

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly. Vol. 17 No. 9b

We are Westmount

September 12, 2023

'To bring joy to the area'

Temporary fix undertaken to restore Murray Park's waterfall

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

After some seven dry years, the trademark waterfall and pond in King George (Murray) Park is flowing again thanks to the city's own Public Works department.

This repair follows feasibility studies and rejected tender bids to fix the feature's issues obtained in previous years that were rejected as being too costly.

"We had our parks superintendent clean and inspect the pond early this spring to evaluate the condition," said Public Works director Robert Talarico. "We

wanted to evaluate if there were any temporary repairs to keep the water from leaking out."

It took "multiple attempts" before resolving the problem to retain the water, he told the *Independent*.

Finally, however, a temporary solution was found to seal and fix cracks inside the pond to retain the water.

"I just want to clarify that the pond still needs a complete overhaul, and this was something temporary to bring joy to that area of the park. We all enjoyed the waterfall *continued on p. 24*

Pool closes for year, at capacity



The city's pool at the Westmount recreation centre closed for the season September 4, the date of this photo. "Because of the hot weather, there was a line-up due to the number of residents already inside. One had to wait until someone left," said resident Sam Beitel. Unfortunately, several even hotter days soon followed, but the pool was closed.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF S. BEITEL.



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'Legacy important' to council: Cllr. Roux

New update on Murray Park trees expected to follow

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

On the heels of a public consultation meeting August 31 on tree work at King George (Murray) Park, District 2 city councillor Elisabeth Roux said September 5 it was "clear" that residents in attendance "care deeply about the park today but also how it will carry forward for generations

to come."

"This sense of legacy," she added, was also important for the rest of council including Mayor Christina Smith and councillors Antonio D'Amico and Kathleen Kez, who also attended the meeting. Mary Gallery, commissioner of parks, was away.

"I think everyone (at the meeting) left reassured *continued on p. 8*

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'Crack' heard in the night

Traffic blocked as trunk removed on Westmount Ave.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PUBLIC SECURITY.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

One of the two trunks of a large elm tree on Westmount Ave. at Aberdeen was taken down by the city September 6, Public Security officials said. It had been evaluated by the city's tree inspector as being a safety risk and required the street to be blocked.

It was reported to have generated a loud

crack heard overnight by a resident when a branch had apparently "pulled away."

The tree was described as being about 100 years old and required the city to call a contractor to remove one of its trunks as a prevention measure. The street was re-opened to traffic once the work was complete early in the afternoon when much of the debris had been removed.



Window falls from new highrise condo

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Traffic had to be blocked on Atwater after a window fell from the new 38-storey building at 1111 Atwater September 3, according to Public Security officials. Built at the site of the former Montreal Children's Hospital just south of Tupper, a very small portion of the highrise is located in Westmount. (See p. 4 for a related story.)

Public Security received the call for assistance at 6 pm from Montreal police to help block the street at Dorchester and Atwater where the intersection is located in Westmount. Montreal public works personnel were on the scene.

It was the exterior pane of the window that had fallen and described to have landed

in the Westmount portion of Atwater, later reportedly to have come from the 30th floor. No further details were available.

Building of the tower had required a permit from Westmount (see story, photo and map, May 14, 2019, p. 18).



PHOTO COURTESY OF PUBLIC SECURITY.

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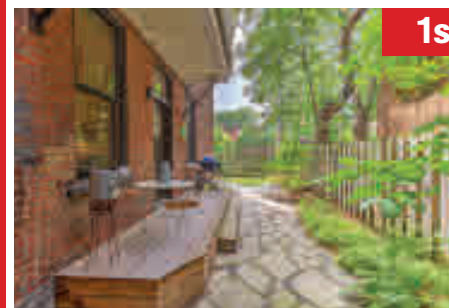
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Window falls from 1111 Atwater for the second time

By JENNIFER BALL

A second window fell from the building at 1111 Atwater on September 3. A resident of the Eleve complex, one of the entities sharing the building at the corner of Atwater Ave. and Tupper St., alerted the *Independent* that a window had fallen onto the street below.

The first window fell May 27, according to Claudine Morissette, senior director, marketing and customer experience at EMD Batimo, which manage the properties.

Jean-Pierre Brabant, a media relations officer for the Montreal police department, shared that the police received a 911 call on September 3 at 4 pm. The caller informed them that a window had fallen from a penthouse and fragmented on Atwater Ave. Police and Westmount Public Security blocked off Atwater at René Lévesque/Dorchester from pedestrians and vehicles.

“Luckily, there was no one around it and no one was injured, but we had to close the street so that the owners and the fire department could check out all the windows on the penthouses...”

“We have double-checked with the owners and the fire department to ensure that the windows are safe and that [it] won’t happen again,” Brabant said.

Morissette provided a statement that has been translated into English by DeepL.

“... you can rest assured that the premises were quickly secured during the incident that occurred on [September 3]. We are currently analyzing the situation with all the experts involved: glass and aluminum structure suppliers, architect, external engineer specialized in building envelopes and our internal teams in order to proceed with the investigation...”

“To rectify the facts, we would like to point out that under no circumstances do complete windows come loose and land on

the ground. In accordance with national building code standards, a safety device is in place to ensure that the tempered glass on the outside of the thermos explodes into small pieces, thus minimizing the risk of an incident. The interior glazing remains intact, providing protection for the occupants...”

“We are taking the situation very seriously and are actively working with experts to ensure a safe environment for our residents and neighbours.”

The May 27 incident report had also been submitted to a committee of experts to review, Morissette said.

“... recent findings had not identified any irregularity in the manufacture or installation of the fenestration. This second incident has actively re-launched the investigation to ensure safety on site, which remains our priority. At this stage, that’s all the information we have until all the experts have been consulted...”

“The construction work performed by the various professionals on this project is subject to RBQ regulations, and the fenestration complies with National Building Code standards.”



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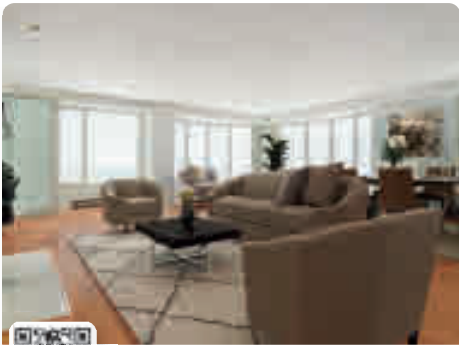
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EDITORIAL

Local help for locals:
mayor, notary, framer

A mayor, a notary and a picture framer walk into a bar... *Umm, err, no* – wrong beginning.

I would like to thank our mayor, local



A Black Label beer tray purchased this year for \$US14. In the early 1980s, Carling O’Keefe executives noticed that Black Label did much better than expected given the company’s lack of advertising spending on it. It turns out the beer had gained a cult following as “not your father’s beer.” The coolness of the colour black must have helped too. About a decade later, there was a marketing push behind the beer. In Quebec the slogan was “En noir et black.”

notary and one of our local framers for their recent help.

Mayor Christina Smith helped me access some information within city hall that is important to this newspaper.

Notary Arthur Younanian (Sherbrooke and Arlington) helped me obtain – with little notice, and quickly and efficiently – a notarized version of my ID, a great service to have available within walking distance of just about anywhere in Westmount. These needs can pop up unexpectedly.

Framer Matt Wetmore of Le Frame Shoppe (Victoria and de Maisonneuve) gave me some free tips about how to hang metal beer trays on a wall – the most important task in the universe. (I am sure that framers John and Glenn Campbell of Campbell Gallery (Sherbrooke and Prince Albert) would have been similarly helpful, but my laziness led me to my near-neighbour Matt.)

