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**Don't miss our pull-out Spotlight on
Real Estate section, which starts after p. 12**

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 12 No. 9d *We are Westmount* September 25, 2018

Sunday development clinics launched

Hockey picks up steam: more teams, players

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

More youth hockey players than ever have signed up to play this season as part of the Westmount Minor Hockey Association, according to Sports and Recreation officials.

"It's a great start, with two of the four levels playing double letters," operations manager Andrew Maislin said last week.

This is the first year the city is fielding its own two "stand-alone" double-letter teams as a result of new Hockey Quebec rules. They will now play as Westmount "Wings" rather than in a combination

Cobras team with Verdun and LaSalle players (see story June 19, p. 3).

To build on the momentum, the city is launching a specialized hockey development program featuring Sunday clinics from 2:30 to 7 pm dedicated to improving skills in goaltending, power skating, offence and defence.

With hockey numbers decreasing across the country, said Mayor Christina Smith, "We want to encourage more young families to join in our hockey program and the younger children, in particular, to participate in the development program." *continued on p. 14*



Park your car, ride this!

Suzanne Kell (left) took to the saddle of a penny farthing with a little help from Daniel Lambert, Roger Jochym, Malcom McRae and Ellen Rubin on September 21. The occasion was International PARK(ing) Day. Lambert and his colleagues in the Association of Pedestrians and Cyclists marked it by reserving two parking spots on Sherbrooke St. near Prince Albert. Their objective was to promote a Sherbrooke St. cycling lane.

Photo: Ralph Thompson.



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Greenhouse options put to council's committee meeting

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Plans to restore the city's 1927 greenhouse complex are forging ahead quickly now following a presentation from consultants to council in general committee September 17, Mayor Christina Smith said last week.

"We had an in-depth discussion on options and costs, and are very close to making a recommendation," she said. "Obvi-

ously, the exterior will look the same but we'll be using the interior space differently and updating it to today's needs."

She said this will include improved accessibility, more space for tables, seating and plants as well as upgrades involving maintenance and heating "so hopefully we won't be doing it again in 15 years."

"We want to get moving on this," she said. "The greenhouses have been closed long *continued on p. 17*

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Targetting Westmount Park, St. Léon, Roslyn

Council takes safety message into school zones

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount's city councillors were expected to be out in force this week at three of the city's busiest elementary school zones starting Tuesday, September 25. Mayor Christina Smith is to be at each at various times.

The schedule calls for Anitra Bostock, Marina Brzeski and Cynthia Lulham to be at Westmount Park School on the first day from 7:35 to 8:15 am.

They will be followed September 26 at St. Léon by Mary Gallery, Kathleen Kez, Conrad Peart and Jeff Shamie from 7:35 to 8:10 am.

Present September 27 from 8:30 to 9:10 am at Roslyn were to be Philip Cutler, Mary Gallery and Anitra Bostock. "The principal of Roslyn says she'll be out there too," said Bostock, commissioner of Public Security.

All will be wearing safety vests while working with Public Security and police to bring a high profile to motorists – parents, passers-by and bus drivers alike – to ob-



One of the city's back-to-school signs in front of Roslyn School on September 21. Photo: Independent.

serve speeding and other school zone regulations, according to Public Security director Greg McBain, who says additional signage has been posted this year.

They will also be watching for cars that double park when dropping off children and ask parents to find legal parking spots so children do not cross between cars or at mid-block.

Bostock said the council initiative "comes from the concept that it takes a whole community to ensure safety, just as 'it takes a village to raise a child,' and we want make sure our village is a good safe place for our children."

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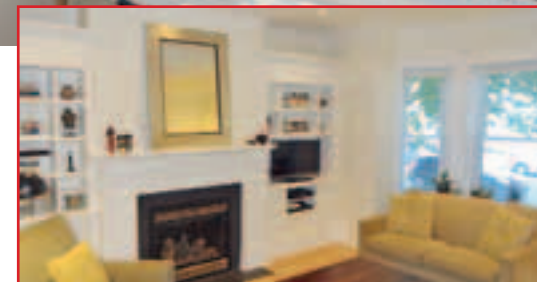
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Berm idea abandoned

Prospect greenspace to be landscaped

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The greenspace between Prospect St. and the railway tracks is getting a facelift. Work to landscape the strip from Greene to Clandeboye was scheduled to start last week now that the city is seeking a sound barrier along the new highway 136 rather than building a sound berm along the area, according to Councillor Cynthia Lulham. “We moved the work up from next year’s capital works budget to this year’s, and we’ll do the cenotaph area (Vimy Park) next year,” she told the *Independent* last week. The Prospect work, approved by city council September 4, is starting with preparation of the partially wooded and neglected terrain and the cutting of some trees where needed, she said. This is to be followed October 15 for two or three weeks of planting new grass, trees and other plantings, depending on the weather and availability of trees. These are to include the addition of a number of evergreens to cover the cement wall at Greene. When the city decided to abandon the idea of a berm, she explained, residents

said the greenspace “looked terrible.” They had seen the plan in advance and “it was agreed by residents to landscape the area.” “This is a needed investment so I’m very, very pleased,” said Mayor Christina Smith when council awarded an expenditure of \$78,972 to launch the work. A bid from Jardin Novo was the only one received of five companies invited to quote. Two did not reply while another two stated they were unable to quote, including one because the job was too small. **Drainage, costs cited** Former District 8 Councillor Theodora Samiotis had worked extensively with the Quebec Transport ministry (MTQ) on the plan for a berm, explained Lulham who represents District 7 but whose commissionership includes parks. It turned out a berm was not feasible because of drainage onto the tracks (though there is some reported now). It was also too costly, she said, since the city would have to pay 50 percent of the berm’s construction while the city is asking in court for the MTQ to pay 100 percent of a highway sound barrier (see story September 18, p. 1).



A view of the Prospect greenspace on September 19. Photo: Independent.


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Murray dog run re-opens, with Dust Stop



The Murray Park dog run was open again on September 21 at about 1 pm. It was closed September 20 to put down Dust Stop Powder and the next morning for the additive to be watered. Friday morning's rain "took care of that last operation," said city director-general Benoit Hurtubise. Photo: Independent.

