

Soccer club's call for synthetic WAG field packs city hall with supporters

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

They're calling it the "Westmount field of dreams." And players, parents and friends of the Westmount Soccer Club packed the council chamber November 4 to drive home a request for installation of a field of organic artificial turf at the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG) behind Westmount High.

They were told the city had received their letters and had asked the administration to look into various options and their impact on the environment, health and neighbourhood.

Supporters began arriving during a presentation of the city's capital works budget (where no mention was made of such a playing field). And by the time the regular monthly session was *continued on p. 8*



Remembrance Day in Westmount was celebrated on November 10. See story p. 6.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

Don't Miss It

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HONESTY INTEGRITY RESULTS

Public consultation set for Nov. 20

Council okays first step in changes for 1100 Atwater

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A public consultation meeting has been called for November 20 to allow for retail and other zoning changes at 1100 Atwater, an office building that has existed for more than 40 years by vested rights in what is now a residential zone.

Under extensive permitted renovation for some time, the seven-storey building

is located on the west side of the street between Dorchester and Tupper.

It is immediately across from high-rises being built at the former Montreal Children's site as well as an 11-storey building for which demolition is under way at 4014-4022 St. Catherine just west of Atwater.

The date for public consultation was announced November 4 by city council when it adopt- *continued on p. 17*

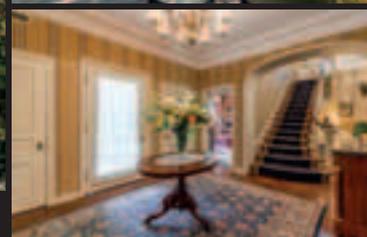
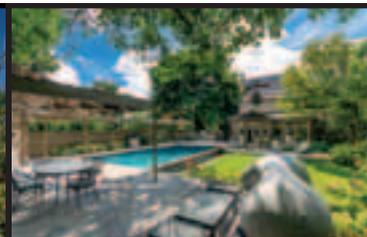
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Homeless day shelter to open November 14 at Atwater and St. Catherine



From the left, Bruno Demers from Architects Without Borders, architect Claire Davenport, Nakuset, project coordinator David Chapman and Resilience Montreal operations manager Wayne Robinson are seen here inside the future day shelter for the homeless while planning renovations on November 1.

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

Resilience Montreal, a non-profit day shelter for homeless people, will be opening on November 14 for nine months in the former Miso restaurant at the corner of Atwater Ave. and St. Catherine St. in Westmount.

Since the relocation of The Open Door

day shelter two blocks south at Dorchester and Atwater, there have been signs that the number of homeless has been growing at the edge of eastern Westmount.

While Cabot Square across Atwater in Montreal has long been a gathering place for the homeless, some homeless have also staked out encampments in a few spots on the Westmount side, including the grounds outside St. Stephen's Church where The Open Door was located and down Atwater under a highway overpass.

"We're going to try to do all the renovations this [November 2-3] weekend," Nakuset, executive director of the Native Women's Shelter of Montreal, said in an interview with the *Independent* as she and some volunteers were planning the work.

While most of the location is located in Westmount, part is in the city of Montreal. Montreal mayor Valérie Plante is expected to attend an opening ceremony on November 14, according to Nakuset.

The day shelter is a collaborative project

undertaken by the Native Women's Shelter in conjunction with Nazareth House. She said the location is being rented until they can find a permanent place.

"We're renting for the next nine months or so, month by month, but we literally have to find another building," added Nakuset. "That's why the renovations are being done in a way that's temporary. We're not making any huge commitments here."

She said they have no idea yet where the shelter's permanent location will be, although somewhere not far from the current spot.

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Cllr. Cutler: Capital works 'critical' to residents

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount's 2020 capital works budget of \$27 million is "critical to the lives of all Westmounters," Councillor Philip Cutler said in delivering the budget speech at a special council meeting November 4



Councillor Philip Cutler delivers the capital works budget as commissioner of infrastructure and innovation.

3-year program 2020-2022 compared to 2019

Budget	2019	2020	2021	2022
Roads	\$5,745,100	\$8,055,500	\$6,960,800	\$12,125,200
Water and sewer	3,094,500	3,966,200	4,895,900	4,808,200
Buildings	4,601,000	9,661,800	2,642,900	1,370,000
Vehicles	1,790,000	1,000,000	1,405,000	215,000
Parks	635,000	1,390,000	1,035,000	835,000
Hydro Westmount	2,060,000	2,330,000	2,330,000	1,330,000
IT	563,900	503,100	336,900	140,000
Urban Planning	200,000	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	\$18,689,500	\$26,906,600	\$19,606,500	\$20,823,400

preceding the council's regular monthly sitting.

This includes investing in asset-based areas from roads to water mains and sewers, parks and municipal facilities, he said. But along with the investment to address urgent needs, "we are also committed to living within our means and to a pay-as-you-go approach. It is a tough balancing act."

For 2020, as reported last week (see story November 5, p. 1 and 18), this record budget will once again be carried out with-

out incurring debt but using some \$7.2 million of appropriated surplus to pay for special projects.

These special projects are: \$5.1 million for restoration of the heritage greenhouse, \$1.6 million for exterior work on city hall (a new roof) and \$425,000 for the beginning of a restoration program for the municipal garage. "These are elements that simply cannot be put off," Cutler said.

While water mains and sewers "are not sexy," the subterranean network in some cases is over 100 years old. "We ignore it at



Henny Blom of Springfield asks the only question at the budget meeting.

our peril."

The 2020 investment is the first of a three-year capital works program that is part of a 20-year investment perspective, he said. The combined total of ballpark capital budgets for 2021 and 2022 is \$40.4 million, though these are only blueprints and do not include any special projects.

The only citizen to ask a question at the special meeting was Henny Blom of Spring- *continued on p. 22*

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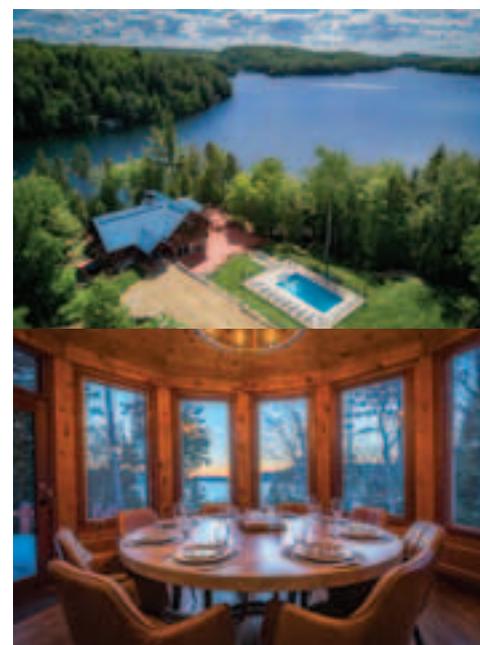
Town of Mount Royal Town Hall
90 Roosevelt Avenue
November 12
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

CLSC de Parc-Extension
7085 Hutchison
November 16
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Montreal West Town Hall
50 Westminster South
November 19
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Victoria Hall
4626 Sherbrooke Street West
November 20
10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Centre communautaire intergénérationnel (CCI) Outremont
999 McEachran Avenue
November 27
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



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Reception honours volunteers, welcomes new residents

BY LAUREN SWEENEY

Along with the usual sale of honey from the library's bee hives, some 200 invited guests to the city's fall reception November 6 had an opportunity to meet with council members, speak with city officials and receive an overview of the greenhouse restoration and the public consultations on revitalizing Westmount Park.