As I wrote last week in support of our “Shop Locally” supplement, “It is hard to say what services and products aren’t available in [Westmount’s] shopping districts” – including unexpected ones.

Thanks again to all.

David Price is the editor of the Independent.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SOUTHEAST COULD USE
A ‘CHARETTE’
CONSULTATION PROCESS

I was very interested to see that city council has decided to look at creating a plan for our vulnerable southeast sector of Westmount. This has been an area of much discussion and little consensus.

I hope council will look at using a method that will involve all stakeholders, from the beginning, in an attempt to find a way to create something that truly reflects our community and has broad appeal.

There is a well-known and exciting process called a “charrette,” which is a multi-day community-engagement event. Stakeholders and decision-makers have an opportunity to come together and bounce ideas off each other while imagining what would be the best and most exciting solution to the design questions they are addressing. They work alongside experts to co-develop design solutions to built environment problems.

Near the end of my term as mayor when attending a conference about livable cities, I had a chance to be exposed to this process, which had been used by many cities, large and small. I wished I had known about it earlier to have been able to use it here. It is ideal for the kind of committed and intelligent population that we have in Westmount and for the planning of a part of our community like the one being discussed.

The National Charette Institute, which operates out of Michigan State University and trains people all across the US, can provide leaders to engage the community in such an activity.

The product of a charette generally comes up with better solutions using a broad variety of experience, the needs and desires of community members, along with the designs and planning of professionals and elected representatives. It is a creative way to approach the planning process and is also a way to build a sense of community rather than being divisive.

Westmount has often been in the forefront of planning and design initiatives. It would be wonderful if we could use this occasion and this method and do so again.

KARIN MARKS, FORMER MAYOR
OF WESTMOUNT (2001-2009) &
COMMISSIONER OF URBAN PLANNING
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COMBAT THE INVASIVE WORMS!

I am writing to notify and alert all Westmount residents and readers of this publication that I have found *two* types of invasive worm species in my tiny backyard on Melbourne Ave.

This summer, I became one of the first people in Quebec to have found a type of hammerhead worm (*bipalium adventitium*). To date, I have collected at least 70 specimens. This worm is coated in a powerful neurotoxin – similar to what pufferfish use in defence. Therefore, do not touch or step on them. They are pale orange or beige in colour, have a thin brown line down their backs and their head is wide – hence the name “hammerhead.” If the body is severed, both pieces will continue to live.

Some are six centimeters in length and the young ones are as small as one centimeter. They emerge when the soil is damp after a rainfall (or perhaps after a sprinkler has been on), and glide along the surface while the sky is still darkened by clouds. They appear to be most active in the evenings and are easier to spot with the use of a flashlight.

Using a bamboo barbecue skewer, I lift them up (in the middle of their bodies) and carefully place them in a plastic tub with a secure lid. They can be destroyed in a number of ways – with alcohol, with vinegar or left in bright sunlight contained within a ziplock bag.

The other invasive worm I have seen and caught (two specimens so far – both about 10 centimeters in length) is known as an Asian jumping worm (*amynthas agrestis*). They don’t really jump, but when disturbed, they squirm and squiggle quite violently.

Their appearance is similar to a typical earthworm, however their skin has a slight metallic sheen to it, and the ring (known as a clitellum) near their head is whitish. Moving across the ground in a snake-like manner, they are easy to spot.

While not coated in a dangerous neurotoxin, these fast-spreading jumping worms are incredibly destructive to the roots of plants and the ecosystem in general. Alarmingly, they reproduce asexually, by leaving “cocoons” in the soil that are tiny, brown, round and almost impossible to detect. While the adult will only live for one season, the cocoons will survive the winter and the young will emerge next summer.

The entomologist at the University of Montreal with whom I have been in close contact urged me to register my findings and photos on the app iNaturalist so scientists can track their spread – which I have done.

I highly recommend doing some reading and research of your own (with a few quick taps on your keyboard) about these two invasive species – as what I have written here is only a bit of basic information.

WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Despite the fact that the weeks of warmer weather are almost at an end, I hope many of you will take this situation very seriously and over the coming days and weeks, and make the effort to examine your garden multiple times (as you may not find any on your first few searches). Before heading out, prepare yourself with gloves, a container with a secure lid, a skewer or a long stick and a flashlight. If you find either of these species, please take a photograph and upload your information to iNaturalist.

Together we can make a difference.

LISA L. OSTERLAND, MELBOURNE AVE.

CLINICS DISPUTE NOT OVER, EXAMPLE OF CITY'S PRO- COMMERCIAL BIAS

This will refer to the article "Council turns back the clock to allow more clinics" on p. 5 of the August 29 *Independent*. First, the authors of this letter wish to commend Laureen Sweeney and the *Independent* for their usual calm, factual reporting; in the present case, this is particularly noteworthy considering that very unfortunate public statement from city hall [in an August 24 email to me, with others copied]: "We acknowledge that some misrepresented

information in the *Westmount Independent* may have led to misleading readers" (see also the editorial on p. 9 of the August 15 *Independent*).

We feel it appropriate to add a couple of comments to Ms Sweeney's article, hopefully to provide an even more complete picture to interested readers.

The public notice regarding By-law 1601 listed nine zones in the "concerned sector," but only three actually participated in the register, namely R3-27-01, R3-29-01, and R3-16-01. It must however be *strongly emphasized* that only the residents of R3-27-01 are affected by parking problems to a major extent, because only their zone requires majority street parking. In stark contrast, most residences in the other two zones possess private parking facilities, so it was *a priori* foreseeable that those Westmounters would see little or no interest in the registry! In other words, the "dice were loaded" or "the playing field was not even" when this registry took place on July 19 and 20. So, Mr. Peart's apparently gleeful conclusion that the 36-vote turnout was "far from close" could have been (and probably was) entirely foreseeable. This raises an interesting question, namely this: Were all signatories of the [phase one] petition *bona*

fide opponents of the proposal, or were their names gathered to render the [phase two] registry phase more difficult?

Finally, the very legality of the entire (badly flawed, see August 15 editorial) registry process is before the Commission Municipale du Québec and the minister in charge [of municipal affairs in the province], in other words a "work in progress." It may take some time before this important issue is finally resolved, so "the chicks are not yet hatched" in favour of Westmount city hall in regard to this sorry story.

To conclude, we find it most regrettable that elected officials in Westmount appear to repeatedly demonstrate bias towards commercial interests over those of citizens who elected them, even when the former are not fully justified or, at least, should be subject of further in-depth study and confirmation. The present "clinics" case is an outstanding example.

MICHAEL R. WERTHEIMER, SOMERVILLE AVE.

DENIS BIRO, BURTON AVE.

Correction

The Westmount Historical Association's series to prelude the library's 125th anniversary in 2024 will take place in the *Westmount Room of the library* starting Sept. 21.

