

Steve Sims: Mapping the River of Life

by Maurice Krystal

Steve Sims came to my house to drop off his new trilogy, *The Noble River*. He parked his baby blue Subaru Crosstrek, which is identical twin to mine. Obviously, I had met a kindred spirit. We sat on two chairs in the driveway, socially distanced, and talked about his three-book wisdom collection and life. He is soft spoken and introspective. A week later, after reading his trilogy, we Zoomed and he filled me in on his life, and quite the journey was revealed.

Born in Sherbrooke, Quebec, the youngest in the Sims family, together with a twin sister **Barbara**. She was a restaurateur in Nova Scotia, now retired. Older brothers **David** and **Robert** are deceased and there is brother **Gerry**, a retired chartered accountant, and **Richard**, a retired doctor.

His father, who worked for *Bell*, was transferred to Montreal and the family moved to MoWest in 1950 when Steve was three. He began school at Elizabeth Ballantyne School and then attended Loyola High



School and University, completing a B.Com. and then obtained a teaching diploma at McGill.

He travelled to Australia and taught high school for two years

before venturing for the first time to the eastern Himalayas, an area he would return to many times.

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John Drummond and Ann MacKay: Retiring on top of their game

by Maurice Krystal

I interviewed the couple via Zoom in mid-April. Since selling the *Montreal West Dentistry* to fellow dentist, Dr. **Islam Shaat**, **John Drummond** has worked part time but they have both made the decision to completely retire in December. They said they were “north of sixty” but with their youthful looks and lively disposition it seemed like a very early retirement. It sort of felt I was listening to a Freedom 55 commercial.

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INFORMER

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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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Rhonda Schwartz

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Heather Baylis
489-7022

LAYOUT DESIGNER

Julia Ross
julia@ross.cd

AD MANAGER

Heather Baylis
489-7022
montrealwestinformer@gmail.com

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Rhonda Schwartz 482-0227

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NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE
September 8



The fate of the St. Pierre River on the Meadowbrook Golf Course

Have you seen the poster in the window of the MoWest Public Library (French version) or above the fireplace inside the library (English version)? It's all about the St. Pierre River that ran through Meadowbrook until last year. This fall, it may completely disappear as, following a court order, the City of Montreal plans to canalize it.

This remaining 200 metre section of the river is a heritage jewel which deserves to be protected, especially if the area becomes a nature park one day. How can we save it?

First, the Town of Montreal West needs to identify how many and which homes or buildings have sewer cross-connections that have polluted the

river where it enters the golf course from a storm water collector. The sources of pollution from Côte Saint-Luc have been pinpointed, and there are hopes that, with some political will, the decision to bury the river could be reversed.

In July and August, 200 mètres - Gardiens de la Rivière Saint-Pierre et de ses droits and Les amis du parc Meadowbrook had a display table outside the library. They handed out a new flyer, invited people to sign the St. Pierre River Declaration which outlines the rights of the river and explained why it's so important to save one of the last sections of this historic waterway – for the environment and for our heritage. You can pick up a flyer at the library.

For more information, please check our website at lesamisde-meadowbrook.org.

Nigel Dove and Stefan Tams at library display table, August 5



*Les amis du parc
Meadowbrook*

Polling of November 7

Employment opportunities

The Returning Officer of the Town is seeking personnel to work for the election to be held on the following days:

- Sunday, October 31, from 9:30 am to 8 pm (advance poll);
- Sunday, November 7, from 9:30 am to 8 pm (polling day).

All members of the electoral personnel will be required to attend training sessions, which will be held during the evening time.

If you are interested in a position, please fill an application and return it to the Returning Officer as soon as possible. The application forms may be obtained by email and, once completed, returned to: election@montreal-west.ca.

For more information, you may write **Ginette Roy**, Election Clerk using the same address.

Claude Gilbert
Returning Officer



Scrutin du 7 Novembre

Offres d'emploi

Le bureau du président d'élection procède présentement au recrutement de personnel pour la tenue d'une élection devant se tenir :

- le dimanche 31 octobre de 9h30 à 20 h (vote par anticipation);
- le dimanche 7 novembre de 9h30 à 20 h (jour du scrutin).

Il est important de noter que les personnes choisies devront assister, en soirée, à des séances de formation avant la tenue de l'élection.

Les formulaires de demande d'emploi peuvent être obtenus et transmis par courrier électronique. À cette fin, vous pouvez communiquer directement à l'adresse suivante : election@montreal-west.ca, et doivent être retournés aussitôt que possible, dûment complétés.

Pour toute autre information, veuillez communiquer avec Mme **Ginette Roy**, Secrétaire d'élection, à la même adresse.

Claude Gilbert
Président d'élection

Local author donates books



Several months ago, **Pat Nicholson** was contacted by **Robert Rothenberg** from *Rothenberg Capital Management (RCM)*. Mr. Rothenberg offered to support her work initiative, by purchasing many copies of her

English and French books which would then be donated to children at the Montreal Children's Hospital. With the help of **Kiara Bernard** from *RCM*, they were able to co-ordinate and to safely deliver the books to **Sabrina Drudi** (Child Life specialist) and **Jan Lariviere** (Literacy Project Coordinator), who ensured that Pat's signed books would get to the children and their families.

The story was posted on different social media platforms in hopes that it could inspire others to give back to their communities.

Over the years, Pat has been donating each book she writes to the MCH library. She hopes to return to the hospital to meet with children and families once we are safely through the pandemic.

New book for all

Pat has also just published a new book, *Butterflies in the Snow*. This one is for anyone (especially adults and including herself) who has gone through or is going through, the difficult feelings of loss when a loved one dies. Pat says, "Considering the many

who have lost family and friends during the pandemic, I know it resonates and will give hope to many others as they grieve."

Order Pat's books online at Amazon or go on Facebook or order from *Bonder Bookstore*.



John Drummond and Ann MacKay

continued from page 1

John, who grew up in Pointe Claire, became intrigued with dentistry when a dentist came to his high school while he was in grade 11 and spoke on career day. That same dentist allowed him to observe what took place in his practice and John had a gut feeling that this profession was for him.

Ann MacKay grew up in St. Andrews by-the-Sea, New Brunswick. (I learned that people from NB are called Herring Chokers, which doesn't sound very complimentary). Her family were entrepreneurs and ran a hotel. Ann and John met at McGill, he in Dentistry and she in Business. They graduated in 1983 and moved to New Brunswick where he practised dentistry. But a few years later they returned to Montreal and settled in the West Island. John became a professor at McGill in 1986 and began teaching a course in Introduction to Fillings. From a fellow professor,

he found out that a dentist in MoWest was searching for someone to eventually take over his practice and in 1987 John joined Dr. **Robin Vincelli** at 12 Brock Ave. North. The following year they moved to MoWest to live in the community in which they worked.

Dr. Drummond became the third proprietor of the *Montreal West Dentistry*. Dr. **Staples** began the practice in 1961 and lived upstairs, until he and his wife had too many children to fit in the small living quarters. Dr. Vincelli took over next and he retired in 2010. The *Montreal West Dentistry* has always been a hub of social interaction. Even dog walkers drop by knowing that dog biscuits are handed out. The aim is to create an atmosphere that is friendly and competent. For some, visiting a dentist can be scary. Dentistry is known to be one of the more stressful occupations. John says he never considered what he was doing was a "job" because he loved being a dentist for 37 years.

The link between oral health and general health is well known. What's going on in your mouth often says a lot about

what's going on in the rest of your body. Dr. John does not hesitate referring patients to see their GP if he notices oral issues. Since he started dentistry, he has seen some changes. Back in the mid-80s only some dentists wore masks and gloves, but with the HIV epidemic, this is now common practice. What Covid-19 will add is still to be determined, but the extensive masking has already had an effect on the interpersonal relationships in the office.

John and Ann weren't just partners in the home. Ann was the Operations Manager for Montreal West Dentistry. This entailed supporting the dental and administrative functions and making sure everything in the office ran smoothly. John describes her as, "My right- ... and often my left- ... hand person in everything we did at the office".

We got onto the topic of what they planned to do with all their free time. For the most part their plans seem to be to continue living a very healthy lifestyle with plenty of hiking and biking. John plans to spend more time doing woodwork, a hobby that involves using his hands.

I asked, why retire so early. John mentioned leaving before you lose your edge. But Ann emphasized their desire to carve a time for themselves and take advantage while they are still quite healthy and active. John admitted he will definitely miss his patients and coworkers.

Both of them have been very involved in the *CRA*. Ann ran the young hockey program for 25 years while both of them were involved as volunteer coaches with their kids in hockey, baseball and soccer. The Town is just the right size for them. You can go and watch a soccer game and see your patients on the field or in the crowd. You know most of them and they know you, just like the theme song to Cheers.

Their three children all live in Montreal and they attended Edinburgh and Royal West Academy. **Trevor** works for *CCM*, **Kristen** is a CEGEP teacher and **Nicole** is a cardiac surgery nurse. Like their parents they were very involved in the Town's hockey, skating, and swimming programs, both as participants and staff.

À la mémoire de

Gilbert Mangerel

1935-2021

Gilbert Mangerel est décédé le 16 juillet dernier, dans sa 86^e année. Il était un époux aimant, un papa formidable et un grand-papa gaga. Au cours des 43 dernières années, Gilbert et son épouse **Danièle** ont élevé leurs trois enfants dans la vieille maison de Montréal-Ouest où ils ont accueilli et hébergé, année après année, une nombreuse famille élargie, des centaines d'amis, des dizaines d'enfants et huit chats.

Né à Paris dans les années trente, Gilbert a connu la Deux-

ième Guerre pendant son enfance avant de devenir lui-même parachutiste dans les années 1950. Grand voyageur, il a vécu en Algérie, au Danemark et à Sept-Îles avant de s'installer dans la région de Montréal dans les années 1970.

Gilbert was a translator specialized in engineering and he worked for years from his home office. An accomplished athlete, he loved cross-country skiing and long-distance swimming. A musician since childhood, he had a beautiful baritone and sang at the Sainte-Catherine-de-Sienne church for decades.

Après sa retraite, il a mis sa voix au service de l'inclusion et de l'accessibilité en s'impliquant bénévolement pendant

plus de dix ans auprès de l'organisme *Vues et voix* – autrefois *La Magnétothèque* – qui produit des livres audio pour les personnes non voyantes, ayant une déficience perceptuelle ou des troubles d'apprentissage.

With his wife Danièle (Elizabeth Ballantyne's "French Librarian" in the 1990s and early 2000s for a generation of Montreal West school kids!), Gilbert was a true Montreal West old-timer. He and Danièle spent many a joyful evening in the company of their faithful group of neighbours, whose merriment culminated in the yearly Strathearn Avenue block party.

