

# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 3 No. 10c

We are Westmount

October 20-21, 2009

## Supremes: Westmounters can't sue Montreal as a class

BY ISAAC OLSON

A Westmounter's attempt to launch a class-action lawsuit against Montreal

### INSIDE

#### Important election news

- **Reminder: Advance poll this Sunday, Oct. 25, from 12 to 8 pm at Victoria Hall.**
- **Incumbent candidate updates p. 10-11**
- **WMA quizzes all the candidates p. 12-13**



Westmount Page p. 17

made it all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada, but the high court dismissed the case by a 5-4 vote on October 8, ruling class-action suits are not the way to contest municipal by-laws.

Although Westmount native Jon Breslaw is, to a certain degree, disappointed with the ruling, he said convincing four out of nine justices is "not so shabby."

"It's very unusual for them to split as evenly as that," Breslaw continued. "It was interesting that the question of access to justice really almost made it."

The Supreme Court maintained lower courts' rejection of three requests to file suits against Montreal and Longueuil that demanded the refund of millions of over-charged property tax dollars. While Breslaw aimed at Montreal, plaintiffs Michel Marcotte and Usinage Pouliot Inc. targeted *continued on p. 39*

## Passing the torch



In a lighter moment before the formal swearing in of Peter Trent as mayor October 15, outgoing mayor Karin Marks passes the chain of office back to her successor/predecessor. Marks spoke at Rotary on her last day in office, see p. 9. Patrick Martin and Victor Drury, the only two acclaimed councillors, were sworn in at the same time as Trent. For that story and insight into what Trent is planning, see p. 8.

## Queen E. Complex digitizing, renovating Tony's chief chairing \$2M campaign

Tony of Tony Shoes has a new job — raising money for the Queen Elizabeth Health Complex.

Westmount retailer Tony Fagnoli is best known for selling shoes. His landmark Greene Ave. shop was founded by his grandfather in 1937 and he has worked there since 1965.

But for years he has had another, unpaid job: board member, volunteer and fundraiser at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and its successor, the Queen Elizabeth

Health Complex.

And his responsibilities at the complex have just grown in scope.

Fagnoli was recently named chair of the complex's 3-year, \$2-million fundraising campaign, which aims to raise money for the digitization of medical images (\$1.3 million) and expenditures for a new furnace and renovated first floor (\$700,000). The former hospital building that houses the complex is *continued on p. 45*

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# City: Water main replacement necessary

BY ISAAC OLSON

A city of Montreal-sponsored principal water main replacement project on one of Westmount's busiest commuter arteries is expected to snarl traffic until early December, but changing the 118-year-old cast iron pipe is necessary risk management, according to local officials.

"This cast iron water main has been identified as a critical pipe both in terms

of its role and in terms of its state," said Andrew Duffield, a Westmount Public Works civil engineer. "Montreal identified these pipes as needing to be replaced before another freeze-thaw winter cycle."

The leaky, 14-inch water main running under St. Catherine from Clarke to Greene, along with lateral connections, will be replaced with a ductile iron pipe.

Feeding both Westmount and neighbouring boroughs, it's up to Montreal to manage and fund the roughly \$1.3-million project. However, noted Duffield, Westmount officials have been working to lessen the project's impact on local traffic and businesses while keeping citizens informed.

Westmount authorities discovered the pipe had several leaks and reported the problem to Montreal, Duffield said, and, due to the aged pipe's state, the repair work was soon initiated.

"It's risk management," said Marianne Zalzal, director of Westmount Public

Works. "It means we won't have major traffic disruptions or people deprived of water. We don't want to have a major break that leads to the flooding of businesses and homes. Risk management is knowing when you have a problem and addressing it."

The project began earlier this month as workers first installed a temporary waterline on the north side of the street before initiating work on the principal water main. Once replaced, there will be interim asphalt in place until the ..... street is repaved this *continued on p. 10*



St. Catherine St. looking east towards Greene.

## Re-elect Kathleen Duncan Ward 4



**Please vote!**

Official agent: Brian Mitchell

## Votez / Vote



**Theodora Samiotis**  
Conseillère – District 8 – Councillor

## Councillor for District 5



**Gary Ikeman**

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**Mavis Young**  
Conseillère - District 7 - Councillor  
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## Si je suis élue, voici les dossiers que je défendrai pour améliorer la qualité de vie des citoyens de Westmount:

- ◆ Transparence au sein du Conseil de ville – il est temps de revenir à un gouvernement démocratique et d'ouverture
- ◆ Fin aux votes à huis clos au Conseil
- ◆ Réponse efficace aux revendications des citoyens quant au stationnement, au bruit, à la circulation – fini les promesses creuses
- ◆ Communication à deux sens avec les résidents pour assurer leur participation aux projets *avant* et non *après* leur adoption
- ◆ Lancement d'initiatives municipales uniquement lorsque la recherche et les données les justifient, et non en réponse à des groupes de pression
- ◆ Utilisation responsable des deniers publics – arrêt du gaspillage causé par l'embauche continuelle d'experts-conseil et par des projets coûteux qui ne profitent qu'à une minorité

## If elected, I will support our quality of life through the following:

- ◆ Transparency on council – it's time for open, democratic government
- ◆ End behind-closed-doors council votes
- ◆ Deal effectively with citizens' concerns regarding parking, noise, traffic – no more lip-service
- ◆ Enhance two-way communication with residents to ensure their input into projects, *before*, not *after* they are implemented
- ◆ Ensure that municipal initiatives are undertaken only when supported by facts and data, not in response to pressure groups
- ◆ Promote fiscal responsibility – end waste of public money through continuous hiring of consultants and costly proposals which benefit few citizens

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## IMPRESSIVE CANDIDATES

I decided to gather up your profiles of the District 5 candidates in order to prepare for the November 1 election.

I must mention that all these candidates are very impressive. It was a pleasure reading their biographies. I am proud that we have such a pool of competent and engaged people willing to serve.

I recommend that all your readers check out the profiles on your website. Good luck, and it is too bad three out of four will have no seat. *À la prochaine* for them.

JOHN EDWARDS, CHESTERFIELD AVE.

## IKEMAN'S NEW APPROACH

Mr. Peter Naylor's weak attempt ("What is Ikeman's new approach?", October 13, p. 4) to discredit criticism of a \$40-million-plus megaplex inside Westmount Park substitutes a personal attack for lack of substantive arguments and rational thinking. Here are the facts.

- We are proposing a moderate project on the current site, and not an expanded one.
- A most recent study of Westmount parks by landscape architect Marc Fauteux and Associates, states; "...most of the parks had reached the saturation point...so that new facilities cannot be added without seriously harming [their] integrity ..."
- A community "needs analysis" of the arena/pool project was never done, and a Westmount employee has stated in writ-

ing "There is no official report that indicates the reasons for the need of an additional ice rink."

- As compared to 21 other Montreal-area municipalities, Westmount has the fourth highest ice capacity per capita.
- No formal alternative site evaluation analysis was ever done, and the current site is probably one of the worst building sites in Westmount, due to poor soil conditions and lack of space, thus requiring the proposed use of over 260 pilings.
- A traffic study has been requested many times, and has never been done.
- Taxpayers 60 years and older are far less likely to be playing hockey than doing other activities.
- As of December 2008, Westmount's debt stood at \$37.1 million. Many of our taxpayers live on fixed incomes. We need a tax freeze, not a tax increase.
- Other cities have been able to build excellent facilities for under \$22 million
- Districts 5 and 7 have already twice the population density of the city average.
- Westmount's recent sustainability vision states: "We are stewards of the natural environment ... We ... [will] work to preserve our distinctive landscape and built environment so they can endure over time."

Mr. Naylor, our approach is, and always has been, to protect our values, believe in this city, and support its residential quality of life.

GARY IKEMAN, CANDIDATE, DISTRICT 5

## NO DEATHBED, NO CONVERSION

With regards to Mavis Young's letter "An expensive education" in the October 13 edition (p. 4), she made many broad, unsubstantiated statements with regards to my position on the arena/pool project.

For the record, I do not side with those "who have long opposed the mega-sports complex." I have always held that Westmount needs a new arena and pool that is of a scale appropriate to the setting, that will serve the needs of the community now and in the future and that minimizes the impact on the surrounding residents.

The use of words like "mega" and "complex" put forward by Ms. Young only causes negative reactions that confuse debate and detract from building consensus on what the community wants.

I have never dismissed the views of critics, but I was doing exactly what Young was saying I was not doing: Making information public and adding to the body of knowledge both council and the public need to make intelligent decisions.

Finally, I find her use of "deathbed conversions" very unfortunate and mean-spirited. I prefer to campaign on what I stand for and why the residents should vote for me rather than launch personal attacks against my opponent.

CYNTHIA LULHAM, CANDIDATE, DISTRICT 7

## "CLLR. DUE DILIGENCE"

Having just spent four years on council with Cynthia Lulham, I can attest to the fact that she has always been known, among councillors, as well as members of the city administration, to insist tirelessly on proper research and fact-finding prior to taking important decisions.

And I say with personal admiration that she was seen by some to be relentless almost to the point of annoyance in this regard.

In fact, and at the risk of embarrassing Councillor Lulham, I can let residents and perhaps Ms. Lulham in on a little secret. Behind her back among some of the councillors, she has come to be known as "Councillor Due Diligence."

That is why I take great exception to the comment in a letter by District 7 candidate Mavis Young in last week's *Indie* ("An expensive education", p. 4) that Cllr. Lulham "suddenly finds the whole plan too costly."

On the contrary, she has questioned the proposals at every opportunity, in terms of cost, architecture and impact, both in camera and publicly. And as councillor for that ward she constantly insisted on proper

surveys, parking and traffic studies.

And what is most remarkable and indicative of her character was her personal research of over 60 North American arena projects, including phone calls to city managers, to bolster the argument that our project was too costly relative to what it provides.

This was above and beyond the role of councillor, but for Ms. Lulham it was just business as usual on behalf of residents.

PATRICK MARTIN, CLLR., DISTRICT 1

## NAME-CALLING POINTLESS

The letter from Mavis Young ("An expensive education", p. 4) last week was a sad example of attack politics. Name calling and accusations are pointless, and take the debate to its lowest level.

Being able to listen, suggest solutions and work towards a resolution is what is needed. Cynthia Lulham has a proven track record of working with citizens in an open, friendly and inclusive manner. Her research of new arena projects shows her ongoing dedication and interest in ensuring that our tax dollars are well spent! How can Ms. Young find fault with that?

KATHLEEN KEZ, DORCHESTER BLVD.

## PLANNING COSTS, BUT SAVES \$ AND ATTRACTS GRANTS

I was not surprised to see Cynthia Lulham's thoughts about the projected cost of the arena/pool complex published in the *Independent* ("The Lulham Report: Other arenas cost less" by Don Wedge, October 6, p. 5).

Cynthia was working on her personal review of the comparative costs of arena/pool complexes last June, in order to provide additional substance to discussions about the proposal.

Unlike Mavis Young, I wouldn't describe that as a "deathbed conversion" ("An expensive education", October 13, p. 4).

I sincerely doubt that any councillor has ever voted to spend taxpayers' money without thinking very seriously about it, and money spent on planning, drafting and research, particularly for a large project such as this, has not been wasted.

The work done so far is the result of a great deal of commitment, effort and consultation, and has attracted a substantial infrastructure grant – almost \$20 million.

Let's not be too quick to dismiss other people's hard work and positive energy, even if we don't agree on the result. Learning is important. So is twenty million bucks.

GEORGE BOWSER, LANSDOWNE AVE.

# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

**We are Westmount.**

Weekly  
Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

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DEPUTY EDITOR: Kristin McNeill

CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney

### LETTERS & COMMENTS:

*We welcome your letters, but reserve the right to choose and edit them. Please check your letter carefully.*

*We may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. If you do make amendments, please "redline" them instead of resending the whole letter.*

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## MNA Chagnon reveals \$8 million for Dawson College

Dawson College has been awarded almost \$8 million in infrastructure grants by the federal and provincial governments. It will be used for a multitude of projects including installation of security gates, re-roofing the area over the central escalators and refurbishing the escalators themselves.

The grants, which total \$7,908,500, were announced at the college October 14 by Westmount-St. Louis MNA Jacques Chagnon on behalf of Quebec Education

minister Michelle Courchesne and Senator Suzanne Fortin-Duplessis, representing Ottawa.

Other features being funded include upgrades to the servers, more power outlets for students' laptops, improved air conditioning and various energy-efficiency measures.

Earlier the same day, Chagnon was at Concordia's Loyola campus among the presenters of a \$69-million infrastructure award to the university.

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## VOTE **René Pelletier** district #5



### *Critical issues*

- To quickly find a fair resolution to the new sports complex, to be completed on time and on budget.
- Westmount is an environmentally friendly city. But, we need to find a way to work with drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians to ensure safe streets for all users.

### *Communication*

As I campaign, I have tested the idea of quarterly meetings with people from district #5. The idea has been very well received. Goals:

- (1) to hear the concerns of the residents and
- (2) to communicate what has been happening at council.

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the doors of City Hall***

Evelyn Horsky,  
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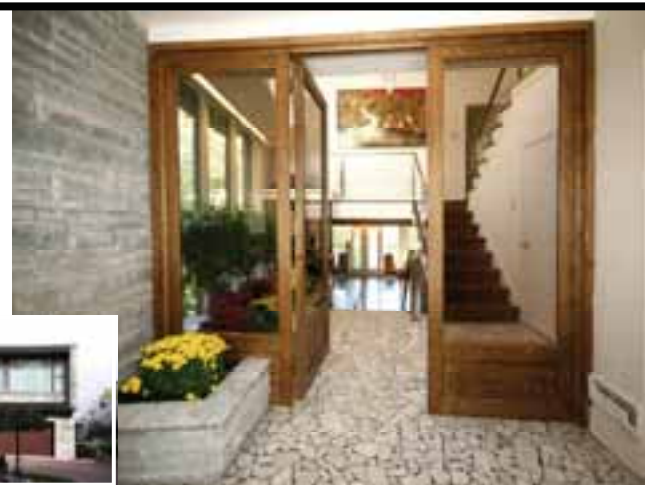
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Editor's Notes

# John de Castell, in profile

In our October 6, p. 11 “From the archives” election coverage summary, several readers noticed the phrase “Declined by subject” next to the name of Councillor John de Castell. That formulation may have left the impression that de Castell refuses to talk to the *Independent*, which is not the case. (Witness our incumbent update of him on p. 11 of this edition, as well as many other comments from him over

the years.) Many months ago, Councillor de Castell did decline to be interviewed for the full-length profiles referenced in the summary, which – it should be noted – were at least as personal as they were political. Even so, in the case of sitting councillors seeking re-election, we wanted to bring those profiles to the attention of voters for the relevant political information

that they did contain. In de Castell’s case (as with the other three incumbents competing for council seats this November 1), readers now have a fresh article to help make their choice for councillor.

