

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 16 No. 6c

We are Westmount

June 14, 2022

Batting 403



Four grandes dames of Westmount were full of joy and celebrating their longevity June 8 at the Place Kensington seniors' residence. Doris Brown (left) is 101 years old, Jeanette Wiseman – wearing a coronet – will be 102 in December, and Sarah Small and Eileen Marcil are both 100 this month. A large crowd gathered in the hallway for a reception. They were given beautiful bouquets, a large cake, and lots of best wishes and large hugs.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

Winning gold



The U17 CAMO (Club Aquatique Water-polo Montreal) team, including Westmounter Kai Brierley (pictured above in the semi-final), won the water polo National Championship League finals May 28 in Calgary. See p. 22.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TIM BRIERLEY.

City 'formalizes' far-reaching sustainable development committee

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council formalized a new city advisory committee at its June 7 meeting to serve as an inter-disciplinary team with a far-reaching mandate to make recommen-

dations on many upcoming projects combining varying aspects of urban planning, infrastructure and mobility.

A resolution describes such a committee as improving "the quality of the environment" including planning, organization and financing of infrastructure construction, as well as rehabilitation, exploring and analyzing available subsidy programs.

It is to be fluid in com- *continued on p. 3*

**McEntyre competition
turns 50 – winners
announced! see p. 20-21**



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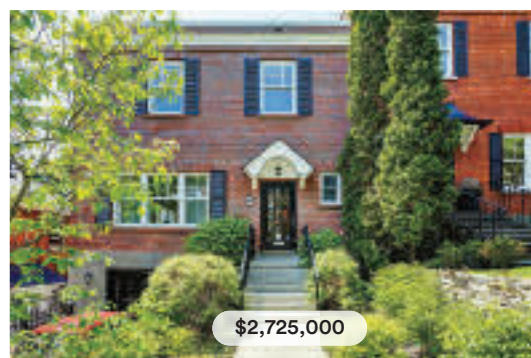
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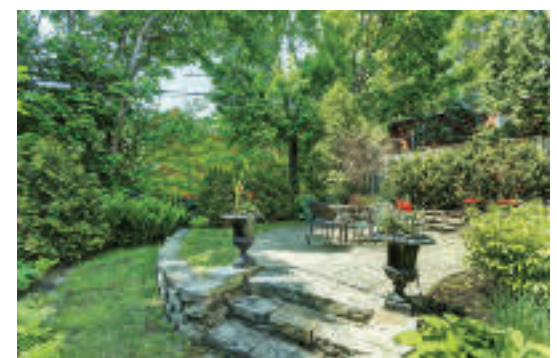





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83-year old helped by passer-by, Public Security

Public Security received a call June 3 for a man feeling dizzy and needing assistance on Olivier, officials said. When responding just after 3:22 pm, officers found him seated on a bench. He had been walking home when he suddenly grabbed onto a light pole while falling and was helped by a passer-by from hitting his head on the sidewalk. He reported feeling better and was accompanied home nearby where his wife awaited. He was 83.

.....
Multi-disciplinary committee, cont'd from p. 1

position but generally to consist of the mayor (ex-officio), three councillors and various members of the city administration depending on the project required but would not include members of the public.

"It's for better planning, better projects and better investment in infrastructure," Mayor Christina Smith stated in summary. It would ensure "the right people are around the table" depending on the project involved.

Referred to previously by Mayor Smith in her objectives for the year as the Sustainable Land Development Management Commission (SLDMC), the city resolution called it in an English translation the "Commission for the Management of Sustainable Development of the Territory."

SLM committees

Such committees on sustainable land management (SLM) are known across Canada by their acronym regarding the use of land to meet changing human needs. Many examples on the internet cite SLMs as part of emerging trends in municipalities for planning, designing, retrofitting, redeveloping and preserving built environments.

Given its hefty mandate, the new Westmount committee is expected to play a major role in the shaping of many city projects including Westmount Park along with the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) and Mobility (traffic) Committee

Inebriated woman falls on Claremont

A woman who was spotted walking north on Claremont at 12:28 am June 3 was helped by a Public Security patroller who spotted her fall.

Described as heavily intoxicated, she was identified and helped into a taxi to go to her boyfriend's home after he was contacted.

(see story February 8, p. 3).

Committee's composition

Council representation would vary to include the councillors whose commissionerships and/or district might be involved but usually to include Conrad Peart (urban planning and infrastructure), Matt Aronson (climate change) and Anitra Bostock (public works).

Members of the administration may also vary from project to project though representatives from engineering, urban planning and finance will usually be required.

Larue in charge

Councillor Matt Aronson, who moved the resolution, later told the *Independent* the committee is an "inter-disciplinary approach that assistant director general Michel Larue is trying to achieve." Larue, as ADG, is in charge of overseeing urban planning, infrastructure, public works and engineering.

The fledgling committee, though not yet formalized at the time, is reported to have met January 27 on the Sunnyside reconstruction (see story February 1, p. 9) and has apparently also met on the reconstruction of Lexington/Devon.

It is not known whether the committee's minutes of meetings and recommendations would be released publicly.

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Pollinating comes to Westmount Park (School)



From left, Concordia education student Ebby Crowe with Westmount Park elementary school student Raiden Cyrus-Pierre and teacher Christine Vidal.

PHOTO COURTESY OF C. VIDAL

Westmount Park elementary school student Raiden Cyrus-Pierre happened to be the first student May 18 to dig into the school's pollinator garden, the last of this year's Green Club initiatives.

Other projects included "a composting program, 'Wasteless Wednesday' lunches, an up-cycled art contest, and writing a heartfelt letter to a tree!" according to grade 4 teacher Christine Vidal.

"The Green Club fosters creative ways for students to prepare to address climate change, biodiversity and other eco-consequences. The students are very motivated and engaged, so although these initiatives

are demanding of time and energy, the Green Club teachers know it is an important endeavour for the students and the planet."

Other teachers at the school, Concordia child studies major Ebby Crowe and a very committed parent, Lisa Clarke, also participated in bringing these programs to fruition.

The Garden Club – founded last November by Vidal and fellow teachers Jennifer Oner and Franz Kaiser – has about 15 members from grades 4 and 5. The pollinator garden was started in May 2019.

'Harbinger of things to come'

Stand against truck rental a 'symbolic vote': Cllr. Arnonson

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

City council June 7 added three more pick-up trucks to a previous rental contract for vehicles to help with various functions executed by the city's blue-collar teams "while respecting current health guidelines," according to the resolution.

The recent expenditure to Sauvageau Rental Inc. for three more Ford crewcab F250 pick-ups was approved for a maximum amount of \$30,492 and \$52,587 in-

cluding taxes.

Only Councillor Matt Aronson, whose commissionership includes climate change, voted against the motion saying his vote was "symbolic at this point." While he agreed the city needed more trucks, he was against the vehicles in the city's efforts to reduce GHG emissions, though no electric ones were yet available to do the work the city needed.

"It's a harbinger of things to come," he later told the *Independent*.

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Trees into bees



Artwork is being carved into some of the old, partially felled trees in the playground area in King George (Murray Hill) Park, as seen May 31.
PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

A proud father on Father's Day



© Lise Gallant

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Scotiabank renovates its ramp



The Scotiabank branch on the west side of Greene Ave. between Sherbrooke and de Maisonneuve is getting an exterior renovation, as seen June 6. The work is under way to resurface the wheelchair ramp up to the main doors for easier access. The work also entails re-tiling the north-facing wall of the bank entrance.

