

# THE INFORMER

Montreal West Newspaper

June 2017, Vol. 45, No. 5



## Home town rallies for Lesley Head

One year ago, my daughter **Lesley Head** was in a very serious skiing accident causing a fracture of the cervical spine and leaving her quadriplegic.

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## Debbie Marcogliese: new head librarian

by *Maurice Krystal*

For much of her professionally career, **Debbie Marcogliese** was involved in the tech industry after graduating from Concordia. She began in software development and then moved to project management. In 2000, Debbie went back to school and enrolled in McGill’s Masters of Library and Information Studies program. For the next 16 years, she was a manager in the financial sector.

During the past month, Debbie has been learning the ropes with the generous aid of the library staff and the many enthusiastic and helpful volunteers. She has now formulated some shortterm goals she would like to immediately undertake.

One of the first involves setting aside a space in the basement for meetings and bringing in guest speakers on a regular basis. This means reorganizing the shelving of books. The second is integrating the selection more logically. One example is that pocket books are presently needlessly segregated from hard covered volumes. The building is also in need of sprucing up to make it look more welcoming. This would involve painting and some gardening. Debbie hopes the Town Council is supportive of these minimal improvements even though the long-term plan is to sell the building.

One of the attributes of the library is that one has the feeling of stepping back to a bygone era where things were slower and perhaps friendlier and more personal. However

the need for automation to find books or DVDs and to service more people in a changing world is a goal that Debbie hopes will be implemented.

There are over 50 volunteers and Debbie has noted how passionate these people are and what vital a role they play. “They are the gems of the library that must be kept shiny!” They, like the majority of the members, worry about the status of the building.

*continued on page 4*



## 6<sup>th</sup> annual RBC MW Charity Golf Tournament



RBC MW Charity Golf Tournament will be held Thursday afternoon, September 14 at the Caughnawaga Golf Course. All levels of players are welcome for a fun afternoon with friends and neighbours as we raise funds for several local charitable organizations.

For information, please contact **Sam McCoubrey** at [smccoubrey@genfoot.com](mailto:smccoubrey@genfoot.com) or **John Drummond** at [drdrummond@montrealwestdentistry.com](mailto:drdrummond@montrealwestdentistry.com).

*from John Drummond*

# THE INFORMER

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Montreal West, Quebec  
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The *Informer's* role is to provide MoWesters with information about their Town and its citizens in order to foster the small-town, close-knit atmosphere that makes Montreal West a special place in which to live.

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## NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE

August 9



Andrew Pereira, Tiffany Blouin, Glemena Bettencourt (Richmond Hill, Ontario) and Alasdair Veitch (New Glasgow Nova Scotia)

## Terry Fox tribute run

On April 12, members of *Action Sport Physio Montreal-West* team including **Tiffany**

**Blouin and Andrew Pereira**, their friend **Eddy Nolan** and some of Eddy's friends from

across Canada participated in a Terry Fox tribute run.

Terry's journey and dedication inspired Eddy who has spent his life fundraising for the *Terry Fox Foundation*. He began a tribute run seven years ago from *Action Sport Physio* on Westminister. The sole purpose of this tribute run is to raise awareness about Terry Fox.

Eddy and his friends did a full marathon running all the way down Sherbrooke Street and back. They stopped at the Westmount YMCA to see the students from Westmount Park Elementary School... all of the children from the school were outside with signs of encouragement and were chanting, "Go Eddy. go!"

P.S. *Action Sport Physio* now has a bin located at the reception where members of the community can drop unopened non-perishable items for the *NDG Food Depot*.

## Celebrating 30 Years in MoWest!

One of elements that make communities like Montreal West stronger and increasingly unique is the many MoWesters who also work in and around our great neighbourhood. Whether it be teaching our children at one of the many local schools or becoming a household name on Westminister, there's something special about MoWesters serving MoWesters.

*Dr. John Drummond & Associates* has long been proud to be part of this group. 2017 is a significant anniversary year for **Dr. Drummond**, as it marks 30 years since he moved to and began serving this dynamic community as a dentist!

Over the years, the dental practice has been growing. To meet demand and provide patients with quality care, Dr. John is pleased to announce that **Dr. Sarah Craig** will be joining the clinical team in June.

Dr. Sarah Craig graduated from the Faculty of Dentistry, McGill University, in 2004

where she was taught by Dr. Drummond. After graduating, Dr. Sarah moved to and began her dental career in Minnesota and North Carolina. She also became a clinical demonstrator in the Faculty of Dentistry under-

graduate teaching clinic of McGill. Outside of dentistry, Dr. Sarah enjoys keeping busy with her three children and their activities in and around MoWest, NDG and Côte Saint-Luc.

*Dr. John Drummond  
& Associates*

12 Brock North  
484-0521

montrealwestdentistry.com





We have recently purchased our home at 263 Percival Ave. and are so excited to announce that we are staying here in MoWest. We will start renovating our existing school and have plans for expansion next year.

With our future settled, we are looking forward to continuing to grow and nurture the *Little Red Playhouse* family and community.

As a first step we'd like to welcome you to our open house and info night May 30 at 8 pm. We're looking forward to explaining more about our programming, as well as touring our facilities. Please RSVP

sharon@thelittleredplayhouse.com or call 994-5018.

We'll have lots of information to share with you, but just a quick introduction of who we are and what we do.

We focus our services for children between the ages of 2½ and 6, running a pre-school program (including pre-k) and a day camp. We are managed by a not-for-profit children's charity which works to integrate children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and speech delays into our daily regular typical programming. The integration component was premised on the success and philosophy behind the reverse integration program offered by the *MAB-Mackay Centre* allowing all children to learn about difference and benefit from diverse and en-



gaging teaching methods. Our goal for ratios do not exceed a 50-50 split and a very low ratio of teacher/staff and student.

For more information, please contact **Sharon McCarry**.



## Annie and Konstantinos: baskets to your door

by Maurice Krystal

I met **Annie McLaughlin** and **Konstantinos Hirtle-Kattou** three years ago when they formed *BioCycllette*, a sustainable gardening and landscaping company that uses bicycles where ever possible to be environmentally friendly.

Last year, they took over a leased farm in Senneville operated by **Steven Homer** and *Zephyr Farms* where Annie and Konstantinos apprenticed for a few years. Steven is a pioneer in the organic movement in the Montreal area. The new farm is called *Ferme de l'île MTL*.

Local resident, **Alex Pettem**, presently manages *BioCycllette* while Annie and Konstantinos will focus their attention on the farm. They plan to move to St. Anne de Bellevue this summer to be closer to their site. The plan is to grow some 40 different vegetables with an emphasis on heirloom varieties. Ecocert, a provincial certification organization that sends inspectors to ensure that no pesticides or chemical fertilizers are used, will organically certify all crops. Instead they will rely on insect netting to protect the crops.

They will be supplying vegetables to some well-known restaurants in the city such as: *Joe Beef*, *Liverpool House*, *Vin Pappillon* and *Lucille's*. Subscription baskets for those in MoWest will be delivered to your home by bicycle. Pickup points include the *Coop la Maison verte* on Sherbrooke, the *Fleur Savage Natural Foods* on Monkland, *L'Autre Chose* on Victoria and *Henri's Market* on Westminster

The way these two young entrepreneurs talk about farming and ecology show they are totally committed to the organic movement and they would love to inspire others to join this way of life and play their small part to save this planet.

fermentl.com  
fermentl@gmail.com  
**623-2040**  
*BioCycllette Gardening*  
**869-7015**

## Debbie Marcogliese

*continued from page 1*

One of the more enjoyable aspects of library work is building the collection, to actually go shopping for new books, periodicals and DVDs. This process is helped by recommendations by

members, staff and reviews from many sources. The buying of new material also involves filling in "holes" that the library needs to do as it evolves.