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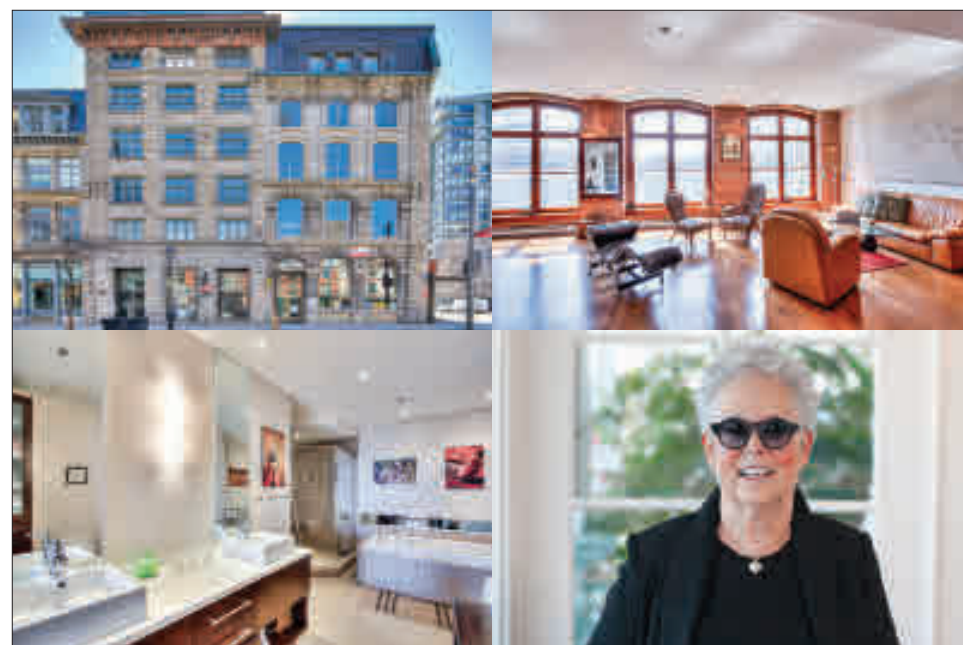
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Murray Park meeting, cont'd from p. 1

that only tree species befitting the stature of KGP would be planted going forward,” Roux told the *Independent* (see separate story, p. 9).

She said that existing black locust trees would be “preserved” despite ones that had been culled last fall to the dismay of nearby residents and that “future actions would be done at a slower and thoughtful pace” by the city’s current contractor, landscape architect Sophie Robitaille of RobitailleCurtis.

This referred to an outcry from some residents over the felling of the 30 historic black locusts on the east side of the park as well as the planting of small evergreens rather than large stately shade trees.

An estimated 30 people at the session heard a presentation from Robitaille on what had been cut down, what would be done this fall and a landscaping vision for the park’s trees that she had developed since recently assuming a mandate on the arboreal future of the park.

Another public meeting would be held when Robitaille had completed her plan following this first public consultation, Roux said. Attendees had been asked to add their suggestions on to a large photo of the park. Robitaille’s presentation was posted September 8 by the city on its Engage website.



Murray (King George) Park viewed from above Westmount Ave. on September 8.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.



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Too much focus on acacia trees?

Divided reactions expressed on future of Murray Park canopy



Black locust trees alongside the home of William Lighthall (Westmount's mayor from 1901 to 1903) at the eastern edge of the Murray property, after which the park was originally named.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WESTMOUNT HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION.

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Of those attending the public consultation meeting on King George (Murray) Park, August 31, some expressed concerns about its timing on the approach of the Labour Day weekend as well as many people not having received a city notice of the meeting destined for neighbouring residents.

There were also a few complaints about the sound system at Victoria Hall, which reportedly made it hard for some to hear.

Overall, however, concerns of an estimated 30 residents in attendance seemed divided on those wanting replacement of the black locust trees taken down last year, the planting of stately shade trees, and still others looking for compromises (see story on p. 1).

As Denis Biro of Burton Ave. put it: "Concerns by various individuals with the whole concept, the planting to date and the remaining stages has led the city to re-think how the culled trees could be replaced with other species to reflect the former grandeur of the arboreal canopy."

John Fretz, who lives on Lansdowne, said he found so much of the discussion was devoted to residents living immediately east of the park about preserving the grove of black locusts and that this "regrettably," resulted in "a lack of discussion on a comprehensive restoration of the park's arboreal grandeur" using other large stately trees.

"Why do we have to go to the Morgan Arboretum (in St. Anne de Bellevue) to see these beautiful trees?" he asked. He found the discussion was "just black locusts *ad infinitum*."

Westmounter Robert Zimmermann, a retired McGill professor of forest hydrology who also attended, said he was "aware of

the emotional and historical interest in the rare grove of unusually large black locusts." He urged the audience, however, to be aware of the virtues and vices of such "pioneer" species, as they are known: "early invaders of disturbed sites with a life-span of some 90 years."

"Personally," he explained, "I would never advocate the use of 'pioneer' species in a park because of their relatively short lifespan, their tendency to breakage and to exhibit straggleness in old age, and potential invasiveness."

"On balance, however," he said, "I consider the present city policy on the Murray Hill black locusts to be a realistic compromise between the emotional investment in these trees – their history, fragrant blooms and the rarity of a grove of old specimens – and some which might be seen as ugly when secondary trunks grow from root shoots."

"In short," he said, "keep the present vigorous old specimens going as long as possible and replace gradually with new saplings. There is a splendid grove of mature black locusts above the playground, and this beauty should be maintained."

Advocating for the black locusts

Another viewpoint from one nearby resident was how the black locusts had been a part of the original Murray property, whether or not they were an invasive and dangerous species. In the setting of Murray Park, they were neither, claimed one.

Many of the culled trees had already sprouted shoots during the seven-week strike of the city's blue-collar workers this summer, but were subsequently mowed down on the workers' return when the new shoots "would have made beautiful new trees."



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Avez-vous un appareil de chauffage, de cuisson ou un foyer à combustible solide (ex. foyers à bois) ? Vous devez le déclarer à la Ville de Westmount avant le 30 décembre 2023.

À partir du 1^{er} septembre 2024, il sera interdit d'installer ou d'utiliser un appareil de chauffage, de cuisson ou un foyer à combustible solide (ex. poêle ou foyer au bois) dans tous les bâtiments résidentiels de Westmount, sauf si l'appareil a un taux d'émission égal ou inférieur à 2,5 grammes de particules fines par heure dans l'atmosphère.

Pour en savoir plus sur la nouvelle réglementation et la déclaration : westmount.org/combustiblesolide.

SOLID-FUEL APPLIANCES MANDATORY DECLARATION BEFORE DECEMBER 30, 2023

Do you have a solid-fuel heating, cooking or fireplace appliance (e.g. wood-burning fireplaces)? You must declare it to the City of Westmount before December 30, 2023.

As of September 1, 2024, it will be prohibited to install or use a heating, cooking appliance or solid-fuel fireplace (e.g. wood stove or fireplace) in all residential buildings in Westmount, unless the appliance has an emission rate equal to or less than 2.5 grams of fine particles per hour into the atmosphere.

Learn more about the new regulation and the declaration: westmount.org/solidfuel.



Sidewalk work at Olivier and Sherbrooke on September 11.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

Mayor announces ‘catch up’ measures

Major shift coming in repair of streets and sidewalks

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

As the city undertakes preparation of the capital works and operating budgets for 2024, Mayor Christina Smith announced September 5 that a major shift will be undertaken in the approach to infrastructure work. This follows feedback on improvements needed in maintenance work on streets and sidewalks, she said.

Speaking in opening remarks at the council meeting without details, she said that residents could expect to see a shift in its processes moving “from a complete rebuild” of streets to paving and sidewalk repairs “as we catch up on a massive amount of infrastructure work on the to-do list.”

One example might be the current work

now under way on Claremont that has been requested at council meetings for some time in the block through Victoria village between de Maisonneuve and Sherbrooke to include removal of the asphalt surface, repair to portions of the concrete road base and to portions of the sidewalks, and the re-paving of the street.

Previous examples of “simple” paving as opposed to complete re-dos include the scarification process used previously for some blocks of busy Sherbrooke.

City director general Julie Mandeville who, as previous director of finance has long been a part of the budget planning process, told the *Independent* that the current work on Claremont falls into this category (see story on p. 11).

In Westmount, it’s not just dogs that get groomed



Work was under way September 7 on work to groom Westmount dog runs (see September 5, p. 8), in this case the one in Westmount Park.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SAM BEITEL.

