

# WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

Weekly, Vol. 3 No. 10d

We are Westmount

October 27-28, 2009

## City receives arena/pool grant contract

# Project deadline pushed to 2015

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

With only a few days remaining until Westmount elects its new council, the city has received a much-awaited draft contract for its \$20-million arena that extends the building deadline to 2015 from 2011.

“My reaction is spelled out in capital letters: RELIEF,” said Mayor Peter Trent in announcing the news last week. “We will still have to move quickly on the project, however.”

Many questions concerning conditions of the agreement remain unanswered while the city’s legal department combs through the details, he explained. “We have to go over the contract extremely carefully.”

To be negotiated, he said, is the signing date. “At this point, it appears we would have some 12 months thereafter to start construction.” These dates would both affect the amount of time the new council

would have to carry out its own analyses, needs assessments or other research it deems necessary.

“What’s very important,” Trent said, “is that the deadline for completion is no longer 2011. My own experience told me this would have been very difficult to achieve. We can’t do a project like this overnight and I was very uncomfortable with the previous deadline. I thank the government for giving us more time.”

Trent said he understood this extension was typical of what was being allotted to other similar projects and was not a special concession to Westmount.

### Based on old design plan

The grant, he said, is based on the old design that was presented at public information sessions last April. “But I feel confident we can make some changes and would hope to have a large ..... scope for change.”

*continued on p. 3*

## Westmount’s spooky hospital



Aches and pains are permanently cured at the “Westmount General Hospital,” as shown here by Public Security sergeants Kim Colquhoun and Denis Proulx. For details on this year’s Halloween haunted house at the lawn bowling clubhouse and safety tips, see page 22.

## Candidates face 200 at Victoria Hall

# Sunday’s vote to decide new council

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

As Westmounters in six electoral districts head to the polls this Sunday (November 1), almost all 15 councillor candidates have presented platforms prioritizing the arena project, sustainability and traffic issues. Many also call for greater transparency in the governance process.

So whatever the outcome, the business ahead for the new council seems to have

already taken shape.

By now, all eligible voters whose names appear on the revised electoral list should have received cards designating the voting locations. Polls will be open from 10 am to 8 pm, November 1.

With such a high calibre of candidates, it was too bad there weren’t more council seats, said Stanley Baker, on behalf of the Westmount Municipal Association at the Meet the Candidates night ..... at Victoria Hall, October *continued on p. 6*

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# VOTER C'EST VOTING IS IMPORTANT!

# Nicole Forbes



**Le dimanche  
1<sup>er</sup> novembre  
2009  
10h à 20h**

**Sunday  
November 1<sup>st</sup>  
2009  
10am - 8pm**

## District 6

**École Saint-Léon-de-Westmount - 360, avenue Clarke**

Autorisé et payé par/Authorized and paid for by: Sheryn Scott • Agente officielle de/Official agent for: Nicole Forbes

## Westmount Irish studies



Westmounters, former Westmounters and others were out in large numbers on October 19 to celebrate the inauguration of Concordia University's School of Canadian Irish Studies. They included, from left, Westmounter Peter Kruyt, chair of Concordia's board of governors (whose wife Claire is running to be city councillor for District 2); Michael Kenneally, principal of the new school; former prime minister and former Westmounter Paul Martin; Westmounter Judith Woodsworth, Concordia president and vice-chancellor; Westmounter and Quebec premier Jean Charest; former Westmounter and former Westmount mayor Brian Gallery, chair of the Canadian Irish Studies Foundation; and former Quebec premier Daniel Johnson. The event took place at the Mother House of the Grey Nuns Chapel.

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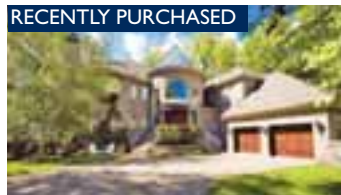
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## DQ shuttered up for this season, Bilboquet open all winter

BY ERIN STROPES

It's a sure sign that winter's on the way – Dairy Queen closed for the season on October 25 and will re-open in February. A closing day half-off sale attracted a crowd, with lines out the door early in the afternoon as customers stocked up on ice cream for the winter.

Neighbouring ice cream parlor Bilboquet will remain open through the winter for the first time this year.

The shop has been transformed into a



Katelynn Lawless of Bilboquet with the café's new winter offerings.

crêperie for the coming months, though a limited selection of ice creams will remain available. Coffee, hot chocolate and roasted chestnuts round out the winter menu.

Employees from both shops said that the economy hasn't affected the ice cream market this year, though the "gloomy" weather may have kept some people away.

As for who's still eating ice cream at this time of year, "It's mostly the die-hards!" said Alison Bovaird of Bilboquet.



Former Westmounters Margot Stevenson (right) and daughter Bryony Hoare pick up some treats at DQ's closing day sale.

## Unknown if grant is site-dependent

continued from p. 1

He said he has yet to be informed to what extent the grant is contingent on the current site or whether any alternatives could be considered. For now, all possibilities have been put on hold.

(For a description of the old design on which the grant was made, see the April 14 *Independent*, p. 1. For the new design,

see September 22, p. 1.)

Trent said he would present additional information on the conditions as he is informed in an effort to keep citizens up-to-date and bring people together behind the project. "This is truly an evolving story," he said.

Councillor for District 5



Gary Ikeman

Independence  
Integrity  
Experience  
Sound Judgment  
Commitment

Bryna Cohen: Official Agent

Re-elect Kathleen Duncan  
Ward 4



P PPPPaPoE

Official agent: Brian Mitchell

### 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

Mavis Young  
Mavis.young@gmail.com www.electmavis.ca 514-932-2026

Vote/Votez  
Mavis Young  
Conseillère - District 7 - Councillor  
Westmount  
Pour un vrai changement.  
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Patricia Edmunds: Official Agent

### 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

Mavis Young  
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*Civic Alert*

# Campaign '09: Who's helping whom tells

BY DON WEDGE



Hopes that the new council's work would get off to a fast start to tackle the arena renewal situation and other issues were dashed by the flurry of competition for council seats on October 2 – nomination day. Instead of being unopposed, Kathleen Duncan (District 4) and Nicole Forbes (6) had four-week campaigns to run.

They could have joined the acclaimed candidates, Mayor Peter Trent and councillors Patrick Martin (1) and Victor Drury (3) to meet quorum and begin formal council business.

On nomination day, there was even gossip that some councillors had deliberately created competition for Forbes and Duncan. At its centre were the late-hour decisions of Michael Osterland to run in District 6 and Nicholas Smith's switch from his home district (5), where there were five candidates, to become Duncan's lone challenger in District 4.

"Several friends tried to convince me

that it would be better for me and the city," Smith recalled. "I was undecided and sought the opinion of two councillors. One said 'switch' and the other said 'stay,' so I was no further forward."

As he went to city hall with his nomination papers just before the deadline, he decided to challenge Duncan.

**Osterland steps in for abortive candidate**

Osterland (6) was also a last-minute challenger, collecting the required 25 supporting signatures only on the day of nomination. "I thought someone else on my street was going to run, but she withdrew," he explained.

As longest serving councillor, Cynthia Lulham has been playing a key role as coach to some candidates, particularly newcomers Georges Hébert (5) and Theodora Samiotis (8). She also advised Duncan on her campaign leaflet after the sudden appearance of an opponent.

She has been working hard on her own campaign, too. In one recent four-hour evening session she canvassed de Maison-neuve, Kitchener and Abbott. In the mornings she is campaigning at bus stops as

voters go to work.

Former councillor George Bowser was among supporters canvassing with Hébert.

Nicole Forbes had intended to help other candidates, but had to cut this back to fight for her own seat. Nevertheless, she had a daily wake-up conference call with John de Castell (8).

"John made such a wonderful recovery from his serious illness that it seemed so ironic that he should miss the candidates' meeting at Victoria Hall," Forbes reported. "It was just bad food poisoning and he is fine now."

Though a rookie councillor, Victor Drury is an experienced campaigner and has been helping others, including Lulham and Forbes, but his main effort has gone to supporting Tim Price (2), including canvassing door-to-door.

**Are you experienced?**

The responses to Paul Marriott's question about candidates' attendance at council meetings surprised some at Meet the Candidates. Only two – ..... Mavis Young and Gary Ike- *continued on p. 5*

**VOTE**

**CLAIRE MULLINS KRUYT**  
Candidate for District 2 Councillor

*Speaking for all of Westmount*

*La voix de Westmount*

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10:00 am – 8:00 pm

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**District 2**

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- Financial expertise
- Proven management experience
- Significant community involvement
- Engaged in local recreational programs

Authorized by Bob McKenzie  
Official Agent for Tim Price

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**THEODORA SAMIOTIS**  
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# a story of its own

.....  
continued from p. 4

man, both critics of the outgoing council – could claim any frequency, with Nicholas Smith making the effort to attend in recent months.

But I wonder how important such attendance is. It needs to be supplemented with reading the decisional documents. These have been deposited in the library for nearly two decades and recently have been available on the web.

One way for Westmounters to gain insight into council work is through the advisory committees. Each offers some exposure to council's inner working. Georges Hébert is the only candidate in that category. Since retirement he has been active with the Healthy City Project and, for much longer, he has followed some aspects of the agglom council.