This year, there will have to be a re-examination of the structure of fees. CSL is offering MW seniors the same rate or less for access to a much larger

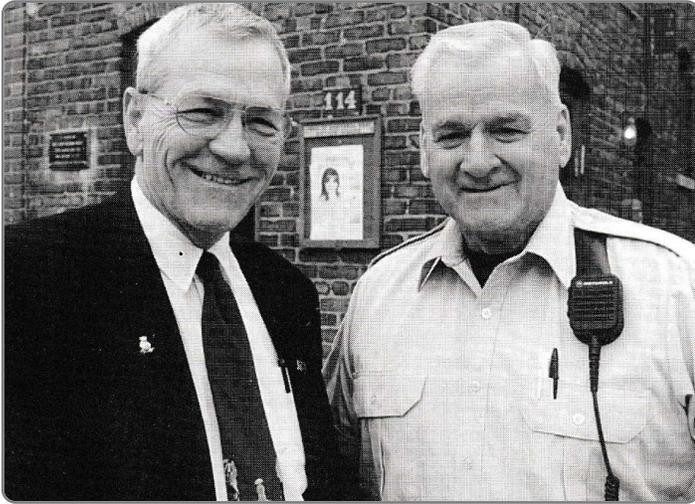
collection. The library board is working on a mission statement that should help determine the direction the library takes.

Debbie believes the library must be part of the community's development and fulfill its role as one of the cultural hubs of the Town. With this in mind, she has been meeting with other or-

ganizations in MoWest to seek ways to promote each other and avoid duplication, especially at a time of tightening budgets. She is convinced she has been handed an organization that is something special, that has a spirit that makes the library a place of refuge that can't be quantified by a dollar value.

## In memoriam

photo: Harold Rosenberg



Sgt-det. Donald Barron with his good friend, Tom Harvey (deceased), MW Security officer

## Donald Barron

Died April 15, at the age of 71

[Excerpt from Vol. 27, No. 6 (June 1999) issue of The Informer, written by Harold Rosenberg.]

An era in the history of Montreal West came to a close this month with the retirement of **Donald Barron**, the last of the original members of the pre-integration MW Police Department to retire from the Montreal Urban Community Police Department (MUCPD). Barron, 53, a 30-year veteran of both departments, joined the Montreal West force in 1969. His father,

**Frank**, a captain with the Westmount Fire Department had suggested that he apply to several west-end police departments, which he did. Montreal West was the first to accept him. In the early years, Barron did double duty with the MW Police and MW Fire Departments. Among the fellows he worked with were **Tom Harvey** (current MW security officer [now deceased]), **Mike Presseau**, **Allan Hollywood**, **Moe Gagnière**, **Dick Seagram**, and Chief **R.B. MacDonald**.

## Hazel Dean Lowe

On Tuesday April 18, we lost a long time and well-loved MoWest resident, **Hazel Lowe**. Hazel lived in Town for over 40 years and was an active volunteer at the Library and MoWest *Meals-on-Wheels*.

Hazel's lifetime interests and passions were varied and cutting edge as a journalist and travel writer. Hazel was a forerunner for women in journalism and began her long career in Toronto with the *Canadian Press*, quickly moving on to its New York bureau where she was the first woman copy editor. Hazel also worked in public relations at *Air Canada* and then as founding editor of the *Montreal Star's Montreal Scene Magazine*. Hazel later became its travel editor and when that paper closed, she joined *The Gazette* before becoming the travel editor for the *Southam News*. In a world where travel was not nearly as accessible as today,

Hazel was an explorer who gathered wonderful stories and insights from all the places she visited.

Hazel is best remembered by her friends as a great conversationalist who was informed in all matters and a true gentlewoman. Hazel's gentility was apparent in all events she hosted. In a time where tea parties have been replaced with a quick cuppa on the porch, a party at Hazel's was a real treat with fine china, silverware, delicious food and captivating conversations.

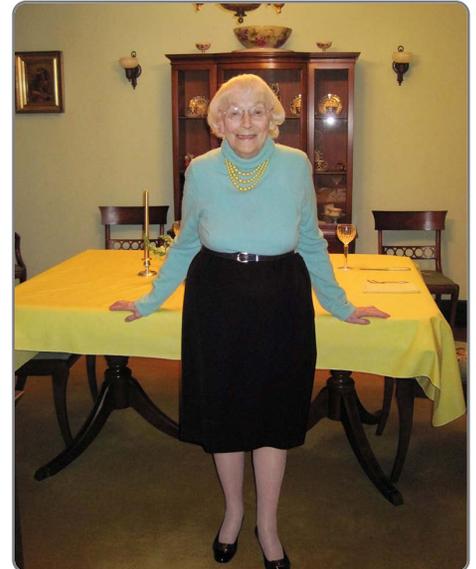
She will be sadly missed by the community.

"The gladdest moment in human life, me thinks, is a departure into unknown lands."  
– Sir Richard Burton

"Two roads diverged in a wood and I – I took the one less traveled by."  
– Robert Frost

Bon voyage, Hazel.

from Audrey Moroney



Hazel Lowe on her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday, February 5, 2016

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## Rotary

# Smart investing with Geoff Adams



Our recent speaker, MoWest resident **Geoff Adams**, is a Chartered Financial Advisor (CFA). Geoff, started with a growth chart of \$1000 of different assets over the last 80 years, with US stocks the clear winner. He said that compound interest is very powerful and the inflation rate has to be considered. He then said the three main components of investment returns are a change in the price, income generated and growth in the income generated by the investment.

He quickly explained the different types of investments and the key topics investors need to remember. He talked about a home bias in investing and said Canada only rep-

resents 3% of the world market. He showed the top ten holdings in Canada and the US; there was quite a difference. Historically institutional investors try and get 3% above inflation and explained why you should diversify. Geoff talked about Prem Watsa and his Fairfax Holdings and how he is investing in both Africa and India. Geoff said he stays on top by understanding and mimicking the best investors. Geoff ended his talk with a few thoughts about staying away from investment themes such as the marijuana craze and to remember what happened to both 3D printing and cyber security.

### Lobsterfest

The T. Peter Webster Memorial Lobster Festival will take place on Saturday, June 3, 6:30 pm at the Arena. The cost for this all-you-can-eat event is \$85 per person with children 16 years and under half-price and 8 and under free as long as both are accompanied by an adult. Last year, we gave tax receipts of \$50 for each \$85 ticket; we expect the amount to be about the same this year. The event is a fundraiser for many Rotary charities.

Join us! It is a fun family event and has been my favourite Rotary event over the years. Hope to see many of you there. This event is limited to 400 tickets and usually sells out. Please contact me for tickets.

from Doug Yeats  
doug@westendpiano.com

## Composting: there are solutions to your problems!

Last month, we learnt about the many benefits derived from composting. However, many of us are still reluctant to recycle kitchen waste because we may perceive it as unhygienic. Worry not! There are many easy and simple solutions to address this concern.

If you are worried about the smell of your bin, arm yourself with old newspapers. Use them or paper bags to line the bottom of both your big brown bin and the kitchen bin. Newspapers can also be used in between each layer of food waste or to wrap smelly foods like fish and meats. By absorbing moisture, paper will contribute to eliminate odours and leaks. It is also important to keep your bin clean by rinsing it with water and vinegar and to sprinkle it with a bit of baking soda after each use. If you don't produce much kitchen waste, you can also put your small bin in the freezer until pick-up day.

Another thing to keep in mind is where you place your bin. It is generally better to keep your brown bin in the shadow and to have both your big and small bins tightly closed at all times.

Remember, if you struggle to figure out what is compostable, you can find all the information you need on the Town's website. Our new communication campaign that will be launched shortly will provide you with more information.

Together, we can improve our composting participation and reduce our environmental footprint! Ready for the next pick-up?

from  
Geographic Info Systems Department



Boulangerie - Pâtisserie  
Traiteur

Yann Botrel

24, rue Westminster Nord  
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514 484.7565

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## The joys of Mudville

Yes, baseball season is here and Mudhen baseball has always emphasised fun, while teaching the basic skills and learning the game in a non-competitive environment. We rely on the commitment of our volunteer coaches as we compete against other cities in a 10-game season.

The program got off to an early start this year with a spring training program led by our new director **Howie Schwartz**. We are fielding teams from the wee Hens in Mosquito, through PeeWee and Bantam.

If you aren't a Mudhen and you haven't experienced the joy that is Mudville, come by Percival Field and watch a game. Or better yet, just bring your mitt, you'd be amazed at how often a game will breakout!

### T-ball

One of our most popular programs this year is T-ball for our mini Hens ages 5 and 6. We have over 20 Mini Mudhens learning how to run the bases, throw and catch a ball or a bean bag, hitting off a tee. Great fun led by **Dan** and **Howie**.

### Introduction to baseball

One of our newest programs is introduction to baseball for 7- and 8-year-olds. This program is run on our very own Henway Park and is an introduction to throwing, catching a ball, hitting off a tee and learning to run the bases. **Liam**, **Howie** and **Jean Ducharme**, who was a Mudhen when he was young, have all the kids how to hit a coach pitch. Come out and watch our Mini Hens as they learn the game of baseball.