Claremont roadwork begins



People have been complaining about the state of Claremont Ave. between de Maisonneuve and Sherbrooke since the construction period of the MUHC’s Glen

super-hospital, which opened in April 2015 (see April 28, 2015, p. 1). One nearby resident calls it “Kabul.”

Well, work began on the roadway Sep-



tember 7.

The day before, one woman was heard to say to another: “Are you enjoying your last walk on the sidewalk? They are going

to be digging it up.”

In fact, the city’s website describes the sidewalk aspect as “repair work ... to portions of the sidewalks.”

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.



First director of member care and outreach

Congregation Shaar Hashomayim welcomes Rabba Briah Cahana

By JENNIFER BALL

The Congregation Shaar Hashomayim, located on the corner of Côte St. Antoine and Kensington Ave., has welcomed Rabba Briah Cahana as its first director of member care and outreach.

Julie Wiener, director of communications at the Shaar, explained that on August 28, Rabba Cahana started her tenure: “Rabba [Cahana], daughter of Montreal’s well-known Rabbi Cahana, was recently ordained at Yeshivat Maharat [in the Bronx].”

Some of Rabba Cahana’s responsibilities include creating systems of “after-care” related to life-cycle events. As such, her duties include “spearheading the *bikkur cholim* initiative (visiting the sick), designing programs geared toward CEGEP-aged students and young professionals, initiating welcoming strategies for *shabbat* morning, teaching at our Netivot afternoon school,

tutoring of *bat mitzvah* students and generally fulfilling other responsibilities within the parameters of member care and outreach,” Wiener wrote.

The *Independent* met with Rabba Cahana and senior Shaar rabbi Adam Scheier just four days into her new remit, which was created for the congregation of 1,300 families given the experience of COVID.

“[Care is] really the height of what Jewish values look like.”

COVID uncovered existing loneliness

“We were forced into this position – in the first days of the pandemic – of really having to look out for each other and being concerned with the very well-being of our congregation,” Rabbi Scheier said.

“That turned into these more overarching programs of reaching out and connecting: dealing with isolation and loneliness. We discovered that not only for a pandemic but in a community, these are real needs.”

“After-care” is related to major milestones in a person’s life.

“Within the Jewish tradition, we have [times] when we come together as a community to celebrate birth, to celebrate the coming of age: *bar* and *bat mitzvas*, marriage and funerals. Those are times when naturally people are coming into the community for these celebrations and we have lots of rituals around those spiritual moments,” Rabba Cahana imparted.

“What I am here for is ‘What happens in between?’

“What happens after a marriage [ceremony]? What happens after a community has already paid their respects when somebody has passed away? We have the seven-day [*shiva* or mourning] period, but what



Rabba Briah Cahana outside the Shaar Hashomayim on August 31.

happens after that?”

Motivation is personal

Rabba Cahana conceived of a rabbinical career after a devastating event in her life. In 2011, her father, Rabbi Ronnie Cahana, was the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth-El Synagogue in the Town of Mount Royal when he suffered a massive brainstem stroke.

For over a month, Rabbi Cahana was

trapped in a locked-in state – fully aware, but unable to use any part of his body except for blinking his eyes.

The ordeal galvanized his daughter.

“It is a major experience in my own life. Both in understanding everyone’s vulnerability and also the power of community. Our family experienced a flood of care and people coming in: finding out what are our needs. It was really the height of what Jewish values look like.”

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London, ON’s Talbot St. bridge ahead on social media, behind in victims



The *Independent* has chronicled 18 truck strikes of the Greene Ave. rail underpass since November 2020, which is located between Dorchester and St. Antoine, and it may have missed about the same number (see December 13, 2022, p. 23).

That puts Westmount’s bridge well “ahead” of London, Ontario’s Talbot St. bridge, which has claimed 15 trucks over the last eight years, according to Ed Jackman, who runs a satirical Twitter account dedicated to the latter’s victims.



PHOTOS FROM CBC AND CTV WEBSITES.

The Westmount bridge (not pictured) does not yet have its own social media account, though. Does that tie the game? Jackman also sells t-shirts depicting the bridge.

Westmount city council recently approved a plan to improve the signage about the low clearance on Greene (see September 5, p. 1).
With research from Bill Smith.



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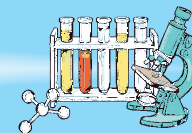
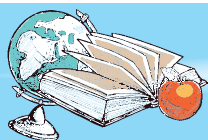
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WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly, Vol. 17 No. 9b

We are Westmount

September 12, 2023

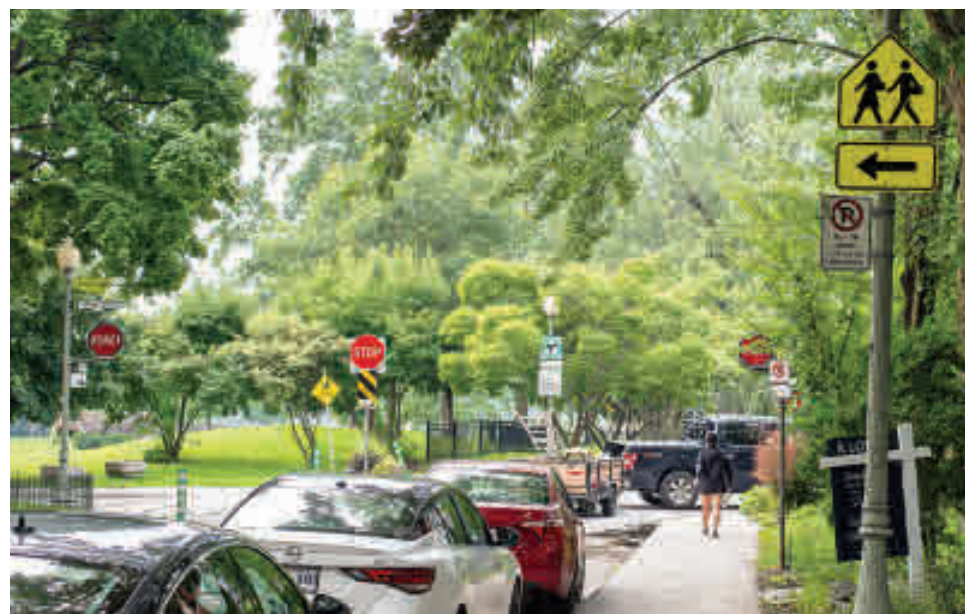
Back-to-school = yellow buses



This school bus was photographed near St. Leo's elementary on Kitchener Ave September 8. The school's new annex, located on the north end of its campus, is visible in the background. It is in use.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

School this way



This sign (top right) on de Maisonneuve directing people towards Westmount Park School was installed on August 20.

PHOTO: RALPH THOMPSON.

ON BOARD THIS ISSUE

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Elementary & high school*	ECS p. 7 The Study p. 6	LCC p. 11 St. George's p. 5 Kells p. 13	Selwyn House p. 2
High school*	Sacred Heart p. 4 Trafalgar p. 9	BCS p. 8 Loyola p. 3	

*also includes Grade 12 in some cases.

Back to school for everyone!



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In addition to our day students, we offer a picturesque boarding experience nestled right in the heart of the city, where both 7-day and 5-day boarding options are available. With our boarding, you're stepping into a community where you build lifelong connections and unforgettable memories.

Empowering Future Leaders

Sacred Heart isn't just a timeless institution; it's a launchpad for courage and confidence. Here, young women are educated and empowered. Through a dynamic fusion of academics and extracurricular activities, students explore their passions and embrace their roles as future trailblazers. In a world where equal opportunities can sometimes seem elusive, Sacred Heart shines as a guiding light, illuminating the way for countless generations of resilient and accomplished graduates.