Perhaps it should be an unwritten qualification for candidates running in 2013 that they have served on one of the advisories or with the rejuvenated Westmount Municipal Association.

As a Westmount council observer for the last 20 years, I have been struck by the

change that takes place from plain citizen to councillor. The sheer pressure of issues, great and small, is perhaps the biggest factor. Then there is the habit of long meetings (often five or six hours), the need to find consensus, and to feign unanimity outside the committee room. Constituents' out-of-hours phone calls can be wearying, too. Together, they sometimes breed a kind of resistance to the outer world.

### *The shape of the agglom*

The wide support for Peter Trent's return meant there was no contest for the Westmount mayoralty, but several suburbs have such races. These will affect the make-up of his colleagues on the agglom council, and whoever Montreal chooses. Beaconsfield even has two candidates challenging the incumbent mayor, former TV journalist Bob Benedetti.

Bill Tierney is being challenged in St. Anne de Bellevue, Bill Steinberg in Hampstead and Vera Danyluk again faces competition in the Town of Mount Royal. There are contests in Senneville, Dollard des Ormeaux and Montreal East. Camp-

bell Stuart is not running for a second term in Montreal West.

Acclaimed and back in office are Bill McMurchie (Pointe Claire), Maria Tutino (Baie d'Urfé), John Meaney (Kirkland), Edgar Rouleau (Dorval) and Anthony Housefather (Côte St. Luc).

We will know the suburban representatives on the agglom council on Sunday night. But it may take much longer to determine who will replace Karin Marks in chairing the mayors' caucus.

Although from the smaller demerged towns, Stuart, Tierney and Tutino, by embracing the ADQ party, played a crucial role in supporting Marks' negotiations to improve the agglom law.

In Baie d'Urfé, the entire council, four women and three men, was acclaimed. Beaconsfield, on the other hand, has 21 candidates competing for the seven positions.

Five of seven seats are being contested in Hampstead and there are 15 candidates for the seven posts in TMR. Côte St. Luc has contests in three of its eight districts with Westmount High vice principal Steven Erdelyi being challenged.

The party system means that there are contests for mayor in all Montreal boroughs, except Ville Marie, which has been disenfranchised. In CDN-NDG, Michael

Applebaum (Union) is being opposed by Brenda Paris (Vision), Jacqueline Sommereyns (Team Louise O'Sullivan) and Carole Dupuis (Projet Montréal).

Another local connection is in Laval, where Greene Ave. real estate agent Lydia Abouljian is one of four candidates opposing Gilles Vaillancourt, who has been mayor for 20 years.

Citizen activist Don Wedge's email address is [dwwedge@sympatico.ca](mailto:dwwedge@sympatico.ca)



## Brian Gans

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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.
- (3) The first quarterly meeting will take place February 1st, 2010 at 7 pm at the Westmount Library.

**NEW** At our quarterly meetings I will have a guest speaker. **Guest speaker:** Mrs Marianne Zalzal, Director of Public Works and head of Westmount's administrative traffic committee.



# *I need YOUR vote to open the doors of City Hall*

Evelyn Horsky, official agent



# Baker: Great candidates, finite seats

continued from p. 1

19. “But you can’t all win the race,” he pointed out.

With the mayor and two councillors from Districts 1 and 3 already elected by acclamation, 14 of the 15 candidates in District 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 summarized their platforms and answered questions with the civility that has earmarked the event over the years. Only John de Castell in District 8 was absent, sidelined by food poisoning.

“No more niggling away at green space,” said Mavis Young of District 7, to hearty applause.

Similar reaction from the audience followed a passionately expressed stand by Gary Ikeman in District 5 who explained his desire to improve the arena in moderation, but “increasing the debt and removing the tennis courts are inappropriate.” He also said the city did not need to turn out players for the NHL.

Reaction to these topics from the some 200 citizens attending – of 10,885 eligible electors in the six contested districts – reflected many of the 30 questions asked during the evening. Only about half of the audience, however, remained to hear the candidates’ closing remarks.

Identifying the arena project as “the real challenge” of the new council, Mayor Peter Trent’s opening words set the course for the evening, beginning with candidates

outlining their platforms and making similar points to those already outlined in the *Independent’s* candidate profiles over the last month (see bottom right for summary.) Little new substance was introduced.

The hottest election race, in District 5 where four are running, generated questions focused mainly on parking congestion and its expected worsening from the impact of the building of the MUHC hospital. The four contestants are Georges Hébert, Ikeman, Douglas Leahey and René Pelletier (see separate story, p. 7).

Addressing other issues, Kathleen Duncan in District 4, spoke directly to the bike path and merchant issues while Nicole Forbes in 6 addressed the need for apartment buildings to start composting. Nicholas Smith in 4, wanted the city to introduce accounts payment and recreation registration online, and vowed to hold ward meetings (as did Pelletier).

Theodora Samiotis in District 8 made special reference to the long service of her opponent de Castell, and vowed to settle the long-standing sound barrier issue that she described as “a travesty that is not yet resolved.”

Cynthia Lulham in District 7 replied to many questions and failed to react to occasional sparring from Young, her opponent and seat mate at the platform table.

Most candidates called for more analysis and needs assessments before pro-



Citizens line up to question candidates, October 19 at Meet the Candidates night.

ceeding with the arena project, but all agreed to new facilities (see p. 8 for story and an *Independent* poll on the arena). When polled individually if they would vote for the current plan or risk losing the \$20-million infrastructure grant, most replied in round-about ways that they would probably vote for the current plan given such an ultimatum.

One later questioner asked for clarification on their replies, but moderator Jean-Pierre Picard, president of the Westmount Municipal Association, pointed out that repeat questions were not permitted.

“But they waffled the first time,” contended the resident.

“Then they will waffle again,” retorted Picard as he moved on to the next question.

Picard is president of the Westmount Municipal Association, which organized the event with the *Examiner*.

Parking and traffic in District 2 generated a couple of questions. Candidate Philip Cutler proposed that Bixi bike stands be set up and vigilant enforcement of parking be the norm at the start of term at Marianopolis. Tim Price stated that various needs had to be addressed, because the college wasn’t going to move. And Claire Kruyt said: .....

“You have to encour- continued on opposite page

## WESTMOUNT INDEPENDENT

**We are Westmount.**

Weekly

Presstime: Monday at 10:30 am

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DEPUTY EDITOR: Kristin McNeill

CHIEF REPORTER: Laureen Sweeney

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## On the ballot

The following is a list of profiles and updates done by the *Independent* of sitting councillors and challengers. They can all

be accessed on our website, [www.westmountindependent.com](http://www.westmountindependent.com). Just click on the “Archives” tab under Recent Editions.

District	Candidate	Status	Profile or update
2	Tim Price	Challenger	Sept. 15, p. 6
	Philip Cutler	Challenger	Oct. 6, p. 8
	Claire Mullins Kruyt	Challenger	Oct. 13, p. 6
4	Kathleen Duncan	Incumbent	Mar. 31, p. 18; Oct. 20, p. 10
	Nicholas Smith	Challenger	Sept. 29, p. 6
5	Gary Ikeman	Challenger	Sept. 1, p. 1
	Georges Hébert	Challenger	Sept. 15, p. 7
	Douglas Leahey	Challenger	Sept. 15, p. 7
	René Pelletier	Challenger	Sept. 22, p. 6
6	Nicole Forbes	Incumbent	Oct. 14, 2008, p. 18; Oct. 20, p. 10
	Michael Osterland	Challenger	Oct. 13, p. 6
7	Cynthia Lulham	Incumbent	Feb. 16, p. 14; Oct. 20, p. 11
	Mavis Young	Challenger	October 6, p. 9
8	John de Castell	Incumbent	Oct. 20, p. 11
	Theodora Samiotis	Challenger	Oct. 6, p. 9

Tom Thompson (District 2) and George Bowser (District 5) are retiring from council. Mayor Peter Trent, and councillors Patrick Martin (District 1) and Victor Drury (District 3), were acclaimed and have already been sworn in. Drury replaces Guy Charette. Martin begins his second term.

## Candidates queried on attendance at city meetings

.....  
continued from opposite page

age kids not to take cars to school.” An analysis of car usage was needed.

While all candidates expressed support for sustainability, and showed some familiarity with the city’s action plan, none, it turned out, had attended the city’s public meetings with the exception of Forbes, Lulham, Young and Smith. Hébert, a member of the Healthy City Project’s environment committee, pointed out he had been one of the city’s green ambassadors.

Of new candidates who had attended council meetings, only Ikeman and Young reported attending “ten,” and were known as frequent attendees, with Smith at four, and Pelletier, three. Others had attended fewer.

One time mayoral and councillor candidate Allen Nutik asked candidates if they were “part of the Peter Trent slate.” While all emphasized their independence, the following said they were “supported” or “endorsed” by Trent. They are Price (District 2), Duncan (District 4), Hébert (District 5), Lulham (District 7) and Samiotis (District 8). Forbes said she “hoped” he supported her in District 6.

Mayor Trent, however, made a point of wishing them all “good luck.” He pointed to the “circus going on in Montreal” over elections there, adding it was probably a good thing Westmount did not have political parties and was even able to elect its mayor by acclamation.