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Bring a container (either a plastic bag or bin) and a shovel. Supply is limited, so please leave some for your neighbours. Trucks and trailers are prohibited!

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Cost: \$30



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THERE’S LITTER, AND THEN THERE’S DANGEROUS LITTER

In response to the letter from Richard Orlando (Sept. 11, p. 6), I agree that plogging is a wonderful idea. I don’t jog either, but I do walk my dogs several times a day through Westmount Park. I, too, will pick up litter if I see it. However, more recently, I am becoming more concerned. I recently rescued a young dog and find myself grabbing bits of broken balloons out of her mouth. Leaving broken balloons around the park is a danger to our pets and wildlife. This is happening more and more, especially on the roof of the arena. I understand that people want to have birthday parties for their children in the park, but there has to be some responsibility too.

More disturbing, though, is the fact that, during our early morning walk the week of September 10, I found empty syringe packages and torn alcohol rub packages on a bench in the gazebo. I did not see any syringes, which makes me even more nervous. Where could they be? Would they be picked up by a child?

Many times during our early morning walks, especially on Sunday, there are cases of empty beer bottles or cans surrounded by fast-food bags, often in or around the gazebo. I love the gazebo, it is a lovely spot to sit and contemplate, but at night it seems to bring the more “adventurous” out. There don’t seem to be the security patrols like there used to be. I think I have seen one patrol in the park this summer (though I am sure there were

more), but it is obviously not enough.
BELINDA BOWES, ACADEMY RD.

PATTON WAS A WESTMOUNT LYNCHPIN

There were many facets to Jenny Patton (1943-2018).

Jenny Patton was a lynchpin from the early years onwards of Westmount’s Healthy City, founded by [the late] Councillor Sally Aitken.

When a brief was needed to be written to the government on environmental matters, it was Jenny with her MBA skills to the fore.

And on the practical level, she was quick to offer her home when necessary for those Healthy City meetings to move the issues forward. Admiring her carousel horse was a bonus (see picture Sept. 11, p. 4).

I remember in the early days of the new community garden at Victoria and St. Catherine, she would quietly but constantly remind us of indigenous [native plants] planting. She was always on the lookout to spread the message.

Her generous and kind spirit touched so many.

When she became aware that I was away helping my UK parents on my husband’s birthday, she scooped him up with our daughter’s family to celebrate in her Manitou home.

Later, I remember when there was a funeral in the family of a mutual friend, it was Jenny who, in support, quickly offered to drive Sally, Don and I off the island to attend.

And in 2010 at the celebration of Don’s life it was Jenny who masterminded the refreshments and organized the Healthy City ambassadors to assist at Victoria Hall.

Known for her constant environmental efforts, business acumen, TMI teaching, practical nature and kindness, she could also lob a witty remark as well as a tennis ball.

There is no doubt that Jenny needed to be cloned. She has left a huge void to fill.

As her *Gazette* obituary noted “in lieu of donations, Jenny would love to see everyone take better care of the earth (Gaia).” A typical wish to the end and the least we can do to honour her memory.

SYLVIA WEDGE, GROSVENOR AVE.

EXTEND THE POOL SEASON, PLEASE

Open letter to Mayor Christina Smith, and Councillor Mary Gallery, commissioner of library, culture, sports and recreation

At the early September city council meeting, Mayor Smith addressed the pool closure citing the usual reason, in essence, that the lifeguards had to go back to school hence the manpower was unavailable.

I suggest that all residents who care about this issue attend the next council meeting on October 1 to formally address it yet again, for the record. Clearly, there are Westmount adults who are interested in working as lifeguards until October as they could use the money and they should be hired. Alternatively, if Westmount lifeguards will not work past August, then we need to hire outside of Westmount.

It is my personal opinion and not that necessarily of the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA), that there is little political will to extend the period or hours of the Westmount outdoor pool as it still has not been handled. Also, it is my opinion that city council has shown no interest in the creation of an indoor pool, which was on the electoral platform of Mayor Smith. If my memory serves me well, the 2017 city of Westmount survey results regarding an indoor pool indicated 81 percent out of 1,100 people who completed the survey wanted an indoor pool. So, it is only normal that there is anger from the people as they feel that the elected officials are not listening or representing them.

You may remember that, on April 16, 2018, the WMA had a productive meeting about the indoor pool. As a result of this meeting, I agreed to head this issue for the WMA as I am a diver/swimmer and use the pool often. Many parents let us know that their children who were Westmount Dolphins had to train outside of Westmount during winter and the travel was difficult or taxing on them. At the follow-

ing city council meeting, I explained this and indicated that Westmount is inadequate in this regard.

Furthermore, I would like to congratulate the Westmount swimming community for standing strong and together on issues like the pool as it affects every demographic in Westmount. For this reason, I have cc’d Mayor Smith, Councillor Gallery and the Westmount *Indie* so they may follow the thread of the concern.

JOHANNA STOSIK, BOARD MEMBER – WESTMOUNT MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

Reply from Mayor Smith:

I have read through the chain of emails below and am happy to clarify several of these points as our goal is always to keep the pool open for every single minute that we can. If you want to call me in the office, please do and we can set something up.

DON’T ADD DUST REDUCER, REPLACE DOG-RUN GRAVEL

I read with interest your article on the dust reducer planned for King George (Murray) Park dog run. As one of the first to complain about the clouds of fine particulate that grow to about 20 feet by eight feet high on dry days, I cannot believe (as a layman in these matters) that anything added to what is there will be effective for the following reasons. First, dogs dig and run. It’s only a matter of time before the added material is covered again by the crushed gravel [sand/granite mix] particulate. Second, nature through wind and rain will eventually mix in the reducer with the [sand/granite mix], exposing the fine dust again.

I also find it beyond comprehension that the tests did not include detection of organic matter and fungal matter. When the park was dirt, we all knew what the dirt contained, but it did not hover in a cloud for a minute as it does with the [sand/granite mix] allowing both humans and pets to breathe it in.