Join the Global Sisterhood

What truly sets Sacred Heart apart is its remarkable global network spanning 150 schools across 41 countries. Through sister school collaborations and student exchange programs, Sacred Heart creates a vibrant global community. This encourages expanding horizons, embracing diversity, and gaining global perspectives.



A Community that Nurtures Dreams

Joining Sacred Heart means joining a family. With faculty, staff, parents, and alum all rallying behind a common goal, you're never alone on your journey. It's a thriving community that uplifts, supports, and encourages you to chase your ambitions with unwavering determination.

Exploring New Horizons

Moreover, Sacred Heart offers a Grade 12 program leading to an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). For more information, don't hesitate to visit sacredheart.qc.ca/grade-12/.

Your journey towards greatness begins here – where hearts and minds flourish in harmony.

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Sacred Heart

Open House

sacredheart.qc.ca/admissions-events/

September
23 & 26, 2023

Find out more today

St. George's School: Authentic Individuals. Inspired Futures.

St. George's School of Montreal is on a mission.

After a rigorous, year-long process of gathering input from past and present parents, teachers, students, school leadership and the extended school community, the nearly 100-year-old institution has honed its mission and vision to uncover the essence of what makes the school unique, and can proudly articulate it in its new vision statement: Authentic Individuals. Inspired Futures.

Within its focused vision, the school's mission is to inspire students to discover joy and passion in their learning, purpose in their lives and the confidence to express their unique selves in a nurturing, inclusive and collaborative environment.

St. George's is committed to the development of intellectually curious individuals and passionate lifelong learners, and this mission is a reflection of its approach to progressive education. This commitment is evident across both its elementary and high school campuses through the work and ethos of each educator.

"At St. George's, we don't expect our students to all fit into a similar mold. On the contrary, we encourage them to express their authentic selves with confidence. It's our job to support their healthy development and ensure their individual learning styles are recognized and respected," says Michael O'Connor, who has 16 years of dedicated service to the school as a teacher, administrator, and now, as the head of school. "And that means adapting teaching and learning to meet the needs of each of our 450 students."

The school's new vision statement — Authentic Individuals. Inspired Futures. — is reflected by its methods of fostering a collaborative, relational and experiential learning community where students are encouraged to discover their passions and purpose through real-world exploration and hands-on experiences.

"By providing our students with opportunities to express their unique selves, we nurture their authenticity and empower them to create meaning and shape their own futures," says O'Connor. "What matters most at St. George's



is the opportunity to explore, to embrace challenges, and to learn about who you are by being encouraged to try different things."

St. George's teachers are continually enhancing their skills through professional development and applying the latest research and best practices. The school equips students with resilient academic and social foundations that go beyond traditional classroom boundaries.

"We introduce complex concepts at a young age. For example, when I visited a Grade 2 classroom recently, it was interesting to see the way in which they were discussing implicit bias," explains O'Connor. "The students were thoroughly engaged as the teacher guided them in this important exercise to develop critical thinking skills. This is what progressive education is all about."

Authentic Individuals. Inspired Futures.



Integrity



Optimism



Open House 2023

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3100 The Boulevard, Montréal, Qc

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAMPUS

Thursday, October 19 & Saturday, October 21

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Open House Journée portes ouvertes

Thursday, October 5

8:30 - 10:00am and 4:30 - 7:00pm

jeudi 5 octobre

8 h 30 - 10 h et 16 h 30 - 19 h



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Fondée en 1915 et reconnue comme étant l'une des meilleures écoles au Canada, The Study est une école de filles privée, non-subsventionnée, menant au diplôme d'études secondaires du Québec (MEES). Le certificat pour l'enseignement de l'anglais n'est pas requis (maternelle à secondaire V).



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A global school with a century-old tradition of excellence, Lower Canada College is widely recognized for its dedicated and highly trained teachers. Benefitting from this commitment to learning, LCC graduates consistently go on to study at many of the great universities in Canada, the US, and around the world.

That said, the array of post-secondary options and the constantly shifting career landscape present challenges for today's high school students, regardless of their grades, interests or accomplishments. LCC's academic advising program, which features four full-time professionals with deep experience in the field, is designed to help the school's students, and their families,

tackle these issues directly.

Beginning in grade 7, LCC's academic advisors gently introduce all students to the notion of reflecting on their interests, strengths and learning styles. By grade 9, everyone is assigned their own academic advisor; in grade 10, the number of one-on-one meetings ramps up and students begin to consider the criteria that will determine which universities might be a good fit.

In grade 11 and the Pre-University program, preparation for future studies becomes a virtual 'seventh course'. All students are required to attend at least one of the university fairs hosted annually by LCC and contemplate what characteristics their future school might have: is it far

from home or in the same city? Sprawling campus or small? Giant research centre or tight-knit liberal arts college? Should they take advantage of the excellent options in Quebec or consider schools across the country or abroad?

Academic Advising Coordinator Maggie Owen notes that this level of dedicated support is quite new to Canadian high schools. "Parents tell us that they really appreciate how available we are, not just to their children but to them as well."

One of the most effective parts of the program is LCC's Career Speakers Series. Each spring, alumni, parents and friends from a range of professions speak directly to grades 9-11 and Pre-U about

their lines of work. Doctors, business leaders, designers, and entertainers tell students about the challenges and rewards of their individual fields. The students are then asked to write a reflection on what they learned and connect the experience back to their own interests, fit criteria and university goals.

Olivier Rivard '22, Pre-U '23 has taken full advantage of the academic advising program: "My advisor helped me navigate the stresses of university applications: endless tests, numerous deadlines, essay crafting, and more. It was empowering to know someone was in my corner, helping me realize my academic ambitions."



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September 23, 9 am - 4 pm

Visit: lcc.ca/openhouse

Grade 7 Application Deadline:
October 11

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KELLS ACADEMY

For Julian, one door closed, then a new one opened.

Julian's new chapter began after facing challenges at his previous school. The school's size and intensity proved to be overwhelming for him. There were difficulties, discussions, and test scores that raised flags. But at the same time, there were assurances and opinions suggesting that his situation was under control. However, it wasn't.

Despite months of working with the school, hours of study, and a sincere commitment to learning, Julian Fournier didn't pass his grade 8 summer school math exam. Then, with only days before the semester was to begin, his high school closed its doors to him.

They were stunned, but Julian's parents began the search for options in earnest. Julian's father, Jacques, had gone to French schools, and his mother, Sabine, is an anglo-phone immigrant. They assumed that without an eligibility certificate, Julian would continue to be educated in the French system. However, given the short notice, time after time, they received the same answer: no spaces available.

After researching schools, Sabine and Jacques began to think that Kells might be a possibility. Within days of their first contact, they were in conversations with the admissions team and visiting with school administrators. Julian's learning history and future needs were discussed at

length. His eligibility was not an issue, and the more they learned about the Kells approach, the more they believed it aligned with what Julian required.

Sabine and Jacques chose Kells. Shortly after that, a professional evaluation of Julian's learning profile became available, and with that, a plan for his future at Kells was created. Julian's new academic foundation was established, and his course was set.

After a period of adjustment, with a new environment, new processes, and new friends, Julian began to feel more comfortable, and his grades began to improve. With a passionate faculty who understood how students learn in smaller, more intimate classes, Julian gained confidence and more independence. The longer class periods allowed time for him to gain a deeper understanding of subjects.

Julian has just graduated from Kells and will attend his first choice of CEGEP this semester. He'll bring a love of learning and a feeling of confidence. He will also bring a story of resilience, perseverance, and many happy memories of the friendships, the teachers, and the community his high school years at Kells Academy represent.