This is the city's semi-annual event to honour community volunteers and welcome new residents.

Councillor Mary Gallery, commissioner of library, culture and sports and recreation, opened the event, which traditionally coincided with a preview of the city's fall chrysanthemum show before the greenhouses were closed in 2015 pending restoration.

Mayor Christina Smith introduced the members of council in attendance as well as the city's management team.

Councillor Cynthia Lulham, urban planning commissioner for zoning, economic development and parks, explained how the bee hives were self-sustaining from the sale of their honey, which dropped off this year because of a sudden attack by wasps, which was quickly brought under control, but reduced the number of survivors.



Among some 200 attending the city's annual fall reception at Victoria Hall November 6 to honour community volunteers and welcome new residents were newcomers Xuhan Zhou, age 5, with her father, Hong Zhou, and mother, Liping Ren.

"Who would have thought of wasps in Westmount?" joked Lulham to much laughter, seemingly alluding to one of the

city's historic demographic groups, white Anglo-Saxon Protestants.

In 2014, the first hive produced 160 jars

of honey. For the following years when statistics were kept, the yield from 2016 rose to 432 jars but dropped off in 2018 to 326.

This year's honey crop was affected by the invasion of wasps but still produced 288 jars, which are larger than usual, according to library director Julie-Anne Cardella, making the comparison "a little misleading."

The jars can be purchased from the library while supplies last at \$5 each and a maximum of four per person. A total of 86 were sold during the reception.

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Visitez participezwestmount.org pour plus d'information et pour participez au sondage.

The City of Westmount invites you to attend **participatory workshops on Westmount Park's Protection and Enhancement Plan.**

During these workshops, the **5 following themes** will be discussed:

- Public space,
- Environment, sustainable development and heritage,
- Accessibility and mobility,
- Children,
- Seniors.

Your ideas and opinions will be very valuable to us during this process. We look forward to seeing you on **Wednesday, November 13, from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Victoria Hall.**

Go to engagewestmount.org for more information and to participate in the online survey.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NO ELEVATOR DUE TO MAINTENANCE? INSTALL A STAIRLIFT

Recently an article appeared in the *Independent* (October 1, p. 8) regarding an apartment building scheduled to do upgrading of its passenger elevator system.

In the article, some seniors expressed concern regarding having only stairs available for them to leave and enter the building.

I am not familiar with the by-laws of Westmount, but I would like to make one suggestion.

Install an Acorn (or similar) stair lift in the stairway, say from the third to seventh floor. The owner may need to have a security guard on duty full time in the stairwell to make sure that the lift is used properly and to manage the pedestrian flow.

BERNARD MACDONALD, LASALLE

ARTIFICIAL TURF WOULD ADD 20,000 'EXERCISE HOURS'

I am pleased to see that city council is considering the replacement of the Westmount Athletic Grounds with a synthetic surface.

Having such a field extends playing time by one month at both the beginning and end of the season, and lessens game cancellations due to rain. For the Westmount Soccer Club alone, that is 250 children playing 10 hours a week for an extra eight weeks. That's an extra 20,000 exercise hours. It would be fair to double that for spring soccer and other sports.

Physical activity is very important for

the health of Westmounters, especially our young. Strong evidence shows that there is an epidemic of obesity in Canadian youth with a higher than ever incidence of obesity related diabetes in teenagers.

The new synthetic surfaces have a more organic infill that eliminates the rubber pellets of prior versions

I have full confidence in our city council to consider these matters, seek expert opinion when needed and make an informed and speedy decision.

DR. MARK ROPER, METCALFE AVE.

CITY RESPONSIBLE FOR CITY, ROADSIDE TREES

I respectfully disagree with your response to my letter and photos of dead trees in the October 29 *Independent* (p. 6).

Firstly, Westmount is not even removing these trees on its own property, so property delineation is obviously not an issue in this case. I can supply pictures of such trees, with their location, if you wish.

Secondly, I see no reason why I, as a private citizen, should confront the owner of boundary-challenged dead trees. Those that are clearly well into a property are not anyone's business but the owner, but roadside trees are the responsibility of Westmount to determine ownership and subsequent removal.

PETER HOWICK, ABERDEEN AVE.

Editor's reply: I thank you and Claire Fripp (November 5, p. 6) for your letters with this message. It's a free country. If people want to use their freedom to complain about a given tree before they know whose it is, I

encourage them to do so, but it seems like a waste of time to me. – DP.

LIGHT THE VIC HALL STAGE, NOT THE AUDIENCE, PLEASE

The lighting at Victoria Hall leaves a great deal to be desired.

The house lights illuminate the audience, not the stage, with an overpowering, too-white light. The fixtures are ugly chandeliers and I'm guessing the light bulbs are energy-efficient fluorescents, judging by the way they make everything and everyone look dead.

There are a few spotlights aimed at the stage from the balcony, but they're so weak they might as well be candles.

The result: You have to squint or shade your eyes to make out anything that's happening on stage, through a gloomy fog above a sea of audience heads. And the people on stage can't see what they're doing either. Margaret Trudeau asked for the house lights to be turned off during her recent appearance, and that proved to be impossible for some reason.

This isn't rocket science. It's an easy fix: Light the stage, not the audience – that's Theatre 101. There are modern, versatile LED stage lighting rigs that can be easily installed, programmed and adjusted for any event at a reasonable cost. Maybe a Westmounter from the world of theatre or film could step up with a donation of new or old equipment that they're thinking of replacing.

MATTHEW COPE, SOMERVILLE AVE.

PAINT OVER CONFUSING OLIVIER SIGN, PLEASE

I pass the Olivier/St. Catherine intersection most afternoons while strolling downtown. On many of these occasions, there is a discussion, often a very heated one, between some pedestrian crossing Olivier and an east-bound driver who has turned left onto Oliver. A sign clearly indicates that no left turn can be made from St. Catherine onto Olivier northbound.

But are the signs clear?

Certainly, the no-left-turn on the north-east corner is as obvious as possible. But what throws a bit of a spanner into the works is the sign above it that indicates Olivier is a one-way north street. If I can't turn left, why bother pointing out that the street is one way?

Some years ago, this problem was handled perfectly by the city when it simply painted over the arrow on the west-facing side of the one-way sign. I suggest this be done again before more than a disagreement occurs.

DEEGAN CHARLES STUBBS
MELVILLE AVE.

MAKE SHERBROOKE A SINGLE LANE, BOTH WAYS

Perhaps it is time to consider making the section of Sherbrooke St. that passes through Westmount into a single lane in both directions with a wide painted median down the middle centre.

The existing two lanes in both directions are too *continued on p. 7*

Remembrance Day in Westmount

BY RALPH THOMPSON

Westmount held its Remembrance Day ceremony at the Westmount cenotaph on November 10. Under heavy overcast skies, hundreds gathered to give their respects and remember those who have given their lives in defence of their country and to preserve freedom. The ceremony was led by Padre Captain Rici Be from the Royal Montreal Regiment and opened with the national anthem.