A true gentleman and the kindest of souls, Gilbert leaves with us the fond memory of his

kindness, calming presence, and wonderful sense of humour.

de Caroline Mangerel



A Rose for Antarctica

Valmar Kurol, a resident of Courtney Drive, has recently released a new CD, *A Rose for Antarctica – Orchestral Scenes and Impressions*. A collaboration with **Michael Stibor** of Dorval, this instrumental work was inspired by Valmar's travels to Antarctica over 28 years. The 11 tracks are about the experience of being there, in four themes, Soaring over Ice, Distress, Oceans and Ice and Human Presence. This music is both joyous and contemplative and represents an ode, a rose for this magical continent.

Available on iTunes, Spotify, Amazon.ca or CDs from aroseforantarctica.com.

Water meter reading



Don't miss the September 24 deadline to submit your water meter reading. Submit your reading online! Simply head to montreal-west.ca/water-tax and fill out the form. You can also submit your reading by filling out the card and returning it to Town Hall, emailing dmarza@montreal-west.ca or calling **485-8941**. In all cases, make sure you include your name, address, serial number (on the cover) and reading. A \$50 service charge will be added to all late submissions.

Having trouble reading the meter? Call Public Works at **485-8597**.

For all other questions call **Daniela Marza** in the Finance department at **485-8941**.

MoWest Terry Fox Run is virtual again!

Once again, the *Terry Fox Run* will be virtual. Although we cannot congregate to celebrate the 41th run this year, we can still maintain the tradition. A series of virtual events have been planned throughout the months of August and September to provide opportunities for Terry Fox supporters to participate in fundraising efforts across the country. September 19 will mark the *Terry Fox Run Day*.

It was 41 summers ago that a young man from British Columbia captivated a nation with his determination to find a cure for cancer. Since Terry's Marathon of Hope in 1980, the Terry Fox Foundation has raised over \$800 million for cancer research. This is the ninth year that we have hosted the MoWest Terry Fox Run, raising in excess of 60K for the foundation

The run continues to be a grass roots,

non-competitive event. Like all run days across the country, the virtual MW *Terry Fox Run* will take place on September 19, so mark your calendars! Whether, running, walking, biking or trekking, feel free to choose your mode of supporting a virtual Terry Fox event. Fundraising and registrations are positively trending, higher than normal (year-to-date) and that is encouraging news! To purchase Terry Fox merchandise, or to register for an event, try out the *Terry Fox Foundation* app or visit terryfox.org.

We look forward to seeing you back in person in 2022!

I want to set an example that will never be forgotten-Terry Fox

#tryliketerry

from the Pennefather family

Lecture des compteurs d'eau

Ne manquez pas la date limite du 24 septembre pour soumettre la lecture de votre compteur d'eau. Transmettez votre lecture en ligne! Il vous suffit de vous rendre au montreal-west.ca/taxe-eau et de remplir le formulaire. Vous pouvez également soumettre votre lecture en remplissant la carte et en la retournant à l'hôtel de ville, en envoyant un courriel à dmarza@montreal-ouest.ca ou en composant le **485-8941**. Dans tous les cas, assurez-vous d'inclure votre nom, votre adresse, le numéro de série (sur le couvercle) et votre lecture. Des frais de service de 50 \$ seront facturés à toutes les soumissions tardives.

Vous éprouvez des difficultés à lire votre compteur? Appelez le Service des travaux publics au **485-8597**. Pour toutes autres questions, veuillez appeler **Daniela Marza** du Service des finances au **485-8941**.

What lies ahead... can we change?



Recently, a very important scientific report on climate change was released by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). This panel was created to inform policymakers about the implications and future risks of climate change, as well as mitigation options. However, everyone should be aware of the many significant affects human beings' actions have had on the Earth.

As stated in the report, it is impossible to deny that our influence has warmed the atmosphere, oceans and land. We know that the young and future generations will face the harshest consequences; they deserve to know what lies ahead and how they might be able to change the course of climate change's current, bleak path. Here is a brief and comprehensible summary of the IPCC report:

- Humans burn fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas) for electricity, heat, and transportation. The greenhouse gas emissions caused by fossil fuels, forest destruction, and other human activities are destabilising the mild climate in which civilisa-

tion began. This contributes to the melting of ice, which pours trillions of tonnes of water into the oceans, where oxygen levels are falling – suffocating the seas – and acidity is rising.

Because of this:

- The Earth will probably hit 1.5 degrees Celsius of warming by 2030. This means that oceans will continue to warm at a devastating pace, and glaciers will continue melting for decades or centuries. It is possible that the sea level rises by 2m by the end of this century, or 5 m by 2150. If so, humans and wildlife in coastal areas will be threatened by mas-

sive floods. There will also likely be increases in fire weather in many regions.

- However, there is some hope. If we can cut global greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050, we can stop and possibly even reverse the dangerous rise in temperatures. To do this, we'd have to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as much as possible by using clean technology, and we'd have to bury remaining releases or absorb them by planting trees. Furthermore, governments and large companies need to put in place the necessary actions to deliver a resilient, net-zero economy.

Remember that children and adults alike have the right to be concerned and angry about this information. Speaking out about such feelings can be very impactful. Montreal West is constantly buzzing with laughing, shouting, and conversing; we need such spirited voices – from people of all ages – in this crucial fight for our planet.

from Haley Clarke-Cousineau

Steve Sims

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From Kathmandu he travelled 11,000 miles overland across Asia to London on a bus with 23 other passengers. This trip took him into worlds and cultures he had only read about. It expanded his feelings for the global village. But more than that he heard an inner voice that spoke to him: "Make your life into an adventure of love." The outer journey ultimately became an inner journey.

Steve returned to Canada in 1971 and continued teaching, but three years later went back to north-eastern India and working as a paramedic (Canadian Jesuits International) and then helping to set up schools teaching adult literacy in remote villages.

Upon returning to Canada, Steve began working with young people enrolled in a drug rehab program on a farm run by the *Spera Foundation*. It was primarily a grass roots addict-helping-addict program. With no government funding, the program ended in the early 80s. Steve then became the director of the *Benedict Labre House* in Griffintown, a hospitality house for the homeless.

In his work with addicts, he witnessed miracles of transformation as well as failures. The question that became focal for Steve centered on the wisdom of change, and finding the right maps to guide one's journey of self-discovery.

Steve notes that a lot of us are going down the river of life with no map or guide. He began to organize small dialogue circles where people examined the "maps" they

were using to find right direction and meaning in their lives. The first two groups mushroomed into many, and the conversations have continued over 40 years up to the present time. At the age of 48, Steve returned to the eastern Himalayas and enjoyed a rich cross-cultural dialogue on body-mind-spirit transformation.

While all these activities were going on, Steve began to write. In 2009 *River of Awareness* and in 2015 *Wisdom of Authenticity* were published. Hot off the press this year is his wisdom trilogy, *The Noble River*.

This trilogy is not something you just read, but rather feel. For those wanting a plot, characters and setting, this collection might be a disappointment. The three volumes contain hundreds of quotes on how and why one should pursue an enlightened life. The quotes from philosophers, religious figures, poets, politicians, psychiatrists and teachers, plus quotes by the author, vary in length, from a few lines to 1 to 2 pages. A fast reader could probably read every word in less than 10 hours. But I don't think that is the way to read such a collection. I had to stop often and reflect. Perhaps in each section only a few quotes will press a button and something floats to the top of your conscious mind.

I found the poetic quotes the most interesting. What is not said, only implied, made me stop and think. My favourite quote in the book was by Oscar Wilde: "Be yourself; everyone else is already taken." Maybe it's the terseness, the humour and the absurdity of the sentence. Of course, it begs the question of who you really are. That is what the

collection is trying to help the reader discover. It definitely isn't how others define you.

After living in the inner city for 40 years, Steve returned to MoWest in 2018. While the world has changed, it feels like coming back to the beginning. He vividly remembers the elm-lined streets. And speaking of memories, he recalls the family going each summer to Lake Simcoe and summer nights sitting around a campfire. The beginning of a dialogue circle? As a youngster he loved to hang around the train station and talk to **Paul**, the station master, and talk about the trains and where they would go. Steve Sims has surely gone far seeking the meaning of life.

A copy of his latest work, *The Noble River*, can be found in the MWPL or purchased directly from the author. If you wish further info on his books or the dialogue circles you can call or email:

514 227-2215

steve.k.sims@gmail.com

www.stephensims.com

Tom Mallon
Engineering Technologist

Home Maintenance & Repairs

NEQ: 2264576507

22 Brynmor
Montreal West, QC
H4X 2A9

514 651 4955
tpmalco@hotmail.com

Kosher corner

Calendar!

Chabad Westminster is proud to present, for the first time, a community calendar! If you have not yet received yours, please reach out to **Rabbi Mendy** or **Chaya Marlow**.

Pre Rosh Hashana challah bake

An evening for women hosted by Chaya Marlow. Outdoor social challah baking together to enhance your Rosh Hashana table, Wednesday, September 1 at 7:45 pm. Join us as we pray, unite and enjoy! RSVP chaya@chabadwestminster.com.

High Holidays

Chabad Westminster is once again excited to host local High Holiday services!

Rosh Hashana will begin the evening of Monday, September 6 and concludes Wednesday, September 8.

There will be a shofar blown at Strathearn Park on Tuesday and Wednesday at 4:30 pm (weather permitting). Children who join will receive a Rosh Hashana treat!

On Tuesday at 7 pm, there will be a shofar blowing at **Jamie and Sandy's** (Sheraton/Radcliffe) followed by a special presentation.

Yom Kippur will take place on Wednesday evening, September 15 and end on Thursday night September 16.

For a full schedule of High Holiday services and communal meals or to RSVP, please email rabbi@chabadwestminster.com or call **632-9649**.

Sukkot Celebration!

Family holiday dinner in the sukka – under the stars – Tuesday, September 21, 5:30 pm.

Don't forget about the Simchat Torah celebration on Tuesday, September 28.

from Rabbi Mendy Marlow



Rotary

Dolly Dastoor: Ageing gracefully

Dolly Dastoor was born in Mumbai and came to Montreal in 1973 after ten years in Nigeria as a project coordinator for the *WHO's* Project in Schizophrenia. She has recently retired as Co-Director of the Program in Dementia with Psychiatric Co-Morbidity at the Douglas Mental Health University Institute.

Dolly came to talk to us about ageing gracefully, not about trying to look like a 20-year-old. It is about living your best life and having the physical and mental health to enjoy it. She said there were seven attitudes for ageing gracefully.

- 1) Accept the complexity that comes with longevity.
- 2) Develop a positive attitude towards growing older.
- 3) Exercise your mind and body.
- 4) Lower your stress levels.
- 5) Get enough sleep.
- 6) Broaden your interests and stay active.
- 7) Recognize and express gratitude.

Dolly then explained three concepts: Aging Normally, Aging Gracefully and Aging Strategically and explained them briefly. She said non acceptance of ageing is the greatest obstacle. Ageing is not a problem; it is natural and we have to accept it. She showed us surveys of what people perceive to be old. She then showed us how the population is ageing and in 30 years there will be more people over 65 than under 14. To be happy one has to answer three questions;

- 1) Can I still be productive, am I still learning.
- 2) Am I investing enough time in my health.
- 3) Am I still able to change and adapt.