At Kells, we believe the school should fit the student, not the student fit the school

Visit us at our Open House

Date: October 12, 2023

Time: Elementary School, 9:00 AM

High School, 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM



Kells Academy is a private English all-gender K-11 school leading to the MEQ Secondary Leaving Diploma. Kells Academy also offers a grade 12 program leading to an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)



Kells Academy 6865 De Maisonneuve West, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H4B 1T1
Tel.: 514-485-8565 E-mail: kadmin@kells.ca www.kells.ca

Irene Woods
Director



infoWESTMOUNT

2023.09.12 • Vol. 4/16

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Published by the City of Westmount

NOUVELLES

PROCHAINE SÉANCE
DU CONSEIL

Lundi 18 septembre

NEWS

NEXT COUNCIL
MEETING

Monday, September 18



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westmount.org/accessibilite

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westmount.org/accessibilite



Over 80% of
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invisible.

Les handicaps invisibles peuvent inclure les difficultés neurologiques, cognitives, physiques ou sensorielles. Parfois, certains de nous ont besoin d'une aide ou du temps supplémentaire.

westmount.org/accessibility

Did you know?

Invisible disabilities may include cognitive, physical, neurological and sensory difficulties. Sometimes, some of us simply need extra help or extra time to do things.

westmount.org/accessibility

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Samedi 30 septembre, 9 h à 16 h 30, stationnement de la Bibliothèque. Apportez vos restants de produits dangereux, ainsi que vos appareils électroniques usagés. westmount.org.

Nouvelle zone de basket-ball au PKG

Suite aux travaux de réparation au mur de soutènement et l'installation d'une nouvelle surface, l'aire de basket-ball du parc King George sera prêt pour le jeu **le mardi 12 septembre**.

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Fermeture de l'av. Claremont entre Sherbrooke et De Maisonneuve

La Ville effectuera des travaux majeurs de réparation et de reconstruction de la chaussée et des trottoirs de l'av. Claremont. La durée prévue des travaux est d'environ 5 semaines. La rue ne sera pas accessible aux véhicules pendant le projet. westmount.org/travauxroutiers

Hazardous waste collection

Saturday, September 30, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Library parking lot. Bring your leftover hazardous products, as well as your used electronic devices. westmount.org.

New basketball area at KGP

Following repairs to the retaining wall and the installation of a new surface, the basketball zone at King George Park will be ready for play on **Tuesday, September 12**.

Fall registration underway

Sign up now for your favourite sports and recreation activities. westmount.org

Sports & Recreation — we're hiring!

The Sports & Recreation Department is recruiting referees, instructors, timekeepers and pass attendants. Send your resume to recreation@westmount.org.

Closure of Av. Claremont between Sherbrooke and De Maisonneuve

The City will carry out significant repair and reconstruction work on the road and sidewalks of Av. Claremont. Work is expected to take about 5 weeks. The street will not be accessible to vehicles throughout this project. westmount.org/roadwork

BIBLIOTHÈQUE ET ÉVÉNEMENTS COMMUNAUTAIRES



Galerie du Victoria Hall : exposition

Jusqu'au 30 septembre. Œuvres de Nathalie Guez et Irma Alvarez. **Le 30 septembre, 14 h et 15 h : Musique à la Galerie** avec Steven Cowan, guitariste, dans le cadre des Journées de la Culture.

Musique au gré des saisons (1 à 5 ans)

Samedi 16 septembre, 10 h 30, Bibliothèque. Avec Alison Notkin. Un cours de musique inspiré de l'automne. Inscrivez-vous à westlib.org.

Parlons opéra !

Dimanche 17 septembre, 14 h, Victoria Hall. **Les Noces de Figaro**. En collaboration avec l'Opéra de Montréal. Inscrivez-vous à westmount.org.

Ciné-Club au Victoria Hall

Mardi 26 septembre, 14 h, *The Phantom of the*

Open, réalisé par Craig Roberts. Inscrivez-vous à westmount.org

Club de films documentaires

Mercredi 27 septembre, 19 h, Bibliothèque. *To a Safer Place* (1987) de la réalisatrice primée Beverly Shaffer. Inscrivez-vous à westlib.org.

Les heures de conte à la Bibliothèque

Du 27 septembre au 30 novembre.

- **Bébé comptines (6 à 18 mois)**
Les mercredis, 10 h 10 à 10 h 30 - en anglais
- **Les « tout-petits » contes (18 mois à 3 ans)**
Les mercredis, 10 h 40 à 11 h - en anglais
- **Conte et bricolage (4 à 6 ans)**
Les mercredis, 16 h à 16 h 45 - en anglais
- **Conte et bricolage avec Didi (2 à 4 ans)**
Les jeudis, 10 h 30 à 11 h - en français

WestmountLittéraire

Samedi 30 septembre, 19 h, Bibliothèque. Avec Jonathan Kaplansky, Linda Leith, Chantal Ringuet et Caroline Vu. En partenariat avec les Journées de la culture. Inscrivez-vous à westlib.org.

LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

Gallery at Victoria Hall: exhibition

Until September 30. Works by Nathalie Guez and Irma Alvarez. **September 30, 2 p.m. & 3 p.m.: Music at the Gallery** with guitarist Steven Cowan, in partnership with *les Journées de la Culture*.

Music By The Season (1-5 yr olds)

Saturday, September 16, 10:30 a.m., Library. With Alison Notkin. A fun, autumn-inspired music class. Register at westlib.org.

Let's Talk Opera!

Sunday, September 17, 2 p.m., Victoria Hall. **The Marriage of Figaro**. In collaboration with the Opéra de Montréal. Register at westmount.org.

Film Club at Victoria Hall

Tuesday, September 26, 2 p.m., *The Phantom of the Open*, directed by Craig Roberts. Register at westmount.org.

Documentary Film Club

Wednesday, September 27, 7 p.m., Library. *To a Safer Place* (1987) by award-winning director Beverly Shaffer. Register at westlib.org.

Storytime at the Library

September 27 to November 30.

- **Books for babies (6 to 18 months)**
Wednesdays, 10:10 to 10:30 a.m.
- **Tales for Toddlers (18 months to 3 yrs)**
Wednesdays, 10:40 to 11 a.m.
- **Storytime & Craft (4 to 6 yr olds)**
Wednesdays, 4 to 4:45 p.m.
- **Storytime & Craft with Didi (2 to 4 yr olds)**
Thursdays, 10:30 to 11 a.m. - in French



WestmountLit

Saturday, September 30, 7 p.m., Library. With Jonathan Kaplansky, Linda Leith, Chantal Ringuet and Caroline Vu. In partnership with *les Journées de la culture*. Register at westlib.org.



Wikidou – just stunning



9 Lives

LYSANNE FOWLER

Adoptions website at www.gerdysrescue.org, and check their social media postings on Facebook.

Please do not hesitate to write to them at their info@gerdysrescue.org email for an adoption questionnaire to fill out and receive more details on handsome Wikidou.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne

Wikidou is an original, mesmerizing in all his striking features. He is a tuxedo dandy, accessorized fashionably with his



white shirt, whiskers and gloves – even a few white touches on his sweet face to make us notice.

Wikidou is three years old, playful, affectionate and companionable to people and other cats.

He is presently in foster care for the Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions animal rescue group. His foster family mentions that he gets along well with everyone, and would enjoy the company of another cat as he is a leader who likes to play.

Wikidou is very healthy, up to date with his inoculations, neutered and micro-chipped. For more information on him, it is easy to refer to the Gerdy's Rescues &

Miss Goldie, a parti poodle warming hearts



Westmount
A-dog-tions

LYSANNE FOWLER

Unforgettable Goldie, at only four months of age, is a most brave and personable puppy. Goldie had an accident and broke her leg as a young puppy. She was surrendered to Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions to ensure that she had all the care and surgery she needed and is now coming out of the initial post-op phase of convalescence when being less active is important.

