THE INFORMER

Montreal West Viewspaper *September 2023, Vol. 51, No 6*

Terrone: A taste of Italy

by Maurice Krystal

Starting a new business when society was struck with a pandemic would seem a risky venture. But almost immediately after setting up shop, more than a few people in the area told me that *Terrone* on Westminster was an Italian epicurean experience.

I met the proprietors, two sisters who looked like twins, when in fact one is nine years older. **Patty** and **Francesca Terrone**

Patty and Francesca Terrone

are two Italian sisters who grew up in RDP (Riviere des Prairies), a north-east area of the island with a large Italian community. There they grew up with Italian grocery stores and bakeries and an Italian culture. Their parents, **Cathy** (**Caterina**) and **Mario** and grandparents made their own *sugo* (sauce) which usually meant a weekly big Sunday feast. Unsurprisingly they became big foodies. Their life revolved around food, especially Italian food.

Patty and Francesca are the oldest and youngest of four daughters. In the middle are, in fact, twins **Maggie** and **Donna**. I imagine all four sisters look very much alike. All of them, including husbands and parents played a part in setting up the physical premises and creating a bright, clean environment with subdued lighting.

Living in NDG for a number of years, they went regularly to **Marlene** next door at *Ellequence* to get their nails done. It was from Marlene that they learned the premises were available. They had been in skin care sales, but with the outbreak of Covid they were doing most of their business virtually, and being people persons, they decided to venture into a business that required face to face contact.

Patty's husband, **Gianni**, is the proprietor of **Café de Mercanti** on Monkland Avenue. Francesca's husband, **Francesco**, is a barista at the same café. I meet him once when I tried to set up a meeting. He's from Australia with a very distinctive accent-mate! Both husbands trained their spouses to operate the Italian expresso machine. While I was there someone came in for four coffees and I was informed they already know who likes what in their coffee. I was reminded of the TV program *Cheers*.

The shelves have many Italian imports of pastas, oils and sweets. The refrigerators have prepared meals for those who want a homecooked style dish but not the time. The frozen lasagna is from *Pastamalfi*, the sauces and focaccia from *Martino's* and the pizzas from *Melrose Pizza*. Patty and Francesca hope *Terrone* becomes a meeting place for those who enjoy good coffee, good food and good conversation.

This past year Patty and her family left NDG and moved to Côte Saint-Luc and Francesca, husband and new baby moved to MoWest.

They picked the name *Terrone* because it is the family name. Secondary the word is used as a pejorative term for someone who comes from southern Italy, or a peasant who works the terra or earth. In fact, the family originally came from Bari, which is located at the top of the heel of Italy.

Terrone
124 Westminster North
Tel. 369-0009

Community triumph: 30 years ago

How residents united against a minimum-security provincial jail in a battle to preserve Montreal West's family-oriented community

On this thirty year anniversary, I think back to a grave threat that loomed large over the community as plans were set in motion by the Quebec government to convert the former *Salvation Army* retirement home (*Eventide Home*) backing on Brock South into a minimum-security provincial jail. I will recount the efforts we undertook, the challenges we faced and the ultimate victory that preserved the spirit of Montreal West.

Some of you might not remember this even if you were living in Montreal West then as we were somewhat usurped by the events which were simultaneously occurring in Waco, Texas, but I remember the morning I first heard about it like it was yesterday. I was working from home as a notary and was in a meeting with a client. My husband was leaving for the day and picked up the *The Gazette* on our doorstep on his way out. He rushed back in and exclaimed, "They're putting a prison in our backyard!"

According to the front-page article, the jail was basically a "done deal." I was stunned! We had bought the house when the *Eventide Home* was a seniors' residence. It had since closed down, but a prison was the last thing one would ever imagine replacing it!

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The 2022 walkers for *CPFF* included a few Montreal-West residents: Jess Roszler, Nadine Fenton, Patrick Butler, ImmSoo Kim, Todd Georgieff, Roberto Zapato

Canadian Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation (CPFF)

Walk in Parc Angrignon

September 23

The *Canadian Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation* (*CPFF*) is holding our annual walk in Parc Angrignon on September 23 between 10 am and noon. Register to join us at CPFF.ca or at HopeBreathesHere.com.

September is Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month, and *CPFF* is holding events across Canada, including webinars and a virtual "walk across Canada" where participants can log their km's and help us to meet our shared goal.

Last year's Montreal walk was a big success and helped raise awareness of Pulmonary Fibrosis in Montreal and across Canada. We look forward to welcoming more walkers this year, including friends, families and people caring for patients with PF.

Our 2023 walk will be hosted by the **Khan family** from Westmount. **Jawaid Khan** was a Montrealer who passed away from pulmonary fibrosis last year. He was a very active community member, and he and his family supported many charitable causes including the *MUHC Foundation*. Now the Khan family are working with *CPFF* to bring more attention and awareness and to benefit others living with PF.

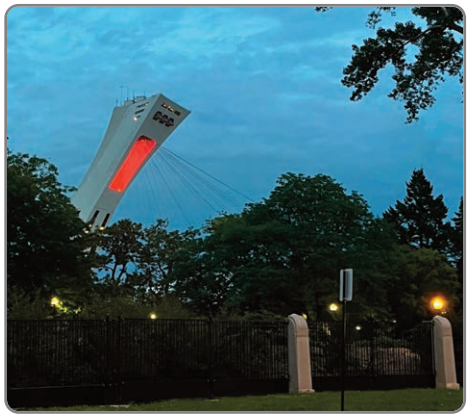
The funds that *CPFF* raises go to support awareness and webinars, training and educational materials and support groups for the PF community across Canada. We are also proud advocates for patients with lung diseases to ensure that patients across Canada have access to medicines, clinical trials and supportive care including oxygen and pulmonary rehabilitation. *CPFF* has supported training for respirologists who want to further their training in the treatment of interstitial lung diseases including PF, as well as research grants to better understand these difficult conditions.

MoWester **Todd Georgieff** has been sitting on *CPFF*'s national board of directors since 2019, the year his father-in-law passed away from PF.

There's much more information about *CPFF*'s activities and programs, as well as lots of educational material on the website, CPFF.ca, or download the *CPFF* app on the Apple App Store or Google Play (Google or Android). You can use the app to sign up for events, log the km's you walk during September to support PF and read stories from other people affected by PF.

from Todd Georgieff

Like last year, the Olympic Stadium will be lit in Red and Blue on September 23 to raise awareness of Pulmonary Fibrosis



THE INFORMER

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

Le rôle de *l'Informer* est de fournir aux gens de Montréal-Ouest de l'information sur leur ville et ses citoyens afin de favoriser l'atmosphère de petite ville et de proximité qui fait de Montréal-Ouest un endroit spécial où vivre.

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NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE
September 13

MoWesters participate in 2023 Chowder Cup College Open

Our Town was well-represented at the 2023 Chowder Cup College Open, North America's biggest amateur hockey tournament held July 20-23 in the Greater Boston Area. Four MoWest students participated as part of Loyola High School's senior team; while both **Thomas Lynam** (16) and **Jack Marilley** (17) are regular members of the M18D1 (ages 15-17, division 1) team, **Tomas Aubut-Lavin** (16) and **Louis-Charles Cunningham** (17) who played M18D1 for Collège Ste-Anne's Dragons were recruited to replace two late cancellations.

There is no doubt that Tomas and Louis-Charles brought additional firepower to the Loyola Warriors – a team that had already won the 2023 Réseau du sport étudiant du Québec (RSEQ) D1 hockey championships against Stanstead College in an 7-6 epic game with the final goal scored in the last 45 seconds. The Ste-Anne players were only too happy to cheer on their Loyola brothers after their own team had been narrowly defeated by Stanstead in the semi-finals.

Needless to say, Loyola's hockey director and team coach **Carl Benoit** and the players were thrilled to welcome Ste-Anne's star players, among the best in the league. He put them on the same offensive line with Jack, and following the round robin, their line led the entire tournament in points. This was the first time all three had played on the same team, and their chemistry reflected the kind of camaraderie nurtured over a decade of shinny at Hodgson field's outdoor rink during winter and roller blading the streets of MoWest during the warmer months as well as being young players and now coaches at **Eric Rayment**'s Hockey Montreal Summer Camp. Their families were among the frequent flyers who signed up for as much ice time as possible, especially during the pandemic when organized hockey was not possible.

MoWest line scored top points

While both Jack and Tomas had participated in the 2022 Chowder Cup, their teams going the semis and finals respectively, this was the first time Loyola High School had entered its own team in the tournament. Despite its inaugural participation, the team made it all the way to the semi-finals in the College Open category, placing among the top 4 of the 76 participating teams! The team's synergy, energy and grit came through as they played a total of 7 games in 4 days, including puck drop at 7 am three days in a row.

With support and coordination from families, the players also had a great time off the ice with outings to Boston, the beach and baseball! Special thanks to the **Aubut-Lavin** and **Cunningham** families for lending their sons to the team during their respective vacations and to the **Marilley-McGraw** relatives in Boston for hosting the boys!

While Thomas will stay on for his final year at Loyola, the other three MoWest players are starting new chapters in their academic and athletic lives. Louis-Charles will go to CEGEP St-Laurent where he will play Quebec Hockey Collégiale for the Patriotes, Jack and Tomas Lynam will head to study on student-athlete scholarships at prep schools in New England where they will play varsity hockey and other sports. Though these young men will go their separate ways this fall, they look forward to playing together again, including back here in their hometown.

from Christopher Marilley

Louis-Charles Cunningham, Jack Marilley and Tomas Aubut-Lavin

CRA

The *MWCRA* is a non-profit organisation governed by a board of parent volunteers from our community. We offer a wide variety of sports and activities to the youth of MoWest and its surrounding communities and encourage the love of sport through enthusiastic coaches as well as parent volunteers. We welcome players from beginner to more advanced levels of skill. We offer a number of sports throughout the season both indoors and outdoors and are committed to continuing to offer these activities during the construction of the new facilities.

Good news…

Hockey, skating lessons, figure skating and pre-school skate is still on! We will be using arenas in the surrounding communities such as Concordia University, CSL arena and LCC arena until construction is complete.

Fall and winter programming 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: children born in 2017-2018-2019
Days: Saturdays, 4-5 pm; Sundays, 8-9 am
Season: September-March

Skating lessons

These classes are for the first-time skater to the more more advanced skater Ages 5+. Classes have a low ratio instructor to skaters and teach skating skills through circuits and fun games.
Days: Sundays, 10 am or 11 am
Session starts October 15-March

Pre school skating lessons

Ages: 3-5
Days: Sundays: 9 am or 9:30 am
Fall session: October-December
Winter session: January-March

Gymtastic!

We will have fun equipment circuits, and progressive gymnastics lessons from our beginners, to the more advanced preschooler. Children must be out of diapers to participate. Fall, winter and spring sessions
Age: 4-6 years, 6 pm; 6-10 years, 7 pm
Days: Tuesdays, 10 weeks
Fall session: September 26-December
Winter session: January 9-March

Indoor soccer

This is a 10-week indoor soccer program for girls and boys. The focus of these classes is to improve skills and technique. Class sizes are kept 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 starts week of September 25
Winter session starts January 8
Location: Royal West High School gym

18+ Indoor soccer

This 10-week program provides women or men 18+ the opportunity to play recreational soccer.
Women: Mondays, 7:30 pm
Men: Thursdays, 7:30 pm
Fall session starts end of September
Winter session starts January 10
Location: Royal West High School gym

Judo

The practice of judo techniques helps people develop basic and fundamental physical fitness in a number of ways, such as the development of strength, flexibility, agility, speed, dynamic and static balance, power and endurance.
Ages: 5-16
Levels: Beginner white and yellow belt
Advanced yellow and orange belt
Day: Wednesdays
Session: September-April
Location: Elizabeth Ballantyne School

Basketball

This indoor basketball program is run at Elizabeth Ballantyne School and is coached by **David Steiner**.
Ages: 7+
Day: Boys, Thursdays; Girls, Fridays
Fall session starts September 30
Winter session starts January 13
Location: Elizabeth Ballantyne School

NEW PROGRAM Men's basketball 18+

This is a 10-week indoor pick-up basketball program run at Elizabeth Ballantyne School and is coached by **David Steiner**.
Ages: 18+
Day: Fridays, 7:30 pm
Fall session starts September 30
Winter session starts January 13
Location: Elizabeth Ballantyne School

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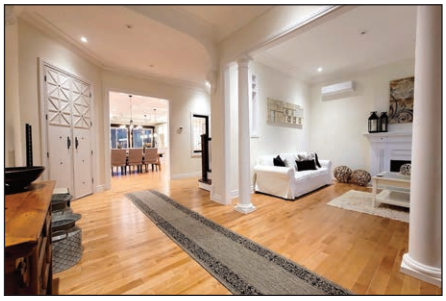

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IODE

Resounding success

HMS Victory Chapter's Treasures in the Attic Antique sale was a resounding success raising over $1,400. We are grateful to our community and all those who donated their precious china and decorative items.