PHOTO: JENNIFER BALL

Indie's summer schedule

June 21: issue

June 28: no issue
(Dominion Day observance)

July 5 & 12: issues

July 19 & 26 and August 2:
no issues
(usual summer break)

Beginning with August 9 issue:
weekly until Christmas



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McGuire awarded Sovereign's Medal

Susan McGuire was awarded the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers at the Atwater Library June 2. The presentation was done

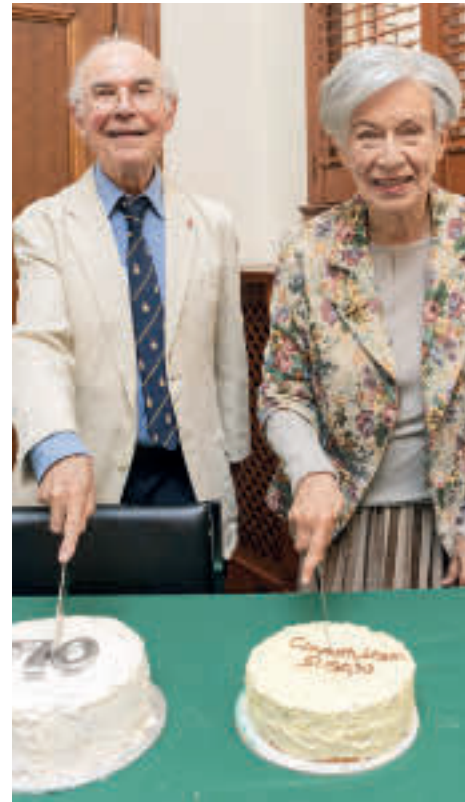
by Richard Pound, who led the library's successful capital campaign for more than 10 years.

The award was conferred in February 2020 but the presentation delayed because of the pandemic. In the words of the award's citation, "For more than two decades, Susan McGuire has researched, documented and shared aspects of Quebec history through her involvement with the Atwater Library. Through her collaborations, writings and talks, she teaches young and old alike in her community by providing them with knowledge about important historical events in their region."

According to executive director Lynn Verge, "Susan has done concentrated research and writing about the early history of our organization, from the founding as the Montreal Mechanics' Institution in 1828 until about 1870. She made the case for the Atwater Library's National Historic Site designation and that made us eligible for major government of Canada matching grants for our building upgrading."

◀ From left, Peter McNally and Susan McGuire cutting cakes baked by Maura McKeon – one for Queen Elizabeth's platinum jubilee and one in McGuire's honour. McNally, a professor at McGill, gave a talk the same day on Queen Elizabeth.

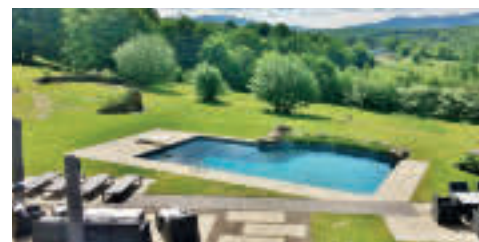
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T'S TAKES

RALPH THOMPSON

Local doctors welcome Ukrainian refugees



From left, Yana Mitlitska, Yurii Bilyk, Nick Iarmolynski, two-year-old Leo and his mother Dr. Olga Iarmolynska, Dr. Zachary Levine, Dr. Catherine Henin and daughter Camille, Dr. Brent Richards and Dr. Suzanne Vaillancourt.

What do you do in Westmount to occupy your spare time when you're raising four energetic children (per family!), juggling soccer practices and schooling, and both parents are working hectic schedules as medical doctors?

You generously open your doors to people who have lost their homes, lost part of their country and lost their normal livelihoods. I met two Westmount families welcoming refugees (there are others) and their exiled guests in King George (Murray) Park June 4.

Arlington residents Dr. Suzanne Vaillancourt (who was off to a night shift in emergency that night), her husband Dr. Brent Richards and their four children welcomed 24-year-old Yurii Bilyk and his partner 22-year-old Yana Mitlitska.

Strathcona residents Dr. Catherine Henin, her husband Dr. Zachary Levine (who joined us *after* a night shift in hospital) and their four children accepted Dr. Olga Iarmolynska and her two children, 16-year-old Nick and two-year-old Leo.

Far away, and not

On a peaceful sunny afternoon in beautiful King George Park, it was hard to imagine the carnage they left behind: the 2022 Ukrainian apocalypse 7,000 kilometres away.

Olga's husband, a doctor, remains in Ukraine working at a hospital. She left her home and life in Kyiv along with her profession as an allergist on February 26 and travelled to Odessa, a port city on the Black Sea. From there, she and her children passed through Moldova to Romania by train and completed their applications to enter Canada. They had visited western Canada previously but Nick, who had studied French for four years, as well as physics and mathematics, was interested in coming to Quebec.

Iarmolynska's additional complication is that she will not be able to practise medicine in Quebec without re-doing her exams but young Nick, who speaks English, French, Russian and Ukrainian, is keen to study here. He wants to re-do grade 11 and would like to go on to become a doctor.

They arrived in Montreal April 29 and have already found their ideal apartment, according to Nick. They just have to complete the paperwork. Two-year-old Leo only understands Russian, but the rambunctious little toddler will no doubt be yelling and screaming in English, French and Franglais in no time. Olga is able to speak

with her husband frequently thanks to the generosity of Videotron, which gave them phones, a free data plan and free calls to Ukraine.

"We want to thank everyone for their kindness, generosity and friendship. It's all quite amazing. We are overwhelmed," said Olga.

Recognized gathering storm

Yurii is a programmer/web developer and Yana a digital website designer. Both speak English, Russian and Ukrainian and have been together for five years.

Recognizing the gathering storm, and believing the worst would occur, they made a hasty departure before the start of the war on February 24, leaving everything behind in Kyiv, where they had been working for several years. They grew up in Dnipro.

Yurii had always wanted to come to Canada, but after spending time in Spain with relatives, a mix-up in the paperwork almost had him going to Mexico, but that was resolved. As guests of Suzanne and Brent, he and Yana quickly made friends with the four young boys and the dog in the household.

"We are hoping to stay in Canada and are looking for an apartment," said Yurii. They expressed their thanks to the generosity of their hosts, to so many people and to the governments for the work permits, financial help and support.

Both host families contend that their kind-hearted philanthropic deeds are very little extra work for them. Catherine said they're fortunate to usually have assistance with cooking chores, but when their regular helper was unavailable, their Ukrainian guests stepped in and made a Russian borscht.

Olga and her children have already found an apartment and hope to move in shortly. Catherine also mentioned the openness of Royal West Academy, which allowed Nick to sit in on classes until the end of the school year. He was to write next-year entrance exams soon.

Suzanne and Brent emphasized that the process was quite straight forward and they have not been inconvenienced. Suzanne was originally connected during the Syrian crisis to "Bienvenue à notre-dame-de-grâce" (bienvenuendg.ca) and suggests one way to host Ukrainians directly is through icanhelp.host. A more formal process to sign up as a host is through The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC), where they do background checks and vet applicants: uccmontreal.ca.

According to its website, the EMSB has accepted a dozen Ukrainian children as students who have been granted language exceptions to study at English schools in Quebec. The governments of Canada and Quebec have stepped up in astonishing ways – providing support, work visas,

healthcare and financial help.

The host families believe the Quebec government will allow Ukrainian refugees to attend English CEGEPs. "The message we'd like to get out is Westmounters shouldn't be hesitant," said Brent. "The process is so easy and straight forward, people should put the spare rooms in their big houses to good use."

Rotary raises \$26,000

Other Westmount entities are helping out, too. Heather Borelli from The Rotary Club of Westmount said, "The club has raised over \$26,000 direct aid to Ukrainian refugees via Rotarian partners with boots on the ground in Romania." They have offered to assist where possible, including helping to transport donated furniture to the refugees' new, more permanent accommodations using the Rotary pick-up truck.

Marc Garneau, member of parliament for NDG-Westmount, said in his address to the United Nations in September 2021 that the Earth is the cradle of all humanity. Asked about the current situation June 7, he stated "We all share this fragile planet. Why can't we live side by side, respecting each other's sovereignty? Putin's totally unprovoked invasion of Ukraine is nothing less than the barbaric act of a megalomaniac."

Here are two Westmount families steadfastly serving humanity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TAKE TIME TO CONSIDER
GOODE HOUSE PLAN

Municipalities are in a dilemma, given that their primary source of revenue is property taxes. Increase the value of a property and the tax revenue also goes up. Of parallel interest is that newcomers to a municipality – most noticeably in smaller communities during the pandemic – arrive, fall in love with the setting, the services, the community and the harmony of the urban landscape. They buy a home but then apply for a demolition permit to build a bigger house. And, despite the irreversible changes to the architectural fabric of the community, the municipality complies.

In their Category 1* classification of the Goode House on Côte St. Antoine, the city of Westmount protects both its architecture (exterior and some interior elements) and its landscape. But an application has been submitted and Westmount is now considering a project to modify the historic 1840 John Wells building.