Election letters

Letter writers! Please don’t write us with generic letters in support of, or against, municipal candidates.

We don’t have the space to run them and we think our coverage (including future coverage and the Westmount Municipal Association’s two-page spread on p. 12 and 13 of this issue) has provided ample

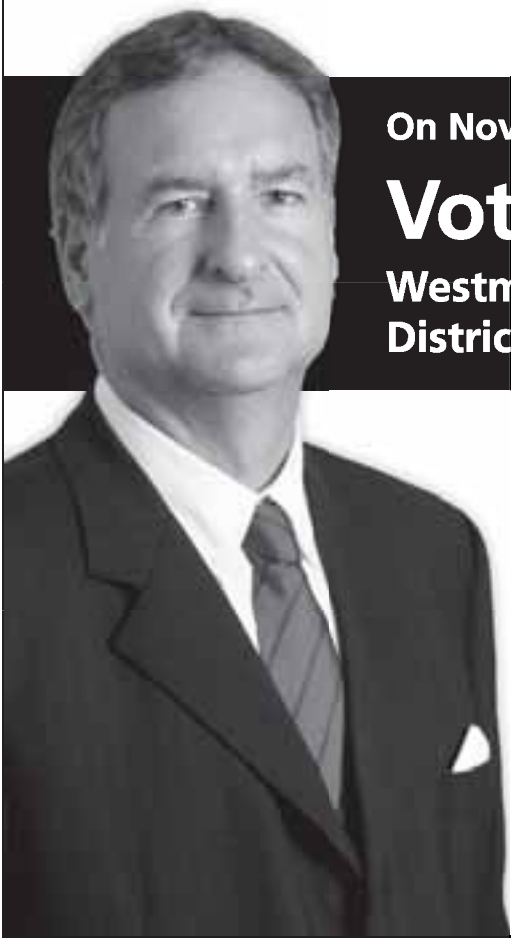
room for candidates to express themselves in general terms. However, if you have a specific article or letter to respond to (even if it is about the election), please write!

Sweeney's profile series wraps up

On p. 10 and 11 of this issue, Laureen Sweeney finishes her profile marathon of 17 (count ’em!) council candidates.

Every single issue, Laureen under-promises, overdelivers and helps make this paper what it is. She is a Westmount institution, and it is a pleasure to work with her. Thank you, Laureen!

DP



On November 1st

## Vote Tim Price

Westmount City Council  
District 2

- Long time Westmount resident
- Financial expertise
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- Significant community involvement
- Engaged in local recreational programs

Authorized by Bob McKenzie  
Official Agent for Tim Price



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*View*





## Social Notes from Westmount and beyond

# Ogilvy hosts fashion fundraiser

BY VERONICA REDGRAVE



The Westmount Branch of the Montreal General Hospital Auxiliary organized *Montréal en Vogue*, a charming fashion event held on September 23 at Ogilvy's. The downtown retailer is renowned for its commitment to supporting fundraisers. The sold-out soirée included a cocktail dînatore and fashion show – and, of course, shopping!

Guests enjoyed canapés by Yves

Coderre, the Montreal General Hospital's caterer. Ladies were chic; many wore basic black, and dresses ruled. Shoes were a mixture of sensible flats, beautiful ballet slippers and sexy stilettos, and many women wore a gleam of glitter – a leading trend this fall.

On the runway, models showed fabulous fall fashions from the Ogilvy boutiques. Noted amidst the crowd were event chair Jane Chisholm, Tamara Lieven (who used to work at Ogilvy) with David Cohen, and the elegant Ogilvy team – Ogilvy VP Steeve Lapierre, and event director Carolina La Flèche, très chic in a wonderful

winter white wool coat from Italy and a Jean Paul Gaultier necklace. Westmounters included Sue and Jawaid Khan, Nancy Hyde and her daughter Nicola; Norma Morgan, Nancy Daly, Nancy Brown, Astri Prugger, Chelsea Lax, and Mariette St. Germain, as well as the Auxiliary Committee members from Westmount – Lois Hutchison, Beth Marchant, Mai Lloyd, Marigold Hyde and Margaret Stavert.

The proceeds of the evening went to refurbish the MGH Palliative Care Day Hospital, an outpatient clinic that supports cancer patients living within the community.

Photos by Robert Galbraith



Event chair, Jane Chisholm, Ogilvy VP Steeve Lapierre, Westmounter Caroline Labelle, Odile Cloutier and Pamela Mitchell.



Ann Baril, Carolina La Flèche, Jeannie Saunders



Westmounters Jeanne Marie Lynn and her daughter Erika, and Amelie Cronin.



Westmounters Diana Henry, Manny Borod, Michael Goodman and Andrée Lotey.



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A quick-paced changing of the guard

# Trent: No time to waste

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

The official swearing-in of newly acclaimed mayor Peter Trent on October 15 was only the ceremonial start to his new mandate.

After an eight-year absence from office, the former three-term mayor was wasting little time familiarizing himself with current dossiers to get a head-start on critical issues for when the rest of the new council is elected November 1.

“We don’t have time in great supply, especially in regard to arena plans,” he told the *Independent*.

“My top priority is going into great detail in the background of the entire project,” he explained.

He is also delving into long-term infrastructure spending plans, the 2010 budget and the city’s corporate structure. He is also being briefed by outgoing mayor Karin Marks on “the mysteries of the agglomeration meetings.”

New councillor Victor Drury is also being brought up to speed, he said. Both Drury and incumbent councillor Patrick Martin (acclaimed in Districts 3 and 1) were sworn in to office with Trent.

Conducted by city clerk Mario Gerbeau, the ceremony took place in the council

chamber before a small assembly of family members, city managers, media and citizens, and was followed by a short reception.

And while the event was somewhat *déjà vu* for Trent, the retiring Marks made no attempt to hide the bittersweet moment.

Cleaning out her office, she admitted, has been time-consuming because “I keep running across another piece of paper to read.”

“Westmount is a much better place because of you,” said Cynthia Lulham, the only sitting councillor in attendance (apart from Martin), in presenting Marks with an azalea standard, as a personal gift from her.

While the election in the six contested districts does not take place until November 1, the mandates of Thursday’s three oath-takers are now in effect. Under new Quebec regulations, elected officials must be sworn in within 30 days of election.

During this interim period, Trent would preside over the old council in event of an extraordinary emergency – such as a disaster, Gerbeau explained. Drury would replace former District 3 councillor Guy Charette and Martin would continue as the District 1 representative.



Sworn in, Mayor Peter Trent signs the oath of office while acclaimed councillors Patrick Martin (left) and Victor Drury look on from the front row, October 15. Both were also sworn in.



Outgoing mayor Karin Marks (right) is thanked for making Westmount “a much better place” by Councillor Cynthia Lulham who is standing for re-election in District 7.

## Please write to us!

For consideration, letters to the editor must identify them as “for publication” and have authors’ customary first and last names, and street names, all of which will be published. Please also include contact information (for follow-up purposes only). We do not publish letters regarding consumer complaints or inter-neighbour disputes. Letters will be edited for length, content and style. Please check your letter carefully. We may be unable to make subsequently submitted changes. If you do make amendments, please “redline” them instead of resending the whole letter.



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# Marks looks back

Mayor Karin Marks spoke at the Rotary Club of Westmount's weekly Victoria Hall luncheon on October 14, her last full day in office.

The speech was a summary of her thoughts on both her time in city government and about what works (and doesn't) in the municipal field.

What kind of councillor does a good job? She singled out David Laidley and John Bridgman, two councillors from the beginning of her municipal career with busy professional lives, as people intent on, and successful at, giving back to their community.

She also explained how several, initially "single-issue" council members had ended up making a broad contribution to Westmount – including former mayor May Cutler, who ran because she couldn't have a commercial office in her house, but as mayor "never changed the zoning."

Marks' own initial issue was her difficulty in obtaining a permit to renovate her house. She likened the permit process of the time to "playing darts while blindfolded." That initial impetus eventually bore fruit with what she sees as the clearer guidelines of the current heritage protection plan, which she drafted with Mark London.

She also talked about her pride in the renovation work on the library, Victoria Hall and the lawn bowling clubhouse, as well as in brand new endeavours such as the teen centre and the Gallery at Victoria Hall.

What can incoming councillors expect as the biggest challenge? According to Marks, one of the hardest tasks is to "govern" and not "administer or manage," which is the permanent staff's job.

## External affairs

On the external side, Marks expressed pride in her efforts to change the stereotype of Westmounters as "unilingual snobs," which was aided by the fact that Westmount is currently 17 percent francophone and 85 percent bilingual.

She also pointed out that, with a population of "only 21,000," Westmounters have fully engaged the issues of the 1.8 million-person island of Montreal, "We have made a mark – not Marks."



Karin Marks speaks to Rotary Club of Westmount, October 14.

During the question period, Rotarian Janet Boeckh asked what Marks' three wishes would be. Firstly, Marks would like to see a return to the solidarity that existed among Westmounters during the de-merger debate, when there was a common enemy and purpose. (Marks later refused to endorse a Montreal mayoral candidate, but also said, "We may have [an external] enemy again.") Secondly, she would wish for the post-merger debt to disappear and, thirdly, for Westmount to successfully build a "community centre based on sporting activities for the communities that will come after us."

And what is next for Marks?

She expressed a desire to do further work in education, municipal affairs and northern or native affairs, but disclaimed a current interest in federal or provincial politics – "although other people seem to keep bringing it up."

## Atwater Library to host benefit

Westmount's Atwater Library (1200 Atwater) is hosting its annual cocktail benefit on Wednesday, November 4 at 6 pm at the library. Tickets cost \$100. For information, call executive director Lynn Verge at 514.935.7344 or email lverge@atwaterlibrary.ca.

# 5 Saisons supporters go online

Fans of Greene Ave.'s Les 5 Saisons grocery store, led by Westmounter Henri Castillo, are organizing a petition "urging the city to insist that a new developer be required to maintain a store in its new premises or project in the fashion of the Five Seasons."

The store is currently scheduled to close on December 5. The owner of the underlying real estate has plans to redevelop the site but has not yet shared them with the public. He is waiting for the incoming city council to be elected, so he can tell members his ideas before revealing the project to the public (see "Final season for 5 Saisons", October 13, p. 1).

The petition notes that the area around Greene is composed of many "widows,

widowers, retired individuals and two-person families who depend on the Five Seasons" and "Already most merchants have indicated that the Five Seasons is a drawing card for shoppers strolling down Greene Ave." In their view, "The Five Seasons serves a social need!"

The petition can be "signed" by emailing: [fiveseasonspetition@hotmail.com](mailto:fiveseasonspetition@hotmail.com).

## Electronic *Independents* available

Enjoy the Indie at supper time on Tuesdays!

Sign up by writing us:  
[indie@westmountindependent.com](mailto:indie@westmountindependent.com).



Stratégie verte  
**Westmount**  
Green Strategy

## La collecte automnale des feuilles

Pour améliorer la propreté des rues en automne, la Ville de Westmount offre un service de collecte des feuilles par les équipes de la Ville, en bordure des rues.

Pour vous débarrasser de vos feuilles et autres résidus de jardins, utilisez des sacs COMPOSTABLES ou des sacs en PAPIER destinés à cette fin.

Déposez vos sacs en bordure du trottoir avant 7 h du lundi au vendredi.

Les feuilles tassées en vrac en bordure du trottoir NE SERONT PAS RAMASSÉES.

### Calendrier de collecte

Octobre et novembre  
Du lundi au vendredi, au besoin

Si vos sacs sont préparés correctement mais ne sont pas ramassés dans les trois jours ouvrables, veuillez composer le 514 989-5311.

## Autumn Leaf Collection

In order to keep streets cleaner throughout autumn, the City of Westmount offers curbside collection of leaves by city crews.

Use either COMPOSTABLE or PAPER garden waste bags to dispose of leaves and other garden waste.

Place your bags behind the sidewalk by 7:00 a.m., Monday to Friday.

Leaves piled loose behind the sidewalk WILL NOT BE PICKED UP.

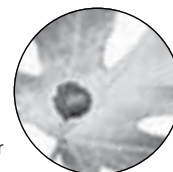
### Collection Schedule

October and November  
Monday to Friday, as needed

If your bags are properly prepared, but are not picked up after 3 consecutive working days, please contact us at 514 989-5311.

### Tache goudronneuse

En raison du nombre élevé de maladies affectant les arbres dans notre région, les résidents sont priés de se débarrasser des feuilles contaminées UNIQUEMENT lors de la collecte des feuilles mortes et de NE PAS les ajouter au compostage domestique.



### Tar Spot Fungus

Due to high levels of disease affecting trees in the region, residents should dispose of contaminated leaves in the fall leaf collection ONLY.

Contaminated leaves should NOT be added to domestic composters.



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Incumbent Update: Kathleen Duncan, District 4

Listening to people

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Kathleen Duncan, whose District 4 seat is being contested by Nicholas Smith, has a very simple reason for seeking re-election: “I absolutely love my job, the people in the community and responding to their needs.”

This means doing her part to ensure they receive the best quality of life, she says. This was her focus during her first term on council and previously in the pivotal role she played in the demerger campaign and as president of the Westmount Municipal Association.

“I’ve shown on the arena and the artificial turf issues that I’m not afraid to speak up, and I’m hoping our new council will achieve greater transparency and openness.”