Our long-standing members not only contributed their fine china but worked tirelessly towards the sale. **Trish Hewat**, a new member, generously donated.

A special thank you to **Sharon Frank** and husband **Norbert Bodoucha** who also helped. Another new member who was on hand to assist, **Charlotte D'Souza** and husband **Ron** were invaluable. Many thanks to **Merle McPhail** for her seasoned advice and husband **Lenny Baltin**. Also, thanks to **Seema Naqvi** for her help. A most sincere thank you to *Montreal West Public Library* for allowing us to share their space, without which it would not have been such a success.

All proceeds are to be used towards our on-going projects.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, September 12, 1-3 pm at the Community Centre. Join us for tea while working on new projects. All are welcome.

IODE Snack Pack: Healthy snacks for Labrador children

IODE Snack Pack is one of *IODE* Canada's signature programs, providing nutritious snacks for school children in the most remote parts of Labrador. *IODE* has been sending support to Labrador schools since 1973.

What's different about the communities in Labrador that makes *IODE* Snack Pack so important?

The communities served by Snack Pack do not have access to large grocery stores. It is very expensive to have supplies flown in, so the communities rely on the ferry system, and shipping costs are increasing every year.

The past six years have seen an increase in need. Now more than 2,100 students and 15 schools benefit from the program. Some schools receive additional support only if they retain their partnership with us. This makes *IODE* Snack Pack a vital resource in these areas.

We need your assistance to help Snack Pack reach these students.

Please help support this program if you can. To learn more, please contact **Nadine Fenton** at nadinefenton@mac.com.

A fond goodbye to Linda Power

Linda and **Baz Power** who have lived in MoWest for many years, first on Percival then Westminster, have bought a house in Morin Heights. They will be living close to their daughter and husband and little grandson. For many years Linda has been part of our small quilting group and has shared her impressive knowledge of quilting and knitting with us. We are happy that she plans to continue to be part of this group and we wish her all the best in the new chapter of her life.

Any person interested in joining us every second Tuesday from 1-3 pm is welcome; call the Community Centre.

Colleen Carroll

Artists' Showcase

Fall 2023

Seascapes and summer memories

MoWest amateur and professional artists of all ages are invited to display their art on the Town website. Application deadline: September 29. 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 or contact Recreation and Cultural Services, **484-6186**.

Community triumph

continued from page 1

I immediately phoned our next-door neighbours, **Louise Plante** and **Raymond Grenier**, both of whom would play a determining role in the fight. Like me, they were shocked. Who would have thought?

Brock and Ballantyne south has always been a strong, tight-knit community and we banded together immediately to protect the future of our community. Notices were sent out to all residents and a meeting was held at one of the neighbour's homes.

We were up against the Quebec government; we had to play big league. Raymond suggested we hire *National Public Relations* company, the largest PR firm in the country. This required a huge financial commitment from the residents, but we had no choice. We knew we needed major media coverage and PR. In retrospect, this was the best single decision we made.

The involvement of *National Public Relations* piqued the curiosity of the media, who were eager to unravel the mystery of this "out-of-nowhere" grassroots movement that had sprung up. As a result, we received front-page coverage in major English and French newspapers, as well as interviews on CBC and French language television stations. This media attention was instrumental in drawing widespread support for our cause, ensuring that our concerns were heard far and wide.

To strengthen our position, I was entrusted with the task of gathering support through a petition. While my parents watched my children, I managed to collect thousands of signatures at Vendôme metro and numerous shopping areas. Additionally, we staged demonstrations that served to increase awareness of our cause.

We joined forces with the neighbouring Elmhurst community and met with **Geoff Kelley**, the representative of **Claude Ryan**, the Minister of Public Security. We had to make a strong case. My husband **Sergio Saveriano** was our spokesman and made a compelling presentation of our position.

We continued to work day in, day out and lo and behold it was announced that, due to the community pushback, the plan would be nixed; we had won!

Would the outcome have been the same if we had not taken such bold actions? And if it had been allowed to materialize, would our small-town community have been forever changed? We understood that this could have a profound effect on the spirit and safety of Montreal West, and we were determined to safeguard the future of our beloved community.

I am very proud to have been part of this remarkable victory which I believe serves as a testament to the power of a united community, willing to stand up for what they hold dear. Thanks to the collective efforts and hard work of concerned and engaged residents, the threat of a minimum-security jail was ultimately averted, and MoWest's small-town charm remains as it has always been.

from Deborah Cere

Environmentalism in Action

Why Mowest has banned gas-powered leaf blowers

A Council resolution passed in September 2022 to prohibit gas-powered leaf blowers and vacuums in Montreal West is officially coming into force November 1. With concerns for human safety and environmental preservation in mind, the council is bringing this ban into effect for several reasons—reasons that have encouraged many other cities and towns across North America to do the same thing.

For one, an hour of leaf blowing has proven to be the equivalent in emissions of driving 1,100 miles in a car. The close proximity between the person using the leaf blower and the machine's pollutants is another cause for health concerns. On top of this, as most MoWesters are probably aware, gas-powered leaf blowers emit loud noise – more so than electric ones. The noise produced by gas-powered leaf blowers can cause hearing issues, such as tinnitus, after only two hours. The low frequency noise travels further than the noise from electric blowers and penetrates through windows more easily. Moreover, these sounds disturb local wildlife, particularly pollinators.

While it would be ideal to eliminate leaf blowers altogether since they all emit noise and air pollution to an extent, electric leaf blowers and vacuums are safer and more eco-friendly than those powered by gas. The former can therefore be used during the month of November and for 2 weeks in the spring. Outside of that period, let your lawn soak up those leafy nutrients—or better yet, put on your favourite fall playlist and get raking!

from Haley Clarke-Cousineau,
for the Environment Action Committee

Children's Library

Participants in the crochet course this July and Therapy dog – reading session with Rizzo, from the McGill Wellness Hub program

Renovations challenging

This summer proved to be a big challenge; we have been unable to operate as usual and offer a fully developed Summer Reading Program. The renovation works in the Elizabeth Ballantyne building have prevented us from welcoming you as in previous summers. We believe we will be able to resume the regular opening hours after Labour Day. You can stay informed by checking our website where timely information is published.

TD Summer Reading Club launch party in June, with Shawny (www.shawnykidsmusic.com)

Summer Reading Program

The *TD Summer Reading Club* is still on, with activities taking place in the park, and children encouraged to keep track of the books they read all through the summer.

The closing party of the program will be Thursday, August 31, 4:30 pm, in Strathearn Park. Please register to take part in the Tic-Tac-Toe tournament! We will also distribute gifts-books to those of you who return their *TD* booklets with the list of books read. The draw for the Trivia Quiz participation will also take place during the party. Join the fun!

Programs and events

Saturday, September 9, 11 am, we will offer a **Flower pounding** on fabric workshop. Flower pounding is an ancient Japanese technique which allows to create patterns on the fabric by hammering flowers. Registration is required.

As of September 11, you will be able to read a new **StoryWalk®** – *Pikiq* by **Yayo** will be displayed in front of the library.

The fall season of programming will include: **Mother Goose** starting September 14, and running on Thursdays, 10:30-11 am; **Take and Make**, **Lego**, **Scratch**, **Cubetto** courses will start the week of September 18 – further details will be available on our website soon.

Reading enthusiasts are welcome to join our **Parent-Child Book Club**. We meet the last Friday of the month to discuss two titles read during the month. Children aged 6 and up can register for the Club.

Bibliothèque des jeunes de Montréal-Ouest
Children's Library

Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri /
lun, mer, jeu, ven :
10 am-6 pm
Tue / mar :
10 am-8 pm
Sat-Sun / sam-dim :
10 am-3 pm

Fermeture les 2, 3 et 4 septembre
pour la Fête du travail.
Closed September 2, 3 and 4 for Labour Day.

484-7194

www.mwcl.ca mwcl@mwcl.ca

Montreal West Public Library

MWPL's 50th anniversary

Celebrating all year and celebrating our volunteers

Library closed for Labour Day:
August 26, September 2, 4
Tea and Books
September 20: 2 pm at the library
and on ZOOM

It's September and we are getting back in gear here at the Library. We will resume our regular Saturday openings beginning September 9. We hope our Saturday closings did not impede your summer reading.

This summer saw some reduction in our ongoing activities with only Tea and Books and Knit and Natter continuing. However, we were happy to host the day camp on Fridays for some board game fun. So now that we are all rested and we are now ready to start our fall programming schedule.

Ann Smith, our resident crafting genius, will be offering a workshop to make sweater mittens, a workshop on visible mending (Boro, Sashiko and other embroidery techniques to mend your garments) and a one on crocheting. Check out our website and bulletin boards for further details in the coming weeks.

Continuing activities

Knit and Natter with Ann every Thursday from 3 to 5

Tea and books: the 3rd Wednesday of every month

Public library's library of things

For the next few issues, we will be describing some of the items housed in your local library that you may surprise you. These items are may not be traditional library items and may not be available to borrow, but you are free to come in and take a look.

The library, over the years, has been a recipient of some interesting donations. One of these donations, a thimble collection, can be found on the wall behind our circulation desk. The library with the help of our resourceful summer student, **India Ciamberlano**, is in the midst of the long overdue cataloguing of this collection.

Thimble collection

The miniature works of art were generously donated by **Lucy** and **Ron Melzack** 20 years ago. The collection presents a variety of different thimbles. From Japanese to Kiwi to Canadian thimbles, all add a touch of beauty to the library. The catalogue will be available to browse in the near future. If that is too long a wait, here is a short preview of a couple of our thimbles.

The Dorcas thimbles from England, patented by Charles Horner, have a sterling silver inner and outer layer with a steel layer in between. It is identifiable as a Dorcas thimble by the "CH" mark on the band.

Also originating from England is a 2-thimble commemorative set for the wedding of Diana, Princess of Wales and the then-Prince of Wales, Charles. The beautiful Jasperware thimbles in Wedgewood's signature blue honour a monumental moment in recent history.

We cannot wait to share the stories of these works of art with you once the catalogue and the research is complete! If anyone knew the Melzacks and has some information about their collection, please email India at the following email: info@mwpl.ca

481-7522 41 Westminster N.

Reservations/requests:
mwlib.requests@gmail.com

Visit us online: mwpl.ca

OPENING HOURS
Monday to Saturday:
noon-6 pm

Every month a group of avid readers meet in the library or on ZOOM to discuss their latest reads, the good and the bad. With support from this group, we are happy to announce the return of the column, "What are you reading now?"

What Are You Reading Now?

A new acquisition by the library is a biography of renowned mystery writer Agatha Christie entitled simply *Agatha Christie – A Very Elusive Woman*. Written by **Lucy Worsley**, an equally renowned woman whose documentaries on PBS, it take a critical look at British history and its historical figures to uncover previously overlooked details that provide new insights into the past. And with her biography of Christie, she doesn't disappoint. She delves into the layers of the life of this very private woman, from her privileged yet isolated childhood to a mellow old age. Christie was a woman who, despite being an international best-selling author, listed her occupation on her passport as housewife.

Worsley digs deep into the events of Christie's mysterious disappearance in 1926 that followed the shock of her husband's curt announcement that he was leaving her for a younger woman as she mourned the recent death of her mother. One December night her damaged and abandoned car was found on a remote country road, her fur coat and suitcase left inside. Her disappearance was headline news and the papers debated for the next 11 days whether she was missing, suicidal or murdered. Was her disappearance the actions of a woman unravelling or was it an attempt to frame an unfaithful husband for murder. It was a plot worthy of one of Christie's own mysteries.