So questions arise about what, in fact, is permitted for a Category 1* status building, about perhaps detaching the new structure from the heritage building, about the architectural harmony of the new structure with the old, and about the new structure not overwhelming the heritage building.

If there is considerable opposition to the issuing of the permit on June 14, the Demolition Committee could invoke a 120-

day delay in its decision, allowing plans and concerns to be revised. In the municipality of Senneville in December 2019, that by-law was enacted, leading to the prevention from demolition of three Maxwell-designed outbuildings on the former R. B. Angus estate.

But this delicate situation should find a satisfactory solution, thanks to the public awareness being built through this consultation process.

BRIAN MERRETT, DE MAISONNEUVE BLVD.

BLACK LOCUSTS LINK US TO
WESTMOUNT'S EARLIEST DAYS

The city has begun extensive tree work for Murray Park and is working on the black locusts. It should be noted that the grove of locusts (also “acacias”) near the corner of Montrose and Murray avenues is a remnant of the same trees that surrounded William Lighthall’s house, which once stood there. In this interesting article by Caroline Breslaw of the Westmount Historical Association (www.westmounthistorical.org/murray-park) is the sentence “Lighthall urged the city to keep the acacia trees, and many of them still stand today.” A picture of the house and trees is included.

Black locust trees grow slowly and can reach great age while their trunks still appear relatively small, unlike cottonwoods or elms. Cedars have the same characteristic of “not looking their age” and some otherwise unremarkable cedars near

Châteauguay were found to be over three hundred years old. They had already been cut down and only when an arborist counted growth rings was it realized they dated back to the 1600s.

Black locusts form thickets via root suckers, and the upper trunk and branches can die off. Most parts of the tree contain a toxin that can be very harmful if ingested. But their light shade in summer and the rustling of their dry seed pods in winter are unique, as is the brief period of flowering at the end of May (not June, as reported in a recent column, May 24, p. 7), which fills the surroundings with a sweet scent.

I hope the city will respect and preserve the best black locust specimens that are a living link to Alice Lighthall, the house she grew up in, and to the Murray estate that she played in as a girl. It’s possible some of the trees date back to the time of the Murray house, “West Mount” reported by some as built around 1848.

DAVID NERCESSIAN, IRVINE AVE.

WHERE'S THE SOCIAL HOUSING?

[I write] in response to Ms. Sweeney’s article: “Council approves permit for residential development at former St. Stephen’s” (May 24, p. 1).

Excellent news to hear that St. Stephen’s will be a “multi unit residential project.” I’m very curious to know how many of these units will be set aside for social housing.*

The average one-bedroom apartment rental averages \$1,400 in downtown Montreal, which is unaffordable for the minimum-wage earner, senior on a pension, student, individual on social assistance.

As a Westmount resident, my question is: how many units does Westmount have currently for social housing and how are we helping our neighbours?*

SHEILA WOODHOUSE – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMUNAUTÉ NAZARETH INC.

Editor’s replies: *As far as we know, zero.

**We have never compiled an exhaustive list and it may depend on what is considered “social housing.” The major social-housing development that we know of in Westmount is composed of six buildings on Hillside Ave. with civic numbers 90, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140 and 150. They are owned by L’Office municipal d’habitation de Montréal. We counted 65 visible mailboxes on May 31. Just east of there, 80 Hillside houses the Résidence Westmount seniors’ residence, which is owned by the Société d’habitation du Québec (which also calls it Résidence Hillside and which its website says has 42 units). In addition, there is the Belvedere Residence at 4505 St. Catherine (33 residents as of our October 3, 2017, p. 10 reporting) and the

refugee centre run by the YMCA for the Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux de Centre-Ouest-de-l’Île-de-Montréal at the former Reddy Memorial Hospital on Tupper St. (639 beds as of our November 20, 2018, p. 10 reporting). – DP.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

St Leon’s of Westmount School [sic] pupil Lila Sillery’s letter of three lines (May 24, p. 6) is concise and precise.

Surely most *Westmount Independent* readers and myself do think your seventeen-line response cannot challenge the precise wording of a child barely two years out of kindergarten. Lila is evidently very proud of her school.

And she merely wishes that the *Westmount Independent* show proper respect to its name. It is amazing how just by dropping the last letter of the name of her school can disrespect and trivialize it. The one-syllable name of Leon [sic] cannot be correctly shortened by snipping off its last letter.

You have pointed out that it was called St Leo’s 40 years ago. So is the *Westmount Independent* proposing to continue calling St Leon’s of Westmount School, St Leo’s of Westmount School indefinitely into the future?

STEPHEN CHIN, SHERBROOKE ST.

Editor’s reply: In fact, we employ a mix of usages for the name of this school, but yes, we will be continuing our past practice. Do you dislike diversity? It seems not, since you yourself have come up with your own unofficial spelling (no accent, no hyphens, an added apostrophe and “s”). English is a chaotic place, and you just proved it! Additionally, in free parts of the world – and particularly in English – a demand for “respect” is not a trump card. – DP.

NO REPLY, NO REPAIR

The author of the lead letter in last week’s journal (p. 6) asks if others have had a problem with advice to the mayor. The answer is yes – me!

About eight months ago, I slipped a note to the mayor into the slot in the main entrance door to city hall. I had noticed the deplorable condition of said door – the finish of which was severely deficient. “Re-finish the door” was my suggestion.

No reply and the sad door remains indisposed.

BOYD WHITTALL, ST. CATHERINE ST.

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This press release was received June 7

The Canadian Party of Quebec, in response to an increasingly aggressive and

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David Price: 514.935.4537
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Chief reporter

Laureen Sweeney

Graphics

Ted Sancton

Advertising sales

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LETTERS: We welcome your letters but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please limit them to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. Please check your letter carefully as we may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. Letter writers should not expect to be published in every issue, or in back-to-back issues, or repeatedly in the same season or on the same topic. Please include your name and street for publication (or borough or municipality if you do not live in Westmount), but not your address (unless you want it published).

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

bellicose Premier François Legault, is asking federal Justice minister and attorney-general David Lametti and federal Health minister Jean-Yves Duclos – two Quebecers – to stand up and defend all Quebecers' rights re: Bill 96 on behalf of the government of Canada.

As part of a letter sent to Minister Lametti earlier today, the party requests the following actions be taken:

1. Render public an unredacted legal analysis of Bill 96;
2. Speak out forcefully against Bill 96's flagrantly unconstitutional articles;
3. Initiate a reference case on the constitutionality of Bill 96 as a whole to the Supreme Court of Canada, including an analysis of all chapters/sections shielded by the notwithstanding clause. A Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms Section 1 application to the notwithstanding clause should also be tested;
4. In consideration of all the above, and in the event the Supreme Court of Canada is unable within one year of Bill 96's passage to render judgments on the reference questions submitted, signal immediately the government of Canada's intention to use disallowance to protect the province's most vulnerable residents

if the government of Quebec refuses to voluntarily rescind it.

"Nothing short of a pre-emptive strike against this illegitimate, immoral Bill 96 – now law in Quebec – by the federal government is needed to reassure Quebecers that minority rights, socioeconomic justice, and linguistic harmony still count for something in Canada", says Colin Standish, Canadian Party of Quebec spokesperson.

On a note of urgency, Standish adds, "The court's decision may exceed the one-year limit for use of disallowance, so the Trudeau government must act immediately."

Regarding the uncertainty and ambiguity surrounding healthcare and social services delivery as a result of Bill 96, and noting recent interventions by, among others:

- Robert Leckey, dean of McGill University faculty of law;
- Eric Maldoff, lawyer, healthcare advocate and chair of the Coalition for Quality Health and Social Services;
- Collège des médecins du Québec president Mauril Gaudreault;
- La Coalition pour des services sociaux et de santé de qualité (CSSSQ) – made up of some 500 physicians and health

professionals as well as 30 organizations – in an April 13, 2022 open letter.

The Canadian Party of Quebec asks Minister Duclos to:

Demand that the government of Quebec uphold the accessibility obligations, information requirements, and all access to care provisions stipulated under the Canada Health Act in order to continue satisfying the criteria for receiving the Canada Health Transfer (\$10.15 billion in 2022-23) on an annual basis.

According to Mr. Standish, "It's imperative that the government of Canada use both the legal means and financial leverage at its disposal to remind Monsieur Legault of his most solemn duty: Ensuring the health and well-being of all Quebecers, which necessarily includes a guarantee that health issues are communicated to individuals in the language that they understand best."