Duncan says some of her proudest achievements stem from bringing citizens together with city staff to discuss local needs, as she did regarding snow cleaning last winter and again at a meeting with merchants she chaired before replacement of the water main on Sherbrooke in July.

“It all boils down to one thing: listening to people. This is the most vital component of a councillor’s job. If you listen, you hear their problems and can find solutions that truly address their concerns.”

On the arena project, she says: “I still firmly believe the process was flawed, and that a consortium of engineers and architects should have looked at all the available sites so that council could have made an informed decision rather than one based on the status quo. I also think we should target a lower price tag based on user studies that the community can have immediate access to.”

Duncan highlights traffic, garbage, noise, parking and snow clearing as among the more pressing issues in District 4. “These all have elements of sus-

tainability,” she points out. It’s also a ward where the mixed residential/commercial strip of Sherbrooke St. requires a delicate balance between the two that often proves challenging.

She is also recommending the hiring of summer students to sweep the Sherbrooke strip where a number of terrasses are located.

A triathlete and avid cyclist, Duncan also wants to continue spearheading the safety of the bicycle path, which she began in meetings with city staff. These have already resulted in the installation of temporary chicane-like obstacles to slow cyclists at pedestrian crosswalks.

“I’m also working on another planning issue to try and alleviate the enormous

congestion around the Metro parking lot.” As library commissioner, “I was pleased we were able to increase local membership at the library because we want residents to take full advantage of our jewel.” Duncan has also been chairing the Horticultural Advisory Committee (HAC) and, on alternate years, the sports, recreation and culture committee.

As one of Westmount’s two representatives on the CLD Les 3 monts, Duncan also chairs the committee overseeing the revitalizing of St. Catherine St. from Greene to Atwater.

A mother of three children aged 9 to 19, Duncan is currently completing a master’s degree in urban planning at McGill. She says this has given her new insight into future municipal trends as well as access to specialists in the field. She’s particularly interested in reducing the time it takes for Westmounters to obtain work permits without compromising architectural and heritage values, and hopes to call on some of her research findings for this purpose.

Duncan’s official agent is Brian Mitchell.



Kathleen Duncan

Incumbent Update: Nicole Forbes, District 6

Promoting culture, volunteers

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

One term on council became a learning experience, says Nicole Forbes. Now she’s hoping to build on that with a second four-year term representing District 6, where Michael Osterland is challenging her for his first term on council.

“Just learning the job is amazing,” she explains. “I feel stronger and more confident as we face so many continuing issues that I now know very well.

“I’m also very anxious to continue increasing opportunities to showcase our Westmount culture – which is my passion – and finish writing a cultural policy for the city.”

District 6 is one of the most diverse wards in Westmount, Forbes points out.

Comprising young families, seniors and merchants, it includes Greene Ave., St. Léon School and a concentration of apartment buildings including the Plaza Tower (a part of the Alexis Nihon complex).

As a result, the district experiences a full range of residential and commercial issues, including traffic congestion.

Recycling and composting

“I want to get our merchants recycling and our apartment dwellers composting,” Forbes explains. “I also hope to improve safety on the bike path, see through the arena project, of course, and carry on with increasing our cultural and community events, and encouraging our volunteers.”

Forbes, who served as commissioner of Sports, Recreation and Community Events, launched the biennial Art Westmount event in 2006. This studio open



Nicole Forbes

house weekend, held again last year, invites people to visit local painters, sculptors and photographers. She also oversees the Gallery at Victoria Hall.

Her responsibilities have included chairing the Community Events Advisory Committee (CEAC) comprising citizen volunteers and city staff. Among its projects is the Halloween

Haunted House spearheaded by the Public Security Unit, and taking place for the third time this year. “Working with our volunteers is one of the most rewarding parts of my job.”

Ran demerger office

Forbes, who ran Westmount’s demerger office, has a background in political campaigning, community organizations and rallying

volunteers. “If I’m re-elected, I hope I’ll be asked to continue in this area,” she says.

Recently moved to the apartment complex at 250 Clarke, just outside her electoral district, Forbes says she wants to continue representing District 6 “where I grew up and have been living for a long time.” But now, as an apartment dweller herself, she is better able to relate to concerns of fellow tenants in similar buildings in her ward such as the 4300 de Maisonneuve and 1 Wood.

Forbes plans to campaign door to door to find out how constituents feel about the arena project and the issue of increasing public debate. “I’m ready to listen to whoever wants to talk to me. Now that I’ve been through my first term, I’d like to see more debate at council and explanations to the public.”

Her official agent is Sharyn Scott.

Construction detours

continued from p. 3

spring.

Already stopped once, the water will eventually be shut off again for a couple hours as workers make the switch from the temporary water main to the new piping. As is protocol, notices will go out 48 hours prior to shut off, said Zalzal.

With the southern sidewalk closed and traffic reduced to one westbound lane, drivers headed downtown are being detoured via Dorchester Blvd.

The one-way westbound lane will be open until the project is completed. Parking on the two-block stretch has been removed, said Duffield, but extra parking has been made available on Olivier Ave.

The sidewalk and access to all the businesses on the north side of the street will be maintained throughout the project.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police facility, which faces Dorchester, will continue to have St. Catherine vehicle access on an “as needed” basis.

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**Incumbent Update: Cynthia Lulham, District 7**

# Wants greater accountability

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Eight years ago, Cynthia Lulham made a commitment to renew the arena but all efforts were stopped by the forced merger with Montreal. “Now I want to see the project through to completion,” she says.

And that’s not the only reason she’s seeking a fifth term on council, over which Mavis Young is challenging her in District 7.

There is also the realization of the sound barrier that has also been held up by the mergers and now the uncertainty regarding reconstruction of the Ville Marie Expressway as part of the Turcot project. Add in reduction of train annoyance, new ways of dealing with traffic problems throughout the city, and completion of her work in urban planning that includes regulations dealing with solar panels and green roofs.

“I have the experience and a very strong sense of community,” she says.

Lulham is also pushing for greater accountability. “I want to change the committee structure of council to encourage more open debate in the public meetings. When you’re elected by the people, they have to know how you vote and up to now we haven’t been very accountable.”

**Far-reaching goals**

While Lulham’s goals are varied and far-reaching, she admits, they reflect the many dossiers she has worked on, latterly as commissioner of Planning, chair of the sound barrier committee, work on a train committee and her long-standing passion for horticultural initiatives.

Her achievements over 14 years on

council, she feels, include work on the renovation of Victoria Hall and addition of the gallery, creation of the Community Events Office and the Community Events Advisory Committee (CEAC), introduction of garden walking tours and co-founding of the Westmount Horticultural Society.

In response to citizen requests, she also changed regulations to permit food and lawn chairs on the pool deck, and the choice of using bathing caps.

Because the current site of the arena and pool lies in her district and the city has received a \$20-million infrastructure grant for the the renewal project, she says, “We need to build citizen consensus on the project by doing an engineering study and a needs assessment.”

**Scale arena to site**

Lulham feels the project must be done to the scale of the site, however, “and my research has shown it can be done for less” than the projected \$36 million.

She also wants to explore and introduce some of the ideas and best practices she has picked up at conferences of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), where she was vice-chair of the Quebec caucus. “With the city becoming greener and greener, we need to look at new street designs and traffic calming devices.”

As well, the Turcot project with its work on the Ville Marie needs rethinking. If changes are not forthcoming following the BAPE hearings, she says, she is prepared to “mobilize” the citizenry “because it’s the people in my district who will be stuck with it.”

Lulham’s official agent is Charles Marien.



Cynthia Lulham

**Incumbent Update: John de Castell, District 8**

# Experience seen as key to ‘rough time ahead’

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

With District 8 facing “a rough time ahead” due to the reconstruction of the Ville Marie Expressway, John de Castell believes his 10 years on council and his knowledge involving the transportation corridor will enable him to best protect residents’ interests. Newcomer Theodora Samiotis is challenging de Castell for the seat.

“To fully appreciate the severity of the situation we’re facing,” he says, “you have to have experienced it and I believe I am uniquely positioned to keep on top of this project and its impact.”

Ensuring quality of life in his district is all part of his overriding focus on implementing the city’s sustainable development action plan, he explains. He regards this as one of his proudest achievements as commissioner of Environment.

“I really hope to continue council’s efforts in sustainability,” he says. “This plan is the road map for our evolution for the next century. To my mind, it’s the most important thing I could do for this city and the future of the community.”

**Activist past**

Increased train noise and vibration are all part of the fallout from the transportation corridor, he points out. And it was his citizen activist involvement in these issues that initially propelled him onto city council in 1999.

“Transportation concerns over highway traffic and trains have been a focus of mine the entire time I’ve been on council,” he continues. “It was the repair work on the Ville Marie that got me to run in the first place when conditions were like living in Beirut.

“At that time, the MTQ (the Quebec ministry of transport) had no measures in place with regard to health and safety measures. This time around, with a comprehensive city plan, we’re going to hold their feet to the fire.

“This is where experience is helpful,” de Castell adds. “When new issues arise there are usually similarities to previous situations and you don’t have to start from scratch.”

In another of de Castell’s roles, as commissioner of Public Security, he says he is

pleased with work that has been accomplished in increasing coverage by the Public Security Unit. “We have more work to do to re-establish its mandate with the community.”

He also hopes to continue his work in economic development as one of Westmount’s representatives on the board of the CLD Les 3 monts. This is a not-for-profit group in which Westmount participates with the Town of Mount Royal and Outremont to help distribute government funds to small businesses in the three communities. “We’re now going to be receiving funds for medium-

size businesses, which will be even more advantageous to Westmount enterprises.”

Coming to Canada from Scotland at age 2, de Castell describes himself as a small entrepreneur. He sold greeting cards door to door as child along with so many subscriptions to *The Montreal Star* that he won a trip to Ottawa, which included a visit to the parliament buildings and a meeting with a young MP named John Turner, future prime minister. “That was my introduction to politics.”

He went on to work as a copy boy at the *Star* before moving into the emerging field of merchandising for rock bands, which he accompanied on tour through Europe and the US.

In the late 1970s, de Castell and his wife, Terry, operated a furniture restoration business that evolved into fantasy finishes and special effects such as *faux* graining. Their focus over the last 10 years has been on their revenue properties, with much of the work falling to Terry because of his work on city council, he explains.

“To me, the trust that residents put in me has warranted my full-time attention. Over the forced mergers, we were at war and it was an extremely intense period.”

After recovering from a couple of years of serious health issues, de Castell says, “It was a point of pride that I was able to carry on despite four surgeries. But now that I have a second lease on life, I’m really looking forward to what I will be able to accomplish with renewed energy and vigour.”

de Castell’s official agent is Willem Westenberg.



John de Castell

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# WESTMOUNT MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2009



Peter F. Trent



Patrick Martin



Philip A. Cutler



Claire Mullins Kruyt



Timothy Price



Victor M. Drury



Nicholas Smith



Kathleen Warner Duncan



Georges Hébert

**Peter F. Trent - Acclaimed Mayor**

**Answer 1)** After spearheading the fight against municipal mergers and for demergers, I would like to get back to the more pacific and creative job of simple mayoring [editor: sic]. (If my nemesis, Louise Harel, is Montreal's mayor, it may not be so easy.)

**Answer 2)** The four years we spent as part of the megacity robbed us of our well-run city, leaving us a huge debt and neglected infrastructure.

We need to declare war on noise, smog, graffiti, litter, and other irritants to our health and peaceful enjoyment. Traffic, both volume and speed, is an endemic problem in Westmount that has got even worse. I would like to reduce the car dependency of Westmounters — and of those who use our streets to get downtown.

The arena project, paradoxically, has both the potential to divide us into bitter camps or make us all proud of a unique facility that could bind us.

**Patrick Martin - Acclaimed Councillor for District 1**

**Answer 1)** Like all Westmounters, I love this city (and have for 50 years now), and as an engineer love to propose solutions to problems, of which Westmount has its share, privileged though we are. I felt able truly to make a difference in my first 4 years on council, and broad support not limited to fellow residents of Ward 1 encourages me to continue.

**Answer 2)** We face continued financial risks, with infrastructure costs passed back to Westmount without corresponding revenue. The decaying road, water, sewer and hydro infrastructure, the legacy of debt from the merger years, and the need for better sports and recreation facilities, in an environment of constant political self-defence vis-à-vis Montreal's expansionist ambitions: this combination of challenges is worrisome and will require deft handling by a strong team.

**Philip A. Cutler - Candidate for District 2**

**Answer 1)** As a lifelong Westmount resident and user of the arena, it became apparent to me that the debate over the arena project virtually excluded the opinions of young Westmounters who have the most to gain from this project. The more I thought about this, the more I realized that all aspects of Westmount Municipal government could benefit from the input of youth. Getting involved became the natural response.

**Answer 2)** - Seeing through the successful construction of a great arena/recreation project that will well serve all Westmounters for future generations.

- Ensuring that the City of Westmount remains the best place in Canada to live by maintaining or improving all municipal services from cleanliness and proper repair of our streets and parks to public safety.

- That the goals set forth by Westmount's sustainable development action plan are adhered to and met in order to ensure positive contribution to future Westmounters and our planet.

**Claire Mullins Kruyt - Candidate for District 2**

**Answer 1)** My decision to run for office is based on a desire to give back to this great community. I am committed to ensuring that Westmount remains a strong, vibrant community, attentive to the needs of its citizens. I am confident that I understand these essential values and can contribute to supporting them on council.

**Answer 2)** The most important objective is to maintain and protect the quality of life we have all come to know as Westmounters. The second objective is to ensure that the significant construction projects over the next four years (the Arena, the MUHC Campus Hospital, and the Turcot exchange) receive diligent oversight while promoting community involvement. My third objective is to continue to move Westmount toward a more sustainable model.

**Timothy Price - Candidate for District 2**

**Answer 1)** It is a privilege to be part of this community. I hope that my experience and commitment will help me contribute to the long-term health of our city and to represent my fellow residents of District 2 on Westmount City Council.

This is an opportunity to use my experience and expertise to benefit our community. As a taxpayer, I understand the need to keep taxes down while providing a high level of services to the municipality at a reasonable cost.