Councillors Patrick Martin and Victor Drury, acclaimed and already sworn in, also spoke briefly.

In closing statements, candidates asked Westmounters to go out and vote.

## District 5 candidates respond to ‘degrading’ parking situation

In District 5, where four candidates are in the race for one council seat, residents voiced concerns at Meet the Candidates night, October 19, regarding garbage, graffiti, panhandling and a “steady degradation of parking” once the MUHC impact kicks in.

Here’s what the candidates had to say regarding parking:

**Georges Hébert:** It has to favour local residents.

**Gary Ikeman:** “Will be even worse during the Turcot project and given the influx of shoppers due to the closing of Les 5 Saisons store. “If elected, I’ll get strongly involved in these issues.”

**Douglas Leahey:** The current permit law must be enforced.

**René Pelletier:** If elected, he will sit down with the person in charge of parking for the city and try to ease problems, particularly of Claremont residents.

## RE-ELECT Cynthia Lulham CITY COUNCILLOR WARD 7

- I have a proven record of working for all Ward 7 constituents at council, and of being available and visible in the Ward.
- What would have happened to Westmount Park if I had not fought for the final playing fields solution of natural grass at City Council?
- I will strive for consensus on the arena/pool project and see that it does not take away green space.
- I worked with the Citizen’s Train group to obtain the ongoing improvements on the CP tracks.

Authorized by: Charles Marien, official agent

## Votez / Vote



## Georges Hébert

Conseiller – District 5 – Councillor

Authorized by Nancy Dunton, official agent

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# Arena generates many questions for candidates

At one point during Meet the Candidates on October 19, all candidates were asked how they would vote if faced with a decision to approve the project in its current form or forfeit the \$20-million grant. In actual fact, the current design is not the one on which the grant is based (see story, p. 1).

## District 2

**Philip Cutler:** Growing up playing hockey in Westmount, he had to travel “great distances” once he reached a certain level. It was important that this current project “go through” and he would vote Yes.

**Claire Kruyt:** Understanding the needs of the younger generation, she said she felt the council could work with the current project.

**Tim Price:** “I’m supportive, so I would vote Yes.” He also said improvements to the current plan are needed, and that the project must be undertaken within responsible financial management.

## District 4

**Kathleen Duncan:** She said she could never vote in favour of the project before seeing more studies on needs and site analyses.

**Nicholas Smith:** He said without hesitation, he would vote Yes to the current project.

## District 5

**Gary Ikeman:** He said he had met with Mayor Karin Marks and declared the site was inappropriate. “I’ve written many letters saying our facilities must be improved, but increasing the debt and removing the tennis courts are inappropriate.” Westmount didn’t have to provide facilities that would turn out NHL players.

“We can’t have everything in the world. I’ve seen tremendous cost comparisons. I’ve been deeply involved for 18 months and I feel very passionate.” He also said he discovered many documents had been withheld, leading him to launch the website of the Westmount Arena Moderation Campaign. He believed there was “plenty of room to have a smaller, elegant and appropriate-sized project.”

**René Pelletier:** The arena is a must for Westmount, said Pelletier. “I’d rather see young people playing hockey and swimming than at the malls. I’m not decided where to put it.” Many questions need to be asked. Are costs too high? Is it the right location? “We must look for the best project for the next 50 years. I’m committed to bringing it in on budget.” He said there was a need to look at alternative sites.

**Douglas Leahey:** “There’s a lot of need for these facilities,” he said. New ones are required to provide more ice time for girls’ sports in particular. “I coach and I get

asked, ‘How come my kid doesn’t get to play?’ We have to find a way where we can all work together...We have a location and the ability to increase sociability.” Faced with the Yes or No vote, he would vote Yes but felt there was “wobble-room” to negotiate.

**Georges Hébert:** A needs assessment is “a necessary first step” which should be treated like an opportunity, said Hébert. If such an assessment indicates the need, he would vote Yes to the current plan. There is a lot of unknown information such as what the footprint is, he mentioned.

## District 6

**Nicole Forbes:** She would vote Yes to the current design on the grounds it would be a community centre.

**Michael Osterland:** Arena renewal is the number one issue but “it must be done in a way that suits most Westmounters.” He said he would vote Yes because the project needs to move forward.

## District 7

**Cynthia Lulham:** Asked why she hadn’t spoken out much earlier on her call for a needs assessment and in-depth cost analysis, she stated she had not wanted to put the grant at risk but had been vociferous behind closed doors about things “I could not agree with.” Once the grant was known she made public (through the *In-*

*dependent*) her cost survey of other arenas.

On the subject of “parks” versus “playing fields,” and the possible use of the Westmount Athletic Ground (WAG) as an arena site, she said: “We had not done our due diligence. It would at least be fair to drill a few bore holes.”

(The WAG was not further raised in questions from the floor.)

She would vote Yes but “there are a lot of changes that could be made to the current project.”

**Mavis Young:** Problems generated by the arena tended to get bumped down to her neighbourhood on Melville, Young said. She had met with city officials about them, but she claimed not to have received feedback. Would she vote for the current project? “Always negative.” She said it demonstrated “a flagrant disregard” for the neighbourhood “and we can’t shift our problems into the WAG.”

## District 8

**Theodora Samiotis:** “I would support a needs assessment and value for money we’ll put into the project,” said Samiotis. She would vote Yes.

**John de Castell**

He was absent due to food poisoning, but his campaign flyer states the project must move forward with citizen support. The WAG’s status as a green space must be maintained.

## Travaux de réfection

### Reconstruction de la conduite d’eau principale

Rue Sainte-Catherine, entre les avenues Greene et Clarke

Veillez noter que les travaux de remplacement de la conduite d’eau principale sous la rue Sainte-Catherine se poursuivront jusqu’au début du mois de décembre. Ce projet est géré par le Service des infrastructures, transport et environnement de la Ville de Montréal.

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).

Pour toute information supplémentaire, veuillez communiquer avec la Ville de Montréal au 514 872-3777 (8 h à 17 h). Pour connaître l’avancement du projet, consultez le site Internet [ville.montreal.qc.ca/chantiers](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/chantiers).



## Infrastructure Renewal

### Reconstruction of the Water Main

St. Catherine Street, from Greene Avenue to Clarke Avenue

Work is currently underway to reconstruct the water main on St. Catherine Street, and will continue until early December. This project is managed by the *Service des infrastructures, transport et environnement* of the City of Montreal.

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).

For additional information on this project, please contact the City of Montreal at 514 872-3777 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.). For project updates, consult the Web site at [ville.montreal.qc.ca/chantiers](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/chantiers).



**Westmount**

Service des travaux publics  
Public Works Department

**Info : 514 989-5257**  
**[www.westmount.org](http://www.westmount.org)**



# Candidates respond to *Independent's* arena survey

While candidates were asked many times about the proposed arena/pool project at Meet the Candidates (see p. 1 and 8), some questions were left unasked.

Many candidates want more information (e.g. usage, traffic, parking and engineering studies), and there are many shades of grey in politics, but for the benefit of clarity, we asked them to answer the following questions about the two major proposals that have been made public, and some other alternatives that have come up in letters to the editor and elsewhere.

Please note the use of the word “generally.” It leaves room to manoeuvre as new facts and new design possibilities come to light.

## Possible answers

(A) Yes – (B) No – (C) I do not currently have enough information to reply – (D) Decline to answer for another reason

(E) Candidates were also given the option of answering none of the questions and writing 100 words about why these questions are not appropriate at this time.

## Questions

(1) Do you generally support the revised plan for a new two-rink, two-roof arena (and separate pool and pool building near Academy Rd.) at the current site, as presented by the city’s architects on September 26?

(2) Do you generally support the idea of placing two rinks at the Westmount Athletic Grounds (WAG) and leaving the outdoor pool at the current site, as explained by Councillor Patrick Martin in the *Independent* of July 7, 2009 (p. 1)?

(3) Do you generally support *only* renovating the existing facility?

(4) Do you generally support building a new facility at the current site that *only* occupies the currently used footprint?

(5) Do you generally support doing further research into placing two rinks at the WAG (e.g. bore holes)?

(6) Do you generally support expanding the arena’s ice surface from one and a half to two rinks?

Most candidates chose option (E), but three answered in short form (see table above).

## District 2

*Philip Cutler*: As my constituents are aware, I am extremely in favour of rejuvenating the arena and pool. There are issues that need to be clarified and further details must be made public before anyone could indicate which project is best suited for our community. Let it be known that my priority as a councillor is to be forward-thinking and provide a perspective

	(1) Rev'd plan	(2) WAG	(3) Reno. only	(4) Same footprint	(5) Study WAG	(6) 2 rinks
District 5						
<b>Douglas Leahey</b>	yes	no	no	no	no	yes
District 6						
<b>Nicole Forbes</b>	yes	no	no	no	no	yes
District 8						
<b>John de Castell</b>	yes	no	no	no	no	yes

on council that reflects multigenerational needs, including youth and young families. In ensuring our future citizens have the best possible facilities, there is no doubt we will require a new arena and pool.