DISAPPOINTED ON LEXINGTON

It is absolutely shocking to read several weeks ago that the city has approved "the most expensive road reconstruction this year – and possibly ever" for the reconstruction of Lexington Ave. This is at best a gross mis-use of taxpayer monies and in

reading that it will cost upwards of \$6 million, I am gob-smacked that the city would do this, particularly in light of all the letters from Lexington homeowners voicing their fierce opposition to the plan.

At last look, Lexington is a street that is less than 800 meters long, the last 75 meters of which are a dead-end. There look to be no more than 30 single-family homes on the entire street, and upon closer visual inspection last week, the roadbed itself and the sidewalks are in a deteriorated condition, but nowhere near the \$6 million that is allocated to the project.

If the sidewalk, water, sewer and hydro grids are in need of repair or replacement, by all means they should be tended to. But all the extras and so-called "enhancements" planned, and visible on the Westmount city web pages are un-necessary, extravagant and a complete waste of our tax dollars. Far more traffic can be seen on streets such as Côte St. Antoine, Victoria, Claremont, to name but a few, and these streets are in far worse condition than is Lexington, and are in desperate need of repair.

We are greatly disappointed that such an extravagant use of our tax dollars was approved by council.

JOE RUSSO, SHERBROOKE ST.

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LES 17, 18 ET 19 JUIN 2022
JUNE 17, 18, AND 19, 2022

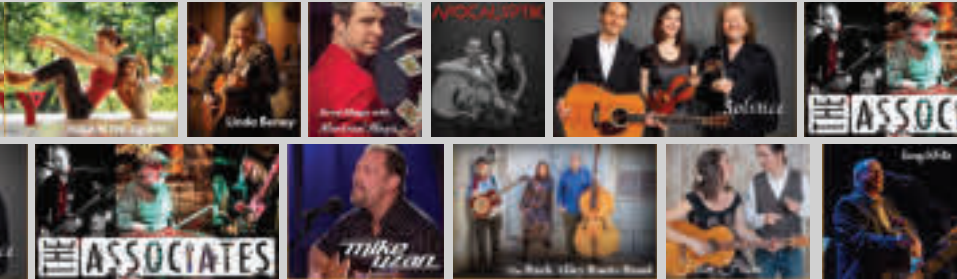


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Clay courts re-open in Westmount Park, maintenance company foresees better surfaces



Pat Fragole, below right, and the Jopat team at work on June 7.

BY JENNIFER BALL

The clay courts in Westmount Park were re-opened June 7. Jopat Inc., which has the maintenance contract with Westmount's Sports and Recreation, started with courts three and four (where the tennis lessons take place, on the south end) and was preparing to complete work on courts one and two when the *Independent* caught up with team member Pat Fragole.

As previously reported (May 31, p. 1), last year tennis players experienced dust clouds due to the dryness of the courts, but Fragole believes that this issue will not be a factor this year.

Last autumn the irrigation system for the courts was revamped. Initially there were leaks, which have now been fixed.

That irrigation work has led to significant enhancements to the courts, Fragole said, and this means operators can better irrigate the courts on a pre-programmed basis.

"With the work that [Sports & Recreation] did last fall; the courts are going to be wet more often and in a much more uniform way. It will be programmed at night so when you come in the morning, the courts will not be dry. It is supposed to be that they will be already moist.

"Even if the maintenance team do only 80 percent of what they are supposed to do this year," Fragole said, "you are going to see a big difference."

During the day, however, for maximum effect there will need to be a concentrated effort by the maintenance crew and also



the tennis players to allow the courts to be watered, Fragole said. "I do not know how they are going to program the courts during the day, but at around one or two o'clock, they should stop play on the courts and for 15 minutes, water them. If they do all that, you are going to enjoy the courts."

In reflecting on the delay of opening the clay courts (the Westmount tennis season started May 2), Fragole said, "in construction, there are a lot of factors. Even if someone is in good faith, delays can happen. It happened here, but for the next 10 years, we should not see a situation."

ANNE BEN-AMI (MADAR)

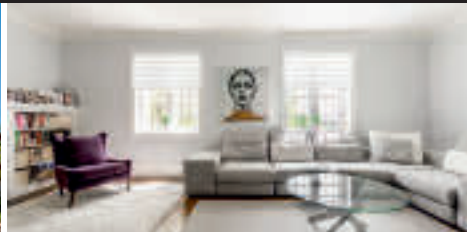
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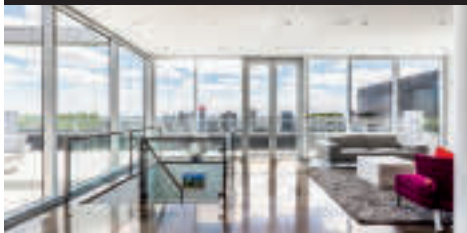
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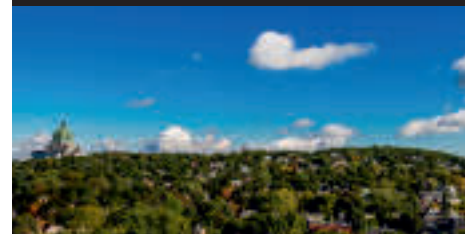
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Westmount artist lived from 1890 to 1968

Doucette continues to unearth Elsa May paintings

Nova Scotian Brian Doucette is nothing short of enthusiastic about the work of Westmounter Elsa May (1890-1968), calling her “incomparable” and “courageous.” His interest began three years ago when he came across and purchased her painting



“The Outcast” (see “Elsa May – pioneer, painter, pol-emicist,” August 31, 2021, p. 26). The suffragette-sympathetic work was exhibited at the Art Association of Montreal’s spring 1922 show.

According to Doucette, “Female artists were not taken seriously, and it was audacious to paint a bare breast – and add a large chain.”

Two finds

He has since found two more of May’s paintings in private hands, a 1916 self-portrait and a circa 1920 painting of Margaret (“Peg”) Helena Graham Shaughnessy (1912-1966), daughter of William James, second Lord Shaughnessy of Montreal.

He gushed about finding the self-portrait, “It was purely coincidence. I had been asking about another artist’s genealogy.

“I thought it was a typing error when the owner wrote her painting’s subject was different. There it is: the 1916 Art Association of Montreal self-portrait by Elsa May.

“Yes, I bought lottery tickets. The chances of ever finding this painting’s owner is about the same odds. I have to go change my dressings where I fell over after seeing the images – and the signatures are identical!”

◀Margaret (“Peg”) Helena Graham Shaughnessy by Elsa May. PHOTO COURTESY OF GUY ST-DENIS.

▶A self portrait by Elsa May. PHOTO COURTESY OF A PRIVATE COLLECTION.



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Mont-Royal, 135 Av. Vivian
\$2,450,000 | MLS 19691211



Ville-Marie, 1 Rue McGill, #305
\$1,475,000 | MLS 11357963



Ville-Marie, 1400 Boul. René-Lévesque O., #402B
\$1,296,900 | MLS 21574823



Ville-Marie, 1227 Rue Sherbrooke O., #101
\$925,000 | MLS 13760942



Ville-Marie, 3455 Rue Drummond, PH 4-804
\$669,000 | MLS 23117500

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\$3,450/mo | MLS 21627748



N.D.G./C.D.N., 6700 Av. Somerled
\$3,150/mo | MLS 17854220



Westmount, 4700 Rue Ste-Catherine O., #705
\$3,150/mo | MLS 25481967



Ville-Marie, 3940 Ch. Côte-des-Neiges, #C31
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#newsmatters **FEATURE**
REACHING 384,000 OF READERS ACROSS ALL ENGLISH QUEBEC COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS



WHY THIS COMMUNITY
NEWSPAPER MATTERS:

Local businesses get post-pandemic lift from community papers

BY RUBY IRENE PRATKA

For small businesses around the country, the first abrupt lockdown of the COVID-19 pandemic came as an existential shock. Restaurants had to shutter their dining rooms, and thousands – nearly 3,700 across Quebec at last count – closed for good. The hasty closures had a crippling effect on advertising, forcing many publications to cut costs – and, in turn, content. ➔

This



Quebec Community Newspaper Association special feature is made possible through the generous support of our sponsors.