If there was a library book that moved you, inspired you or you just found a particularly good read let us know and we will be happy to include your thoughts in out next look at books.

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Scouts

Co-ed program for youth from 5 to 18

As our summer is winding down, we are looking forward to the new Scouting year.

- **Beavers**: Ages 5/6/7 – kindergarten, grades 1 and 2
- **Cubs**: Ages 8/9/10 – grades 3/4/5
- **Scouts**: Ages 11/12/13 (14) – grades 6/7/8
- **Venturers**: Ages 14/15/16/17
- **Rovers**: Young adults 18 to 26 interested in continuing the Scouting experience.

Interested in registering your child? – Check us out in Scouts.ca, 1st MoWest Scout Group for meeting places, days and times. Contact our commissioner for information: **Karen Mansfield-Johnstone**, **717-5696** or karenmansfieldjohnstone@gmail.com.

Rovers

MW Scout Group Rover **Mathias Cantu** is back from his four-month volunteer placement with the *Canadian Conservation Corps* (*CCC)* program. The *CCC* is a program of the *Canadian Wildlife Federation* for youth 18-30. Below, Mathias shares his story.

"Montreal and Halifax are two vastly different cities. They differ in almost every single aspect I could think of: demography, topography, placement relative to a body of water, history, etc. That being said, they are both friendly and welcoming. I have yet to cross paths with someone in Halifax with whom I don't exchange a gentle head nod or a brief "good morning." This natural joie de vivre really helped me in the first couple of weeks as I was getting used to my new placement.

"I was assigned to the Canadian Wildlife Federation Marine team, whose work since 2019 has been focused on helping fishermen use ropeless fishing systems to prevent the whales from getting entangled. It took me at least two weeks to absorb all the documents, content, media and research that they have, and three more to actually understand it.

"My placement and role within the team was to create visual media about the work they have been doing and the social climate of the fisheries. It is a delicate subject and a complex one. Our role isn't to stop fishing, but to promote fishing with ropeless systems that give fish-harvesters multiple advantages. Since rope-less systems are a relatively new technology, our media work is focused on demystifying it to show how easy and accessible it is. I spent most of my time attending meetings and editing. There are surprisingly a lot of parties and characters involved in the Maritimes fish industry, so it was critical to understand their roles and activities to create relevant media content. Attending meetings helped me understand the day-to-day functions of these parties, and the editing to create media about it. I was lucky to go into the field twice."

Mathias Cantu holding a huge crab

Cubs

Some MoWest Cubs happily attended summer camp at the beautiful Lake Lovering Scout Reserve. Over 35 cubs from Montreal West, St. Lambert, Greenfield Park and Candiac, along with Scouts and Venturers, plus two youth from Huntington, came together to spend a week making friends, learning new skills and enjoying the great outdoors.

A sea of tents was set up in the field and meals were shared in the main hall. Each day (rain or shine) began with a quick, refreshing dip in the lake.

After breakfast, the Cubs split off into smaller groups. Outdoor and Scoutcraft activities included canoeing and T rescues, fishing, campfire cooking, learning about orienteering and some basic first aid. Some STEM activities included creating a non-Newtonian fluid and looking at nature through a portable microscope.

At craft time we made tie-dye camp shirts and tried our hand at Ukrainian Easter eggs. Free time was spent observing the various wildlife: garter snakes, toads and a variety of interesting insects. One evening, an observant Cub pointed out the International Space Station whizzing by overhead. The last full day was regatta day which included a canoe race and attempts at walking on stilts; one Cub was a natural and was quickly able to take 37 steps!

At mealtimes the whole camp came together. At each meal, one of the groups enthusiastically helped with meal prep and everyone was involved in the clean-up. For Thursday dinner, all the groups worked together to make dumplings as part of an Asian meal which was a big hit. There was a backwards day where we had supper in the morning and wore shirts backwards or inside out. Another meal was a monk's meal where everyone tried to be as quiet as possible, with points being earned by the quietest table. It goes without saying that it was not an easy challenge for these happy youngsters. Muffled giggles could be heard as the Cubs tried to find other ways to communicate with each other. Regardless of what was on the menu, the din in the dining hall was testament to the fun these newfound friends were having together.

Rover videography for fishing industry

The Howlers (3rd year Cubs) got to spend a night on the island with the Venturers and Scouts who had come along as helpers. This was their chance to experience some of the more advanced outdoor skills they will learn when they move up to Scouts.

The last morning was for breaking camp and closing ceremonies. Whether it was their first camp, or they were a seasoned camper, it is safe to say that all in attendance went away with fond memories of the community and the adventures of the week and, perhaps, a deeper appreciation of nature and the values of Scouting.

from Darzee (Lee-Ann Simpson)

Guides

Sparks and Embers

The Sparks and Embers voted on the theme of their ceremony. The girls were given the choice among fireworks, unicorns, dragons and rainbows. The vote was very close, with no clear winner. So, as a team, we came up with the idea of the girls doing an obstacle course where they crawled under the rainbow, walked past the dragon, followed a unicorn path to reach the Guides who were waiting to welcome them to the unit. Once all the advancing girls had been welcomed into the Guide unit, the girls set off their fireworks. The girls had great fun throwing their fireworks into the air over and over. They really wanted to celebrate.

Guides

For the Guides' last meeting, they had an escape room themed meeting whereby they needed to follow clues in various rooms of the meeting space to then find the key to the Guiding closet, where their earned badges had been trapped. It would have been quite upsetting if they had not figured out the clues and gone home without their well-earned badges!

The MoWest units are keen on camping. At the end of May, a spring camp was held. The girls and Guiders left on Friday night for Wa-Thik-Ane. This is the 97-year-old Girl Guide camp located in Morin Heights. The entire camp had been booked. We were lucky to acquire one of the sites for ourselves.

The weekend passed in the blink of an eye! The Guides and Pathfinders were able to participate in the tradition of going for a sunrise hike to the bluff. They were quite the troopers, getting up at 4:30 in the morning. Some of the other activities we did included reverse tie-dying an article of clothing with a constellation on it. They made bubble wands in the shape of stars. They wanted to see how the different shapes would affect the shape of the bubbles. No camp is complete without a campfire. The Pathfinders led our campfire. All the girls enjoyed the s'mores, another tried and true tradition at camp!

Photo: Christine Downey

Tigger and 110

A week at Wa-Thik-Ane

For some of the girls, a weekend camp is not enough fun. Many of them go to Wa-Thik-Ane for a week during the summer. These week-long camps are run at the provincial level. The very nice thing about these weeks are the different activities that are offered. Waterfront is a big one! The camp has lifeguards and boating specialists on staff. This permits the campers to go off on boating adventures and to swim in the lake. Every week, there is a full morning dedicated to a regatta. All the campers of that week gather at the waterfront and are divided into teams. The waterfront staff organize silly round robin activities all related to water. It always involves getting wet!!

The leaders and girls come from all over. This year we had quite a few girls from the Ottawa area. The last week of July, during the outtrip week, a unit of 16 girls with their leaders came from England to spend time at our camp. They loved learning all about our traditions. We also had Guiders from BC and Ontario join us. All this to say, you will certainly make new friends when you go to a summer Guide camp!

Registration is open for the coming Guiding year. There are still some places available in our units. Come and join in on our fun! The web site to go to is registergirlguides.ca or email questions to pearl.barnowl@gmail.com.

L'environnementalisme en action

Pourquoi Montréal-Ouest interdit les souffleurs à feuilles à essence

Comité d'action environnementale

Une résolution du conseil municipal adoptée en septembre 2022 pour interdire les souffleurs à feuilles et les aspirateurs à essence dans Montréal-Ouest entrera officiellement en vigueur le 1er novembre. Soucieux de la sécurité des personnes et de la préservation de l'environnement, le conseil municipal met en vigueur cette interdiction pour plusieurs raisons, des raisons qui ont encouragé de nombreuses autres villes et localités d'Amérique du Nord à faire de même.

Tout d'abord, il a été prouvé qu'une heure de soufflage de feuilles équivaut, en termes d'émissions, à conduire une voiture sur une distance de 1 100 miles. La proximité entre la personne qui utilise le souffleur à feuilles et les polluants de la machine est une autre menace à la santé. En outre, comme la plupart des résidents le savent probablement, les souffleurs à feuilles à essence émettent un bruit fort, plus que les souffleurs électriques. Le bruit produit par les souffleurs de feuilles standard peut provoquer des troubles auditifs chez l'humain, tels que des acouphènes, au bout de deux heures seulement. Le bruit de leurs basses fréquences se propage plus loin que le bruit des souffleurs électriques et pénètre plus facilement à travers les fenêtres. En outre, ces bruits perturbent la faune locale, en particulier les pollinisateurs.

Si l'idéal serait d'éliminer complètement les souffleurs à feuilles, (car ils émettent tous du bruit et polluent l'air dans une certaine mesure), les souffleurs à feuilles et les aspirateurs électriques sont plus sûrs et plus respectueux de l'environnement que ceux fonctionnant à l'essence. Les premiers peuvent donc être utilisés pendant le mois de novembre et pendant deux semaines au printemps. En dehors de cette période, laissez votre pelouse s'imprégner des nutriments des feuilles, ou mieux encore, faites jouer votre playlist automnale préférée et commencez à racler!

de Haley Clarke-Cousineau,
pour le Comité d'action
pour l'environnement

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Kosher corner

High Holidays are early this year…

…but no need to fear!

Once again Chabad Westminster will be hosting local and welcoming High Holiday services for Rosh Hashana (September 15-17) and Yom Kippur (September 24-25), accompanied with English explanations and insights. In addition, Chabad Westminster will be hosting numerous holiday dinners and the now famous shofar in the park (Sunday, September 17) 4:30 pm and shofar at "Jamie and Sandy's" at 6 pm (corner Sheraton and Radcliffe) followed by Jamie's light show!

Yizkor on Yom Kippur will be held Monday, September 25 at 1 pm. Appeals are welcome at chabadwestminster.com/donate. For a full schedule of all High Holiday services and communal meals or to RSVP please chabadwestminster.com/highholidays5784.

Hebrew school open house

Kids ages 4-10 are invited to join us at the Hebrew school open house activity of a model shofar factory Tuesday, September 12, 5:15 pm. For more information about Hebrew school or to register, please visit chabadwestminster.com/hebrewschool or call **Chaya** at **746-9649**.

Rosh Hashana challah bake

Women are invited to join the third annual pre Rosh Hashana challah bake on Sunday, September 10. RSVP at chabadwestminster.com/bake.

Sukkot festivities

Lastly, don't forget the Sukkot festivities! Community BBQ in the sukka on Tuesday, October 3 and family Simchat Torah celebration on Sunday, October 8!

Looking forward to celebrating this busy month together, wishing everyone a Chatima Tova!

from Rabbi Mendy Marlow

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Edinburgh Elementary

Mia Secko riding Ratatouille with Cassie Ramadori

— A sixth grader's perspective —

Lessons in dirt eating

I'm nervous, yet excited for school to start again. This is a really big year because it's our last year at Edinburgh and our first year doing the provincial exams since COVID. In addition, we have high school entrance exams to prepare for (which are pretty important). I'm feeling a little stressed about these exams; however, three horses – **Rojak**, **Convento** and **Nala** – taught me to cope with the stress.

A couple of weeks ago I did a horseback riding camp in St. Bruno, at les écuries *La Montée*. The camp taught us how to wash, brush, feed and, of course, ride the horses. Over the week I was lucky enough to ride different horses with very different personalities. Rojak was an adorable stallion with a dark brown coat and the sweetest personality. He was always super chill and sweet, no matter what happened. Rojak taught me to stay calm and not take out your stress on other people.

Convento was a humongous stallion with a black coat and a tendency to pick fights with other horses when they snuck up behind him. Convento taught me to not get mad or pick fights when people are trying to help you, or in Convento's case, trying to do their job.

Nala was a caramel-coloured pony who was extremely food oriented. Nala would eat anything, including the other horses' food, your clothes, your hair, even dirt. Sometimes when people were riding her, she would drop down to the ground, knocking the rider off, and roll around. Nala taught me to eat before a big day, to have fun sometimes, and to take breaks.