Dolly Dastoor

A long, happy, dynamic life is based on a combination of family, friends and work. Dolly talked about how the traditional three-stage life (education, career and retirement) is being replaced by a multi staged one with more complexities. There are four distinct aging processes: chronological, biological, psychological, social.

Genetics is not as important as our lifestyle choices and there are no effective anti-aging medicines that can reverse the aging process. It is important that we exercise, watch what we eat, get enough sleep, control stress and build meaningful social relationships to help keep the brain healthy and functioning at a high level. The brain loves stimulation and can form new connections that result in a healthier sharper mind.

Meditation is also something that Dolly recommends along with yoga. She talked about stress and said we have to control our stress levels and gave us a few strategies, but said the first step in reducing stress is to take back control of your life. Dolly ended her talk by saying "When you get up in the morning think of what a precious privilege it is to be alive – to breath, to think, to love and to enjoy the day. Embrace your age, enjoy getting older" and "Getting older is natural, feeling old is optional. Aging gracefully is a matter of choice, the choice is yours."

from Doug Yeats

SPEAKER SERIES - Every Thursday, 7:30 pm

Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88132722993>

IODE



The *IODE* HMS Victory Chapter has been busy knitting 2-inch length tiny mittens as a good luck token for the 20 grade three students at the Sheshatshiu Innu School in Labrador. Each pair of mittens is accompanied by a personalized message: a mitten handful of good wishes for a successful and fun school year.

The teacher reports that children arrive at school not wearing socks even in cold weather. The Chapter will also send a pair of socks for each child.

*from Moira Bettinville
Vice-President*



Rotary and IODE



This summer at Bill Durnan arena vaccine centre

Working throughout the summer

Throughout the summer the *Rotary Club of Montreal West and NDG* and the *IODE HMS Victory* chapter have been delivering snacks, rainbow bagels, brownies and cookies to various vaccine centres starting with training centre at the Université de Montréal.

For six straight days, **Jonathan Saxe** from *JJ's Salades Etc.* delivered 100 cookies to those in training to administer vaccines. He also delivered 245 *St-Viateur* bagels to the Emergency Department of The Jewish General Hospital. Decarie Square received over 150 rainbow and assorted bagels from *Dizz Bagel & Deli*. For their staff BBQ, Centre d'hébergement Henri-Bradet received 100 frozen yogurts from *TCBY*. The emergency staff at St. Mary's appreciated 50 rainbow bagels from *Dizz's Bagel & Deli* on a very busy day. The Bill Durnan arena also received 80 bagels and on August 29 to commemorate the closing of the centre, we are supplying 400 mini cupcakes from *Sandrini Confections* on Sherbrooke. As some centres have finished their "tour of duty," others are opening. Next week we are delivering to a new vaccine site in Park Extension.

All these merchants have been grateful for our continued support for their business in these trying times. We have sought out family-run businesses and those that had just opened before the Covid-19 pandemic.

The *Rotary* is especially thankful to our dedicated members who have never ceased donating to the cause of acknowledging the frontline healthcare workers. Another recent generous donation of \$2,000 was most timely in helping to carry out our efforts.

from *Giuliana Pendenza*
and *Ron D'Souza*



Fall registration is now open!

We have had such a successful spring and summer soccer program. Thank you to parent volunteers, staff, parents and, most of all, the players who made this program so rewarding.

Looking ahead to the fall, there are still a number of unknowns. Registration for our MWH Knights hockey is open on the new Hockey Canada Registry and we are hopeful that we will be permitted use of the gyms for all of our other activities. We will be opening registration for our sports programming, with smaller groups and lots of "maybes" as we wait to hear from Public Health and the Quebec government about what we are permitted to do.

This will be an exceptional season, and we want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding. We will do our best to offer sports where we can keep everyone's health and safety as our priority.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN NOW FOR:

Single Letter Hockey

Players participate in a competitive hockey league at the single letter level. There is one practice and one game a week. We play within the EHL league (Lachine, Westmount, CSL, MRO, St. Laurent, Lasalle, Verdun). For more information or to register please see our hockey website at mwhhockey.ca.

Ages: U9-U18

Cost \$625

Future Stars Hockey

Teaches children content, methods and a framework that will help them learn the basic technical and tactical skills of ice hockey. FUN and non-competitive. Children do not need to know how to skate.

Ages: for children born in 2015-2016-2017

Days: Thursday 5:30-6:30 & Sunday 10-11

Season: October-March

Cost: \$325, 2 x a week

Skating lessons

These classes are for the first-time skater to more the more advanced one, ages 5+. Classes have a low ratio instructor to skaters and teach skating skills through circuits and fun games.

When: Wednesdays 5-6 pm or Sundays 11-noon or noon-1 pm

Location: Legion Rink

REGISTRATION OPENS SEPTEMBER FOR:

Gym-Tastic!

We will have fun equipment circuits and progressive gymnastics lessons from our beginners, to the more advanced pre-schooler. Children must be out of diapers to participate. Fall, winter and spring sessions

Ages: 3½-5 years, 5:45-6:30 pm

6-10 years, 6:30-7:30 pm

Start: end of September

Location: Elizabeth Ballantyne School

Indoor soccer

This is a 10-week indoor soccer program for girls and boys. The focus is to improve skills and technique. Class sizes small to ensure each player receives individual attention.

Ages: 5-6 years old (co-ed)

Ages: U8 to U13 boys and girls (separate)

Fall session: end of September

Location: Royal West gym

Women's indoor soccer

This 10-week program provides women 19+ the opportunity to learn and play recreational soccer. Coach **Greg Macgregor** will guide you through the rules as well as teach basic to more advanced skills.

Fall session: end of September

Location: Royal West gym

Men's indoor soccer

This 10-week program provides men 19+ the opportunity to play recreational indoor soccer.

Fall session: end of September

Location: Royal West gym

Judo

The practice of judo techniques helps develop basic and fundamental physical fitness in a number of ways such as strength, flexibility, agility, speed, dynamic and static balance, power and endurance.

Ages: 5-16

Levels: Beginner white and yellow belt

Advanced yellow and orange

Session: October to April

Location: Elizabeth Ballantyne School

Basketball

Coached by **David Steiner**, this program will run in the fall and winter for 10 weeks. All levels and ability are welcome.

Ages: 5-16

Location: Elizabeth Ballantyne School

mwcraports.ca

Email: infocra@mtlwestcra.ca

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Guiding

Excited to start up again in the fall



As of the writing of this article, we will be able to return in September with in-person meetings. However, should the situation change, we have much experience in leading online meetings. Girl Guides of Canada has put regional safety measures in place which follow all provincial guidelines, though may be more restrictive. We are ready for indoor, outdoor and overnight camps. The leaders of the Montreal West units are excited to see your daughters in person again!

The Sparks (K-grade 1) and Brownies (grades 2-3) meet on Wednesday evenings. The Guides (grades 4-6) meet on a Friday evening. All three units meet at the MW United Church, corner of Westminster and Curzon.

We would like to thank the provincial camp property committee for all their hard work in keeping the Wa-Thik-Ane camp site operational throughout the closures. Although the camp has been closed for two years, the maintenance never takes a break. The property committee has ensured the camp is ready as soon as girls can return to enjoy the beautiful surroundings of Lac Bouchette.

Cookies!

We will be selling traditional chocolate and vanilla sandwich cookies this fall. If you are still in need of mint cookies, we can find some for you. They won't be available again until the fall 2022.

Contact **Christine**, the Sparks leader, at pearl.barnowl@gmail.com or **483-3303** or **Janet King**, the Brownie leader, at **481-6523**.

Registration

Registration is open now at register.girlguides.ca. As always, girls are welcome to try two meetings for free before registering.

If you are interested in having your daughter try the meetings first, please contact Christine.



Montreal West Scouts

Kub Kars race!

Cubs

It is the usual practice of our Cub Scout Pack to make and race Kub Kars in the months of March and April. (A Kub Kar is a small block of wood which is fashioned by the Cub, with parental help, into a racing car, which then is raced, using gravity as its power, down a track.)

Race day is usually a bit chaotic, with excited Cubs, and their parents and siblings, cheering on the racers in the school gym. But, of course, nothing is normal these days. The Kub Kar Rally was cancelled in 2020, and we thought that this would have to be the case again this year. But in discussions with Scouters from other Packs, we learned that it would be possible to do it "virtually". And so, we decided to go ahead.

With **Rainbow's** help, we ordered the kar kits from the Scout Shop in Ottawa, then delivered them to the Cubs' homes. In a couple of our Zoom meetings, we discussed how to make the kars, how to make sure they are the correct weight (the rules are quite strict on this) and shared design ideas. Then

the Cubs had a couple of weeks to complete their kars and deliver them to Hawkeye's house.

On a beautiful sunny Sunday morning in June, seven Scouters gathered at **Hawkeye's** house to set up the track on the lawn. When all was set, the Scouters gathered on Zoom with the Cubs in their own homes, cameras were aimed at the track, and we were off. The 15 kars raced two at a time, so there were many races before the top six winners raced in the finals.

And finally, the top three racers were declared: **Ari Semergian** in 1st place, **Daniella Portillo** in 2nd, and **Liam Ottenwaelder** in 3rd.

Each kar looked quite different, and there were very many clever designs and excellent workmanship. The Cubs were asked to vote for the best design, and this was won by **Rosa Gardner**, who had fashioned her block of wood and painted it to look like a carrot, then made a white rabbit from modelling clay as the driver.

A fun day was had by all. Congratulations to all for their efforts and creativity.



Cub Leader Kaa setting a heat

Registration:

At this point in time, we are unsure of our status with the EMSB for use of their gyms for our regular meetings. We plan to start with outdoor meetings in local parks from the middle of September – weather permitting – following COVID protocols.

Scouts Canada has changed the registration year to the calendar year, so our new payment year does not start until January. Anyone registering now will re-

ceive September to the end of December for free.

Returning (non-active) members may register online as of September 1 for the full 16 months.

New members may register online at Scouts.ca Myscouts as of September 15, also for the full 16 months.

For more information, please call **Karen Johnstone** at **717-5696** or email at karenmansonfieldjohnstone@gmail.com.

Edinburgh School



Edinburgh Grad 2021

The 2021 grade 6 Edinburgh graduation took place on June 23. Last year's in-person graduation was abruptly cancelled when the pandemic hit, leaving the organizing committee scrambling to prepare something online to mark the occasion.

This year, after many months of pandemic restrictions, parents began the planning process early to ensure that the graduates got to celebrate. With the ongoing changes in curfew times, numbers for gathering and permissions of all kinds, it required plenty of patience. Our plans changed monthly with the evolving changes in the restrictions.

Thankfully, permission was granted to host an in-person outdoor ceremony for the graduating students. The ceremony was available online, so families could gather around their screens to watch their loved ones walk across the stage and receive their diplomas. The graduates then had a party in their respective school bubbles with gift bags and individual treats distributed.