*Claire Kruyt*: Westmount needs a high-quality ice rink and pool facility. The opportunity to upgrade the current arena thanks to government support should not be lost under any circumstances. So a timeline for decisions is urgently needed. This means that we must work diligently to conclude, but we must do so with knowledge. Crucial to any decision is a needs-based study to balance the use of space. A vital component to the layout is cost, both building and operating cost. Councillors need to use their best judgement while seeking the views of those they represent with this important issue.

*Tim Price*: I support upgrading the recreational facilities, more specifically the pool and arena, if financially prudent. The \$20-million government grant goes a long way to satisfying that requirement. While I personally feel that there is a need for two rinks, I believe that more information is required, including a needs analysis, before an informed decision can be made. This includes consideration of the most appropriate site (or sites) for the required facilities.

## District 4

*Nicholas Smith*: While there are still questions about the current plan, with what we know, I have not heard of another that would make more sense for the city. We do need to keep costs under control and find a place for the junior tennis courts – we don’t know, but maybe splitting the rinks, one at the current site and one at the WAG, could solve both and other problems – but succeeding that and barring a better proposal, I would generally support the project in its current form, taking advantage of the time-limited stimulus money instead of delaying another decade.

*Kathleen Duncan*: Clearly, the arena and pool cannot be left in their current state, nor can we afford to bypass \$20 million in infrastructure money. While I support renewing these valuable resources, I can’t

form a final opinion until we have had a proper analysis of the sites and a current needs assessment done, to be sure the facilities we build today answer the community’s needs now, and throughout the next 50 years. Given the government funds came a year late, let’s see what kind of negotiating room we have.

I hope this underlines my position.

## District 5

*Georges Hébert*: First, we must promptly obtain a needs assessment.

Then we must discuss with an open mind the best way of meeting those needs, while balancing all the environmental, economic, spatial, aesthetic, safety and traffic/parking constraints.

Supporting or eliminating particular solutions now pre-judges, in whole or in part, the very issues we must address and reduces the chances of accomplishing what promises to be a very difficult and complex balancing act.

Achieving this balance is crucial to obtaining the consensus of the community.

*Gary Ikeman*: (1) Rebuild current 1.5 rinks and an indoor/outdoor pool on the current footprint, (more or less). (2) Keep the “junior tennis courts” where they are. (3) Prioritize the current rink utilization towards the youth population. (4) Do a needs analysis. Clearly differentiate between “needs” (essential) and “wants” (optional/luxury). (5) For more ice space: (a) Erect sheltered outdoor rinks, possibly with heating units, or (b) Build a second single indoor ice rink in another location. Seek a location low in population density, on flat terrain. (6) Let’s be practical about this, and try not to build monuments.

*Douglas Leahey*: See table above.

*René Pelletier*: A lot of thought and effort has already gone into the planning around the new arena and pool complex, and I would not want to incur needless costs reopening all aspects of the discussion. Once elected, I will reassess the information considering residents’ needs, the impact on the residents surrounding the complex, the costs and budget, and whether there are less expensive alternatives to deliver the services required with the smallest footprint possible.

## District 6

*Nicole Forbes*: See table at left.

*Michael Osterland*: I believe Westmount should build a new complex with two full rinks. The huge forecast cost of \$36 million in its existing location makes the proposal to look at WAG worthwhile. The facility must be more energy efficient than its predecessor, and offer adequate parking. If the WAG location proves to deliver significant cost advantages, there is an opportunity to then re-design the Academy Rd. pool complex, keep the tennis courts on site, and increase both the green space and harmony of Westmount Park.

## District 7

*Cynthia Lulham*: I do not support the current proposal – it is too large for the site and I don’t support placing the pool/pool house on the site of the tennis courts. In terms of the current footprint – I would support incorporating the current road surface (by the practice court) into the site.

I do support doing traffic studies, a proper needs assessment – that looks at our needs today and the next 25 years, only then can we answer all the questions and start to build consensus.

*Mavis Young*: I support renovation of the arena on its existing footprint, together with a year-round swimming pool, if a community needs-assessment and consultation warrant it. Recovered heat from the refrigeration process can be used to heat the indoor pool to maximize energy efficiency. Sky-lit prototype pools, with retractable roofs for summer use can be viewed at [www.electmavis.ca](http://www.electmavis.ca). The tennis courts would stay in their current location.

I do not favour construction of two rinks at the WAG, since this would involve building on a community park. Residents of the neighbourhoods most affected should be consulted on this matter.

## District 8

*John de Castell*: See table above.

*Theodora Samiotis*: I am very surprised that this arena project has gotten this far without a proper user study. Without such a study how can we know how many people would actually use the facility, and how many rinks are required, etc.? However, I am very clear on one point: like the majority of residents of District 8, I am COMPLETELY OPPOSED to any large-scale building project on the Westmount Athletic Ground (WAG), which is one of the precious few green spaces we have, and is well used by a wide cross-section of our residents. The WAG must be preserved and enhanced, not built over.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR – ARENA

### IKEMAN IN A CONUNDRUM

At the Meet the Candidates meeting on October 19, Gary Ikeman stated that the arena/pool project would have to fit into the current footprint (see also his letter in the October 20 *Independent*, p. 4).

He also repeats the mantra that a needs analysis is required.

But a needs analysis may show needs that cannot be fitted into the current footprint.

Which would we then get? The Gary Ikeman who respects the needs analysis, or the one who is confined by the limit of the current footprint?

GEORGES HÉBERT, CANDIDATE,  
DISTRICT 5

### BAD IDEAS

Nobel prize winner Paul Krugman recently said “you should never underestimate the destructive power of bad ideas.”

Some Westmount examples:

1. The Summit Lookout Tree Massacre Bad Idea. Cost to the citizens and the environment: Priceless.

2. The Synthetic, Toxic Used-Tire Turf Bad Idea. Cost to taxpayers: Estimated by me to be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

3. The Soccer Field Reseeding and Grass Planting Bordering Academy Rd. Bad Idea: This was immediately started after the council embarrassingly had to cancel the synthetic turf project. This area has since been permanently gated with an iron fence to keep kids and others out, and could be considered to serve as a vindictive reminder to not mess with city hall. Cost to taxpayers: \$905,000.

4. The Mega Super Sports Arena Bad Idea: This one has already produced a lot of collateral damage. The mayor leaves her job. Council is split. Several council members will not run again. What's left behind? What some people see is a trail of financial ineptitude in handling taxpayers' money, without any regard to the lifestyle of the people who live in the surrounding neighbourhoods.

The multitude of reasons for this monstrosity to not happen, such as green space encroachment, traffic congestion, etc., have already been well documented. Cost to taxpayers: Already \$850,000 and still running before anything has even been done.

5) The Financial Bad Idea: Not one candidate for council has had the courage to say they would not accept the \$20-million grant from the provincial and federal governments. Even with the government grants, the city debt will increase to \$60

million at a time when all governments around the world are trying to reduce their debt load.

But perhaps the Worst Bad Idea of All is that several of the present council members are running again, along with some of their hand-picked followers without any awareness of their lack of business judgment.

Sadly the legacy of the Marks council will be that of dividing the Westmount community unlike any other council in the long history of this city.

LARRY KLEPPER, ST. CATHERINE ST.

### ALL ARENA, NO POOL

Is it due to the heavy-handedness of the arena lobbyists or the short-sightedness of city hall that the ongoing project is more and more called the “arena project” instead of the “arena/pool project”?

This “short end of the stick” treatment the pool is getting reflects backward thinking, subjectivity, and explains the choice of architecture firm hired.

Asking council's position on year-round swim facilities/indoor pool for Westmount at Meet the Candidates, the answer Ms. Duncan gave was – we are looking into using available pool time at the YMCA.

According to a letter to the *Independent* (May 5, p. 7) from one of the master team swimmers, there is not only no free time, but also a lack of time to accommodate all their programs.

Stop free-loading on the Y pool! Isn't it time to finally get our own indoor pool, especially now, when we have the opportunity to replace the existing one with a combined indoor/outdoor pool? Another factor is the loss of the former Marianopolis pool due to closure.

Demographics seem to indicate that we only need one rink. Demographics also show that an indoor/outdoor pool would address the majority of our population – year-round.

What happens when gas goes up to unprecedented heights, and it would cost two or more weeks' worth of groceries to go to the cottage on the weekend? People will be selling their second homes, staying in town and wanting to use sports facilities.

During the meeting, a second argument came up for not building an indoor pool. Since this was a renewal project and no indoor pool exists presently, not considering building one was justified. Well, that would automatically cancel a *second* rink.

Scrap the revised proposal presented September 26. It is even worse than the

original plan in regards to the architectural design – one rink too many, loss of tennis courts and lack of an indoor pool.

Keep it as a sports facility. We do not need snacks, coffee shops and internet access. Emphasis should be on modern shower and change facilities.

Ideally relocate the arena with above-ground parking (less costly), or find an architect who has the creativity and know-how to build our needs/demands at the present location.

All the talk is about traffic, noise, parking, bike path, dog walking, recycling and garbage. Health is the number one priority – for all of us, everywhere. And anything the city undertakes in this day and age should reflect this, especially in a newly-built sports facility that has to serve us for the next 50 plus years.

JUTTA DEMERS, GROSVENOR AVE.

