Roy, principal University of Montreal; artist Andras Csaszar, Jean-Claude Baudinet and Louise Leblanc, Roger Lupien (1700 La Poste); Magda Fusaro, rector de l'Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM); and Martin Ouellet, director Musée d'art contemporain de Baie-Saint-Paul.

Comin' Up

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

Rosh Chodesh service, including Torah reading, singing hallel for the new month and the chance to say kaddish. Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 395 Elm Ave. 8:30 am: light breakfast; 9 am: services.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

Cedars Cancer Foundation hosts Men's Health Awareness Day/free examination (including prostate check). MUHC Glen campus, 1001 Decarie Blvd., just west of the Westmount-NDG border. 9 am to 4

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

"Invisible Memory," paintings for sale on the theme of Alzheimer's by St. Clément Academy students to benefit the Alzheimer Society of Canada. Leonidas Culture, 318 Victoria Ave. 5 pm to 6:30

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

The Krishnamurti Information Centre of Montreal presents What Will Make Us Change? \$5. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater

Ave., 2 to 4 pm.

Sunday, June 17

Sundays at the Shaar presents Joyce Borenstein on photographer Lida Moser. Lecture/film followed by lunch. Shaar Hashomayim, 425 Metcalfe Ave. \$5, reservations appreciated: 514.937.9474 x 139; shaarhashomayim.org/calendar. 12 noon. Dingyur Rinpoche, a Tibetan Buddhist meditation teacher, speaks at Villa Maria, just northwest of Westmount. Visit tergarca.org for more info. 10 am to 5 pm.

Friday, June 22

Bass-baritone Douglas Renfroe presents a sermon in song as well as leading parts of the Friday evening service. Free. Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, 4100 Sherbrooke St. 7:45 pm.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

The Atwater Poetry Project presents bill bissett, Adeena Karasick and Catherine Kidd. Free. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave., 2nd floor. 7 pm.



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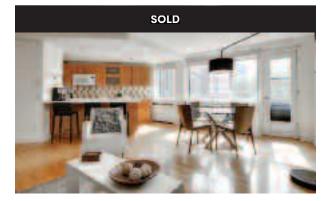
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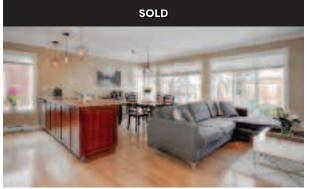
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