The program included hymns and prayers, the "Last Post" played by trumpeter Sergeant Bill Maher, a minute of silence followed by "Reveille." Wreaths were laid, led by MP Marc Gar-



neau, followed by a representative of the government of Quebec, Mayor Christina Smith and Public Security director Gregory McBain, the consul general of Belgium, the Westmount Municipal Association, the Westmount Historical Association, the Royal Canadian Legion, HMCS Donnacona, the 2nd Field Artillery Regiment, the Royal Montreal Regiment, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, foreign military personnel, cadets and other civic organizations. The ceremony closed with "God Save the Queen." One of the city's 1810 "Westmount Park" cannon, visible at bottom left, on p. 1, made its re-entrance into civic life, after many years away (see story, p. 13).

It was not fired.

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Brownstein named to top legal role



Andrew Brownstein, left, is congratulated by city director general Benoit Hurtubise on his appointment November 4 as city clerk and director of legal services. A lawyer, he has been running the department for five months as interim assistant city clerk following the departure of both the city clerk and assistant city clerk (see June 11, p. 1). Mayor Christina Smith said Brownstein had been working very closely with the council and is “a very welcome addition to the leadership team.”

Letters, cont'd. from p. 6

narrow, particularly in the area adjacent to Westmount Park, where parking on both sides makes it impossible for any but the smallest vehicles to remain in their lanes. This new arrangement would leave room for a left-turn lane to be incorporated into the proposed median, where necessary, without impeding traffic flow. There would

also be sufficient space to get around double-parked vehicles, a constant problem in this area, and to make it safer for cyclists.

This above proposal works well where it has been implemented in NDG on Sherbrooke St. west of Decarie.

NEIL M. WILSON,
OLIVIER AVE.



‘We Connect’ mural shows support for human rights around the world

Some 40 participants have participated in a “We Connect” mural art event November 3 in Pointe-Saint-Charles to support the democratic movement in Hong Kong and other areas around the world.

The mural “We Connect” is made in solidarity to the latest resistances in Algeria, Catalonia, Chile, Iraq, Hong Kong, Lebanon, Tibet, Uyghur regions and Vietnam. Next to it is the mosaic art homage to Hong Kong’s “Lennon Wall,” where Hong Kongers put artistic posters to support the ongoing protests.

The event’s participants included Canadians from Japan, Britain, Taiwan, mainland China, Vietnam, Hong Kong and Quebec.

Pomelo, the coordinating artist, explains the theme of the mural, “‘We Connect’ is a term used during the Hong Kong protests to describe the united struggle for the right to be, the beautiful moments where our empathy and sympathy for each other transcends race and origins.”

Jesse Tsang, a member of the organizer, Action Free HK Montreal, says

using art – the common language of the world – is the best way to resist, “Hong Kong is never the only one in the quest of democracy and human rights. Chile, East Turkestan, Tibet, Vietnam, Lebanon, Iraq, Algeria, Bolivia, Catalonia are all struggling, but each one should never walk alone. Today, people just showed up, left their bags on the ground, then picked up paint brushes and put square colour papers on the wall in no time. When hands were cold making the mural, a cup of hot green-bean sweet soup was there to warm us up. We made this beautiful mural today, this is how human beings connect.”

Mural location:
2140 Rue Grand Trunk,
Pointe-Sainte-Charles, Montréal
(near Charlevoix Metro station)

Event page:
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Soccer, cont'd. from p. 1

starting, they had overflowed added seating in the foyer resulting in standing room only. Estimates varied between 70 and more.

Speaker after speaker explained how the natural fields in Westmount required ongoing costly maintenance, deteriorate quickly, are over-used, reduce the quality of play, shorten the playing season and often require teams to practise elsewhere. They even result in avoidable injury, they stated.

"There's usually always a delay because the fields aren't ready or too muddy," said

Jayden Perlman, age 11, while 16-year-old Julian Hughes, a Dawson student who now plays for Westmount's U17 AA team, said the fields had always been a challenge.

"We hear you loud and clear," said Councillor Mary Gallery, whose commissionership includes sports and recreation, but added, "We need to make informed decisions."

Max Conrads, a Concordia student who plays goal for the club's U24 team, asked for a lighted field, which Mayor Christina Smith said could have impact on the residential neighbourhood.

Massive turnout out a surprise

Mayor Smith, who had anticipated the turf issue might arise at the meeting but was not expecting such a massive turnout, said in opening remarks she welcomed so many new faces and that the council had asked city director general Benoit Hurtubise to check out various field options.

She also recalled the push-back from many residents to a previous call for artificial turf fields in Westmount Park in 2006-2007 before she and her predecessor were mayor, and stated the current council also "wholeheartedly" felt such a field in Westmount Park "would not be the right thing to do."

Paola Samuel, the soccer club's fields project manager, told the council that "we are simply asking that (the WAG field) be upgraded to today's standards with an environmentally friendly field that would have no (negative) impact on our children's health."

New non-toxic materials

New technologies for playing fields now provide for the use of non-toxic organic material such as cork, coconut peat, olive cores and other non-toxic products rather than recycled rubber, she noted.

"We know the city has been doing its best trying to keep the grass fields in good shape," Samuel said. "But there is only so much you can do. As it stands, the fields are worked on every three years. We get

one decent year, one mediocre year, one awful year and then the cycle starts all over again."

She added that Selwyn House School had offered to contribute to the project, which the club and its founding president, physician Mark Roper, had long been advocating for (see story March 28, 2017, p. 3).

While Roper attended the recent meeting, he did not speak. Pediatrician Suzanne Vaillancourt and a soccer mother, however, addressed the health risks from obesity, lack of exercise and kids spending time at home on the phone.

She added her voice to others at the meeting asking for a synthetic field for the spring of 2020.

Mayor Smith agreed with the need for exercise and said the community is better when kids are playing more sports. "I think you have a council that will support that."

An answer, not a study

She later told the *Independent* that she knew of the offer by Selwyn House but not the amount. As a soccer coach and mother herself, she agreed with Vaillancourt. The timeline requested by the club to install a new field was a little ambitious, but "I know people want an answer and not another study."

Patrick Barnard of Melville, who helped spearhead the Save the Park group that lobbied to keep artificial turf out of Westmount Park more than 10 years ago, thanked council at the end of the meeting for saying the park was not the right location for



Patrick Barnard was pleased that the mayor said no artificial turf field will go in Westmount Park.

one.

The club is in the throes of launching a petition to be available on its website at www.westmountsoccer.org.



Soccer player Leni Tisch, age 9, leads off the pitch for artificial turf supported by Paola Samuel of the soccer club.

Coiffure Jean John

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Police Report**Argument a factor in collision with tree, say police**

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

A collision by a car with a tree on Côte St. Antoine Rd. around 9 am on November 2 causing some injuries may have happened when the driver was distracted during an argument, say Station 12 police.

According to the police report, the driver, proceeding west along Côte St. Antoine, was involved in a heated conversation with a passenger.

While turning northward onto Roslyn Ave., the driver was distracted while making the turn.

As a result, say the police, the driver continued in a semi-circle, proceeding over the sidewalk and onto a property where the car struck a tree.

The force of the collision activated at least one on-board airbag that deployed violently, causing one of the passengers slight injuries.