### Soccer

The soccer season is now well on its way. Drive by Hodgson Field any night of



the week or on a sunny Saturday morning and you will see our girls' soccer teams led by head coach **Alison Piela** hard at work practising drills and scrimmaging.

The boys are playing at Royal West field under the direction of our technical director **Greg Macgregor**. Often you will hear parents and fans cheer on the players in close, nail biting matches.

Our youngest players, Little Strikers and micro players practise at George Booth Park, learning the basics of soccer through games and fun drills, like "soccer bees" and "Red Light, Green light," as they learn to control the ball while having fun.

### Rugby

We have hit the fields with our head coach **Susy Binstock** for another great season of mini rugby. Every Sunday, we watch as our younger players learn how to run with the ball, practise their coordination and learn basic ball handling. Our older group are practising game situations and safe contact skills and they get ready for any upcoming jamborees!



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## Children's artist showcase

### Theme: Canada 150

If you are or know an artist who is between the ages of 5 and 17 and is a MoWest resident, this is for you. The Recreation Department is looking for talented painters, sculptors, collagists and general artists to display their work during the children's showcase at the Town Hall this summer. If you are interested, the application form can be found at [montreal-west.ca](http://montreal-west.ca) or you can contact **Marian Scully** at [mmscully@montreal-west.ca](mailto:mmscully@montreal-west.ca) or **484-1610**. The deadline for applications is June 1.

Pieces must be ready to hang with wire or frame. Pieces that do not require hanging must be ready for display.

## Support for Lesley Head

*continued from page 1*

After three months in hospital and three months in rehab, Lesley was discharged to her apartment in Vancouver. She has caregivers helping her each day, an electric wheelchair gives her mobility, her apartment has been adapted to give her maximum independence and she has a network of friends who help her at each step along the way.

A trust fund was established to help cover some of the enormous expenses that lie ahead for Lesley. The outpouring of support from MoWesters has been phenomenal and heartwarming.

Several of Lesley's teachers and two principals from Edinburgh School have donated to the fund and have sent words of encouragement – even though she graduated almost 20 years ago and all of them have retired!

The staff, board, volunteers and members of the Adult Library, where I was working, supported me during those many months of travel to be with Lesley. In addition these friends have contributed generously to her trust fund.

### Benefit concert: July 28

The theatre program that Lesley graduated from 10 years ago is putting on a benefit concert for her on July 28. The Stowaway, a benefit concert, a Celtic folk rock event featuring the sounds of *Mariner's Curse* and Scottish piper **Craig Weir**. Proceeds to to the Lesley Head Spinal Injury Fund. Friday, July 28, 8 pm at Casgrain Theatre, Ste Anne-de-Bellevue. Information: **260-2608**. Tickets available from [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com).

It was so much fun raising my children in MoWest. Little did I know that the people of this Town would be there when tragedy struck so many years later. I am a very grateful mother. Thank you!

*Nora Powell*

(If any one wishes to contribute to Lesley's fund, you can do so by going on to the GO FUND ME site and enter: Lesley Head Spinal Cord Injury Fund.)

## Artists Showcase

### Fall 2017

## Canada's Past, Present and Future



Canada

Calling all MoWest amateur and professional artists. It is time to start planning your art work for the next Artists' Showcase. The theme will be Canada's Past, Present and Future.

This is the final showcase that is part of the Canadian themes to celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Confederation. We'll start hanging the show in mid-September. Please keep in mind all works on paper, fabric or canvas must be ready for hanging and three-dimensional pieces, such as jewelry and pottery, must fit in the front hall cabinet.

To find out more about the Artists' Showcase or to get an application form, go to the MW website under "culture" or pick up a form at the Community Centre. For more details, you may contact **Marian Scully**, Recreation and Cultural Services at **484-1610**.



Photo: Nigel Dove

## Public information meeting held



*Les Amis du Parc Meadowbrook* recently held the first of a series of information meetings to update the public on the current status of the green space at Meadowbrook.

The meeting took place in Côte Saint-Luc, with similar events planned in MoWest, NDG, Lachine and Westmount.

Members of the audience signed a petition that calls on Mayor **Denis Coderre** to create a nature park, accessible to all, on the Meadowbrook site. There is a link to the Change.org petition at [bit.ly/2fs1D9h](http://bit.ly/2fs1D9h).

Speakers explained a proposal, sent to Montreal West and Lachine, to create infrastructure linked to a new bike/walking path to be built at the bottom of the Falaise St. Jacques as part of the Turcot project. Ideally, it would link to these communities and connect to Meadowbrook. Efforts continue to persuade the Quebec transport ministry to construct the dalle-parc (pedestrian/bike bridge), shown in the original plans, over the Turcot, connecting NDG and the South-West boroughs.

For more information, see the *Les Amis du Meadowbrook* Facebook page.

*from Janice Hamilton*

<b>Jocelyne Dorion</b>	
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## EBS



### Pilot project: social and emotional learning

We are going to be piloting a program developed by the *Institute of Social and Emotional Education*. This program is called CS3 – (Core Skills in 3 Domains). It is designed to help teach SEL (Social and Emotional Learning) in a systematic and time-efficient way. There is ever-increasing research to show that development of social and emotional skills is critical to being a good student, citizen and worker.

There are FIVE SEL competencies (self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision-making). The focus is on the application of these components within three domains (self, others and larger community). These competencies are teachable – the best way is through effective classroom instruction, student engagement in positive activities in and out of the classroom and with parent and community support.



#### Author visit

The students in Rooms 12 and 13 enjoyed a visit from the Irish author and illustrator, **Oisín McGann**. He was visiting Montreal as a participant in the literary festival "Blue Metropolis," and took an afternoon to share his talents and sense of humour with the two classes. He entertained the students with tales about the challenges of becoming an author and then answered questions while simultaneously drawing a mysterious character from his most recent book. Storytelling is an art and Oisín McGann was at his best, leaving the students spellbound.

## École des Amis-du-Monde



### Québec

Le mardi 25 avril dernier, nos élèves de la 5<sup>e</sup> année ont eu le bonheur de participer à un voyage à Québec avec leurs titulaires, la technicienne en éducation spécialisée, un membre du service de garde ainsi que la directrice. Ils ont d'abord visité le Parlement et ont eu le privilège d'aller observer le déroulement d'une réunion des ministres dans la chambre bleue et de rencontrer M. **David Birnbaum**, député de D'Arcy-McGee. Chacun a grandement apprécié son voyage dans la grande capitale!

### Jour de la Paix

Le vendredi 5 mai a eu lieu la journée de la Paix à l'école des Amis-du-Monde. Tradition qui se poursuit depuis trois ans déjà, cette journée met à l'honneur l'investissement des élèves dans le développement durable et les actions citoyennes.

Cette année, les élèves des cours de PELO (programme d'enseignement de la langue maternelle) russe, farsi et hébreu ont présenté un chant ou une danse qu'ils avaient préparé avec leur enseignante.

De plus, les élèves du conseil des élèves ont fait la promotion des 3RV (réduire, réutiliser, recycler et valoriser). Ils ont parlé de l'importance de l'eau dans le monde et ont sensibilisé tous les élèves de l'école à ce sujet.

De plus, la troupe de théâtre en a profité pour nous présenter une pièce qu'elle avait préparée et qui s'intitulait: « La Colère des dieux ». Cette dernière touchait le thème de la préservation de la planète et était dirigée par l'enseignante d'art dramatique. Ce fut

une belle réussite, une fois de plus. Chacun des élèves qui a participé, de près ou de loin, à cette activité peut être très fier du résultat. Bravo!

### Du cinéma de chez nous

Le 26 mai prochain, nos élèves de 4<sup>e</sup>, 5<sup>e</sup> et 6<sup>e</sup> année auront le privilège de présenter la réalisation d'un film qu'ils ont écrit et réalisé avec la collaboration du cinéaste **Michel Gauthier**. Le thème de chacun des courts métrages gravite autour du Vivre ensemble et porte le nom du projet « Ma valise ».

C'est donc à la salle communautaire de Côte Saint-Luc qu'ils seront conviés durant la matinée afin de visionner l'ensemble des œuvres sur écran géant. De plus, en soirée, ils pourront s'y rendre avec leur famille afin de partager à leurs parents le projet sur lequel ils ont travaillé si fort.