**Answer 2)** Prudent Financial Management – Oversight on spending and taking steps to repay our amalgamation debt.

Street Safety – Finding the right compromise between the safety of our residents, especially our children, and traffic flow.

Arena/Pool Renewal Project – An opportunity to rebuild our city's infrastructure in a responsible way and with sensitivity to all constituents.

**Victor M. Drury - Acclaimed Councillor for District 3**

**Answer 1)** My parents taught me the importance of “giving back” to the community. I have served on the Board of Directors of many not-for-profit organizations and have chaired a number of them, including the Montreal YMCA. However, for me, the ultimate in “service to the community” has always been to represent my fellow citizens as an elected official. It will be an honour for me to serve the citizens of District 3.

**Answer 2)** The most critical issue is the completion of the new Arena/Pool Project, especially in light of the extraordinary infrastructure grant recently orchestrated by Karin Marks and Jacques Chagnon. I look forward to working with Peter Trent and the new Council in seeing this project to fruition. From my door-to-door campaigning, I have learned that the second most critical issue is traffic, both volume and speed. I will work hard to try to reduce both.

**Nicholas Smith - Candidate for District 4**

**Answer 1)** Having lived in Westmount all my life and having worked here since I was 14, I've noticed the city I love falling behind. From antiquated sports and recreation registration to maddeningly complex work permit approvals, from 3 a.m. idling at red lights to speeding cyclists and cavalier pedestrians on the bike path, I want a fresh approach, a Westmount that implements the most cost-effective and time-efficient systems available.

**Answer 2)** Replacing our half-century-old arena and pool so no residents are refused service and taking advantage of a \$20-million grant we'll likely never see if we let it expire has to be on everyone's list. However, we can't forget other issues; reducing waste — physical, human and monetary — is a prime concern. And when residents propose good ideas — such as businesses themselves asking for commercial recycling — that council likes as well, it shouldn't take years to implement.

**Kathleen Warner Duncan - Candidate for District 4**

**Answer 1)** My motivation stems from my love of Westmount, my genuine commitment to maintaining quality of life and ensuring citizens concern's and needs are met.

**Answer 2)** My first priority is to address the pressing issues of my district: the day-to-day services of parking, traffic, garbage, apartment and commercial recycling, snow clearing, most being key to our progress in sustainability. Our persevering in a sustainable community is vital; stemming the global crisis begins with local community resourcefulness and ingenuity.

Secondly, assuring that Westmount's new arena and pool facilities are built to accurately reflect and respond to the community's present and future needs, based on professional user studies.

Finally, the escalating pressure external encroachments exert on Westmount and its borders; with impending projects like the MUHC super hospital and the Turcot interchange would require developing conscientious and forward-looking policy initiatives, serving as crucial tools in minimizing any impact on our community.

**Georges Hébert - Candidate for District 5**

**Answer 1)** A mix of interest, opportunity, availability and support. Politics and economics have been lifelong interests and my interest and participation in Westmount affairs go back about 25 years. The opportunity came up because George Bowser stepped down. The availability is due to my retirement from the practice of law and from a (mostly) empty nest! The support has come from many sources, notably from former district 5 councillors, John Shingler and the late Stuart Robertson, from our current mayor, Karin Marks, from outgoing councillor, George Bowser, from district 7 councillor, Cynthia Lulham, and from incoming mayor, Peter Trent.

**Answer 2)** Le plus urgent est de créer un consensus autour d'un projet aréna/piscine qui répond aux besoins de la communauté, le tout au moyen d'une transparence accrue.



# THE CANDIDATES RESPOND!

- Question 1)** What motivates you to run for city councillor?
- Question 2)** What are the 3 most critical issues facing Westmount in the next 4 years?



Gary Ikeman



Douglas Leahey



René Pelletier



Nicole Forbes



Michael Osterland



Cynthia Lulham



Mavis Young



John de Castell



Theodora Samioti

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### Gary Ikeman - Candidate for District 5

**Answer 1)** Westmount is one of the best cities in the world. I want that to continue. For the past 18 months I have challenged the Council, to provide data on demographics, community recreational needs, and traffic studies, in relation to the arena project. When none of these were forthcoming, I realized the city was deficient in its planning, and therefore decided I could help with this and many other projects.

I have always taken a strong interest in my environment, and sought to serve my community. There are serious long term issues which will impact all of us. These are; aging of our population, overdevelopment, debt levels, traffic volume, pollution, and the protection of parks and green spaces.

I want to solve these problems in a realistic and cost-effective way. I respect the taxpayer, and want the taxpayer to respect the government.

**Answer 2)** Governance; Arena and Infrastructure; Fiscal management

### Douglas Leahey - Candidate for District 5

**Answer 1)** As a long time Westmount resident I believe Westmount is the greatest city to call home. Westmount has seen some big issues lately and we need to reconnect as a community. I have always been involved in the community (Cubs, Scouts, Block Parties, Parades, Winter Carnival, etc.). I have an open and positive attitude which allows me to be able to build bridges and create a stronger community. I am continuing my efforts to help Westmount stay the best by seeking the position of City Councillor District 5.

**Answer 2)** The arena/pool project will be starting construction soon adding to the already fractured feelings in the immediate area. The MUHC construction will begin as well which will also stress this district with traffic, parking and zoning pressures. Sustainability will be a focus as Westmount's social responsibility is balanced with fiscal responsibility.

### René Pelletier - Candidate for District 5

**Answer 1)** After living on Lansdowne for 20 years and raising my children in this community where they enjoy the library, playing the house leagues and swimming for the Westmount Dolphins and the YMCA Barracudas, I think it is time to give back. When Victor Drury, (District #3), approached me about running for council, it immediately interested me. With my business and community background I can help preserve and grow the programs and services that we currently enjoy.

**Answer 2)** Managing the continued repairing and upgrading of infrastructure so that the operations come within budget and taxes will not increase.

To quickly find a fair and equitable resolution to the new sports complex within a capital and operating budget that we as residents can afford.

The Westmount Municipal Association, in accordance with its mission of working for good governance of Westmount, has invited candidates for City Councillor or Mayor in the November 1<sup>st</sup> municipal elections to respond in writing to a questionnaire. All eighteen declared candidates graciously accepted our invitation, with the understanding that responses were restricted to a specified length and would be printed unedited. Their answers to the first two questions are being published as an editorial in this issue of the Westmount Independent, and to the second pair of questions in this week's Westmount Examiner. We hope that you find these position statements enlightening and helpful in forming your own assessments of the declared candidates.

With increased traffic because of the sports complex and new hospital, bike paths, and residents walking; solutions are required to ensure safe streets for all users.

### Nicole Forbes - Candidate for District 6

**Answer 1)** The 4 years of my first term on Council were an exciting challenge full of new initiatives. Having always lived in Westmount I am especially anxious to continue this work and to complete things which I and my team have begun. With the difficult decisions facing Council in the coming months, sustained attention to recreational, cultural and community events will be important.

**Answer 2)** 1 - L'évolution et la gestion des relations avec la ville de Montréal et avec le Conseil d'Agglomération.

2 - La protection de l'environnement dans les dossiers, par exemple, de la circulation, du centre hospitalier McGill et de l'échangeur Turcot.

3 - La conclusion de la discussion sur le projet de la patinoire et de la piscine.

### Michael Osterland - Candidate for District 6

**Answers 1 & 2)** Westmount is a vibrant urban community that offers its residents a superior quality of life. We should strive to serve as an exemplar in civic affairs and continue to improve our self-governance. With this as a backdrop, we have issues that are important in the near future. The most immediate is the rink renewal project. This idea to create a two rink modern facility on the existing complex footprint has created great controversy and encouraged critical debate. We must see this project to fruition and benefit from the provincial and federal dollars put on the table.

A second issue we confront is the effects of the Turcot Interchange re-construction and the eventual super hospital project on our roads. Finally, our sustainable living initiative must permeate all that Westmount city councillors do to ensure we continue to have the greatest place in which to live.

### Cynthia Lulham - Candidate for District 7

**Answer 1)** It has been my honour to serve Westmount (Ward 7) for the last fourteen years. I love this city and want to ensure that it maintains its quality of services, architectural heritage and community spirit. As a widow and mother I understand the importance of a safe, livable and supportive community. The letters and phone calls of support I have received from the residents of Ward 7 also motivated me to be a candidate again.

**Answer 2)** 1- The Agglomeration continues to be a clearinghouse for unsubstantiated "shared" costs.

2 - The Turcot and MUHC projects will bring increased traffic, noise and congestion to Westmount, taxing our already deteriorating road infrastructure.

3 - We have to managemanage our debt load, build a new arena/pool, all the while keeping taxes under control.

### Mavis Young - Candidate for District 7

**Answer 1)** My motivation for seeking a council seat originated in the disappointment of residents of District 7 at the decision to impose plastic grass on Westmount Park. The concerns of our district were not voiced on council. The arena project has only deepened the conviction that protection of the park and neighbourhood are not priorities for our councillor. Secondly, I am concerned at the lack of transparency of the present council. We need change.

**Answer 2)** 1 - Without diminishing concerns engendered by the AMT and Turcot projects, Westmount citizens and council must work to overcome several years of mistrust and division, and learn to engage in civil discourse; 2 - I want real conservation policies established for our parks - no more encroachment on green space, no matter how well intentioned; 3 - Establish procedures for going forward with new projects – operating standards, timelines, consultative requirements, for any project likely to have a major impact.

### John de Castell - Candidate for District 8

**Answer 1)** Ward 8 needs a strong, independent voice on council. My decade of experience and understanding of the issues enables me to make important contributions in addressing the challenges ahead.

**Answer 2)** Long term debt: Competing priorities and the imperative of maintaining manageable debt repayment will require tough decisions, likely impacting the community for decades.

Transportation corridor: New technologies and renewed infrastructure can minimize the impact of increased train traffic. We must continue to pressure the A.M.T. and C.P. to devote more resources towards this goal.

The controversial Turcot project proposes drastic changes to the area and threatens quality of life for many in southern Westmount and beyond.

Building consensus and community: To be sustainable in any sense we must concentrate on renewing Westmount's most precious asset, our community spirit. We've proven that when we pull together as a community we achieve great things. We've done it before; we can do it again.

### Theodora Samiotis - Candidate for District 8

**Answer 1)** I have spent some 20 years in the practice of public affairs, and believe that serving your fellow citizens in public office is the best and most rewarding way to give back to your community. Having chosen lower Westmount to live in and to raise our family, I believe we need an active and constructive voice for District 8 on City Council. I like working with people and I love our community.

**Answer 2)** The Arena is a project that will affect all Westmounters for generations to come. We need to ensure that it is well-defined, well-costed and well-executed to ensure we get value for all residents. Noise pollution is of special concern to residents of District 8 as we are the closest to both the actual and revamped Ville Marie Expressway, the commuter rail lines, and several major Montreal thoroughfares. In addition, our urban infrastructure and green spaces are in need of revitalization.

*Bought & Sold: Indie’s transfers since October 2008*

For real estate transfers, please consult paper archives.

.....  
*continued on p. 15*



*For \$18.5 million, the former RCA building at 1001 Lenoir (just east of the Home Depot at the end of Glen Rd.) could have been yours.*



*This apartment building at 4400 St. Catherine St. (just west of Westmount High) changed hands for \$5.5 million.*



# Bought and sold...

*continued from p. 14*

For real estate transfers, please consult paper archives.

.....  
*continued on p. 16*

# Bought and sold...

*continued from p. 15*

For real estate transfers, please consult paper archives.

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*continued on p. 40*





Westmount vous informe...

Westmount vous informe...

# Westmount Page



www.westmount.org  
info : 514 989-5200



Vol. 3/20  
Publié par Westmount • Published by Westmount



## TRAVAUX PUBLICS

### Reconstruction de la conduite d'eau principale - rue Ste-Catherine

Les travaux de remplacement de la conduite d'eau principale entrepris par la Ville de Montréal se poursuivront jusqu'au début du mois de décembre. Un texte précisant les étapes du projet, les impacts pour la circulation et le stationnement, l'installation d'un réseau temporaire d'eau, et le remplacement des services d'eau est disponible à [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org). Info : 514 872-3777. 🍁



## BIBLIOTHÈQUE

### Comité de la bibliothèque publique

Appel à tous les résidents : le conseil municipal cherche à combler un poste vacant au sein du comité de la bibliothèque publique. Ce poste est ouvert au public.

Nommé(e) pour trois ans, le candidat ou la candidate retenu(e) devra offrir son temps et ses compétences de façon bénévole dans le but d'aider le comité à remplir son mandat. Celui-ci consiste à veiller à ce que la bibliothèque respecte son énoncé de mission, qu'elle favorise la liberté et l'indépendance intellectuelles.

Les résidents intéressés à relever ce défi sont priés de soumettre leur candidature par écrit à l'attention de Madame Marjorie Gawley, Présidente du Comité de la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount, 4574, rue Sherbrooke Ouest, Westmount, Québec H3Z 1G1. Information: 514-989-5429.

### Semaine des bibliothèques publiques

#### Journées portes ouvertes

Jusqu'au 24 octobre, participez à des événements et des concours, et découvrez les nombreuses ressources offertes par la Bibliothèque. Pour de plus amples renseignements, procurez-vous notre brochure.

### Grande fête de l'Halloween

Décorez une citrouille à la maison (aucun découpage) et apportez-la à la Bibliothèque jusqu'au 23 octobre. Ensuite, déguisez-vous et prenez part à la 12<sup>e</sup> édition de la grande fête de l'Halloween le samedi 24 octobre à 19 h où nous dévoilerons les citrouilles gagnantes. Vous pourrez aussi participer à la chasse aux trésors. Info : 514 989-5229.

### Conférences d'automne

Joignez-vous à nous pour une soirée en compagnie de l'écrivain Bill Haugland, le mercredi 21 octobre à 19 h.