➔ Offering free advertising at such a difficult time may seem counterintuitive, especially for a new publication. However, that's exactly what *The 1019 Report*, a bi-weekly newspaper launched in May 2020 in Vaudreuil-Soulanges, decided to do.

"When local restaurants had to do take-out, we offered them three months of free advertising to get their phone numbers out there," said Brenda O'Farrell, editor-in-chief of *The 1019 Report* and a former *Montreal Gazette* news editor. "Normally, the local pizza place doesn't need to make an extra effort to put their phone number out there, but at this time, they did."

O'Farrell says the promotion didn't necessarily give rise to long-term paid advertising. That was not the point. It did, however, help establish the paper as a publication that had the community's interests at heart. "In a crisis, if your house is on fire, I want to be the neighbour who runs over and says, 'I can aim my garden hose at your roof,'" O'Farrell said.

The feature, dubbed *Take Care, Take Action and Take Out*, won a Quebec Community Newspaper Association Award for best community newspaper promotion.

The Low Down to Hull and Back News, in Wakefield, also turned its attention to supporting small businesses during the pandemic, even as it faced its own challenges due to lost advertising.

"We thought we were going to go under," recalled *Low Down* publisher Nikki Mantell.

In spring 2020, Mantell and her colleagues launched the *Low Down* business directory, titled *Shop Local, Folks!* They offered free 100-word advertising slots to dozens of local businesses in the *Low Down's* print edition and created a "distilled version" on the paper's website.

For Mantell, like O'Farrell, the goal of the campaign was not to pick up new paid advertisers, although the paper did add a few.

"We're a small semi-rural paper; the restaurants and boutiques are part of what makes our community great. People want to know about them and they need to get the word out," said Mantell, who calls the relationship between community newspapers and advertisers "symbiotic." She cites a recent reader survey indicating that 84 per cent of *Low Down* readers had patronized a local business after seeing an ad in the paper. "When you advertise in a local paper, you invest in the community, and the eyes that see your ad are people who pay to read about their community," Mantell said.

Steve Bonspiel is the editor and publisher of the *Eastern Door*, a community newspaper serving the Mohawk community of Kahnawake, south of Montreal. Like Mantell, he empathizes with local entrepreneurs who nearly lost their businesses early in the pandemic, because he also had to steer the paper through a rough patch. Throughout December 2020, he allowed local businesses and entrepreneurs to place free full-colour ads in the print edition. "We're a community of 8,000 people and everyone wants to start a business," Bonspiel said. "It can start with someone selling baked goods out of their house ... the businesses we supported were a little more established than that, but not much. They don't have a marketing or promotional budget, and we

wanted to give them a boost." One of his goals is to find sponsors that would enable the *Eastern Door* to run the special section year round.

“It can start with someone selling baked goods out of their house...the businesses we supported were a little more established than that, but not much. They don't have a marketing or promotional budget, and we wanted to give them a boost.”

~ STEVE BONSPIEL, THE EASTERN DOOR



VISIT [QCNA.QC.CA](https://qcna.qc.ca) FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES.

He hopes the next generation of Mohawk entrepreneurs are inspired by seeing their neighbours' beadwork or home cooking enterprises mentioned in the paper, even in a small ad. "It shows that if you're starting out with an idea, on your kitchen table, you can be whatever you set your mind to. If you have a little bit of help from community media, who knows what else could happen."

He believes that on Mohawk territory, community media plays a key role in fostering the local economy. "We can't just rely on tobacco and big business. We have to kindle that entrepreneurial spark at the beginning," he said.

The *Eastern Door* and the *Low Down* were also recognized by the Quebec Community Newspapers Association for their promotional campaigns.

Mantell tips her hat to local businesses that, early in the pandemic, proactively bought hundreds of dollars of advertising, or donated T-shirts for the paper to sell as a spontaneous fundraiser. "The pandemic was terrifying for all of us at first ... but we were really touched by the support," she said. "The situation shook everyone up, but it made us think about the importance of local media. People understand it now and realize we'd be lesser without it."



infoWESTMOUNT

2022.06.14 • Vol. 3/12
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Published by the City of Westmount

NOUVELLES

PROCHAINE SÉANCE
DU CONSEIL

Lundi 4 juillet

NEWS

NEXT COUNCIL
MEETING

Monday, July 4



Des arbres morts au parc King George reprennent vie
Dans le cadre du projet du PKG, trois des arbres morts ou endommagés ont été transformés en sculptures par l'artiste Daniel Vincent Bernard. Pour voir les résultats, visitez engage.westmount.org.

Bureaux fermés le 24 juin et le 1^{er} juillet
Les bureaux de la Ville et la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount seront fermés le 24 juin pour la Fête nationale du Québec et le 1^{er} juillet pour la Fête du Canada. Les collectes auront lieu selon l'horaire normal.

Ville de Montréal : rue Saint-Antoine fermée du 12 au 20 juin
La rue Saint-Anoine O. sera fermée à la circulation entre les avenues Atwater et Greene du 12 au 20 juin en raison de travaux d'aqueduc. westmount.org

Vous planifiez des travaux en hauteur? Attention aux fils électriques
Avant de faire des travaux de toiture, d'élagage d'arbre ou autre travail en hauteur, vérifiez la présence de fils de distribution électrique. Vous

avez peut-être besoin de demander des gaines de protection de fils électriques pour assurer la sécurité des travailleurs. westmount.org

Courts de tennis rouverts
Les courts en terre battue pour adultes du parc Westmount sont maintenant réparés et ouverts.

Ensemencement de gazon dans les parcs Westmount et Prince-Albert
Svp, veuillez respecter les espaces clôturées dans les parcs afin de permettre une bonne germination et croissance du gazon.

Inscriptions pour les activités d'été
Inscrivez-vous maintenant pour les activités de sports et loisirs, le camp d'été, le tennis et les activités aquatiques. westmount.org



Dead trees in King George Park come to life
As part of the KGP project, three of the dead or damaged trees have been transformed into sculptures by artist Daniel Vincent Bernard. To see the results, visit engage.westmount.org.

Offices closed June 24 and July 1
Westmount's offices and Public Library will be closed June 24th for the Fête nationale du Québec and July 1st for Canada Day. Collections will take place as usual.

Ville de Montréal: Rue Saint-Antoine closed from June 12 to 20
Rue Saint-Anoine Ouest will be closed to traffic between Avenues Atwater and Greene June 12 to June 20 due to water main work. westmount.org

Are you planning to do work at a certain height? Check for power lines
If you are planning roof work, tree pruning or other height work, check for nearby electrical distribution lines. You may need to ask Hydro

Westmount for temporary power line protectors to ensure the safety of workers. westmount.org

Tennis courts reopened
The repair work is complete and the Westmount Park adult clay courts are now open.

Grass seeding in Westmount and Prince Albert Parks
Please keep out of the fenced areas in the parks to allow for the proper germination and growth of the new grass.

Registration for summer activities
Sign up now for sports and recreation activities, as well as summer camp, tennis, and swimming. westmount.org

BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

Horaire d'été de la Bibliothèque
La Bibliothèque est ouverte du lundi au vendredi de 10 h à 21 h et le samedi de 10 h à 17 h.

Ciné-Club : The Eyes of Tammy Faye
Mardi 14 juin, 14 h, Victoria Hall. Inscription requise. westmount.org

Lectures du Bloomsday
Jeudi 16 juin, Bibliothèque et en ligne. La BPW accueille deux événements du Festival Bloomsday Montréal.

11 h à 13 h : Dramatisations de sélections d'*Ulysse* par des comédiens locaux;
14 h à 16 h 30 : Lectures et chansons du soliloque de Molly Bloom, par Kathleen Fee. Inscription requise. westlib.org

Projection spéciale : West Side Story
Samedi 18 juin, 18 h, Victoria Hall. Souper pizza et projection du film de 2021 réalisé par Steven Spielberg. Inscription requise. westmount.org

Journée national des peuples autochtones : Eadsé en concert
Mardi 21 juin, 17 h, parc Westmount. L'auteure compositrice et interprète Eadsé explore une musique pop aux sonorités soul. Concert gratuit; aucune inscription n'est requise.



Fête nationale du Québec
Jeudi 23 juin, 18 h, parc Westmount. Camions de cuisine de rue, spectacle de cirque, inauguration du StoryWalk®, gâteaux et un concert en plein air par Grosse Isle. Horaire à westmount.org.