When I first looked up the subject on the internet, there were three examples of municipalities that had opted for crushed gravel; two in Toronto, and one in Boston. In all cases, they changed within a year to Canine Turf. Although the initial costs were higher, according to what I read, the maintenance costs were less, which would lead to an eventual savings over time. It seems to me that a representative of the company selling this turf would be able to detail these costs and the payback time.

I fear that similar to the building of a super-hospital within 100 meters of a Metro and train station where no one even thought to connect them until after the fact, that *continued on p. 8*

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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Drainage of Murray Park paths questioned



Mayor Christina Smith looks at photos of pooling water given to her September 4.

Architect Bruce Anderson, a resident of Côte St. Antoine Rd., told city council September 4 that drainage of paths on the slope of King George (Murray) Park needed to be corrected.

Handing Mayor Christina Smith two photos he had taken of pooling water near Belmont Cresc., he suggested the city's landscape architect should take a look at it. "The drains are in the wrong place," he

explained.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham, Urban Planning commissioner for zoning, economic development and parks, later told the *Independent* from out of town on business that "I know there were issues last year in KPG, but I thought they were solved. I will visit and speak with Parks when I return."

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City: 'Valued heritage elements'

Tour of 6 houses of worship leads off results of study

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The city's three-year effort to identify and document heritage elements of Westmount's 13 houses of worship in conjunction with their congregations is bearing fruit.

An inventory of their architectural elements and some of the valued features important to their history or religious background is considered to be an important first step in preserving these community landmarks in view of dwindling congregations and possible repurposing.

"Some of these buildings are facing precarious situations," said Tom Flies, director the Urban Planning. "These buildings are big and have limited sources of finance to pay for upkeep." This is not limited to Westmount but is a national trend.

A recent refusal of the Quebec government to grant a permit for Garderie Fun Academy to operate a large daycare in the basement of Westmount Park Church, which depends on its rent, "shows the fragility of these congregations," he said.

"The city would like to see these community landmarks continue to play an im-

portant role and to help them find a way to adapt to their needs," he said. One way, he suggested, might be through evaluating regulatory tools. He cited what was done two years ago when the city helped St. Matthias' with its zoning to allow Miss Vicky's pre-school to remain there.

First phases kicks off

Leading off the first part of the city's Houses of Worship study, Flies described some of the identified valued elements of six of them that are the subject of a city walking tour September 30.

Taking place in conjunction with the Westmount Historical Association, this event starting at 2 pm from the Westmount Lawn Bowling clubhouse is to be followed October 25 by a conference at Westmount Public Library on the city's houses of worship given by urban planner David Hanna of the Local Heritage Committee.

Coinciding with this tour, residents will be asked to complete an online survey concerning their comments on the heritage buildings while paper copies will be available at the library as an alternative means.

Defining elements

Summary descriptions from Flies of the first six are:

Westmount Park United Church: Its unique siting at the edge of the park; the building's architecture and interesting massing; its evolution since 1889 and subsequent amalgamation of congregations as well as many artifacts brought by each. These include memorial plaques and a World War II memorial.

Church of the Ascension: Its position at the "institutional core" of the city, across from the cenotaph and city hall as well as on a large property with very clean landscaping makes it an imposing landmark; architecturally very interesting due to its height and stained glass.

St. Matthias': The oldest Anglican church in Westmount, it is the regimental church of the Royal Montreal Regiment, has many commemorative elements, and includes a well-known Willem organ as well as an architecturally interesting interior and stained glass;

St. Léon de Westmount: Its striking interior with soaring nave includes magnificent stained glass along with its dome and vaulted ceiling painted by famous artist

Guido Nincheri;

Serbian Orthodox: This church on Melville across from Westmount Park was designed by well-known Westmount architects Maxwell Brothers, it has interesting brickwork and history (interior not accessible on the tour).

Shaar Hashomayim: This consists of two adjoining buildings, the original one on Kensington and the large building dating to the 1960s that wraps around it in a rather "imposing and confusing" way. The new large portion along Côte St. Antoine and Metcalfe represents "very radical moves" of architecture at that time. It has interesting glass work. (Its interior will not be open for viewing.)

Second tour?

A second tour of the seven remaining houses of worship could follow, Flies said. These would be Mountainside, Seventh Day Adventists, St. Stephen's, Westmount Baptist Church, Temple Emanuel-Beth Shalom, Bethel Holy Gospel Chapel and the House of Prayer for All Nations.

A map of the 13 can be found on the city's website by searching "house of worship."



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Letters, cont'd. from p. 6

Westmount is pushing forward with a solution that will eventually fail and end up costing even more money, before exploring all the options in detail.

CARY KITNER, FORDEN AVE.

NDPQ WOULD TABLE BARRIER-FREE ACCESSIBILITY BILL

Reply to open letter from Julian Lebensold, "How will provincial government promote universal accessibility?" (September 18, p. 6)

I apologize for my poor answer at the debate; you are absolutely right about the importance of the question, and that is why it took me a little while to respond, as

I wanted to make sure that I was giving the right answer on behalf of both myself and the NDPQ.

My answer is as follows:

If elected, I will introduce a bill aimed at providing universal, barrier-free accessibility throughout Quebec. This bill would include sections on the creation of customer service standards, as well as information and transportation. I would use Ontario's accessibility standards as a starting point (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/about-accessibility-laws>), but I would also envision public consultations to ensure that the needs of Quebecers with disabilities are properly met.

In particular, the bill would require that all new buildings serving as public accommodations or commercial facilities comply with accessibility standards. It is much cheaper to build new buildings to accessibility standards rather than to have to renovate them later, and so such a requirement should be implemented immediately. Older buildings should also be encouraged to take steps to become accessible, through the use of subsidies for accessibility renovations, and possibly fines if such renovations are not completed after a certain date.

NICHOLAS LAWSON, NDPQ CANDIDATE FOR WESTMOUNT-ST. LOUIS

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Our riding reflects the diversity of our city and our province. My commitment is to help build bridges between Quebecers of different backgrounds and to ensure we all benefit from a strong, prosperous and inclusive Québec. My pledge is to be your advocate in Québec City and a strong presence in the riding of Westmount–Saint-Louis.