It may not have been the celebration of years past, but for this cohort – who had been through a hard school year – it was everything. The kids came home from the celebration beaming. The parents in charge of decorating were incredible, as they could not be in the yard with any students so they

had a small window after school to get everything set up.

Given the hardships faced by Edinburgh staff, they were incredibly selfless. They exemplified true altruistic behaviour, attending monthly meetings to plan the event and offering to take on additional tasks when parents were not allowed on the premises.

We hear all the time about the lasting impact this pandemic will have on our kids. I believe our kids will remember the lengths to which their teachers and staff went to ensure that their final year of elementary school was as exciting and special as always.

*from Susy Binstock
Edinburgh Grad Committee Member*

Mailbox

A special letter of farewell to long-time residents and neighbours



After over three decades of leading a full and active life in MoWest, my neighbours and friends at 252 Percival have recently moved on. **Ann Mackay** and Dr. **John Drummond** were the best next-door neighbours anyone could ever wish for, in every sense of the word. The Drummonds lived by the open-door model, literally welcoming family, friends and neighbours as soon as the weather permitted. They were warm, inviting and generous hosts always going out of their way to be inclusive with people. The ultimate baker, Ann would often deliver fresh, fragrant cookies or muffins to our door step. My kids always looked forward to those special treats which put Ann in their favorite person book. When the kids were older the Drummond residence was deemed the cool house to hang out at.

Ann and John were active cyclists throughout the Town and you could always count on seeing Dr. John either walking or riding to his work place, on the corner of Brock and Sherbrooke. Dr. Drummond's dentist office building will always remain a Montreal West landmark in our hearts.

Ann was the quintessential community organizer, volunteer and for many years the power skating program director/instructor. Her many skill sets and boundless energy were instrumental in contributing to MoWest community service at many levels.

Ann and John were truly the dynamic duo, they loved being together and they were fun to be around. They will be missed by all who were lucky enough to have known them. They will be continuing their active lives in St. Andrews by-the-Sea, childhood home to Ann. The community and friends bid them farewell, au revoir wrapped with warm wishes and we can expect to see them around MoWest as they will maintain a pied-à-terre in Quebec.

Special and fond memories prevail.

from Linda and Kevin Perkins

West End Quilters

The *West End Quilters* continued to meet all summer. There were virtual meetings on Zoom and outdoor in-person get-togethers. It is amazing how many times it rained Tuesday evening, even when it wasn't in the forecast. One meeting had quilters huddled together, stitching in a tiny shelter while it poured rain!

We are looking forward to a new season of meetings. We don't want to give up online gatherings, especially on cold, snowy winter nights. We decided we must have a real retreat this year: no cooking, no housework, lots of quilting and face-to-face chatting (November).

We welcome new quilters. If you are a quilter or just learning, please contact **Mary** at marysdogbob@gmail.com or **486-8979**.



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SUMMER REC ROUNDUP

I'm pleased to report that for our second Covid summer (and hopefully our last), we were able to offer a lot more programming than in 2020.

We were able to run our popular day camp for 237 MoWest children, all within Covid guidelines. The pool was also open this year with 250 residents enjoying a host of programs such as diving, swimming lessons, swim team, Aquafit and lifesaving courses – this in addition to the many lap and family swim spots available. With some of the hottest summer days on record, the pool was an especially welcome respite.

Our 18 outdoor fitness programs were also well attended. We've all become so Zoom fatigued that it was great to finally get together and get fit safely outside. As of the writing of this article, all our classes should be available indoors once again in the fall.

Though Canada Day and La Fête nationale weren't what they used to be, we managed to keep the festivities alive with pop up entertainment throughout the Town, contests and a noisy Council Caravan wishing everyone a happy holiday. We're looking forward to next year when we can all cheer on (or march in) the Canada Day parade again, celebrate together

back in Strathearn Park and end the night with fireworks.

While our weekly summer events had to be cut back due to gathering restrictions, we were still able to have 80 participants in the family Duathlon and 50 in the new Murder Mystery event. Also held this season were the annual Town Chase, two outdoor concerts and a film viewing. We had many residents let us know how pleased they were with these much needed activities and distractions.

I want to take a moment here to express a special thanks to our incredibly dedicated Rec team: Paula Cordeau, Chris Kearney, and Marian Scully. And also to welcome back Tammy Loftus from her maternity leave. These folks are the hardest working people in the business. Honestly, I am constantly awed by their creativity and the devotion they show towards their work—and towards us. They are bound and determined that we should all enjoy MoWest to the fullest, thereby strengthening our community each day.

Throughout this pandemic we've had to rely on each other more

than at any other time in recent memory. And living in a strong, tight-knit community has been a godsend. Of course this hasn't happened by accident. MoWest cultivates this community spirit. It's largely why most of us moved here in the first place – and why we stay.

So sometimes we may look upon things like stretch classes, swim meets, inter-generational tea parties and BBQs in the park as extra frills, the cherry on top of our city-life sundae. But I'd argue that they're so much more than that. When you think back to your life thus far in MoWest, I'd wager you don't dwell so much on your neighbourhood as your neighbours, people you've connected with through your kids, your dogs, your participation in fun Town activities.

The Rec department takes that fun very seriously. And I hope that helped this second Covid summer pass a touch easier for you.

Elizabeth Ulin, *Councillor*
Recreation, Culture and
Communication
eulin@montreal-west.ca



NEW SAFETY REGULATIONS FOR RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOLS



Residential swimming pools, whether aboveground, inground, or even portable, pose a significant drowning risk to young children, particularly when they are away from adult supervision and the installations are not properly secured.

To increase the safety, the government of Quebec has made amendments to the Provincial Regulation respecting residential swimming pools. These came into force on July 1, 2021 and include the following:

- All inground and semi-inground pools must be equipped with a ladder or steps.
- All residential swimming pools must be equipped with a protective fence of at least 1.2 metres in height all around the pool.
- The enclosure must have a door that is self-closing and locks automatically.
- In order to prevent children from climbing to gain access to the swimming pool, no structure or fixed equipment likely to be used to climb over the wall of a swimming pool or enclosure should be installed within one metre of the pool.
- A wall forming part of an enclosure must not have any opening enabling someone to enter the enclosure.
- A hedge or bushes may not constitute an enclosure.

New pools installed after July 1 this summer will also need to conform to the stricter safety code unless the contract to build them was signed beforehand and the construction is planned by October 1, 2021. In addition, pools built prior to 2010, which had previously benefited from acquired rights, particularly with respect to the obligation to fence the pool enclosure, will no longer be grandfathered and will be required to comply with this new regulation by July 1, 2023.

Depending on the extent of the work to be done to comply with the modification, a building permit may be required. If you are unsure, please contact our Urban Planning department at 514-481-8125 or by email at APalarchil@montreal-ouest.ca.

The stricter rules for new pools include:

- Chain link fences which have a mesh size of more than 30 mm must be battened.
- Swimming pools equipped with a diving board must be installed in accordance with the standard (BNQ 9461-100) aimed at preventing spinal cord injuries related to diving accidents.
- No window should be situated within one metre of a pool or an enclosure, unless it is at a minimum height of three metres or its maximum opening is 10 cm.

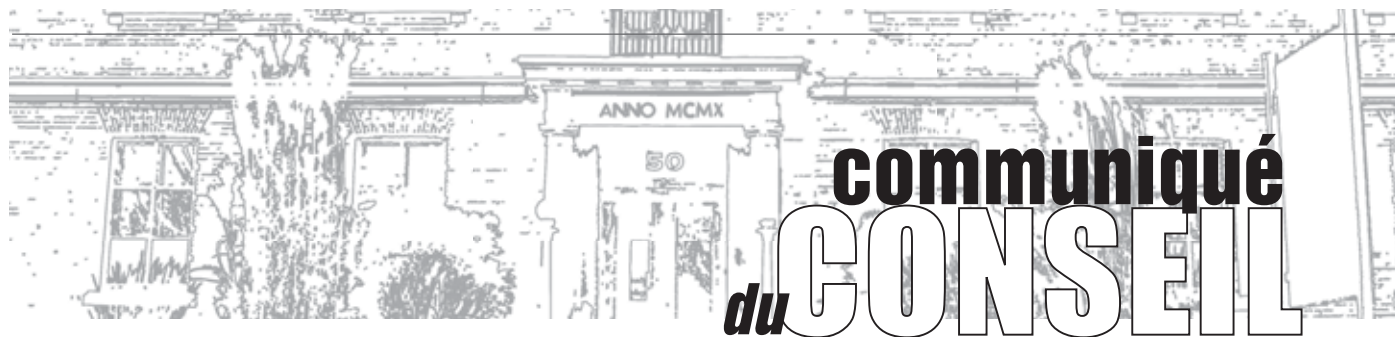
These amendments were based on recommendations made by coroners over the past several years to reduce the risk of children drowning. Other helpful safety recommendations aimed at preventing drowning can be found on the government website at www.quebec.ca/en/homes-and-housing/swimming-pools-and-spas/preventing-drowning.

Stay safe and enjoy your pool!

Colleen Feeney, Councillor
Finance, Administration,
Human Resources and Urban Planning
cfeeney@montreal-west.ca

August 21 2021. Buffalo Hat Singers in Montreal West.
Photo @ Robert Ganz





RÉCAPITULATIF DES ACTIVITÉS ESTIVALES

Je suis heureuse de vous annoncer que pour notre deuxième été Covid (et, je l'espère, notre dernier), nous avons pu offrir beaucoup plus de programmes qu'en 2020.

Nous avons pu organiser notre populaire camp de jour pour 237 enfants de Mo-Ouest, tout en respectant les directives Covid. La piscine était également ouverte cette année et 250 résidents ont profité d'une foule de programmes tels que le plongeon, les leçons de natation, l'équipe de natation, l'Aquafit et les cours de sauvetage – ceci en plus des nombreuses places disponibles pour des longueurs et la natation familiale. Avec certaines des journées d'été les plus chaudes jamais enregistrées, la piscine a été un répit particulièrement bienvenu.

Nos 18 programmes de fitness en plein air ont également été très suivis. Nous sommes tous devenus si fatigués par Zoom qu'il était bon de se réunir enfin et de se mettre en forme en toute sécurité à l'extérieur. Au moment de la rédaction de cet article, tous nos cours devraient être à nouveau disponibles en intérieur à l'automne.

Bien que la fête du Canada et la fête nationale ne soient plus ce qu'elles étaient, nous avons réussi à maintenir les festivités en vie avec des spectacles dans toute la ville, des concours et la Caravane du Conseil souhaitant à tous de bonnes vacances. Nous attendons avec impatience l'année prochaine, lorsque nous pourrons à nouveau tous applaudir (ou défiler) au défilé

de la fête du Canada, célébrer ensemble au parc Strathearn et terminer la soirée par un feu d'artifice.