Shakespeare-in-the-Park 2022
Les 23 et 24 juillet et les 3 et 4 août, 19 h, parc Westmount. *All Shall Be Well*. À vos agendas! Plus de détails à repercussiontheatre.com.

LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Summer hours at the Library
The Library is open Monday to Friday 10 a.m.-9 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Film Club: The Eyes of Tammy Faye
Tuesday, June 14, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. Registration required. westmount.org

Bloomsday Readings
Thursday, June 16, Library and online. The WPL is hosting two events as part of the Montreal Bloomsday Festival. Registration required.

11 a.m.-1 p.m.: Dramatizations of selections from *Ulysses* by local actors;
2-4:30 p.m.: Readings and songs from Molly Bloom's soliloquy, by Kathleen Fee. westlib.org

Special Screening: West Side Story
Saturday, June 18, 6 p.m., Victoria Hall. Pizza dinner and screening of the 2021 movie by Steven Spielberg. Registration required. westmount.org.

National Indigenous Peoples Day: Eadsé in Concert
Tuesday, June 21, 5 p.m., Westmount Park. Wendat singer-songwriter Eadsé explores the sounds of soulful pop. Free concert; no registration required.

Fête nationale du Québec
Thursday, June 23, 5 p.m., Westmount Park. Food trucks, circus show, StoryWalk® launch, cupcakes and an outdoor concert by Grosse Isle. Consult the full schedule at westmount.org.

Shakespeare-in-the-Park 2022
July 23 & 24, and August 3 & 4, 7 p.m., Westmount Park. *All Shall Be Well*. Save the date! For more information, visit repercussiontheatre.com.



Retail Review

VERONICA REDGRAVE

When one hears the word “ketamine,” there is an immediate association with a drug regularly used in veterinary practice.

Using ketamine against clinical depression

But it is also used on humans.

“Ketamine is a common anesthetic medication in operating rooms, emergency rooms, and pediatric hospitals,” explained Dr. Nikole Jecen, founder of her recently opened Håven Clinique, an outpatient mental health centre.

“And, today, it is an FDA- and Health Canada-approved medication, which is being used off-label with a 65-80 percent efficacy rate for treating depression,” noted Jecen.

“During and after the pandemic, cases of depression soared. Standard approaches are not always successful. We specialize in intravenous ketamine treatments for patients with hard-to-treat mental health conditions like depression, mood disorders and anxiety.”

A double board-certified anesthesiologist, Jecen explained that ketamine treatments “work better than I thought.”

Her private clinic in Westmount works by referral. Psychiatrists, general practitioners and psychologists connect patients to Jecen. “Often depressed patients’ thought patterns are stuck in a deep, dark rut, and it is hard for them to step out. Ketamine makes it possible to ‘step out.’”

Assessment

At the clinic, each patient undergoes a professional psychological assessment with the head nurse, Khaoula Louati, a registered nurse, who has her master’s in psychology and is in the process of obtaining her PhD in psychiatry.



A pre-anaesthetic assessment with Dr. Jecen establishes which patients are medically cleared to receive ketamine, and the starting dose is established according to the patient’s weight. Suggested is a series of six infusions over three weeks, with follow-up phone calls after each treatment. “The US is 10 years ahead of Canada. Clinics there already offer this treatment.”

HÅVEN CLINIC

1100, Atwater Ave., Suite 4100
514.532.1460, havenclinique.com

For restoring city hall windows

Contract given to supervise removal of asbestos, lead

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

A contract was awarded at the city council meeting June 7 for supervision of the removal of asbestos and lead at city hall at a cost of \$66,205 and a maximum of \$72,503.24, including tax. It went to FNX INNOV Inc.

While no details were presented, the amount is reported to relate to the restoration of some 300 windows being done by the exterior of the building to minimize the impact inside the city hall.

The contractor “is mobilizing by the exterior and only working on a few windows per day, two to four, and consequently the asbestos/lead removal work is considered low risk,” according to information from the office of director general Hadi Hakim.

“An expert in industrial hygiene makes a daily follow-up of the work done by the contractor to ensure the safety of the construction site.”

Many materials used in older buildings may contain asbestos, which relates to many in Westmount. It was in 2015 that Westmount began requiring proof of asbestos removal for internal projects before issuing a permit (see November 17, 2015, p. 10). Asbestos is a known carcinogen. In its friable or crumbling form, it has been generally outlawed since 1980.

A permit for the window work was approved by council April 6. The frames are to be repaired and pieces of rotted wood replaced. The contract to restore the wood and leaded glass windows was awarded by the council at its meeting March 21. The work is expected to continue into the following year at a cost of \$1.2 million (see story April 5, p. 3).

City: Careful of power lines

“If you are planning roof work, tree pruning or any other height work, take time in advance to check for the presence of electrical distribution lines nearby,” stated an article on the city’s website, put up June 7 and accessed June 13. “Regardless of the type of work or activity, it’s essential to maintain a distance of at least three meters from any outdoor electrical distribution lines at all times. When work is required at a distance of less than three meters, temporary power line protectors should be installed to protect workers.” Power line protectors are orange plastic sheaths covering the line. Information on how to have them installed by Hydro Westmount (for a fee) is on the city’s website under Resident zone/Hydro Westmount/Power line protectors (in right-hand, “Go to:” column).

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Guest column

McEntyre Writing Competition: 50 years of writing, community engagement

By Wendy Wayling
and Rosalind Davis

Our municipal leaders understand the value of citizen engagement. They care about their community and its citizens, and understand that people who are engaged can bring about significant changes to improve society.

In 1972, Peter McEntyre, the mayor of Westmount, understood the principles of civic engagement, but he also understood

that our youngest citizens are the future. He wanted students to get involved in the community in a meaningful way. Fifty years ago, he came up with the idea of a writing competition to inspire the younger generation to learn and write about the community while getting involved in local politics.

This competition would foster mutual growth: the young writers would become more involved and the community would get a fresh perspective on how the next generation envisioned themselves in it.

To offer a bit of incentive, and through his own kindness and generosity, Peter McEntyre anonymously donated his salary to start a scholarship trust fund that would give cash awards to the winners.

Originally called the Westmount Scholarship Trust Fund Essay Competition, the hefty prize of \$300 was awarded to Jennifer Jonas, a student from Westmount High School.

Fifty years later, we reached out to Jennifer to discover that she is an award-winning film producer living in Toronto. When we asked her about winning that prize back in 1972, Jennifer told us that she still has fond memories of the competition.

She told us that she was thrilled to win a prize and meet Mayor McEntyre and city council. She thinks this competition is still important – it provided her with a huge confidence boost at the time. When asked why it is important for young people to become active community members, she replied that she feels strongly that “local engagement matters as a factor in developing identity.”

The competition has grown from a single winner to 45 winners per year from grades 1 to 11. The number of entries from local students has also increased over the years to a record-breaking 1,800 in 2018. The overarching theme has never strayed from its core focus on community.

Over the years, the students have been encouraged to demonstrate their creativity by not only writing essays on civic politics but also poems and stories on a variety of topics, including the environment, their dreams and the future.

Not only is the competition a local school project, but all of the volunteer judges who read the entries come from the community. Over the years, the competition has been organized by a number of different community leaders. One of the strongest early supporters was Alderman Sally Aitken (as city councillors were then called) who oversaw the competition for over 10 years and then sat on the McEntyre committee and volunteered as a judge for decades.

As the competition grew, the city organizers realized that they needed a chief judge to coordinate this project and the growing number of volunteers. The following community members have acted as chief judge over the years: Barbara McKnight, Marie-Claire Holland, Kathleen Hugessen, Bettina Terfloth, Janet Boeckh, Angela Murphy and Rosalind Davis (current chief judge).

The Westmount Public Library always played a role in the organization of the competition, including choosing books to be donated to the library in the names of the winners.

In 1999 the children’s department stepped up to run the competition in partnership with the McEntyre committee. This included forging a new partnership with the Visual Arts Centre in 2000. They collaborated on a common theme and shared an art exhibition featuring artworks from local students and quotations from the winning entries.

Over the years, the award ceremony for the winners has outgrown the council chambers and moved to a dedicated evening in Victoria Hall with the mayor and

council. The winners personally receive their prize from the mayor, surely a memorable occasion in their formative years.