### TRIO VOTED FOR FEES, NEVER DISSENTED

It was interesting to read the letters from the three city councillors in last week's *Independent* (October 20, p. 4). Were they sent to possibly deflect attention from what many people consider fiscal mismanagement of the city?

It was also interesting to note that the letter writers didn't respond to the concerns mentioned in Ms. Young's letter appearing in the October 13 issue (p. 4.)

These three individuals – Martin, Bowser and Lulham – were sitting council members when the votes took place to increase the professional fees for the arena, which eventually went from \$400,000 to more than \$800,000 without the city ever having done the most basic planning, such as a needs assessment. In the many times that I have attended council meetings, I never saw these councillors vote openly against anything.

I don't think Peter Trent would have concurred with this waste of money, and I know that Mavis Young would support him in his effort to return Westmount to basic sound management.

MARILYNN GILLIES, MELVILLE AVE.

### YOUNG, NOT OFFENSIVE

While I am impressed by Councillor Cynthia Lulham's extensive research on other arena projects, I did not think that Mavis Young's letter (*Independent*, October 13, p. 4) was offensive. In fact, I enjoyed it.

Perhaps not everyone shares her sense of humour, but I found her comments clear and to the point, and may have reflected the views of many who read it.

JUNE PATERSON, MELVILLE AVE.

### District 5 sees strongest early turnout

The advance poll for the municipal election took place on October 25. District 5 had the heaviest turnout, with 183 people (or 9.8 percent of eligible voters) turning up. District 6 had the lowest, with 76 voters (3.7 percent). The regular vote takes place on Sunday, November 1.

	Voters	% of eligible
District 2	81	5.2
District 4	142	7.1
District 5	183	9.8
District 6	76	3.7
District 7	103	5.2
District 8	77	5.4
Total	662	6.1

Source: city clerk.

## 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.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR – NON ARENA

### INDIE SCORES HIGH FOR ONE BRIT

I sent by email the copy of the *Independent* paper with the article about the Royal Montreal Curling Club to my brother in England. He commented on the excellent calibre of “my local paper” compared to the ones he saw in his country. Keep up the good work.

PAT FORBES, DE CASSON RD.

### 5 SAISONS WILL BE SORELY MISSED BY THE CAR-LESS

Thank you for your kind farewell article to the 5 Saisons grocery store. It will be sorely missed by more than one car-less resident, as well as the elderly in the neighbourhood who depend on its central location to buy their food.

You quote Jacob Attias, the building owner, as saying that he plans to share his redevelopment plans with the incoming city council “as a courtesy to the city.” How about a courtesy to the citizens of Westmount who foot the bill and suffer the consequences?

Can the *Westmount Independent* use its fact-finding skills to inform the public before it gets presented with yet another *fait accompli*? The absence of a full-fledged food store in the area and the presence of yet another condo will be detrimental to the aesthetics and liveability of one of Westmount's most welcoming spots.

MAYA KHANKHOJE, KENSINGTON AVE.

*Editor's note:* For clarity, Jacob Attias explained to us that it was the *sharing first* (of the plans with the city) that was the courtesy and not the *sharing itself*, which he implied he had to do and which is certainly our understanding of the law.

He was very open to talking to us again after presenting his plan to city hall. Stay tuned.

### PARENTING COLUMN GETS THUMBS UP

J'ai beaucoup aimé votre article avec Sophie Tarnowska. Je l'ai trouvé rafraichissant et pleine d'humour. Malheureusement, j'avais passer à coté de l'article car le titre n'était pas très accrocheur. C'est une amie qui m'as recommander de le lire. Vous devriez l'inviter à nouveau; elle amène un brin de fraîcheur dans votre journal.

ANNY VALLIÈRES, SHERBROOKE ST.

### REAL FOR THIS MOM

I just wanted to write about a new writer you had in the issue of October 6,

Sophie Tarnowska. I really enjoyed her article about motherhood – it was very real to me as mom in Westmount. I hope to see more articles from her in the future.

CASSANDRA WHITE, STRATHCONA AVE.

### PARENTING COLUMN – LOL

I would like to tell you how much I enjoyed Sophie Tarnowska's column, Westmount Parenting. As a mom of four in the community, I know exactly how exhausting getting children back to school can be. This is a topic I would love to see explored again. Her comments were insightful and laugh-out-loud funny. I look forward to hearing her opinions again.

CHRISTINE CARDINAL, MURRAY HILL AVE.

### TELL ME: WHERE DO THE CHILDREN PLAY?

The past Westmount administration spent a tremendous amount of time and money attempting to convince citizens to accept artificial turf, and then changed course and had the fields properly redone with natural turf.

My question is: When will this part of the park be freed of its fence so that young people and families can enjoy the open space as we did two years ago?

My son and his friends have tried, on a number of occasions, to play simple pick-up soccer and have been forced to leave. They have given up playing near home and now play at McGill.

No other park in Westmount is fenced off from its own citizens. And as everyone knows, it has been, since mid-June, a private club for seagulls.

The way Westmount Park has been handled by the outgoing administration has led to ill feelings and the most unfortunate divisions within our community.

ANNA O'CONNOR, LEWIS AVE.

### SUSTAINABILITY? WHAT SUSTAINABILITY?

I attended the recent Meet the Candidates event organized by the Westmount Municipal Association (WMA) and was surprised to discover how ill-prepared many candidates, incumbents excepted, appeared to be. When asked how many council meetings they'd attended in the past two years, the majority answered zero, yet they talked about “transparency” and other process issues. How can they have any idea how it works if they've never participated?

I have attended at least 20 meetings in that period and don't yet feel qualified,

though my membership of the WMA may be a good stepping stone along that future path. More disconcerting was their knowledge (or lack thereof) of Westmount's sustainability aims. I personally attended all four public meetings but, when asked, most of the candidates (most incumbents excepted again) had not attended any!

They all spoke in vague terms of the environment and sustainability, yet apparently had not read the action plan for which the outgoing council had voted unanimously and recommends the new council adopt. When asked what their top three items were from this plan, most were not able to name even one!

The environment in general, and climate change in particular, are the most pressing issues facing the world today. It is essential that we have elected representatives who will continue to work effectively to build on the work of the outgoing council. This was spearheaded by the likes of John de Castell (who, due to illness, did not attend the WMA event), Tom Thompson and former mayor Marks.

John, in particular, has been instrumental in helping create the position of sustainable development coordinator, filled so effectively by Joshua Wolfe.

I was happy to hear that one of the candidates in my riding, Nicholas Smith, had attended some sustainability meetings. He also knows that continuous welded rails are the essential prerequisite for the electrification of the commuter train lines and how this will greatly improve the quality of life for residents in Districts 5, 7 and 8 through massively reduced pollution and noise. We need candidates with vision to lead Westmount into a more sustainable future.

PAUL MARRIOTT, GROSVENOR AVE.

### TWO SOLITUDES

The definition of “two solitudes” has taken on a new dimension and meaning with the publication of swine flu vaccination centres (*The Gazette's* October 24 map, p. 3). No clinics are being set up in NDG or Westmount to deal with the deadly virus. (The Cavendish clinic is in Côte St. Luc.)

The rest of the island may wish “bonne chance!” to those living in the *Gazette's* prime circulation area

EDWARD W. BARRETT, KENSINGTON AVE.

### NIMBIN – NOT IN MY BIN

There is one housekeeper/dog owner who consistently shows a lack of respect for the residents who live on The Boule-

vard. Whenever she walks her dog, she drops this hallowed bag into someone else's garbage receptacle instead of carrying it back to her residence.

What is really egregious is that on blue box recycle days, she drops the bag into the blue box!

It is unbelievable that someone could be so disrespectful of her neighbours!

MARKUS MARTIN, THE BOULEVARD

*Editor's note:* Your area is not the only one with disrespectful neighbours. I live on the other end of the city and people do the same thing there. They either expect the garbage men to rummage around in the bottom of the garbage can for the small bag of leavings or the homeowner to consolidate it with their garbage.

### Two arsons, two arrests

Public safety officers found several pieces of paper burning inside the comfort station at King George (Murray) Park after responding to a fire alarm October 21 at 5:21 pm. Officers quickly extinguished the flames and reported that no significant damage had occurred. An interior smoke detector had been tampered with, however, causing the building to be secured until the unit could be repaired.

At 8:46 pm, officers were dispatched to 1201 Greene Ave. after two suspects were seen trying to set fire to a metal door. They were also reported to have assaulted a woman by grabbing her at the rear. Burn marks were found but no fire. Police and PSOs combed the neighbourhood and two suspects were apprehended. It was not immediately known if the two incidents were related.

### Patrol car attacked

Damage to the windshield of a Public Security patrol vehicle forced it off the road October 22 after a man repeatedly struck the glass with his fists. Officers said they had been checking the man found sleeping on a bench outside 4024 St. Catherine St. near Atwater around midnight. An aggressive response caused the officers to retreat inside the vehicle. Police took the man into custody.

### Electronic *Independents* available

Enjoy the Indie at supper time on Tuesdays! Sign up by writing us: indie@westmountindependent.com.

*Social Notes from Westmount and beyond*

# Westmounter addresses Fraser Institute

BY VERONICA REDGRAVE



Westmounter **Jean Charest**, premier of Quebec, was guest speaker at the Fraser Institute's 35th anniversary gala dinner on October 1.