One person under the age of 18 was involved in the collision. Paramedics from Urgences-Santé were summoned and at least one person was transported to hospital.

ID taken during break-in

Burglars who broke into a home near the corner of Claremont Ave. and Sherbrooke St. during a recent weekend when the owners were away stole valuables and personal information that could be used to steal identities.

According to a police report, the incident took place sometime between October 31 at 11:30 pm and November 3 at 7 am.

“When the plaintiffs came back at 7 am, they noticed that the front hallway door was open – it had been closed when they left,” said Station 12 community relations officer Adalbert Pimentel.

As well, cupboards and drawers were found open throughout the house, which is a classic indicator a burglary has taken place. They also saw that their home’s back door was left open.

A glass window pane in the framework surrounding the back door had also been broken, leading the investigators to conclude that the perpetrators reached through to turn *continued on p. 19*

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Winter comes to Westmount ...



From left: a smiley face left for residents of Prince Albert early morning November 7, likely by their contractor, and a two-tone Westmount looking north from Sherbrooke and Kensington.

PHOTOS FROM LEFT: INDEPENDENT, COURTESY OF ROBBIE INY.



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Someone forgot to turn off a lawn sprinkler system on Arlington Ave., as seen here November 8.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

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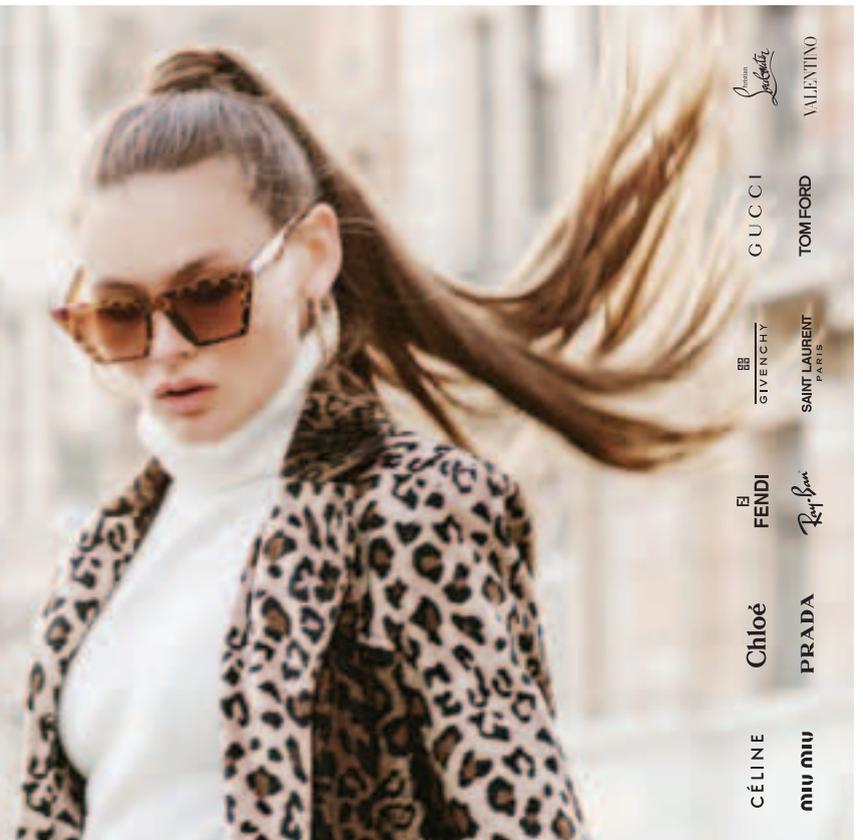
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75th year anniversary

Tulips planted at Westmount High marking liberation of Holland



PHOTO COURTESY OF M. POLAK.

Westmounter Michael Polak, the Netherlands' honorary consul-general in Montreal, was at Westmount High October 29 to plant tulip bulbs donated by the Dutch government to mark the prominent role that Canadians played in the liberation of their country in World War II.

Westmount High was one of 1,100 schools chosen by the Dutch government to receive a total of 1.1 million bulbs – the number of Canadians who served in the military during the war.

Polak consulted the list, noticed Westmount High on it and asked the school if he could go by to participate in the plant-

ing. “They were delighted,” he told the *Independent* by phone afterwards, although he “never had a shovel” in his hands.

Each of the 20 to 25 student planters received a pin minted for the occasion, which Polak is also handing out to soldiers and veterans.

“I had to order 1,000 more for a total 2,200 pins and the [75th liberation] festivities only start ‘for real’ in May. They were stunned at the embassy.”

Polak is also working to raise funds to reduce the cost of travel for veterans and soldiers wishing to attend events in the Netherlands next year.

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Restored cannon on display for Remembrance service

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A special feature of the city's Remembrance Day service Sunday, November 10 was the display of an 1810 cannon that has been restored while the second one awaits completion.

"Those attending will see something very special," Mayor Christina Smith announced at the November 4 council meeting. It's the return of the cannon to Westmount after several years of restoration spearheaded initially by former councillor George Bowser and pursued by former councillor Patrick Martin. She thanked both for their role in preserving them.

The bronze cannon had stood in Westmount Park from 1899 until their removal, with rotting wooden wheels and gun carriages, in 2006 (see story September 3, p. 8). They are unusual for having been kept together according to their sequential serial numbers, she said.

The one completed gun was to be exhibited at the cenotaph by the 2nd Field Regiment of the Royal Canadian Artillery along with one from World War II.

Mayor Smith encouraged everyone to attend the service at the war memorial saying "it's very, very important that we honour those who served and those who continue to serve."

Councillor Jeff Shamie reiterated the importance of attending and pointed out that this was the 75th anniversary of Canada's participation in the Sicilian campaign of World War II.

Steve Gregory, honorary colonel of the



Honorary colonel Steve Gregory thanks council.

artillery regiment that will be participating in the service, spoke during question period noting Canada's service in World War I and II as well as Korea, Bosnia and Afghanistan.

Garrison guns meant to defend

He said the two Westmount cannon were garrison guns meant to defend. "If it were not for the leadership of our councils and coun- *continued on p. 18*

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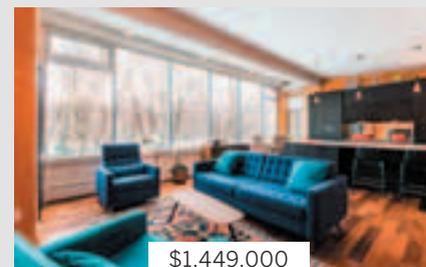
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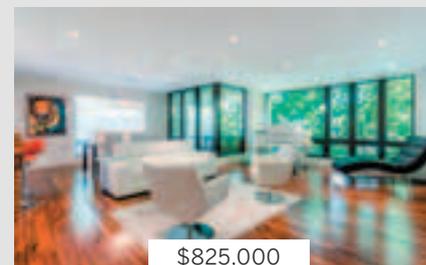
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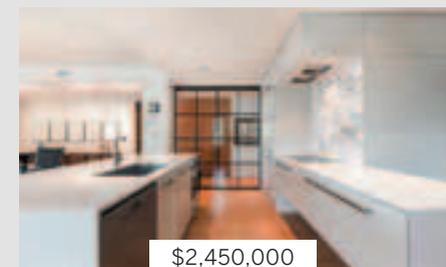
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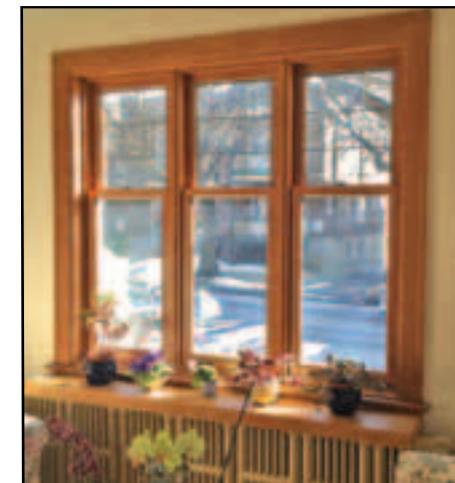
Hallowe'en on All Saints' Day