Her foster family adores her and she is very precious to all, but Goldie is now ready for adoption in a forever family, ideally with children over 10 years of age as she is still quite young, and also the possibility of a home with fewer stairs to the outdoors to facilitate her mobility. It might be best if arrangements could be made in the household for someone to be at home a bit during the day for the next three weeks of building strength on the healing leg.

Goldie is also moving forward on her puppy vaccination program, her junior parasite treatment and prevention program as well. She has been microchipped and will be spayed on schedule.

If you would like to find out more about sweet young Goldie, please refer to the Gerdy's Rescues & Adoptions website at www.gerdysrescue.org, and write to them at their email info@gerdysrescue.org to receive a questionnaire to fill out about yourselves and your interest, and to start a conversation on adoption.

Your neighbour,
Lysanne



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Eric Luu, LL.B., B.C.L., MTAX
Tax Lawyer – Income Tax, GST & QST
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Alleged shoplifter apprehended outside Canadian Tire store in Alexis Nihon

By JENNIFER BALL

A skirmish broke out when a man who was suspected of shoplifting clashed with Canadian Tire security outside the auto parts and home décor store in the Alexis Nihon shopping mall.

The store is on the bottom floor of the mall, on the eastern perimeter of the city of Westmount.

This happened just outside the store on September 7 at 10:40 am.

A Canadian Tire employee, who preferred not to provide a name, told the *Independent* that the suspected shoplifter was witnessed to have stolen some scissors and an expensive item. He then cut the security tag off the item before the security doors, ostensibly to not trigger an alarm.

The suspect was unshaven, of large build, had a pony-tail and was wearing a light-blue polo-shirt, black jeans and flip-flops.

He did not get far. He was apprehended and led back into the store in handcuffs to be interviewed. His protests over his arrest could be heard within the store and into the lower level of the shopping mall.



An alleged shoplifter on floor outside Canadian Tire. The store is on the eastern perimeter of Westmount near the St. Catherine St. intersection of Atwater Ave. The photo was taken on September 7 at 10:46am.

LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS

Translation

Certified translator, reviser, general translation: French, English, Spanish (from Mexico) and Italian – specialized translation: From French to English social sciences, medical sciences: emilio_pagnotta@hotmail.com

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Notice of closure of inventory

Please take note that following the passing of Miss Olena Hilda Chorney on February 3rd., 2023, residing at 23 Windsor Ave, Westmount, Quebec, H3Y 2L7, an inventory of her assets was prepared and completed by the legal liquidators Linda Morin and Nelson Morin. This inventory can be consulted in Westmount by interested parties only, by appointment at 514 817-1254.

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Woman falls to her death at 4300

By JENNIFER BALL

The most western block of apartments at The 4300 was the site of a tragedy the morning of September 5.

A 78-year-old woman died. She fell from a ninth-floor balcony located at the corner of de Maisonneuve and Redfern Ave., said media relation officer Sabrina Gauthier of the Montreal police department.

Gauthier spoke with the *Independent* later the same day and indicated that they hoped to be able to identify the cause of the fall by reviewing security camera footage. The fall happened between approximately 8:30 am and 9:15 am, but security cameras will hopefully provide a more

accurate time.

“Right now, we can share the briefest of information because investigators will go on the scene to understand the circumstances and hypothesize if it was an accident or understand that it was a suicide,” Gauthier said.

“We know that she was on a chair on her balcony.”

A passer-by who witnessed the aftermath of the fall said “I was biking by and I noticed four people around a blanket. When I got close to the blanket, I noticed two hands and two feet that had shoes on. I wasn’t sure if the person had passed out or was deceased.”

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Police Report

More local vehicle thefts – Laptops stolen at Dawson College

BY MARTIN C. BARRY

A wave of car thefts that has seen SUVs and other high-end vehicles stolen off streets and from driveways over the past summer continued in recent weeks with four more stolen vehicles reported by police at Station 12.

In two of the incidents, the owners were able to locate and recover their stolen vehicles relatively quickly thanks on-board vehicle-tracking systems.

One of the car owners told police he had parked his Toyota Highlander on St. Mathieu St. downtown around 1:40 am on September 3, but was unable to find the vehicle after returning to retrieve it around 8:30 am the following day.

According to Station 12 community relations officer Cst. Mike Yigit, the Toyota owner finally located the vehicle on Werdale Park road in Westmount around two kilometres away, with help from the car's Boomerang tracking system.

However, there was some damage to the car, including a missing passenger-side exterior door handle. As well, the licence plate had been removed.

In a second recent car theft incident, a Lexus RX was stolen during the early morning hours on September 4 on Notre Dame St. in Montreal's Ville Marie (downtown) borough, but was recovered on September 5 in Westmount.

The owners of two other stolen vehicles were not as fortunate. On September 5, a Toyota RAV 4 was stolen near the corner of Sherbrooke St. and Strathcona Ave.

Then, at some time between September 4 and 5, a GMC Yukon SUV was stolen from a spot near the corner of Arlington Ave. and Sherbrooke St. The owners were not immediately able to recover these vehicles.

The police see a pattern emerging in the thefts, according to Cst. Yigit.

"What we've been noticing is that the criminals are of a very young age," he said, noting that the current legal penalties for

engaging in automobile theft are relatively light compared to firearms trafficking or drug dealing. He said the returns for steal-

ing vehicles "are very high and it's an easy way of making money."

Regarding the role of law enforcement, he said "the law only permits us to detain individuals that are deemed an immediate danger to society. So, someone who stole a vehicle is normally released within a short period of time."

Computer theft at Dawson

Administrators at Dawson College were dealing last week with the aftermath of a major theft incident.

A suspect is believed to have hidden after the CEGEP's closing hours, then made off with 33 laptop computers that were being warehoused in a storage and shipping area.

The September 4 incident, which is believed to have taken place around 2 am, was only reported to police at Station 12 on Sept. 7.

According to the police report, the laptops were valued at around \$900 each, for an estimated total worth of about \$30,000.

As security cameras were activated at the time of the incident, the investigators could find good leads in the captured images and video footage.



The front gate of Dawson College on September 11.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

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Jadoul, 2 partners launching Women Basketball Fund

By MARTIN C. BARRY

As far as Antonin Jadoul is concerned, there's always more money to go around on the men's side of sports.

A Westmounter with a lifelong passion for basketball, Jadoul joined recently with two partners to try to change that.

They launched a sports scholarship fund to champion the cause of women in professional basketball. He, along with partners Maxwell Abrahams and Aurélie Leblanc, announced in July the creation of the Women Basketball Fund.

Every year, the fund will cover up to \$5,000 in expenses for selected athletes, including tuition fees, accommodation, school materials, travel and emergencies. The fund is being administered by the King Beaudoin Foundation, which is named in honour of the former head of state of Belgium.

The team

Jadoul, a senior manager with a recruiting firm, is a father of two, including a daughter. He has been involved in women's basketball for more than seven years as a coach and mentor. He has also played the sport professionally in Belgium,

where he was born.

Abrahams has been an outspoken advocate for women's sport for a number of years, most notably working towards bringing a WNBA franchise to Toronto.

Leblanc, for her part, has been involved in the basketball community as a player, coach and mentor, earning a full NCAA athletic scholarship at Furman University and the University of Bridgeport in the US at one point.

Changing environment for women's sports?

Regarding the disproportionate amount of money invested in men's sports, Jadoul admitted "it's starting to change a bit" as people of both sexes work towards increasing the presence of women in professional sports.

However, after getting



an up-close view of how professional women's sports are managed, he said what shocked him most was "how much we underestimate how difficult it is for women to go to university and to continue playing sports."