These three horses taught me ways to cope with the stress, and I will try to put them to use when school starts and during exams.

from Mia Secko

MADA

MADA consultation Save the date

The Town of Montreal West received certification as an Age Friendly Town (Municipalité amie des aînés – *MADA*) in 2022, and has been busy working on the objectives set out in our Age-Friendly Policy (available on the Town website). To inform residents of our progress to date and solicit input on priorities for the coming years, we will be holding a consultation with seniors on Saturday, October 21. Please mark this date in your calendar. Further information will be forthcoming in September.

Free Transit as of July 1

As of July 1, adults aged 65+ residing in Montreal and the 15 demerged municipalities are able to access free municipal transit – including bus, metro, EXO commuter trains and the REM. Seniors must have a valid Opus ID card with photo showing their age. Seniors ID cards are available at any metro station, any Exo ticket office on the Island of Montreal and in the Fairview Pointe-Claire bus terminal. The photo ID Opus cards cost $15 and are valid for seven years.

Complete the National Caregiving Survey!

The Canadian Centre for Caregiving Excellence is calling on all those who give and provide care to complete the National Caregiving Survey. The information collected in the survey will seek to improve the experiences of caregivers and care providers. We encourage you to be part of the movement that will shape the future of caregiving advocacy by completing the online survey at canadiancaregiving.org/

Colleen Feeney
Councillor for Finance, MADA, and Recreation & Culture
cfeeny@montreal-ouest.ca

Consultation *MADA* Réservez la date

La Ville de Montréal-Ouest a reçu la certification Municipalité amie des aînés (*MADA*) en 2022 et s'est employée à réaliser les objectifs énoncés dans sa Politique amie des aînés (disponible sur le site Web de la Ville). Afin d'informer les résidents des progrès réalisés à ce jour et de solliciter des commentaires sur les priorités pour les années à venir, nous tiendrons une consultation avec les aînés le samedi 21 octobre. Veuillez réserver cette date dans votre calendrier. De plus amples informations seront communiquées en septembre.

Transport gratuit à partir du 1er juillet

Depuis le 1er juillet, les personnes âgées de 65 ans et plus résidant à Montréal et dans les 15 municipalités défusionnées peuvent accéder gratuitement aux transports en commun municipaux – y compris les autobus, le métro, les trains de banlieue EXO et le REM. Les personnes âgées doivent être en possession d'une carte d'identité Opus valide avec photo montrant leur âge. Les cartes d'identité pour personnes âgées sont disponibles à toutes les stations de métro, à toutes les billetteries Exo sur l'île de Montréal et à la gare routière Fairview Pointe-Claire. Les cartes d'identité Opus avec photo coûtent 15 $ et sont valables pendant sept ans.

Répondez au sondage national sur la prestation de soins !

Le Centre canadien d'excellence pour les aidants invite toutes les personnes qui prodiguent des soins à répondre au sondage national sur la prestation de soins. Les informations recueillies dans le cadre de cette enquête permettront d'améliorer l'expérience des aidants et des prestataires de soins. Nous vous encourageons à participer au mouvement qui façonnera l'avenir de la défense des intérêts des aidants en remplissant le questionnaire en ligne à l'adresse canadiancaregiving.org/fr/.

Colleen Feeney,
Conseillère Finances, MADA, et Loisirs et culture
cfeeny@montreal-ouest.ca

Rotary

Little Yonkers Theatre Club plays

With the valuable support of the *Rotary Club of MoWest and NDG*, the *Little Yonkers Theatre Club* has successfully staged two plays since its launch in 2021.

Under the direction of former Royal West Academy teacher **Doug Floen** and performed by dedicated volunteers, the *Theatre Club* has achieved sold out performances at the Town Hall, raising an impressive $10,000 from ticket and refreshment sales.

All the money raised by the *Little Yonkers Theatre Club* is donated to buy kitchen equipment for *Resilience Montreal*, a non-profit day shelter located in downtown Montreal. Unfortunately, only a portion of the funds collected can be donated as a portion of the proceeds is allocated to cover expenses such as room rentals, costumes and other administrative fees essential for the functioning of the Theatre Club.

Will you be a sponsor?

As the *Little Yonkers Theatre Club* prepares for their 2024 performance, they are looking for sponsors to help pay for the costs associated with running the play. The help of sponsorships will ensure that the entire amount raised can be donated to *Resilience Montreal*.

We ask for your support to help the *Little Yonkers Theatre Club* achieve its goals and support the community members in need.

Jamie D'Souza, B.A., M.A.

News from the pews

MW United

... the brick one

Still summer 'til it snows?

Are you stretching out summer as long as you can? September harkens a new season of activities. But if you can eke out some more vacation time, go for it.

We are back in the pews September 10 and ready to get underway at 10 am as usual. Rev. **Mark Hammond**, returned from Ireland, will have many stories to be spun so do come. Sunday school will resume September 17 and **Merrie Hammond** will have some outdoor activities on Curzon lawn to follow around 11 am for the neighbourhood to enjoy. All passing children are invited to "bounce along."

Will there be a bazaar this year?

The answer is a resounding Yes! Save Saturday, November 4h on your calendar as we plan to resurrect our bazaar. We all have missed it whatever way we participate. So isn't that Good News?

Food for thought…

Rumour has it that Rev. Mark is pondering holding a book discussion this fall. Stayed tuned to see what book he has in mind…. This would be an in-person discussion, likely in the evening. Curious? Stay tuned.

Farewell to Samuel

Our organist extraordinaire, **Samuel Lee** has moved on to bigger instruments better suited to his burgeoning skills. We have launched many fine organists from our sanctuary, and Sam is clearly among the best. His recent participation in the Longwood Organ Competition in Philadelphia can attest to that. We wish Samuel the very best from here.

Labyrinths and such

Not sure when our indoor Labyrinth Walks will resume, so watch for posters. In 22 years, many have walked the ancient pathway. During the "Covid break," folk have moved away in one form or another. Since restoring the walks last winter however, we have some new walkers as well as some from years ago. Some say this is the only experience they have when no one interrupts their thoughts or make demands of them. Our outdoor Labyrinth has now seen us through four summers and this is likely its last. What's next? Well, we have yet to see but some wheels are turning….

Come September 10, we are here every Sunday at 10 am. Sunday school begins September 17, and our full choir returns in October. **Christopher Ducasse** will continue to lead our choir until that time. **Vicky** is in the office Monday-Thursday until 2-ish. **482-3210** or mwucoffice@gmail.ca. All welcome.

from Susan Upham

St. Philip's

Sunday worship continues at 10 am, with supervised activities for children in our children's corner. Our choir will be back (tentatively) September 17.

Sarah Wicks-Potter will be joining us as our In-Ministry Student. Sarah is a student at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College. She has extensive experience in children's ministry, having worked at Christ Church Cathedral and TMR United Church, but will spend her time at St Philip's concentrating on other areas of ministry.

With the wet weather in July, our community garden has been flourishing. For September, there should be fall crops of salad greens and radishes, as well as tomatoes and the last of the cucumbers and squash.

from Fr. Pratt

St. Ignatius of Loyola

We're pleased to announce that Fr. **Garrick Huang** will be joining St. Ignatius September 1 as Associate Pastor to Fr. **Mike Leclerc**. In this role, he will also be supporting our Missionary Partnership by working closely with the team at St. Willibrord's Parish in Verdun.

On September 20, we'll be launching our 16th Alpha, which consists of a series of interactive sessions that bring people together to explore the basics of the Christian faith. A delicious (and free) meal is served, which is followed by either a video or live talk and a group discussion. Guests are welcome to try it out for the first week or two with no need to commit, and our promise is to provide an open and welcome environment that allows for all questions and opinions to be heard. Visit stig.ca/alpha for more information or to register.

KidsMin team

This summer has been busy for our KidsMin team. All are invited Sunday, September 24 after our 10 am Mass to an open house and info session to hear about some new programs for older kids, as well as get an overview of our sacrament prep process for First Communion and Confirmation. Check out stig.ca/kids.

Missionary Partnership anniversary

Finally, we look forward to celebrating the one year anniversary of our Missionary Partnership with St. Willibrord's at the end of September. It's been humbling to see such a thriving community emerge at St. Willibrord's in such a short time, thanks to initiatives such as Alpha and Catch the Wave. Please visit stwill.ca for more information on the anniversary celebration, and please know that all are welcome, anytime.

from Shawna Rose

Community Centre: 484-6186, montreal-west.ca

Recreation programs

Check our website: montreal-west.ca or Facebook page: facebook.com/montrealwest.ca. Registration is now available online for resident for all Town Programs on amilia.com.

Fall/winter/spring registration starts:

- MoWest residents: August 21
- Côte Saint-Luc and Hampstead residents: August 24
- Everyone else: August 28

*Early bird special for most programs: August 21 to September 1

*Not all programs are eligible for early bird pricing.

To benefit from early bird pricing for fall, winter and spring sessions registration for all sessions must be done before September 1.

Les inscriptions automne/ hiver/printemps débutent le :

- 21 août pour les résidents de M-O
- 24 août résidents de CSL et Hampstead
- 28 août tous les résidents

*Spécial pour les pré-inscriptions précoces pour la plupart des programmes : 21 août au 1er septembre

*Certains programmes ne sont pas éligibles au tarif de préinscription.

Pour bénéficier du tarif pré-inscriptions pour les sessions d'automne, d'hiver et de printemps, l'inscription à toutes les sessions doit être effectuée avant le 1er septembre.

Most programs begin mid-September

Adult programs

New this fall is a **Step and Pump** class on Wednesday nights at RWA at 7:15 pm. It will involve using the step and weights to give you a great workout.

Another addition to our programming will be **CIRCL Mobility™** a movement program which will unlock your body's potential through flexibility, breathwork and mobility exercises. You will release physical restrictions, restore your full range of motion and renew your core capabilities so you can move better, longer.

Back is the popular **Warrior Workout** led by **Beth** on Tuesday nights at RWA. This workout is sure to challenge you using weights, steps, bands, battle ropes and more.

Our morning classes consist of the **Essentrics** aging backwards programs specifically for men and women as well as barre and stretch class using the roller.

If you are looking for yoga classes, we have a men's yoga and **yoga** for all led by **Shirley**. **Yogalates** is offered twice a week by **Johanne** and a combination fitness class of strength and lengthening called **Reach** on Tuesday and Thursday night.

If fitness is not your choice, we have **MEDITATION** offered on Thursday night as an option.

TRX is back! Born in the Navy SEALs, Suspension Training bodyweight exercise develops strength, balance, flexibility and core stability simultaneously. It requires the use of the TRX Suspension Trainer, a highly portable performance training tool that leverages gravity and the user's body weight to complete 100s of exercises. You're in control of how much you want to challenge yourself on each exercise, because you can simply adjust your body position to add or decrease resistance.

- **Captain Catalyst**
  Science fun and brain challenges
  Saturdays, 9:30 am, 4- to 6-year-olds
  10:45 am, 7- to 9-year-olds
- **Ballet & Pre-Ballet**
  3- to 9-year-olds
  Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday
- **NEW! Intro to Dungeons & Dragons**
  Saturday
- **Red Cross Stay Safe program**:
  November 18
- **Red Cross babysitting course**:
  November 19
- **Mom & Baby fitness**: Tuesdays, 9:45
- **Music with Shawny** (days and times to be announced)
- **Yoga parent & child**, Saturdays, 5- to 11-year-old children

Coming events

Montreal West Street Festival
Saturday, September 16
10 am-3 pm, Westminster Avenue

Food, live music and kids' activities. Sponsored by the Town of Montreal West and Montreal West Merchants Association

Octoberfest Pub Night
Fundraiser for new sports and recreation centre
Saturday, October 14
7 pm, Town Hall
Cost: $30 resident/ $40 non-resident

Spooktacular Family Fun
Fundraiser for new sports and recreation centre
Sunday, October 29
2-4 pm, Town Hall

Cost per child: $15 for residents / $20 for non residents. Each child ticket includes access for one adult; to add an additional adult: 5$ + tax Come dressed up! Includes a show, crafts and sweets.

50+ Club 50+

August

29 Bridge

31 Trip to Upper Canada Playhouse: *Drinking Alone* (by **Norm Foster**)

September

26 Bridge

28 Soup's on

100 YEARS FROM NOW

Saturday
November 11:
Trip to Cornwall

Musical of love, sacrifice and the great war.
Show time: 7:30 pm.