He shared his perspective on what a possible free trade agreement with the European Union would mean for Quebec, and the benefits

it could have for Canada.

The 300 guests at the sold-out event crowded into the chandelier-lit Windsor, enjoying hors d'oeuvres by Bice before entering the ballroom for a sit-down dinner. The event was smoothly organized by the committee, including Westmounters **Stuart (Kip) Cobbett**, **David Laidley** and **Andrew Molson**, along with **Louis-Philippe Amiot**, **Laurent Benarrous**, **Alain Côté**, **Stuart Elman**, **Senator Leo Housakos**, **Eleanor Nicholls** and **Pascal Pilon**.

Sponsors were Heenan Blaikie, Walton, AstraZeneca and Bell, in collaboration with the Montreal

Council on Foreign Relations.

Chicly clad in "corporate garb" (no jeans here!), guests mingled with Canadian influencers.

Guests at the head table were Jean Charest; **Mike Harris**, former premier of Ontario; **Pierre-Marc Johnson**, former premier of Quebec; **Jean Frédéric Lafontaine**, AstraZeneca; **Christian Goulet**, Bell; **Guy Tremblay**, Heenan Blaikie; **Patrick Holdich**, British consul general; **Laurent Benarrous**, Jones Lang LaSalle; **Anik Trudel**, Edelman; **Pierre Lemonde**, CORIM; and **Roger Phillips**, trustee of the Fraser Institute.



*Marika Coulourides and Westmounter Jean Charest.*



*Westmounters Victor Drury (left) and Andrew Molson with Helen Antoniou.*



*Westmounters Hartland Paterson and Kip Cobbett.*



*Ted Scaldwell and Mike Harris.*




esthétisme médicale  
**peau**

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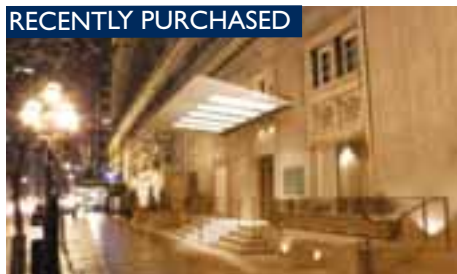
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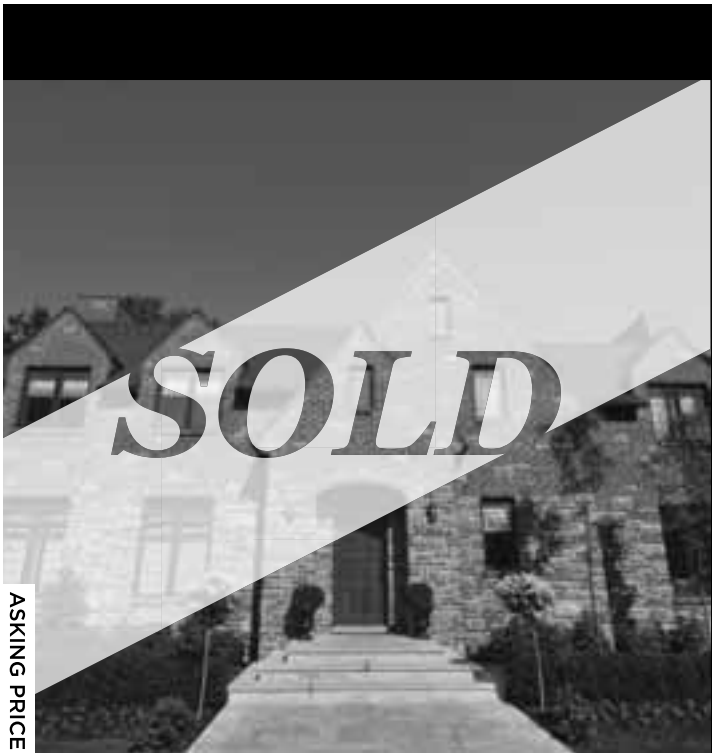


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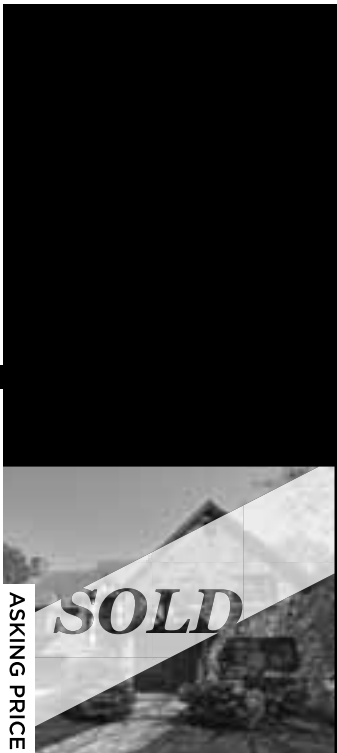
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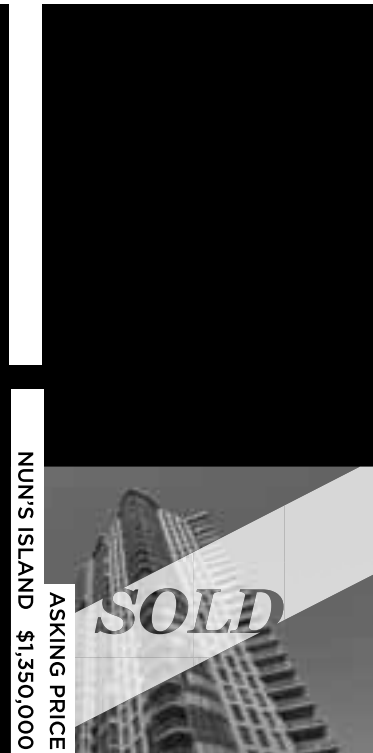




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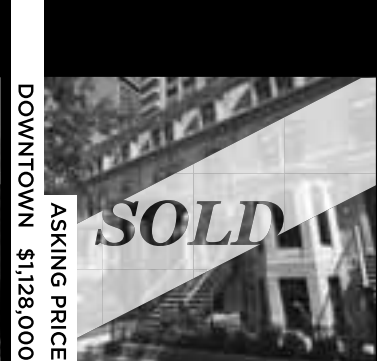
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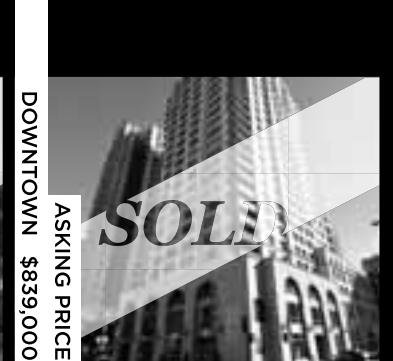
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**Segal Centre inherits the Wind**



From left, Bryna Wasserman, Pulitzer Prize recipient Edward Larson, and Westmounter Alvin Segal.

Photo: Robi Cohen

Westmounter and arts patron Alvin Segal was on hand October 18 with Edward Larson to kick off a production of *Inherit the Wind* at the Segal Centre (5170 Côte St. Catherine Rd.).

Larson was chosen as the lecturer because of his Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *Summer for the Gods: The Scopes Trial and*

*America's Continuing Debate Over Science and Religion*. The play runs until November 8 and tells the story of the Scopes monkey trial of 1925 in Dayton, Tennessee when schoolteacher John Scopes was accused of violating a state law against teaching the theory of human evolution.

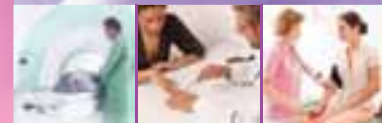
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## Westmounters, queen celebrate Chest's 100th



From left: Dr. Arthur Porter (CEO and director general of the MUHC), Westmounter Joan Ivory, Westmounter Susan Curry (chair of the board of the Montreal Chest Institute) and Dr. Richard Menzies (director of Montreal Chest Institute).

The Montreal Chest Institute (MCI) turned 100 on October 21 and Westmounters were there, as they have been throughout its history. The institute is now a part of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) and the event took place steps from Westmount at the old Air Canada building on de Maisonneuve at Vendôme, just north of the MUHC's future Glen campus.

The institute was founded as the Royal Edward Institute to combat tuberculosis, a disease that at the time claimed 12,000 lives a year in Quebec. The official opening was "presided over" by the eponymous King Edward VII, who pushed a button in England that sent a current across the At-

lantic to open the institute's doors.

"The treatment of respiratory diseases has now expanded far beyond tuberculosis, and the doctors and healthcare professionals of the MCI are proud to celebrate the past 100 years that have made this establishment a centre of excellence," said Dr. Richard Menzies, the institute's director.

Despite the passage of time, Queen Elizabeth II, Edward VII's great-granddaughter, chose a less technologically advanced method – a letter – to send her thoughts, which included "warm thanks" for the staff's "loyal greetings," and "best wishes and congratulations."