### Nos petites abeilles travaillent fort

Depuis l'année scolaire 2015-2016, notre école a adopté une ruche. Ayant profité de la récolte de miel il y a quelques mois à peine, nos élèves ont maintenant profité de l'animation de certains ateliers sur les abeilles offerts par la compagnie Alvéole, qui s'occupe de l'entretien de notre ruche.

Ainsi, certains groupes ont participé à un atelier sur l'introduction aux abeilles et à l'apiculture urbaine, un autre atelier a été offert sur les abeilles et leur rôle dans notre alimentation, puis le dernier atelier offert traitait de l'ouverture de la ruche.

Tous les élèves ont apprécié leur expérience et connaissent dorénavant beaucoup mieux les abeilles et leurs bienfaits dans nos vies.

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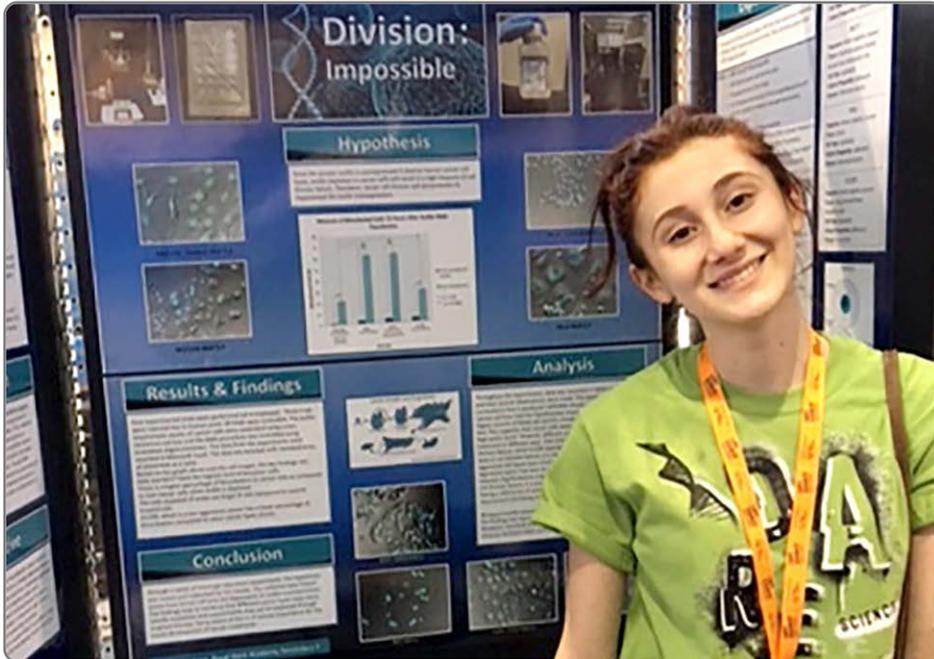
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## Royal West Academy

# Congratulations to RWA's Lia Loebenberg!



Not only did **Lia Loebenberg** fare well at this year's RWA Science Fair on February 23 (winning gold for the fourth consecutive year), she won the following at the Montreal Regional Science and Technology Fair (March 26-28 at Concordia University):

Bronze Medal – Senior; Cercles des jeunes naturalistes Award; Concordia University - Faculty of Arts and Science Award; Concordia University Faculty of Arts and Science Entrance Bursary; Highest Distinction; Super expo-sciences *Hydro-Québec* (SESHQ) Experimentation and Design Award.

At the Québec Provincial Final (April 20-23), she won the Prix de L'Université de Concordia (\$4000 per year renewable for three consecutive years) and was a medalist and finalist – Member of Delegation québécoise Expo-sciences pancanadienne 2017.

She will be the sole EMSB representative at the Canada-Wide Science Fair (May 14-21 in Regina, Saskatchewan).

Good luck Lia!

## Edinburgh School



### Tree plantings

Last fall, Edinburgh very suddenly lost a large proportion of the trees on school property to the emerald ash borer, leaving little shade in the schoolyard. The school recently received a \$3,000 *Tree Canada* and *Telus* "Greening Canada's School Grounds" grant to purchase mature trees to help replace those that were lost. We hope to be planting some large, fast growing trees to help provide some measure of shade for our students. In addition, the Town of Montreal West has agreed to donate some trees including two fruit trees that will be planted in our garden area. Thanks to this generosity we hope to have a beautiful shaded schoolyard in the coming years!

### Green Team and garden club

This May, students will be helping to make Edinburgh greener. A group of students recently approached our Principal, Mr. **Mauro Zampini**, to ask if they could help clean up the outside of the school, help coach students on sorting garbage and also plant some flowers in front of the school. The Green Team is now hard at work helping to ensure students compost and recycle as much as possible and that the school looks great!

In addition, a garden club will be starting in mid-May. Twelve students from Grade 4, 5 and 6 will be working with teachers and

a parent volunteer on gardening projects around the school.

### Playground improvements

A online recent survey of parents showed that 96.5% of those who responded are in support of the Home and School Association's exploring a playground improvement so as to provide our older students with more interesting play options.

Several years ago, the Home and School Association – with the help of *Kaboom* and

*Home Depot* – organized the construction of a mulched kindergarten play area (with a play structure) that has been extremely popular over the years.

The Edinburgh Home and School Association will be putting its fundraising efforts for the next one to two years towards supporting a playground improvement project. Our Playground Improvement Committee will start meeting soon. If you have ideas, suggestions or would like to help us, please email [info@edinburghhomeandschool.com](mailto:info@edinburghhomeandschool.com).

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## Montreal West Scout Group



Back Row: Cub leaders: Chil (Philippe Leroux), Darzee (Lee-Ann Simpson), Raksha (Erica Botner), Bagheera (Brendan Mirotnick), Baloo (Robert Eiser); Front Row: Six Star Cubs: David Flexer, Jake Majaury, Mackenzie Delorme-Hoida. Missing: Michael Koutsvails



### Beavers

It has been a very cold and wet spring, so the Beavers were forced to have their final meetings inside. They did manage to bring their bicycles and scooters one cool, damp night to learn about bicycle safety and how to take care of their equipment. They had a great time roaring around the blacktop chasing **Echo (Simon Phillipson)** who was riding a wee bike. Our White Tails were busy completing their birdfeeders and five of them attended their first Cub meetings. Everyone has created a pirate hat to wear on our float in the Canada Day parade, look for us there.

Many beavers and their families attended our annual banquet at the Town Hall where they had their faces painted and were

entertained by local magician, **Todd Shapiro**. At the time of writing this article our spring camp is uncertain as part of Cap St. Jacques is under water! Hopefully when *The Informer* is being delivered we will be hiking, playing games, cooking hot dogs on sticks over a fire, eating tacos out of a Ziploc bag and s'mores out of ice-cream cones and singing around a campfire! Cross your fingers!

### Cubs

In anticipation of Canada's 150, the boys and girls of the MW Cub Pack, including a few White Tail Beavers, visited several museums and other attractions in the Ottawa region. Upon arriving in Ottawa on Saturday morning, the Cubs went to the Experimental

Farm where they visited a fully functional farm, learned about honey production and farm animals. Next, the Cubs visited the *Nature Museum* where they admired giant dinosaur skeletons, learned about Canada's mammals, water supply and minerals.

On Saturday evening, the Cubs visited the *Canadian Air and Space Museum* after it had closed to the public. The Cubs toured the museum in the dark with their flashlights, built special paper airplanes, and discovered some of the unique aircraft in the CASM's impressive collection. A movie about air show displays and then cookies finished off the day. The Cubs then set up their sleeping bags under the wings of the aircraft to spend the night. There was much chatting and giggling.

On Sunday morning, the Cubs had a private tour of Parliament where they learned about our nation's system of government and visited both houses. A fantastic experience for all participants! Special thanks to **Jon Wiersma** for driving the bus.

*from Chil (Philippe Leroux)*

At our family banquet four third-year Cubs received their Six-Star Cub awards: **Mackenzie Delorme-Hoida, David Flexer, Michael Koutsvails and Jake Majaury**. Mackenzie was also given "the Cub of the Year" award. Congratulations boys.

### Scouts

Former Scouter, **Beverly Brown**, attended a few meetings to teach the boys first aid, a valuable skill to have every day not just on hikes and camping. The troop spent several meetings preparing for spring camp at Camp Tamaracouta: menu planning, grocery shopping, making equipment lists and choosing programs that would fit their skills and physical abilities. How many of your 12- and 13-year-olds are capable of doing that? Well on their way to being self sufficient.