By RALPH THOMPSON

Hallowe'en was delayed one day in Westmount, like many municipalities around Montreal, due to bad weather. That didn't deter the "trick or treaters," who

were out in force November 1, All Saints' Day, prowling the streets for goodies. In contrast to October 31, the weather was cool but dry. Police cars were cruising around with their lights flashing, most likely responding to the blood-curdling screams of children or maybe just to calm the traffic. The Lawn Bowling Club House was converted by the city of Westmount into a haunted house with a long line-up to get in stretching across the front veranda by 5:30 pm.

The interior was incredibly spooky with dark drapes, creepy sounds, vampires, cobwebs, skeletons and corpses in coffins. To the surprise of many, several unnerving characters were alive, remaining stationary initially but then reaching out into the dark. The city had alerted parents that the experience may not be suitable for very young children but it was clear that kids of all ages were up for the challenge.



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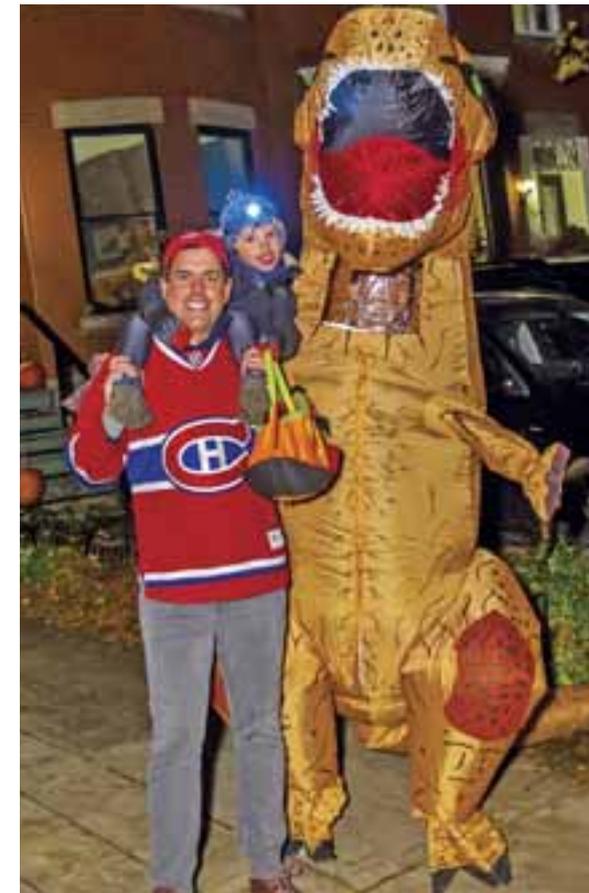
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Hallowe'en/All Saints on Westmount's streets



PHOTOS: RALPH THOMPSON.



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HÔTEL DE VILLE

Sondage sur le parc Westmount

Jusqu'au 18 novembre, la Ville vous invite à répondre à un sondage sur vos habitudes d'utilisation du parc Westmount. Visitez participezwestmount.org ou procurez-vous une version imprimée à la Bibliothèque.

Séance de consultation publique sur la revitalisation du parc Westmount

Mercredi 13 novembre, 18 h à 20 h 30, Victoria Hall. Assistez à cette session d'ateliers participatifs concernant le Plan de protection et de mise en valeur du parc Westmount. Venez nombreux. westmount.org.

BIBLIOTHÈQUE

Nouveau Storywalk® au parc Westmount

La Bibliothèque publique de Westmount et l'Association historique de Westmount vous invitent à redécouvrir la Ville à travers des images d'archives de lieux historiques, de scènes de vie et de loisirs d'hiver.

Série Récits de voyages

Les jeudis à 10 h 30 ou vendredis à 13 h, du 7 novembre au 6 décembre, Bibliothèque. Une activité pour les individus atteints de démence. Inscription : 514 989-5530 / dmiguez@westmount.org.

Atelier de poésie

Mercredi 13 novembre, 10 h 15, Bibliothèque. Avec Ann Lloyd. Bienvenue à tous. 514 989-5299.

Club de films documentaires

Mercredi 13 novembre, 19 h, Bibliothèque. *Becoming Labrador* (2019). Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

Devinez qui remportera le Prix Giller

Samedi 16 novembre, 10 h, Bibliothèque. Vous êtes invités à un petit-déjeuner pendant lequel Shelley Pomerance et le personnel de la Bibliothèque discuteront des livres en nomination pour le prix *Giller Scotiabank*, le prix littéraire le plus prestigieux au Canada. 514 989-5299.

Vente de livres des Amis de la Bibliothèque

Samedi et dimanche, 16 et 17 novembre, 10 h à 17 h, Victoria Hall. Les fonds recueillis seront consacrés à l'achat de nouveau matériel pour la Bibliothèque.

Club de lecture en français

Lundi 18 novembre, 13 h, Bibliothèque. Œuvres d'Éliette Abécassis. Animé par Gisèle Magny.

Prochaine séance du conseil le lundi 2 décembre

Après-midis conférences

Mercredi 20 novembre, 14 h, Bibliothèque. *Frank Lloyd Wright ou la beauté de l'harmonie* avec Sylvie Coutu. Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

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

Mercredi 20 novembre, 19 h, Bibliothèque. Venez avec votre exemplaire du livre et un esprit ouvert. 514 989-5299.

Ciné-club

Mardi 26 novembre, 14 h, Victoria Hall. *Luce* (2019). Billets requis. 514 989-5299.

Club de lecture en anglais

Mardi 26 novembre, 19 h, Bibliothèque. *All the Rivers* de Dorit Rabinyan. 514 989-5299.

ÉVÈNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Galerie du Victoria Hall : Exposition

Du 24 octobre au 26 novembre : œuvres de Marcel Pinchevsky et Colin Thomson. Du lundi au vendredi, 10 h à 21 h; le samedi de 10 h à 17 h.

Conférences du Cercle canadien des femmes de Montréal

Mardi 19 novembre, 12 h 30, Victoria Hall. *Chez Cora – A Quebec Success Story* avec Cora Tsoufidou. En collaboration avec la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount. 10 \$. 514 989-5226.

Clinique de vaccination contre l'influenza

Mercredi 20 novembre, 10 h à 16 h 30, Victoria Hall. Le CLSC Métro offre la vaccination contre l'influenza gratuitement à certaines populations. Plus de renseignements : santemontreal.qc.ca / 514 934-0354.