Bien que nos événements estivaux hebdomadaires aient dû être réduits en raison des restrictions de rassemblement, nous avons tout de même pu accueillir 80 participants au Duathlon familial et 50 au nouvel événement *Meurtres & Mystères*. Cette saison, nous avons également organisé la chasse annuelle en ville, deux concerts en plein air et une projection de film. De nombreux résidents nous ont fait savoir à quel point ils étaient satisfaits de ces activités et distractions qui étaient les bienvenues.

Je tiens à prendre un moment pour remercier tout particulièrement notre équipe de loisirs incroyablement dévouée : Paula Cordeau, Chris Kearney et Marian Scully. Et aussi pour souhaiter un bon retour à Tammy Loftus après son congé de maternité. Ces gens sont les plus travaillants dans le domaine. Honnêtement, je suis constamment impressionnée par leur créativité et le dévouement dont ils font preuve envers leur travail – et envers nous. Ils sont déterminés à ce que nous puissions tous profiter pleinement de Mo-Ouest, renforçant ainsi chaque jour notre communauté.

Tout au long de cette pandémie, nous avons dû compter les uns sur les autres plus qu'à tout autre moment de mémoire récente. Et vivre dans une communauté forte et soudée a été une aubaine. Bien sûr, cela n'est pas le fruit du hasard. Mo-Ouest cultive cet esprit de communauté. C'est en grande partie la raison pour laquelle la plupart d'entre nous sont venus ici en premier lieu – et pourquoi nous restons.

Parfois, nous considérons des choses comme les cours de stretching, les rencontres de natation, les goûters intergénérationnels et les barbecues dans le parc comme des fioritures supplémentaires, la cerise sur le gâteau de notre vie urbaine. Mais je dirais que c'est bien plus que cela. Lorsque vous repensez à votre vie à Mo-Ouest, je parie que vous ne vous attardez pas tant sur votre quartier que sur vos voisins, des gens avec qui vous avez tissé des liens par le biais de vos enfants, de vos chiens, de votre participation à des activités amusantes en ville.

Le service des loisirs prend ce plaisir très au sérieux. Et j'espère que cela a contribué à rendre ce deuxième été Covid un peu plus facile pour vous.

Elizabeth Ulin, *conseillère
Loisirs, Culture
et Communications*
eulin@montreal-ouest.ca



NOUVELLES RÈGLES DE SÉCURITÉ POUR LES PISCINES RÉSIDENTIELLES



Les piscines résidentielles, qu'elles soient hors terre, creusées ou même portatives, présentent un risque important de noyade pour les jeunes enfants, surtout lorsqu'ils sont sans surveillance d'un adulte et que les installations ne sont pas correctement sécurisées.

Afin d'accroître la sécurité, le gouvernement du Québec a apporté des modifications au Règlement provincial sur les piscines résidentielles. Celles-ci sont entrées en vigueur le 1^{er} juillet 2021 et comprennent les éléments suivants :

- Toutes les piscines creusées et semi-enterrées doivent être équipées d'une échelle ou d'un escalier.
- Toutes les piscines résidentielles doivent être équipées d'une clôture de protection d'au moins 1,2 mètre de hauteur tout autour de la piscine.
- La clôture doit être munie d'une porte à fermeture automatique et à verrouillage automatique.
- Afin d'empêcher les enfants de grimper pour accéder à la piscine, aucune structure ou équipement fixe susceptible d'être utilisé pour escalader la paroi d'une piscine ou d'un enclos ne doit être installé à moins d'un mètre de la piscine.
- Un mur faisant partie d'un enclos ne doit comporter aucune ouverture permettant à quelqu'un de pénétrer dans l'enclos.
- Une haie ou des buissons ne peuvent pas constituer un enclos.

Les nouvelles piscines installées après le 1^{er} juillet de cet été devront également se conformer au code de sécurité plus strict, sauf si le contrat de construction a été signé au préalable et que la construction est prévue avant le 1^{er} octobre 2021. En outre, les piscines construites avant 2010 qui bénéficiaient auparavant de droits acquis, notamment en ce qui concerne l'obligation de clôturer l'abri de la piscine, ne bénéficieront plus de droits acquis et devront se conformer à cette nouvelle réglementation d'ici le 1^{er} juillet 2023.

En fonction de l'ampleur des travaux à réaliser pour se conformer à la modification, un permis de construire pourra être exigé. En cas de doute, veuillez contacter notre service d'urbanisme au 514-481-8125 ou par courriel à APalarchil@montreal-ouest.ca.

Les règles plus strictes pour les nouvelles piscines sont les suivantes :

- Les clôtures en mailles de chaîne dont le maillage est supérieur à 30 mm doivent être lattées.
- Les piscines équipées d'un tremplin doivent être installées conformément à la norme (BNQ 9461-100) visant à prévenir les lésions de la moelle épinière liées aux accidents de plongée.
- Aucune fenêtre ne doit être située à moins d'un mètre d'une piscine ou d'une enceinte, sauf si elle est à une hauteur minimale de trois mètres ou si son ouverture maximale est de 10 cm.

Ces modifications sont fondées sur les recommandations formulées par les coroners au cours des dernières années afin de réduire le risque de noyade chez les enfants. D'autres recommandations de sécurité utiles visant à prévenir les noyades sont disponibles sur le site web du gouvernement à l'adresse <https://www.quebec.ca/habitation-et-logement/piscines-et-spas/prevenir-la-noyade>.

Profitez de votre piscine en toute sécurité!

Colleen Feeney, conseillère
Finance, Administration,
Ressources humaines et Urbanisme
cfeeney@montreal-ouest.ca

21 août 2021. Buffalo Hat Singers à Montréal-ouest.
Photo @ Robert Ganz







Much Ado about Nothing

The project for MoWest's award winning production of *Much Ado about Nothing* started in the spring of 2020 when chief librarian **Debbie Marcogliese** engaged **Dane Oberon** to offer a tech help service to support members during the pandemic, a service which is still offered, and he ran a Zoom workshop.

Debbie and Dane began to think of additional ways to assist the community during lockdown; from this, with Dane's background in theatre, the seed of a production was planted, *Much Ado about Nothing*.

The pandemic arrived fully and applications for funding were initiated, one of which was finally accepted by the *Kimberley Foundation*, based in B.C. which supports libraries in local communities.

The play was selected and a

call for actors went out in September 2020 with a response of 16 people, the play was then cast in early October.

Rehearsals, over the winter of 2020-21 on Zoom, were completed after 50 meetings and over 330 hours in order to cover all the cast. One cast member became infected by the virus, but as the meetings were virtual there was no transmission; the member recovered.

Once Dane felt that the cast was sufficiently prepared vocally, filming began in April, a rehearsal period of seven months, which was a terrific way for the cast members to endure the lockdown winter.

The new library had been es-

tablished. Filming began with a green sheet placed over a set of bookshelves and a floor mat to indicate the limit of actor's movement. Monitors were set up on a ladder, a desk and the photocopy machine. The camera and recording device was Dane's phone taped to a three legged tripod with one shorter leg propped on three books to level the camera.

The cast supplied their own costumes and accessories with Dane's guidance.

Filming took six weeks and many, many hours of editing.

The most impressive part of filming was the director's instructions as to how to deliver the lines and which to monitor,

as all the cast were filmed individually and then edited into position to receive their fellow actor's words.

The premiere played on the internet to an audience of over 300 and has had a much larger spill over effect; it is still available on YouTube under "montrealwestmuchado."

The library has formed a drama club demonstrating its function as an essential municipal service.

Support from the Town for another venture would be much appreciated in light of the awarding of first place in the arts competition from *Intergénérations Québec*.

The play went ahead despite the pandemic lockdown, the relocation of the library and with all the many additional hours contributed by staff of whom we should be proud.

There were many comments from cast members, one of which speaks for the ensemble: "This project brought a sense of community and fun at a time when these were severely lacking. I am truly grateful that I got to be part of such an incredible, fun generation-spanning experience."

Truly an artistic triumph.

from Paddy Cardarelli



Photos:

Top left: *Much Ado about Nothing*

Top right: Grand entrance

Bottom: Virtual Shakespeare Wedding

Public Library - Bibliothèque publique

Public Library: 481-7522

NEW ADDRESS: 41 Westminister N.

Reservations/requests:

mwlib.requests@gmail.com

Visit us online at:

mwpl.ca



OPENING HOURS (COVID-19)

Monday-Friday
noon-6 pm

The summer has been busy for us here at the public library as we have been trying to plan around COVID and the changing restrictions to ensure that our patrons are safe and comfortable. It has not been easy, and we try to adjust as quickly as possible as the restrictions are eased. Currently we still require all patrons to wear masks, but we are allowing people to rest and read for a while. We are also allowing patrons access to our workstations for a period of one hour at a time. We have one desktop and one Chromebook available.

We have also been trying to increase our seating availability outside. As you may have noticed, on nice days, we have a table and chairs at the front under the awning outside. This is to accommodate visitors outdoors as we do understand that not everyone is comfortable being inside with others in a mask.

Seating/meeting space

Did you know that we have a small area in the back that we are using as seating/meeting space? This area is quite rustic but we hope to make incremental improvements. We are using the backspace for our chess club and other meetings. Unfortunately, the backyard is not available to patrons with reduced mobility. If you are interested in having access to the space, let us know.

The Threads of Memory

Other than getting used to working with COVID and our new location, we are very pleased to announce that The Threads of Memory project is off to a good start. The purpose of this project is to improve everyone's digital literacy while capturing some interesting stories and perhaps some bits of neighbourhood history. We are learning about interview techniques, blogs, recordings and more. Everyone is welcome and you do not have to attend every week to participate. We will be announcing workshops and other events as the year progresses – stay tuned.

If you are interested in working or helping on this project, please let us know by emailing mwpl.librairaian@gmail.com.

Cleaning up?

We are looking for easy to care, drought resistant plants, garden furniture, patio stones, potting soil and mulch. Please come and check it out!

Just a quick reminder that we are continuing with our weekly chess club. In good weather we meet outside or online if the weather does not cooperate. Everyone is welcome but you will need to email **Dane** to register at mwpl.techhelp@gmail.com.

Drama Club

MoWest Drama Club meets every Thursday at 3:45. There are rumours of a production this year, but it has not yet been confirmed. Everyone is welcome.

Email Dane to register at mwpl.techhelp@gmail.com.

Tea and Books

Tea and Books will be starting up again in September and running every third Wednesday of the month. Our first meeting will be September 15 at 2 pm. In the fall we will be discussing the nominations for the Booker Prize, the Scotiabank Giller Prize and more. Everyone is welcome.



Tech help

Remember we still have tech help available for all patrons, so if you are having trouble with printer, computer, tablet send Dane an email to book an appointment. Dane's hours are Tuesday through Friday from noon to 6 pm.

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Summer activities

TD Summer Reading Club

Even though the summer reading program is still ongoing – wrapping up on September 6, we are in a position to give details about the exciting moments we have offered to the little patrons.