They joined troops from Laval and other areas of Quebec to compete as a team doing Scout Challenges. Some of the challenges were very tough for these young lads, but they persevered. This weekend helped to prepare the troop for their trip to the Canadian Jamboree this July in Nova Scotia. Well done, boys!

### Fall registration

As of July 1, you will be able to do online registration for your son or daughter. Please go to [scouts.ca](http://scouts.ca) and look us up under "1st Montreal West Scout Group." Find an organization – which is the section your child will be in: Beavers – kindergarten, grades 1/2; Cubs – grades 3/4/5; Scouts – grades 6/7/8; Venturers – ages 14 to 17. For more information please email **Karen Johnstone** at [karenmansfieldjohnstone@gmail.com](mailto:karenmansfieldjohnstone@gmail.com).

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## Guiding

Photos: Christiney Downey



The community of Montreal West is wonderfully supportive of the Girl Guides and the Guides are very appreciative. In early April, a multi-unit group of girls went door-to-door selling the traditional Girl Guide cookies. In early May, the 36<sup>th</sup> Montreal Brownies from MoWest, did another door-to-door blitz. Between the two blitzes, roughly 12 cases of cookies were sold! There are still some cookies left. If you would like to purchase Girl Guide Cookies, please call the toll free number **1-800-565-8111** (answered at the provincial office and they know who to put you in contact with).

### Guides

On many occasions, the Guides took advantage of the nicer weather in May to explore the area near their meeting place. They explored the accessibility of our Town Hall. They created a map of Westminster Avenue. They had great fun exploring a local park for a nature scavenger hunt. While they have been out and about, many of the girls have run into their friends who

were out with their families. It is fun to see your friends in different environments! They have been working hard at completing the program badges so the girls who are in their third year may be eligible to earn the Lady Baden Powell challenge. This challenge is the highest award a Girl in Guides can earn.

### Sparks

The Sparks picked-up on their Explore Canada theme started earlier in the year.

In January, the young ladies "visited" Canada's north. This time, they are busy touring around the Maritime provinces. Did you know, in St. John's Newfoundland you are not allowed to keep a cow in your home? If, by chance you did have one, and you needed to move it to greener pastures, you would need to do so very early in the morning. It's also illegal to drive cattle through the town after 8 am. (Spencer, Beverley and Steve Attoe. *You Can't Do That in Canada!* Toronto: Scholastic Canada, 2010. Print.) The girls could not stop laughing when they heard this news!

To tour around Nova Scotia, the Sparks

You may ask...why is there a photo of a raccoon? Well, on Wednesday, April 12, while walking home from the Spark's meeting, the girls came across this raccoon on Nelson. They stopped and watched. Weren't they surprised! Now that's not someone you usually see during the dinner hour in MoWest!



built their own version of a schooner. They even had a chance to dance to Anne Murray and Rita McNeil music.

### Brownies

The Brownies finished their work on their STEM badge (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). There is a mother of a Brownie who works for the *Canadian Space Agency*. She taught the girls about planetary science, shared stories about Roberta Bondar and other women in science. She was awesome! There are now about 10 Brownies who want to be astronauts!

### Preparing for spring camp

All the units prepared the girls for the traditional spring camp at Wa-Thik-Ane. A meeting was held where the girls learned what a bed roll was and how to make one properly. They also learned why there were some items on the kit list or why some items were not there. We have found by holding such meetings it makes the camping experience much happier for the girls.

*from the Guides of Montreal West*

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## Kosher corner

Among the many areas that have seen recent growth in MoWest are the Jewish awareness events and holiday programs that the community has come together to celebrate. Chabad on Westminster thanks all those who have participated and looks forward to celebrating many more, along with many new faces!

### Shavuot celebration!

As soon as the spring cleaning is finished and the Passover matzah is eaten, the 50-day countdown to Shavuot begins. Shavuot is the holiday that celebrates the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai 3329 years ago. This year you can hear the very same Ten Commandments here in MoWest!

Children have a very important role in the celebration of Shavuot. Our tradition tells us that Moses was asked to provide guarantors to ensure that the Torah would continue to be cherished for generations. Moses proposed many guarantors but was consistently turned down... only when the CHILDREN were suggested as the guarantors, was the Torah given. The rest is history!

We hope that the MoWest Torah "Guarantors" will join us as we carry-on this special tradition.

The Shavuot celebration will be hosted by Rabbi **Mendy** and **Chaya Marlow**, 141 Westminster Ave North on May 31 at 4 pm. RSVP is appreciated **632-9649** or [mendymarlow@gmail.com](mailto:mendymarlow@gmail.com). A dairy buffet and ice cream party for the kids (and kids at heart), following the reading.

### Yizkor services

If you would like to remember a loved one by joining the local Yizkor service on the second day of Shavuot (June 1), please contact Rabbi Mendy Marlow.

### Hebrew for juniors

The students, at Free Hebrew for Juniors at Elizabeth Ballantyne and Edinburgh Schools, have been having great learning experiences! From the Jewish hero and Aleph champ curriculum, to an amazing array of Hebrew reading games, Jewish songs and holiday crafts. They even got to go on outings including a Shabbaton and helping at the elder care!

A great year is coming to an end and we thank **Morah Rivky**, **Morah Mushky** and **Morah Menucha** for their teaching dedication. We hope to see everyone next year! To sign up go to [freehebrew.com](http://freehebrew.com).

Please stay tuned for information about the High Holiday services and other Jewish events. More information can also be found at [chabadwestminster.com](http://chabadwestminster.com).

Chag Sameach and Happy Shavuot!

*from Rabbi Mendy Marlow*

## News from the pews

### St. Philip's

Spring is (finally!) here in all its fullness and with it a full calendar of events.

The annual parish picnic takes place Sunday, June 4 (also the feast of Pentecost). Weather permitting, the 10 am Eucharist will take place on the church lawn and, immediately following, we will break out the food for a barbecue and picnic. That Sunday also marks the wrapping up of Sunday school for the year.

The following Sunday, June 11, **Peter Butler** and the choir will end their year on a high note with a traditional choral Evensong at 5 pm, with music by **Orlando Gibbons** and **Herbert Howell**. Singing at the 10 am service will be accompanied by piano and guitar.

Gospel duo *Infinitely More*, whose music has been nominated for several Covenant Awards and East Coast Music Awards, will perform at St. Philip's Friday, June 9 at 7 pm. They were here about five years ago and gave a very beautiful and inspiring concert, and we are pleased they asked to come back. Tickets are \$15 (\$5 for children) and are available by calling the church office at **481-4871** or at the door.

You may have noticed lots of activity around the building. Over the course of the spring and summer, we are undertaking a lot of work. We are replacing the roof of Memorial Hall, repairing the steps leading from Sherbrooke Street, renovating the choir room and addressing a number of other smaller maintenance items. Having stabilized our finances with the sale of the rectory, we are now better able to exercise good stewardship of our church and hall and we are working to ensure that our physical plant serves both our parish and the wider community for many more years!

### St. Ignatius of Loyola Centennial!

St. Ignatius has played an important role in the life of the residents of western NDG and MoWest for 100 years now.

In 1917 the impetus for an English Catholic parish to serve the local community came out of the growth of Loyola College, now the Loyola Campus of Concordia. This year, we mark the centennial of St. Ignatius of Loyola with a Centennial Mass Sunday, June 18 at 11 am at the Loyola College Chapel on Sherbrooke Street. The Chapel was the parish's home prior to the iconic church on West Broadway being built in the 1960s.

Following the Mass, we will proceed to our current church building for a celebratory BBQ (1 pm) and concert (1:30), featuring our dynamic new St. Ignatius Praise and Worship Band. We're inviting the whole community to join us for all the fun and celebrations

We would love you to join us June 18!

*from Fr. Micheal Leclerc*

### MW Presbyterian

Our prayers go out to all those in our province and across Canada who are battling severe weather conditions and coping with the resulting devastating losses. We must all help in any way that we can.

### Adult Baptisms

The Sacrament of Baptism was administered, on Easter Sunday, to **Yano Claudia Tchatchouang**, **Berthe Carine Tchatchouang Komguez** and **Steeve Cabrel Tchatchouang**.



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## News from the pews

### Spring sale and BBQ

We hope to see many of you at our spring sale and BBQ May 27 from 9:30 am-2 pm. Come browse and buy. Be sure to bring your appetites!