"Because it's one thing to go to university and study, it's another thing to stay an athlete, play and study at the same time, and I wanted to help with that."

The WBF recently announced the recipient of its first scholarship.

Mariama Toupé Diallo, a student at Collège Montmorency in Laval, has been a member of the CEGEP's basketball team for several years. According to Jadoul, she plans to continue her studies at Bishop's University in Sherbrooke, majoring in criminology.

◀Antonin Jadoul on August 27 on the basketball court at the Westmount Athletic Grounds behind Westmount High.

So sunny you need an umbrella



Parasols are not a usual Montreal thing, but at least two people in Westmount were using them in the recent heat wave, including this woman on de Maisonneuve at Victoria on September 6, left, and this man on Sherbrooke at Claremont the next day.

PHOTOS: INDEPENDENT.

Goal \$130 million, year two under way

Cape, CJA launch fundraising campaign

Westmounter David Cape, the general campaign chair of this year's Combined Jewish Appeal (CJA), helped launch Federation CJA's 2023 fundraising campaign with a speech August 29 before a 3,000-attendee benefit concert at Place des Arts.

The multi-year campaign's goal is \$130 million. "Our purpose is simple. We're bringing people together to think big. To be bold. To act like the future of our community depends on it. Because it does, it's the only way we will build the community we want for ourselves and for generations to come," he was quoted as saying in an August 30 press release. "We're leaning into innovative approaches to solve the biggest problems of our day. To care for people in need. Respond to crises close to home and far away. And shape our Jewish future. But we can't do it alone. We need people like you to stand up and join us. To give generously. To help us deliver on our promise to this community."

Other themes mentioned by Cape and Yair Szlak, the CEO of Federation CJA, included combating anti-Semitism, helping Jewish seniors (including Holocaust survivors), supporting Israel and fostering a Jewish identity, especially among young people and teens.



From left, Trish Bengualid, chair, Women's Philanthropy Campaign; Jason Martin, chair of GenMTL; Avi Krispine, président, Campagne de la Philanthropie sépharade; Dalit Haiman, West Island Campaign; and Westmounter David Cape, campaign chair.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FCJA.



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Café Crème closes?



Café Crème on Victoria Ave. had this sign on its door announcing a break in August, but was also closed September 7, 8 (date of picture) and 11, when the *Independent* checked. Its phone number was not accepting calls on September 11.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT.

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Goodmans welcome new McGill principal Saini

Social Notes

VERONICA REDGRAVE

In attendance from McGill were **Lesley Fellows**, the incoming dean of medicine; board chair **Maryse Bertrand**, and vice president **Marc Weinstein** as well as leaders from the Rosalind and Morris Goodman Cancer Institute (GCI) including **Suzanne Fortier**, past principal of McGill and the newly appointed chair of the GCI Advisory Board; **Phil Gold**, and professors **Morag Park** and **Nahum Sonenberg**.

Dignitaries in attendance included Israeli consul general **Paul Hirschson** and Westmount provincial legislator **Jen-**

Recently **Mia and David Goodman** hosted a reception to welcome McGill University's newly appointed principal **Deep Saini** and his wife **Rani** to the Montreal community.



David Goodman, Mia Melmed Goodman, Rani Saini and Deep Saini.



Mia Melmed Goodman, Carolyn Melmed, Jennifer Gold, Israeli consul general Paul Hirschson, Janis Levine and Judy Caplan.




Susan Libman Pascal, Barry Pascal, Jonathan Goodman and David Goodman.

nifer Maccarone.

Noted during the cocktail dinatoire were Rosalind and Morris Goodman, Tina Apfeld Rosenthal and Martin Rosenthal, Naomi and Eric Bissell, Etty and Ralph Bienstock, Susan Libman Pascal and Barry Pascal, Ronald Reuben, Franceen Poplaw Gold and David Gold, Judy and Mark Caplan, Dana Caplan Goodman and Jonathan Goodman, Lana Harper, Gail Gold and Norman Zavalkoff, Evelyn and Phil Gold, Jewel and Paul Lowenstein, and Janis Levine.

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Children playing at the Murray Park water fall in May 2016, the last year of its operation.



The same stream on September 11.

PHOTO: INDEPENDENT

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Murray Park waterfall, cont'd from p.1

sounds and birds chirping this spring and summer.”

The last time the waterfall was seen in full operation was in the summer of 2016. Findings of a feasibility study in 2018 had proposed costly work to the entire system at some \$350,000. As a result, restoring the system has not been deemed an immediate priority.

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Overheard in Westmount

Teenager to her three friends as rain began to fall, September 8 at 8 am on de Maisonneuve near Elm:

“Ah non, mes cheveux!”



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Please limit to 300 words and submit before Friday 10 am to be considered for publication the following week. email us at: editor@westmountindependent.com



City Views

VERONICA REDGRAVE

Nova Scotia, part 3: Lunenburg & area

Next stop on this summer sojourn is Lunenburg. It is one of only two urban communities in North America designated a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The little port town on the south shore was founded in 1763. One of the lures for your visit is the architecture: brightly coloured colonial buildings from the 1750s, Instagrammable-irresistible as they sit staggered vertically up a steep hill.


Another attraction is the world-famous Bluenose II. The first Bluenose, launched in 1921, was a fishing and racing schooner. ("Racing" because speed was essential in getting fishing catches first to market.) The sleek vessel represented Canada around the world until hitting a reef in Haiti in 1946.

The Bluenose II was launched in 1963. Many of the same people who worked on the original ship help build the new one. After a cruise on the Bluenose II (adults love it as much as everyone!), explore the area with an ice-cream.

A quick 20-minute *continued on p. 26*




A quiet panorama.



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City views, cont'd from p. 25

drive away is the famed town of Chester. Along with summer homes owned by visitors from around the world, it hosts the annual Chester Race Week, Canada's largest keel racing regatta.

Then back to beach cool. Some of you will love the water. (Fun fact: Nova Scotia has the highest tides in the world.) Others not so much; after all, it's not reflective.

You can always beachcomb. Try Broad Cove Beach. Partially protected, its private sandy area is relatively calm.

Walking between the waters and the dunes, rocks of all shapes and sizes attract young and old. I found the perfect pebble. Its provenance is protean: it's billions of years old. (Seeking stone stories is in my DNA: my grandfather Sir Cyril Fox was an archeologist.)

Fit-in-your-hand stones seem to communicate an ineffable calm. Although days' memories can be elusive, stones are ... well ... rock solid, triggering happy recollections. I stuffed a few *petit* pebbles in my suitcase. Luckily my baggage did get put on the return flight, although Air Canada's departure was one and a half hours late. (I did notice Porter flies to Halifax. Next time...)

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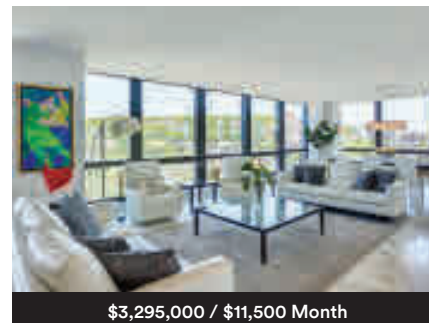
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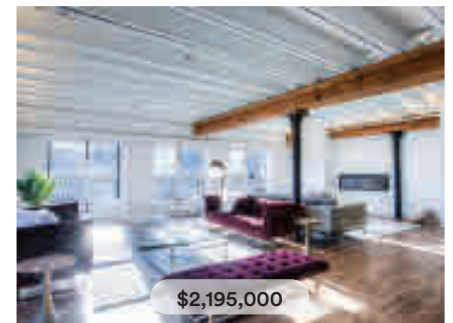


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