Samedi Cinéma

Samedi 23 novembre, 14 h, Victoria Hall. *Desk Set* (1957). 514 989-5226.

Concert : Compagnie baroque Mont-Royal

Dimanche 24 novembre, 15 h, Victoria Hall. Un concert de chansons et de pièces instrumentales du baroque français avec le Trio Ponté. Billets 20 \$ (étudiants 10 \$). westmount.org

TRAVAUX PUBLICS

Collecte de feuilles et de résidus de jardin

Placez vos feuilles et résidus de jardin en bordure de rue (sacs de papier ou contenants ouverts) pour la collecte ou apportez-les au dépôt du ch. Belvédère (avec preuve de résidence) **du lundi au vendredi entre 7 h et 17 h jusqu'au 15 novembre**.

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CITY HALL

Survey on Westmount Park

Until November 18, the City invites you to respond to a survey concerning your use and enjoyment of Westmount Park. Visit engagewestmount.org or pick up a printed version at the Library.

Public consultation meeting on the revitalization of Westmount Park

Wednesday, November 13, 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Victoria Hall. Join in participatory workshops on the Westmount Park Protection and Enhancement Plan. Everyone is welcome. westmount.org.

LIBRARY

New Storywalk® in Westmount Park

The Westmount Public Library and the Westmount Historical Association invite you to explore the City through images of everyday scenes, familiar landmarks, and snowy recreation.

Tales and Travels Series

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. or Fridays at 1 p.m., November 7 to December 6, Library. A weekly activity for individuals with dementia. Registration: dmiguez@westmount.org / 514 989-5530.

Poetry workshop

Wednesday, November 13, 10:15 a.m., Library. With Ann Lloyd. Everyone welcome. 514 989-5299.

Documentary Film Club

Wednesday, November 13, 7 p.m., Library. *Becoming Labrador* (2019). Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

Guess the Giller

Saturday, November 16, 10 a.m., Library. Join us for a special breakfast with Shelley Pomerance and Library staff. They will discuss the books that have been shortlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, Canada's largest literary prize. 514 989-5299.

Friends of the Library Book Sale

Saturday and Sunday, November 16 & 17, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Victoria Hall. Proceeds go towards the purchase of new materials for the Library.

French Book Club

Monday, November 18, 1 p.m., Library. Works by Éliette Abécassis. Led by Gisèle Magny.

Next Council Meeting Monday, December 2

2 O'clock Lecture Series

Wednesday, November 20, 2 p.m., Library. *Frank Lloyd Wright ou la beauté de l'harmonie* with Sylvie Coutu. Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

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

Wednesday, November 20, 7 p.m., Library. Bring an open mind and a copy of the book. 514 989-5299.

Film Club

Tuesday, November 26, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. *Luce* (2019). Tickets required. 514 989-5299.

English Book Club

Tuesday, November 26, 7 p.m., Library. *All the Rivers* by Dorit Rabinyan. 514 989-5299.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Gallery at Victoria Hall: Exhibition

October 24 to November 26: Works by Marcel Pinchevsky and Colin Thomson. Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Women's Canadian Club of Montreal Lecture Series

Tuesday, November 19, 12:30 p.m., Victoria Hall. *Chez Cora – A Quebec Success Story* with Cora Tsoufidou. In collaboration with the Westmount Public Library. \$10. 514 989-5226.

CLSC influenza vaccination clinic

Wednesday, November 20, 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Victoria Hall. The CLSC Métro offers the flu vaccine free to certain groups. For more information: santemontreal.qc.ca / 514 934-0354.

Saturday Cinema

Saturday, November 23, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. *Desk Set* (1957). 514 989-5226.

Concert: Compagnie baroque Mont-Royal

Sunday, November 24, 3 p.m., Victoria Hall. The Trio Ponté presents songs and instrumental pieces from the French baroque period. Tickets \$20 (students \$10). westmount.org.

PUBLIC WORKS

Leaf and garden waste collection

Place leaves and garden waste curbside (paper bags or open containers), or bring them to the Belvédère Rd. depot (with proof of residence) **Mon-Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. until November 15**.





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PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING

To all persons interested by the first draft of resolution No. 2019-11-237 adopted under By-law No. 1489 entitled “*By-law concerning specific construction, alteration or occupancy proposals for an immovable (S.C.A.O.P.I.) of the City of Westmount*”, regarding the building at 1100 Atwater Avenue, on lot No. 4 143 122 of the Québec cadaster (hereinafter the “**Immovable**”).

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given of the following:

1. That at its regular meeting held on Monday, November 4, 2019, Council adopted by resolution the first draft of resolution No. 2019-11-237 in order to permit, for the Immovable, a variance to By-law No. 1303 entitled “*Zoning By-law*”.
2. That the purpose of the first draft resolution consists in permitting:
 - a. notwithstanding the uses permitted in zone R6-24-08 of the City's zoning plan, office type commercial activities in the whole building;
 - b. notwithstanding the uses permitted in zone R6-24-08 of the City's zoning plan, proximity store and/or service and retail and/or service store on the ground and first floors; and
 - c. commercial signs in residential zone R6-24-08, while conforming to the specifications for commercial signs in accordance with the City of Westmount by-laws.
3. That a public consultation meeting will be held on **Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Council Chamber of Westmount City Hall located at 4333 Sherbrooke Street West. During this meeting, the Mayor, or another member of Council that she will have designated, will explain the first draft resolution and will hear every person wishing to be heard.
4. The first draft of resolution No. 2019-11-237 contains provisions making it subject to approval by way of referendum and it concerns the zone R6-24-08 in which the Immovable is located. The sketch of the concerned zone can be consulted at City Hall or on the website of the City at the following address:
westmount.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Plan_zonage_09-01-2015.pdf
5. Any interested person may consult the first draft resolution and obtain copies at the Office of the City Clerk, at City Hall, during business hours.

GIVEN at Westmount, Quebec, this November 12, 2019.

Me Andrew Brownstein
City Clerk

www.westmount.org



1100 Atwater, left and its parking structure, centre, on November 8 from Tupper near Gladstone, looking southeast towards Atwater and Dorchester.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Atwater, cont'd. from p. 1

ed a first draft resolution to approve, with conditions, the inclusion of retail at ground level and the first floor as well as for the use of signage, as long as it conforms to Westmount regulations. It takes place at city hall at 7 pm.

As initially presented at a public meeting to the city's Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) eight months ago, the changes to the current zoning were requested by the developer under the city's by-law for non-conforming projects called Specific Construction, Alteration or Occupancy Proposal for an Immovable (SCAOPI). (See story March 5, p. 1.)

Cheque processing centre

“This is formerly the Visa/cheque processing centre, a bunker-type building recently modified,” explained Councillor Conrad Peart in moving the draft resolution as urban planning commissioner for permits and architecture. It's a commercial-type building “that has existed in the

residential zone for decades.”

Zoning variances in the resolution include allowing a store and/or service and retail and/or service store on the ground and first floors as well as the signage.

Conditions include maintaining a pedestrian crossing between Tupper and Dorchester on the owner's lot between the building and its adjacent parking structure “until a permit is issued for future redevelopment of the western part of the site” and that it be integrated into such a redevelopment.