### Ottawa excursion

Our Guild is planning a trip to Ottawa, in July, for our members, that will include a visit to the Parliament Buildings and surroundings. A great way for newcomers to our country to become acquainted with our capital city and seat of government.

### Children's service

Sunday, June 25, our church service will be led by the children of our Sunday school marking the end of classes until September. Special thanks go out to their dedicated teachers under the expert leadership of **Dorothy Kra**.

### Summer services

Weekly Sunday services will be held at 10:30 am throughout the summer.

Bible study will resume in the fall.

We wish you a happy, healthy and active summer. Take time to unwind and relax – perhaps to read an actual book or two! See you in the fall.

*from Janet Dimock*

## MW United

*... the brick one*

### Confirming and Covenanting

June will be a significant month in the history of MW United. On June 4, we will be Confirming our young people who have

been preparing for this time. As well, we will acknowledge those members of our congregation who have officially joined us in the recent past. We are delighted to be welcoming these committed people to our fold. As well, there are those who attend and participate in many ways without this formal step, and that is also fine. There are many reasons that some prefer things this way, and we respect that. All are welcome at any time.

Then on June 11 at 3 pm, we will hold our Covenanting service between MW United, Quebec Presbytery and Rev. **Mark Hammond**. This is the public declaration that we are called to work together in and through this congregation. It is an interesting service and one to which all are invited, regardless of affiliation. We are so pleased to make this declaration. And don't tell anyone, but Rev. **Janet Bisset** will be preaching at Mark's invitation.

### Labyrinth possibilities

While May 30 was our final indoor walk of the season, some other irons are in the fire. A wooden finger Labyrinth is being mounted inside on a suitable wall space. It will be available any time the church building is open.

Also, if we can find a way, an exploratory outdoor Labyrinth may be available through the summer, on the Ballantyne Ave. lawn. With roadwork happening some time this summer, it is hard to know how it will fare.

We continue to gather Sundays at 10 am; although, Sunday school and nursery aer-vice have paused until the fall. For info, call **481-3210** or visit [mwuc.org](http://mwuc.org). Looking forward to seeing you.

*from Susan Upham*

## 50+ Club

### June

**2** *Cirque du Soleil: Volta*, show time: 4:30 pm

**6** Movie matinée: *Jackie* (2016)

**15** BBQ

**28** Upper Canada Playhouse: *Barefoot in the Park* by **Neil Simon**

### July

**12** Hudson Village Theatre: *Leonard Cohen*

**20** Garden Tour: Glen Villa and lunch, North Hatley

### August

**9** Hudson Village Theatre: *Around the World in 80 Days*

**11** Intergenerational tea party (Canada 150)

**24** Gatineau trip: *Mosaic Canada*, boat tour, lunch

### September

**7** Hudson Village Theatre: *Louis Riel*

Tuesday bridge stops for the summer and resumes on September 25! New players are always welcome.

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## Musical Wednesday



Extra Miles' annual Musical Wednesday will be held June 14 at 1 pm in the MW United Church, 88 Ballantyne North. A \$15 ticket includes an intimate one-hour benefit concert with **Lauretta Altman**, pianist and **Linda Rosenthal**, violinist. Refreshments will be served following the recital. The venue is

wheelchair accessible. The proceeds will support the volunteer-based Extra Miles' senior visiting program.

Please note, although it is billed as a fundraiser, with thanks to program sponsors, tickets and/or transportation are provided to elderly people in our community (NDG/MoWest) who could not otherwise attend such an event. The venue is wheelchair accessible.



### About Extra Miles' senior visiting program

Established in 1998 by the MW United Church, the program matches friendly visitors with frail, isolated, often housebound seniors for weekly friendly visits in MW and NDG. The seniors are referred to the program by a nurse or a social worker at the CIUSSS CLSC Benny Farm/ CSSS Cavendish. For information or assistance, please contact **Tracie Swim** at extramiles-senior@gmail.com or 482-3210.

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### Adult Library



Montreal West  
Public Library

### New extended hours!

Saturday: noon-4 pm  
Monday-Thursday: 10 am-4 pm  
and 7-9 pm  
(no lunch time closures!)

### New additions

#### Fiction

Leonard Cohen	<i>Beautiful Losers</i>
Margaret Lawrence	<i>The Stone Angel</i>
Han Kang	<i>Human Acts</i>
Edna O'Brien	<i>The Country Girls</i>

#### Mystery

Sara Blaedel	<i>The Lost Woman</i>
C.J. Box	<i>Vicious Circle: A Joe Pickett Novel</i>
Ragnar Jónasson	<i>Snowblind</i>
Randall Silvis	<i>Two Days Gone</i>

#### Non-fiction

Joseph Hanaway and John H Burgess	<i>The General: A History of the Montreal General Hospital</i>
Sheelah Kolhat	<i>Black Edge</i>

#### Talking books

Paul Kalanithi	<i>When Breath Becomes Air</i>
Cynthia D'Apris Sweeney	<i>The Nest</i>
Amor Towles	<i>A Gentleman in Moscow</i>

### Children's Library



The library is getting ready for an exciting summer season!

#### Reading Club Celebrating Canada 150!

Our bilingual summer Reading Club runs from June 27 through August 18. We offer something for readers of all levels, at a modest cost of \$10/child, or \$8/child for Friends of the Library. There will be games and activities and, of course, wonderful books to read! There are prizes for everyone, and we'll be hosting a Reading Club finale party on Friday, August 18. Registration is open to library members starting June 27.

#### New summer membership program

Families can join the library for the summer at a rate of \$10/family. This will allow participation in all our programs. These memberships will be valid: June 25-August 30. At the end of the summer, members may choose to join the library for the remaining 10 months by paying the difference in the annual membership fee. This is the perfect

opportunity to try out the library and see how much you'll love us!

Throughout July and August, the library will be open Monday-Saturday. Our summer schedule starts June 26 and will be in effect until September 1.

The air conditioned library is the perfect spot to cool off on a hot summer day! We look forward to seeing everyone over the summer.

Remember to pick up some vacation reading. The library is happy to arrange an extended loan period if you're travelling for more than two weeks.

We will return to our regular schedule on Tuesday, September 5.

#### SUMMER HOURS / HORAIRE ESTIVAL

Monday/lundi :	10:00-17:00
Tuesday/mardi :	10:00-20:00
Wednesday/mercredi :	10:00-17:00
Thursday/jeudi :	10:00-20:00
Friday/vendredi :	10:00-16:00
Saturday/samedi :	10:00-15:00



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David Roy, Jon Wiersma, Philippe Leroux, Bob King, Bill Knitter, Rosalind Knitter, Margaret de Chazal, Barbara Brzezinski, Danièle Lemieux, Brian Benedetti, Gail Mendoza were some of the many, many volunteers who celebrated Volunteers' Night at the Town Hall on April 26.

## CANADA 150 at the pool and camp

The pool and camp this year will help celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary through a variety of activities and events with the focus of celebrating and learning about our Canadian heritage.

Activities at the pool are highlighted by our Confederation Swim Meet event on Wednesday, July 26 when the history of swimming in Canada and its impact will be celebrated.

All pool members are encouraged to try out the swim team during our free trial June 5-22. Practices run Monday through Thursday, 5-6 pm.

Look out for our lifejacket lending program as well as our lap swim times which allows

for younger members of the community to do laps during what was previously called adult swim!

At the camp, the children will be spending time learning about our original national sport, cricket (hard to believe, but true!), as well as celebrating Canada through camp-wide events such as the MW 150 games, a competition highlighting Canadian games. Campers will also spend time celebrating what Canada means to them by writing in a journal that will be compiled and distributed to all campers at the end of the summer.

The camp and the pool are happy to help MoWest celebrate Canada 150!

## Camp

The snow has melted away, and we're starting to get a pretty constant double digit temperature, and you know what that means! That's right, it's almost summer, which means that MW Day Camp is ramping up for another amazing summer.

I figured there is no better way to introduce myself, and to remind everyone about the registration dates and camp dates, than to write an article in *The Informer*! My name is **Jake**, and this will be my 14<sup>th</sup> year working at MWDC. I am the Day Camp Coordinator and you may have seen me wearing the stripes officiating a hockey game. I am planning on working tirelessly to make sure that everyone at camp this summer

has an amazing time, the staff, the managers and, most importantly, the kids!