## DATES À RETENIR

### Jusqu'au 7 novembre

Exposition : sculptures de Laura Santini  
Galerie du Victoria Hall

### Le 23 octobre – 14 h

Club d'échecs et de scrabble  
Bibliothèque

### Le 25 octobre – 14 h

Festival interculturel du conte du Québec  
*King Arthur and the Secret of his Two Swords*  
avec Regina Sommer. Pour les 10 ans et plus.  
Bibliothèque

### Le 31 octobre – de 17 h à 21 h

Maison hantée de l'Halloween  
Pavillon de boulingrin  
401, avenue Kensington

M. Haugland lira des passages de son nouveau livre,  
*Mobile 9*. Info : 514 989-5386.

### Échange de livres pour ados

Apporte tes livres et échange les contre d'autres livres le jeudi 22 octobre à 16 h. Info: 989-5229.

### Writers Out Loud

Terry Rigelhof, l'auteur de *Hooked on Canadian Books: A Reader's Guide to the Good, the Very Good and Even Better Novels of 1984-2009* sera interviewé par l'écrivain Ian McGillis le jeudi 22 octobre à 19 h 30. 🍁



## ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES

### La galerie du Victoria Hall

La galerie du Victoria Hall est fière de présenter les sculptures de Laura Santini jusqu'au 7 novembre. Info : 514 989-5521.

### Salon des métiers d'art de Westmount

Visitez le Salon des métiers d'art de Westmount : exposition et vente les samedi 14 novembre et dimanche 15 novembre de 10 h à 18 h au Victoria Hall. Prix d'entrée : denrées non périssables ou 2 \$. Info : 514 934-0294. 🍁



## PUBLIC WORKS

### Water Main Reconstruction on St. Catherine Street

The City of Montreal has begun a major reconstruction of the principal water main under St. Catherine Street between Greene and Clarke avenues. This work will continue until early December. Information outlining the project phases, the impact on traffic and parking, the installation of a temporary water main, and the replacement of the water services is available at [www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org). Info: 514 872-3777. 🍁



## LIBRARY

### Public Library Committee

City Council is looking for a new Westmount "citizen" member for the Public Library Committee.

Appointed for a three-year term, the successful candidate is expected to volunteer his or her time and expertise to help the Committee with its mandate to ensure that the Library complies with the terms of its Mission Statement and that it maintains its intellectual freedom and independence.

If such a challenge is of interest to you, please submit a written application to the attention of Marjorie Gawley, Chairman, c/o Westmount Public Library, 4574 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount, Quebec H3Z 1G1. Info: 514 989-5429.

### Public Library Week

#### Westmount Library Open House

Come and see what we're all about during Public Library Week, which continues until October 24, and discover the many resources the library has to offer. Pick up the brochure for more details on our special events and contests.

### Halloween Pumpkin Gala

Decorate a pumpkin at home (no carving please) and bring it to the Library until October 23. Then, dress up in your Halloween costume and join in the fun as we reveal the award-winning pumpkins and go on a spooky scavenger hunt at our 12<sup>th</sup> annual family Halloween Extravaganza on Saturday, October 24 at 7 p.m. Info: 514 989-5229.

### Author Lecture Series

Join us for an evening with author Bill Haugland on Wednesday, October 21 at 7 p.m. as he reads from his new book, *Mobile 9*. Info: 514 989-5386

## DATEBOOK

### Until November 7

Exhibition: Sculptures of Laura Santini  
Gallery at Victoria Hall

### October 23 – 2 p.m.

Chess and Scrabble Club  
Library

### October 25 – 2 p.m.

Quebec Intercultural Storytelling Festival  
*King Arthur and the Secret of his Two Swords*  
with Regina Sommer Ages 10+.  
Library

### October 31 – 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Halloween Haunted House  
Lawnbowling Clubhouse  
401 Kensington Avenue

### Teen Book Swap

Bring in your books to trade with other teens on Thursday, October 22 at 4 p.m. Info: 514 989-5229.

### Writers Out Loud

Ian McGillis will interview Terry Rigelhof author of *Hooked on Canadian Books: A Reader's Guide to the Good, the Very Good and Even Better Novels of 1984-2009* on Thursday, October 22 at 7:30 p.m. Info: 514 989-5229. 🍁



## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### The Gallery at Victoria Hall

The Gallery at Victoria Hall is pleased to present the sculptures of Laura Santini until November 7. Info: 514 989-5521.

### Westmount Artisans' Festival

Everyone is welcome to attend the Westmount Artisans' Festival exhibition and sale on Saturday, November 14 and Sunday, November 15 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. at Victoria Hall. Admission: non-perishable food items or \$2. Info: 514 934-0294. 🍁

Too juicy for Greene Ave.?

# Lululemon display raises eyebrows, questions

Has Lululemon become too racy for Westmount? Is its current display the best way to promote breast examinations? October is breast cancer awareness month and the yoga-inspired athletic clothing store is devoting its three Greene Ave. display windows to breast cancer messages – including some fairly explicit

depictions of breast exams. While contending she was “not a prude,” one offended *Independent* reader found the images too graphic for her teenage children, who are already “bombarded with sexual messages.” She also didn’t see the connection between the scenes depicted and actual health procedures.

Reached at the store on October 15, Lululemon team leader Danielle Hetherington acknowledged that the store wanted something “that spoke out,” but “the intent was not to sell sex.” She sees it as important for women “not be scared to examine. It is important to check.”

What of the male mannequins touching the female one (left)? Is that an artistic rendering of “awareness” or an actual procedure? Hetherington stood by the display as a genuine health message. She sees women being well served by getting a “second opinion” and “getting a partner involved.”



The Lululemon window display, October 15.



## NDG – MONKLAND VILLAGE 4449 Melrose

This 1928 lower duplex has been superbly renovated with care and attention to details in quality and interior design. An undivided condo with two bedrooms, new cherry kitchen with granite countertops, large dining area, new bathroom with heated floor and separate shower. Original high ceilings, crown moldings, and beautiful hardwood floors add to the charm. The extensive renovation includes a finished basement with family room, bedroom, full bathroom with heated floor, new wiring, new plumbing, French drain, uni-stones on the driveway, and large new terrace. Garage and parking on driveway included. Asking price: \$569,000 Upper condo recently sold.

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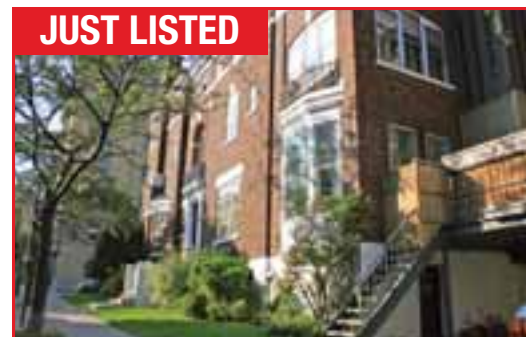
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BY MARC GARNEAU,  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR  
WESTMOUNT-VILLE MARIE



Although October is still far from over, it has been a very eventful month for me.

For one thing, I celebrated the 25th anniversary of my first spaceflight on October 5. As anyone who celebrates an anniversary will tell you, it always catches you by surprise. Although much water has flowed under the bridge, I do indeed feel that it was only yesterday that I climbed aboard the *Challenger* shuttle to begin an extraordinary new phase in my life.

Today, 25 years later, I continue to follow the space program with great interest, but my focus has shifted to a different arena. And this brings me to the other important event that has recently occurred in my life: being named the Liberal leader's representative in Quebec. I am undertaking this new responsibility with humility, enthusiasm and determination. Simply stated, my goal is to make sure that Michael Ignatieff is aware of the hopes, needs and concerns of all Quebecers.

While there may be a presumption amongst some that being the member of

parliament for Westmount-Ville Marie puts you in some kind of bubble, I fully intend to dispel that myth.

Over the past few months, I have been out and about in Quebec doing what politicians must do: make contact with the grassroots, listen and report back. I have been to La Mauricie, La Beauce, Quebec City (twice), Drummondville, the Eastern Townships, the South Shore and Laval. Last year, I was equally active in many of the same places, but also visited the Saguenay, the Lower South Shore and Pontiac.

Lest you become concerned, I also am very present in my riding (my first priority) as well as other parts of the island of Montreal.

In September, I was officially nominated by the Liberal party to once again represent our riding in the next election.

In addition, I had the pleasure of conducting three separate townhall meetings: in Westmount, in NDG and in Ville Marie. On average, about 40 residents turned up for each event to ask questions or provide commentary.

The point I'd like to make is this: to be effective, a politician must have a broad perspective. Yes, my riding is my primary responsibility, but my focus goes well beyond its limits since I am also a Quebecker and a Canadian. I intend to maintain that perspective.

## Velan to be honoured by Action Centre

Westmounter A. K. Velan was scheduled to be honoured by the Action Centre Foundation at its annual fundraiser on October 21. The event was scheduled to be held at the Atwater Club.

The Action Centre is a day centre for people living with disabilities that is located in LaSalle. It provides education, leisure activities and day trips in both languages for people from all over the island of Montreal.

The centre seeks to empower its users, including having them as part of its staff and on its board of directors. Only 10 percent of its revenue comes from government sources.

Noting that Velan, the Velan family, Velan Inc. and the Velan Foundation have been major supporters of the Action Centre Foundation for many years, Steve Jarvis, its director and strategic manager, explained, "We appreciate this opportunity to recognize their concern and assistance."



A.K. Velan




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**The Big Chill!**

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*Fraternité-sur-Lac, Mont Tremblant*







57 Columbia – Westmount  
\$649,000



441 Glengarry – TMR  
\$659,000



641 Grosvenor – Westmount  
\$1,075,000



4302 Montrose – Westmount  
\$2,895,000



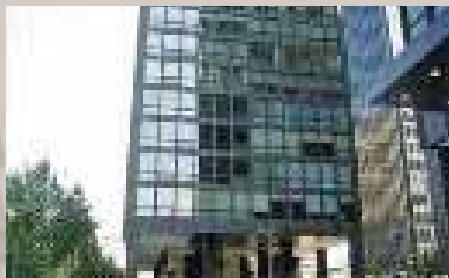
3302 Cedar – Westmount  
\$1,595,000



413 Roslyn – Westmount  
\$2,275,000



399 Clarke #2D – Westmount  
\$529,000



2 Westmount Square #206  
\$844,975



912 McEachran – Outremont  
\$1,169,000



82 Dupuis – Esterel  
\$1,250,000



172 des Sous Bois #11 – Tremblant  
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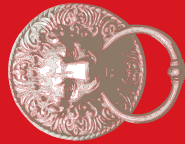
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**4660 Bonavista #606**  
**Asking \$539,000**

Extra large apartment flooded w/natural light & spectacular views. Large master bedroom w/en-suite, spacious eat-in kitchen with stainless steel appliances. Garage & pool.



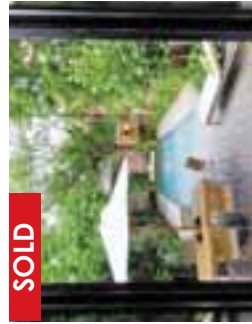
**12 Burton**

**Asking \$629,000**  
Extra wide row house in the heart of Victoria Village. 3 bedrooms with sun porch off of master bedroom, double living/dining room, spacious basement & lush garden. Easy street parking.



**461 Mount Pleasant**  
**Asking \$989,000**

Elegant stonefront townhouse with beautiful architectural details, lovely mouldings & high ceilings. Large kitchen, 3 bdrms, 3+1 bths, finished basement & parking. Steps from Greene Ave.



**SOLD**

**521 Lansdowne**

**Asking \$1,595,000**  
Spacious, light filled contemporary home with 4 bdrms, finished basement, garage + in-ground pool. The 3rd flr features an outdoor oasis w/ built-in couches & jacuzzi.



**616 Sydenham**

**Asking \$3,350,000**

Family home in mint condition. Beautifully renovated kitchen, 6+1 bedrooms, amazing solarium, finished basement & garage.



**6301 Place Northcrest 7NP**

**Asking \$1,200,000**

Extremely spacious and very bright double apartment in Le Sanctuaire. Over 3000 + sqft, renovated designer kitchen, 5 bedrooms, 2 + 1 bths, dining room, living room and large den. Alarm system, central A/C, pool and 2 car interior parking. One of a kind!



**780 Laird TMR**

**Asking \$1,925,000**

Elegant and traditional custom-built home. Very spacious, 4 bdrms, 2+3 bths, A/C, 2 car garage and inground pool on a large lot. Terrific family home located in the western area of the Town.



**196 Strathcona TMR**

**Asking \$2,150,000**

Facing the park, this wonderful Georgian-style residence has recently been renovated with top of the line materials. Luxurious kitchen, 4 bdrms, 4+1 bthrms, family room with fireplace and double garage.



**SOLD**

**3249 Cedar**

**Asking \$1,350,000**

Beautiful stone residence, amazing curb-appeal & SW exposure! State of the art renos, spacious entertaining room, 4+2 bdrms, 3+1 bths, lux. master bdrm w/en-suite, lge playrm, garage & garden!



# DO YOU HAVE A HOME FOR ONE OF MY CLIENTS?

**MID-LEVEL WITH GARAGE** – Need 4 or 5 bedrooms. Willing to renovate.

**ON THE FLATS** – Looking for family home within walking distance of green ave or Victoria Village.

**STARTER HOME** – Do you have the perfect place for a young family just starting out.

**SUBURBAN COUPLE** – Need a garden, 3 or 4 bedrooms and an attached garage

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**FROM THE NET...** I just love the automatic  
“word cloud” generating web site

**www.wordle.net.** Wordle can be tweaked with different fonts, layouts and colour schemes. I created mine (at right) by cutting and pasting the personal profile from my website, try it, you'll like it!

# Christina's Almanac

- As of October 16th, there are currently **32** single family homes on the market in Westmount asking over \$2,000,000.
- The Royal Bank increased its 5-year closed fixed rate to **4.44%** this week.
- A 6,158 sq ft (approx)., 5 bedroom apartment in Hong Kong sold for a whopping **\$57 million** last week.
- Two islands in the man-made archipelago **“The World”** off the coast of Dubai, have been sold for \$65 million each.
- The Miami condo glut is at an all time record with **8000** units standing vacant and **unsold**.
- **CELEBS & THEIR HOMES:** *Nicolas Cage* is selling his £5 million home on the edge of Bath, England **↯** Golfer *Greg Norman* puts his ranch up for sale for \$60 million **↯** *Whoopi Goldberg* bought a Colonial-style home on 2.4 acres in West Orange, NJ for \$2.8 million **↯** Actress *Meg Ryan* is putting her Bel-Air home back on the market \$14.2 million.
- The famous **“The World”** cruise ship’s 2010 itinerary is already out. A stop-over in **Montreal** is set for Sept 24-27, 2010. Rent for a 2 bedroom apt starts at U.S. \$2,500/night.