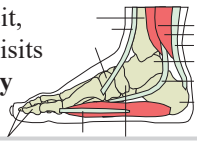
Presented by
Shipyard Kitchen Party.

Foot clinic

September 6, October 4

484-6186

$45 for the initial visit,
$35 for subsequent visits
by appointment only



Town Council meeting: May, June

by Carol Foster

May meeting

Mayor Masella opened the May meeting of council by restating his answers to continually asked questions about the sports and recreation centre project. All these questions are answered in the FAQs on the Town's website and the mayor encourages everyone to read them to get information that is accurate.

He made it clear that there was currently no Plan B since to develop one would mean spending more money for architectural plans and then seeking re-approval from the government with no guarantee the grant would still be available.

The 3% used to calculate the costs of the loan is based on historical values and although no one can foresee what future costs will be, the original loan bylaw was approved by the government at 3%. A project manager will be hired to ensure the project comes in on budget and the possibility of some unforeseen expenses are already included in this budget.

The investment in recreational services offered in the new centre should be similar to the investment currently made.

He urged everyone to vote, pointing out that a No vote will mean either encountering significant costs to close the current arena or making do with its inadequacies or spending more money to develop a new plan and then waiting in line again in the hopes for a grant from the government without the help of any donations.

The mayor closed his remarks by stating that a Yes vote would mean that "We are ready as a Town to move forward, invest in our community, invest in our infrastructure, invest in our youth, invest in our seasonal job creation and invest in our future."

Councillors' reports

Councillor Small-Pennefather welcomed a new Public Security Officer (PSO) and announced the good news that **Clifford Jordan** is now improving.

Line painting on the streets has begun and will be completed by mid-June.

Participants from Station 9 and local firefighters as well as the PSOs were available at a recent meeting to discuss with residents potential concerns about safety in the community.

Twenty-seven families took part in the latest Zero Waste challenge, there was standing room only for the first Rewilding Your Yard series and the Clothing Swap was a great success according to Councillor Ulin. Other initiatives, including an information session on electric vehicles and a town-wide garage sale were all items in **Councillor Ulin**'s report.

Public Works staff have been asphalt-repairing streets and sidewalks, planting and distributing trees and are now mowing the grass only every two weeks to save on fuel and support the Town's biodiversity efforts.

Councillor Feeney announced that only 9% of the second instalment of property taxes are still outstanding. She itemized the expenditures of $669,849 for the past month (and wryly noted that the costs of snow removal still played a part in the budget for Public Works).

The Recreation Department is being kept very busy with all the many summer activities. Residents were reminded to always check for updates on all events and programs on the E-bulletin as well as the Town's Facebook page.

Although the official opening of the pool is scheduled for June 4, due to exceptionally hot weather, the pool will be made available for a short period a few days earlier. For the first time, swimming lessons leading to life guarding are free thanks to a grant from the *Lifesaving Society* covering the registration fees for this summer.

Permits were issued for the construction of new fences, decks, porches and walkways and only one notice was sent out for nonconforming work during the past month, according to **Councillor Torres**.

A public consultation was held to review amendments to the bylaw pertaining to fences and privacy screens. Three amendments were adopted regarding the size and the materials to be used. This information can be obtained from the Urban Planning Department.

Another public consultation was held with *Hydro-Québec* in which the Town's recommendations for the public usage of the green areas in the plans for rebuilding a transmission line were accepted. The project is now scheduled to be completed in 2033.

Question period

The long-standing dangerous conditions of the sidewalks on Brock North between Curzon and Parkside are still greatly in need of some resolution and have been brought up many times to Council. The solution to the problem would be to entirely replace, rather than just patch, these areas. However, because of the way the sidewalks were originally built, this is not possible without digging up the entire street, which cannot be done without a government grant. There was agreement from Council that the conditions on this street are deplorable. However, there are some issues that Councillor Small-Pennefather will have Public Works and the Traffic and Safety Committee look into, such as removing the crushed speed bump and assessing the need for more speeding deterrents. She added that if there is any other solution that can be found to improve things on this street, it will be looked into.

Traffic calming measures may also be needed on Ainslie and Fenwick as well as on Wolseley according to residents in that area. Councillor Small-Pennefather mentioned that the Traffic and Safety Committee are already concerned about street safety on the Town's streets and crosswalks and asked for emails with details where perceived problems exist.

The mayor explained that monitors for both the Yes and the No sides will be present at the polling stations and that all citizens of the Town, including tenants, will be eligible to vote in the referendum on the proposed sports and recreation centre.

Many questions concerning this project have already been answered and many opinions have been expressed in previous meetings. Detailed information from the Town has been made available on its website and in *The Informer*. Various flyers and news items, addressing both the pros and the cons are being circulated. However, people are still seeking information and the process was still a subject very much on residents' minds during this question period.

The complicated grant process, the possibilities of a fluctuating interest rate, divided opinions on the amount of consultation provided, questions about the new layout of the building, the reduced soccer field and the limited parking spaces, the absence of a Plan B and the consequences of a No vote were all discussed and debated with many taking part both in person in the Music Room and via the website.

A short agenda followed and the meeting was then adjourned.

June meeting

Mayor Masella described the "long and arduous road" which led to the approval of the construction of the sports and recreation centre after all sides had their say in the June 18 vote.

The amended by-law has now been sent for approval by the *Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation* and contracts for the construction, supervision and quality control will be awarded. But he affirmed the most important phase in this project will be to heal the division, eliminate the rhetoric and come together as a community to rally around this project.

On June 20, **Minister Charest**, responsible for Sports, Recreation and Outdoors as well as MNA **Désirée McGraw** and the Town administration visited the existing fa-

Town Council meeeting: May, June

cilities. This allowed the minister to understand the need for renewal. Several of the Town's young athletes and residents were also in attendance and expressed their enthusiasm for the new centre.

The Town Council and administration as well as Désirée McGraw will continue to secure the largest possible share of external funding to keep property taxes to a minimum.

Councillors' reports

Mayor Masella congratulated **Councillor Ulin** upon the recent marriage of her daughter and asked the new mother-in-law to be the first to speak.

The regular seasonal maintenance is being carried out by Public Works with priority given to road and sidewalk repairs was the first item on Ulin's report.

Recycling and composting which help direct more waste from landfills was the subject of a recent guest speaker. Members of the Environmental Committee went on a field trip to the recycling centre in Lachine and found it to be fascinating. The Committee is hoping to arrange a similar visit in for interested residents.

Councillor Feeney noted that although the majority of the Town's monthly expenditures had gone to pay the fees due to the Agglomeration Committee, $47,000 had been spent to repair the sinkhole at the corner of Sherbrooke and Westminster. Repairs to the pool and the Tree Giveaway Program as well as tree maintenance following the recent ice storm also claimed a share of the budget.

Poor weather for both the Community Night in the Park as well as Geek Night di not deter some residents from taking part. *Burger de Ville* and *Randy's Bistro* were thanked for providing food for these events.

Registration for both the pool and the summer camp were particularly high this season and residents were reminded, as always, to check the season's schedule on the website or through the Town's Facebook page.

In her closing remarks, Councillor Feeney thanked residents for their support of the new sports and recreation centre which will give new life to these activities. She gave assurances that costs will be carefully monitored and further efforts at funding will be continually pursued.

New fences, decks, porches, walkways and a swimming pool shed were among the projects for which the Urban planning department issued a total of 52 permits during the past month according to **Councillor Torres**.

A public consultation meeting will be held in July for the modification of the building by-law pertaining to outdoor surveillance cameras.

Councillor Small-Pennefather reported a dog attack that happened in Montreal West. She warned that there is a provincial regulation that has been in place for almost three years obliging doctors and veterinarians to report such incidents, that goes beyond municipal regulations. The law goes as far as euthanizing a dog if it has harmed a person or another animal. Having observed people letting their dogs loose in some of the Town's parks, Small-Pennefather emphasized, once again, the importance of always keeping dogs on their leash.

A few basketball nets are still causing problems when they are left on the streets or sidewalks. Once playing is finished, it is important that the nets be always returned to private property. Warning notices will be handed out for unkempt grass and weeds which are left growing and PSOs are still checking on work permits.

The theft of cars is continuing in the Town and some hints were offered, by the councillor, to discourage these thieves as well as ideas for safeguarding the homes of owners who are on vacation.

First question period

In response to questions regarding the sports and recreation centre, the mayor said the average increase in property taxes is now expected to be less than the original projection due to the additional grant from the government. The actual timing of the demolition will be decided after consultations with the contractor, but it is expected to probably begin in the fall. Periodic updates concerning the progress of the centre will be issued. The day camp will continue to be run in the summer of 2024 and details will be made available following discussions in the fall.

Speeding on Westminster, safety at crosswalks, the lack of a sidewalk on a short portion of Westminster just past the hump and illegal parking on Avon were all issues brought to Council's attention. Councillor Small-Pennefather stated that the Traffic and Safety Committee is continually looking at ways to promote safety and one of its members is the Community Liaison officer from PDQ 9. She added that it is very important to report moving violations to the SPVM and this can be done on their website. She also explained that speed bumps cannot be installed to slow speeding on Westminster; since it is used by buses with no seat belts as well as fire trucks and emergency vehicles.

The missing portion of sidewalk had been investigated in the past, but construction is made difficult by the presence of underground pipes as well as many mature trees.

There were also problems reported in some of the parks. The lack of porta potties in both Strathearn and Davies Park was brought up again and several residents pointed out it was especially a problem for the many children who use these parks. Councillor Feeney said the Town had installed one in the past, but it was plagued by vandalism and then removed; she agreed to have Council look into the issue again.

Strathearn Park has become continually littered with trash. It was suggested that the children using the day camp should pick up after themselves. Both Public Works and Recreation will be made aware of this problem.

Councillor Ulin answered a complaint about a town tree endangering a resident's property by stating that a long list of all these trees is maintained and they are trimmed in order of necessity. Recently, a contractor has been called upon to assist with the work. A request to get a tree on this list should be made to Public Works.

Other items on the agenda included a request for the Town of Montreal West to support the Town of Mount Royal as well as all the other municipalities on the island of Montréal where REM installations are planned "to ensure peace of mind and quality of life of the residents." Included in this request, which will be sent to the Minister of Transport, is the reduction of "negative noise and visual impact" that will be caused along the entire length of the network.

There were no questions for the second question period and the meeting was then adjourned.

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Réunions du Conseil : mai, juin

par Carol Foster
traduction par René Boucher

Réunion d'avril

Le **maire Masella** a ouvert la réunion de mai du Conseil en réitérant ses réponses aux questions continuellement posées concernant le projet de centre sportif et récréatif. On répond à toutes ces questions dans la FAQ sur le site Web de la Ville et le maire incite tous les citoyens à y accéder pour obtenir des renseignements exacts.

Il a précisé qu'il n'y avait pas de plan B présentement; l'élaboration d'un tel programme signifierait dépenser plus d'argent pour des plans architecturaux, puis demander une nouvelle approbation gouvernementale, sans aucune garantie que la subvention serait toujours disponible.

Les 3 % utilisés pour calculer les coûts du prêt sont fondés sur des valeurs historiques et, bien que personne ne puisse prévoir les coûts futurs, le règlement initial du prêt a été approuvé par le gouvernement à 3 %. Un gestionnaire de projet sera embauché pour assurer le respect du budget, et la possibilité de certaines dépenses imprévues est déjà incluse dans ce budget.

L'investissement dans les services récréatifs offerts dans le nouveau centre devrait être semblable à l'investissement actuel.

Il a exhorté tout le monde à voter, soulignant qu'un vote négatif signifierait soit faire face à des coûts importants pour fermer l'aréna actuel ou vivre avec ses insuffisances, soit dépenser plus d'argent pour élaborer un nouveau plan puis faire la queue à nouveau dans l'espoir d'obtenir une subvention du gouvernement sans l'aide de dons.

Le maire a conclu ses remarques en déclarant qu'un vote en faveur du oui signifierait que « Nous sommes prêts, en tant que ville, à aller de l'avant, à investir dans notre collectivité, à investir dans nos infrastructures, à investir dans nos jeunes, à investir dans la création d'emplois saisonniers et à investir dans notre avenir ».