This year’s theme? – “What’s Next?” – encourages us to look forward to reading future entries from the creative youth in our community.

Wendy Wayling is the children’s librarian of the Westmount Public Library and Rosalind Davis is a former city councillor and the chief judge of the McEntyre writing competition.

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McEntyre Writing Competition

50th anniversary celebrates in person with 46 winners



Leo Smilow of Selwyn House reads from his entry. He earned first place among the grade 7 participants.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WENDY WAYLING/WESTMOUNT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Marking its 50th anniversary this year, the city's McEntyre Writing Competition received a total 1,097 entries from Westmount students at 14 schools, of whom 46 received awards June 9 at Victoria Hall from grades 1 through 11.

The reception was the first in-person ceremony since 2019 though the competition itself continued throughout the two following pandemic years generating 390 entries in 2020 and 1,000 last year.

"We're very happy to welcome in person the winners and their families for this anniversary year," said chief judge and former city councillor Rosalind Davis. The entries had been read by a total of 77 volunteer judges.

Organized by city children's librarian Wendy Wayling, this year's theme of "What Next?" asked participants how they imagined the next 50 years for themselves, their family, community and the planet.

Many of the entrants addressed environmental changes – climate change in particular – and even moving to another planet, described by the writer as like an adventure in a great dream.

While many of this year's entries came

from English schools, three of the winners wrote in French from St. George's, The Study and Villa Ste. Marcelline.

Books donated

Winners placing first, second or third in each grade from one to 11 received cash awards, while those earning honorable mention were given book gift certificates. All had books donated to the library in their name from the Friends of the Library group (see list of winners, at right).

Among those who spoke were Peter McEntyre, grandson of the competition's founder, the late Peter McEntyre, mayor from 1969 to 1970. The writing competition was launched by McEntyre using his mayoral salary anonymously, which he refused to accept as required by new Quebec regulations. He claimed his service was a civic duty.

Entries were few during the early days when the creative writing competition was called the Westmount Scholarship Trust Fund but began to rise when reorganized under the city's Community Events department and then by the children's department of the library in 1999 (see column by Wendy Wayling and Rosalind Davis, p. 20).

2022 winners

Grade One

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Olivia-Françoise Forest | The Study |
| 2. Crescent Sun | Selwyn House School |
| 3. Raunak Ramesan | Selwyn House School |

Grade Two

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Emma Fried | Akiva School |
| 2. Hardy Han | Selwyn House School |
| 2. Normandie Pehr | Lower Canada College |
| 3. Cammy Rapp | Akiva School |
| HM Sidney Shahin | Akiva School |

Grade Three

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Annabelle Crossley-Wright | The Study |
| 2. Lise Cohen | Académie Michèle-Provost |
| 3. Isla Wilk | Akiva School |
| HM Eloïse Altman | Akiva School |
| HM Kai Mendell | Selwyn House School |

Grade Four

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Emily Chen | The Study |
| 2. Valeria Jimenez Maza | The Study |
| 3. Rayyana Abualsaud | The Study |
| HM Adèle Gauthier | The Study |

Grade Five

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Samuel Liberman | Akiva School |
| 2. Stephanie Salis | Akiva School |
| 3. Arlo Kent | Akiva School |
| HM Raffael Gold | St. George's School |
| HM Adrian Dargahi | St. George's School |

HM = Honourable Mention

Grade Six

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Lindsay Dolman | Villa Sainte-Marcelline |
| 2. Romi Sebag | Akiva School |
| 3. Disha De | The Study |
| HM Nica Kaulbach | ECS |

Grade Seven

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Leo Smilow | Selwyn House School |
| 2. Georgia Clark | St. George's HS |
| 3. Carlos Nicolas Olmos | Westmount HS |
| HM Pierre-Louis Sevigny | Westmount HS |

Grade Eight

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Zina Habash | The Study |
| 2. Lara Judah | Westmount High School |
| 3. Aliza Adnan Javed | Villa Sainte-Marcelline |
| HM Emma Nguyen | Villa Sainte-Marcelline |

Grade Nine

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Bianca Luger | St. George's HS |
| 2. Noga Shraibman | St. George's HS |
| 3. Michael Amato | Westmount HS |
| HM Gal Barnea | St. George's HS |

Grade Ten

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Valeria Villalpando | St. George's HS |
| 2. Sophia Aitken | Westmount HS |
| 3. Alexa Adourian | St. George's HS |
| HM Nina Rebellati-Mitnick | Westmount HS |

Grade Eleven

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Olivia Lee | St. George's HS |
| 2. Christina Cronin | Westmount HS |
| 3. Emma Boucher | St. George's HS |
| HM Enze Wang | Westmount HS |

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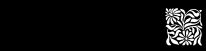
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Water polo nationals

U17 CAMO team, Brierley win gold

As a member of CAMO (Club Aquatique Water-polo Montreal), Westmounter Kai Brierley flew to Calgary late last month for the National Championship League's water polo U17 (under 17) boys' finals. After elimination rounds, his team played Saskatchewan May 28 in the finals, winning 13-5.

Brierley did not score in that game, but he did score three times in the semi-final against the Toronto Mavericks, whom father Tim Brierley describes as CAMO's "arch-rivals."

"CAMO was really the dominant team at the tournament," continued Brierley père by email. "They scored at least twice as many goals as their opponents in every game. Two of Kai's teammates ended up as defensive MVP [Ion Dianceno] and offensive MVP [Leo Hachem] for the tournament; and their coach, Maxime Crevier, also won the coaching MVP."

Although water polo does not have specific positions like many team sports, Brierley's role tends to be more defensive and focused on breaking up opponents' attacks, according to his father.

There are 13 teams in total in the National Championship League. The East-

ern Conference has eight and the Western Conference has five. After the regular season, the top four teams from each conference earn a spot in the finals, which begin with a group stage (four teams in each) and proceeds to an elimination stage (semis and finals). CAMO was also the top team in the regular season for the country as a whole,

with a record of 16 wins and 1 loss. CAMO also fielded a U17 girls' team at the Calgary event, but it did not place. What's next for Brierley, who is finishing grade 10 at Westmount High? "For the summer, he is looking forward to a more relaxed schedule of skateboarding and playing drums," said his father. "Next season, he is looking forward to

being a senior player on the U17 team, and to joining the U19 team as an alternate. "In the summer of 2023, he plans to try out for Team Quebec, which holds a summer training camp and evaluation at the aquatic centre in Parc Jean Drapeau." He also hopes to get involved in water polo summer camps as an instructor for younger players. See p. 1 for another photo.



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A photograph of a woman in a gym setting, performing a kettlebell exercise.

Police Report

Suspect arrested after threatening bike owner with air pistol

By MARTIN C. BARRY

Officers from the Montreal police department's Station 12 arrested a suspect at the Westmount Athletics Grounds behind Westmount High School on June 9 after he threatened the owner of a bicycle with a handheld weapon.

According to a report filed by the police officers who were summoned to the scene, the owner of the bicycle saw the suspect, age 30, loitering on a nearby street outside his home where the bicycle had been left standing.

The owner, suspicious that the bicycle was about to be stolen, called out to the suspect, who responded by walking up to the owner, said Station 12 interim community relations officer Michel Yigit.

"The plaintiff came out and told the suspect, 'That's my bike, don't touch it.' So, then there was kind of a verbal argument that occurred, and the suspect reached into his pocket and showed him a pistol."

The victim went into his house, called 9-1-1 and gave a description, after which police officers arrived and were able to lo-

cate the suspect on the WAG grounds where they placed him under arrest.

But as it turned out, the handgun turned out to be an air pistol. The suspect, who has a history of criminal offences as well as psychiatric problems, has been charged with possession of a weapon.

Yigit said the bike owner did the right thing by immediately calling 9-1-1, rather than further confronting the suspect, which might easily have escalated the level of tension given the circumstances.

Midnight Bandit still at large

In a follow-up to a news report in the *Independent* last week, investigators at Station 12 are still trying to locate a forced entry and burglary suspect, who has come to be known by staff at Station 12 as the "Midnight Bandit."

He was identified recently as the most likely perpetrator of a string of night-time break-in incidents at several homes in Westmount.

However, in the meantime no additional break-ins or burglaries were reported in Westmount as of last week, said Yigit.