Notre circonscription reflète bien la diversité de notre ville et de notre province. Je veux travailler à créer des ponts entre les Québécois ayant des origines culturelles différentes et de faire en sorte que nous bénéficions tous d'un Québec fort, prospère et inclusif. Je m'engage à être votre porte-parole à Québec tout en vous offrant une forte présence dans la circonscription de Westmount–Saint-Louis.

MY PRIORITIES:

- Establishing a municipal, provincial, and federal committee to address concerns regarding transportation including congestion, construction, noise and access;
- Securing investments that meet the growing needs in education in youth and adult sectors, vocational education, CEGEP and university;
- Ensuring residents have ready access to health and social services;
- Building on the solid economic foundation of the Couillard government;
- Promoting a strong Québec within a united Canada.

MES PRIORITÉS :

- Créer un comité municipal, provincial et fédéral chargé d'examiner les enjeux de transport, notamment la congestion, la construction, le bruit et l'accès;
- obtenir des investissements qui répondent aux besoins croissants en éducation, tant au secteur des jeunes que celui des adultes, y compris la formation professionnelle, le cégep et l'université;
- faire en sorte que les résidents aient facilement accès aux services de santé et aux services sociaux;
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Photos courtesy of W. Wayling.

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The Westmount Public Library's summer reading club closing party was held September 8 at Victoria Hall. According to children's librarian Wendy Wayling, over 250 people attended and 310 children registered over the summer and read for "about 5,000 hours!" This year's theme was "Feed Your Passions."



Mad Science, top, put on a fire and ice show.

"The staff also performed a very cute rendition of 'Summer Reading,' (bottom) based on the Grease classic 'Summer Nights!'" said Wayling.

Prizes were given out, including a \$500 grand prize from Via Rail.

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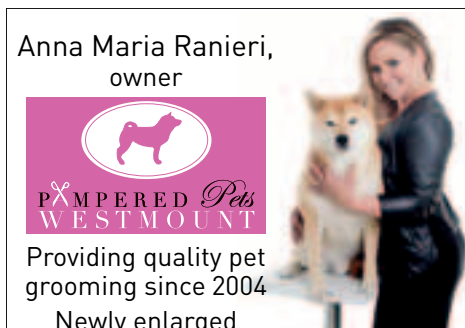


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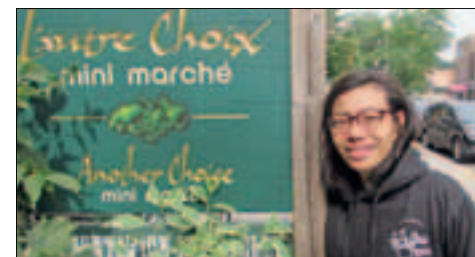
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Silvers & bronze for Westmounters at Quebec Croquet Championship

The 2018 Quebec Open Croquet Championships were played September 8-9 on the lawn bowling greens of Westmount and the Town of Mount Royal. “The weather could not have been better as players and spectators basked in three days of sunshine,” said tournament organizer Andrew de Courcy-Ireland.

Westmount residents placed in different events during the championship week-end:

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Rod de Courcy-Ireland (centre) presents prizes to Stuart Lawrence (right) and Jim Field (left).
Photo courtesy of A. de Courcy-Ireland

- Andrew de Courcy-Ireland was 2nd in the Championship Plate event,
- Rod de Courcy-Ireland was 3rd in the B Flight event,
- Ian MacLaren was 2nd in the Golf Croquet event (losing to fellow club member KS Tsang).

The winner of the championship was Stuart Lawrence of New York, defeating Jim Field, who travelled from England to compete. The Quebec Open Croquet Championships have been contested annually in Westmount since 1994.

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How Kells Middle School Program Eases the Transition to High School

Middle schools help address the specific needs of young teens.

Discover how this stepping stone can benefit students and pave the way to high school success.

Early adolescence is a crucial time in a student's development. This is when they undergo profound changes, both physically and emotionally, and learn many of the soft skills and habits that will stay with them throughout their time in education and beyond.

During these formative years, the care and attention of a dedicated teacher can make all the difference. Small class sizes allow for teachers at Kells to truly know all their students. However, our school goes far beyond this, creating a middle school so that young teens have a smooth step between elementary school and high school, paving the way for a seamless transition into greater independence.

Middle School Offers Support as Well as Greater Independence

Students entering adolescence are very different from their young peers in elementary school. They're moving away from concrete thinking into more abstract and theoretical

concepts, they're developing more complex relationships with friends, and they're beginning to test boundaries. Young teens are still entering this phase, however, and this process can take time – often with young students maintaining some aspects of childhood as they become teenagers.

This makes students entering adolescence very different from students in their late teen years. Maturity levels can vary significantly and students often benefit from an environment more suited to their specific needs. Middle schools provide an excellent stepping stone during this transition, offering increased independence in combination with a nurturing approach. This provides an environment in which young teens can thrive, paving the way for future success.

An Inclusive Environment Helps Students Believe in Themselves

According to several recent studies, academic success among

teens is most affected by their perception of their own abilities. If a teen feels discouraged and unsupported, they may struggle even when they have the natural potential to succeed. This can be especially true for students entering early adolescence.

Many students entering adolescence feel increasingly self-conscious and are acutely aware of the opinions of their peers. Cultivating a sense of belonging and inclusion can be especially important for young teenagers, which is why this age group greatly benefits from small class sizes and a personalized approach.

A sense of community helps students thrive

By offering an environment that provides support and a sense of community and belonging for all students, Kells Academy helps to foster positive self-image among middle school students as they enter their teenage years, allowing for a

solid foundation on which they can build upon as they progress into high school and beyond.

Middle Schools Promote Good Habits and Academic Excellence

High achievers and ambitious students can particularly benefit from a middle school environment. For decades, experts believed that after childhood the brain remained fixed. However, new research has determined that this is far from the case. Adolescence is a period of rapid brain growth and as students enter this phase, their young brains undergo profound changes. This is a time of increased neuroplasticity – meaning that new skills and habits are easier to learn than they are in adulthood. In fact, several important studies have noted that even IQ is not fixed, with eager and hard-working teens pulling ahead by as much as ten points during these years.