Rapports des membres du Conseil

La **conseillère Small-Pennefather** a accueilli un nouvel agent de la sécurité publique (ASP) et a fait part de la bonne nouvelle que la santé de **Clifford Jordan** s'améliore.

Le marquage des lignes dans les rues a débuté et sera terminé d'ici la mi-juin.

Des participants du poste 9, des pompiers locaux ainsi que des ASP étaient présents lors d'une récente réunion pour discuter avec les résidents des préoccupations potentielles concernant la sécurité dans la collectivité.

Vingt-sept familles ont participé au dernier défi Zéro Déchet, il ne restait que des places debout lors la première séance sur la promotion de la biodiversité, et l'Échange de vêtements a été un grand succès selon la **conseillère Ulin**. D'autres initiatives, dont une séance d'information sur les véhicules électriques et une vente de garage à l'échelle de la ville, figuraient dans le rapport de madame Ulin.

Le personnel des Travaux publics a réparé l'asphalte des rues et des trottoirs, planté et distribué des arbres et tond maintenant l'herbe seulement toutes les deux semaines pour économiser du carburant et soutenir les efforts de la Ville en matière de biodiversité.

La **conseillère Feeney** a annoncé que seulement 9 % du deuxième versement d'impôt foncier demeurait en souffrance. Elle a énuméré les dépenses de 669 849 $ pour le mois précédent (et a fait remarquer avec ironie que les coûts du déneigement jouaient encore un rôle dans le budget des Travaux publics).

Le service des Loisirs est très occupé avec les nombreuses activités estivales. On a rappelé aux résidents de toujours vérifier les mises à jour des événements et programmes sur le bulletin électronique ainsi que sur la page Facebook de la Ville.

Bien que l'ouverture officielle de la piscine soit prévue pour le 4 juin, en raison du temps exceptionnellement chaud, la piscine sera disponible quelques jours plus tôt. Pour la première fois, les cours pour devenir sauveteur sont gratuits grâce à une subvention de la *Société de sauvetage* couvrant les frais d'inscription pour cet été.

Selon la **conseillère Torres**, des permis ont été délivrés pour la construction de nouvelles clôtures, de terrasses, de porches et de passerelles et un seul avis a été envoyé pour travaux non conformes au cours du mois précédent.

Une consultation publique a été tenue pour examiner les modifications au règlement concernant les clôtures et les écrans d'intimité. Trois amendements ont été adoptés concernant la taille et les matériaux à utiliser. Ces informations peuvent être obtenues auprès du service de l'Urbanisme.

Une autre consultation publique a eu lieu avec *Hydro-Québec*, au cours de laquelle les recommandations de la Ville pour l'utilisation publique des espaces verts dans les plans de reconstruction d'une ligne de transport ont été acceptées. Le projet devrait maintenant être terminé en 2033.

Période de questions

Les dangers qui existent depuis longtemps sur les trottoirs de Brock Nord entre Curzon et Parkside doivent encore être rectifiés et ont été soulevés à maintes reprises au Conseil. La solution au problème consisterait à remplacer entièrement ces zones, plutôt qu'à les corriger. Cependant, en raison de la conception originelle des trottoirs, cela n'est possible qu'en reconstruisant la rue au complet, ce qui ne peut se faire sans subvention gouvernementale. Le Conseil a convenu que la condition de cette rue est déplorable. Par ailleurs, la conseillère Small-Pennefather demandera aux Travaux publics et au Comité de la circulation et de la sécurité d'examiner certains points que comme l'élimination du dos d'âne allongé et l'évaluation du besoin d'accroître les mesures de dissuasion en matière de vitesse. Elle a ajouté que s'il y a d'autres solutions pour améliorer les choses dans cette rue, elles seront examinées.

Des mesures de modération de la circulation pourraient également être nécessaires à Ainslie et Fenwick ainsi qu'à Wolseley, selon les résidents du secteur. La conseillère Small-Pennefather a mentionné que le Comité de la circulation et de la sécurité se préoccupe déjà de la sécurité dans les rues et les passages piétonniers de la ville et a demandé des courriels donnant des détails lorsque des problèmes sont perçus.

Le maire a expliqué que des observateurs des camps du Oui et du Non seront présents aux bureaux de vote et que tous les citoyens de la ville, y compris les locataires, auront le droit de voter au référendum sur le projet de centre sportif et récréatif.

Plusieurs questions concernant ce projet ont déjà reçu réponse et de nombreuses opinions ont été exprimées lors de réunions précédentes. La Ville a publié des renseignements détaillés sur son site Web et dans *The Informer*. Divers tracts et articles d'actualité circulent, abordant les avantages et les inconvénients. Cependant, les gens cherchent toujours de l'information et le processus était encore un sujet très présent dans l'esprit des résidents pendant cette période de questions.

La complexité du processus de subvention, les fluctuations possibles des taux d'intérêt, des opinions divergentes sur la consultation, des questions sur la nouvelle configuration du bâtiment, le rapetissement du terrain de soccer et le nombre limité de places de stationnement, l'absence d'un plan B et les conséquences d'un vote négatif ont été discutés et débattus avec de nombreux résidents qui participaient à la fois en personne dans la Salle de musique et par le biais du site Web.

Un bref ordre du jour s'ensuivit et la séance était levée.

Réunion de juin

Le **maire Masella** a décrit la « route longue et ardue » qui a conduit à l'approbation de la construction du centre sportif et

récréatif après que toutes les parties eurent eu leur mot à dire lors du vote du 18 juin.

Le règlement modifié a maintenant été envoyé pour approbation au *ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation*, et des contrats de construction, de supervision et de contrôle de la qualité seront attribués. Mais il a affirmé que la phase la plus importante de ce projet sera de guérir la division, d'éliminer la rhétorique et de se rassembler autour de ce projet en tant que communauté.

La **ministre Charest**, responsable des Sports, des Loisirs et du Plein air, ainsi que la députée **Désirée McGraw** et des membres de l'administration municipale ont visité les installations existantes le 20 juin. Cela a permis à la ministre de comprendre la nécessité du remplacement. Plusieurs jeunes athlètes et résidents de la ville étaient également présents et ont exprimé leur enthousiasme pour le nouveau centre.

Le conseil municipal et l'Administration ainsi que Désirée McGraw poursuivront leurs recherches pour la plus grande part possible de financement externe afin de maintenir les impôts fonciers au minimum.

Rapports des membres du Conseil

Le maire Masella a félicité la **conseillère Ulin** pour le récent mariage de sa fille et a demandé à la nouvelle belle-maman de prendre la parole en premier.

Le premier élément du rapport de Ulin concernait l'entretien saisonnier régulier effectué par les Travaux publics, la priorité étant accordée à la réparation des rues et des trottoirs.

Le recyclage et le compostage, qui aident à détourner davantage de déchets des décharges, ont fait l'objet d'une récente conférence. Les membres du Comité de l'environnement se sont rendus au centre de recyclage de Lachine et ont trouvé cela fascinant. Le Comité espère organiser une visite similaire pour les résidents intéressés.

La **conseillère Feeney** a fait remarquer que, même si la majorité des dépenses mensuelles de la Ville avaient servi à payer les droits dus au Comité d'agglomération, 47 000 $ avaient été dépensés pour réparer l'affaissement de chaussée à l'angle Sherbrooke et Westminster. Les réparations à la piscine et le programme de don d'arbres ainsi que l'entretien des arbres à la suite de la récente tempête de verglas ont également représenté une part du budget.

Le mauvais temps lors de la Soirée communautaire dans le parc et de la Geek Night n'a pas dissuadé certains résidents de participer. *Burger de Ville* et *Randy's Bistro* ont été remerciés d'avoir fourni de la nourriture pour ces événements.

Les inscriptions à la piscine et au camp d'été ont été particulièrement élevées cette saison et les résidents ont été priés, comme toujours, de consulter le calendrier sur le site Web ou sur la page Facebook de la Ville.

En clôture, la conseillère Feeney a remercié les résidents pour leur appui au nouveau centre sportif et récréatif qui donnera un nouveau souffle à ces activités. Elle a assuré que les coûts seraient surveillés de près et que les efforts de financement se poursuivraient sans relâche.

De nouvelles clôtures, terrasses, porches, allées et un abri de piscine figuraient parmi les projets pour lesquels le service de l'Urbanisme a délivré un total de 52 permis au cours du mois dernier, selon la **conseillère Torres**.

Une consultation publique aura lieu en juillet pour modifier le règlement du bâtiment relativement aux systèmes de collecte d'images et de vision nocturne (caméras de surveillance extérieures).

La **conseillère Small-Pennefather** a signalé une attaque de chien à Montréal-Ouest. Elle a prévenu qu'il existe depuis près de trois ans un règlement provincial obligeant les médecins et les vétérinaires à signaler de tels incidents, qui va au-delà des règlements municipaux. La loi va jusqu'à l'euthanasie pour un chien qui a blessé une personne ou un autre animal. Ayant vu des gens lâcher leur chien dans certains parcs de la ville, Small-Pennefather a souligné, une fois de plus, l'importance de toujours tenir les chiens en laisse.

Quelques paniers de basketball posent encore problème lorsque laissés dans la rue ou sur les trottoirs. Une fois le jeu terminé, il est important que les appareils soient toujours retournés à la propriété privée. Des avertissements seront remis pour les pelouses et les mauvaises herbes négligées et les ASP vérifient toujours les permis de construction.

Les vols de voitures se poursuivent dans la ville et la conseillère a donné quelques indications pour dissuader les voleurs ainsi que des idées pour protéger les maisons des propriétaires en vacances.

Première période de questions

En réponse aux questions concernant le centre sportif et récréatif, le maire a déclaré que l'augmentation moyenne des impôts fonciers devrait maintenant être inférieure à la projection initiale en raison de la subvention supplémentaire du gouvernement. Le moment précis de la démolition sera déterminé après consultation avec l'entrepreneur, mais on s'attend à ce qu'elle commence probablement à l'automne. Des mises à jour périodiques concernant l'état d'avancement du centre seront publiées. Le camp de jour continuera d'être organisé à l'été 2024 et les détails seront rendus publics à la suite de discussions qui auront lieu à l'automne.

Vitesse excessive sur Westminster, sécurité aux passages pour piétons, absence d'un trottoir sur une courte portion de Westminster juste après le viaduc et stationnement illégal sur Avon ont tous été portés à l'attention du Conseil. La conseillère Small-Pennefather a déclaré que le Comité de la circulation et de la sécurité cherche continuellement des moyens de promouvoir la sécurité et que l'un de ses membres est l'agent de liaison communautaire du PDQ 9. Elle a ajouté qu'il est très important de signaler les violations de circulation au SPVM et que cela peut être fait sur son site Web. Elle a également expliqué qu'on ne peut installer de dos d'âne pour ralentir la vitesse sur Westminster, puisque des autobus sans ceintures de sécurité, ainsi que des camions de pompiers et autres véhicules d'urgence utilisent cette voie.

La partie manquante de trottoir a été analysée dans le passé, mais la construction est rendue difficile par la présence de conduites souterraines ainsi que de nombreux arbres matures.

Des problèmes ont également été signalés dans certains parcs. Le manque de toilettes chimiques aux parcs Strathearn et Davies a de nouveau été soulevé et plusieurs résidents ont souligné que c'était particulièrement un problème pour les nombreux enfants qui utilisent ces parcs. La conseillère Feeney a dit que la Ville en avait déjà installé, mais qu'elle avait été vandalisée, puis retirée; elle a accepté que le Conseil se penche à nouveau sur la question.

Le parc Strathearn est continuellement jonché d'ordures. Il a été suggéré que les enfants qui fréquentent le camp de jour ramassent eux-mêmes leurs déchets. Les Travaux publics et les Loisirs seront informés de ce problème.

La conseillère Ulin a répondu à une plainte concernant un arbre de la ville qui mettait en danger la propriété d'un résident en déclarant qu'une longue liste de tous ces arbres est tenue à jour et qu'ils sont élagués par ordre de nécessité. Récemment, un entrepreneur a été appelé à participer aux travaux. Une demande d'inscription d'un arbre sur cette liste doit être adressée aux Travaux publics.