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# Roslyn students build Kenyan school

BY ERIN STROPE

The students of Roslyn School have done a lot they can be proud of in the past year. On top of more typical grade school concerns like getting to class on time and deciding what to wear on free-dress day, the students managed to raise \$13,000 to build a school in the Maasai Mara region of Kenya, as was acknowledged at an acceptance presentation at Roslyn, October 9, by anti-poverty program Free The Children.

Free the Children (FTC) stems from the initiative of a 12-year-old Toronto student, and has raised funds to construct more than 500 schools in developing countries.

Melodie Bouchard, FTC's youth program manager for Quebec, was touched by the outpouring of support from Roslyn students, who sold everything from hand-made bracelets to a student-written NHL playoffs newsletter to raise funds. "We tell students that 'gift plus issue equals change,'" Bouchard explains. "We encourage students to do what they love, and find a way to use that gift to help other children."

A poster in Roslyn's main hallway represents a brick school building. For every

\$100 raised, a brick was added to the school, letting students follow their progress. The "Brick by Brick" poster, now full, is a testament to how small independent projects can add up to have a big impact.

Further, Roslyn students have committed to raising \$1,000 every year to sustain their Kenyan school.

Free The Children has over a million participants in 45 countries but is just getting started in Quebec. Roslyn's activities coordinator Debbi Jardine hopes other local schools will be inspired to participate in the program. "What started as a class

project has invoked a sense of global citizenship at Roslyn School," she said. "We'd love to see students all over Montreal learn that they have the power to change their world."

Ginette Sauvé-Frankel, the English Montreal School Board's commissioner for Ward 7 (Westmount), was present at the presentation. She confirms that other Westmount schools are coming up with related activities for the coming year, including Westmount High, which is participating in a pilot program to create murals to fund art schools in developing countries.



Roslyn students hear about the school in Kenya that the money they raised helped build, October 9.

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# Comin' Up

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

- Launch of Monique Polak's new books, *Junkyard Dog* and *The Middle of Everywhere*, 5 to 7:30 pm at Babar en ville (1235 Greene Ave.). Refreshments. Portion of proceeds will be donated to the Montreal SPCA. Ages 12+. Info: 514.931.0606.
- Ian McGillis interviews **Terry Rigelhof**, author of *Hooked on Canadian Books: A Reader's Guide to the Good, the Very Good & the Even Better Novels of 1984-2009* at the Westmount Public Library, 7:30 pm. Register at the Adult Circulation Desk, 514.989.5299.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

- TGIF at **Centre Greene**, 6 pm to 8:30 pm. Dinner, games. Cost: \$12 drop-in fee or \$70 for fall season. Ages 6 to 12 years. Info: [www.centregreene.com](http://www.centregreene.com) / 514.931.6202.
- Terry Mosher (**Aislin**) gives an illustrated presentation on his new book, *Aislin's Shenanigans*, 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

- Improvisation on sacred **music of the**

**Middle Ages** by Ensemble nun's at St. Matthias Church, 6:15 pm. Cost: \$15 and \$10. Info: 514.932.2764 /[www.ensemble-nun.com](http://www.ensemble-nun.com)

- Montreal criminal Lawyer **Raphael Schachter** speaks on "Defending the client who admits His guilt" at Congregation Shaar Hashomayim. Lunch at 12 pm, followed by lecture. Cost: lunch & lecture \$5. Reserve: 514.937.9471.
- **Advance poll** for municipal elections, from 12 pm to 8 pm at Victoria Hall (4626 Sherbrooke St.)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26

The Royal Commonwealth Society of Canada, Montreal Branch, invites members and friends to "**Growing up in Australia**" by Susan Kell. 7 pm at the Westmount Public Library. Info: 514.281.6718.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

Awareness event for the Patricia Mackenzie Pavillion of the Old Brewery Mission (1301 de Maisonneuve E.), 1:30 to 3:30 pm. The **Craft Guild of St. Matthias Church** is displaying their quilt for auction.

RSVP: [sguillot@oldbrewerymission.ca](mailto:sguillot@oldbrewerymission.ca) / 514.788.1884.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

- **Roméo Dallaire** speaks on "Revitalizing Canada's world role and renewing youth activism?" at Marianopolis College (4873 Westmount Ave.). Refreshments starting at 6:30 pm., speaking begins 7 pm.
- Lecture on "Messiahs, end-times, apocalypse and us – Jewish views" by Professor Christine Hayes at **Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom**(395 Elm Ave. 7:30 pm.) Info: 514.937.3575.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

**Free recital of Bach**, Cole Porter, Maurice Ravel and Grover Washington at Marianopolis by professors in the College's professional music program, 7:30 pm in the auditorium (4873 Westmount Ave.). All welcome.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

**Halloween haunted house** at the Westmount lawn bowling clubhouse, 5 to 9 pm. For kids of all ages. Costumes required. Info: 514.989.5468.

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# Study-ing and golf



The winning foursome (best ball score: 63): (all fathers of Study students), from left, Randy Kelly and Walter Dackiw, with Westmounters Jeff Tory and Mark Smith (event co-chair).

The Study recently held its first ever “Drive for Our Girls” golf tournament, which raised \$123,000 for athletic and wellness programs. The tourney was held on October 5 at the Country Club of Montreal in St. Lambert.



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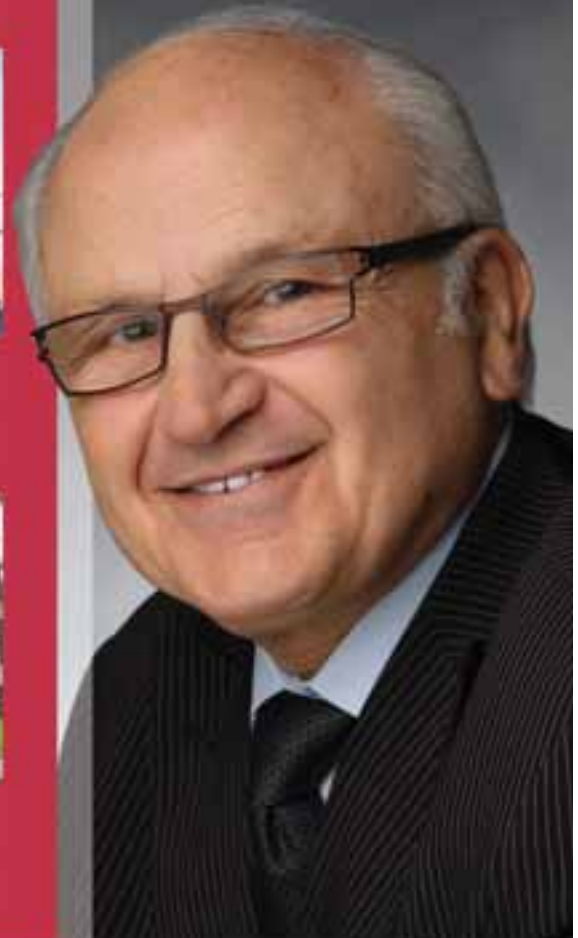


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## St. Catherine bus shelters very clean

A reader contacted the *Independent* about the cleanliness of the Metcalfe and St. Catherine bus shelter in Westmount, but when we took a stroll along St. Catherine St. to look at all the shelters on October

14, all six on that street were at least fairly clean and some were perfectly so.

Is this usual? Or had the cleaners just been there?



*Northeast corner of Lansdowne.*



*Southeast corner of Lansdowne.*



*Northeast corner of Park Place.*



*Southwest corner of Metcalfe.*



*Northeast corner of Kitchener.*



*Near southeast corner of Clarke.*

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## In Conversation: Rita Briansky

BY HEATHER BLACK

The Canadian Hadassah-WIZO (CHW) art auction is a wonderful opportunity to purchase local art. Organized by the Montreal office on Greene Ave., the event takes place on Thursday, October 29, at Espace Reunion on Hutchison St. Local artists contributing works include Rita Briansky and guest of honour Yehouda Chaki, as well as Tom Hopkins, Lynda Schneider Granatstein and G. Scott MacLeod.

### CHW Auction

This annual auction has been the major CHW fundraiser since 1957. This year, the goal is to raise \$100,000. Proceeds will be donated to the Clara Balinsky Daycare Centre for children of the staff of Assaf Harofeh Hospital near Tel Aviv, Israel.

The auction is organized by centre coordinator Alanna Elias and committee members. These include Westmounters Judy Wolfe, Franki Yanofsky, Jeannette Hoffman-Zaffir and Carol Tryansky.

For tickets or information, contact CHW Montreal at 514.933.8461.

### Constant evolution

Briansky's etchings can be found at the National Art Gallery of Canada and the Bibliothèque et archives nationales du Québec. But the artist is equally comfortable working in pastel, watercolours or oils.

I spoke to Briansky – a former art instructor at the Visual Arts Centre – at her current exhibit at Galerie V. Trimont on St. Catherine St.

Always interested in art, at age six, she created sidewalk chalk drawings "to amuse her friends." But it was more than that, "I love drawing! I love colour!" she declared.

Briansky draws or paints daily. One of her recent landscapes is painted from a photo of St. Hilaire. The artist renders "what interests her at the moment" rather than following trends.

When asked about her technique, she replied: "I don't plan ahead...it's a journey I go through. I started with the trees and knew a black band was needed. But the

purples and ochres evolved on their own."

### Artistic influences

Her next painting – a winter scene with blue and purple of the aurora borealis – is increasingly abstract, as is her most recent work of fragmented clocks and teapots.

Painted in vivid yellow, blue, greens and purples, the paintings recall cubism.



Rita Briansky with her work "Floral Teapot".

Although moved by "great art," what is important to Briansky is "to stay true to yourself."

When asked which artists inspired her, Briansky recalls Cézanne and Bonnard. Both colourists, their influence is found in her still lifes, landscapes and portraits.

As for contemporary artists, Briansky named Jim Dine and David Hockney. "David Hockney can take an ordinary object and make it extraordinary – a valise, TV or banana...Or a simple line and add colour – the daring!"

Travel has also affected Briansky's art and world view. Her watercolours are a travel sketch book of Mexico and Italy. But the 1995 trip to her Polish birth place of Grajewo, as well as to Auschwitz and then Stockholm to meet a cousin – the sole family survivor of the Holocaust – affected her deeply.

Having personally escaped the turmoil of war – she immigrated to Canada at age 4 – Briansky painted a gold and black prayer shawl, an artifact of Jewish culture. This painting, one of the "Kaddish (prayer for the dead) Series", now hangs at the Jewish General Hospital.

And a visit to India with its exotic "colours, sounds, smells, and accumulated images" prompted the paintings of her collection of colourful jackets, "The Coats of Many Colours Series".

For the CHW auction, Briansky has contributed a lively landscape "Colour Burst Pink Tree."

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# Westmount Art Scene

## Innovation: old and new

BY HEATHER BLACK

"I am simply using that which is available to describe that which is experienced."

That's how new media artist Julian Opie describes the relationship of message, tool and time in contemporary art. Yet these words also apply to the distinctive styles and subjects of Montreal Jewish artists working from 1930 to 1980.

### New media art at Galerie sur Greene

Opie, a UK digital artist, combines still images with moving elements. In "Antonia with Evening Dress", a young woman, with eyes blinking, sparkling earrings, watch and ring, epitomizes "bling." Depicted with black outlines and flat colour like Lichtenstein's comic book figures, the image is a playful critique of contemporary values.

German artist Marck also references past art, such as French painter Ingres. In "Turkish Bath", a video of a dark-haired, bikini-clad woman twists and turns in chlorine-blue water. In contrast to Ingres' pale and languid figures, Marck's subject swims vigorously. Confined within a box – and perhaps notions of beauty – her movements are strangely mesmerizing.

Canadian John Oswald also blurs old and new in his metamorphic portrait "After Rembrandt". Here on a wall-mounted LCD screen, the face of a demure dancer merges seamlessly – and within minutes – into Rembrandt's seventeenth century subject. Compelling, the work emphasizes the timeless essence of human nature.

A musician, composer and media artist, Oswald won the 2004 Governor General's Award in Media Arts. At that time, the jury found: "His influence on an entire generation of artists and his inter-

national reputation attest to his free-ranging spirit of innovation and exploration."

### Montreal Jewish Artists 1930-80 at West End Gallery

West End Gallery's upcoming exhibit features trendsetters from the 1930s on. Artists of this period include Ary, Beder, Bercovitch, Borenstein, Briansky, Caiserman-Roth, Goldberg, Mayerovitch, Muhlstock, Neumann and Reinblatt.

Works by Mo Reinblatt include a variety of scenes and graphic images. One, a floral still life with white vase, is delicately rendered with a palette knife. In another, a winter landscape with feathery trees contrasts sharp snow drifts. The artist, trained in lithography, has a particularly charming print of dancing black figures.

Ernst Neumann is well-known for his prints of local street scenes and the Montreal court house. However, his "unemployed series" is particularly eloquent. In one, a man's face is finely rendered in contrast to the loose lines of strong hands.

Like Muhlstock, Neumann depicted the poverty and social unrest of the Depression era.

During this period, Sylvia Ary painted portraits and the female figure. But like her father – artist and educator Alexander Bercovitch – she also painted her neighbourhood. One, "Corner of St. Viateur and Jeanne Mance," captures a brooding melancholy.

The spirit of innovation and exploration pervades the work of these artists. With new observations and new techniques, whether in 1939 or 2009, each has a visual vocabulary to call their own.

Works by Oswald, Marck and Opie are currently on display at Galerie sur Greene (1368 Greene). While at West End Gallery (1358 Greene), the exhibit of Montreal Jewish artists opens in early November.