The *TD Summer reading Club*, on the theme of Game On, comprised of different reading challenges, online and in-person activities. The traditional reading challenge of 10 books for an award was as popular as ever. Children could also complete reading bingo cards, read books on the theme of the Club for a prize draw.

For the very young we were getting together for *Mother Goose in the Park* to have fun with songs, rhymes and books. For the older kids, we had bi-weekly Games in the Park on every theme.

The Book Talks – also in Strathearn Park – saw a good

turnout and very passionate presentations and exchanges on favorite books. The online quizzes allowed to check out the knowledge on the themes we explored – sports, video games, Olympics, board games, school yard games. The book *The Thing Lou Couldn't Do* is displayed in front of the library as a StoryWalk® – you can read it until September 6.

The closing party of the *TD Summer Reading Club*, will take place on Friday, September 10, at 4 pm in Strathearn Park. We will play games, draw gifts, and award the participants in the program. Please contact us for registration.



Children's writing contest – results

The jury – composed of author **Sarah Brunel**, editor **Isabella Byrne**, and former Head



Olympic torch - one of the Take and Make crafts offered in the summer program

Librarian of the Children's Library **Linda Wishart** – have arrived at a conclusion about the winning texts of the writing contest.

During the closing party of the *TD Summer Reading Program*, on September 10, we will announce the winners, and mention every participant. Make sure not to miss this exiting event!

Library Escape Room

Save the date for a fabulous adventure! We invite you for a *Library Escape Room*, taking place on Sunday, September 12, 1 pm. You will have to decode messages, solve puzzles in order to arrive at the final challenge and save the day!



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News from the pews

St. Philip's

St Philip's is re-opening for in-person worship in September. As of press time, our exact schedule is uncertain, as we are working out the details of including an option for online participation in our 10 am service. Please call or check our Facebook page for the most up-to-date information.

Also, we will be running a Confirmation class this year, for students 13 and up. Please call **Fr. Pratt** at the church office, **481-4871**, for more information or to register. The class may be in-person or a hybrid in-person/online class.

Our bright spot in these troubled times has been our community garden. It has given the gardeners a chance to get together, appropriately distanced, to socialize while working, and a chance to interact with neighbours. Over the summer, we had bumper crops of zucchini, cucumbers and beans. We have late plantings of lettuce and radishes that should be producing well into September, as well as some tomatoes, kale and various herbs. Stop by any time to check it out, and help yourselves to some of the produce.

from Fr. Jim Pratt

St. Ignatius of Loyola

This summer, our team and amazing volunteers have continued to work hard to keep our community safe. Although certain restrictions remain in place, things are slowly starting to feel a little more normal again! We're grateful to now be able to welcome the maximum number of guests that our church can accommodate with physical distancing for Mass, and it's been so nice to invite everyone to sing once again. We're also now open to the public seven days a week, so be sure to check out our schedule below for private prayer, reconciliation and Mass times. Please know that you're more than welcome to come by and, should you not feel ready to venture out quite yet, you're always invited to join our live stream Mass every Sunday at 10 am: stig.ca/live-stream.

We're also excited to share that we'll be launching our 12th Alpha program this September, which, for the first time ever, will give guests the option of participating either in-person or online. If you're looking for an opportunity to explore life's big questions, or if you're simply seeking a sense of community, then look no further! Alpha is no cost, and you're welcome to try out the first evening or two to see if it's for you. Alpha begins September 22 and continues on

Wednesday evenings through the fall. To learn more or to save your spot, head over to stig.ca/alpha.

Lastly, there's been so much action in our children's ministry these days! We'd like to congratulate all of the children who've done their First Communion over the summer and we're excited to share that our calendar is fully booked for baptisms every weekend through November. For more details on Catch the Wave, our Sunday program for kids, visit stig.ca/ctw.

Parish schedule

- Open for private prayer: Monday-Friday, 8 am-5 pm
- Weekday Mass: Tuesday, 6:30 pm; Wednesday, 9 am; Thursday, 9 am
- Weekend Mass: Saturday, 4:30 pm; Sunday, 10 am
Reconciliation: Saturday, 3:45-4:15 pm

from Shawna Rose

MW United

...the brick one

As you read this, you will know if COVID has taken off again or not. Our worship services resume Sunday, September 12 at 10 am. If COVID has behaved, we will be in our sanctuary for the first time to hold in-person services. This service will be taped and put online shortly thereafter and you will be advised in the usual fashion.

All things being equal, how would church look?

We hope that all who come have been double vaccinated.

We would enter at the Westminster door, be masked and use hand sanitizer.

Individuals or bubbles would sit three feet apart.

There would be no bulletins, Bibles or hymn books in the pews. Hymns etc. would be projected onto a screen at the front. We will either have a soloist lead us with accompaniment or have a "spread out" choir. All who sing will be masked and distanced.

What would be the same?

The people who come will do so with warm hearts and glad greetings – if cautiously expressed. The minister will continue to inspire us with his message and his genuine welcome to all. The scripture, the hymns, the prayers and the spirit will be familiar. The sanctuary, the music and the atmosphere will be like old times. Come and be a part of it all if you feel you can.

Fellowship time?

Inside – masked and distanced or out with fewer restrictions but sans refreshments for now, I'm guessing.

And if there is a fourth wave?

Well, we return to our more recent habit of online worship at 10 am.

Vacation over?

Vicky returns to the office August 30.

Rev. **Mark Hammond** returns September 1.

Worship resumes September 12 at 10 am as discussed above.

Labyrinth Walk – still under discussion.

Keep well and do be double jabbed if you can.

from Susan Upham

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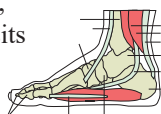


Foot clinics

September 8, October 6

484-6186

\$40 for the initial visit,
\$35 for subsequent visits
by appointment only



Community Centre

Fall and winter programs

Check our website: montreal-west.ca or facebook page: facebook.com/montreal-west.ca.

Registration is now online for residents on amilia.com, August 30 for non-residents.

Early bird discounts (fall programs) end September 3. Programs begin mid-September.

For more information, please contact the John A. Simms Community Centre **484-6186** or email us at recreation@montreal-west.ca.

Children's programs

Stay & Play

2 to 3½ years old
Tuesday & Thursday
9 am to noon.

Children will experience a fun and playful atmosphere with exciting and educational activities including arts and crafts, story time, drama play and much more.

Small and safe class sizes provide a more interactive and personalized service focusing on socializing, learning, problem solving and gross motor skills.

Captain Catalyst

Science fun and brain challenges
Saturdays, 10-11:15 am

Ballet & Pre-Ballet

3- to 9-year-olds

Red Cross babysitting course

October 23

Red Cross Stay Safe Program

October 24



Garage 529 with SPVM Bike Registration Event held on May 29 at Davies Park

Thank you!

The Community Services thanks all those who participated in our events for Canada Day and La fête nationale, the merchants who donated prizes for the contests as well as *Heritage Canada*.

In this unusual year, we have been adapting programs to our new reality and are always appreciative to all who participate and volunteer to help make them happen!

Fitness

TRX, Stretch, Barre, Essentrics/Aging Backwards, Yogalates, Yoga for Stiff Men, Gentle Yoga, Zumba, Adult Ballet.

New Programs

Outdoor Warrior Workout

Tuesday, Thursday and
Saturday mornings
Rain or shine!

Outdoor Warrior Workout is a combination of high-intensity and easy to follow exercises that are focused on cardiovascular intervals and muscle strengthening. Your 60-minute body-weight workout will target muscle building and cardiovascular endurance. Warm up and cool down will be also be done. Warrior Workout is adaptable to any level of fitness.

Belly Dancing

Monday, 6:45 pm

This belly dance class is designed for students of all ages and levels. The techniques that will be covered include proper posture, isolations, arm and hand movements, travelling steps, shimmies, undulations and more, all while respecting the body's natural movements without stressing the back or knees. Students will learn how to layer and combine these techniques in order to create mini routines and choreographies.

70+ Fitness

Tuesday & Thursday

Older Adult Balance

Monday & Wednesday

Step by Step Mo West

Meet at the Community Centre every Monday at 9:30 am for a 45-minute walk, followed by refreshments. Rain or shine. Fall: \$5 for the 6-week session (residents), \$10 for 50+ club members.



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Town Council meeting: May and June



by Carol Foster

MAY COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Masella's report announced "the biggest and best news for the Town in many decades" referring to the plans for the new Sports and Recreation Centre. He feels this project will lead to the "rejuvenation of the community" by serving the needs of young and old alike. A history of the planning of this project was reviewed starting with the commitment made in his campaign platform in 2013 and 2017, and plans for moving ahead were outlined.

In addition to the \$12.5 million grant received as well as any money the Town will use from its surplus, a successful fundraising campaign will be needed. A campaign chairperson will be appointed to finalize the campaign details and people will be able to take part in this process at many different levels.

The mayor's enthusiasm for this new project was palpable as he stated that, "a rejuvenated Town is what will keep Montreal West an attractive place to live and keep increasing home sale prices and will make this community thrive."

Councillors' reports

Councillor Ulin noted that the summer children's programs are currently full in the mornings with a few available spots still left in the afternoons. Spring fitness classes are now being held outdoors as well as online. An "End Bike Theft" event held in collaboration with the SPVM and 529 Garage was well attended and got a very positive response. A wide selection of events have been planned in the coming weeks and details are available on the web. The pool is now open and memberships as well as the pre-season schedule are available on Amilia.

Almost 90% of the Town's property taxes have been received according to **Councillor Feeney**. The second instalment will be due on August 27.

Following the itemization of the major budget expenses during the past month, Councillor Feeney reported that Urban Planning Department has set a record with the issuing of 75 permits and renovation work going on can be seen all over Town.

Over 20 families are being served by the Seniors Outreach Program and the Recreation Department is continuing to post webinars of interest to seniors online. A workshop on the topic of seniors and driving is also being planned.

Repairs to potholes and sidewalks as well as to the dog run were carried out by the Public Works staff in addition to the tree-planting program which will begin this

week and will involve the planting of as many as 50 trees.

The resurfacing of Avon has begun and an information session for residents of Fenwick, the next big project to be tackled, will be held in mid-June was the report heard from **Councillor Torres**.

Councillor Mazzone began his report with the news that May had been a very quiet month with no major incidents or serious crimes being reported.

The PSOs recently met virtually for a security round table with Station 9 as well as Public Security officials from Côte Saint-Luc and Hampstead. This meeting included some schools and non-profit organizations that serve the territory covered by Station 9.

The line painting on the Town's streets has almost been completed. Tickets were issued to a few commercial buildings as well as some residential dwellings for the accumulation of garbage. Tickets were also issued for the lack of permits in the removal of a private tree, two instances of construction or excavation work and for excessively long grass. Another ticket and six warnings were issued for basketball nets obstructing the sidewalk. These nets can make passage difficult for pedestrians, the street sweeper and large vehicles such as the recycling and garbage trucks.