As a result, students in private academic middle school are especially receptive to lessons and particularly poised to benefit from a top education. Small classes employing a tutorial approach best address the needs of growing brains, as teachers help students tackle areas in need of improvement, and challenge students in the areas where they excel. Middle schools like Kells Academy also go a step beyond academic achievement by also focusing on crucial soft skills and study habits. For many, these healthy habits are among the most valuable lessons learned during this period, as they use them to meet and even exceed the academic demands of high school.

Middle school allows students to develop the habits needed for later success.

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Lights aren't only for Christmas



These lighted trees were seen in the lane between Hallowell and Bruce on September 4 (left) and September 8.

Photos: Veronica Redgrave.

Hockey, cont'd. from p. 1

With league games kicking off the week of October 12, team evaluations are still under way, Maislin said. But at the moment, there are 13 teams comprising 169 players.

These include 11 single-letter teams in Novice, Atom, Pee wee, Bantam and Midget divisions, one more than last sea-

son, as well as the new Atom AA and Pee wee BB teams. Some of the teams include players who have come back from school teams, he said.

"We have a great group of coaches who have volunteered to help run the teams this year but we are always looking for more."

In an email September 14 to parents,



players and coaches, Maislin announced the coaches for the new double-letter teams. They are Mike Jackson and Shayne Jackson (Atom AA) and Perry Carrington (Pee wee BB), who has coached in Westmount for 15 years and with the Cobras. All three were described as running "successful" hockey camps.

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Pierre Mon Coiffeur marks 60th



Seen here outside Pierre Mon Coiffeur on Sept. 19, staff, friends and customers gathered to celebrate the St. Catherine St. hairdressing salon's 60th anniversary of being in Westmount.

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

A St. Catherine St. hairdressing salon that has become a beloved Westmount landmark and institution over the decades celebrated its 60th anniversary on Sept. 19. Pierre Mon Coiffeur first opened for

business at the corner of St. Catherine and Metcalfe Ave. in 1958.

The salon was one of the first commercial tenants to move into a storefront in the high-rise apartment building that had just been erected on the northeast corner of the intersection.

The original owner, Fernand Benoit, is now retired, but he was on hand for the gathering of longtime customers and old friends, along with current owner Josée Asselin, who took over the salon from him 33 years ago.

"We have many loyal clients," Asselin said in an interview with the *Independent*, noting that many accepted her invitation to attend the special event.

"What I started continues with these people," said Benoit, referring to Asselin and her hairdressing staff.

"It's almost as if something in me were being expressed through them," he added. "We were together for years, working side by side, so we're almost family."

Katz's Galerie M celebrates 10th



Seen here on Sept. 13 in her showroom, Galerie M president Marcy Katz says she is very selective when choosing items to be featured in her consignment store.

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Galerie M, a retailer of furniture and household accessories sold on consignment, will soon be celebrating its 10th anniversary.

"We're very proud to be serving the Westmount and Montreal communities," says Galerie M president and Westmounter Marcy Katz, while noting that Galerie M also has clients all over North America as well as in England.

As well as furniture and accessories, the broad assortment of curated items at Galerie M also includes lighting and art work.

Styles range from modern to traditional, antique, contemporary and art deco. "We are very selective," adds Katz, noting that Galerie M accepts only around 20 per cent of what it is offered.

Galerie M is located at 8160 Devonshire Rd. in Town of Mount Royal.

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Women in Governance gala held at Palais de Congrès



Social Notes
VERONICA REDGRAVE

A prestigious gala was recently held at Montreal's Palais de Congrès, whose massive space was needed to house the 800 guests for the sold-out soirée.

Westmount-based Women in Governance honoured three major companies for their actions supporting gender equality. Sun Life Financial (represented by **Robert Dumas**); Intact Financial Corporation (**Lucie Martel**) and Sodexo (**Suzanne Bergeron**) were awarded platinum certification.

Resplendent in a saffron satin gown, local res **Caroline Codsí**, founder of Women in Governance, welcomed guests.

Under the honorary co-presidency of **Paula Keays**, president of McKesson Canada, and **Robert Dumas**, CEO Sun Life Financial Quebec, the evening emphasized the importance of women's place in the workplace.

Guest **Sophie Grégoire Trudeau**, wearing a white pantsuit accessorized with chic



Paula Keays, Suzanne Bergeron and Robert Dumas.

cascading chandelier earrings, had an entertaining discussion/interview with Codsí.

Head table guests were Westmount res **Dominique Anglade**, deputy premier, minister of Economy, Science and Innovation, and minister responsible for digital strategy; along with **Lynn Beauregard**, president, Governance Professionals of Canada; **Brian Parsons**, head of Canada, Willis Towers Watson; **Lucie Guillemette**, general vp and chief commercial affairs

Air Canada; **Roger Duguay**, managing partner, Boyden; **Marianne Plamondon**, president, l'Ordre des conseillers en ressources humaines agréés; **Louise Cordeau**, president Council on the Status of Women; **Neil Parmenter**, CEO, Canadian Bankers' Association; **Daniel Fournier**, chairman/CEO, Ivanhoé Cambridge; **François Picard**, senior partner/Montreal office leader Mercer; **Fannie Jacques**, vp people and culture Telus; and **Norman Steinberg**, president emeritus Canada,



Daniel Fournier, Caroline Codsí and Norman Steinberg.

Norton Rose Fulbright, just named board chair of the MUHC Foundation.

The events organized by Women in Governance (WIG) attract business people to attend exchanges between Caroline Codsí and personalities such as Hillary Clinton, Justin Trudeau, François Jean Coutu, Robert Tessier, Monique Leroux, Jean Charest, Monique Jérôme-Forget, Princess Sarah Zeid of Jordan and Aldo Bensadoun.