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- THE ROYAL COLLECTION – by JENNIFER DICKSON – OCT 22
- STORY OF A LANDSCAPE: GLEN VILLA GARDENS by PAT WEBSTER – OCT 29
- MONTREAL ABSTRACT PAINTERS OF THE '50s & '60s – by SANDRA PAIKOWSKY – NOV 5
- CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE IN MONTREAL – by NANCY DUNTON – NOV 19

**HELD AT WESTMOUNT LIBRARY  
4574 SHERBROOKE ST.W. \$15.**

- WHAT IS THE REAL CANADIAN QUILT? – by DIANA SHINK, Quilt Historian – NOV 12
- PRIVATE TOUR: THE CANADIAN GUILD OF CRAFTS – 1460-B SHERBROOKE ST.W. – \$25. 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CAPE DORSET PRINTS – OCT 28 – 10:30 - 12:00

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## Health Round-Up Jet lag: can we avoid it?

By BARRY NASHEN

Many of us have the pleasure (or obligation) of flying overseas for vacations, family visits or work. The more time zones that we cross, the greater the likelihood of jet lag. Some people may require several days or even a week or more to adjust to a new time zone, while others experience little disruption. How do we know in which group we belong? Here are the typical symptoms for most of us:

- Fatigue, temporary insomnia;
- Disorientation, irritability, anxiety;
- Headache, nausea;
- Digestive problems.

Why do people get jet lag? Since the dawn of jet travel, we have learned that when travelling across a number of time zones, the body clock will be out of synch with the destination time, as it experiences daylight and darkness contrary to the rhythms to which it has grown accustomed: the body's natural pattern of eating, sleeping and hormone regulation has been upset.

There are many home remedies that purport to reduce jet lag.

- Melatonin: A hormone secreted by the

pineal gland in the brain. One of melatonin's key jobs is controlling the body's circadian rhythm – our internal clock that plays an important role in when we fall asleep and when we wake up.

- Adjusting sleep and wake time: Involves adjusting bedtime and wake time to the destination time prior to travelling.
- Homeopathy: The usual remedies include some or all of these ingredients, namely arnica, bellis perennis, chamomilla, ipecacuanha, lycopodium.
- Valerian: A herb used as a sleep aid.
- Avoiding alcohol and caffeine: Both can cause dehydration and disrupt sleeping.

To date, with the exception of melatonin, there are no scientific studies to support or reject these remedies.

Here's my advice: Focus your efforts on your sleep to minimize, even eliminate, jet lag. As soon as you get a good night's sleep (of eight hours) at your destination, your jet lag is essentially over. If you can accomplish this goal on the first night, you may not even get jet lagged at all.

Let's work backwards from that first night's sleep. If you arrive at your destination in the morning or afternoon, the best advice for sleeping well will be to stay

awake all day. This will be challenging if you failed to sleep on the plane, but anything more than a one-hour nap at your destination will probably interfere with your ability to fall asleep at night. Spending the afternoon outside in the daylight and fresh air will help the body adjust to the new time zone and guarantee that you will be exhausted at bedtime.

If you arrive at your destination in the evening, then you will want to go to bed soon after your arrival. In this case, the best advice for sleeping well will be to try not to sleep on the airplane during the flight. This will ensure that you arrive at your destination a little sleep deprived and eager to go to bed.

If you follow my suggestions on your next trip, let me know your conclusions. I may report the results in a future article.

*Barry Nashen is a Westmount IT consultant who is interested in health issues and shares his personal experiences in this column. He is not a health professional and his comments should be read in that light. Medical problems should be discussed with a doctor or appropriate health professional.*

*For comments: [barry@nashen.com](mailto:barry@nashen.com), or <http://goodhealthguru.blogspot.com/>*

## “WALK YOURSELF THIN with Chung Shi Shoes”

It's the buzz everywhere. Many of us are looking for ways to become fitter and healthier. What if you could impact your health with something as simple as a shoe?

A German company focused on healthy living, has made a shoe that is doing just that. Chung Shi shoes are based on a unique patented sole that affects the heel-to-toe strike as you walk. The shoes actually place the wearer into a correct striking and gait cycle resulting in improved core stability for the wearer. The result is better posture, improved muscle tone and enhanced circulation. It's like reaping the benefits of Pilates without taking the class!

To get in great shape like model/actress Jerry Hall, you don't have to hire a personal trainer – just get a pair of Chung Shi shoes.

Jerry told the Daily Express in the UK: “Within an hour of wearing my Chung Shis I already felt they were working their magic.” “The shoes naturally encourage better posture and stretch your muscles to feel like your body is newly energized.”

The shoes are designed to work like a built-in Pilates system. They stimulate muscles by creating an uneven walking surface. A 'reflexology bar' in the centre of the shoe and its rocker sole, lengthens the body into a tall upright posture and stimulates neglected muscle groups. As you come down on your heel, the rocker requires you to exert more effort to roll off the rocker and onto the toe.

That extension produces a host of benefits, says Dr. Bill Faddock, a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine

and a Certified Pedorthist. “The shoes automatically direct the feet through a stable, natural gait improving biomechanical function. Your posture instantly improves, and your muscles work harder just through normal walking. This increases calorie burning and improves muscle toning.”

Chung Shi shoes are medically patented in Germany carrying a 'grade-one' designation as a medical device. Just entering the North American market, they are sold exclusively through 'FOOT SOLUTIONS', a retailer specializing in footwear products designed to improve health and wellness.

“Thank goodness the Chung Shi shoe actually looks like it could be a fashion trainer (if you don't look too closely)” says Claudia Connell, a 39 year old journalist in the UK.

A study at the University of Calgary's Human Performance Laboratory has found that Chung Shi shoes reduce stress on the ankle and knee joints as well as improve posture, when compared to a conventional trainer.

Because of its unique design, wearers notice the difference right away. It is a shoe that feels different when you first put it on, impacting you in a positive way right from the start.

Jane Smith is a Chung Shi wearer and supporter who approached Foot Solutions for help. Smith, a nurse, spends ten hour days on her feet and suffered from chronic knee pain.

“I was skeptical that a shoe could make a difference, but I'm a believer now.” Says Smith. “I've not only lost the pain, but I've lost 2 inches around my hips, and my legs have become more

toned. It's been great!”

“Good posture is the key to looking good and feeling good and the real magic of the Chung Shi shoes is that they make you constantly aware of the muscles you use to make you stand tall. And that has to be helpful” says Jennie Bond 55, well known TV presenter and journalist in England.

Chung Shi shoes are available for men and women in several styles and colors. The footwear costs between \$260 and \$300. While the cost may seem high, those who wear Chung Shi shoes say the investment is worth it. “I used to spend twice that amount for a gym membership that I rarely used,” says Smith. “Now I wear Chung Shi shoes from grocery shopping to taking a stroll around the neighborhood, and I'm getting re-

sults. It's definitely worth it.”

Chung Shi shoes are exclusively available at FOOT SOLUTIONS located at 368 Victoria Avenue in Westmount.

Foot Solutions has trained Orthotists who specialize in properly fitted footwear and custom orthotics, and is the only place where one can try out and test the Chung Shi shoes. They offer a free foot analysis using state of the art dynamic motion analysis technology. Please call to book an appointment. Foot Solutions has an excellent selection of shoes for dress, work or play in wide widths from the best European manufacturers such as Mephisto, Finn Comfort, Semler, Kumfs, New Balance and many more.

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  - Reduces stress on knees and back





## Underdog

# Two legs are better than none

BY DANIELLE PISANI, GRADE 10, ECS



This week's underdog is from Lebanon and what somebody did to him is enough to make you scream. Puff had both of his

two back paws cut off.

Intentionally.

He was rescued by Beirut for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (BETA) in May 2008 and is now about 4 years old. He is sweet dog, but is not being adopted there because it seems nobody in Beirut has any interest in a mangled dog. The crazy thing is he can actually walk almost normally even with his handicap – he just has to lift his back legs and walks on his ankles. The wounds are completely healed and you can't even see the scars!

He is healthy and great with people and dogs, and is house trained as well. The only thing that makes him different is that he needs doggie boots for walks on concrete but he won't need them if he is just in the garden.

Puff has been waiting in the shelter for the last three years to be adopted, but if he stays in Lebanon, it is clear that nothing good is ever going to happen. There is someone who is going to go to Lebanon, and if we can find a foster home in time, they will bring him back to Montreal.

There is hope, but there is also a deadline. By November 21, we need to have a foster home for Puff, otherwise he will not be able to make the trip. Because of the time and distance factors, the angel who adopts or fosters him won't be able to meet him ahead of time, so this is a leap of faith – one that very few people are willing to make. But as this dog will never have a home or a bed or a person to call his own without this chance, we are hoping, pleading, that somebody reading this will be

willing to do this for him.

This is also a chance for people to help other dogs like Puff, even if they can't foster or adopt. If we can raise enough money, we can bring even more dogs back to Montreal on this same flight, where they will be taken care of until "forever homes" are found. For every \$300 we raise, that's one dog that we can bring over.

This small glimmer of hope does not shine on these dogs often because very few people are willing to go over and bring



Puff

dogs back and when there are, there is rarely the money to do so.

Find out more about Puff by visiting [www.underdogclub.org](http://www.underdogclub.org) or by calling 514.969.3376.

Cheques can be made out to BETA, and dropped off at the Underdog Club Gallery (4922 Sherbrooke) on Saturdays or Sundays or at Ben & Tournesol (4915 Sherbrooke) any time.

The gallery will continue to be open every weekend, 11 am – 7 pm.

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Bridge for Bright Brains

The art of reasoning

By GEORGE RETEK

They say there is no such thing as a blind lead. What makes an expert in bridge? The expert also makes mistakes like you and I. He just makes them less frequently.

You are on lead holding Q53 / KQ5 / 865 / A752. The bidding by your oppo-

nents starting on your left side is:  
One Diamond      One Heart  
Two Clubs      Three no trump  
Aidan Ballantyne of Vancouver had to find a lead against my team’s 3NT contract in the 2009 Canadian Championships. The usual wisdom is to either attack the unbid suit, or lead through dummy’s hand. Aidan believed that declarer was

well prepared for a Spade lead, had nothing to offer on defense in the minors and finally was hoping to find his partner with some good spots in declarer’s suit.  
He led the King of Hearts and continued when declarer ducked the first trick to ensure the defeat of the contract. Well done!  
Full deal with no one vulnerable:

			North	
			♠ 8 2	
			♥ J 10	
			♦ K Q J 3 2	
			♣ K Q J 9	
				East
			♠ A 10 9 7	
			♥ 9 8 6 4	
			♦ 9 7 4	
			♣ 10 6	
			West	
			♠ Q 5 3	
			♥ K Q 5	
			♦ 8 6 5	
			♣ A 7 5 2	
				South
			♠ K J 6 4	
			♥ A 7 3 2	
			♦ A 10	
			♣ 8 4 3	



Ville de Westmount  
City of Westmount



AVIS PUBLIC DE SCRUTIN

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné aux électeurs inscrits sur la liste électorale de la ville de Westmount :

1° qu’un scrutin sera tenu pour les postes de conseiller des districts nos 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 et 8;

2° que les candidats à cette élection pour les postes ci-après mentionnés sont :

- a) pour le poste de conseiller du district n° 2 :
- ➔ Philip A. CUTLER  
4876, avenue Westmount à Westmount (Québec) H3Y 1Y1
  - ➔ Claire MULLINS KRUYT  
72, croissant Belmont à Westmount (Québec) H3Y 1Y4
  - ➔ Timothy PRICE  
648, avenue Murray Hill à Westmount (Québec) H3Y 2W6
- b) pour le poste de conseiller du district n° 4 :
- ➔ Nicholas SMITH  
11, avenue Burton à Westmount (Québec) H3Z 1J6
  - ➔ Kathleen WARNER DUNCAN  
450, avenue Lansdowne à Westmount (Québec) H3Y 2V2
- c) pour le poste de conseiller du district n° 5 :
- ➔ Georges HÉBERT  
325, avenue Lansdowne à Westmount (Québec) H3Z 2L5
  - ➔ Gary IKEMAN  
4700, rue Sainte-Catherine Ouest, app. 412 à Westmount (Québec) H3Z 1S6
  - ➔ Douglas LEAHEY  
5010, rue Sherbrooke Ouest, app. 4 à Westmount (Québec) H3Z 1H4
  - ➔ René PELLETIER  
306, avenue Lansdowne à Westmount (Québec) H3Z 2L4
- d) pour le poste de conseiller du district n° 6 :
- ➔ Nicole FORBES  
250, avenue Clarke, app. 611 à Westmount (Québec) H3Z 2E5
  - ➔ Michael OSTERLAND  
14, avenue Melbourne à Westmount (Québec) H3Z 1H7
- e) pour le poste de conseiller du district n° 7 :
- ➔ Cynthia LULHAM  
4550, rue Sainte-Catherine Ouest à Westmount (Québec) H3Z 1S2

➔ Mavis YOUNG  
257, avenue Melville à Westmount (Québec) H3Z 2J6

f) pour le poste de conseiller du district n° 8 :

- ➔ John de CASTELL  
188A, rue Selby à Westmount (Québec) H3Z 1W7
- ➔ Theodora SAMIOTIS  
4274, boulevard Dorchester à Westmount (Québec) H3Z 1V6

3° qu’un vote par anticipation sera tenu de 12 h à 20 h le dimanche 25 octobre 2009 au Victoria Hall situé au 4626, rue Sherbrooke Ouest à Westmount;

4° que les bureaux de vote le jour du scrutin seront ouverts de 10 h à 20 h le dimanche 1<sup>er</sup> novembre 2009 aux endroits suivants :

- a) dans le district n° 2 (sections de votes nos 5 à 8) :
- ➔ école Roslyn  
4699, avenue Westmount
- b) dans le district n° 4 (sections de votes nos 13 à 17) :
- ➔ Victoria Hall  
4626, rue Sherbrooke Ouest
- c) dans le district n° 5 (sections de votes nos 18 à 21) :
- ➔ église Westmount Park  
4695, boul. De Maisonneuve Ouest
- d) dans le district n° 6 (sections de votes nos 22 à 26) :
- ➔ école Saint-Léon-de-Westmount  
360, avenue Clarke
- e) dans le district n° 7 (sections de votes nos 27 à 31) :
- ➔ école Westmount High  
4350, rue Sainte-Catherine Ouest
- f) dans le district n° 8 (sections de votes nos 32 à 34) :
- ➔ Centre communautaire de l’avenue Greene  
1090, avenue Greene

5° que le recensement des votes sera effectué à l’hôtel de ville de Westmount situé au 4333, rue Sherbrooke Ouest le dimanche 1<sup>er</sup> novembre 2009 à 21 h 30.