### 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.



Stratégie verte  
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Green Strategy

### 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.

### 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.

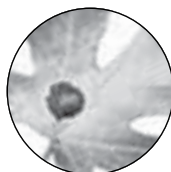
### Collection Schedule

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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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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## Underdog

# A Rose by any other name

BY FERN BRESLAW



There are dog people, and there are cat people. Rose is a dog for a cat person. Maybe that's why she didn't do much for me: She didn't pull at my pantleg, slobber all over or beg

Gallery, the other dogs kept picking on her – likely because she was so clearly the weakest of the pack. So Rose would rather be held or be with people than play with dogs. She may not be “the dog” for the dog person, but she'd be a heckuva match for a cat lover.

Rose is very simple, and doesn't need



Rose

Photo: Sophie Doyle

me for a piece of my sushi combo at lunch.

Rose is a 4-year-old teckel. A puppy mill rescue, she is 70 percent blind and basically deaf. She suffered a head trauma (which is probably why she can't hear much), and has been intensely abused and neglected. Her vision was likely lost thanks to the intense urine fumes from the uncleaned “premium” breeding facility where she was kept.

There really isn't much working for this little girl, but she is terribly gentle, polite and sweet.

During her day at the Underdog

much. This dog wants a lap and a corner of the bed and maybe short little walks here and there. It isn't much to ask. Rose is fine with cats and dogs, but they may not be fine with her. She would probably be happiest as a single child or one with much older siblings. She doesn't need medical attention because all the damage that people have done to her is there for good.

We just want her to find a home where nothing else bad ever happens to her.

To find out more about Rose, visit [underdogclub.org](http://underdogclub.org) or call 514.969.3376.

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# TRENDSSETTER

BY VERONICA REDGRAVE

## DR. MANISH KHANNA

*Covering society soirées for Westmounters in the Independent each week means nights out and about. Gala gallivanting takes its toll. Recently I had a fabulous facial pick-me-up (a microdermabrasion) at PEAU where I discovered that the medical director, Dr. Manish Khanna, is a Westmounter! He is also director of Dermatologic Surgery at MUHC and at the Sir Mortimer B. Davis Jewish General Hospital.*

### FASHION

*Dr. Khanna, most of the time you are wearing a doctor's white coat. But when you wear your own clothes, how would you describe your personal style?*

Actually, since the launch of my private practice, I am seldom wearing a white coat as I spend less time in the hospital. It's great as I get to "dress up" to go to work! I can finally put some thought into selecting my clothes in the morning. An Italian dress shirt with grey or black slacks is usually the way I go. My trips to Italy have influenced me a great deal. The men there put as much thought into their style as the women. They are not afraid to use bold colours. You won't catch me in a bright orange cardigan in the middle of a Canadian winter but I now dare to get into shades and tones that I would never have considered five to 10 years ago.

*What is your favourite way of dressing? Relaxed, black tie?*

I love to be relaxed, so casual dressing wins, hands up. A good comfortable pair of jeans that lets me move freely is almost always my choice on weekends. Weather depending, I would reach for a T-shirt. After my trip to Italy, I would now most likely choose a pastel – purples, pinks, greens, blues. I love soft wool sweaters – V-neck, sometimes hooded in case I am at the park with my girls and it starts to rain.

I do enjoy getting dressed up for a special occasion, too. My most memorable moment was when my wife and I eloped

in Parma, Italy. I had bought a gorgeous Pal Zileri suit and enjoyed every second of getting dressed up on the day of our wedding.

### LIVING

*If you had a choice, where would you live in the world (money no object!)*

Of all the places I have been, I loved the times I spent in Cinque Terre, Italy. Beautiful, varied coastline, weather, food, wine...I can't wait to go back! But, no matter where I visit, I always feel like Montreal is the best when I return home.

*Who would you invite to a dinner party if you could have anyone in the world, from any era?*

I would be honoured if Mahatma Gandhi accepted my invitation to have dinner with me and my family. I believe that the opportunity of having this truly inspirational leader sit at the table with us and share his wisdom and views on life and the 21st century would be a greatly beneficial and humbling experience.

### STYLE

*There is a huge increase in aesthetic treatments for baby boomers who aim to look youthful as long as possible. Women (and men!) are getting what fashion models call "refreshed." What are the most in-demand treatments at PEAU, and why?*

The most sought-after treatments are the ones that require little to no recovery time. Since looking younger and looking healthier is important to baby boomers,



Dr. Manish Khanna

they tend to opt for treatments that make them look rested, as though they have been away on a fantastic vacation. These treatments involve injections such as BOTOX Cosmetique to relax muscles, and dermal fillers to give people a more youthful, smoother, softer appearance.

Because this age group frequently used simply baby oil to get a tan – and tanning was almost an occupation in the '60s! – men and women in this age group often have sun-damaged skin. Laser and light treatments are extremely popular and aim at improving the appearance of the skin, treating sun spots, rosacea, wrinkles and skin pigmentation.

*Today, style is not just about clothes anymore. Healthy looking skin and hair are important. With the holiday social season approaching, what advice would you suggest to keep skin glowing?*

I am sure everyone knows that they should rest well, exercise, drink plenty of water and use a good sunscreen – every day. A moisturizer that really works is important. Outside it will soon be our famed, harsh Montreal windy winter, while indoor heating dries the skin. Women in Europe have moisturizing facials monthly and that is an excellent regime to keep the skin in shape.

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# PAPARAZZI PAGE

Westmounter A. K. Velan was honoured by the Action Centre Foundation at its annual Atwater Club fundraiser on October 21. 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 Velan family, back row, from left: Sara Johnston, Chris Velan, Jill Velan, Penny Velan, Shane Velan, Katherine Velan, Dana Velan, Kristine Velan, Corey Velan. Front row, from left: Ivan Velan, Olga Velan, AK Velan and Tom Velan.



Action Foundation volunteers, Alessandra and Francesca Mackinnon.

## Velan honoured

PHOTOS BY ROBERT GALBRAITH



From left, Suzan Cavell, Sue McConnell, Sandy Schlemm (committee member) and Ginger Petty (chairperson and philanthropist for Action Foundation).



From left, Adrian Dunn, Amanda Jelowicki (committee member), Kelly Patrick, Sophie Palmer (committee member) and Corey Velan.



Jodi Lafraniere and Laura Sentini Mackinnon.



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## Public Security puts 17 on duty for Halloween 'Hospital' to haunt 3,000

BY LAUREEN SWEENEY

Gravestones, ghosts and telltale body parts leave little to the imagination concerning what may go on at the "Westmount General Hospital" on Halloween.

And trick-or-treaters wanting to check out the hospital's somewhat unorthodox procedures will have an opportunity to do so at this year's Haunted House organized and operated by the city's Public Security Unit.

Taking place under a cloak of high security at the lawn bowling clubhouse beside city hall, the attraction will be open to the general public on Halloween night, this Saturday, October 31 from 5 to 9 pm.

It will also be open to schools the day before (by appointment only).

"We're expecting up to 3,000 children, parents and teachers, weather permitting," said Public Security director Richard Blondin.

The increase over last year's 2,000 is based on Halloween being on a weekend as well as the increasing notoriety of the city's haunted house.

Entertainment, candy and traditional decorations will take place outside on the veranda for younger children who may not want to venture inside. The "hospital" will be identified by ghosts on the roof and a long banner.

### Seven cars to patrol

Along with a contingent of uniformed

personnel on duty at the site, officers in seven marked and unmarked cars as well as on foot will patrol the streets and parks led by Sergeant Bobby Forbes. They will also distribute reflective tape.

"We'll have a total of 17 PSOs and parking inspectors in uniform to keep our streets and community safe," said Blondin, who also will be on hand. Two foot patrollers will be in Westmount Park and King George (Murray) Park.

This year's hospital theme is new for the haunted house, and is providing Sergeant Kim Colquhoun with an endless array of ghoulish ideas as she and a host of volunteers add finishing touches to the decorations and practise their role as actors.

Lawn Bowling Club members have been giving their time to set up the "hospital" and help decorate. Many city employees and friends will also help out during the event.

Throughout the evening, prizes for best costumes will be awarded. These are donations from local merchants. Jack o' lanterns from the library's pumpkin decorating competition will also be on display outside along with classroom drawings.

Other attractions will include Casper the friendly ghost, clowns, and the ladybug mascot of Leucan, an association to enhance the wellbeing and recovery of children with cancer, which the Public Security Unit has adopted as a fundraising project.

## Halloween safety tips for parents and kids

A few minutes of careful thought will help ensure a safe Halloween for your own children and those calling at your door, according to Westmount's Public Security Unit. Keep your front walk and stairs well-lit, and lighted pumpkins away from trick-or-treaters.

As well, take the time to go over safety with children before they leave the house.

Safety tips being distributed to schools include the following guidelines:

- Visit people you know. Never enter a stranger's home or apartment without an

adult. Young children should be accompanied by an adult or responsible older child.

- Older children should trick-or-treat in groups.
- Never eat anything before arriving home and having it checked by an adult.
- Carry identification. Trick-or-treat only at houses where lights are turned on.
- Learn emergency and home phone numbers and carry a cell phone or money for a pay phone.
- Cross streets at well-lit intersections. Never jay-walk or cross between parked cars.

- Costume tips: wear reflective or bright-coloured clothing so motorists can see you. If wearing a mask, enlarge the eye holes. Better still, wear makeup instead of a mask. Costumes should be designed to prevent tripping or inhibit your ability to move around safely.