This summer, camp will run from June 26 to August 18, with the option to extend your stay for our famed Week 9, August 21-25. Registration is open for 4-week (minimum) blocks. We also have our Tennis Stream and Claymation Stream which are available as extensions to your camp registration, or as stand-alone services on a weekly basis. Of course, if you have any questions, send us an email and we'll get back to you ASAP (camp@montreal-west.ca).

We're looking forward to seeing old friends and new ones this summer!

*from Jake Sutherland*

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## Town Council Meetings: April



by Carol Foster

The meeting opened with **Councillor Torres** sitting in the Mayor's chair as she filled in for **Mayor Masella** who was absent due to illness.

Torres read the Mayor's report which revealed the results of the AMT's study and their plans to increase safety at the level crossing on Westminster. The installation of traffic lights was considered but the logistics would increase the time it took for each train to cross, further contributing to traffic woes at that intersection. It was decided, instead, to construct a pedestrian entrance to the train platform on Sherbrooke Street on land across from St. Philip's Church, which would eliminate the need to cross at the dangerous intersection on Westminster. In addition, a safer area would be constructed for pedestrians waiting while the gates are down at the Elmhurst crossing.

### First question period

The majority of questions raised during the first question period concerned topics already discussed at previous Council meetings. Since those, several of the residents had done considerable research pertaining to their concerns.

The first revisited issue was the possibility of arranging for the webcasting of Council meetings, brought up by a Ballantyne North resident who had looked extensively into possible options. She had made contacts in several of the local schools and was now proposing the creation of a Facebook page on a municipal level with the help of interested students. The idea was greeted with interest by some Council members.

Another Ballantyne resident expressed frustration with the fact that the Town went ahead and applied for a grant to help cover the costs of building a recreation centre even before the results of the survey were known. He argued that after discussing municipal debts with a Town Councillor from another area, he was convinced that the possibility of the Town's increasing its debt was totally unjustified when it already has the highest per capita debt on the entire island.

**Councillor Feeny** replied that the recent report from an audit of the Town had

indicated the Town has excellent financial management and has been decreasing its debt while at the same time increasing vital infrastructure repairs.

The opinion voiced at the last meeting that snow removal costs could be reduced was brought up again by a Ballantyne resident and was met with the same counterarguments expressed already by members of Council.

The reduction of the current cost of organic matter pickup was also discussed and **Councillor Ulin** replied that many methods had been tried in order to encourage more participation. All fell short of the end goal which was to encourage awareness of the environment and to increase the rebates offered to the Town by the government for the collection of compost.

Following more research and communication with various groups, a Radcliffe resident's request for a tree-planting grant from Tree Canada appears to be having some success.

The last questioner was interested in information concerning the Town's infrastructure work and the exchanges were informative:

*Q. Is there a global plan for the infrastructure repairs?*

In fact there is a global plan for the whole city decreed by the Government of Quebec.

*Q. How much has been done to date in Montreal West?*

20% of what must be done has been done.

*Q. How many years until the work is completed?*

Approximately 10 years, but that number will be verified by Councillor Torres.

*Q. How is the decision made as to where the work will be done?*

The government decides and instructs the Town.

*Q. What is the length of time guaranteed for the work done?*

Sewers: 50 years, street reconstruction: 30 years, resurfacing: 15 years.

The meeting then moved on to other items on the agenda which included the news that the auditor's report, once submitted to the government, will appear on the

Town's website. Also appearing on this website will be an updated schedule of the tariffs charged by Montreal West.

### Councillors' reports

**Councillor Tasker-Brown** announced that the annual Hazardous Waste Pickup will take place at the Public Works Department on May 21. She constantly reminds residents of the benefits of the household composting program now stuck at participation rate of only a 40%. This results in a \$25,000 rebate from the government, but could be much more should participation increase. Action plans to this end are being led by **Chris Kearney** and everyone is asked to contact him with any comments they have about the program.

The ice is being removed from the arena and this space will now become a skate park available for birthday parties as well as daily use, according to Councillor Ulin. She also announced that phase two of the Davies Park project will not be ready for this summer. The delay is caused by the lack of any bids on the project (a situation quite unusual for this town).

Councillor Feeny reminded homeowners that the second instalment of property taxes is due on May 25 and April 30 is the deadline for evaluation contestations. She welcomed a new PSO, **Anthony Pagliuca** and announced there had been only one crime reported in the past month, an unsuccessful break and entry. No fines or tickets were issued for municipal offences, for which residents were congratulated. At the same time they were reminded, with a new season upon us, street-sweeping vehicles, landscapers, leaf blowers and noise-making machinery, including lawnmowers, all have municipal regulations attached to their use.

More good news came from Councillor Torres who reported the Public Works Department was able to save \$100,000 out of a budget of \$400,000 for snow removal in 2016. With all the snow safely removed, the staff is now engaged in the annual spring cleanup and preparations for work in the summer.

### Second question period

Councillor Ulin responded to a question about why no bids were received for the work in Davies Park by saying that although the project information was picked up by 10 contractors, none had indicated interest. She is asking the landscape architect involved in the project to seek an answer from some of the contractors and attempts will be made to make the reposting of the project more attractive.

An itemization of the \$470,000 spent on employee benefits was requested and received, and the meeting was adjourned.

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## Réunions du Conseil : avril



par Carol Foster  
traduction par René Boucher

À l'ouverture de la réunion, la **conseillère Torres** occupait le siège du **maire Masella**, absent pour cause de maladie.

Mme Torres a lu le rapport du maire qui révélait les résultats de l'étude de l'AMT et les plans pour améliorer la sécurité au passage à niveau Westminster. L'installation de feux de circulation a été considérée, mais la logistique allongerait le temps de passage de chaque train ajoutant ainsi aux maux de circulation à l'intersection. L'AMT a plutôt décidé de construire un accès piétonnier aux quais depuis le terrain sur la rue Sherbrooke, face à l'église St Philip, éliminant ainsi le besoin de traverser à la dangereuse intersection sur Westminster. De plus, une zone plus sécuritaire serait aménagée à Elmhurst pour les piétons en attente lorsque les barrières sont abaissées.

### Première période de questions

La majorité des questions posées pendant cette première période de questions touchaient des sujets déjà discutés lors de réunions précédentes du Conseil. Depuis, plusieurs citoyens avaient fait beaucoup de recherche concernant leurs préoccupations.

Le premier sujet revisité par une résidente de Ballantyne Nord qui avait fouillé en profondeur les différentes options concernait la possibilité de diffuser les réunions du Conseil sur le Web. Elle a contacté plusieurs écoles du secteur et suggérerait la création d'une page Facebook au niveau municipal avec l'aide d'élèves intéressés. Certaines membres du Conseil ont manifesté beaucoup d'intérêt pour cette idée.

Un autre résident de Ballantyne a fait part de sa frustration du fait que la Ville ait demandé une subvention pour aider à défrayer la construction d'un centre récréatif avant même de connaître les résultats du sondage. Il a maintenu qu'une discussion sur les dettes municipales avec un conseiller d'une autre municipalité l'avait convaincu que la possibilité d'ajouter à l'endettement de la Ville était totalement injustifiée alors que nous avons déjà la plus forte dette par habitant de toute l'île.

La **conseillère Feeney** a riposté que le récent rapport d'audit indiquait que la Ville avait une excellente gestion financière et avait réduit sa dette tout en augmentant les réparations essentielles à ses infrastructures.

L'opinion exprimée à la dernière réunion voulant que les couts d'enlèvement de la neige puissent être réduits fut à nouveau soulevée par un résident de Ballantyne et a reçu les mêmes contre-arguments de la part des membres du Conseil. L'on a aussi parlé de la réduction du cout actuel de ramassage

des matières compostables; la conseillère Ulin a répondu que de nombreuses incitations à participer au programme dont le but visait la sensibilisation à l'environnement et l'augmentation des rabais offerts à la Ville par le gouvernement pour la cueillette de ces matières n'ont pas réussi.

Par suite d'autres recherches et de communications avec divers groupes, la demande d'une résidente de Radcliffe pour une subvention d'*Arbres Canada* semble remporter un certain succès.

Le dernier intervenant souhaitait obtenir des renseignements sur les travaux d'infrastructure de la Ville et les échanges furent instructifs :

*Q. Y a-t-il un plan global pour la réparation des infrastructures?*

Il y a effectivement un plan global pour toute la cité décrété par le gouvernement du Québec.