DONNÉ à Westmount, le 15 octobre 2009.

Mario GERBEAU  
Président d’élection



# Plaintiffs: Taxes violated law

.....  
*continued from p. 1*

Longueuil.  
Complainants argued the extra municipal levies, invoked after the 2002 municipal amalgamations, violated Quebec laws that enabled merged cities to raise the lesser-taxed borough rates by only five per cent a year until the rates evened out across the board.  
Breslaw found that, just before the 2006

demerger, Westmount property taxes were increased by 15.8 percent in 2004 and 8.6 per cent in 2005 – several percentage points more than the provincial cap.  
Breslaw, father of *Westmount Independent* columnist Fern Breslaw, sought class-action certification to retrieve those overcharged property taxes paid by Westmounters.  
Starting in small claims court and climbing the legal ladder all the way to the

Supreme Court is, in itself, exciting, said Breslaw, noting the high court only hears about one in every 30 cases. Breslaw attributes the battle’s legal climb to his representation by Doug Mitchell, of Westmont law firm Irving Mitchell Kalichman.  
“The message is: It’s very difficult to take on a municipality if they’ve done something wrong,” said Mitchell. “The effect of this decision is to make the process even more difficult and, therefore, it will discourage people from asserting their rights whether they’re right or they’re

wrong.”  
The ruling, said Mitchell, provides incentive for municipalities to govern illegally knowing there will be practically no consequences.  
Mitchell and Breslaw both said they have yet to plan their next move, but they will be discussing their options.  
“You fight for what you believe and you do the best you can and that’s really as much as an individual can do,” said Breslaw. “You do the best you can for the things you think are worth fighting for.”



**Ville de Westmount**  
**City of Westmount**



## PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE POLL

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the electors registered on the list of electors of the city of Westmount:

1. That a poll will be held for the offices of councillor of districts No. 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8;
2. That the candidates in this election for the offices mentioned below are:
  - a) for the office of councillor of district No. 2:
    - ➔ Philip A. CUTLER  
4876 Westmount Avenue, Westmount, Qc. H3Y 1Y1
    - ➔ Claire MULLINS KRUYT  
72 Belmont Crescent, Westmount, Qc. H3Y 1Y4
    - ➔ Timothy PRICE  
648 Murray Hill Avenue, Westmount, Qc. H3Y 2W6
  - b) for the office of councillor of district No. 4:
    - ➔ Nicholas SMITH  
11 Burton Avenue, Westmount, Qc. H3Z 1J6
    - ➔ Kathleen WARNER DUNCAN  
450 Lansdowne Avenue, Westmount, Qc. H3Y 2V2
  - c) for the office of councillor of district No. 5:
    - ➔ Georges HÉBERT  
325 Lansdowne Avenue, Westmount, Qc. H3Z 2L5
    - ➔ Gary IKEMAN  
4700 Sainte-Catherine St. West, apt. 412, Westmount, Qc. H3Z 1S6
    - ➔ Douglas LEAHEY  
5010 Sherbrooke St. West, apt. 4, Westmount, Qc. H3Z 1H4
    - ➔ René PELLETIER  
306 Lansdowne Avenue, Westmount, Qc. H3Z 2L4
  - d) for the office of councillor of district No. 6:
    - ➔ Nicole FORBES  
250 Clarke Avenue, apt. 611, Westmount, Qc. H3Z 2E5
    - ➔ Michael OSTERLAND  
14, Melbourne Avenue, Westmount, Qc. H3Z 1H7
  - e) for the office of councillor of district No. 7:
    - ➔ Cynthia LULHAM  
4550 Sainte-Catherine St. West, Westmount, Qc. H3Z 1S2

- ➔ Mavis YOUNG  
257 Melville Avenue, Westmount, Qc. H3Z 2J6
- f) for the office of councillor of district No. 8:
  - ➔ John de CASTELL  
188A Selby St., Westmount, Qc. H3Z 1W7
  - ➔ Theodora SAMIOTIS  
4274 Dorchester Blvd, Westmount, Qc. H3Z 1V6
3. That an advance poll will be held from 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 25, 2009 at Victoria Hall located at 4626 Sherbrooke St. West in Westmount;
4. That regular polling stations will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 1, 2009 at the following locations:
  - a) in district No. 2 (polling subdivisions nos. 5 to 8):
    - ➔ Roslyn School  
4699 Westmount Avenue
  - b) in district No. 4 (polling subdivisions nos. 13 to 17)
    - ➔ Victoria Hall  
4626 Sherbrooke St. West
  - c) in district No. 5 (polling subdivisions nos. 18 to 21)
    - ➔ Westmount Park Church  
4695 De Maisonneuve Blvd West
  - d) in district No. 6 (polling subdivisions nos. 22 to 26)
    - ➔ Saint-Léon-de-Westmount School  
360 Clarke Avenue
  - e) in district No. 7 (polling subdivisions nos. 27 to 31)
    - ➔ Westmount High School  
4350 Sainte-Catherine St. West
  - f) in district No. 8 (polling subdivisions nos. 32 to 34):
    - ➔ Greene Avenue Community Centre  
1090 Greene Avenue
5. That the addition of the votes will take place at Westmount City Hall located at 4333 Sherbrooke St. West at 9:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 1, 2009.

ISSUED in Westmount, on October 15, 2009.

Mario GERBEAU  
Returning Officer

# Bought and sold... *continued from p. 16*

For real estate transfers, please consult paper archives.

.....  
*continued on p. 41*



*Two units changed hands in 399 Clarke for \$210,000 and \$200,000 (p. 41).*



*100 & 102 Abbott, the least expensive houses from the last year, at \$250,000 and \$300,000 (p. 41).*



# Bought and sold...

continued from p. 40

For real estate transfers, please consult paper archives.



## Announcement



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continued on p. 43

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## Off-Sidel Hockey preview

By NOAH SIDEL

Hello Westmount, it's been a little while since we've talked!

Some of you might recognize my name, as I covered sports in this community for a few years for a different paper, and I have been writing in NDG for close to a decade.

From team activities like local hockey, baseball and soccer, to individual sports like swimming at the Y or football at Westmount Park, we're here to write about you.

With that in mind, I invite you to contact me by email at [noahsidel@gmail.com](mailto:noahsidel@gmail.com) with story ideas or things you'd like to read about.

Over the last decade of writing community sports, I've discovered that the key to good story-telling is participation from the readers.

Knowing Westmount as well as I do, I expect I'll get my share of emails from you – and I'm looking forward to every last one of them!

And now to the topic at hand!

With the hockey season under way, we

caught up with Westmount Recreation sports coordinator Andrew Maislin to talk about the year to come.

**Independent:** What makes hockey special for kids in this community?

**Maislin:** The ability for anyone to play regardless of talent or ability. We have a team-first philosophy that is based upon building a cohesive unit through team-building exercises and coaches attempting their best to build cooperation.

Rather than having a group of individual players, a lot of coaches have the players do outside events together to bring their teams closer. This technique is used by a lot of the NHL teams like the Canadiens.

**Independent:** How do you reward players and coaches for this?

**Maislin:** Sportsmanship awards are given at the end of the year, but even with that, more emphasis is placed on the team rather than the individual. I have been a part of the Westmount Sports and Recreation department for many years, but this is my first year running the program, and I've seen it grow a lot.

We have approximately *continued on p. 44*



*The atom A Wings following their Pierrefonds tournament win last year.*

Photo: Westmount Sports and Recreation



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# Bought and sold...

continued from p. 41

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## Terry Evans

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# Hockey is growing

.....  
*continued from p. 42*

140 inter-city players, as well as about 25 staff and about 30 more in double letters. Our growth and success is a tribute to the players and our team philosophy.

**Independent:** How competitive is your program at the inter-city level?

**Maislin:** We have seen tremendous growth in our inter-city program; we have gone from a four-team organization to eight, and last year alone our teams took in 11

banners for various tournaments, playoffs and regional events.

We have seen a 50 percent increase in our participation with double letters this year and we've gone from having just a handful of participants to over 30 this year.

**Independent:** What is the strength of Westmount hockey?

**Maislin:** The top players to me are the kids who come out every day to have fun. It doesn't matter if they are the last pick for a team or the first; we're only as strong as

our weakest player. Westmount prides itself on its team philosophy that shows that each and every player is important.

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# Queen Elizabeth forges new path to community health

continued from p. 1

Westmount on Marlowe Ave. in NDG.

Digitization will not just be a benefit. It is required to keep the complex connected to the rest of Quebec's health network and to attract the best staff.

Fargnoli's experience at the Queen Elizabeth goes back to 1990, when he joined the former hospital's board, "[Then-board member and late Westmounter] Tom Price was a mentor to me," he told the *Independent*, in conversation at his office on October 14. "He brought me under his wing."

When the Quebec government closed the hospital in 1996, there was no board left to belong to and Fargnoli took a hiatus.

## Queen E. reborn

In the meantime, the non-profit but independent Centre West Community Health Corporation (as the new Queen E. is legally known) bought the building from the Quebec government (for \$1) and began renting space to tenants in the health field. It has also retained full ownership of its imaging and specialist clinics.

The building is now full (at 122 tenants), including homeopathic, mental health, dental and family-medicine professionals. Some of these services are covered by Medicare and some are not (see inset at right). There is also a pharmacy on site.

Fargnoli and development consultant Éline Lalonde are especially proud of the complex's walk-in Urgent Care Clinic. Triage nurses and emergency room doctors make it "not just another CLSC" and patients can be seen for a variety of less urgent breaks, cuts and other ailments.

It is open weekdays from 8 am to 8 pm and weekends from 9 am to 5 pm.

## Tony returns

In 2004, Fargnoli rejoined the organization at the urging of Westmounter Domenico D'Alesio and Gino Berretta. Together they worked on the "Under the Tuscan Sun" event, which aimed to raise the profile of (and money for) the reborn facility.

Fargnoli chaired the wine-tasting/food-sampling in its third year, which altogether has raised over \$400,000. The seventh edition is planned for next spring.

## Community, community, community

Fargnoli becomes passionate when talking about the Queen Elizabeth and its connection to the West End community. "If you grew up in NDG and were of Italian descent, you were tied in to the hospi-

tal. You received services there and knew people who worked there."

"You could even be served in Italian," added Lalonde.

(Its proximity to Westmount meant the hospital also served many Westmounters, who also volunteered there and supported it financially.)



Tony Fargnoli making the case for the Queen E.

Things may not have changed that much. The head of the complex's imaging centre, Antonietta Pietroniro, is a few years older than Fargnoli. Growing up, they were neighbours on Hampton Ave. in NDG and she used to walk him to school. He attended Daniel O'Connell and she went to St. Augustine's.

The connections don't end there. Before his retirement, Pietroniro's father, Pasquale Signioretti ("Patsy"), worked at Tony Shoes for 33 years and has a staff trophy named after him – for best team player.

"[Relationships like that] made Tony's a part of the community, and the Queen Elizabeth is the same thing," explained Fargnoli. "The complex is small enough now that we remain the same [as before the hospital's closure]. People live in the community, work here and are a part of the complex. It is not a big monstrous organization."

## Queen E. complements government care

Fargnoli is a strong advocate of a local role in health institutions in order to complement government-provided services. "The government prematurely closed the hospital, so we took on this project as a community. Now the Queen Elizabeth has

to strengthen itself, [so we are telling the public:] we need your help."

The spectre of the hospital's closure continues to cast a long shadow, "You don't realize [the value of an institution] until you need it. But we will take care of ourselves and [the government] will never take it away from us again." The funding

drive is off to a good start (with approximately \$500,000 raised from seed and early donors), so Fargnoli still has work to do, but he has at least one strong supporter.

Lalonde describes Fargnoli as "a rare breed of volunteer" and it is not hard to see why. When asked if one particular service would benefit from a donation, Fargnoli says "yes" and taps the table vigorously, "And you're helping your community."

It is no wonder Fargnoli has been hired for this second job.

## Queen Elizabeth Primer

The Queen Elizabeth Health Complex is located at 2100 Marlowe (south of Sherbrooke). For more detailed information, see the complex's website, [www.qehc.org](http://www.qehc.org).

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\* May be covered by private insurance.  
\*\* 25 percent discount for student dentists' services.



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# CBC Nostalgia: Till We Meet Again

ERIN STROPES

Former Westmounter Stephanie McNamara is one of the stars of the World



Stephanie McNamara in the Till We Meet Again. Photo: Shane Kelley.

War II play *Till We Meet Again*, which opened in Montreal on October 16, and will tour Ontario before returning to Montreal in November.

McNamara, who plays a Calgary singing star whose brother has gone off to war, lived in Westmount with her family between 1999 and 2006. She has since relocated to Toronto and Los Angeles.

"It's very meaningful for me to do this show in Canada at this time of year, and it's wonderful to be back in Westmount with my family as we rehearse," said Mc-

Namara, whose November 11 birthday makes the show's Remembrance Day theme all the more significant.

The show's costumes were designed by Karen Pearce, who works for the RCMP in Westmount. "People are always surprised when I give that combination of careers, but I really love doing costumes," Pearce explained.

The show is a tribute to the 1940s CBC variety show broadcasts live from the Normandy Roof of the Mount Royal Hotel in Montreal.

*Till We Meet Again* will be playing November 21 and 22 at Oscar Peterson Concert Hall (7141 Sherbrooke St. W.). Tickets (\$26-\$65) are available at the box office or from Admission.com.



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## **WESTMOUNT – 70 Rosemount Crescent**

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