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## Comin' Up

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, lecture at 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.

• **Karolyn Smardz Frost** gives a presentation based on her book *I’ve Got a Home in Glory Land: A Lost Tale of the Underground Railroad*, winner of the 2007 Governor General’s Literary Award for English Non-Fiction, 12:30 pm at the Atwater Library. Free.

## If you were king or queen...

Lewis Ave. resident Jack Morgan is holding an art contest for kids that asks the question: “If you were King or Queen of the world, what would you do, make up or be to make the world a better place for everyone?”

Children create answers in art with words or drawings, using words or drawings, pencils, paint, ink, or objects like buttons that can be glued on. These will be displayed on the website [www.ifiwasthekingoftheworld.com](http://www.ifiwasthekingoftheworld.com). His plan is to “promote the site across North America, but it all starts here in my own community.” Morgan is currently writing and illustrating his first picture book for kids.

Prizes will be donated by Babar En Ville Books to a “king” and “queen” in each age category (3 to 5, 6 to 8 and 9 to 12), English or French.

Entries for the contest close on October 31. See website for details.

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.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Municipal election **voting day**, 10 am to 8 pm.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

• Free talk by **solar energy** expert Andreas Athienitis on Quebec’s net-zero energy solar buildings at Marianopolis (4873 Westmount Ave.), 12:45 to 2 pm.

• **ArtNow** speakers: painter Lynda Schneider Granatstein, photographer Matthew Cope, and designer Astri Prugger. Westmount Public Library, 7 pm. Free.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

**Fashion Files: Paul Poiret** with Pamela Gri-maud afternoon lecture in the Westmount Room of the Westmount Public Library, 2 pm. Register: Circulation desk, 514.989.5299.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

**St. Léon parish annual bazaar**, from 12 to 6 pm. 330 Clarke Ave. Clothes, books, discs. 514.935.4950.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

**TGIF** at Centre Greene, 6 pm to 8:30 pm. Dinner and Cost: \$12 per drop-in or \$70 for the fall season. Ages: 6 to 12 years. Info: [www.centregreene.com](http://www.centregreene.com) or 514.931.6202.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

• Soirée de danse, with **Sheila Lawrence** and choreographers and dancers from Westmount recreational programs, 7:30 pm at Victoria Hall. Info: 514.989.5393.

• **Mountainside United Church’s annual bazaar** from 10 am to 2 pm at 687 Roslyn, corner Boulevard. Homemade confect-ions, books, art, collectibles, knitted items and fine linens. Light lunch. Info: 514.486.1165.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

• “My Personal Journey through Life from Berlin to Montreal,” a talk by **Stephen Jarislowsky**, 9:30 – 11:30 am at Temple Emanu-El Beth Sholom. Cost: \$10 at the door for light breakfast and lecture.

• Annual **Remembrance Day service** at the Westmount cenotaph in front of city hall, 2 pm.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Westmount Horticultural Society invites **Gwynne Basen**, film-maker and a director of Seeds of Diversity, to speak on “Orna-mental Kitchen Gardens”. Westmount Room of Westmount Public Library, 7 pm. Cost: \$5 for non-members.

## Hello, Westmount

THE A.H. CAMPBELL GALLERY



John Campbell and Glenn Campbell.

PHOTO & STORY BY ROBERT GALBRAITH

The A.H. Campbell Gallery is a true Westmount landmark. It was founded in 1924 by Alexander Harvey Campbell, originally from Nova Scotia. Three generations of Campbells later, business is still going strong and has weathered the storm of change that has seen other Westmount businesses rise and fall.

It is now operated by Glenn, 48, and brother John Campbell, 40, with the occasional help from Glenn’s daughter, Gillian. They adore the business and the close relationship they have with their customers.

“We love the village atmosphere, its people and the client base,” said Glenn. “That’s what has kept us in business for the last 85 years in Westmount – our neighbourhood customers.”

These have included well-known politicians, journalists, artists and sport celebrities.

“We have stuck to what we know best,” commented John, “which is custom framing. But we also do art restoration and conservation. We offer consultation, by appointment, on hanging works in our clients’ houses, and we work with decorators.”

Decorative trends change with time and framing has been transformed from wood and metal to fibreglass to recycled fibre-board. “We still carve wood frames, while the present trend is to coat aluminum frames to look like gold leaf finishes. New types of conservation glasses are being developed that better protect the portraits or other art works from sunlight,” explained Glenn.

“Now we are seeing a reverse trend to the styles of the 1970s and 1980s framing. Floater frames are also in style. These give the art a three-dimensional appearance.”

Campbell’s is located at 4916 Sherbrooke St. 514.481.1560, [www.campbellpictureframing.com](http://www.campbellpictureframing.com).

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The H1N1 flu virus is different from regular seasonal flu. This is a new strain of influenza and humans have little to no natural immunity to it. The H1N1 flu virus has spread quickly around the world and in June 2009, the World Health Organization declared it a pandemic.

### **Plan ahead**

- ▶ **Learn how to recognize the flu symptoms and when you need to see a health care provider.**
- ▶ **Get the H1N1 flu vaccine when it becomes available.**
- ▶ **Speak to your family and friends about how you can help each other during the flu season.**
- ▶ **Stock up on essentials such as pain and fever medications, and easy meals.**
- ▶ **Have important phone numbers, such as your doctor's or pharmacist's, on hand.**

### **Get your H1N1 Preparedness Guide**

For more information, download or order your free H1N1 Preparedness Guide. It provides important information about protecting yourself and your family from the flu.

## **KNOWLEDGE IS YOUR BEST DEFENCE**

### **To learn more about:**

- ▶ How to get the H1N1 Preparedness Guide ▶ When to see a health care provider
- ▶ How to care for others who are sick ▶ The H1N1 flu vaccine

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# ON THE SHELVES

Among the new arrivals at the Westmount Public Library singled out by staff:

## Magazines

“All-Season & Winter Tires: Michelin sweeps, but you can get good rubber for less money” in *Consumer Reports*, November 2009, p. 46.

“Aquacalypse Now: The End of Fish” by Daniel Pauly in *The New Republic*, October 7, 2009, p. 24.

“La relève littéraire au Québec” in *Entre les lignes*, automne 2009, p. 12.

## Adult Books – Electrifying tales

*Uranium Wars: The Scientific Rivalry that Created The Nuclear Age* by Amir Aczel – Set against the darkening shadow of World War II, Aczel’s suspenseful account tells the story of the fierce competition among the day’s top scientists to harness nuclear power.

*The Boy who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba – This is an inspiring story of one man’s determination to bring electricity to his poverty-stricken community in Malawi by ingeniously building a crude windmill using scrap metal, bicycle and tractor parts.

## Adult French – Rediscovering Montreal

*Montréal, une île des villes* by Marcel Paquette – A great collection of black and white photographs of pre-60’s Montreal. The pictures of the 15-cent children’s train

ride at Parc Lafontaine or of summer cottages on stilts in the suburbs will bring back fond memories to many.

*Plaisirs du Vieux-Montréal*, by Julie Brodeur – Suggested walking tours of Old Montreal are presented, as well as information about museums, boutiques, art galleries and more.

## DVDs

*Affairs of the Heart* – All the dramas and desires of late Victorian high society are on display in these vintage adaptations of the writings of Henry James.

*When Did You Last See Your Father* – Adapted from the bestselling memoir by Blake Morrison, the story tells of the few final days Morrison spends with his dying father. Memories of the past, both good and bad, force a son to accept the possibility that his seemingly invincible and infal-

libe dad is, after all, only human.

## Poetry for Children

*Pizza, Pigs and Poetry: How to Write a Poem* by Jack Prelutsky – This Children’s Poet Laureate gives kids the inside scoop on how to turn their personal experiences into poetry.

*Une Hirondelle m’a dit...et autres comptines* by Alain Gausse and Etsuko Watanabe – Children and parents will enjoy this colourful collection of rhymes, poems and tongue twisters.

## Reference

*501 Great Writers: A Comprehensive Guide to the Giants of Literature.*

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## Alouettes lend a hand



Eleven members of the Montreal Alouettes volunteered on Thanksgiving day at the Welcome Hall Mission, which is headquartered two blocks from Westmount's southern border at 606 de Courcelle. The players served 335 meals.

## Atwater staff getting ready for annual fundraiser



As previously reported, the Atwater Library is having its annual cocktail 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. Here are some of the library's staff and volunteers at the time of last year's event, from left, top: Rani Yoganathan, Jun Xu, Paul Benzon, Aliyyah Bailey, Rachel Sawyer, Wayne Briand, Remi Duquette and Liam Flookes; middle row: Aude McDermott, Jennifer Parisi, Lynn Verge, Tanya Mayhew, Miriam Verburg and Jacqueline Berman; front: Isabel Cyr, Maureen Adams, Nadia Ramatou-Barry and Geneviève Paquin-Saikali.

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## A right turn to nowhere



Looking east along Côte St. Antoine Rd., this green arrow directs eastbound traffic right, down Claremont Ave. ... only Côte St. Antoine is one-way, westbound. Until this summer, there was a similar light on de Maisonneuve Blvd. at Metcalfe (which has been changed). Will this one be changed soon too?

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