The WIG team estab- *continued on p. 17*

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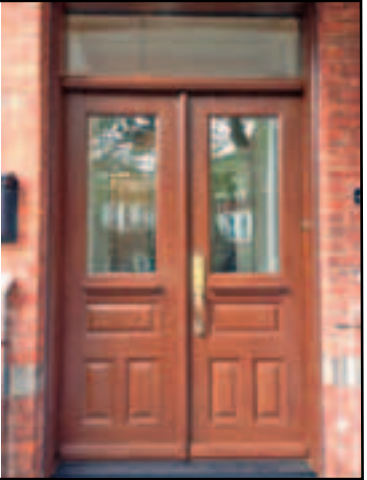
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Kalman Samuels runs *pro bono*



From left, back row: Sarah Robidas-Afshari, Marlene Iradukunda, Daniel Romano, Ethan Pather and Tatiana Romano; middle: Natalie Szczesny, Deidra Taugher, Margherita Morsella, Jennifer Harb, Lisa Leroy, Maryse Larocque and Justine Covey; front: Sodaba Azizi. Photo courtesy of Eric Kaplan.

Members of the Kalman Samuels law office left their offices in Westmount Square and headed over to Mount Royal to run in the annual Juri Course on September 15.

The event is a fundraising event for Pro-Bono Quebec, a volunteer organization that provides legal expertise and time

to individuals and non-profit organizations. The participants in the race were legal professionals and their families and friends, including lawyers, legal technicians, interns, secretaries, and even Richard Wagner, chief justice of the Supreme Court. Runners could choose between 5-km and 10-km events.

Greenhouse, *cont'd. from p. 1*
enough.”

The complex has been locked to the public for three years after a pane of overhead glass fell, narrowly missing a person on a bench below (see story October 20, 2015 p. 1). Other loose panes were subsequently detected.

Mayor Smith said she expected that final decisions on the plan would be made at the council's general committee meeting October 2 in order to go to tender quickly. The council mandated the architectural firm of Nadeau, Nadeau, Blondin to design and draw up the plans for tender (see story May 22, 2018, p. 11).

Brie makes Division 1

Westmounter Max Brie has joined St. Bonaventure University's inaugural Division 1 lacrosse team, after having been recruited by the Christ School for the same sport. At the North Carolina prep school, his team twice won the state championship.

He is the first Westmount resident to play NCAA Division 1 lacrosse.

Brie got his start playing in Westmount in the recreation league, followed by time at the Westmount Lynx lacrosse club.

His coach at St. Bonaventure, located an hour and a half south of Buffalo, NY, is Randy Mearns, Team Canada's coach.

Social notes, *cont'd. from p. 16*

lished the parity certification program in 2017 to help Canadian businesses increase the representation of women in leadership positions. The standard not only addresses parity in corporate decision-making bodies, but also in succession planning. The program also considers the implementation of mechanisms so women at all levels can advance their careers, creating a pool of female talent.



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Beer review: the Connoisseur and the Philistine

Brutopia

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DAVID PRICE, THE PHILISTINE: Beer drinker *Ideal beer*: stronger-than-average lager, even if it's commercial Canadian beer. He dislikes too much hops flavour or aroma in beer (i.e. most India pale ales or IPAs), and does not like roasted malts (e.g. stouts).
Favourite beer: Harp or Sapporo, but Sapporo-in-a-can beats Harp-in-a-can, hands down. On-tap research on this question is still under way.

GREG DUNNING, THE CONNOISSEUR: Beer drinker, homebrewer, and beer hunter.
Ideal beer: The one that is manufactured by people who care more about the beer than the money.
Favourite beer: Too many to mention and it depends on the season.

June 28, 2018

THE CONNOISSEUR:For five years, we have been meaning to officially research trail-blazing, UK-inspired Brutopia, but we always elected for something more exotic. One practical reason to have visited earlier is that we would not need extensive route guidance. Given that it has been a microbrewery since 1999 and pretty near our tony 'hood, every member of our crew, in his past, has already had a pint here. Brutopia has always been an artisanale/craft brewery, simply by doing what it has always done while the industry evolved around it. We could not in good conscience continue to avoid the obvious. It's a British ale establishment and I wonder how my trusted colleague is going to fare.

THE CONNOISSEUR: Lemongrass Saison (5%, 24 IBU) – Belgian inspired seasonal

Hot night, start light; this is a summer starter with a crisp, bitter finish. It's tart, fresh and herbal on the nose. Its name suggests Belgium, but it does not have "that" Belgian yeast taste that is ubiquitous, say, in Unibroue's beers. I would have preferred a lower ABV opener given my plans to crush the whole menu, but there is no option below 4 percent.

THE PHILISTINE: Xtra Blond (5%) – blonde

I started with a blonde, the lager lover's refuge in an ale establishment. Happily, it was a lot like a lager, but a big "rougher" on the throat. Could that be larger bubbles caused by the quicker ale brewing process versus the time that lager takes to condition? Regardless, I liked it and I applaud

Brutopia for having one on offer (if they can't have a lager). Hopheads and connoisseurs have friends who accompany them while out drinking and they need beers like this one.

THE CONNOISSEUR: IPA – (6%, 45 IBU) – British ale

Back in 2000, suffering in my corporate cubicle and working for the weekend three blocks away from Brutopia, this was my first beer every Friday night for a couple of years. There were about five struggling brewpubs in Montreal in 1999 (Brutopia was the fourth) and this was the only place to get a genuine English IPA. It was world class. The mini-brewery model was based on the English pub and the father of small, on-site brewery design and beer making in North America is a legend named Alan Pugsley. This beer missionary brought the Peter Austin brick kettle brewing system over with him from the Ringwood Brewery in Hampshire, England along with the Ringwood yeast, a reliable and temperature-forgiving English ale yeast. Wherever you went, virtually every microbrewery at the turn of the century was producing a similar pale ale because they were all using the same yeast, same hops and basically the same recipe. McAuslan's St. Ambroise began with the Pugsley system and yeast. By today's standards, 45 IBU is pretty mild stuff and I feel that is why this ale is so humanely session-able even at 6 percent. I wore a "hophead" hat back in those days and this IPA was the pinnacle of bitterness in a world flattened by industrial lager. When you order a Brutopia IPA, you are tasting history.