*Q. Quelle proportion a été réalisée à ce jour à Montréal-Ouest?*

Vingt pour cent de ce qui doit être fait a été complété.

*Q. Combien d'années avant l'achèvement des travaux?*

Une dizaine d'années environ, mais ce chiffre sera validé par la conseillère Torres.

*Q. Comment décide-t-on de l'endroit où des travaux seront exécutés?*

Le gouvernement décide et informe la Ville.

*Q. Quelle est la durée de garantie pour les travaux exécutés?*

Égouts : 50 ans, reconstruction de rue : 30 ans, réfection de la surface : 15 ans.

La réunion s'est poursuivie avec les autres points à l'ordre du jour dont l'annonce que le rapport de l'auditeur sera affiché sur le site Web de la Ville, après sa soumission au gouvernement. On y trouvera aussi le tableau à jour des tarifs chargés par Montréal-Ouest.

### Rapports des conseillères

La **conseillère Tasker-Brown** a annoncé la tenue de la collecte annuelle de résidus domestiques dangereux le 21 mai. Elle rappelle toujours aux résidents les bénéfices du programme de compostage domestique, actuellement bloqué à seulement 40 pour cent de participation. Cela se solde par un rabais gouvernemental de 25 000 \$, lequel pourrait augmenter de beaucoup si la participation s'accroît. **Chris Kearney** gère les plans d'action à cette fin et tous sont incités à le contacter avec leurs commentaires sur ce programme.

On retire actuellement la glace à l'aréna et la patinoire deviendra maintenant un planchodrome disponible pour fêtes d'anniversaire et pour usage quotidien, selon la **conseillère Ulin**. Elle a aussi indiqué que la phase deux du projet parc Davies ne sera pas

prêt pour cet été. Le retard est dû au fait qu'aucune soumission n'a été reçue pour le projet, une situation plutôt inhabituelle pour la Ville.

La conseillère Feeney a remémoré aux propriétaires que le deuxième versement des taxes foncières est payable le 25 mai et que le 30 avril est la date limite pour contester les évaluations. Elle a souhaité la bienvenue à **Anthony Pagliuca**, le nouvel ASP, et a mentionné qu'un seul crime avait été rapporté le mois précédent, une introduction par effraction infructueuse. Aucune amende ou contravention n'a été imposée pour infraction à un règlement municipal et elle en a félicité les citoyens. Elle a par ailleurs rappelé, avec la nouvelle saison qui arrive, que des règlements municipaux régissent le nettoyage des rues, les paysagistes, les souffleurs à feuilles et les équipements bruyants, dont les tondeuses à gazon.

La conseillère Torres a fait part d'autres bonnes nouvelles en rapportant que les Travaux publics avaient épargné 100 000 \$ sur un budget de 400 000 \$ pour le déneigement en 2016. Toute la neige maintenant partie, le personnel s'affaire au nettoyage printanier et à la préparation des travaux estivaux.

### Deuxième période de questions

À une question sur pourquoi aucune soumission n'avait été reçue pour les travaux au parc Davies, la conseillère Ulin a répondu que bien que dix entrepreneurs aient ramassé le devis, aucun n'avait manifesté d'intérêt pour le projet. Elle a demandé à l'architecte-paysagiste du projet d'obtenir des réponses de certains entrepreneurs et l'on tentera de reprendre avec un projet plus attrayant.

On a demandé et obtenu une ventilation des 470 000 \$ dépensés en avantages sociaux, après quoi la réunion était ajournée.

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# COMING EVENTS

Please call the editor: Heather at 489-7022  
e-mail: montrealwestinformer@gmail.com

**Next deadline: August 9**

## MAY

- Sat 27** **Spring sale and BBQ.** MW Presbyterian. 9:30 am-2 pm.  
**Sun 28** **Sunday school closing.** MW United. Hot dogs follow service. 10 am.  
**Mon 29** **Town Council meeting.** Town Hall. 8 pm.  
**Tue 30** **Evening Labyrinth Walk.** MW United. 7-9 pm.  
**Tue 30** **Open house at *Little Red Playhouse*.** Please RSVP: 994-5018. 8 pm.  
**Wed 31** **Family Shavuot celebration.** Please RSVP: 632-9649. 4 pm.

## JUNE

- Fri 1** **Yizkor service.** Please contact Rabbi Mendy Marlow: 632-9649.  
**Sat 3** **Rotary Club of Montreal Westward's Lobsterfest.** Please see page 5.  
**Sun 4** **Parish picnic.** St. Philip's. Following 10 am Eucharist.  
**Sun 4** **Confirmation.** MW United. 10 am.  
**Wed 7** **Lunchtime BBQ fundraiser for the Red Cross to help support victims of the flooding. Sponsored by Action Sport Physio in collaboration with RBC. Action Sport Physio parking lot. Noon-2 pm.**  
**Fri 9** **Gospel duo *Infinitely More*.** St. Philip's. 7 pm.  
**Sun 11** **Loose Threads Quilt Guild exhibit.** Galerie 5275, 5275 Ferrier. Parking behind the Galerie; no wheelchair access. In support of Maison Shalom. Donations welcome. 1-4 pm.  
**Sun 11** **Covenanting service:** Rev. Mark Hammond and MW United Church. 3 pm.  
**Sun 11** **Traditional choral Evensong.** St. Philip's. 5 pm.  
**Wed 14** **Musical Wednesday** MW United. 1 pm.  
**Wed 14** **Elizabeth Ballantyne School picnic.** Strathearn Park. Tickets: Children's Library or at the event. 3:30-7:30 pm.  
**Thu 22** **Coffee with the Mayor.** Community Centre. 7:30 am.  
**Mon 26** **Town Council meeting.** Town Hall. 8 pm.

## AUGUST

- Sun** **All Sundays.** MW United Church closed.  
**Wed 2** **Cinéma sous les étoiles.** Hodgson Field. In case of rain: Town Hall. 8:50 pm.  
**Thu 24** **Coffee with the Mayor.** Community Centre. 7:30 am.  
**Sat 26** **Volunteer fair** organized by *NDG/MoWest Volunteer Recruitment Committee*. Monkland Community Centre, 4410 Westhill. Info: Edward Cho at 484-7878, #3146. Noon-5 pm.  
**Mon 28** **Town Council meeting.** Town Hall. 8 pm.



**TUESDAY, MAY 30**

### Community Night and Children's Dance Festival

Ballet, Irish dancing, Scottish dancing, Hip Hop. Davies Park, 6 pm.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 6**

### Pet Night

With the *MW Veterinary Clinic*, *DogZworth Dog Training* and much more. Davies Park, 6 pm.



**TUESDAY, JUNE 13**

### Multicultural Night

Music by the *Salah's Steelpan Academy* and Phillipine dancers: *Pamana Ng* and *LuzViMinda*. Strathearn Park, 6 pm.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 23**

### La Fête nationale du Québec

Music by *The Jonathan Moorman Band*, *Les Bons Diabes* traditional dancers, inflatables, games, mural, quizzes, prizes, face painting, BBQ, bonfire. Strathearn Park, 6 pm.

**SATURDAY, JULY 1**

### Canada Day Celebrations!

Parade along Westminster, 4-5 pm. Festivities: Strathearn Park, 5 pm. Fireworks: Hodgson Field, 9:45 pm. Music and entertainment: the *Preville Big Band* and *Won'Ma Afrique* by *Cirque Kalabanté Productions* presented by *Le Conseil des arts de Montréal en tournée* and the Town of MoWest. BBQ, prizes, games, inflatables, face painting, pony rides in Percival Park.

**SUNDAY, JULY 9**

### Scottish Ceilidh

Strathearn Park, 4 pm.

**TUESDAY, JULY 18**

### Art in the Park and Fête Klezmer by Okotopus

Strathearn Park, 6 pm.



**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2**

### Cinéma sous les étoiles

*De Fumanbules Media*. Documentary: *Requiem for the American Dream*. Hodgson Field, 8:50 pm, in case of rain: Town Hall.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 8**

### Geek Night

Music and fun! *Sea Shanty Singers* (from *Assassins Creed*) comics, video games, board games, mascots and much more. Strathearn Park, 6 pm.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 15**

### Corn Roast and Day Camp Variety Show

Strathearn Park, 6 pm.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 22**

### Family Movie Night

BBQ at 6:30 pm, movie (*Moana*) at dusk (8 pm), Hodgson Field.