The residential R6-24-08 zoning of the area includes the city's Tupper parking lots to the west. This has been subject to the city's planning “vision” for the southeast district that has not been pursued publicly since the election of November 2017.

The current proposal shows an outdoor café patio and ground-level landscaping moved closer to or onto the public domain rather than being set back against the building and elevated (see story March 5, p. 1).

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LYSANNE FOWLER

Tiny Kyle



ordinated by Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions volunteers.

Kyle is at the stage where he enjoys playing with the other puppies in his family so the companionship of another young dog in the house could help him integrate in a family routine. He is a very healthy young fellow, up to date with his inoculations and on program for his puppy veterinary needs.

If you would like to find out more about him, please go to the rescue's website www.gerdysrescue.org or email them at info@gerdysrescue.org.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

These Montreal SPCA kittens are now old enough for adoption. They were placed in foster as newborns in litters; now they need loving families and safe homes in our neighborhood.

Fleur is a white-and-grey domestic shorthair with lovely white booties. She is three months old now, healthy and playful. She is in foster care with other kittens from her litter. Fleur's identification number is 42630130 and her foster family's email is cdemurat@gmail.com.

Maya is also a white-and-grey domestic shorthair with white markings. She is younger than Fleur, though, and very healthy. Maya and her almost identical brother Titan are now available for adoption as soon as possible. Their identification numbers are 42800627 for Maya and 42800624 for Titan.

Please consider adoption and email the SPCA at info@spca.org for more information on them, or call at 514.735.2711. You can always drop by the shelter, which is located at 5215 Jean Talon St. West with the following visiting hours: Monday to Friday from 12 noon to 8 pm, or Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm.

Your neighbour, Lysanne

Fleur and Maya (also brother Titan) kittens



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Fulford's rates are reasonable and competitive. If you are looking for a caring environment for a lady of senior years, please visit Fulford to understand the essence of this very special place.

Fulford Residence is pleased to offer short term respite care

Cannon, cont'd. from p. 13

cillors Bowser and Martin and notably our director general (Benoit Hurtubise), we would have lost a very unique feature of our heritage."

Then, he added the required question to the council: "Could you not give yourself a round of applause?" which was followed by a resounding one in the council chamber.

The city's bronze cannon were cast by

the King Brothers of Woolwich in 1810 during the reign of George III.

After making their way to Canada at some point, the cannon were fired in Westmount for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee June 21, 1897 by the 2nd Field Artillery Regiment. Soon after, the "obsolescent" cannon were removed from service, purchased and donated to the city by the Sons of England, Westmount Lodge, and installed in the new Westmount Park in 1899.

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Police report, cont'd. from p. 9

the interior door handle and gain entry. In the end, the burglars left with a cell phone, a phone charger and some pieces of personal identification.

Pimentel said that because of the theft of personal ID, the home owners were advised to contact a credit reporting agency like Equifax or TransUnion. They would monitor for illicit credit or banking transactions being transacted under the victims' names.

Metal plate foils break-in

Police at Station 12 are on the lookout

for two suspects following an attempted break-in on November 6 around 1 am at an apartment building near the corner of Sherbrooke St. and Lansdowne Ave.

The investigators for the case have at least one good lead: a video camera in the lobby captured images of the suspects trying to force open an interior door in the lobby leading to the apartments.

The building superintendent allowed the investigators to view the captured video. "They saw two suspects at the door," Pimentel said, adding that the video showed the suspects attempting to force the door open with a crowbar.

He said a plate of metal extending from the door lock over to the strike plate in the door frame to deter anyone from trying to use force made it harder for the would-be burglars – who finally gave up and left.

However, Pimentel noted that the cameras did their work "and so we do have suspects," he said. "We have descriptions and it is under active investigation." Nonetheless, the suspects left behind some damage.

"So cameras do help," he said. "And more levels of protection buy you time and better security. They're in a race against time and they're usually not going to stick around for half an hour taking a chance while waiting to break in."

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Comin' Up**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13**

Public consultation on Westmount Park. Victoria Hall. 6 pm. *Updated time.*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

► Treats & Treasures Craft Sale & Bazaar. Free. Centre Greene, 1090 Greene Ave., 10 am to 4 pm.

► "Why am I Afraid to Change?" (videos in English with French subtitles) presented by The Krishnamurti Information Centre of Montreal. \$7. Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater Ave. 2-4 pm,

► "Luminosité," a quartet performance by Montreal Music Collective, the third of a series of seven. Tickets Eventbrite.ca, \$10-\$25. Westmount Park United Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve Blvd. 7:30 pm (6:45 reception).

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Regular, mid-month city council meeting. City hall. 5:30 pm.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Women's Canadian Club of Montreal presents Cora Tsoufidou, founder of Cora Restaurants. \$10. Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. 12:30 pm. (light lunch 11:15 to 12:15 for \$8).

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

► Astrology of 2020: Major planet activity, themes & forecast with astrologer Michael O'Connor. \$10. Atwater Library. 6:30 to 8 pm.

► 1100 Atwater public consultation. City hall. 7 pm.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Westmount Historical Association presents "Marian Dale Scott: A Studio of Her Own" by Gwendolyn Owens, McGill University. \$5. Westmount Room, Westmount Public Library. 7 to 9 pm.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

J.S. Bach's *The Brandenburg Concertos* by AKAMUS Orchester Berlin. \$25 to \$105. St. Léon Church, 4311 de Maisonneuve Blvd. 7:30 pm.

Also: J.S. Bach's *The Orchestral Suites*.

Saturday, November 23. 7:30 pm.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

St. Matthias' Anglican Church's annual christmas fair, including baked goods, jams and jellies, crafts and \$10 lunch. Bring your own bags. 131 Côte St. Antoine. 10 am to 2 pm.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Sundays the Shaar presents Dr. Victoria Kaspi, astrophysicist, McGill University on "Cosmic Observations." \$5 per person. Registration required 514.937.9474 x 139. Congregation Shaar Hashomayim, 425 Metcalfe Ave. 12:00 noon.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Westmount Toastmasters' club contests in international speech and table topics. Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St., Club Room, second floor. 7 to 9 pm.

ONGOING

Parenthood drop-in. Free. Two Doulas is partnering with Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom to offer a weekly drop-in for coffee, cookies, and company with your babies (one year and younger). Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom. Wednesday mornings from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon.

To include your event in *Comin' Up*, write us at editor@westmountindependent.com.



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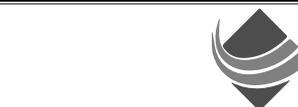
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Westmounters participate, sponsor

Sarah's Fund for Cedars puts on 18th Splash & Dash

Five hundred people including 300 runners, swimmers and cyclists were at the McGill sports complex November 2 for the 18th edition of Splash & Dash, which raises funds for Sarah's Floor at the Montreal Children's Hospital. Each team was made

up of three people. Sarah's Fund for Cedars was founded in 2001 by a then 8-year old Sarah Cook undergoing treatment for Ewing's sarcoma and has raised over \$12 million to support the needs of the hospital's hematology-oncology division.



From left, Westmounters Judy Martin, founder of "The Bell" Fund and chair of the Cedars Symphony for "The Bell," and Anna Burgos, Cedars event manager.



From left, Sarah Cook, Jeff Shamie, CEO of the Cedars Cancer Foundation and Westmount city councillor, and event chair Stefanie Butt.