THE PHILISTINE: Honey (5.2%) – pale ale with honey

Attentive readers of this column will know that I don't like things being added to beer, especially fruit. But one frequent exception has been honey, if it's not overdone. The honey was "very light" according to my notes and "not syrupy." Thank you. I liked this beer. It does not overdo anything, but at the same time is something different.

THE CONNOISSEUR: APA (5%, 64 IBU) – American pale ale

Okay, we are now back to 2018 in a world gone crazy on American IPAs and are now comparing Brutopia's with the myriad of others, whose brewers all skipped the British IPA. The competition is fierce in this category. Well, bad news.



Photos courtesy of Willem Westenberg.

There is really no noticeable aroma. Did I really get what I ordered? I had to ask. Our server explained that the APA is a dry-hopped version of the IPA. Really? It just tasted like the previous beer, but harsh. Without American aromatic hops that we have previously written about, you don't get an APA, you get a really unbalanced, overly bitter pale ale. Not keeping up? Lazy? I don't want to know why. Next.

THE PHILISTINE: Extra Special Bitter (5.2%) – bitter

Bitters are a bit of weird category in general and for me in particular. Firstly, "bitters" are not really bitter. They might be better described as "not sweet, brown-but-not-roasted beers." For me, I like about half of the ones that I have tried. I liked this one, but there was a bit of hops taste that had me worried about having too much of it.

THE CONNOISSEUR: Nut Brown (4.6%, 12 IBU) – British brown ale

This was always my next beer back in the day. I liked it so much, I once asked the original brewer, Chris Downey, for some yeast and he happily obliged a fledgling homebrewer with a mason jar of fresh Ringwood yeast drained from the primary conical fermenter, and I made my own satisfactory nut brown. But this is not the rich, malty, and nutty brown of yesteryear. It is diminished. It tastes like a watered-down IPA, which is just simply bad. There is some malt aroma but it has a synthetic quality. What happened?

THE PHILISTINE: IPA (6%) – India pale ale

Encouraged by Greg, I had an IPA taster. Usually this exercise would be a waste of time, but he said they brewed

IPAs differently at Brutopia. He was right! My notes say, "Not your hipster's IPA." Even better, they went on, "Not hoppy until the end." If all IPAs were like this one, I might not have such a hate on for them.

THE CONNOISSEUR: Oatmeal Stout (4.6%, 25 IBU) – British ale

No coffee or dark chocolate aroma. No creaminess like a Guinness or St. Ambroise Oatmeal Stout. It just tastes like the Nut Brown with some chocolate malt added and it even looks like that in the glass. Flat, no creamy head on top. Disappointing. At least the two rounds of nachos were pretty good.

THE PHILISTINE: Bonjour-High (5.2%) – rousse/hemp beer

I did not know what to make of this one, but I gave it a shot. I often like "rousses," which I describe – favourably – as brown-sugar sweet (not candy-sweet like wheat beers!). This one was about halfway between my ideal rousse and a brown ale, which can get too brown (i.e. too roasted) for me. Okay, but I doubt I'll be throwing back gallons of it.

THE CONNOISSEUR: Winter Ale – Okanagan Springs – B.C.

This is not made here and it is not craft. I just need something that I can count on, but it's pretty close to a line I don't cross, in terms of choice. I probably should have just had a pint of water at this point. There was just nowhere else to go.

THE PHILISTINE: Lemongrass Saison (5%) – saison

Lastly, I had a Lemongrass Saison taster. Even at the end of the night, I am not so stupid as to order a whole glass or

pint of a beer like this one – and I was right. I found it smelly and sweet (in a bad way), and hoppy. I don't like the style, so this is not a review of this specific beer, but my final note of the evening was, "Yuck."

Summary

THE CONNOISSEUR: I think that to still be in business on hyper-competitive and expensive Crescent St. since 1999 is an incredible achievement, and even more so below St. Catherine. This east-west artery is a symbolic wall and southern border for most tourists and residents, yet Brutopia has managed to attract enough business to still be standing. Its neighbour is Hurley's. When Brutopia first opened, we prayed to the microbrewery gods that Hurley's wouldn't wipe them out by serving half-price Guinness pints, and they didn't. Brutopia has always been a great music venue for local bands and has been a welcome haven for Concordia and McGill students. In the beginning, it was unique in that it made its own beer on premise. This was amazing in 2000. The industry has evolved and a brewpub is not an amazing invention anymore. Brewing ingredients, systems and knowledge have all improved in the



last 19 years. The bar has moved higher and my feeling is that Brutopia has kind of just settled in as a place to get a beer, have a light meal and listen to some live music. It just happens to still brew its own ale. Maybe the magic in the recipes was founding brewer Chris Downey, who left Brutopia for new challenges in Nova Scotia in 2017. If that's the case, that's a tough

one to fix but certainly not impossible. Good memories and I will always go back for its signature IPA when in the area.

THE PHILISTINE: I like this bar. It is an inviting, comfortable, worn-in Montreal bar, not a bit like the test kitchen-feel of most of the newer places we visit (which are fine, but different). It is not an adventure to go there, physically or taste-wise. And there is no beer evangelism going on here and no super-weird beer flavours served in an attempt to knock your socks off. They serve a few beers accessible to the unrefined like me (which is a few more than most places – thank you) and an IPA that I didn't mind finishing. No small achievement.

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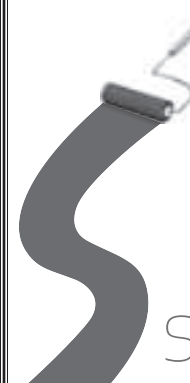
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MP Marc Garneau thanks the participants, volunteers and the “extraordinary efforts of a young man, event organizer Spencer Halikman.” He summarized that “we all know someone who has been touched by cancer.”

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Together We Make Consigning Easy!

Terry Fox run returns to Westmount

By RALPH THOMPSON

Runners and walkers gathered in Westmount Park at around 10 am September 16 for the first general-public Terry Fox run in Westmount since 2011. By 10:30 over one hundred participants had registered and were ready for a few warm-up exercises.