First question period

Congratulations and concerns following the mayor's report dominated the question period.

Many residents wanted more information about the financial implications of the Sports and Recreation Centre and just as many others wanted to know if a new dog park could be included in the plans. The possibility of including an indoor pool was the third most sought after piece of information.

In response to the financial questions, the mayor explained that a financial plan for the project, first developed in 2019 will be updated in order to guide the spending and borrowing. He stated again that a successful fundraising campaign will be needed in addition to the money already available. He repeated that any tax increase would amount to \$100 or less annually for the average valued home.

The mayor emphasized that the Town's Strategic Financial Plan, approved in 2017, will guide many of the ongoing financial decisions which will have to be made as the project proceeds and these decisions will be made public. Contracts will be drawn up in compliance with current municipal management rules and construction law.

Since there already is a municipal dog park in the Town, the decision to build another one in the area of the new Sports and Recreation Centre is extremely doubtful

and no promises can be made. As for the inclusion of an indoor pool, that addition would be out of the question due to the added expense. The addition of a squash court and even the possible relocation of the Town Hall to this area were further suggestions brought forward but not deemed feasible by the mayor.

A master plan of the new Sports and Recreation Centre can be seen on the Town's website and the mayor promised that there will be a continuing flow of information and opportunities for public input as the project starts to take shape. Residents will be invited to participate on several levels in the implementation of the project. In particular, the residents living on Bedbrook will be actively involved in some of the decision-making.

Municipal election

Council members were asked if they planned to run in the November election. Mayor Masella, Councillor Torres and Councillor Mazzone replied in the affirmative while Councillors Feeney and Ulin were undecided.

Parks in need of renovations, noise on the weekends from lawn mowers and construction, an unkempt front lawn, the lack of sufficient water fountains and an improperly hung flag display at the Town Hall were some of the other concerns raised. But this question period had already lasted its allotted 45 minutes without allowing time for all the questions that had been submitted. The mayor promised answers to these questions will be sent out by email.

Under other items on the agenda, Councillor Feeney reported that the demolition request for 45 Westminster South has been approved. This decision came after consideration of a number of factors including hearing the objections and comments received from citizens as well as the recommendations made by both the Planning Advisory Committee and the Urban Planning Department. This approval came with a number of conditions and minor exemptions attached to it and these details can be viewed on the website.

The proposal that a steering committee for a capital campaign for the new Sports and Recreation Centre be constituted and chaired by **Scott Mackenzie** as Campaign President was also approved. The committee will be made up of volunteers.

Second question period

It was asked if a separate changing area that is gender-neutral could be created in the new building. The mayor replied that this request would be taken under advisement.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Town Council meeting: May and June

JUNE COUNCIL MEETING

In the absence of **Mayor Masella**, **Councillor Torres** presided over the June meeting of Council. She stated that the mayor's annual report on the state of the budget has been prepared in accordance with the Cities and Towns Act and will be available online.

Councillors' reports

Councillor Feeney announced that a resolution enabling residents 70 years and older to vote by mail in the November 7 municipal election, if they wish to do so, will be passed later in the meeting.

Ninety percent of the total expenditures for June went to a payment of over \$3,000,000 to the Agglomeration Council for shared expenses.

The large demand for permits continued and 51 were issued in June. Councillor Feeney thanked residents for their patience in this process and noted that an intern has been hired to help with these increased demands. The Seniors Outreach Programming has come to an end and thanks were also extended to all the volunteers who helped make it a success. In closing, Councillor Feeney expressed her appreciation for the large number of residents in the Town who have answered the call to get vaccinated.

Both the tree-planting program and the resurfacing of Avon Road were very successful according to **Councillor Torres**. She offered congratulations to the Public Works staff as well as the construction company. She also described the educational project being conducted with the Environmental Action Committee with the children at Elizabeth Ballantyne School where three pollinator gardens have been planted.

Councillor Ulin reported that all the summer children's programs are filled. Fitness programs have been moved outdoors and the pool programs have begun. She itemized a long list of activities available during the holidays and explained that all the details can be found on the web.

Councillor Ulin concluded her remarks with her thoughts on the decision of the Town to celebrate this year's Canada Day even following the recent disclosures of unmarked Aboriginal children's graves. She felt it should present an opportunity to reflect upon the country's past as well as its future and she invited people to join her in seeing to it that the goal of reconciliation is actually realized.

Question period

Questions requiring answers from **Councillor Mazzone**, who was absent from the meeting, were reserved and will be sent to him to answer by email, but the three coun-

cillors present gave the following information to questions asked of them:

- Repairs needed to both the Percival parking lot and Brock South will have to wait their turn because of the expenses involved.
- The Town will arrange for photos to be taken of properties beside construction sites to ensure records are available.
- Bikes on sidewalks remain a concern and *MADA* and the Traffic and Safety Committee are working together to come up with ways to mitigate this problem.
- The quality of the street lighting in the Town has repeatedly come under question and a company is conducting a study to recommend improvements.
- Permits required for the Easton project are currently being processed and the start date for that work will be confirmed very soon. A schedule following the work in progress will be available on the web.
- Although the Town's pool is very popular, the structure is not in good condition and a new pool is badly needed. Once a construction period of work on a new Community Centre is determined, the time the present pool will be out of commission will be known.
- Receipts for payments made to the Town are only available upon request.
- The Town has no jurisdiction over the size of trees on private property unless there is a security issue.
- Questions concerning possible future sites for the public library should be directed to the Library's Board of Governors.
- The Tennis Club, like the public library, is an independent organization and therefore the Town has made no plans to redo the tennis court.

Several questions from residents were asked about the appropriate communication procedures to be used when asking for information concerning matters involving the Town. This type of information can be obtained by contacting the appropriate department via the Town's website. Requests for information regarding the Town's bylaws can also be obtained on the website. The Mayor and the Councillors can be contacted through the website or by email.

Questions pertaining to Councillor Mazzone's jurisdiction, and forwarded to his attention, included topics such as bylaw enforcement, parking permits, the use of security cameras and permission for holding garage sales and block parties this summer.

Following question period, a resolution was passed authorizing the mayor to sign the Mayors' Monarch Pledge to make Montreal West a monarch-friendly town. This pledge was launched by the U.S. National

Wildlife Federation in 2015 to promote efforts to help save the monarch butterflies. During the coming year, the Town will attempt to raise awareness of the plight of these winged creatures and the need to protect them. A monarch-friendly demonstration garden will be planted in the Town in hopes that it will encourage citizens to do the same.

The meeting was adjourned.

DR. HEATHER FOX B.Sc., D.D.S.

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traduction par René Boucher

CONSEIL MUNICIPAL, MAI

Le **maire Masella** a annoncé « la plus grande et la meilleure nouvelle pour la Ville depuis plusieurs décennies » se référant aux plans pour le nouveau centre sportif et récréatif. Il croit que ce projet amènera le « renouvellement de la collectivité » en répondant aux besoins des jeunes et des moins jeunes. Il en a tracé l'historique en débutant par l'engagement pris lors de ses campagnes de 2013 et 2017, et a esquissé les plans pour sa mise en œuvre.

En plus de l'octroi de 12,5 millions de dollars et des fonds que la Ville puisera à même ses surplus, une campagne de financement efficace sera nécessaire. Une personne sera désignée à la présidence de cette collecte de fonds qui verra à finaliser les détails de la campagne et les gens pourront prendre part au processus à de multiples différents niveaux.

L'enthousiasme du maire était palpable lorsqu'il déclara « qu'une ville rajeunie est ce qui perpétuera Montréal-Ouest comme endroit de choix où vivre, fera grimper les prix de vente de nos maisons et fera prospérer cette collectivité. »

Rapport des membres du Conseil

La **conseillère Ulin** a fait remarquer que les programmes d'été pour enfants sont complets en matinée et qu'il reste quelques places libres en après-midi. Les cours de conditionnement physique du printemps se tiennent à l'extérieur et en ligne. Un événement pour contrer les vols de vélos, organisé en collaboration avec le SPVM et Garage 529, a connu une bonne participation avec une réponse très positive. Le site Web présente les détails de nombreux événements devant se tenir dans les semaines à venir. La piscine est ouverte; l'abonnement et l'horaire présaison sont offerts sur Amilia.

Selon la **conseillère Feeney**, la Ville a reçu près de 90 % des impôts fonciers. Le second versement est dû le 27 août.

Après avoir dressé la liste des principaux postes budgétaires affectés au cours du mois précédent, la **conseillère Feeney** a indiqué que le service d'urbanisme avait établi un record de 75 permis délivrés pendant cette période et on peut constater des travaux de rénovation un peu partout dans la ville.

Le programme de soutien aux aînés dessert plus de 20 maisonnées et le service des loisirs continue à publier en ligne des webinaires d'intérêt pour les personnes aînées. Un atelier sur les aînés et la conduite automobile est dans les plans.

Le personnel des Travaux publics s'affaire à réparer les nids-de-poule et les trottoirs ainsi que le parc canin. De plus, la plantation d'une cinquantaine d'arbres s'amorcera cette semaine. Le repavage du chemin Avon a débuté et les résidents de Fenwick, prochain chantier, seront conviés à une séance d'information à la mi-juin. Tel était le rapport de la **conseillère Torres**.

Le **conseiller Mazzone** a amorcé son rapport en indiquant que mai avait été un mois très calme, aucun incident majeur ou crime sérieux n'étant rapporté. Lors d'une récente table ronde virtuelle sur la sécurité, nos ASP ont rencontré des représentants du poste 9 (SPVM) et du personnel de la Sécurité publique de Côte Saint-Luc et Hampstead. Cette réunion incluait aussi des écoles et organismes sans but lucratif qui servent le territoire du poste 9.

Le traçage des lignes sur la chaussée est presque complété. Des constats d'infraction ont été remis à des commerces et quelques résidences pour accumulation de déchets, pour l'abattage d'un arbre en propriété privée sans permis, deux cas de travaux d'excavation ou de construction sans permis et un cas de pelouse excessivement longue. Un autre constat et six avertissements ont été remis pour des paniers de basketball qui obstruaient le trottoir. Ces appareils peuvent gêner le passage des piétons, du balai de rue et de gros véhicules comme les camions d'ordures ou de recyclage.

Première période de questions

Félicitations et préoccupations faisant suite au rapport du maire ont dominé la période de questions. De nombreux citoyens désiraient plus de renseignements sur les impacts financiers du centre sportif et récréatif et presque autant voulaient savoir si un nouveau parc canin refait partie des plans. La possibilité d'incorporer une piscine intérieure figurait en troisième lieu.

En réponse aux questions financières, le maire a expliqué qu'un plan financier pour le projet, d'abord élaboré en 2019, sera mis à jour afin de guider dépenses et emprunts. Il a à nouveau déclaré qu'une campagne de financement fructueuse sera nécessaire en plus des fonds déjà disponibles. Il a réitéré que tout accroissement de taxes plafonnerait à 100 \$ ou moins annuellement pour la maison de valeur moyenne.