Net zero trees



It wasn't all good news for Queen Elizabeth at the time of her platinum jubilee. This tree, planted on the day of her coronation in Queen Elizabeth Gardens at Wood and Sherbrooke (see inset), came down 70 years later, likely from wind, as seen June 5. A new tree had been planted in the same park June 2 (see June 7, p. 28).

PHOTO: JENNIFER BALL



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Retail Review

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Such sartorial splendour! So many smiles! No masks! *Que les fêtes commencent!* And Le Bal Rouge on Fire was certainly a fantastic *fête*.

The gala honoured the achievements of the McGill Interdisciplinary Initiative in Infection and Immunity (MI4) and its founding director **Dr. Donald Sheppard**, there with his wife **Dr. Cara Tannenbaum**.

The sold-out *soirée* was held at Windsor Station, totally transformed by the marvelous décor created by Total Events. Parking was a speedy breeze with Bob Perras' agile valet team.

Hosts were the MUHC Foundation's **Norman Steinberg**, board chair, attending with his wife **Renée Kessler**, and **Julie Quenneville**, CEO. Gala co-chairs were **Ivan Vella**, chief executive Aluminium Rio Tinto; **Ian Edwards** CEO SNC-Lavalin and **Mélanie Bernier**, senior vp and chief legal officer PSP Investments.

Attendees

Noted in the crowded continued on p. 26

Phoenixes, fire and fundraising



Marcel Behr, Pierre Gfeller, Julie Quenneville, Norman Steinberg, Melanie Bernier, Donald Sheppard, Marie-Christine Dupont and Peter Kruyt.



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Susan Legge Orr and Jeff Orr.



Frank Motter and Linda Shaw.



Julie Snyder and Romy Péladeau-Snyder.



John and Phyllis Rae.

Social Notes, cont'd from p. 25

room were **Dr. Pierre Gfeller**, executive director MUHC, and his wife **Dr. Michelle Dansereau**; Quebec Liberal leader **Dominique Anglade** and representative for Nelligan **Monsef Derraji**. **Claire** and **Peter Kruyt**, board chair MUHC, Power Corp Canada and Tennis Canada; **Dr. Marcel Behr**, director MI4 and his wife **Dr. Nadia Giannetti**; **Phyllis** and **John Rae**; **Marc Parent** – founder CAE, with his two daughters **Stephanie** and **Sabrina**; **Carine Watier-Lorenzetti** and **Barry Lorenzetti** – CEO and founder BFL Canada; **François Dumontier**, CEO Formula 1 Grand Prix du Canada; **Lili Fortin**, president Tristan ; **Jeniene** and **Randall Birks**, and **Susan Legge Orr** (co-chair MUHC Foundation Dream Big Campaign) and **Jeff Orr**, CEO Power Corp. The philanthropic duo created The Legge Orr MI4 Leadership Award.

Black and red

The invitation suggested a dress code of “black with red touches.” Guests complied with flair. Men wore red bow ties, socks and pocket handkerchiefs. Ladies’ glamorous attire ranged from form-fitting cocktail dresses to floor-trailing twirl-worthy ball gowns. Most wore black with red shoes adding the touch of crimson.



Marc Parent and his daughters Sabrina (left) and Stephanie (right).



Phoenix/Fire bird and François Dumontier.

However, some ignored onyx and opted for the sensation of totally scarlet attire including **Bita Cattelan** (there with her husband **Paolo**), entertainer **Gabriella Laberge**; Quebec celeb **Julie Snyder** and her daughter, **Romy Péladeau-Snyder**, **Valeria Rosenbloom**, and event planner **Alison**

Silcoff.

But perhaps the best carrying-out of the fire motif was the Phoenix/Fire Bird, standing high on stilts and wearing massive feathered wings.

A few women chose a fashion path less travelled. Stylish stand-outs were Susan

Legge Orr in an Armani-style silver-white pant suit; **Julie Quenneville** in a splendidly simple midnight blue velvet gown as well as her 15-year-old daughter **Victoria**, pretty in palest Provence blue tulle; **Linda Shaw** in a gleaming glam white cocktail dress (there with **Frank Motter**); and **Mélanie Bernier** in sensational multicoloured silk.

And **Iain Batchen**, deal advisory at KPMG Canada (there with Geneviève Lay, in-house counsel, National Bank), wore a kilt.

Major “Visionary level” sponsors were PSP, Rio Tinto, SNC-Lavalin, Canso, and PBY Capital. “Innovator level” were American Iron & Metal, CDPQ, kevric, matrox, RBC and Starlight Investments. SAQ sponsored the refreshments.

The event raised \$2 million dedicated to research into infection and immunity at the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) Foundation – a record since the event began.

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Jean-François Dion,
Senior Portfolio Manager,
or Sholom Tabak,
Senior Wealth Advisor,
at 514-878-4216

1 Place Ville Marie, Montreal
kentwealth.com

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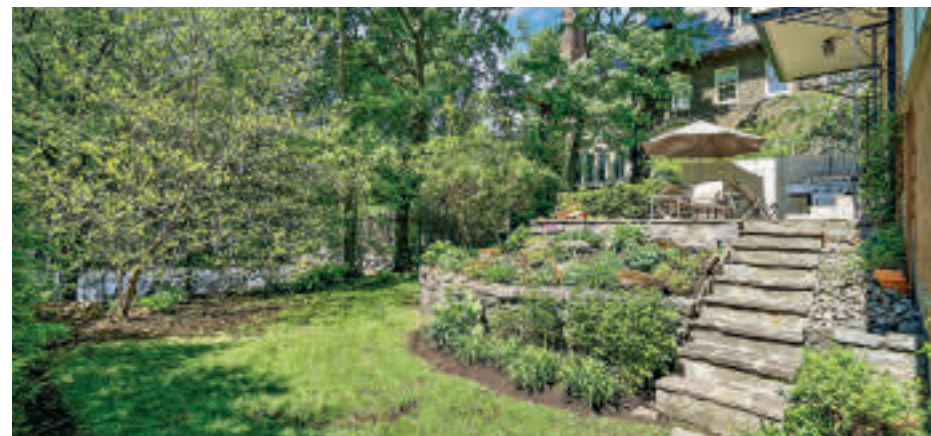
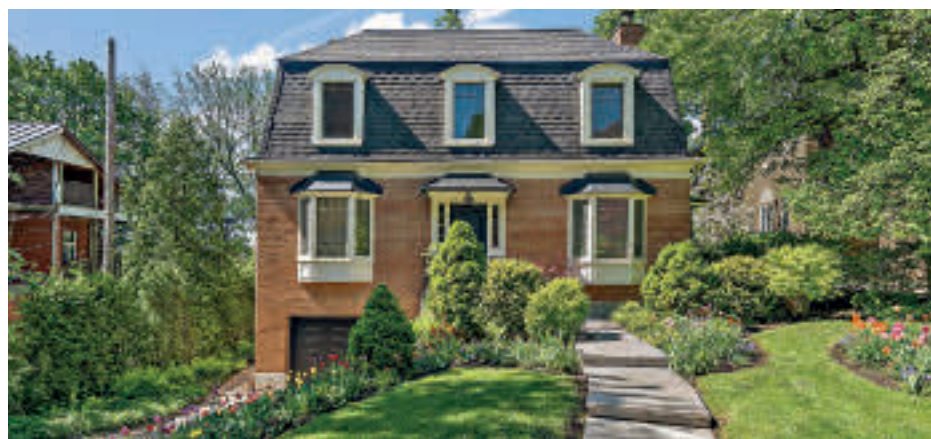
**Wealth Management
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J|P
JILL PRÉVOST

Homeowner Tip #2

Curb appeal can increase your home's value by 4-5%! So, plant some perennials this summer!

UNIQUE WESTMOUNT OPPORTUNITY!



602 CLARKE | WESTMOUNT \$2,495,000 MLS 13193771

This is the one-of-a-kind detached home you've been waiting for! Perfect for a small family or even as a downsize move before the condo, this home has so much to offer. With its 3+1 bedrooms, 2+2 baths, integrated double garage, a/c, + beautifully landscaped garden with no rear neighbours, this house checks many boxes. Impeccably maintained, you can move right in or renovate to your taste!

I'm here to help. If this period of uncertainty has you thinking about your next chapter. Call me.

Let's write your next chapter TOGETHER...



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