Runners and walkers set off on the 1.5-km track around Westmount Park under

Runners and walkers could complete as many laps as they liked and four legged runners were also permitted.

beautiful blue skies and perfect conditions. Supporters included Marc Garneau, minister of Transport and member of parliament for NDG-Westmount and his

wife Pamela Soame, provincial Liberal candidate for Westmount-St. Louis Jennifer Maccarone and Mayor Christina Smith.

Over a hundred participants go through a warm-up routine before the start of Westmount’s Terry Fox run.

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Goodman Gala success celebrated in Goodman garden

Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

The night was perfect after bad-hair-day humidity. Local res **Mia Melmed Goodman** and her husband **David Goodman** welcomed guests to their elegant landscaped home. Arrivals admired the French formality of the front garden and then were awed by the hidden back bower, full of colourful climbing vines and a fabulous fountain.

The reception was held to celebrate the record-breaking funds raised at the Goodman Gala held last June – over \$3 million. Most of the invitees stayed in the pretty

The Indie will soon publish its fall social calendar. Please send information on your events to redgrave@videotron.ca.



Mia Melmed Goodman and David Goodman.



Dr. Morag Park and Sylvain Renzi.

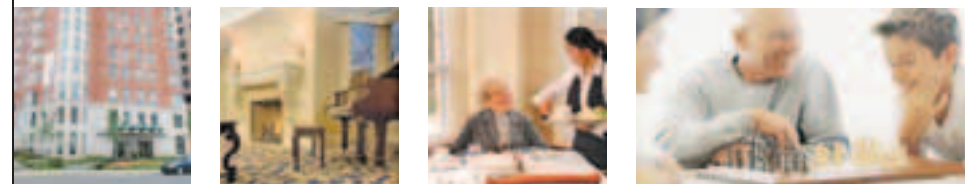


Ian Watson, Daiela Quail, Logan Walsh and Peter Siegel.

patio area where McGill University's **Suzanne Fortier**, principal and vice-chancellor, and **Marc Weinstein**, vp university advancement, spoke eloquently about the importance of the Rosalind and

Morris Goodman Cancer Research Centre. They praised the work of Mia and her dedicated gala committee team, which included fund-raising leads **Michael Corber**, *continued on p. 22*

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Sue Carol Isaacson, Joel and Marlene King, and Jonathan Goodman.

Social notes, cont'd. from p. 21

John Godber and Josée Goulet; Barbara Plotnick (communications), Ruth Bensimon Choueke (donations-in-kind), Amy Kornik (event), Janis Levine (outreach and ticket sales) and Etty Bienstock (dinner).

Dr. Morag Park, director of the centre, also spoke, stressing the organization's commitment to establish a lung cancer network.

Present was the inaugural chair of the McGill University Rosalind Goodman Chair, Logan Walsh, from NY's Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. The PhD whiz was joined by other bright PhDs/cancer researchers/principal investigators Ian Watson, Daniela Quail and Peter Siegel. Each has their own lab at the centre.

Noted enjoying the delightful eve were Westmounters Barry Pascal (co-chair of the June gala), Kathy Nakashima, vice-chair Montreal Children's Hospital, Jewel and Paul Lowenstein, Gloria and Richard Bass, Jonathan Goodman and Marlene and Joel King. Also seen in the orchid-filled rooms were Diana Colby, McGill communications; Lillian Vineberg and Morris Goodman, Sue Carol Isaacson, Erika and Derek Cassoff, Maxyne Finkelstein, Janis Levine, Sam Altman, Bevelee Ashmelee, Sylvain Renzi, Terry and Sam Minzberg, Joel Raby and Gary Wechsler. Ladies were elegant: most wore pretty



Etty and Ralph Bienstock.

dressess; others pert pant suits. Shoes ranged from sky-high stilettos to Kate Middleton-style wedges. One lady went rogue and wore basic Birkenstocks.

Noted were designer purses ranging from the very latest Chanel to the gotta-have Goyard. Caterers passed bite-sized quiche and delicate smoked salmon, which complemented the trays of sushi. Everyone loved the colourful bowls of candy: licorice allsorts, Smarties, black licorice and, of course, gummi bears. What a sweet evening!



Paul and Jewel Lowenstein, and Gary Wechsler.

Comin' Up

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

With the blessings of Abenaki elders, artist Sylvia Bertolini offers an interpretation of some universal wisdoms in "The 13 Clan Mothers of the 13 Moons" presented by the Women's Art Society of Montreal (www.womensartsociety.com). Non-members \$10. Unitarian Church of Montreal, 5035 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West from 1:30 to 2:30 pm.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

The annual Shaar Hashomayim Sisterhood Sukkot luncheon. Speaker: Vivianne Schinasi-Silver on "Sukkot: A Time to Express Gratitude." \$40. 425 Metcalfe Ave. 11:30 am.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

► "Off the Wall" art sale of gently used art to benefit the Stephen Lewis Foundation's Grandmothers to Grandmothers campaign. On offer are about 400 pieces in a wide range of genres and prices. Westmount Park United Church. 10 am to 4 pm.

► Journées de la Culture, *Hergé à l'Ombre de Tintin* (in French). Victoria Hall. 2 pm.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Tour of houses of worship by the city's Local Heritage Council and Westmount Historical Association. Meeting place: Westmount Lawn Bowling Club clubhouse (just west of city hall). 2 pm.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2

First meeting: "How Does a Pear Taste? Writing About Food Using All Your Senses" led by Susan Semenak. 8-week hands-on workshop exploring different genres of food writing. \$190. Quebec Writers' Federation, 1200 Atwater Ave. For more information: workshops@qwfw.org or 514. 933.0878. 6 to 8 pm.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Atwater Library's annual benefit. Guests of honour are Alan Hogg and Grace Hogg of The George Hogg Family Foundation. \$150 online from Canada-Helps and at library. 1200 Atwater Ave. 6 pm.

UNTIL SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

"Text & Image" exhibition by John A. Schweitzer. Westmount Public Library.

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.

Be sure to write by Friday at 10 am for inclusion the next week.

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