Westmounters Christina and Craig Miller. Christina's firm was one of the event sponsors.



Westmount mayor Christina Smith, Stefanie Butt, and Westmounter Tiffany Turner.

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Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Great eve for St. Léon elementary in spite of storm



Jean François Tremblay, Min Pin and Sebastien Picory.



Marie-José Mastromonaco, Tania Genzardi, Mark-Olivier McNulty and Mary Gallery.

Mother Nature was not kind for the cocktail eve for St. Léon de Westmount elementary school.

But blustery blowing winds – not to mention driving rain – did not deter guests. Although the evening was originally planned on a terrace overlooking the hosts' pool, the indoor warmth was welcome. The Mount Royal Youth Symphony Orchestra performed as parents enjoyed bite-size tidbits from local caterer Simply Wonderful.

Hosts and sponsors **Min Pan** and **Sébastien Picory** had created an elegant seasonal entrance with a brigade of little orange pumpkins lined up on their wide black marble steps.

The event presented St. Léon fundraising plans, as well as the institution's innovative method of "flexible seating" described by grade 3 teacher **Julie Caron**. She explained that children could not only choose seats (ranging from exercise balls and stools, to sofas and stools) but could change seating every 10 minutes. She revealed that statistics suggest that children

seated for long periods lose interest, and that "it is also healthier to keep moving."

School principal **Tania Genzardi** expressed admiration for the school's leadership in education. Dignitaries included **Jennifer Maccarone**, provincial legislator for Westmount-St. Louis; **Mary Gallery**, councillor, city of Westmount (who noted that her father, former Westmount mayor Brian Gallery, attended St. Léon); **Cathy Wong**, councillor for the Peter-McGill district and speaker of Montreal city council,

and **Marie-José Mastromonaco**, vp Commission scolaire de Montréal.

Jean-François Tremblay, president Saint Léon de Westmount Foundation, emceed the night. He announced the creation of fundraising ambassadors for the school, and applauded the generous donation of local res **Yves Gougoux**, president Publicis Canada.

Established in 1904, St. Léon is the only French public school in Westmount (pre-school to primary). Its annex on Charlevoix

St. in St. Henri attests to the need for more space to serve Montreal's growing population.

Attending children, young St. Léon students, were beautifully behaved, holding their glasses of water with two steady hands as they adroitly navigated the adult crowd. Noted in the crowded room were **Caroline Savic**, **Stephanie Richard**, **Véronique Oliver**, **Patrick Naud**, **Véronique Dorval**, **Jeremy Jonas**, **Daniel Ince-Cushman**, **Gillan** *continued on p. 22*



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Cathy Wong and Jennifer Maccarone.



Caroline Savic, Stephanie Richard and Véronique Olivier.



Sandra Ohayon and Patrick Huynh.

Social notes, cont'd. from p. 21

Morantz, Dimitri Maniatis, Jay Sala, Mark-Olivier McNulty, and Sandrine Ohayon and Patrick Huynh, whose son Mika “loved his picture featured in the *Independent* last fall!”

Apart from discarded rubber boots, shoes ranged from bright green Crocs to bright red Gucci loafers. Kids wore amusing socks, sliding along the floor as they checked out their school drawings submitted to decorate the evening.

Capital works, cont'd. from p. 4

field who wanted to know whether the proposed reconstruction of his street listed for 2020 included replacement of the “cobra” lights by the Washington standards as well as widening sidewalks.

Replacing ‘cobras’

Mayor Christina Smith replied that the lights would be replaced as is the city’s policy for street reconstruction but she did not know about the sidewalks.

Later last week, Engineering director Elisa Gaetano said the city tries to widen sidewalks if feasible when streets are reconstructed but this will be determined for Springfield following more design work.

John Fretz of Lansdowne, who also attended, waited to ask his questions until the end of the regular council meeting when he asked Cutler whether the leaking water feature at King George (Murray) Park was up for work this coming year and where the \$7.2 million appropriated sur-

plus paying for the special projects would come from.

The work at Murray Park is one of the areas being looked at, he was told; the appropriated surplus already “is in the bank.”

The capital works budgets for 2021 and 2022 are relatively the same as this year’s before the additional special projects as compared in the table on p. 4 along with the 2019 budget. For a detailed breakdown of the projects for the coming year, see story November 5, p. 1 and 23.

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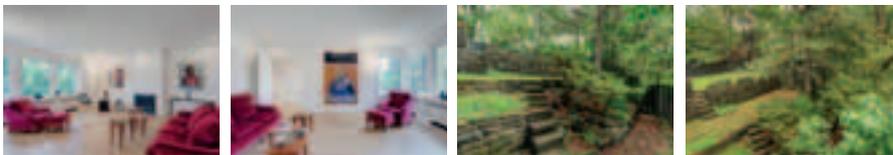
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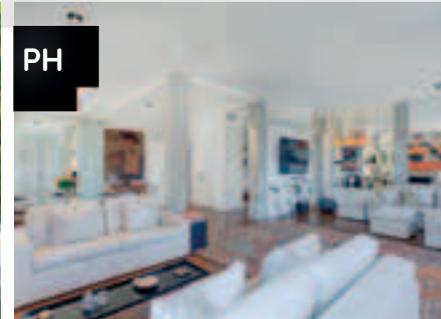


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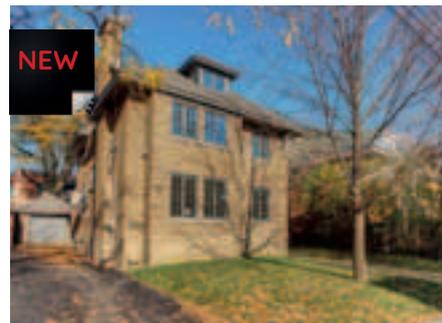
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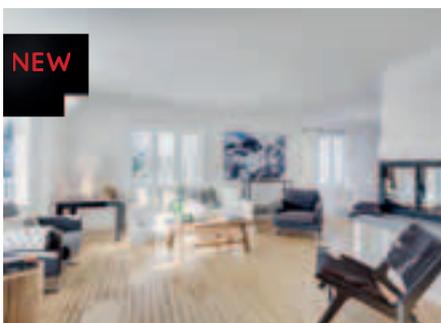
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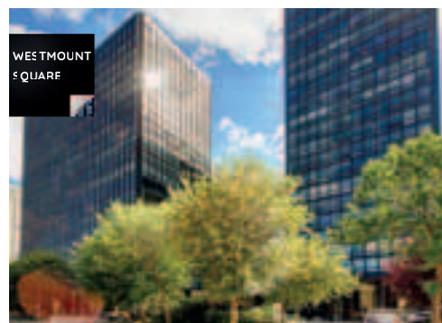
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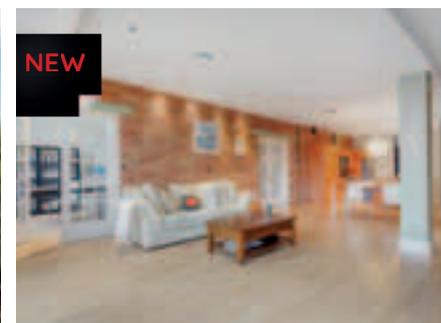
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