Parmi les autres points à l'ordre du jour figurait une demande pour que la Ville de Montréal-Ouest appuie la Ville de Mont-Royal ainsi que toutes les autres municipalités de l'île de Montréal où des installations du REM sont prévues « pour assurer la tranquillité d'esprit et la qualité de vie des résidents ». Cette demande, qui sera envoyée au ministre des Transports, comprend la réduction du « bruit négatif et de l'impact visuel » causés sur toute la longueur du réseau.

Il n'y a pas eu de questions pour la deuxième période des questions et la séance a été levée.

COMING EVENTS / À VENIR

Please call the editor: Heather at 489-7022
or e-mail: montrealwestinformer@gmail.com
Next deadline: September 13

August

Mon 28 **Town Council meeting**. In person and virtually on the Town's YouTube channel. Town Hall. 8 pm.

Thu 31 ***Rotary* luncheon** speaker: Dr. Fuad Alyafi on Canadian Health System and solution for shortage of doctors and nurses. All are welcome. Town Hall. 12:30 pm.

September

Tue 12 ***IODE* meeting**. Community Centre, 1-3 pm.

Sat 16 **Montreal West Street Festival.** Westminster Ave. 10 am-3 pm.

Sun 17 ***Terry Fox Run***. Strathearn Park. Registration starts at 10:30.

Mon 18 **Garden Club meeting**. Open to all. $5 for non-members. Town Hall. 7:30 pm.

Wed 20 **Tea and Books** at the library and on ZOOM. 2 pm

Mon 25 **Deadline for water meter readings / Échéance pour la lecture des compteurs d'eau**

Thu 26 **Town Council meeting**. In person and virtually on the Town's YouTube channel. Town Hall. 8 pm.

Classifieds

PIANO FOR SALE: Willis, beautiful walnut wood grand piano with bench, 54" wide x 60" length. Moving, $1200. **489-0861**.

Canada Day thank you!

The Community Services would like to thank all the volunteers who made Canada Day a success even with the rain. Thank you to **Barbara Brezinski** for organizing the slice and dice and BBQ volunteers. **Phil Bergeron**, **Jeff Wyatt**, the **Senderak family** in the beer tent, **Karen Johnstone**, **Mary Mastromonaco**, **Julia Primiani** for the ticket booth. **Christine Downey** and **Julian Hung** for the bike contests and parade organization.

This event needs much coordination and dedicated volunteers to ensure its success. A big thank you to *Heritage Canada* and the Town for their continuous support.

Looking back at summer 2023

It shouldn't surprise anyone that the Canada Day organizers had to resort to Plan C (July 9) for the festivities when both July 1 and 2 were forecasting rain. Although some volunteers were no longer available, the BBQ team ended up strong with some new volunteers ready to help out and learn from the "senior" ones.

Preparations started early that day when the "Slice and Dice" committee met with their knives and chopping boards to tackle the bag of onions and two boxes of tomatoes for the condiments table.

Then all the volunteers took their assigned posts at 3:30 in Strathearn Park, after the obligatory group photo. The weather was perfect and so were the BBQ offerings: everything cooked to perfection, even the buns! A big thank you to the team below!

1st row: **Josée Samson**, **Abby Shyavitz**, **Marla Skolnik**, **Amy Bronstetter**, **David Doubt**, **Joyce Olshevsky**, **John Marrett**, **Marc Perreault**, **John Buckles**, **Julian Hung**, **Barbara Brzezinski kneeling in the front**;

2nd row: **Paula Cordeau**, **Colleen Feeney**, **Savita Gawri**, **Anie Philip**, **Peggy Garland**, **Rosalind Knitter**, **Joyce and Tony Teiber**, **Brian Gill**, **Joan Foster**, **Sophia Souranis**, **Bill Knitter**;

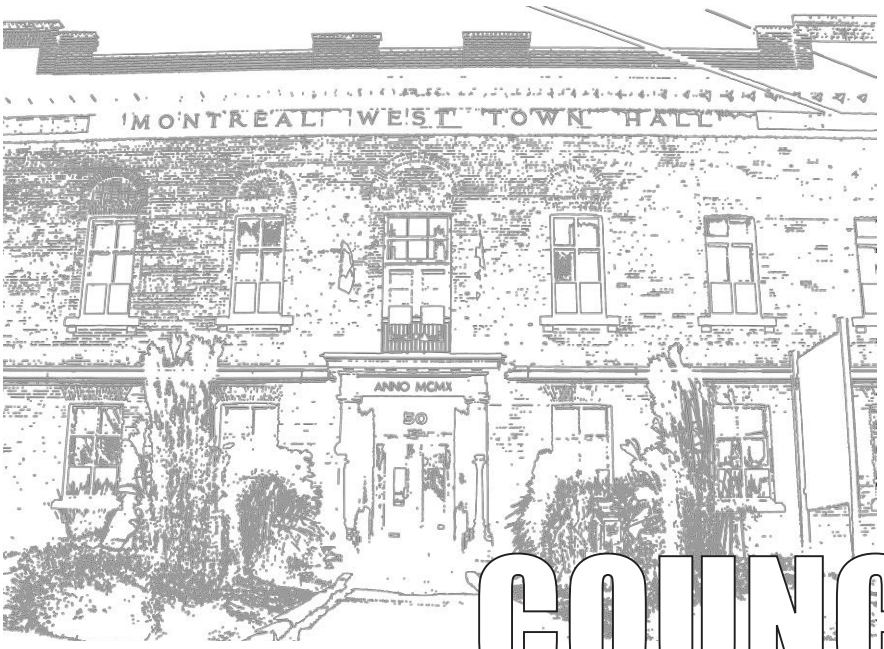
3rd row: **Mike Senderak**, **Bipin Desai**, **Janet Masella**, **Aynsley Devine**, **Sylvia Gervais**, **Wayne Feeney**, **Mark Lehberg**, **Maria Thomas**, **Jay Garland**, **Bill Olshevsky**, **Mohan Radhakrishna**, **John Buszard**, **Beny Masella**, **John Buchan**.

Missing from photo: **Valerie Buchanan**, **Nives** and **Mauro Degano**, **Philip Goldsmith**, **Liz Ulin** and, of course, photographer **Alex Brzezinski**

On a very sad note, we lost one of our longtime volunteers, **Beverley Kerr** died suddenly on July 21. Both she and her husband **Peter** were ready to volunteer on July 1 and 2, but they could not join us on the 9th as they had plans out of town. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Peter and the family on their very sudden loss.

Canada Day BBQ 2023

Photo: Alex Brzezinski



COUNCIL communiqué

MAYOR'S REPORT

Sports and Recreation Centre

Most of the formalities have now been completed and we are ready to begin work. The contractor will come onto the site towards the end of August to begin the preparatory work. The Town and our project manager met with the contractor and trades to layout the channels of communication between all of the people involved in the construction. We wanted to wait until the end of summer camp and to get in as much as possible of the pool season. We look forward beginning the demolition and construction phase of this exciting and transformative project.

Water break on Brock South

At the same time many of us were dealing with flooded basements because of the extremely intense rainstorm on Thursday, July 13, the residents of Brock South were dealing with a deluge caused by a break in the City of Montreal's 14-inch water main that runs along Broughton. The sheer amount of that water caused so many flooded basements in that block. Our Town supported the residents as much as possible while Montreal repaired their break. I am meeting with the borough mayor of CDN-NDG in the coming weeks to better define the protocols involved when a break occurs in their pipes on our territory.

Guides award for Janet King

On Monday, August 7, a small group of Guiders surprised Janet King at her home and presented her with the Quebec Award from Guiding. She was nominated for the award and two Guiders wrote letters of support for the application. The awards committee approved the nomination and the award was presented to Janet in her living room in the presence of Bob and a room full of current and former Guides. Congratulations Janet on the so very well deserved recognition of your devotion to Guiding.

Please stay safe and keep well.

Beny Masella, *Mayor*
Town of Montreal West
bmasella@montreal-west.ca

WHERE DOES OUR RECYCLING GO?

At the beginning of the summer, the Environmental Action Committee (EAC) took a field trip to the sorting centre in Lachine, Société VIA, which handles MoWest's recycling. And some of what we saw was shocking.

Our tour began at the pre-sort station where employees, lined up on either side of a conveyor belt, do a manual sorting of items removing 10-15% of the material that cannot be recycled. We saw loads of items that had no business being in the recycle bin: vacuums, laptops, hoses, suitcases, Styrofoam packaging. Some of these items are downright dangerous. Long, thin items like hoses, straps, lengths of wire and electrical cords can get jammed up in the machinery, stretching until they snap, badly injuring or maiming employees. We were told this happens every year.

The conveyor moves quickly and it is clear that a lot of the remaining material is still not recyclable. Employees must be careful of broken glass and other sharp items. The decibel level is extremely high, the smell sharply pungent. Masses of flies are everywhere. There is a reason we are asked to clean our food containers before tossing them in the bin. Week-old milk cartons, tins of canned fish, greasy take-out containers may all be technically recyclable, but when thrown in the bin unwashed create an unhealthy (frankly intolerable) environment for the workers. And it's worth noting that Société VIA hires employees with various mental and physical disabilities as part of its mandate. This is laudable, of course, but as "suppliers" to this facility, we have a responsibility contribute items in sanitary condition.

After the pre-sort, the remaining items go past a series of sorting machinery. An optical scanner removes plastic items with blasted air. An electromagnetic machine removes metal using a magnetic field (allowing them to achieve 97% metal purity). A "shakeout machine" is usually used for glass sorting, but during our visit that machine was broken. In the meantime, they must manually sort the glass, but can achieve only 80% purity. This lower-grade material is repurposed as sandblasting material and in pool filtration systems. None of it can be recycled back into glass. The coming Provincial bottle consignment program (2025) will allow glass to be properly recycled. At the end of the line, a "quality control" station bales up the paper and cardboard (30% of all recyclables), and all non-conforming materials are sent to landfill.

When we asked what MoWesters could do to help make the system work better these are the tips we got:

1) When in doubt, throw it out! You're better off tossing an item in the garbage if you're not sure it's recyclable. Contamination is a big problem in our current system. Textiles, shoes, diapers, long items (hoses, cords, straps), and lithium batteries are especially problematic. (Lithium batteries cause many accidents and fires. The Saguenay sorting centre has 17 battery fires per month!)

2) Think of the human beings that have to sort through your stuff. Clean food containers, especially dairy, meat and fish.

3) Do the stretch test for plastics bags. If they're stretchable they're recyclable. And put them all together in one bag.

4) Tetra boxes can be recycled. Leave the covers on or they will get lost in the glass.

5) Number 6 plastic and Styrofoam is not recyclable except at the Lasalle Ecocentre. Bring it there in bulk.

The EAC is looking into organizing another field trip to the recycle centre for the public so you can see for yourself how it all works. Keep an eye out for details.

Elizabeth Ulin, *Councillor*
Public Works, Environment and Communication
eulin@montreal-west.ca

PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE – PAC

Every so often, residents ask the Urban Planning department about the constitution and role of the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC). Today I would like to address some of those questions.

PAC is a Committee, composed of a Councillor, 6 residents who will act as permanent members and 4 alternate members, who can be called upon, in case there is no quorum. Quorum is reached when at least 4 out of 7 members are present at the meeting

Members of PAC have to be residents of Montreal West and to be committed to attending the meetings. Knowledge and/or experience in Urban Planning and/or architecture are valuable assets.

PAC's main responsibilities are to review and analyze projects presented to them by the town's Urban Planning Department, and to submit their recommendations to Council. It is important to know that PAC's recommendation are based on the Town's by-laws. PAC reviews applications related to Minor exemptions, Comprehensive Development projects, projects subjected to the Site Planning and Architectural Integration Plan (SPAIP) as well as draft By-Laws to amend Urban Planning by-laws such as zoning by-laws, sub-division bylaws and minor exemptions, and building by-law.

In reviewing an application, PAC can make 4 types of recommendations for Council to either approve or refuse the permit.

PAC can recommend: a) To approve the project as is, b) to approve the project with conditions, c) to defer the project or d) to reject it. The first two recommendations are self-explanatory. A deferral means that, either, there was not enough information for PAC to properly assess the project or that PAC did not recommend one or more elements of the project. In this case, the applicant has to re-submit the application with either further information or modifications to the project. A rejected project is one that does not comply with the Town's by-Laws.