Il a insisté sur le fait que le plan financier stratégique de la Ville approuvé en 2017 guidera les décisions financières courantes qui devront être prises en cours de chantier et ces décisions seront rendues publiques. Les contrats seront rédigés conformément aux règles de gestion municipale et aux règlements sur la construction en vigueur.

Comme il y a déjà un parc canin munici-

pal dans la ville, la décision d'en construire un autre dans le secteur du nouveau centre sportif et récréatif est extrêmement douteuse et on ne peut faire une telle promesse. Une piscine intérieure serait hors de question en raison des coûts additionnels. Des suggestions d'y ajouter des courts de squash et même de relocaliser la mairie furent avancées, mais le maire les a estimées non réalisables.

Le site Web présente un plan directeur du nouveau centre sportif et récréatif et le maire s'est engagé à ce que l'information circule et que le public ait la possibilité de se faire entendre alors que le projet prend forme. Les citoyens seront invités à participer à plusieurs niveaux du développement du chantier, particulièrement les résidents de l'avenue Bedbrook qui seront activement concernés lors de certaines décisions.

Élections municipales

On a demandé aux membres du Conseil s'ils envisageaient de se présenter aux élections de novembre. Le maire Masella, la **conseillère Torres** et le **conseiller Mazzone** ont répondu par l'affirmative, alors que les **conseillères Feeney** et **Ulin** demeurent en réflexion.

D'autres questions soulevées concernaient des parcs ayant besoin de rénovation, le bruit et la construction pendant les week-ends, un parterre négligé, le manque de fontaines à boire et un agencement incorrect des drapeaux à l'hôtel de ville. La période de 45 minutes allouée aux questions étant expirée, le maire a promis que l'on répondrait par courriel aux questions n'ayant pas obtenu réponse pendant la séance.

La **conseillère Feeney** a signalé que la demande de démolition du 45 Westminster Sud avait été approuvée. Le Conseil a pris cette décision après avoir considéré divers facteurs, dont les objections et commentaires de citoyens et les recommandations du Comité consultatif d'urbanisme et du service d'urbanisme. L'approbation s'accompagne de plusieurs conditions et exemptions mineures que l'on peut voir sur le site Web.

Le Conseil a aussi approuvé la constitution d'un comité directeur pour une campagne de financement pour le nouveau centre sportif et récréatif sous la présidence de **Scott Mackenzie**. Des bénévoles composeront le comité.

Seconde période de questions

On a demandé si le nouvel édifice comprendrait un vestiaire distinct non genré, à quoi le maire a répondu que cette demande serait prise en considération.

On a ensuite levé la séance.

Réunion du Conseil : mai et juin

CONSEIL MUNICIPAL, JUIN

Vu l'absence du **maire Masella**, la **conseillère Torres** a présidé la réunion de juin du Conseil. Elle a indiqué que le rapport annuel du maire sur l'état du budget avait été préparé conformément à la Loi sur les cités et villes et sera accessible en ligne.

Rapport des membres du Conseil

La **conseillère Feeney** a annoncé qu'une résolution permettant aux citoyens âgés de 70 ans et plus qui le désirent de voter par la poste lors de l'élection municipale du 7 novembre serait adoptée plus tard au cours de la réunion.

Un paiement excédant 3 000 000 \$ au conseil d'agglomération pour dépenses partagées représentait 90 % des débours de juin.

La forte demande de permis se maintient et 51 ont été délivrés en juin. La conseillère Feeney a remercié les citoyens pour leur patience en ce domaine et a noté l'embauche d'un stagiaire pour remédier à l'accroissement des demandes. Le programme de soutien aux personnes âgées prend fin et Mme Feeney a remercié tous les bénévoles qui ont contribué à son succès. Elle a conclu en exprimant sa gratitude au grand nombre de résidents de la ville qui ont répondu à l'appel à la vaccination.

Selon la conseillère Torres, la plantation d'arbres et le repavage du chemin Avon se sont bien déroulés et elle a félicité le personnel des Travaux publics et de l'entrepreneur en construction. Elle a aussi décrit le programme éducatif du Comité d'action environnementale avec les enfants de l'école Elizabeth Ballantyne où l'on a planté trois jardins pollinisateurs.

La **conseillère Ulin** a indiqué que tous les programmes estivaux pour enfants sont à pleine capacité. Les activités de conditionnement physique se sont transportées à l'extérieur et la piscine a amorcé sa saison. Elle a énuméré les nombreuses activités offertes pendant les vacances et a expliqué que le site Web en donne tous les détails.

Elle concluait son rapport en partageant sa pensée sur la décision de la Ville de maintenir les célébrations de la fête du Canada malgré la découverte récente de sépultures non identifiées d'enfants autochtones. Elle croit que c'est là l'occasion de réfléchir sur l'histoire du pays et son avenir, et a invité les gens à se joindre à elle et participer à la réconciliation.

Période de questions

Les questions nécessitant des réponses du **conseiller Mazzone** absent de la réunion ont été notées et lui seront transmises afin

qu'il y réponde par courriel. Par ailleurs, les trois conseillères présentes ont offert les réponses suivantes aux questions qui s'adressaient à elles.

- Compte tenu des dépenses inhérentes, les réparations au terrain de stationnement Percival et à l'avenue Brock Sud devront attendre.
- La Ville a pris arrangement pour que des dossiers photographiques des propriétés à proximité des sites de travaux soient constitués.
- Les vélos sur les trottoirs demeurent une préoccupation de MADA et du Comité circulation et sécurité qui recherchent des moyens de minimiser ce problème.
- La qualité de l'éclairage de rue dans la ville a fréquemment été remise en question. Une entreprise mène présentement une étude visant à recommander des améliorations.
- Les permis requis pour le chantier Easton sont en traitement et la date de début des travaux sera confirmée sous peu. Un échéancier indiquant les travaux en cours sera affiché sur le site Web.
- La piscine municipale est très populaire, cependant sa structure n'est pas en bonne condition et le besoin d'une nouvelle piscine est évident. Lorsque la période de construction du nouveau centre communautaire aura été déterminée, on connaîtra combien de temps la piscine sera inutilisable.
- Les reçus pour paiements faits à la Ville sont offerts à demande.
- La Ville n'a pas compétence sur la taille des arbres en propriété privée, sauf si la sécurité est en jeu.
- On devrait poser les questions concernant l'emplacement futur éventuel de la

bibliothèque publique au conseil d'administration de la bibliothèque.

- Le club de tennis, tout comme la bibliothèque publique, étant un organisme indépendant, la Ville n'a pas de plans de réaménagement des courts de tennis.

Plusieurs questions de citoyens portaient sur les procédures appropriées à utiliser pour obtenir des renseignements sur des sujets concernant la Ville. On peut obtenir ce genre d'information en contactant le service visé par le biais du site Web de la Ville. Les demandes de renseignements sur les règlements municipaux trouvent aussi réponse sur le site Web. On peut joindre le maire et les autres membres du Conseil par le biais du site Web ou par courriel.

Les questions relevant de la compétence du conseiller Mazzone, et qui lui sont transmises, touchaient des points comme l'application des règlements, les permis de stationnement, l'utilisation de caméras de sécurité et la permission de tenir des ventes-débarras et des fêtes de rues cet été.

Après la période de questions, une résolution a été adoptée autorisant le maire à signer le Mayors' Monarch Pledge (engagement des maires à l'égard du papillon monarque) pour faire de Montréal-Ouest une ville amie des monarques. Cet engagement était lancé par la U.S. National Wildlife Federation en 2015 pour promouvoir les efforts visant à sauver les papillons monarques. Au cours de la prochaine année, la Ville tentera d'éveiller les consciences à la situation désespérée de ces créatures ailées et au besoin de les protéger. Un jardin de démonstration accueillant pour les monarques sera planté dans la ville avec l'espoir qu'il encouragera les résidents à faire de même.

La séance était ensuite levée.





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Marie-Antoinette Del Peschio
Courtier Immobilier | Real Estate Broker

C 514.894.9929
F 514.483.9929

1314 Av. Greene,
Westmount, QC H3Z 2B1
T (514) 933.6781

remax@tonidelpeschio.com
www.tonidelpeschio.com



Tranquilli-T



Artists' Showcase

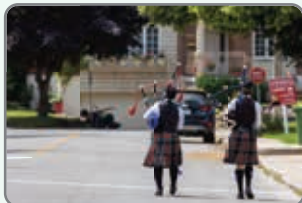
Fall: Remembrance

Montreal West amateur and professional artists of all ages are invited to display their art on the Town website in October. The theme for the exhibit is Remembrance. 2021 is the 100th anniversary of the Cenotaph. Application deadline: September 24.

To find out more about the Artists' Showcase, or to get an application form, go to the MoWest website under "culture," or pick up a form at the Community Centre. For more details, you may contact, Recreation and Cultural Services, 484-6186.



The *Informer* staff would like to say a special thank you to **Robert Ganz** who has been the indispensable chronicler of the Town's events and celebrations. For many years now, we've been enjoying his photographs, including the ones from the Canada Day parade which are used in the decoration of the front page logo, as well as the traditional "parade spread" on pages 6-7.



COMING EVENTS / À VENIR

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

Next deadline: September 8

August

- Mon 31 Town Council meeting**
Online at: facebook.com/montrealwest. 8 pm.

September

- Wed 8 Jardin d'enfant Curzon Creative Pre-school** opens its doors for the 2021-22 school year. Limited spaces for children 3-5 years old. For information, please go to our website at curzonpreschool.com or call 489-7860.
- Sun 12 Worship resumes.** In-person or online. MW United. 10 am.
- Tue 14 Meeting of IODE HMS Victory chapter** at 131 Wolseley Avenue North, in the garden. Information: 481-6523. 2-4 pm.
- Wed 15 Tea and Books (Zoom).** Everyone is welcome. Email mwpl.librain@gmail.com to register. 2 pm.
- Fri 17 Nomination papers: first day to file with the Returning Officer / premier jour où une déclaration de mise en candidature peut être reçue**
- Mon 20 Town Council meeting**
Online at: facebook.com/montrealwest. 8 pm.
- Tue 21 The Threads of Memory:** MoWest seniors connecting through stories. Email mwpl.librarian@gmail.com. 3 pm.
- Wed 22 Chess Club.** All welcome. Public Library. 4:45 pm.
- Thu 23 Drama Club.** All welcome. Public Library. 4:45 pm.
- Thu 24 Deadline for water meter readings – New! Submit your reading online: montrealwest.ca/water-tax. Échéance pour la lecture des compteurs d'eau – Nouveau! Faites-le en ligne : montreal-west.ca/taxe-eau.**
- Tue 28 The Threads of Memory:** MoWest seniors connecting through stories. Email mwpl.librarian@gmail.com. 3 pm.
- Wed 29 Chess Club.** All welcome. Public Library. 4:45 pm.
- Thu 30 Drama Club.** All welcome. Public Library. 4:45 pm.