Maria Torres, *conseillère*
Urbanisme
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WHAM BAM..IT'S A SCAM

You may have noticed that our little community is not immune to criminal activity. Whether it be a break-in, car theft or vandalism, these acts have both financial and emotional ramifications. Some of the more difficult crimes to address are the increasing number of sophisticated phone, mail and in person scams, especially involving our most vulnerable population.

Scams are intended to cause emotional distress and are in fact psychological manipulation to throw you off your game, provoking an emotional, irrational response.

Under false pretenses, someone will present themselves as a family member. Trying to be one step ahead, they have concocted an outrageous story to prey on your emotions. "Hi mom, I got into a car accident and I broke my nose." Once they have penetrated that barrier, the broken nose accounts for why their voice may sound different. Then they hit you with the fear factor. "I was texting while driving and I have been arrested, they also took my phone." Next step is to isolate you to ensure you won't call anyone else.

Now comes the ask. You already sense something isn't right, but you are now thinking your loved one is in trouble, and you would do anything to make sure they come out of this "situation" unscathed. You throw caution to the wind and of course you go to the bank and withdraw a significant sum of money, not tell anyone, and give it away, no questions asked. Before you know it, the money is gone without a trace; the pieces start coming together and now it's too late.

Even if your spidey senses are not tingling, don't be afraid to hang up the phone and call a family member or a friend to help you navigate what may on face value seem true, but in reality, is a hoax.

Lauren Small-Pennefather, *Councillor*
Public Security
lsmall-pennefather@montreal-west.ca

communiqué du CONSEIL

RAPPORT DU MAIRE

Centre sportif et récréatif

La plupart des formalités ont été accomplies et nous sommes prêts à commencer les travaux. L'entrepreneur arrivera sur le site vers la fin du mois d'août pour commencer les travaux préparatoires. La ville et notre chef de projet ont rencontré l'entrepreneur et les corps de métier pour établir les voies de communication entre toutes les personnes impliquées dans la construction. Nous voulions attendre la fin des camps d'été et profiter au maximum de la saison des baignades. Nous sommes impatients de commencer la phase de démolition et de construction de ce projet excitant et transformateur.

Rupture d'eau sur l'avenue Brock Sud

Au moment même où beaucoup d'entre nous étaient aux prises avec des sous-sols inondés à cause de la tempête de pluie extrêmement intense du jeudi 13 juillet, les résidents de Brock Sud étaient aux prises avec un déluge causé par une rupture de la conduite d'eau principale de 14 pouces de la Ville de Montréal qui longe le chemin Broughton. La quantité d'eau a provoqué l'inondation de nombreux sous-sols sur cette rue. Notre ville a soutenu les résidents autant que possible pendant que Montréal réparait le bris. Je rencontrerai le maire de l'arrondissement de CDN-NDG dans les semaines à venir afin de mieux définir les protocoles à suivre lorsqu'une rupture se produit dans leurs canalisations sur notre territoire.

Prix des Guides pour Janet King

Le lundi 7 août, un petit groupe de guides a surpris Janet King à sa maison et lui a remis le Prix du Québec du Guidisme. Elle a été nommée pour ce prix et deux guidants ont écrit des lettres d'appui à sa candidature. Le comité des prix a approuvé la nomination et le prix a été remis à Janet dans son salon, en présence de Bob et d'une salle remplie de guides actuels et anciens. Félicitations Janet pour la reconnaissance si bien méritée de ton dévouement au guidisme.

Restez en sécurité et portez-vous bien.

Beny Masella, *maire*
Ville de Montréal-Ouest
bmasella@montreal-ouest.ca

OÙ VA NOTRE RECYCLAGE ?

Au début de l'été, le Comité d'action environnementale (CAE) s'est rendu au centre de tri de Lachine, Société VIA, qui s'occupe du recyclage de Montréal-Ouest. Et ce que nous avons vu était parfois choquant.

Notre visite a commencé à la station de pré-tri où les employés, alignés de part et d'autre d'un tapis roulant, effectuent un tri manuel des articles en éliminant 10 à 15 % des matériaux qui ne peuvent être recyclés. Nous avons vu des tas d'articles qui n'avaient rien à faire dans un bac de recyclage : des aspirateurs, des ordinateurs portables, des tuyaux, des valises, des emballages en polystyrène. Certains de ces objets sont carrément dangereux. Les articles longs et fins tels que les tuyaux, les sangles, les longueurs de fil et les cordons électriques peuvent se coincer dans les machines, s'étirer jusqu'à se rompre et blesser gravement ou mutiler les employés. On nous a dit que cela se produisait chaque année.

Le convoyeur avance rapidement et il est clair qu'une grande partie des matériaux restants n'est pas recyclable. Les employés doivent faire attention aux bris de verre et autres objets tranchants. Le niveau de décibels est extrêmement élevé, l'odeur très forte. Les mouches sont omniprésentes. Ce n'est pas pour rien que l'on nous demande de nettoyer nos récipients alimentaires avant de les jeter à la poubelle. Les briques de lait vieilles d'une semaine, les boîtes de conserve de poisson, les récipients graisseux pour les plats à emporter peuvent tous être techniquement recyclables, mais lorsqu'ils sont jetés à la poubelle sans avoir été lavés, ils créent un environnement malsain (franchement intolérable) pour les travailleurs. Il convient également de noter que, dans le cadre de son mandat, la Société VIA embauche des employés souffrant de divers handicaps mentaux et physiques. C'est louable, bien sûr, mais en tant que "fournisseurs" de cet établissement, nous avons la responsabilité de contribuer à la salubrité des articles.

Après le pré-tri, les articles restants passent par une série de machines de tri. Un scanner optique élimine les articles en plastique à l'aide d'air comprimé. Une machine électromagnétique élimine les métaux à l'aide d'un champ magnétique (ce qui leur permet d'atteindre une pureté de 97 %). Une "machine à secouer" est généralement utilisée pour le tri du verre, mais lors de notre visite, cette machine était en panne. En attendant, l'entreprise doit trier manuellement le verre, mais ne peut atteindre qu'une pureté de 80 %. Ce matériau de qualité inférieure est réutilisé comme matériau de sablage et dans les systèmes de filtration des piscines. Aucun de ces matériaux ne peut être recyclé en verre. Le prochain programme provincial de consignation des bouteilles (2025) permettra de recycler correctement le verre. En fin de chaîne, un poste de "contrôle de la qualité" met en balles le papier et le carton (30 % de toutes les matières recyclables), et tous les matériaux non conformes sont envoyés à l'enfouissement.

Lorsque nous avons demandé ce que les résidents de Mo-Ouest pouvaient faire pour améliorer le fonctionnement du système, voici les conseils qu'ils nous ont donnés :

1) En cas de doute, jetez-le ! Il vaut mieux jeter un article à la poubelle si vous n'êtes pas sûr qu'il soit recyclable. La contamination est un problème majeur dans notre système actuel. Les textiles, les chaussures, les couches, les objets longs (tuyaux, cordons, sangles) et les piles au lithium sont particulièrement problématiques. (Les piles au lithium sont à l'origine de nombreux accidents et incendies. Le centre de tri du Saguenay compte 17 incendies de piles par mois).

2) Pensez aux êtres humains qui doivent trier vos déchets. Nettoyez les contenants alimentaires, surtout les produits laitiers, la viande et le poisson.

3) Fais le test d'étirement pour les sacs en plastique. S'ils sont extensibles, ils sont recyclables. Et mettez-les tous ensemble dans un seul sac.

4) Les boîtes Tetra peuvent être recyclées. Laissez les couvercles en place, sinon ils se perdront dans le verre.

5) Le plastique numéro 6 et la mousse de polystyrène ne sont pas recyclables, sauf à l'écocentre de Lasalle. Apportez-les en vrac.

Le CAE envisage d'organiser une autre visite du centre de recyclage pour le public afin que vous puissiez voir par vous-même comment tout cela fonctionne. Restez à l'affût des détails.

Elizabeth Ulin, *conseillère*
Travaux publics, Environnement et Communications
eulin@montreal-ouest.ca

COMITÉ CONSULTATIF D'URBANISME - CCU

De temps à autre, des habitants posent des questions au service de l'urbanisme sur la constitution et le rôle du Comité consultatif d'urbanisme (CCU). Aujourd'hui, j'aimerais répondre à certaines de ces questions.

Le CCU est un comité composé d'un conseiller, de 6 résidents qui agiront en tant que membres permanents et de 4 membres suppléants, qui peuvent être appelés à intervenir si le quorum n'est pas atteint. Le quorum est atteint lorsqu'au moins 4 membres sur 7 sont présents à la réunion.

Les membres du CCU doivent être des résidents de Montréal-Ouest et s'engager à assister aux réunions. Des connaissances et/ou une expérience en urbanisme et/ou en architecture sont des atouts précieux.

Les principales responsabilités du CCU sont d'examiner et d'analyser les projets qui lui sont présentés par le service d'urbanisme de la ville et de sou-mettre ses recommandations au conseil municipal. Il est important de savoir que les recommandations du CCU sont basées sur les règlements de la ville. Le CCU examine les demandes de dérogations mineures, les projets d'aménagement d'ensemble, les projets soumis au plan d'implantation et d'intégration architecturale (PIIA) ainsi que les projets de règlements visant à modifier les règlements d'urbanisme tels que les règlements de zonage, les règlements de lotissement et les dérogations mineures, ainsi que le règlement de construction.

Lors de la révision d'une demande, le CCU peut faire quatre types de recommandations au Conseil pour qu'il approuve ou refuse le permis.

Le CCU peut recommander : a) d'approuver le projet tel quel, b) d'approuver le projet avec des conditions, c) de reporter le projet ou d) de le rejeter. Les deux premières recommandations sont évidentes. Un ajournement signifie que le CCU n'a pas reçu suffisamment d'informations pour évaluer correctement le projet ou qu'il n'a pas recommandé un ou plusieurs éléments du projet. Dans ce cas, le demandeur doit soumettre à nouveau sa demande en fournissant des informations complémentaires ou en apportant des modifications au projet. Un projet rejeté est un projet qui n'est pas conforme aux règlements de la ville.

Maria Torres, *Councillor*
Urban Planning
mtorres@montreal-west.ca

ATTENTION! C'EST UNE ARNAQUE

Vous avez peut-être remarqué que notre petite communauté n'est pas à l'abri des activités criminelles. Qu'il s'agisse d'un cambriolage, d'un vol de voiture ou de vandalisme, ces actes ont des conséquences financières et émotionnelles. Parmi les délits les plus difficiles à combattre, citons le nombre croissant d'escroqueries sophistiquées par téléphone, par courrier et en personne, notamment à l'encontre de notre population la plus vulnérable.

Les escroqueries visent à provoquer une détresse émotionnelle et sont en fait des manipulations psychologiques destinées à vous déstabiliser, en provoquant une réaction irrationnelle.

Sous de faux prétextes, quelqu'un se présente comme un membre de la famille. Essayant d'avoir une longueur d'avance, elle a concocté une histoire choquante pour s'attaquer à vos émotions. « Bonjour maman, j'ai eu un accident de voiture et je me suis cassé le nez ». Une fois cette barrière franchie, le nez cassé explique pourquoi la voix est différente. Ensuite, il fait appel à la peur. « J'envoyais des SMS au volant et j'ai été arrêté, ils ont aussi pris mon téléphone ». L'étape suivante consiste à vous isoler pour s'assurer que vous n'appellerez personne d'autre.

Et voilà, le moment idéal pour les escrocs de faire leur demande. Vous sentez déjà que quelque chose ne va pas, mais vous pensez maintenant que votre proche est en difficulté et que vous feriez n'importe quoi pour qu'il sorte indemne de cette « situation ». Vous n'hésitez pas à aller à la banque et à retirer une importante somme d'argent, sans rien dire à personne, et à la donner sans poser de questions. Soudainement, l'argent a disparu sans laisser de traces ; les pièces du puzzle commencent à s'assembler et il est maintenant trop tard.

Même si votre intuition ne déclenche pas d'alarme, n'ayez pas peur de raccrocher le téléphone et d'appeler un membre de votre famille ou un ami pour qu'il vous aide à comprendre ce qui peut sembler vrai à première vue, mais qui est en réalité une arnaque.

Lauren Small-Pennefather, *conseillère*
Sécurité publique
lsmall-pennefather@montreal-ouest.ca

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